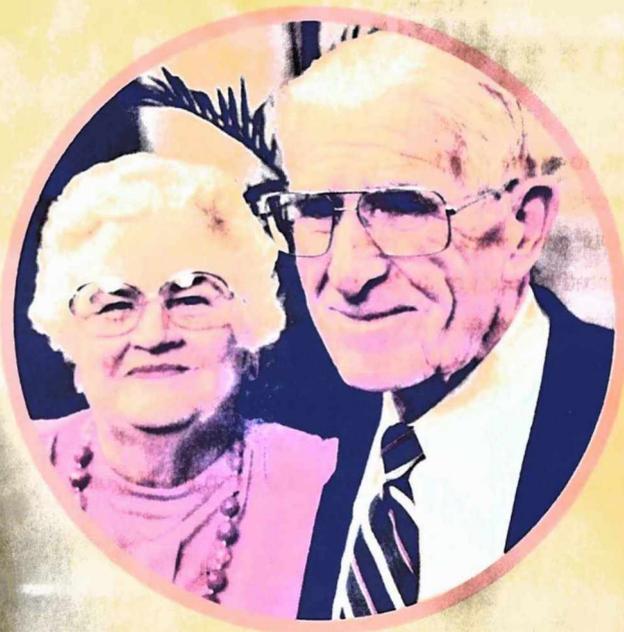


Offering's namesake encouraged, cajoled Florida Baptists toward their God-given mission



Clyde and John Maguire

In the early 1950's John Maguire, in his role as executive secretary-treasurer of the Florida Baptist Convention, stopped by a small church in Fellsmere to meet the young student pastor.

Impressed with the young Floridian, Maguire wrote about him in his weekly column in the *Florida Baptist Witness*.

A decade later the young pastor was called to serve the First Baptist Church of Merritt Island. In his column, Maguire again praised the young man and his abilities to lead the congregation.

That young pastor was Adrian Rogers, who now serves as pastor of the 27,000-member Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tenn., and has served three times as president of the 14-million member Southern Baptist Convention.

"It was so neat that John Maguire would talk to a college boy and encourage me and later write about it," said Rogers. "You know how that encouraged me."

Rogers recalled that Maguire often used the term "Favored Florida" when he spoke of the challenges facing Florida Baptists. "He was always pushing, always charging. He would always speak to people about the state of Florida and about the opportunity and responsibility the people of Florida have," Rogers added.

A passion for God's mission and a passion for God's people characterized the visionary leadership John Maguire provided to Florida Baptists. Under his leadership Florida Baptists

experienced unparalleled growth. During his 23-year tenure—from 1945-67—the number of cooperating churches in the convention increased to 1,426 from 826. Church membership grew to more than 600,000 from 184,140, and Cooperative Program receipts increased to \$3.7 million from \$422,123.

When Maguire assumed his leadership post, one-fourth of the 826 Florida Baptist churches gave nothing to any mission cause. Before he retired, every church was giving something to missions.

The Maguire State Mission Offering, which benefits 20 Florida Baptist ministries, is named for John Maguire and his wife Clyde, who mentored and motivated Baptist women in the state.

"Florida" said John Maguire before his death in 1987, "is the greatest mission field anywhere in the United States...and unless Florida Baptists arise to the occasion of reaching these lost people, we are going backwards, instead of forward."



John Maguire befriended Memphis pastor Adrian Rogers when the young man served his first church.

Adrian Rogers

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Adrian Pierce Rogers (September 12, 1931 – November 15, 2005) served three terms as president of the Southern Baptist Convention (1979–1980 and 1986–1988). He was also a Southern Baptist pastor whose church services aired on television, and a conservative author.^[1]

Rogers was born in West Palm Beach, Florida. He entered Christian ministry at the age of nineteen. He graduated from Stetson University in DeLand, Florida, and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Rogers was ordained by Northwood Baptist Church (now known as The Village Baptist Church) in West Palm Beach. His first job as a senior pastor was at Fellsmere Baptist Church, a small congregation in Fellsmere, Florida. He performed his first baptism in the C-54 Canal near Fellsmere. He was senior pastor of First Baptist Church in Merritt Island, Florida from 1964 to 1972. In 1972, he became the senior pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee, where he remained until March 2005. During this period, the church's membership grew from 9,000 to 29,000, and the church moved into a new, megachurch facility.^[1] Rogers was named pastor emeritus after his retirement in March 2005.

Rogers was instrumental in the Southern Baptist denomination's shift towards the right that began in the late 1970s, as he was elected president of the denomination during a theological controversy within the denomination known as the Southern Baptist Convention Conservative resurgence.

He published eighteen books and his works are featured on the internationally available radio and television program, *Love Worth Finding*, which is broadcast in English and Spanish.^[1] Rogers was also the founder of the Adrian Rogers Pastor Training Institute for ministers, which is currently headed by his widow, two sons, and a granddaughter.

In November 2005, Rogers contracted pneumonia of both lungs as a complication of colon cancer treatments, and died following a period of mechanical ventilation at the age of seventy-four.

Contents

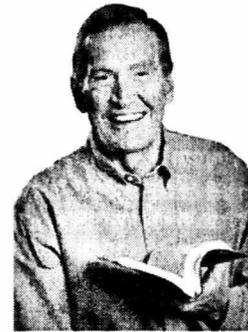
- 1 Southern Baptist Convention presidency
- 2 On politics and social issues
 - 2.1 "You cannot multiply wealth by dividing it."
- 3 Selected works
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Southern Baptist Convention presidency

Rogers served three times as president of the Southern Baptist Convention, the largest American Evangelical denomination with 16 million members. He was first elected to this post in 1979 on a platform of biblical inerrancy, and under his leadership, the denomination shifted to a theologically conservative stance. Soon liberal and moderate seminary professors were dismissed. All employees of SBC seminaries and the national office were required to affirm their adherence to the Baptist Faith and Message. The denomination has remained conservative since Rogers' tenure as president.

Rogers's election as SBC president at the 1979 convention held in Houston, Texas, launched the Conservative resurgence in the denomination, a movement pushed by the theologian Paige Patterson and the Houston judge Paul Pressler. In 2004, in a

Adrian Rogers



Adrian Rogers

Born	September 12, 1931 West Palm Beach, Florida, United States
Died	November 15, 2005 (aged 74) Memphis, Tennessee, United States
Nationality	American
Occupation	Pastor, Author, President of the Southern Baptist Convention
Religion	Southern Baptist
Spouse(s)	Joyce Rogers
Website	Love Worth Finding Ministries - LWF.org (http://www.lwf.org/) - Adrian Rogers Pastor Training Institute (http://www.pastortraining.com)

symposium at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, Pressler said that the real movers in the Conservative resurgence who elected Rogers and the subsequent presidents were not he and Patterson but the independent-minded laypersons who came for years to the annual conventions to be heard.^[2]

On politics and social issues

Like many influential conservative pastors, Rogers participated in the advancement of a conservative political agenda in the United States. He stated that Christians have a duty to be involved in government, and that it is a sin for a Christian to abstain from voting in an election.

Familial dynamics was a recurrent issue for Rogers. He focused most closely on fathers that he labeled "drop-out dads." According to Rogers, since the Bible emphasizes the paternal role in a family, the father should be the primary source of teaching in the home. He was critical of fathers who do not fulfill this role: "We have dads today that are interested in sports, business, and sex. They've forgotten their God-given assignments to teach the Ten Commandments [4] (<http://www.leaderu.com/common/adrianrogers.html>)." He went on to say that social problems, such as gun violence, are the consequences of fathers avoiding this responsibility.

On the topic of pastoral endorsement of political candidates, he wrote that it is a pastor's duty to influence the political decisions of the members of the pastor's congregation. A pastor need not, however, endorse a specific candidate (and, under Internal Revenue Service regulations, a church could lose its tax-exempt status for doing so). He wrote that "[i]f [a pastor] has done his job his members will prayerfully and correctly use the standard of God's Word to select the right candidate."^[5] (http://www.christianity.com/partner/Article_Display_Page/0,,PTID319326%7CCHID629244%7CCIID1662852,00.html)

In May 2003, Rogers, along with twenty-four other religious leaders and persons of influence, signed a letter sent from Gary Bauer's conservative organization American Values to President George W. Bush. The letter criticizes President Bush's proposed Road Map for Peace initiative as being too lax towards the Palestinians. The letter states in part, "Mr. President, it would be morally reprehensible for the United States to be 'evenhanded' between democratic Israel . . . and the terrorist infested Palestinian infrastructure." [6] (http://www.ouramericanvalues.org/press_release_article.php?id=27)

Cecil Sherman writes in his autobiography that he once questioned Rogers about biblical inerrancy with reference to New Testament passages that seem to support slavery. Sherman reports that Rogers replied: "I believe slavery is a much maligned institution; if we had slavery today, we would not have this welfare mess."^{[3][4]} Though Rogers later signed up to a revised Baptist Faith and Message to the effect that all races are equal before the Lord.^{[5][6]}

Rogers was an adamant supporter of the pro-life movement, had stated that the institution of capital punishment is spiritually ordained, and (along with other Southern Baptists) supported a boycott of Disney because of the company's perceived promotion of homosexuality.^[7] (<http://www.sbc.net/resolutions/amResolution.asp?ID=435>).

As a traditional Baptist, he opposed the use of alcohol and tobacco, frequently telling stories to warn of their dangers. One particular story tells of a father who learned that his daughter had died while driving drunk, vowed revenge towards whoever had sold her the alcohol, only to discover that she had taken the bottle from his own liquor cabinet.

"You cannot multiply wealth by dividing it."

This quote appears frequently^{[7][8][9]} on the Internet and is often attributed to Dr. Rogers with an incorrect date of 1931. In fact, the quotation is part of a longer sermon by Dr. Rogers' from 1984 in a larger series titled *God's Way to Health, Wealth and Wisdom* (CDA107),^[10] but it also appears as a passage in Dr. Rogers' 1996 work *Ten Secrets for a Successful Family* complaining that "by and large our young people do not know either the importance or the value of honest labor".^[11]

Rogers did not originate the quote at all. In fact, he did not claim to have originated it. Instead, he was citing almost verbatim a bit of anti-Soviet propaganda that had circulated in many magazines in the early 1960's.^[12] The quote appeared before that in the Congressional Record of 1958, where they were appended to the record by congressman Bruce Alger.^[13] Alger had borrowed the words from Gerald L. K. Smith, who had written them first in his magazine, *The Cross and the Flag*.^[14] Since the quote was attributed to Rogers in 2009, it has been regularly attributed to him; however, Rogers was essentially quoting Smith at the time.

Selected works

- *Believe in Miracles but Trust in Jesus*

- *Mastering Your Emotions*
- *God's Way to Health, Wealth and Wisdom*
- *The Power of His Presence*
- *Ten Secrets for a Successful Family*
- *Unveiling the End Times in Our Time*
- *The Incredible Power of Kingdom Authority*
- *What Every Christian Ought to Know*
- *Standing for Light and Truth*
- *Adrianisms* (posthumous collection of quotes)
- *Grace for the Widow* (posthumous collection of unpublished material in appendix; book is written by his wife Joyce, to be published January 2009)

See also

- Southern Baptist Convention
- List of Southern Baptist Convention affiliated people
- Southern Baptist Convention Presidents
- Southern Baptist Convention conservative resurgence

Notes

1. "About Adrian Rogers" (http://www.lwf.org/site/PageServer?pagename=abt_AboutAdrianRogers). Love Worth Finding Ministries. 2010.
2. "Jeff Robinson, Pressler: Conservative resurgence was grassroots movement, March 30, 2004" (<http://www.bpnews.net/bpnews.asp?id=17956>). *Baptist Press News*. Retrieved September 30, 2013.
3. Sherman, Cecil E. (2008). *By My Own Reckoning* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=ThtH61pIk1kC>). Macon, GA: Smyth & Helwys Publishing, Inc. p. 189. ISBN 1-57312-506-7.
4. Edward T. Babinski, ed., *Leaving the Fold: Testimonies of Former Fundamentalists* (N.Y.: Prometheus Books, 1995) ISBN 1-59102-217-7 p. 125 See [1] (http://www.infidels.org/library/modern/ed_babinski/experience.html)
5. The Telegraph, "Adrian Rogers" (<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/obituaries/1503347/Adrian-Rogers.html>), *Telegraph Media Group Limited 2012*>, November 19, 2005. Retrieved 2012-09-16.
6. Founders Journal, *Issue 30*, 1997. pp. 25-26.
7. "You cannot multiply wealth by dividing it." (<http://todaysfreshmanna.wordpress.com/2009/07/17/you-cannot-multiply-wealth-by-dividing-it>) blog posting by Tim Burt.
8. Adrian Rogers on Free Lunches (<http://www.independent.org/blog/?p=528>) blog posting by The Independent Institute.
9. Google Search results (<http://www.google.com/search?hl=en&q=%22You+don%27t+multiply+wealth+by+dividing+it%22>) for the exact phrase most often quoted.
10. "Financial Quote from Adrian Rogers" (http://www.lwf.org/site/PageServer?pagename=lis_quote). Love Worth Finding Ministries. 2010.
11. Rogers, Adrian (1996). *Ten Secrets for a Successful Family* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=TY6-XkzaS4sC>). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books. p. 138. ISBN 1-58134-033-8.
12. Google Books currently lists ten such books and magazines
13. [2] (https://books.google.com/books?id=V8LjR7eP8DEC&q=%22you+cannot+multiply+wealth%22&dq=%22you+cannot+multiply+wealth%22&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0CCUQ6AEwAjjKahUKEwiYm_n-koPIAhXD0D4KHe5JDGg) Google books entry showing the famous line
14. [3] (https://books.google.com/books?id=fg5bAAAAMAAJ&q=%22you+cannot+multiply+wealth%22&dq=%22you+cannot+multiply+wealth%22&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0CC8Q6AEwBDgKahUKEwiYm_n-koPIAhXD0D4KHe5JDGg), Google books entry showing the Cross and the Flag quote

External links

- Ouramericanvalues.org (http://www.ouramericanvalues.org/press_release_article.php?id=051903)
- Commercial Appeal article (http://www.commercialappeal.com/mca/local_news/article/0,1426,MCA_437_3600510,00.html)
- It Takes God to Make a Home (<http://www.leaderu.com/common/adrianrogers.html>)
- The Uniqueness of Christian Experience (http://www.infidels.org/library/modern/ed_babinski/experience.html)
- Baptist Faith and Message 2000 (<http://churches.net/churches/utmiss/Faithmessage/Faithmessage.html>)
- Video Broadcasts (http://lightsource.com/ministry/love_worth_finding/)
- Adrian Rogers (<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=12352109>) at *Find a Grave*

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Melissa -
Please file!
DWT

Adrian
Rogers
Folder

LIFE@BELLEVUE: HE CAME THAT WE MAY
HAVE LIFE AND HAVE IT ABUNDANTLY.

Pastor Rogers Continues to Recover

Pastor Rogers continues to recuperate well. Doctors believe his recovery will be complete and expect that he will feel even better than before the surgery.

Pastor underwent successful quadruple bypass surgery on March 16 after a routine exam the day before discovered cardiovascular blockages. No heart damage had occurred, and Dr. Rogers did not experience a heart attack or other symptoms.

His stay in the hospital has produced some amazing experiences. Dr. Rogers led a young man to Christ who was also undergoing heart treatment. As Pastor shared the Gospel with him, God performed a spiritual heart transplant as the young man awaited treatment for his physical heart.

Doctors want Pastor to be fully recuperated before he returns and estimate he may be back in six to eight weeks. Praise the Lord for allowing the surgery and recovery to go so well and please continue to pray for Pastor Rogers as he recuperates and looks forward to being back in the pulpit soon. He sends his love and appreciation to all that have expressed concern and offered prayers for him.



- PeopleLife Sp
- 2003 Love Off
- 2004 Missions
- Adult Softball
- Becoming a Sp
- Leader Cont
- Bellevue Scho
- Fund
- Camp SonQue
- Care Groups
- Registration
- Centennial Ce
- Crossroads Ca
- Easter Worshij
- Evangelism Ex
- Banquet
- Forerunners Li
- Golf League
- Golf Tour
- Gospel Radio
- Library Online
- Memphis Pass
- Pastor Rogers
- to Recover
- Single Parent
- Conference
- Sunday Care (
- Vacation Bible
- Vacation Bible
- Worker Sign
- Women's Min

Rev. Rogers and His Island in the Sun

Adrian Pierce Rogers is pastor of the largest congregation in Brevard County, the First Baptist Church of Merritt Island. In this article, he discusses his pressures and pleasures as administrator of the 3,500-member church.

By John McAleenan

On Sunday's the dress and manner are a little subdued. Not TOO subdued, but the red pants and checkered coat have been put aside for something a little more conventional.

It is perfect church weather, perfect church weather being too windy for fishing and too nice to stay inside.

He plays the perfect host, being grateful that you came by and pleased everyone seems so healthy and wouldn't it be nice if everyone had remembered to bring a friend.

There is a little reminder here about that. "Never, NEVER come to church without inviting someone. Get to know the people around you. If you are new here, fill out a visitor card and we'll send a welcome letter later. Now — how about everyone singing."

And saints be praised, they stand up as one, twelve or fifteen hundred people, from leeny-boppers to grandmothers, and they sing.

The name of the man leading all those people, is Adrian Pierce Rogers, as handsome and dynamic a pastor as any Hollywood casting agency could ask for.

The place that Adrian Rogers built as much as any single man, is a million-dollar sprawling complexity known as the First Baptist Church of Merritt Island.

You shouldn't have had to ask, really. The two are synonymous.

If the world is REALLY going to hell, as some

singing along with Mr. Rogers, and while one may find some argument with the fundamentalist Southern Baptist philosophy, with its strict literal translation of the Bible and mixed generously with an evangelistic fervor — you cannot argue with success.

And success shrouds the First Baptist Church of Merritt Island like icing on a cake.

It has not become a success without its critics, some who are simply jealous, others who find distasteful the relentless evangelism that Rogers is so good at.

If Rogers is bothered by this criticism, it is not evident, mostly because he is too busy being guide, prophet, pastor and administrator to what is easily the largest church complex in the county, and certainly one of the largest in the state.

"Selling and packaging religion? Sure. I'll do whatever is honest and legitimate to get people into the church. I have no apology for that." The issue is put to rest.

Getting people into the church, saving their souls and collecting just a little of their money, is very much a fact of life at the First Baptist Church of Merritt Island.

The Lord's work costs money, and in Roger's case, he is responsible for coming up with exactly \$8,188.40 EVERY week just to pay the bills. That's break-even money.

The 1972 budget is into the six figures, \$425,795 to be exact. Bond retirement and mortgage

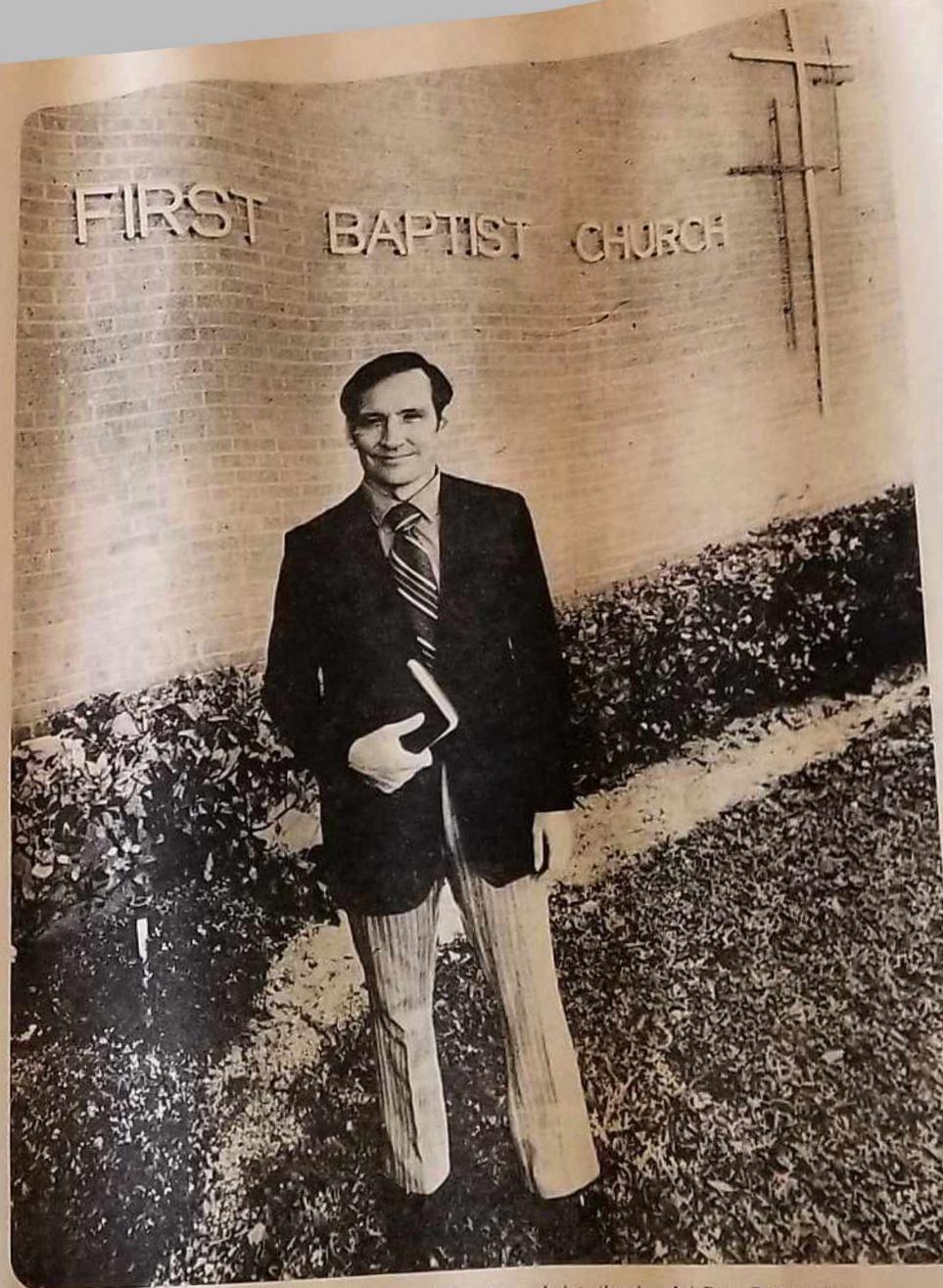
highest paid at \$16,445 a year. There is a house provided by the church rent-free, something in the \$50,000 class, the mileage is taken care of and occasionally there is a modest speaking fee. So let's say maybe we are talking about \$22,500 a year which, when you think about it, doesn't seem a high price for someone running a half-million dollar a year church.

What all that money does each year is ... well, take a deep breath:

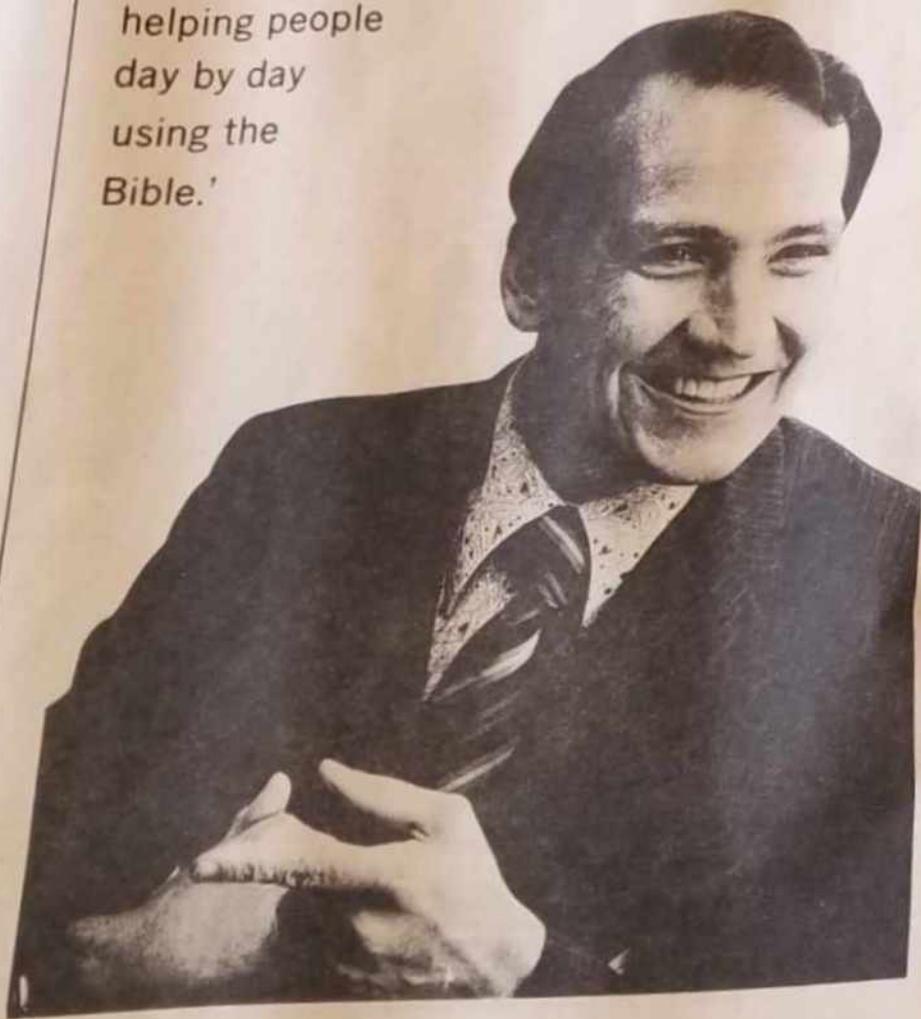
Bible conference and Sunday schools and missionaries of one stripe or another passed through. Choirs, nurseries, a library, saunabath and Brevard's smallest bowling alley. A gym, roller skating, snack bars, music room, ceramics, wrestling and volley ball. Even karate lessons. Pot luck suppers, FREE sloppy joes and kindergarten classes. The kindergarten is proclaimed as "the best in Brevard."

Rogers is understandably proud of all this, pointing out repeatedly that if you are going to provide services, you have to have the money. "My feeling is the bigger we are, the more economical we can do things. Look, there is not a single institution in Brevard, church or otherwise, that draws more people to it, more consistently than we do."

Statistics aside, let's look at the man for a moment. Brevard mod-ish would certainly see an accurate fashion description. Everything in order, shoes shined, quite impeccable. But



'I just try the best I can
to be relevant...
helping people
day by day
using the
Bible.'



Football great Johnny Unitas was a recent visitor to Rogers' church.

Rev. Rogers

Continued
or grease on his nose. His 40 years rest easily on him.

The office is sort of Baptist plush. The green rug not TOO thick, the paneled walls not TOO richly polished. The clutter is rather ordered, the muted silence giving the feeling of a sanctuary.

"Me? Oh . . . I lead a rather prosaic life. Nothing special."

Born in West Palm Beach, graduated from West Palm Beach High School in 1950, captain of the football team, president of the student body, voted most likely to succeed. Four years at Stetson in DeLand for a BA, then four more years at New Orleans Baptist Seminary for his Bachelor of Divinity degree.

"I was saved as a teenager, me and thy dad both, at a revival crusade. Before that I got into more than my share of trouble at school. I was THE bully around there, if you want to know the truth."

A grammar school date by the name of Joyce Gentry soon became a high school steady, and after just one year at Stetson, she became Mrs. Rogers and later bore him four healthy children. Steve, 18; Gayle, 15; David, 11; and Janice, 10.

The choice of careers is explained this way: "I had a hunger in my heart when I was a senior in school. I FELT God calling me. It was a radical change in my life, believe me. Enjoy it? Of course. If I didn't I'd feel like a Benedict Arnold being here. I simply believe God has given me a gift and I intend to use it."

The first ministry before Merritt Island was in Fort Pierce, a six-year tour of duty from 1958 to 1964 that Rogers remembers as being "a good time."

The First Baptist Church went looking for him in 1964 and attracted him with the "challenges."

"It was a gut feeling, but I took the job because of the challenges. This place was on dead center at the time. There was some question of my 'style' — the inference being I might be too loud, but my style would be too evangelistic. So I promised them: 'If one person leaves, and I'm

sure some will, I'll get 10 people to take their place.'"

It was not an idle promise.

The Sunday School enrollment has jumped from 1,000 to 4,000; church membership is up from 1,500 to 2,500; Sunday school attendance was once 250, now it's closer to 2,000; the budget is up from \$20,000 to close to \$100,000.

The years, truly, have been milk and honey, and it is no surprise to learn that Adrian Rogers has no plans to leave anytime soon.

"Go someplace else? No sir, I don't think so. In fact, I'd like to go to heaven right from here."

Reverend, considered by many to be "Six City" luck in 1964, is in a lot better shape now, Rogers thinks. "The older people coming in have had a settling influence, too, and the back door seems to have closed, so . . ."

The conversation shifts momentarily to the block-long church-auditorium-playground-classroom across the street from his office. Without being asked, Rogers says he knows it is not any kind of architectural jewel. "We put our money into ways to make it function. . . we didn't worry about ornateness."

There is some question about what Mr. Rogers actually does all week, being much less visible than on Sundays. Out snaps a little appointment book and away we go — into both a typical and a "real" day.

8:30 to 9 a.m. there is a meeting on building maintenance. This is an almost \$32,000 item in the annual budget, and as such, gets considerable priority.

9 to 10 a.m., a dental appointment. (Mr. Rogers has nice, white teeth.)

At 10 a.m., a session with a young couple who wanted to get married. Mr. Rogers said they were too young. This doesn't mean they won't get married — just that they have to get another pastor to perform the service.

A few minor office details, a couple of letters, lunch, and then a session at 1:30 with a student who wanted advice on entering the ministry.

At 2:30 p.m., he gave some "encouragement" to a former church member, a drinking man, who had lost his wife, and now wanted to get back into the church to make a "fresh start."

At 3 p.m., another couple, asking about marriage. This one got the green light.

At 4 p.m., a young man who said he was an atheist walked in. Mr. Rogers did not flinch. He convinced him, in fact, that he was an agnostic. "The difference between the two is either you are an honest or dishonest doubter." Mr. Rogers can put up with honest doubters. Dishonest doubters are shown the door. The boy left as an agnostic, loaded down with Baptist literature.

At 5 p.m., another drinker, or rather ex-drinker, stopped by, mentioning quite proudly that he had been on the wagon for eight months. "We got down on our knees and prayed. I think he had a genuine experience. We baptized him the next Sunday night."

Usually, on Tuesday nights, the Rogers' recruiting team heads out into the subdivisions, making calls here and there trying for new members.

The sermons take quite a bit of time to prepare, and Rogers must be careful lest he repeat himself — since he talks in just about the same group of people three or four times a week. "This congregation will forgive you just about anything but boring them to death. I try not to do that."

He tries to keep the subjects topical, and if background keeps up on current affairs, w such things as Readers Digest, Newsweek, 1 News and World Report — and newspapers.

Playboy? You've got to be kidding. "I'm lascivious. I wouldn't recommend it for anyone. And to the suggestion, since he's never read a copy he should take a quick peek just so he can be sure that he's talking about, Rogers has an answer: "Nonsense — I don't have to eat or preach on hogs."

Conti

Rev. Rogers



Rev. Rogers talks with a member of his congregation.

Continued

The question is pursued. Reading some of the more daring contemporary literature MIGHT broaden one's horizon, might it not?

"Yeah," says Rogers, "and it might do more than that, too. Look, I'll tell you about these things. Maybe the Lord has given me some insight or something, but I don't think it takes too much savvy to know what's going on in the world these days."

As one of the leaders in opposition to the seemingly countless jai-alai referendums that have caused Brevard controversy over the years, it is somewhat surprising to learn from Mr. Rogers that there is NOT, repeat not, an endless stream of broken gambling refugees showing up at his church.

"Well, I'm still opposed to it, if that's what you mean, but we have survived, and there just hasn't been the kind of problems we were predicting, to tell you the truth. Not yet, anyway. What I mean is we haven't had to feed and clothe people."

There is pause for an explanation here, the need to explain the basic difference between pastor Adrian Rogers and jai-alai operator Vance Schwartz. It's a line that comes out quite smoothly. "The difference between me and Mr. Schwartz is that I deal with problems — and he deals with profits."

Adrian Rogers has not been to jai-alai, of course, and has no intention of going. He sort of sniffs with impatience at what he must consider an impertinent question.

"Well, I wouldn't go because . . . well, if I did it would be like giving it my approval."

On to some other things, say, oh, how about sex education? In the schools?

Mr. Rogers takes a deep breath. "Nope. It belongs in the home and church." But what if a person doesn't go to church — and is not getting any education at home? "Well, I'd rather gamble on that possibility, none at all, than having the wrong type person teaching the kids. We've gotten along fairly well without sex education all these years — I think we can do without it now."

"You see, when you 'teach' sex in class, that would seem like you were giving it an endorsement. That would be a greater evil than ignorance, I think."

"I've never been a crusader for or against sex education. My feelings about it are not really that defined, to tell you the truth. My mind is not that sharp on the subject."

"I'm not a prude about sex . . . but I think you have to remember what God had in mind. When he said 'Thou Shalt Not,' what he really meant was don't hurt yourself. I think we need to keep sex in the context of God."

How about Vietnam? Should anyone go anymore? "Well, if you feel deeply about not going, if God is TELLING you not to go, then you have to obey God. But I personally believe you have to obey our laws for God's sake. Yes, certainly there can be bad laws, but I feel obeying the law would be the lesser of two evils. It's either that or anarchy."

All those kids in Canada . . . would he favor amnesty? "No, they are wrong, but I'm not their judge. If my son, who is 18, didn't want to go, were he drafted, then all I could tell him would be to be true to his own heart."

There is a pause here and Mr. Rogers sighs, and announces: "Look, there are lots of problems around today that I don't even pretend to have the answer to."

Womens Lib? "Those women, they think they

are making progress when they are really going backwards. Yep. God put them on a pedestal — and now they want to get down. Oh, there are probably some elements of truth in the movement, the things they are seeking, but I think if anything, MAN is inferior, not women. I think a woman's place is at home, taking care of the children."

Pre-marital sex is out. The Pill, however, is okay. Abortion is a SIN except for those which result from extreme cases, such as rape and incest and such. There is a little phrase Rogers has for this one: "Those people, those who want abortions, they are people who want to sow their oats — then have crop failure."

Alcohol and the wide range of drugs that are available in our society today Mr. Rogers labels as "synthetic salvation."

As for his own role in the church, and with the people, Rogers says, "I just try the best I can to be relevant . . . helping people day by day, using the Bible." About his church: "we don't have ALL the truth here — and we don't claim that nobody has the truth but us."

He has absolutely no patience with some of his fellow clergy who are in the streets burning draft card files and plotting disruptions of one kind or another. He frowns at the very thought of it.

"I think people are sick of the kind of junk I guess I can understand the concern — but at best, that's the wrong method to go about changing things. I say pray — and let God march on Washington."

"I feel if you get right with God, things will work out. That may be naive, but that's how I feel."

John McAleenan, a former TODAY staffer, is a free-lance writer based in Cocoa.



sunrise

TODAY Sunday, May 14, 1972



RAY ROGERS AND
HIS ISLAND IN THE SUN . . . PAGE 4

Other Conventions:

Florida Convention Denies Stetson Federal Aid

(See news from other conventions on pages 9 and 12)

Florida adopted a policy statement forbidding federal grants to institutions and in effect told Stetson University that if it accepted any additional grants, convention financial support would be withdrawn. An attempt to delete a budget allocation to Stetson, a private Baptist school in Deland, Fla., failed by a 60 to 40 per cent margin. Earlier this year Stetson had accepted federal grants totaling \$844,557 to construct a new science building and a new law school building. The convention adopted a resolution which stipulated that any Florida Baptist Convention agency or institution, including Stetson which technically is not owned by the convention, which receives a federal grant will automatically cease to receive Cooperative Program funds from the state budget. A motion to strike out the 1967 allocation of \$149,820 to Stetson was defeated by a big margin. The executive board of the convention had recommended a reduction in the Stetson allocation from \$269,700 last year to \$149,820 for the coming year.

Adrian T. Rogers, pastor from Merritt Island, Fla., made the motion that the Stetson allocation be deleted and he got strong support from Homer Lindsay, Jr., pastor of Northwest Church in Miami. At least a dozen speakers, most of them Stetson graduates, opposed this proposal.

There was heated debate over the establishment of a new Baptist junior college at West Palm Beach, Fla. Strong opposition was expressed to the proposal but it was adopted by a 61 to 39 vote ratio. The convention's action approved activating the election of trustees for the college and authorized trustees to conduct a state wide fund drive to raise \$1 million.



L. H. Moore
... Ohio Editor

Moore Named Ohio Editor

Ohio adopted its first million-dollar budget and greeted a new editor — L. H. Moore who for 10 years has been editor of the *Illinois Baptist*. The record budget totaled \$1,108,117 representing an increase of \$244,077 over the 1966 budget. The new editor succeeds Lynn M. Davis, Jr. who is now editorial supervisor in the Sunday School Board's office of denominational relations.

Racial Prejudice Deplored

Resolutions deploring racial prejudice and discrimination and calling for prayer for the war in Viet Nam were adopted by the California Convention. A motion calling for the Southern Baptist Convention to reaffirm its opposition to the acceptance of tax money for the support of any Southern Baptist institution was "enthusiastically and overwhelmingly adopted," observers reported. The motion came following a strong speech by Lloyd Simmons, president of California Baptist College in Riverside, who opposed any encroachment of the principle of separation of church and state.

"Destroy the wall between church and state and you will ultimately destroy religious liberty," Simmons declared. "We cannot have religious liberty without separation of church and state. We might just as well destroy the Magna Carta as to destroy the First Amendment."

In other action, the convention voted to ask a Negro pastor to preach the annual convention sermon next year in Reno, Nev. He is Reuben Scott, pastor of a Southern Baptist-affiliated Negro church in Fresno, Calif.

The convention also adopted a resolution pledging support for Governor-elect Ronald Reagan and his campaign promise to work for strong control of pornographic and obscene literature.

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JHO. MAGUIRE, Secretary

NEW HOPE CHURCH DEDICATES



It was your secretary's great joy to join with a number of other pastors in the dedication of the new auditorium of the New Hope Church, May 10. Ten years ago this church started its building, broke ground, and step by step, with the men doing the work as the money came in to do it, this church has moved steadily forward for ten years. Now they have one of the most beautiful small auditoriums in the state of Florida. They dedicated this beautiful auditorium of 250-seat capacity debt free. The conservative cost of the building would be \$15,000 to \$18,000, if it were contracted. However, with the church membership doing the work, the total cost of the building and furnishings was slightly less than \$6,000. The beloved pastor, Claude Killian, has been with this church seven years. Under his wise guidance, he has encouraged this church to move forward.

The significant thing about their steady progress forward has not been the construction of the building, but erecting the building and at the same time increasing their gifts to world missions through the Cooperative Program. This is most significant. The church was organized in 1870 and has had a steady existence ever since. The records do not reveal exactly how many persons have gone from this church as ministers or missionaries.

Brother Ellis B. Turner, the field secretary in that area, brought the message at 11:00 a.m., and your secretary gave the dedication address in the afternoon, with a number of former pastors taking part on the program. New Hope Church now has one of the best church plants of any rural church in Florida.

State Evangelistic Conference Orlando — January 10-12



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EVANGELISM DEPARTMENT

PAUL A. MEIGS, Secretary

EVANGELISTIC CONFERENCE

The annual Florida Baptist Evangelistic Conference will begin at 7:00 o'clock Tuesday night, January 10, and will conclude following the evening service, Thursday, January 12. We hope that each person coming to the conference will come praying for a spiritual mountain-top experience.

We are thankful for the personnel, whom we consider the best, composed of out-of-state speakers, Florida pastors, and other leaders.

W. A. Criswell will be with us from Dallas, Texas, where he is pastor of the largest Baptist Church in the world—First Baptist Church, Dallas. Dr. Criswell has been with us before and we welcome him to Florida again in this capacity. Among other contemporary messages that he will bring to the conference is the message entitled, "The Moral Life of the Man of God," and also, "The Word of God for Today's World."

Charles Howard, who has head of the Bible Department of Campbell College for twenty-one years and is now emeritus (since 1959), is returning to be on our Evangelistic Conference program this year. Dr. Howard is Founder-President of the Howard Memorial Fund, whose more than seven hundred and fifty student recipients are on their fields of service at home and abroad. Most of the money used by these students has been returned and used over again from one to five times.

C. E. Autrey, beloved Convention-wide Director of the Division of Evangelism of the Home Mission Board, will speak to the Evangelistic Conference this year. His messages will include, "Spiritual Conquest Through Evangelistic Preaching" and others.

William E. Hull is Associate Professor of New Testament Interpretation of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. We welcome Dr. Hull back to the state. His messages are fresh and most inspiring. This year his messages will be of an expositional nature from the Sermon on the Mount.

Florida Baptists are fortunate to have Dr. Rubens Lopes with us this year. He is recognized as a leader of the Crusade of the Americas movement and his coming is most fitting. The title of his message is "The Crusade of the Americas." Earl Peacock, one of our missionaries, will serve as interpreter for Lopes.

Miss Joe Ann Shelton, who is beloved throughout our Southern Baptist Convention for her leadership in the Baptist Hour program, will be with us as featured soloist. Truly, she is a marvelous Christian and a wonderful singer.

W. Hines Sims will be with us to lead the congregational singing. We appreciate Dr. Sims, who comes to

us from the Church Music Department of Nashville, and welcome his return to Florida and an Evangelistic Conference.

A number of our Florida leaders will participate on the program this year. C. Roy Angell, one of the best loved men of our state, will bring two messages to the conference. Dr. Angell is the author of several books and is former pastor of the First Baptist Church of Miami.

Edgar R. Cooper, president of the Florida Baptist Convention, and pastor of the North Park Baptist Church, Orlando, will bring a message to the conference entitled, "The Primary Spiritual Needs of Florida Baptists." We are happy that Brother Cooper can be on the program and bring this timely message.

Brother Adrian Rogers, beloved pastor of the First Baptist Church of Merritt Island, will bring a message to the conference entitled, "The Church—The Evangelistic Task Force."

Authors!

Leading book publisher seeks manuscripts of all types: fiction, non-fiction, poetry, scholarly and religious works, etc. New authors welcomed. Send for free booklet 24-H. Vantage Press, 130 W. 31 St., New York 1.

Then, how grateful we are to other choice pastors of our state who will bring one devotional message each to the conference, as follows:

James H. Wright, Jr., pastor, Central Church, Pensacola, "The Need of Revival"; Douglas Watterson, pastor, First Church, Vero Beach, "Man's Need for Freedom"; Hugh Beasley, pastor, Clearlake Church, Cocoa, "Samples for Christ"; Carroll U. Kendrick, Jr., pastor, First Church, Neptune Beach, "Repent or Perish"; A. P. Minshew, pastor, First Church, Fort Myers, "Deepening Our Spiritual Lives"; John L. Pelham, pastor, First Church, Palatka, "The Need of Power in our Work"; and J. W. Oppert, pastor, Terry Parker Church, Jacksonville, "The Way of Revival."

We are also happy that Robert L. Hughes, one of our Southern Baptist evangelists, who lives in Pensacola, will bring a message to the conference entitled, "The Demands of Compassion."

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

JOSEPHINE JONES, Executive Secretary
RUTH BAGWELL, GA Director

MARY COPEL, YMA Director
ELIZABETH PAINTER, Sunbeam Director

WORD FROM MISSIONARIES

We have just received a letter from the Dottson Mills who are serving as Florida missionaries in Jamaica. The following is an excerpt from this letter:

"As you give through your church to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions you will appreciate knowing that you are helping to construct badly needed Christian Education Buildings and to establish new Baptist witness in different areas of Jamaica. Kingston has only seven Baptist Churches to serve almost a million people.

"We are still 'alone' here in Jamaica for we have no other missionary couple to help us. We desperately need a couple for Christian Education and Radio-Television work."

Missionaries in every field have a great deal of confidence in the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Just as they look to the Cooperative Program for their salaries and the meeting of the basic expenses of their work, so they look to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for supplementing funds for month by month operating needs and especially for the provision of land and buildings for expansion of the work.

Visualize missionaries and Christians of many nationalities working side by side. Try to imagine yourself standing beside them and at work with them. That is really what you do through your prayers and gifts.

Have you given to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering? If not, it isn't too late to give to this offering through your church.

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upon Dr. Maguire who referred to the highlights in the report up to Recommendations.

Willard read Recommendation 2, under Recommendations and Goals, which was adopted. He read Recommendation 3, noting that Recommendation 13, as in the Book of Reports, should come under Recommendation 3, as it is a part of Field Missions. There was a motion and second to adopt. Since time for this report had expired, action was deferred to the evening session.

14. Phil Maxwell presented the report of the Committee on the Annuity Board which was adopted. (See page 124) Maxwell introduced R. Alton Reed, executive secretary of the Annuity Board, who spoke to the report.

President Monroe led the closing prayer of the session.

TUESDAY EVENING

15. The Stetson University Glee Club, under the direction of Prof. Harold M. Giffin, presented an inspiring program of music.

The Bible message by Dr. Pinnock was based upon 2 Corinthians 4:3. He closed with prayer.

16. (1) The Report of the State Board of Missions was again considered. (13) Recommendation 2 was again presented. H. Talmadge Smith offered a motion to amend:

Any institution or agency of the Florida Baptist State Convention, including Stetson University, which receives federal grants shall immediately cease receiving Cooperative Program funds.

After much discussion a motion for the previous question passed. The motion on the amendment was passed by a standing vote, 517 for, 358 against.

Adrian Rogers moved that the Report of the State Board of Missions be amended so as to delete the allocation granting Stetson University 4.54% in the 1966-67 budget. After much discussion the body was called to prayer, led by T. M. Johns. The motion on the amendment failed.

Mervin Altman offered a motion to increase the budgeted 4.54% for Stetson University to 8.7%. A motion to table passed.

A motion calling for the previous question passed.

A motion to adopt Recommendation 3, with the amendment, passed.

(2) After J. Ollie Edmunds, President of Stetson University, spoke concerning the University, he moved the adoption of the Report of John

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November 8-10, 1966

(Continued from last week)

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The Bible message by Clark H. Pinnock pointed up the obsession of this age with the theme of death and the sure hope which the Christian has to offer the world because of the resurrection of Christ.

Consideration of the Report of the State Board of Missions being presented by Conrad Willard was resumed, after having been continued from the afternoon session, during which Recommendation 1 had been adopted.

The following amendment was adopted after discussion by the messengers: "Any institution or

agency of the Florida Baptist Convention, including Stetson University, which receives Federal grants shall immediately cease receiving Cooperative Program Funds."

After heated debate, a motion to delete the amount proposed for allocation to Stetson in the new budget was defeated.

A motion which proposed to restore the percentage allocation to Stetson to last year's 8.7% of the budget was tabled.

The budget as proposed, with the amendment above stated, was then adopted. Recommendations 1 and 2 relating to the budget were approved as follows:

RECOMMENDATIONS AND GOALS

1. That the Convention continue its present policy of increasing by one per cent annually up to the 50-50 basis our gifts to state and worldwide causes and that the customary change be made for the year 1966-67, based on an operating budget of \$3,300,000, according to the single budget plan, with the division of our funds being 55 per cent for state causes and 45 per cent for worldwide causes.
2. That within the state, our current operations percentage division be:

(1) Field Missions	36 %
(2) Stetson University	4.54
(3) Ministerial Education	.35
(4) Florida Baptist Children's Home	5.3
(5) Baptist Bible Institute (operations)	4.55
(6) Baptist Bible Institute (capital needs—library)	3.26
(7) Florida Baptist Retirement Centers	1.0
	55 %

(These percentages apply less designations of churches around any particular institution.)

Current operating budget recommended:

A. Field Missions, 36%	\$1,188,000.00
(1) Office of Executive Secretary—Treasurer	\$ 34,342.00
(2) Office of Asst. Executive Secretary	21,515.25
(3) Accounting Office	29,788.25
(4) Promotion Office	35,425.25
(5) Field Secretaries Program	132,868.00
(6) Publicity (Witness)	10,000.00
(7) Training Union Department	66,272.50
(8) Sunday School Department	74,957.50
(9) Student Department	107,865.00
(10) Brotherhood Department	\$ 38,191.00
(11) Church Music Department	39,174.50
(12) Evangelism and Vocational Guidance Department	25,938.50
(13) Camps and Assemblies Department	41,100.00
(14) W. M. U. Auxiliary	59,585.00
(15) Florida Baptist Foundation	22,974.44
(16) Central Service Section	10,450.00
(17) Recording Secretary's Expense	535.00
(18) Pastoral Aid	6,000.00
(19) Florida Baptist Historical Society	600.00
(20) Life Insurance, Hospital & Major Medical	20,000.00

(21) Retirement Plans for Pastors, Church Staff, Board Employees	220,000.00
(22) Southern Baptist COLLEGE AND CAREER News in High School Libraries in Florida	200.00
(23) Tracts, Posters, and Advertising	5,000.00
(24) Workmen's Compensation and Liability Insurance	2,000.00
(25) Extra Help	1,000.00
(26) Moving Expense of New Employees	2,000.00
(27) President's Travel	500.00
(28) State Board Meetings	9,000.00
(29) State Board Committee Meetings	1,500.00
(30) Miscellaneous Convention Expense	7,000.00
(31) Personnel Conferences	1,000.00
(32) Publication and Mailing of Annuals	7,750.00
(33) State Convention Program Expense	500.00
(34) State Convention Special Committee Expense	2,500.00
(35) Printing Book of Reports	1,200.00
(36) Office Equipment and Maintenance	7,500.00
(37) General Utility Secretaries (2)	7,600.00
(38) Unanticipated Emergencies	31,867.81
(39) Public Affairs Committee	1,500.00
(40) State Deaf Conference	\$ 500.00
(41) Payments on Note, Assembly Section, Lake Yale Baptist Assembly	60,000.00
(42) Cost of All Audits	5,500.00
(43) Pilot Program, Chair of Bible, University of South Florida, Tampa	1,200.00
(44) Proposed Increases (Cost of Living Supplement for Employees)	33,600.00

B. Institutional Missions, 19%	\$ 627,000.00
(1) Florida Baptist Children's Home	\$174,900.00
(2) Stetson University	149,820.00
(3) Ministerial Education	11,550.00
(4) Baptist Bible Institute (operations)	150,150.00
(5) Baptist Bible Institute (capital needs—library)	107,580.00
(6) Florida Baptist Retirement Centers	33,000.00
Total	\$1,815,000.00

(Continued on page 5)



VIET NAM BAPTISM: Lt. Riley Huckaby of Gastonia, N. C., a Southern Baptist chaplain for a Seabee unit in Da Nang, Viet Nam, performs baptismal services in a bay of the South China Sea near Da Nang. (BP PHOTO)

THE EDITOR'S PAGE

The 1967 Evangelistic Conference

Long regarded as something of an annual "preachers' revival," the State Evangelistic Conference in Orlando last week brought confession, revival and challenge to more than 2,000 people from all over Florida. This was the largest attendance ever witnessed at the conference.

The meeting was marked by anticipation which gave it excitement, earnestness which gave it stability, humor which gave it delight, fellowship which gave it warmth, and devotion which gave it depth.

The gracious welcome of Host Pastor Henry A. Parker and his people to the beautiful sanctuary and capacious facilities of First Baptist Church made the overflow crowd feel at home from the very first session.

The presiding of Evangelism Secretary Paul A. Meigs and Pastors Carl A. Howell, Carl W. Houston and Hankins F. Parker kept the sessions moving smoothly.

The devotional messages of Pastors James H. Wright, Jr., Douglas Watterson, Hugh Beasley, Carroll U. Kendrick, Jr., A. P. Minshew, John L. Pelham and J. W. Oppert stimulated the minds of the throngs in attendance, laying a good foundation for the teaching and preaching of the featured speakers who followed.

The congregational singing under the direction of W. Hines Sims with Mrs. W. G. Stroup at the organ and Mrs. Paul A. Meigs at the piano, warmed our hearts, strengthened our fellowship and sharpened our spiritual perceptiveness. The numbers done by the choir of the host church and by the Florida Baptist Male Chorus made a worthy contribution to the meeting. Solos by Lowell Leistner, Al Fennell and Mrs. June Reaves were greatly appreciated.

The impact of the messages of Guest Soloist Joe Ann Shelton was tremendous. Her beautiful voice, her careful enunciation, her comprehensive interpretation, her splendid arrangements in hymn combinations and her excellent judgment in choice of music all combined to make of her solos extremely effective leadership in real worship experiences.

The speakers delivering major addresses were so scheduled on the program by Dr. Meigs that their messages tended throughout to complement and strengthen each other for the strongest possible total result.

Professor William E. Hull's expositions on the Beatitudes and on the Lord's Prayer were sharp and quick and powerful, as the word of God properly presented should be. His own keen mind yielded to the Spirit makes for a distinctive and refreshing experience around the Word for his hearers—in an evangelistic conference as readily as in the seminary classroom.

W. A. Criswell's preaching (after he finishes with the introductory responses, jokes and stories) is another example of what a preacher who yields heart, mind and voice to God in his very own way, after having them steeped in the Scriptures, can do in power-filled preaching. Watching and hearing him preach, one gets in the spiritual realm a feeling much like he gets in the physical realm when watching a pile driver or a great earth-moving machine at work, that while needed things are being driven home others are being completely relocated.

It is almost impossible to listen to C. E. Autrey, whatever his sermon subject may be, without having one's own sense of values renewed and re-established about the importance of two things, (1) a heart-experienced and life-expressed Christianity, and (2) the urgent need for consistent and continuing witness to the lost.

There are still few, if any, men among us who possess the spiritual heart-power in preaching that the Lord still makes it possible for Charles Howard to exert in such overflowing abundance of words rushing from the intensely serious to the delightfully humorous and back again, as if all the joys of the Christian faith must be shared NOW—lest there be no more chance to declare the good news.

Then, the challenge of Rubens Lopes of Brazil, speaking through Missionary H. Earl Peacock as interpreter, to commit ourselves wholeheartedly to the Crusade of the Americas for 1969 made us doubly glad we had already declared our intention of being part of what it now appears may be the largest single evangelistic effort undertaken in all Christian history.

Our own Florida brethren who had major program assignments measured up fully and added richly to the total value of the conference.

The address of Convention President Edgar R. Cooper called earnestly for having the mind of Christ in us—in sanctification, sacrifice and simplicity.

The study of the demands of compassion, presented by Robert L. Hughes, was deeply thought-provoking and was concluded with the somewhat disturbing declaration that "No preacher has a right to proclaim

the Gospel from his pulpit on Sunday unless he has witnessed it person-to-person during the week."

The messages of our own inimitable C. Roy Angell were further proof that there is a depth of heart-warmth, a breadth of compassionate yearning and a length of patient praying that come only with years of experiencing both joy and pain. How we thank God for these more mature brethren in the faith like Dr. Angell and Dr. Howard.

And then, how encouraged we were for the future of our work by the scripturally rich, intelligently prepared, enthusiastically delivered, Holy Spirit implanted sermon by Adrian P. Rogers. No more effective single message was delivered at the conference and we are grateful to this young pastor for it.

The one most impressive thread that ran throughout the program of this conference was the greater-than-usual emphasis upon the need of the preacher of the Gospel personally for conviction, confession, revival and renewed commitment to personal witnessing as well as evangelistic preaching.

To illustrate the effectiveness of this emphasis on others as well as myself, here is a testimony brought to me the day after the conference by one of our splendid young pastors in the state, Thomas M. Pinner, Jr. He wrote:

"The great Evangelistic Conference just completed in Orlando was inspiring to all. But I came away with something more important than inspiration—and that was repentance.

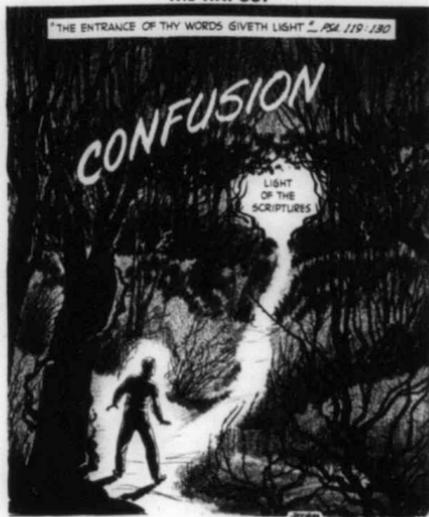
"On the last day of the conference I was struck by the thought that here I had been listening to the speakers encourage evangelism and witnessing—and I had not taken the time to witness even once during the conference! It was a humiliating thing for God to reveal. If it were true of me, how many times was this failure to witness repeated? Here we were, sorrowing that our congregations "back home" were not soul-winners—and the congregation I was part of was composed of ministers dedicated to witnessing for Christ. In Orlando was assembled the largest congregation in Florida composed of ministers of the Gospel and—what impact had we made on Orlando?

"It reminded me of the speaker at chapel during seminary days. He was concerned for souls and told how he witnessed to the seminary janitor—and discovered he was the first one who ever had!

"I hope I was the only minister who failed to witness during the two days that were dedicated to encouraging evangelism and witnessing."

We have a feeling that a great many more who attended the conference came to a similar realization. If they didn't they should have, and if they did it will surely mean that more witnessing will be done in the days ahead of us. — WGS

THE WAY OUT



Proceedings of

Florida Baptist State Convention

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(Continued from last week)

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(31) Personnel Conferences	1,000.00	
(32) Publication and Mailing of Annuals	7,750.00	
(33) State Convention Program Expense	500.00	
(34) State Convention Special Committee Expense	2,500.00	
(35) Printing Book of Reports	1,200.00	
(36) Office Equipment and Maintenance	7,500.00	
(37) General Utility Secretaries (2)	7,600.00	
(38) Unanticipated Emergencies	31,867.81	
(39) Public Affairs Committee	1,500.00	
(40) State Deaf Conference	\$ 500.00	
(41) Payments on Note, Assembly Section, Lake Yale Baptist Assembly	60,000.00	
(42) Cost of All Audits	5,500.00	
(43) Pilot Program, Chair of Bible, University of South Florida, Tampa	1,200.00	
(44) Proposed Increases (Cost of Living Supplement for Employees)	33,600.00	
B. Institutional Missions, 19%		\$ 627,000.00
(1) Florida Baptist Children's Home	\$174,900.00	
(2) Stetson University	149,820.00	
(3) Ministerial Education	11,550.00	
(4) Baptist Bible Institute (operations)	150,150.00	
(5) Baptist Bible Institute (capital needs—library)	107,580.00	
(6) Florida Baptist Retirement Centers	33,000.00	
Total		<u>\$1,815,000.00</u>

(Continued on page 3)



VIET NAM BAPTISM: Lt. Riley Huckaby of Gastonia, N. C., a Southern Baptist chaplain for a Seabee unit in Da Nang, Viet Nam, performs baptismal services in a bay of the South China Sea near Da Nang. (BP PHOTO)

Adrian Rogers announces retirement from Bellevue

By MICHAEL FOUST
Baptist Press

CORDOVA, Tenn. (BP)—Adrian Rogers, who helped lead the Southern Baptist Convention back to its biblical, historical roots, announced his retirement as pastor of the Memphis-area Bellevue Baptist Church Sept. 12.

Rogers' retirement is effective next spring, although a specific date has not yet been given. The goal is to have a new pastor in place when Rogers leaves. Making the announcement on his 73rd birthday, Rogers read a letter to the church, which has some 27,000 members.

"Now comes a time that we all knew would come when I should announce my retirement as pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church," Rogers said in the statement that has since been posted on the church website. "Nevertheless,

I will not retire from the ministry until I draw my last breath."

Health, Rogers said, "is not a factor" in the decision. He had triple bypass heart surgery March 16.

"I thank God for my recovery and growing vitality and hope for many good years ahead," Rogers said.

Rogers is a native of West Palm Beach who served as pastor of Parkview Baptist Church in Fort Pierce and First Baptist Church of Merritt Island before being called to Bellevue in 1972.

Ken Whitten, pastor of Tampa's Idlewild Baptist Church, told *Florida Baptist Witness* that he had "mixed emotions" about Rogers' retirement. While "saddened" for Bellvue, he is "elated" for Rogers and his wife "who have labored, sacrificed, shepherded

and ministered" for 34 years.

"Dr. Adrian Rogers is my spiritual father in the ministry, and one for whom I will always be grateful that I was given the privilege of serving under his godly leadership for eight years. All that I know about leadership, preaching, vision, and integrity, I learned at his feet. He will always be my pastor, counselor and friend. There are literally thousands of pastors who would make that same confession," Whitten told the *Witness*.

"When I think of where we would be as a Southern Baptist denomination without Adrian Rogers, I shudder," Whitten added. "For such a time as this, God raised up a giant in our midst to

turn an entire denomination back to its roots, moorings and foundation of believing the inspired, infallible and inerrant Word of God. I believe that when history is written, we will all know that was his greatest mark."

Upon retirement, Rogers said he plans on continuing the Love Worth Finding radio and television ministry. He also plans on ministering through the recently established Adrian Rogers Pastor Training Institute and teaching at Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary. He will continue attending Bellevue Baptist.

"These and other opportunities will keep me challenged and busy," Rogers said. "I also plan to spend more quality time with my family."

Rogers was called as pastor of Bellevue Baptist in 1972, succeeding Ramsey Pollard, who had served as pastor since 1960. The church became a

prominent SBC congregation under the leadership of R.G. Lee, who served as pastor from 1927 to 1960.

Rogers' election as president of the Southern Baptist Convention in 1979 helped spark what is known as the conservative resurgence—a period in which the denomination returned to its historical, orthodox roots and a commitment to biblical inerrancy. After choosing not to run for re-election in 1980, Rogers was elected president again in 1986 and 1987. A conservative has won the presidency every year since 1979.

In 1999-2000 Rogers served as chairman of the Baptist Faith and Message Study Committee, which revised Southern Baptists' statement of belief by clarifying the denomination's core doctrines. It was adopted by the 2000 SBC annual meeting in Orlando.

[Florida Baptist Witness contributed to this story.]



ROGERS

Thousands say goodbye to Adrian Rogers ‘til heaven

...rmed to preach, already in Memphis, when word to present a young man from Florida to preach in I got bumped. Adrian was called, and I was in the

lected president of the SBC. I came into a room Adrian had come out earlier and endorsed my He said something to the effect of, ‘I promised l. Our people have chosen my friend Jim Henry to my president, and I will pray for and support him stand together.’ That kind of statesmanship was ncouragement meant more than these words can

...t for spiritual nurture and church relations of the rved as SBC president from 1996-98.

...the conservative resurgence, I never saw on Adrian’s e attitude. In those rooms sometimes, there were ngr about what was being said about them. The his voice and moderation had an effect on all of us. than the most of us. He was very incisive. He could ould trace it all the way to its end. He would say, ut in the long run it won’t be good for the Kingdom what he was in public – very gracious and incisive.” wood Baptist Church in Plano, Texas, who served

...in 1975, I was amazed by his preaching ability, . So I called and made an appointment and then in Bartlesville, where he was preaching a revival Silvers. I was in awe. The warmth of his person- e, a young preacher, encouraged me. I soaked up een in the presence of a man of God.

...Baptist Church in Daytona Beach, who currently

...hair still uncombed, barefoot and in his undershirt e he was... the already legendary, Dr. Adrian Rogers! nk the words publicly that would fire one of the e an unprecedented and historical victory in the thern Baptist Convention.

...I was sitting there on the edge of his hotel bed ragement to become the pastor of the First Baptist

...who had driven his pastor, Bob Mowery, to this Rogers had taken time out of his intense and nd very ordinary and inexperienced guy like me. agement has stayed with me throughout all these o be accessible to others on their journey for Jesus.”

...line to: www.FloridaBaptistWitness.com and look

CORDOVA, Tenn. (BP)—A golden, 8-foot shepherd’s staff leaned against the casket.

Inside, next to the body of Adrian Rogers, was an open Bible – his Bible. He had scribbled notes in the margins. He had highlighted verses, including Psalm 112:1-6, which concludes: “Surely he shall not be moved forever: The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance.”

Thousands at Bellevue Baptist Church in suburban Memphis, Tenn., gathered Nov. 17 to remember Rogers – their pastor, their family member, their mentor, their friend. Rogers died Nov. 15 at age 74 after a struggle with cancer and double pneumonia.

In March, masses packed Bellevue to celebrate the life and ministry of Rogers, who retired after serving the church as pastor for 32 years. Thursday evening, just eight months later, they returned -- this time to say goodbye.

Throughout the service, speakers recalled Rogers’ loving adoration of his family, his kindness and his sense of humor. They remembered Rogers as a man who refused to compromise God’s Word, who preached it unashamedly and who desired more than anything to see lost people “come to Jesus.”

“He was my hero, my knight in shining armor, who was always there to slay my dragons,” said Janice Edmiston, Rogers’ daughter. “My comforter through the hardest of times. My counselor whose words were a deep well of wisdom that I could draw freely from.”

Edmiston spoke of the love between Rogers and his wife Joyce, “one of the greatest love stories this world has ever known.” Rogers never dated another girl. He often said that he and Joyce met in the fourth grade but didn’t get serious until the sixth grade.

Edmiston also recalled her father’s contagious positive spirit, and his ability to put a

positive spin on everything – even the cancer that would eventually claim his life.

“This is good for me,” Edmiston recalled her father saying about the cancer. “It’s given me something to focus on, kind of like a hobby.”

Her emotional eulogy was her “tell-all” story about her father – but Edmiston said it wasn’t sufficient to communicate the truth.

“Of everything that has been said today about my daddy’s character, his love and his greatness – take that, multiply it by 100, and yet the half has not been told,” she said. “And when he stepped over into glory, although it left a hole in my heart the size of the Grand Canyon, we are comforted to know that our loss is Heaven’s gain.”

The two-hour service also included a eulogy from Rogers’ son, David, who said he learned from his father generosity, a love for God’s Word, acceptance of others and courage.

“I’ve learned what it means to take a stand when the easiest thing was to stay quiet,” he said.

Other speakers included James Whitmire and Bob Sorrell, who served on staff with Rogers for years; longtime friends Joe Boatwright and Peter Lord; pastors Jerry Vines and Ken Whitten; and James Dobson, founder of Focus on the Family.

Vines, pastor of First Baptist Church in Jacksonville, said he would miss Rogers’ preaching and acknowledged his own loss.

“Who could not but grieve? Who could have a dry eye over the loss of this good and faithful man?” Vines said. “The Bible says we’re to sorrow not as those who have no hope, but it does not say we are to sorrow not. Our Christian faith does not dehumanize us.”

Crediting Rogers with influencing many, Vines said to “pray that a double portion of Adrian Rogers’ spirit shall be upon us all.”

“Adrian Rogers was our acknowledged leader,” Vines continued. “He led by the godliness of his character, the Christ-likeness of his behavior and the power of his spirit-filled life.”

Ken Whitten, pastor of Idlewild Baptist Church in Tampa, and a former minister on staff at Bellevue Baptist, said, like many, he looked to Rogers for leadership.

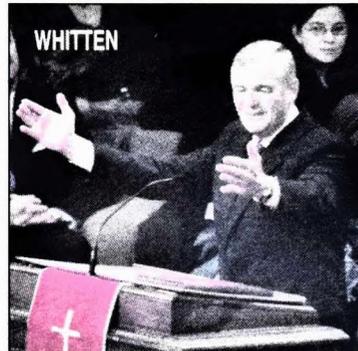
“His life was as much like the Lord Jesus Christ to me as any man I’ve ever met. I loved Adrian Rogers, maybe at times too much, because his voice in my life always sounded like God’s voice,” Whitten said. “I’m sure there were moments in his life he didn’t act like Jesus Christ, but I never saw any. He spoke like Jesus. He lived like Jesus.

He even died at three o’clock like Jesus.”

Whitten said Rogers made him feel “safe” as a pastor. “He spoke with authority and his authority was the inspired, inerrant, infallible Word of God. Hardly a night would go by that he would not meditate on a verse or a passage of Scripture before he went to bed. He taught us to love God’s Word and preach God’s Word,” Whitten said. “Others adore and idolize athletes. My hero was Adrian Rogers.”

Although no one can tell Rogers how much he is appreciated any longer, people can honor Rogers by “imitating his character, honoring his convictions and heeding his counsel,” Whitten said.

“Lastly I’d like to say to Dr. Rogers, thank you for letting me be on your staff,” Whitten concluded. “I am not only better for it, the entire Whitten family is better, [and] Idlewild Church and the city of Tampa are far better off tonight because of your life. I love you. I will miss you.



See MEMORIAL, Page 16

Metropolitan
convention
Greensboro
Carolyn Nichols

■ Peggy and Cecil Seagle (center and right) caught up with long-time friend Tony Beam, director of the Christian Worldview Center of North Greenville (S.C.) University, in the corridor after the Tuesday afternoon session of the Southern Baptist Convention. Seagle is director of the Missions Division of the Florida Baptist Convention.

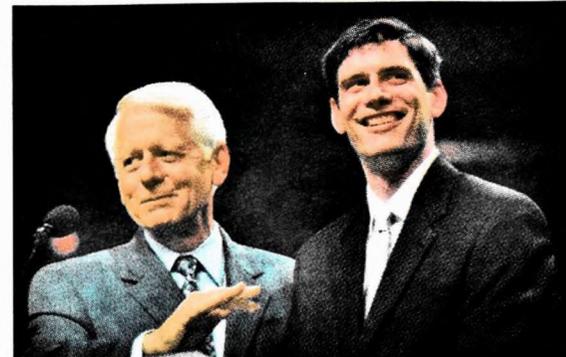
Photo by Carolyn Nichols

share his glory with another. Let's be sure to give him the praise and the honor that is due to him.
The sculpture was created by O'Brien, a bivocational pastor from Wyoming, and funded by Fryer and Samuelson, two Southern Baptist businessmen from Atlanta. O'Brien said he sought to capture both the man and his message.
"This is certainly about Dr. Graham, but it is also about the Gospel and that is what I want it to portray and I hope that comes across strongly and profoundly because we are about preaching the Gospel ...," he said. "I have tried to bring the Gospel to the forefront in this sculpture and pay tribute to a man who has dedicated his life to preaching all over the world without compromise. So this has been a great privilege for me."

Welch, who is pastor of First Baptist Church in Daytona Beach, said the memorial to Graham's ministry and message should serve as an inspiration for ministers young and old.

"If an older pastor were to wonder how he should go out of the Gospel ministry, he should look at that statue," Welch said. "[Go] with the Word in your hand, preaching the cross, your mouth open, letting Jesus be known to the world.

"If there is ever a young pastor [who] wondered, 'What route shall I take for my whole ministry?' Take a look at that statue. Go the whole way with the Word of God as the inerrant truth, with the cross of Calvary as your message and with your mouth open preaching the Lord Jesus. That's exactly what this man [Graham] would do."



■ Bobby Welch, president of the Southern Baptist Convention (left), and Will Graham, grandson of Billy Graham, watch as a sculpture honoring the world-renowned evangelist is unveiled. BP photo by Jonathan Blair

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The late Adrian Rogers continues to inspire

■ Jimmy Draper, retired president of LifeWay Christian Resources, prays for Joyce Rogers, widow of Adrian Rogers, the late pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Cordova, Tenn., during the Past Presidents Memorial June 13 at the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Greensboro, N.C.

Adrian Rogers was president of the Southern Baptist Convention in 1979, 1986 and 1987. He was honored with separate personal and video tributes June 12 and 13 at the Greensboro Coliseum, during the SBC Pastors' Conference and, then, the annual meeting.

The first video tribute showed Rogers in various stages of his 33-year pulpit ministry at the Memphis church. The video ended with Rogers stating in his distinctively deep voice, "the burning ambition in my heart is to finish well." The second video tribute came from past SBC presidents.

Joyce Rogers was particularly moved with emotion on the second night as the past presidents presented her with a special keepsake chest. "Thank you so much for your loving tribute," she said. "He loved you all." He and Joyce were married 54 years. "He was a man of deep integrity and purity," she said. "He was a faithful man. He was faithful to his God, to me, his wife, to his children, his family, and the larger body of Christ. ... He wanted to be faithful to the end. We put that on his grave marker."

She stood with her four children, Stephen, Gayle, David and Janice, and read a poem by Janice that told about how the distinguished pastor finished well. "Even though he's dead, he still speaks, and we're listening," Draper said. "And we still miss him."



BP photo by Matt Miller

Jan - Please file: Adrian Rogers **F3W 6-29-2006**

This, That and the Other

New Pastor and Additions At Merritt Island Church



First Church, Merritt Island has had 143 additions since Adrian P. Rogers became pastor in August.

Rogers went to Merritt Island from Parkview Church, Ft. Pierce. During his six-year ministry there, the church had 1,338 additions (652 by baptism), increased its budget from \$15,000 to \$90,000 per year, and gifts to missions totaled \$54,000 with the church giving 22 per cent of its budget to missions through the Cooperative Program.

A native of West Palm Beach, Rogers is a graduate of Stetson University and New Orleans Seminary. He and his wife, Joyce, have four children: Steve, Gayle, David and Janice.

Tampa Luncheon Scheduled For Southern Seminary



Alumni of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary will have a luncheon during the Florida Baptist State Convention on November 11 at 12:00 noon in the

Floridan Hotel, Tampa.

Faculty representative meeting with the group will be Prof. Inman Johnson, alumni secretary-emeritus and professor of speech.

Ralph Keene, pastor of Idlewild Church, Tampa, is president of Southern Seminary Alumni in Florida.

Ministers Wives Luncheon

The annual Ministers Wives Luncheon will be held during the Florida Baptist State Convention at the Hyde Park Methodist Church, Tampa on Tuesday, November 10 at 12:30 p.m. W. Karl Steele, chalk artist, will be featured at the meeting, according to Mrs. Malcolm Knight, president.

All reservations must be received by 6:30 p.m. Monday, November 9. Send advance reservations to Mrs. J. Titus Aldridge, 3903 Granada, Tampa, Fla.

Revival Report

First Church, Edgewater, Evangelist Pastor Ronald Ryan, Singer Curtis French, 18 professions of faith, 12 by letter.

November 8 will be Homecom-

Bay Ceia Church, Tampa Calls Causey as Pastor

Bay Ceia Church, Tampa has called David E. Causey as pastor.

A graduate of Howard College and Southern Seminary, Causey comes to Florida from Broadmoor Church, Bessemer, Ala., where he led in completing new buildings, including a \$75,000 sanctuary, during his year there.

Mr. and Mrs. Causey have three boys, ages 9, 7 and 20 months.

Ollie G. Matthews has been interim pastor at Bay Ceia Church.

The 94th annual meeting of Wekiwa Baptist Association met October 15 and 16 at College Park Church, Orlando, Girod H. Cole, Jr., host pastor.

Four new churches were admitted to the Association, bringing the total number of churches to 56 with over 29,000 members. There were 1,422 baptisms reported by the churches for last year, and 2,383 other additions.

The Association now has a chaplain visiting the hospitals, work among the migrants and a Camp Joy program.

Moderator James S. Haskins was re-elected for another year, Alvin G. Hause was elected vice moderator, and Bob McAllister was re-elected clerk.

Park Lane Church, Jacksonville observed its ninth anniversary on October 18. R. Grady Snowden, Jr. is pastor.

Among the guests at the special services were: M. L. Chapman, first pastor when Park Lane was a mission; Carl Howell, pastor of the sponsoring church; C. M. Coalsen, former field secretary who was instrumental in the church's beginning; and Orrin Stites, who is now field secretary in the Jacksonville area.

The church had 11 additions (six for baptism) on this day.

The ladies of Wilton Manors Church, Fort Lauderdale plan to "stamp the preacher right out of the country" by sending Pastor Calvin Booth to the Holy Land with trading stamps.

A committee, headed by Mrs. Gene Murphy, is in the process of collecting 750 stamp books for the four-week tour.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester R. DeBusk of Brooksville and Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Denham of Lockhart are among the students from 17 states who are attending Clear Creek Baptist School, a Kentucky Baptist Convention theological school

New Orleans Seminary Alumni to Meet in Tampa

Florida alumni of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary will meet November 11, during the State Convention in Tampa, according to Florida Alumni President H. Fred Williams, Winter Garden.

The meeting is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. at the Morrison Cafeteria.

Representing the seminary will be Professor of Church History, William A. Mueller. Items of business will include the election of new officers and a report on progress of contributions for the proposed Leavell Chair of Evangelism.

Baptist Bible Institute Alumni Plan Breakfast

Alumni of Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville will meet at Morrison's (downtown) Cafeteria, Tampa on Wednesday, November 11, for a breakfast session beginning at 7:30 a.m. This will be during the Florida Baptist State Convention, where the Institute Choir will sing.

At the breakfast President James E. Southerland will discuss progress being made at the school, and Gus Johnson will show the plan for more student housing.

September marked the third anniversary of L. J. Coker as pastor of Dixieland Church, Lakeland.

During these three years, the

Dominey Becomes Pastor of Oakcrest Church, Pens



During first month near B. Do has been of Oakcrest Church, the has had 22 tions and has been

crease of more than 50 in day school attendance.

Dominey resigned from Gboro Church, Greensboro, a seven-year pastorate. Under leadership the church had conditions for baptism, inc gifts to missions through t operative Program from \$2,700 annually, dedicated sanctuary in 1959, and pur additional property.

A native of Clayton, Dominey is a graduate of H College and New Orleans nary. Mrs. Dominey is the Jean Marie Patterson, daug President E. N. Patters Grand Canyon (Baptist) C Phoenix, Arizona. The Do have four boys: Gerald R Raymond Nelson, John and David Patterson.

church has had about 11 ditions, attained the Stand Sunday school, and had a ard Vacation Bible Scho last two years. The church pastorium have been pair heating system installed education building, and co able indebtedness paid.

Lake Ola Chapel, Mt. Dora Becomes New Church



Lake Ola Baptist Chapel, a mission of First Church, Mt. Dora constituted into a church on October 4.

Officers elected by the newly-organized church are, from Vance Brock, assistant treasurer; Arch Hodges, deacon; Tommy er, pastor; and Mrs. Lottie Koecker, clerk. Charles Stout, not pictured, is treasurer.

The organizing council was composed of ministers and deacons from neighboring churches in Lake County Association.

Participating in the program

tor of First Church, Eus Fay Deshay, pastor of Church, Tavares; Alfred pastor of First Church, U Tommy Parker, chapel J. O. Townsend, chairman Missions Committee; an

This, That and the Other

First Church, Holly Hill to Erect Education Building



Members of First Church, Holly Hill recently broke ground for a two-story education building.

Standing on the slab upon which the building is being erected are members of the Building Committee, from left: Eddie Brown, Mrs. Ella Pangle, Mrs. Nell Brown, Stanley Rose, Quay Devane, W. C. Linkous, Chairman C. G. Phillips, and Pastor Jerry L. Adkins.

The first floor of the new building will be a combination fellowship hall and Adult department. The second floor will house two other departments.

The pastorium and present education facilities have been remodeled. The value of church property, including the new building, will be \$440,000.

Homecomings

Mt. Pisgah Church, Orange Blossom Association, will observe Homecoming June 12. Guest speakers will be J. C. Fleming, Pensacola, and J. Dudley Best, Wauchula.

A basket dinner will be served at noon. Former pastors, members and friends are invited to attend. James W. Wingate is pastor.

Caney Creek Church, DeFuniak Springs, has announced homecoming day services June 12. Dinner on the grounds will be followed by hymn sing at 1:30. Marion H. Cates, Sr. is pastor.

George Schrieffer became minister of education, First Church, St. Petersburg May 15, after having served the past five years in this capacity at West Bradenton Church, Bradenton. He is a graduate of Stetson University and New Orleans Seminary.

William A. (Bill) Tober, who has served churches in Nebraska and in North Africa as interim pastor, minister of music and associate pastor, is now a student at the University of Florida and is available for pulpit supply. He may be reached at 245T Flavet, Gainesville, Fla. 32601. Phone 378-1815.

To Dedicate Sanctuary

First Church, Union Park will dedicate its new sanctuary on June 5. Former pastors, members and friends are invited to attend the Dedication Service and dinner on the grounds.

The new sanctuary, which will seat 430, has central air conditioning and heating and is fully carpeted. Ralph K. Taylor is pastor.

John E. Howell, former pastor of First Church, DeLand, was installed as pastor of Northside Drive Church, Atlanta, Ga. on May 8.

Participating in the installation were Monroe F. Swilley, Searcy S. Garrison, William L. Self and Carl Howell, Dr. Howell's father, who is pastor of Murray Hill Church, Jacksonville.

Fluker G. Stewart, public relations director at Stetson University, DeLand, has been appointed Director of College Relations at Valdosta State College, Valdosta, Ga. He will assume his new duties on July 1, 1966.

In a reorganization of the overall communications program at Stetson University, President J. Ollie Edmunds has announced that effective July 1, this area will be headed by Ralph M. Parkman, director of the University's News Bureau. William M. Roberts, a Stetson graduating senior, who has been Stetson's sports publicity director for the past two years, will become the assistant director of the News Bureau.

West Pittman Church, Westville, has purchased a three-bedroom trailer home for Pastor J. Ivaloy Loper. A student at Baptist Bible Institute, Loper has been pastor since November, 1965.

Holiday Hill Church Breaks Ground for New Building

Holiday Hill Church, Jacksonville held groundbreaking services May 15 for its new two-story \$55,000 education building, which will have two Beginner, Primary and Junior Departments each, and one Young People's Department.

Participating in the program were Orrin W. Stites, field secretary, District #5; Malcolm B. Knight, pastor, Southside Church; W. H. Stone, chairman building committee; A. W. Robertson and E. W. Morris, members building committee. Lester L. Hall is pastor.

Charles J. Julian, Jr., minister of evangelism at North Jacksonville Church, Jacksonville for five years, has been called as pastor of Mid-City Church, Atlanta, Ga.

A native of East Tennessee, Julian was educated at Cumberland University and Southern and Southeastern Seminaries. He has held pastorates in Jacksonville, and Nashville and Joelton, Tenn.

First Church, Merritt Island has received 1188 new members (477 by baptism) during the past 20 months. The church is presently engaged in a \$1,000,000 building program. Adrian P. Rogers is pastor.

Fred Scholfield, minister of music, First Church, Gainesville, has resigned effective June 30, which will be the occasion of his 20th anniversary with the church. He will give his full time to farming interests in Alachua.

Lamar J. McCullough of Miami, a student at Baptist Bible Institute, has accepted the call of Leonia Church, Leonia. Plans are being made for his ordination at Melrose Heights Church, Miami where he was licensed as a minister in 1963.

Orris P. Flynt, Jr., of Sanford, and Douglasville, Ga. has accepted the pastorate of Darlington Church, Darlington. His last pastorate was New Prospect Church, Chipley.

E. W. Bryant New Pastor of Blake Memorial Church

E. W. Bryant has resigned Normandy Village Church, Jacksonville to accept a unanimous call to the pastorate of Blake Memorial Church, Lake Helen.



Revival Reports

Webster Avenue, Lakeland. Evangelist Elwin Anderson, Singer Al Tedder, 10 for baptism, 3 by letter, Pastor Don Seitman.

Terry Parker Church, Jacksonville. Evangelist Henry Allen Parker, Singer Al Washburn, 5 for baptism, 13 by letter, two commitments of life for vocational Christian service.

Sunset Hills Church, Tarpon Springs. Evangelist Pastor Leroy G. Boatright, Singer Chris Manos, three for baptism, five by letter.

Lemon Heights Church, Palatka. Evangelist Elbert C. Tyner, three for baptism, Pastor James W. Browning.

Parkway Church, Tallahassee. Evangelist Jimmy O'Quinn of Atlanta, 28 for baptism, 10 by letter, Pastor Warren H. Rush.

Miss Glenda Edenfield has been called to be youth director of First Church, Tallahassee, effective the last of May. Miss Edenfield is a native of Miami and a graduate of Florida State University, and Southern Baptist Seminary. She has served two churches as youth director: North Hialeah, Miami and Wilshire, Dallas.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Miller, Southern Baptist missionaries, were scheduled to leave for the Philippines on May 24, following a layover in the States. They may be addressed at 1154 M. H. del Pi Street, Manila, Philippines. He is a native of Fort Myers, Fla.



NEW ORLEANS SEMINARY GRADUATES—Florida students who graduated May 20 at New Orleans Baptist Seminary are as follows (from left): John A. Leland, Jacksonville MCM; John Nathaniel C. Jr., New Smyrna Beach, MRS; Charles W. McClelland, Lakeland; Fred M. Smith, Orlando, MRS; Lowell Crawford, Miami, BD.

Adrian Rogers, pastor of First Church, Merritt Island, delivered the commencement address.

The Case for Chastity

By T. B. MASTON, Retired Professor of Ethics
Southern Baptist Theological Seminary



Mitchell Maddox, minister of education, First Baptist Church, Orlando, attended a meeting in Nashville recently to discuss improvements in the education programs of the Southern Baptist Convention for the 1970's.

—BSSB PHOTO.

State Leaders Discuss Plans for the 1970's

NASHVILLE — Presidents of state pastors' conferences, Southern Baptist Convention pastors' conference president and state and regional religious education and church music association leaders met here recently to evaluate plans for education programs in the 1970's.

Sponsored by the education division of the Sunday School Board, the Woman's Missionary Union and the Brotherhood Commission of the SBC, the meeting was the first of its kind.

W. L. Howse, director of the education division, said the purpose of the meeting was to evaluate the concept of the churches' work in

Can a valid case be made for chastity in the contemporary period when there is more sexual knowledge and greater sexual freedom than ever before?

It seems clear that the appeal to the fear of pregnancy and of venereal disease is much less effective than formerly. It is possible that these matters are being dismissed too readily.

In spite of the widespread use of contraceptives, including "the pill," there are approximately 300,000 babies born annually in the United States out of wedlock.

Also, venereal diseases have increased sharply in recent years, particularly among teen-agers.

But what if these more or less negative arguments for chastity could be entirely eliminated? Would there still exist valid reasons for chastity?

These are tremendously important questions not only for youth but also for parents, pastors, and workers with youth.

Some young people, particularly the more intelligent ones, are evidently working out answers for themselves. They believe that the freedom of choice which has been given to them is the freedom to say "no" as well as to say "yes" and they believe to say "no" to sex laxness which is so prevalent requires

program materials; to react to plans of the 1970's and to suggest best ways of interpreting plans of the 1970's.

Howse said, "the conference achieved its purpose because those attending expressed themselves freely and openly. Their concerns, though at times conflicting, will be constant reminders as we complete our plans for the 1970's."



Pastor and Mrs. Adrian Rogers, First Baptist Church, Merritt Island, attended a meeting in Nashville recently to discuss improvements in the SBC education programs for the 1970's.

—BSSB PHOTO

more character, courage, and strength of purpose than to say "yes."

As young people search for personally acceptable moral standards many of them are realizing that the fullest and best life for them lies along the road of discipline and self-control. They increasingly understand that the best things in life are reserved for those who are masters of their appetites rather than mastered by those appetites.

The more fully they understand the sexual nature of man, the more clearly they realize the complexity of sex. Its full expression involves the total personalities of two people.

Many of them also understand that a person, created in the image of God, is never to be used as a mere "thing" an "it," but rather as a "thou," or another person.

The dean of the chapel at Princeton University closed a recent magazine article with the statement that the case for chastity rested up-

on the God-given dignity of men and women. He then added: "It is a good case, and it is original in every generation."

All of us should know that when the expression of sex is purely physical and when another person is used as a mere "thing" the experience itself is not satisfying; it is self-defeating.

Let us also never forget that the basic laws that have been written into our natures cannot be violated without paying the price sooner or later. This is true in the area of sex even if the occasions for the old fears are entirely removed.

Many a man or a woman— young or old—can testify that he has paid the price with the loss of self-respect and a continuing nagging, lingering regret.

In other words, the price for unchastity may be psychological as well as physical.

A prominent psychiatrist recently said that premarital sex relations resulting from exposure to the so-called "new morality" has greatly increased the number of young people in mental hospitals.

Erich Fromm, in a relatively recent book, says: "Moral norms are based on man's inherent quality, and violation results in mental and emotional disintegration."

It seems from all the evidence available that chastity before marriage and faithfulness after marriage are good common sense.

Now 29.8 Million Baptists in World

WASHINGTON (BP)—The membership of Baptist churches around the world shot upward by 2.6 million in the latest tabulation by the Baptist World Alliance.

A statistical table prepared annually shows a 1968 membership total of 29,817,707 as compared with a total compilation of 27,183,622 a year ago.

Josef Nordenhaug, general secretary of B.W.A., said that the statistics include only baptized believers who have "personally professed faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord and followed him in believer's baptism."

The largest gains were in Negro conventions in North America. Figures for the National Baptist Convention of America jumped 831,000 to a current 3.5 million. The National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc., showed a gain of 800,000 to a current 6.3 million. The Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc., climbed from 505,000 to 521,000.

The largest single group is the Southern Baptist Convention, in the U.S.A., with a new total of 11,142,726—up 370,000 over the previously tabulated figures.

Nordenhaug said the gains were not necessarily achieved in a 12 month period because in some cases the previous comparative figures were more than a year old.

The new totals by continents (with the increase shown in paren-

thesis) are:

Africa—471,856 (29,744)

Asia—960,938 (20,732)

Central America — 214,363 (2,579)

Europe—1,157,432 (29,188)

Middle East—1,068 (186)

South America—297,048 (14,607)

Southwest Pacific—111,873 (3,351)

North America — 26,412,866 (2,343,435)

The statistical tabulation breaks down the totals by continents by listing the totals currently available in each of the 124 countries in the world where Baptists are known to live and witness.

Arizona Music, BSU Secretary Resigns

PHOENIX, Ariz. (BP)—Paul G. Barnes, music and Baptist Student Union secretary for the Arizona Southern Baptist Convention here, resigned effective Feb. 29 to become minister of music-education at Southside Baptist Church, Tempe, Ariz.

nett Church, Jacksonville this new education annex Robert H. Solomon is

Roote, superintendent ns for the Jacksonville n. brought the dedication and C. M. Coalson, form pastor, gave the charge rch. Pastor Solomon pre the service. v air-conditioned building a complete office suite ing and training depart- the adults and children's

Contos served as chair- the building committee, th Guy J. Vann, Jack . Gerald McKinley, T. M. han, Jr., James McClele- e Smith and Sam De- C. McLaughlin was the



**al Rural Church
ference at BBI**

I. Beryl Roberts, pastor of Lake Carroll Baptist Church, Tampa, will be the preacher during Baptist Bible Institute's annual Rural Church Conference, November 1-3.

ome Mission Board, At- a, cooperates with BBI to conduct these sessions. arge a percent of students rom urban areas, and so imni settling there. "We e to consider calling this ban conference soon," ac- o the BBI president, Dr. Southerland.

71 theme will be, "The lus in Ministries." Con- will have three emphases: ple Ministries, (2) Factors r Missions, (3) and Deal- Frustrations.

Homecomings

i Church, Lake City an- Homecoming October 17. alters will be speaker for ing service, concluding a revival services. Dinner erved on the grounds.

Church, Lulu announces Homecoming October 17. Williams will be guest t the morning service, fol- dinner on the grounds.

n Church, Brooksville an- Homecoming services Oc- Wayne Johnson, a for- or, will speak at the morn- ce. Dinner will be served

**Coral Park Church, Miami
Calls R. Kenneth Gaskin**

R. Kenneth Gaskin, formerly pastor of First Church, Sparta, Georgia, has accepted the call as pastor of Coral Park Church, Miami.

A graduate of Valdosta State College and New Orleans Seminary, he served churches in Madison, Florida, Louisiana and Georgia before going to Miami.

Mrs. Gaskin, also a graduate of Valdosta State College, is the former Jewell Horton, daughter and sister of two Florida pastors. Both Mr. and Mrs. Gaskin studied with the Archaeological Research in Israel last summer, sponsored by the New Orleans Seminary.

The Gaskins have two children: Ken, ten and Karis, four.

Observes 146th Anniversary

Ebenezer Church, Monticello celebrated its 146th anniversary October 10 with Homecoming Day. Al S. Brock, who was recently called to serve as pastor, preached at the morning service. Dinner was served on the grounds with singing in the afternoon.

on the grounds, followed by a song service in the afternoon. Day- ton Schofield is the pastor.

Ebenezer Church, Trenton will observe Homecoming October 24. Guest speaker will be T. J. Ellis, a former pastor. Dinner will be served at 1:00 p.m.

North Main Street Church, Jacksonville plans to observe Homecoming October 17. Dinner will be served on the grounds. James T. Barber is pastor.

**Adrian Rogers To Speak at
Ohio Baptist Convention**

Adrian Rogers, pastor of First Church, Merritt Island, is scheduled to speak three times at the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio, meeting November 3-5 at First Baptist Church, Fairborn, Ohio.

He will be heard in his first message Thursday morning, November 4.

Celebrates Anniversary

East Hialeah Church, Hialeah observed its 20th anniversary, beginning with the morning service October 3. A. D. Dawson, superintendent of Missions, Gulf Stream Association, and the first speaker at this church, was guest speaker. Richard Bryant, director of Missions in Miami, spoke at the evening service.

Continuing the observance, on

**E. Guy Mathews Goes to
West Frostproof Church**

West Frostproof Church, Orange Blossom Association, organized in 1928, has called E. Guy Mathews of Lake Wales as its full-time pastor, effective October 3.

Mathews has served the church on a part-time basis for 16 months, during which time an increase was shown in membership and gifts.

Property adjacent to the church has been purchased to begin the construction of a pastorium in the immediate future.

October 10 guest speaker at the morning service was J. C. Lype, former pastor of Emmanuel Church which sponsored this work, and speaker at the evening service was Bernard D. Holt.

This church began with a membership of five. The pastor was I. L. McDougle. Today "Brother Mac" is still the pastor of East Hialeah Church.

First Mortgage Church Bonds

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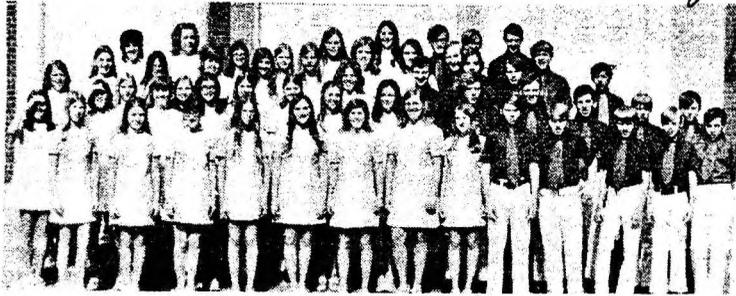
Rev. Edwin Diaz, Pastor
Northside Spanish Baptist Church
840 NW 100th Street
Miami, Florida 33150
Telephone: 305-888-0566

The Florida Baptist Convention, 1230 Hendricks Avenue, Jacksonville, Florida has established a limited guaranty fund for the benefit of the holder of these bonds, and agrees to pay to the bearer or registered owner any dishonored bond or interest coupon, after due date.

October 14 1971 FBW Vol 88 #40

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Youth Choir Conducts Four Bible Schools in Kentucky

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The 46 members of **Outreach**, the youth choir of Delaney Street Church, Orlando, went to Harlan, Kentucky on a mission tour in July and conducted four Bible schools at Kelly Street, Wallins, Putney and Totz Baptist Churches. Don McCary is minister of music. Five hundred children were en-

rolled in the four schools. There were 96 professions of faith and one surrendered to full-time Christian service.

A work crew of six boys and two men also roofed and painted the Putney Church.

Bonnie
children:
Bonnie
e 10.

Ancient City Church Calls Minister to Deaf and Blind

erves
nister

The Ancient City Church, St. Augustine began a program of increased ministry to the deaf and blind in the community and to the students at the Florida State School for the Deaf and Blind on August 1 in the calling of **L. H. McCloskey** to serve in this ministry full-time. Carson Brittain is the pastor.

McCloskey, a licensed minister, is a recent retiree from the Navy. During his Naval career he served in many areas of responsibility in the churches with which he was affiliated and in leadership capacities with youth programs.

This ministry to the deaf and blind is a joint endeavor between the Ancient City Church, the Home Mission Board and the Florida Baptist Convention. McCloskey will work with Baptist students on campus and correlate the work of the church in this ministry to the deaf and blind.

Pastor Brittain says this program is a major step in the direction of meeting the challenge of a great mission opportunity in St. Augustine and comes as a result of much prayer and searching.

Schinman to Join Staff of First Church, Homestead

Richard Schinman will begin his duties as music/youth director at First Church, Homestead, September 1. J. Elwood Rawls is the pastor.

Schinman attended Miami Dade Junior College and is a graduate

Retired Florida Pastor Dies

E. F. Baker, 77, a retired Florida pastor who was serving as interim pastor of First Church, Dade City, died August 21 following an accident and hospital confinement for the past two weeks.

Funeral services were held at First Church, Greensboro, N. C. on August 24, and at the same hour memorial services were held at the First Church, Dade City.

Homecomings

Homecoming Day at **North Park Church, Orlando** will be September 10. During the week prior, the 50th anniversary celebration will be in progress. Edgar R. Cooper, editor of the *Florida Baptist Witness* and a former pastor, will speak at the evening service September 3.

Wednesday evening, September 6, the anniversary committee will present a historical sketch and Paul D. Carmichael, Jr., a former pastor, will speak at the morning service September 10. Dinner will be served on the grounds. D. J. Abernathy is pastor.

Webster Church, Webster will observe Homecoming September 10 as "kickoff" for Sunday School revival. Johnny Booth is the pastor.

Wife of Chaplain Dies

Mrs. Nell Coffee McDonald, 49, died July 29 in Texas. Her husband, Chaplain Ralph W. McDonald, was assistant pastor of Central Church, Miami prior to entering the Air Force in 1959. Their legal residence is Hastings.

Adrian Rogers Going to Bellevue Church, Memphis

Adrian Rogers, pastor of First Church, Merritt Island for the past eight years, has accepted the call as pastor of Bellevue Church, Memphis, Tennessee and will begin his ministry there September 1.



A native of West Palm Beach, he is a graduate of Stetson University and the New Orleans Seminary. He was awarded a Doctor of Divinity degree by Trinity College of Florida.

During Rogers' ministry the 3,500-member First Church in Merritt Island has completed a one-and-a-half million dollar expansion program. The buildings include a modern Family Activities Center and have ample room to minister to the Sunday School which has grown from 1,100 to 4,171 during this time.

The church baptized 521 in the past 12 months. Over 350 people per year have been baptized into the church for the past several years.

Rogers, a widely-used evangelist and Bible teacher in the United States and overseas, has been a keynote speaker to state Baptist conventions and state evangelism conferences. He was a speaker at the annual session of the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Philadelphia and has served as president of the Florida Baptist Pastors' Conference.

Mrs. Rogers is the former Joyce Gentry of West Palm Beach. They have four children.

PBA Names Vice-President And Academic Dean

Palm Beach Atlantic College, West Palm Beach recently announced the election of Colonel **Walter M. Trauger** as vice-president by the Board of Trustees. He will also serve as dean of student affairs.

When Colonel Trauger joined the staff of the college in 1970 as professor of economics and marketing and director of financial aid, he retired from 30 years service in the United States Quartermaster School at Fort Lee, Va.

The Board of Trustees of Palm Beach Atlantic College also announced the appointment of **George L. Balentine** to the office of academic dean.

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Florida BAPTIST WITNESS

JANUARY 5, 1967

Evangelistic Conference Will Hear Crusade Challenge from Brazilian

Widely known Baptist preachers from the United States and one from South America are scheduled to appear on the program of the annual Florida Baptist Evangelistic Conference which meets with the First Baptist Church in Orlando next week.

The conference, under the direction of Secretary of Evangelism Paul A. Meigs, will open with a session Tuesday evening, January 10, at 7:00 o'clock. On Wednesday and Thursday, January 11 and 12, there will be morning, afternoon and evening sessions.

Guest speakers from outside Florida are: Rubens Lopes, pastor

of Vila Mariana Baptist Church, Sao Paulo, Brazil, and former president of the Brazilian Baptist Convention; William E. Hull, associate professor of New Testament Interpretation, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.; C. E. Autrey, director, Division of Evangelism, SBC Home Mission Board; Charles B. Howard, teacher emeritus, Campbell College, Buies Creek, N. C.; W. A. Criswell, pastor, First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas.

Directing the congregational singing will be W. Hines Sims, secretary, Church Music Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn. Featured soloist will be Miss Joe Ann Shelton, director of Program Music, SBC Radio and Television Commission, Fort Worth, Texas.

Florida Baptist preachers scheduled to appear on the program for messages will be: James H. Wright, Jr. of Pensacola, Douglas Watterson of Vero Beach, Robert L. Hughes of Pensacola, Edgar R. Cooper of Orlando, Hugh Beasley of Cocoa, C. Roy Angell of Miami, Carroll U. Kendrick, Jr. of Neptune Beach,

A. P. Minshew of Fort Myers, Adrian P. Rogers of Merritt Island, John L. Pelham of Palatka, and J. W. Oppert of Jacksonville.

Florida pastors presiding at the day sessions will be: Carl Howell of Jacksonville, Carl Houston of Clearwater, J. Harvey Saunders of Bartow, and Hankins F. Parker of Miami Springs. Secretary Meigs will preside at the evening sessions.

NOTE: Read Dr. Meigs' Evangelism Department column on page 12.

Crusade of Americas Day of Prayer Slated

MEXICO CITY (BP)—A plea for Baptists throughout North, South and Central America to devote a day of prayer for a 1969 Baptist hemispheric-wide evangelistic effort was issued here during a meeting of the Directory Council of the Crusade of Americas.

Date suggested for the day of prayer was Sunday, Jan. 8, 1967, and the second Sunday in January in 1968 and 1969.

The call to prayer was issued by Reubens Lopes, president of the Crusade of Americas organization and pastor from Sao Paulo, Brazil.

In other major action, the Directory Council, which functions as the executive committee of the crusade organization, adopted a \$94,000 budget for its central Coordinating Committee.

The budget, which will be con-

(continued on page 6)



W. A. Criswell



Joe Ann Shelton



Rubens Lopes



William E. Hull



C. E. Autrey



Charles B. Howard



W. Hines Sims

DEBBAN-CARYNE LITRANT
 S. B. C. HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

Secretary Says...

JMO. MAGUIRE, Secretary

NEW HOPE CHURCH DEDICATES



It was your secretary's great joy to join with a number of other pastors in the dedication of the new auditorium of the New Hope Church, May 10. Ten years ago this church started its building, broke ground, and step by step, with the men doing the work as the money came in to do it, this church has moved steadily forward for ten years. Now they have one of the most beautiful small auditoriums in the state of Florida. They dedicated this beautiful auditorium of 250-seat capacity debt free. The conservative cost of the building would be \$15,000 to \$18,000, if it were contracted. However, with the church membership doing the work, the total cost of the building and furnishings was slightly less than \$6,000. The beloved pastor, Claude Killian, has been with this church seven years. Under his wise guidance, he has encouraged this church to move forward.

The significant thing about their steady progress forward has not been the construction of the building, but erecting the building and at the same time increasing their gifts to world missions through the Cooperative Program. This is most significant. The church was organized in 1870 and has had a steady existence ever since. The records do not reveal exactly how many persons have gone from this church as ministers or missionaries.

Brother Ellis B. Turner, the field secretary in that area, brought the message at 11:00 a.m., and your secretary gave the dedication address in the afternoon, with a number of former pastors taking part on the program. New Hope Church now has one of the best church plants of any rural church in Florida.

State Evangelistic Conference Orlando — January 10-12



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EVANGELISM DEPARTMENT

PAUL A. MEIGS, Secretary

EVANGELISTIC CONFERENCE

The annual Florida Baptist Evangelistic Conference will begin at 7:00 o'clock Tuesday night, January 10, and will conclude following the evening service, Thursday, January 12. We hope that each person coming to the conference will come praying for a spiritual mountain-top experience.

We are thankful for the personnel, whom we consider the best, composed of out-of-state speakers, Florida pastors, and other leaders.

W. A. Crisswell will be with us from Dallas, Texas, where he is pastor of the largest Baptist Church in the world—First Baptist Church, Dallas. Dr. Crisswell has been with us before and we welcome him to Florida again in this capacity. Among other contemporary messages that he will bring to the conference is the message entitled, "The Moral Life of the Man of God," and also, "The Word of God for Today's World."

Charles Howard, who was head of the Bible Department of Campbell College for twenty-one years and is now emeritus (since 1959), is returning to be on our Evangelistic Conference program this year. Dr. Howard is Founder-President of the Howard Memorial Fund, whose more than seven hundred and fifty student recipients are on their fields of service at home and abroad. Most of the money used by these students has been returned and used over again from one to five times.

C. E. Autrey, beloved Convention-wide Director of the Division of Evangelism of the Home Mission Board, will speak to the Evangelistic Conference this year. His messages will include, "Spiritual Conquest Through Evangelistic Preaching" and others.

William E. Hull is Associate Professor of New Testament Interpretation of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. We welcome Dr. Hull back to the state. His messages are fresh and most inspiring. This year his messages will be of an expositional nature from the Sermon on the Mount.

Florida Baptists are fortunate to have Dr. Rubens Lopes with us this year. He is recognized as a leader of the Crusade of the Americas movement and his coming is most fitting. The title of his message is "The Crusade of the Americas." Earl Peacock, one of our missionaries, will serve as interpreter for Lopes.

Miss Joe Ann Shelton, who is beloved throughout our Southern Baptist Convention for her leadership in the Baptist Hour program, will be with us as featured soloist. Truly, she is a marvelous Christian and a wonderful singer.

W. Hines Sims will be with us to lead the congregational singing. We appreciate Dr. Sims, who comes to

us from the Church Music Department of Nashville, and welcome his return to Florida and an Evangelistic Conference.

A number of our Florida leaders will participate on the program this year. C. Roy Angell, one of the best loved men of our state, will bring two messages to the conference. Dr. Angell is the author of several books and is former pastor of the First Baptist Church of Miami.

Edgar R. Cooper, president of the Florida Baptist Convention, and pastor of the North Park Baptist Church, Orlando, will bring a message to the conference entitled, "The Primary Spiritual Needs of Florida Baptists." We are happy that Brother Cooper can be on the program and bring this timely message.

Brother Adrian Rogers, beloved pastor of the First Baptist Church of Merritt Island, will bring a message to the conference entitled, "The Church—The Evangelistic Task Force."

Authors!

Leading book publisher seeks manuscripts of all types: fiction, non-fiction, poetry, scholarly and religious works, etc. New authors welcomed. Send for free booklet 24-Hi Vantage Press, 130 W. 31 St., New York 1.

Then, how grateful we are to other choice pastors of our state who will bring one devotional message each to the conference, as follows:

James H. Wright, Jr., pastor, Central Church, Pensacola, "The Need of Revival"; Douglas Watterson, pastor, First Church, Vero Beach, "Man's Need for Freedom"; Hugh Beasley, pastor, Clearlake Church, Cocoa, "Samples for Christ"; Carroll U. Kendrick, Jr., pastor, First Church, Neptune Beach, "Repent or Perish"; A. P. Minshew, pastor, First Church, Fort Myers, "Deepening Our Spiritual Lives"; John L. Pelham, pastor, First Church, Palatka, "The Need of Power in our Work"; and J. W. Oppert, pastor, Terry Parker Church, Jacksonville, "The Way of Revival."

We are also happy that Robert L. Hughes, one of our Southern Baptist evangelists, who lives in Pensacola, will bring a message to the conference entitled, "The Demands of Compassion."

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

JOSEPHINE JONES, Executive Secretary
RUTH BACWELL, GA Director

MARY COPEL, WMA Director
ELIZABETH PAINTER, Sunbeam Director

WORD FROM MISSIONARIES

We have just received a letter from the Dottson Mills who are serving as Florida missionaries in Jamaica. The following is an excerpt from this letter:

"As you give through your church to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions you will appreciate knowing that you are helping to construct badly needed Christian Education Buildings and to establish new Baptist witness in different areas of Jamaica. Kingston has only seven Baptist Churches to serve almost a million people.

"We are still 'alone' here in Jamaica for we have no other missionary couple to help us. We desperately need a couple for Christian Education and Radio-Television work."

Missionaries in every field have a great deal of confidence in the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Just as they look to the Cooperative Program for their salaries and the meeting of the basic expenses of their work, so they look to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for supplementing funds for month by month operating needs and especially for the providing of land and buildings for expansion of the work.

Visualize missionaries and Christians of many nationalities working side by side. Try to imagine yourself standing beside them and at work with them. That is really what you do through your prayers and gifts.

Have you given to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering? If not, it isn't too late to give to this offering through your church.

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sunrise

TODAY, Sunday, May 14, 1972



REV. ROGERS AND
his island in the sun . . . PAGE 4

Rev. Rogers and His Island in the Sun

Adrian Pierce Rogers is pastor of the largest congregation in Brevard County, the First Baptist Church of Merritt Island. In this article, he discusses his pressures and pleasures as administrator of the 3,500-member church.

By John McAleenan

On Sunday's the dress and manner are a little subdued. Not TOO subdued, but the red pants and checkered coat have been put aside for something a little more conventional.

It is perfect church weather, perfect church weather being too windy for fishing and too nice to stay inside.

He plays the perfect host, being grateful that you came by and pleased everyone seems so healthy and wouldn't it be nice if everyone had remembered to bring a friend.

There is a little reminder here about that. "Never. NEVER come to church without inviting someone. Get to know the people around you. If you are new here, fill out a visitor card and we'll send a welcome letter later. Now — how about everyone singing."

And saints be praised, they stand up as one, twelve or fifteen hundred people, from teenyboppers to grandmothers, and they sing.

The name of the man leading all those people, is Adrian Pierce Rogers, as handsome and dynamic a pastor as any Hollywood casting agency could ask for.

The place that Adrian Rogers built as much as any single man, is a million-dollar sprawling complex known as the First Baptist Church of Merritt Island.

You shouldn't have had to ask, really. The two are synonymous.

If the world is REALLY going to hell, as some say, Adrian Rogers' place must be the last refuge, insulated from crime and vice and other contemporary evils.

Everyone DOES seem healthy and happy,

singing along with Mr. Rogers, and while one may find some argument with the fundamentalist Southern Baptist philosophy, with its strict literal translation of the Bible and mixed generously with an evangelistic fervor — you cannot argue with success.

And success shrouds the First Baptist Church of Merritt Island like icing on a cake.

It has not become a success without its critics, some who are simply jealous, others who find distasteful the relentless evangelism that Rogers is so good at.

If Rogers is bothered by this criticism, it is not evident, mostly because he is too busy being guide, prophet, pastor and administrator to what is easily the largest church complex in the county, and certainly one of the largest in the state.

"Selling and packaging religion? Sure. I'll do whatever is honest and legitimate to get people into the church. I have no apology for that." The issue is put to rest.

Getting people into the church, saving their souls and collecting just a little of their money, is very much a fact of life at the First Baptist Church of Merritt Island.

The Lord's work costs money, and in Roger's case, he is responsible for coming up with exactly \$8,188.40 EVERY week just to pay the bills. That's break-even money.

The 1972 budget is into the six figures, \$425,795 to be exact. Bond retirement and mortgage payments account for the greatest portion of that — \$169,010 a year — or about \$3,100 of the \$8,000 plus needed each week.

Nobody gets rich in salaries, Rogers being the

highest paid at \$16,445 a year. There is a house provided by the church rent-free, something in the \$50,000 class, the mileage is taken care of and occasionally there is a modest speaking fee. So let's say maybe we are talking about \$22,500 a year which, when you think about it, doesn't seem a high price for someone running a half-million dollar a year church.

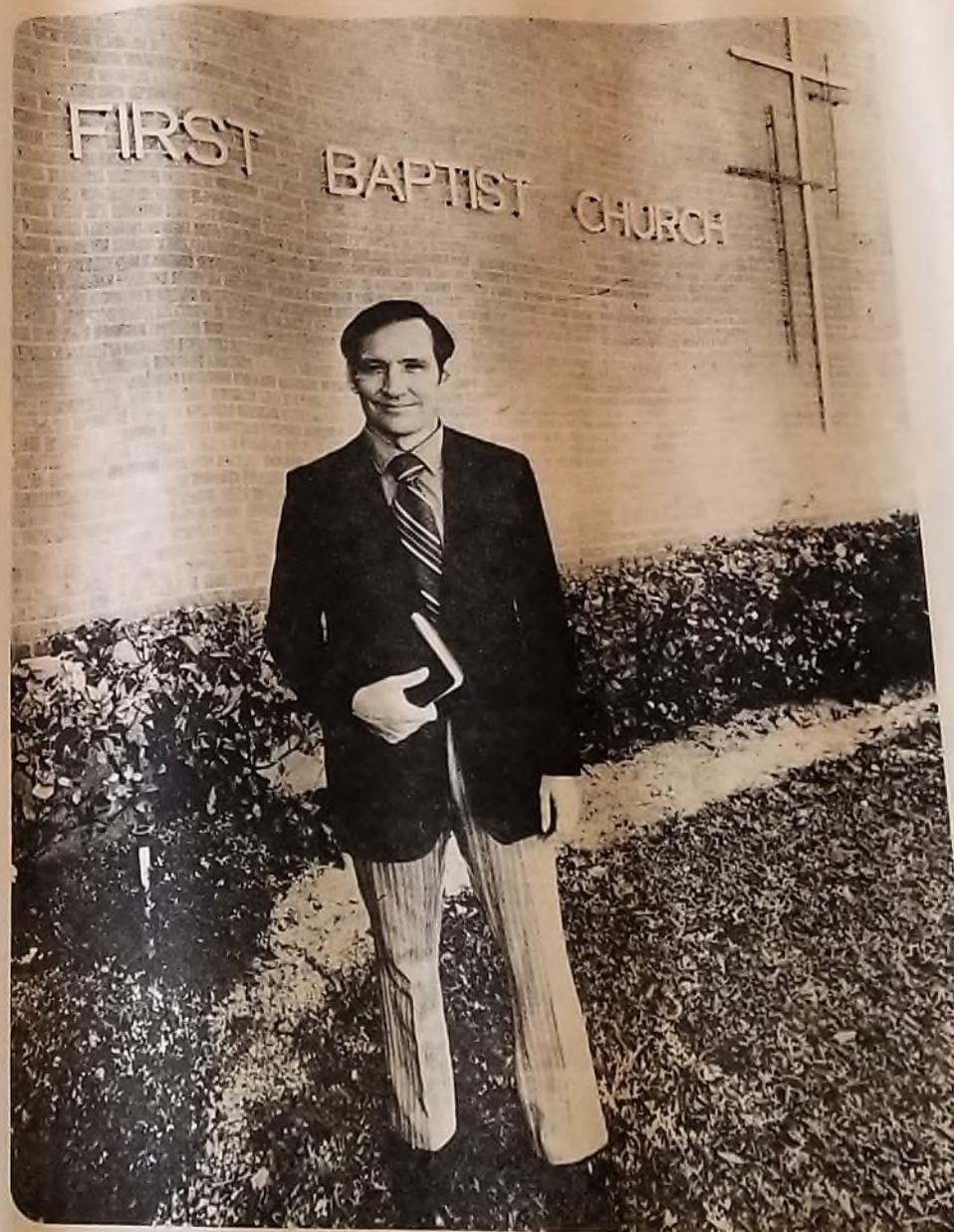
What all that money does each year is... well, take a deep breath:

Bible conference and Sunday schools and missionaries of one stripe or another passing through. Choirs, nurseries, a library, saunas and Brevard's smallest bowling alley. A gym, roller skating, snack bars, music rooms, ceramics, wrestling and volley ball. Even karate lessons. Pot luck suppers, FREE sloppy joe and kindergarten classes. The kindergarten is proclaimed as "the best in Brevard."

Rogers is understandably proud of all this, pointing out repeatedly that if you are going to provide services, you have to have the money. "My feeling is the bigger we are, the more economical we can do things. Look, there is not a single institution in Brevard, church or otherwise, that draws more people to it, more consistently than we do."

Statistics aside, let's look at the man for a moment. Brevard mod-ish would certainly see an accurate fashion description. Everything in order, shoes shined, quite impeccable. Dark hair, dark eyes, an engaging, demanding kind of smile. You feel sort of uneasy not smiling back. One would not imagine him with his hair mussed

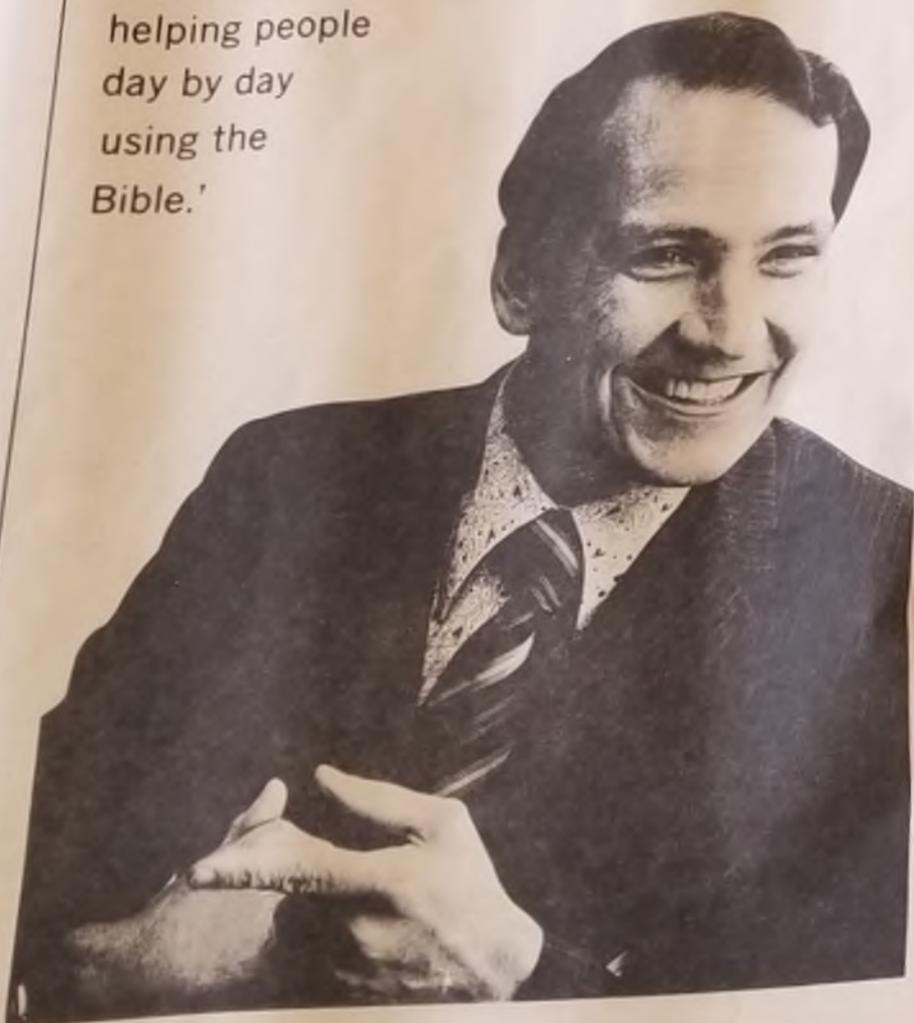
Continued



"I'll do whatever is honest and legitimate to get people into the church," Rev. Rogers says.

Photos by Greg Leary

'I just try the best I can
to be relevant...
helping people
day by day
using the
Bible.'



Football great Johnny Unitas was a recent visitor to Rogers' church.

Rev. Rogers

Continued

or grease on his nose. His 40 years rest easily on him.

The office is sort of Baptist plush. The green rug not TOO thick, the paneled walls not TOO richly polished. The clutter is rather ordered, the muted silence giving the feeling of a sanctuary.

"Me? Oh . . . I lead a rather prosaic life. Nothing special."

Born in West Palm Beach, graduated from West Palm Beach High School in 1956, captain of the football team, president of the student body, voted most likely to succeed. Four years at Sletson in DeLand for a BA, then four more years at New Orleans Baptist Seminary for his Bachelor of Divinity degree.

"I was saved as a teenager, me and my dad both were, at a revival crusade. Before that I got into more than my share of trouble at school. I was THE bully around there, if you want to know the truth."

A grammar school date by the name of Joyce Gentry soon became a high school steady, and after just one year at Sletson, she became Mrs. Rogers and later bore him four healthy children, Steve, 18, Gayle, 15; David, 11; and Janice, 10.

The choice of careers is explained this way: "I had a hunger in my heart when I was a senior in school. I FELT God calling me. It was a radical change in my life, believe me. Enjoy it! Of course. If I didn't I'd feel like a Benedict Arnold being here. I simply believe God has given me a gift and I intend to use it."

The first ministry before Merritt Island was in Fort Pierce, a six-year tour of duty from 1968 to 1974 that Rogers remembers as being "a good time."

The First Baptist Church went looking for him in 1964 and attracted him with the "challenges."

"It was a gut feeling, but I took the job because of the challenges. This place was on dead center at the time. There was some question of my 'style' — the inference being I might be too loud, that my style would be too evangelistic. So I promised them: 'If one person leaves, and I'm

sure some will, I'll get 10 people to take their place.'"

It was not an idle promise.

The Sunday School enrollment has jumped from 1,000 to 4,000; church membership is up from 1,500 to 3,500; Sunday school attendance was once 350, now it's closer to 2,000; the budget is up from \$80,000 to close to \$200,000.

The years, truly, have been milk and honey, and it is no surprise to learn that Adrian Rogers has no plans to leave anytime soon.

"Go someplace else? No sir, I don't think so. In fact, I'd like to go to heaven right from here."

Reverend, considered by many to be "Sin City" back in 1964, is in a lot better shape now, Rogers thinks. "The older people coming in have had a settling influence, too, and the back door seems to have closed, so . . ."

The conversation shifts momentarily to the block-long church-auditorium-playground-classroom across the street from his office. Without being asked, Rogers says he knows it is not any kind of architectural jewel. "We put our money into ways to make it function. . . we didn't worry about ornateness."

There is some question about what Mr. Rogers actually does all week, being much less visible than on Sundays. Out snaps a little appointment book and away we go — into both a typical and a "real" day.

8:30 to 9 a.m. there is a meeting on building maintenance. This is an almost \$52,000 item in the annual budget, and as such, gets considerable priority.

9 to 10 a.m., a dental appointment. (Mr. Rogers has nice, white teeth.)

At 10 a.m., a session with a young couple who wanted to get married. Mr. Rogers said they were too young. This doesn't mean they won't get married — just that they have to get another pastor to perform the service.

A few minor office details, a couple of letters, lunch, and then a session at 1:30 with a student who wanted advice on entering the ministry.

At 2:30 p.m., he gave some "encouragement" to a former church member, a drinking man, who had lost his wife, and now wanted to get back into the church to make a "fresh start."

At 3 p.m., another couple, asking about marriage. This one got the green light.

At 4 p.m., a young man who said he was an atheist walked in. Mr. Rogers did not flinch. He convinced him, in fact, that he was an agnostic. "The difference between the two is either you are an honest or dishonest doubter." Mr. Rogers can put up with honest doubters. Dishonest doubters are shown the door. The boy left as an agnostic, loaded down with Baptist literature.

At 5 p.m., another drinker, or rather ex-drinker, stopped by, mentioning quite proudly that he had been on the wagon for eight months. "We got down on our knees and prayed. I think he had a genuine experience. We baptized him the next Sunday night."

Usually, on Tuesday nights, the Rogers' recruiting team heads out into the subdivisions, making calls here and there trying for new members.

The sermons take quite a bit of time to prepare, and Rogers must be careful lest he repeat himself — since he talks to just about the same group of people three or four times a week. "This congregation will forgive you just about anything but boring them to death. I try not to do that."

He tries to keep the subjects topical, and if background keeps up on current affairs w such things as Readers Digest, Newsweek, U News and World Report — and newspapers

Playboy? You've got to be kidding. "lascivious. I wouldn't recommend it for any of And to the suggestion, since he's never read copy he should take a quick peek just so he kr for sure that he's talking about. Rogers has answer: "Nonsense — I don't have to eat sv preach on hogs."

Conti

Rev. Rogers



Rev. Rogers talks with a member of his congregation.

Continued

The question is pursued. Reading some of the more daring contemporary literature MIGHT broaden one's horizon, might it not?

"Yeah," says Rogers, "and it might do more than that, too. Look, I'll tell you about these things. Maybe the Lord has given me some insight or something, but I don't think it takes too much savvy to know what's going on in the world these days."

As one of the leaders in opposition to the seemingly countless jai-alai referendums that have caused Brevard controversy over the years, it is somewhat surprising to learn from Mr. Rogers that there is NOT, repeat not, an endless stream of broken gambling refugees showing up at his church.

"Well, I'm still opposed to it, if that's what you mean, but we have survived, and there just hasn't been the kind of problems we were predicting, to tell you the truth. Not yet, anyway. What I mean is we haven't had to feed and clothe people."

There is pause for an explanation here, the need to explain the basic difference between pastor Adrian Rogers and jai-alai operator Vance Schwartz. It's a line that comes out quite smoothly. "The difference between me and Mr. Schwartz is that I deal with problems — and he deals with profits."

Adrian Rogers has not been to jai-alai, of course, and has no intention of going. He sort of sniffs with impatience at what he must consider an impertinent question.

"Well, I wouldn't go because . . . well, if I did it would be like giving it my approval."

On to some other things, say, oh, how about sex education? In the schools?

Mr. Rogers takes a deep breath. "Nope. It belongs in the home and church." But what if a person doesn't go to church — and is not getting any education at home? "Well, I'd rather gamble on that possibility, none at all, than having the wrong type person teaching the kids. We've gotten along fairly well without sex education all these years — I think we can do without it now."

"You see, when you 'teach' sex in class, that would seem like you were giving it an endorsement. That would be a greater evil than ignorance, I think."

"I've never been a crusader for or against sex education. My feelings about it are not really that defined, to tell you the truth. My mind is not that sharp on the subject."

"I'm not a prude about sex . . . but I think you have to remember what God had in mind. When he said 'Thou Shalt Not . . .' what he really meant was don't hurt yourself. I think we need to keep sex in the context of God."

How about Vietnam? Should anyone go anymore? "Well, if you feel deeply about not going, if God is TELLING you not to go, then you have to obey God. But I personally believe you have to obey our laws for God's sake. Yes, certainly there can be bad laws, but I feel obeying the law would be the lesser of two evils. It's either that or anarchy."

All those kids in Canada . . . would he favor amnesty? "No, they are wrong, but I'm not their judge. If my son, who is 18, didn't want to go, were he drafted, then all I could tell him would be to be true to his own heart."

There is a pause here and Mr. Rogers sighs, and announces: "Look, there are lots of problems around today that I don't even pretend to have the answer to."

Womens Lib? "Those women, they think they

are making progress when they are really going backwards. Yep, God put them on a pedestal — and now they want to get down. Oh, there are probably some elements of truth in the movement, the things they are seeking, but I think if anything, MAN is inferior, not women. I think a woman's place is at home, taking care of the children."

Pre-marital sex is out. The Pill, however, is okay. Abortion is a SIN except for those which result from extreme cases, such as rape and incest and such. There is a little phrase Rogers has for this one: "Those people, those who want abortions, they are people who want to sow their oats — then have crop failure."

Alcohol and the wide range of drugs that are available in our society today Mr. Rogers labels as "synthetic salvation."

As for his own role in the church, and with the people, Rogers says, "I just try the best I can to be relevant . . . helping people day by day, using the Bible." About his church: "we don't have ALL the truth here — and we don't claim that nobody has the truth but us."

He has absolutely no patience with some of his fellow clergy who are in the streets burning draft card files and plotting disruptions of one kind or another. He frowns at the very thought of it.

"I think people are sick of the kind of junk I guess I can understand the concern — but at best, that's the wrong method to go about changing things. I say pray — and let God march on Washington."

"I feel if you get right with God, things will work out. That may be naive, but that's how I feel."

John McAleenan, a former TODAY staffer, is a free-lance writer based in Cocoa.

Rogers on ministry, the SBC, and post-retirement

NAPLES (FBW) — The day before leading a preaching conference at First Baptist Church of Naples, Adrian Rogers gave an exclusive interview with *Florida Baptist Witness* Executive Editor James A. Smith Sr. The Oct. 6, hour-long interview covered a wide array of topics with Rogers, 75, who retired as pastor of the historic Bellevue Baptist Church in Cordova, Tenn., earlier this year.

A former three-term president of the Southern Baptist Convention, Rogers is a Florida native who "immensely" misses the Sunshine State, but is remaining in the Memphis area where Love Worth Finding Ministries — his radio and television ministry — is based.

Rogers' first pastorate was at First Baptist Church in Fallsburg, and later pastored First Baptist Church of Merritt Island.

"I love Florida ... I told people I was Florida born and Florida bred, and when I die I wanted to be Florida dead. But our friends now are all in Memphis and the old crowd here has gone. So we will stay in Memphis and make visits to Florida."

In addition to the radio and television ministry, Rogers has begun the Adrian Rogers Pastor Training Institute (www.pastor-training.com), offering a three-day course covering the basics of pastoring, and the new one-day preaching course, held for the first time at First Baptist Naples. He serves as distinguished professor of preaching at Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary in Memphis.

The following are excerpts from the interview.

On his health, (For the latest news on Rogers' health, see the related story on this page.)

"I cannot say that I know God is going to fully recover me, but I can say I believe He will. I really do, and I'm not just hearing smoke ... I have a good confidence in my heart. In the meanwhile, I am not morose or unhappy. I don't dwell on this. I just do the best I can and enjoy life."

On life after the pastorate.

"Well, you know, I thought I would miss it more than I do because it is all I have done. Jim, for over half a century, but I have been so busy there has not been a vacuum ... I will be in the ministry until I draw my last breath, but there are certain burdens I don't bear now ... I have a joy in my heart that I am able to do some things now that I really

should have done prior to this, but I can do now and that is to download some of the things that God has put in my heart for a half a century about ministry ... God has by His grace taught me a lot of things — in small churches and big ones. I am in what I call now, the transfer zone. Where if you are running a relay race, there comes a time, Jim, where you are running side by side with another runner and getting ready to hand the baton off. That is where I think I am with some of these younger preachers I want to run side-by-side with them, and then slap that stick in his hand and say, 'You get it, bud!'

On churches being relevant.

"I tell these congregations, adapt yourself to the means you can use — the Internet, you can Google, you can cell phone, you can email, you can use image magnification, all of those are fine, but they are only means to get the job done. The means change and we ought to be wise ... The methods don't change. The methods are in the Bible, by precept, example ... What are the methods? Prayer, evangelism, truth, integrity, labor, fellowship, these things are, in the first century and twenty-first century ... I am trying to save these guys, learn the methods. Yes, use the means, but there are a lot of men, Jim, who are trying to stay up, to be relevant, who are guessing with the methods. Don't mess with the methods. They are jettisoning the methods. You can't do that. Use all the means you want, but you had better be certain, that your ministry is biblical."

On his part in the SBC "controversy."

"I look back on my life and there are a lot of things that have happened. I have written books, pastored churches, preached on radio and television around the world, but I think the part that God allowed me to have in the turning of the SBC may have the longest-lasting effect and be the most significant. Really, Jim, it is part of church history. We think of the ancient councils of the church in decisions and so forth, but this thing is not small, it is big."

On the role of the SBC in American society.

"As I look now at the world situation as it is, I am so grateful for the

Southern Baptist Convention. I shudder to think what America would be like without the Southern Baptist Convention. Now that may sound like megalomania, but we are A, the largest evangelical denomination in America, and B, we are taking a clear stand against same-sex marriage for the primacy of the home, for the headship of the father and the husband, against homosexuality, and against abortion, which means that we are a gigantic boulder in Satan's super highway. They have to reckon with us. They like to ignore us, but they can't."

On the importance of the 2000 revision of the Baptist Faith & Message. (Rogers chaired the study committee which recommended the revision.)

"That is hard for me to say, but I do believe that it is a very, very significant piece of work ... I think that a lot of the things in the Baptist Faith & Message that have been amended and changed are not nearly as significant as that one statement concerning how the Bible is to be interpreted. The only Jesus we know is the Jesus in the Bible, and the Jesus in the Bible believed in the inerrancy of the Scripture. How can a man claim to be a follower of Jesus Christ and not believe what Jesus Christ Himself believed about His Word?"

On the importance of his wife and family.

"There is no way to estimate the importance of a man's relationship with his wife and family. I have more people speak to me about my relationship with my wife than any other aspect of my ministry. They say, 'I appreciate the way you love and honor Joyce, Joyce and I are a team.'"

Rogers undergoing medical treatment

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP) — Adrian Rogers, former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, has been hospitalized for double pneumonia.

He was admitted last Thursday and is responding to the antibiotic treatments, Bill Skelton, executive vice president of Rogers' Love Worth Finding radio and TV ministry, told Baptist Press Nov. 8. As of this morning, he was resting comfortably, and prior to this incident he was responding well to the chemotherapy.

Rogers, 75, who retired earlier this year as pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Cordova, Tenn., has been undergoing treatment for colon cancer the last several months, following surgery May 16. Skelton directed those seeking updates on Rogers' condition to check the Love Worth Finding Ministry Web site, www.LWF.org. He also thanked Rogers' friends and well-wishers for their concern and encouraged them to continue to intercede spiritually.

As the *Witness* went to press Nov. 10, the LWF Web site contained the following update: "We are grateful to bring you updated news that Jerry Rogers has reported. She shares that there is slight improvement; and he is responding to the treatments that are being administered. Praise the Lord!"

"Dr. Rogers has been having brief visits with his family and is resting comfortably. That's just about all the work the doctors want him to do. The doctors have said the next few days are critical, and we knew that you would want to know this in order to pray effectively for him."

"We at Love Worth Finding want to assure you we are hearing the same rumors you are. But it is our hearts' desire to relate accurate and up-to-date information to you. Please continue to check back here on our Web site for reliable information."

Henry announces 'redeployment' plans from First Baptist Church, Orlando

BY JAMES A. SMITH SR., Executive Editor

ORLANDO (FBW) — Jim Henry will step down as co-pastor of First Baptist Church of Orlando March 31, 2006, he has announced in a letter sent to the church members early last month and released to *Florida Baptist Witness* Nov. 9.

Henry, 67, has been pastor of the Orlando congregation since 1977. Henry was elected twice as president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

In May, First Baptist called David Uth as co-pastor, with Henry telling the congregation that the two would work together and "after a while" Uth would "take the ball and run with it" as senior pastor.

"The Holy Spirit sent Pastor David Uth to walk with us," Henry wrote in the letter. "He has walked into your warm embrace and our hearts in a magnificent way. The time has come for me to move over and let him take the reins of pastoral leadership."

Henry told the membership, "You must join Jeanette and me in welcoming this change for forty-five years I've been a shepherd, twenty-eight years I've you. For all of us, it is a step into the unknown. Someone wrote that when we walk to the edge of all the light we have, and step into the darkness of the unknown, one of two things happen. There will be something to stand on, or we will be taught to fly. On Christ the solid Rock we stand. He is enough."

miss this relationship as pastor and preacher, it is expedient that I pass the baton to Pastor David."

Henry added, "It is time to turn the page and move on. Rearview mirrors have value but make sure they are not hindering your view."

Although Henry plans to remain in the Orlando congregation, he insisted, "I must not be seen as your pastor," and requested the membership's assistance in this new designation.

Rather than calling it retirement, Henry said that he considers the transition in his ministry to be a "redeployment."

Concerning his future plans, Henry wrote, "With continued health and God's providence, we're looking at several things, primarily mentoring and cheerleading for younger pastors; also encouraging churches and writing. Several exciting possibilities are in the works and will hopefully be fleshed out in the near future."

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Scaling his Mount Everest, Vines completes Bible preaching pinnacle

BY JAMES A. SMITH SR., Executive Editor

JACKSONVILLE (FBW) — Like the infamous reports of Mark Twain's death, a Jacksonville television station's story that Jerry Vines would deliver his final sermon Nov. 2 as pastor of First Baptist Church was inaccurate.

Recalling Twain's wisecrack, Vines told the amused congregation, "The reports of my demise are greatly exaggerated."

Rather than giving his last sermon as pastor Nov. 2, Vines delivered the final sermon of a 12-part series on the Book of Deuteronomy, completing his quest to preach through every book of the Bible during his 25-year tenure as pastor of the historic Jacksonville church.

Vines will retire as pastor of First Baptist Jacksonville Feb. 7, 2006, when he indeed plans to deliver his final pastoral sermon in the last session of the church's annual Pastors' Conference.

Before preaching the sermon on the last two chapters of Deuteronomy, Vines spoke with *Florida Baptist Witness* about the unusual feat of preaching through the entire Bible.

"From a preaching standpoint, to me it's like a mountain climber scaling Mount Everest."

Vines said, "I can imagine how that would feel when you finally scale the height and there you stand. Well, that's really kind of the way I feel. It's a very emotional experience."

Reaching the preacher's pinnacle was also emotional for Vines because of the subject matter of the series — the Book of Deuteronomy is a series of Moses' final sermons to the children of Israel before his death and their entrance into the Promised Land.

Vines said he did not plan for his final series to be on Deuteronomy and the close parallel to his own experience as he finishes his ministry at First Baptist only occurred to him about six months ago as he began to prepare the sermons.

"By no design of mine, my final study of the final book of Deuteronomy, which is a series of farewell sermons from Moses to the people. And here I am coming to my retirement as the pastor here with my last series, Sermons From a Leader to His People. To me, that's just staggering," Vines said.

Vines told the *Witness* the widely-respected W.A. Griswold's preaching ministry at First Baptist Church of Dallas was his inspiration to preach through all 66 books of the Bible.

Although he has not literally preached from every chapter of the Bible, each book has been covered at least once, with some parallel passages in historical books, like 1 and 2 Samuel, 1 and 2 Kings, and 1 and 2 Chronicles having been combined. Many of the books, especially in the New Testament, Vines has preached multiple times, he said.

The value of the preaching project is, "It does give the people the whole counsel of God. Since we believe the Bible is God's Word, it deals with the eternal issues of life. When you look at the entire canon of Scripture, every book will give you an emphasis



■ Jerry Vines, long-time pastor of First Baptist Church in Jacksonville, will retire Feb. 7, 2006. In November he delivered his final sermon of a 12-part series on the Book of Deuteronomy, fulfilling a goal. Photo by James A. Smith Sr.

that will be needed."

Throughout his more than 25 years at First Baptist Jacksonville, Vines has generally preached sermon series on different books of the Bible each Sunday morning, Sunday evening and Wednesday evening, while interspersing other series — on Jesus' parables, the miracles and others — as a "little change of pace."

Vines' first sermon series in 1982 was on the Book of Acts to try to establish what a New Testament church is to be. His first series on Acts was among the longest at 50 messages, with the shortest being 2 and 3 John and some of the minor prophets, which each were completed with only one sermon.

Among the most enjoyable series were those on Acts, Revelation and Romans, he said, while the most difficult was Job, which "took me probably a year and one half of study ahead to get a handle on how to deal with the book in such a way that I could give the essence of the book and not bog down."

Vines said that all of his sermons will eventually be available through his ministry Web site, www.jerryvines.com, although there is no timetable for the project.

The value of preaching through books of the Bible is significant, Vines told the *Witness*.

Pastors who preach through books "will meet needs, felt and unmet needs, through preaching God's Word to the people. They will enrich the lives of the people. They will lift the level of commitment of the church and they will do themselves an enormous favor by filling their own life with the preparation of God's Word to share with the people. It will do something for them that nothing else will do."

He added, "I've had a thousand, ten thousand experiences along the way when I have seen men things in the Scriptures I have never known before and that have ministered to me in such a special way that it's just invaluable. How it has helped me through difficult times in my own life, the strength it has put in me to face things that were yet ahead that I didn't know were there, there's nothing to compare."

To those who reject expository preaching, Vines responds, "The question is, why do we even have a Bible? Why does God say preach the Word to the pastor if the intention there is not that people get a systematic pres-

entation of Scripture? That's the only way to truly understand the Scripture, is to get it in context. The idea of just pulling a Scripture here or Scripture here or not even using a Scripture is unthinkable to me if you're going to be a God-called preacher."

Although he has completed the final book, Vines is not finished preaching at First Baptist Jacksonville. After some vacation time in November, he plans to preach a series of sermons from Ruth throughout the Christmas season.

For the final month of his ministry in January, Vines said he has not finalized his plans, but he is considering a series of sermons on passages in the New Testament which begin, "Finally, brethren."

While there is sadness for Vines in the final Bible book sermon series, "There's a great feeling of anticipation for the future for the church," he told the *Witness*.

"Moses ... laid his hands on Joshua, and what I intend to do, maybe not literally, but when God brings the next pastor here, I will lay my hands on him, in my prayers, in my support, in my blessings, and he will take the people to a level beyond what we could ever imagine here. God has uniquely had His hands on this church and the future is going to be another demonstration of God's blessings on the church."

In a report to the congregation Nov. 2 before Vines' sermon, Jovon Whorton, chairman of the Pulpit Search Committee, said the group has not identified the church's next pastor.

"We plan to have a man to be introduced to you shortly after Dr. Vines leaves ... We ask that you continue to pray for us and continue praying that we will have that man shortly after Dr. Vines retires," Whorton said.

At the conclusion of the service, Vines read from the Apostle Paul's farewell comments to the Ephesian elders in Acts 20:26-27, telling the congregation the "passage is 'my testimony this evening.'"

"Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God ... So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified."

Rogers: 'There is no substitute for preaching the Word of God'

From Page 1

More importantly, Wicker said he wanted pastors to "feel the heartbeat of this man of God, and to know one of the great servants of the Lord."

Rogers told the participants, preaching is primary for the pastor — "there is no substitute for preaching the Word of God."

His advice to the pastors: "If I can give a word to any young preacher, it would be 'learn to live with integrity and learn to preach. I mean it is so simple. Just live with integrity, learn to preach, preach what you live and learn how to preach.'"

Telling a story of preaching on the streets in Daytona Beach as a college student at Stetson University, Rogers said he met a business man one day who would years later play an influential role in him being called as pastor of First Baptist Church of Merritt Island.



■ Hayes Wicker (left), pastor of FBC Naples and president of the Florida-Baptist State Convention, speaks with Adrian Rogers (center) and Bill Yeldell, pastor of Mandarin Baptist Church in Jacksonville. Photo by James A. Smith Sr.

"I want to tell you guys, there is a direct connection between preaching on a bus bench in Daytona Beach and preaching before thousands at Bellevue Baptist Church. You be faithful in season and out of season. You preach when you're paid, when you are not paid, but preach the Word," he said.

Rogers said biblical preaching is "communicated through a two-fold medium — you and the Holy Spirit ... When I stand in the pulpit, when you stand in the pulpit, the Holy Spirit should be walking up and down the aisles saying, 'That is a man of God. Listen to what he is saying.'"

According to Rogers, a three-time president of the Southern Baptist Convention, there are four purposes of biblical preaching.

■ To confront: "You know, one of the saddest things I've ever seen in the world is a preacher with fear in his eyes. A preacher with fear in his eyes? You are a herald of the King."

■ To clarify: "All good preaching is teaching. Three good questions to keep in mind when crafting sermons, Rogers said are, 'What? So what? Now what?'

■ To convict: "Don't let people go out of the message without something happening on the inside. When people listen to you this Sunday, they will be traveling one of three ways, glad, mad, or sad ... One of the great dangers today is this feel-good religion. They have gone from theology to meology."

■ To convert: "The Gospel message, good news, and I'm telling you if it is not good news, you are not preaching."

Rogers said there are three classifications of sermons — topical, textual and expository, with the latter being his "favorite way to preach and I trust will be yours after this seminar."

Expository sermons are based on a text of Scripture from which the major and minor points of the message are drawn, although other texts can be used to supplement the passage. Exposition is explanation, argumentation, illustration, application and motivation from one text, according to Rogers.

"Expository preaching over the years will get the job done," Rogers said.

The expository method of preaching, he said, gives confidence to preachers, causes them to be consistent — rather than dealing with their pet issues, gives courage to a pastor to address all the issues that they will

naturally arise from the text week-by-week, and helps a preacher with content because he'll know what his text is each week.

The tests of whether a sermon is expository, Rogers said, include whether the source is a passage of Scripture, whether the subject is clearly addressed in the text, whether there is strength in the sermon to inspire and motivate the congregation, and whether there is a clear structure — an outline drawn from the text.

In a question and answer time with participants, Rogers talked about various issues of sermon preparation and pastoral ministry.

Asked how long does he allow a sermon to "marinate" before he preaches it, Rogers answered, "This may sound strange, but I don't preach because I'm doing that while I'm preparing it."

Joe Turner, pastor of First Baptist Church of Horn Lake, Miss., lives about 30 miles from Rogers' home base in the Memphis, Tenn. area, but was delighted to fly to Naples to hear Rogers.

"It was awesome," Turner said. "John Redmond, assistant pastor of the First Baptist Church of Pasadena, Texas, near Houston, was inspired by Rogers' passion for Jesus and His Word ... That was really my 'I came — just to get to be in his presence.'"

More veteran pastors were also encouraged by the time with Rogers.

Ed Johnson, pastor of First Baptist Church of Ocala for 25 years, said he wanted to "come spend the day with Adrian ..."

Rogers added, "If you please people and you don't please Him that is a shame. If you please Jesus, it doesn't matter whom you displease."

Reflecting on the potential impact of the conference on the pastors present, Wicker told the *Witness*, "I believe it will be life-changing, citing his own opportunities as a

young pastor to meet with Rogers.

"It's exciting to see how God has given this man strength in the midst of cancer and so energized him to do this. This is a labor of love for pastors," Wicker added.

Although Rogers' health problems could have allowed him to cancel the conference, "He really wanted to come to Florida, his home state. He loves the pastors and churches in Florida, and I have been incredibly blessed by his commitment to us."

Clayton Cloer, pastor of First Baptist Church of Central Florida in Orlando, brought his entire preaching staff — nine in all, including several ethnic pastors — to the conference.

"This is the best preaching event I have ever done — through all the doctoral work and everything else. His staff is great," Cloer said.

At least two pastors traveled from out of state to attend the event.

Joe Turner, pastor of First Baptist Church of Horn Lake, Miss., lives about 30 miles from Rogers' home base in the Memphis, Tenn. area, but was delighted to fly to Naples to hear Rogers.

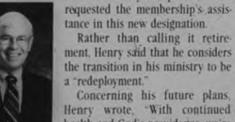
"It was awesome," Turner said. "John Redmond, assistant pastor of the First Baptist Church of Pasadena, Texas, near Houston, was inspired by Rogers' passion for Jesus and His Word ... That was really my 'I came — just to get to be in his presence.'"

More veteran pastors were also encouraged by the time with Rogers.

Ed Johnson, pastor of First Baptist Church of Ocala for 25 years, said he wanted to "come spend the day with Adrian ..."



ROGERS



HENRY



REV. ADRIAN ROGERS



DOYLE I. CARLTON

Head Florida Baptist Groups

Doyle I. Carlton, a member of the Merritt Island First Baptist Church, has been elected president of the Florida Baptist Convention. The **Rev. Adrian Rogers**, church pastor, was elected president of the pastor's conference of the Florida Baptist Convention.

Rev. Rogers To Lecture At 'Explo '72' Conference

By JO KOWALSKI
Staff Photo

All roads and highways in the United States will lead to Dallas, Tex., June 12-17, when the largest gathering of college and high school students in history will converge for "Explo '72," an international student congress on evangelism.

An anticipated 100,000 students and laymen are expected for the week-long training and inspirational sessions led by Dr. Billy Graham. Dr. Bill Bright, founder and director of the Campus Crusade for Christ; and many church and collegiate leaders.

Rev. Adrian Rogers, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Merritt Island, will be one of the guest speakers and pastors participating in the National Christian Leadership Conference to be held concurrently with the student training sessions.

THE NCLC will hold its sessions in the Statler Hilton Hotel, where **Rev. Rogers** and his wife have been given room reservations by Explo directors. Guest speakers will pay their own travel and food expenses for the week.

The Brevard minister is scheduled to speak to at least two groups of laymen on the "advanced level," heads of evangelism departments,

Sunday School and church evangelism leaders, presidents of evangelical organizations, leader of Christian colleges, seminaries and mission agencies.

He will address approximately 500 laymen at 9 a.m. Wednesday, June 14, in the Sheraton Dallas Hotel and a large group of approximately 2,000 men and women at the First Baptist Church of Dallas Friday, June 16, at 9 a.m.

PAUL ESHLEMAN, director of Explo '72, stated in a recent letter to **Rev. Rogers**, "In recent weeks God has been impressing us again with the need to be, above all else, holy, cleansed men of God. We would like for you to speak on the need for confession of sin, and the priority of a pure and holy life.

"I believe that if we want to see revival take place in our world, it must begin with men and women of God who are enjoying His fullness."

Included in **Rev. Rogers'** messages will be a brief personal testimony stressing what God has done in his life to bring him to his present place of service. His talk will outline a brief vision for his ministry in Brevard — what his church is doing and why.

Allied Cape

CHAPLAINS countries will Eastern Test Kennedy Air Wednesday, th ing to Col. O chaplain at Pat The chaplain Force Europe tive Committe various milita the United State visit. The visit is being hoste Gen. Roy M. 7 lains, U.S. Air

THURSDAY tours and brief Space Museum Cape Kennedy the John F. Ke NASA. The Thursday eveni

Engineers P

Florida Engi have a family Recreation Cen Center Sunday There will b afternoon and a p.m.

Rev. Rogers To Receive Trinity Honorary Degree

Rev. Adrian P. Rogers, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Merritt Island, will receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Trinity College in Dunedin, Sunday.

Dr. W. T. Watson, college president, will bestow the degree on Rev. Rogers. The Brevard minister will present the commencement address to graduates of the 1972 class at Trinity.

REV. ROGERS IS a graduate of Stetson University, where he served as class officer among many other activities. He received his bachelor of divinity degree from New Orleans Baptist

Theological Seminary and has returned there to deliver the baccalaureate address.

A native of West Palm Beach, he was president of the senior class at Palm Beach High School and captain of the championship football team. He was voted "most likely to succeed" by his classmates and was listed on the All-Southern High School football team.

Mrs. Rogers is the former Joyce Gentry of West Palm Beach. They have four children active in school, church and community events.

NOW PASTOR of the 3,500-member congregation in Merritt Island, the church has completed a \$1½ million expansion program under his leadership. Buildings include a modern family activities center and educational facilities that minister to nearly 4,000 during Sunday School periods.

The church has been a leader in evangelism, baptizing over 350 persons per year into the church fellowship. Recently the church led the entire Southern Baptist Convention of 35,000 churches in the number of conversions and baptisms.

They have had many outstanding Christian evangelists and speakers from all over the world. Their most recent evangelistic crusade was the Freddie Gage revival which had to be moved to the football stadium because of crowds.

"WE MAKE NO apology for strong belief in inspiration of the Bible and an all-out effort to win souls," Rev. Rogers says.

He has been widely used as an evangelist and Bible teacher in the United States and overseas; was keynote speaker at state

Baptist conventions and state evangelism conferences.

A former president of the Florida Baptist Pastor's Conference, he will address the annual session of the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference meeting in Philadelphia and will be one of the speakers at Explo '72 in Dallas, Texas, in June.

The most noted alumnus of Trinity College is Rev. Billy Graham who said, "Trinity taught me the Bible. The fundamentals of Biblical theory I learned there are basic in my preaching. Trinity gave me my beginning in evangelism."

Trip to Moon A Closer Look At Creation

By ADON TAFT
Herald Religion Editor

The scientific excitement of sending a man to the moon next week has gripped Cape Kennedy perhaps more than any other place in the nation. It is only natural because of the concentration there of scientists, engineers, and technicians whose life work has been involved in reaching this climatic point.

Yet there is a spiritual excitement sweeping the Cape, too. Few people outside the area are aware of it although there have been hints in recent statements by Dr. Wernher von Braun such as "through a closer look at creation, we ought to gain a better knowledge of the Creator, and a greater sense of man's responsibility to God will come into focus."

A significant number of the highly-paid space center workers have resigned their positions to enroll in theological studies or to take work in Christian service, reports the Rev. Adrian Rogers, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Merritt Island where many of the space people live. In fact, just from his own congregation, he said, 13 of the former space workers are already serving as pastors, ministers of music, or similar professionals in church-related activities.

In all, a total of 71 space workers — of all levels — have made commitments to full-time Christian service through his church alone, the Rev. Mr. Rogers said.

★ ★ ★

Rev. Rogers Accepts Pastorate

Rev. Adrian Rogers, pastor of Merritt Island First Baptist Church, told his congregation this week he had decided to accept a call to the second largest church in the Southern Baptist Convention.

Rev. Rogers told the church congregation Wednesday night he would preach his last sermon at the church Aug. 27 before leaving two days later for the Belleview Baptist Church in Memphis, Tenn.

THE MEMPHIS church is a \$4 to \$5 million church operation and has a congregation of 9,000, the second largest in the more than 3,300 Southern Baptist Convention.

A native of West Palm Beach, **Rev. Rogers** graduated from West Palm Beach High School, where he was captain of the football team, president of the student body and voted "most likely to succeed."

He attended Stetson University, DeLand, for four years, and received his bachelor of divinity degree from the New Orleans Baptist Seminary, after studying there for four years.

REV. ROGERS came to the Merritt Island Church in 1964 and built its membership from 1,500 to nearly 4,000. Sunday school attendance has increased from 350 to nearly 2,000.

The annual church budget has increased from \$85,000 to nearly \$500,000 during his pastorate.

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This, That and the Other

Squires Joins Staff of Flagami Church, Miami



On February 1 William T. Squires will become minister of music and education at Flagami Church, Miami, where J. Elwood Rawls is pastor.

A graduate of Southwest College, Bolivar, Miss., Howard College, Birmingham, Ala., and New Orleans Seminary, Squires holds the B.S.M. and B.R.E. degrees. He served in a similar capacity at First Church, Huntsville, Ala. and Inman Park Church, Atlanta, Ga. He has directed music for the Alabama State Convention, and has written extensively for the CHURCH MUSICIAN magazine.

Mrs. Squires, the former Martha Louise Smith of Lamar, Mo., is also a graduate of Southwest College and she attended New Orleans Seminary. They have three children: Bill, Jr., 20; Bob, 17; and Mary Lou, 12.



FIFTH ANNIVERSARY—Marking the fifth anniversary of Pastor James Graves, First Church, Leesburg honored the Graves family on January 12. Following the evening worship service, the Graves were presented with a silver coffee and tea service (shown above) at an anniversary party. Pictured, from left, are: Debbie, Mrs. Graves, Joseph, Pastor Graves, and Becky.

Frontenac Church, Sharpes Organizes with 130 Members

On January 19 Frontenac Chapel, Sharpes was constituted into Frontenac Baptist Church, with 130 charter members, by the sponsoring First Church, Cocoa. Participating in the service were: James A. Sawyer, pastor of the sponsoring church; C. S. Vernon, moderator of Brevard Association; W. E. Cain, chairman of First Church Missions Committee; Jack A. Shaw, a former pastor who is now at First Church, Madison; Chan C. Garrett, pastor of the new church; C. Frank Johnston, moderator of First Church; James R. Owens, moderator of Frontenac Church; and Howard Smith, field secretary of the Florida Baptist Convention.

The Chapel had been a mission of First Church, Cocoa for ten years. Chan Garrett began his ministry in October, 1962.

Lake View Church, Miami Ordains Three Preachers

Gary Whipple, a student at Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville and pastor of Orange Hill Church, Wausau, was ordained to the Gospel ministry by Lake View Church, Miami on December 29.

On January 12 William S. O'Dell, also a student at B.B.I. and pastor of Unity Church, Bonifay, and Wayne Outland, who has just been called as pastor of Lake View's mission on Big Pine Key, were ordained to the ministry.

Richard E. Whipple, pastor of Lake View Church, preached the ordination messages in both services.



FLORIDA SEMINARY GRADUATES—Six students from Florida are among the 89 students scheduled to graduate from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. at mid-session commencement exercises on January 28.

Pictured, from left, are: Daniel F. Laird, Lakeland, bachelor of divinity; Herbert D. Maynard, St. Petersburg, bachelor of church music; John D. Pelham, Plant City, bachelor of divinity; Clarence W. Shelton, Jr., Boynton Beach, bachelor of church music; and Freddie H. Williams, St. Petersburg, master of religious education. Not pictured is Henry J. West, Plant City, bachelor of church music.

Awarded \$1,000 Prize

Dr. Rollin S. Armour, Stetson University assistant professor of religion, has been awarded the 1963 Doctoral Prize of \$1,000 for his doctoral dissertation on "The Theology and Practice of Baptism in 18th Century Anabaptism."

The award, made every three years by the American Society of Church History, is given toward the publication of the manuscript.

Armour began research on this thesis in 1958 at the University of Zurich in Switzerland while he was there on a Westendard Fellowship for travel and study from Harvard University. He received his Th.D. degree in June 1963 from Harvard.

On February 2 First Church, Fellsmere will observe its 17th anniversary with special services and a basket dinner. J. A. Peterson of Vero Beach (first pastor at Fellsmere) will bring the morning message, and former Pastors Adrian P. Rogers of Ft. Pierce and Wayne H. Collins will speak in the afternoon. Jack Eppes, executive secretary of United Christian Action, Lakeland, will bring the evening message.

Pastor George W. Martin invites former pastors, members and friends to attend.

Stetson University's Extension Division of Christian Education opened its Alachua Center in First Baptist Church, Brooksville, on Jan. 28.

Courses offered are "What Baptists Believe," taught by John H. Davis, and "New Testament II," taught by William S. Shaw. They provide credit toward a diploma in Biblical Studies.

Anyone 17 years of age or above may enroll for Stetson extension courses without restriction as to academic training. For enrollment and more information, contact the Northside Baptist Church, Brooksville.

Dean Gatch, a former pastor of Lake Memorial Church, Lake Helen, is available for part-time service and may be reached at Rt. 1, Pierson, Fla.

Nubern Goes to Tampa

Warren Nubern, pastor of First Church, Greenacres City, resigned effective January 19 to become pastor of ElBethel Church, Tampa.

During Nubern's two-year ministry at Greenacres City, the church had 147 additions (81 for baptism), completed the downstairs of a two-story education building, and organized its mission into a church. Four people answered the call to the ministry, and ten others made commitments of life for church-related vocations.

Green Cove Springs Pastor

Joe R. Olachoa became pastor of First Church, Green Cove Springs on January 19.

A graduate of Bob Jones University and Temple Seminary, Olachoa has been pastor of Tampa Church, Tampa for the past eight and one-half years. He has also been pastor at Ruskin.

Mrs. Olachoa is the former Ermina Draeger of Wisconsin. They have three children: Connie Rae, 12; Joe, Jr., 7; and James, 6.

Jim Tatum, a layman from Trinity Church, Jacksonville, was interim pastor at Green Cove Springs.

Franklin Wayne Jessup of Fern Park will become pastor of New Orange Church, Chipley on January 29. He also returns home for ordination by Elder Springs Church, Sanford the same day.

Jessup was a postal clerk at Orlando before entering the ministry and enrolled at Baptist Bible Institute in September, 1963.

Mrs. Jessup was Jeannette Carol Dees of Sanford. They have two sons: Franklin, Jr., 8; and Timothy Daniel, 1.



REV. ADRIAN ROGERS

Pastor of Parkview Baptist Church

By EVELYN ANDREWS

News Tribune Staff Writer

A strong faith in God has helped the **Rev. Adrian P. Rogers** over many hurdles. Probably the hardest test of his faith was last year on Mother's Day when **Adrian** and his young wife, Joyce, lost their four-month old son Phillip, by strangulation while in his crib.

Rev. Rogers who is pastor of the Parkview Baptist church, fairly bubbles over with health and vitality in addition to having a pleasant grin that would warm the cockles of even "Old Scrooge."

A native of West Palm Beach, **Adrian** was born in September of 1931. His wife is the former Joyce Gentry of Fort Pierce. She and **Adrian** were sweethearts from the fourth grade on.

"We went to Palm Beach High School together—even took the same classes. It was while I was in school that I knew I wanted two things, first to preach the gospel and second to marry Joyce," the young pastor said.

After graduation from high school, where he was senior class president, he went on to

Stetson University at DeLand, said Mr. **Rogers**. It was at the start of their second year at the university that the couple exchanged their marriage vows in West Palm Beach on Sept. 2, 1951.

"After completing studies at Stetson, I continued my pastoral studies at the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, from which I was graduated in 1958.

"Although I had been active in sports in high school—I captained the football team in high school—I was too busy during my college days to do much except study and preach. I served as pastor part of the time of a small church at Fellsmere."

"The same holds true now," he continued. "I am just too busy to use my boat and motor, al-

Meet Your Minister

"The same holds true now," he continued. "I am just too busy to use my boat and motor, although my hobby is salt water fishing. My wife and I like to putter around the shrubs and flowers in our yard at the parsonium on Ponce DeLeon Prado. This was built soon after we came to Fort Pierce in 1958."

Beloved by his congregation, he is "Adrian" to most of his parishioners. Attendance and membership at the church at 405 Hibiscus Rd. has grown steadily during the past year and the current membership is 600, over 200 more than in 1957. The Sunday school enrollment has grown from 197 to 388 members.

The pastor's eyes sparkle when he talks about the improvements to be made to the parish buildings.

"We have purchased the home next to the church for an addition to the Sunday School and the former parsonium has been turned into a nursery.

"In time, one of these will be razed to permit enlarging the auditorium and the education building."

Although Joyce is a busy wife and mother of two—Stephen 5, and Gayle 3, she is very active in the work of the church. An accomplished vocalist, she sings in the church choir, and teaches in the Sunday School.

In speaking of his work, Mr. Rogers concluded: "I feel that God has called me to preach and I just couldn't be happy doing anything else. Of course, it would be hard to do if it were not for my wife, my strong right arm."

Ft. Pierce Pastor To Speak on Communism

The Rev. Adrian Rogers, of Ft. Pierce, who is conducting a revival at the Clearlake Baptist Church, Cocoa, will be guest speaker at the Woman's Missionary Union of Clearlake church Wednesday morning at 9:30 at the church.

He will speak on "Communism."

The missionary programs of this quarter are centered around the theme of "Looking at Communism."

All ladies of the church and neighboring areas are invited to hear Mr. Rogers.

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New Park View Pastor Is Here

Rev. Adrian Pierce **Rogers** has taken over the pastor's duties at Park View Baptist Church. He was formerly pastor of the First Baptist Church at Fellsmere and the



REV. ADRIAN P. ROGERS

Waveland Baptist Church at Waveland, Mississippi.

A native of West Palm Beach, **Rev. Rogers** attended high school there, graduated from Stetson

Baptists Hold Meeting At Fort Pierce

FORT PIERCE — Baptists from St. Lucie, Indian River and Martin counties gathered this week at the First Baptist Church here, for the 73rd annual meeting of the Indian River Baptist Association.

After a welcoming address by **Rev.** Frank Derrick, minister of education, First Baptist Church, Fort Pierce, the assembly began the business of the session with the first of 19 separate reports, ranging from a summary of progress in local missions to the overall work of Southern Baptists in the foreign missionary field.

Southern Baptists now have a total of over 1,500 missionaries serving in 45 foreign countries, and have projected a goal of 2,000 missionaries by the close of the Baptist Jubilee Year of 1964.

In work closer to home, J. Perry Carter reported the first unit of Florida Baptist Retirement Centers was opened at Vero Beach in March of this year.

Beginning in a small way, the Vero Beach center has already added several additional living units, with plans ready for a further expansion.

The centers are to house retired ministers and their wives, retired missionaries and retired lay workers in the churches. The program is supported by direct contributions, and cooperative payments by the residents.

In the annual election of officers for the association, **Rev.** Adrian Rogers, pastor of Parkview Baptist Church, Fort Pierce, was named moderator. He succeeds in this position **Rev.** Joe McCullough, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Wabasso.

Other officers elected to serve with the **Rev.** Rogers are **Rev.** Jack Nightingale, pastor of West Side Baptist Church, vice-moderator; Mabel Perkins, association clerk; **Rev.** Frank Derrick, First Baptist Church, Fort Pierce, association Sunday School superintendent; and Mrs. Lee Gaban, director of the Training Committee.

Rev. Fayette Hall, pastor of the host church, served as overall director of the association meeting, and Gaines O. Hyche, First Church, Vero Beach, was the music director for the program.

Baby Boy Strangled On Pacifier

FORT PIERCE—Philip Gentry **Rogers**, 10-week-old son of the **Rev. Adrian Rogers**, pastor of the Park View Baptist Church, and Mrs. **Rogers**, died Sunday. A physician said the baby had choked on a pacifier.

The father removed the object from the child's throat and rushed it to a hospital, but the baby was dead on arrival.

Mr. **Rogers** only recently accepted the pulpit here, coming from Waveland, Miss. The funeral will be Wednesday at 3 p.m. at West Palm Beach, former home of the parents.

The **Rev.** Allen Watson, pastor of the Northwood Baptist Church, will conduct the services at the Northwood Chapel, and burial will be in the Hillcrest Cemetery in West Palm Beach. The Yates Funeral Home is in charge here.

In addition to the parents, survivors are a brother, Stephen, 4, a sister, Gayle 2; and grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. **Rogers** and Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Gentry, all of West Palm Beach.

Baptist Schedule Given For February Crusade

The Executive Committee of the Greater Fort Pierce Crusade for Christ met at the Parkview Baptist Church Sunday afternoon to plan for the coming crusade. Attending were the committees from the Baptist churches in St. Lucie County who are sponsoring the crusade in which the Rev. Lee Fisher will be preaching.

Rev. Fayette L. Hall, general chairman of the crusade, announced that Lowell Leistner of Orlando will be leading the choirs and congregational singing.

Churches participating in the crusade are the First Baptist of Fort Pierce, Parkview Baptist, Westside Baptist, Fairlawn Baptist, Orange Avenue Baptist, White City Baptist, St. Lucie Baptist chapel and Port St. Lucie Baptist chapel.

The crusade will open with the 8 p.m. service on Sunday, Feb. 12, and will close with a 3 p.m. service on Sunday, Feb. 19. Morning services will be held at 10 o'clock in the following churches: Monday, Parkview; Tuesday, White City; Wednesday, Fairlawn; Thursday, Westside; and Friday at the First Baptist church. Services will be held

each evening Monday through Saturday at the First Baptist church on Orange Ave. at 7:30.

Mr. Hall announced that nursery facilities will be available in each of the participating churches to care for the children.

Serving on the executive committee with Rev. Hall are Rev. Adrian Rogers, counselling committee chairman; Herbert Cox, music chairman; Frank Derrick, publicity chairman; Rev. Jack Nightingale, prayer chairman; Rev. J. W. Honea, attendance chairman; Rev. Wayne Frederick, special services chairman; Rev. D. D. Peterson, visitation chairman; Rex Nelson, finance chairman; Mrs. Luther Blount, hospitality chairman, and Charles Stone, transportation chairman.

* * *

Art At Library

The art works of Mrs. Dorothy Braumlich, Julia Tschabold and Drury Dumar will be exhibited at the Fort Pierce Library, beginning Thursday. Both artists are veteran exhibitors in the Soroptimist and Arts League Shows. The art may be seen anytime during the Library's hours of opening.

* * *

Offering's namesake encouraged, cajoled Florida Baptists toward their God-given mission



Clyde and John Maquire

In the early 1950's John Maguire, in his role as executive secretary-treasurer of the Florida Baptist Convention, stopped by a small church in Fellsmere to meet the young student pastor.

Impressed with the young Floridian, Maguire wrote about him in his weekly column in the *Florida Baptist Witness*.

A decade later the young pastor was called to serve the First Baptist Church of Merritt Island. In his column, Maguire again praised the young man and his abilities to lead the congregation.

That young pastor was Adrian Rogers, who now serves as pastor of the 27,000-member Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tenn., and has served three times as president of the 14-million member Southern Baptist Convention.

"It was so neat that John Maguire would talk to a college boy and encourage me and later write about it," said Rogers. "You know how that encouraged me."

Rogers recalled that Maguire often used the term "Favored Florida" when he spoke of the challenges facing Florida Baptists. "He was always pushing, always charging. He would always speak to people about the state of Florida and about the opportunity and responsibility the people of Florida have," Rogers added.

A passion for God's mission and a passion for God's people characterized the visionary leadership John Maguire provided to Florida Baptists. Under his leadership Florida Baptists

experienced unparalleled growth. During his 23-year tenure—from 1945-67—the number of cooperating churches in the convention increased to 1,426 from 826. Church membership grew to more than 600,000 from 184,140, and Cooperative Program receipts increased to \$3.7 million from \$422,123.

When Maguire assumed his leadership post, one-fourth of the 826 Florida Baptist churches gave nothing to any mission cause. Before he retired, every church was giving something to missions.

The Maguire State Mission Offering, which benefits 20 Florida Baptist ministries, is named for John Maguire and his wife Clyde, who mentored and motivated Baptist women in the state.

"Florida" said John Maguire before his death in 1987, "is the greatest mission field anywhere in the United States...and unless Florida Baptists arise to the occasion of reaching these lost people, we are going backwards, instead of forward."



John Maguire befriended Memphis pastor Adrian Rogers when the young man served his first church.

Adrian Rogers

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Adrian Pierce Rogers (September 12, 1931 – November 15, 2005) served three terms as president of the Southern Baptist Convention (1979–1980 and 1986–1988). He was also a Southern Baptist pastor whose church services aired on television, and a conservative author.^[1]

Rogers was born in West Palm Beach, Florida. He entered Christian ministry at the age of nineteen. He graduated from Stetson University in DeLand, Florida, and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Rogers was ordained by Northwood Baptist Church (now known as The Village Baptist Church) in West Palm Beach. His first job as a senior pastor was at Fellsmere Baptist Church, a small congregation in Fellsmere, Florida. He performed his first baptism in the C-54 Canal near Fellsmere. He was senior pastor of First Baptist Church in Merritt Island, Florida from 1964 to 1972. In 1972, he became the senior pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee, where he remained until March 2005. During this period, the church's membership grew from 9,000 to 29,000, and the church moved into a new, megachurch facility.^[1] Rogers was named pastor emeritus after his retirement in March 2005.

Rogers was instrumental in the Southern Baptist denomination's shift towards the right that began in the late 1970s, as he was elected president of the denomination during a theological controversy within the denomination known as the Southern Baptist Convention Conservative resurgence.

He published eighteen books and his works are featured on the internationally available radio and television program, *Love Worth Finding*, which is broadcast in English and Spanish.^[1] Rogers was also the founder of the Adrian Rogers Pastor Training Institute for ministers, which is currently headed by his widow, two sons, and a granddaughter.

In November 2005, Rogers contracted pneumonia of both lungs as a complication of colon cancer treatments, and died following a period of mechanical ventilation at the age of seventy-four.

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- 1 Southern Baptist Convention presidency
- 2 On politics and social issues
 - 2.1 "You cannot multiply wealth by dividing it."
- 3 Selected works
- 4 See also
- 5 Notes
- 6 External links

Southern Baptist Convention presidency

Rogers served three times as president of the Southern Baptist Convention, the largest American Evangelical denomination with 16 million members. He was first elected to this post in 1979 on a platform of biblical inerrancy, and under his leadership, the denomination shifted to a theologically conservative stance. Soon liberal and moderate seminary professors were dismissed. All employees of SBC seminaries and the national office were required to affirm their adherence to the Baptist Faith and Message. The denomination has remained conservative since Rogers' tenure as president.

Rogers's election as SBC president at the 1979 convention held in Houston, Texas, launched the Conservative resurgence in the denomination, a movement pushed by the theologian Paige Patterson and the Houston judge Paul Pressler. In 2004, in a

Adrian Rogers



Adrian Rogers

Born	September 12, 1931 West Palm Beach, Florida, United States
Died	November 15, 2005 (aged 74) Memphis, Tennessee, United States
Nationality	American
Occupation	Pastor, Author, President of the Southern Baptist Convention
Religion	Southern Baptist
Spouse(s)	Joyce Rogers
Website	Love Worth Finding Ministries - LWF.org (http://www.lwf.org/) - Adrian Rogers Pastor Training Institute (http://www.pastortraining.com)

symposium at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, Pressler said that the real movers in the Conservative resurgence who elected Rogers and the subsequent presidents were not he and Patterson but the independent-minded laypersons who came for years to the annual conventions to be heard.^[2]

On politics and social issues

Like many influential conservative pastors, Rogers participated in the advancement of a conservative political agenda in the United States. He stated that Christians have a duty to be involved in government, and that it is a sin for a Christian to abstain from voting in an election.

Familial dynamics was a recurrent issue for Rogers. He focused most closely on fathers that he labeled "drop-out dads." According to Rogers, since the Bible emphasizes the paternal role in a family, the father should be the primary source of teaching in the home. He was critical of fathers who do not fulfill this role: "We have dads today that are interested in sports, business, and sex. They've forgotten their God-given assignments to teach the Ten Commandments [4] (<http://www.leaderu.com/common/adrianrogers.html>)." He went on to say that social problems, such as gun violence, are the consequences of fathers avoiding this responsibility.

On the topic of pastoral endorsement of political candidates, he wrote that it is a pastor's duty to influence the political decisions of the members of the pastor's congregation. A pastor need not, however, endorse a specific candidate (and, under Internal Revenue Service regulations, a church could lose its tax-exempt status for doing so). He wrote that "[i]f [a pastor] has done his job his members will prayerfully and correctly use the standard of God's Word to select the right candidate."^[5] (http://www.christianity.com/partner/Article_Display_Page/0,,PTID319326%7CCHID629244%7CCIID1662852,00.html)

In May 2003, Rogers, along with twenty-four other religious leaders and persons of influence, signed a letter sent from Gary Bauer's conservative organization American Values to President George W. Bush. The letter criticizes President Bush's proposed Road Map for Peace initiative as being too lax towards the Palestinians. The letter states in part, "Mr. President, it would be morally reprehensible for the United States to be 'evenhanded' between democratic Israel . . . and the terrorist infested Palestinian infrastructure." [6] (http://www.ouramericanvalues.org/press_release_article.php?id=27)

Cecil Sherman writes in his autobiography that he once questioned Rogers about biblical inerrancy with reference to New Testament passages that seem to support slavery. Sherman reports that Rogers replied: "I believe slavery is a much maligned institution; if we had slavery today, we would not have this welfare mess."^{[3][4]} Though Rogers later signed up to a revised Baptist Faith and Message to the effect that all races are equal before the Lord.^{[5][6]}

Rogers was an adamant supporter of the pro-life movement, had stated that the institution of capital punishment is spiritually ordained, and (along with other Southern Baptists) supported a boycott of Disney because of the company's perceived promotion of homosexuality.^[7] (<http://www.sbc.net/resolutions/amResolution.asp?ID=435>).

As a traditional Baptist, he opposed the use of alcohol and tobacco, frequently telling stories to warn of their dangers. One particular story tells of a father who learned that his daughter had died while driving drunk, vowed revenge towards whoever had sold her the alcohol, only to discover that she had taken the bottle from his own liquor cabinet.

"You cannot multiply wealth by dividing it."

This quote appears frequently^{[7][8][9]} on the Internet and is often attributed to Dr. Rogers with an incorrect date of 1931. In fact, the quotation is part of a longer sermon by Dr. Rogers' from 1984 in a larger series titled *God's Way to Health, Wealth and Wisdom* (CDA107),^[10] but it also appears as a passage in Dr. Rogers' 1996 work *Ten Secrets for a Successful Family* complaining that "by and large our young people do not know either the importance or the value of honest labor".^[11]

Rogers did not originate the quote at all. In fact, he did not claim to have originated it. Instead, he was citing almost verbatim a bit of anti-Soviet propaganda that had circulated in many magazines in the early 1960's.^[12] The quote appeared before that in the Congressional Record of 1958, where they were appended to the record by congressman Bruce Alger.^[13] Alger had borrowed the words from Gerald L. K. Smith, who had written them first in his magazine, *The Cross and the Flag*.^[14] Since the quote was attributed to Rogers in 2009, it has been regularly attributed to him; however, Rogers was essentially quoting Smith at the time.

Selected works

- *Believe in Miracles but Trust in Jesus*

- *Mastering Your Emotions*
- *God's Way to Health, Wealth and Wisdom*
- *The Power of His Presence*
- *Ten Secrets for a Successful Family*
- *Unveiling the End Times in Our Time*
- *The Incredible Power of Kingdom Authority*
- *What Every Christian Ought to Know*
- *Standing for Light and Truth*
- *Adrianisms* (posthumous collection of quotes)
- *Grace for the Widow* (posthumous collection of unpublished material in appendix; book is written by his wife Joyce, to be published January 2009)

See also

- Southern Baptist Convention
- List of Southern Baptist Convention affiliated people
- Southern Baptist Convention Presidents
- Southern Baptist Convention conservative resurgence

Notes

1. "About Adrian Rogers" (http://www.lwf.org/site/PageServer?pagename=abt_AboutAdrianRogers). Love Worth Finding Ministries. 2010.
2. "Jeff Robinson, Pressler: Conservative resurgence was grassroots movement, March 30, 2004" (<http://www.bpnews.net/bpnews.asp?id=17956>). *Baptist Press News*. Retrieved September 30, 2013.
3. Sherman, Cecil E. (2008). *By My Own Reckoning* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=ThtH61pIk1kC>). Macon, GA: Smyth & Helwys Publishing, Inc. p. 189. ISBN 1-57312-506-7.
4. Edward T. Babinski, ed., *Leaving the Fold: Testimonies of Former Fundamentalists* (N.Y.: Prometheus Books, 1995) ISBN 1-59102-217-7 p. 125 See [1] (http://www.infidels.org/library/modern/ed_babinski/experience.html)
5. The Telegraph, "Adrian Rogers" (<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/obituaries/1503347/Adrian-Rogers.html>), *Telegraph Media Group Limited 2012*>, November 19, 2005. Retrieved 2012-09-16.
6. Founders Journal, *Issue 30*, 1997. pp. 25-26.
7. "You cannot multiply wealth by dividing it." (<http://todaysfreshmanna.wordpress.com/2009/07/17/you-cannot-multiply-wealth-by-dividing-it>) blog posting by Tim Burt.
8. Adrian Rogers on Free Lunches (<http://www.independent.org/blog/?p=528>) blog posting by The Independent Institute.
9. Google Search results (<http://www.google.com/search?hl=en&q=%22You+don%27t+multiply+wealth+by+dividing+it%22>) for the exact phrase most often quoted.
10. "Financial Quote from Adrian Rogers" (http://www.lwf.org/site/PageServer?pagename=lis_quote). Love Worth Finding Ministries. 2010.
11. Rogers, Adrian (1996). *Ten Secrets for a Successful Family* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=TY6-XkzaS4sC>). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books. p. 138. ISBN 1-58134-033-8.
12. Google Books currently lists ten such books and magazines
13. [2] (https://books.google.com/books?id=V8LjR7eP8DEC&q=%22you+cannot+multiply+wealth%22&dq=%22you+cannot+multiply+wealth%22&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0CCUQ6AEwAjgKahUKEwiYm_n-koPIAhXD0D4KHe5JDGg) Google books entry showing the famous line
14. [3] (https://books.google.com/books?id=fg5bAAAAMAAJ&q=%22you+cannot+multiply+wealth%22&dq=%22you+cannot+multiply+wealth%22&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0CC8Q6AEwBDgKahUKEwiYm_n-koPIAhXD0D4KHe5JDGg), Google books entry showing the Cross and the Flag quote

External links

- Ouramericanvalues.org (http://www.ouramericanvalues.org/press_release_article.php?id=051903)
- Commercial Appeal article (http://www.commercialappeal.com/mca/local_news/article/0,1426,MCA_437_3600510,00.html)
- It Takes God to Make a Home (<http://www.leaderu.com/common/adrianrogers.html>)
- The Uniqueness of Christian Experience (http://www.infidels.org/library/modern/ed_babinski/experience.html)
- Baptist Faith and Message 2000 (<http://churches.net/churches/utmiss/Faithmessage/Faithmessage.html>)
- Video Broadcasts (http://lightsource.com/ministry/love_worth_finding/)
- Adrian Rogers (<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=12352109>) at *Find a Grave*

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Adrian_Rogers&oldid=681890999"

Categories: [1931 births](#) | [2005 deaths](#) | [American evangelicals](#) | [American television evangelists](#) | [Baptist writers](#) | [Cancer deaths in Tennessee](#) | [Deaths from colorectal cancer](#) | [People from Memphis, Tennessee](#) | [People from West Palm Beach, Florida](#) | [Southern Baptist ministers](#) | [Southern Baptist Convention presidents](#)

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Melissa -
Pam file
Dw

Adrian
Rogers
Golder

LIFE@BELLEVUE: THE GATE THAT WE MAY
HAVE LIFE AND HAVE IT ABUNDANTLY.



Pastor Rogers Continues to Recover

Pastor Rogers continues to recuperate well. Doctors believe his recovery will be complete and expect that he will feel even better than before the surgery.

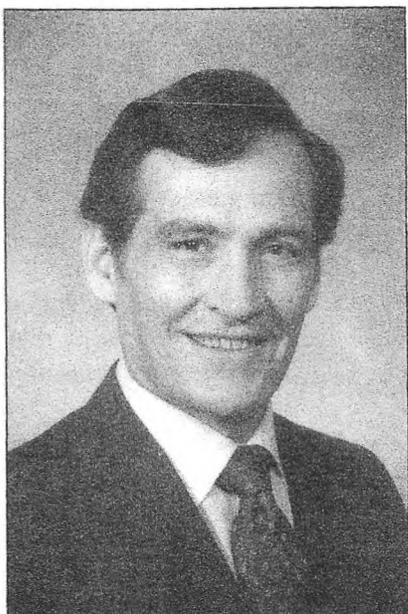
Pastor underwent successful quadruple bypass surgery on March 16 after a routine exam the day before discovered cardiovascular blockages. No heart damage had occurred, and Dr. Rogers did not experience a heart attack or other symptoms.

His stay in the hospital has produced some amazing experiences. Dr. Rogers led a young man to Christ who was also undergoing heart treatment. As Pastor shared the Gospel with him, God performed a spiritual heart transplant as the young man awaited treatment for his physical heart.

Doctors want Pastor to be fully recuperated before he returns and estimate he may be back in six to eight weeks. Praise the Lord for allowing the surgery and recovery to go so well and please continue to pray for Pastor Rogers as he recuperates and looks forward to being back in the pulpit soon. He sends his love and appreciation to all that have expressed concern and offered prayers for him.



- PeopleLife Sp
- 2003 Love Off
- 2004 Missions
- Adult Softball
- Becoming a Sp
- Leader Cont
- Bellevue Scho
- Fund
- Camp SonQue
- Care Groups
- Registration
- Centennial Ce
- Crossroads Ce
- Easter Worshij
- Evangelism Ex
- Banquet
- Forerunners Li
- Golf League
- Golf Tour
- Gospel Radio
- Library Online
- Memphis Pass
- Pastor Rogers
- to Recover
- Single Parent
- Conference
- Sunday Care (
- Vacation Bible
- Vacation Bible
- Worker Sign
- Women's Mini



41

ADRIAN PIERCE ROGERS

September 9, 1931—
Elected: 1979, 1986, 1987

*S*eminary training could never have prepared Adrian Rogers for the pain he and his wife were about to experience after graduating from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Called to a church in Ft. Pierce, Florida, the Rogers family included three children: Steve, Gayle, and Philip. In fact, Philip was only two months old when they settled into the new parsonage. That first Mother's Day began as Rogers preached on the blessings of a Christian home. Rogers remembered what happened after that:

Joyce was out in the kitchen preparing our lunch after the service. And I was in the living room reading. Suddenly I heard her distraught voice. "Adrian! Come here quickly! Something is wrong with Philip." I leaped to my feet. She had our baby boy in her arms. He was not breathing. His face had a blue cast to it.

"What's wrong?" she cried.

"I don't know. You call the hospital and tell them I'm coming."

I put our little boy inside my coat to keep him warm. With eyes blinded by tears, I screeched out of our driveway and sped to the hospital emergency room. "Please help me," I cried to a waiting nurse as I burst through the heavy double entrance doors to the hospital. Kind hands took Philip and rushed him to a nearby room. I knelt outside the emergency room door and prayed for God's mercy, not caring who saw me or what they might think.

After a while, an attending doctor came out of the room and walked over to me. He laid his hand upon my shoulder and shook his head. "He's gone. There was nothing we could do. We tried."

It was one of those sudden "crib deaths."

Joyce was standing in the doorway of our house when I returned alone. The look on my face told the story. Mother's Day had turned into a day of incredible grief and confusion for us. The tragedy was so sudden and so stark. We did the only thing we knew to do. We knelt and called out to the Lord for help.¹

Nearly forty-five years later, Adrian and Joyce Rogers have ministered to countless parents who have lost young ones. Reminding Christians that suffering is an integral part of the Christian walk, he explains, "And if He has healed you, remember that your scars may be your greatest ministry!"²

Adrian Pierce Rogers was born on September 9, 1931, in West Palm Beach, Florida. The third child born to Arden and Rose Rogers, Adrian grew up in the heart of the Great Depression. Though his mother was a Christian, she was private in her faith and did not express her beliefs to her son. Adrian earned the reputation of a troublemaker and school-yard brawler. One evening when Adrian was fourteen years old, someone invited the Rogers family to a revival crusade at the Northwood Baptist Church. That night Arden Rogers stepped out during the invitation and accepted Christ as his Savior. Adrian was convicted himself, and when his father took that step of faith, he too came forward to receive Christ into his life. They were both baptized shortly thereafter.

Still Rogers did not find complete peace. He continued in his old ways of street fighting. Furthermore, though Rogers had made a public profession of faith, he began doubting the validity of his salvation. He admitted that he knew little of this grace he received and was not counseled sufficiently the night of his conversion. After two years of doubting his salvation, Rogers settled it once and for all. He stated:

I remember stopping one night on the corner of 39th St. and Calvin Avenue in West Palm Beach after I had walked my girlfriend home from church. I stopped and prayed, looked straight up into the sky and I said, "God I don't know whether I am lost and the Holy Spirit has me under conviction, or whether I am saved and the devil is trying to make me doubt it, but I am going to get it settled tonight and once and for all, now and forever, I trust You as my personal Lord and Savior. If I have done it already I still am saved but if I haven't I am saved tonight. I don't look for a sign, I don't ask for feeling; you promised to save me by your grace and I stand in that and that settles it it's done. Thank You." From that time on I have had the assurance and I really believed I was saved when I went forward there. But I got that cleared up and then I began to pray about God's will for my life. [In] my middle year in high school I felt God calling me to preach.³

Rogers, sure of his relationship with God, accepted the call to the ministry and began to preach immediately. While in high school Rogers preached his first

sermon in the same church where he was saved, baptized, and later on, ordained and married. His first sermon, "I Dare You," used the life of Daniel to charge the congregation to be bold in their witness. The sermon lasted only fifteen minutes, though Rogers felt he had exhausted the entire Bible.

Rogers desired training for the ministry and enrolled in the Southern Baptist-supported Stetson University located in his home state of Florida. The university gave Rogers both a football and ministerial scholarship. But Rogers forsook the football scholarship after his first year and accepted his first pastorate at the First Baptist Church of Fellsmere, Florida, a rural church in a town of six hundred people.

Also during his college years Rogers married his childhood sweetheart, Joyce Lewis Gentry. As he jokingly says, "I met Joyce in the fourth grade but didn't get serious until the sixth grade." Joyce was faithfully by his side during Rogers's most important decisions as an adolescent. She was present when he accepted Christ and was baptized. She was at the Ridgecrest Conference Center in North Carolina when Adrian came forward to accept the call to preach. She was a cheerleader when Adrian played football at Palm Beach High School. In 1951, the two were married.

In 1954, after graduating with his bachelor of arts in religion, Rogers, his wife, and their firstborn, Steve, moved to New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, where he received his bachelor of divinity. By the time of his graduation, the Rogers family had two more additions, Gayle and Philip. Sadly, young Philip died before his first birthday, a result of crib death. The Rogers were devastated by the sudden tragedy and leaned completely on the mercies of God. In time they had one more son, David, who is now a missionary in Spain.

In 1964, after faithfully serving the Parkview Baptist Church in Fort Pierce, Florida, for six years, Rogers accepted the invitation to pastor Merritt Island Baptist Church, home of the nation's space center. Over the next eight years, Rogers led the church in enormous growth, increasing the Sunday school from three hundred to nearly two thousand. Rogers was thoroughly content in this ministry, but a persistent pulpit committee from the historic Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee, led in the past by Baptist stalwarts R. G. Lee and Ramsey Pollard, convinced Rogers to accept their offer to become the new pastor.

In 1972, Rogers began his ministry at Bellevue Baptist Church, a relationship that has now spanned three decades. At the time of his arrival, Bellevue was in a state of decline. The Sunday school had decreased from twenty-seven hundred to less than thirteen hundred. The auditorium, which would seat three thousand, was only half full on Sunday mornings.

The church grew so quickly that Rogers found himself preaching three times each Sunday morning due to the limited capacity of the auditorium. The church relocated to its present four-hundred-acre location and built a new auditorium that was nearly three times as large as the old auditorium. Today Sunday school attendance

has reached a historic high of more than ten thousand, with total membership surpassing twenty-eight thousand. Furthermore, Bellevue illustrates love for the lost around the world, giving more than four million dollars annually to missionary causes. Rogers himself has visited a number of countries, including Korea, Romania, and Nicaragua. Many of the members also go on short- and long-term mission trips.

In 1979, messengers gathered in Houston, Texas, and elected Rogers president of the Southern Baptist Convention. Though electing a conservative as president was far from unprecedented, Rogers was the first conservative who planned to implement necessary changes in the Southern Baptist Convention agencies through the nomination process. He promised to submit for consideration only the names of those who believed the Bible was the infallible and inerrant Word of God and in turn would also only nominate for other committees those who would stand for the total inspiration of Scripture. These nominations then filtered down to the seminaries and agencies, returning the Convention to its conservative roots.

With his election in Houston, Rogers in many ways was the forefather of the Conservative Resurgence. Rogers served honorably for the next year but declined to run for reelection due to time constraints within his church and family. But in 1986, Rogers was once again elected as president of the Convention, serving in this capacity for the next two years. Perhaps Rogers's greatest contribution to Southern Baptists was in serving as chairman of the Baptist Faith and Message Committee formed in 1999 by the Convention president Paige Patterson. The committee worked diligently, as Rogers clarified the purpose of the committee:

We reviewed the confessional history of our denomination and considered the challenges faced by the Baptists of this generation. We were guided by the rich heritage embodied in the 1925 and 1963 editions of the Baptist Faith and Message. We have sought to retain all the strengths of that noble heritage, to clarify the truths there expressed, and to address the needs of our own times.⁴

In 2000, the messengers of the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Orlando, Florida, overwhelmingly approved of the confession, reaffirming Southern Baptist heritage.

Indeed, this vote also solidified the legacy of Rogers in standing for the "total truthfulness and trustworthiness of the Bible." Today Rogers remains one of the premier pastors in the country. His media ministry, *Love Worth Finding*, has been broadcast worldwide for more than fifteen years. Adrian Rogers combines the unique qualities of standing for the integrity of the Word of God while living with integrity through the Word of God.

7. "Pastors of First Baptist Church" <http://www.fbcsa.org/history4.htm>. Accessed 10 November 2002.

8. Bonnie Sparrow "Mrs. Allen: Honest, Candid," *The Baptist Standard*, June 1978, 9.

9. Ibid.

10. "Allen: Conservative, Progressive, Aggressive." *The Baptist Standard*, June 1978, 8.

11. <http://www.bigcaneochapel.org/allen.htm>. Accessed 10 November 2002.

12. "Allen: Conservative, Progressive, Aggressive." *The Baptist Standard*, June 1978, 8.

13. Jimmy R. Allen, *The Burden of a Secret* (New York: Random House/Moorings, 1995).

14. For more information, see *Lydia's House: A Project of Love and Action*. <http://www.lydiashouse.net>.

15. Charlene Terrell, "Chapel's Dr. Jimmy Allen Receives Award for Leadership and Integrity," *Smoke Signals*, October 2001, 10.

41. Adrian Pierce Rogers

1. Adrian Rogers, "The Souvenirs of Pain," Campus Crusade for Christ International, 1996, at <http://www.ccci.org/gl-men/stories/rogers-a.html>; accessed 18 October 2002.

2. Ibid.

3. Interview of Adrian Rogers by Emir Caner, 14 October 2002.

4. Adrian Rogers, "From the Chairman of the Committee on the Baptist Faith and Message," at <http://www.sbc.net/bfm/bfmchairman.asp>; accessed 19 October 2002.

42. Bailey Eugene Smith

1. Bailey Smith, "Southern Baptists' Most Serious Question," 15 June 1982.

2. Bailey Smith, "The Worth of the Work," 9 June 1981, Southern Baptist Convention.

3. Ibid. Note that Smith uses the explicit phrase found in the *Baptist Faith and Message* of 1963, which states, "There is truth without any mixture of error."

43. James T. Draper Jr.

1. Written correspondence of James Draper with the author, Emir F. Caner, 6 September 2002. A follow-up interview was also conducted on 10 October 2002.

2. Ibid.

3. Ibid. Twenty years later, Draper returned to Bryon to preach a revival at a neighboring church. Demonstrating their love for their former pastor, forty-five people from Sleepy Hollow attended the services on Sunday evening.

4. Mombasa is known by many as the headquarters for Islamic theology in East Africa and is home to numerous Muslim seminaries.

5. Jerry Sutton, *The Baptist Reformation* (Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 2000), 125–26.

6. Not surprisingly, Draper has teams that go to Kenya on a regular basis.

44. Charles F. Stanley

1. Interview of Charles Stanley with Emir Caner, 14 October 2002.

2. Paul Pressler, *A Hill on Which to Die* (Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1999), 130. The quote is a blend between Pressler's book and the personal interview with Emir Caner.

3. Jerry Sutton, *The Baptist Reformation*, 143.

4. Charles Stanley, www.intouch.org/inside/about_us/biography_76833.html; accessed 7 October 2002.

THE SACRED TRUST

Sketches of the
Southern Baptist Convention Presidents

EMIR AND ERGUN CANER

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NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

Broadman-Holman Publishers

**Inventory of the
Adrian Rogers Collection**

AR 691



Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives

Prepared by Michelle Herr
June 2011

Inventory of the Adrian Rogers Collection

AR 691

Summary

Main Entry: Adrian Rogers Collection

Date Span: 1979 – 1988

Abstract: Collection contains files related to Adrian Rogers' tenure as president of the Southern Baptist Convention from 1979 to 1980 and 1986 to 1988. It includes information related to a variety of SBC agencies, including the Executive Committee, Sunday School Board, Home Mission Board, and Foreign Mission Board.

Size: 3 linear ft. (7 document boxes)

Collection #: AR 691

Biographical Sketch

Southern Baptist minister and denominational leader. A two-time president of the Southern Baptist Convention, Adrian Rogers was born in West Palm Beach, Florida in 1931. Upon graduating from high school, Rogers received a bachelor's degree from Stetson University. While a freshman there, he married his childhood sweetheart, Joyce Gentry. The couple had four children. Rogers went on to obtain degrees in theology from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Trinity College.

Rogers spent his early pastoral career ministering to two churches in Florida - Parkview Baptist Church (Fort Pierce, Fla.) and Merritt Island Baptist Church. In 1972, Rogers became pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee. Over the next thirty-two years, Bellevue's congregation grew from 8,700 to nearly 29,000. As minister to one of the premiere Baptist churches, Rogers traveled extensively as an evangelist and Bible teacher. In 1987, Rogers formed Love Worth Finding Ministries, a radio and television ministry that broadcasts to more than 150 countries.

At the 1979 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, Adrian Rogers was elected as convention president. Rogers' election paved the way for the Conservative Resurgence, a movement to change the leadership within the denomination's seminaries and other entities. The movement was concerned with theological and political liberalism within the seminaries and agencies of the SBC. Following Rogers' first term as president, subsequent elections were hotly contested affairs between conservatives and moderates. Rogers and his successors vowed to nominate candidates who believed in the inerrancy and infallibility of the Bible. He returned to lead the convention in 1986 and 1987. In

addition, he served on the committee to review and revise the Baptist Faith and Message at the 2000 annual meeting of the convention.

Adrian Rogers retired as pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church on March 6, 2005. Shortly after his retirement, Rogers was diagnosed with colon cancer. He died November 15, 2005.

Scope and Content Note

The Adrian Rogers Collection (3 linear ft.) consists of correspondence, minutes, clippings, notes, and programs. The material chronicles Adrian Rogers' two terms as president of the Southern Baptist Convention. The collection focuses on relations between various Southern Baptist Convention agencies, including the Executive Committee, Home Mission Board, Foreign Mission Board, and Sunday School Board. The correspondence consists of congratulatory letters and letters relating to events in Southern Baptist life.

The major topics and issues included in the papers are: missions, the Cooperative Program, finance, budgets, the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, and the expansion of the Sunday School Board facilities.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged in two sections: Presidential files for 1979 to 1980 and Presidential files for 1986 to 1988. The files are arranged alphabetically in each section.

Provenance

Donated by Adrian Rogers, 1989.

Preferred Citation

Adrian Rogers Collection, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee.

Access Restrictions

None

Subject Terms

Rogers, Adrian, 1931 - 2005.
Southern Baptist Convention.
Southern Baptist Convention - Presidents.
Southern Baptist Convention. Executive Committee.
Southern Baptist Convention. Foreign Mission Board.
Southern Baptist Convention. Home Mission Board.
Southern Baptist Convention – History – 20th century.
Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

Related Materials

Southern Baptist Convention Press Kit Collection, AR 375

Southern Baptist Convention Proceedings [videorecording], Rec60vt 1979 - 1980, 1986-1988

Container List

A. Presidential Files, 1979 – 1980

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- 1.1 Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, 1979 – 1980
- 1.2 Brotherhood Commission, 1979 – 1980
- 1.3 Committee on Committees, 1980
- 1.4 Committee on Order of Business, 1979 – 1980
- 1.5 Executive Committee, 1979 – 1980
- 1.6 Executive Committee, 1979 – 1980
- 1.7 Foreign Mission Board, 1979 – 1980
- 1.8 Southern Baptist Foundation, 1979 – 1980
- 1.9 Sunday School Board, 1979
- 1.10 Sunday School Board, 1980

B. Presidential Files, 1986 – 1988

- 1.11 Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, 1987 – 1988
- 1.12 Baptist World Alliance, 1987
- 1.13 Baptist World Alliance, 1988

Box 2

- 2.1 Committee Appointments, 1988
- 2.2 Committee on Committees, 1987
- 2.3 Conference on Biblical Inerrancy, 1987
- 2.4 Conference on Biblical Interpretation, 1988
- 2.5 Correspondence – A, 1986 – 1988
- 2.6 Correspondence – B, 1986 – 1988
- 2.7 Correspondence – C, 1986 – 1988
- 2.8 Correspondence – D, 1986 – 1988
- 2.9 Correspondence – E – F, 1986 – 1988

Box 3

- 3.1 Correspondence – G, 1986 – 1988
- 3.2 Correspondence – H, 1986 – 1988
- 3.3 Correspondence – I – J, 1986 – 1988
- 3.4 Correspondence – K, 1986 – 1988
- 3.5 Correspondence – L, 1986 – 1988
- 3.6 Correspondence – M, 1986 – 1988
- 3.7 Correspondence – N – O – 1986 – 1988

- 3.8 Correspondence – P, 1986 – 1988
- 3.9 Correspondence – R, 1986 – 1987
- 3.10 Correspondence – S, 1986 – 1988
- 3.11 Correspondence – T, 1986 – 1988
- 3.12 Correspondence – V, 1986
- 3.13 Correspondence – W, 1986 – 1988
- 3.14 Correspondence – Y – Z, 1986 – 1988
- 3.15 Executive Committee, 1986
- 3.16 Executive Committee, 1987
- 3.17 Executive Committee, 1987

Box 4

- 4.1 Executive Committee, 1988
- 4.2 Foreign Mission Board, October 1986
- 4.3 Foreign Mission Board, 1986
- 4.4 Foreign Mission Board, 1987
- 4.5 Foreign Mission Board, 1987
- 4.6 Foreign Mission Board, 1987

Box 5

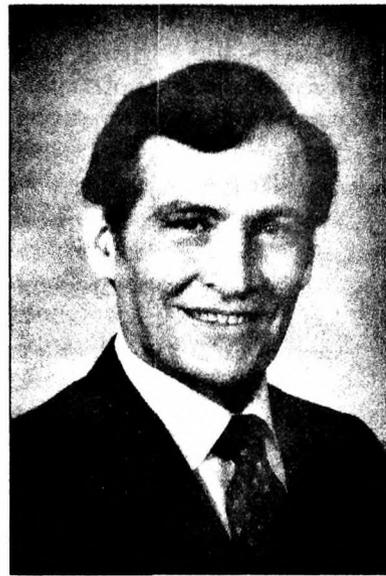
- 5.1 Foreign Mission Board, 1988
- 5.2 Foreign Mission Board – Missionary Learning Center, 1986
- 5.3 Home Mission Board, 1986 – 1987
- 5.4 Order of Business Committee, 1987
- 5.5 Order of Business Committee, 1987 – 1988
- 5.6 Public Affairs Committee, 1987 – 1988
- 5.7 Radio and Television Committee, 1987 – 1988
- 5.8 Southern Baptist Foundation, 1987
- 5.9 Southern Baptist Foundation, 1987 – 1988

Box 6

- 6.1 Sunday School Board, 1986
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- 6.5 Sunday School Board, 1987 – 1988

Box 7

- 7.1 Sunday School Board, 1987 – 1988
- 7.2 Sunday School Board, 1987 – 1988
- 7.3 Sunday School Board, 1988
- 7.4 Sunday School Board – Master Plan Nashville Properties, 1987



41

ADRIAN PIERCE ROGERS

September 9, 1931—
Elected: 1979, 1986, 1987

*S*eminary training could never have prepared Adrian Rogers for the pain he and his wife were about to experience after graduating from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Called to a church in Ft. Pierce, Florida, the Rogers family included three children: Steve, Gayle, and Philip. In fact, Philip was only two months old when they settled into the new parsonage. That first Mother's Day began as Rogers preached on the blessings of a Christian home. Rogers remembered what happened after that:

Joyce was out in the kitchen preparing our lunch after the service. And I was in the living room reading. Suddenly I heard her distraught voice. "Adrian! Come here quickly! Something is wrong with Philip." I leaped to my feet. She had our baby boy in her arms. He was not breathing. His face had a blue cast to it.

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After a while, an attending doctor came out of the room and walked over to me. He laid his hand upon my shoulder and shook his head. "He's gone. There was nothing we could do. We tried."

It was one of those sudden "crib deaths."

Joyce was standing in the doorway of our house when I returned alone. The look on my face told the story. Mother's Day had turned into a day of incredible grief and confusion for us. The tragedy was so sudden and so stark. We did the only thing we knew to do. We knelt and called out to the Lord for help.¹

Nearly forty-five years later, Adrian and Joyce Rogers have ministered to countless parents who have lost young ones. Reminding Christians that suffering is an integral part of the Christian walk, he explains, "And if He has healed you, remember that your scars may be your greatest ministry!"²

Adrian Pierce Rogers was born on September 9, 1931, in West Palm Beach, Florida. The third child born to Arden and Rose Rogers, Adrian grew up in the heart of the Great Depression. Though his mother was a Christian, she was private in her faith and did not express her beliefs to her son. Adrian earned the reputation of a troublemaker and school-yard brawler. One evening when Adrian was fourteen years old, someone invited the Rogers family to a revival crusade at the Northwood Baptist Church. That night Arden Rogers stepped out during the invitation and accepted Christ as his Savior. Adrian was convicted himself, and when his father took that step of faith, he too came forward to receive Christ into his life. They were both baptized shortly thereafter.

Still Rogers did not find complete peace. He continued in his old ways of street fighting. Furthermore, though Rogers had made a public profession of faith, he began doubting the validity of his salvation. He admitted that he knew little of this grace he received and was not counseled sufficiently the night of his conversion. After two years of doubting his salvation, Rogers settled it once and for all. He stated:

I remember stopping one night on the corner of 39th St. and Calvin Avenue in West Palm Beach after I had walked my girlfriend home from church. I stopped and prayed, looked straight up into the sky and I said, "God I don't know whether I am lost and the Holy Spirit has me under conviction, or whether I am saved and the devil is trying to make me doubt it, but I am going to get it settled tonight and once and for all, now and forever, I trust You as my personal Lord and Savior. If I have done it already I still am saved but if I haven't I am saved tonight. I don't look for a sign, I don't ask for feeling; you promised to save me by your grace and I stand in that and that settles it it's done. Thank You." From that time on I have had the assurance and I really believed I was saved when I went forward there. But I got that cleared up and then I began to pray about God's will for my life. [In] my middle year in high school I felt God calling me to preach.³

Rogers, sure of his relationship with God, accepted the call to the ministry and began to preach immediately. While in high school Rogers preached his first

sermon in the same church where he was saved, baptized, and later on, ordained and married. His first sermon, "I Dare You," used the life of Daniel to charge the congregation to be bold in their witness. The sermon lasted only fifteen minutes, though Rogers felt he had exhausted the entire Bible.

Rogers desired training for the ministry and enrolled in the Southern Baptist-supported Stetson University located in his home state of Florida. The university gave Rogers both a football and ministerial scholarship. But Rogers forsook the football scholarship after his first year and accepted his first pastorate at the First Baptist Church of Fellsmere, Florida, a rural church in a town of six hundred people.

Also during his college years Rogers married his childhood sweetheart, Joyce Lewis Gentry. As he jokingly says, "I met Joyce in the fourth grade but didn't get serious until the sixth grade." Joyce was faithfully by his side during Rogers's most important decisions as an adolescent. She was present when he accepted Christ and was baptized. She was at the Ridgecrest Conference Center in North Carolina when Adrian came forward to accept the call to preach. She was a cheerleader when Adrian played football at Palm Beach High School. In 1951, the two were married.

In 1954, after graduating with his bachelor of arts in religion, Rogers, his wife, and their firstborn, Steve, moved to New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, where he received his bachelor of divinity. By the time of his graduation, the Rogers family had two more additions, Gayle and Philip. Sadly, young Philip died before his first birthday, a result of crib death. The Rogers were devastated by the sudden tragedy and leaned completely on the mercies of God. In time they had one more son, David, who is now a missionary in Spain.

In 1964, after faithfully serving the Parkview Baptist Church in Fort Pierce, Florida, for six years, Rogers accepted the invitation to pastor Merritt Island Baptist Church, home of the nation's space center. Over the next eight years, Rogers led the church in enormous growth, increasing the Sunday school from three hundred to nearly two thousand. Rogers was thoroughly content in this ministry, but a persistent pulpit committee from the historic Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee, led in the past by Baptist stalwarts R. G. Lee and Ramsey Pollard, convinced Rogers to accept their offer to become the new pastor.

In 1972, Rogers began his ministry at Bellevue Baptist Church, a relationship that has now spanned three decades. At the time of his arrival, Bellevue was in a state of decline. The Sunday school had decreased from twenty-seven hundred to less than thirteen hundred. The auditorium, which would seat three thousand, was only half full on Sunday mornings.

The church grew so quickly that Rogers found himself preaching three times each Sunday morning due to the limited capacity of the auditorium. The church relocated to its present four-hundred-acre location and built a new auditorium that was nearly three times as large as the old auditorium. Today Sunday school attendance

has reached a historic high of more than ten thousand, with total membership surpassing twenty-eight thousand. Furthermore, Bellevue illustrates love for the lost around the world, giving more than four million dollars annually to missionary causes. Rogers himself has visited a number of countries, including Korea, Romania, and Nicaragua. Many of the members also go on short- and long-term mission trips.

In 1979, messengers gathered in Houston, Texas, and elected Rogers president of the Southern Baptist Convention. Though electing a conservative as president was far from unprecedented, Rogers was the first conservative who planned to implement necessary changes in the Southern Baptist Convention agencies through the nomination process. He promised to submit for consideration only the names of those who believed the Bible was the infallible and inerrant Word of God and in turn would also only nominate for other committees those who would stand for the total inspiration of Scripture. These nominations then filtered down to the seminaries and agencies, returning the Convention to its conservative roots.

With his election in Houston, Rogers in many ways was the forefather of the Conservative Resurgence. Rogers served honorably for the next year but declined to run for reelection due to time constraints within his church and family. But in 1986, Rogers was once again elected as president of the Convention, serving in this capacity for the next two years. Perhaps Rogers's greatest contribution to Southern Baptists was in serving as chairman of the Baptist Faith and Message Committee formed in 1999 by the Convention president Paige Patterson. The committee worked diligently, as Rogers clarified the purpose of the committee:

We reviewed the confessional history of our denomination and considered the challenges faced by the Baptists of this generation. We were guided by the rich heritage embodied in the 1925 and 1963 editions of the Baptist Faith and Message. We have sought to retain all the strengths of that noble heritage, to clarify the truths there expressed, and to address the needs of our own times.⁴

In 2000, the messengers of the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Orlando, Florida, overwhelmingly approved of the confession, reaffirming Southern Baptist heritage.

Indeed, this vote also solidified the legacy of Rogers in standing for the "total truthfulness and trustworthiness of the Bible." Today Rogers remains one of the premier pastors in the country. His media ministry, *Love Worth Finding*, has been broadcast worldwide for more than fifteen years. Adrian Rogers combines the unique qualities of standing for the integrity of the Word of God while living with integrity through the Word of God.

7. "Pastors of First Baptist Church" <http://www.fbsa.org/history4.htm>. Accessed 10 November 2002.
8. Bonnie Sparrow, "Mrs. Allen: Honest, Candid," *The Baptist Standard*, June 1978, 9.
9. Ibid.
10. "Allen: Conservative, Progressive, Aggressive." *The Baptist Standard*, June 1978, 8.
11. <http://www.bigcanechapel.org/allen.htm>. Accessed 10 November 2002.
12. "Allen: Conservative, Progressive, Aggressive." *The Baptist Standard*, June 1978, 8.
13. Jimmy R. Allen, *The Burden of a Secret* (New York: Random House/Moorings, 1995).
14. For more information, see *Lydia's House: A Project of Love and Action*. <http://www.lydia-house.net>.
15. Charlene Terrell, "Chapel's Dr. Jimmy Allen Receives Award for Leadership and Integrity," *Smoke Signals*, October 2001, 10.

41. Adrian Pierce Rogers

1. Adrian Rogers, "The Souvenirs of Pain," Campus Crusade for Christ International, 1996, at <http://www.ccci.org/gl-men/stories/rogers-a.html>; accessed 18 October 2002.
2. Ibid.
3. Interview of Adrian Rogers by Emir Caner, 14 October 2002.
4. Adrian Rogers, "From the Chairman of the Committee on the Baptist Faith and Message," at <http://www.sbc.net/bfm/bfmchairman.asp>; accessed 19 October 2002.

42. Bailey Eugene Smith

1. Bailey Smith, "Southern Baptists' Most Serious Question," 15 June 1982.
2. Bailey Smith, "The Worth of the Work," 9 June 1981, Southern Baptist Convention.
3. Ibid. Note that Smith uses the explicit phrase found in the *Baptist Faith and Message* of 1963, which states, "There is truth without any mixture of error."

43. James T. Draper Jr.

1. Written correspondence of James Draper with the author, Emir F. Caner, 6 September 2002. A follow-up interview was also conducted on 10 October 2002.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid. Twenty years later, Draper returned to Bryan to preach a revival at a neighboring church. Demonstrating their love for their former pastor, forty-five people from Sleepy Hollow attended the services on Sunday evening.
4. Mombasa is known by many as the headquarters for Islamic theology in East Africa and is home to numerous Muslim seminaries.
5. Jerry Sutton, *The Baptist Reformation* (Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 2000), 125–26.
6. Not surprisingly, Draper has teams that go to Kenya on a regular basis.

44. Charles F. Stanley

1. Interview of Charles Stanley with Emir Caner, 14 October 2002.
2. Paul Pressler, *A Hill on Which to Die* (Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1999), 130. The quote is a blend between Pressler's book and the personal interview with Emir Caner.
3. Jerry Sutton, *The Baptist Reformation*, 143.
4. Charles Stanley, www.intouch.org/inside/about_us/biography_76833.html; accessed 7 October 2002.