ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT: After his retirement, the Rev. William Bagnal plans to live at Myrtle Beach and to do relief work.

Association director sees retirement as chance to continue serving church

By KAY MCLAIR
Herald-Sun correspondent

When the Rev. William Bagnal became director of Yates Baptist Association four years ago, he brought with him a philosophy of servanthood.

He is retiring in December knowing that his desire to serve others is being multiplied 59-fold — by the number of churches in the association.

"My greatest concern was to meet people's needs," he said. "More and more, our churches are doing that."

Yates Association includes mostly Durham County churches, but a few in Orange and Chatham counties. Bagnal's job has been to coordinate the cooperative efforts of these churches.

"We help the churches do together what they can't do well alone," he said. "Thirty of our churches have fewer than 100 members, but together they can hold day camps in the inner city, run a food pantry, and tutor children who are having trouble in school. All these things, the churches can do cooperatively."

The Yates Baptist Association administrative office employs only four people, Bagnal said, including Faye Bassett, Church/Community Ministries Director and his "right arm." But they get lots of help. About 400 volunteers from the member churches work in mission and ministry programs.

They participate in prison ministry, hold backyard Bible schools, sponsor after-school activities in multi-housing units, and collect blankets and clothing for the homeless.

There are language missions to Spanish, Korean, Ethiopian and Chinese congregations, ministries to migrant farm workers, a deaf ministry, literacy programs, and a Christmas toy store ministry.

A native of South Carolina, Bagnal came to Durham from the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in Florida. He was no stranger to North Carolina, however, having graduated from Southeastern Baptist Seminary in Wake Forest in 1956. He returned to his home state...
serve four years as a pastor before being called to serve in the active reserves in 1961.

He spent the next 24 years as a U.S. army chaplain. His years in the army are especially applicable to one area of the association’s mission work — disaster relief.

Teams of workers from member churches went to south Florida to help victims of Hurricane Andrew. And this month, volunteers will go to Hannibal, Mo., to aid flood victims.

Those volunteers might see familiar faces on such missions in the future. After retirement, Bagnal and his wife, Bev, plan to donate a considerable amount of time to disaster relief.

“We’ll get training and make ourselves available to go where we’re needed,” he said. “In Vietnam, I worked with refugees and was involved in civic action. I’ve carried that through wherever I’ve been.”

The Bagnals will retire to a home they’re building near Myrtle Beach, S.C. They plan to travel and visit friends scattered around the country, as well as their children in Massachusetts, Kansas, Georgia and Wake Forest.

“And with what I’ve learned and know about churches, I want to be an interim pastor,” Bagnal said. “I’ll volunteer my services when churches are between pastors.”

His time with Yates Baptist Association has given him lots of experience with the needs of churches. He regularly works with church committees that are searching for pastors. He helps a church determine the kind of pastor it needs and where a pastor can be found.

“We also do a lot of work in strategic planning. If a church is declining and wants to reach out to the community, we work with the leadership,” Bagnal said. “We bring in people to look at church needs in the community. And we give the church financial support, as well as information on what to do and how to do it.”

But whatever facet of the church Bagnal is working in, he never loses sight of the ultimate mission — meeting needs. And despite the controversy that has divided the Southern Baptist Convention, he finds a lot of cooperation on the home front.

“I’ve been able to get all our churches to cooperate in ministering to people’s needs,” he said. “And we have a very cooperative attitude among pastors. In the association, we’ve been able to bridge the gap and agree to disagree.”

Bagnal also has seen a growth in technology within the association that he believes will serve churches in the future. The single office computer of four years ago has been joined by three others, and a growing resource library has a wealth of information. Today, he said, statistical data can be entered into a computer to give information on every aspect of church life, from the number of families to the projected growth of the neighborhood.

But for some things, Bagnal still finds the hands-on approach works best. He cites the four small churches that were each paying a half-time secretary.

“So I said to the four pastors, how about if you all go together and hire an executive secretary who can do bulletins, letters, financial records, etc., for all four churches,” he said. “A small church is just as valid as a large one and should have the same quality of work.”

“I think by doing things independently, churches waste financial resources. When people give money, we should use it as frugally as possible.”

As retirement approaches, Bagnal can be satisfied that other goals from four years ago have been met. The association is not only debt-free, he said, but operating on a sound financial basis. And three new churches have been started with the association’s help in the past four years.

Although facts and figures that record accomplishment obviously please him, it’s the successes with people that excite him most. He remembers a minister from an all-black church who asked to join the association. Bagnal said he was curious and asked the minister why his church wanted to join a predominately Caucasian group.

“He said his people wanted to be involved in missions all over the world, but more importantly, they were looking for a religious organization that was doing something positive to reduce violence, crime and drugs in this city,” Bagnal said. “He said Yates Baptist Association was doing it better than anyone else.”

“We need to minister to all the people, whatever their racial or ethnic background. During my years in the military, I traveled all over the world and worked with many nationalities. I think that’s the way it ought to be.”
Bagnal, William Kenneth, Jr.
Positive
**STATE** _NC_

**BAPTIST BIOGRAPHY DATA FORM**

Please read carefully the *Instruction Sheet* and then list the appropriate information as it directs.

1. **NAME**
   - **(Last)**: BAGNAL
   - **(First)**: WILLIAM
   - **(Second)**: KENNETH JR.

   Give full names. For a married woman please put maiden name in parentheses.
   - **EXAMPLE**: Cole, Mary Ann (Smith).

2. **BIRTH**
   - **Place**: MONT CLARE
   - **County**: DARLINGTON
   - **State**: SC
   - **Date**: AUG 28, '31

3. **DEATH**

4. **PARENTS**
   - **FATHER**
     - **NAME**: WILLIAM KENNETH BAGNAL & CLARA BELLE (WILSON) BAGNAL
     - **Mother's occupation**: CLERK/FINANCIAL SECRETARY
     - **FATHER'S occupation**: PLANE MACHINIST

5. **BROTHERS**
   - **Number**: 2
   - **List full names and year of birth**
     - **CHARLES WILSON BAGNAL**: 1934 (LIVING)
     - **MARION PATRICK BAGNAL**: 1941 (LIVING)

6. **SISTERS**
   - **Number**: 1
   - **List full names and year of birth**
     - **CLARA WARNETTA (BAGNAL) GRAHAM**: 1943 (DECEASED)

7. **CHILDHOOD RESIDENCE**: (Please list each residence of 3 years duration or more, up to the time of the 18th birthday)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Community</th>
<th>Post Office</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rural (R); town under 2500 pop. (T); city 2500 or more pop. (C). Check one.</td>
<td>MONT CLARE</td>
<td>DARLINGTON</td>
<td>SC</td>
<td>1931-1936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>T</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. **EDUCATION**:
   - **Grammar school**: Graduate? Yes (X) No ( ) Year graduated **1943**
   - **High school**: Graduate? Yes (X) No ( ) Year graduated **1949**

   **School attended**: MCGLENAHAN HIGH FLORENCE, SC

   - **(Whether graduate or not; if more than one was attended, show the last one.)**

   **College**: Years attended: None ( ) One ( ) 2-3 ( ) Graduate (X)

   **Whether graduated or not, list college(s) attended**: (EXAMPLE: 1935-38)

   **Furman University** GREENVILLE, SC 1949-1953 **BA**

   **Graduate-level**: List college(s), seminary(ies), etc. attended; earned degrees

   **Southeastern Baptist Seminary** WAKE FOREST, NC 1953-1956 **BD**

   **1956-1958** (GRADUATE STUDY)
DO YOU HAVE LETTERS, DIARIES, PHOTOGRAPHS, OR OTHER MEMENTOES???
The Baptist Historical Collection would like to have this material or be allowed to photocopy such items for permanent preservation here in the Collection. We establish personal collections by the name of the donor. Any donated materials relating to the life and endeavors of our N.C. Baptist pastors and denominational leaders will be preserved for future generations of Baptists. Too often in our highly mobile society these items are thrown away or hastily discarded. They should be preserved. Let us know if we can assist you with the preservation of your personal papers. Phone (919) 825-9711, extention 277 collect.
14. TO BE FILLED OUT ONLY BY THOSE WHO ARE, OR HAVE BEEN, IN SALARIED CHURCH-RELATED VOCATIONS. (Including pastors, denominational workers, missionaries, ministers of education and music, church secretaries, faculty members or employees of Baptist institutions, agencies, etc.)

**TYPE AND LENGTH OF SERVICE:** List all positions of such service with one or more years of duration; check F (full-time) or P (part-time). Examples:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Church, agency, area, institution, place of service</th>
<th>Date of service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F □ P X 1. pastor</td>
<td>County Line Baptist Church, Turkey Creek, La.</td>
<td>1925-1929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F □ P □ 2. missionary</td>
<td>Ogbomosho, Nigeria, W. Africa</td>
<td>1930-1952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F □ P □ MISSION PASTOR</td>
<td>WESTSIDE MISSION, FLORENCE, SC</td>
<td>1953-1956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F □ P □ PASTOR</td>
<td>SANDIS BAPTIST CHURCH, TIMMONSVILLE, SC</td>
<td>1957-1961</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F □ P □ CHAPLAIN</td>
<td>U.S. ARMY</td>
<td>1961-1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F □ P □ HOME MISSIONARY</td>
<td>PALM LAKE BAP. ASSN., W. PALM BEACH, FL</td>
<td>1986-1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F □ P □ DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS</td>
<td>YATES BAP. ASSN., DURHAM, N.C</td>
<td>1990 - PRESENT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15. **OTHER TYPES OF RELIGIOUS SERVICE:** (In associations, assemblies, colleges, conventions (state or Southern), national or world-wide meetings, such as: speaker, music director, committee chairman, etc.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Place of Service</th>
<th>Date of Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPEAKER</td>
<td>WORLD MISS. CONF., LEXINGTON ASSN. SC</td>
<td>1988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPEAKER</td>
<td>WORLD MISS. CONF., SE. FLORIDA ASSN. FL</td>
<td>1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPEAKER</td>
<td>WORLD MISS. CONF., STANLY ASSN. NC</td>
<td>1992</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

16. **AUTHORSHIP** (Include books, booklets, lesson courses or curriculum material, and tracts)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Book, item, etc.</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>Date published</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benevolent Manual (Several articles)</td>
<td>Florida Baptist Convention</td>
<td>1988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;How to Begin a Local Church Ministry to Alcoholics, Army Nurses, and Their Families&quot;</td>
<td>Florida Baptist Convention</td>
<td>1988</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

17. **CLUB OR GROUP MEMBERSHIP:** (Service organizations, fraternal, P.T.A., Civic, etc.)

List important positions of leadership held

18. **HOBBIES AND LEISURE INTERESTS:**

Favorite Reading Others Table Games, Ping Pong

19. **PUBLIC SERVICE:** (Military, educational, political, etc. not previously listed)

US Army Chaplain 1961-1985
8. SPECIAL AWARDS OR RECOGNITION RECEIVED: (Honorary degrees, such as: D.D., Howard College, 1948; citations, such as: Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities, 1939; honorary positions, such as: "Man of the Year"—Pryor, Okla., 1943; etc.)

9. MARITAL INFORMATION:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spouse</th>
<th>Birthdate of Spouse</th>
<th>Place of Marriage (Town and State)</th>
<th>Date of Marriage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) BEVERLY ANN (SPICHER) BAGNAL</td>
<td>W. COLUMBIA, SC</td>
<td>WEST COLUMBIA, SC</td>
<td>SEP 3 1960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Number of children (4). List their full names and birthdates: (an example of a married daughter would be: Mrs. John Alan (Mary Lou) Ross, 3-7-1918)

(1) KENNETH ORVE BAGNAL 5-25-1961 (2) KIMBI DEE BAGNAL (MRS. JOEL B. BAGNAL) 10-17-1963 (3) KEVIN DEAN BAGNAL 2-10-1966 (4) KIRK DERRICK BAGNAL 7-4-1971

10. VOCATIONAL HISTORY (List all vocations, occupations, trades, or professions engaged in for two or more years)

- **Grocery Clerk 1943-1949, Student/Mill Laborer, 1949-1953**

11. RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE:

- Conversion 1942
- Baptism 1942 (First Baptist Church, Florence, SC)

List any church, other than Baptist, with which formerly affiliated

Ordained as: Minister (X) Deacon ( ) Other

- **1-1-56 FIRST BAPTIST FLORENCE, SC**

12. LOCAL CHURCH ACTIVITY, UNSALARIED (Place the number of years service, in the space provided, for each office ever held.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gen. Supt., Director, President</th>
<th>Dept. Supt., Director, Circle Chm.</th>
<th>Teacher, Counselor, Sponsor, Leader</th>
<th>List below other offices or service, such as: Sec., Assoc. Supt., etc.</th>
<th>Other Offices (give number of years service)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S.S.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Deacon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T.U.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ch. Treasurer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V.B.S.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Trustee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broth.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Usher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W.M.U.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ch. Clerk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Choir Mem.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ch. Committee Chm.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

List completed Study Course diplomas (Indicate related organizations, such as: S.S., T.U., etc.)

13. DENOMINATIONAL SERVICE, UNSALARIED. (Please list positions held in Baptist associations, conventions (state or Southern), national and world-wide organizations, such as; moderator, president, clerk, trustee, board, commission or committee members; etc.)

Example: S.S. Superintendent (Position) Bethel Association (Organization, board, agency, etc.)

- President Pastors Conf. Florence
- President Armed Forces Baptists (Europe)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kentucky</th>
<th>1942-1944</th>
<th>1961</th>
<th>1980</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
BAPTIST BIOGRAPHY DATA FORM

Please read carefully the Instruction Sheet and then list the appropriate information as it directs.

1. NAME
   (Last)  (First)  (Second)
   BAGNAL  WILLIAM  KENNETH JR.

   Give full names. For a married woman please put maiden name in parentheses.
   [EXAMPLE: Cole, Mary Ann (Smith).]

2. BIRTH
   (Place)  (County)  (State)  (Date)
   MONT CLARE  DARLINGTON  SC  AUG 28, '31

   DEATH

3. PARENTS
   [EXAMPLE: Alec Joe Doaks and Lucy Mae (Brown) Doaksl
   Father's occupation  PLANER MACHINIST
   Mother's occupation  CLERK/FINANCIAL SECRETARY

4. BROTHERS
   (Living or deceased)  Number
   (First) (Last)  Year of birth  (Living) (Deceased)
   CHARLES WILSON BAGNAL  1934
   MARION PATRICK BAGNAL  1941

5. SISTERS
   (Living or deceased)  Number
   (First) (Last)  Year of birth  (Living) (Deceased)
   CLARA WARNETTA (BAGNAL) GRAHAM  1943

6. CHILDHOOD RESIDENCE:
   (Please list each residence of 3 years duration or more, up to the time of the 18th birthday)
   Type of Community  Post Office  County  State  Dates
   Rural (R); town under 2500 pop. (T); city 2500 or more pop. (C). Check one.
   R  X  T  C  MONT CLARE  DARLINGTON  SC  1931-1936
   R  C  T  X  KINGSTREE  WILLIAMSBURG  SC  1936-1940
   R  C  T  C  FLORENCE  FLORENCE  SC  1941-1955

7. EDUCATION:
   Grammar school: Graduate?  Yes (X)  No ( )  Year graduated  1943
   High school: Graduate?  Yes (X)  No ( )  Year graduated  1949
   School attended:  [MC CLENAUGHAN HIGH  FLORENCE  SC]
   (Whether graduate or not; if more than one was attended, show the last one.)

   College: Years attended:  None ( )  One ( )  2-3 ( )  Graduate (X)
   Whether graduated or not, list college(s) attended:
   [EXAMPLE: 1935-’38]
   (Name)  (Place)  (State)  (Years attended)  (Degree)
   FURMAN UNIVERSITY  GREENVILLE  SC  1949-1953  BA

   Graduate-level: List college(s), seminary(ies), etc. attended; earned degrees
   (Name)  (Place)  (State)  (Years attended)  (Degree)
   SOUTHERN BAPTIST SEMINARY  WAKE FOREST  NC  1953-1956  BD
   1956-1958 (GRADUATE STUDY)