

THURMON E. BRYANT
Vice President, Office of Mission Personnel

Born: May 25, 1930, in Claud, Okla., and also lived in Sudan, Texas.

Education: Attended Texas Technological College (now Texas Tech University), Lubbock. Received the bachelor of arts degree from Baylor University, Waco, Texas, and the bachelor of divinity and doctor of theology degrees from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

Married: Doris Morris, born in Sudan, Texas.

Children: Three grown sons.

Non-Foreign Mission Board experience: Pastor of First Baptist Church, Grandview, Texas, and was pastor and music director at other churches in Texas. Professor of religion and director of in-service training at William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo., 1972-74, before missionary reappointment.

Published: Author of A "Ekklesia" do Novo Testamento (The "Ekklesia" of the New Testament) and O Cristao e a Fome Mundial (The Christian and World Hunger) and various articles in Portuguese. Contributing author to An Approach to Christian Ethics, William Pinson (ed.).

Previous Foreign Mission Board assignments: Appointed missionary to Brazil in April 1958. Founder and president of the Sao Paulo Baptist Theological Seminary, Sao Paulo, Brazil, 1961 until his resignation in July 1972. He also served as pastor of several Brazilian churches. Reappointed missionary to Brazil in September 1974. Served as professor of Christian Ethics, Homiletics and Old Testament. As a leader of Brazilian Baptists, he served as the first vice president of the Baptist State Convention of Sao Paulo and gave the annual sermon in 1962 at the Brazilian Baptist Convention. Also served as conference leader, speaker at pastor's retreats and state conventions, writer and translator. Resigned in October 1977 to join FMB home office staff in Richmond, Va. Area Director for Eastern South America 1977-87. He administered the work of missionaries assigned to Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay. Associate Vice President, Office of Mission Personnel, March 1987-August 1993. He led the program of missionary health and services, volunteers, and missionary orientation and development of partnership missions with state conventions. Interim Vice President, Office of Missionary Personnel, April-August, 1993.

Current FMB assignment: Vice President, Office of Mission Personnel, since Aug. 18, 1993. He oversees matters related to enlistment, selection and training of new missionaries and volunteers, missionary furlough study, support for missionary children, former missionaries, black church relations, missionary health and medical care, creative access projects and partnership missions.