

The Baptist Builder

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Palafax and LaRua — Pensacola, Fla.

ELWIN L. SKILES, Ph.D., Pastor

Volume I

MARCH 24, 1950

Number 4

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN . .

It was on April Fool's Day in 1891 that approximately 125 members who comprised the First Baptist Church gave their unanimous approval to a resolution "declaring it to be the sense of the church that a new building was needed to meet the demands of the congregation, and the work to begin at once." I can well imagine that someone of little faith made such comment as, "Just another foolish act by a group of fool Baptists on all fool's day. The very ideal! Why, the church on Government Street is adequate. A larger building will never be filled. Besides, the present building was good enough for grandmother. Well, I need not say more, the church likely never will be built anyway."

The record, thank God, tells a different story, for it was in 1895 that the 135 members of our church had the first service of worship and dedication in the present church building proper. Those great souls of another generation had faith in the future of FIRST CHURCH. Their faith expressed itself in the sacrificial giving which made possible our present place of worship.

Since then others have demonstrated a like faith in the future of our church by enlarging the original building, erecting an educational annex and purchasing adjacent property. It is obvious on every hand, however, that the present plant is not adequate to meet today's needs nor to provide for tomorrow's challenge.

My dear people, let us receive the torch which has been placed in our hands by that small group of more than fifty years ago and together, almost 2,000 strong, let us hold high that torch of faith — faith in God, in Christ and His Church, in each other and in our children and their children who will constitute First Baptist in the future.

NOT FIFTY-FIFTY BUT

"FIFTY IN FIFTY"

The "Fifty in Fifty" Campaign is not a fifty-fifty program which calls for just half of the membership of our church to have a part in building a new Auditorium, but it is a program in which every member should have a part. During the three weeks which have elapsed since this campaign was launched, we have made great strides toward attaining success. As this edition of the Baptist Builder goes to press, we have had 419 pledges which represent 525 pledgers and which total \$27,756.00. These pledges range from 50 cents to \$1,250.00.

In no instance have we urged anyone to give any certain amount but without exception we urge **EVERY** member of the Sunday School and Church to give the most he can. With each one doing his best we can build a beautiful and spacious Auditorium which represents our greatest need.

There is still time for you to join in the Weekly Payment Plan which makes provisions for you to spread the payment of your pledge over forty weeks, or ten months. By starting your payments on Sunday, March 26, you will complete them on Sunday, December 24. Surely every member can give something each week or each month or at some particular date during the year. Help us make the Fifty in Fifty Campaign an Every Member Program so that every member can say, "I helped build our New Church."

— H. R. Denham, Chairman

TITHERS' TESTIMONIES

John D. Rockefeller, the world's largest contributor to humanity's needs, began to tithe when a small boy and tithed the first dollar he made.

William F. Gladstone, one of the world's greatest statesmen, tithed and urged his son to do the same.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

By Mr. Earl Gaston

By Comparison	1949	1950
Enrollment	1447	1412
Visitors	82	107
Total Present	980	972

Attendance last Sunday:

Gen. Officers	9	Primary A	33
Adult A	121	Primary B	40
Adult B	237	Primary C	47
*Young People	80	Beginner A	33
Seniors	46	Beginner B	38
Intermediate	71	*Nursery A	11
Junior A	80	Nursery B	21
Junior B	60	*Nursery C	46
Total			972

* Reached Goal.

21 CLUB

(Adult Classes with 21 or more in attendance)

Master Workman	57
T. E. L.	41
Fellowship	36
Homemakers	24
W. W. B. C.	26
Faithful Workers	21
Martha Class	22

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL IS . . .

The friend of childhood;
The inspiration of youth;
The strength of middle life;
The comfort of declining years.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL HAS . . .

God's day for its time;
God's house for its place;
God's Book for its text;
God's Glory for its aim.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL DESERVES . . .

The sympathetic support;
The prayerful interest.
The loyal co-operation
Of every loving Christian,
Of every patriotic citizen,
Of every aspiring youth;
Of every prattling child.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL IS . . .

Stretching out a friendly hand to all;
Bidding all to enter into the Father's
House to listen to the Father's voice as
He speaks out of His Holy Word.

— M. E. Dodd

TRAINING UNION

By Mr. Emory Rogers

262 — 262 — 262 — 262

We want 262 in Training Union Sunday Night and we need YOU to help us reach our goal.

All who have attended the fine Study Course classes this week have been inspired to build better and bigger Training Unions.

Congratulations to the Young People's Department for reaching your goal last Sunday. But for a downpour at T. U. time, we would have reached our goal.

	Goal for Present Sunday
General Officers	9 10
Adult A	29 44
Adult B	27 37
Young People	41 36
Seniors	26 21
Intermediate	19 23
Junior A	25 36
Junior B	18 27
Story Hour	14 23
Total	208 262

TWO LITTLE BEES

Two little bees were flying in the blue;
One was buzzing about Bee T. U.

"I'll be swarmed if I can see why you
Are never there — you ought to BEE.
Why that's the best place I know
For a little Bee to go."

So this little Bee on Sunday night
Did the thing he knew was right.
Straight into the church he flew
And there he joined the BEE T. U.

— Copied

... This little Bee was smart, ARE YOU?

RECREATION

All boys ages 9-14 interested in playing baseball are urged to be at Granada Park on each Saturday morning for practice. It is the hope of the church to have two groups this summer besides our softball team. The Royal Ambassador team will be composed of boys 9-11 years and the team to play in the city recreation league for boys who had not reached 14 by January 1. Remember Granada Park, 10th and Cervantes, Saturday mornings.

Boys 9-11 meet at 8:30.

Boys older meet at 9:30.

— Tom Draper

Whenever we know God's mind about anything, then we have reached the end of the debate.

— Truett

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Significant Baptist Meetings — The Southern Baptist Convention will meet in Chicago in May from the 8th to the 12th. Cleveland will be host city for the Baptist World Alliance during the week of July 23-29. "The Baptist Witness" contains instructions about reservations.

The Associational Training Union Study Course enrolled over 300 from 14 churches on the opening night.

A series of articles on great churches of America is being presented by "The Christian Century." A poll of American Protestant ministers selected the churches included in this study. There are thousands of great churches in America, great because of the Christ of the church, and one of these is our own.

Reverence is an attitude becoming to all who enter the house of God. Cultivate it.

The presence of children in the worship services is a joy to everyone. However, boys and girls who are too young to understand the importance of reverence in God's House should always be in the company of adults. Parents, bring your children — don't send them.

The Sunday School and Training Union make provision for every member of the family. Nurseries are open for the care of small children during every general meeting of the church.

W. M. U. STATE CONVENTION will be held in Winter Haven, April 4-6. The meetings begin with the Tuesday night session and end at noon Thursday.

Speakers include a number of missionaries, the Brantleys and the Brothers, Florida missionaries serving in Nigeria, and Rev. Howard Bryant of Chile. Miss Gladys Keith of New Orleans and Dr. Albert McClelland will be outstanding speakers.

THE FOREIGN MISSION BOARD has authorized one hundred missionary appointments during 1950, instead of the usual seventy-five. ADVANCE IS ON!

— World Digest

MEET AND VISIT OUR NEW MEMBERS

By Baptism:

- 79 — Homer Higgins, 816 E. Jackson.
- 80 — Gerry Fields, 1406 E. Hernandez.
- 81 — Susan Pohlmann, 1528 E. Brainard.
- 82 — Mr. J. B. Keller, 217 N. Barcelona.

By Letter:

- 88 — Mr. Robert R. Finny, 126 W. Jackson.
- 89 — Mrs. Elizabeth E. Fisher, 140 S. "N".
- 90 — Mrs. Wynell Fredrick, 1315 Wilson, Warrington, Fla.
- 91 — Mrs. Glenda Beckham, 1315 Wilson, Warrington, Fla.
- 92 — Gene Reeves, U. S. Naval Hospital.

* * *

SUNDAY EVENING

The two ordinances which Christ gave His church — The Lord's Supper and Baptism — will be observed in our church Sunday evening.

* * *

W.M.S. BUSINESS MEETING

The Woman's Missionary Society will have its regular monthly business meeting at the church on March 28 at 10 a.m.

* * *

ON MIXED MARRIAGES

(Roman Catholic and non-Catholic)

Baptist youth and parents will do well to remember that the Roman Catholic Church imposes rigid and unfair restrictions upon the non-Catholic party. "She requires that the Catholic party work for the conversion of the other; that the non-Catholic party agree in writing to allow the Catholic party full liberty to practice his or her religion devoutly. Moreover both parties must promise in writing to educate in the Catholic faith all the children that may be born of the marriage." — A Catechism based on the Encyclical of Pope Pius XI.

* * *

PRIMARY B DEPARTMENT will be recognized in the 11 o'clock service on Sunday. This is our department for seven-year-olds. Parents, arrange for your children to remain through the service. For those who must leave, the opportunity will be given at 11:20.

PLANT THESE IN YOUR CHURCH GARDEN

PEAS (4 rows)

Presence
Promptness
Prayerful preparedness
Perseverance

SQUASH (3 rows)

Squash malicious gossip
Squash hurtful criticism
Squash indifference

LETTUCE (2 rows)

Lettuce be faithful to duty
Lettuce be loyal and unselfish

TURNIPS (6 rows)

Turnip at Sunday School
Turnip at Training Union
Turnip at Worship Services
Turnip up at Prayer Meeting
Turnip with a friend or neighbor
Turnip with a determination to make
life count for the most.

CARROTS (2 rows)

Carrot all times for conduct
Carrot all times for sick and sorrowing.
— Copied

* * *

CONFESION

Last night my little boy confessed to me:
Some childish wrong;
And kneeling at my knee
He prayed with tears —
“Dear God, make me a man
Like Daddy — wise and strong.
I know you can.”
Then while he slept
I knelt beside his bed,
Confessed my sins,
And prayed with low-bowed head.
“Oh God, make me a child
Like my child here —
Pure, guileless,
Trusting Thee with faith sincere.”
— Church Bulletin

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TOM DRAPER
Educational Director, Editor

Application for Entry as Second Class
Matter is pending.

OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK

MARCH 26 - APRIL 1

SUNDAY —

8:30 — Early Morning Worship.
9:30 — Sunday School.
11:00 — Morning Worship (Broadcast
WEAR).

3:30 — Youth Council Meeting
4:30 — Training Union Executive meeting.
5:15 — Junior Fellowship.
6:00 — Training Union.
7:30 — Evening Worship.
8:45 — Singspiration in lower auditorium.

MONDAY —

3:15 — Junior R. A. meeting.
6:30 — Training Union Planning Meeting
(Original Union will assist dietician.

TUESDAY —

10:00 A.M. — W. M. S. monthly business
Meeting.
6:30 — Youth Choir Rehearsal.
7:30 — Adult Choir Rehearsal
7:30 — Bykota Class Meeting at church.
7:30 — Homemakers Class Meeting at
home of Mrs. D. A. Raley, 1915
W. Gadsden.

WEDNESDAY —

7:00 A.M. — Morning Watch
6:00 — Sunday School Cabinet Meeting
6:20 — S. S. Workers Supper. Young Peo-
ple's Dept. will assist the dietician
6:45 — Department meetings.
7:30 — Praise and Prayer Service.

THURSDAY —

2:00 — Cradle Roll Workers will meet
with Mrs. D. L. Raley, 1915 W.
Gadsden.
3:00 — Convention Bible Class will meet
in home of Mrs. N. W. Pilcher,
2900 W. Jackson.

FRIDAY —

7:30 — Associational Youth Rally — East
Hill Baptist Church.
* * *

THE LORD'S SUPPER

According to Thy gracious word,
In seeking humility,
This will I do, my dying Lord,
I will remember Thee.

Thy body, broken for my sake,
My bread from heaven shall be;
Thy testimonial cup I take
And thus remember Thee.

— Copied

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LAST WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

Sunday School	972
Southside Chapel	85
Total	1057
Training Union	208
Southside Chapel	55
Total	263
Additions	9