

The Baptist Builder

MISS KITTY SUE WIGGINS
1322 E LEE ST
PENSACOLA FLA

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Palafox and LaRua — Pensacola, Fla.

ELWIN L. SKILES, Ph.D., Pastor

Volume I

JULY 14, 1950

Number 19

FROM OUR PASTOR'S PEN . . .

It was thrilling indeed to share in worship with the three large and responsive congregations present in the services on last Sunday. Surely you join me in giving thanks unto God for His manifest blessings upon us.

The sermon for this coming Sunday morning will be a message for these tense days through which we are now passing. Our God makes and keeps marvelous covenants with His people. Courage and strength comes to those who are able to discern the rainbows which He sees against these dense and dark clouds.

Congratulations to our Training Unions upon their sustained show of strength during the summer months. I would like to see the same improvement in attendance in our fine Sunday School. Surely we can do better than last year.

The FIFTY-IN-FIFTY campaign calls for the unqualified endorsement and support of the entire membership. We are making our building plans large, this we must do if we would build for the future. Sacrificial giving now will bring huge dividends in the joy which will be ours as we dedicate a commodious and suitable place of worship to our God. LET'S DO BETTER!

I would like to encourage all who have come into our fellowship in recent months to take advantage of our classes for new members. Join us Sunday evening at 7:00.

THE USEFUL LIFE

God has a plan for every life, a really great plan. God never made anything cheap or uninteresting.

He has equipped every life for a great career and a great destiny.

The key of wealth, of personality, great experience and large services, God alone holds.

He challenges you to a wonderful friendship with Him. Out of this fellowship shall come your development, your empowering your guidance, your success. God is interested in you. He has great things for you to accomplish during your lifetime.

He is so earnest to make each life beautiful, healthful, useful and radiant, that He will admit no defeat. You alone can wreck your own life. Mistakes there may have been plenty, but sin and life's blunders, He corrects and cures.

The imperative, immediate and tremendous reason you should have God in your life is that you may be constantly and increasingly useful.

"Draw nigh unto God and He will draw nigh unto you."

— Copied

* * *

CONGRATULATIONS TO SEVENTH AVENUE CHURCH

On Sunday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock the congregation of the Seventh Avenue Baptist Church will meet to break ground for their new church building. Dr. Preston Sellers will bring the message and special music has been arranged. We feel sure that a number of our people will want to join them in this service.

THE AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE . . .

Beware, America! We have heard much about our defense program to preserve the "American Way" of life. But we should define to ourselves that "American Way" of life. Is it the rivers of liquor that are flooding American life that we want to preserve? Is it the open and defiant gambling that we want to preserve? Is it the loose, low demoralizing social standards that we want to preserve? Is it the greed and graft and political corruption we want to preserve? Suppose we define that way of life that we prize so highly and for which we are spending billions upon billions to protect and preserve.

Or is it our religious and Christian heritage, is it our Christian Churches, is it all those purer, richer, and gracious elements in our heritage which we are preparing to defend and preserve?

In spite of all the pious preachments of statesmen, politicians, and others, there are mingled in that "American way" of life the seeds of spiritual anarchy and moral decay from which all the munitions of war cannot protect us. In this hour of trial and uncertainty America, of all nations, should repent and turn to God.

—Copied from Arkansas Baptist.

* * *

THREE COMMANDMENTS FOR MODERN PARENTS

1. Make your home a center of friendship and good neighborliness. Its ties of comradeship will prepare members for good citizenship in the community, the nation and the world.

2. Share with your children in the fellowship of the church. This will give them the sustaining strength of a community of faith and love which extends across the ages and embraces all peoples.

3. Lead your children into faith in God through discipleship to Jesus Christ that they may be workers with God in overcoming evil and promoting the good. This will be aided by thought-sharing, religious interpretation and worship in the home, and by living in the great purposes of the Kingdom of God.

—Copied

* * *

MEET AND VISIT OUR NEW MEMBERS

By Letter:

124 — Miss Betty Parker, 1010 E. Lloyd.
125 — Miss Dora Etta Solomon, 812 N. Alcaniz.
126 — Gene Wilborn, Bldg. 601, NAS.
127 — Lt. James Gentry, U. S. Naval Hospital.

OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK

JULY 16 - 22

MAKE SUNDAY THE LORD'S DAY — IT IS!

Morning Worship.....	8:30 and 11:00
Sermon: "The Silver Lining".....	Pastor
11:00 Service Broadcast over WEAR	
Evening Worship.....	8:00
Sermon: "God Bless Our Home".....	Pastor (Last of a series of Sermons)
Sunday School.....	9:30
Training Union.....	6:45

SUNDAY —

2:30 — Baptist Hour. WPCF — Panama City.
7:00 — Instruction Class for New Members
9:00 — Singspiration in lower auditorium.

MONDAY —

6:30 — Virginia Wingo Y. W. A.

TUESDAY —

10:00 — Circle 5 will meet at the church to visit the Crippled Children's Home.
3:00 — Sunbeams and Juniors G. A. meetings.
6:30 — Youth Choir rehearsals.
7:30 — Adult Choir rehearsals.

WEDNESDAY —

7:15 — Morning Watch.
6:00 — S. S. Cabinet meeting.
6:20 — S. S. Workers' Supper. Seniors will assist the dietician.
7:30 — Prayer and Praise Service.

LAST WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

Sunday School	836
Training Union	235

OFFERINGS:

Local	\$1314.61
Building Fund	198.36
Total.....	\$1512.97

GOD WANTS OUR BEST

God wants our best. He in the far-off ages —

— Once claimed the firstling of the flock, the finest of the wheat; and still He asks His own, with gentlest pleading,

— To lay their highest hopes and brightest talents at His feet. He'll not forget the feeblest service, humblest love;

— He only asks, that of our store, we give the best we have.

— Anonymous.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Ladder of Success

	Enroll.	Pres.	Con-
Gen. Officers	10	8	81
14 Adult A	215	102	115
10 Adult B	370	101*	260
6 Young People	113	71	29
9 Senior	80	47	18
7 Intermediate	85	51*	17
8 Junior A	115	69*	39
3 Junior B	84	59*	53
13 Primary A	52	25	2
5 Primary B	62	41	42
2 Primary C	58	42*	10
1 Beginner A	42	33	17
11 Beginner B	48	26	3
4 Nursery A	12	8	5
15 Nursery B	52	24	2
12 Nursery C	58	23	0
Total.....	1456	836	696

*—These departments had more than the same Sunday a year ago.

GOAL FOR SUNDAY 877

EDUCATIONAL NOTES

Large groups have been attending our Wednesday evening Prayer Service. Be present next week as the study of "The Baptist Faith" continues under the teaching of the pastor.

Our more than last year campaign in Sunday School continues. GOAL for Sunday is 877. Be steadfast and faithful throughout the Summer.

ON TO WEST FLORIDA ASSEMBLY

On Thursday a large group of our Young People left for Panama City to attend the Assembly. Mr. Draper will be on the faculty and Mrs. Draper will be very busy keeping up with the many activities and keeping a watchful eye on our group. The following will attend from our church: Stanley Davis, Dudley Davis, Jimmy Knight, Angus Caro, Ken Andrews, Wade Rogers, Jimmy Bryant, Joe Gillespie, Vernon Hopkins, R. C. Eickler, Larry Gray, Gene Brasher, Ramon Rogers, Faye Yonkers, Nancy Bousman, Carolyn Brooks, Doris Denham, Jane Rogers, Nancy Worley.

JUNIOR R. A. CAMP AT

CAMP CALVARY

Beginning Monday and continuing through the week our Junior boys will have an opportunity to attend R. A. Camp. Remember the price is \$7.50 for entire week. Call the church and make your reservation.

TRAINING UNION

	Enroll.	Pres.	Bible Readers
Gen. Officers	9	8	8
Adult "A"	48	27	15
Adult "B"	50	31	26
Young People	52	49	24
Intermediates	30	20	7
Seniors	35	28	15
Junior "A"	28	18	13
Junior "B"	35	28	15
Story Hour	33	20	2
New Member Class*	14	11	—
TOTAL	329	235	125

*5 already attending Training Union.

INSTRUCTION CLASS FOR NEW MEMBERS

Congratulations to the following for being the first to complete the four weeks of New Member Orientation Study: Miss Carolyn Duffey, Mrs. C. J. Gentry, Tommy Kitchen, T. S. Nabors. Others enrolled are: Mrs. Curtis Brown, C. J. Gentry, Miss Claudia Gentry, Ronald Jackson, G. C. Payne, W. A. Drown, C. L. Danforth, Mrs. C. J. Ward, Mrs. Margaret Rowell, Jack Kelly.

Great riches are being derived from these discussions each Sunday evening. Sunday night the discussion will be "The Organizational Life of Our Church."

B B B LEADERS

Adult A — Co-Weds 232, Visitors* 168 Joy 151. Adult B — Original* 226, Four Square 212. Young People — Leo Green 207, T. N. T. 206, Wallace R. Rogers* 204. Senior — Phil Padgett* 187, Ed Jones 169. Intermediates — F. B. I.* 217, Vigor 151. Junior B — Eager Beavers* 181, King's Followers* 107. Junior A — Pastor's Partners 192, Joyful Servants* 150.

Remember that this campaign will continue through July — three more weeks remain in which to bring up your average score and win that watermelon.

*Unions to be graded on Sunday evening.

ARE YOU GUILTY?

We sing "Heavenly Sunlight," and stay at home because it is too hot; we sing "There Shall Be Showers of Blessing," and stay home because it is raining; we sing "Throw Out the Lifeline," but content ourselves with throwing a fishing line in the lake on Sunday. We make the scriptures read " forsake not the assembling of yourselves together" — except in the summer. (Exchange).

BAPTIST WORLD ALLIANCE

The Baptist World Alliance will meet in Cleveland, Ohio, July 22-27. Dr. C. Oscar Johnson is President of the World Baptists and Dr. Arnold T. Ohrn, from Norway, is General Secretary. The theme of the Congress is "The Light Shineth in the Darkness."

The Alliance "exists in order more fully to show forth the essential oneness of Baptist people in the Lord Jesus Christ, to impart inspiration to the brotherhood and to promote the spirit of fellowship, service and cooperation among its members."

Our church will be represented by the following: Miss Olive Swearingen, Mr. John Myrick and Dr. Skiles.

WANTED !

All babies from birth to four years of age, who are not on our Nursery Roll. If you have a baby or know of any who are not attending Sunday School regularly please let our Cradle Roll Supt, Mrs. David Raley, know. Her telephone is 8-5877 or call the church office. The following have been enrolled during this month: Sherry Caperton, 1518 E. Brainard, Susan Elise Estes, 811 W. Hernandez, Wm. Franklin Belford, 1220 E. Lakeview, Karen Susan Bohannon, 816 E. Jackson, Susan Kay Drexler, 1512 E. Bobe, Mary *Elizabeth Coker, 433 S. Barrancas Ave., Jane and Joan Cary, 3710 W. Jackson and Charles Patrick and Margaret Patricia Roberts, 213 N. Barcelona.

DIRECTORY

Pastor.....	Dr. Elwin L. Skiles
Educational Director.....	Thomas J. Draper
Financial Secretary.....	Mrs. G. T. Sutton
Secretary.....	Mrs. Thomas J. Draper
Treasurer.....	Paul W. Caro
Choir Director.....	Mrs. Maurice Davis
Organist.....	Mrs. J. F. Griffith
Librarian.....	Miss Kitty Sue Wiggins
Dietician.....	Mrs. G. F. Manning

LIBERTY OF CONSCIENCE

E. Y. Mullin said in his book, *Baptist Beliefs*:

"A free church is a free state is a New Testament principle which has found full expression only in modern times and in the Western hemisphere.

"The great principle underlying religious liberty is this: God alone is Lord of the conscience. To him men must give account and only to him. The principle which corresponds with this on the side of the state is that civil magistrates are ordained of God.

"For its own ends the state is sovereign. But those ends do not include the religious life of the individual at all. Hence the civil and religious life of man belongs to different spheres entirely. The right of every soul to direct access to God is an inalienable right, with which the state must not interfere."

The Bible says:

"Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God" (Romans 13:1).

"Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's" (Matthew 22:21).

"Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29).

"And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell" (Mathews 10:28).

"Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, even Christ" (Matthew 23:10).

THE BAPTIST BUILDER

Published weekly by The First Baptist Church, 500 N. Palafox St., Pensacola, Fla. Subscription price 50 cents per year. Entered as second class matter April 21, 1950, at the post office at Pensacola, Florida, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Tom Draper, Editor.