

# The Baptist Builder

A Publication of First Baptist Church  
NATHAN C. BROOKS, JR., Th.M., Pastor  
Palafox and LaRua—Pensacola, Fla.

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## WORSHIP IN GOD'S HOUSE

Frequently I say to a member, "I didn't see you at church Sunday," and he replies, "I was there." Then he, after a moment's pause, says, "I mean, I was at Sunday School."

Sunday School is wonderful, but it is not a substitute for church attendance and it never does for one what the worship service does. In Sunday School we seek to win men to Christ and teach men the Bible. In the church service, those who have accepted the Saviour engage in the worship of God the Father who has revealed Himself in Christ.

There are no strong Christians who do not attend church, unless providentially hindered. There are no Christians who work for the Lord and give worthy support to His church who ignore consistently the worship service of their church. Church attendance is the most important single act of a Christian life, for it furnishes the instruction, inspiration, and fellowship that is essential to the nurture of a truly Christian soul.

—Copied

# Viewpoint

By NATHAN C. BROOKS, JR.

**Censorship**—They tell me that in Hitler's Germany certain books were burned and banned. Fearful people resort to that kind of censorship.

Perhaps there is a fine line between censorship and wisdom in handling printed materials that is not always easily discernable. I do not believe that our Home Mission Board and its leaders have set out to impose censorship on information concerning our mission work among Negro peoples. Yet, I question seriously the wisdom that has been used in withdrawing from circulation at this time *The Long Bridge*, a study book originally prepared for use in connection with the Annie Armstrong Offering and the Week of Prayer for Home Missions.

I have not read the book. I understand that it deals with the program of missions carried on by Southern Baptists among Negro peoples. It is reported to take no stand either for or against "integration." My own feeling is that withdrawal of the book is a serious mistake. This is true especially since (1) no one has to study the book, and (2) another book is available if *The Long Bridge* is not desired, and (3) the Home Board leadership has indicated that the book will be released later.

Here are some questions that keep coming back to me: When have Southern Baptists gotten so fearful of their mission work among Negro people that they are scared to study about it? Is my sister, a missionary in Nigeria, going to be refused entry into Southern Baptist Churches for fear that she might tell folks that she works with black people—and loves them? Is our Home Mission program one of convenience or of conviction?

Certainly, we have problems in race relations and the answers are not to be found easily. To me that offers a real reason for a study of our work with Negroes. I keep praying that Southern Baptists will not be a part of the problem in current tensions but that we will try to give God a chance to use us as a part of the answer.

**Dealing With Problems** is a part of our everyday Christian life. They are not solved by running away from them, wishing that they did not exist. They must be faced, accepted as they are (not as we wish they were), and dealt with honestly by the grace of God.

**Baptists Everywhere** have a lot in common. In reading the bulletins from many churches I have discovered that the pastors have been remarking about the bad weather, the illnesses, and the many absences from worship. **We are in style!** I just hope that many of you who have been out so much since Christmas will get back to First Baptist right away. We have missed you!

Someone remarked about our church that it is not a question of our leadership knowing what to do, but a matter of our leaders saying, "Come on, let's do!" There may be times when we are ignorant, but most of the time we just need to do what we know Christ would have us do. That's true about visitation, about soul-winning, about stewardship, about faithfulness. Come on, let's do! We already know more than we are doing. Perhaps that is another way of saying that the really important thing for us is BEING.

**People Ask** about the visitors who come to our church. Where are they from? Last Sunday, in addition to the local and Florida guests, these states were represented: Maryland, Colorado, Texas, North Carolina, Kentucky, Georgia, Illinois, and even North Wales.

**Mr. Clyde Bizzell** is in California assisting in a Training Union Clinic being sponsored jointly by the California Convention, the local churches, and the Sunday School Board. His address while away is in care of the Trinity Baptist Church, 3780 Imperial Highway, Lynwood, California.

**Did You See** the following in the "Counselor's Corner" of the *Witness*? The question has been answered by Dr. R. Lofton Hudson.

**Question:** The Nominating Committee of our church has hurt many people very deeply by dropping from their recommendations some who have served for many years in a particular job. Wouldn't it be kinder to speak to them in Christian love and appreciation rather than dropping them without saying a word?

**Answer:** Our churches have a real problem at this point. Jobs have to be passed around in order to develop all of the good people. If the Nominating Committee tells the individual that he is being relieved of a job before they present his name to the church, he may start an insurrection in order to hold the office. Or the church may not accept the nomination, which would make the Committee look premature or presumptuous in speaking to the outgoing individual.

I believe that the solution lies in training the church member not to expect or seek an office at any time, and to trust the Nominating Committee to follow the Holy Spirit's leadership. After all, the purpose of such a committee is to work prayerfully through the whole church roll and choose the best people for all jobs—"best" in the sense of doing the best for the cause of Christ.

An I-bruise-easy attitude just won't work in a Baptist church. You have to be humble and tough minded.

# "Personal Witnessing Week"

FEBRUARY 17 - 21—7:00 P.M. Each Evening

Age Group	Book	Teacher	Meeting Place
Adults and Young People	"Every Christian's Job" By C. E. Matthews	B. T. Dean	Auditorium of Educ. Bldg.
Seniors	"Witnessing For Christ" By Ethel Hudson Williams	Jack Howes	Int. 14 Dept.
Intermediates	"Witnessing For Christ" By Ethel Hudson Williams	T. A. Wash	Int. 13 Dept.
11-12 Juniors	"Jesus Saves" By Hattie Bell Allen	Fermon Minshew	Junior 12 Dept.
9-10 Juniors	"Jesus Saves" By Hattie Bell Allen	Miss Grace Smith	Junior 10 Dept.
Primaries		Mrs. Chas. Overman Jr.	Primary 7A Dept.
Beginners			Beginner 4 Dept.

## THE NURSERY WILL BE OPEN

### MORNING CLASS

Age Group	Book	Pastor	Meeting Place
Adults and Young People	"A Winning Witness" By Gaines S. Dobbins		Auditorium of Educ. Bldg.

### ATTENTION ADULTS!

All members of Adult "A" and "B" Departments, and all honorary members of these Departments. You are cordially invited to reserve Friday, the 28th of February at 7:00 p.m. for a combined Banquet-Social at the church. Tickets will be available soon. Contact your Department Superintendent.

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### MARRIED YOUNG PEOPLE'S BANQUET

Married Young People are holding their Annual Sweetheart Banquet in the Church Dining Room at 6:15 p.m. Thursday, February 13, 1958. All Married Young People are invited. Tickets may be obtained at \$1.00 each from David Warnock, Dick Bower, or the Church Office.

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### B. W. C. MEETINGS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10—7:30 p.m.  
Ernelle Brooks BWC meets with Miss Pauline Watson, 100 W. Cervantes.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11—7:30 p.m.  
Edith Chaney Circle, with Mrs. T. A. Wash, 1660 E. Hatton Street.

Bill Cowleys Circle, with Miss Montaree Barrineau, 921 N. 19th Avenue.

Eleanor O'Haver Howell Circle, with Mrs. Aurelia Bell, 1721 E. Cervantes St.

Charles Mullins Circle, with Mrs. Geneviève R. Smith, 45 Pen Haven Drive.

### "VISITATION HONOR ROLL" PROGRAM

Our Sunday School has adopted a "Visitation Honor Roll" program for the period of February 9-March 15.

The "program" is very simple in operation. Here are the details:

1. Each Adult Class and each Department below adults has a "Visitation Honor Roll" sheet posted in their room. Last Sunday, February 2, members were to be "signed up", four for each week during the campaign.

2. Beginning Sunday, February 9, an envelope containing prospect cards will be sent to each of these groups.

3. Each Sunday beginning February 9, the class secretary will prepare an Absentee List for the members responsible for visiting that week.

4. The class president will be responsible for assigning the prospect cards and the absentee lists to the members responsible for visiting.

5. Each Sunday morning the four class members who visited during the past week will mark their report on the Honor Roll in the classroom.

### SERMON TOPICS

11:00 A.M.  
"Buying Favor"  
Matthew 5:7

7:30 P.M.  
"Wipe Off The Lens"  
Matthew 5:8

# THE BAPTIST BUILDER

Published Weekly by the  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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the act of March 3, 1879.

CHURCH OFFICE.....HE 3-5451

## CHURCH STAFF Residence Phones

Nathan C. Brooks, Jr., Pastor..... HE 3-1502  
Clyde K. Bizzell, Assistant to Pastor HE 3-2580  
Dr. G. J. Rousseau, Pastor Emeritus  
Jesse Miller, Interim Minister of  
Music..... HE 3-7596  
Mrs. Jesse Miller, Interim Organist..... HE 3-7596  
Eloise Hughes, Pastor's Secretary..... HE 3-6035  
Mrs. James Rountree, Financial Sec. HE 2-1326  
Lorraine Worley, Educational Sect'y HE 3-6465  
Ernest Barrineau, Treasurer..... HE 2-5079  
S. R. Rutherford, Custodian..... HE 3-3059  
Mrs. Kitty Manning, Dietician..... GL 6-2124



## LOOKING AT LAST SUNDAY

Sunday School Attendance.....1021  
Members Present ..... 972  
New Members ..... 6  
Visitors ..... 43  
(Attendance one year ago...1116)  
Escambia County Jail..... 24  
Total Sunday School Attendance.....1045  
Training Union Attendance..... 271  
Members Present ..... 243  
New Members ..... 8  
Visitors ..... 20  
(Attendance one year ago... 302)  
Additions to church membership..... 6  
Tithes and Offerings:  
Budget .....\$4,139.92  
Specials ..... 95.41  
Kindergarten ..... 75.00  
Building Fund, First Baptist..... 334.35  
TOTAL OFFERING .....\$4,644.68

## WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

### BAPTISM

8. Mr. Philip T. Higgason, ATU 206, NAS.
9. Mr. David Raley, Jr., 121 South "E" St.
10. Mr. Allen McDonald, 2860 Blackshear.
11. Mrs. J. S. Baisden, 1818 E. Strong St.

### LETTER

41. Mr. J. C. Pernell, Jr., NATTU, Box 56, NAS.
42. Mr. J. S. Baisden, 1818 E. Strong St.

### FOUR BAPTIZED WEDNESDAY

Mrs. J. S. Baisden, Allen McDonald, David Raley, Jr., Philip T. Higgason.

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY

OUR KNOWN SICK: Baptist Hospital—W. L. Kennedy, Mrs. Barney Burks, Mrs. F. G. Smalley, Mrs. Steve Cvitanic, John Daniel. Home from Hospital—Mrs. W. H. Peters.

SYMPATHY TO: Mr. G. C. Huckaba in the loss of his brother.

## USE OUR CHURCH LIBRARY



### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9—

- 9:30 a.m.—Sunday School for all ages.  
Theron Guthrie, Supt.  
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship. Pastor.  
1:30 p.m.—Baptist Hour on WCOA.  
Speaker: Dr. Roy O. McClain.  
4:30 p.m.—Youth Choir Rehearsal in Chapel.  
6:10 p.m.—Training Union for all ages.  
Clarence Taylor, Director.  
7:30 p.m.—Evening Worship. Pastor.  
8:30 p.m.—Intermediate-Senior Fellowship.  
Married Young People's Dept.

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10—

- 7:00 p.m.—Boy Scouts meet in Lower Auditorium.  
7:15 p.m.—Deacons' Meeting in Chapel.  
7:30 p.m.—Associational Training Union Meeting. Century Baptist Church.

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11—

- 10:00 a.m.—W.M.S. Executive Committee Meeting in Chapel.  
10:45 a.m.—W.M.S. Missionary Program in Adult A.  
11:00 a.m.—W.M.S. Business.  
12:15 p.m.—W.M.S. Luncheon.  
7:30 p.m.—Business Women's Circles meet.

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12—

- 4:45 p.m.—Cherub Choir (6-8) in Junior 10.  
4:45 p.m.—Carol Choir (9-12) in Junior 9.  
4:45 p.m.—Concord Choir (13-14) in Adult "B" Dept.  
6:00 p.m.—Sunday School Officers' and Teachers' Meeting begins with supper. Friendly Class of Adult "B" serving.  
6:30 p.m.—Beginner Sunbeams meet in Beginner 4 Dept.  
6:30 p.m.—Primary 6-7 Sunbeams meet in Room 27.  
6:30 p.m.—Primary 8 Sunbeams meet in Room 26.  
6:30 p.m.—Junior 9 G.A. meets in Room 23.  
6:30 p.m.—Junior 10-11 G.A. meets in Rm. 25.  
6:30 p.m.—Intermediate G.A. meets in Room 24.  
6:30 p.m.—Senior G.A. meets in Senior 15.  
6:30 p.m.—Junior 9-10 R.A. meets in Intermediate 13 Dept.  
6:30 p.m.—Junior 11-12 R.A. meets in Married Young People's Dept.  
6:30 p.m.—Intermediate R.A. meets in Lower Auditorium.  
6:40 p.m.—Y.W.A. meets in Young People "A" Dept.  
7:00 p.m.—Teacher Improvement Period.  
7:45 p.m.—Prayer Service and Business Conference.

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13—

- 9:30 a.m.—CHURCH— WIDE VISITATION.  
2:30 p.m.—  
7:00 p.m.—  
6:30 p.m.—Married Young People's Sweetheart Banquet.  
7:15 p.m.—Church Choir Rehearsal.

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14—

- 6:15 p.m.—Intermediate-Senior Valentine Banquet.



There Is No Substitute  
For Prayer and  
Bible Study