

The Baptist Builder

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
PALAFOX AND LA RUA STREETS
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA

A PRAYER AT CHRISTMAS TIME

Lord, in all the stir
When Christmas comes around,
The games and the greetings,
The songs and the meetings,
The toys and joys and shining trees,
The carols' sweet sound—

Father, in the midst of these,
Let us not forget
The fair Star of Christmas,
The Star that cannot set.
Let us lift our hearts and say,
"Glory be to God in heaven,
On Christmas Day!"

—Nancy Byrd Turner

JAMES L. PLEITZ
PASTOR





From the PASTOR'S STUDY

The Passenger List

The distinguished editor of THE BAPTIST STANDARD, Dr. E. S. James, wrote an editorial recently, around the expression of Dr. Elton Trueblood, in which he describes a large segment of church members as "The Passenger List." This is the terminology of the airlines for the persons who enjoy the pleasure of travel on the commercial planes of our day.

The passenger on a plane is not expected or allowed to assist in the normal operation of the plane. He gets on the plane, sits down in a comfortable chair, fastens the seat belt, reaches for a magazine, and settles down for the flight. Only a small percentage of those aboard, usually less than 5%, are members of the "working crew" of a plane.

In our church is a long list of members on the "Passenger List." They are not members of the working crew. They do not teach in Sunday School or visit for their class. They dip in and out of an occasional worship service. They never seek to win a soul to Christ. They are "spiritual illiterates," knowing little or nothing of the Bible. Nine out of ten could not quote 25 verses from the Word of God. Perhaps, "Passenger List" is a very descriptive term.

Sometimes, the "working crew" is so small and the "Passenger List" so large, that it is difficult or impossible to get off the ground. Where would you classify yourself? In which group are you traveling?

Jesus said, ". . . Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." (Mark 8:34b).

Faithfully yours,

JAMES L. PLETZ



COMING JANUARY 4-8 BIBLE STUDY WEEK

This year we will be studying Paul's two letters to Timothy. The guide books are available now from the church office. You may get yours and begin reading it.

SERMON TOPICS

11:00 A.M.

"Greater Gifts For The
Greatest Giver"
(Matthew 2:1-11)

7:30 P.M.

"The Messiah"
(Church and Chapel Choirs)



Brotherhood

SUPPER MEETING

Monday night, December 14, is the time for our Brotherhood and Deacons meeting.

The Brotherhood will begin its meeting with supper at 6:30 p.m. You will need to make your reservation Sunday.

The deacons will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Chapel.

A very interesting program is planned with Lt. Commander Charles J. McGrath of the USN as the speaker. Lt. Commander McGrath is an aviator attached to the Flight Instructors Indoctrination Group at NAS. His duties there include a course on Military Leadership presented to all prospective flight instructors in the Naval Air Basic Training Command. It is within this course that LCDR McGrath discusses the most demanding executive order, "The Code of Conduct," and its use as a defense against Communist indoctrination. LCDR McGrath also demonstrates principles of aerodynamics as taught in Applied Aerodynamics classes.

LCDR McGrath's wide Navy experience and travels should help make this a very profitable program. Men, make your reservation Sunday and don't miss this meeting!



Library Notes

J. Winston Pearce, Pastor of First Baptist Church, DeLand, Fla., has written a most interesting book called "The Window Sill of Heaven," a copy of which is on our library shelf.

This book is written for plumbers, and preachers, for students and teachers—for all kinds of readers. The writer convinces us that the Christian gospel speaks courage and guidance in every human experience.

You will find such titles as "You'll Never Walk Alone," "I Got a Glory," "How to Use Perfume," and "Some Call It Autumn," sometimes startling and always imaginative. In this book you will find great strength while waiting at "the window still of heaven."

Why not pay a visit to our library and choose this book or another of your own choice from our shelves?

O. F. AULTMAN



NOTE OF APPRECIATION

May I take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation for the many expressions of love and sympathy in my recent sorrow.

GENEVIEVE SMITH

Our Children

By EVELYN HEINTZ

Is the Christmas you have this year going to be one your children will have pleasant memories of? You can make this a happy, joyful season of the year and one in which your child will grow spiritually through each experience.

Shopping can be a happy experience for a small child, if you pick a time when he is rested and you do not plan to shop for yourself. If he wants to look in the window, let him look and you look with him. Remember when you get in the store that he can only see the sides of many things. So lift him up occasionally to let him see. Be patient and don't rush him, and I am sure this will be one happy experience of the season for you.

At this season with so many things to be done, family tensions may accumulate resulting in irritated parents and unhappy children. If you plan, this should not happen to you.

Take time to get ready for Christmas. Let your child help. He will like to help stir the cookies you make and sprinkle sugar on the top of them. Then, the greatest joy will come as you see your child run up to a friend's door and present the cookies. The time and patience consumed will be well repaid. Also, what a sweet time you had together talking about why you were making them. Why? Because you love Jesus and want to celebrate His birthday by sharing with others the things you enjoy doing together.

Your child will like making some simple decorations for the Christmas tree and having a part in its decoration. Do not use balls which are so fragile that you must keep saying "Be careful," for if you do, neither you nor your child will enjoy the decorating of the Christmas tree.

Your child may like to make a manger scene. This can be done by using a shoe box, four sticks about four inches long, some crushed rocks and some pine straw and cotton. Cut away the sides and bottom of the shoe box for the roof. Cement the stones together with flour paste which your child can help make and bake the cemented stones in the oven. After this glue pine straw to the roof and place a light over the manger and assemble the characters.

Use records of Christmas carols and sing them in your home as Christmas approaches. Share the Christmas cards you receive with your child; even your one year old will enjoy seeing the baby which will be on some of your cards.

Plan to reserve some time for the inner family circle if Christmas is to have its fullest meaning. Plan a special Christmas eve or Christmas day worship service for your family at which time you will all seek the true spirit of Christmas. Take time to make this Christmas a most pleasant one for you and yours.



Music Notes

"The Messiah"

To Be Presented Sunday Night

The Church and Chapel Choirs will combine Sunday night to present a portion of "The Messiah." The congregation is urged to be present. Soloists are: Miss Barbara Ackman, Soprano; Mrs. George Jenista, Alto; Mr. Sid Kennedy, Tenor. The organist will be Mrs. W. H. Adams; and pianist, Miss Sandra Fiveash.

Christmas Carol Sing

Everyone is invited to attend the Associational Christmas Carol Sing in our church on Friday night, December 18, at 7:30 p.m. Children's Choirs from area churches will be featured in a gigantic Christmas Carol Sing. Each group will sing one number, and then all choirs will join together in several mass numbers. Our Cherub, Carol, Crusader, and Concord Choirs will participate.

♦ ♦ ♦

DEACONS OF THE MONTH

Our deacons of the month for December are Mr. J. F. Boykin and Mr. Len Roberts, Jr.

MR. BOYKIN joined our church by letter in 1949 from the Popular Springs Baptist Church, Uriah, Alabama. He was ordained a deacon in 1957. Mr. Boykin is presently serving in the Training Union as Leader of the 13-year-old union. He is a Junior Royal Ambassador Counselor in our church and also for Pensacola Bay Baptist Association. He is employed at Naval Air Station and is the father of one child.

MR. ROBERTS joined our church by letter in 1955 from the First Baptist Church, Gadsden, Alabama. He was ordained a deacon in 1957. Mr. Roberts is presently serving as Superintendent of Adult A Department in our Sunday School. He has been very active in Boy Scout work and is now serving as Chairman of our Boy Scout Committee. He is a contractor and is the father of five children.

♦ ♦ ♦



Sunday School

The theme for the Associational Sunday School meeting Monday night, December 14, is "Sunday Activities." This meeting is scheduled to meet at the Olive Baptist Church.

Every Baptist a Teacher



Judge and Mrs. Harvey Etheridge Page
request the honour of your presence
at the marriage of their daughter

Suzanne

to

Charles Ray

Lieut. (jg) United States Naval Reserve
on Saturday, the nineteenth of December
at half after five o'clock in the afternoon

First Baptist Church
Pensacola, Florida

Reception
following ceremony
2014 Escambia Avenue

♦ ♦ ♦

Congratulations Upon These Recent
Marriages:

Perry Dale Warlick to Brona Faye Teague,
David Benjamin Caldwell to Helen Faye
Stone.

♦ ♦ ♦

PENSACOLA ORATORIO SOCIETY TO PRESENT "MESSIAH"

The Pensacola Oratorio Society will present its 24th performance of Handel's "Messiah", under the direction of Mr. John Boecklen, at 8 p.m., December 14 in the St. Mark Methodist Church Auditorium, located at 12th Avenue and Maxwell Street. The public is cordially invited to attend.

♦ ♦ ♦

BLOOD BANK

Our account at the blood bank is completely depleted. We are in need of blood at the present time to replace some already used. Any donors who can do so are urged to go to the blood bank and give blood to be credited to our account. You may go any time between 8:00 and 5:00, Monday through Friday, or Saturday morning from 8:00 to 12:00.

♦ ♦ ♦

MEMORIAL GIFT

Mrs. Kittie Manning, our church Dietician, and her family have given a coffee urn to the church in memory of her husband, Mr. G. F. Manning.

♦ ♦ ♦

To fall in love with God is the greatest of all romances; to seek Him, the greatest adventure; to find Him the greatest human achievement.

—Raphael Simon



FOREIGN MISSIONS

Give to the LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING

"That the World May Know of
Our Savior's Love . . . "

♦ ♦ ♦

BROTHERHOOD OFFICERS CLINIC

Mr. G. A. Ratterree, our State Brotherhood Secretary, and Mr. Thomas A. Knotts, are to be in Pensacola on Friday evening, December 18, to lead a clinic for Brotherhood officers and Royal Ambassador counselors. This clinic will be held at the Brownsville Baptist Church. It will begin at 7:00 p.m. It is hoped that each of our Brotherhood officers and Royal Ambassador counselors can be present for this meeting.

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OUR CHURCH FAMILY

We Extend Our Deepest Sympathy To:

Mrs. George Rumble in the loss of her husband.

Mrs. Carl B. Causey in the loss of her father.

Mrs. G. M. Spearman in the loss of her sister.

Mrs. B. M. Wakefield in the loss of her niece.

Mary Lou Pitts in the loss of her grandmother.

Mr. Glen Leathers, Jr. in the loss of his father.

Mrs. W. D. Kendall in the loss of her mother.

Baptist Hospital:

Miss Christine Hart, Mr. Hugh Peake.

Home from Hospital:

Mrs. James S. Atchison, Miss Genevieve Averett, Tattiesburg, Mississippi.

Congratulations To:

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Pat St. John upon the birth of a baby boy, John Christopher, born December 5.

Your Sundays Belong to God

THE BAPTIST BUILDER

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CHURCH OFFICE HE 3-5451

CHURCH OFFICERS

Henry L. Ashmore, Chr. of Deacons HE 3-4743
T. A. Guthrie, Sunday School Supt. HE 2-6683
Comdr. Robert E. Sparks,
Train Union Director GL 5-3211 Ext. 1271
W. T. Osborn, Brotherhood Pres. HE 2-5228
Mrs. E. A. Allen, WMU Pres. HE 2-6273
Mrs. A. R. W. Stoenen, Librarian HE 2-6502

CHURCH STAFF

Residence Phone

James L. Pleiter, Pastor HE 3-1502
Clyde K. Ismael, Assistant to Pastor HE 3-2390
Dr. G. J. Rousseau, Pastor Emeritus
L. Wendell Carpenter, Minister of
Music and Youth Director HE 2-3362
Mrs. W. H. Adams, Organist GL 6-6787
Mrs. J. C. Rountree, Financial Sec. HE 2-1336
Miss Mary Lou Pitts, Edm. Sec. HE 3-3285
Miss Hettie Sue Holt, Pastor's Sec. HE 3-6775
Evelyn Hetntz, Elementary Dir. HE 2-1901
Ernest Barrineau, Treasurer HE 3-5079
Mrs. Kettie Manning, Dietician GL 6-2124
S. R. Rutherford, Custodian HE 3-3059



LOOKING AT LAST SUNDAY

Sunday School Attendance	1158
Members Present	1107
New Members	9
Visitors	42
(Attendance one year ago. 1628)	
Training Union Attendance	309
Members Present	279
New Members	10
Visitors	11
(Attendance one year ago. 284)	
Additions to church membership	3
Baptized	1
Tithes and Offerings:	
Budget	\$4,549.23
Specials	1,564.36
Building Fund	95.65
TOTAL OFFERING	\$6,209.14



OUR TITHE!

Billy Graham, while in England, in his column, "My Answer," gave his interpretation of the Scriptures concerning tithing. Someone wrote to him listing several charities and asked him which was the most deserving of his tithe. Graham said, "According to God's Word your tithe should be brought to His store house, the church of which you are a member! What we give outside the church is an offering. What we give inside the church is our tithe."

BUDGET CATCH-UP

Through Sunday, December 6, we were \$4,600.00 behind in our budget for 1959. You will want to do your part to make up this deficit.

"The Lord loves a cheerful giver."



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13—

9:30 a.m.—Sunday School for all ages.
Theresa A. Guthrie, Supt.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship. Pastor.
Broadcast over WCOA.
1:30 p.m.—Baptist Hour on WCOA.
Speaker: Dr. H. H. Hobbs.
Subject: "Do You Need a
Psychiatrist?"
5:00 p.m.—Chapel Choir Rehearsal.
6:10 p.m.—Training Union for all ages.
7:30 p.m.—Evening Worship.
8:30 p.m.—Chapel Choir Fellowship.
8:30 p.m.—Intermediate Fellowship in Mar-
ried Young People's Dept.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14—

6:30 p.m.—Brotherhood Supper Meeting.
7:30 p.m.—Deacons' Meeting.
7:30 p.m.—Associational Sunday School Meet-
ing, Olive Baptist Church.
7:30 p.m.—Ernestine Brooks Circle will meet
with Mrs. O. F. Aultman, 102 Drew
Circle. Mrs. C. C. McCurley is co-
hostess.
7:30 p.m.—Charles Mullings Circle will meet
with Mrs. O. F. Aultman, 102 Drew
Circle. Mrs. C. C. McCurley is co-
hostess.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15—

7:00 p.m.—Bible Survey Plan.
7:30 p.m.—Ideal Sunday School Class Christ-
mas Party at home of Mrs. Charles
Danforth, 1700 East Hatton.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16—

4:45 p.m.—Choirs.
5:30 p.m.—Superintendents' Cabinet Meeting.
—Adult B Department.
—Training Union Directors' Meeting.
Room 131.
5:30 p.m.—Fellowship Dinner.
6:30 p.m.—Sunday School Officers and Teach-
ers Meet.
7:25 p.m.—Prayer Service.
8:00 p.m.—Visitation.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17—

9:30 a.m.—Bible Survey Plan.
7:30 p.m.—Church Choir Rehearsal.
7:30 p.m.—Mary Martha Circle meeting at the
home of Mrs. R. R. Rouse, 313 N.
Barclonia.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18—

7:00-9:00 p.m.—Junior 11-12 Training Union
Social at home of Mrs. W. E. Jackson,
2103 N. Magnolia Ave.
7:00 p.m.—Brotherhood-Royal Ambassador
Clinic, Brownsville Baptist Church
7:30 p.m.—Associational Carol Sing, First
Baptist Church.



BY LETTER:

73. Mrs. J. L. Mayo, Sr., 1500 E. Lee St. From: Heights Baptist Church, Pensacola.
74. Mr. Gaynell C. Methvin, 306 Rio Vista, Pensacola Beach, Fla. From: First Baptist Church, Decatur, Ala.
75. Mrs. Gaynell C. Methvin.

BAPTIZED:

Katherine Kickliter