

The Baptist Builder

Vol. XI

December 8, 1960

No. 50

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
PALAFOX AND LA RUA STREETS
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA

JAMES L. PLEITZ
PASTOR



"READY FOR CHRISTMAS"

By ALICE HANSCH MORTENSON

"Ready for Christmas," she said with a sigh,
As she gave a last touch to the gifts piled high.
Then wearily sat for a moment and read
'Til soon, very soon, she was nodding her head.

Then quietly spoke a voice in her dream:
"Ready for Christmas! What do you mean?
Ready for Christmas, when only last week
You wouldn't acknowledge your friend on the street!

"Ready for Christmas, while holding a grudge!
Perhaps you had better let God be the judge.
Why, how can the Christ-Child come and abide
In a heart that is selfish and filled with pride?

"Ready for Christmas, when only today
A beggar lad came and you turned him away
Without even a smile to show that you cared!
The little he asked—it could have been spared.

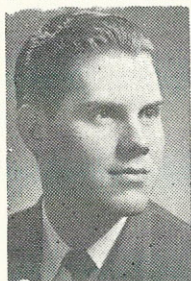
"Ready for Christmas! You've worked, it is true,
But just doing the things that you wanted to do.
Ready for Christmas! Your circle's too small.
Why, you are not ready for Christmas at all!"

She awoke with a start, and a cry of despair,
"There's so little time, and I've still to prepare!
Oh, Father, forgive me, I see what you mean!
To be ready means more than a house swept clean!"

Yes, more than the giving of gifts and a tree,
It's the heart swept clean that He wants to see,
A heart that is free from bitterness—sin,
Ready for Christmas—and ready for Him!

PASTOR'S PARAGRAPHS

It hardly seems possible that December has arrived and another Christmas season is at hand. Already we are hearing the



Christmas music, and although the prospects for a white Christmas are just a bit slim here in Florida, all of us are beginning to feel that warm glow in our hearts which we call "the Christmas spirit."

The year 1960 will soon be history. There are only three Sundays remaining. Are you even, behind or ahead of what you pledged to give for the year? I sincerely trust that everyone of us will try to catch up on our giving if we are behind. If we will all be faithful in this matter during the next few weeks, we will far exceed our budget goal for the year. God has been so good to us. Aside from the material blessings of life, He has showered down many other intangible blessings for which we are most grateful.

Be in your place this coming Lord's Day. There is just no one who can take YOUR place in the House of God.

Faithfully yours,

James L. Pleitz



OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Baptist Hospital:

Edward McCrory, Mrs. W. W. Withrow, Mrs. John Wood, Mrs. J. B. Hopkins, Wyatt Shows, Jr., Mr. H. W. Watson, Joe Bill Adams.

Sacred Heart Hospital:

Mr. Bob Hightower, Mrs. Amzie Wilson, Mrs. John Kelly, Mrs. Florida Smith.

Home from Hospital:

Chucky Williamson, Mr. Clarence Dannelly, Mrs. W. G. Pybus.

V. A. Hospital, Biloxi, Mississippi:

Mr. Tom Jernigan

We Extend Our Deepest Sympathy To:

Mrs. Lilly Vice in the loss of a sister.

Congratulations To:

Mr. and Mrs. A. Ted Andrews upon the birth of a baby boy, Kenneth Robert, on November 23.



A successful church must have faith, hope, charity, and tithes.



ATTEND "M" NIGHT MONDAY

Announcing!



DR. CARL E. BATES

Dr. Carl E. Bates will be the speaker for the Training Union "M" Night meeting to be held in our sanctuary Monday, December 12, 7:30 p.m.

Dr. Bates is a native Mississippian, a graduate of Mississippi College, Clinton, Mississippi, and of Southern Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky.

He has served as pastor of the First Baptist Church, Leesburg, Florida; First Baptist Church, Texarkana, Texas; First Baptist Church, Amarillo, Texas; and now serves as pastor of the First Baptist Church, Charlotte, North Carolina.



LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING

The Christmas tree in the church dining room this year will serve as a reminder of the Lottie Moon Christmas offering. Each two hundred dollars contributed to the Lottie Moon Christmas offering will light one bulb on the tree. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world." In a very real sense, each light turned on will help to take His message of light and salvation to the world. This year's goal for our church is \$7,500.00.

Carry-Over from last church

year.....	\$ 212.70
Gifts through 12-4-60.....	2,356.87
Total.....	\$2,569.57

SERMON TOPICS

11:00 A.M.

'When A Young Man Marries'

(I Kings 3)

7:15 P.M.

"The Messiah"

Oratorio Choir



W.M.U.

Tuesday, December 13

- 10:00 a.m.—T. N. Callaway Circle will meet with Mrs. S. G. Kennedy, 2100 E. Mallory.
—Virginia Cobb Circle will meet with Mrs. W. F. Bratcher, 1824 Escambia Avenue.
—Stanley Davis Circle will meet with Mrs. S. L. Davis, 1503 E. Jackson Street.
—Jane McRae Circle will meet with Mrs. Nixon Daniel, 3641 Menendez Drive.
—Dottson Mills Circle will meet with Mrs. Henry Ashmore, 2960 Magnolia Avenue.
—R. C. Moore Circle will meet with Mrs. T. H. Miller, 1719 E. Lee Street.
—Bernice Neal Circle will meet with Mrs. Theron Guthrie, 1403 E. Lakeview Avenue.
—Laura Frances Snow Circle will meet with Mrs. E. W. Speed, 2023 Escambia Avenue.
3:00 p.m.—Harvey Headrick Circle will meet with Mrs. W. E. Wilson, 1919 N. 14th Ave.
7:30 p.m.—Eleanor O'Haver Howell Circle will meet with Mrs. W. H. Crawford, 1602 N. Ninth Avenue.
—Bill Cowley Circle will meet with Mrs. Una Bratcher, 100 W. Cervantes.



Library Notes

"The time to begin letting Johnny and Susie learn to like to read is long before they can read for themselves, or even understand what is being read to them. A mother begins feeding her child food for his body the day he is born. The baby does not know what he is taking, or how much or why. The same is true of a child's mine and spirit. Any child old enough to respond to rhythm is old enough to be read to. In his first few years, before he starts to school, the pattern is set for his attitude toward reading in all his future life."—Marel Brown.

We are happy to see so many of our young mothers come and avail themselves of the good selection of children's books we have in our Library. We hope others will heed this advice given in the above article as it is so very, very true.

MRS. A. R. W. STOESEN

MEMORIAL FLOWERS

Mrs. Ernie Priest, chairman of the flowers committee, announces the following procedure for placing flowers in the sanctuary. Persons desiring to place flowers in memory of a loved one will simply call the church office to clear the date. Then, necessary arrangements will be made with our regular florist.



HEAR DR. CARL BATES
MONDAY, DEC. 12

EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

SUNDAY, 7:15 P.M.

The Oratorio Choir

of the

First Baptist Church

presents the Christmas Portion of

"THE MESSIAH"

An Oratorio

by

G. F. Handel

Soloists: Margaret Ferguson, Soprano
Sharon Smith, Alto
Sidney Kennedy, Tenor
Floyd T. Neth, Bass

THE BAPTIST BUILDER

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Entered as second class matter April 21, 1950,
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the act of March 3, 1879.

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
Capt. Robert E. Sparks,
Training Union Director.....GL 5-3211 Ext. 2158
W. T. Osborn, Brotherhood Pres.....HE 2-5238
Mrs. W. C. Carr, Jr., WMU Pres.....HE 3-0769
Mrs. A. R. W. Stoessen, Librarian.....HE 2-6502

CHURCH STAFF Residence Phones

James L. Pleitz, Pastor.....HE 3-1502
Clyde K. Bizzell, Assistant to Pastor.....HE 2-7237
Dr. G. J. Rousseau, Pastor Emeritus
Sid Kennedy, Interim Minister of
Music.....HE 3-6751
Mrs. W. H. Adams, Organist.....GL 6-6787
Mrs. J. C. Rountree, Financial Sec.....HE 2-1326
Miss Mary Lou Pitts, Edu. Sec.....HE 3-3285
Miss Betty Sue Holt, Pastor's Sec.....HE 2-6275
Ernest Barreineau, Treasurer.....HE 2-5079
Mrs. Kittie Manning, Dietician.....GL 6-2124
S. R. Rutherford, Custodian.....HE 3-3059



LOOKING AT LAST SUNDAY

Sunday School Attendance.....1291
Members Present1235
New Members 11
Visitors 45
(Attendance one year ago..1158)
Training Union Attendance..... 350
Members Present 334
New Members 4
Visitors 12
(Attendance one year ago.. 300)
Additions to church membership..... 8
Baptized 2
Tithes and Offerings:
Budget\$5,558.39
Specials 233.87
Building Fund 73.85
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering..... 2,185.46
TOTAL OFFERING\$8,051.57

ONLY

3

SUNDAYS REMAIN IN 1960

- Is my tithe paid up?
- Have I given as I should?
- Am I satisfied with my record?

I must do my best for Him
who gave His all.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11—

9:30 a.m.—Sunday School for all ages.
Theron A. Guthrie, Supt.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship. Pastor.
(Broadcast over WCOA).
1:30 p.m.—Baptist Hour over WCOA.
Speaker: Dr. H. H. Hobbs.
Subj.: "The Corruption of
Prophecy."
4:30 p.m.—Chapel Choir Rehearsal.
6:00 p.m.—Training Union for all ages.
Capt. R. E. Sparks, Director.
7:15 p.m.—Choirs present "The Messiah."
8:30 p.m.—Intermediate fellowship in lower
auditorium of Educational Bldg.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12—

6:00 p.m.—Junior 11-12 Training Union "Hot
Dog Supper," lower auditorium of
Educational Bldg.
7:30 p.m.—"M" NIGHT in our sanctuary.
Dr. Carl E. Bates, Speaker.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13—

10:00 a.m.—SEE W. M. U. CIRCLES

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14—

5:00 p.m.—Children's Choirs.
5:50 p.m.—Fellowship Dinner.
6:30 p.m.—Teachers' and Officers' Meeting.
Sunbeams, G.A.'s, R.A.'s, Y.W.A.'s.
Study of "Mastering Life's
Problems."
7:30 p.m.—Prayer Service.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15—

7:30 p.m.—Faithful Workers Christmas Party
at Mrs. J. S. Balsden, 1818 East
Strong Street.
7:30 p.m.—Church Choir Rehearsal.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16—

12 Noon—Convention Bible Class Christmas
Luncheon. Church Dining Room.
7:00 p.m.—Junior 9-10 Training Union Social.
Lower auditorium of Educational
Bldg.



New Members

- FOR BAPTISM:
20. Carol Sue Lewis, 222 Betty Road.
BY LETTER:
51. Mr. Cameron W. White, Jr., 3 Nottingham
Way. From: First Baptist Church, Lan-
caster, Pa.
52. Mrs. C. S. (Suzanne) White.
53. Mr. Bob Robinson, 210 West Highland
Drive. From: Cottage Hill Baptist Church,
Mobile, Alabama.
54. Mr. Paul Scarborough, III, Box 14C, Star
Route, Myrtle Grove. From: Churchland
Baptist Church, Churchland, Va.
55. Mrs. Paul Scarborough (Jean). From:
First Baptist Church, Charlottesville, Vir-
ginia.
56. Willard V. Gates, Jr., BOQ NAAS Saufley
Field. From: First Baptist Church, Alex-
andria, Virginia.
57. Mr. Julian P. Minchew, Cnabatra Staff
NAS. From: Central Baptist Church,
Douglas, Georgia.
BAPTIZED:
Mr. Clifford M. Jackson, Jr.
Mr. Cliff Jackson