

The Baptist Builder

Vol. XII

No. 50

DECEMBER 14, 1961

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
PALAFOX AND LA RUA STREETS
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA

JAMES L. PLEITZ
PASTOR

Season's Greetings

From each member of the church staff to each member of our church goes a sincere prayer for a wonderful Christmas season and a happy, prosperous New Year — with hearts and talents dedicated to the service of Christ who alone gives meaning to Christmas.



Reading from left to right: Mr. Jerry Howell, Minister of Music and Director of Youth Activities; Mr. Clyde K. Bizzell, Assistant to the Pastor; Mrs. James T. Dunnam, Pastor's Secretary; Miss Mary Lou Pitts, Educational Secretary; Rev. James L. Pleitz, Pastor; Mrs. James C. Rountree, Financial Secretary; Mrs. Kitty Manning, Dietician; Mrs. G. T. Sutton, Membership Secretary; and Mr. S. R. Rutherford, Custodian.

Pastor's Paragraphs

KEEPING CHRISTMAS

Would you like to make this Christmas a uniquely Christian experience? Would you like to plant a seed that could grow in your heart even after the good, but transitory, frills of the holiday season fade? Here is a formula that, if genuinely tried, can do just that. These suggestions were written years ago by Henry Van Dyke:

"It is a good thing to observe Christmas day, but there is a better thing than the observance of Christmas day, and that is, keeping Christmas.

"Are you willing to forget what you have done for other people, and to remember what other people have done for you; to put your rights in the background, and your chances to do a little more than your duty in the foreground; to see that your fellow men are just as real as you are, and try to look behind their faces to their hearts, hungry for joy; to own that probably the only good reason for your existence is not what you are going to get out of life, but what you are going to give to life — are you willing to do these things for a day? Then, you can keep Christmas.

"Are you willing to stoop down and consider the needs and desires of little children; to remember the weakness and loneliness of people who are growing old; to stop asking how much your friends love you, and ask yourself whether you love them enough; to try to understand what those who live in the same house with you really want, without waiting for them to tell you; to make a grave for your ugly thoughts and a garden for your kindly feelings, with the gate open — are you willing to do these things even for a day? Then, you can keep Christmas.

"Are you willing to believe that love is the strongest thing in the world — stronger than hate, stronger than evil, stronger than death — and that the blessed life which began in Bethlehem nineteen hundred years ago is the image and brightness of the Eternal love? Then, you can keep Christmas.

"And if you keep it for a day, why not

SERMON TOPICS

11:00 A.M.

"No Vacancy"
(Luke 2:1-20)

7:15 P.M.

Christmas Carol Service

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Beginner 5 Training Union
and Sunbeams

Saturday, December 16
2:00 - 3:30 P.M.

Church — Beginner 5 Department

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

On Sunday, December 24, we will have Sunday School and the morning worship service at the regular time. On that Sunday, our evening schedule will be completely different. We will have a Vesper Service in the sanctuary at five o'clock. We will not have Training Union.

Remember this schedule is for Christmas Eve Sunday, December 24. We believe that this different approach will provide a meaningful and worshipful service on Christmas Eve.

We urge all of our people to plan to be present for all of the services of worship on Christmas Eve and to invite friends to attend with you.

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THE GOLD RUSH IS ON

In the Training Recognition Service last Wednesday evening, 11 diplomas were given out to members of our church. In a similar service last year, 281 diplomas were presented. Many of our people have asked about requirements for completing the gold seal on the Christian Training Diploma. It is not yet possible to receive the gold seal. Requirements for this seal include taking all 10 of the Survey courses listed in Category 1. There are 3 of these books that have not yet been released.

Those who have already received their Christian Training Diploma may be working toward this gold seal by taking any of the Category 1 books they have not already taken. We would be happy to check your record for you if you desire.

always? But, you can never keep it alone."

I will be looking for you Sunday, 1200 Bibles strong.

Faithfully in Christ,

James L. Pleitz

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MEMORIAL FLOWERS SUNDAY

The memorial flowers for the sanctuary Sunday will be in memory of Charles Ray. They will be given by Mr. and Mrs. Chester L. Griffin and Carolyn and Mr. and Mrs. Rollin Davis, Jr.

THE *Singing* CHURCH

By JERRY HOWELL

YOUTH CHOIR TO SING ON ANTIETAM

At the gracious invitation of Chaplain Agnew, the Youth Choir will participate in a special Christmas program aboard the USS Antietam on Sunday afternoon, December 24. This program is a Service of Lights when the division officers each light candles in asking the Yuletide blessing upon the mighty aircraft carrier and her crew. We will sing at 3:45 and will leave the church at 2:45.

CHILDREN'S CAROL SERVICE THIS SUNDAY

You will not want to miss the annual service of carols which is presented by the Children's Choirs. How thankful we are for the splendid leadership and hard work done by the directors: Mrs. Julian Minchew, Mrs. Spencer West, and Miss Glenda Roberson.

ANNUAL ASSOCIATIONAL CAROL SING

Our Junior and Primary Choirs will participate in this annual festival of carols. At least a dozen choirs have been committed to sing in this service. The service is at 7:30 P.M. Monday, December 18. Parents will bring their children directly to the Brownsville Baptist Church, Strong and T Streets.

THANK YOU CHOIR AND SOLOISTS

"What sweeter service can you bring?" Your work was a pleasant fulfillment of your director's hopes and came as a result of many hard-working hours on your part. Mrs. Adams' very excellent piano accompaniment was appreciated so very much. "Now we press on . . .!" Thanks to Mr. Sam Jordan for making it possible for us to hear the beautiful voice of his son during this exciting season. Sammy added a vibrant sparkle to the presentation. God bless you all.

DO YOU REALIZE

There are only THREE more Sundays in 1961?
Is your giving record "up-to-date"
IF NOT,
Let's Make December
"CATCH-UP MONTH"



GIFTS AND GIVING

"Give what you have. To someone it may be better than you dare to think." Longfellow.

"We should give as we receive: cheerfully, quickly and without hesitation, for there is no grace in a benefit that sticks to the fingers."—Seneca.

"Shall we call ourselves benevolent, when the gifts we bestow do not cost us a single privation?"—Degerando.

George MacDonald wrote: "If instead of a gem or even a flower, we could place the gift of a lovely thought in the heart of a friend, that would be giving as the angels give."

"He that giveth, let him do it with simplicity."—Romans 12:8.

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YOU...TH in Particular

CHRISTMAS TEEN-TIME SPECIAL

Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Fields will be our host and hostess for a gala Christmas party for our Senior Teens. Don't miss this. Jack Howes says this promises to be the finest get-together we've ever had.

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OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Congratulations To:

Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Bishop upon the birth of a baby girl, Brenda Louise, on December 1.

Mr. and Mrs. A. A. White upon the birth of a baby girl, Maricka Susanne Elizabeth, on November 22.

Sacred Heart Hospital:

Mrs. Edna Drake.

Baptist Hospital:

Mr. George Arthur.

Home From Hospital:

Mrs. Tate Bousman, Mrs. Charles Danforth, Mrs. Henry E. Chiles, Miss Mary Creel, Miss Montaree Barrineau, Mr. William H. Houghton, Mary Olivia Hay.

We Extend Our Sympathy To:

Mrs. George Pfeiffer in the loss of her husband.

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OPEN HOUSE FOR EXTENSION DEPARTMENT

Miss Sarah Andress, Superintendent of the Extension Department, is holding open house for the visitors and members of the Extension Department next Sunday, December 17, from 3 to 5 p.m.

THE BAPTIST BUILDER

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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Pensacola, Florida

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CHURCH OFFICE

HE 3-5451

CHURCH OFFICERS

Paul W. Caro, Chr. of Deacons.....HE 8-3789
T. A. Guthrie, Sunday School Supt. HE 2-6633
R. F. "Bob" Jernigan, T. U. Director HE 8-6703
Mrs. R. F. Jernigan, WMU Pres.....HE 8-6703
O. F. Aultman, Brotherhood Pres.....438-1301
Mrs. A. R. W. Stoesen, 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
Jerry Howell, Minister of Music and
Director of Youth Activities.....438-9793
Mrs. W. H. Adams, Organist.....GL 6-4631
Mrs. J. C. Rountree, Fin. Sec'y.....HE 2-1326
Miss Mary Lou Pitts, Edu. Sec'.....HE 3-3235
Mrs. James Dunnam, Pastor's Sec'.....433-8857
Mrs. G. T. Sutton, Memb'ship Sec'y 432-5640
Ernest Barpineau, Treasurer.....HE 2-5079
Mrs. Kittie Manning, Dietician.....GL 6-2124
S. R. Rutherford, Custodian.....HE 3-3059

All material to be included in The Builder
should be in the office, preferably in writing,
not later than 9:00 A.M. Mondays.



LOOKING AT LAST SUNDAY

Sunday School Attendance.....	1223
Members Present	1189
New Members	3
Visitors	31
Training Union Attendance	261
Members Present	250
New Members	
Visitors	11
Additions to church membership.....	3
Baptized	5
Tithe and Offerings:	
Budget	\$4,188.21
Specials	226.13
Lottie Moon	1,947.40
Building Fund	49.95
Expansion Fund	500.00
TOTAL OFFERING	\$6,910.79
TOTAL LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING TO DATE	\$3,729.06



NEW MEMBERS

Sunday, December 10, 1961

FOR BAPTISM:

13. Mr. Darrell O. Roden, Jr., 9 Gentian Drive.
14. Mr. Tommy Eugene Hart, 2025½ West Lloyd.

BY LETTER:

46. Mrs. Tommy Eugene (Betty Jean) Hart,
2025½ West Lloyd. From: Pleasant Hill
Baptist Church, Frisco City, Alabama

BAPTIZED:

Virginia Kay Gray
Jane Ellen Garrett
Mr. Ted Weeks
Mr. Norman T. Boykin
Mr. Mike Roll.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

9:30 a.m.—Sunday School for all ages
Theron Guthrie, Supt.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship. Pastor
Broadcast over WCOA
4:30 p.m.—Chapel Choir Rehearsal
6:00 p.m.—Training Union for all ages.
R. F. "Bob" Jernigan, Director
7:15 p.m.—Evening Worship.
Annual Carol Service
Baptism
8:30 p.m.—College Fellowship
Intermediate Teen-Time Adult B
Department
Senior Teen-Time at Home of Mr.
and Mrs. Adolph Fields

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

7:00 p.m.—Usher's Supper Meeting
Church Dining Room
7:30 p.m.—Junior 12 S. S. Party —
Old Dining Room

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

7:00 p.m.—Bible Survey
7:30 p.m.—Mary-Martha Class Christmas
Party at Mrs. Hazel Coleman's
1660 East Cross

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

NO CHILDREN'S CHOIRS REHEARSAL
NEXT REHEARSAL, JANUARY 3

5:50 p.m.—Fellowship Dinner
6:30 p.m.—Teachers' and Officers' Meeting
G.A.'s, R.A.'s, Y.W.A.'s.
7:30 p.m.—Prayer Service

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

9:30 a.m.—Bible Survey
7:00 p.m.—Adult C Department Visitation
7:30 p.m.—Church Choir Rehearsal.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

7:00 p.m.—Junior 11 - 12 Training Union
Christmas Party at the home
of Mrs. W. E. Jackson, 2103 N.
Magnolia Avenue.



USHER'S SUPPER

We are having an Appreciation Supper
for the ushers on Monday, December 18,
at 7 P.M. All of the men in our church
who serve as ushers have been invited
to attend. If you have not made your
reservation by returning the card mailed
you, please do so immediately by returning
the card or by telephone.



The world belongs to the enthusiast who
keeps his common sense and reason.

**"EXTENSION MEMBER
OF THE WEEK"**

Mr. Robert R. Meeker
503 North 16th Avenue