

The Baptist Builder

Vol. XII

September 6, 1962

No. 36

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
PALAFOX AND LA RUA STREETS
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA

JAMES L. PLEITZ
PASTOR



ONLY A LITTLE

Only a seed — but it chanced to fall
In a little cleft of a city wall,
And taking root, grew bravely up
Till a tiny blossom crowned its top.

Only a thought — but the work it wrought
Could never by tongue or pen be taught;
For it ran through a life like a thread of gold,
And the life bore a fruit — a hundred fold.

Only a word — but 'twas spoken in love,
With a whispered prayer to the Lord above;
And the angels in heaven rejoiced once more,
For a new-born soul "entered in by the door."

—Copied.

"All things whatsoever ye would that men should
do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the
law"—Matthew 7:12

Pastor's Paragraphs

FACTS, FIGURES AND RED FACES

Last Sunday our local paper reported that in the last three years the First Baptist Church had experienced a sixty



per cent growth. Although God has been wonderfully good to us, we have not experienced any thing like a sixty per cent increase in the church membership!

This whole thing has been quite embarrassing to me. (My red face Sunday was not the result of spending too much time on the beach. And to think I just finished preaching a few Sundays ago on the need for honesty!)

I have been wondering how on earth the reporter could make such a drastic mistake. Having an opportunity to think the matter through, I am beginning to understand how the mistake was made. Knowing that we have had 1192 people join the congregation in the past three years, he assumed that all these folks represented net gain to the membership. Unfortunately, this is not true. Actually, our net increase has been 329 or approximately fifteen per cent. I sincerely hope that in the future such a glowing report of a sixty per cent increase will indeed be the truth!

Another matter is even more disconcerting to me. Our membership secretary tells me we have 2281 resident church members. The fact of the matter is that a number of these folk mean little or nothing to the kingdom of God or to the First Baptist Church. I can't help but think of something Jesus said along this line: "And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." (Luke 9:62). In the mind of Jesus there is no such thing as an inactive church member.

I'll be looking for all of you Sunday in God's house.

Faithfully your Pastor,

James L. Pleitz

A MATTER OF CONCERN

At present we are running \$6,582.00 behind our budget needs for the year 1962. Each member of the congregation is urged to catch up on his giving in order that these budget needs can be met.

Ernest Barrineau,
Church Treasurer

As I See It!

By CLYDE K. BIZZELL

SUNDAY SCHOOL PREPARATION WEEK STUDIES

The week of September 17 - 21 has been set aside in our Association for a Sunday School enlargement effort. For a number of years churches have used Preparation Week in September as a time to study its Sunday School and to make plans for the new year. Instead of teaching one of the general books, it is our plan to offer all of the department administration books. (The teaching books were offered last April.) In addition to the department studies, there will be special features in a general period each evening. It is our hope that every worker in our Sunday School has already set aside this week.

CARE FOR THE BUILDING

I'm sure that all of us are grateful for the new building. Now that we are moved in, we shall want to be even more careful than ever to take care of our buildings and equipment. It is entirely possible that we all need to develop some better habits at this point. For instance, it's awfully hard to clean crayon marks from a tile floor. And, we aren't supposed to use tape or tacks on walls. If you have something which needs to be mounted on the wall, I will be glad to take it up with the Building Committee. There have been several instances recently of damage done in the Sanctuary. We should be more careful of church property than we are of our own.

We had some difficulties with the air conditioning last Sunday, especially on the basement floor. This will be corrected. Acoustical ceiling is being put in on this floor. I'm sure that we appreciate the work done by the Building Committee. I'm sure, too, that we recognize that there are always adjustments to be made and we shall be patient and cooperative.

VACATIONS OVER

We have had a good summer. Many of our folks have been away all summer. Some were out of town last weekend. All of us ought to be back and in our places next Sunday. Let us make Sunday an effective beginning for the best fall ever. Let us begin with new vigor, new enthusiasm and a more complete dedication. Let us place our best and our all on God's altar of service.

September is the month when we complete one church year and at the same time prepare for the new year.



An Open Letter to Sunday School Teachers:

A new Sunday School year is soon to begin. Are you going to be a Minimum Teacher?

A Minimum Teacher is one who waits until Saturday night or Sunday morning to spend ten minutes with the Teacher's Quarterly and then considers himself prepared. A Minimum Teacher is one who thinks it unnecessary and unreasonable that he be able to pronounce Bible names. A Minimum Teacher is one who sees no connection between the lesson and the rest of the Bible and cannot effectively handle the pupils' questions. A Minimum Teacher is one who is bored by teaching and is himself a bore.

The Bible is too valuable to be treated so shabbily; the teaching of God's Word is far too important to be tossed off so carelessly. It deserves your best.

The only way you can be your best as a teacher is through study — and that means Books. The Quarterly is fine, but not enough. You need the thoughts of several different commentators, and there are many available. There is no excuse for mispronouncing Bible names if you have a Bible Dictionary at hand. The familiar harmonies of the gospels have now been joined by a Harmony of Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles and by a Harmony of the Life of Paul. There are Bible Handbooks and Concordances. There is a great world of information in your own family encyclopedia.

If you do not have and cannot afford such books, your Church Library has them. They are there just for your use and just for the taking.

You don't have time for all that? Then you don't have time to teach.

B. T. DEAN.

EXTENSION MEMBER OF THE WEEK

For Week Beginning September 9

Mrs. L. O. Larcom
223 North Devillier

Mrs. Larcom joined our church by transfer of letter on July 30, 1944 from East Hill Baptist Church, Pensacola. She has no living children, 2 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. Her favorite Scripture is Psalm 23. Her hobbies are sewing, cooking and flowers.

SERMON TOPICS

11:00 A.M.

"The Peril of Secret Sin"

Joshua 7:2 - 26

7:15 P.M.

"Heavenly Visions"

II Kings 6

THE *Singing* CHURCH

INTERMEDIATES

Monday, September 10, is your day to register for choir. We will be looking for you in the choir room at 4:30. Remember a Special Award program will be in effect for your group this year. Hear it explained on the first day your choir will meet.

Choir Registration Continues Through September

What about you? Can you help us in our Adult Choir. New singers are joining each week. Come! Be a part of this singing, hard working group of folks.



BROTHERHOOD MEETING MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

6:15 P.M.—Supper

Be sure to make your
reservations.

6:45—Program — presented by Clarence
L. Taylor, Christian Witness
Leader.

Mr. Arthur Radvilas, one of our newest church members, will bring a personal testimony and talk to us about Christian witnessing and visitation. Bring your Bible to the meeting.



OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Congratulations to:

Miss Jo Ann Wood and Mr. Kevin Bente
upon their marriage in May.

Miss Patricia Buck and Mr. James
Rogers upon their marriage August 31.

Baptist Hospital:

Mr. John Berry; Mrs. Frances Pitts;
Mrs. Christine Kerekes

Home From Hospital:

Furman Buddin; Mrs. Harold Drown;
Miss Margie Carson; Harold Garrett;
Mr. Herbert C. Johnson

THE BAPTIST BUILDER

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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 2-6683
 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.....438-9798
 Mrs. W. H. Adams, Organist.....GL 6-4681
 Mrs. J. C. Rountree, Fin. Sec'y.....HE 2-1326
 Miss Mary Lou Pitts, Edu. Sec.....433-2332
 Mrs. G. T. Sutton, Memb'ship Sec'y 432-5640
 Ernest Barrineau, Treasurer.....HE 2-5079
 Mrs. Kittie Manning, Dietician.....GL 6-2124
 Mr. C. T. White, Bldg. Supt.....GL 5-3620

Mrs. Arthur Haylock, Our Missionary
 to Honduras.

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



LOOKING AT LAST SUNDAY

Sunday School Attendance.....	1087
Members Present	997
New Members	11
Visitors	79
Training Union Attendance	278
Members Present	253
New Members	6
Visitors	19
Additions to church membership.....	4
Baptized	2
Tithes and Offerings:	
Budget	\$4,539.13
Specials	247.22
Building Fund	39.90
TOTAL OFFERING	\$4,826.25

NEW MEMBERS

Sunday, September 2, 1962

BY LETTER:

212. Dr. Joseph R. Henning II, 108 Pine
Place. From: Judson Baptist Church,
Kansas City, Kansas.
213. Mrs. Joseph R. Henning II.
214. Mrs. James F. Prim, 5344 Springhill Dr.,
Springdale. From: First Baptist Church,
Milledgeville, Georgia.
215. Miss Lila Smathers, 304 West Gregory
Street. From: Ridgeway Baptist
Church, Candler, N. C.

BAPTIZED:

James H. Hinson.
 William A. Hinson.



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

- 9:30 a.m.—Sunday School for all ages
Theron A. Guthrie, Supt.
- 11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship. Pastor
Broadcast over WCOA
- 4:30 p.m.—Youth Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m.—Training Union for all ages.
R. F. "Bob" Jernigan, Director
- 7:15 p.m.—Evening Worship. Pastor
- 8:30 p.m.—Intermediate Teen Time at the
church
- 8:30 p.m.—Senior Teentime at the church

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

- 6:15 p.m.—Brotherhood Supper-Meeting
- 7:30 p.m.—Deacons Meet
- 7:30 p.m.—Charles Mullins Circle will meet
at the church
- 7:30 p.m.—Associational Training Union
Meeting — Gulf Breeze

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

- SEE WMS CIRCLES
- 7:00 p.m.—Boy Scouts Meet

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

- 5:00 p.m.—Children's Choirs
- 5:50 p.m.—Fellowship Dinner
- 6:30 p.m.—Teachers' and Officers' Meetings
Sunbeams, G.A.'s, R.A.'s, YWA's
- 7:30 p.m.—Prayer Service

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

- 7:30 p.m.—Church Choir Rehearsal

WMS CIRCLE MEETINGS

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

- 10:00 a.m.
- DOTTSON MILLS CIRCLE will have
covered dish luncheon at the home of Mrs.
Al Woerner, 355 West Lloyd Street.
- R. C. MOORE CIRCLE will meet with Mrs.
A. O. DeWeese, 1601 E. DeSoto Street.
- BERNICE NEEL CIRCLE will meet with
Mrs. D. C. Parker, 426 - 10th Street, EPH.
- VIRGINIA COBB CIRCLE will meet with
Mrs. E. A. Allen, 100 West Brainerd Street.
- STANLEY DAVIS CIRCLE will meet with
Mrs. R. D. Comstock, 1601 E. Gonzalez
Street.
- MARTHA HAYLOCK CIRCLE will meet with
Mrs. Willis Cobb, 1011 Trenton Drive.
- MAMIE LOU POSEY CIRCLE will meet with
Mrs. T. L. Weeks, Jr., 6020 Keating Road.
- LAURA FRANCES SNOW CIRCLE will meet
with Mrs. Sadie Restor, 711 W. Avery St.
- BRASINGTON CIRCLE will meet with Mrs.
Oswald Minieris, 2424 E. Mallory St.
- 12 Noon
- HARVEY HEADRICK CIRCLE will meet
with Mrs. M. B. Dawson, 359 Gamarra
Road.
- 7:30 p.m.
- BILL COWLEY CIRCLE will meet with
Mrs. W. A. Everitt, 1324 E. Bobe Street.
- ROBERT GOLDIE CIRCLE will meet with
Mrs. M. H. Holt, 2661 Scenic Hwy., Scenic
Hts.
- ELEANOR O'HAVER HOWELL CIRCLE will
meet with

Your Sundays Belong to God