

# The Baptist Builder

VOLUME XII

DECEMBER 27, 1962

NO. 51



## 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: Rev. James L. Pleitz, Pastor; Miss Mary Lou Pitts, Educational Secretary; Mr. Clyde K. Bizzell, Assistant to the Pastor; Mrs. G. T. Sutton, Membership Secretary; Mr. Jerry Howell, Minister of Music and Director of Youth Activities; Mrs. Kitty Manning, Dietician; Mr. M. H. Cranmer, Building Superintendent; Mrs. James C. Rountree, Financial Secretary.





# Pastor's Paragraphs

Each day the song reminds us, "It is one day closer to Christmas." Now is the time to complete your shopping, and please don't forget Lottie Moon!



The important thing about Christmas is not the buying of gifts but the KEEPING OF CHRISTMAS. Years ago, Henry Van Dyke made some splendid suggestions concerning keeping Christmas. Let me share them with you.

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

I'll be looking for you and yours on the Lord's Day.

Most sincerely,

*James L. Pleitz*

## SERMON TOPICS

11:00 A.M.

**"Joy to the World"**

Luke 2:1-20

7:15 P.M.

**"The Wise Men"**

Matthew 2:1-12



## Library Notes

Read not to contradict and confute; nor to believe and take for granted; nor to find talk and discourse; but to weigh and consider. Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested: that is, some books are to be read only in parts; others to be read, but not carefully; and some few to be read wholly, and with diligence and attention. Some books also may be read by deputy, and extracts made of them by others; but that would be only in the less important arguments, and the meaner sort of books; else distilled books are like distilled waters, tasteless things. Reading maketh a full man; conversation a ready man; and writing an exact man. And therefore, if a man write little, he had need have a great memory; if he confer little, he had need have a present wit; and if he read little, he had need have much cunning, to seem to know what he doth not.

—Francis Bacon

B. T. DEAN

## "GOD'S GIFT . . . THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD"

In 1856, Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote a brief essay titled "Gifts" in which he states, "The only gift is a portion of thyself. Thou must bleed for me." He pictures the poet bringing his poem; the shepherd, his sheep; the farmer and the painter bringing the work of their hands. These, to him, are worthy gifts.

What will your gift to Christ be at this Christmas time? Will it be worthy one? A costly one? David declared, "Neither will I offer unto the Lord my God of that which doth cost me nothing." (II Samuel 24:24) God's gift to us was a costly one . . . shall we give in return our heart's devotion and life dedication and an offering that costs us something?

### OUR LOTTIE MOON

OFFERING GOAL .....\$8,672.00

GIVEN TO DATE .....\$5,280.39

**HAVE YOU MADE A WORTHY OFFERING?**



DEACONS OF THE  
MONTH

JANUARY 1963

**Ernest Gentry  
Lee Hardy**

**OUR CHURCH FAMILY**

**Congratulations:**

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gunn upon the birth of a girl, Angela Ann, Dec. 6.  
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth E. Mellberg upon the birth of a boy December 16.

**Sympathy:**

Mrs. Frank P. Brocata upon the loss of her mother.  
Mrs. Preston Roberts in the loss of her husband.  
Mr. Ted Roberts in the loss of his father.  
Mr. Irvin Roberts in the loss of his brother.

**Baptist Hospital:**

Mrs. John D. Smith (Mary Frances)

**Sacred Heart:**

Mrs. W. P. Mooty.

**Escambia General Hospital:**

Mrs. Myrlyn Brooks.

**Naval Hospital:**

Mr. Henry B. Parker, Mrs. Kenneth E. Mellberg.

**Home from Hospital:**

Mr. Earl Trant, Linda Coker, Mrs. Jan Ainslie.



**HEAR**

**STETSON GLEE CLUB'S  
PRESENTATION OF "THE MESSIAH"**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1 P.M.**

**WPFA (790 on the dial)**

The American Broadcasting Company network will broadcast nationwide Stetson University's Christmas presentation of Handel's "Messiah" featuring the University concert choir and orchestra.

The 1962 presentation of "The Messiah" is the 27th under the direction of Professor Harold M. Giffin, Chairman of Stetson's Voice Department. It is a traditional Christmas event at Stetson and alternates each year with Bach's Christmas Oratorio.

RADIO STATION WPFA WILL CARRY THIS BROADCAST LOCALLY AT 1:00 P.M. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22. Approximately 300 radio stations are expected to carry this program. The "Messiah" program is being fed to the network by the Deland ABC outlet as it is presented on the Deland campus. It will be recorded on tape and edited for the nationwide broadcast on December 22.

**YOU ... TH** *in Particular*

**CAROLING PARTY**

Members and guests of the Youth Choirs will bless the hearts of many of our shut-in friends this Sunday evening as they sing Christmas Carols on their door step. Transportation will be via an old fashioned mode and refreshments and hot drinks will be furnished at the church upon completion of the caroling tour.

**OUR SPECIAL THANKS**

None of the people who attended the gala Christmas party held at the Fields home will soon forget the wonderful time. Thank you so much—Mrs. Meacham, Mr. Howes and Mr. and Mrs. Fields and all the others whose work made it a beautiful success.

**STUDENT NIGHT AT  
CHRISTMAS**

Again this year, our College Students who are home for the holidays will provide the program for SNAC. A social get-together will be scheduled for after the service on December 30.



**OUR SCHEDULE FOR  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26**

On next Wednesday, December 26, there will be no choirs, no fellowship dinner, no auxiliary meetings, no Sunday School officers' and teachers' meeting. WE WILL HAVE PRAYER SERVICE AT THE REGULAR TIME, 7:30 P.M., IN THE SANCTUARY. This will be the only meeting of the church on this evening.



**Buy Now  
&  
BE READY**

The books for our January Bible Study Week are here and may be purchased in the office. The name of the book is "STUDIES IN MATTHEW." The price of the book is 75 cents. The date of our study is January 7-11.



**IN  
MEMORIAM**

**Mr. Preston Roberts**

**Joined our church by letter  
December 3, 1944**

**Deceased, December 12, 1962**



## THE BAPTIST BUILDER

Published Weekly by the  
**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
 500 North Palafox Street  
 Pensacola, Florida

Second-Class Postage Paid at  
 Pensacola, Florida

**CHURCH OFFICE.....HE 3-5451**

### CHURCH OFFICERS

A. Haywood Arnold, Chr. of Deacons HE 3-3753  
 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, Membership Sec'y 432-5640  
 Ernest Barrineau, Treasurer. HE 2-5079  
 Mrs. Kittie Manning, Dietician. GL 6-2124  
 Mr. M. H. Cranmer, Bldg. Supt. HE 8-1791  
 Mrs. Arthur Haylock, Our Missionary  
 to Honduras.

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



## LOOKING AT LAST SUNDAY

Sunday School Attendance.....1161  
 Members Present.....1123  
 New Members ..... 6  
 Visitors ..... 32  
 Training Union Attendance..... 289  
 Members Present ..... 270  
 New Members ..... 2  
 Visitors ..... 17  
 Additions to church membership..... 2  
 Baptized ..... 2  
 Tithes and Offerings:  
 Budget .....\$5,858.31  
 Specials ..... 1,339.50  
 Lottie Moon Offering..... 2,360.35  
 Building Fund ..... 37.75  
**TOTAL OFFERING .....\$9,595.91**

## RIDGECREST YOUTH CONFERENCE

Reservations for this and other con-  
 ferences this summer will need to be made  
 in the church office by the end of De-  
 cember—just about two weeks from now!  
 June 13-19 are the dates for this year's  
 session and a brief conversation with any  
 of our youth who have attended in past  
 summers will convince you of its worth.  
 For more information, see Mr. Bizzell or  
 M. Howell.



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23**

9:30 a.m.—Sunday School for all ages.  
 T. A. Guthrie, Supt.  
 11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship. Pastor  
 Broadcast over WCOA  
**NO YOUTH CHOIR**  
 6:00 p.m.—Training Union for all ages.  
 R. F. "Bob" Jernigan,  
 Director

7:15 p.m.—Candlelight Service. Pastor  
**NO TEEN TIME**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26**

**NO FELLOWSHIP DINNER**  
**NO TEACHERS' MEETINGS OR**  
**AUXILIARY MEETINGS**

7:30 p.m.—Prayer Service

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27**  
**NO CHURCH CHOIR**  
**REHEARSAL**

## NEW MEMBERS

### BY LETTER:

49. Mrs. Marjorie Fuller, 1502 North "Y"  
 St. From: Spencer Baptist Church,  
 Spindale, N. C.
50. Mr. E. D. Williams, 627 Burgess Rd.  
 From: Central Baptist Church,  
 Pampas, Texas.

### BAPTIZED:

Ernestine Macks  
 Margaret Macks



Mr. and Mrs. Adam Rufus Kickliter, Jr.  
 request the honour of your presence  
 at the marriage of their daughter

Laura Jean

to

William Akins Thomas  
 Ensign, United States Naval Reserve

on Friday, the twenty-eighth of December  
 One thousand, nine hundred and sixty-two  
 at seven o'clock in the evening

**First Baptist Church**  
 Pensacola, Florida

Reception  
 following ceremony  
 at the Church