

The Baptist Builder

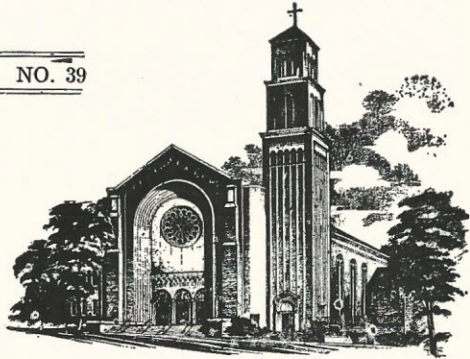
VOL. XV

OCTOBER 1, 1964

NO. 39

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
PALAFOX AND LA RUA STREETS
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA

JAMES L. PLEITZ
PASTOR



CHURCH COVENANT

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour and, on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we do now, in the presence of God and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another as one body in Christ.

WE ENGAGE, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, . . . to strive for the advancement of this church, in knowledge, holiness, and comfort; . . . to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry . . .

WE ALSO ENGAGE to maintain family and secret devotions; to religiously educate our children; . . . to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our deportment; . . . to abstain from the sale of, and use of, intoxicating drinks as a beverage . . .

WE FURTHER ENGAGE to watch over one another in brotherly love; . . . to aid one another in sickness and distress; . . . to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation . . .

WE MOREOVER ENGAGE that when we remove from this place we will, as soon as possible, unite with some other church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.

Pastor's Paragraphs

THE REASON WHY

Your response continues to amaze me. We have just "closed the books" on another associational year. In many ways it was our best.



In a day when many large First Baptist Churches are fighting for their very lives, our church (Praise God!) continues to show signs of solid progress. Church membership, Sunday School enrollment and attendance reached an all-time high in the year just closed.

Many people have asked me, "How do you account for this growth?" First Baptist Church is literally surrounded by churches, and yet it continues to make progress."

I believe that there are a number of factors involved. Some are apparent. Some are not.

The physical facilities in this church are equal to any in the Southland. God has richly blessed us with a magnificent church plant. We have ample room not only to care for our present congregation but to care for the anticipated growth of the future. It has been said "the building sets the pattern." If so, we have reason to be optimistic.

Three church owned parking lots make it possible for us to park close to the church. Additional space will be provided in the immediate future. Parking is a must if the downtown church is to grow. You have been far sighted enough to provide ample parking. This is a tremendous asset.

Our church program is strong. Thanks to the leadership of Mr. Bizzell and Mr. Howell our organizations are doing an outstanding job of teaching and training our people. We have hundreds of dedicated workers who give of their time to these organizations. Apart from your willingness to work, the program of the church cannot succeed. May God bless every faithful worker in this beloved congregation.

The graded choir program in this church is second to none. We now have eleven organized choirs. If you have not heard the young people singing on Sunday night, you owe it to yourself to hear them sing. The ministry of music in the church provides that something extra that the

SERMON TOPICS

11:00 A.M.

"The All Sufficient Christ"

(Acts 16:9-34)

7:15 P.M.

"A Journey to Jericho"

(Luke 10:25-37)

downtown church must have if it is to grow.

The most vital factor, however, which accounts for the continued growth of our church is not tangible. I honestly believe that the spirit of the people is our greatest asset. Our people love God and consequently they love each other. God grant that our love for Him continue to grow. If this be true, twelve months from now we will close the books on another record year.

"... And now abideth faith, hope, love, ...; but the greatest of these is love."

Faithfully your pastor,

James L. Pleitz



OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Baptist Hospital:

Mrs. R. L. Kendricks, Mrs. W. P. Mooty, Miss Cynthia Warren, Mr. Harold Ackman, Mrs. Harold Ackman, Mrs. Jerry R. Payne, Mr. Morton H. Stultz

Home From Hospital:

Mr. George Cobb, Sr., Mr. J. B. Hopkins, Mrs. Jeanette Godwin, Mrs. Jean Pelt, Mrs. L. P. Bryan, Mrs. Artie B. Taylor, Rickey Merritt, Mr. Jim Cullifer

Our Sympathy To:

Mrs. J. C. Baldwin in the loss of her husband

Dr. Jack Baldwin, Mrs. William H. McCaskill and Mrs. J. T. Moynahan in the loss of their father

Our Congratulations To:

Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Markham upon the birth of a daughter, Theresa Ann, September 24, in Panama City, Florida

DEACONS OF THE MONTH FOR OCTOBER

Mr. Gerald A. Garrett

Mr. J. Claude Adkison

WHAT IS THE ADULT THRUST?

Beginning with the 1964-65 Sunday school year, October 1, Southern Baptist churches will engage in an intensive effort to reach Adults for Bible study. This emphasis will be called the ADULT THRUST.

Dr. John T. Sisemore, Superintendent of Adult Work, Sunday School Board, Nashville, is the originator of the idea. He has described the Adult Thrust as:

1. **A BIBLICAL EMPHASIS** — A careful survey of the Bible passages related to people reveals that when people are discussed, adults are always central. In fact, the Bible is basically a book written by adults, to adults, about adults, and for adults.

2. **A PLAN FOR TOTAL CHURCH ADVANCE**—Adults are the key to better leadership, improved stewardship, meaningful worship, full time witnessing, better teaching and wider outreach. ADVANCE ON ALL FRONTS WAITS UPON ADVANCE ON THE ADULT FRONT.

3. **AN ESCAPE FROM DENOMINATIONAL STALEMATE**—For the first time in a century, the percentage of net gain in church membership has failed to keep pace with the percentage of net gain in population. The Adult Thrust is a challenge to Baptists to stimulate church progress with a Sunday School program that will reach adults.

4. **AN UNPRECEDENTED OUTREACH EFFORT**—The Adult Thrust is the outreach portion of the 1964-65 Sunday School program. The Outreach goal is ten million persons enrolled in Sunday School by 1970.



ADULTS TO STUDY SPECIALS LESSONS

Our Adult Departmental Superintendents, after consultation with their teachers, have decided that it would be helpful for us to study the special lessons on the theme: "Sharing Christ's Concern for persons". These lessons are found in the regular quarterlies for Adults and Young Adults. This unit is correlated with the Uniform lesson in such a way that the Uniform lesson for November 8 provides a natural sequence as we will return to the regular series on that date. The development of this special unit came as an outgrowth of strong convictions that the present-day Christian witness is generally ineffective because so few Christians are possessed with a compassionate concern for others.

These lessons are found in the regular quarterlies, but are not dated. Adults will need to study the lesson entitled "In the Midst of the Multitudes" in preparation for next Sunday.



IN MEMORIAM

Mr. L. D. Rushing
1821 West Government St.

Joined our church by letter
August 28, 1955

Deceased September 30, 1964

YOU ... TH *in Particular*

Senior Teen Time responded with much fun and mixed emotion at the final Sunday evening get-together of our church year. For three years this very enthusiastic group has been counseled by Mrs. Lawren Meacham and Mr. Jack Howes. These favorites among adult leadership in the Senior division will be granted a little "time off for good behavior" and a new leader in the person of Mr. Kenneth Yaes will have charge. This activity will be planned for Senior 15 and 16 age groups and their personal guests.



MEMORIAL FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary Sunday will be given in memory of Mrs. Curtis Brown by her husband and son, Mr. Curtis Brown, Sr. and Curtis Brown, Jr.



No man can be coerced into doing his best work. He can only be inspired to do it.



Criticism is something you can usually avoid by saying nothing, doing nothing, and being nothing.



Use friendship as a drawing account if you wish, but don't forget the deposits.



You cannot climb the ladder of success with your hands in your pockets.



Every man must do his own growing, no matter how tall his grandfather was.

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 4—OCTOBER 9

Reading Through the New Testament
in 1964

Ephesians 6:1 to Colossians 1:8

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CHURCH OFFICERS

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 T. A. Guthrie, Sunday School Supt. HE 2-6583
 Homer D. Reed, T. U. Director.....432-4511
 Mrs. R. F. Jernigan, WMU Pres.....HE 8-6703
 C. H. Overman, Jr., Brotherhood Pres. 476-3123
 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
 Jerry Howell, Minister of Music
 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, Pastor's Sec.....433-1216
 Miss Bonnie Beaman, Edu. Secretary.....432-5049
 Mrs. G. T. Sutton, Mem'ship Sec.....432-5640
 Ernest Barrineau, Treasurer.....HE 2-5079
 Mrs. Kattie Manning, Dietician.....GL 6-2124
 Mr. M. H. Cranmer, Bldg. Supt.....HE 8-1791



LOOKING AT LAST SUNDAY

Sunday School Attendance.....	1348
Members Present.....	1283
New Members.....	12
Visitors.....	53
Training Union Attendance.....	337
Members Present.....	296
New Members.....	4
Visitors.....	37
Additions to church membership.....	8
Baptized.....	2
Tithes and Offerings:	
Budget.....	\$4,423.86
Specials.....	360.90
Building Fund.....	3.00
TOTAL OFFERING	\$4,787.76



NEW MEMBERS

ON PROFESSION OF FAITH IN CHRIST:

65. Mr. Fred Samuel Avant, 4528 Montclair Rd.
66. Mrs. Fred S. Avant (Helen)
67. Miss Peggy Avant
- BY LETTER:
247. Mr. Julius E. Gabriel, Jr., 1023 Douglas Ave., College Park. From: So. Main Baptist Church, Greenwood, S. C.
248. Mrs. Julius E. Gabriel, Jr. (Becky)
249. Miss Charlotte Goolsby, 4667 Oakland Circle, Avondale. From First Baptist Church, Lakeland, Fla.
250. Harold Shannon, 1313 North "X" St. From Huffman Baptist Church, Birmingham, Ala.
251. Mrs. Harold Shannon (Gloria) From: Central Sou. Baptist Church, Long Beach, Calif.

BAPTIZED:

Mr. John E. Lambeth
 Mrs. John E. Lambeth



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

- *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.—Youth Choir Rehearsal
- *5:00 P.M.—MYP's Study Course
- *6:00 P.M.—Training Union for all ages
 Homer Reed, Director
- *7:15 P.M.—Worship Service, Pastor

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5

- 7:30 P.M.—Deacon's Meeting

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6

- WMS General Meeting
- *10:30 A.M.—Business
- 11:15 A.M.—Missionary Program
- 11:45 A.M.—Bible Study
- 12:30 P.M.—Lunch

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

- *4:45 P.M.—Children's Choirs
- *5:50 P.M.—Fellowship Dinner
- *6:30 P.M.—Teachers' & Officers' Meeting
- *6:30 P.M.—Teachers' & Officers' Meeting
 Sunbeams, G.A.'s, R.A.'s YWA's
- *7:30 P.M.—Prayer Service
- *8:15 P.M.—Church Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

- 6:30 P.M.—Faithful Workers S.S. Class
 Banquet—Church Dining Room
- *Indicates nursery will be open 15 minutes prior to the time indicated above.



A NEW LOOK ON SUNDAY NIGHTS

Next Sunday Evening marks the beginning of a different approach on Sunday Evenings for Adults. Scheduled to begin are the first of a group of Seminars, each group lasting for 2 months. Adults will choose between:

1. "ADVENTURING TOGETHER IN THE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP" . . . Led by Clyde K. Bizzell, meeting in the Lydia Class room. Though designed with new church members in mind, this study will be of value to any member of our Church. Topics to be considered include The Meaning of Your Christian Experience, The Meaning of Church Membership, What We Believe, Our Ministry and Outreach.
2. "STUDIES IN OUTREACH AND IN-REACH" . . . Led by Hiram Smith, Jr., meeting in Adult A Department. This group, which will offer a study course credit for the book "The Ministry of Visitation", will be a study of the responsibility of the Christian church to reach out for other people through Visitation efforts, and of our responsibilities toward those who are reached.
3. "RESPONSIBILITIES OF CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP" . . . Led by Homer D. Reed, meeting in Adult B. Department. A study of the responsibilities of Christian Citizenship and a challenge to the Christian response to these responsibilities.