

The Baptist Builder

JAMES L. PLEITZ
PASTOR

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
PALAFOX AND LA RUA STREETS
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA

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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: Miss Bonnie Beaman, Educational Secretary; James L. Pleitz, Pastor; Miss Mary Lou Pitts, Pastor's Secretary; Clyde K. Bizzell, Assistant to the Pastor; Jerry Howell, Minister of Music and Director of Youth Activities; M. H. Cranmer, Building Superintendent; Mrs. James C. Rountree, Financial Secretary; Mrs. Kitty Manning, Dietician. Not shown: Mrs. G. T. Sutton, Membership Secretary.

Pastor's Paragraphs

KEEPING OF CHRISTMAS

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."

Most sincerely,

James L. Pleitz



GIVING

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever Believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

Giving is an act of worship, a deeply sacred thing. We worship God with our offerings, and the extent of our giving in proportion to our means is the measure of the genuineness of our worship. Giving is a spiritual experience.

As a steward, the Christian is answerable to God for the way he makes his money, the tithes and offerings he brings into the church, and for the way he spends all his money. If he does not hear the call to go in person to carry the gospel, he is obliged to go in prayer and in purse.

Let each of us be much in prayer for our missionary efforts. Let each of us go with our purses worthily, so that our church's goal, \$8,500, of the Southern Baptist Convention's goal, \$12,500,000 is over-reached!

MRS. E. G. NEWMAN,
Stewardship Chairman and Treasurer,
Night Society, W. M. S.



Wedding

Mr. and Mrs. Angus Andrews
request the honour of your presence
at the marriage of their daughter

Syble Arlene
to

Mr. Leroy Burns Lackey, Jr.
on Saturday, the twenty-sixth of December
Nineteen hundred and sixty-four
at four o'clock in the afternoon

First Baptist Church
Pensacola, Florida

Reception
following ceremony
at the Church

SERMON TOPICS

11:00 A.M.

"There is Born . . . A Saviour"

(Luke 2:1-20)

7:15 P.M.

"The Original
Christmas Rush"

SOUTHERN BAPTISTS AND TELEVISION

WALA-TV (Channel 10) is carrying three Southern Baptist Programs in December. They are as follows:

Sunday, December 20th

10:00 a.m.—“The Mass Media and Evangelism”—A special 30-minute program with Ben Grauer and Dr. Herschel H. Hobbs.

Sunday, December 27th

12:30 p.m.—“FRONTIERS OF FAITH” (Southern Baptist Hour)
A drama entitled “The Legacy”.

1:30 p.m.—“WALK BESIDE ME”—A special one-hour program retracing the footsteps of the Apostle Paul during his missionary travels.



LIBRARY NOTES

Ann Harrison has written of the life and work of her husband, Paul Harrison, in the book *A TOOL IN HIS HAND*. He was one of a small group of young people who went to the Persian Gulf area of the Arabian peninsula. They went to serve and proclaim the gospel of Jesus but found their way blocked by a wall of prejudice and misunderstanding. Paul Harrison spent 40 years there pioneering by caravan and sailboat, offering the ministry of medicine even to those who called them “dogs, sons of dogs.” This is a story of one who thoroughly enjoyed being completely dedicated. It is also the story of Ann Harrison whose marriage to Paul Harrison brought her new opportunities for mission service.

Comforting, heartwarming, sustaining, inspiring—these are some of the words that come in reference to the book by Dr. W. H. Evans entitled *HOW TO VALUE LIFE*. It contains much of the author's full life, one enriched by service to his fellowmen through teaching, guiding, and preaching.

L. T. S.



BUY NOW AND BE READY

The books for the January Bible Study Week are here and may be purchased in the office. The name of the book is *STUDIES IN DEUTERONOMY*. The price of the book is 75c. The date of our study is January 24-28. This is the book which will be studied in the Evening Sessions. There will be no textbook for the Morning Sessions.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Congratulations To:

Lieutenant and Mrs. John Bowers (nee Dot Keith) upon the birth of a son, December 12. Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Keith are the maternal grandparents.

Baptist Hospital:

Mrs. L. C. Biddie, Mr. Elbert Gentry, Jr., Mrs. Pauline Stultz.

Sacred Heart Hospital:

Mr. Bert Berrisford, Mr. Espin Bullock, Miss Ramona Lowell, Mrs. Everett Lowell, Mr. O. M. Vineyard

Home From The Hospital:

Mr. Everett Lowell, Mr. Joe V. Harrison, Mr. Curtis J. Brown, Mr. Jack Bullis, Mr. Espin Bullock, Mrs. L. C. Biddie, Mr. Elbert Gentry, Jr.

Sympathy To:

Mr. Benjamin E. Caldwell in the death of his Father.



MEMORIAL FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary Sunday will be given in memory of Mr. E. H. Godwin by Mrs. E. H. Godwin.



CHURCH OFFICE SCHEDULE

The Church Office will be closed next week from Thursday through Saturday. Then the Office will be closed on New Year's Day.



THOUGHTS ON CHRISTMAS

“The birth of Jesus is the sunrise of the Bible,” says Dr. Henry van Dyke. “Towards this point the aspirations of the prophets and the poems of the psalmists were directed, as the heads of flowers are turned towards the dawn. From this point a new day began to flow very silently over the world—a day of faith and freedom, a day of hope and love. When we remember the high meaning that has come into human life, and the clear light that has flooded softly down from the manger-cradle in Bethlehem of Judea, we do not wonder that mankind has learned to reckon history from the birthday of Jesus, and to date all events by the years before or after the Nativity of Christ.”

—Martha Tarbell



HEAR “THE BAPTIST HOUR”

Sunday, 7:30 A.M.
Station WNVY

Preacher:
Dr. Herschel H. Hobbs
Subject:
“An Innkeeper Remembers”
(Luke 2:1-7)

THE BAPTIST BUILDER

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CHURCH OFFICE 433-5631

CHURCH OFFICERS

Milton Richardson, Chr. of Deacons HE 8-3863
T. A. Guthrie, Sunday School Supt. HE 2-6683
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. 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
Director of Youth Activities.....438-9798
Mrs. W. H. Adams, Organist.....GL 6-4681
Mrs. J. C. Rountree, Fin. Secy.....HE 2-1326
Miss Dean Bullington, Edu. Sec.....432-7320
Miss Mary Lou Pitts, Pastor's Sec.....433-1216
Mrs. G. T. Sutton, Mem'ship Sec.....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 writing,
not later than 9:00 A.M. Mondays.



LOOKING AT LAST SUNDAY

Sunday School Attendance.....	1292
Members Present.....	1259
New Members.....	2
Visitors	31
Training Union Attendance.....	353
Members Present.....	319
New Members.....	2
Visitors	32
Adoptions to church membership.....	2
Tithes and Offerings:	
Budget	\$5,023.53
Specials	269.65
Organ Fund.....	5.00
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering....	1,624.90
Building Fund.....	43.00
TOTAL OFFERING.....	\$6,966.08



NEW MEMBERS

BY LETTER:

43. Mr. Oma H. Coker, 2012 East Avery St.
From: West Broadway Baptist,
Louisville, Ky.

44. Mrs. Oma H. Coker

OPPORTUNITIES of the WEEK

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

*9:30 A.M.—Sunday School for all ages.
Theron Guthrie, Supt.
*11:00 A.M.—Morning Worship, Pastor
Broadcast over WCOA
*6:00 P.M.—Training Union for all ages
Homer Reed, Director
*7:15 P.M.—Evening Worship, Pastor

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21

7:00 P.M.—Jr. 11-12 Training Union
Christmas Party at Home of
Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Moore
165 Aragon Court

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22

7:00 P.M.—Jr 9-10 Training Union
Christmas Party
Meet at Church
7:00 P.M.—Mrs. Lon Roberts' S.S. Class
Carol Sing Party, at her home
104 W. Jackson
8:00 P.M.—Senior and Young People
Carol Sing

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23

No Meetings at Church

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

Church Office Closed

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25

Church Office Closed
*5:00 P.M.—Christmas Vesper
Service

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26

Church Office Closed

*Indicates nursery will be open 15 minutes
prior to the time indicated above.



WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

Our Church Activities Committee joins
with the Staff in recommending these
changes for the following two weeks.

Next week, instead of regular Wednesday
schedule, we will have a Christmas
Vespers Service at 5:00 P.M. on Christ-
mas Day.

Then on December 31, we will have our
annual Watch Night Service and ac-
tivities.

There will be no meetings at the church
on Wednesday, December 23 or Wednes-
day, December 30.



BASKETBALL SCORES

First Baptist Senior Boys	47
Gadsden Street Methodist	24
First Baptist Men's Team	23
First Methodist	49

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 20 - DECEMBER 25

Reading Through the New Testament
in 1964

**Revelation 1:9 to
Revelation 11:14**