

The Baptist Builder

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
PALAFOX and LaRUA STS.
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA

JAMES L. PLEITZ, D.D.
PASTOR

VOL. XXI

MARCH 19, 1970

NO. 11

On Making Membership Meaningful

Just one year ago the church policy was changed regarding the receiving of new members. Each person now coming for membership is required to attend three sessions of the new members class prior to being received into the church. The response has been gratifying. Not everyone coming as a candidate for membership has been received (about 90 per cent have), but those received into the church know something about what it means to be a Christian and a church member.

One of the biggest problems we face is that of a huge inactive membership. Literally millions of people have their names on Southern Baptist church rolls who never come or give or make any pretense to be a Christian. THE SAD TRUTH IS THAT WHEN A PERSON MEANS LITTLE TO THE CAUSE OF JESUS CHRIST, JESUS CHRIST MEANS LITTLE OR NOTHING TO HIM.

Millions of church members are hell-bound. To be a church member does not mean a person is a Christian. (The Bible knows nothing about an inactive Christian.)

We do people a great disservice when we receive them into the church without talking to them about what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. Because of our failure at this point, it is necessary for us to spend years and years trying to make Christians out of church members. The hardest people in the world to convert are church members who have the mistaken idea that they are Christians. The good Lord never intended for people to be received into the church until they were born-again believers. We have reversed the biblical order and we are paying the price.

The policy we now follow is an effort to make church membership meaningful in the life of every person joining the fellowship. (Many churches are going to this same policy. Requests have come from far and near from interested congregations.)

Southern Baptists would do well to follow Gideon's example. We boast of our eleven million members, but the truth is that we are hard pressed to find even half of them. In the fight against Satan, half of our members are a positive hindrance. We are many—but not much.

Our church is making an honest effort to get people to count the cost. Only the person fully committed to Christ will find any happiness in belonging to HIS church.

Yours for a committed membership,

James L. Pleitz

Missionary To Preach Sunday

Charles A. Tope, Southern Baptist Missionary to Uganda, will be the preacher for both services Sunday.

Tope is a native of Missouri, a graduate of Ouachita Baptist College and of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Prior to his appointment by the Foreign Mission Board in October 1959, Tope had served Churches in Texas and Arkansas. In addition to his most recent service in Uganda, he and Mrs. Tope served in Kenya and Tanzania.



Sign up for

LIFE **I**NSTITUTE **F**OR **E**VANGELISM



MARCH 29 — APRIL 2

**DR. WILBUR HERRING, PASTOR
CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH
JONESBORO, ARKANSAS**

THESE WERE RECEIVED INTO CHURCH MEMBERSHIP LAST WEEK



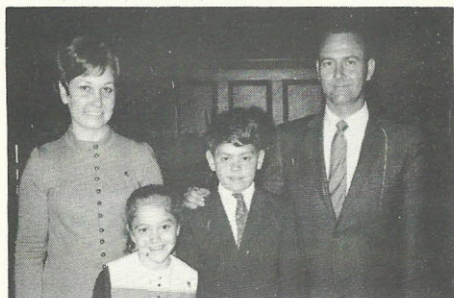
Wayne and Judy Cook



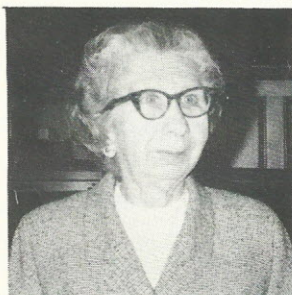
Ron and Joann Eaton



**O. C. and Vera Evans
and Debi**



**Robert W. and Betty Peaks
Robert W. Jr. (Chip)
(also shown is Nancilee)**



Miss Mildred Wilson

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

IN THE HOSPITALS:

Baptist—Mr. W. B. Townley, Sr., Mr. James F. Taylor, Miss Cindy King.

Sacred Heart—Mrs. Mary Kelly, Mr. Neil Blue

Navy—Chief J. J. Yandle, Mr. W. A. McCormick

Escambia—Mrs. Iris Copeland

Children's Hospital—Mark Pope

HOME FROM THE HOSPITAL:

Mrs. Bettie Galloway (transferred Speciality Care Center), Mr. James B. Anderson, Mrs. Warren Sears, Mrs. Fred Kreitlein, Jr., Miss Susan Ades, Mrs. Wayne Hickman, Mrs. Helen Cary, Mrs. Gerald Gentry, III

OUR SYMPATHY TO:

Mrs. James Parish and Miss Lorene Coburger in the loss of their father. Mr. Emil Anderson in the loss of a brother

A NEW MINISTRY FROM OUR LIBRARY

Available now through our Church Library are Cassette Recordings. Also available is a Cassette Tape Player for those who do not own one. Currently available are messages by Dr. Paul S. James on Home Missions, recording of the Special Award Service with Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, Bible Study on the Book of Romans by Dr. Robert L. Hughes, Messages by Bill Lawson, Kenneth Chaffin and John Chancellor at the recent Mission Seventy meeting. Other subjects are being added regularly.

MEMORIAL FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary this Sunday are in memory of Mr. W. P. Mooty and are given by his neighbors.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick George Trummer, Sr.

request the honor of your presence
at the marriage of their daughter

Ricki West

to

Mr. Robert Franklin Jernigan, Jr.

on Saturday, the twenty-eighth of March
at half after four o'clock

First Baptist Church

Pensacola, Florida

and afterwards at the Reception
in the Social Hall

You are invited to attend a
WHITE BIBLE CEREMONY

in honor of

RICKI WEST TRUMMER

Bride Elect of

Robert F. Jernigan, Jr.

at the home of

Mrs. Tate Bousman

231 Dean Road

Sunday, March 22, 1970

2:30 P. M.

THE VERY NEWEST

The rosebuds on the pulpit Sunday
were placed there in honor of

MASTER TALMADGE CRAIG
BLACKMON

son of

Mr. and Mrs. Talmadge H. Blackmon, Jr.
born March 9

* * * *

MISS ELIZABETH JEAN HICKMAN

daughter of

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Wayne Hickman
born March 13

COMING FOR MEMBERSHIP

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11-

**FOR BAPTISM FROM OTHER
DENOMINATION:**

26. Miss Mildred Wilson, 316 Chase-
ville St.

SUNDAY, MARCH 15-

ON PROFESSION OF FAITH:

27. James O. Eckert, Jr., 684 Wynne-
hurst St.

BY LETTER:

104. Mrs. Elton D. Ammons (Sylvia),
689 Copley Dr. From First Baptist,
Columbia, Miss.

105. Miss Rhonda Calcote, Rt. 8 Box
730-T. From: Galilee Baptist, Pensa-
cola, Fla.

106. Mr. Don M. Howard, 236 Hunting-
ton Arms Apts. G. Br. From: First
Baptist, Uvalde, Texas.

107. Mrs. Don M. Howard (Harva Nell)

BAPTIZED:

James O. Eckert, Jr.

Robert Fetrow

Mrs. Robert Fetrow

Alan Gentry

Miss Mildred Wilson

PICTURES OF GROUND BREAKING WANTED

Anyone having pictures (especially
slides) of the ground breaking for the
Sanctuary building in January of 1955
are asked to call Mr. Bizzell immediately.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

SUN., March 22: "The Triumphal Entry"
Mark 11:1-11. Key Verse 9

MON., March 23: "Anointed for Burial"
Mark 14:1-9. Key Verse 3

TUES., March 24: "Lord, Is It I?"
Matthew 26:14-25. Key Verse 22

Wed., March 25: "Gethsemane"
Matthew 26:36-46. Key Verse 39

THURS., March 26: "Jesus Condemned"
Matthew 27:15-28. Key Verse 26

FRI., March 27: "The Cross"
Mark 15:25-39. Key Verse 31

SAT., March 28: "The Eternal Sacrifice"
Hebrews 9:11-15. Key Verse 15

THE BAPTIST BUILDER

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CHURCH OFFICERS

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of Deacons 47-8431
William V. (Bill) Phillips, S. S.
Supt. 477-0133
F. Willard Vickery, T.U. Dir. 476-8431
Mrs. Tate Bousman, WMU Dir. 438-0164
C. H. Overman, Jr., B'hood Dir. 476-3123
Mrs. Joseph F. Boykin, Sr.,
Dir. of Library Services 455-7925

CHURCH STAFF

Residence Phones

CHURCH OFFICE 433-5631
Dr. James L. Pleitz, Pastor 433-1502
Clyde K. Bizzell, Asst. to Pastor 432-7237
Paul Royal, Min. of Music 432-8573
Mrs. J. C. Rountree, Fin. Secy. 432-1326
Miss Mary Lou Pitts, Pastor's
Secretary 432-7069
Mrs. Inez Warfield, Ed. Sec.
Mrs. Paul Hantla, Music & Youth Sec.
Mrs. G. T. Sutton, Mem. Secy. 432-5640
Ernest Barrineau, Treasurer 432-5079
Mrs. Kitty Manning, Dietician. 456-2124

LOOKING AT LAST WEEK

The Church in Study 1183
Main Sunday School 1173
Crippled Children's Home 10
The Church in Training 739
Training Union 206
Other Training Activities 533
Coming for Membership 6
Baptized 5
Tithes and Offerings:
Budget \$ 6,361.86
Specials 1,276.16
Building Fund 29.28
TOTAL OFFERING \$7,667.30

Opportunities of the Week

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

* 9:30 a.m.—Sunday School
* 11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship
4:00 p.m.—Youth Choir Rehearsal
5:40 p.m.—Training Union Snack
* 6:00 p.m.—Training Union
* 7:15 p.m.—Evening Worship
8:45 p.m.—Sr. High Fellowship at
home of Tom Carr, 5704 N.
Davis Highway.

MONDAY, MARCH 23

7:00-9:00 p.m.—Assn. Training Clinic
for Church Leader Training
Week, First Baptist
Church

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

10:00 a.m.—Senior Adult Fellowship
12:00 Noon — Covered Dish Luncheon

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

* 4:45 p.m.—Choirs
* 5:50 p.m.—Fellowship Dinner
* 6:30 p.m.—Sunday School Officers
and Teachers Meeting,
Sunbeams, GA's, and RA's.
* 7:30 p.m.—Prayer Service
* 8:00 p.m.—Adult Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

6:30 p.m.—Intermediate 14 S.S. Dept.
Social in "The Cellar."

FOCUS ON FIRST PEOPLE

Homer Royal, son of Dr. and Mrs. Earl Royal, received his BS degree in Agriculture from the University of Florida. He is working on his MA degree there.

Billy Hinson was 1 of 32 Woodham High School Seniors tapped as Florida Regents Scholars.

Linda Anderson became a Charter Member of Libra, Women's leadership honorary society, at University of West Florida.

Dave Sutton was named to Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and colleges at University of West Florida.

Connie Boswell and Sherry Corley were awarded State teaching scholarship loans by the State Board of Education.

Robert Mohundro was on the President's List at Pensacola Junior College. Also he was named to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges.