



# The Baptist Builder

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
PALAFOX and LaRUA STS.  
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA  
JAMES L. PLEITZ, D.D.  
PASTOR

VOLUME XXV

DECEMBER 20, 1973

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.



# Pastor's Paragraphs

## "KEEPING OF CHRISTMAS"

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."

Faithfully your pastor,

*James L. Plaitz*

## BUS MINISTRY REPORT

Bus No.	Captain	Enr.	Rds.	New Rds.
1	Mr. & Mrs. L. Holt			
	S. Dingwall	30	21	0
2	M. Dickson			
	E. Dunson	53	41	1
3	R. Trigg			
	C. F. Wilson	36	28	0
4	W. Nell	42	30	0
5	B. Pope	40	20	2
6	T. Lutrick	30	27	1
7	J. Schappaugh	47	35	0
8	Mr. & Mrs. T. Thornton	32	29	2
9	B. Bell	21	9	0
10	Did not run			
11	A. Ford	3	4	1
		334	244	7
	Workers		59	
	Total on Buses		303	

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY

### IN THE HOSPITALS:

#### Baptist

Mrs. William (Sharon) Bryan, Mr. J. L. Lamkin, Mr. David Fleming, Mrs. Ernie (Anise) Priest, Mrs. George (Evon) Riva, Jr., Mrs. Gerald (Sue) Gentry, Jr., Mr. John H. Godwin

#### Specialty Care

Mrs. Emma Watts, Mr. Burton Renfroe, Miss Kate Coley

#### Sacred Heart

Mr. A. L. McCrory, Mr. L. D. Allen, Mrs. Jim (Denise) Prim

### HOME FROM THE HOSPITAL:

Mr. Harold Drown, Mr. Robert Oswald, Mr. Henry Smith, Mrs. William (Sharon) Bryan, Mr. J. L. Lamkin

### SYMPATHY TO:

Mrs. Robert Gober in the loss of her Father, Wiley B. Patrick.

## SERMON TOPICS

11:00 A.M.

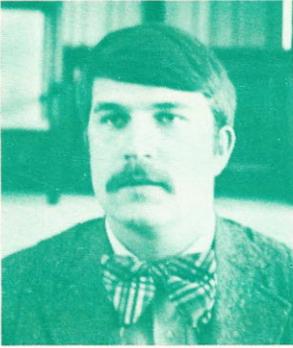
"ON MAKING CHRISTMAS  
MEANINGFUL"

(Luke 2:1-20)

5:00 P.M.

CHRISTMAS VESPER SERVICE

## RECEIVED INTO MEMBERSHIP LAST WEEK



*Barry Hudspeth*



*Dr. Jerry Owens*



*Terry Spratlen*

### THE VERY NEWEST

The rosebud on the pulpit Sunday  
was placed there in honor of  
**MASTER JONATHAN WADE BRYAN**  
son of  
Mr. and Mrs. William Bryan  
born December 15, 1973

### CELEBRATE 60 YEARS OF MARRIAGE

Mr. & Mrs. Jesse L. Smith will be  
honored on their 60th anniversary at the  
home of their daughter, Mrs. Robert F.  
Jernigan, 101 W. Lloyd Street, Sunday,  
December 23 from 3:00 to 5:00 P.M.  
Friends and relatives are cordially invited  
to come by and greet the honored couple.

### OPPORTUNITIES of the WEEK

*Sunday, December 23*

- 9:30 A.M.—Sunday School  
New Members Class No. 3  
11:00 A.M.—Morning Worship  
3:00 P.M.—Youth Choir Rehearsal  
5:00 P.M.—Christmas Vesper Service

*Monday, December 24*

Church Office Closed

*Tuesday, December 25*

Church Office Closed

### THE REAL MEANING OF CHRISTMAS



The beautiful manger scene in front of  
the Sanctuary was placed there in memory  
of Wayne Dobelstein by his family. Many  
have expressed appreciation for this remind-  
er of the real meaning of Christmas.

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

- Sunday, December 23: "He Will Come  
Again" Hebrews 9:22-28  
Monday, December 24: "With Power and  
Glory" Matthew 24:23-31  
Tuesday, December 25: "Be Confident"  
Hebrews 10: 32-39  
Wednesday, December 26: "Be Ready"  
Matthew 24:36-44  
Thursday, December 27: "Be Patient"  
James 5:1-11  
Friday, December 28: "Be Not Ashamed"  
I John 2:18-29  
Saturday, December 29: "Inherit the King-  
dom" Matthew 25:31-46

# THE BAPTIST BUILDER

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CHURCH OFFICE.....433-5631

CHURCH OFFICE  
T. H. Blackmon, Chairman of Deacons.....432-7062  
F. Willard Vickery, S.S. Director.....476-8431  
Robert F. Jernigan, Dir. of Church Training 438-6703  
Mrs. Paul Gray, W.M.U. Director.....932-3872  
Mrs. Joseph F. Boykin, Sr.  
Director of Library Services.....455-7925  
Joseph Napier, Treasurer

## CHURCH STAFF — Residence Phones

Dr. James L. Pleitz, Pastor.....433-1502  
Clyde K. Bizzell, Asst. to Pastor.....432-7237  
Paul Royal, Minister of Music.....432-8573  
Bob Ebersold  
Minister of Outreach and Evangelism.....932-3065  
Miss Dale Mooneyham,  
Director of Children's Work.....438-5742  
Mrs. Betty Getman, Organist.....432-0648  
Mrs. Nelma Camp, Pastor's Secretary  
Mrs. Betsy Tidwell, Education Secretary  
Mrs. Tom Thornton, Membership Secretary  
Mrs. Druclilla Belch, Secretary  
Mrs. Martha M. Gallagher, Financial Secretary

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 WEEK

The Church in Study .....1371  
Main Sunday School .....1355  
Crippled Children's Home ..... 16  
The Church in Training .....649  
Christian Training Hour .....204  
Other Training Activities .....445  
Coming for Membership .....6  
Tithes and Offerings:  
Budget .....\$ 9,968.90  
Specials ..... 2,248.93  
**TOTAL OFFERING .....\$12,217.83**

## IN MEMORIAM

William H. Williams  
131 E. Gregory St.

Joined our church by letter,  
October 5, 1952

Deceased, December 13, 1973

## COMING FOR MEMBERSHIP DECEMBER 16, 1973

### BY LETTER:

- Jarry Autrey, 1815 N. Whaley Ave.  
From: FBC, Houston, Tx.
- Mrs. Jarry Autrey (Betty)
- Pat G. Ketcham, 4775 Casenave  
From: FBC, Katy, Tx.
- Mrs. Pat Ketcham (Montie Lou)

### ON PROFESSION OF FAITH:

- Don Berry, 3040 Collingswood
- Charles D. Findley,  
4350 Fairfield Dr., Apt. 92J

## THREE EAGLE SCOUTS



For the first time in the history of the Gulf Coast Council of Boy Scouts, three brothers received their Eagle Awards in a ceremony here on Tuesday, December 11. Last Sunday the pastor recognized this splendid family. Reading from left to right: Gordon Mattoon, Scout Master; Eagle Scouts Doug, Tom, Eddie Noland; their Mother and Father, Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Noland and their sister, Robin.

## LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING

GOAL .....\$11,000.00  
GIVEN TO DATE .....\$ 6,757.17