



The Baptist Builder

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
PALAFOX and LaRUA STS.
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA

JAMES L. PLEITZ, D.D.
PASTOR

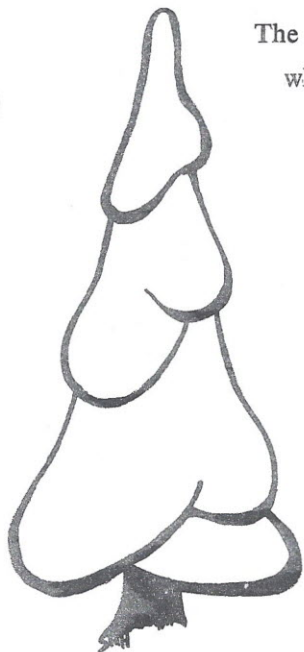
VOLUME XXVII

DECEMBER 16, 1976

No. 51

A White Christmas

awaits the members and friends of First Baptist Church who attend the 7:15 service on Sunday, December 19th.



The auditorium will be beautifully decorated with a huge white Christmas Tree, dozens of poinsettias, candles, and hundreds of gifts all wrapped in white and placed around the Christmas Tree.

You and the 1500 other friends who attend with you are asked to provide the gifts. Simply wrap some staple food item or item of clothing in white paper and bring it with you to the service and place it around the tree. It will then be distributed to needy friends in the community.

The service will feature a carol sing accompanied by a Brass Ensemble and Organ. You

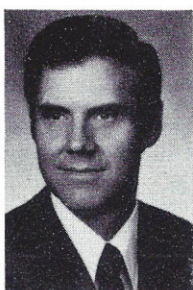
will get to sing all of your favorite Christmas Carols. All our choirs will be in the service to provide beautiful special music. Dr. Pleitz will bring a Christmas meditation.

Christmas reminds us of the greatest gift. This service will remind us that "it is more blessed to give than to receive."

Pastor's Paragraphs

THE 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. Pleitz

SERMON TOPICS

11:00 A.M.

"MARY HAD A LITTLE LAMB"
(Luke 2:1-17)

7:15 P.M.

WHITE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

BUS MINISTRY REPORT

No.	Captain	Riders	Workers	Total
1	Pope	37	3	40
2	Nelson	47	3	50
3	Kilpatrick	38	6	44
4	McNeill	36	5	41
5	Holley	49	4	53
6	Johnson	32	5	37
	Van	7	2	9
		246	28	274

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

IN THE HOSPITALS:

Baptist:

Mrs. Beulah Mae Bradford, Mrs. John W. (Esque) Creel

Sacred Heart:

Clyde Gimlin, Mrs. Claude (Ethel) Adkinson, Matthew Craig Gunnells, Mr. George Hughes, Mrs. J. F. Chapman

West Florida:

Mrs. Warra Wolter, Mrs. George (Esther) Shaw

HOME FROM THE HOSPITAL:

Mr. W. B. Hearon, Mrs. Roy (Jan) Shannon, Mrs. W. T. (Myrtice) Osborn, Mrs. Bennie (Miriam) Swain, Mrs. David (Pat) Rawson, Mr. Charles Roth

SYMPATHY TO:

Mrs. A. J. Butler in the death of her husband.

Mr. O. C. Butler in the death of his Father.

Mrs. Freddie Stark in the death of her sister.

Mrs. H. C. Spivey in the death of her Mother.

IN MEMORIAM

A. J. Butler

5725 N. Palafox

Joined our church by Letter

November 21, 1934

Deceased December 9, 1976

MEMORIAL FLOWERS

The list of memorial flowers to be placed in the Sanctuary in 1977 is now being prepared. Anyone wishing to place flowers in the Sanctuary during 1977 should contact the church office.

CHRISTIAN ACTIVITIES CENTER SCHEDULE

MONDAY, DEC. 20

Activities Center open 9:00 till Noon.
Gym open
Game Rooms open
1:00-5:00 P.M.—Children's Party
Activities Center open 6:30-10:00

TUESDAY, DEC. 21

Christian Activities Center Open 9:00 till Noon
Gym open
Game Rooms open
2:00-5:00 P.M.—Middle School Choir Christmas Party
Christian Activities Center open 6:30-9:30

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 22

Christian Activities Center open 9:00 till 3:00 p.m.
Gym open
Game Rooms open
4:45-5:45 P.M.—Children's Choir Christmas Parties (4 Yr. - 5th Grade)

THURSDAY, DEC. 23

Christian Activities Center open 9:00 till 5:00
Gym open
Game Rooms open

FRIDAY, DEC. 24

CLOSED

SATURDAY, DEC. 25

CLOSED

REC NOTES:

Have you ordered your name tag? Now's the time to be sure you're ready for the New Year. Remember, these tags serve us in 4 ways: As a pass into the building, no more signing your name, as a way to put names and faces of other FBC members together, as a means of checking out equipment and to let us know how many people use the Christian Activities Center. Your help and prayers are earnestly solicited as we venture in this area of ministry for our Lord.

Please note the Children's Christmas Party on Monday afternoon. Any children or youth that would like to come and see a Disney film and skate is invited to attend.

Tuesday will be the Middle School Choir Christmas Party from 2 till 5 p.m. On Wednesday, the Children's Choir Christmas Parties will be from 4:30 till 5:45.

The Christian Activities Center will be open at new times this week. Check the above schedule and come on down.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Sunday, Dec. 19, 1976—Nahum 1:7-15
Obadiah; Nahum

Monday, Dec. 20, 1976—Habakkuk 3:17-19
Habakkuk; Jude

Tuesday, Dec. 21, 1976—Haggai 2:10-19
Zephaniah; Haggai

Wednesday, Dec. 22, 1976—Revelation 2:8-11
Zechariah 1-3; Revelation 1-2

Thursday, Dec. 23, 1976—Revelation 3:14-20
Zechariah 4-6; Revelation 3-4

Friday, Dec. 24, 1976—Zechariah 7:8-14
Zechariah 7-8; Revelation 5-6

Saturday, Dec. 25, 1976—Zechariah 10:5-12
Zechariah 9-10; Revelation 7-8



LIBRARY NOTES

NO FINES on overdue books returned to the library from December 19, 1976 through January 2, 1977. Someone else will be able to enjoy the overdue book if it is returned. If the library is not open, you may deposit books through the slot in the library door.



LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING

OUR GOAL\$18,000.00
GIVEN TO DATE\$10,245.22

THE BAPTIST BUILDER

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
 500 North Palafox Street
 Pensacola, Florida 32501
 Second Class Postage Paid at
 Pensacola, Florida

CHURCH OFFICE433-3631
CHRISTIAN ACTIVITIES
CENTER433-6700

CHURCH OFFICERS

Max Dickson, Chairman of Deacons.....456-4746
 Hiram Smith, Jr., S.S. Director.....432-4697
 William M. Hetrick, Dir. of Church Training.....476-9266
 Miss Sarah Andress, W.M.U. Director.....432-5594
 Mrs. Joseph F. Boykin, Sr.
 Director of Library Services.....455-7925
 Robert D. Hinson, Treasurer

CHURCH STAFF — Residence Phones

Dr. James L. Pleitz, Pastor.....433-1502
 Clyde K. Blizzell, Asst. to Pastor.....432-7237
 Paul Royal, Minister of Music.....432-8573
 John G. McInnis, Jr., Minister of
 Outreach and Middle School Youth.....433-8605
 Joe Palmer, Minister of
 Activities and High School Youth.....477-5885
 Mrs. Raymond Taylor,
 Director of Children's Work.....476-0822
 Miss Elaine Kerley,
 Organist and Music Assistant.....433-8152
 Mrs. Nelma Camp, Pastor's Secretary
 Mrs. Charlotte Martin, Financial Secretary
 Mrs. Georgia Sees, Educational Secretary
 Mrs. Nancy Beuris, Membership Secretary
 Mrs. Marsha Cefti, Receptionist
 Mrs. Lorraine Pulley, Dietician

All material to be included in the Builder
 should be in the office, preferably in writ-
 ing, not later than 9:00 a.m. Mondays.

LOOKING AT LAST WEEK

The Church in Study1421
 Main Sunday School1401
 Crippled Children's Home20
 The Church in Training693
 Christian Training Hour163
 Other Training Activities530
 Coming for Membership7
 Tithes and Offerings:
 Budget\$11,831.48
 Specials\$ 3,133.48
TOTAL OFFERING\$14,964.96

ONLY 2

Sundays left to give your
 tithes and offerings in 1976

OPPORTUNITIES of the WEEK

Sunday, December 19

- * 9:30 A.M.—Sunday School
- * 11:00 A.M.—Morning Worship
- 12:30-1:30 P.M.—Bus Ministry Christmas
 Party
- 4:45 P.M.—Youth Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00 P.M.—Explorer's Bible Drill —
 Children's 5 Department
- * 6:00 P.M.—Church Training Hour
- * 7:15 P.M.—Evening Worship — White
 Christmas Service

Monday, December 20

- 10:00 A.M.—Intercessory Prayer Group
- 1:00 P.M.—5:00 P.M. Movie and Skating
 Party — Gym

Tuesday, December 21

- 2:00 P.M.—5:00 P.M. Middle School
 Choir
 Christmas Party — Activities
 Center
- 7:30 P.M.—Boy Scouts — Cellar

Wednesday, December 22

- 4:45 P.M.—4 Year Old — 5th Grade
 Choir Christmas Party —
 Activities Center
- * 6:00 P.M.—Christmas Vesper Service—in
 Sanctuary
- * 7:00 P.M.—Christmas Buffet

Friday, December 24

Church Office Closed

Saturday, December 25

Church Office Closed

COMING FOR MEMBERSHIP

DECEMBER 12, 1976

BY LETTER:

- 46. Juaniece Hazelwood, 11255 Seaglade
 Dr.
 From: First Baptist, Annandale, Va.
 - 47. Mr. Jimmy Jones, 200 E. Burgess Rd.
 #57B
 From: Lake Ridge Baptist, Woodbridge,
 Va.
 - 48. Mrs. Jimmy Jones (Diane)
 - 49. Ms. Lee Kroll, 4311 Bayou Blvd., Apt.
 12A
 From: Migon Baptist, Sylacauga, Al.
 - 50. Mr. Richard Puckett, 117 Pintado Dr.
 From: Coral Springs Baptist, Ft. Laud-
 erdale, Fl.
 - 51. Mrs. Richard Puckett (Bettie)
- ON PROFESSION OF FAITH:**
- 16. Randy L. Robinson, 100 Water St.