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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
MATTHEW.

CHAPTER 1.
18 H

satisfied.
generation of
begat Jā'cob; and
Phā'res begat
begat A-min'a-dāb;
begat A-s'son;
begat Bō'ōz of Rā'-
begat of Ruth;

rying away into Bāb'y-lon unto Christ
are fourteen generations.
18 ¶ Now the birth of Jē'sus Christ
was on this wise: When as his mo-
ther Mā'r'y was espoused to Jō'seph,
before they came together, she was
found with child of the Hō'ly Ghōst.
19 Then Jō'seph her husband, being
a just man, and not willing to make
her a publick example, was minded
to put her away privily.
20 But while he thought on these
things, behold, the angel of the Lord
appeared unto him in a dream, saying,
Jō'seph, thou son of Dā'vid, fear not
to take unto thee Mā'r'y thy wife; for
that which is conceived in her is of
the Hō'ly Ghōst.

21 And she shall bring forth a son,
and thou shalt call his name Jē'SUS:
for he shall save his people from
their sins.
22 Now all this was done, that it
might be fulfilled which was spoken
of the Lord by the prophet, saying,
23 Behold, a virgin shall be with
child, and shall bring forth a son, and
they shall call his name Ēm-mān'-
u-el, which being interpreted is, God
with us.

24 Then Jō'seph being raised from
sleep did as the angel of the Lord had
bidden him, and took unto him his
wife:
25 And knew her not till she had
brought forth her firstborn son: and
he called his name Jē'SUS.

CHAPTER 2.

1 Visit of the wise men. 14 Flight of
Joseph and his family. 19 Death
of Herod. 23 Christ brought to Naza-
reth.

NOW when Jē'sus was born in
Bēth'lē-hēm of Jū-dæ'a in the
days of Hēr'od the king, behold, there
came wise men from the east to
Jē-ru'sā-lēm.

2 Saying, Where is he that is born
King of the Jews? for we have seen
his star in the east, and are come to
worship him.

3 When Hēr'od the king had heard
these things, he was troubled, and all
Jē-ru'sā-lēm with him.

4 And when he had gathered all the
chief priests and scribes of the peo-
ple together, he demanded of them
where Christ should be born.

carried away
12 And after these things
Bāb'y-lon, Jēch-o-ni'as
el; and Sā-lā'thī-el
13 And Zō-rōb'a-
and A-bi'ud begat
Ē-lī'a-kim begat A'
14 And A'zōr begat
dōc begat A'chim; and A'chim begat
15 And Ē-lī'ud begat Ē-le-ā'zar; and
Ē-le-ā'zar begat Māt'than; and Māt'-
than begat Jā'cob;
16 And Jā'cob begat Jō'seph the
husband of Mā'r'y, of whom was born
Jē'sus, who is called Christ.
17 So all the generations from A'brā-
hām to Dā'vid are fourteen genera-
tions; and from Dā'vid until the
carrying away into Bāb'y-lon are four-
teen generations; and from the car-



*BEHOLD, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son,
and shall call his name Immanuel. Isaiah vii, 14*

Christmas Greetings

from the staff at the Baptist Building

Hazèl Ashcraft	Evelyn Eubank	Tom J. Logue	C. H. Seaton
Margaret Bailey	Mary Giberson	Fay McClung	Ruth Skiles
Delores Barber	Charles Goodwin	Ed F. McDonald, Jr.	Juanez Stokes
Erline Bauer	James A. Griffin	Erwin L. McDonald	Lera Stokes
Nadine Bjorkman	Bertie Hagood	Hoyt A. Mulkey	Ann Taylor
Eujeania Breedlove	Bert Haley	Rose Mulkey	Betty Tyler
Vivian Bridges	Eleanor Anne Harwell	Frances Murphree	Delois White
Nancy Cooper	Clyde Hart	Annabelle Powers	S. A. Whitlow
Ralph W. Davis	Lawson Hatfield	Pat Ratton	Bonnie Williams
Ralph Douglas	Willie Mae Hughes	Jesse S. Reed	Sara Wisdom
Pat Elder	Mary Emma Humphrey	T. K. Rucker	
J. T. Elliff	Lanelta Knight	Carole Ann Scott	

Personally speaking



Christmas is love

ONE of my favorite Christmas stories is that of the visit of the Magi to the crib of the baby Jesus, a story found in Matthew 2.

Because three gifts are mentioned as given by the wise men, it has been concluded by some that there were three of the Magi. Literature has not only numbered the men but has named them and attached them to their respective gifts: Caspar with his gold; Melchior with his frankincense; and Balthazar with his myrrh. And the hymn "We Three Kings of Orient Are" fills in the details with which legend has adorned the story.

Apparently no symbolism is intended by the Scriptures to be attached to the gifts. But since gold, as a precious metal, was used in worship; frankincense, in perfume; and myrrh in medicine and embalming, these objects were worthy of offering to royalty. Their presentation to the Christ by the Magi indicated a great depth of honor and adoration. The wise men gave of their best to the Lord.

The Magi apparently believed that a star could be the counterpart or angel of a great man, as they followed the Bethlehem star to Jesus' crib. (This reminds us of the Jewish relating of the star of Jacob, Numbers 24:17, with the Messiah.)

The greatest thing about the Magi was their love for the Christ. Their long and perhaps perilous trip and their sacrificial gifts worthy of a king would have been as "sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal" but for this love.

In the demonstration of their great love, the Magi "being dead yet speak." Their story continues to warm human hearts and to remind that we can never sink so low in our inhumanity to one another as to break out of the orb of God's love to us through Jesus Christ. (Unlike earthly parents, God never stops loving his children!)

The story of the Magi "expresses the truth that men have been brought from far and by many ways to worship Christ. It also breathes the sense of wonder and thanksgiving that through the birth of this Child, and his subsequent life, death, and resurrection, the world has been redeemed" (*The Interpreter's Bible*, Vol. 7 p. 256).

Christmas is a good time to be reminded that Christ who gave himself a ransom for every one of us, has charged: "If you love me, keep my commandments," and that one of those commandments is, "Love one another."

Erwin L. McDonald

IN THIS ISSUE:

"LOVE came down at Christmas," the hymn tells us . . . and love surely is the Christmas theme . . . and the theme of the *Newsmagazine* this week. You will read of the love of one man for another in "Approaching Christmas," and mother love as exemplified by the late Ellen May Huntley Rhodes . . . and love of a father for a son, in "Health at Christmas." . . . all of these to be found on our editorial pages, 4-5. And in *Personally Speaking*, the editor says simply "Christmas is love," on page 3.

FIVE native Arkansans have been appointed to service in different areas of the world by the Foreign Mission Board. Read their stories on page 11.

THE MIL Singers will be far away in California during the Christmas holidays, participating in a special international retreat for students to be held at the University of California at Berkeley. Their story is on page 8.

PAGE 16 carries our Cover Story, which contains a message for all of us.

Arkansas Baptist *newsmagazine*

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Abbreviations used in creating news items: BP Baptist Press; CB Church Bulletin; DP Daily Press; EP Evangelical Press; LC Local Correspondent; AB Associational Bulletin; EBPS European Baptist Press Service.

Christmas

NEARLY 2,000 years after the coming of Jesus Christ as the Prince of Peace, men and nations are still at war. And while there is an undeniable link between heart attitudes and shooting wars, it is ironic that those who pull the triggers and drop the bombs on the battle fronts may not be at all in sympathy with what they do and may actually want nothing more than to be at peace. But when one in the age category for military service gets his call, he must go and fight or be branded selfish and unpatriotic. As long as this is the case, most eligible men will choose to go rather than to join the peace demonstrators and draft-card burners. "Their's not to question why. . . ."

As long as the national governments contend that war is the only or the ultimate answer to dangers from other governments, real or imagined, there is no prospect for lasting world peace. But perhaps the most regrettable warfare of all is not between nations but among men who are supposed to be fellow countrymen. This is the warring that New Testament writer James deals with:

"What causes wars and quarrels among you? Is it not your different desires which are ever at war within your bodies? You desire things and cannot have them, and so you commit murder. You covet things, but cannot acquire them, and so you quarrel and fight. You do not have them because you do not ask for them. You ask and fail to get them, because you ask with evil, selfish motives, to spend them on your pleasures" (James 1:1-3, Williams Translation).

An Arkansas war veteran, in a letter to the editor of the *Arkansas Gazette* published Dec. 5, has some interesting observations for the pre-Christmas season. Writes Rev. J. F. Cooley, Forrest City Negro Presbyterian minister:

"I fought a war because I could not help it. I served my country with pride and honor. I suffered many days in foreign lands, even though I was not crippled, nor seriously wounded. I fought for what I felt was freedom in everything America stood for. But I have never fully received this freedom. I do hope these young soldiers [fighting now in Vietnam] will not meet the same fate.

". . . It is not the Vietnam war or the soldiers that are causing all of the misery in the world. It is man's failure to recognize all men as brothers, and God as Father."

This war veteran-preacher closes with an appeal that is worthy of the serious and prayerful consideration of every one, particularly of all Christians:

"I do hope as the Christmas season approaches we will find a little more time to concentrate on, and ask ourselves: 'Are we really trying to emphasize "Glory to God in the highest" and bring peace to all men of good will?'"

Ellen May Rhodes

IN the death of Mrs. Ellen May Huntley Rhodes, Jonesboro, 1967 Arkansas Baptist Mother of the Year, Arkansas has lost and heaven has gained a great mother.

Mrs. Rhodes, the widow of James Robert Rhodes, filled the role of Arkansas Baptist Mother with grace and dignity that reflected honor upon all Christian mothers. Her home, her church, and her country were enshrined in her heart. Her treasures were her children and she had the joy of seeing her four sons and five daughters grow into adulthood, establish their own homes, and take places of leadership in their churches and in the fields of education, business, and citizenship in their communities.

Undaunted by the depression that cast its shadow of scarcity across the country during the 1930's, when their children were in school and college, the Rhodeses moved from Crossett to Arkadelphia to be near the campus of Ouachita College (now University). To help support the family, Mrs. Rhodes opened their home to Ouachita College student boarders and thus stamped the great influence of the Rhodes family upon the lives of many a future Baptist leader while accomplishing the purpose of keeping as many as three of the Rhodes children in Ouachita at one time. Five of the Rhodes children finished college, four of them graduating from Ouachita, and a sixth of the nine graduated from business college.

Like the ideal mother eulogized by the writer of Proverbs 31, Mrs. Rhodes' price was "far above rubies. . . the heart of her husband safely trusted in her. . . strength and honor were her clothing. . . she opened her mouth with wisdom and her tongue was the law of kindness. . . and her children arise up, and call her blessed. . . ."

Health at Christmas

THE Guillermo Castros look forward to a nappy Christmas, thanks to the successful transplant of a kidney from Guillermo, 47, the father, to Geraldo, a 19-year-old son, at the University Medical Center, in Little Rock.

The operation, performed on Nov. 28, has given a new lease on life to Geraldo, both of whose kidneys had been removed because of congenital hereditary nephritis.

This is the first kidney transplant at the medical center involving this particular disease, which is carried by the mother and transmitted to the son. Three other sons of the Castros had died of the disease.

The recuperation has been so satisfactory that the Castros will be required to live near the center for only four to six months as compared with the six to eight months estimated earlier.

Two daughters of the Castros, who have been stay-

ing with grandparents and other relatives in San Jose, Costa Rica, have come to Little Rock since the operation and are to be here for an extended Christmas visit.

Gerald and his mother helped to decorate a Christmas tree for a solarium on the 4th floor of the medical center and Guillermo and a friend brought a Christmas tree to the Castro apartment in the Jeff Banks Student Union at the center.

Reporting on the family, Bobbie Forster, *Arkansas Democrat* staff writer, wrote:

"In addition to the happiness of the heart that was so plainly written on their faces there was the physical

appearance of health. The father walked with a brisk step and his eyes sparkled.

"The son has gained 12 pounds of solid tissue—not fluid weight—since the operation. His color is good, his eyes are clear."

What a great love this father must have for his son, to lay his own life on the operating table in the hope of giving life and health to the son. And how timely this demonstration is as we come to observe the season when the emphasis is upon the great love of our heavenly Father for all of us as reflected in the sacrifice of his "only begotten son" to give eternal life to all who will believe in him.

Beacon lights of Baptist history

Compensation

BY BERNES K. SELPH, TH.D.
PASTOR, FIRST CHURCH, BENTON

Self-denial and hardships in the ministry seem to be obstacles many do not care to hurdle. This is not to plead for martyr spirit. It is but an effort to emphasize the fact that God wants people to serve him in spirit of circumstances. To follow him may mean foregoing comforts, ease, and sometimes, necessities of life. Hardships are not limited to life's provisions, but may refer to harrassment, ridicule, intimidation, misunderstanding and many other factors involved in public life. There are many who find it their lot to face these things. Why? No one knows. But the call of God and their convictions are too deep to go unheeded. Rev. Tom Green was one of these dear souls.

"Uncle Tom" as he was affectionately called (he was an uncle of the author's wife) spent his ministry in central Arkansas, mainly in Saline County, during the early part of the 20th century. He served country and village churches. These paid a mere stipend, if anything. He farmed for a living but life was hard because so much of his time and energy was spent with the churches.

One evidence of little support is seen in an expression heard more than once from him, "My wife is sending you the gospel." Tired, worn, and dissipated with conditions and the ineptness of churches to provide for his need, he lashed out at them with these words. He meant that his wife was providing their livelihood with her garden, chickens, and cow.

Life was hard in the hill country. A lady tells about her father who was a Baptist preacher during those days. She said, "We were always glad when Pa would go to one of his churches. He always received 50 cents from Uncle Lewis James."

Life was difficult for everyone because money was scarce. The people had not been trained in stewardship, and due to a peculiar quirk of mind on the part of some religious groups, an atmosphere of antagonism often developed toward the ministry.

But in order that I be not totally misunderstood I must relate a story. It shows that Mr. Green and ministers like him were held in high esteem by the people whom they served. They loved and respected him, and others, though they were willing to let the preachers' womenfolk "pay for their preaching."

"Uncle Tom's" preacher friend, C. C. Wornock, died. He has asked Mr. Green to preach his funeral. But when he died "Uncle Tom" was away from home on a preaching appointment and could not get back for the funeral because of high waters from heavy rains. The family went ahead and buried Mr. Wornock.

One month later Mr. Green filled the request to conduct funeral services for his friend. Members from the Baptist Church at Paron, Arkansas, where Mr. Wornock had served as pastor, attended the services in a body at Old Union church. To accommodate the crowd the organ and benches were moved out into the church yard. Numerous friends from surrounding neighborhoods came to pay tribute to the beloved preacher. They prayed and sang and wept. And their expression of love strengthened the family, and there was compensation.

Given by Mr. Wornock's daughter, Mrs. Coran Wray, Benton, Ark.

—The people speak

Vietnam bouquet

I thought I would write to let you know that I join *The Christian Century* in enjoying the *Arkansas Baptist News-magazine*. I like to read every article in it, even though it is a little late getting here.

I owe many thanks to my wonderful wife, for taking out a subscription for me. Of all the reading materials I get here in Vietnam, I enjoy this magazine the most. Of course I have friends that mail me other Baptist literature, but for the things that change so often, I feel the *Arkansas Baptist* keeps me most informed.

As a native of Arkansas, my wife and children are presently living in Jonesboro. I like to keep abreast of the many Christian changes that take place. The *Arkansas Baptist* seems to keep me informed the best. I also pass it around to many of the men that I work with and also to the ones that work for me. —SSgt O. C. Williams—1099441 USMC Hq. Co., 7th Marine Regiment (Comm), 1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF, EPO, San Francisco, 96602, (Hill 55, Vietnam, Dec. 2, 1967)

REPLY: Your letter from the battlefront is greatly appreciated. We trust your emphasis on the *NEWSMAGAZINE'S* importance in helping Baptists to keep informed on their affairs will catch the eyes of deacons and other leaders in our local churches. God bless you.—ELM

No paper next week!

As is the custom of the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine*, there will be no publication of our paper next week.

We are therefore including Sunday School lessons for Dec. 24 and Dec. 31.

Our next edition will be dated January 4.

A merry Christmas to all!



The natural gifts

During this holiday period many people will be preoccupied with giving and getting material presents. The tendency is to forget that some of the most meaningful things in our daily lives are priceless and irreplaceable. This is especially true of our outdoor heritage.

Every citizen needs to develop a greater appreciation of the outdoors. With increased gratitude should also come a greater sense of stewardship. Like the 'Star of the East,' a conservation concept needs to shine within the conscience of every individual.



The late Aldo Leopold has defined conservation as, "Harmony between Man and the Land." Before this ideal can be fully realized there must be harmony between Man and God and between men.

At this Christmas season all lovers of the outdoors should be mindful of the many 'Gifts' that have been bestowed upon Arkansas by the Creator; sparkling streams and lakes—bountiful fields and woodlands and an abundance of fish and wildlife.

These things are not comparable to the 'Supreme Gift' that came to earth so long ago but they are constant reminders of His concern for the welfare of us all.

From the churches— Mississippi County association notes

BY JOHN GEARING

Louis Minner has resigned from the pastorate of Emmanuel Church, Blytheville, to serve as pastor of First Church, Caldwell, Mo.

Curtis Downs has been called as pastor of Keiser Church, and S. W. Davis Jr., will leave his pastorate at Clear Creek Church to pastor the Water Valley, Miss., Church.

Dell Church held dedication services for its educational building recently, marking the occasion by burning the last of its notes. Jesse Holcomb, R. B. King, Harold Sadler and J. C. Smith, all former pastors, participated in the ceremony. Curtis Bryant is church pastor.

Ridgecrest Church, Blytheville, celebrated its 10th anniversary Dec. 10. P. H. Jernigan, who was the church's first pastor, is again serving in this capacity. The church building has recently been painted.

Ordained deacon

James A. Joiner was ordained a deacon of First Church, Crawfordsville, Nov. 26. Moderator of the council was Rev. Lynton B. Cooper, pastor, Marion Church. The sermon was delivered by Rev. Ben Rowell, pastor, First Church, Hughes, a former pastor of Crawfordsville Church.

The questioning was led by Rev. Don Cooper, pastor of the Crawfordsville Church. Deacons from Crawfordsville and First Church, West Memphis, made up the council, along with the Coopers, Mr. Rowell and Joe Huffman, pastor, Jericho Church, who also led the ordination prayer.

Joe Bloodworth, chairman of deacons, presented the candidate to the council in the name of the church.—Reporter

Carillon tape

Thomas A. Hinson, pastor, First Church, West Memphis, has announced that contributions have been received to purchase a memorial cartridge-tape for the carillon.

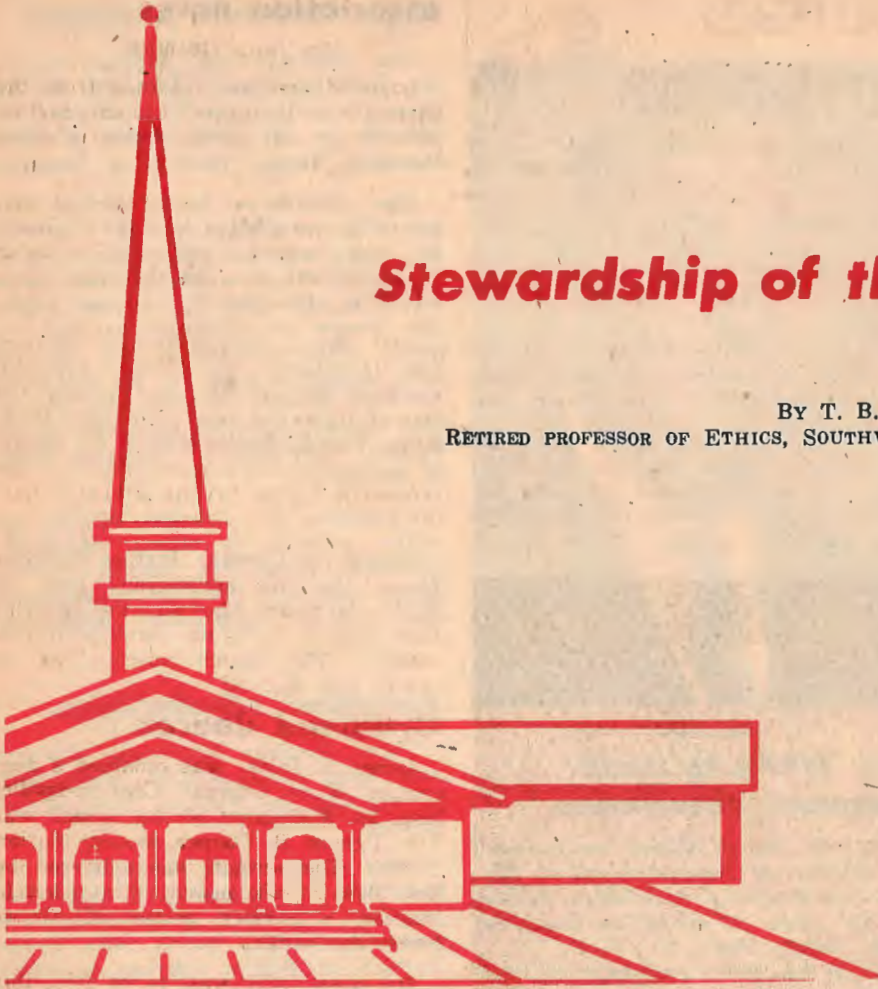
The tape will be in memory of Mrs. Alberta Baladge and J. E. Person, and will contain 24 selections of hymns relating to the Cross and Resurrection. Mrs. Baladge was the mother of Mrs. Louis McDonald, long-time member of the sanctuary choir of the church.

"Mr. Person was one who loved church music dearly," Mr. Hinson said, "and during his days of early manhood played the reed-pump organ at a small country church near Three Way, Miss." (CB)

Stewardship of the grace of God

BY T. B. MASTON

RETIRED PROFESSOR OF ETHICS, SOUTHWESTERN SEMINARY, FT. WORTH, TEX.



In the area of stewardship our churches and our denomination frequently start at the wrong end. The emphasis is usually on the material rather than on the spiritual aspects of stewardship.

Even in the area of the stewardship of material things, first consideration too frequently is given to tithing rather than to the broader aspects of stewardship.

It is possible for one to be a faithful tither and not be a good steward. I personally do not believe that one can be a good steward and not give at least a tithe of his income to the cause of Christ.

Furthermore, it is possible for one to be a good steward of money and things material and yet fail to understand and practice the stewardship of the spiritual. The spiritual aspects of stewardship are deeper and more inclusive than the stewardship of the material. Really the latter should be instrumental to the fulfillment of the former.

Peter suggests one aspect of the stewardship of spiritual things in the following words: "As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold [varied," RSV] grace of God" (1 Pet. 4:10). Here Peter is referring primarily to the different tasks to which God through his grace has called men. Christians are to be good stewards of that grace. This aspect of the stewardship of the grace of God is expressed through service within, and through, the Christian fellowship.

The first call of God to us is to salvation, and this call is an expression of the manifold or varied grace of

God. We are saved by grace through faith, it is the gift of God, "not of works lest any man should boast" (Eph. 2:8-9). We are stewards of this phase of the grace of God as we are of his grace expressed in our call or task.

The stewardship of the grace that saved us requires that we open our lives for additional expressions of the varied grace of God. This grace will express itself in the quality of life we live for him. We are his workmanship or craftsmanship but we have been created in Christ Jesus "unto good works" (Eph. 2:10) or for, or with a view to, good works. The good works express his grace but they are also a product of his grace.

We are not only stewards of the grace expressed in our salvation and in our particular call or task, we are also stewards of the grace of God contained in the gospel we preach and teach. There is enough grace in that gospel to save every man everywhere who will turn to God in faith. We who have been redeemed by that grace are responsible to God to share the good news of his grace with the peoples of the world.

This good news should be shared personally wherever possible, but there are limitations to personal sharing. By being good stewards of our material possessions we can have a part in sending the gospel of grace to peoples in areas where we can never go personally.

How wonderful that God can use our tithes and offerings, along with the gifts of others, to win men and women to Christ and to extend his Cause around the world! This glorifies our giving and can make the giving of things material a rewarding spiritual experience.

MIL singers to California

The MIL (Meaning in Life) Singers will journey to Berkeley, Calif., during the Christmas holidays to participate in an International Retreat for students at the University of California. The singing group is composed of six students from six Arkansas college campuses, under the leadership of Jerry Blaylock, a junior medical student at the University of Arkansas. It is sponsored by the Student Department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.



MR. BLAYLOCK

The group will deliver three "sermons:" "Downtown," a description of the plight of the masses of humanity; "What's it all about, Alfie?," a search for meaning in life; and "Christ our Contemporary," the life of Christ in folk song.

Dr. Eva Marie Kennard heard the Arkansas group at Glorieta and issued an invitation with the promise of little or no financial help on the trip. Dr. Kennard's work with students at Berkeley is supported by the language division of the California Convention, and funds for her work are limited.

"Really, I had little faith that the students could come under these conditions," Dr. Kennard said, "but we knew that the Lord could use the students to reveal the love of Christ as He did at Glorieta, and so we invited them."

Word about the invitation soon spread, and some friends in churches where the students worked this past summer offered financial help. The largest contribution, however, state student director Tom Logue says, came from a Texas housewife who has never heard the students sing but was intrigued with the concept of preaching the "same old glorious gospel with new and creative ways." She wrote: "I have four teenagers and young people of my own and know from experience that as Paul said, we must be all things to all people in order to win some."

The singers have been invited to sing at First Church, Dallas, and First Church, Arlington, Tex., while on their way to California.

Revivals

First Church, Barling, Sardis Bever, evangelist, Red Johnson, song leader; 4



MR. WHITE

Rev. White to head Harmony Association

Rev. W. Harold White has accepted the position of Superintendent of Missions for Harmony Association, following six years of service as pastor of First Church, Paris.

During Mr. White's ministry at Paris there were 243 additions to the church, \$41,462.00 given to missions, and a total income of \$241,776.00.

He received his education at Hamburg High School, Ouachita University and New Orleans Seminary. Former pastorates in Arkansas include Pine Grove Church; North Crossett First Church; First Baptist, Crossett as associate; First Church, Luxora; First Church, Leachville; First Church, England.

Mr. White has served on the board of trustees of Southern College; the executive board of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention; as district consultant for Sunday School Department in West Central District; as first vice-president of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention; and is presently on the board of trustees of the Arkansas Baptist Medical Center.

He is married to the former Mary Blanche Stone. The couple has two children, Capt. Robert C. White, professor of Military Science, Wheaton College, Wheaton, Ill., and Mrs. Harolyn Ann Stevenson of Paris.

for baptism, 1 for special service, 37 rededications; Sardis Bever, pastor.

Miss Harwell honored

Miss Eleanor Anne Harwell, Associate Music Secretary, Arkansas Baptist State Convention, has been selected for mention in the 1967 edition of Outstanding Young Women of America.

The publication is an annual biographical compilation of 6,000 outstanding young women between the ages of 21 and 35 who have distinguished themselves in civic and professional activities. Names are submitted by local women's clubs throughout the country, with selections made by the Board of Advisory Editors, of which Mrs. Dexter Otis Arnold, honorary president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, is chairman.

Guidelines for selection include unselfish service to others, charitable activities, community service, professional excellence, business advancement and civic and professional recognition.

Awarded scholarships

Three Ouachita University students have been awarded \$200 scholarships by the Citizens National Bank, Arkadelphia.

They include Linda Kinnaird of Arkadelphia, a freshman psychology major; Mrs. Joy Hurst of Arkadelphia, a junior elementary major; and Bryan Harmon of Whelen Springs, a senior math major.

The scholarships are awarded annually to "deserving students from the Arkadelphia and Clark County area, who are engaged primarily in the study of business, economics and teacher education."

Receives promotion

Gary Gray, a native of Kensett, has been named assistant to the director of the Arkansas Baptist Home for Children at Monticello, and will also serve as director of group living there. He had been serving as a social worker for the Home since April, 1967. A graduate of the University of Louisville, Ky., in 1964, Mr. Gray holds a BS degree in sociology. He is married to the former Adella Dozier of Lexington, Ky., and is the father of one son, Kent Alan, age 3. Mrs. Gray is a graduate of Georgetown, Ky., College, and is minister of music for Second Church, Monticello, of which the couple are members.



MR. GRAY

Dozier of Lexington, Ky., and is the father of one son, Kent Alan, age 3. Mrs. Gray is a graduate of Georgetown, Ky., College, and is minister of music for Second Church, Monticello, of which the couple are members.

William E. Browns married 50 years

The children of Dr. and Mrs. William E. Brown will honor them with an open house in observance of their 50th wedding anniversary on Friday, Dec. 29. The event will be held in their home at 1714 West 31st Ave., Pine Bluff, from 3 to 5 p.m. and from 7 to 9 p.m.

Dr. and Mrs. Brown were married in Springfield, Mo., on Jan. 1, 1918, and began their service together at Mt. Washington Methodist Church, Kansas City, Mo. Since Dr. Brown's retirement as executive secretary of the Christian Civic Foundation of Arkansas, in 1965, they have made their home in Pine Bluff.

Friends are cordially invited to attend.

Films effective

J. Everett Yielding, area representative for World Wide Pictures, which produced *The Restless Ones* and *For Pete's Sake*, Billy Graham films designed to provide an answer to youth's search for reality, said recently that some 55,000 Arkansans have been shown *The Restless Ones*.

Out of this number, Mr. Yielding said, over 4,500 came forward to record a decision for Christ. Of the 4,500, 1,500 have been professions of faith.

One Arkansas pastor, he added, had 20 people coming into his church on profession of faith following the showing of this film.

Anyone desiring information on the films may reach Mr. Yielding by writing him at Rte. 1, Box 813D Benton, Ark., 72015, or by telephoning him at SPring 8-1608.

File resolution

James Fork Church, Hartford, recently adopted a resolution supporting the U. S. Constitution, elected leaders on the state and national level, law enforcement agencies, patriotic groups and "all who seek to keep our country safe from Communism, crime, rioting, violence and lawlessness."

Walter H. Watts, church moderator, in issuing the resolution, stated, "I believe that the least the churches, civic groups and all who stand for law and order, can do to stem the tide of anarchy that is sweeping the land, is to position themselves on the side of law and order."

The document was filed in the church records, and with elected officials and the news media.



Benton church sanctuary



Photo Courtesy of THE BENTON COURIER

A new \$120,000 sanctuary, with a seating capacity of 500, was dedicated in a service conducted Dec. 10 at Highland Heights Church, Benton.

Taking part in the ceremony were the church's pastor, J. C. McClinney, and Dr. Bernes K. Selph, pastor, First Church, Benton. Richard Rose, music director for the church, led the choir in a program of special music.

The building is constructed of red brick and is linked to the old auditorium building, which will now serve the intermediate classes. The structures are connected by a covered walkway. The new auditorium and five new classrooms are at street level. Thirteen classrooms and a kitchen are contained in the lower level.

Freddie Ulmer was chairman of the building committee, which included Fred

OBU named winner of sportsmanship award

Ouachita University has been named winner of the 1967 Arkansas Intercollegiate Conference football sportsmanship award.

Selected each year by the game officials and based on the conduct of players, coaches and fans, the trophy is awarded to the AIC member judged to have displayed the best sportsmanship during the season.

Ouachita scored 288 points of a possible 300 in the scoring system used by the game officials.

Arkansas Tech was runnerup with 285 points, State College of Arkansas was third with 284, and Harding College was fourth with 280.

Newcomb, V. H. Ledbetter, Bobby Ward and R. E. Turner.

Highland Heights Church was organized in 1960 as a mission sponsored by First Church, Benton. Since that time the original membership has grown from 146 to 350.

Rev. McClinney, a native of Texas, is a graduate of Tyler Junior College, East Texas College in Marshall, and Ouachita University. Before being called to his present pastorate he served four years at Mt. Ida and two years at Humphrey.

He is married to the former Lee Hicks of Tyler. The couple has three children, Sherry, 16, Ken, 13, and Jill 9.

The church recently licensed three members to preach: Ron Dozier, Brent Page and Bob Stuckey.

To Oklahoma post

Jarrell Rial, formerly of McGehee, has accepted a position as youth director of First Church, Muskogee, Okla.

Rev. Rial is a 1967 graduate of Ouachita University and has been attending Southern Seminary, Ft. Worth.

Jackson to Alicia



MR. JACKSON

Lendol Jackson, assistant to the president at Southern College, Walnut Ridge, has been called as pastor of Alicia Church. Alicia Church is in the Black River Association.—Reporter

Mary's baby book

BY HERSCHEL H. HOBBS

Pastor, First Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, past president, Southern Baptist Convention

"But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart" (Luke 2:19).

A. T. Robertson asks two intriguing questions. "But did not Mary keep also a Baby Book? And may not Luke have seen it?" Whether or not these be true, Mary certainly preserved these wondrous events. This is seen in this verse.

"Kept" renders a verb form which means "kept on keeping together." Apparently the people of Bethlehem paid little or no attention to the words of the shepherds (Lk. 2:17-18). They were "astonished" and nothing more. But Mary went on keeping together every single bit of evidence. Furthermore, she "pondered" them in her heart. "Pondered" renders a participle meaning setting side by side for comparison. "All these things" include everything that had happened to Mary in connection with this miraculous birth; the visit of the angel Gabriel, the supernatural conception and birth of John the Baptist, the message of the angel, the song of the heavenly host, and the visit of the shepherds. Marvelous events indeed! And Mary set them side by side in her heart for comparison. They would be as meat and drink for her soul down through the years.

In spite of it all the events were even beyond Mary's comprehension. In the years ahead many things will baffle her. But even when the sword pierced her soul (Lk. 2:35) she could open her Baby Book of memory. And as she turned its pages God would make all things plain to her.



MR. BROWN

Rev. Lon B. Brown is the new pastor of Eagle Heights Church, Harrison.

Mr. Brown, 36, is a graduate of Nevada (Mo.) High School. He holds an A.B. degree from Mississippi College and a B.D. degree from New Orleans Seminary.

He is married to the former Cecelia Doby of Waynesboro, Miss. They have a daughter, Julia, 9, and three sons: Gary, 7, Lloyd, 3, and Duane, 2.

Deaths



MRS. RHODES

1967 Baptist Mother of the year dies

MRS. ELLEN MAY HUNTLEY RHODES, 81, of Jonesboro, formerly of Arkadelphia, Arkansas Baptist Mother of the Year for 1967, Dec. 14.

Mrs. Rhodes, whose husband, James Robert Rhodes, died in 1959, was a member of Jonesboro's First Church. She was a former circle chairman and program chairman for the Woman's Missionary Society.

The title Mother of the Year was

conferred on Mrs. Rhodes May 14 of this year by Dr. Erwin L. McDonald, editor of the Arkansas Baptist News-magazine.

She is survived by four sons, James Robert Rhodes Jr. of DeValls Bluff, C. E. Rhodes of South Carolina, John H. Rhodes of Waldo and Lt. Col. William H. Rhodes with the Air Force in Colorado; five daughters, Mrs. Woodrow Harrelson and Mrs. Marguerite Brown, both of Jonesboro, Mrs. Paul Bowlin of Pocahontas, Mrs. Joe Dooley Sr. of Camden and Mrs. P. W. McDaniel Jr. of Texas; a step-daughter, Mrs. Glenn Martin of New Mexico; four sisters, 22 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Arthur B. Hill dies

ARTHUR BYRD HILL, 88, president of Ouachita University during 1926-1929, died Dec. 11, in Little Rock.

Before his death, Mr. Hill resided at the Albert Pike Hotel and was a representative of Union Central Life Insurance Company.

Mr. Hill served as president of the Arkansas Education Association in 1919 and 1920, and was state superintendent of public education from 1923 to 1926. He was chairman of the Southern Commission of Accredited Schools in 1920 and 1921, and was secretary of the

National Council of State Superintendents and Commissioners in 1924 and 1925.

During Mr. Hill's term as president of Ouachita, a bond issue by the State Baptist Convention cleared the debt of \$126,209 in 1926 and made it possible for Ouachita to be admitted to membership in the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools on March 18, 1927.

He was a member and had served on the Board of Deacons of Second Church, Little Rock.

Survivors are his wife, Mrs. Marry Byrd Lakeman Hill; two daughters, Mrs. Henry Thomas and Mrs. Billie Jean O'Quin of Little Rock; and four grandchildren.

ERNEST LESLIE CARLSON, retired professor of Old Testament, Biblical Backgrounds and Archaeology at Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex., Dec. 12.

He was consulting editor of Baker's Bible Atlas and Old Testament editor of Wycliffe Bible Dictionary, and served during his retirement years as assistant editor of Baker's Dictionary of Biblical Archaeology.

He is survived by his wife, the former Marjorie Smyth, and by four children.

Native Arkansans to serve around the globe

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has named five native Arkansans to serve areas around the globe, in appointments made Dec. 7.

Rev. and Mrs. C. Thurman Braughton of Antlers, Okla., have been assigned to service in Southeast Asia.

Mr. Braughton, a native of Altus, Okla., grew up in Hot Springs. A graduate of Ouachita University, he received his bachelor's degree in music. Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, awarded him a BD degree and master or religious education degree.

Mrs. Braughton, the former Kathleen Blount, is a native of Little Rock and studied at Ouachita and Southwestern.

"During our student days the Lord led us toward foreign mission work," Mr. Braughton testified to the Board. "His leadership has been constant and unmistakable. I believe my call is to the multitudes. I can't be around crowds or even individuals, without feeling my responsibility to tell them of Jesus."

Mrs. Braughton testified that she began considering full-time Christian service when she was 11 years old, but did not "become serious about God" until she was a high school senior.

"I changed from being afraid to know God's will to being afraid I would miss God's will," she said. "As I prepared to enter college, God spoke to me in an unmistakable way to show me that I was to be a missionary."

The Braughtons have four children; Joel, eight, Daniel, five and a half, Carol Ruth, one and a half, and Samuel, six months.

Rev. and Mrs. Benjamin E. Hope of Columbia Road Chapel, North Olmsted, O., will go to Brazil.

Mr. Hope, a native of Arkansas, spent most of his youth in North Little Rock. His wife is the former Berdie Moose, of Oklahoma City, Okla.

Relating his Christian testimony, Mr. Hope told the Board his awareness of mission needs was "heightened" during college days, when he served in a Spanish-language mission in Oklahoma.

"Then, when a missionary spoke in chapel, I was deeply impressed with a sense of personal responsibility," he added.

Mrs. Hope's interest in overseas Christian service was kindled during her adolescence by a mission volunteer who worked with youth in her church.

"No doubt, hero worship had a part in developing my mission interest, but I believe God used that couple to bring me to an awareness of His purpose

for my life," she said.

Mr. Hope is a graduate of Oklahoma University, Shawnee. He holds a BD degree from Southwestern. His wife is also a graduate of OBU, and attended Southwestern for one year, working toward the master of religious education degree.

The Hopes are the parents of two children, Janet Lorita, seven, and Joel Jeffrey, five months.

A native of Little Rock, G. Edwin Engstrom, and Mrs. Engstrom have been employed to work in a dormitory for missionary children in the Philippines for four years.

Named missionary associates, the couple will be houseparents at a dorm for teenagers who leave their homes and go to Manila for schooling.

Mr. Engstrom is a district ranger in the Kaibab National Forest of Williams, Ariz. He graduated from Colorado College, Colorado Springs, from which he holds a BS degree in forestry.

Mr. and Mrs. Engstrom told the Board they learned about opportunities for overseas service as missionary associates when they attended the 1967 Foreign Mission Conference at Glorieta Assembly.

The parents of seven children, the Engstroms will take the youngest, 13-year-old May, with them.

Their youngest son, Jon, is a sophomore at Utah State University, where he is president of the Baptist Student Union.

Rev. and Mrs. James W. Cecil of Kosmosdale Church, Valley Station, Ky., have been named missionary associates in Hong Kong, where Mr. Cecil will assist with business administration relating to mission work.

Born in Heber Springs, Mr. Cecil lived in Oklahoma, Arkansas and Arizona during his youth. His wife, the former Katharine Gardner, is a native of Penrod, Ky.

Mr. Cecil graduated from Northern Arizona University and received his BD degree from Southern Seminary and a master of religious education degree in 1965. He also holds a graduate specialist in religious education certificate from Southern.

Mr. Cecil told the Foreign Mission Board he became vitally interested in overseas Christian service about nine years ago, and his wife, a registered nurse, said that, as a teenager, she became aware that "every Christian's job is to bear witness to the redeeming love of God."

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil have two children, John, 12, and Naomi Louise, eight and a half.



NEW Southern Baptist missionaries from Arkansas look at photos of Christmas scenes from around the world. They are (left to right) Mr. and Mrs. G. Edwin Engstrom, Rev. and Mrs. Benjamin E. Hope, Rev. and Mrs. James W. Cecil and Rev. and Mrs. C. Thurman Braughton.

Your state convention at work

A.W.O.L. Baptists his concern

D. Lewis White, consultant, general Sunday School administration unit, field services section, Sunday School department, Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Nashville, will speak on "The Lost Sheep Roll" during our state-wide Evangelism Conference, Jan. 22-23. The conference will begin at 1:45 p.m., Jan. 22, at Immanuel Church,



DR. WHITE Little Rock. There are almost 3 million Southern Baptists "absent without leave." We need help in this important matter.

A native of Louisiana, Dr. White is a bachelor of arts graduate of Louisi-

ana College, Pineville, and received his master of theology and doctor of theology degrees from Southern Seminary, Louisville.

Before joining the staff of the Board's Sunday School department in June, 1964, he was pastor for three years of Temple Church in Natchez, Miss., and served as president of the board of trustees of Jefferson Davis Memorial Hospital while there. He also served as a member of the state executive board and of the executive committee of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Dr. White was pastor of First Church, Denham Springs, La., for over seven years. He also held pastorates in Indiana and Kentucky and served as president of Louisiana's District 7 convention.—Jesse S. Reed, Director of Evangelism

Planning aids

Recently I chanced across some lines written to help salesmen. There was no byline. I have taken the liberty to adapt and apply what was said to denominational and church planning.

There is enough programming literature available to improve all the needs in all the churches if it were used properly.

But often the most vital factor is lacking.

That is the involvement of church leaders as a prerequisite to involvement of other members.

The literature consists of an abundance of books, magazines, leaflets and other accessible resources.

These offer programming guidelines based on experience and knowledge of tested ways to achieve certain goals.

The specific advice, the courses of action recommended can be most helpful.

But how useful it will be, and how lasting, depends both on the leaders understanding of and involvement in the tested actions.

Many leaders seeking to guide a group to perform certain actions go all out for a specific program for a while, then quit dead cold.

Why?

Because they do not see dramatic changes taking place over night, their enthusiasm fades, then their involvement becomes limited, the program falters. They quit.

An obvious conclusion is that the programming literature was at fault.

Solution: Wait a few weeks and try something else.

To follow these last three lines of reasoning is to avoid the real issue, leadership involvement.

The programming actions offered must be fully and continuously followed by the program leaders. A leader's involvement cannot be delegated to others.

Total leadership involvement is the real test.

The rest is easy.—Lawson Hatfield, Sunday School Department Secretary

Joy to the world

"Joy to the World" is the real message of Christmas. The purpose of Christ's coming into the world was to bring joy to troubled hearts through the forgiveness of sin.

Before His return to the Father, Christ gave to the church that He had established the mission of sharing with the world the message of His love and salvation. It is through the sharing of this message that real joy is brought to men and women, boys and girls throughout the world.

Today in many parts of the world millions of people do not know the joy of Christ in their lives and have never been told the story of His great love for mankind.

The Brotherhood through its three units of work—Baptist Men, Baptist Young Men, and Royal Ambassadors—is dedicated to the task of educating men, young men, and boys in the mission teachings of the Bible and the needs of the world today and seeks to involve them in mission actions at home and around the world.

It is indeed gratifying to see and hear of many instances of Baptist Men and Royal Ambassadors not only learning about missions, but also becoming involved in mission projects in their own church community. We rejoice in the progress during the year.

We in the Brotherhood Department wish for you all the happiness and joy of this season of the year and pray that it may continue throughout the coming year.

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year.—C. H. Seaton, Vivian Bridges

Executive board

returns report

The total of the undesignated receipts coming to our office for the first 11 months of this year has amounted to \$2,075,845.23. This is the first time Cooperative Program receipts have reached the two million mark in November. This is \$124,468.83 more than for the comparable period of 1966. However, this leaves us \$93,826.86 below the budget requirements for this year. It will be necessary for us to receive \$290,246.77 in December to reach the total budget of \$2,366,092.00. This is a large order, but it can be done.

Let me suggest two things: first, it will be necessary for the churches to have their December contributions in the mail not later than Jan. 5 for them to be counted in this year's contributions. Please let me urge all pastors to let this fact be known to their treasurers so they may have the check for the Cooperative Program in the mail not later than Jan. 5. Next, this has been an excellent year financially for most of our churches. Many of our churches should have balances above their budget needs at the end of the year. The churches so blessed could have a worthy part in our total effort in world missions by sharing some of these funds through the Cooperative Program. Will you urge your church to have a part in this second-mile effort?

All of us in the Baptist Building wish for you and yours God's best at this Christmas season and throughout the New Year.—S. A. Whitlow, Executive Secretary



McClellan says Southern Baptists are changing

NASHVILLE—The program planning secretary for the Southern Baptist Executive Committee said here that the Southern Baptist Convention is in the midst of change, shifting from a "come-church" to a "go-church."

Albert McClellan, who helps coordinate the long-range plans of the 11 million member convention, made the observations in a speech to more than 60 professional staff members of Baptist agencies meeting here.

McClellan said that he was convinced that in this change, "the Holy Spirit is forging a new dynamic for the future, a dynamic that centers in the congregation as the ministry servant of Christ both inside and outside the walls.

"This new dynamic will not emphasize the gathered worshipping and educating church any less, but it will emphasize the witnessing, ministering and applying church more," he said. "It will be a shift from the 'come-church' to the 'go-church.'"

McClellan told the Baptist workers that change is inevitable as a part of history, and pointed out numerous changes in society which have had a bearing on Christianity.

Included as key changes were such things as the population explosion with half of the present 200 million under 26 years of age; the fantastic shift in where and how man lives, the change in the influence of the family and its effect on children; the growing emphasis on the scientific method which subtly replaces faith as a way of life, the new education, new economy, new ethics, new theology, new morality, the increase of leisure time, increased mobility, and new communication and learning processes.

"What happens to us if we don't change as everything changes around us?" McClellan asked of the church leaders.

Using as an example the extinction of the dinosaur, McClellan said that if any organization or program does not change with its environment, it disappears. "This does not mean that the organization must become like its environment, only that it remain visible as the situation shifts."

McClellan pointed out that the Southern Baptist Convention is changing, slowly, but it is changing. He pointed out 35 specific ways in which the SBC has experienced change.

"We have developed a new kind of SBC program leader. . . deeply thought-

ful and studious, very cooperative, one who does his work by plan and not by emergencies prompted by the morning's mail.

"We have taken SBC planning of program actions off a rule-of-thumb, morning-mail basis and put it on a systematic basis," he added.

"We have sounded the grass roots and found that they are demanding some new approaches," he observed.

"We have provided many new and innovating approaches for helping the churches develop and improve their programs," he added.

McClellan also pointed to such changes as establishing a convention purpose, pinpointing 90 SBC programs, identifying the basic functions of a church; establishing church program organizations which exist to build the church; establishing a coordinating committee to prevent over-lapping; developing a broad base of fundamental source materials on which to construct new curricula or new methods; offering more resources, materials, alternate plans and financial assistance; securing a new task-oriented curriculum; shifting the grading plan "to allow the churches to become more flexible in responding to the needs of the new man; developing better relations; and opening channels to all emphasis programs.

McClellan also listed 28 things he feels that the SBC must do in the future. Included were such suggestions as:

"We must . . . do the hard, prayerful work of finding exactly how we are to be involved in the cutting edge of modern life.

"We must study very hard to understand modern man and his social environment.

"We must move heroically forward as prophets, not as hirelings, to methods, but as servants of God who have a word to share with the world. The method must not become the gospel.

"We must be open to God's leading to help us find a new 20th century dynamic. The rural frontier dynamic of the 1800's is gone. In Christ we must find the new city dynamic of the new century.

"We must not go overboard in abandoning all of the traditions of the past.

"We must make more understandable that change in methods does not alter the fundamental nature and objectives of the churches.

"We must stop thinking that platform communications alone will really effect necessary changes in the churches and their leaders. . . We must introduce dialogue as a teaching method.

"We must do a better job of projecting our cause upon the world so that they can see our Lord Jesus Christ, not merely our process.

"We must still learn to do our planning in terms of purpose, objective, goals and action plans."

McClellan concluded by saying that all the convention's plans are trivia, and all its processes are trash unless they build upon the Lord.

Liberians dedicate U. S. girl's memorial

Sanniquellie Church, in interior Liberia, dedicated a new building, accommodating 400 people, Nov. 5. Principal speaker for the occasion was Dr. William R. Tolbert, Jr., vice-president of Liberia and president of the Baptist World Alliance and the Liberia Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention.

The building stands as a memorial to a Baptist girl who was fatally injured in a hiking accident near Ridgecrest, N. C., in 1959. Barbara Butler, of Saluda, S. C., had just finished high school. She went to Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly during student week to see a friend. While on a mountain hike she fell from a rainslick trail.

When the Ridgecrest staffers took their annual "Christmas" offering they decided to designate it in Barbara's memory. They collected \$1,673 and sent it to the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board to be used for a chapel overseas.

The money went to Liberia for the church in Sanniquellie, near the Guinea border. The Foreign Mission Board and the Liberia Baptist Convention added to the fund.

Rev. Paul H. Grossman, Southern Baptist missionary, and Rev. James E. George, Liberian Baptist field superintendent for the area, supervised construction of the new church building. Mr. Grossman assists with church development in the four-county area in which Sanniquellie is located (he lives in Nimba, 22 miles away).





CALL to prayer for Crusade issues: The officers of the steering committee coordinating North American plans for the Crusade of the Americas has issued a call to prayer, urging Baptists to observe Sunday, Jan. 14, 1968, as a day of prayer for the Crusade of the Americas. Wayne Dehoney (second from left), former president of the Southern Baptist Convention and pastor of Walnut Street Baptist Church in Louisville, is chairman of the steering committee and North American Coordinator for the Crusade of the Americas. Other officers are (left to right) Gordon Anderson of Chicago, vice chairman and home missions secretary for the Baptist General Conference; (Dehoney), Kenneth Kennedy, secretary and executive secretary of the General Association of General Baptists, Poplar Bluff, Mo., and Daniel Fuchs, treasurer, and associate general secretary of missions for the North American Baptist General Conference, Forest Park, Ill. (BP Photo)

Baptists urged to observe America's Crusade prayer day

LOUISVILLE—A call for Baptists throughout North America to observe a special day of prayer for the Crusade of the Americas on Sunday, Jan. 14, 1968, has been issued by the officers of the steering committee of the Crusade of the Americas in North America.

The statement was issued here by the officers of the steering committee which is coordinating the North American plans for the Crusade of the Americas, a hemispheric-wide evangelistic effort climaxing in 1969 in North, Central and South America.

"From Hudson Bay to the Cape of Good Hope Baptists of the Americas are called upon to unite in prayer to almighty God.

"Let us pray together, in 100,000 churches in 26 countries, 24 million Baptists in 38 conventions in all languages, asking God to bless our hemisphere with a great spiritual revival.

"Let us pray together, in our churches and in our homes, on the same day, the second Sunday of January.

"Let us pray humbly confessing our sins, individual and social.

"Let us pray for the healing of our lands, torn by civil strife and war and moral decay and spiritual apostasy.

"Let us pray acknowledging that Christ is our only hope, and all men must turn to Christ in repentance and faith for personal salvation.

"Let us pray that as individual Christians and as churches we might be surrendered instruments in the hand of God

to declare the good news of Christ to people of our hemisphere.

"Let us pray for our leaders in the Crusade of the Americas: our Crusade president, Dr. Rubens Lopes of Brazil; our North American coordinator, Dr. Wayne Dehoney; our Southern Baptist evangelism leader, Dr. C. E. Autrey of the SBC Home Mission Board Evangelism Division, the pastors and the laymen in our churches." (BP)



THE church memory built—Sanniquele Church, Liberia, dedicated Nov. 5 in memory of Barbara Butler of Saluda, S. C.L

About people

WOODSON ARMES, pastor of First Church, El Paso, Tex., has been elected secretary of the Christian Education Commission of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

The 55-year-old minister is a former Bible teacher at Baylor University, Waco, Tex., and former pastor of Seventh and James Church, Waco, and Polytechnic Church, Ft. Worth. He is a graduate of Baylor and Southwestern Seminary. (BP)

A. JERREL PRITCHETT, pastor of First Church, Lithonia, Ga., has been named associate secretary in the Sunday School department of the Georgia Baptist Convention.

A native of Cochran, Ga., Pritchett, 34, is a graduate of Mercer University, Macon, Ga., and Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth.

As an associate in the Sunday School department, Pritchett will lead in promotion of Vacation Bible School work, and in the development of church libraries, church kindergartens and week-day Bible study. (BP)

MARVIN W. SAPAUGH has been named director of personnel and assistant cashier at Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Tex., Elwin L. Skiles, president, said.

Prior to accepting the position at Hardin-Simmons the 27-year-old native of Sulphur Springs, Tex., was affiliated with the office of personnel of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville. (BP)

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Feminine intuition

by Harriet Hall

Christmas is . . .

Memories flood the mind at this holiday season. When one recalls family traditions observed faithfully each year it is a pleasure to let the scenes pass in review.

Christmas is:

Secrets being kept. . .

Fun and excitement. . .

Fragrance of evergreens. . .

A lovely Christmas tree with sparkling ornaments and presents underneath. . .

Fudge, divinity, cookies, and cake. . .

The wonderful aroma of a turkey baking in the oven. . .

Sneaking a preview taste of Christmas ambrosia. . .

Christmas cards, notes, and letters. . .

An unexpected surprise or two from someone thoughtful. . .

Children laughing. . .

Christmas choirs and special music giving a foretaste of heaven. . .

The joy of singing and listening to Christmas carols. . .

A very special phone call from someone dear. . .

And best of all—Christmas is the Birthday of our Savior—a Baby born in Bethlehem, who now resides at the right hand of the Father. It is a time to thank God for the greatest gift anyone could give. God is good; His mercy is everlasting; His truth endureth forever.

Let us pray for peace and a blessed Christmas for everyone.

The bookshelf

Doctrines of the Christian Religion, by William Wilson Stevens, Eerdmans, 1967, \$6.95

Written to be a textbook of Christian doctrine on the college and university level, the author nonetheless has kept the average church layman in mind, choosing to make it readable for the average reader. Going on the assumption that most students reading such a book as this will not take the time to refer to their Bibles for biblical references, Dr. Stevens has included both references and Bible passages.

The author is a graduate of Southern Baptist Seminary, Louisville, and professor of Bible and New Testament Greek at Mississippi (Baptist) College.

The Universal Experience of Adolescence, by Norman Kiell, Beacon Press, 1967 paperback, \$3.95

First published in 1964 by International Universities Press as a hardback, this 942-page book is a study of the basic uniformity of adolescent develop-

ment in all societies with illustrations from over two hundred personal documents ranging from antiquity to the present and representing many cultures.

By Prescription Only, by Morton Mintz, Beacon Press, 1967 paperback, \$3.95

Originally published in 1965 by Houghton Mifflin Company under the title **The Therapeutic Nightmare**, this is a report on the roles of the United States Food and Drug Administration, the American Medical Association, pharmaceutical manufacturers, and others in connection with the irrational and massive use of prescription drugs that may be worthless, injurious, or even lethal.

Reaching the Silent Billion, by David Mason, Zondervan, 1967

The plight of the desperate billion non-literates in the world today continues to offer an unprecedented oppor-

tunity for Christianity, contends Dr. Mason, who was associate director of Laubach Literacy, Inc., at the time this book went to press but is now executive director of this Syracuse, N. Y., non-profit organization.

The silent billion is not limited to the unclothed pagan tribes of foreign lands but is equally applicable to church-related literacy efforts from New York to Florida and from Southern California to Alaska, Dr. Mason points out.

"Because of the centrality of the Bible, a Christian who is unable to read is a cripple," says the author. "Consequently, the church in educationally deprived areas is invigorated when a reading campaign up-grades its literacy level. . . . An effective, mature church is built upon a literate and informed membership."



The cover



Here is a man who was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He worked in a carpenter shop until he was 30, and then for three years he was an itinerant preacher. He never held an office. He never owned a home. He never wrote a book. He never had a family. He never went to college. He never put his foot inside a big city. He never traveled 200 miles from the place where he was born. He never did one of the things which usually accompany greatness. He had no credentials but himself.

While he was a young man, the tide of public opinion turned against him. His friends ran away. He was turned over to his enemies. He went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. While he was dying, his executioners gambled for the only piece of property he had on earth, and that was his coat. When he was dead, he was laid in a private grave through the pity of a friend.

Nineteen wide centuries have come and gone, and today he is the central figure of the human race and the leader of the column of progress.

I am far within the mark when I say that all the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that were ever built, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man upon this earth, as that one solitary life.—James A. Francis

Say "Merry Christmas" with books



It's Christmas!

*The tree is trimmed, the candles glow,
And ready hangs the mistletoe.
Reluctantly, small sleepyheads
Climb slowly to their waiting beds,
While parents share a tired smile
Across the ribbon/tissue pile.*

*Led by lanterns' bobbing light
Friends come carolling through the night,
While midnight bells, far-off and sweet,
The angels' gloria repeat,
And in the vast and radiant blue
Faith finds the Christmas star anew.*

*O, may the Christmas dawning bring
Gifts without price to yours and you—
Love, Hope and Joy, and Christmas Peace—
To last a happy twelve-month through!*

MAUREEN MURDOCH

 **ARKANSAS POWER & LIGHT COMPANY**
HELPING BUILD ARKANSAS

Institutions — Arkansas Baptist Medical Center

Proposed New Parking Lots at ABMC



The above aerial photograph was taken from the East looking toward the West: At the bottom of the picture is Bishop Street. The top of the picture is bounded by Battery Street. The picture is bounded on the right (North) by Eleventh Street, and on the left

(South) by Thirteenth Street.

The Center has received approval from the City to close Twelfth Street between Marshall and Bishop Street and convert the entire block (South) into a parking lot. The Center also owns half of the block south of Thir-

teenth Street and proposes to include it in the overall parking lot plan. When completed early next year, the two-and-one-half blocks will have a capacity for over 600 cars. The Board of Trustees has approved spending \$70,000 for the facilities.

CORPORATION HOLDS SECOND ANNUAL MEETING

The fifty-man Corporation of ABMC held its second annual meeting in the Student Union Building, Tuesday, December 5. Mr. A. James Linder, president of the Board of Trustees and president of the Corporation presided at the meeting. He gave a report on the operation of the Corporation since its first corporate meeting last year, including reports of the Nominating Committee, and the committee regarding real and personal property owned by the Corporation. Mr. Gilbreath reported from Administration regarding the progress and capabilities provided by the Center last year, the various teaching programs of the hospital, and new equipment purchased.

The Corporation meets annually to hear these reports and to elect members to the Board of Trustees to fill vacancies or expired terms created during the year.

Following the morning meeting, the Corporation members had lunch at Riverdale Country Club. The Board of Trustees convened in the afternoon for a reorganizational meeting.

O. T. CHIEF RETIRES

Mrs. Hellon Loflin, Occupational Therapy Department Manager, retired December 8. Mrs. Loflin came to work at ABMC in September, 1965 when she organized and set up the department.

Mrs. Loflin said that she and Mr. Loflin plan to travel and see the U.S.A. Mr. Loflin has been with the Corps of Engineers for over 37 years, and plans to retire in the near future. "We have seen quite a lot of Central and South America when we were stationed there, and now we plan to see a lot of the United States," she said.

Mrs. Peterson, Staff Therapist, will assume the duties of Acting Manager of the department until a Chief can be found.

Center Represented At League Meeting

At the meeting of the new Public Relations Committee of the Arkansas League for Nursing, October 17, ABMC was represented by Mr. Gilbreath, Mrs. Mildred Armour, SCA, and Mrs. Ruth Arnold Leveck, librarian at ABMC.

Gideons Present New Testaments



Student Gathalou Arrington receives New Testament from Mrs. North and Mrs. Jackson.

Mrs. Earl North, president of the Ladies Auxiliary of Gideons, presented white New Testaments to 49 student practical nurses at a special meeting in the Chapel last month. Mrs. North said that the white New Testaments were reserved for the nursing profession. These New Testaments are given with the understanding that they are to be used PRN (as often as needed).

Lab Emphasizes Donor Comfort



Odare Murphree, clinical laboratory supervisor, announced that the Center's Blood Bank had acquired three new contour donor chairs.

There are several advantages to these chairs over the old donor tables. These include the added comfort to the donor because the chair follows the contour of the body in a semi-reclining position; adjustable tilt to raise or lower the head position; and a built-in vibrator which relaxes the donor.

The chairs have an automatic cut-off device which stops the flow of

blood when the unit of blood has been obtained. Each chair has a hemolator which continuously mixes an anticoagulant with the blood. A solid vinyl material covers the chair making it easier to clean and maintain.

Mr. Murphree said the chairs take much less room than the old-type donor tables.

The Center expects to enter a comprehensive blood donor program and implement its blood conservation and use program when the fractionation equipment arrives later this year.

Center Initiates New Isolation Procedures

The Executive Committee of the Medical Staff has approved a new isolation procedure recommended by the Isolation Committee of the Medical Staff and Nursing Service.

Miss Betty Jo Marsh, Inservice Director, explained the new procedure in a series of meetings with nurses and representatives of all of the departments in the hospital. Miss Marsh said, "Every person in the hospital—employee and visitor alike—must observe the rules, because the procedure is successful only if every necessary step is followed."

The new procedure codes the various degrees of isolation by color: Full isolation is red; Modified is yellow; Precautionary is blue, and Reverse isolation is green.

The important point to remember is that if you go to a patient's room and

it has a color-coded isolation notice on the door, DO NOT ENTER the room until you have checked with the nurse in charge and determined the necessary steps for the particular isolation.

Mrs. Janie Tyler, Director of Nurses, said, "we average four patients a day in Isolation throughout the hospital."

NEW CLASSROOMS AND OFFICE

The Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees has approved a \$100,000 renovation project for the third floor of the Nurses Dormitory.

The entire North wing of the third floor in the residence will be "hulled out", and two new classrooms for the Laboratory are to be provided as well as office space for the Fund Development staff.

The growth of the Center's School

Conferences Benefit Patient

A group of interested physicians on the Staff of ABMC have started a semi-monthly conference to discuss the diagnosis, treatment and management of various tumors. The conference is open to any member of the Medical Staff and attendance, as well as the number of disciplines represented, has continued to increase.

The conference is a working meeting with the objective of teaching through dissemination of information and opinions by those present. Any physician may present a patient, or his history and record, for consideration by the conference. The discussion which follows amounts to a multi-discipline consultation. No remarks are made on the patient's chart, and the physician presenting the patient is not committed to any remarks, opinions or findings. This would defeat the purpose of the conference. The real value of the meeting is that it serves as a vehicle for the free expression of information by all of the participants with the hope that the combined knowledge and experience of the group will be of assistance to the physician in the treatment of his patient.

Patients may be presented to the conference immediately after admission and at subsequent conferences following diagnosis, treatment and management. Patients will continue to be followed indefinitely.

Many new facilities and capabilities at ABMC, including expanded diagnostic, radiologic and isotopic procedures, and the sophisticated clinical laboratory tests, make the conference more necessary and beneficial as a means of communicating information and results of these new facilities and techniques to the benefit of the patient.

Memorial Elects Staff Officers For '68

The Medical Staff of Memorial Hospital has elected officers for the coming year. The officers and section chiefs elected were: Dr. A. Chudy, Chief of Staff; Dr. Frank Ludwig, Chief-elect; Dr. Frank Stroop, Vice Chief; Dr. Ernest Harper, Secretary; Dr. Charles Fielder, Chief of Surgery; Dr. Frank E. Morgan, Chief of OB-GYN; Dr. Bob Gosser, Chief of Medicine, and Dr. Huie Smith, Chief of General Practice. The doctors will take office at the February Staff meeting and will serve for one year.

of Medical Technology has necessitated additional space for classrooms. Nine students are presently enrolled in the School, and it is approved for 12 students each year. The classrooms will have a seating capacity for 20 students and will include blackboard, sinks, water, gas and storage space for teaching aids.

Elected to State Office



Dorothy Hammons

Mrs. Dorothy E. Hammons, Staff Technologist in ABMC's Radiology Department, has been elected President-elect of the Arkansas Society of Radiologic Technologist. Mrs. Hammons was graduated from St. Vincent's Infirmary School of Radiologic Technology in 1955 and became a member of the Society in 1956. Prior to her election as President-elect, she served the state-wide organization as Secretary-Treasurer and Vice President. She is a native of Little Rock and came to ABMC in April, 1966.

Prior to her becoming a Technologist she was a Dental Assistant. She is a member of the Arkansas Mental Health Association and Our Lady of the Holy Souls Church. Dorothy and her husband, Curtis, live at 211 North Pierce Street in Little Rock.

Junior Auxiliary Distributes Turkeys to Patients

Members of ABMC's Junior Auxiliary distributed over 300 pine cone turkeys to patients at the Center during Thanksgiving holidays.

Junior Auxiliary members gathered up pine cones from various sources, and drew, colored and cut-out the turkey head and tail feathers to be attached to the pine cones.

Paul Floyd, president of the Junior Auxiliary, said approximately 30 members of the Junior Auxiliary volunteered for the project. The turkeys were distributed to all floors on Wednesday evening before Thanksgiving Day.

The Junior Auxiliary's annual Christmas party for Pediatrics will be held December 21. Santa Claus will distribute toys and gifts to the children, and members of the Junior Auxiliary will serve punch and cookies to the patients and their families.

Plan Your Tax Deductions for 1967!

You still have about two weeks in which to make gifts and contributions to ABMC in order to deduct your donation from your 1967 Income Tax.

ABMC has many needs for your consideration. In 1966, over \$400,000 in charity and free service was provided by the Center. The ABMC Heart Surgery Fund has almost been depleted by the purchase of a \$1,800 Heat Ex-

changer to be used in open heart surgery. The Center's proposed Coronary Intensive Care Unit Fund is available for equipment grants and memorial gifts.

The coupon below is provided for your help in designating your donation to the Fund of your choice. Receipts will be sent upon request for tax purposes.

In the furtherance of the objectives and purposes

of Arkansas Baptist Medical Center

I would like to make the following contribution to the

Charity Fund _____

ABMC Heart Surgery Fund _____

Building Fund _____

Student Scholarship Fund _____

Coronary Intensive Care Fund _____

My gift is for: Birthday ___ Anniversary ___ Memorial ___ Honorarium ___

(signed)

Acknowledgment of gift should be sent to: _____

Jeannie Callaway, ABMC Hostess, shows new floor directories to be installed by elevators and entrances into the Center.



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For all 1967 issues of the ARKANSAS BAPTIST NEWSMAGAZINE. Refer to it when you are needing facts, figures and inspiration for your own enlightenment or the enlightenment of others on what we Baptists are doing and endeavoring to do. We suggest that if you are not already keeping a permanent file of the paper that you start doing so with this issue. We plan to give you a complete index in the closing issue of each year's papers.

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An old mistake

BY CONNIE EUBANK

If you ask some of your friends to name the date that Jesus was born, some might answer zero and some A.D. 1. Neither answer would be correct!

There have been several errors in our calendar, but most of them have been easy to correct. Julius Caesar made a big step forward when he corrected the calendar in the first century B.C. He established many of the things which we still use in our calendar. Pope Gregory III made another correction in the sixteenth century after Christ.

Many errors were due to the odd amount of time it takes the earth to revolve around the sun—a fraction less than $365\frac{1}{4}$ days.

But the biggest mistake is one which would be almost impossible to correct now. It was made in the sixth century, when the Christian calendar was being set up. Actually, zero was supposed to be the date of Christ's birth, and the years would be numbered each way from that. But an obscure monk named Dionysius Exiguus, whose job it was to translate manuscripts, made an error in his calculating. Therefore, Christ was probably born in what we call 4 B.C.!

Powdy's Christmas present

BY EVELYN WITTER

Powdy, the cat whose full name was Powder Puff, was worried. She was worried that she wasn't going to get a Christmas present. She had wandered in and out of the old farmhouse for weeks, listening to the family's whisperings about Christmas. Never once had she heard the name of Powdy mentioned.

On Christmas Eve she sat on the front porch, looking into the living room. There were many gifts in there, she knew. She looked hard at each member of the family to see if at least one of them would remember her. She looked longest of all at little Louise, who had raised her from a kitten. Surely, she thought, Louise would not forget to feed and pet her.

Just then the big front door swung open and Louise called, "Powdy! Here, kitty, kitty, kitty! I want you to see the tree. We've just finished trimming it."

Powdy bounced into the living room. On the table was the most beautiful tree she had ever seen.

Powdy walked closer to the tree. There was a blonde angel on the top. It looked like Louise, the little farm girl who always took such loving care of all the animals.

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Powdy noticed the pretty lights. Some of them looked like the stars that shone down on her when she took her favorite walks around the barnyard and through the garden and into the orchard.

There were bright balls that looked very much like the balls of yarn Powdy liked to play with when Mom and Louise got out the mending basket.

When Powdy reached up to touch a branch with her paws, she heard a bell tinkle. It sounded something like the bell on the black-and-white cow that gave the milk she drank.

Powdy was so surprised that she lay right down in front of the tree and stared and stared. Here, on one tree, were all the things she loved most in the world! First was the little girl who was her best friend. Then there were the stars that kept her company when she walked alone. There were the balls that gave her so much fun. And there was even the tinkling bell that reminded her of good, warm milk.

Powdy purred loud enough for everyone to hear. What she was trying to tell them was, "Thank you for my lovely present. I do like looking at my tree very much!"

Life and Work

December 24

Luke 2:15-19;

Matthew 2:1-11

Jesus: object of our worship

BY C. W. BROCKWELL JR., PASTOR
GRAVES MEMORIAL CHURCH, NORTH LITTLE ROCK

A five-year-old rehearsing for the school Christmas program sang:

"Hark, the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born king!
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sitters reconciled."

There is truth in that. Many who "sat out" Christ's work all year suddenly rise to do something for someone at Christmas. Some of these won't be able to sit down again after tasting the joy of service. Many, of course, will do something because they have a fuzzy sentimental feeling about Christmas. But those who receive the greatest joy are those who serve as men who have been lived and died for. "We do well," said theologian Leon Morris, "to reflect on the fact of our sin, the seriousness of our sin, and the fact of Christ's forgiveness. It was this that brought the Son of God to Bethlehem's manger. It is this that Christmas is all about."

We have to learn about Jesus' birth from Luke and Matthew, for Jesus never seemed to mention it. And the major thing we learn from these two disciples is that Jesus was and is to be worshiped.

Worship from the despised (Luke 2:15-19)

The shepherds of Israel were good people, by and large, but they pretty well stayed in their place. For one thing, they didn't smell very good so they weren't too welcome in some circles. Neither did they have time to support the various religious institutions of that day. But they were very religious and it was to them that the angelic choir announced Christ's birth.

Following the announcement, they faced a crisis. What would they do? How would they respond? One thing they didn't do was stand around, shaking hands and discussing plans to go. Indeed not! They went in haste to see the child.

We assume Jesus was born in a stable or barn because he was placed in a manger. It could just as well have been in a poor family's home, where people and animals dwelt together, or it could have been in a lonely cave. At least no one seems to have assisted Mary for she herself wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger.

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So he was born in a manger. And there are no barriers in a manger. Superficial categories of race and class and fussy notions about germs and dirt aren't important in a barn!

"Anybody is welcome in a stable. Black faces, dirty faces, hungry faces—they just don't seem out of place there. All the poor, lonely, unimportant, forgotten people of the world can gather around the manger and dare to believe that the baby who lies there really belongs to them" (Malcolm Tolbert—Home Missions).

The shepherds knelt and worshiped and left and worshiped. "See 'N Tell," that's what Christianity is.

Worship from the respected (Matthew 2:1-11)

God is no respecter of persons. He loves the up and out as well as the down and out. The intellectuals can know Christ too, by faith.

When the Magi observed protocol by calling on King Herod, they revealed the purpose of their visit. When Billy Graham went to India, he too observed diplomatic niceties by calling on Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, an agnostic. He got a cool reception, until he said: "Mr. Nehru, I'm not that man for all this diplomatic talk. I know I'm intruding upon you, but I wanted to be able to meet and tell you precisely why I'm here. I am a preacher, Mr. Nehru. I believe in Christ. I believe He can change people's lives, I know He has changed mine. I want to give that message to your people." They talked on for more than an hour.

Witnessing is the Christian's real vocation, regardless of what else he does on the side.

The wise men knew royalty when they saw it. Jesus received their worship and their gifts. There was gold, fit only for a king; incense for a priest; and strangely myrrh, a fragrant perfume oil used in Israel's anointing oil and in purification rites. Myrrh was mixed in the wine given Christ on the cross, and, prophetically, myrrh was

brought by the women who came to prepare His body for burial!

Worship today

When we consider all the attention Christ's birth receives at Christmas in comparison to the results seen in changed lives, we can easily conclude that many are worshipping the birth of Christ instead of the Christ. They are not the same. Those who worship his birth never see beyond the babe in the manger. But those who worship the Christ find that under the tree of life a gift of eternal life has been placed for all who believe. God did send his Son to be our Saviour. Christmas can be no less than that or it isn't Christmas.

An old German song has it: Though Christ a thousand times in Bethlehem be born, if He's not born in thee, thy soul's forlorn.

Amen and amen!

When we listen



We hear angel voices singing
Glory words that pierce the sky,
And the message they are bringing

Is the same that you and I
Have been hearing down the ages—

Of the Holy Baby's birth
As recorded on the pages
Of the greatest Book on earth;
How the wondrous Incarnation
Came to life endowed with more
Pure and holy exultation
Than the world had known before;
How the wise men, moving slowly,
As the torturous miles they trod,
Star-led, came and fell down lowly.

Worshipping the Son of God.
So the earth with joy is ringing—
Angel words still pierce the sky—
Weak and mighty hear the singing,
Just the same as you and I.

—Etta Caldwell Harris

Worship brings renewal

By C. W. BROCKWELL JR., PASTOR

GRAVES MEMORIAL CHURCH, NORTH LITTLE ROCK

We come to the end and we find ourselves again at the beginning. Our aim this quarter has been to strengthen and develop our worship. Every teacher would have had to follow his pupils home to know whether the purpose has been accomplished or not. If your teacher has helped strengthen your worship experiences, take time to express your appreciation both to God and the teacher.

We need a fresh breath of God's Spirit before 1967 fades away. We have used one whole year of God's time. It will be no more. None of it has been preserved or stored for future use. If God lets us begin another year, we must use it more wisely. Worship is our only hope for using the year right.

Conviction: the seed of renewal (Isaiah 6:1-5)

One day we didn't care one way or the other about our relationship to God. Then God planted a seed in our heart and it grew rapidly. The seed is called conviction. It was God's way of telling us that he wanted us for his own.

Conviction often begins in a crisis. It did with Isaiah. Uzziah, Israel's good king for 40 years, had died and a new leader was rising in Assyria, Israel's enemy. It soon became apparent that no human arrangement could spare Judah her judgment for ignoring God. Isaiah became burdened for his own sin. "Woe is me," he cried.

Despair deepened in Isaiah when he glimpsed God's majesty, glory, power, authority, greatness and purity. It was too much. His sin was exposed. He was undone. He saw his life in relationship not only to God but to those around him. No man, you see, is innocent while there is injustice, oppression, poverty, war and immorality. Conviction is the sight one gets of himself before God and his fellowman. It is the seed of renewal and from it grows either life or death.

Cleansing: the sign of renewal (Isaiah 6:6-7)

If God shows his grace or love in conviction, he shows his mercy in cleansing. We are refreshed in worship only because God has mercifully taken our sin away.

Isaiah acknowledged his sin and one of the seraphims touched his lips with a live coal from off the altar and pronounced him cleansed. We don't have

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any words of Isaiah expressing his joy over this but it must have been similar to what David wrote in Psalm 51.

Of all the living religions, only Christianity offers forgiveness. Forgiveness of sin is the chiefest blessing of the Christian life. It is the Christian life and a sure sign of renewal.

Commission: the seal of renewal (Isaiah 6:8-13)

Isaiah acknowledged his sin and was cleansed. Then God gave him a job to do. It was and is God's way of saying "I accept you as mine now." Christians need this seal of acceptance. If God has not offered you a job, you will do well to rethink your worship experiences. It is truly amazing how many times we go to God's house "to worship" but leave with no compulsion to do anything specific for Christ. It is too often like attending a pep rally. We feel better, but do no better!

A very popular response in our churches today is that of rededication. But to what do we rededicate ourselves? What specifically does God want us to lay aside or take up? Perhaps we confuse conviction with an emotional feeling of depression. If it is God speaking, he will point out exactly what is wrong.

Isaiah was told to go, not because there was a need, but because God had instructed him to go. He was commissioned to go to his own people, referred to as "this people." He was told at the beginning that the people would not listen. Would you have then gone? Will you now go though many will not listen and change?

But how long must one labor under such circumstances? Three answers are given: (1) until the cities are no more; (2) until the last man is gone; (3) until there is no more work.

Years ago a story appeared in one of our quarterlies about an old man who sat dejectedly in a cemetery next to the church he pastored. He was sad because he had just been asked to resign. A passing boy was waved to his side and the old man shared the story of Christ. The boy became a Christian, then a shoe cobbler, a teacher, a lay preacher, and finally a missionary. His name was William Carey. As long as men are useful, God keeps on giving

them jobs to do.

Confession: the state of renewal (Psalm 73:25-28)

It is good to confess our sin but it is better to confess our Saviour. Would not God do more for us if we gave Him more credit for what he has already done. Christians are not "lucky" or "fortunate" and things do not just "happen" to them. God orders our good from his vast storehouse of blessings.

The psalmist confessed God to be "the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever." Are we ashamed to admit God does so much for us? Do we want people to think we have done it?

Nursery, Beginner and Primary workers teach children to say "Thank you, Jesus" for food, sunshine, plants, water, happy moments and many other things. This is good but why stop there? Why not teach it to Juniors, Intermediates, Young People, and Adults? To paraphrase the psalmist: "It is good for us to draw near to God . . . that we may declare all his works." That is the kind of renewal true worship will bring to any heart.

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Greater than the prophets

BY VESTER E. WOLBER

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION, OUACHITA UNIVERSITY

International

December 24

Malachi 3:1-4, 4:2-4

Predictive passages of Scripture are usually expressed in language which makes them difficult to understand until after they have come to pass. Such passages are included in today's study. Fortunately, however, we have not only the prophetic prediction, but we also have an inspired declaration of its fulfillment. New Testament writers looked at their Old Testament scriptures through Christian eyes; because the Christian experience, like a carefully prescribed pair of glasses, enabled them to see more clearly the truth which they may have seen dimly prior to their Christian experience. They set the precedent—and we are convinced followers—in giving a Christian interpretation to the Hebrew Bible.

The forerunner (3:1a)

The opening statement, "I send my messenger to prepare the way before me," conveys a double meaning. Since the name Malachi means "my messenger," it is suggested that the passage may have given the title to the book. On the other hand, Malachi, the author may have been referring to himself and his role as messenger to prepare the way for the Lord. Whatever may have been the prophet's meaning, Mark's Gospel announced its fulfillment in the ministry of John the Baptist and connected it up with the great passage of Isaiah (Mark 1:2-3; Isa. 40:3). John came to his generation as God's messenger, a voice calling on men to prepare their hearts for the coming of the Lord.

The Messiah (3:1b-2a)

The happy announcement of Malachi was that "the Lord whom you seek . . . the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight" was coming. In characteristic prophetic fashion Malachi warned that the day of the Lord was not to be anticipated as a day of delight unmingled with judgment. He would agree that the Lord was coming "with healing in his wings," but he was also coming with a message of judgment burning from his lips (4:1-3). The passage found expression in Jesus in whom mercy mingled with severity.

The mission (3:2a-4)

The functions of the Messiah are to refine and purify, like one who melts silver and carefully removes foreign matter. He will refine and purify the priests (sons of Levi) so they will offer right offerings.

The determining factors in any religion are the priesthood and the offerings. Malachi did not have full insight into the nature of Jesus' refinements, but he did recognize the inherent weaknesses here. What Jesus really did to refine and purify the priesthood and its offerings was to replace them. According to the Book of Hebrews (chaps. 7-9), Christ became our High Priest and became the offering. Thus, Christ offered himself once for all time (Heb. 7:27), an offering which does not need to be repeated.

The sun of righteousness (4:2-4)

Malachi saw evil days ahead for evildoers, a day when bad men will burn like stubble in an ancient oven; but he saw a happy day ahead for those who reverence his name, a day when the "sun of righteousness" will bathe his people with its healing rays.



. . . 80 percent of the eligible people in the United States have used are using birth control information according to the president of Planned Parenthood, World Population. The president, Dr. Alan F. Guttmacher, says Roman Catholic opposition to many types of birth control "doesn't have much influence on American Catholics. Statistics show that more than 50 percent of American Catholic women practice some type of birth control.

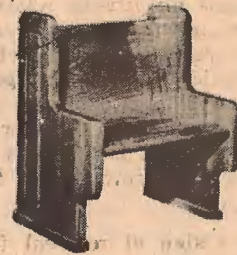
. . . The U. S. Public Health Service has released an important film on cigarette smoking. Entitled "Getting Through." The 16mm black and white film runs for a twenty-minute period. It is available on a short-term loan, free of charge from the National Medical Audiovisual Center (Annex), Chamblee, Georgia 30005, Attn. Film Distribution. (U. S. Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare)

It was to be a time of health and happiness, and God's people would leap for joy like calves released from their stalls. It was also to be a time of victory over evil and evildoers who had been reduced to ashes.

Malachi's words of joy close out the Old Testament with a final prediction of the coming of a new Elijah whom Jesus identified as John the Baptist (Mark 9:11-13). This theme of joy was caught up and reverberated by Matthew and Luke as they recorded the birth of the Saviour. Micah had foretold that Bethlehem in Judah had been chosen for the place of Christ's birth (Micah 5:24), and Isaiah had outlined the nature and function of the kingdom. It is said to be a kingdom of joy and freedom, because God has broken the grip of the oppressor and has set the captives free. The mighty one called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace will establish an everlasting spiritual kingdom based on justice and righteousness that promotes peace (Isa. 9:2-7).

When angels appeared to the shepherds of Judea to announce the birth of Jesus, their first note was an expression of joy and gladness. Jesus was proclaimed as a joyful expression of a happy God; and when the shepherds had seen him, they returned with joy and rejoicing, glorifying and praising God. That same Jesus who brought joy to the hearts of reverent shepherds will bring joy to any man who dares to trust him, praise him, and obey him.

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Man's response to God's gift

International
December 31
Malachi 3:5-16

BY VESTER E. WOLBER
DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION, OUACHITA UNIVERSITY

It is most appropriate that on this the last day of the year we hear from God on the dangers of skeptical faith and irresponsible conduct. As the year leaks out, we do well to analyze our faith, re-examine our motives, and re-direct our ways.

When God is away (3:5)

When the Lord is far removed from men's conscious experience:

1. He comes near in judgment. The context here indicates that his purpose in drawing near in judgment is redemptive. His judgment is corrective in nature and redemptive in purpose. Morally, socially, and religiously the society streaked with corruption; and God's intent was to separate the good from the evil.

2. He is unchanging in character. The orderliness of the material universe rests on the regularity of natural law, and the orderliness of the moral order rests on the consistency of God's character. Since God does not change, we can count on the same moral principles which operated in the days of Moses to operate in our generation.

But Malachi argued that because God does not change he would keep his covenant with Israel, even though Israel had broken her end of the bargain. The word for Lord is Jehovah, or Jahweh, the covenant-keeping God who entered into covenants with his people. Thus, the Lord will not break his promise. Because he is ever consistent, God will not in wrath consume his people.

3. He calls on his people to return unto him. Israel had a long history of rebellion and covenant-breaking, but the Lord still called on them to return unto him. The Lord gave a command coupled with promise: "Return to me, and I will return to you."

When men approach God (3:7c-12)

Malachi represents the flip-side of Amos, who complained that men in Bethel loved to bring unto God their sacrifices and tithes but practiced injustice, oppression, and deceit (Amos 4:4; 5:21-24). Malachi, on the other hand, complained that his people were religious sentimentalists who gave no practical expression to their faith. True religion is perverted about equally by those who substitute gifts and sacrifices for upright conduct and those who substitute sentimental gush for practical sharing of goods.

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In answer to the question concerning how one is to return unto God, the author counters with another question: "Would you believe that a man would rob God? Yet you are robbing me . . . in your tithes and offerings."

Again the Lord issued a command coupled with a promise: "Bring the full tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house; and thereby put me to the test." Because his people withheld their tithes, God withheld the rains and released the locusts (devourer); but he promised that if they would release their tithes and offerings he would release the rains and restrain the locusts.

When men grow skeptical (3:13-16)

As men lose faith and begin to parade their doubts, they set up false standards by which to measure life's values. They note that the wicked often prosper, and the man who defies and challenges God gets by with it. David, too, had been disturbed when he noted the prosperity of the wicked (Ps. 73) until he entered God's sanctuary and took a

long look at the end of their days. Jesus took an inside look and noted the internal agitation and frustrating anxiety of the men without faith.

Verses 16-18 bring the discussion to a rather abrupt end. Those who feared God had fellowship together and were marked for identification. At the end of the age God will identify them as his own.

For you I wish

For you this Christmastide I wish
A multitude of things
Besides the gaily packaged gifts
With silver-glittered strings.

I wish you treasures richer far
Than golden coins can buy—
A scarlet-berried holly spray,
A swatch of flake-blurred sky—
Contentment, peace—dear ones to
share

Your home-fire, warm and bright;
But most of all the song that rang
Across the world that night.

—Etta Caldwell Harris

Sees funeral rites changing

CHICAGO—As the nation becomes more depersonalized and crowded, the American way of funerals is changing.

"For instance," said Elwyn Gipson of the National Selected Morticians Convention, "funeral processions to cemeteries are becoming impossible in the face of traffic. This could mean friends will disperse after services at the funeral home and only the family will attend private committal services at the cemetery."

Gipson also said that funeral services are generally attended by fewer people now.

"That's partly because the average person has fewer friends," he was quoted by the Chicago Daily News as saying.

"Most of our acquaintances are business acquaintances these days," he said. "Our original friends have dispersed throughout the nation and the world."

Funeral rites are also becoming more depersonalized and shorter, Gipson said.

"Modern ministers are more concerned with comforting the family than in preaching the gospel," he said.

"Besides, people won't listen to a 90-minute talk as they once did."

(EP)

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Take her, she's your's

"Your boy friend, Bill, just asked me for your hand in marriage and I consented," Dad told his daughter.

"But, Father," she cried, "I don't want to leave Mother!"

"I don't want to stand in the way of your happiness," Father answered. "Take Mother with you!"

The livin' end

"Mother," said the little boy, "today my teacher asked me if I had any brothers or sisters and I told her I was an only child."

"And what did she say?" asked the mother.

"She said, 'Thank goodness!'"

Wrong number!

Small girl showing bathroom scales to playmate: "All I know is, you stand on it and it makes you angry."

"Mini" such complaints

Sales clerk to little boy: So, you are lost, poor child. Why didn't you hang on to your mommy's skirt?

Little boy: I couldn't reach it.

Pioneers who blazed the trails now have descendants who burn up the road.

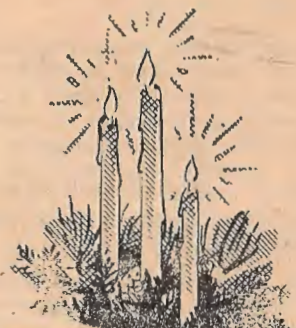
Attendance Report

December 10, 1967

Church	Sunday School	Training Union	Ch Adns.
Alexander First	68	33	
Berryville Freeman Heights	147	44	
Blytheville New Liberty	108	41	
Camden First	469	127	1
Crossett			
First	494	169	
Mt. Olive	242	95	2
Dumas First	297	54	
El Dorado			
Caledonia	47	32	
Ebenezer	139	67	
Victory	75	37	
Forrest City First	691	162	
Fort Smith			
First	1,415	468	3
Towson Avenue	175	91	
Gentry First	170	77	
Greenwood First	292	141	
Gurdon Beech Street	161	67	3
Harrison			
Eagle Heights	220	80	
Northvale	107	74	
Hope First	472	153	
Jacksonville			
Bayou Meto	138	95	
First	466	126	2
Marshall Road	368	178	3
Jonesboro			
Central	489	200	
Nettleton	260	121	
Little Rock			
Gaines Street	427	174	2
Geyer Springs First	497	146	1
Immanuel	1,156	390	4
Life Line	513	130	2
Rosedale	269	81	
Magnolia Central	675	267	1
Manila First	166	76	4
Marked Tree Neiswander	192	70	
Monticello			
First	327	110	
Second	252	98	
North Little Rock			
Calvary	396	155	2
Forty Seventh Street	209	68	2
Gravel Ridge First	166	87	2
Runyan Chapel	67	50	
Indian Hills	147	60	
Levy	487	152	1
Park Hill	804	209	
Sixteenth Street	48	32	
Sylvan Hills	273	97	
Paragould East Side	229	127	
Pine Bluff Second	218	74	
Rogers First	416	141	
Springdale			
Berry Street	96	32	
Elmdale	301	94	2
First	412	93	1
Oak Grove	78	41	
Vandervoort First	42	23	
Van Buren First	443	176	
Walnut Ridge First	304	143	
Warren			
First	473	115	
Southside Mission	106	76	
Immanuel	281	82	1
Westside	80	52	
West Memphis			
Calvary	323	148	2
Ingram Boulevard	302	149	3



"A voice like mine—and they didn't even ask me to try out for the cantata."
—ARK-E-OLGY by Gene Herrington



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COSTUMED in their traditional Slovakian dress, women of the Baptist Church at Backi Petrovac, Yugoslavia, make a colorful sight when they sing on special occasions. A number of Slovakian-language churches are located in an area on both sides of the Danube River upstream from Belgrade. (EBPS Photo)

Pied piper 'tunes out'

Dr. Timothy Leary, one-time Harvard professor who has been advising teeny boppers to "tune in, turn on and drop out," has finally taken the last of his three suggestions and quit.

The pied piper of the "acid heads" was quoted in Laguna Beach, Calif., as saying that he is giving up his work with the "League for Spiritual Discovery" which he has promoted for more than half a decade.

Apparently this means that the Hippie high priest won't be pushing LSD anymore, the hallucinogenic drug which has brought more misery to young people than any other phenomenon of the 1960s. Apparently he won't be traveling about singing hallelujahs for acid or championing the cause of psychedelic experience.

Since Leary took up his crusade in 1963, the underground press has lionized him; Hippies emulated him; little kids barely into their teen-age years believed him.

Consequently, thousands of youngsters who ran to where the action is to lie down on crash pads have wound up with venereal disease and with tormented and twisted minds—even, in some cases, brutal death. (EP)

Church to fight smog

LOS ANGELES—Temple Church here has allocated \$1,000 of its budget for promotional work on ways to fight smog next year.

Rev. Paul Kopp, pastor, said he and the board felt that if caring for the sick and poor is a legitimate ministry of the church, then health could be too.

"Men often protect themselves to death," he said. "We have a fantastic capacity for rationalizing our conclusions no matter how absurd. For example, I recently heard a man in the gasoline business seriously suggest that the use of detergents is the cause of smog." (EP)

The German Baptist Seminary in Hamburg reports an enrollment of 64 students during the current academic year, including 17 newcomers. Four of the students come from outside Germany for a year's study as guest auditors.

Located on the same campus is the Bible and missionary school with a registration of 12 students for the current class period. As an experiment, students of the Bible and missionary school are taking some of their courses together with seminary students. (EBPS)

'In God we trust'

GROVETON, N. H. — At least three communities in New Hampshire have agreed to follow the recommendation of a state legislator, Rep. A. George Manning, that plaques bearing the words "In God We Trust" be installed in all public school classrooms.

His proposal was defeated at the 1967 session of the legislature, but Mr. Manning has announced that he will try to get the plan approved at the 1968 session.

"I do not intend to let the idea die," he declared. "The plaques should be on every classroom wall."

Three of the communities he represents, Northumberland, Strafford and Stark, are expected to install the plaques in their schools after the first of the year.

At the last session, the House of Representatives approved the plaque proposal, but it died in the Senate education committee. (EP)

Church bulletin board

The Associated Press recently carried the following story, with a Shelbyville, Ky., dateline:

"A battle of sorts has been taking place on the bulletin board at the Centenary Methodist Church.

The minister, the Rev. William E. Hisle, posted this on the board: 'A Layman in Church is Worth Two on the Golf Course.'

A few days later, Hisle went to North Carolina and when he returned found this sign: 'A Preacher in Town is Worth Two in North Carolina.' The minister suspects it was the work of a golfer."

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