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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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ARKANSAS BAPTIST

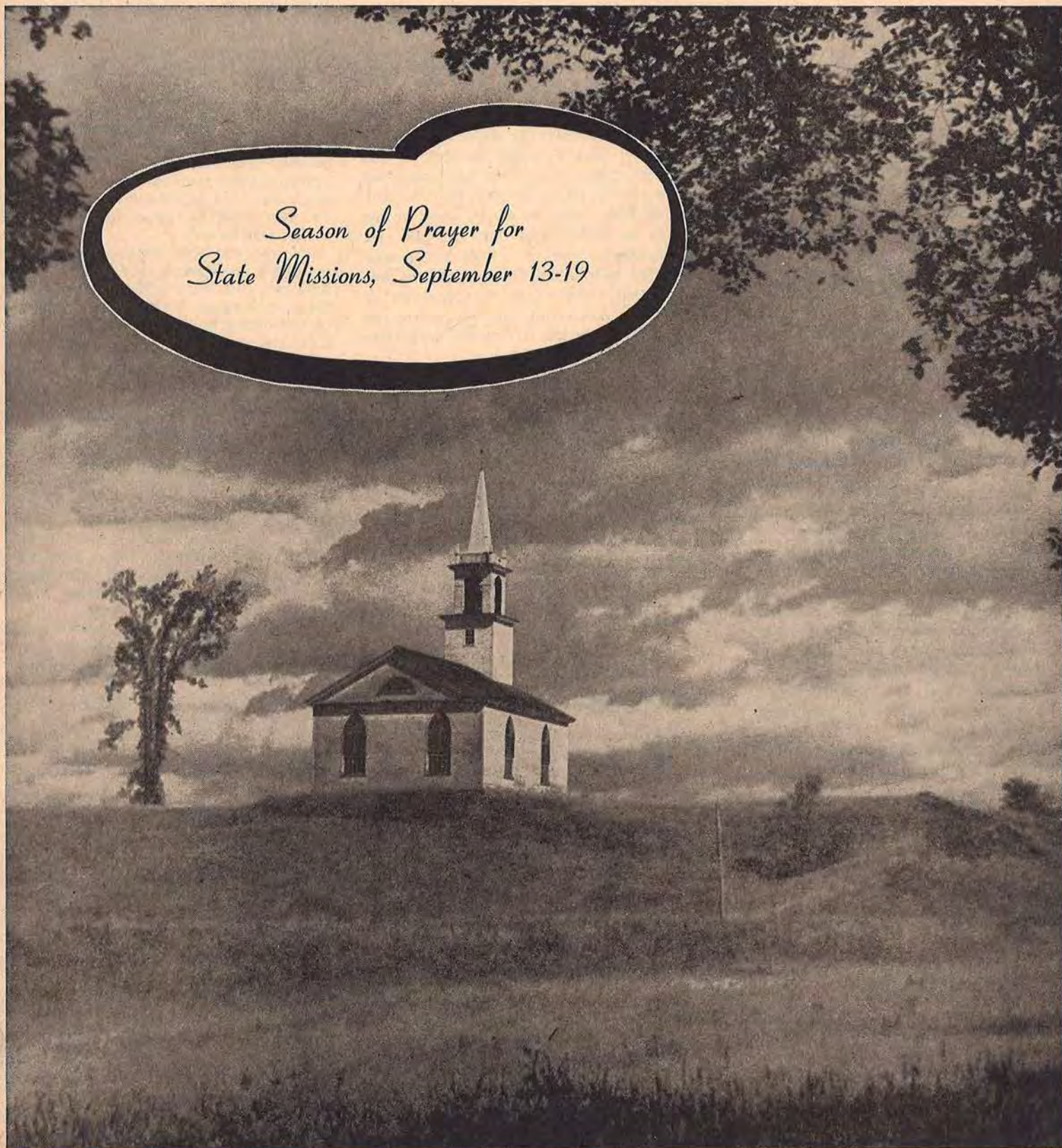
BAPTIST OFFICIAL STATE PAPER

VOLUME 47

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, SEPTEMBER 9, 1948

NUMBER 36

*Season of Prayer for
State Missions, September 13-19*



From The Editor's Desk

True Function Of The Church

Two recent pronouncements by Dr. Mark A. Dawber, executive secretary of the Home Mission Council of North America, may indicate the current trend, in many quarters, toward a social gospel which is being substituted for the gospel of blood bought redemption.

Addressing the Northern Baptist National Planning Conference for Town and Country churches, Dr. Dawber branded denominational Protestantism as "obsolete" and further declared: "Health, Christian education, recreation and many other services are waiting for a united church to provide adequate resources and leadership. It should make these services available and make a united impact on the evils of society."

Addressing the fourteenth annual Institute of World Missions at Chautauqua, New York, Dr. Dawber is reported as expressing the opinion that the "Most important problem confronting the human race is the development of a Christian concept toward the soil and natural resources."

Jesus was not indifferent toward the natural resources of the world, nor did He condemn social service. But it does seem that He disagrees with Dr. Dawber concerning the "most important problem facing the human race."

Nor do we have any record that indicates that Jesus objected to social services. In fact, He encouraged such services. However, those who lived with Him and reported His sayings give it as their unqualified conviction that the primary commission of the churches is to preach the gospel to every creature and to baptize those who believe and teach them to observe all the things which He taught.

Any minister who goes into the pulpit with any message, other than the gospel of blood bought redemption, is wasting his time; and any church or denomination that majors on any program of service, other than winning sinners to Jesus, is dissipating its resources and degenerating its mission.

Firt things must come first, else the whole scale of values is upset and maladjustments in every realm of life will be the result.

Defiance Not Justified

Ernest R. Bromley, guest preacher at Grace Methodist Church, Nassau, New York, is reported to have counseled the young men of the church to refuse to register for the draft. Recently 300 Protestant ministers signed a statement in which they asserted that the draft "should be met with total rejection."

We consider this to be a serious, even dangerous, attitude. The American form of

government admits the right of every citizen to oppose the enactment of legislation to which he objects; it also grants to each citizen the right to work for the repeal of legislation which he considers to be against the public interest. But there is no legal or moral grounds for open defiance of law by oneself or the encouragement of others to deliberately refuse to comply with government requirements.

Such acts of defiance and violation of the laws of the land cannot easily be differentiated from the violation of any other law. It is regrettable that Christian ministers have put themselves in such position.

Since our American system of government grants to every citizen the right to work for the repeal of laws to which he objects, and also protects him in that right, and prescribes the methods by which he may work for the repeal of such laws, it would seem to be bordering on rebellion to defy the law and call upon others to do so. Such action may be justified only when the government has reached such extremes in its oppression of and in its powers of life and death over the people that revolution is required to restore to the people their rights.

In spite of all the weaknesses of our democratic government, its virility and strength are demonstrated in the fact that such open defiance as displayed by these ministers does not throw the government into a rage or call for their liquidation.

Can't you imagine what would happen to these ministers, if they were citizens of Russia, and should advocate open defiance of the Russian government? The thing that proves the strength of the American system of government also proves the weakness of the Russian system.

Overripe Reception

The barrage of overripe eggs and vegetables which greeted presidential candidate Henry Wallace at Wilmington and Greensboro, North Carolina, cannot be condoned by Christian people. Those who disagree with Mr. Wallace could show their disagreement by their absence from his political rallies.

However, we wonder what right Mr. Wallace thinks he has for any other kind of reception by the American people. Mr. Wallace has toured America and other nations for the purpose of charging America with imperialistic designs upon the rest of the world. He has found fault with every function of our government, while at the same time not one word of criticism of Soviet Russia has been uttered by Mr. Wallace. It seems that according to Mr. Wallace everything that America has done has been wrong and everything that Soviet Russia has done has been right.

Reasonable Religio

A Devotion by the Editor

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord."

One of the most thrilling of all divine revelations is that God reasons with men. That God reasons with men emphasizes His sovereignty.

There is a tendency in human nature to interpret sovereignty to mean an unbending force which devours with merciless vengence anything that happens in its pathway.

In spite of all the instances which we think we find in the Bible where God exercises His sovereign power in the form of vengence and terrible retribution, the revelation of God pictures Him as exercising His sovereign power in stooping to reason with men, showing mercy to the fallen, broken hearts, and forgiving penitent sinners.

Any blind, unfeeling, unthinking power strike out in merciless vengence to crush and destroy. Only a reasoning, thinking, merciful, gracious, benevolent sovereignty can withold the stroke that smites and the blow that can pause to reason and plead, to show mercy and forgive.

The fact that God reasons with men does not diminish men's intelligence. God does not demean men as if they were dumb animals. He respects their intelligence, He recognizes their right of self-determination, He appeals to men to think, to reason, and to act sensibly.

The charge which He brings against men is that they do not think. They are using the same intelligence in their religious life that they use in their business life. They are not even using the intelligence of dumb animals, for: "The ox knoweth his owner and the ass his master's crib; but ye doth not know, my people doth not know." The Psalmist appealed to Israel, "Be ye as the mule and the horse, that have to be led in with bit and bridle."

Use your best intelligence in your relationship with God, concentrate your greatest powers in your worship of God.

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

"If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall have the good of the land:

"But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it" (Isalah 1:18-20).

ARKANSAS BAPTIST

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Season of prayer for State Missions

By Mrs. C. H. RAY

The week of September 13 is the time set aside by all W. M. U. organizations for the observance of the Season of Prayer for State Missions and the Dixie Jackson Offering. The theme "This is Thy Day" should challenge every member to pray and to give liberally for the promotion of our State Mission work.

The program material has been prepared with the purpose in mind of awakening every woman to a personal responsibility of reaching Arkansas for Christ. The needs are so great with its 1,250,000 lost souls and the spiritual destitution found in every section of the state. The program chairman and her committee will be richly rewarded by giving prayer and preparation for the observance of the two programs outlined for this Prayer season.

The State W. M. U. goal for the 1948 Dixie Jackson Offering is \$15,000. The offering resulting from the observance of this Season of Prayer last year totals \$16,924.10. The goal suggested for each organization is at least a 10 per cent increase over contributions of the preceding year. We suggest that you set a goal representing a 10 per cent increase over what you contributed last year.

The Dixie Jackson Offering each year, with the exception of the expense of printing the program material and for mailing, is remitted to Dr. B. L. Bridges, general state secretary, to assist in the promotion of the work of the State Mission Department with Dr. J. W. Caldwell, superintendent.

The Stewardship Chairman and her committee can help wonderfully by distributing offering envelopes in advance to every woman member of your church. Order sufficient number for this purpose free from your state W. M. U. office.

We also have some extra copies of the program folder which we shall be glad to send upon request as long as the supply lasts.

We are deeply grateful to our state W. M. U. president, Mrs. F. E. Goodbar, for preparing this program for our use, as well as others who have contributed articles. Mrs. Goodbar says: "It is my prayer that from the observance of the Season of Prayer for State Missions there shall come into the hearts of our women a new concern and a deep desire to become a vital part in taking Arkansas for Christ through our prayers, our gifts, and the giving of our selves."

—000—

C. A. Johnson, El Dorado, was the visiting evangelist in revival services at Manila church, August 15-22. There were 70 professions of faith, many re-dedications, and additions to the church membership. Pastor L. Ford baptized 43 persons August 29, of whom many were adults — husbands and wives.

Since there will be five issues of the paper this month, it is necessary to publish one eight page issue in order to hold down expenses.

KINGDOM PROGRESS

A new church is in prospect near Pollard, Arkansas. A mission revival was held in Tipperary school house by Fred Lewis, pastor of the Pollard Church, resulting in 21 persons being baptized into the Pollard church. It is expected that a church will eventually be organized at Tipperary.

A second "School House Revival" was held at Reece Ridge, conducted by Emmitt O. Downs, a student at Southern Baptist College. This meeting resulted in 24 persons being baptized into the fellowship of the Reyno Church, Current River Association.

Missionary H. W. Johnston, of the Gainesville and Current River Associations, states that ten such mission meetings are planned for the territory of the Gainesville and Current River Associations.

Pastor Ray Branscum, South Highland Church, Little Rock, reports a successful revival with Dr. Joe Henry Hankins, Little

Rock, as the evangelist, and W. J. Morris, Pine Bluff, in charge of the music. There were 28 additions to the church membership, with 22 coming on profession of faith.

During the revival all records for Sunday School and Training Union were broken. Pastor Branscum says: "Any church would profit by having this team for a revival. Everyone who attended was greatly helped by Dr. Hankins' messages, and no one could have done a better job directing the music than Brother Morris."

Evangelist Paul Harlan, Germantown, Tennessee, was with Bethel Church, near Paragould, in revival services recently. Pastor Bill Lewis was in charge of the music. There were 14 additions to the church membership, 12 of whom were by baptism; and a number of re-dedications.

Since Mr. Lewis accepted the pastorate of the Bethel Church in February there have been 30 additions to the church by baptism, also the church is in the process of remodeling the building.

State Baptist Student Convention

OCTOBER 8-10, 1948

Baptist High School Seniors to Be Special Guests



Dr. Frank H. Leavell

Convention Speaker and Conference Leader—Dr. Frank H. Leavell, B. S., M. A., LL. D., L. H. D. is secretary, Department of Student Work, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tennessee; member Executive Committee of Baptist World Alliance; secretary of Youth Committee of Baptist World Alliance, and is a specialist in student problems. Dr. Leavell is editor of The Southwide Baptist Student Magazine, and author of Baptist Student Union Methods and Christian Witnessing.

Theme—"Christ the Way, the Truth, the Life"

TIME—October 8-10. Registration will begin at noon Friday. There will be afternoon. The final session will end at noon Sunday.

PLACE—First Baptist Church, Fayetteville, Arkansas, in the heart of the beautiful Ozark National Forest, beyond one of the most scenic drives to be found anywhere; near the 75-year old University of Arkansas Campus.

Speakers and Leaders—Dr. Frank H. Leavell, South-wide Baptist Student Union secretary; Dr. Joel Sorenson, Director of Baptist Youth Work in Sweden; Dr. Harold K. Graves, president of Oklahoma Baptist Convention; Mrs. Harold K. Graves; Jackie Robinson, noted Youth Evangelist and Athlete from Baylor University; Marlin Jennings, Senior and B. S. U. president at Ouachita College, who represented Arkansas B. S. U. in the Summer Missionary Work in the Hawaiian Islands; John McClanahan, State B. S. U. president and student at Ouachita; College Center Pastors and other State and Local B. S. U. officers.

Special Attractions—University of Arkansas-Baylor football game, students at students at student rates. A Sunrise service on the mountain overlooking Fayetteville, forums, seminars, two college choirs, an orchestra, foreign missionaries and Christian fellowship at its best.

Cost—Registration fee \$1.00. Homes furnished. Meals at cost at the church.

Mission Reports From

Vacation Bible School Wins Unsaved

On July 12, 1948, Miss Maxine Ayer and I began a Vacation Bible School at Parthenon, Arkansas. This is a small town in Newton County in the Ozark Mountains. Of the 32 enrolled only five had taken Christ into their hearts.

On Friday two of the older boys opened their hearts to Jesus Christ. Then, Monday, the associational missionary, Ottis Denney,



Boys in Vacation Bible School at Parthenon, most of whom became Christians during the school.

brought in Claris Johnson of El Dorado, Arkansas. That very morning as Brother Johnson gave a simple Gospel message 15 boys and two girls walked the aisle for Christ. On Saturday, July 24, nine boys and girls with two older people followed Christ in baptism. This may not seem great to many but in the past three years only one person had been baptized and become a member of the Parthenon Baptist Church.

—MISS ONEITA JOYCE CHASTAIN, *Summer Field Worker.*

Miss Chastain and Miss Ayer worked under the Mission Department during the summer with their salaries being paid by the Home Mission Board.

Ozone Church Happy Over Full Time Pastor

In 1946 our little rural church here at Ozone had no pastor and the only service we had was Sunday School, with only 15 or 20 members. In that year, the State Mis-



New church building at Camden Ordinance plant. Church was organized in June. The Mission Department purchased the ground and First Church, Camden, sponsored the services and construction.

sion Board began its supplemental aid program, which enabled us to get a permanent pastor, Floyd Painton, who came here from New Mexico. We feel that in him we have a most capable and spirited leader. We have shown definite growth, and are looking forward to a great future here. Our average attendance ranges from 35 to 50.

—CECIL BRADLEY, *treasurer.*

Missionary Franklin Opens New Mission

A few months ago we organized the New Hope Mission, located in a plantation section, several miles from the Beck's Memorial Baptist Church. Recently we held a revival with this mission which resulted in 26 conversions, nearly all of whom were adults. More than half of them united with the Beck's Memorial Church as candidates for baptism.

This plantation had formerly used colored labor all together, but this year it has all white people. We went into one home where we found a husband and wife with four children, the oldest, a son eight years of age. The parents were kind, sincere, honest people, but not Christians, and the children all appeared very intelligent. The plan of salvation was explained to them and in a short time the father and mother turned from sin



Lexington Church, Stone-Van Buren Association, J. M. Hayes, pastor. Mission funds helped build this house of worship.

and committed themselves to the Lord for salvation.

We then invited them to the revival and were told they could not attend church as they did not have clothes to wear. Two of the children were nude. They said when they began gathering their crop they would buy some clothes and attend Sunday School and church.

We learned that not one of their children had ever been in Sunday School, preaching service, or even in a school house. When asked if they had a Bible the reply was that not one of the family could read or write a word, but I believe this father and mother believed on Christ as their Savior.

—J. J. FRANKLIN, *Arkansas Valley Associational Missionary.*

Church Saved Through Mission Work

We are glad to give a report of the Valley Springs Baptist Church and our progress in the past year. The church had been dead for some time as far as Sunday School and a pastor was concerned. But, we thank God for Brother G. E. Lafferty, our missionary, during our weak and trying hours. It was

under his leadership that the church came together and called Guy Hopper as time pastor.

Brother Hopper came into the church to carry on the Lord's work with a membership of nine, which had a membership of nine, and only one of these a man. But, he invited the community week after week plain to see that God was with his effort. The church moved on with every fourth Sunday.

In October we had a revival meeting. Brother Hopper doing the preaching. The result of an old-fashioned revival service were added by letter, three were men. At the close of the meeting people met and organized a Sunday School. With that kind of a start and temporary aid from the Mission Department we have done a great work in advance of the cause of Christ.

We are thankful to our Heavenly Father and to the Arkansas Baptist State Association through the Mission Department for financial aid in making this possible. We have had an average attendance of 25 in Sunday School. If we had not received supplementary aid our community week would have been without a Baptist church.

—MRS. PAT STEPHENSON, *church secretary.*

New Missionary Tells of Beginning of His Work

We started our work as missionaries in the Rocky Bayou Association July 1. The first week was given to a general service. The association. We began a meeting in the community building of the association. The Lord gave the church 23 new members. Nine men and six women were baptized. The church selected a building committee and are planning to begin work on a new building in the near future.

We began a meeting with Oxford, Mississippi, July 25. The services were well attended. There were five professions of faith and 12 new members added to the church. We have a man before them the first of September in view of a call.

Besides these meetings we have had services in three of the other churches a



Associational Missionary.

er The State Encouraging

mission points and have two meetings planned where there is no organized work.

We are happy in the work and are very thankful for the response and co-operation the people have given.

—H. M. ROBERTSON, *pioneer missionary in Rocky Bayou Association.*

* * *

New Church To Be Organized— Christian Pastor Becomes Baptist

Believe is or not—the present pastor of the Christian Church in Farmington and his wife told me they would come into the Baptist church and be baptized next Sunday evening at the Second Church, Fayetteville, by Norman Drake. We will then ordain Brother Coleman into the Baptist ministry.

I will conduct a tent revival in Farmington in September. They have no Baptist organization there but approximately 35 Baptists have promised to become charter members of the church to be organized. I am sure Brother Coleman, former Christian pastor, will become the new pastor in the same town. He must be held in the highest regard to accomplish this without ill feeling. Mrs. Shreve is contributing \$2,200 to build a tabernacle for this church to worship in.

—A. L. LEAKE, *missionary, Washington-Madison Association.*

* * *

Missionary Pastor Reports Great Revival

We are grateful for the results of our meeting that closed last night, after two weeks of Gospel preaching by Edgar Griffin of Bearden. This meeting is the result of State Missions, for we could not have carried on without their help.

Large crowds attended, and there were 9 professions of faith, 39 of this number were baptized, 10 went to other Baptist churches nearer them. One joined by statement, two by letter, and there were five re-dedications.

Brother Griffin is a great man of God and wonderful evangelist. I enjoyed working with him. I had been discouraged but my weeping has turned into joy. There are still many unsaved in this community but with God being my helper I hope to win more to



et for Annual Retreat

Jesus Christ as their Savior. Pray for us because this is a thickly settled plantation country with so many godless and indifferent people living here.

—R. E. COLE, *pastor of Hurd's Chapel Church.*

* * *

Rural Church Appreciates Aid

We are truly grateful for the help Finley Creek Church is receiving from the State Board and we are also glad the Lord helped us in choosing our pastor Brother Hal Gallop. He is truly a great preacher and man. He is already in the hearts of the people. Our revival began the third Sunday in July and lasted 10 days. Our church was revived, we had 10 conversions, six additions by baptism. We have a good Sunday School with Randall Gaither as superintendent, he is one of the best. We also have a splendid group of teachers. The church has organized a Training Union.

—MRS. S. W. BOONE, *treasurer.*

* * *

Financial Help Appreciated

I cannot find words to express our appreciation for the wonderful help that the Co-operative Program, through the Mission De-



John R. Stratton baptizes candidates of Deer Church, Newton County.

partment, has given our church. They came to our aid when we were building our new church. We have also received supplementary aid on our pastor's salary for the past two years. Our church, under Jim Hayes' leadership, is one of the best churches in the association. I just thank God for our little church and for men like our pastor.

We hope to do more for the Co-operative Program in the future than we have in the past. May God bless all who are in His work.

—MRS. GEORGE GUFFEY, *Lexington Baptist Church treasurer.*

* * *

Nine Missions Opened by Missionary

I conducted a revival at the Holly Island School, recently, which resulted in eight conversions, four of whom were baptized into the First Church, Rector. We have established a mission in this school house with half time preaching, and have secured an acre of ground on which to build a church in the near future.

We sponsored a mission meeting in the Reece Ridge School in July. Emmitt Downs, Southern Baptist College, did the preaching. There were 27 professions of faith and 24

were baptized into the Reyno Church. A mission is carried on there now with half time preaching.

In all we have opened nine new missions stations and have secured student pastors from Southern Baptist College.

—H. W. JOHNSTON, *missionary, Curran River-Gainesville Association.*



Bethel Church, Red River Association. The Mission Department gave financial assistance on the building.

Young Church Makes Great Progress in Evangelism

We are happy that God has so richly blessed us at Flippin. Vacation Bible School had 149 enrolled with a 75 per cent attendance. Our church has received 77 additions this year, 54 on profession of faith, three restorations, and 20 by letter. Our prayer is to do greater things for God's cause in 1949.

—D. M. KREIS, *pastor.*

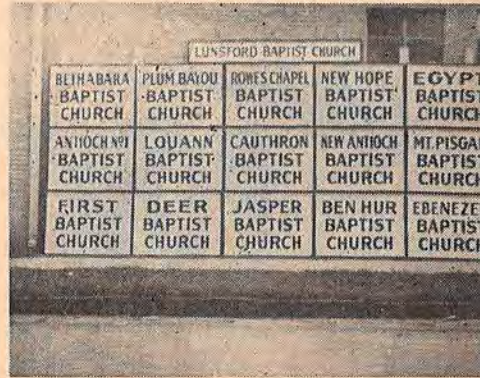
This church was organized three years ago and is aided by the Mission Department.

* * *

Missionary Re-established Rural Church

I went to Morgantown, Van Buren County in July. Baptists had been without a church there for ten years. We re-established the church and changed the name to Morgantown Baptist Church. They voted to connect into the Faulkner County Association. I baptized two as a result of the meeting and found 15 members of the old church. They are happy and working.

—E. F. SIMMONS, *missionary, Faulkner County Association.*



Missionaries lead churches to place names on their buildings. The above shows first signs ready for delivery.



Some expert has figured out that one million sopranos, singing at the top of their lung power, generate enough electricity to light one 100-watt electric bulb. Seems like a lot of wasted talent—especially when it's so much easier to flip a switch—and so much cheaper!

But it's just our way of reminding you that electric service—for lighting, or cooking, or cleaning, or sewing, or laundry work—is just about the lowest item in your family budget. Fact is, the average American family is getting more than twice as much electricity for its money as it got 20 years ago.

And in this era of sky-high costs, that's service . . . for a song!

Every Baptist Man

The series of Brotherhood Rallies to be held throughout the state in December and January will provide an opportunity for every Baptist man in Arkansas to become acquainted with the purposes, the objectives, and the merits of Brotherhood work.

Assisting the Brotherhood Secretary at the various rallies will be some very capable men, including John Farmer of South Carolina, Forrest Sawyer of Illinois, and R. J. West of Missouri. These men are the Brotherhood Secretaries of their respective states. Accompanying them will be the following preachers: Charles Lawrence of Little Rock, Harvey Elledge of North Little Rock, and Ben L. Bridges, executive secretary of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

The schedule of the rallies is as follows:

- December 5, 2:45 p. m., West Batesville Church, Batesville.
- December 6, 7:30 p. m., First Church, Springdale.
- December 7, 7:30 p. m., Second Church, Little Rock.
- December 8, 7:30 p. m., First Church, Osceola.
- December 9, 7:30 p. m., First Church, Pine Bluff.
- December 10, 7:30 p. m., First Church, Hope.
- December 12, 2:45 p. m., First Church, Stuttgart.
- December 13, 7:30 p. m., First Church, Fort Smith.
- December 14, 7:30 p. m., Central Church, Hot Springs.
- December 15, 7:30 p. m., First Church, Russellville.
- December 16, 7:30 p. m., First Church, El Dorado.
- December 17, 7:30 p. m., First Church, Forrest City.
- January 19, 7:30 p. m., First Church, Harrison.
- January 20, 7:30 p. m., First Church, Paragould.
- January 21, 7:30 p. m., First Church, McGehee.

Plan now to be among those present at the Brotherhood Rallies in your section of the state.

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Barnabas, A Good Man

By MRS. ROLAND LEATH

In "Pioneers, of the Primitive Church" it is said: "No character in the New Testament Church is more attractive than Barnabas. Among the leaders of the early church, none does more than he to make Christianity a credible and winsome faith." Let us see why.

Barnabas, Generous Giver

The unity, spirituality, and unselfishness of the early church is recorded in the latter part of Acts and we get a picture of the closeness of the apostles and believers as we see them sharing equally with one another. All that they did in the matter of common possessions was purely voluntary and, as we mentioned in a previous lesson, did not extend beyond the apostolic era. Here in Acts 4:37 we find Barnabas giving all that he had liberally and happily.

We read a brief history of him here: He was Joseph, a Levite, and a native of the Island of Cyprus. He owned a piece of land; how it was that a man of the tribe of Levi was a landowner we do not know. It is suggested that, as was the case often, some forebearer of his had not observed the rule that the priests and Levites not own land in Israel, and Barnabas had this estate as a result. Then we notice that this man possessed certain traits of character and rare talents. The apostles renamed him Barnabas because of those gifts. The name Barnabas in the Revised Standard Version is translated as "Son of Encouragement."

The greatest thing about Barnabas was his willingness to give all that he had both materially and spiritually to Christ. He could have kept his land and lived off the income from it; instead of doing that, he "sold it, and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet." How happy this cheerful giving must have made this radiant Christian! It is one thing to profess Christianity; it is an entirely different walk to practice our profession of faith!

Barnabas, Faithful Friend

As was the case in the lessons of the past two weeks, we now find the life of Barnabas linked with that of Saul of Tarsus. Surely the pure goodness of his character is revealed in three incidents which we shall discuss. Barnabas, indeed was a man of tolerance, kindness, understanding, unselfishness

Sunday School Lesson For September 12, 1948

Acts 4:36, 37; 9:26, 27; 11:22-26; 13:1-13

and appreciation. We turn once more to Acts 9 and find that soon after his miraculous conversion, Saul's life is threatened and he left Damascus and returned to Jerusalem to join the disciples there. But, he met with distrust and unfriendliness until Barnabas came to his rescue. He listened to his story and because of his great faith in God, he could see the greatest possible honor for the Lord in the conversion of this former hated persecutor. Barnabas befriended him and took him into their fellowship on the basis of his experience with the same Lord whom they loved! "Barnabas was not to shine in the service of Christ and His church like Paul; but Paul himself never did a more shining deed than Barnabas did when he took Saul to his heart at a time when every other heart in Jerusalem was hardened against him." (Whyte).

In the years which followed this instance of friendship the Gospel steadily spread until soon the report reached Jerusalem that many Gentiles were being saved at Antioch. The mother church selected a representative to go and investigate the work there. The honor fell to Barnabas who was most worthy and capable of the mission.

Barnabas exhorted the converts to hold close their faith in Christ and to live a life of service for Him. He encouraged them with

his help and teaching. We are told that he was "a good man," "full of the Holy Ghost and faith." He was completely possessed of the Spirit of God and, as a result, more were saved and many blessed by his sweet and kindly manner.

While there serving in Antioch Barnabas got a vision of the great work which could be done in that place; he saw the need for help and maybe felt that some matters of doctrine were arising which would need one of greater abilities than he possessed. So, he went to Tarsus and found Saul, brought him back to Antioch to lead and serve the church with him. Again we feel the unselfish spirit of Barnabas. He put the will and work of Christ above self. The great need of our churches today is leadership which will be wholly unselfish and Christ-honoring.

Barnabas, God-Called Missionary

A fitting climax to our scriptures here is the divine call to this consecrated, tactful, earnest, devoted Christian. For a year Barnabas and Saul taught the people at Antioch and the disciples were

here first called Christians. So think the name was given them by heathen people in ridicule. could have been so or they might have been called that because they walked so closely after the Christ. It is a name of glory to who bear it!

Many teachers and prophets were in this church; they waited upon the leadership of the Holy Spirit. As they fasted and prayed He spoke, "Separate me Barnabas and Saul." These two were divinely called to go out to carry on the work started here; they were set apart. The church was quick to follow the Spirit's leading and "they laid their hands upon them and sent them away. What an opportunity to serve the Lord! Barnabas not only encouraged others to serve the Lord but he, too, said in his heart:

"Where He leads me I will follow—
I'll go with Him all the way."

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Nearly Three Times As Much

James H. Fitzgerald and the Walnut Street Church in Jonesboro are Proving Their Belief in Missions. They Are Making Up Their Budget For 1949. **THEY HAVE INCREASED THE CO-OPERATIVE PROGRAM ALLOCATION FROM \$15 PER WEEK TO \$40 PER WEEK.** This Means That This Splendid Church Will Give More Than \$2,000 For The Co-Operative Program Next Year,—And They Are In The Midst Of A Building Program, Too. **A CHURCH CAN REALLY DO IT IF IT WANTS TO DO IT.** Fitzgerald Has A Missionary Heart And He Is Happy Over This Increase. During The Year They Have Had About 95 Additions, 55 Of Whom Came By Baptism. They Are Building A Splendid New Church Building To Replace The One Which They Lost By Fire.

SOME CHURCHES THINK THEY CANNOT DO MUCH FOR MISSIONS IF THEY ARE BUILDING. Fitzgerald Is Showing Us How. **A CHURCH CAN DO BETTER WITH ITS BUILDING PROGRAM IF IT WILL SUPPORT MISSIONS AT THE SAME TIME.** It Will Surely Run Into Trouble If It Quits Missions To Build For Itself.

Denominational Schools and Other Schools

"A careful study of the faculties of 51 State Universities and State colleges revealed the alarming fact that one-half of the members of the faculties were unrelated to any church and that a large part of the other half maintained only a nominal relation to the church. This deplorable condition may be due to many causes, but it is not due to a lack of interest in religion on the part of the students. A somewhat accurate knowledge of many universities has shown us that the condition is worse in the universities where religious instruction has been most neglected, or where the subject has been left to immature or untrained leaders.

"The Christian college is free to teach extensive Christianity to the limit of its desire. The State institution can not stress this vital function of the Christian church. State education is a protective measure. It is a form of insurance; ignorance is destructive, and dangerous to the State, and, therefore, the State supports schools to guard against it. It is concerned with the making of character only so far as man's character affects his relation to the public welfare. His relations to God and the kingdom of God in the world are not within its purview. The Christian

college uses a larger map. It educates men for the whole world as well as for the nation."

—*President J. A. Marquis.*

We urge our young people to consider the advantages in going to our Baptist schools. We must urge our people to keep our Baptist young people in our Baptist schools, and we must go to work in dead earnest to support these schools so that there will be room for every Baptist student in Baptist schools. We have no quarrels with State schools. We are for them. They are necessary, and we support them with our money; but since they are institutions supported by non-Christians as well as by Christians they cannot emphasize Christianity. Baptists can go "all out" for Christianity in the Baptist schools, and there is nobody who can tell us to stop. We, therefore, must make such schools available for our Baptist young people.

Tithing and Every Member Canvass Program

Are you preparing for your fall enlistment campaign? Do you need literature and other helps? Maybe we have it. We have tithing posters, and posters illustrating the division

of funds. We have tracts on Stewardship and Tithing. We can suggest a month's program of activities.

Available for Revivals

Joe Shaver will finish his seminary work early next January. He hopes to give 1949 revival work, especially Youth Revivals. You need him you can contact him at Box 6261, Ft. Worth, Texas.

W. F. Couch may be reached at Route Box 199, North Little Rock, Arkansas, if you want him for a revival. O. C. Harvey is also available and may be reached at his home in Arkadelphia.

W. H. Hicks and Pulaski Heights

Pulaski Heights Baptist Church has voted to erect a new building. It will be a large and commodious building. The auditorium will seat about 1,200 people. The work will start in a few weeks.

There is a fine spirit in this great church. Pastor Hicks is a tireless worker and a wise leader. Fine fellowship exists in the church and there is loyal support given by such men as Dr. Thompson, Barnes, Jeffries, Richardson, Matlock, Robinson, Bowman, Cris Rogers, and others.