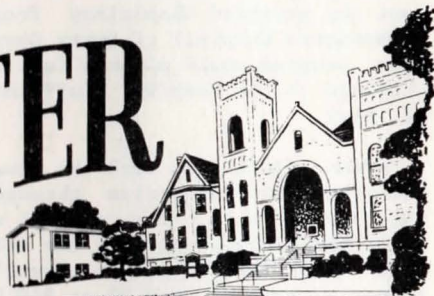


THE CHURCH NEWSLETTER



First Baptist Church, Mount Airy, North Carolina

Volume 5

May 26, 1966

Number 21

WORLD TRAVELERS LEAVE FOR TOURS

May 29

Is Catch-Up Sunday

Are you behind in your 1966 pledge? Many of our families are, and this Sunday would be a good time to catch up since it is a fifth Sunday. The summer season is upon us, and how very well we know that old story as it relates to our church giving. It would not happen if you wouldn't let it.

So we are asking you to make every effort to catch up by this Sunday or if possible get ahead. I'm sure the Lord wouldn't find getting ahead a little to be wrong. Let's live up to our word and pay up because we have decided to have a definite part in the life and ministry of First Baptist Church.

Our people have exhibited a remarkable faithfulness in their giving so far this year, but we must keep it up if we want to get the job done adequately. Are you doing your part?

Excitement was in the air for Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Finch who left Mount Airy Tuesday for New York where they will fly today (Thursday) to London, England.

This trip was made possible by former students and friends of Mr. and Mrs. Finch upon Mr. Finch's retirement as Principal of Mount Airy High School.

Mr. and Mrs. Finch will join a motor coach in London for a nineteen day tour. Some of the places they will be visiting include France, Holland, Switzerland, Austria, Germany, and Italy.

Miss Elizabeth Lovill will be leaving around the first of the month with friends to visit the western part of the United States and points of interest in Canada.

Before returning to Mount Airy, some of the places they plan to visit include points of interest in Texas, New Mexico, the Rockies, Glacia National Park, and Lake Louise in Canada.

Church Council Okays Hospital Chaplain

At its regular May meeting, the church council of First Baptist passed unanimously a recommendation to support the proposed Chaplaincy Program at Northern Hospital of Surry County. This program would place a full-time chaplain on the hospital staff and in Mt. Airy.

After consultation with the finance committee and discussion throughout the church body, the council went whole-heartedly along with the motion that First Baptist commit themselves to pay a total of \$600.00 or \$50.00 a month for a period of one year. At that time future discussion and review would be in order. These monthly payments would not commence until the program has started officially.

A full-church vote was not needed in this matter for two reasons: (1) No spoken opposition or serious question has been revealed during the two weeks of publication and discussion. (2) This amount of \$600 will not be in excess of our present operating budget. The finance committee has discovered where this amount can come from without additional burden to our people.

This action not only says we enthusiastically support this program, but at the same time our gifts to missions will be increased by this move. We should thank God for one other opportunity, and our people for their wisdom and vision.

Handbell Choir

Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Taylor have made donations to the HANDBELL CHOIR in honor of our minister of music, Mr. Jerry Johnson.

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WHAT ABOUT THE CHURCH

SANCTUARY FINANCE COMMITTEE?

Some weeks ago, thirty-seven men and women were appointed to serve on a new sanctuary finance committee. You may wonder why your name was or was not chosen and why you have heard nothing more from the original announcement. Here it is!

It is not assumed that you are a financial wizard if your name appeared on this committee. In fact, it would be quite the contrary. You were chosen as a representative of the families, ages, and various parts of First Baptist Church. You represent a larger group and have the sole responsibility of listening to the proposed discussions and then using your good common sense and judgment.

It is not the sole responsibility of this committee in its entirety to raise a specific amount of money. Its responsibility is to listen to the various proposals and methods suggested and then to choose the one that would best suit our congregation and church. The proper method and approach used may be as important as anything else we attempt to do in this building project. With this in mind, I hope you will not refuse your appointment.

This committee will be meeting in the near future for a kickoff evening. It is unwise at this moment since we do not know what the contract is going to cost, and thus we are not sure what we will have to raise above our present funds.

You are very important to our church and its future, and I know you will be eager to help when called upon. Watch for the announcement.

Welcome
New Members 

BY STATEMENT

Mr. and Mrs. Frank G. Misemer
230 West Oakdale Street

BY LETTER

Miss Nancy Bradley
1236 North Street

Announcements

Sunday, May 29

- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
- 5:30 p.m. Training Union Picnic at home of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Bray, 204 Cherry Street

Monday, May 30

- 3:30 p.m. Cub Scouts

Tuesday, May 31

- 3:15 p.m. Girl Scouts

Wednesday, June 1

- 7:30 p.m. Prayer Service
- 8:15 p.m. Senior Choir
- 8:15 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting

Thursday, June 2

- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

Friday, June 3

- 3:15 p.m. Brownies
- 3:15 p.m. Cub Scouts

Christian Sympathy

Mr. Albert Council, brother of Mrs. C. C. Carroll and Miss Vesta Council passed away last Wednesday night at Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem. Our prayers and thoughts are extended to this family in their loss.

Mrs. Flora Crumpler, grandmother of Mrs. Grady Slate, passed away Wednesday, May 18, at Maple Grove Nursing Home in Winston-Salem. Mrs. Crumpler also has other relatives in First Baptist and Mt. Airy. Sincere Sympathy is expressed to each of them.

Mr. Turpin, uncle of Mrs. Porter Hampton, passed away in Stokes County last week. We extend our thoughts and prayers to this family.

IN THE HOSPITAL

NORTHERN SURRY HOSPITAL

Mrs. Hewitt Easley

BAPTIST HOSPITAL

Mrs. Garnett Brannock

VETERANS HOSPITAL, SALEM, VA.

Don't We Have A Building Fund?

Yes, indeed we do! This fund has been growing for several years now reaching back to the time when a vision for expanding our present facilities was found. There was a time when many of you were paying on a pledge for the building fund. Since then, the church has continued to budget each year a set amount to go into the fund. There are memorials being made to this fund right along, also. These are made in memory of someone who is no longer with us but who will be remembered in this special way. There are others who are giving stock, bonds, and other assets to be converted into cash for this fund. It would please you to know that so many of our people are continuing to remember this fund above and beyond their regular tithe and pledge. If you think this project is limping financially, then it may be a reflection of your own lameness. Is it?

To date there is \$180,427.59 in the church building fund. For 1966 you have placed \$25,000.00 for this fund in your church budget. So far this year, through your faithfulness and generosity, we are meeting our budget. Please do not let us down during the summer months. The church budget can do no more than you will enable it to do. Remember that!

"Are we spending money out of this fund for other things?" someone has asked. No, we are not. You designated this money for the building of a new sanctuary, and that is where it will go. The only monies to come out of this fund have been to satisfy commitments directly related to the new building planning and architect fees. No one can take money from this fund without proper church authorization, and you can count on this.

CALEB EARL HILL MEMORIAL

A memorial gift has been given to the CALEB EARL HILL MEMORIAL FUND by the Kindergarten Committee.

YOUR QUESTIONS PLEASE

This week another question came up that has troubled some of you in times past. Here it is:

"If I once was a Baptist, but joined another church of a different denomination, what do I do to become a member of a Baptist Church again?"

The process or requirement here is much more simple than many people imagine. The important factor here is that you are formerly of the Baptist faith. This says you were a member of a Southern Baptist church somewhere. Therefore, we may proceed along one of two lines.

You may unite "on promise of a letter" if you can still obtain one from the former Baptist church. Your letter never left that church even though your name was dismissed from that roll (active). Most churches keep old files, transfers, and drops for years as a matter of record and future reference or emergency. But, it may be that your name was dropped and completely forgotten, or the church records were lost, or the church split, or was destroyed, and thus a letter of transfer would be unobtainable. What do you do in this case?

You then would present yourself for membership by "statement". This means you were once a Baptist and were baptized as such in that belief. Now you come to reunite with a Baptist congregation after having belonged to another church different in doctrine or practice than your own. You would be received that day subject to the approval and vote of the congregation on your own statement and rededication of life. This also would signify that you had been unable to obtain a personal church letter from that first membership.

Will I have a letter to transfer now if I should move to another Southern Baptist Church? Yes, you would because you are an active member of a Baptist congregation again.

Do you have a question about your church or faith? Ask the pastor this week so the Newsletter can take ad-

Training Union

PICNIC

In the Training Union contest, the white side lost to the blue side, therefore the white side will be in charge of assisting in treating the blue side to a picnic this Sunday night, May 29th at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Bray, 204 Cherry Street.

Games will be played from 5:30 P. M. until 6:30 P. M. Supper will be at 6:30. All Training Union members are invited for this last meeting of the year.

Congratulations

"BERNICE HARRIS MIDKIFF"

On Friday evening, May 20, 1966, the pastor united in holy wedlock Miss Bernice Harris, of this church, and Mr. Booker Midkiff, of the Flat Rock area. The ceremony took place in the living room of the parsonage and was a quiet, private affair with only the bride's sister in attendance.

Our hearts are thrilled to see this fine couple come together and find such a deep and understanding love in each other. The comment was made, "We may not be young in age, but we can be young in love."

Congratulations to you both as you enter the new world of togetherness. May God allow you to find in each other a portion of what you have given to others in these passing years. Our prayers are with you both and may God's cherished blessing be with you.

OUR STEWARDSHIP RECORD

May 22, 1966

Budget Offering	\$1,241.25
Designated Funds	\$263.00
Memorials	\$10.00
Kindergarten	\$253.00
Total Offerings	\$1,504.25
Total Offerings to Date	\$45,491.70
Budget Requirements to Date	\$44,230.40