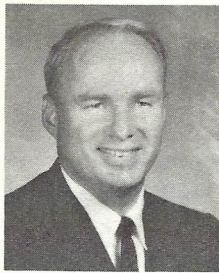


FROM THE PASTOR:



J. W. Buckingham

Most of the people in Brevard County pride themselves on their fast driving, fast living, good jobs, and self-sufficiency.

Yet, deep inside every one of these "space age people" beats a heart that is full of human anxieties, insecurities, and temptations. For in the center of every human heart is a "God-shaped vacuum".

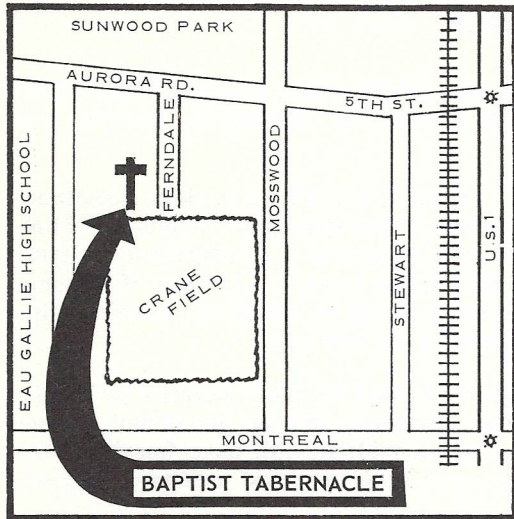
We at THE TABERNACLE want to

introduce you to the ONE who can fill that vacuum.

In the midst of a society that "doesn't give a rip" about their neighbor, here is a group of people that really CARE about you. We want YOU to come and join our fellowship. How deep you decide to go in the Christian life is up to you. No one will pressure you or condemn you for your sins and failures - we just want to love you.

OUR CHURCH IS DIFFERENT for it is composed of people who want "more than a Sunday religion". They're friendly! They're sincere! They're understanding! And they are interested in YOU as a person.

We warmly invite you to visit with us.



### SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

- SUN** 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
- 5:30 p.m. Junior Choir Practice
- 6:30 p.m. Training Union
- 7:30 p.m. Evening Worship
- 8:30 p.m. Youth Fellowships
- MON** 7:30 p.m. Visitation
- TUES** 9:00 a.m. Bible studies in homes
- 10:00 a.m. Visitation
- WED** 7:00 p.m. Prayer Service - R.A.'s
- 7:30 p.m. Teacher's meeting - G.A.'s, Sunbeams, Visitation

Venturing out in one of the most original church programs in America, the Baptist Tabernacle is meeting the needs of a space age people by simply believing that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever".

Begun in March of this year with about 150 members, the church has been characterized not only by steady numerical growth but by the transformed lives of its members.

Temporary meeting quarters are located in a comfortable and adequate building that has been leased for a year's time. Modern nursery facilities plus an auditorium that seats 250 people make up the central building. Most Sunday school classes are held in the informal but friendly atmosphere of nearby homes. A modern bus furnishes transportation to and from the services for those needing it. A full program of childrens activities is provided along with a dynamic ministry to youth.

MR. & MRS. W. B. THOMPSON  
1104 AURORA ROAD  
EAU GALLIE, FLA. 32935

#### "THE TABERNACLE TRUMPET"

Published bi-monthly by the Tabernacle Baptist Mission, Box 1406, Eau Gallie, Fla. 32935. Second Class postage pending at Eau Gallie, Fla.

June 2, 1967  
**A New Perspective...**

**My brother is dead!** And a part of me died with him.



J. W. Buckingham

After having officiated at hundreds of funerals at last it came my turn to sit in a pew with my own family.

Walter, Jr., was dead of an unsuspected brain tumor.

The family gathered from all over the nation in mutual support. Yet, sitting in the living room of his beautiful suburban home in Philadelphia it seemed unreal to pick up the paper and see the written notice of his death.

Although only 41, he had attained international fame as an expert on economic affairs. His books on automation had been translated in many languages. He had been head of the Department of Industrial Management at Georgia Tech., and for the past several years held a similar position at Drexel. Had he lived another ten years he would have been the nation's top economic expert.

The academic world will remember him as a brilliant master of economic theories. His textbooks will be used for years to come.

My parents will remember him as their first born.

I remember him as my brother!

Our concepts of God and salvation differed radically. And at the memorial service held in the old First Unitarian Church in Philadelphia, the name of God was never mentioned by those in charge. But no cultural, educational, or theological differences could erase the fact that he was "my brother"- and I loved him deeply.

My life will be different - my support of his wife and children more intense - my love for my other brother deeper - and my ministry to each of you will be far more understanding - because my brother is dead.

---

And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

---

Dear Libby,

**We have heard rumors that the Tabernacle will soon have a library. Can this be possible? And if so, where?!**

**Skeptical**

Dear Skep,

Yep! A library is almost ready to use. It will be several weeks before books are ready, but by next Sunday, June 11, in the Southeast corner of the Tabernacle you will find a Resource File overflowing with information on over 50 subjects as well as maps and pictures.

There is a wealth of material here on everything from Audio Visuals to Vocational Guidance, including the latest news from all our mission fields. Don't be **skeptical**, be **enlightened**, by familiarizing yourself with this gold mine. Just think how much help this will be for your lessons and programs!

Busy Libby

---

**"THE TABERNACLE TRUMPET"**

*Published bi-monthly by the Tabernacle Baptist Mission, Box 1406, Eau Gallie, Fla. 32935. Second Class postage pending at Eau Gallie, Fla.*

A TEXAS PERSPECTIVE.....

It's been almost 10 years since I played the role of a student. Frankly, I was a bit apprehensive about moving back into the academic world and competing with these younger graduate students. However, at the end of my first week I find that I can still hold my own and that school is still as exciting as it ever was. I am most grateful for the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to return for these graduate courses which will count towards my second Master's and eventual Doctor's degree).

I am taking a full semester's work crammed into one month. We're running double sessions and each day is the equivalent of a full week's work. I am taking two courses. One is a graduate study in Psychology and Counseling. It is a study in human relations, group psychology, as well as a counseling seminar. One of our text books was written by the professor, Donald Bell, entitled "How to Get Along with People in the Church". "Better late than never", my mother-in-law remarked. The other course relates directly to our work at The Tabernacle and is a graduate seminar in training and developing laymen in evangelism. My term paper for this course will be the outline of the basic curriculum we'll be using in our church as our New Member's Orientation.

The faculty and some of the graduate students are highly interested in what we are doing at "The Tabernacle". I have been invited to come back in the Fall to lead a faculty seminar in Church Administration on our goals, objectives, methods, and procedures in our new church. There is some excitement among some that we may be spearheading a whole new trend among Southern Baptist work.

Down the hall from me in the men's dorm is Fred Kennedy. At 36 Fred is selling his prosperous department store in a little town in Arkansas and coming to the seminary to take the diploma course to enter the ministry. With only a high school education he's returned to school after more than 19 years to study to fulfill the position where God has called him. I've been able to help him adjust, but in reality he has been the inspiration to me.

Next door is Billy Vaughn, a Minister of Music from Columbus, Miss. Billy, like myself, has left his wife and children home for a month to take a 4 week's cram course. However, I suspect he had an ulterior motive-- he brought his golf clubs with him. (Which reminds me of the wealthy Texan who invited his out-of-town guests over. "Wear your golf togs", he said, "and we'll fiddle around on my little old 9 hole pitch and putt course". His guest inquired, "You mean we'll play in this RAIN?". "Shucks, man," the Texan said, "it's in the house".

I miss you all deeply. Bob and Pat Terry drove over to see me from Dallas while on vacation. I hope the Rose's will be able to stop by on their way to Yellowstone. And if anyone else feels the urge--come on out. One thing about Texas, there's room for all.

I am praying for you and for our Church. Prove yourself in your faithful attendance and deepened financial stewardship. Pray for Brother Burdett as he brings the messages and for our men as they lead in the various programs. And let's see if we can't have some new church members by the time I get back home.

JWB

Ft. Worth, Texas June 67

## A New Perspective...

### THE CHURCH OF TOMORROW:

In the years ahead the church



J. W. Buckingham

must inevitably change to keep up with the changing needs of society -- or die.

Churches that do not change their structure are going to be left behind.

Many are living out their last days now, simply because they have refused to take the "long look" at the future; or because they were too tradition-bound to be able to make the necessary changes.

We need to envision our society in the year 2000 a.d. (which is only 30 years away) and plan to meet the needs that will exist then--rather than plan for today.

The great churches of yesterday (including Spurgeon's Tabernacle) are dead today because they were structured for their era and not for the future. The Pastor of our largest Southern Baptist Church candidly yet openly admits that his church is dying (even though it has all the marks of life) and that by the year 2000 it will be in the terminal stage.

*It is difficult to predict exactly what the church will do to meet the challenges of the 4 day work week, the weekend exodus, the high rise apartment complex, the population explosion, high speed transportation, immediate communication devices, increasing worldliness, and the computer age.*

There is every reason to believe that we will have to spread our educational program throughout the week rather than concentrating it on Sunday morning. And the times are far too critical to plow the major energies and resources of the Christian community back into building programs (even though this is the standard by which the world seems

Eau Gallie, Fla. 32935

June 16, 1967

to measure the "success" of a church).

We must provide space for training and worship. But the traditional "House of God" idea (which by the way is completely foreign to the New Testament) which serves primarily a Sunday congregation does in no way begin to meet the needs for tomorrow. The answer to the church's dilemma for the future does not lie in bigger and better buildings.

For some, the "institutional" church will remain the answer. But down here in the melting pot of society; out here on the cutting edge of civilization where men no longer plow the ground but are winging their way to the moon; here in the land of the monorail and the spacecraft the church of tomorrow must change its structure and return to the New Testament -- or die.

### A PERSONAL WORD FROM FT. WORTH

The opportunity to study and plan here at the seminary away from the pressures of the pastorate has been one of my finest hours. I am deeply indebted to all of you for having made it possible.

I have had time to restudy the work being done by Gordon Cosby at *The Church of the Saviour* in Washington D.C. and John Dunlap at the *Tabernacle Church* in Norfolk. These are the two churches that God has led me to use as semi-patterns for our own structure. Even though both these churches are ecumenical in nature, I am convinced that we can best accomplish our purpose to build "the Church of Tomorrow" within the framework of the Southern Baptist Convention.

### "THE TABERNACLE TRUMPET"

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June 30, 1967

## A New Perspective...

**A STUDY OF THE EARLY CHURCH** reveals some shocking concepts about church administration. One of these concerns **THE MINISTRY**. The picture that comes to us is that of a fallible yet devoted group of men and women, all of whom were engaged in the active ministry.



J. W. Buckingham

It indicates just how far we have drifted from the New Testament when we use the words "Pastor" and "Minister" synonymously. In the early church EVERY Christian was designated a minister--and some were also called to be pastors (Eph. 4:11-12). The Pastors were usually "vocational workers" while the ministers were "lay workers".

The modern pastor who is true to his New Testament role plays his part not by performing while others watch, but by helping to stir up the ministry of the ordinary members. (II Tim. 2:2).

*The other shocking concept of early church administration had to do with their philosophy of BUILDINGS. Buildings today become "status symbols". And so often times when church leaders begin comparing they get smug satisfaction out of the fact that their steeple is taller than someone else's.*

The thought of institutionalizing the church in a stained glass edifice would have horrified those early Christians. They believed in a "curbstone church". Their's was a church of action. . .not one that was "settled in the sanctuary" on pews of foam. It scarcely resembled today's institutions whose most prominent feature is a place made for SITTING.

If our church is to be a genuine New Testament Church here in the 20th Century we will have to involve both of these major concepts. As we plan our next step, which will in all probability be a building, I am praying that we will have the courage and willingness to venture out in new and perhaps untried areas, steering clear of the "steeped sanctuary" and moving out onto the curbstone.

## A PERSONAL WORD...

I have never had too much difficulty *knowing* God's Will for my life. My problem has come in understanding "why?" and "how?" concerning it.

A year and a half ago we left South Carolina and some of the most wonderful friends a Pastor could ever have. We still count these precious folks as close as our own family. I had always said it would take a "mission call" for me to return to Florida. Even though it is my native state I did not want to return and work and rear my family in the midst of all the sin, confusion, and change. Yet I knew that was what He wanted me to do. My problem came in reasoning "why?". And then after we arrived and found more problems than we had left behind, trying to understand the reason "how?".

In the midst of all this confusion last year, knowing that He wanted me here for a special purpose and yet feeling thwarted in almost every area, I sat down one October day and expressed my feelings in verse form.

Now, as I accept the position as Permanent Pastor of what I feel is destined to become one of the nation's greatest churches, I share this verse with you. It has meaning now that I never realized when it was written in those darker days.

### GOD'S PLACE FOR ME

*This is the place that Thou hast made for me;*

*Lord, let me serve Thee here.*

*Lord, make my life a testimony now.*

*My witness clear.*

*Others may serve Thee in a foreign land;*

*Some may walk a calm and peaceful pace.*

*Here, in the midst of movement and change,*

*This is my place.*

*May I not question why I came this way*

*Nor long for scenes more dear.*

*This is the place Thou hast made for me.*

*Let me serve here.*

### "THE TABERNACLE TRUMPET"

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June, 21, 1967

Southwestern Baptist Theological  
Seminary  
Ft. Worth, Texas

THIS PAST WEEK I had a conference with Dr. C. W. Brister, of the Pastoral Ministry Department here at the seminary. We were discussing our new church and during the course of our conversation he asked me: "Jamie, if you could describe your role in the midst of the people at the Tabernacle in one word, what word would you use?" I did not have to hesitate for these 4 weeks of study have given me time to clarify my position among you. And so I said, "I would use the word--ENABLER."

As far as I am concerned, this is the true function of the New Testament Pastor. According to Paul in Ephesians 4:11-13, all believers are called to be "ministers". The Pastor is merely one who has a special call to help, or "enable" the ministers in performing their various tasks.

Leighton Ford, who is Billy Graham's brother-in-law and one of his top associate evangelists puts it this way in his new book, "The Christian Persuader". "...for too long the accepted pattern was: the layman pays the minister to evangelize and to do the work of the ministry. Then the growth of lay organizations in the churches led to another pattern: laymen helping the clergy to evangelize and minister. It now appears that the clergy's main task is not to do the work of the church, but to HELP THE LAYMAN TO EVANGELIZE".

Ford goes on to say, "A church which bottlenecks its outreach by depending on its specialists--its pastors or evangelists--to do its witnessing, is living in violation of both the intention of its Head and the consistent pattern of the early Christians."  
That's pretty tough writing, folks....but I pray to God we will take it to heart.

Dr. Brister has expressed keen interest in our work!...to the extent that he asked me if he could devote a chapter of his new book to spotlighting what we are doing, perhaps even coming to make a visit with us after we get our building ideas squared away.

I HAVE BEEN STRONGLY ENCOURAGED by the reports coming back of your continued financial stewardship....although your attendance at the various services seems to be another matter. Perhaps we shall talk about that a little when I return.

THE LORD WILLING (and my '62 Chevy II providing) I shall get home sometime Sunday morning in time to be in the pulpit at the 11'o'clock hour. I look forward to a glad reunion with the people that I love.

I KNOW THAT ALL OF YOU have been in constant prayer for Phil and June Culver and their new baby. Let us continue to hold them all up during these crisis times.

BESIDES HEARING FROM MANY OF YOU you will be interested to know that I have also heard from the Ross Roots' and the R.L. Hawn's. How wonderful it is to have Christian friends praying for us across the miles.

GOD BLESS YOU EVERY ONE.....I'm anxious to shoulder the yoke with you once again.....

J.W.B.

July 14, 1967  
**A New Perspective...**

AFTER ONE OF THE BILLY GRAHAM CRUSADES a minister remarked to the press: "Billy Graham came to town and set Christianity back 100 years".



J. W. Buckingham

Graham heard of the remark and said, "If this is so, then we failed in our task. Our purpose was to set it back 1900 years."

This is our task also! However, one of the great anachronisms of the modern church is its effort to return to the New Testament message without utilizing New Testament methods.

FOR INSTANCE: In most contemporary churches the entire operation points toward a Sunday climax. An article appeared recently in a church paper with the alluring title: "TEN WAYS TO MEAN MORE TO YOUR CHURCH". I began to read with excitement but you can imagine my disappointment when I read: "Be on time Sunday. . . park your car carefully. . . sit on a front seat. . . cut off the lights when you leave. . .".

This is a complete reversal from the New Testament pattern where "daily in the Temple and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ." (Acts 5:42).

We have inadvertently developed a Sunday religion. Even our literature writers and our church leaders, when thinking up ways that we can "mean more to our church" list primarily SUNDAY activities.

A high ranking military officer said to me recently: "If I could ever find a church that challenged me with more than a come-on-Sunday-program, that would challenge me to sacrifice my very life. I would quickly join". I am praying that this is the type church we are developing.

IN TALKING WITH SOME OF OUR MEN recently about our projected church program, I mentioned that it was different and untried. One of the men quickly interrupted and said, "Now hold on, Pastor. What we're doing is neither different nor untried. We're

1104 AURORA ROAD  
EAU GALLIE, FLA. 32935

simply going back to the tried and proved methods of the New Testament."

I needed that rebuke. Our task is to set the church back 1900 years. Not to make it an old fashioned guest at a modern party. But to simply apply the Spirit-directed methods of the New Testament to a jet age society.

But the only way this can be accomplished is through the complete and total dedication of each member of our fellowship. There can be no "slackers". Every member ought to be living daily as a witness for Christ. Every member ought to be winning at least one person a week as a follower of Jesus. Every member ought to be tithing. Every member ought to be attending the Sunday services. Every member ought to be praying daily that God would lead him deeper into the Christian faith. The task ahead calls for TOTAL COMMITMENT. Are you up to it?

I THANK GOD for the example of folks like the Ross Roots. Even though away all summer working in New York State (and reports are that Mrs. Root has been quite ill, also) still are sending their tithe back to their home church. May their tribe increase.

MANY OTHERS when leaving on vacation or when returning from vacation are "catching up" on their tithe. The Scriptures say that "the Lord loves a cheerful giver". The blessing is yours, friends, as God pours out his love on you.

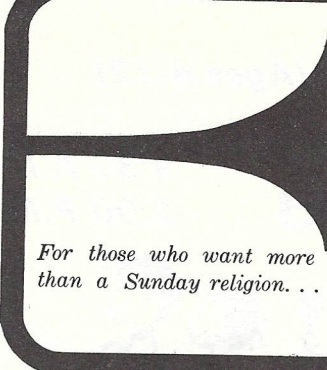
WE WELCOME Mrs. Maude Todd, 878 Sarno Rd. into our membership, coming on promise of a letter from another church in the city.



ARE YOU HELPING TO  
BUILD GOD'S HOUSE?

"THE TABERNACLE TRUMPET"

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THE TABERNACLE

# TRUMPET

Ezekiel 33:6

TABERNACLE BAPTIST MISSION  
Eau Gallie, Florida

*For those who want more than a Sunday religion...*

*James W. Buckingham, Pastor*

VOLUME I, NUMBER 10

JULY 28, 1967

## A NEW PERSPECTIVE...

MRS. STEWART told me of a dear friend who had lived her life and never had anything. Then she added as an afterthought --



J. W. Buckingham

children -- only one of which is high school age.

*When Kagawa was striving to reclaim the city slums of Japan, a friend suggested that he should start with the children. Kagawa answered that he was unwilling to wait until they had grown up to see results. 25 years later he said, "I made a serious mistake. If I had put more energy into winning the children, I would probably have been more successful. I was too impatient."*

This week we will be reaching out into this community and saying to parents and children alike -- "WE CARE. We care about your children and about their future. We care enough to give our time, energy, and resources during this day camp. We want to teach your child about Christ -- and to let him have a good time while learning."

So for those of you who don't have anything -- but children. This week is for you.

### PASTOR RETURNS SUNDAY

Mr. Buckingham has been away this week leading a youth retreat for Warren Baptist Church in Augusta, Ga. He will return in time for the services this Lord's Day.

### LORD'S SUPPER TO BE SERVED SUNDAY A.M.

The first commemoration of the Lord's Supper in the Tabernacle will take place this coming Sunday morning. All members are urged to be present for the service.

### FAMILY NITE PICNIC AND BAPTISMAL SERVICES TO BE HELD AT WICKHAM PARK WEDNESDAY NIGHT

This coming Wednesday at 6:30 the church is invited to a covered-dish supper at Wickham Park. A brief prayer service will follow the supper and the day will be closed with a lakeside baptism for those who have committed their lives to Jesus Christ.

### BIBLE SCHOOL (Day Camp) COMMENCEMENT WILL BE HELD AT THE TABERNACLE SUNDAY NIGHT -- AUGUST 5

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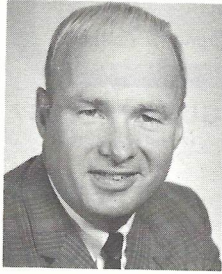


Aug. 11, 1967

## A NEW PERSPECTIVE. . .

HAPPINESS IS. . . .

The happiness which brings enduring worth to life is not the superficial happiness that is dependent upon circumstances.



J. W. Buckingham

It is the kind of contentment that fills the soul even in the midst of the most distressing circumstances and the most dreadful environment.

It is the kind of happiness that grins when things go wrong...smiles thru the tears...

laughs at failures...and lets you put your head on your pillow at night and go to sleep when someone has just told you that your whole world is going to explode the next day.

It is not found in a bottle...a pill...or even another person. Nor is it found in the possession of things.

The happiness for which the soul aches is one undisturbed by success or failure. It is one that remains constant when health fails...loved ones disappoint...dreams collapse...or when your material security is snatched from you and the future cannot be seen because of the dark clouds of uncertainty.

It is a happiness which is rooted deep inside and gives us inward relaxation despite the tenseness of the situation.

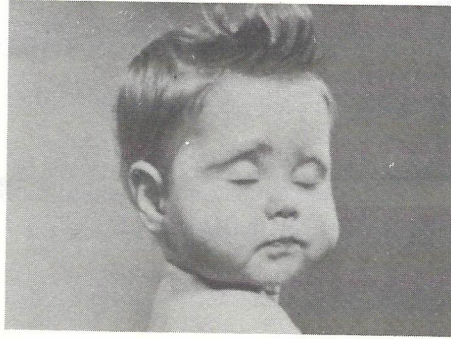
It is found only in death...dying to self...surrendering to the filling of God's Spirit. And with the commitment of the whole person to Jesus Christ...happiness is.

--Jamie Buckingham

Those who were unable to hear the Pastor's sermon last Sunday morning may pick up mimeographed copies in the rear of the Tabernacle.

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What do you mean?--"God expects me to catch up on my tithe when I return from vacation".

### FEASIBILITY STUDY ON THE IMPERIAL HOTEL TO BE PRESENTED IN AN OPEN MEETING SUNDAY NIGHT, AUGUST 27

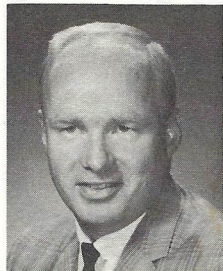
Brooks Watson, one of our professional engineers, is doing an engineering feasibility study on the Imperial Hotel. He will bring a comprehensive report back to the church on Sunday night, August 27. Purchase of the hotel, formerly one of the most plush and exclusive resort hotels on the east coast, is *under consideration*. IF the construction of the building is sound and IF the purchase seems to be a wise financial move, then the Pastor will outline possible programs and ministries that could possibly be carried on by use of the building.

### DAY CAMP CLOSES WITH A RINGING NOTE OF "SUCCESS"

The unanimous feeling of all who shared in the Day Camp experience last week was that it was a stirring success. No injuries. No fist fights. No food poisoning. No drownings. And many children, for the first time, were exposed to the message of the Good News of Jesus Christ. Among those who helped during the week were adults of Jewish, Mormon, and Roman Catholic belief as well as 26 of our own adults and young people.

## A NEW PERSPECTIVE. . .

DR. A. C. MILLER is one of the most respected senior leaders among Southern Baptists. He was the first



J. W. Buckingham

Executive Secretary of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission. Along with T. B. Maston, Dr. Miller has been the guiding force in our convention in the areas of positive race relations, opposition to gambling, alcohol, and im-

morality. He is a dear friend and a member of the family (his daughter married my brother).

Last week he drove over to where we were vacationing in North Carolina and we had a long conversation about our proposed plans and our Constitutional setup. I was impressed and pleased over his enthusiasm. After reading our Constitution he remarked, "It's a shame that those who today try to put N.T. principles into practice are often branded by the traditional conservatives as 'liberals'." He went on to say, as he listened to some of our proposed plans, "It will take courage. Many of the people will not understand what you are trying to do. Some will leave you. But stick to it. You're on the right track and God will bless".

I COULDN'T HELP BUT REMEMBER GIDEON'S BAND. When he started out he had 32,000 volunteers who were going to help him route the Midianites. But the Lord knew that it was better to have a dedicated minority than a multitude of those who would quit under fire. So Gideon challenged the group with the danger of the mission, and 22,000 backed off and went back where they came from. Then he put the remaining 10,000 to a test, and 9,700 of them proved to be careless. And so with only 300 Gideon routed the hosts of Midian... but all could be counted on to blow the trumpet and break the pitcher and give a clear witness for the Lord, shouting: "The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon".

It is possible in our organization as we set our standards high, that there will be some who will not be willing to pay the price of dedication. But let those of us who are called by God march forward. The crown awaits the conquest.

1104 AURORA ROAD

EAU GALLIE, FLA. 32935

Aug. 1967

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DEAR LIBBY,

HERE IS A RIDDLE I CAN'T SOLVE: GOD GAVE US INTELLIGENCE TO FIGURE OUT OUR AGE'S TECHNICAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS, BUT WHY DON'T WE MAKE ANY PROGRESS IN GETTING ALONG WITH OTHERS?

SLOW THINKER

DEAR SLOW THINKER,

Dazzled by our intellectual and technical accomplishments, we tend to ignore our failures in the areas that really matter—our relationships to ourselves, our neighbors and God. Read *Christ and Human Values* by Reid, who shows that "If man ever escapes from the maze of the human situation, he must do so by relying upon the truth embodied in and revealed by Jesus Christ". It is in our library.

Yours for clearer thinking,  
LIBBY LIBRARIAN

DEAR LIBBY,

DO YOU HAVE A BOOK OF ANSWERS TO A CONFUSED TEEN-AGER'S QUESTIONS? I NEVER KNOW WHAT TO DO.

CRAZY MIXED-UP-KID

DEAR CRAZY,

One book should help answer all those questions of what to do and what not to do. In the novel, *In His Steps* by Sheldon, a group of people determine to ask "What would Jesus do?" before making any decision for a year. Read it and be inspired!

LIBBY LIBRARIAN

DEAR LIBBY,

MY FOUR-YEAR OLD BOY, AN ONLY CHILD, DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO ACT AROUND OTHER CHILDREN. HOW CAN I TEACH HIM TO LIVE BY THE GOLDEN RULE?

DISTRAUGHT MOTHER

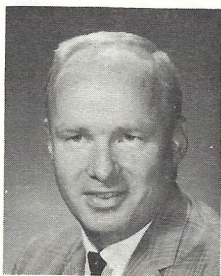
DEAR MOTHER,

Read to him *If Jesus Came To My House* by Thomas. A small boy imagines a visit from the little boy Jesus, "About the age that I am and about the size of me". It offers concepts easily grasped by small children and suggests some ways to carry them out.

LIBBY LIBRARIAN

Sept. 8, 1967

THE FANTASTIC TURNOVER of Pastors in the Brevard Association continues. It speaks of the tragic unrest



**J. W. Buckingham**

and insecurity among the churches. Dr. James Sawyer, pastor of the FBC Cocoa for more than 27 years, has been dean of preachers in this area. He had done more for missions than any other man in the state. His church has mothered

most of the other great churches around the Cape. Now Jim Sawyer has resigned—under pressure.

He was one of the lucky ones. He had a place to go—even if it was in Germany. Most of the men who have been forced out have been left jobless.

Back in March Jim wrote me saying: *"It is one of the mysteries of the church that somehow the aggression of plotters and schemers and whisperers eventually wins over the solid and substantial but otherwise passive elements in the church."*

*"My sins are many: I preach on race and sex too much; I am too academic; preach too long; not evangelistic enough; some even say we are not 'mission minded enough'. I guess one of my sins is that I have just been here too long—for some people."*

*"A preacher is quite helpless to defend himself from his detractors. He is compelled to maintain his poise as God's man. He can't stoop (nor does he want to) to use the tactics his opposition uses. He must identify with the Master who 'opened not his mouth' nor 'reviled not back'."*

12 of the 26 churches in the Association have seen pastors leave this year. All these men had but one desire—to serve their Lord. But we live in a modern day Sodom and Gomorrah. Worldly standards demand that we "produce", even if it means filling our church roles with those who know not Jesus Christ as Lord. But even this backfires, for when the world infiltrates the church. . . well, you see the results.

A giant oak has fallen in the jungle. I never thought it would happen to Gentleman Jim Sawyer. But it did!

(And someone wonders why more young men don't enter the ministry.)

**"THE TABERNACLE TRUMPET"**

*Published bi-monthly by the Tabernacle Baptist Church, Box 1406, Eau Gallie, Fla. 32935. Second Class postage paid at Eau Gallie, Fla.*

**"MISSION" DESIGNATION  
NO LONGER CORRECT FOR  
THE TABERNACLE**

With the official adoption of the Constitution two weeks ago Tabernacle Baptist Mission has now acquired full "church" status. Corporation papers are being drawn up and a letter of petition to the Brevard Baptist Association for admission has been drafted. It is expected that the petition for membership in the Association will be acted upon at the annual fall meeting of the Association in October.

**VARIOUS CHURCHES NOTIFIED  
OF MEMBERS' INTENT TO  
UNITE WITH TBC**

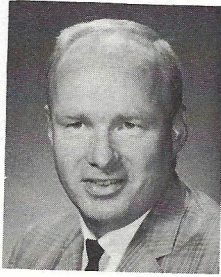
This past week letters were written to various churches furnishing them with the names of those who have come from their membership to make up the Tabernacle Baptist Church. Those wishing to be listed as "charter members" should apply for membership prior to October 1.

**CALLS FROM ALL OVER SOUTHERN  
BAPTIST CONVENTION COMING  
IN FOR COPIES OF CONSTITUTION**

The Pastor reports that he has had requests from more than 40 churches and denominational agencies for copies of the new Tabernacle Constitution. Response so far has ranged all the way from a denominational leader who wrote "Revolutionary, yet doctrinally sound", to a Pastor who penciled in a note saying, "Thank God for a people who are brave enough to be different and honest enough to face reality and try to save our identity as Christians".

Sept. 22, 1967

**THE PEOPLE OF THE ANDERSONVILLE (GA.) METHODIST CHURCH** couldn't



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even remember Robert B. Brown. But one day, many years ago, Mr. Brown was traveling through Georgia. Feeling somewhat alone he stopped on Sunday morning and attended services at

the little Methodist church. He was given a warm welcome, shook hands all around, and he left never to be seen there again.

But when he died a couple of years ago at the age of 90, he left his entire estate of \$178,000 to the little church.

His attorney wrote saying, "Not having any church affiliations, obligations or charitable interests, he said, 'I might as well give what I have to this little church. At least they are not hypocrites'.

The lawyer continued, "I would venture to say this is a good example of the parable of the mustard seed. Just look at the fruit born by a tiny seed of kindness shown long ago."

You know, it would be interesting to know what other churches Mr. Brown visited during his life time. And it makes me wonder how we treat the strangers in our midst.

**AFTERTHOUGHT.** . . Ray Jones tells about several ministers who began a "Dial-a-Prayer" service in town. The phone company listed the number and the general public could call and hear a prayer repeated. A group of atheists, demanding equal rights, began their own "Dial-a-Prayer". But when you dialed the atheist's number--no one answered.

**OR** did you hear of the pig and chicken walking down the road and saw a sign on a restaurant that said, "Breakfast--Ham and Eggs". The Chicken suggested they stop. The Pig said, "No Sir. All you'd have to

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do is make a contribution. For me it would mean **TOTAL COMMITMENT**".

**RAMBLIN' REMARKS.** . . This coming week I will be in Sumter, S.C. for a week of revival at the Southside Baptist Church. The following Sunday I will fly on to New York where I will be met by the editors of Guidepost's Magazine for a week's workshop on magazine manuscript preparation. I need your prayers while I am away on the Lord's business.

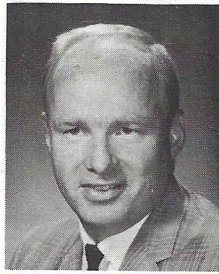
**FULL HOUSE.** . . What a joy to have a full house at both services Sunday. The large number of visitors Sunday morning indicates many of you are busy inviting others. The future looks good for the Tabernacle, doesn't it?

**NEW MEMBER.** . . Last Sunday night when Bill Eubanks, a sophomore at EGHS stepped out to commit himself to the Lord and to our church, it gave credance to the fact that we are on the right path in our youth work. God bless our young people who are busy witnessing.

**RED CIRCLE.** . . Mark a red circle around Oct. 9. That's the night that the Brevard Baptist Association will meet at FBC Mims and will vote on our request for admission. Let's all be there. You can't vote, but what a testimony it will be to have our entire membership present for this meeting.

**SUNDAY FLOWERS.** . . Notice the beautiful artificial arrangement at the front of the auditorium Sunday? We'll have use of one each Sunday courtesy of Mrs. B. Meinhold and "Flowers by Lisa" at the Causeway Shopping Center on the Beach. You might want to stop by and say "Thanks".

**THE "BREAK-THROUGH" HAS COME.** More opportunities of service than I ever dreamed of. When you



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read this I will be on my way home after having preached a week in S. C. and studied and been inspired a week in N. Y. with Catherine Marshall and Norman Vincent Peale. But I have

wanted—most of all—to be here. Even tho we got all the paper work done on the Youth Canteen and Counseling Center before I left, I have wanted to be here to share in the sweat-of-the-brow-work as we have established our first base of operations for the "curb-stone church of tomorrow".

One of the few objections of our new church structure was that it was built around the Pastor. I feel that these days have proved that this church is not built around the pastor—but around the Risen Christ, who empowers all. Thank you, my fellow ministers, for staying busy "building up the church".

When I first shared with the Executive Committee and Deacons my plans for these weeks of absence, they everyone thanked God and indicated that they were proud of our church for having this opportunity of sharing. I tell you, very few pastors have a congregation that rejoices when he is called to minister away from the local field. Most gripe and complain. But you... how I thank God for you as you have shared in this extended ministry.

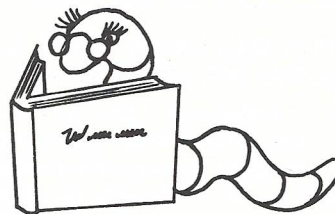
These have been marvelous days in putting the Tabernacle on the map. All the major newspapers in the county have given us much space in these last few weeks. And all across this nation I have talked with men who feel that what we are doing could be the key to the future of Southern Baptists. It may not seem like it right now, brethren, but we are all being used of God to do great things. Remember it.

Oct. 6, 1967

**"THE TABERNACLE TRUMPET"**

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Now, if you will be patient a little more. I leave early Monday to fly to St. Louis and then on to Pinckneyville, Illinois, for a 10 day meeting in one of our "far north" Southern Baptist Churches. This is Donna Goodwin's home church and I will tell you all when I return.



**A WHOLE LOAD OF NEW BOOKS**

How do you like our new masthead? We in the library feel like real bookworms after reading all these new books in one week!

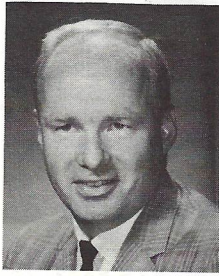
You children will get a laugh and a lesson from "You Look Ridiculous", **Said The Rhinoceros To the Hippopotamus.** Your family will enjoy reading together the poems in **People I'd Like to Keep.**

To give a lift to two areas of your church work, use **Fun Plans For Church Recreation and Magnify Your Office**, which is a book of 33 installations.

Once in a while we come across a really outstanding book. This is it: To bring the current emphasis on church renewal down to the level of the individual Christian, in **The Taste of New Wine** Keith Miller tells of his pilgrimage to a total commitment of his life. We are putting this book on the MUST list along with the books about church renewal which the pastor has asked us all to read.

"Reading helps us to unwrap the gift God has given us."

Pinckneyville, Ill.—Many of us have had our hearts broken before by people who say, "Oh, we love you. We just don't want to associate with you". It



J. W. Buckingham

happened again last week when on a flimsy technicality that had never before been enforced, the Brevard Baptist Association refused to admit our church into membership. When we applied for membership we did so with the hope that even though our church was a bit different from the provincial "institutional" church, that since we wanted desperately to cooperate that there was room in the fold for us all. We checked the list of essentials and found that we met all the doctrinal requirements—we practiced believer's baptism by immersion and we contributed to the cooperative program. (Which seem to be the two major essentials for "belonging"). Incidentally, we also try to structure our church after the church in the Book of Acts and insist that all our church members give evidence of being committed Christians. (Points which do not seem to be essential for admission into the Association).

On Sept. 5, just one week after we constituted as a church, I handed the Associational Moderator our letter of petition and he assured me there would be no problem. Yes, we knew that the Constitution called for a 60 day waiting period, but this rule had always been waived in the past. So, with this assurance I naively assured everyone that all was A-okay and flew off to Illinois to hold a revival in a Southern Baptist Church.

**Then the bombshell came. The moderator ruled at the annual meeting that we were not eligible for membership since we had not applied soon enough. The irony of the matter was that the ruling was made at the Rockledge Church which just the year before had been accepted into the Association after the rule on the time limit had been waived.**

Oct. 20, 1967

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They say they will be glad to consider our petition again NEXT YEAR—and inbetween they want us to know that they love us. However, this does not solve the problem. We are now ineligible to borrow money from the Florida Baptist Convention—even though we are contributing a much higher percentage into the Cooperative Program than some of the churches in the Association.

I keep thinking about another incident just 450 years ago and a young pastor who wanted desperately to remain in his denomination. He had no desire to leave the church. And yet he felt that there were some things that needed to be reformed. And because he dared to speak out and make himself heard—the officials excommunicated him and his followers and denied them admission into their sacred association. His name was Martin Luther.

**I'm not suggesting that we are modern day Luthers—or that our movement here at the Tabernacle is a "reform movement". All we wanted to do is cooperate All we wanted to do was to help in evangelizing this county, this state, and this world. We wanted to give our money and donate our time. But. . .how do you react when told by the ones who hold the blackball that you can't belong unless you stop playing the roll of the gadfly?**

**PARTING SHOT.** . .Some have indicated that if the pastor had been present to argue the case we might have gotten into the Association. Perhaps. But I was assured there would be no "case" to argue. Furthermore, as you know I felt God's leadership in being with these people in Illinois. So, if God has shut this door, it is only to open another door of greater opportunity. Remember, there are no problems in the Christian faith—only challenges.

Oct. 27, 1967

from the pastor — — — —

CONCERNING THE BREVARD BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.....I received a letter from my good friend, Chan Garrett, the Moderator of the Brevard Baptist Association, this past week. He was writing after having read my article in last week's Trumpet. He said, in part.....

".....I found that our Constitution was very specific about the procedure for accepting new churches. I also found that Robert's Rules of Order stated very plainly that any vote that was contrary to the Constitution was null and void. When, therefore, the Petitionary Letters Committee moved that the "rules be set aside" and when Rev. Stewart Clark [King Street, Cocoa] rose to a point of order, challenging the rightness of such a motion, I had to rule that the motion was in violation of our constitution.

"Neither myself, nor Stewart Clark, have any objection to you or the Tabernacle Baptist Church.....Tabernacle was not the only church involved in the ruling. The Southwest Baptist Church of Melbourne sent a letter of petition to the committee just one week prior to the meeting. The motion to accept both churches under the "watchcare" was an invitation to you to participate in the Association until you can be constitutionally accepted into full membership."

I have written Chan back, apologizing for my 'martyr complex' which came surging to the surface as a reaction to being turned down for membership. I had "reacted", something like a fellow does when someone flips his ear on a bitter cold morning...and I had grabbed pen and paper and struck back. It was an immature gesture on my part and I apologized to Chan and to the Association (even though I still feel they were splitting hairs).

All this, however, does not get us in the Association at the present time, nor does it make us eligible to borrow money from the State Baptist Convention as we had planned. Thus, my only supposition is that the Lord has something even better in store for us--and that He closed this door in order to open another even better for us.

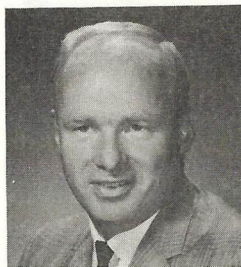
SUNDAY LOYALTY IS VITALLY IMPORTANT..... Even though our motto is "for those who want more than a Sunday religion", still we must not de-emphasize the importance of our Sunday activities. I am hoping that we will develop a church where every "member" is always present on Sunday unless detained by unavoidable circumstances.

It hurt me, last Sunday night, when I called on one of our visitors from Melbourne to pray, and he prayed, asking God to forgive all the members of the Tabernacle who didn't think it important enough to come to church on Sunday night. From the looks of things, he could have prayed the same thing Sunday morning and not missed it too far.

How about YOU. Everyone of you is important--and we need you. We are having visitors each service...but when they look around and see that some of our own members don't think enough about this new church to come themselves--then who knows what they think also.....We'll be looking for each of you this coming Sunday in ALL the services. We're having a great time together. Don't miss out on it.

--Jamie Buckingham

Last week Fred Van Bever's mother had a cottage prayer meeting in her beautiful home on the beach.



J. W. Buckingham

She has been attending the little mission down near the inlet and they were preparing for a revival. Niggi, Fred's wife, invited us to the prayer meeting.

I was sitting in the circle of people around that luxurious living room when Fred's mother came up to me and asked me if I would close the service by singing a solo. The only catch was they had no piano.

I was horrified. I dread singing solo a capella. I tried every way in the world to get out of it. I made a big joke about it. I played humble and suggested someone else. I even suggested that maybe the whole group would like to sing. I was miserable — too chicken to say "no" and too proud to consent.

Sitting next to me was Julia Lake Kellersberger, a dear old friend of the family and the widow of one of the most famous Presbyterian missionary doctors in the world. She sensed my predicament.

As I sat there brooding over how to get out of my assignment, she broke into bubbly conversation. She began to tell the group of her work in Central America with a group of lepers whose voices had been "burned out" by the disease. They would hold their hymn books with their stubs (their hands had been eaten away with leprosy) and would turn the pages with their chins. They would open their mouths and sing praises to God — through silent lips.

My God . . . I felt ashamed. Here was I, perfectly capable of singing, and blessed with more than average ability, trying to beg off.

I bowed my head and asked the Lord to forgive my pride and egotism — my prima donna complex. At the close of the meeting I sang. I had to ask the group to bow their

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of shame that welled up in my eyes and ran down my cheeks. Dear Lord, forgive.

Tell me, Christian, do you turn down jobs that you are asked to do because you are fearful of embarrassment . . . or because you feel you're not the one to do it? Think of those voiceless lepers, holding their hymn books with their nubs, and turning the pages with their chins — and with silent lips singing from their hearts — because they love the Lord.

*A PERSONAL WORD: Last month John Sherrill, senior editor of Guideposts Magazine, and the author of the popular book, "The Cross and the Switchblade," asked me to write a sequel to the book on the life of Nicky Cruz.*

*Nicky was a young Puerto Rican gang leader in the ghettos of New York City. Involved in everything from Narcotics to murder, he was converted under the ministry of Davey Wilkerson and is now heading up his own youth center in Los Angeles.*

*I've agreed to write the book, not only because it is a marvelous opportunity for telling a fantastic story of the grace of God — but because the research will give me a tremendous insight into our own youth work.*

*When you read this I will have just returned from a quick trip to New York at the invitation of the publisher, doing research in the ghettos of Brooklyn and Harlem, and interviewing Nicky Cruz.*

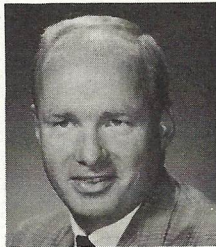
*Catherine Marshall told me that writing a book is like having a baby — you have to live with it night and day until it is delivered. So, I earnestly solicit your prayers as I enter these months of labor.*

SEE YOU IN CHURCH

EAU GALLIE, FLA. 32935



one congregation of less than 200 people there was a teenage boy who was losing his faith in God



because his father was a hypocrite.... another who was flirting with a dangerous way of life...a young couple that had just buried their child..... a family that had just broken up because of adultery on the part of the husband...a young woman confused with intellectual doubts...a college student who was on the verge of making a commitment to Christ...a girl despondent over a broken love affair and another girl who was carrying a just-conceived baby that she was scared to tell her parents about...a man who was about to lose his job and his way of supporting his family...a wife that was on the verge of an emotional breakdown due to her husband's drinking...a woman trying to raise her children alone and trying to fight off temptations at the same time....a couple worried over the conduct of their child....a man trying desperately to overcome alcoholism....an old man who was afraid to die....a young couple wanting to go deeper with God but unsure of what they should do.

These are just problems in the average congregation. And they are only a few. If the truth were known each person has great and oftentime soul-crushing problems.

Dr. Clyde Narramore, renowned Christian psychologist, has said "the minister who does not place a strong emphasis on counseling is only 'half a minister'."

In structuring our church ministries we determined that some kind of ministry to persons and families in the form of a counseling service should rank near the top of all needs.

Counseling is important in that it focuses on individuals. Every person has his own specific problems. And just as persons are not born in "bunches" neither can their

Dec. 1, 1967  
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problems be solved in bunches. People are helped most when they can sit and talk on a person-to-person basis.

Counseling is important because it enables one to work on highly personal problems that cannot be dealt with from the pulpit or handled in groups. Many problems we don't want to discuss with others. We want them to remain secret.

The Catholics have long recognized the therapeutic value of the Confessional. The Christian counselor takes the value of the Catholic confessional and enlarges it to include a certain amount of "talk-back". The counselor seldom gives advice--never condemns. Mostly he just listens, understands, and helps clarify problems that are brought to him. He operates on the theory that once a person thoroughly understands his problem, that through the power of Christ, there is always a solution available.

Jesus was just as much a personal counselor as he was a preacher. Most of His dealings were in face-to-face encounters....Nicodemus, the woman at the well, the adulterous woman, and many more.

On the wall above my desk hangs the picture of "The Good Shepherd" who had left the ninety and nine to help the one wandering sheep. This is the purpose of the Counseling Center. It is for you--and your friends. Use it!

#### PROPERTY RECOMMENDATION FORTHCOMING

The Executive Committee has announced that they hope to be able to bring a recommendation to the church in the next few weeks concerning the purchase of property for a House of Worship. Full details will be shared with the congregation and an opportunity to decide will be provided.

Dec. 24, 1967

# A BERNACLE IDINGS

FROM YOUR PASTOR.....

Christmas has a way of bringing forth some of the most beautiful stories in the world. My favorite this year came from the pen of Margery Talcott.

"When our son Pete was six, it was a depression year and the bare essentials were all we could afford. We felt we were richer than most people, though, in things of the mind and imagination and spirit. That was a comfort of sorts to us, but nothing a six-year-old could understand.

With Christmas a week off, we told Pete that there could not be any store-bought presents this year--for any of us. 'But I'll tell you what we can do', said his father with an inspiration born of heartbreak. 'We can make pictures of the presents we'd like to give each other'.

For the next few days each of us worked secretly, with smirks and giggles. Somehow we did scrape together enough to buy a small tree. But we had pitifully few decorations with which to trim it. Yet, on Christmas morning, never was a tree heaped with such riches. The girls were only pictures of gifts, to be sure, cut out or drawn and colored and painted, nailed and hammered and pasted and sewed. But they were presents, luxurious beyond our dreams: A sleek black limousine and a red motor boat for Daddy. A diamond bracelet and a fur coat for me. Pete's present to him was a picture of a fabulous camping tent, complete with Indian designs, painted, of course, by Daddy, and magnificent pictures of a swimming pool, with funny remarks by me.

Daddy's best present to me was a water-color he had painted of our dream house, white with green shutters and forsythia bushes on the lawn. My best present to Daddy was a sheaf of verses I had written over the years, verses of devotion and of sad things and amusing things we had gone through together.

Naturally we didn't expect any "best present" from Pete. But with squeals of delight, he gave us a crayon drawing of flashy colors and the most modernistic technique. But it was unmistakably the picture of three people laughing--a man, a woman, and a little boy. They had their arms around one another and were, in a sense, one person. Under the picture he had printed just one word: US.

For many years we have looked back at that day as the richest, most satisfying Christmas we have ever had."

*I, too, know something about "satisfying" Christmases. Even though in "things" it was pretty skimpy--still in love and gratitude it was our best.*

*Christmas Eve after the beautiful communion service at the Coffee House we came home and sat around the tree and each child led in prayer--then Mommy and Daddy. My eyes were moist as we thanked God for the wonderful people in our church who loved us and who loved Him....as we asked Him to be near those who were lonely on this Christmas....and to especially touch the lives of David and Margaret Fite who are spending their 4th Christmas apart--David in that Cuban prison and Margaret (who was Jackie's roommate in College) living in the house in Havana.*

*Later we opened our gifts to each other....and I opened the wonderful gift of cash that Gene Hegi had handed me Sunday night from "the men of the church". Christmas day we spent with my parents in Vero Beach--closing out the day with Jackie's parents.*

*As we approach the new year, with all the memories of 1967 closing in upon us, we simply give thanks to God--and to you--for everything that has happened. Without hesitation we simply say--it's been the best year of our lives.*

*Gene & Jackie Bushnik*