

## Pastor's Pen

Commencement time! This is the goal in education. However, the most dynamic and valuable thing in education is the impact made for the right kind of life. "He shaped my destiny in life," said Thomas Jefferson of William Small, a member of the faculty of William and Mary College.

It was said of the president of a small college — "No one could sit in his classroom through four years of college courses without becoming an earnest Christian." This is something every student needs to experience. Education is necessary to win the battle of life. But education does not always give the graduate the ability to face the realities of life. "We learn to live by living." Life is experience in operation.

The ultimate forces of life are the Spiritual forces. The whole man needs to be developed — intellectual, social, and religious. These must not be neglected at any time. Many years ago President Hadley of Yale said: "I do not believe you are going to make the right kind of citizen by a godless education, and then adding in religion afterward. The idea is wrong. Education and religion must go hand in hand."

The story about the bright freshman, turned into a sophomore, finally acclaimed junior, then senioritis laid him low, ends with these lines:

"For with a cap he wears a gown,  
It makes him look just like a clown;  
His face is furrowed with the thought:  
'Will I graduate, or will I not?'"

Some of you have a diploma and it has truly been said: "If you have what the world wants, the world in time will find its way to your door." May your continuing education be Christ controlled.

### SINGLE YOUNG ADULTS FELLOWSHIP

Sunday — May 18

8:30 P. M.

At the home of Pastor  
and Mrs. Hughes  
1214 Chesapeake Avenue

### DEACON'S MEETING

Monday, May 19

7:30 P. M.

### SOUTHSIDE GROUP MEETING

Mission Study

Tuesday, May 20

10:00 A. M.

Southside Baptist Church

### SUNDAY SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, May 21

6:00 P. M.

### V. B. S. DIRECTOR'S MEETING

Thursday, May 22

9:30 A. M.

\* \* \*

Rose Bud Service: Dana Marie Ketchersid and Jennifer Ann Batten brought a blessing to the congregation on Mother's Day.

Those baptized Mother's Day, Sunday, May 11, were:

Carl Lamb  
Laurie Gombrey  
Saundra Carlisle  
Wayne Bremner

\* \* \*

## Pastor's Pen

Regret is a word that signifies much! We are now turning over a new leaf for 1976. This ought to be one that we gladly use. This is the 200th Birthday of our country.

However, there are so many regrets in the hearts of people for past offenses. I stood by the grave of a young mother this week, who had been murdered, according to the police. A man hired by her husband carried out this criminal deed. As I stood there I thought of all the families and the heart ache. Also, the thought came, the husband is in jail, I wonder if he has any regrets on this dark day?

Life is full of sorrowful scenes, so much that could not have been avoided; but how much added force there is to sorrow when we reflect that we are to blame. That at the time we knew we were doing wrong. That we regarded not the warning voice of conscience, or the advice of wise leaders. Remorse then takes over and the sting of regret adds sorrow upon sorrow.

Has some hasty or unkind word ever come back to you and repeated itself over and over again? We need to remember that those who are now living may soon be dead, and beware of adding to the things done that ought not to have been done, the things undone that ought to have been done.

Many times we withhold the tenderness of life, the treasures of Christian living, the attendance at worship, until it is eternally too late. Whittier said it in these words:

"For of all sad words of tongue or pen,  
The saddest are these, 'It might have been.'"

## LIGHT UP THE CHURCH HOUSE

Several years ago the lights were going out in the churches at night. The evening services were being closed down and the church house was dark.

A new light has now appeared on our front entrance. You will have to attend the Sunday evening service to appreciate the addition.

Thanks to our Property Committee. Buddy Miller, Clyde Lee Miller, and Woodrow Bunch made an excellent job of the installation.

Plan to attend Sunday night and "step in the light".



### SOME THINGS SOUTHERN BAPTISTS HAVE LEARNED . .

#### About Sunday School

1. The best way for a church to grow numerically is through the Sunday School. Ninety per cent of the people who have joined our churches have been reached first by Sunday School.
2. The Sunday School can teach the Bible effectively if right methods are followed.
3. Adult church members not enrolled in Sunday School miss out on most of that which the church has to offer — especially in personal attention.
4. An absent pupil when not properly contacted, gradually loses interest and eventually drops out completely.
5. People who drop out of Sunday School tend to drop out of other church activities as well.
6. The church can use the Sunday School to accomplish any task involving all the people.
7. Build a great Sunday School and nothing in the world can keep you from having a great church!

## Folks and Facts

Lottie Moon Memorial Gift in memory of Mr. & Mrs. H. E. Winston — \$10.00 by Hortense W. Ruddick.

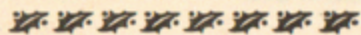
### OUTREACH MINISTER

Rev. W. A. Richardson sends Christmas Greetings to the church! He also sent some pictures taken during the Thanksgiving service at Melbourne Beach in Florida.

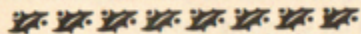


S. B. C. Goal \$24,000,000  
S. N. B. C. Goal \$3,600

As of December 14, we have 20 silver fish on our lovely tree display in the auditorium — which means we have received over \$2,000.



**EVEN IN THIS DAY OF RISING INFLATION, THE WAGES OF SIN STILL REMAIN THE SAME!**



### CHURCH STAFF

Frank Hughes, Jr. . . . . Pastor  
W. A. Richardson . . . . . Outreach Minister  
Bonnie Ray Smith . . . . . Music Director  
Mrs. Mary Morgan . . . . . Church Secretary  
R. D. Holland . . . . . Financial Secretary  
Mrs. Gwen Whitehurst . . . . . Organist

### CHURCH OFFICERS

W. S. Overton . . . . . Sunday School Director  
Mrs. Billie Todd . . . . . W. M. U. President  
Will Parsons . . . . . Chmn. of Deacons  
I. Henry Benton . . . . . Treasurer  
Mrs. Louise Curling . . . . . Clerk

### MISSIONARIES

Mark Alexander . . . . . Argentina  
Irvin H. Acree . . . . . Uruguay

### CHURCH PHONES

545-4595 — 545-1944

### EDNA RAPER Memorial Gifts



J. T. Bober \$10.00  
Goodwill Bible Class \$10.00

J. B. S. with W. L. L.  
January 4-7, 1976

# STUDY HOSEA

(More next week)

Frank Hughes, Jr.  
1214 Chesapeake Avenue  
Chesapeake, Va. #23324

# The Messenger

of the

South Norfolk Baptist Church

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Volume 25 Chesapeake, Virginia December 19, 1975 No. 51

# THE MUSIC OF CHRISTMAS

## "A Song Unending"

By John W. Peterson

SUNDAY — 7:30 P. M.

### CHURCH CHOIR

Bonnie Ray Smith — Directing  
Gwen Whitehurst — Organist  
Marie Smith — Pianist  
Will Parsons — Narrator



## Pastor's Pen

What does Christmas mean to you? This is not an easy question because to each of us Christmas brings a different message. In thinking about those people, involved at the time of Christ's birth, one is impressed with a variety of expressions.

The angels felt it was a message of great joy. "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Luke 2:14. Mary found it a message of honour. Shepherds received it as a message of peace and good will to all the earth. Wise men opened their treasures and presented unto Christ gifts. Herod thought of it as an evil event.

Christmas brings to each one a different message. What message does it bring to you?

First, it should speak a serious message to you about the fleetness of time. Each Christmas is like a passing of a milestone of life. There is much work that needs to be done, "the night cometh when no man can work".

Second, it brings a reminder of the new gifts God still wishes to give us. His Son, the Saviour of men was the greatest Christmas gift of all time. However, God has some more gifts yet for us if we will receive them. He wants to give us power over sin, greater success in work for him, and blessings without measure.

Third, it brings knowledge that God was interested in us. Christ came to earth on that first Christmas to reveal love.

The first Christmas had a message and that blessed morning brought "tidings of great joy" to all people. With these suggestive facts about the meaning of Christmas to you, I trust you will make room in your celebration for Christ to be first. What does it mean to me?

## YOUTH HAPPENINGS

Tuesday - December 23

Caroling Party - We will leave the church at 7:00 P. M.

Wednesday - December 24

Christmas Eve Communion Service 10:00 P. M. Youth Choir to sing.

During the month of December, our young people will be taking part in a contest entitled "A Penny Per Inch". Each youth is being asked to give a penny for each inch of his height to be given towards our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. We have a contest going on in all three youth departments to see which one collects the most money.

### Thank You

The family of Edna Raper wishes to express our deep appreciation to all for your kind expressions of sympathy. May God bless each of you.

### Sympathy to:

Christian love and sympathy to Mrs. Rachel Fatherly and Family in the loss of her father.

### THE RECORD SPEAKS

Needed To Meet Budget \$2,079.00  
Received This Week \$2,670.00



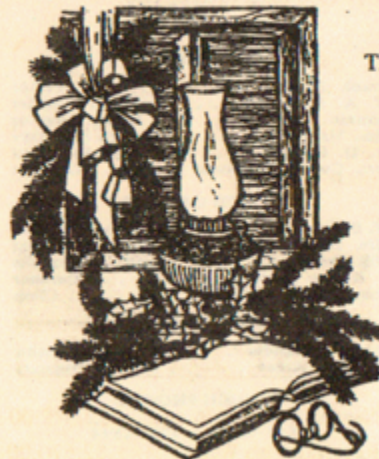
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE - 10:00 P. M.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24 - Everyone invited - Tell your friends about this "Night Before Christmas" Blessing!

## Christmas Greetings

Every year, at the Christmas Season, we who bear the name of Christ celebrate his Birthday. When we were poor and utterly helpless, Christ came on the first Christmas night to make us joint heirs with him of the unsearchable riches of God.

Through God's love we have worked in the Lord's service and shared the story of Bethlehem. At this recurring Christmas and New Year's Season, when happy home reunions are had, and cards are sent, the Church Staff extends a prayerful wish for your happiness during this joyful Season - and, beyond, for all the unfolding tomorrows!



THE CHURCH STAFF

Frank Hughes, Jr.  
Mary Morgan  
R. D. Holland  
Bonnie Ray Smith  
Gwen Whitehurst  
Sarah Dozier  
William Bryant

## Pastor's Pen

Coca Cola is now celebrating its seventy-fifth year of history in Norfolk, Virginia. A. F. Cathey sold only 605 gallons of his new product in 1901. Things have gone better with Coke ever since. Wooden horse drawn wagons rattled along the streets to deliver the refreshment.

The secret formula was born on May 8, 1886 one sunny morning in the backyard of Dr. John S. Pemberton, Atlanta, Georgia. He heated the contents in a three-legged cast iron kettle and stirred the reddish brown syrup with a wooden spoon. The first experiment was to mix some syrup with plain water and ice. The second try he used carbonated water and the drink was a hit.

The company gave awards in the early days. A special diamond studded watch fob was the reward for bottling 100,000 gallons. Alonzo F. Cathey and his Norfolk Coca Cola Bottling Works had bottled 98,000 gallons a previous year.

A friend asked him why he had not ordered the extra 2,000 gallons, a mere week's supply, which would have qualified him for the diamond watch fob.

"If I had done that", Cathey replied, "those diamonds would never have sparkled for me".

There is a commandment in Exodus 20:16 that Mr. Cathey no doubt lived by. "Thou shalt not bear false witness". A man's integrity and honesty are of tremendous value and is not worth a 2,000 gallon lie. It is the pause that refreshes to find a business man of honesty.

### THE BIG TEN

*"The Tenth Commandment"*

Sunday - 7:30 P. M.

## Thank You

Many thanks to my friends for their thoughtfulness while I was in the hospital. I appreciate so much all the visits, cards, flowers, and especially the prayers. God bless each of you.

Vivian Forbes

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### TO YOUTH -

Appreciation goes to our Youth for the wonderful services this week. Our Youth are to be commended for the fine spirit of our Morning Worship service and the blessings received from the message. Thanks to Eddie and Kathy Briggs for their leadership and all the other teachers, directors, and workers with the Youth. Again thanks for the experience. We do appreciate it.

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### wedding

Congratulations to Judi Lynn Evans and Lawrence James McArthur on their marriage, March 6th, at the church.

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Annual Budget	\$113,434.00
Budget To Date	\$ 23,995.40
Receipts To Date	\$ 25,126.58
Weekly Budget	\$ 2,181.40
Receipts - 3/14/76	\$ 1,931.62

## Pastor's Pen

A person is never all that he ought to be until he loves God. The commandment "Thou shalt love God", must be obeyed, or all is vain.

Some of us struggle with this commandment making a few claims. Some put love for self in his heart and not others. Immanuel Kant speaking of this problem said, "How can you make yourself love someone you don't love." You can be ordered to go to the grocery for a pound of meat, and that you can carry out. You can be told to stay away from the tavern, and you can do that. But how can one begin to obey the command to love?

Can you force a person to love someone? Here is someone wealthy and another who is poor. Is that the way we decide love? Here is a father who asks, "Why of all people! Are you in love with such and such a girl?" And the boy simply answers, "She is the only girl in the world for me". Physical love is like that.

Christ would not issue a command which could not be obeyed. The love he demands is different from physical love. We are able to obey Christ's command.

There are many short-cut seekers in the world today. A man says "I give my heart to God . . . now I'm perfect." Wesley insisted that loving God was not as easy as that. For example, you decide shall I go to the seashore today or attend church? Does God care? Shall I put my love of recreation before my love of God?

The same issue develops when a husband no longer loves his wife but is moved towards his neighbor's wife. The seventh commandment confronts him and he has to choose between the love of God and lust of the flesh.

Every person should make loving God the true goal. Your heart will

follow your will, you will practice and imitate the life of Christ. Grow in the love of God by seeking it in day by day decisions. To love like that will be Heavenly.

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### APPRECIATION

A friend has made it possible for the church to receive "The Living New Testament In Sound" in cassette form from Tyndale; also Decision Tape Library (6) by Billy Graham of 1972. May the Lord bless the gift and the giver.

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### OUR KNOWN ILL

Chesapeake General:  
Dorothy Evans

At Home:  
Percy White  
Z. J. Hoggard

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## Sympathy to . . .

The church extends Christian love and sympathy to the Joyce Family in their loss of Calvin Lee.

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### TAPE MINISTRY

We have some tape players available to be placed in homes of shut-ins or people who cannot attend our Sunday morning worship services. If you know of anyone who would be in this classification contact Bobbie Handley or Hammond Coates

The gift that helps  
tell the world  
what Christmas  
is all about.



OUR GOAL - \$4,000.00

# Pastor's Pen

Carry your corner! The conditions of the church and the prosperity of the church are suggested in these three words.

You recall the story. The report that our Lord is in Capernaum has filled the house and packed the space outside with an eager congregation. While he is preaching, a strange funeral looking procession is seen approaching. It is a pallet, supported at each corner by one who walked with sympathetic heart and gentle tread, and on the pallet the wasted form of a man. It is a helpless paralytic, on his way to Jesus, "borne of four" - Mark 2:3.

The pallet had four corners. No one person could possibly carry them all. The pastor may be Peter, and Paul, and John rolled into one, but he cannot make an ideal church by himself; every member, every church officer, every member, young and old, must co-operate to bring about the desired result. In this paralytic on his way to Jesus, "born of four", we have pictured to

us the mission of the church to bring sin-sick humanity to the Great Physician.

Everyone of the four had a corner to carry. Not one of them loafed along with his hands in his pockets. Each one had a corner. So it should be in the church.

The Lord does not expect you to carry all four corners. But he does expect you to carry one. If you are a Christian, the Lord has a corner for you somewhere in his work.

First, carry your corner steadily. Suppose one of the four had let go of his corner to attend to something else. It is dangerous to fail by unsteadiness in the performance of Christian duty.

Second, carry your corner cheerfully. Do not whimper and whine over it.

Third, carry your corner in faith. They found the entrance blocked with a multitude. Had you been one of the four men, would you have given it up right there and said, "Let's carry him back home." Each man takes a fresh grip on his corner and up the stairs they press. Jesus honored them for their faith. The man was healed.

Pick up your corner today and share faithfully in the Lord's work.

## 1975 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL FACULTY

### DIRECTOR

Robert Clements

### DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANTS

Kirk Curling  
Kerry Harper  
Mark Hopkins  
Terry Seymour  
Joe Hughes

### REFRESHMENTS

Norma Overton  
Peggy Mann

### TRANSPORTATION

Woodrow Bunch

### NURSERY

Carol Vinson  
Mina Ketchersid  
Sharon Sharpe  
Kim Perry  
Joan Feehan  
Michelle Jordan  
Pat Baker  
Renee Vinson

### PRE-SCHOOL 4

Melodie Brown  
Kay Close  
Joyce Batten  
Annette Creekmore

### PRE-SCHOOL 5

Mary Sue Pope  
Gaye Overton  
Peggy Gower  
Cheryl Todd  
Sue Ferebee

### CHILDREN I and II

Carolyn Dunning  
Robin Harris  
Sandra Early  
Sandra Horton  
Bonnie Benton

### CHILDREN III

Joan Ross  
Kim Ross  
Jonie Ross  
Barbara Hopkins  
Janie Payne  
Kay Thomas

### CHILDREN IV

Gail McPherson  
Christine Condoyiannis  
George Condoyiannis  
Lisa McPherson  
Laurie Godfrey

### CHILDREN V

Ann Clements  
Patsy Bias  
Peggy Whitley

### CHILDREN VI

Rachel Fatherly  
Gale Harris  
Florence Harrell  
Teresa Scarano  
Gloria Scarano

We would like to express our appreciation and a great big THANK YOU to all those that worked in the Vacation Bible School. You worked hard and did a good job.

We can never measure or judge the fruits of your toil this past week. You have helped shape the lives of many children.

May I share with you the following poem adapted by Sadie Tiller Crawley. May God bless you as you continue to serve.

Robert Clements

*He stood at the cross-roads all alone,  
The sunrise in his face;  
He had no thought for the world unknown,  
He was set for a manly race;  
But the road stretched East,  
And the road stretched West,  
And the boy didn't know which road was best;  
So he took the wrong road, and  
Went down - down - down.  
He lost the race and the victor's crown—  
He was caught at last in an angry snare  
But no one stood at the cross-roads there  
To show him the better road.*

*Another day at the selfsame place,  
A boy with high hopes stood.  
He, too, was set for a manly race,  
He was seeking the things that were good.  
But one was there who the roads did know,  
And that one showed him which way to go;  
So he turned away from the road that led down,  
He won the race and the victor's crown;  
He walks today the Highway fair,  
Because one stood at the cross-roads there  
To show him the better road.*

