

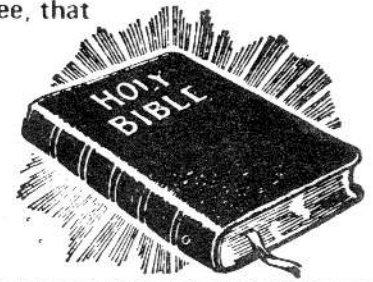
Baptist Banner

ELF. H. C. VANDERPOOL
104 HASTY DRIVE
TOMPKINSVILLE, TENN. 37072
MAY 74



Thou hast given a banner to them that fear thee, that it may be displayed because of the truth.

Psalms 60:4

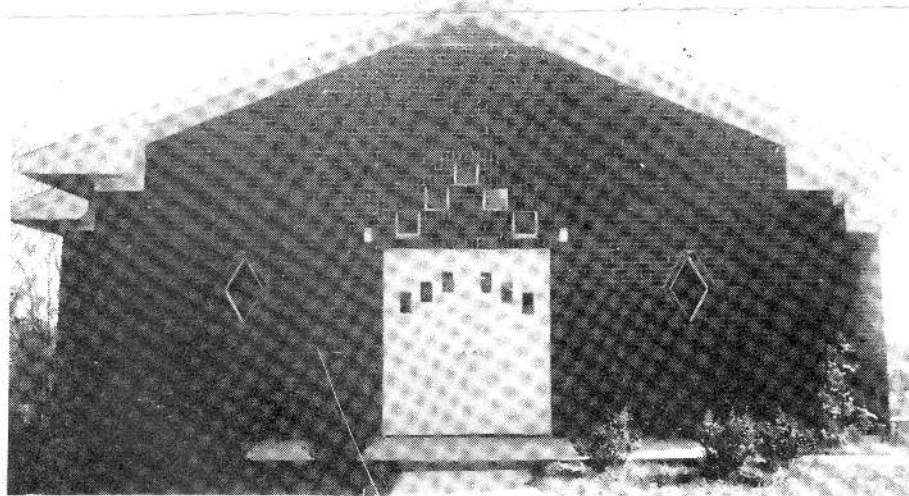


VOLUME 8

TOMPKINSVILLE, KY.

JANUARY, 1974

NUMBER 8



Bethlehem Baptist Church Dedicated

By Odie W. Shoulders

On Sunday, November 25, 1973, Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church, 1401 Lischey Avenue, Nashville, Tenn., had a dedicatory service for the purpose of dedicating the building located at this address. The dedication service was held in conjunction with the churches annual homecoming which is held on the fourth Sunday in November each year.

The church came into existence through efforts which officially began April 2, 1961. At this time, a number of Christian people met in a rented building at 1100 North Second St., Nashville, Tenn., to begin an effort meeting and to establish a mission.

Elder B. G. Sutton held services at this location each Sunday afternoon until June, 1961. Eld. Sutton and Elder O. E. Russell then began to hold services each Sunday morning. In March, 1962, they began to hold services on Sunday nights.

The Lord blessed their work and the attendance and interest grew. They were

(Continued on Page 2)

Minister To Remain Active

During the year of 1972, I announced to New Bethel Church that I felt that my work as pastor was coming to an end.

The reason I made the announcement was that I felt at my age a younger pastor could offer better leadership. The church in regular conference appointed a committee to find a pastor available. After some contact with about fifteen or sixteen ministers, it seemed that no one was available that the church could agree on. I informed the committee that I would not leave the church without a pastor, and I was elected to serve another year. I accepted the call with the understanding that I would only serve one more year. This they did, and the Lord blessed me and the church, perhaps with the greatest year of any I had served.

The church has now called Elder H. C. Vanderpool, who has already moved into the community, and is ready to begin his service as pastor January, 1974. The church is pleased to have Bro. and Sister Vanderpool and I am sure the Lord is

(Continued on Page 2)

Missionary Leaving For Israel

Don Curtis
Route 1
Westmoreland, Tenn. 37186

Dear Friends,

On April 8, 1972, I told my home church that I was called to preach and to the field in Israel. Three weeks before I said "yes Lord, I'll go", after refusing Him for 15 years. Since that time I have been trying to prepare for the field.

Preparing for the field has taken me into Israel and a number of states at home where I have found the door open to me and a host of new friends bidding me God's speed. I would like to take this opportunity



Elder Don Curtis

to thank all the people that have been so nice to me in the past months, and to apologize to the churches that I haven't been able to visit.

I feel that it is time I try to begin the work in Israel. As most of you know, I am waiting on Permanent Visas at the present. I contacted the Consulate General to Israel concerning our Visas. He told me due to the war and the shortage of people

(Continued on Page 2)

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Church Dedicated

(Continued from Page 1)

extended an arm from New Bethel Church, Goodlettsville, Tenn., to receive members. Elder W. T. Russell was pastor of the mother church at the time.

The people felt it to be God's will that they organize an independent church. In November, 1962, the Church was organized with 11 charter members. The Church called Elder B. G. Sutton as pastor and he was an able servant of the Lord until he resigned in April, 1971. At that time the Church called Elder O. E. Russell, who continues to serve as pastor today.

Soon after the organization, the Church was notified that the building they were using would be torn down. They bought a lot and erected a 40 by 60 foot basement at the present location. In the summer of 1967, they erected an auditorium onto the basement with measurements of 40 by 75 feet. The brethren of the church did most of the work themselves in their spare time.

At the annual homecoming and dedication service we were honored to have two very fine quartets, the Happiness Quartet and the Christian Aires. Midway of the service, Elder O. E. Russell, our pastor, asked Elder B. G. Sutton to say the dedication prayer. Elder Sutton thanked the Lord for giving the people of the

Missionary To Israel

(Continued from Page 1)

they hadn't been able to process them. He advised me that I might be able to get them processed faster in Israel. I plan to leave for Israel about the first of the year. I have my flight reservations for the 9th of January.

I would like to submit a report of all that has been given me since my first effort to preach April 22, 1972. Due to space I am reporting only the totals given me on appointments and by individuals.

Appointments\$2762.74
Individuals567.00

Revivals

Rocky Mound, Westmoreland, Tenn., 917.13; Old Union, Bowling Green, Ky., 413.00, and Longview, Gallatin, Tenn., 175.25.

Associations

Siloam, 401.95; Bethel, 204.00, and Enon, 128.00.

Mission Funds

Calvary, Carthage, Tenn., 250.00; Drakes Creek Sunday School, 106.00; Dixon Creek, Dixon Springs, Tenn., 213.52; Fairview, Woodburn, Ky., 80.00; Fairview, Westmoreland, Tenn., 40.00; Grace, Detroit, Mich., 200.00; Goodwill, Hartsville, Tenn., 100.00; Meadorville, Lafayette, Tenn., 88.70; Lyons, Louisville, Ky., 150.00; Rockbridge Sunday School, Bethpage, Tenn., 162.00; Rocky Mound, Westmoreland, Tenn., 225.00; Siloam, Westmoreland, Tenn., 75.00; Union No. 1, Fountain Run, Ky., 58.60. TOTAL — \$6,970.14.

Yours in Him,
Don Curtis

Notice!!

One of the best study helps to ministers has been "an Interpretation of the English Bible" by B. H. Carroll. Many ministers and students of the scriptures have wanted this set of books of 17 volumes, but were unable to get them because they were out of print.

These books have been reprinted and are now in six large volumes—the same complete works — and are on sale at the Baptist Book Store in Nashville. Price is \$29.95.

Church the opportunity to be able to pay the Church off in the time that they have. He thanked the Lord for the many souls that have been saved at this Church and the many wonderful blessings that the Lord has given each of the members.

It was a wonderful service and truly God's spirit was felt by many people.

At the present time the membership of the Church is 94 people, and services are held each Sunday morning. The church represents annually in the Wiseman Association.

Minister Active

(Continued from Page 1)

pleased, and that he will be with them and bless them in their work with New Bethel Church. My prayers and best wishes is for the best of everything for the church and the pastor and his good wife.

I also made the statement that I was planning to retire from full-time pastoral work. Some seem to interpret my statement as saying I was going to quit preaching, some have said "Well, I heard you were going to Florida". It has been said I was going to West Tennessee. If I'm going to Florida, I haven't heard about it. I have been doing some revival work in West Tennessee for the past few years, and I have already had a call to assist in a revival in West Tennessee next year.

It has never entered my mind to quit serving the Lord in any way that I am able to render service. The following are some of the things I am looking forward to doing during whatever time I have left here in this world. 1. I would consider part-time pastoral work. 2. Revival work. 3. Mission work. 4. Supply preaching. I would consider supplying full-time until a church could find a pastor. 5. Conduct Bible studies. 6. I want to send some appointments out to many churches, to those I have served as pastor, those where I have preached during my early ministry.

If any church wishes for me to come and preach, or if any pastor wants me to fill in for him, if any young preacher has a mission or a place to begin a mission, I would be glad to help in any way.

If any church is not having Sunday School and Prayer meeting and you would like for me to come and speak to your church along this line I would be more than glad to do it.

Therefore, my plans are to serve the Lord as long as he lets me live and gives me health to go and preach, pray, sing, instruct and do anything he wants me to do. Finally, my brethren, pray for me that the Lord may use me for his glory. I want to spend and be spent in the service of the Lord. The Lord has been good to me. He saved me, He called me to preach, He has given me a long pastoral life and work. I thank Him for all He has done for me. And when He is through with me He has a much better place up in glory. I am much closer to that wonderful place than ever before.

Your Friend and
Brother in Christ
Elder F. L. Ray

(EDITOR'S NOTE:

If you wish to contact Bro. Ray about the work he made mention of, you may write him at 510 Alta Loma Rd., Goodlettsville, Tenn. 37072, or call him at (615) 859-1078.



Eld. Ray

OLD UNION BAPTIST MINISTERS SCHOOL

(See Reverse Side)

APPLICATION FORM

Full Name _____
(please print)

Address _____

Member of _____ Church

Church Address _____

Number of years in ministry _____ Yrs.

Please check one: ___ Ordained ___ Licensed ___ Unlicensed

Are you now pastoring a church? ___ YES ___ NO

If so, give name of church _____

Tuition fee of \$25.00 must accompany this application form.

Please use area below to relate your experience of salvation and your call from God to preach the gospel.

Experience of Salvation--

CALL TO PREACH

(USE ADDITIONAL PAPER IF NEEDED)

Once Upon A Platform



Randy Ray

By Randy Ray

(Bro. Ray is the son of Elder and Mrs. F. L. Ray, 510 Alta Loma Rd., Goodlettsville, Tenn. — Editor.)

Often I have wondered what went on in the minds of those on the platform. Probably you have had the same question to stumble through your mind at one time or another. Well, I am not what one would call an old pro at "platformmanship" but maybe I can help ease your curiosity by letting you in on some of the things I see while perching on the platform. As I get more seasoned I will keep you informed.

You know it is always interesting for me to look at people, young or old and to

imagine what they are like on the inside. I love to watch people singing. Here are a few thoughts that trickle through my mind as I watch you worship God.

Some of you smile and I think "now there are some really happy people". Maybe they just got saved or maybe they just realized what a great and wonderful God we have. To be sure, you could be smiling for all sorts of reasons. Satan can put a smile on your face that can fool the crowd and the preacher and me as I sit there admiring that expression of joy. Only God, however, can really tell what that smile means. That same God is the only one who can put a smile in your heart. "A smile in your heart" now there's a wonderful thought. I guess you would call that kind of a heavenly smile. I believe God will put that "heavenly smile" on your face when you are in His will and telling others about Jesus and when you believe His promises. I cannot wait to see Jesus smile; I just know that I will really learn to smile myself when I get to heaven and see His smiling face. (Psalms 144:15)

As you might have already guessed, the whole church is not all smiles. Some of the folks of all ages (However a majority is concentrated to one area of the audito-

rium) decide that they would rather talk than listen to God's word. When I see this my mind goes back to a little country church in Gallatin, Tenn., where my dear, sweet mother taught me how to act in God's house. After a few thorough thrashings with the limbs from any bush which was near the church, I soon learned the rules of my mother's eyebrows. Up meant, I'm warning you and down meant, you're too late. Mothers, put your eyebrows to work. (Proverbs 22:6)

Finally there are those who look as though they were baptized in vinegar and came from the First Church of the Frigidaire. I look at them and I want to say "come on, be glad that you are in church — be glad for a friend like Jesus Christ — rejoice in the Lord". I firmly believe that the same Holy Spirit who brings tears to my eyes, can put laughter in my heart. Some of my best experiences in the Lord have been when I have cried and laughed at the same time.

So what is on the minds of the folks on the platform? I believe Psalms 122:1 sums it up: "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord". You should be too.

OLD UNION BAPTIST MINISTERS SCHOOL



Elder F. W. Lambert



Elder H. C. Vanderpool

SECOND SESSION:
MARCH 27, 28, 29, 1974

Subjects

Plan of Salvation Elder F. W. Lambert
 Pastor's Duties Elder F. L. Ray
 Establishment and Mission of First
 Church Elder W. T. Russell
 Church History in America
 Elder H. C. Vanderpool

Teachers

Tuition Fee: \$25.00 per student.
 Classes: 8:30 A. M.—2:30 P. M.
 6:30 P. M.—8:30 P. M.

For enrollment and lodging arrange-
 ments write to: Old Union Baptist Minis-
 ters School, c-o Eld. Kenneth Massey, 2416
 Shamrock Drive, Bowling Green, Ky.
 42101 or call (502) 843-1590.



Elder F. L. Ray



Elder W. T. Russell

OPERATION UNDER AUTHORITY OF
 OLD UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

Route 3, Highway 240
 Bowling Green, Ky. 42101

(See Application on reverse side)

It Is So Easy To Stay Home and Find Fault

C. C. Bishop

"But Thomas was not with them when Jesus came . . . But he said unto them . . . I will not believe" John 20:24-25.

Read the whole story of doubting Thomas and find whether he did worse than the others or whether you do better. The whole secret in the matter is this: Thomas was gone when the Lord appeared. All had doubted the stories that had been told about the resurrection of Jesus.

They, no doubt, reasoned on this order: The women were led by Mary Magdalene. Christ had cast seven devils out of her and she probably was telling fancied stories to shield her past. Peter and John were the men and Peter had been guilty of "cussing" and a preacher that would lie and "cuss" just couldn't be trusted. He was no doubt pulling a few tricks to get

back into the leadership of the people. Then John was such a bosom friend to Jesus that he would do anything to shield a fallen prophet." They had lost sight of Christ and were looking at the faults of the disciples. I fear this is too true of the world and even the church today. Thomas just took out, and didn't come. The Lord appeared, and showed them marvelous things, assured peace to them, empowered them to forgive each other, commissioned them to 'go' and breathed the Holy Spirit on them. Then were the disciples glad when they saw the Lord.

Thomas missed the blessing He failed to get the revival the others got. They went after Thomas and told him what happened. Thomas began finding fault. "Unless, etc . . . I will not believe" How sad! It wasn't the weak disciples he was taking out on, but the Lord Himself. Occasionally a member will get OFF and POUT, and tell the minister, "I'm through until, etc., ETC." It is good to let such see sometimes that Jesus can get along without them. When Jesus appeared He offered Thomas all the proof he wanted, but He gave him a sharp rebuke. This

was what Thomas needed. He proclaimed "My Lord and my God" If you have been staying at home and finding fault, try going out to meet the Lord and see what difference it makes.

— Mo. Miss. Bapt.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE
 BAPTIST BANNER

Fellowship Meeting To Be Held Jan. 5

The associational fellowship meeting of the Bethel Missionary Baptist Association is to be held at Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, 1501 Pleasant St., Indianapolis, Ind. on Saturday night, January 5, 1974. Services are to begin at 7:00 p.m.

All sister churches are invited to the time of fellowship and worship. Elder Anclé Jones was selected to preach at this meeting. Youth groups from the churches will be singing at this meeting. Everyone is invited to attend.