

# Voice of Baptists

*"The Voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God."*  
Isaiah 40:3

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## SHEEP TO UNDER-SHEPHERD

by Kenneth W. Massey

One of the most beautiful earthly relationships is pictured when pastor and church unite in equal commitment to advance the Lord's work.

### WHAT EXPECTED

What does a church look for in considering a man to fill the office of pastor? A man with the holiness of Jesus Christ, the patience of Job, the faith of Abraham, the power of Jacob, the endurance of Paul, and sermons as brief as Jonah's in Nineveh.

Listen, here's what I think a church should consider before electing a pastor. A man sound in the faith. Of good character. Not a hireling! One desiring to do the work but not campaigning for your church. Not a novice. A leader. A praying man! A servant walking with His Master.

### WHAT OWED TO PASTORS

Every church will do God service to pray for her pastor. Why? That the word of God may have free course. By the way, this should be applied to free entrance into the ears of church members as well as right-of-way into ears of sinners. A praying church will more readily receive sermons of rebuke than those so carnally inclined. Show me the perfect church and I will show you one that never needs rebuking.

It is the duty of every church member to attend all services for God's sake first; for the member's sake next, and for the pastor's sake. Churches invariably have the largest crowds ever witnessed for business meetings the nights a new pastor is elected. Where do they all go then? Those who didn't get their man go home to await the next election or go visiting real often to see that preacher who shows them special attention.

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## Gospel Music School

The Cumberland Valley School of Gospel Music will hold its 1st annual session this summer June 20-24 and June 27-July 1 Intensive Gospel Music education will be offered to all ages and skill levels from beginners to advanced. Some of the best gospel music instructors available anywhere have been obtained to teach the classes which include Music theory, harmony, sight reading, ear training, conducting and song writing. Areas of special interest, such as voice, quartet, trio, duet, and solo training will be available, as well as piano, guitar, and other instrumental instruction.

The school will be held at Cumberland College, in Lebanon, Tennessee, about 30 miles out of Nashville. Students may stay on campus, or commute to either day or night classes for very reasonable prices. A wide variety of activities are planned, and all will be completely supervised.

Efforts have been made to keep the school costs very affordable. Students attending and staying on campus will be charged a one time registration fee of \$20 plus \$55 per week room and board. We will accommodate those wishing to attend but are unable to afford school costs.

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## WHAT BUSINESS ARE YOU IN?

by Arvella Stapleton  
Toledo, OH

As a young man Pete was a thoughtful, faithful, husband, and father. He provided food and shelter for his family, but Pete had no use for God, never went to church, and wanted no one to talk to him about the condition of his soul. He took God's name in vain in all his conversations and was very bitter toward anyone who tried to approach him about the Lord.

In the same neighborhood in Tennessee, a dear christian lady, Mrs. Myrtle Cassidy, was serving Christ Jesus to the best of her ability. She is not a preacher, but a witness and teacher for God and has brought the message of salvation by grace to many friends and relatives. They received it with great joy and were saved.

Two years ago Pete became very ill. He was hospitalized many times and for over a year was terminally ill. On one occasion, while in the hospital, Pete told his wife that he was lost (they talked of this many times during his illness). He asked her to call Mrs. Cassidy and ask her if she would come to visit him in the hospital. Pete wanted to talk to her now. Many times before, she had come to him and he turned her away. She was persistent but not overbearing and always told him she was praying for him. When the call went out to her...she immediately went to the hospital...upon arriving in his room, she said, "Hello Pete. How are you today? Your wife called and said you wanted to see me. Well...you KNOW THE BUSINESS I AM IN. I'm still in God's business today and I want you to be saved!"

Pete said, "I know the business you are in, that is why I called for you to come. I need help. I want to be saved. I

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## VOICE OF BAPTISTS

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## GOSPEL MUSIC SCHOOL

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It is highly recommended that each and every church sponsor some of its prospective singers, song leaders and piano players to improve their skills, and thus be a help to the church. Financial help from churches, groups or individuals is necessary to help us offset student costs. Your financial contributions and prayers are earnestly solicited.

To request a brochure about the school, obtain applications, further information, or make contributions please write: The Cumberland Valley School of Gospel Music Inc. in care of Key Dillard, president, Route 7, Rucker Lane, Murfreesboro, TN 37130. Registration is June 19 1-4 p.m. **MAKE YOUR PLANS NOW TO ATTEND!**

Deadline for registration applications is June 1. Others may be accepted after that date, but priority given to those received by deadline.

## Readers Remark

"We appreciate the Voice of Baptists and try to give it to all visitors. Thanks for keeping on."

Katye L. Swanson, Treasurer  
Bethel Baptist Church  
Corvallis, OR

"I enjoy reading Voice of Baptists each month and pray that you can continue publishing the paper. Enclosed is a small contribution to help support your publication."

Lou Ann Green  
Toledo, OH

## I AM GOD

by Terrill Ann Taylor  
Fair Grove, MO

I am the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end.

I created all that is!

You ask, "How can I know you, I can not see you. How can I know you are real?"

All that is formed of love, I am.

All that is kind and good I am.

The plants and the animals that cover this land.

The sun, moon, and stars that give light.  
The man who helps others, expecting no debt.

The rain that refreshes the night

The music and words that replenish the soul.

The child waiting to be born.

The kindness and love between family and friends.

The tears of a mother in morn.

You help, share and love, I give blessing.

You cheat, steal and hate, I give shame.

For I can't control you only reward you.  
And help you when you are in need.

I listen to people and all of your prayers.  
But the answer can't always be yes.

For things have a reason, a purpose, a plan.

I do what I think best.

I grieve for the lost ones, rejoice for the saved.

Only you can decide where you go.

I just can't imagine why anyone would choose to burn for all times below.

For Heaven is so beautiful, I've made it to bless.

No pain, just rejoice shall you feel.

Just worship and praise me, and believe that I am.

Ask for forgiveness on knees.

Just trust and believe, and strive to improve.

And I will reward with my love.

Please come to my altar before it's too late.

You have little time to indulge.

Fear me. Trust me. Love me, Rejoice.

And you shall live forever in my home.

For I am the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end.

All that is, I am, "God"!

### DOCTRINAL STATEMENT OF

#### "VOICE OF BAPTISTS"

1. **The Trinity Of God** - God, the Father; God, the Son; God, the Holy Spirit. One God in trinity, and trinity in unity.

2. **The Inerrancy of Scriptures** - The Scriptures are the infallible, plenary, inspired, verbal word of God.

3. **The Biblical Account of Creation** -

That creation of earth, man and all things is the production of something from nothing by God, true and eternal.

4. **The Personality of Satan** - The Bible uniformly represents Satan as the Person who entices man to sin.

5. **Hereditary, Total Depravity of Man in Fall of Adam** - The entire creation of man is sinful by nature, being descendants of Adam.

6. **The Virgin Birth and Deity of Christ** - God's only begotten and holy Son.

7. **Christ's Blood Atonement for Fallen Man** - The sin-debt, owed by man to God, was paid by the blood of Christ.

8. **Bodily Resurrection of Christ and His Ascension Back to the Father** - Completely conquered death giving assurance to all men, and is now sat down at the right hand of God to mediate and intercede.

9. **The Person and Office Work of the Holy Spirit** - Reproving the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.

10. **Salvation by Grace through Faith in Christ** - God's grace entitles, enables and enlivens the sinner to the new life in Christ.

11. **Justification Before God by Repentance and Faith Without any Admixture of Works** - "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he hath saved us."

12. **Separation of God's Children from the World** - "Ye shall know a tree by the fruit it bears."

13. **Water Baptism (Immersion) to be Administered to Believers Only and by Divine Authority as Given by our Lord to His Church.**

14. **A New Testament Church is a Local, Visible Body of Baptized Believers Observing the Great Commission.**

15. **The Lord's Supper is a Church Ordinance, as is Baptism, and is to be Administered to Baptized Believers in Scriptural Church Capacity Only.**

16. **Eternal Security of the Believer** - Harmony of God's preserving the believer in Christ with the believer's persevering through faith in Christ.

17. **Establishment by Christ of His True Church During His Personal Ministry on Earth** - That Christ took saved and baptized people, and thus organized them into a little government with His Word as the only Law and Himself as the only Lawgiver.

18. **A God-Called Ministry** - God impresses the hearts of some saved men to devote their lives to prayer and ministration of the word of God.

19. **World Wide Evangelism was Given by Christ to His Church** - We are debtors to carry the glorious gospel to every creature on earth.

20. **Perpetuity of the Doctrines of Baptist Churches from the First Advent of Christ Until His Second Advent** - Though the Lord's true churches have gone by names given them by their enemies in

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## An Open Letter to the Pastor

Dear Pastor,

You often stress attendance at worship and study times, such as Sunday School, even V.B.S., as being very important for a Christian—but I think a person has a right to miss now and then. I think a person ought to be excused for the following reasons and the number of times indicated:

Christmas (Sunday before or after)	1
New Year (Long party)	1
Easter (Got to get away)	1
July 4 (Nobody stays home)	1
Labor Day (Got to get out of town)	1
Memorial Day (Got to visit home)	1
School Closing (The kids need a break)	1
School opens (One last trip)	1
Family Reunions (mine & wife's)	2
Sleep Late (Wild & crazy Saturday nite)	4
Deaths in family	4
Anniversary (Second honeymoon)	1
Sickness (One for each family member)	4
Business trips (a must)	4
Vacations & "long weekends"	3
Bad weather (Ice-snow-rain-clouds)	6
Ballgames	4
Unexpected company (Can't just leave them.)	5
Time changes (Spring ahead; Fall back)	2
Specials on TV (Superbowl, etc.)	3

Pastor, that only leaves two Sundays per year . . . so you can count on us to be in the church services on the fourth Sunday in February and the third Sunday of August. We will look forward to seeing you then.

Sincerely,

(Deuteronomy 6:6-7).

E.X. Keuses, esq.

**DON'T WAIT for the HEARSE to take YOU to CHURCH**

**IF YOU DO?**

1. You will go regardless of the weather.
2. You will go regardless of how your family feels.
3. You will go regardless of the condition of your body.
4. You will have beautiful flowers but you will not enjoy them.
5. Regardless of how good the singing you will not enjoy it.
6. Regardless of what the minister may say it will do you no good.
7. You will go to the altar but you will not pray.
8. You may have a great need but no one will be able to help you.
9. You will never be able to attend church again.
10. There will be relatives and friends there but you will not worship with them.
11. You will go regardless of how many hypocrites are there.
12. You will go regardless of how much you are needed at home or on your job.

•The minister had rather help you now than try to console your loved ones if you die without God. So make it your choice to go to church while you have a choice.

## Bulletin Board

Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, 879 Orchard St., Toledo, Ohio has called Elder Darrell Hicks as pastor. He succeeds Elder Charles Stapleton.

Dear Bro. Massey.

My family and I really enjoy reading the "Voice of Baptists". I'm very thankful that someone thought enough to have this paper sent to my parents.

One of your staff writers, Bro. Lambert, was my pastor for twenty-six years. I feel like I was brought up with some good teaching. I really enjoy reading his column, as well as yours and all the others.

I have a friend, Mrs. Emmie Knight, who is unable to attend church regular anymore. She is eighty-three years old and lives alone. I know she would enjoy reading your paper. I am enclosing her address and hoping that you can add her name to your mailing list.

Enclosed is a contribution to the paper.

May God Bless you and your staff.  
Ruth Porter  
Lafayette, Tenn.

## REVIVALS

June 5 - McFERRIN AVE. BAPTIST CHURCH of Nashville, Tenn. will begin revival services. Pastor Howard G. Taylor is to be assisted by Elder Kenneth Massey. Services begin at 6 p.m. on Sundays and 7 p.m. all other nights. All Are Welcome!

June 5 - A revival will be held just two blocks from the Benton County Courthouse in Camden, Tenn. Elder Roger Fowler will be preaching. Services each evening at 7:30. EVERYONE IS INVITED!

June 10 - OLD TIME BAPTIST CHURCH, Elizabeth, W. Va. Pastor Jerry A. Reynolds will be assisted by Elders Landon Long and J. R. Mullins. Please pray for the success of God's word in these services.

June 12 - LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH of Maco Drive, Barberton, Ohio. Preaching by Elder Kenneth Massey. Services begin each night at 7:30 p.m. Hope You Can Attend!

**SHEEP TO UNDER-SHEPHERD***(Continued from page 1)*

Church members should attend the church where they hold membership every time it has a service. If you wish to visit, do so when your church isn't having a service. It is just as much the church member's duty to be at church as it is the pastor's duty. If the church elects him, you support him!

**CHURCHES DO NOT OWE PASTORS PRAISE OR GLORY.** That belongs only to God. Do not be a pastor worshiper. Respect for your pastor when earned is expected by God. To stand in prayerful support of your pastor and to support the truth preached by him is the duty of every member.

**DO YOU JUDGE CHRIST'S SERVANTS** "Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God." 1 Cor. 4:1

It is a disappointing day in the life of any church when a particular member wishes to pass judgment upon the pastor. Remember, this is a man called directly from heaven, ordained by the church of the living God and elected by a local church to serve their needs as the Holy Spirit directs him. Paul said, "But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged of you, or of man's judgement." 1 Cor. 4:3. Some churches regard pastors as the last man to be hired and first man to be fired.

I have never seen a church without a member wishing the pastor would go. Have you? More often than not it's usually the same member who gets ready for all of them to go. I asked a pastor once if he ever had any members who wanted him to go. He replied, "I had only been pastor of one church for two weeks when a certain member started trying to have me put out." I then asked him, "what did you do?" He said, "I went to this member and said, it will probably be a good idea for you to start looking for another church because it will be much easier for you to leave than for me to leave. After all, I have just moved my family here and it would be painful to move again so soon." Now, before all of you church members ridicule this pastor just try to step over into his shoes. He had been kind enough to go directly to the member and had spoken reasonable words. If every pastor left every church because one member had begun a fire the pastor crusade, churches would most always be between pastors.

**PASTORS' PAY**

"He's no better to work than the rest of us. Let him get a job."

Joe Church-Member

This may sound a bit funny to some of you, but you would be surprised how many just read that last sentence and hollered, "Amen," loud enough to be heard across the road. And these people belong to Baptist churches. They have no concept of what it's like to walk one week in the footsteps of a dedicated pastor. While most members have forty-hour work weeks, most pastors have eighty-hour work weeks. I mean they spend eighty hours a week visiting hospitals, conducting funerals, marriage counseling, studying for sermons to be preached on Wednesday evening and twice on Sunday to name a few things.

If you bought the pastor for what most folks thought he was worth, you'd never miss the money. But if you had to raise the price that God places on him, you'd need Ft. Knox as collateral. "The Lord ordained that they who preach the gospel should live of the gospel." 1 Cor. 9:14

Contrary to popular belief God does not rain down manna from above and place food on the table of the pastor and his family. Did you ever hear a Baptist say, "God will take care of His preachers." God will take care of them eternally after they get to heaven, but he has ordered Baptist churches to do that while they are on earth.

Most churches pay their pastor by salary or free-will offering. Both have advantages and disadvantages. The majority of pastors were paid by salary until about sixty years ago. Church record books and old associational minutes confirm this. I don't know for sure why some have changed to free-will offering unless it prevented any commitment on the part of the member. Years ago, the pastor's salary was raised by a committee seeing each member and getting their commitment for that year, which could be paid in twelve monthly installments. Most churches only met once a month due to a scarcity of ordained preachers.

Church members should remember their pastors have the same expenses of everyone else plus additional expenses. How many members will wear out as many cars in a lifetime as their pastor? How many men will buy as many suits as the pastor? How many members move as often as a pastor?

It is a great responsibility to care for a pastor. Is your pastor receiving adequate support? Have you sat down with him and talked about his financial condition?

If you are sure that your pastor is preaching for the money he receives, your church would do well to get rid of

him. Somewhere there may be an over-paid pastor, but I don't know any.

Some day God will pull the record on how churches treated the men He called. The meanest man in town is the pastoral assassin. When your pastor has his back turned toward you, don't knife him, but lay your hand on his shoulder to encourage him.

Every member expects the pastor to be kind and friendly at all times. There's nothing wrong in expecting members to be kind and friendly to the pastor. Remember, he's serving God for your benefit!

**WHAT BUSINESS ARE YOU IN***(Continued from page 1)*

need the Lord." After talking for a while and having prayer together, Pete was saved there on his hospital bed that day. At Christmas Pete died of cancer. Thank God for this precious soul who trusted in God before it was too late for him.

Thank God for Mrs. Cassidy whose business is still flourishing in this world today. She has been a true, faithful servant of the Most High God for all these many years and is still a messenger in the Business of Christ Jesus. Would to God that all his children would get into Business for Him and carry the message to all that are lost. We are all in the same Business if we are trying to help souls find Jesus before it is too late. Let us all say as the profit of old, "Lord, Here am I. SEND ME."

**DOCTRINAL STATEMENT***(Continued from page 2)*

other days, they have always been known by their doctrines.

21. **That All Scriptural Churches Should be Held as Equal Units as to Their Rights and Privileges in Associated Capacities -** No big or little churches with one lording authority over another.

22. **That All Associational Assemblies are Servants of the Churches.**

23. **That We Brand as Unscriptural: Open Communion, Alien Baptism, Pulpit Affiliation with Heretical Ministers, Unionism, Formalism, Universalism, Campbellism, Catholicism, Charismaticism, Pentecostalism, Deism and All Other Religious Philosophies of Men.**

24. **The Personal and Bodily Second Coming of Christ.**

25. **The Bodily Resurrection of the Dead, Both of the Righteous and the Wicked.**

26. **The Reality of Heaven, with Divine Assurance of Eternal Happiness for All the Redeemed of God.**

27. **The Reality of Hell, with Everlasting Punishment of the Incurable Wicked.**