

Aug. 20, 1959

This, That and the Other

PUCKETT JOINS STAFF OF FIRST CHURCH, BARTOW



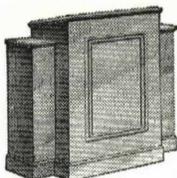
Paul E. Puckett recently joined the staff of First Church, Bartow as minister of music and education.

A native of Atlanta, Ga., Puckett received a B.S. degree from the University of South Carolina, attended Columbia Bible College, and School of Church Music, Southern Seminary. Churches he has served are First, Gastonia, N. C.; First, Camden, S. C.; First, Lancaster, S. C.; and Pageland, Pageland, S. C. In all of these areas he has been a leader in associational and state work. He and his wife have written texts and composed music for several forms of church music, and both have taught at state camps and Ridgecrest.

Mrs. Puckett is the former Martha Louise Roberts of Columbia, S. C. They have two daughters: Elaine, 11 and Beth, 8.

Arvel G. Miller and his family have returned to Florida after four years of mission work in the west. He pastored Southern Baptist churches in Tooele, Utah, and Superior, Arizona.

Miller reports the magnificence of witnessing for Christ amid physical and spiritual hardships matches the superb splendor of the west. Florida Baptists who would like to hear Miller's message may contact him at 1603 W. Bella Vista, Lakeland, Fla., or through Southside Baptist Church, Lakeland, Fla.



CHURCH FURNITURE BY

Page

- PULPITS
- COMMUNION TABLES
- HYMN BOARDS

MADE FROM FINEST DOMESTIC AND IMPORTED HARDWOODS. WRITE FOR CATALOG.

Page CHURCH FURNITURE CO. JALBEMARLE, NORTH CAROLINA

CORA CHURCH, JAY MARKS FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

On August 22 and 23, Cora Church, near Jay, will hold special services commemorating her fiftieth anniversary. The oldest living former pastor, T. G. Burgess, will deliver the message on Saturday, and the pastor, L. F. Miller, will preach on Sunday. A homecoming dinner will be held at noon.

Cora Church began her history on August 22, 1909 with 26 members who held the first meeting under a brush arbor near the spot where the present building stands. Membership now exceeds 300.

In 1910 the State Board of Missions gave to the then struggling organization \$50 to assist in erecting the first building, which served until 1950 when the present building was erected. A few years later a three-bedroom brick pastorium was built. Present property is valued at \$25,000 and is debt free.

Fifteen pastors have served Cora Church. The first was J. T. Fillingim. T. G. Burgess, the anniversary speaker, has served the church several times for a total of ten years. The present pastor has nearly completed three years. The church held quarter-time services until 1947, when a half-time pastor was called. Then in 1948 full-time services were started.

A budget was set up in 1947 which designated \$10 a month for world missions through the Cooperative Program. It is estimated that this year's Cooperative Program giving shall exceed \$1,000 (13 per cent) for the first time in the church's history.

More than 200 are enrolled in Sunday school and 155 in Training Union. Baptisms have tripled this year over last year.

ANDREW W. REAVES DIES IN HOLLYWOOD

Andrew W. Reaves, retired minister, died in Hollywood, Fla. July 24. He was buried in Ft. Lauderdale Memorial Gardens on July 27.

Survivors are Mrs. A. W. Reaves and three daughters: Mrs. Henry A. Parker of Orlando, Mrs. D. B. Nicholson of Coral Gables, and Mrs. Frank Baker of Pine Bluff, Ark.

In the active ministry for 44 years, Reaves held pastorates in Texas, Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia and Florida. The Florida churches he served are Stanton Memorial, Miami; Brownsville, Pensacola; and Pleasant Grove, Pensacola.

After retirement Reaves served many mission churches and led them in building programs. He was also interim pastor in numerous churches in the South Florida area.

JACKSONVILLE PASTOR PREACHES IN BAHAMAS

Russell C. Carter, pastor of San Jose Church, Jacksonville, and his family recently returned from a visit to Nassau in the Bahamas where he spoke to the annual conference of the Bahamas United Baptist Mission. This conference, largest of the three organized Baptist bodies in the Islands, met July 20-26 in the Zion Baptist Church, oldest and largest Baptist church in the Islands. This church was organized in 1835 under the auspices of English Baptist missionaries.

Highlights of the conference were an ordination service for several Baptist preachers from the various Islands, at which service Carter brought the ordination sermon, and the closing service on July 26 at which His Excellency, the British governor, spoke.

Carter also preached in another church in Nassau and in Tarpum Bay on the Island of Eleuthera.

At present Southern Baptists have two missionary couples serving the Bahamas. A combination church and school building has been erected in Nassau.

W. H. Gray resigned as pastor of Bright Pond Church, Jasper, effective October 1.

Gray began his 19½-year ministry at Bright Pond in a one-room building holding services once a month with an annual budget of \$150. The church has remodeled the auditorium, added ten Sunday school rooms and two restrooms, and has held full-time services for the past 12 years. Annual gifts have reached approximately \$10,000.

Gray may be reached at Live Oak, Fla. for revivals, supply, or other service.

400 CHARTER MEMBERS WEST HIALEAH CHURCH

West Hialeah Chapel, Hialeah was recently constituted into a Baptist church. Guy Central, pastor, presided at the meeting with Thomas W. Fryer, pastor of Stanton Memorial Church, Miami (the mother church) bringing the sermons. Meigs, director of Evangelism and Mission Education, brought greetings from the Florida Baptist Convention and J. Raybans, field secretary, read Scripture, led in prayer, and brought greetings from the Association. Ralph Baggett, chairman of Stanton's mission committee, brought words from the mother church, and Mr. Sparks gave a brief history of the Chapel.

Allen Hanson, chairman of deacons at Stanton Memorial, acted as moderator. Guy Central was called as pastor of more than 400 charter members. Sunday school enrollment is over 300. Training Union has enrolled.

The mission was started August 24, 1952 in West Hill Civic Building with two men and 12 children present. O. N. Nabb was the first pastor. He led in construction of the unit of the education building which was occupied in October, 1956. Guy Futral became pastor in June, 1958.

PASTORIUM BURNED

The pastorium of First Church Tallahassee burned on the evening of July 29 from an undetermined origin, while Pastor G. Sanders and his wife were in Miami on vacation.

PANAMA CITY MISSION COMPLETES FIRST BUILDING



Midway Mission, Panama City has enrolled over 100 in Sunday school and 85 in Training Union during the 20 months of its organization.

On January 19, 1958 three families met in an incomplete building under the sponsorship of Springfield Church, Panama. Leonard G. Irwin, pastor.

The mission is now located on a two and one-half acre plot. The first unit of the church plant completed. L. F. Adams, pastor for more than a year.