

## PASTOR SAYS:

# Maturity Is Needed For Child Baptism

By LARRY JERDEN  
(Reprinted from May 29 issue of The California Southern Baptist.)  
The president of the South-

ern Baptist Convention, W. A. Criswell, told his congregation that children under eight years of age should not be baptized.

"A child ought not to be bap-

tized until he is a junior — age 9, 10, 11, or 12; not at age four, five, six, seven, or eight," Criswell said.

THE PASTOR of the 15,000 member church devoted about half of his sermon to the question of the proper age for baptism. He said he knew he was doing wrong when he baptized a younger child.

A check of Southern Baptist Convention statistics disclosed that during 1968, Southern Baptist churches baptized 1,463 children under six years of age, and 36,867 children ages six through eight.

CRISWELL said he had wrestled with the problem of baptizing children for over 40 years, and had baptized underage youngsters mostly because of parental pressure.

"A parent comes to me and says his child, five or six years old, has accepted Jesus as a Saviour," Criswell said. "The Bible says a believer should be baptized. So, he says his child should be baptized."

"I know there is something wrong with that," he said. "I know that child has not reached the maturity by which he should be a member of the congregation."

"BUT I HAVE not been able to convince the parents of that. So, heretofore," he added, "I have taken the little children... and held them in the baptismal pool... and baptized them."

"Every time I have done so I have had a self-accusation of conscience on my soul," Criswell said. "I know I am not doing right."

He said he had been pressed for the minimum age, and responded, "I am not God and I do not know."

"But," he said after listing several possibilities, "a child ought to be a junior before being baptized."

CRISWELL SAID he knew he was doing wrong in baptizing children any younger than nine because of the number who return after they are older, saying they were not truly converted the first time, or that they could not even remember the experience.

He also said the older age is inferred, though not stated, in the New Testament.

"The whole book Matthew through Revelation, is addressed to adults," he said. "It presupposes a mature mind."

Criswell pointed out that whether the child is baptized has no bearing on his salvation. He encouraged parents in his church to continue to bring the children to him when the youngsters feel led to make a decision.



READY FOR A RIDE... Los Angeles County fireman Ed Brennan of Torrance accompanied youngsters from the Foundation for the Junior Blind on a fun-filled day at Disneyland. 300 Los Angeles County firefighters and their wives participated in the activities with 1,000 children from the Foundation. Steve Campos and Albert Contreras prepare for ride with Brennan.

## Bible School Set At Lomita Church

Lomita Missionary Church will conduct its Vacation Bible School June 23 through July 3. "Let's Go With Christ" is the theme, and all children, ages three years through the sixth grade are invited. Bible stories, crafts, singing, games, and missionary stories are planned.

The pre-kindergarten course, entitled "The Lord Loves Me," will "help the small child know that God loves him, and wants his love and obedience."

GOD'S FRIENDS, David and Paul" is the kindergarten course. These Bible stories tell of these two great men and relates their lives to the experiences of the children.

"New Testament People" is for first and second graders. This course "shows the child that he can show his love for the Lord Jesus Christ, and be a helper for His sake."

THIRD and fourth grade students will study, "Great is the Lord;" the Bible lessons are based on Psalms. The purpose of this course is to "impress upon the student the greatness of God, and to help the student to learn to respond to God in praise and worship."

Finally, the fifth and sixth grades will have, "Jesus Christ, My Guide for Life." The Gospel of John is the text for these lessons, and they are "designed to confront the stu-

dents with the adventure of living lives that are dedicated to Jesus Christ."

All children of Lomita, and surrounding communities are invited. The church is located at 2043 Lomita Blvd. (between Eshelman and Narbonne Avenues) in Lomita. The school will begin at 9 a.m. and will adjourn at 11:45 a.m. each day for the two weeks.

## 'Objector' Is Excused From Army

A 21-year-old clerk at the Library of Congress who said he is an atheist but believes killing a man is "a sin no man can endure" was ruled eligible for re-classification as a conscientious objector by a federal judge in Baltimore. His case was the first in which a self-avowed atheist was permitted such status.

## Bible Quarrel Ends In Death

Two men in Fresno recently shot and killed each other in an argument over the Bible, according to a report in The California Southern Baptist, a weekly publication.

## Mail Order Ordination Condemned

A mail order ordination mill in a California town will issue ordination papers to any person who wants to be known as an ordained minister. A cash contribution is all that's required, according to The California Southern Baptist, a weekly publication.

"It is a lucrative racket," the publication editorialized, "and a sacrilegious caricature of the Christian ministry. Ditto for a similar ordination mill operating in Florida."

## Radiocast Christian Science Lecture

SUNDAY, JUNE 22  
2pm KGRB (am) 900 kc  
KBOS (fm) 98.3 mc  
9pm KGIL (am) 1260 kc  
10pm KWOW (am) 1600 kc  
Pomona

## "It Pays To Know God."

by ARNOLD H. EKO, C.S.B.  
of La Jolla, California  
Member of the Board of Lecturers of The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Massachusetts  
This lecture was presented by First Church of Christ, Scientist, Alhambra, in their church edifice on Sunday, June 15, and recorded at that time for delayed broadcast.



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# PRESS-HERALD CHURCH GUIDE

A-2

JUNE 20, 1969

## CHURCH CALENDAR



YOUR CHURCH LISTING IN THIS CALENDAR COSTS JUST \$3.50 PER WEEK. CALL 325-6060

### NARBONNE AVENUE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH

24730 Narbonne Ave., Lomita  
Phone DA 6-0029

Worship Service ..... 7 P.M.  
Church ..... 10:30 A.M.  
Sunday School ..... 9:45 A.M.  
Training Union ..... 6 P.M.

### FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF TORRANCE

(Disciples of Christ)  
2836 El Dorado—FA 8-2820  
Rev. H. Milton Sippel, Minister  
Res. Phone FA 8-4583

Rev. Joseph Tong  
Minister of Education  
Two Sessions of Church School  
and Morning Worship  
9:30 and 11:00 A.M.  
Nursery provided at both sessions.  
CHI RHO Fellowship  
5:30 P.M.  
Christian Youth Fellowship—  
7:00 P.M.

### TORRANCE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1531 El Prado  
Phone 328-3242  
Rev. Arthur Nagel, Pastor  
Res. Phone 328-6231

SUNDAYS  
Two Morning Worship Services  
9:30 and 11 A.M.  
Church School Classes at  
9:30 and 11 A.M.  
All ages—Nursery to adults  
Fellowship Meetings 6:30 P.M.

### ST. LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH

1900 Prospect Ave.  
Redondo Beach

Monsignor Daniel P. Collins  
Mass 7, 8, 9, 10, 11:15, 12:15  
Phone 378-9323

### SOUTH BAY BAPTIST CHURCH

4545 Sharynne Lane  
Torrance, Calif.  
Frontier 5-3433

Sunday School ..... 9:30 A.M.  
Church Services at 10:30 A.M.  
Junior and Primary Church  
10:30 A.M.  
Baptist Training  
Union ..... 6:00 P.M.  
Evening Worship ..... 7:00 P.M.  
Wednesday Prayer  
Service ..... 7:00 P.M.  
Nursery and toddler care—All  
Services. Bus transportation  
service.

### CENTRAL EVANGELICAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Marcelina & Arlington  
Rev. Walter M. Stanton  
FA 8-3010

9:30—Sunday School  
11:00—Morning Worship  
6:30—Youth Fellowship  
Midweek Worship Service  
7:30 Wednesday Evening

### YOUR CHURCH LISTING IN THIS CALENDAR COSTS JUST \$3.50 PER WEEK

A permanent listing advertising your times of services and church affairs.

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### TORRANCE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

700 Maple Ave.  
R. Wallis Kornejag, Pastor  
Ph. 328-9080

9:45 Sunday School  
10:30 Morning Worship  
7:00 P.M. Evening Service

### ST. CATHERINE LABOURE CHURCH

3548 Redondo Beach Blvd.  
Torrance  
Phone DA 5-8900

Sunday Masses: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12  
Weekday Masses: 6:30 A.M. and  
8:15 A.M.  
Confessions Saturday  
4:00 to 5:30, 7:30 to 9:00

### PACIFIC VIEW BAPTIST CHURCH

Member Baptist General  
Conference

Temporarily located in the  
Seventh-Day Adventist Church,  
Sonoma St. at Acacia Ave.,  
Torrance, Calif. Tel. 328-4115  
Times of Worship:  
for all ages ..... 9:15 A.M.  
Sunday Morning  
Worship ..... 10:30-11:30 A.M.  
Sunday Eve Service 7:00 P.M.  
Thursday Prayer  
Fellowship ..... 7:30 P.M.  
—Nursery Available  
at All Services—

### ST. ANDREWS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1432 Engracia—FA 8-3781  
Rev. Hugh R. Percy  
R.A. B.D. Rector

7:30 A.M. Holy Communion  
9:15 A.M. Family Worship Ser-  
vice followed by Church School  
and Coffee Hour  
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship  
(Choral Eucharist on 1st and  
3rd Sundays)  
(Child care and Nursery pro-  
vided at 9:15 and 11 A.M. ser-  
vices)  
Weekdays Holy Communion at  
11 A.M. Thursdays and 6:30  
A.M. on All Saint's Days.

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GARDENA

1557 W. Redondo Beach Blvd.  
Phone DA 4-1064

Rev. John Boller, Minister  
1489 W. 153rd St., Gardena  
DA 3-1215  
Worship Service ... 9:30 A.M.  
(Nursery Care Provided)  
Sunday Church School  
Classes, All Ages ... 9:30 A.M.  
Senior Hi Fellowship and  
Junior High Fellowship  
Sundays at 7:00 P.M.

### FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

1728 Flower Street  
Phone 320-4151  
William J. Rolader, Pastor  
Phone FA 8-3249

Steven A. Myers, Assoc. Pastor  
Worship Services  
8:00 A.M. 9:15 A.M. 10:45 A.M.  
Sunday School  
8:00 A.M. 9:15 A.M. 10:45 A.M.  
Nursery services for 9:15 A.M.  
and 10:45 A.M.  
Holy Communion—First Sunday  
Luther League—2nd and 4th  
Sundays  
Christian Elementary School—  
Kindergarten thru 8th Grade

### NATIVITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

1447 Engracia Ave., Torrance  
Phone: FA 8-2776

Rev. John P. Cremins, Pastor  
MASS SCHEDULE  
Sundays: 7, 8, 9, 10:15, 11:15,  
12:15 and 6 P.M.  
St. Joseph's at 9:30 A.M.  
SATURDAY CONFESSIONS  
10:30 to 11:30 A.M.; 8:30 to 9:30  
7:00 to 9 P.M.  
St. Joseph's at 7:15 P.M.  
BAPTISMS  
Every Sunday at 1:45 P.M.

### TORRANCE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Serving Christ and the  
Needs of Men  
2114 Carson Street  
Phone 328-5030

Rev. Lloyd H. Newlin  
SUNDAY  
Worship Services  
9:15 and 11:00 A.M.  
Bible Study Classes 9:30 a.m.  
Youth Activities 5:45 p.m.  
Evening Gospel Hour 7 p.m.  
Wednesday  
Youth & Adult  
Study, Prayer & Fellowship  
7:15 p.m.  
Nursery Facilities

### IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Missouri Synod  
706 Knob Hill Redondo Beach  
875-9535

Rev. E.M. Schoppa, Pastor  
Worship Service, 8 and 11 A.M.  
Nursery Care Provided  
Sunday School and  
Bible Classes 9:30 A.M.  
(2 Years and Up)  
Friday School of Religion  
4 to 6 P.M.  
Free Transportation for Sunday School  
& 11 a.m. Worship by calling Mrs. E.  
White Call 378-1234, before 6 p.m. Sat.  
Dial Inspiration—378-5233  
(24 Hours)

### YOUR CHURCH LISTING IN THIS CALENDAR COSTS JUST \$3.50 PER WEEK

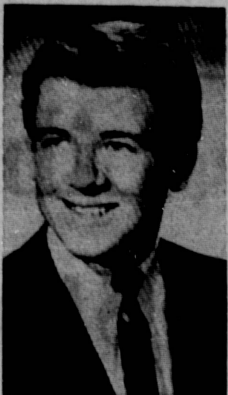
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### FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

215th St. and Manuel Ave.  
Torrance, Calif.  
Church Services—11 A.M.  
Wednesday Eve Meetings  
8 P.M.

Sunday School  
9:15 A.M. and 11:00 A.M.  
Children under 10 years of age  
must be accompanied by parent  
or guardian for enrollment.  
Reading Room—1424 Cravens  
Open 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. daily  
except Sunday and Holidays.  
Also 7 to 9 Monday and Friday  
evenings.  
All are welcome to attend our  
services and use our Reading  
Room.



ROBERT E. GRAY

## Organ Recital Slated

Robert E. Gray, young organist at Christ the King Lutheran Church, will be featured in a recital Sunday at 7:45 p.m. The church is located at 2706 W. 182nd St.

The program will include Fantasia in G Major by Bach; Sixth Sonata by Mendelssohn; Fugue in G Major (The Gigue) by Bach; and Final by Cesar Franck.

Gray will also play his own composition Chorale and Variations.

A free-will offering will be taken. Guests may greet the performer at a reception following the concert in the church's Fellowship Hall.

Robert Gray began his keyboard study at the age of six. At the age of 11, he developed an interest in church music and began studying the organ. During his high school years, Gray served as organist and choir director at Concordia Lutheran Church in Inglewood and later became minister of music at Trinity Lutheran Church in San Pedro.

Now, at the age of 20, Gray is a scholarship student at Cal State, Long Beach, where he majors in voice and organ.

## Enrichment Camp Set At School

The Summer Enrichment Program, sponsored by Gardena Christian School, opened its 1969 season Monday. Enrollment is still open for children 4½ through 12 years old.

The Summer Enrichment is a day camp program running through August. The program includes swimming, arts, crafts, remedial and academic help, films, field trips, and Bible stories.

The basic hours for the program are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Working parents may leave their child as early as 7 a.m. and as late as 6 p.m. at no extra charge. Earl Nordby, director of the program, says this is an ideal arrangement for working parents.

Gardena Christian School is located at 1473 W. 182nd St., Gardena.

## Were People Evolved Or Created By God?

"Is the Universe, Including Man, Evolved by Atomic Force?" is the subject of this week's Bible Lesson-Sermon which will be heard Sunday in all Christian Science churches.

In the Responsive Reading, taken from Job, one verse asks: "Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth?"

A correlative passage from Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures by Mary Baker Eddy reads: "The universe,

like man, is to be interpreted by Science from its divine Principle, God, and then it can be understood; but when explained on the basis of physical sense and represented as subject to growth, maturity, and decay, the universe, like man, is, and must continue to be, an enigma."

Services at First Church of Christ, Scientist, 218th and Manuel Avenue, begin at 11 a.m. All are welcome.

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### SUMMER SCHOOL

JULY 7  
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9 to 12 daily—remedial reading with phonics—remedial arithmetic

### DAY CAMP

JUNE 23  
AUGUST 29

For children through 12—new private, tree-shaded playground and recreation area—new large, private swimming pool—9 to 3 daily. Before and after school care provided 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## Hawthorne Christian Schools

In Hawthorne: 13600 S. Prairie Ave. 679-2591  
In Harbor City: 1050 West Stonebryn Dr. 325-8500  
TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED. CALL TODAY FOR INFORMATION