

Elder Didier to Visit Stake Conference



ELDER DIDIER

First Quorum
of the Seventy

Elder Charles Didier of the First Quorum of the Seventy will preside at the Tallahassee Florida Stake Conference to be held February 21-22.

Elder Didier, a convert to the Church, is a native of Ixelles, Belgium, and has served as a member of the First Quorum of the Seventy since 1975. He speaks four languages and previously worked for the Church as European manager of translation services. He and his wife, Lucie Lodomez Didier, a noted vocalist, have two children. Many will remember Elder and Sister Didier from their participation in Meet the Mormons Week held in Tallahassee some years ago.

The following meetings have been scheduled:

Saturday, February 21

- 3:15 Priesthood Leadership Meeting for all stake, ward, and branch priesthood leaders
- 5:00 Saturday Evening Session for all adult members of the stake and single young men and women ages sixteen and older

Sunday, February 22

- 8:30 Special Youth Session for all young men, young women, and young adults ages twelve to twenty-six (to be held in the Institute)
- 10:00 General Session for all members of the Church and their non-member friends

Primary will not be held during this General Session of Conference.

We issue a special invitation to those who have recently joined the Church to attend Stake Conference. We also ask everyone to consider bringing a non-member friend. Special seating at the front of the chapel will be provided.

Four New Missionaries Called

Four new missionaries have been called to serve since the last issue of the Stake News. Sister Cathy Butkus (Student Ward) has been called to serve in the Arizona Tempe Mission. Sister Linda Allen (Student Ward) was called to the Peru Lima North Mission. Elder Kevin Anderson (Tallahassee 2nd Ward) was called to the Australia Sydney Mission. And Elder Thomas Freeman (Quitman) was called to the Idaho Boise Mission. We wish them all much success.

Stake Presidency Reorganized

Front Row
President
Madsen
President
Richard Chapple
President
Robert Millet

Back Row
Elder Alan
Zauche
Elder Robin
Pope

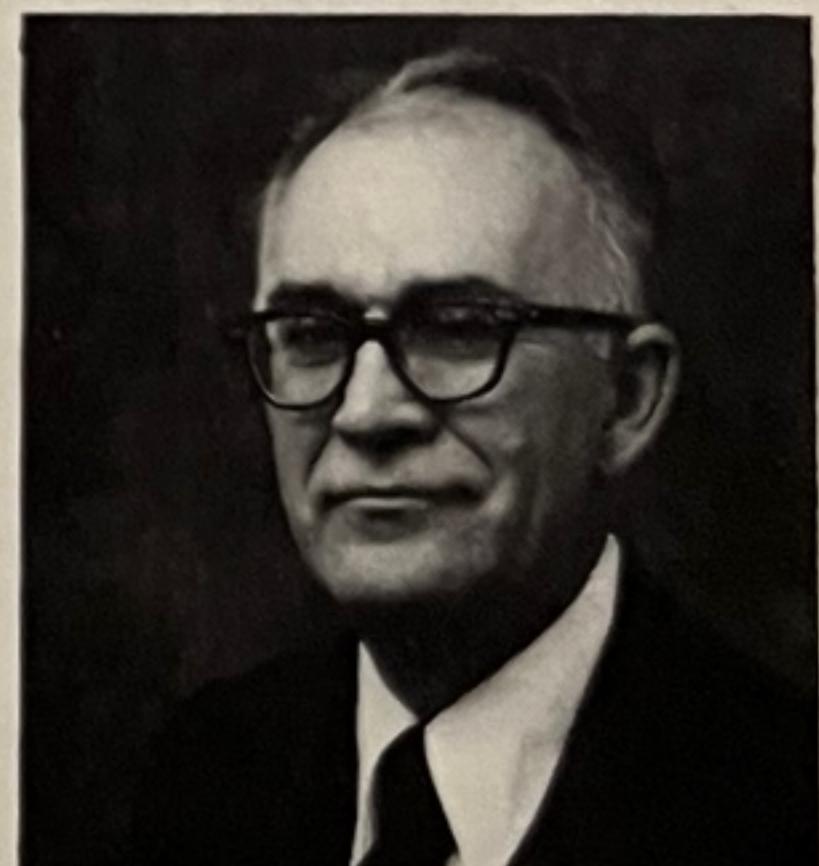


Robert L. Millet, Director of the Institute of Religion and former bishop of the Tallahassee First Ward, has been called to serve as the new second counselor in the stake presidency. He replaces President Lincoln Barlow who was called to preside over the Quitman Branch. President Millet is married to the former Shauna Sizemore, and they are the parents of four children.



Elder Lybbert Reassigned

Elder Jay N. Lybbert



Elder Jay N. Lybbert who has had responsibility for the Tallahassee Region has been reassigned to the Miami Region effective January 1. Elder Lybbert, the first president of the Tallahassee Florida Stake, has had a long and distinguished career of Church service and has made many contributions to the growth of the Church in north Florida, south Georgia, and south Alabama.

Our new Regional Representative is Elder Blaine Vorwaller, who has most recently coordinated Church functions in the Jacksonville Region. Elder Vorwaller, a native of Tooele, Utah, is married to the former Joyce Bedenbaugh, and they are the parents of five children. Prior to his call as a Regional Representative, he presided over the Jacksonville Florida East Stake for ten years and served a total of sixteen years in that stake presidency.

We welcome him to his new assignment and look forward to working with him.

From the Stake Presidency

Dear Brethren and Sisters:

We trust that each family had a lovely Christmas and an enjoyable holiday season. The beginning of a new year focuses our attention upon new beginnings, new ambitions -- upon resolutions for an even more successful year in 1981.

As your stake presidency we come to you to express a concern which, if given proper attention, will surely result in happier and more productive family life in the Tallahassee Florida Stake.

We have noticed over the last few years the constant pummelling our young people are receiving from worldly influences, and we mourn as we witness many of our Father's precious children fall by the wayside as the caravan of the Kingdom rolls forward. Many of these youth have become involved in worldly matters through innocence, curiosity or experimentation at first, but have fallen prey to satanic devices meant to deceive "the very elect." Like Peter of old, our young people often take their eyes off the Savior or His Church just long enough to notice, and then be trapped by, the engulfing waves of permissiveness beating about them. Such buffeting, if yielded to, eventually leads one to look less and less to the Lord of Life, and finally to sink into a life of misery and unhappiness.

After prayerful consideration of this matter, we feel impressed to address ourselves to all parents within the stake, and to sound a singular "battle cry." It is our feeling that far too often our young people get into difficulties because they are not in the right place at the right time. To you, therefore, we issue the charge to see to it that those under your direction be where they should be at the proper time. Far too few of our youth are attending Primary or Seminary or Young Women's or Young Men's meetings. These are not optional programs. They are required programs, in the sense that our children will not receive the full blessings and benefits of the Church (and thus will not be clothed with the proper armor with which to shield themselves from "the fiery darts of the adversary") if they are missed. In a sense, we cannot "short-circuit" the Lord's machinery and hope to receive a product (our precious children) which is finished and refined and whole. The Church can only be a "defense and a refuge" (D&C 115:6) from the storms beating upon us when we enter into its protective shelter properly, through involving ourselves and our youth in the whole program of the Kingdom of God on earth.

Brothers and sisters, let us not be found wanting in this area. The Lord has not established organizations or programs for our day which are unnecessary. We have need for every part of the Church, and so let us see to it that our young people are involved actively in every phase -- Seminary, Young Men's, Young Women's, Primary, and Sunday School.

May the Lord be with you in the most important work in all the world -- family living. We wish for all the most prosperous and successful new year.

Sincerely, your brethren,

President Richard L. Chapple
President Charles H. Madsen, Jr.
President Robert L. Millet

TALLAHASSEE FLORIDA STAKE
PRESIDENCY

Live Oak Branch News

The newest member of the Live Oak Branch is Barbara Jean Hurst, baptized on Saturday, December 13. She was our 24th baptism this year. The following were sustained on December 14, 1980:

James Kiler Davis, Jr. as High Priest
Donald Merl Rogers, as Elder
Daniel Ray Smith, as Elder

Biographical Info — Charles Didier

Elder Charles Didier has been a General Authority of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints since October 3, 1975, when he was called to be a member of the First Quorum of the Seventy.

His major assignments include serving as Executive Administrator for the Church in Canada and as a managing director of the Curriculum Department.

He has held supervisory positions in Western Europe, including that of Regional Representative and president of the France-Switzerland Mission.

Elder Didier was born in Ixelles, Belgium, October 5, 1935. A convert to the Church in 1957, he holds a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Liege in Belgium. He has served as an officer in the Belgian Air Force Reserve.

Speaking four languages, he has been employed by the Church as European manager for the Translation and Distribution Department in Frankfurt, Germany.

Elder Didier and his wife, Lucie, are parents of two sons.

NEW BISHOPS and BRANCH PRESIDENTS

Four wards and branches in the Stake have recently sustained new leadership.

Bishop J. William Miller has succeeded President Millet as bishop of the Tallahassee First Ward. Bishop Miller, a public school music teacher, is married to the former Cleo Chandler, and they are the parents of three sons. The Millers are converts to the Church. Chosen as counselors were Joseph Durrance and Rex Allen.

President Lincoln Barlow was called to preside over the Quitman Branch succeeding President A. D. Ball. President and Sister Mildred Barlow are converts to the Church and are the parents of six children. Sustained as counselors were James Moody and Donnie Ray Dunn.

Succeeding President William Hunter as branch president in Crawfordville is President Jimmy O. Helms. President Helms, a convert to the Church, is married to the former Johnnie Durrance, and they are the parents of two daughters. Serving as counselors are Robert Little and Edward Gonzalez.

Recently chosen to serve as branch president in Moultrie is David King who succeeds President Alton Parrish. President King, also a convert to the Church, is married to the former Dorothy Parham. President King's counselors are Robert Thornton and Edward Martin.

We wish all these brethren great joy in their assignments.

Temple Trip Brings Much Joy To Members

The January trip is over. We must look forward to future Temple trips which will be March 22 through March 28 and June 14 through 20. The last trip of the year will be August 16 through August 22.

It is the goal of the Stake that every worthy member with a Temple recommend visit the temple at least once this year, and for each worthy member to have a recommend.

Remember, going to the Temple not only helps our kindred dead but also builds us up spiritually and brings us closer to our Heavenly Father.

Sister Gregory said of the June 1980 trip, "The Monday night testimony meeting was the spiritual highlight of my trip. Listening to everyone's love for Father and being so close to His house, brought His spirit close to my heart."

Dorian Barber says the most memorable experience of

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Temple Trip (Con't)

the temple trip for him was the initiatory work done for Betty's family.

Dot and Henry Covington went through an Endowment session and sealing with a young couple. They said it was a sincere pleasure to share the joy and emotion that comes through the Ordinances in the House of the Lord.

Wayne and Terri Walker said: "For us the Temple trip was a touching return to the beauty and inspiration of our marriage one year ago."

Brother Charles Floyd and Gene Melvin said their most spiritual experience was qualifying as veil workers.

Ruth Moody said: "I can't select one thing about the trip; everything was wonderful." Sister Moody sums up the feeling of everyone with her statement "everything was wonderful."

Let's go to the Temple, The House of the Lord.

Brother Conrad P. Futch
Temple Coordinator

Stake Relief Society is Reorganized

At a recent special meeting in December the Stake Relief Society and Young Women's organizations were reorganized.

Released with a vote of thanks were Relief Society President Mildred Barlow, her counselors, Edris Parrish and Gloria Beason, and her secretary Lillian Thornton, all of whom reside in the Moultrie Branch. Also released were Young Women's President, Linda Campora, her counselors, Nancy Vass and Susan Barber (all from the Tallahassee Second Ward), and secretary Cyndy Bryan from the Tallahassee First Ward. All of these sisters have set a high standard of excellence, and their efforts are highly appreciated.

Sister Linda Campora was called as the new Relief Society President. She selected as her counselors Nancy Vass and Sylvia Caruthers of the Second Ward who was released from the Stake Primary presidency to assume her new calling. Sustained as secretary was Susan Barker. The backgrounds that these sisters have in goal-setting and personal progress programs should enable them to lead the sisters of the Stake to new individual and family heights.

Sustained as the new Young Women's President was Ronnyl (Ronnie) Green of the Second Ward. Her counselors are Marilyn Cranford (Thomasville) and Nanette Barber (Second Ward). These sisters have had significant experience in working with youth and plan a spiritual and fun program for the stake.

Also reorganized was the presidency of Seventy, those brethren who supervise the missionary program of the stake. Called as Senior President of Seventy and Stake Mission President was Iwan Teare of the Quincy Ward. Other brethren serving with him include President Bruce Ridlon (Second Ward), President Mark de St. Aubin (Student Ward), President Wayne Walker (Valdosta), President Greg Decembrino (First Ward), President William Forgey (Moultrie), and President Dennis Maxey (Thomasville).

Crawfordville Branch News

Boy Scout Troop 126 had a Court of Honor on December 17. Fourteen scouts advanced or earned other awards. Guests were President Jimmy Helms and Reverend Paul Kelly. Mr. Kelly judged the poster contest which was won by Scout Billy Shaefer. On January 31, Troop 126 attended the Rattlesnake Round Up in Wiggam, Georgia; an overnight camp out was combined with Troop 200 of Liberty County. Thirteen scouts attended.

My Most Influential Teacher

Elder David M. Taylor



It is an honor and blessing to be able to say that my most influential teacher has also been the most influential man in my life -- my father -- Donald L. Taylor.

As I ponder about great teachers and men who have altered greatly the courses of lives, my mind turns directly to the Savior. He is without a doubt the master teacher. The most important thing about his "style" is the fact that he says not "go thither" but "follow thou me." Example is the best criterion upon which to judge any teacher. Do his actions demonstrate his teachings?

The most important item in my life so far has been the period of time in my priest's quorum at home. This was where, in a large sense, the destiny of my future and the happiness of the present was determined. The reason -- my father was the advisor. The principles he taught were what the Savior wanted taught and what he, himself, would have taught. And most importantly he lived what he taught and continues to live it now.

But teachings and example alone are empty and shallow if not accompanied by one more ingredient. The teacher must show genuine love and concern and true friendship for his students, and all he touches or influences.

My father has always fulfilled all of these requirements. He has always taught me well, set the example for me to follow, and literally loved me into following his teachings and example. He is one of my best friends, and I love him and always thank my Heavenly Father we were placed on earth together.

The First Class Star and Life Scouts of Troop 126 have started clearing the Wakulla Cemetery as a community project. This cemetery has not been cleared since 1946.

Troop 126 won the Stake Totem Pole Honor at the Stake Court of Honor in Tallahassee on February 7.

William Jacob Wasdin, son of Bill and Rachel Wasdin, was blessed by his father Brother Bill Wasdin on February 1.

The Hunters have a new boy. Thomas Randolph Hunter was born January 20, 1981.

Sister Ann Little has been called as the Gospel Doctrine teacher. Sister Marsha Tucker was called as the three year old teacher in Primary.

Troop 126 of the Crawfordville Branch attended the Rendezvous Campout at Wallwood Boy Scout Camp on October 24, 25, and 26. The boys used camping equipment and clothing that would have been appropriate for 1839. The scouts enjoyed black powder shooting, tomahawk throwing, match splitting, leg wrestling, and the trading blanket.

On Sunday Tallahassee I and II troops joined with the Crawfordville Branch for Aaronic Priesthood meeting and Sacrament Service. The Sacrament Speakers were Brother Lybbert and Brother Martin of Tallahassee I, and Brother Stan Clark of Crawfordville. The boys were reminded to write this occasion in their journals since it was the first Stake campout with services. Many new friends were made and many old friendships were renewed.