

WELCOME ADDRESS
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
SEPTEMBER 9, 1973

DR. PRIGGER, MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION, IT IS A GENUINE PLEASURE FOR ME TO BE HERE THIS AFTERNOON ON BEHALF OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO WELCOME TO OXNARD BOTH A NEW RESIDENT AND A DISTINGUISHED MINISTER. I AM CERTAIN, DR. PRIGGER, THAT YOU AND YOUR WIFE WILL FIND OXNARD A PLEASANT PLACE TO LIVE, TO WORK AND TO WORSHIP.

FIRST, AS A NEW RESIDENT, YOU WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT IN THE AFFAIRS OF CITY GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS. I ENCOURAGE YOU TO EXPLORE THE MANY EXCITING FACETS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS AND TO INVOLVE YOURSELF IN SUCH REWARDING ACTIVITIES. THE CITY, THROUGH ITS MANY ADVISORY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS, AND THROUGH ITS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS, IS HELPING TO KEEP LOCAL GOVERNMENT CLOSE TO THE PEOPLE. WE ARE DOING THIS BY INVOLVING PEOPLE IN MAKING DECISIONS FOR THOSE PROGRAMS AND POLICIES WHICH AFFECT THEIR DAILY LIVING: YOUR INTEREST IN LOCAL AFFAIRS WILL SET A POSITIVE EXAMPLE FOR THOSE WITH WHOM YOU COME IN CONTACT.

SECONDLY, AS THE MINISTER OF A LEADING CHURCH IN OUR COMMUNITY, WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE MANY CONTRIBUTIONS YOU WILL MAKE TO STRENGTHENING OUR FAITH IN GOD AND OUR FELLOW MAN AND IN HELPING US TO ESTABLISH THE KIND OF MORAL FIBER WE WILL NEED TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE.

WITH A STRONG SPIRIT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN GOVERNMENT, CHURCHES, SCHOOLS AND OTHER LOCAL INSTITUTIONS, WE CAN CONTINUE TO BUILD THE KIND OF COMMUNITY OF WHICH WE ARE ALL VERY PROUD.

THANK YOU FOR SELECTING OXNARD AS YOUR NEW HOME AND BEST OF LUCK IN YOUR NEW MINISTRY.