



Then & Now

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A monthly update for Florida Baptist Historical Society Board of Directors and friends

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Dear Board Members and Friends of FBHS,

Congratulations to Elizabeth Baptist Church in Middle Florida Association upon their 175th anniversary. Congratulations to Pine Grove in Middle Florida upon their 150th and Paxton Baptist Church in Walton Association upon their 100th anniversary.

Thanks to David Cunningham of Jacksonville for his wonderful donation of books and microfilm to the FBHS. David has written a book on Baptist Sunday School in Florida and has donated a copy to FBHS. Special appreciation is extended to some good folks from Lake Mystic Baptist Church in Bristol who donated some needed Convention Press books to FBHS.

Brother Ben Jones has celebrated his 60th anniversary as pastor of West Park Baptist Church in Jacksonville and is still serving. According to our records Brother Ben has the fourth longest tenure of any pastor. Carl McIntyre served the same church as pastor for 66 years; Walter Brooks served the same church 62 years; William Jay served the same church 61 years and Bro. Ben will celebrate his 61st anniversary next January.

My favorite Baptist church pastoral record is that of Carlton Watson Todd (1918-1998). Bro. Todd served as pastor of three churches in three states for an average of 50 years each. He was a pastor at Caryville, Florida (57 years), Arlington, Georgia (56 years); and Abbeville, Alabama (43 years). Now that is faithful bivocational ministry with Biblical proportions!

Any pastoral or church staff records that exceed 50 years in the same church should be properly recorded. Please bring to our attention any "golden anniversary" pastors or staff members in your association.

Honoring those who honor Christ,

Jerry M. Windsor
Secretary-Treasurer
Matthew 6:33



Bro. Ben C. Jones, pastor of West Park Baptist Church in Jacksonville for over 60 years.