



Here & Now

Vol. 3

An update for Florida Baptist Historical Society Board of Directors and friends

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Sec. Treas.



Penny Baumgardner
Secretary

Dear Board Members and Friends of the Florida Baptist Historical Society,

One of the most interesting things we do at the FBHS is to take part in local church celebrations on special occasions. I want to thank Dori Nelson for representing us at Eastside Baptist Church in LaBelle on their 50th Anniversary service. Don Hepburn went to Trinity in Apopka (50th) and Guy Sanders went to Athens in Fort Meade (100th). We sent a certificate to pastor Ben Reams at Midway in Perry (50th) and Don Hepburn also represented us at Old Plank Road in Jacksonville (50th) and Central Baptist Church in Titusville (50th).



FBHS board member Dori Nelson; 50th Anniversary certificate presentation, received by Pastor Ashley Butler Eastside Baptist Church, LaBelle

The reception of books in our office is always like Christmas. We receive wonderful book donations and two recent gift collections were of tremendous importance. First Baptist Church, Bradenton sent us dozens of books that included some much needed missions and Convention Press books we did not have. Ruth Osganian is the church librarian and has assisted the FBHS on numerous occasions.

The family of Billy Cruce, pastor emeritus of Thomasville Road Baptist Church in Tallahassee also donated many excellent Baptist history and preaching source books that enhanced our collection. I want to thank the Bradenton church library staff and Janice Cruce for making these volumes available to us.

In 2007 our spring FBHS Board meeting was at Olive Baptist Church in Monticello. The previous year Harold Reams was pastor and they celebrated their 175th Anniversary. On July 10, 2011, Olive will be celebrating their 180th Anniversary and the FBHS Board of Directors has already authorized a historical marker to be dedicated on that occasion. This marker will commemorate the fact that it was in 1853 at a Florida Baptist Associational meeting that a motion was made at Olive for the formation of the Florida Baptist Convention. The convention was formed later at the R. J. Mays plantation, in Madison, in 1854. Olive is celebrating a wonderful history and their ties to the association and state convention have been a witness to Baptist cooperation and work.



Pastor Harold Reams, Olive Baptist Church, Monticello; 175th Anniversary

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Our procedure on book donations follows a logical sequence. We catalogue the volumes we need, we offer duplicates to The Baptist College of Florida library (they do the same for us) and we place the remaining books in a "for sale" area in the library. Books we do not need are offered at ten cents each to the BCF family and money generated in that way is placed in the college library fund. Again we are truly grateful for all books donated, they are of great value to our FBHS and BCF collections.

If you have not seen the postcard collection on our FBHS website you will want to check it out. Baptist tradition, theology and history are well represented in our church architecture down through the years.

Honoring those who honor Christ,



Jerry M. Windsor
Secretary-Treasurer
Matthew 6:33



Gibson Memorial Baptist Church, Delray Beach



Central Baptist Church, Miami