

FBC Callahan

Rev. Thurmond Spell, wife Doris, and young son Reginald, came to us from North Carolina. Under their able leadership, 1942 - 1946, the church grew and was a source of inspiration during these trying times. Brother Spell also served as afternoon pastor at Ephesus and Mt. Olive churches.

1947

Rev. W. C. Rice and wife Nora, came to FBCC and quickly outgrew its educational facilities. He proposed that we buy the lot across from church and construct a kitchen, and Sunday School rooms, all along the sides with roll-down doors, leaving the large middle opening for larger gatherings, tables, etc. This was later called the Rice Building. Appointed for this building committee were J. W. Higginbotham, Cal Ogilvie, Alan Jones, Hollis Ray, James McKendree, and Walter W. Hodges, Jr.

The Sunday School class of Mrs. Stella Boughner was organized and is the only chartered class in the Sunday School, in 1925, a year before Mrs. Boughner came to Callahan. teacher of the Fidelis Matrons Class. This class was instrumental in getting the land for the Rice Building where the kitchen and dining area were located.

Mrs. Carrie Ellis, past teacher of this class and mother of the late Mr. Gordon Ellis, had expressed a desire for this class to do something about acquiring this property. On the land was an old dilapidated house. The property then belonged to several heirs, but none knew how to go about getting it.

Mrs. Mamie Jones, long-standing secretary of this class, decided to travel to visit each heir. When she learned that their shares in the estate didn't amount to much, she persuaded each one to donate his part to the church. Mrs. Mamie is a great persuader. She is to be commended for donating her time and efforts to this worthy cause.

Years later, the Rice Building, well used, old concrete block Educational Building burned.

1949

Rev. A. L. Bonner, wife Mary, children Ann, Bobby, Billy and Sue, began his ministry November 2, 1949. He had been a Chaplain in the combat zones with the Marines in World War II and could relate some very moving experiences. The church grew under his dedicated leadership.

The Southern Baptist Relief Center reported in December, 385 pounds of clothing was received from the Callahan Baptist Church.

1950.

Motion was made and seconded, November 8, 1950, that any members who were able to attend the state convention in Ocala be appointed as messengers.

Messengers were elected to attend the quarterly association meeting at East Port, July 5.

1951

Rev. W. C. Rice and wife Nora, came to us and the church outgrew its educational facilities. He proposed that we buy the lot across from church and construct a kitchen, and Sunday School rooms, all along the sides with roll-down doors, leaving the large middle opening for larger gatherings, tables, etc. This was later called the Rice Building.

Homeland Baptist Has New Minister

BARTOW—The **Rev. W. C. Rice** has arrived at Homeland to accept a call from the Baptist Church there. He previously has held other pastorates in Polk County.

The **Rev. Mr. Rice** has been pastor at Knoxville, Tenn., for the past four years, during which time he led a drive to rebuild and expand a church which had burned. Its membership increased from 957 to over 1100 while he was pastor.

HOMELAND BAPTIST

Homeland Baptist Church - The **Rev. W. C. Rice**, pastor, Sunday School 10 a.m. Morning worship 11 a.m. Evening worship 7:30 p.m. Prayer meeting Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

METHODIST

William Rice, 83 Minister

FROSTPROOF — The Rev. William Clarence "W.C." Rice of Frostproof died Friday (Oct. 16, 1992) in Lake City. He was 83.

Born in Riceville, Tenn., on March 29, 1909, he moved to Frostproof from Tennessee in the 1930s. He was a retired minister for the First Baptist Church of Frostproof. He was a member of the Frostproof Masonic Lodge, Scottish Rite and Eastern Star. He was the pastor emeritus of the First Baptist Church of Frostproof.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Flora Rice. He is survived by his daughter, Margaret Hamilton, Lake City; two grandchildren; four great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at First Baptist Church in Frostproof.

Interment will follow at the Silver Hill Cemetery with Masonic rites. The family will receive at the Marion Nelson Chapel Frostproof on Sunday from 3-6 p.m.

Rita June Strickland, Lakeland; sisters, Lucille New, Bartow, Ga., Docia Mae Powell, Pringle, Ga., and Oretta Page, Wrightsville, Ga.

Stanley Funeral Home,
Wrightsville, Ga.

Pearl Rice, 79

. . .homemaker

FROSTPROOF — Mrs. Nora Pearl Rice of Frostproof died Wednesday (Sept. 7, 1988) at the Walker Memorial Hospital, Avon Park. She was 79.

A native of Riceville, Tenn., she came to frostproof from Patterson, Ga., 10 years ago. She was a homemaker and member of the First Baptist Church and the Order of the Eastern Star.

She is survived by her husband, the Rev. W.C. Rice, Frostproof; daughter, Margaret Rice Hamilton, Frostproof; brother, H.M. Gentry, Waycross, Ga.; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Marion Nelson Funeral Home,
Frostproof.

Flora Rice, 94

FROSTPROOF — Mrs. Flora C Rice, 94, of 11 Beverly Drive, died Wednesday (May 9, 1985) at Lake Wales Convalescent Center.

A native of Riceville, Tenn., she came to Frostproof from Chattanooga,

Tenn., in 1931. She was a homemaker and a member of First Baptist Church of Frostproof and its TEL Sunday school class and Order of the Eastern Star.

She is survived by her son, the Rev. W.C. Rice, Frostproof; one granddaughter, two great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

Marion-Nelson Funeral Home, Frostproof.

Lucy G. CrumleyJanuary 10, 1940

(Worker's full name and date)

HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY - STATE ARCHIVES SURVEY
CHURCH INVENTORY FORM: 1938

(Fill in each item, or state in items for which information is not available, sources contacted in attempting to secure information.)

1. County Polk 2. City or town Dundee
3. Exact name of church Dundee First Baptist Church
4. Street address, R.F.D. route, or description of location Corner Highway #8 and Merrill Avenue
5. Race of membership White
6. Languages of services, if foreign English
7. Denomination (full title) Southern Baptist Convention
8. Names and locations of denominational governing bodies - national, state, district, etc. - in descending order of importance
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|---|------------------------------|
| Affiliated with | |
| <u>Southern Baptist Convention</u> | <u>Nashville, Tennessee</u> |
| <u>State Florida Baptist Convention</u> | <u>Jacksonville, Florida</u> |
| <u>Orange Blossom Baptist Association</u> | <u>Movable</u> |
9. Date church organized Sept. 10, 1913 10. Date of lapse, if now defunct This church has been active since its organization.
11. Is church incorporated? No. 12. If so, give date of incorporation None.
13. Original name of church (if name has changed) and date of change The Dundee Baptist Church, changed September 1928.
14. Name of local parent church (if any) from which organized or split None.
15. Information on all previous buildings used for services, since organization, specifying location and dates used Organized in the old school building located at that time in front of the present church building, holding school services in this building until about January 1915, when they moved to their present church building. They moved into this building before it was completed.

JAN 16 1940

FEB 13 1940

16. (a) Date present building erected 1914-1915 (b) Date dedicated by this church Not dedicated
(c) Date consecrated by this church x (d) If unable to give (b) or (c),
give date of first service of this church in building About Jan. 1915 (e) If this
building remodelled, give date Not. (f) Give dates of any additions None.

17. (a) Description, architecture (if any definite style), material used, color,
form of building Plain wooden building with high hip roof, almost
square, painted white.

(b) Special features, as cornerstones, art glass or memorial windows, bell,
pipe organ, famous paintings, altar service, etc. None.

18. Official title of clergyman (rector, priest in charge, pastor, etc.) Pastor.

19. (a) First settled clergyman L.M. Chitty Dates of tenure Sept. 10, 1913-Sept.
3, 1917.
Education Unknown

(b) Earliest known clergyman L.M. Chitty Dates of tenure Sept. 10, 1913-Sept. 3, 1917
(If item a is unascertainable)

Education Unknown

(c) Present clergyman Rev. W.C. Rice Dates of tenure April 2, 1939--

Education Grammar and High School

Address P. O. Box 562, Frostproof, Florida

20. Unpublished historical sketches (author, title, period covered, date written,
location - note if written in one of church record books) None.

21. Published histories, historical sketches, or directories (author, title,
publisher, place and date of publication, no. of pages, location) None.