

FBC, Lakeland (South Florida)

These include, Central Avenue, Calvary, Dixieland, Edgewood and Westside Baptist Churches. Both the Southside and the Webster Avenue churches were formed of members of the First Baptist church and with their assistance both in leadership and by the donation of a lot. The church now has almost \$10,000 in a mission account toward the purchase of a new mission site when deemed advisable. Last year the First Baptist Church ranked fourth in the Florida Baptist Convention in gifts to World Missions through the Cooperative plan.

Pastors who have served the First Baptist Church since its organization are: Rev. James G. McCasky, Rev. A. A. Keith, Rev. P. C. Drew, Rev. W. W. Bostick, Rev. A. C. Turner, Rev. W. B. Dye, Rev. J. C. Robey, Rev. O. J. Frier, Rev. L. D. Geiger, Rev. P. W. Corr, Rev. J. H. Tharp, Rev. G. W. Sheppard, Dr. W. D. Nowlin, Rev. R. S. Gavin, Rev. Wallace Ware, Rev. Louis Entzminger, Dr. W. J. Bolin, Rev. Porter M. Bailes, Rev. C. M. Crosswy, Dr. George R. Stair, Rev. James W. Jelks, Rev. T. S. Boehm, Rev. Byron M. Wilkinson, and the present Pastor, Arthur W. Rich, since November 1957.

As we face the future confidently we remember the words of our Living Lord in Revelation 3:8: "Behold I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it."