

**REV. TED RODDA, JR.**

Rev. Ted A. Rodda, Jr. went to the First Baptist Church of Hastings as their pastor in June of 1984. He was born in Palatka where he lived for only the first few years of his life. His father, Rev. Ted A. Rodda, Sr., was called into the pastoral ministry which resulted in many moves as Rev. Rodda, Jr. grew up. He accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior at the age of 8 and as would be expected grew up as an active part of the church. In 1968 he graduated from the Leesburg High School and began work at the Polk Junior College in Winter Haven, FL on his A.A. degree. After completing his degree at Polk Junior College he married a fellow student, Donna Carol Oswald in August of 1970 and moved to West Palm Beach.

At West Palm Beach both entered Palm Beach Atlantic College. In 1972 as part of the first graduating class, they both received their B.S. degree in Elementary Education.

Following college, Rev. Rodda, Jr. served almost four years in the U.S. Army as a Chaplain's Assistant. It was during this time that he accepted God's call into the pastoral ministry. During the final year and a half of his military service he entered the University of Northern Colorado where he earned a M.A. degree in Psychology. Upon leaving the military, Rev. Rodda, Jr. moved his family to Fort Worth, Texas where he continued his preparation to pastor by entering Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. In 1978 Rev. Rodda, Jr. was called to his first pastorate, Antioch Baptist Church in Bartow, FL. It was after serving there for six years that God led him to Hastings.

During his ministry in Bartow, Rev. Rodda, Jr. served as Adult Church Training Director, Media/Library Director, Petitionary Letters Committee member, and chairman of the Time, Place & Preacher Committee. He also presently serves the Florida Baptist Convention as a Special State Worker with the Church Training Department leading conferences on Church Training and is actively working in MasterLife Workshops. He is currently being trained as a Co-Leader for MasterLife and MasterBuilder Workshops.

**STEVE SWARINGEN**

Rev. Steve Swaringen, pastor of the St. Johns Baptist Church of Palatka, was born on July 30, in Southern Pines, North Carolina. He served for twenty-two years in the U.S. Navy, twelve as an enlisted man, and ten years as an officer. He was an Avionics Officer and flew as a navigator/hombardier on an A-3 Sky-Warrior. He retired from the Navy in August 1967. He attended Del Mar Junior College and the University of Corpus Christi, Texas. In 1967 he attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Texas.

He served the following churches as Minister of Music, Youth, and Education; the First Baptist Church of Lindale, Texas; the Riverview Baptist Church of Jacksonville, Florida; the First Baptist Church of Fernandina Beach, Florida; and the Southside Baptist Church of Lake City, Florida. He served as associate pastor of the Lemon Heights Baptist Church of