



A one-time announcement of special events is a free service provided by the Witness to Florida Baptist churches. Please send materials at least three weeks before the date of the event to Florida Baptist Witness, 1230 Hendricks Ave., Jacksonville, FL 32207, fax 904-346-0696 or e-mail cnichols@fbw.org. Information may be submitted via the Web site: www.FloridaBaptistWitness.com.

BEULAH

Southside Baptist Church in Lake City has called Ralph Rodriguez as senior pastor. He previously served as pastor of churches in Lake City, Jacksonville, and High Springs. He most recently served Bethel Baptist Church in Trenton.

BLACK CREEK

First Baptist Church in Middleburg will host a Spiritual Ultimate Makeover weekend Sept. 15-16 with author Sharon Jaynes. Times for the event are Sept. 15, 6-9 p.m. and Sept. 16, 8:30-11:30 a.m. For registration information, call 904-282-5289.

JACKSONVILLE

The Music Ministry of First Baptist Church, Orange Park, will present "Bigger Than Life" Aug. 27 at

6 p.m. The Celebration Choir and Orchestra will perform along with guest artist, Evidence. For more information, call 904-264-2351. Hillcrest Baptist Church will host its 10th annual Global Impact Conference Sept. 20-24. With the theme, "Piercing the Darkness," Hillcrest Pastor Tim Patterson, a member of the North American Mission Board, will speak at the opening service and mission banquet, and Jerry Rankin, president of the International Mission Board, will speak during the Faith Promise Celebration. The conference will include a block party outreach, taste of nations and chronological Bible story training. For more information, call 904-786-8877.

Springfield Baptist Church will celebrate homecoming Sept. 10. A concert by Pure Heart will begin at 10 a.m. and former pastor Chuck Blair will preach at 10:50 a.m. A covered dish lunch will be served. For more information, call 904-359-0025.

NORTHEAST FLORIDA

First Baptist Church, Callahan will begin a new ladies' Bible study Aug. 30. The 12-week study, "Daniel" by Beth Moore, will be on Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m. For more information, call 904-879-2172.

NORTHWEST COAST

First Baptist Church, Apalachicola, will meet in revival Sept. 10-13 with guest evangelist Andy Bryan of Headland, Ala. All services will begin at 7 p.m. For more information, call 850-653-9540.

PALM LAKE

First Baptist Church in Tequesta will dedicate its new Student Center Sept. 3 at 11:45 a.m. The center is located in the Tequesta Professional Center in the unit formerly occupied by Tequesta Pharmacy. It will house the congregation's student ministry and adult Bible studies, along with community events. For more information, call 561-746-4447.

PENSACOLA BAY

Lawson Jolly Jr. recently celebrated his 50th anniversary in ministry. He served as pastor of Sunset Point Baptist Church and Calvary Baptist Church, both in Clearwater, West Flagler Park Baptist Church, Miami, and First Baptist Church in Dade City. He and his wife, Judy, served as missionaries in Costa Rica. Jolly retired as director of missions of the Pensacola Bay Baptist Association, where he continues to serve as interim pastor while writing books.

SANTA FE RIVER

Westside Baptist Church in Gainesville will celebrate the grand opening of its new Family Life Center Aug. 26, 1-6 p.m. The event will include performances by Six Days from Sunday and southern gospel quartet Rushing Wind, and appearances by several University of Florida coaches. For more information, call 352-333-7700, or go to www.westsidebaptist.org.

WALTON COUNTY

Paxton Baptist Church will offer free tutoring and homework help for area students in grades 1-9 on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons 3-5 p.m. For more information, call 850-419-2380.

OBITUARIES

Former Fla. Convention President dies at 87

WAYCROSS, Ga. (FBC)—William Hal Hunter, 87, Florida Baptist State Convention President in 1960, died Monday, Aug. 14, in Waycross, Georgia, after a brief illness. Survivors include his wife of 64 years, Esther Strange Hunter, of Waycross; one daughter, Elaine Hunter Albertson, of Palmer, Alaska; one son, Hal Hunter Jr., of Minneola. From 1946 to 1947, he was an associate in the Sunday School Department of the Florida Baptist Convention. During his ministry he served as pastor of several Florida Baptist churches including, First Baptist, Lake Wales, First Baptist Crestview, Northwood Baptist in West Palm and Riverside Baptist in Tampa. A native of Live Oak, Hunter received a bachelor of arts degree from Stetson University, Deland; a master of theology degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Texas; and a doctor of ministry degree from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

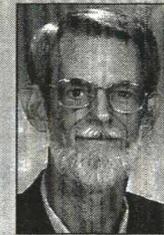


HUNTER

Floral City pastor dies suddenly at 54

FLORAL CITY (FBW)—Roy Michael Thompson, pastor of First Baptist Church in Floral City, died suddenly at his home Aug. 15. He was 54. A North Carolina native, he served several churches in his home state before moving to Floral City ten years ago. He was Sunday School outreach leader of the Alachua Baptist Association and also served on the Floral City Elementary School Advisory Board. Thompson and his wife, Cathy, cared for more than 70 children as licensed foster care parents.

He is survived by his wife of 31 years; three sons, John, Christopher and Michael; five daughters, Amanda Roehm, Monique, Monica, Nicole and Jessie Thompson; five grandchildren, and his mother, Elizabeth Thompson.



THOMPSON

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