

Polk Sesquicentennial Party Kicks Off Saturday

TOM PALMER THE LEDGER Feb. 6, 2011

For instance, the invocation will be given by the Rev. **Shane Rodriguez**, pastor of Peace Creek Baptist Church, the home of the oldest congregation in Polk County. The church was founded in 1854.

Richard Rodriguez, Fifteenth Pastor, 2011 -

Richard Rodriguez came to Wildwood Baptist Church in January 2011 to serve as the interim Pastor . In July 2011 Rev. Richard Rodriguez became the fifteenth pastor of Wildwood Baptist Church when he was appointed by the Wildwood Baptist Church members as their full time Pastor.

Rick Rodriguez with his wife, Debra, say they love living in Bartow, because all the people are so friendly, especially at Wildwood Baptist Church. "Everyone is so loving" they said.

Natives of Tampa, Florida, they were married in 1970 and have one son, Reverend Shane Rodriguez, who is the pastor of Peace Creek Baptist Church east of Bartow.

Pastor Rodriguez served four years in the Marine Corps, and received a black belt in Shubakan Karate. He attended Hillsborough Community Collage in Tampa and studied pre-law. He worked in various jobs for a few years. He served with the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Department, and owned two businesses before attending New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in New Orleans, and surrendering to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, he explained.

His Wife, Debra, "Is a great supporter of his ministry, and is a wonderful servant of the Lord," the new Pastor said. They have one son, Shane Rodriguez, who is pastor of Peace Creek Baptist Church. They have three granddaughters, and one grandson, who the family calls "the Prince."



"Rusty" Music, Youth Pastor



Rusty Music has served as Minister of Youth at Wildwood Baptist Church since 2007. He was married to Virginia (Ginny) Harris on August 7, 2010. His wife Ginny supports him in everything he does at the church.

Rusty also serves as the Church Secretary and Chairman of Deacons. Rusty loves helping anyone he can but his main passion is for the youth.

FBC Wildwood