

Rollins, W. L. served as regional missionary for the Marion Baptist Association. He served as pastor of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Pensacola; Anthony Baptist Church; Hardeetown Baptist Church; First Baptist Church, High Springs and First Baptist Church, Frostproof. He and his wife had two daughters.

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Pensacola News Journal  
Sat, Apr 03, 1943 - Page 5

**PLEASANT GROVE BAPTIST**  
The Pleasant Grove Baptist church will have a public installation service for their new pastor the Rev. W. L. Rollins, on Sunday, April the 4th, at 2:30 p.m. in the church auditorium. Various Baptist ministers and laymen of the city and county will have part in extending a welcome to the Rev. Mr. Rollins and his family to the church and to the Pensacola Bay Baptist Association. The Rev. W. O. Mann, in making this announcement, urges the entire membership of the Pleasant Grove church and extend a cordial invitation to the general public to attend this service.

Tampa Bay Times  
Sun, Aug 03, 1947 - Page 67

**LARGO BRIEFS**  
**Baptist Church  
To Hear Pastor  
From Frostproof**  
LARGO — Rev. W. L. Rollins, formerly superintendent of regional missions in Florida and pastor of the Frostproof Baptist church, will occupy the pulpit at the Largo Baptist church at the evening worship hour today. Pastor E. Allen Burnette will preach at the morning service as usual.  
Rev. and Mrs. Rollins and their two daughters are guests for a few days at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James E. Burnette.

9/27/45 - TBN - p4

## This, That And The Other

Let Us Break the Bread of Life Together  
and  
Share a Spiritual Feast  
in the

Old-fashioned Revival  
To be Held at  
Liberty Baptist Church  
Jacksonville

Our State Secretary, Dr. John Maguire,  
will conduct the services.  
Sept. 23-30, 1945 8:00 P. M.

Rev. James T. Barber, pastor of the  
Riverside Baptist Church, Fort Myers,  
has resigned to enter the Southern Bap-  
tist Seminary, Louisville, Ky., in Septem-  
ber.

Dr. Raymond C. Kanne has accepted  
the pastorate of the First Baptist Church,  
Eau Gallie, and is now on the field. Dr.  
Kanne is a graduate of Temple Univer-  
sity, Philadelphia, Pa., and Crozier The-  
ological Seminary. He has been in the  
pastorate for twenty years. A Daily Vac-  
ation Bible School was conducted re-  
cently with an enrollment of 71, with  
an average attendance of 52.

Rev. W. H. Edwards has resigned the  
pastorate of the Tenth Avenue Baptist  
Church, Tampa, his resignation to take  
place November 1. He has been pastor  
of this church for nearly ten years. The  
church is now debt free and thousands of  
dollars have been spent on repairs and  
seating. There have been over 300 bap-  
tisms in these ten years and gifts to mis-  
sions have increased more than two hun-  
dred per cent. Rev. Edwards will be  
available for evangelistic meetings or  
supply work after November 1.

Captain William B. Rittenhouse, Jr.,  
who received his promotion from first  
lieutenant September 1, has been re-  
lieved from active duty with the AAF  
and will conduct services at the Southside  
Baptist Church, Miami, during the ab-  
sence of his father, the pastor, who is  
serving as chaplain overseas. Captain  
Rittenhouse has been awarded the Dis-  
tinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star,  
Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters,  
the Purple Heart and the Distinguished  
Unit Citation. He was captured in May,  
1944, while on a mission to Ploesti, Ru-  
mania, and acted as chaplain in the Ger-  
man prison camp until his release. He  
has enrolled in the University of Miami  
and will attend classes there to complete  
his college education. He has previously  
attended Stetson University and Brewton  
Parker Junior College, Mt. Vernon, Ga.,  
where he studied theology. His wife is  
the former Nell Cryder, daughter of Rev.  
and Mrs. Leroy Cryder, formerly of Fort  
Myers.

Dr. T. O. Reese, who has been pastor  
of the First Baptist Church of Apalachicola  
for more than two years, has moved to  
his home at Bristol, Fla. He preaches  
at the Lake Mystic Church two Sundays  
each month and gives the other two Sun-  
days to evangelistic work. He has re-  
cently conducted successful meetings at  
Phil Campbell, Ala., and at Providence

Church at Grand Ridge, Fla. On No-  
vember 4 he goes to the First Church,  
Starkeville, Miss.

Dr. Homer G. Lindsay, pastor of the  
First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, has  
recently conducted an eight-day meeting  
with the First Baptist Church of Trenton,  
Tenn., in which there were 30 additions  
to the church, 25 of them for baptism.  
Among those who attended the meeting  
was the 94 year old father of Dr. M. E.  
Dodd. Dr. Paul Wieland is the popular  
and successful pastor.

Rev. W. L. Rollins has resigned as Re-  
gional Missionary of the Ocala area under  
the Florida Baptist Convention and has  
accepted the pastorate of the First Baptist  
Church at Frostproof, Fla.

A definite, planned program of church  
improvement is under way at the First  
Baptist Church, Ocala, where Rev. Mal-  
colm B. Knight is the pastor. A new sign  
identifies the church and a new side-  
walk at the west entrance is helping  
keep the building cleaner. Much paint-  
ing and redecorating has been done to  
improve the different departments of the  
Sunday School.

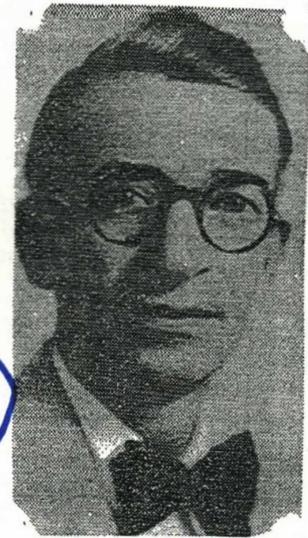
Mr. Elmer F. Bailey, Educational Di-  
rector of the First Baptist Church, Jack-  
sonville, is leading them this week in a  
great inside enlargement campaign. The  
church now has almost \$100,000 cash and  
government bonds for their proposed  
Educational Building with central heat-  
ing and air condition for both buildings.  
The estimated cost is \$125,000; construc-  
tion will begin as soon as material is  
available.

Rev. M. N. Pearson of Branford did  
the preaching in a revival with the Mt.  
Pisgah Church in the Suwannee Assoc-  
iation from August 27 to September 2.  
Rev. O. G. Owen, pastor of the church,  
led the singing. There were seven pro-  
fessions of faith. The last Sunday night  
the people came from Mt. Pisgah to the  
First Church, Branford, for the final  
meeting. The building was filled almost  
to capacity and one more came forward  
to accept Christ.

The Evergreen Baptist Church in the  
Beulah Association has just conducted a  
revival meeting with Pastor O. G. Owens  
leading the singing, and Rev. Austin Mc-  
Elroy, pastor of the Philadelphia Baptist  
Church, Live Oak, doing the preaching.  
There were two additions by baptism.

Dr. James F. Loomis, son of the late  
Rev. H. F. Loomis, former pastor of the  
First Baptist Church, Daytona Beach, is  
taking over the practice of Dr. J. L.  
Mathis, optometrist, in Jacksonville. Dr.  
Loomis has served for the last three years  
in the Medical Department of the United  
State Army.

Rev. W. L. Spears of Bradenton sup-  
plied the pulpit of the Second Baptist  
Church, Sarasota, recently in the absence  
of the pastor, Rev. Lawrence E. Hutto.

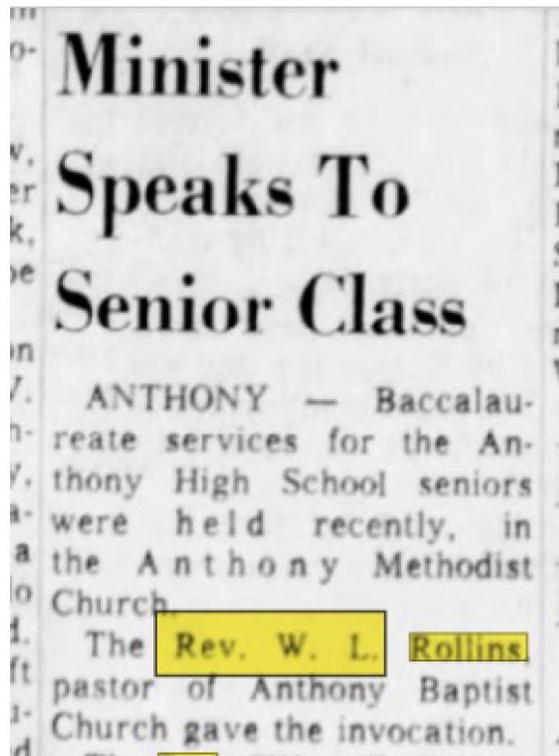


REV. J. K. HUTCHINGS

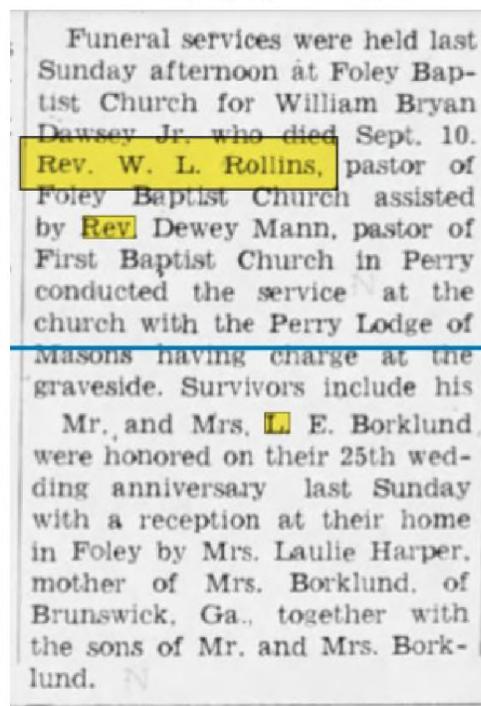
Rev. J. K. Hutchings, pastor of the  
Euclid Avenue Baptist Church, Jackson-  
ville, has resigned to accept the pastorate  
of the First Baptist Church, Hiawassee,  
Ga. He has been pastor at Euclid Ave.  
for the past nine years. For the past  
three years the average has been one  
member a Sunday in additions. Forty  
new members have joined the church  
since April of this year. A lot for an  
educational building has been purchased  
and paid for during the last two years  
and approximately \$6,600.00 is on hand  
for this new building. Mr. Hutchings is  
greatly beloved by the pastors of Jack-  
sonville and over the state, and will be  
sorely missed by all who know him.

Dr. W. E. Denham began his third year  
as pastor of the First Baptist Church,  
Miami, on September 2. Dr. Denham  
preached his first sermon as pastor of  
this church on September 5, 1943. Dur-  
ing these two years the church has re-  
tired its building debt, the budget has  
been substantially increased; the church  
membership has grown and the church  
building has been redecorated. A build-  
ing has also been erected for the Or-  
chard Villa Mission which is sponsored  
by the church. Dr. Denham served on  
the faculty of Baptist Bible Institute, as  
professor of Old Testament in Hebrew  
and English for eleven years. As an  
expression of appreciation for their loyal  
service, the church presented Dr. and  
Mrs. Denham with a silver tray.

Rev. W. H. Edwards, pastor of the  
Tenth Avenue Baptist Church, Tampa, did  
the preaching in a revival with the  
Bethel Church near Humboldt, Tenn.,  
where he was pastor while attending  
Union University some years ago. There  
were 31 additions by baptism; several  
reconsecrations and rededications. He is  
to be in a meeting with the Royal Street  
Baptist Church, Jackson, Tenn., in No-  
vember.



Tallahassee Democrat  
Sun, Sep 19, 1954 · Page 2



Another plan in Brother Hamm's program for the church was to revise the board of deacons into a rotating deacons board. This plan met with much stubborn opposition. This was a new concept at High Springs First Baptist Church where deacons were elected for life or until they chose to retire. There was some debate with overwhelming opposition to the rotating board of deacons. This idea, presented by the pastor, met defeat; however, Brother Hamm was a man of patience and determination, and he worked tirelessly to install his ideas and programs. He succeeded in getting two new positions created on the deacon's board, with 2 new and younger men elected. He was an excellent pastor, a good preacher and an outstanding christian. He had a willingness to cooperate, and during his pastorate the first educational addition to the church was made, and the church continued to grow in number and spirit. Mr. W.J. Priest gave the organ to the church and a year later presented the chimes. Brother Hamm sang with the choir and was a soloist.

Each year 25 or 30 were added by baptism and more by letter. In 1947 there were a total of 58 new members added. Brother Hamm continued to work for more building, but was not successful in obtaining it. In April 1948, he left High Springs to accept a call to a pastorate in Jacksonville. Brother Hamm was a nephew of the well known evangelist, Mordicia Hamm. At least on one occasion he was visited by his uncle while pastor here.

When Rev. Hamm moved on to the pastorate in Jacksonville, Rev. W.L. Rollins was called by the church to succeed him. This was in 1948. Brother Rollins came to the church from Frostproof, Florida. He had once served the First Baptist Church of Branford, Florida. He had been reared and educated in Alabama. He was a warm, very emotional person. He



Board of Deacons

laughed a lot. He also shed tears easily. He had a very deep concern for the obvious sinner. He was concerned for the unlovely. His ministry was with the lost who seemed to have lost all hope.

While he was effective in the pulpit, his greatest gift for service was his adeptness at personal one on one ministry. While preaching from the pulpit he had a sensitivity to individuals who had deep personal problems. He made mental notes of this and sought these people in the immediately following days to seek to council with them. He led many to Christ in this manner. He witnessed in another way that was different than most. He sought out the biways more than the highways, seeking the lost and those who had gone astray. He sought the down and out and the lonely. He went where people were working and playing to talk to them. He visited the railroad repair shops and yard office to talk with the men there. He called on the service and repair departments of garages, auto dealerships and service stations. He witnessed into the billiards parlor and sat down to visit and talk with some of the men there. There was some feeling that too much of his time and efforts were spent in this way. It was felt he should spend more time in 'the

FBC, High Springs

## C, (Harmony Association, 1981)

October 1, 1956. By May of 1957, the church had voted to borrow money to complete the second unit. The third unit was not completed until late 1958 or early 1959. The growth of all organizations of the church is clearly evident in the Associational Minutes. Beginning on October 1, 1959, the church started Sunday School at 9:55 A.M.

K. A. Graham was ordained a Deacon at Homecoming on October 20, 1957.

The Annual Meeting of Harmony Baptist Association was held at Hardeetown October 21, 1960. Beginning early in 1960, the people began talking of remodeling the church. The matter was brought before the church on Sunday, July 17, 1960. Once again the people set to work and the work was done. Rev. Hayman resigned on March 19, 1961.

Rev. Ewell Johnson served as interim pastor during which time a new piano was purchased.

Rev. Robert Byrd was called on July 23, 1961, arriving the first Sunday in September. On January 14, 1962, four lots from the estate of Mrs. Lillie Thomas, joining the church property and on the corner of Lucille Avenue and Second Street, were purchased, and Hardeetown engaged in an attempt to promote a vigorous program. The Sunday School, Woman's Missionary Union and Music Organization pushed ahead.

Rev. Byrd resigned as pastor in February, 1963, and the church was without a pastor until early 1964, when Rev. W. L. Rollins was called.

On November 12, 1964, the Associational Training Union Officer and Leaders Conference was held at Hardeetown. Under the guidance of Rev. Rollins, the church added an assembly room for the intermediates and young people, a church library, a baptistry in the chapel and air-conditioning and central heat for the chapel.

On April 21, 1965, the W.M.U. Associational meeting was held at Hardeetown. On July 19, 1965, the Associational Sunday School Meeting was held at Hardeetown. At Christmas, 1965, Rev. Rollins resigned.

Rev. Henry Powell served as Interim Pastor during this time and at other times when he was needed.

In 1966, the church called Rev. W. L. Cooley. The church added to the pastorium a bedroom, bath, dinette and a utility room. In 1967, one-half block of land completing the block on which the church stands, was purchased. On April 9, 1967, Joe Giglia, Raymond Ward, Raymond Allen and William S. Cason were ordained as Deacons. In 1968, a twelve foot by forty-eight foot Educational Building was added to the north side of the other Educational Building. Rev. Cooley resigned in the summer of 1968.

Rev. Hooter was Interim Pastor until December 4, 1968, when Rev. Jack L. Stewart was called. He remained less than a year, resigning on July 13, 1969.

In September, 1969, Rev. Glen Lawhon was called, who continued efforts to build a new church building, begun by Rev. Cooley. Work was started on a Constitution and By-Laws which were adopted in 1971. Under the guidance of Rev. Lawhon, the church went right on with its dream of a new church building, printing bonds for sale on December 1, 1972. In 1969, the pastorium was air-conditioned with window units, and in 1970, a carport and outside utility room were added. Bus Ministry was begun with the purchase of a first bus in January, 1970. A second bus was purchased in May, 1972, and under the guidance of Sammy Cason this program has reached many souls for Christ. The nursery was remodeled and air-conditioned in April, 1970. In 1971, one of the Sunday School rooms was converted into an office for the pastor, and another room into a library. One wall was removed in 1971, between two Sunday School rooms because of the increase of the 12-14 age groups.