

Ruby, Warren (1922-2011) was a native of Iowa, the son of Alvin and Edna Ruby. He graduated from Toccoa Bible College, Georgia and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He served as pastor of churches in Georgia, Louisiana, and Florida, including Wayside Baptist Mission, Miami, Grapeland Heights Baptist Mission, Miami, and First Baptist Church, Samoset, 1953-1987. Ruby and his wife, Faye Marie Ruby (b. 1923 – d. 1988) had three children. After Faye's death he married Marietta Ruby in 1993.

Visit our website [floridabaptisthistory.org](http://floridabaptisthistory.org)

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/bradenton/name/warren-ruby-obituary?id=13151715>

#### Warren Ruby Obituary

Rev. Warren B. Ruby of 1999 W.W. Gary Rd, Commerce, Ga. 30529 died May 23, 2011. He was born April 9, 1922 in Sheldon, Iowa, the son of Alvan and Edna Ruby. He dedicated his life to the Lord at age 18 and was a "minister" Vs a "preacher" for the rest of his life. He was a great father and preferred to share his faith more in action than in words. He was a "get it done" kind of guy. He graduated from Sheldon HS and Toccoa Falls Bible College as well as the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He pastored at Samoset Baptist and Bradenton First Baptist for 22 years and 16 years respectively. He retired from the ministry when he was 86. He is preceded in death by his wife of 44 years, Fay Ruby, who died in 1988, and his siblings, Margaret, Carl, Clifford and Lawrence. He is survived by his wife, Mari-etta of 18 years, his children, Charles, Calvin, Joyce Burton and Roger Rich, his grandchildren, Mark, Michelle, Heather, Jacob, Matthew, Levi ,great grandchildren, Ella, Joseph, Luke and Sierra, and his siblings, Bernice Gibbs, Myrna Seamonds, Clayton and Paul. The funeral will be held at So-sebee Funeral Home in Canton, Ga

# Happy Hearts to greet Ruby upon retirement

**RICHARD DYMOND**  
Herald Staff Writer

**MANATEE** — Anyone who ever accompanied the **Rev. Warren Ruby** on his well-known trips with his Happy Hearts Senior Adults at First Baptist Church of Bradenton probably has heard the "honking horn" story.

"It was **Warren's** first trip shortly after he started as senior adult minister in 1989," said Gerry Lerner of River Isles. "He was out of town, shuttling everyone to get on the buses, and the bus left with him still inside the hotel.

"They had to jump in a car and race to catch up with the bus with horns blaring so **Rev. Ruby** could get on," Lerner adds, with a giggle.

Lerner and others say there are enough funny and heartwarming stories about the **Rev. Ruby's** contributions to not only First Baptist Church of Bradenton but Samoset Baptist Church, where he was a pastor from 1953 to 1978, to fill an entire day.

Maybe the stories won't go on for 24 hours, but First Baptist has set aside an entire service to honor the 84-year-old **Ruby**, who will retire Sunday after 58 years as a preacher, 42 of them spent in Manatee County. **Ruby**, who will retire Sunday after 58 years as a preacher, 42 of them spent in Manatee County.

One of **Ruby's** main duties for the last 17 years has been senior adult minister and leader of Happy Hearts, for First Baptist members age 55 and older who meet once a month, have lunch and a program and take both day trips and at least one long trip a year, Lerner said.

Even though he is retiring, **Ruby** will make one last trip, next month to Washington, D.C., Lerner said.

## If you go

**What:** Retirement of The **Rev. Warren Ruby** Day

**When:** 10:50 a.m. Sunday

**Where:** Family Life Center, First Baptist Church of Bradenton, 1306 Manatee Ave. W.

**Attendance:** Open to the public  
**Information:** 746-2149

**Ruby** kept everyone entertained on those long bus rides by playing little games, showing VHS tapes of different programs and even singing, Lerner said.

"He's very gracious," Lerner added.

**Ruby** will be missed, said Pat Browning of First Baptist.

"When my mother, Lucille, passed away in May at age 96, **Warren** and his wife, Marietta, were so good about visiting her at her home and, later, at her nursing home," Browning said. "He's gregarious, motivated and he has done a good job at planning activities and he's definitely Bible-oriented."

## The roots of grace

**Ruby** wasn't always the man he is

## The roots of grace

**Ruby** wasn't always the man he is today, he said.

Growing up, he was all about having fun around his family's farm in northwest Iowa and avoiding studying at Shelton High School.

One day, when **Ruby** was 18, a man who was delivering gasoline to the farm told him about a sermon he had heard preached at a local church the night before, **Ruby** said.

"The man said the preacher told all

about Egypt and the Nile River and the delta," **Ruby** said. "I said to him, 'I didn't know the Bible said anything about geography?'"

**Ruby's** parents, Alvin and Edna, went to church but didn't study the Bible, **Ruby** said.

"We had only one Bible in the house and it was on a shelf in the closet," **Ruby** said. "I had no idea that there was geography in the Bible. I wanted to hear that sermon."

Unfortunately, when he went to the church the next night, the preacher delivered a sermon on another theme.

But that had a good outcome anyway.

When **Ruby** heard scripture quoted that night, he felt the words go right through to him, he said.

"That night, I made a 180-degree turn in my life," **Ruby** said. "I didn't tell my parents what had happened. In fact, I wouldn't have known how to put it in words. As far as the concepts of conversation or being saved, I had never heard those words. I knew something had happened to me, but I didn't know what.

"But my friends soon realized something was different," **Ruby** added. "I stopped swearing."

something was different," **Ruby** added. "I stopped swearing."

## Faith in God 'vindicated'

Alvin and Edna didn't say a word when their teenage son told them he was going to go to a different church, called The Tabernacle.

That church led him to a Bible school in Minnesota and, from there, to another Bible school in Georgia called Toccoa College.

**RUBY TO 5C**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2006

## **RUBY** FROM 4C

It was at Toccoa, in the summer of 1944, that **Ruby** met and married Fay Rich, who was his wife for 44 years. She died in 1988.

It was at the Bible colleges that **Ruby** decided to be a preacher.

"My faith in God has been vindicated over and over," **Ruby** said. "I have never doubted God for one minute since I found him.

"I am a different kind of preacher," **Ruby** added. "I am really a quiet and shy person. When I finally meet Jesus, I don't think I will say anything. I will be so glad to be in heaven it will leave me speechless."

**Ruby's** career as a pastor began at Northside Baptist Church in Cullman, Ala., from 1948 to 1949.

He then moved Faye to Wayside Baptist in Miami from 1950 to 1952. From Miami, the Rubys went to Salem Baptist in Denhem Springs, La., from 1953 to 1955.

The family then served Samoset Baptist from 1953 to 1978.

From there it was Highland Baptist in Florence from 1978 to 1987.

"That's when First Baptist

asked me to come down to Bradenton and be the minister for senior adults," **Ruby** said.

**Ruby** married his present wife, Marietta, in 1993.

**Ruby's** children are Charles, 60, who lives north of Atlanta; Calvin, 55, in Hendersonville, N.C.; and Joyce, 50, from Commerce, Ga.

He has two great-grandchildren and a third one on the way, he said.

The decision to retire was not easy for **Ruby**.

"I already don't like it," he said recently, with a laugh. "It's not me. But on my next birthday I will be 85. It's time. The ministry is hard work and requires young people to do it with energy."

**Ruby** lists his greatest accomplishments as winning converts and being an encourager when Christians find their faith a bit wilted.

**Ruby** said he has only one regret after his long career as a preacher.

"I still haven't heard that sermon about Egypt, the Nile and the delta," **Ruby** said.

**Richard Dymond**, Herald reporter, can be reached at [rdymond@HeraldToday.com](mailto:rdymond@HeraldToday.com) or at 708-7917.

### **Faye Marie Ruby**

**Faye Marie Ruby**, 65, of Florence, Ala., died March 28 in Humana Hospital of Florence, Ala.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Samoset First Baptist Church, 3200 15th St. E., with the Rev. Roland Davis officiating. Burial will be in Mansion Memorial Park, Ellenton. Griffith-Cline Funeral Home, 720 Manatee Ave. W., is in charge of arrangements.

Born in Hubbard, Texas, Mrs. **Ruby** lived in Bradenton 22 years and moved to Florence nine years ago. She was a member of Highland Baptist Church of Florence, a graduate of Toccoa University of Toccoa, Ga., a graduate of Manatee Junior College of Bradenton, and attended the University of South Florida in Tampa.

She is survived by her husband, the Rev. Warren **Ruby**; a daughter, Joyce Burton of Stockbridge, Ga.,

two sons, Charles, of Woodstock, Ga., and Calvin, of Lexington, S.C.; three sisters, Peggy L. Rod and Elaine Watkins, both of Columbiana, Ala., and Rose Holcomb of Weaverville, N.C.; a half-sister, Teresa Brackin of Scottsboro, Ala.; two brothers, Arno Rich of Tuscaloosa, Ala., and the Rev. James Rich of Toccoa; a half-brother, Roger Rich of Florence; and six grandchildren.



## **Rev. Warren B. Ruby**

Rev. Warren B. Ruby, Commerce, Ga. Formerly of Bradenton, died May 23, 2011.

Service 2 P.M. Sunday, May 29, 2011 at Samoset Baptist Church. Memorials may be made to the Gideon's International or the Alzheimer's Assoc. [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org).

Condolences may be made online at: [www.shannonfuneralhomes.com](http://www.shannonfuneralhomes.com).

Arrangements by Shannon Funeral Home, Bradenton.

### **8-A The Bradenton Herald, Saturday, Feb. 17, 1973**

Also a graduate of the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, Reverend Ruby completed his undergraduate work in Georgia.

The Rev. Warren Ruby, pastor of the Samoset First Baptist Church since 1956, will serve as Song Leader for revival services.

A past president of the Manatee County Ministerial Association, he has also served as Moderator of the Southwest Florida Baptist Association.

# SAMOSET

## SERVICES HELD

Sunday afternoon, the Samoset Baptist Church dedicated the new mission church in Elwood Park. The services were preceded by dinner on the church grounds. A crowd, the capacity of the church, attended the services. The mission pastor, the **Rev. Jacob Doorn**, presided at the meeting. **Rev. Warren Ruby**, pastor of the Samoset Baptist Church presented the history of the establishment of the mission. **Rev. John Whitt**, Baptist Associational Missionary, preached.

The mission has sixty-two members and ninety-two enrolled in Sunday School. The mission work began in September of 1962.

## PERSONALS

# COOPERATIVE MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

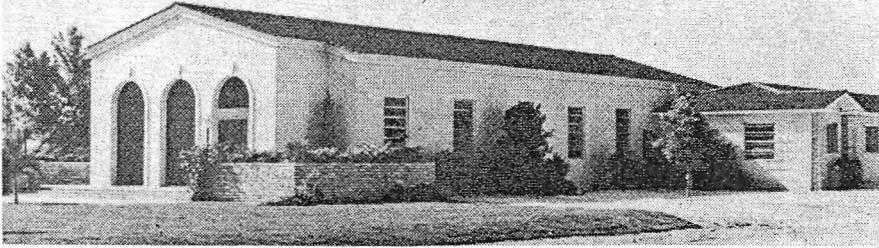
CLIFFORD WALKER, Secretary, 408 Baptist Building, Jacksonville 2, Fla.

## Evangelism and Mission Education

PAUL A. MEIGS, Director

### WAYSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

Kendall, Florida



#### WAYSIDE CHURCH, KENDALL, CONSTITUTED

After several years of continuous growth under the sponsorship of the Allapattah Church of Miami, the Wayside Chapel was constituted a church on August 4th. It was my happy privilege to preach at each of the two morning worship services in this church and to take part in the program of organization that afternoon. Fourteen persons united with the church in the morning services, and three came following the evening service, making a grand total of FOUR HUNDRED EIGHTY-SIX (486) CHARTER MEMBERS!

I am not surprised at such growth because, after talking with the young pastor of this new church, Bill Hinson, I discovered that he makes on the average of some three hundred visits every month.

#### The Sponsoring Church

It would be difficult to overemphasize the part which the Allapattah Church, under the leadership of John Haldeman, had to play in the life of this work. To begin with, a ten-acre building site was purchased, five acres of which were later given to the Florida Baptist Children's Home for the Miami unit of its work.

The Allapattah Church, with its strong Missions Committee, thoroughly understands that a mission will not rise above its leadership and, therefore, they have employed and underwritten the salary of a competent leader from the beginning of this mission.

If my memory serves me correctly, this strong church has sponsored the Miami Springs, the Flagami, the Northwest and the Wayside churches. The Poinciana Mission in Key West is now under the sponsorship of the Allapattah Church, and at an early date they will begin a new work at Coral City.

#### Missions Pay Off

In the last eight years, four of Allapattah's missions have become strong Baptist churches with a combined membership of 2,548 and a Sunday School enrollment of 3,822. Their budgets come to \$230,000.00 with their property valued at \$650,000.00. Three of these churches baptized 210 persons in 1955-56.

It is interesting to note that Allapattah has had a continuous growth, reporting 243 baptisms last year, a membership of 4,471, and a Sunday School enrollment of 3,197. Allapattah owns property valued at \$775,000.00.

I simply cannot resist the temptation to repeat the statement which I make con-

stantly—which is, “money invested in local missions pays large dividends.” Many of our Florida Baptist churches are catching the spirit of missions. Our churches large and small are discovering that missions do pay in every respect, and if we can continue our mission program for the next ten to twenty-five years, Florida may well become the greatest Baptist commonwealth in the Nation,

Clifford Walker

#### OUR HISTORY

(Taken from Bulletin)

During the fall of 1951 and the early months of 1952, a number of the people in this area made repeated requests to the Allapattah Baptist Church to sponsor a mission in the Kendall Community. After several conferences and under the direction of A. D. Dawson, the Superintendent of City Missions for the Miami Baptist Association, the first services were held on Sunday, April 20, 1952 in the Kendall Community House. L. S. Coggins led in the establishing of the Sunday School and Dr. John Haldeman preached at the first morning worship service.

Several ministers were used to supply the pulpit until Warren Ruby was employed as Mission Pastor. The Allapattah Church first purchased a piece of property east of the Wayside Park. This location had to be abandoned because of zoning regulations. Finally a tract of ten acres was purchased from the Smoak family at Southwest 77th Avenue at 98th Street. Five of these acres were donated to the Florida Baptist Children's Home.

After Mr. Ruby's ministry, several ministerial students from Allapattah worked with our people. In the fall of 1953, the church purchased a lovely home at 10331 S. W. 59th Avenue to be used as the Pastorium. The cost of the home was \$21,000.00. A study and Florida Room were added to the Pastorium, bringing the property value to \$26,000.00.

In January 1954, Roland L. Jarrard and his family began their ministry with us. Under his capable leadership we grew in numbers and financial strength.

On Sunday, April 8, 1956, Ground Breaking Ceremonies were held on our property and the construction of our building was begun. At this time, there were approximately 240 members as each individual gave sacrificially, anticipating our first unit to be the finest for the Lord's glory.

W. M. Hinson began his work with us July 1, 1956. During his ministry the Lord has blessed us in every phase of our work, and in the past year we have had 208 additions.

Our first unit was dedicated September 23, 1956. This whole building reveals much planning and prayer by everyone that had a part in its construction. With our beautiful edifice and property valued at over \$175,000.00, we have

#### CHALLENGE FROM GLORIETA

I am writing this article from Glorieta, New Mexico, where I have had for the past week the privilege of attending the Evangelistic Conference in connection with Home Mission week. Truly this is a great week in gaining new information about our program and inspiration to move forward with this great work. Dr. Theron Rankin used to pray for God to give us the right vision of the fields and then a devotion to match that vision. One of our leaders said to me last night as we were walking to our rooms following a great service, “It is great to be a part of this challenging program.” And it is. We have the message for our day and we have the mission. There seems to be a sense of this mission everywhere among our Baptist leaders. One person said to me yesterday, “We belong to God's fire department” and that there must be passion and fire in our messages. We all know that the devil is trying to take away the fire and passion from our preaching. There are influences that he uses with the preachers as well as with the laymen.

As a gird ourselves for the great all out effort for 1959, we realize more than ever the need for the leadership of God's Holy Spirit. And, right here let me remind all of us again of the dates for the simultaneous Crusade in 1959.

The Northern zone or zone 1—April 12-26  
The Southern zone or zone 2—March 15-29  
It is certainly well to begin plans for this now. Let me urge the associational leaders to do this as soon as possible. Several associations have already started plans. We want Florida to be 100 per cent in this great effort. We have the privilege of lifting up Jesus. This matter of giving the message is not optional, it is obligatory upon everyone of us.

Matthew 28:19-20, “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world” and Acts 1:8, “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth” were never more pertinently related to us than now. Baptist churches in Florida have a heavier responsibility in evangelism than any other group in Florida. I believe today presents our hour of destiny; a day seething with problems, but on the other hand, teeming with opportunities. May God help us to face and meet the spiritual need and challenge as we have never met it before.

revealed to our community that we are a united people and ‘expect great things from God as we attempt great things for God.’

Today, our Church has a completely organized work, capable of meeting the needs of every age in our community. We have 467 Charter Members to date, with more expected to join and be baptized today. Our Sunday School enrollment is 603, with 253 enrolled in Training Union. Our W.M.U. has 63 ladies enrolled, and our four robed Choirs have over 60 votes participating.

FBW p6 August 15, 1957

## SAMOSSET FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

After a "Fast Revival Meeting" in Samoset, the First Baptist Church of Bradenton recommended a church be established in this community. The records show that on May 8, 1927, thirteen members of Bradenton First Baptist along with an unknown number of others became charter members of the First Baptist Church of Samoset. A frame building was erected for worship.

On October 19, 1927, Samoset First Baptist was received into the Southwest Florida Baptist Association at the Annual Meeting. The 1928 records show a membership of 57. Rev. J.W. Weeder was called as our first pastor and served until 1931.

In 1933, under the leadership of Rev. John Martin, Samoset began work on their auditorium which was completed in 1936. Samoset saw continued growth under the leadership of Rev. Warren Ruby (1936 - 1947). A parking lot was added in 1951 and the first new Educational Building was built in 1958. The church purchased property in Elwood Park in 1958. In 1960 additional property was purchased and the church was air-conditioned. A mission was started in 1961. The Youth Building property was purchased and the Nursery Building started in 1962. The Nursery Building was finished and some remodeling started in 1963. The remodeling continued and an organ was purchased in 1964. In 1968, property was purchased for a new parsonage.

In 1947 after 22 years of faithful and loving service Rev. Warren Ruby resigned. Rev. R.C. Franklin, Jr. was called as pastor and led the church until 1984 when he resigned. In February 1983 Mrs. Delbert (Billie) Burnett became the secretary of Samoset and continues to serve in that capacity.

In 1964 Hank Ripkins became the Music Director of Samoset, and Rev. Roland Davis was called as pastor. In 1965 the staff grew with the addition of Rev. Byron Garcia, Minister of Education and Youth. In 1986 Samoset purchased property north of the sanctuary which included 4 buildings. This is presently being used for parking. They also purchased the Dunn property south of the sanctuary for proposed expansion.

In May 1967 Samoset First Baptist celebrated their 60th Anniversary of service to the Lord. In 1988 Rev. Davis resigned and Rev. Robnett served as interim until Rev. Travis Hudson was called as pastor. Also in 1989, Rev. Jerry Harper was called as Minister of Youth.

Only the Lord knows what the future holds, but the staff and members of Samoset First Baptist believe in the following: "Attempt great things for God - EXPECT GREAT THINGS FROM GOD".