

Florida Baptist Historical Society Biography Collection

This link provides the specific resource information which documents and undergirds the biographical resource information on a specific Florida Baptist pastors, church staff or significant laity leaders.

The link you have chosen connects to the specific individual's resource files that provide the basis for information which the Historical Society has used to develop the respective biographical profile. The sources attached may include copies of articles gleaned from back issues of the *Florida Baptist Witness* and other news publications. Other resources include books, historical journal articles and church histories that are cited as documentation for the biography.

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Safriet, J. E. (1858-1947) served as pastor of Beverly Hills Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Dinsmore Baptist Church, Grace Baptist Church, Brandy Branch Baptist Church and Yulee Baptist Church. He and his wife, Elizabeth Laura Safriet had five children.

Yulee

J. E. SAFRIET - 1924 ✓

He served as pastor for eight years. He has been described as a very humble, devoted man. He was active in the Jacksonville Baptist Association. He served on the Present Day Evils Committee in 1934. He commuted from Jacksonville every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month. For special occasions he stayed overnight at Mr. & Mrs. J. J. Hughes.

WILLIAM S. MATHENY - 1934 ✓

He resided in Baldwin and preached there the 2nd and 4th Sunday and at Yulee 1st and 3rd. He was pastor when the first preacher, Ward T. Jones, was ordained at Yulee.

VERNON DAVID THOMAS - 1936 ✓

He was born May 19, 1907. Early in his ministry he had a part-time job at a service station in Penny Farms. One of his full-time churches was the First Baptist Church at Pomona, Florida. Other churches he served were: Mt. Olive, Hedges, Oceanway, Springhill, Pine Grove, North 14th St., and Brandy Branch at Bryceville.

His parents were the late D. M. and Treatie Thomas, long-time residents of Yulee. He died in 1945. According to the church minutes, he organized the church program by adopting a monthly budget, individual envelope system and unified treasure, began monthly business meetings and regular observances of the Lord's Supper. He led in the formation of the Northeast Florida Baptist Association.

J. M. DEVETTE - 1942 ✓

He resided in Fernandina Beach while pastor at Yulee. He was an expert cabinet maker, and took pride in the fact that he had the same occupation as Jesus. He was a well educated Bible scholar of Premillennial teachings. He also was pastor at Fernandina First during the 30's.

BRONNA B. HALL - 1943

He was pastor and teacher at Yulee School.

Mrs. Safriet Celebrates 100th Birthday At Her Home In Jacksonville, Florida

Mrs. J. E. Safriet had wished for many years to reach 100 because her mother lived to be 101. Her wish was fulfilled recently and more than 100 relatives and friends attended the open house held at her home in Jacksonville, Florida, September 20, celebrating her 100th birthday.

Mrs. Safriet moved to Jacksonville from Williamsburg with her husband, a Baptist minister in 1915, for her health. That was 44 years ago.

The late Rev. J. E. Safriet held pastorates at Grace, Dinmore, Beverly Hills, Yules and Brandy Branch Baptist Churches in Florida. He died in 1947. They had been married 70 years at the time of his death.

Many gifts were brought to Mrs. Safriet on her birthday. The high light of the party was three beautifully decorated cakes baked in the shape of the numbers 100.

Mrs. Safriet is the grandmother of the late Arthur Safriet and Mrs. Safriet, College Street, and the great grandmother of Mrs. John C. Howard III, Elliott Drive.

Five of her eight children are still living. She has 16 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Holtzclaw Elected Newcomer's Club Head, Mrs. Belk Honor Guest

On Monday evening at Lakeview Restaurant, the executive committee of the Newcomer's Club met for a surprise farewell dinner honoring Mrs. Dennis Belk, president of the club. Mrs. Belk is moving to Princeton, Ind.

Mrs. Claude Horne, vice president, on behalf of the club, presented a gift of crystal to Mrs. Belk. The members expressed sincere regret on losing Mrs. Belk as a Newcomer and as their president.

At a short business meeting following dinner, Mrs. Gene Holtzclaw was elected president to fill the unexpired term of Mrs. Belk. Mrs. Sam Riley was elected secretary, replacing Mrs. Holtzclaw.

FUNERAL NOTICES

SAPRIET — Funeral services for Mrs. Laura Elizabeth **Safriet**, 100, will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday in the Memorial Chapel of Seashore Funeral Parlors with the **Rev.** Nevi Townsend, pastor of Grace Baptist Church, officiating, assisted by the **Rev.** Robert J. Jones, pastor of Norwood Baptist and **Rev.** Sidney L. Reese. Burial will be in Restlawn Cemetery. Mrs. **Safriet** of 1630 E. Duval St. died early Thursday morning at her residence. She was born in Mockville, N.C., and had lived in Jacksonville since 1917. She was a member of the Grace Baptist Church and was the widow of **Rev. J. E. Safriet** who passed away in 1947. Survivors include two daughters, Mrs. Bessie Baker of Daytona Beach and Mrs. Ethel Alderman of Atlanta, Ga.; three sons, L. S. **Safriet** of Knoxville, Tenn., R. D. **Safriet** of Harlan, Ky., and Charles S. **Safriet** of Jacksonville; one sister, Mrs. Cora Gartner of Concord, N.C.; 15 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren; and 2 great-great-grandchildren. Pallbearers will be active: Virgil Lancaster, M. M. Meeks, W. J. Nunn, H. P. Dampier, J. F. Dismuke and V. W. Duckworth.

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**Safriet to Speak
On Self-Defense**

The **Rev. J. E. Safriet**, pastor of
Beverly Hills Baptist church will
speak Sunday at 11 a. m. on Self-
Examination.

His subject at 8 p. m. will be Self-
Defense.

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TO FATHER'S FUNERAL

Mrs. Bessie Crews, owner and
manager of the Fernwood Hotel,
has returned from Jacksonville
where she attended funeral services
for her father, **Rev. J. E. Safriet.**
Rev. Safriet, who was 89, had been
ill for some time. He was a retired
Baptist minister and had lived in
Florida for about 30 years. Sur-
vivors include his widow, who will
remain in Jacksonville, and Grace
and Hillard Johnson, Orlando, niece
and nephew respectively of Mrs.
Crews. They accompanied her to
Jacksonville.

Baptist Union Meet Will End Tonight

Members of the Jacksonville Baptist Union will conclude a three-day session at Palm Valley Church tonight.

The program today includes a talk at 11 o'clock this morning by the Rev. L. C. Bennett, one by the Rev. B. F. Green at 2 o'clock this afternoon, and the closing address tonight by the Rev. T. M. Ponsell.

The Rev. J. E. Sairiet is the pastor of the church, and the Rev. C. E. Saunders, who has been the moderator of the union meetings for the year, has been presiding.

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The Rev. Fre the Jacksonville speak this mor Joy in God." T be "Pardon for will lead the s sical program. T night meeting s night. The R preach Tuesday and Thursday a day of prayer

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SAPRIET—Note of Thanks: We wish to hereby express our gratitude to our friends for their kindness and thoughtfulness during the long illness and death of our dear husband and father, the late John E. Sairiet. Mother, Sairiet and Children, 1438 E. Duval St. City

WPA Transcript

BEVERLY HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH, 1931--. Ridge and Barton Aves., Jacksonville, Duval County.

Constituted 1931. First services in present T shape, white, American Colonial style, frame building erected 1931, dedicated 1937; additions 1937, 38. Present membership 112. Active organizations, Sunday School, Baptist Training Union, Woman's Missionary Union with 4 auxiliaries; Brotherhood. First settled pastor, Rev. E.B. Boling, 1931- five months; common school education. Present pastor, Rev. J.E. Safriet, 1935--, 1734 E. Duval St., Jacksonville; common school education.

(CHURCH RECORDS), 1931--, 1 vol. Showing minutes of meetings, membership roll, baptisms, deaths, receipts and disbursements. Custody of Mrs. S. Safreit, Trout River Boulevard, Jacksonville.

(SUNDAY SCHOOL RECORDS), 1931--, 1 vol. Showing pupils, attendance, collections.

(BAPTIST YOUNG PEOPLES UNION RECORDS), 1932--, 1 vol. Showing minutes of meetings. Custody of B.A. Freeman, Route #3, Box 462, Jacksonville.

(WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION RECORDS), 1938--, 1 vol. Showing minutes of meetings, receipts and disbursements. Custody of president, Mrs. L.E. Evans, Route #3, Box 453, Jacksonville.