

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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Salyers, W. D. served as pastor of churches in Ohio, Kentucky, Virginia, West Virginia and Florida including Woodstock Park, Hogan Baptist Church and Franklin Street Baptist Church, all of Jacksonville, Florida. His wife was Eva Salyers.

REVEREND W. D. SALYERS

Brother Salyers came to our church from the Hogan Baptist Church in the spring of 1943. At a morning service in June 1944 he was stricken ill as he left the pulpit and collapsed in the study. He was unconscious for several days. Doctors said he probably would never preach again. The following August he resigned October 1 of that year. Several months later, however, he was sufficiently well to attend the duties of a pastor and accepted a call to the Woodstock Baptist Church where he served for several years.

Brother Salyers was a man of magnificent physique, fine speaking voice, and a good preacher. He served part of two associational years. The record shows that in these two years there were twenty-eight baptisms, fifty-four received by letter and otherwise. Offerings for these two years were \$33,662.16.



REVEREND HARRY M. LIECHTY

Reverend Liechty came to our church in August 1945. He had been Superintendent of City Missions for the Jacksonville Association for a number of years. Being deeply interested in missions, he led our church to establish several missions during his pastorate. Brother Liechty is now Superintendent of Missions for the greater Los Angeles area. It is understood that he is having marked success there.

For the year 1945 when Brother Liechty had been with us for only one month, the church gave to missions and benevolences \$2,361.72 and to other objects \$11,099.78. There had been fifteen baptisms and twenty-four received by letter.

The next five years were among the best the church ever had. The record shows that during these five years there were 438 baptisms, 528 received by letter and otherwise. The church received during these years for local expenses \$142,209.12, for missions and benevolences \$20,995.43. Some of these gains came from the missions established during his pastorate.

AUGUST 1950 - SEPTEMBER 1951

From August 1950 to September 1951 the church had no pastor. During this period our people were much depressed because of the long delay in obtaining a suitable pastor. However, the records show there were forty-seven baptisms, sixty-two received by letter and otherwise. \$5,063.91 was given to missions and benevolences and \$32,721.14 was raised by the church and its missions for local expenses.

Rev. Charles W. Burgess was a charter member of Hogan Baptist Church, helping to organize it in 1931. He was called to be the first pastor of Hogan and his wife and several family members were a part of the early church. His son-in-law was the first Church Clerk. During his pastorate the membership was increased to 78 and this little group became the seed that multiplied over and over into the Hogan Baptist Church of 1984. He resigned in 1933.

Rev. J. B. Martin was called as the second pastor of Hogan Baptist Church in 1934. During his pastorate, a lot on which to build was purchased and a fund for a building was started. Also there were three baptisms and five came by letter. He resigned in 1935. (No other information available)

Rev. G.E. Jones was called as the third pastor of Hogan Baptist Church in 1936. His wife, Laura, died on August 15, 1939 while he was still pastor. A year later he was married to Mrs. Lillian Allen, a widow, on August 7, 1940 in the church, and then resigned as pastor. He and his second wife lived only a few blocks from the church and continued to attend Hogan. A copy of his book of sermons, "Pressing Forward" is in the church library. He died in September 1956 just two months after the church held the first service in the new brick sanctuary.

During his pastorate the church's first building was completed to point that services were being held in it (January 1938). Also the church had its first budget. Ceiling was installed in the new building, new pews were added and overhead fans installed.

Rev. J. M. Sullivan was called as pastor of Hogan Baptist Church May 24, 1940 and resigned on November 9, 1941. During his pastorate a bus ministry was started and work was started on new Sunday School rooms and the baptistry. (No other information available.)

Rev. W. D. Salyers was called as pastor of Hogan Baptist Church January 1, 1942. His wife's name was Eva. During his pastorate the new baptistry was finished and used for the first time on Easter, April 5th (five were baptized: Mrs. T.E.(Annie May) Jones, Billie Ashpaugh, Harry Royce, Betty Williams, and Vernon Joyner). Also new Constitution and By-Laws were drawn up, presented to the church and accepted. A lot adjoining the church's first property was purchased. He resigned in May 1943.

Rev. W. F. Oddy was called as pastor of Hogan Baptist Church July 4, 1943. He brought with him his wife, Bessie, and three children, Kenneth, Arthur and Dorothy. He was pastor of Orange Park Baptist Church before coming to Hogan. During his pastorate the first church library was organized, the new addition to the church finished and in use, and thirty blankets were presented to the Jacksonville Baptist Home for Children. He resigned as pastor on May 20, 1944. After Hogan he pastored Trinity Baptist Church, Jack-

Rev. W. D. Salyers To Close Ministry At Hogan Baptist

The **Rev. W. D. Salyers** is closing a ministry, during which all departments of the congregation have shown marked progress, today at the Hogan Baptist Church.

He will conduct both morning and night services. During the morning hour Miss Bernice Hickman and **W. H. Mikell** will sing a duet, "Face to Face". The **Rev. Mr. Salyers** has accepted a call from the Franklin Street Baptist Church, Jacksonville.

The opening exercises of the Sunday School, J. T. Woodall, superintendent, at 9:45 A. M., will be in charge of the junior department. Mrs. **W. H. Mikell**, principal of the Daily Vacation Bible School, will set the opening date and announce plans for a special program.

A baptismal service will follow the valedictory sermon by the **Rev. Mr. Salyers** tonight. **D. D. Davenport** will have charge of the B. T. U. program at 7 P. M.

Officers of the congregation have announced that a recreation center on the church grounds will be ready for use in a few days. **W. H. Mikell**, directing the work, reports that basketball and volleyball equipment is ready for use.

Rev. Salyers To Inaugurate New Pastorate

Former Hogan Baptist Pastor Now at Franklin Street Church.

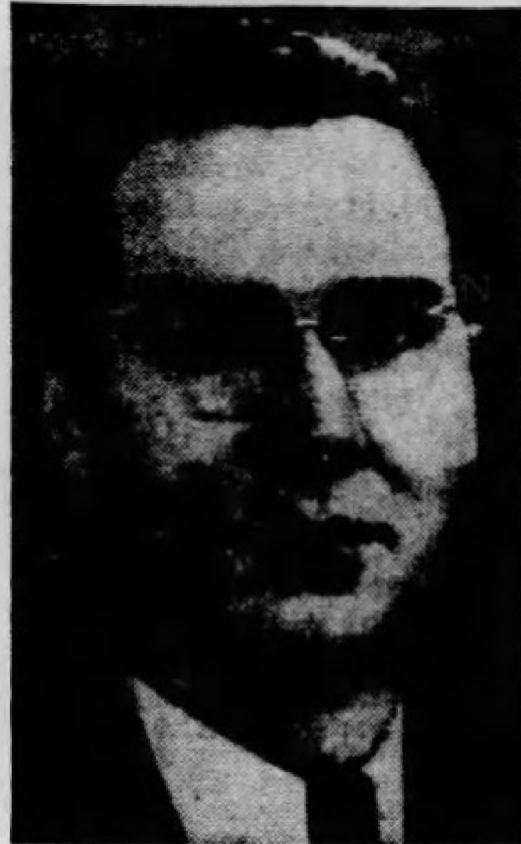
The Rev. W. D. Salyers, who recently received a unanimous call to the pastorate of the Franklin Street Baptist Church, Franklin and Fifteenth Streets, inaugurates his ministry with that church this week, speaking at both morning and evening services tomorrow.

He succeeds the Rev. Pat R. Wimberly, who resigned in March to become an evangelist under the auspices of the Florida Baptist Convention.

The Rev. Mr. Salyers came to Florida from Kentucky approximately two years ago and became pastor of the Hogan Baptist Church, "where his work was outstanding," it was pointed out. Since that time he has become known in Baptist church circles in Jacksonville and vicinity as "a dynamic preacher and soul winner," according to members of the Franklin pulpit committee.

The Franklin Street church has a membership of about 800. A new church building, capable of seating nearly 1000 people, was completed about a year ago.

Franklin Pastor



Unanimously called to the pastorate of the Franklin Street Baptist Church, the Rev. W. D. Salyers, pastor of the Hogan Baptist Church for the past two years and formerly of Kentucky, will be in the Franklin pulpit at both morning and evening services tomorrow. He succeeds the Rev. Pat R. Wimberly, who resigned in March to serve as an evangelist for the Florida Baptist Convention.

Revival to Continue

WOODSTOCK PASTOR—The Rev. W. D. Salyers, former pastor of Franklin Street Baptist Church, has accepted the pastorate at Woodstock Park Baptist Church, St. Clair Street in Woodstock Park, it was announced yesterday.

Rev. Mr. Salyers came to Jacksonville from the First Baptist Church in Northern, Ky. He received theological training in Illinois and held other pastorates in the states of West Virginia and Virginia.

periods, 9:45 to 10:00. The congregation will meet in the sanctuary for a special devotion, to be conducted by the pastor, Clayton Calhoun, at 10:00. He will follow reports of projects projected for the week and the next five years.

Those making reports will be prepared for the conference by F. W. Smith, G. T. Fuqua, Johnson, and R. R. I. Lauerman, who will give a summary report on the building program for the five years, four and a half years, and he has served the church for the past years ahead.

man.

Rev. W. D. Salyers
Returns to Pulpit

The Rev. W. D. Salyers will occupy his pulpit in the Woodstock Park Baptist Church at both services tomorrow. He has been absent for three weeks, recuperating from a recent illness. The Rev. H. L. Levy of Tallahassee, will have charge of the music for both services.

Baptist Pastor Will Conduct Revival Service



REV. W. D. SALYERS

Sarasota Herald-Tribune
Sun, Nov 17, 1946 -Page 9

The **Rev. W. D. Salyers**, pastor of the Woodstock Park Baptist church at Jacksonville, will conduct revival services at the Second Baptist church, Old Bradenton road and Cherokee avenue, beginning tomorrow night at 7:30 o'clock.

The services will continue nightly through Nov. 29.

The **Rev. Mr. Salyers** came to Jacksonville from Ohio and Kentucky, having served as pastor in both states and done missionary work in the Kentucky mountains.

He is well known here, having conducted a series of meetings at the Friendship Baptist church in Fruitville.

The Florida Times-Union
Sat, Oct 16, 1948 -Page 14

Rev. Salyers Leaves Pulpit at Woodstock

The **Rev. W. D. Salyers** has resigned as pastor of the Woodstock Park Baptist Church to continue his theological studies.

The **Rev. James L. McCullough**, a ministerial student at Bob Jones University, Greenville, S. C., will preach the morning and evening sermons tomorrow.

The choir will present special music under the direction of Mrs. **W. E. Weathers**.