

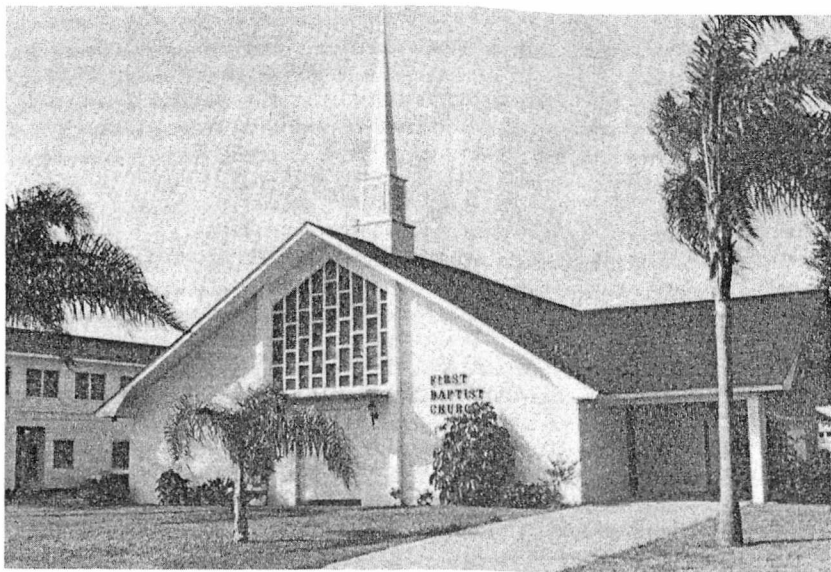
Florida Baptist Historical Society Biography Collection

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.

Visit our website at FloridaBaptistHistory.org

Stanley Sanford served as pastor of First Baptist Church Wabasso. He and his wife, Eldis Sanford had two daughters.



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
WABASSO, FLORIDA**

Baptist work began in Wabasso on February 14, 1938 when the Women's Missionary Union of the First Baptist Church, Vero Beach sponsored the Wabasso Missionary Circle. Mrs. J. Y. Copeland was president and the Rev. T. O. Baldwin was pastor. This circle became very active in missions, and it was their prayer and desire for a Baptist church to be planted in Wabasso.

At the circle meeting in April, 1951 Dr. J. C. DuBose was invited to attend to discuss the possibility of starting a Baptist church in the community. This particular meeting was held in the home of Mrs. J. S. Holmes. Work began immediately to establish a mission with the First Baptist Church, Vero Beach as sponsor, the Rev. C. E. Rodgers, pastor. Dr. J. C. DuBose was elected as the mission pastor.

The first meeting of the mission church was held on May 6, 1951 in a restaurant building owned by Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Pryor. The Sunday School was organized May 20, 1951 with 21 in attendance.

Property was given by Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Black and building was begun immediately. The first building constructed was a sanctuary with educational space in the back. Following recent construction the sanctuary was removed and the only remaining portion of the first building is the educational space which now forms the northern most portion of the present educational facility.

On March 30, 1952 the First Baptist Church was constituted with 72 members. Dr. J. C. DuBose served the new church as pastor until June of that year. Since then the church has been served by a number of capable ministers: William C. Carr, Jr., Russell Blank, Joe McCullough, E. A. McGriff, James A. Fenton, George N. Wehrman, Floyd B. Schneider, and Richard L. Williams. On

May 9, 1982 the church extended a call to the present pastor, Stan Sanford, who assumed pastoral duties on June 13, 1982.

The church has ordained four men to the gospel ministry: James P. Sartain, now serving in pioneer mission work in Arizona; James Lightsey and Kelton Knight, both now serving churches in the Florida Baptist Convention, and Billy G. Wilkerson, Jr., who will be graduating from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary at Wake Forest, North Carolina in May 1983. In addition to these, Craig Helping, also from the church, is now attending the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas preparing for work with the Foreign Mission Board.

As the work grew at Wabasso additional buildings were added. The facility now includes a two-story educational building, a fellowship hall, and a new 300 seat sanctuary that was dedicated on February 10, 1980.

First Baptist Church of Wabasso has a present membership of 350. In support of the Southern Baptist Convention's current emphasis of 8.5 by '85, the church is adopting a growth posture and is proposing a 20% growth each year in its Sunday School enrolment. The leadership of the church has recognized the potential for ministry in its locale, and has committed themselves to leading the church to fulfilling the Great Commission through its own work and mission support.

The First Baptist Church of Wabasso is a loving, friendly, and ministering church with a warm and open fellowship.

DIRECTORY OF THE MISSIONS

LAKEWOOD PARK MISSION

**Sponsored by the Fairlawn Baptist Church, Ft. Pierce
Organized June 24, 1979**

LOCATION: 8103 Indrio Road, Fort Pierce

PASTOR

H. Clyde Harless, 8103 Indrio Road, Ft. Pierce 33450465-1121

MUSIC DIRECTOR

John L. Nicholas, 5906 Ft. Pierce Blvd., Ft. Pierce 33450466-6123

SUNDAY SCHOOL DIRECTOR

Roy F. Jones, 7301 Sebastian Road, Rt. Pierce 33450461-4355

CHURCH TRAINING DIRECTOR

Don Jennings, 6506 Kenwood Road, Rt. Pierce 33450464-3274

CLERK

Mrs. John Nicholas, 5906 Ft. Pierce Blvd., Ft. Pierce 33450 ...466-6123

GRAND TOTAL PARTICIPATING IN MISSION: 51

BEACHSIDE BAPTIST CHAPEL

**Sponsored by the First Baptist Church, Fort Pierce
Organized February 1, 1981**

LOCATION: Meets in Beachland Elementary School
3551 Mockingbird Drive, Vero Beach

New Pastor Is Welcomed

By CHRIS BUCKMAN

First Baptist Church has a new pastor. He is the Rev. Stanley Sanford from Greenville, S.C. Rev. and Mrs. Sanford have two daughters. We welcome them to the community.

Vacation Bible School will be held at the First Baptist Church beginning June

Church. He showed slides to illustrate his talk which was mainly on hurricanes.

Congratulations to Mark Marich of Troop 598 who is now an Eagle Scout. Mark passed his review last week. A Court of Honor where he will be presented his badge of Eagle will be held in the near future.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs.

Wabasso First Baptist

The Rev. Cleo Rodgers was the guest speaker last Sunday at the morning and evening worship services. He and his wife, Lucille, received a warm welcome. Members and winter visitors grew to love them when the Rev. Rodgers served as interim pastor, prior to the arrival of the Rev. Stanley Sanford, who is now serving along with his wife, Eldis, and daughters, Staci and Jessica.

The W.M.U. is preparing a clothes