

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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Sauls, C. T. served as pastor of First Baptist Church, Sorrento

FBC Sorrento

on which to erect a building for worship. He also sold the church lumber at a good discount with which to build. First, gas lights were used to light the building. Then through the kindness of Mr. G. C. Battle the building was wired for electricity in 1915.

When the building was finished, meetings were held on the first and third Sundays. Reverend W.G. Patterson served as pastor until December 1914. Reverend W. W. Willian was called and served for one year, resigning to go to work for the State Sunday School Board. Following him Reverend J. C. Rodgers was called and served for a short time. After his ministry Reverend S. E. Bostick came and was pastor for two or three years.

During this period Mr. W. V. Ausley moved away and Mr. W. R. Battle was elected church-clerk. In 1920 Mrs. M. Futral became church-clerk and served until 1942. Mr. J. E. Knox followed her serving until 1947. Mrs. Jessie Safford was acting clerk until 1948. Mrs. Jessie Battle was elected clerk in 1948 and has served continuously since that time.

The small congregation found it difficult to keep ahead financially. In the beginning when things looked dark Brother W. D. Smith, first Deacon and first Treasurer, was kind enough to let the church have enough money to pay off the debt. In 1926 this debt was cleared up by Mr. Smith cancelling the obligation. At this time the church was dedicated.

In recent years the Battle family has given a quit-claim deed to the property. The old building has been sold and a new lot has been purchased containing 7 1/2 acres in a more desirable location, an auditorium has been built, seating 100, an electric organ installed, six class rooms provided, a kitchen and an office for the pastor, with new chairs for seating the class rooms and auditorium.

In addition to ministers named above the following have served as pastors. The list is somewhat irregular and is not complete. Since there were many who came and preached at odd times who were never pastors, some of whom it is impossible to name.

Also, it is possible that some dates showing the time of service may not be exact.

Reverend Brainard came as pastor October 1920. An appeal was made to Professor Garwood, Stetson University for student preachers as supplies. Among those mentioned were students who came at different intervals to preach. Reverend D. W. Douglas was pastor in 1926, Reverend C. T. Sauls, Reverend R. M. Holmes, Reverend F. W. Overhiser, of Mt. Dora, 1929, Reverend J. L. Youmans, 1932, Reverend J. E. Hudson, 1935, Reverend Bennett Hall, 1936-1937, Reverend A. L. Rutledge, 1939, Reverend Noel McDowell, 1940, Reverend B. Haddox, 1941, Reverend H. Adkinson, 1944, Reverend Phillip Taylor, 1946, Reverend Pearly Safford, 1947-1948, Reverend Jesse Turpin, 1950, Reverend W. E. Harris, 1951-1952, Reverend Cecil Mathis, 1954-1955-1956, Reverend W. Cecil Baughman, 1957-1958-1959, Reverend Harry Daukins, 1960-1961-1962-1963, Reverend Ralph E. Beazley, 1964.

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when an offering of \$11.00 was contributed for mis-
sions, after which Dr. Rogers preached the organiza-
tional sermon. At the close of the service a Pres-
bytery was formed with Dr. Rogers, Moderator, and

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