

## **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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**Saunders, William B., Jr.** (1925-1992) was a native of St. Petersburg, Florida. He graduated from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in 1965. Saunders served as pastor of churches in Louisiana, Georgia, and Florida, including First Baptist Church, St. Petersburg Beach. He and his wife, Hazel Carlson Saunders had one daughter.

## Rev. William Saunders Jr. dies

1992

**BRYSON CITY** - The Rev. William B. Saunders Jr., 67, of Shepherd's Creek Road, died Saturday, Sept. 19, in a Sylva hospital.

A native of St. Petersburg, Fla., Saunders graduated from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in 1965. He served as pastor of Jerusalem Baptist Church in Bush, La., and St. Petersburg Beach Baptist Church in St. Petersburg.



While living in St. Petersburg Beach, he also served as the first department chaplain of the city's police department.

### Rev. Saunders

also served as pastor at Gentian Baptist Church in Columbus, Ga., and Norton Park Baptist Church in Smyrna, Ga. He had been the pastor at Acquoni Baptist Church in Cherokee for the past 12 years.

Saunders was former director of Baptist Resort Ministries in Florida, Georgia and North Carolina. He was a director representative for both State and Southern Baptist Conventions on Resort Ministries for the past 10 years.

He was also a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 813 for 40 years.

He is survived by his wife, Hazel Carlson Saunders; one daughter, Karen Waddell of Bryson City; and two sisters, Jean Briggs of Bradenton, Fla. and Marion Jones of Ocala, Fla.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at Acquoni Baptist Chapel in Cherokee. The Rev. Dr. Roy Reynolds, Ray Kinsland and Ken Sharpe will officiate.

The family will receive friends 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday at Melton Funeral Home in Sylva, where the body will remain until placed in the church one hour before the service.