

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

Sawyer, James Albert (1912-2002) held an honorary doctorate from Stetson, and served in numerous denominational positions. He served as pastor of Palatka Heights Baptist Church, Palatka, First Baptist Church, Brooksville and First Baptist Church in Cocoa for 27 years (1940-1967). He and his wife, Chrystene Williamson Sawyer had one daughter and three sons.

Brooksville Pastor Returned 3rd Year

Brooksville, July 14. — **Rev. James A. Sawyer** has been chosen as pastor of the First Baptist Church, Brooksville, for his third year, the appointment to be effective October 1, at the beginning of the new church year. The church membership has increased substantially during Mr. **Sawyer's** charge, more than 50 additions having been made thus far in the current church year. **Rev. Sawyer** came to Brooksville from Palatka.

*100 Years of Pastors' Leadership
First Baptist Church of Cocoa*

<i>Rev. F. M. Ross</i>	<i>1910 - 1911</i>
<i>Rev. Robert Jones</i>	<i>1911</i>
<i>Rev. J. R. Parsons</i>	<i>1912 - 1914</i>
<i>Rev. J. M. Springfield</i>	<i>1914 - 1915</i>
<i>Rev. W. Ira Sanders</i>	<i>1916</i>
<i>Rev. J. C. Kazee</i>	<i>1916 - 1918</i>
<i>Rev. W. Ira Sanders</i>	<i>1918 - 1920</i>
<i>Rev. H. S. Howard</i>	<i>1920 - 1922</i>
<i>Rev. O. L. Riggs</i>	<i>1923 - 1927</i>
<i>Rev. Charles M. White</i>	<i>1927 - 1931</i>
<i>Dr. John C. Sycamore</i>	<i>1932</i>
<i>Rev. Claude L. Bridges</i>	<i>1932 - 1935</i>
<i>Rev. J. Ray Garrett</i>	<i>1936 - 1940</i>
<i>Dr. James A. Sawyer</i>	<i>1940 - 1967</i>
<i>Rev. James T. Dunnam</i>	<i>1968 - 1978</i>
<i>Dr. Frank H. Thomas, Jr.</i>	<i>1979 - 1985</i>
<i>Rev. W. Henry Green</i>	<i>1986 - 1993</i>
<i>Dr. William R. Marr</i>	<i>1994 - 2007</i>
<i>Dr. O. Charles Horton</i>	<i>2007 - Present</i>

Present church Staff

<i>Dr. Charles Horton</i>	<i>Pastor</i>
<i>Dr. Alan Foster</i>	<i>Assistant Pastor</i>
<i>Barry Aymond</i>	<i>Minister of Music</i>
<i>Jeb Godbout</i>	<i>Minister of Students</i>
<i>Eve Reeves</i>	<i>Church Administrator</i>
<i>Cheryl Beck</i>	<i>Pianist</i>
<i>Myrna Mason</i>	<i>Organist</i>

JULY MISSION TRIPS



Jameson

■ **CORRECTION—**
Thomas Jamieson, pastor of Indiantown Baptist Church, was incorrectly identified in the June 20 issue. Jamieson previously served as the associate pastor at Village Baptist Church in Destin.

FBW June 27, 2002 pg. 70

■ **A one-time announcement of special events is a free service provided by the Witness to Florida Baptist churches. Please send materials at least three weeks before the date of the event, to Florida Baptist Witness, 1230 Hendricks Ave., Jacksonville, FL 32207, fax 904-346-0696 or e-mail cnichols@flbaptist.org.**

The Florida Baptist Witness is aware of the following July mission trips planned by Florida Baptist churches. Please pray for the following mission groups as they minister around the globe:

- **July 1-6**
 New Home Baptist Church, Madison Hampshire, Tenn. Construction
- **July 5-14**
 First Baptist Church, Daytona Beach
 Rocky Boy Reservation, Montana Evangelism, Bible distribution
- **July 5-21**
 Hillcrest Baptist Church, Pensacola
 Semarang and Bandung, Indonesia
 Prayerwalking, video development
- **July 6-10**
 East Lake Baptist Church, Sorrento
 Cuba, New Mexico
 Construction, evangelism, VBS
- **July 6-14**
 Spruce Creek Baptist Church, Daytona Beach
 Cherokee, N.C.
 VBS, Backyard Bible Clubs, family ministry
- **July 13-20**
 Holmes County Baptist Association
 Evansville, Ind.
 Construction, sports clinic, Backyard Bible Clubs
- **July 15-21**
 Bradfordville First Baptist Church, Tallahassee
 Nassau, Bahamas
 VBS, construction
- **July 18-Aug. 1**
 First Baptist Church, Indialantic
 Scarborough, Maine
 Children's camps, construction and surfers' ministries
- **July 19-27**
 Stanton Memorial Baptist Church, Miami
 Dominican Republic
 Construction, evangelism, medical
- **July 20-27**
 First Baptist Church, Bartow
 Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic
 VBS, construction
- **First Baptist Church, Palmetto**
 Kingston, Jamaica
 VBS
- **Southside Baptist Church,**
 Jacksonville
 Sutton, W.Va.
 Construction and home repair
- **First Baptist Church, Lakeland**
 Philadelphia, Penn.
 Construction
- **Normandy Park Baptist Church,**
 Jacksonville
 Colliers, W. Va.
 Building renovation
- **July 21**
 Thomas Memorial Baptist Church, Quincy
 Sumter, S.C.
 VBS, Backyard Bible Club
- **Okaloosa Baptist Association,**
 Crestview
 Treasure State Baptist Association, Montana
 Construction, VBS, music school and worship leadership



■ **MISSION TO WALES**
Orange Park and Fort O travel to Wales July 9-17
Douglas and Jonelle Yates and speak in local

■ **July 25-August 10**
 First Baptist Church, I Beach
 Kamchatka Peninsula, Scripture distribution evangelism

■ **July 25-August 10**
 First Baptist Church, Trieste, Italy
 Evangelism

■ **July 26-August 3**
 Hillcrest Baptist Church
 Pensacola
 Huntersville, W.Va.
 Nursing home, prison

■ **July 28-August 3**
 Killarney Baptist Church
 Winter Park
 Cleveland, Tenn.
 Bulding repair

Announcements of the mission trips were rec after the June list was

■ **June 3-12**
 First Baptist Church, Philadelphia, Penn.
 Building renovation, ministry

■ **June 6-18**
 Thomas Memorial B Church, Quincy
 Boa Vista, Brazil
 VBS, evangelism

■ **June 7-12**
 First Baptist Church
 Lauderdale

News from churches of Florida's associations

Brevard

James A. Sawyer, 90, retired pastor of First Baptist Church of Cocoa 1940-1967, died June 9 in St. Petersburg. He was elected first vice-president of the Florida Baptist Convention in 1947, and preached the convention sermon in 1959. He held an honorary doctorate from Stetson University in Deland, and was a member of the Masons for more than 60 years. He is survived by his children, William, James A. Jr., Thomas, and Chrystene Chumley; eight grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren.

Harmony

Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church in High Springs has called **Marc Pargo** as pastor. He is a graduate of The Baptist College of Florida, Graceville, and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He previously served Salem Macon Baptist Church in Notasulga, Ala. He and his wife, Dora, have three sons and a grandson.

Marion

The choir, drama team and orchestra of **Oakcrest Baptist Church in Ocala** will present a patriotic musical, "Freedom," June 29-30. Performance times are Saturday, 7 p.m., and Sunday, 6 p.m. For more information, call 352-629-7058.

Northwest Coast

First Baptist Church of Lynn Haven has called **Jeff Carney** as minister of education/youth. He is a graduate of Clearwater Christian College and Moody Graduate School, Chicago. He, his wife, Theresa, and two daughters moved to Lynn Haven from Jonesboro, Ga., where he served Zion Hill Baptist Church.

Seminole

Blake Memorial Baptist Church in Lake Helen re-dedicated the Clarkson Building June 23. The church recently renovated its former parsonage to include a youth center and office space. An open house showcased the renovation.

CLASSIFIEDS

Church Needs

CHURCH LIBRARIES/MEDIA CENTERS—Are molds, mildew and odors a problem? Clean the air with a portable air purification unit. Free trial. Call 850-939-2225 or email ljsheehan@mchsi.com.

RISOGRAPH COPIER. Does your church or association office use the Risograph GR3750 copier? Do you require additional color ink cylinders? The Florida Baptist Association Publishing Services Department

Employment

Crossroads Baptist Church is accepting resumes for **MINISTER OF EDUCATION.** Must be experienced. Send resumes to: Crossroads Baptist Church, Attn: Search Committee, 10721 Palm Beach Blvd., Ft. Myers, FL 33905.

Seeking **CHILDREN/PRESCHOOL PASTOR.** Large and growing contemporary church. Great salary and benefit package. Contact Randy Ball at Second Baptist Church at 501-624-4455. Send resumes email: rball@2ndbaptisthotspings.org.

SENIOR PASTOR—The Worship Center Baptist Church, Plantation, Fla., is seeking a full-time pastor. Seminary degree(s) required, must have experi-

TIME MINISTER OF MUSIC. Skilled in building relationships; worship leader in blended services; oversight of graded choirs, drama, instrumental ensembles, and adult choir. Send resume and video to Music Minister Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 3223 N. Gallagher Rd., Dover, FL 33527.

ATTENTION: WORK FROM HOME. \$500-2500/mo PT, \$3000-7000/mo FT, free booklet. 888-207-9771 www.changeyourfuture4ever.com.

ENGLEWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH NEEDS A PIANIST. Approximately 6 to 7 hours per week. Salary—\$50.00 per week. Please send resume to 5675 Kennerly Road or contact us at 904-737-5455. If no one is in, please leave a message, in order that we may contact you.

Baptist Church Observed 20th Anniversary of Pastorate Of Rev. Jas. A. Sawyer Sunday

The First Baptist Church of Cocoa observed the 20th anniversary of the pastorate of the Rev. James A. Sawyer last Sunday, climaxing the event with a reception for the pastor and his family in the social hall of the church following the evening service.

James F. Caldwell extended the greeting of the church to pastor Sawyer and cited many of the developments of the church during the past 20 years. Charles L. LaRoche, director of the training

union and a deacon of the church, presented a suitable gift to the pastor as a token of the esteem and appreciation of the congregation.

The Rev. Mr. Sawyer began his pastorate with the local church on July 3, 1940, coming to Cocoa from Brooksville Fla., First Baptist Church. He previously served the Palatka Heights Baptist Church in Palatka, and the First Baptist Church of Milford, Delaware, a student pastorate.

The Palm Beach Post
Mon, Oct 19, 1936 - Page 2

ACCEPTS CALL
BROOKSVILLE — The Rev. James Albert Sawyer, pastor of the Lemon Heights Baptist Church of Palatka, has accepted a call as co-pastor of the Brooksville Baptist Church. He will assist the Rev. J. W. Senterfitt, who has been retired from full time service here because of ill health.

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● Miss Ann **Chrystene Sawyer** of Rockledge is the daughter of Rev. James Albert Sawyer and Mrs. **Chrystene Williamson Sawyer.**

58-year Cocoa resident **Chrystene Sawyer** dies

By **Laura J. Brown**
FLORIDA TODAY

COCOA — **Chrystene W. Sawyer**, 82, a homemaker, died Monday, Feb. 8, at Masonic Home of Florida in St. Petersburg.

Mrs. **Sawyer** was born in Tybertown, Miss. She came to Brevard County in 1940 from Brooksville.

She was a member of First Baptist Church of Cocoa, Women's Missionary Union, European Baptist Convention, Red Cross of Directors of Brevard County and the Mosquito Beaters.

"She was well suited for the role of a minister's wife," said her son, William **Sawyer** of Rockledge. "She was friendly, outgoing and never met a stranger. As our mother, she

was always very supportive and nurturing."

Other survivors include her husband, James **Sawyer** of Cocoa; sons, James **Sawyer Jr.** of Orlando and Thomas **Sawyer** of Jacksonville; daughter, **Chrystene** Chumley of Grapevine, Texas; sister, Lois Morgan of Bryceville; eight grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Calling hours will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday at Wylie-Baxley Funeral Home in Rockledge. Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at First Baptist Church of Cocoa. Burial will be at Florida Memorial Gardens, north of Melbourne.

Donations may be made to Global Missions Offering, c/o First Baptist Church of Cocoa, 750 Brevard Ave., Cocoa, FL 32922.