

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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Sherwood E. Sawyer (1932-2026) was born in Garland, Maine, the son of Kenneth and Helen Peavey Sawyer. He attended Ricker College, the University of Maine (B.A.), and Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Sawyer served as pastor in Maine and Pennsylvania before becoming pastor of Bethel Creek Baptist Church in Lafayette County. He and his wife, Ruth Rowe Sawyer, and they have two sons and had one daughter.

Rev. Sherwood E. Sawyer
23101 100th Street
Live Oak, FL 32060
Tel. 386-658-2398

Born on 2-15-1932 in Garland, Maine the son of Kenneth and Helen Sawyer. Married to Ruth Rowe, we have two sons, Tim (currently chaplain in Florida Work Release Prison system located in Orlando and Kissimmee) and Paul (technical manager and webmaster for Titan Systems located in Hampton, Virginia). We lost a daughter, Lois Anne, in 1956.

Attended Ricker College, Houlton, Maine & the University of Maine at Machias, Maine.
BA Degree from the University of Maine at Presque Isle, Maine and then Attended Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Pastor of United Baptist Churches of Wytopotlock, Haynesville, and Selden, ME 12/1963 - 6/1967;
First Baptist Church of Cherryfield, ME 6/1967- 11/1972; Bethel Baptist Church of Fort Fairfield, ME 11/1972 – 10/1977; North Main Avenue Baptist Church and First Christian (Disciples of Christ) Church in Scranton, PA 10/1977- 2/1979; Moreland Baptist Church, Muncy, PA 2/1979 – 4/1992, Greenfield Baptist Church, North East, PA 4/1992 – 10/1997 and Bethel Creek Baptist Church, Lafaette County, Florida 2/1998 – 4/1999; 10/2000 - present.

Rev. Sherwood Edward Sawyer, aged 93, of Dowling Park, FL, passed away on January 11, 2026. Born on February 15, 1932, in Garland, Maine, to the late Kenneth and Helen (Peavey) Sawyer, Sherwood moved to Dowling Park over 25 years ago from Erie, PA. He served faithfully as a Pastor in various locations including Northeast PA, Cherry Field, Maine, Ft. Fairfield, Maine, Scranton, PA, and Mooreland, PA. After retiring, he continued to preach as an Interim Pastor and was a devoted member of the First Baptist Church in Dowling Park. Sherwood was a passionate fan of the Dallas Cowboys and the Detroit Tigers, and he truly loved God and people.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Ruth Sawyer, and his two sons, Timothy Edward Sawyer (Julie) and Paul A. Sawyer (Sylvia). He also leaves behind three grandchildren, Travis Sawyer, Laurie Pettaway (Aaron), and Joshua Sawyer (Lindsey), as well as great-grandchildren Joshua, Jaslyn, Jonaven, Caleyanna, Kingston, Brynn, Brylee, and Bristol. Sherwood was preceded in death by his daughter, Lois Ann Sawyer, his sister, Rebecca, and two grandchildren, Mark Sawyer and Bryan Sawyer. <https://obits.pennlive.com/us/obituaries/name/sherwood-sawyer-obituary?id=60519278>