

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

Scroggins, James "Jimmy" H. IV is a graduate of Jacksonville University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (M. Div. and PhD.). He served as dean of Boyce College and in 2008 became pastor of Family Church, (aka First Baptist Church) West Palm Beach. He and his wife Kristin have seven children.





JIMMY SCROGGINS

LEAD PASTOR // FAMILY CHURCH

Jimmy Scroggins is the Lead Pastor of Family Church, where he has served since July 2008. He and his wife, Kristin, have 8 children – James (Reilly), Daniel (Mary-Madison), Jeremiah, Isaac, Stephen, Anna Kate, Mary Claire and Caleb. Under Jimmy's leadership, Family Church has grown to a network of 13 neighborhood churches – 9 in English, 3 in Spanish and 1 in Portuguese. Family Church is passionate about building families by helping them discover and pursue God's design while carrying out their vision of taking the gospel to every person, in every family and neighborhood in South Florida. Jimmy is the coauthor of *Turning Everyday Conversations into Gospel Conversations* and hosts the Church for the Rest of Us podcast at familychurchnetwork.com. He also serves on the Board of Trustees at LifeWay Christian Resources and at Palm Beach Atlantic University. Dr. Scroggins teaches as a visiting professor at both Southern and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminaries.



A one-time announcement of special events is a free service provided by the Witness to Florida Baptist churches. Please email materials at least three weeks before the date of the event to cnichols@floridabaptistwitness.com. Information may also be mailed to Florida Baptist Witness, 1250 Hendricks Ave., Jacksonville, FL 32207; faxed to 904-346-0096; or submitted via the Web site: www.FloridaBaptistWitness.com.

SCROGGINS
Sroggins IV as pastor. He most recently served as dean of Boyce College and teaching pastor of Highview Baptist Church, both in Louisville, Ky. He is a graduate of Jacksonville University, and earned MDIV and PhD degrees from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. He and his wife, Kristin, have seven children.

BLACK CREEK

First Baptist Church in Middleburg will host author Don Piper speaking June 22 in the 9 and 10-30 a.m. and 6 p.m. services. Piper is author of *50 Minutes in Heaven*. For more information, call 904-282-5289.

OKALOOSA

Pyron Chapel Baptist Church will celebrate Homecoming June 8. Former pastor Randall Calpepper will speak in the 11 a.m. service, and the Goodhope Singers will sing. A covered dish lunch will be served. For more information, call 850-537-8747.

PALM LAKE

First Baptist Church in West Palm Beach has called James H.

SEMINOLE

Stetson Baptist Church in DeLand will present "God Bless America Again" July 5 and 6. Both performances will begin at 4 p.m. For more information, call 386-734-1991.

SUNCOAST

First Baptist Church of Indian Rocks in Largo will host free English as a Second Language classes June 16-Aug. 25, every Monday and Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. Three other classes are planned: Citizenship Preparation, Basic Computer Skills and Business Language. For more information, call 727-461-7419 or go to www.indianrocks.org.

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Land, Gibbs in two-part documentary on Terri Schiavo

AGOURA HILLS, Calif. (BW)—Two thirty-minute television programs to air June 12 and 19 will explore the debate surrounding the death of Terri Schiavo and feature, among others, Richard Land, president of the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention and David Gibbs, head of the Florida-Based Christian Law Association.

Jon Barckow Tada, whose family includes the National Institute on Disability—a division of Jon and Friends International Disability Center—has produced the programs which will be broadcast globally via Trinity Broadcasting Network. Terri Schiavo is the severely disabled Florida woman who died of starvation and dehydration in 2005 after her feeding tube was removed as a result of a court order.

Land, who as president of the ERIC is a champion of pro-life issues and also serves as the vice chairman of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), said he believes people like Schiavo deserve protection.

"As human beings we don't have the right to take on go-life qualities and start debating for others when the quality of their life has diminished to the point that they no longer deserve protection that we give to more healthy, more productive people," Land said.

Gibbs, who served as legal counsel for Schiavo's parents, Bob and Mary Schiavo, said during the show he believes Schiavo should have been given a chance to live.

"Whether [Terri] would ever get better or not, in the condition that she was in, she was as alive as any person

watching this show," Gibbs said.

The show also features an interview with Peter Anderson, the Tampa attorney who fought on behalf of Terri Schiavo, and photographs provided by Florida Baptist Witness taken by its managing editor: Jon H. Hannigan, who reported on the case for more than two years and in the last 15 days of Terri's life from her front porch in Pinellas Park.

This two-part expose on the life and death of Terri Schiavo will be broadcast on TBN June 12 and June 19, both at 7:30 p.m. EST. For more information, go to www.jonandfriends.org.

Employment Opportunity

Florida Baptist Witness is immediately accepting applications for an entry level position which opens June 23. The position will include layout, design and reporting responsibilities.

A degree in Journalism or a related field is desirable. The candidate for this position should have a strong desire to serve Florida Baptists in the area of communications ministry. Some flexibility and travel is required in this position which offers a competitive salary based on experience, plus an excellent benefits package.

For more information, e-mail a resume and cover letter to: jhannigan@floridabaptistwitness.com, or mail a resume, cover letter, references and samples of your work to: Jon H. Hannigan, managing editor, Florida Baptist Witness, P.O. Box 10200, Jacksonville, FL 32247-0200.

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The First Baptist Church of Madison, Fla., is seeking a full-time **MINISTER OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP** to lead adult and grade school and worship, facilitate of Music or churches with church music experience required. Email resumes to 1stbaptistmichigan@aol.com. 06/05

The First Baptist Church of Madison, Fla., is seeking an experienced, Spirit-directed staff of 4 to lead our congregation to a higher level of worship. We believe God has already prepared a **GIFTED PREACHER**, who is a dynamic evangelist, disciplinarian and minister to lead his call to our church. We are blessed with a wonderful facility, a great staff, and a supportive and loving congregation. Interested? Please contact the Pastor Search Committee at churchsearch@firstbaptistmadison.com, P.O. Box 10432, Charlotte, VA 23288-1043, 06/05

Countrywide Baptist Church of Dover, Va., is seeking a full-time **PASTOR**. Send resume with your qualifications to P. O. Box 139, Dover, VA 23527 or fax to 815-571-6240. 06/05

Part-time **CHILDREN'S FIRST MINISTER**. Please submit resumes to: Youth Minister,

Church, Children's Youth Search Committee, 953 S. Main St., Charlottesville, VA 52204 or email to charlottesville@firstbaptist.org.

DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S MISSIONS—The Florida Baptist Children's Missions is accepting applications for the position of Director of International Children's Missions. The position is located in Lakeland, Fla., and reports to the President. Primary duties include building and administering the international children's mission of the Florida Baptist Children's Homes. Other duties include working closely with churches to build support for the international program as well as coordinate activities and mission trips to targeted international locations. This person must also have strong project management skills, have strong written and oral communication skills, and be able to travel 25-50% of the time. Other requirements include being an active member of a Southern Baptist Church and have a bachelor's degree with an advanced degree preferred. Florida Baptist Children's Homes is a drug free workplace and an Equal Opportunity Employer. A cover letter and resume should be directed to: human resources: Florida Baptist Children's Homes, 1015 Silver Hill, Lakeland, FL 33805.

Or via email to: David.Backus@firstbaptist.org. Citations, cover letter and resume should be attached as Word documents. 06/05

Seeking CHURCH SECRETARY—Need 3 days a week with 20-25 hours to start. Send resume to FAC of Webster, P.O. Box 317, Webster, LA 70597 attention: Donna Boal or email to trivernon@boal.com. 06/19

WELFARE MINISTER or WORSHIP—Countrywide Baptist Church of Dover, Va., seeking God's man to lead our weekly assembly to the next level. Our worship style is celebrative, God-focused, with full choir and hand band support. Looking for a full-time player with excellent people and administrative skills, a passionate love for God, and a commitment

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Jimmy Scroggins: Be Ambassadors of Christ

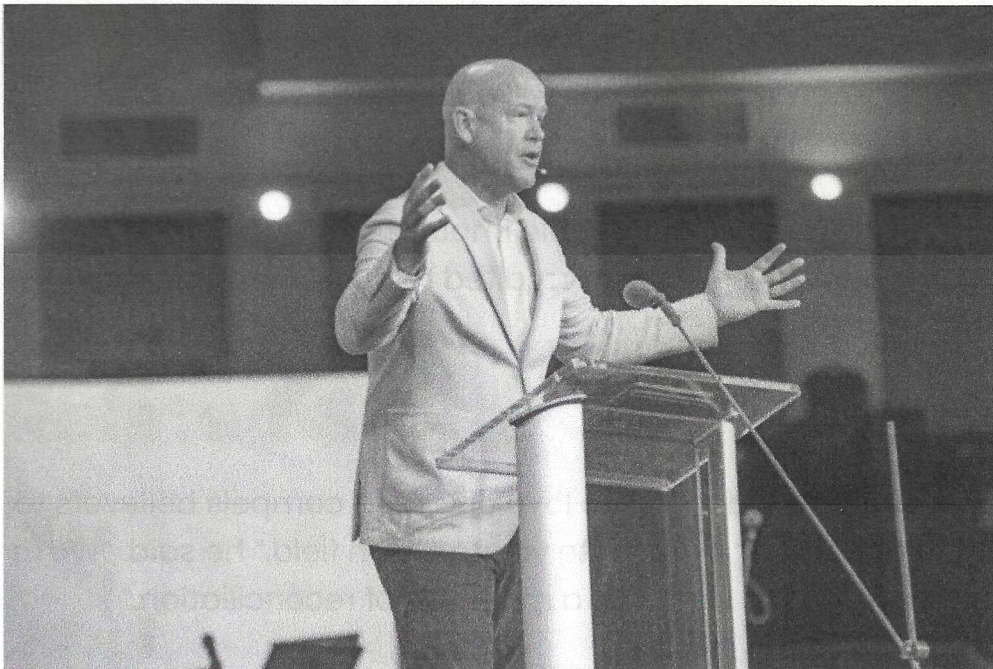
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Written By: Keila Diaz

November 12, 2025

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Jimmy Scroggins.

ORLANDO— Jimmy Scroggins, pastor of [Family Church in West Palm Beach](#), delivered a bold message during the closing of the morning session of the 2025 Florida Baptist State Convention annual meeting at [First Orlando](#).

Preaching from 2 Corinthians 5:11–21, his sermon, titled Call Up Ambassadors, reminded pastors and churches of



their ultimate mission, to represent Jesus Christ and call people to be reconciled to God.

Scroggins began by reflecting on his lifelong connection to Florida, expressing gratitude for the pastors and churches spread across the state, from large cities like Miami and Orlando to small towns like Chiefland and Arcadia. "Florida Baptists are everywhere," he said, before posing a convicting question: "What business are we in? What are we really doing here?"

He quickly answered his own question. "We're not primarily a political movement, although politics matters. We're not primarily a conservative movement, although being conservative matters. We're not here to save Western civilization, though that matters too," Scroggins said. "We are ambassadors for Christ—working to see men and women, boys and girls, from every neighborhood and every nation reconciled to God by faith in Jesus."

Drawing from Paul's description of believers as ambassadors in 2 Corinthians 5:20, Scroggins explained that Christians live as representatives of another kingdom. "An ambassador doesn't set the policy," he said. "He articulates it. He carries the authority of his home government while living in a foreign land." All believers, he added, represent not just their church or family, but ultimately Jesus and His kingdom. "Your church is a little embassy," he said. "Your family is a little embassy. Every Florida Baptist is a little embassy."

Scroggins outlined four ways believers must live out their ambassador calling:

Call people to be reconciled to God

"We are not ambassadors for conservatism or political ideology," Scroggins said. "Our job is not to implore people to vote for someone. It's to implore people to be reconciled to God."

He made clear that both liberals and conservatives alike are lost without Christ. "A Democrat without Jesus and a Republican without Jesus will both spend eternity apart from God," he said. "Their greatest need isn't political reform; it's peace with God."

Expounding on verse 21, he explained the concept of double imputation: "Our sin was charged to Christ's account, and His righteousness was credited to ours," Scroggins said. "That's what makes reconciliation possible."

Call people to love people like Jesus

Turning to verses 14–16, Scroggins emphasized that "the love of Christ" compels believers to evangelize. "You can't be a good ambassador if you hate your mission field," he said. "We're not sent with a message of resentment; we're sent with a message of reconciliation."

He acknowledged how difficult it can be to love people in a polarized world but reminded listeners that it's not their personal love that sustains them. It's Christ's love implanted within them. "We are not about pushing people down or pushing them out," he said. "We are

here to pull people in and lift people up and point them to Jesus.”

Call people to live as new creations

Quoting 2 Corinthians 5:17, Scroggins declared, “If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; the new has come.”

He described the transformation that follows salvation is not perfection, but genuine change. “I’m not the man I want to be, but I’m not the man I used to be,” he said. Sharing a story from Family Church Jensen Beach, he recounted how a teenage girl named Ruby came to faith through student camp, led her father Ryan to church, and eventually saw him surrender his life to Christ after realizing that “Jesus is the answer to all the brokenness in the world and in me.”

Call people to implore others to choose Christ

Scroggins closed with urgency. “We are ambassadors who beg people to be reconciled to God,” he said. “Heaven and hell are at stake.” He shared how legendary Jacksonville pastor Homer Lindsay embodied this truth, pleading with people to be saved because he truly believed eternity hung in the balance.

“Brothers and sisters,” Scroggins concluded, “we are ambassadors for Christ. Let’s not forget what business we’re in. Let’s implore people young and old, conservative and liberal, near and far, to be reconciled to God through Jesus Christ.”

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