

## **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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Seacrest, (also Secrist) Joe served as pastor of Hickory Hammock Baptist Church, 1952 and Wallace Baptist Church, Santa Rosa County

## Santa Rosa BA

Hickory Hammock Baptist Church is now known and loved throughout the world as they have sent Brother Carl out to preach all over the United States and Canada, Peru and in Israel. For 10 years Bro. Carl represented Hickory Hammock and the Southern Baptist Convention as a national and international Youth evangelist.

Hickory Hammock Baptist church is known and loved in Santa Rosa County as well as it has been heavily involved in community missions, ministry, youth outreach and hurricane relief efforts. Little Hickory Hammock Baptist Church had humble, prayerful beginnings. Today it is a thriving, growing, Spirit filled, and mission minded Church where Jesus and the Word of God are exalted from the pew to the WORLD!

### Known History of Various Pastor's Service at Hickory Hammock Baptist Church

1920's - Pastor C.L. Perry

1942 - Pastor Earl Merritt

1943-45 - Pastor C.L. Perry

1945-1947 - Pastor John Smith

1948-1950 - Pastor David Strickland

1951-1952- Pastor W.F. Howell

1952 - Pastor **Joe Seacrest**

1952-1953 - Pastor Earl Merritt

1962 - 1967 - Pastor Lewis D. Huguen

1967 - Pastor Jerry Gibson

1967 - 1969 - Pastor Dixon Free

1970 - 1972 - Pastor Ronald Davis

1973 - 1986 - Pastor Clifton Black

1986 - Present - Pastor William Carl Gallups, Jr.

With: Sr.Associate Pastor - Greg Robards

Associate Pastor - Jim Rinehart

Associate Pastor - Jack Goldfarb

## Wallace Baptist Church

Smyrna Baptist Church, the original church, was organized in 1905. It was located approximately 300 yards west of the present pastorium at 3287 Wallace Lake Road.

The church relocated on Chumuckla Highway on land donated by a family in the community. In about 1943, a one-room, red tile building was constructed where the church is located today. In October 1946, the name was changed to Wallace Baptist Church. In April 1949, the church began a Baptist Training Union and in February 1952, held its first weekly prayer meeting.

In 1963, the church added an auditorium to the building and converted the red tile structure into Sunday School rooms. Approximately five years later, the red tile building was torn down and the present sanctuary constructed by the men of the church. Others were employed to do the block laying or jobs the men could not perform.

On August 1, 1990, the church voted to construct a fellowship hall, and in 1992, dedication services were held for the completed building.

Some of the pastors of Smyrna and Wallace include James Arzo Abbott, Nathaniel Timothy Cardwell, Richard Wyche, James B. Ward, Charles Rockwood Beal, Hernando DeSoto Wilson, Theodore Smith, Rev. Rogers, B.H. McWaters, K.E. Hawley, Howard Higdon, Richard Edward Morris, Clettus Columbus Morris, Rodney Riddles, Holly Secrist, **Joe Secrist**, John Smith, Russell Sauls, Roy Barrow, Robert Grover Key, E.L. Kirkland, David Strickland, John Suarez, Earl Plant, C.B. Raley, George Westmoreland, Joe Bradford, and LaDon Hall.

The church joined Pensacola Bay Baptist Association in 1907 and Santa Rosa Baptist Association in 1913.

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Florida Baptist Historical Society  
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Source: Church and association records;

Research of Beverly Campbell and Sandy Wyrosdick