

Florida Baptist Historical Society Biography Collection

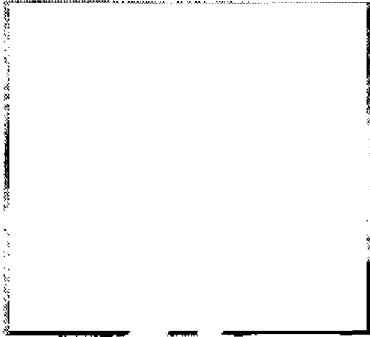
This link provides the specific resource information which documents and undergirds the biographical resource information on a specific Florida Baptist pastors, church staff or significant laity leaders.

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

Shepherd, Bill was born in Kenly, North Carolina. He graduated from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in 1996. Shepherd was licensed to preach and ordained by Eliam Baptist Church, Melrose. He served as a full-time missionary volunteer in the area of Church Construction. Shepherd served as pastor of Providence Baptist Church, Palatka. He and his wife Laura Simmons Shepherd have two daughters.

REV. BILL SHEPHERD



Rev. Bill Shepherd was born March 19 in Kenly, North Carolina. His father was a farmer and sharecropper, and the family made their way into central Florida where they settled down near Gainesville, Florida. Rev. Shepherd accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as his Saviour at the age of eight.

He graduated from high school in Gainesville, and completed one year at the Santa Fe Junior College in Gainesville. He earned an Associate Degree in Theology from the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in 1996. He was licensed to preach by the Eliam Baptist Church of Melrose, February 1997. He completed the MSS Orientation with the Home Mission Board, July 1988,

and the ISC Orientation with the Foreign Mission Board, December 1990. He was ordained in February 1997 by the Eliam Baptist Church of Melrose.

In July 1988, he was called to full-time missionary volunteer work in the area of Church Construction. During this time he worked through the HMB and the FMB in seeking assignments. Prior to 1988, he went on many short-term mission trips here at home and overseas.

He served on two occasions as the Moderator of the Santa Fe Baptist Association. He also served a three year term on the State Board of Missions of the Florida Baptist Convention. He served assignments for the MSC and ISC in the Dakotas and Montana, Barbados, W.I., Guyana, and Alaska. On many of his overseas assignments in construction he had many opportunities to preach and teach.

He was called to the Providence Baptist Church as a Bi-vocational Pastor in January 1997. In July he became full-time.

He married the former Miss Laura Simmons of Gainesville, Florida on May 2, 1962. They have two daughters, Lori Holland, and Priscilla La Bounty. His hobbies are photography and travel.