

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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Shull, Lonnie H., Jr. (1937-2022) was born in Lexington County, South Carolina the son of Lonnie Houston, Sr. and Roselle Timmons Shull. He graduated from the University of South Carolina and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He served as pastor of churches in South Carolina, Mississippi and Florida including First Baptist Church, Plant City, 1983-1987. Shull and his wife, Hazel Brickle Shull had three sons.

Obituary: Rev. Dr. Lonnie Houston Shull, Jr.

August 9, 2022|admin|Comments Off on Obituary: Rev. Dr. Lonnie Houston Shull, Jr.|NEWS

Rev. Dr. Lonnie Houston Shull, Jr., husband for 64 years to Hazel Brickle Shull, entered his heavenly rest and reward on Sunday August 7, 2022. He passed away in his home in the steadfast care of his wife and family.

The son of Lonnie Sr. and Roselle Timmons Shull was born in Lexington County February 1, 1937 and ordained to the Gospel Ministry in 1956 by Green Hill Baptist Church. A product of Brookland-Cayce High School, the University of South Carolina, and the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, he received a Doctor of Divinity degree from Charleston Southern University. Lonnie Shull was a big part of Baptist life in South Carolina for over 58 years. From 1956 to 1958, he simultaneously pastored Oak Grove Baptist Church in Gilbert, Harmony Baptist Church in Gaston, and Florence Baptist Church in Pelion. From 1958 to 1961 he was the shared pastor of Mt. Vernon Baptist Church in Liberty, Mississippi and Amite River Baptist Church in Liberty, Mississippi. He served First Baptist Church, Leesville, SC and Oak Grove Baptist Church, Batesburg, SC from 1961-1964. He was pastor of First Baptist Church, Liberty, SC from 1964-1968; Northside Baptist Church, West Columbia, SC from 1968-1983; First Baptist Church, Plant City, FL from 1983-1987; Fairview Baptist Church, Greer, SC from 1987 to 1997; and First Baptist Church, West Columbia, SC from 1997-2006. He was instrumental in the organization of Pineview Baptist Church, West Columbia; Trinity Baptist Church, Cayce; Northwood Baptist Church, Lexington; Providence Baptist Church, Greer; and River Springs Church, Irmo.

Lonnie Shull

In every pastorate he was an active participant in the local Baptist Association, often serving as the moderator. Shull was President of the South Carolina Baptist Convention in 1981. He served two four-year terms on the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention and was on the committee that developed the Missionary Learning Center. He helped establish the volunteer Associate Chaplains program at Lexington Medical Center before the hospital opened, served as volunteer director for five years, then served as a volunteer chaplain for many years. While pastoring in Florida, he served as trustee of Florida Baptist Hospital, Florida Theological College, and Plant City Towers. During his South Carolina pastorates, he was on the board of trustees of the Baptist Foundation of South Carolina. He served as chairman of the trustees in three different terms – each term with a different president. Shull was Associate Chaplain at Allen Bennett Hospital. He served on the advisory board of Greenville Technical College Greer Campus, the board of trustees of Rolling Green Retirement Center in Greenville, and the advisory board of Piedmont Lutheran Home. He was Pastor Advisor to the Baptist Student Union at Furman University and served as Pastor Advisor in the state Collegiate Ministry. He served on the Pastors Advisory Councils for both North Greenville University and Charleston Southern University. Lonnie Shull was National Alumni President for New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and served as president of chapters of NOBTS alumni in South Carolina and Florida. He served on the Advisory Board of Columbia International University and served on the Advisory Board of Lowman Home.

In 1999 he was invited by Senator Strom Thurmond to serve for a day as Guest Chaplain in the United States Senate. He was a lifetime member of the University of South Carolina Alumni Association and Gamecock Club. In every community, Shull was an active participant in the Lions Club. He was president of the Plant City and Greer Lions Club and served as Chaplain of Lions District Organization. A Life Membership was conferred to him by The International Association of Lions Clubs.

Lonnie Shull was known for his Biblical preaching, compassionate and conscientious pastoral ministry, sound and loyal denominational leadership, and a willingness to invest himself thoroughly in his community. He preached hundreds of revival meetings. He went on missionary preaching and teaching assignments in Panama, British Virgin Islands, Alaska, Venezuela, Ecuador, Jamaica, Japan, and Brazil. He conducted over 2500 funerals and 500 weddings. He had the privilege of baptizing about 2000 men, women, boys, and girls who had accepted the salvation of God offered through Christ Jesus. He spent countless hours counseling and making pastoral visits in homes, hospitals, and nursing homes. 75 men and women were called into the ministry under his pastoral leadership. At his retirement, Shull was presented with awards and resolutions of commendation from the churches he had served, the Baptist Foundation, SC Baptist Convention, Lexington Baptist Association, the City of West Columbia, the United States Congress, the SC House of Representatives and Senate, and The Order of the Palmetto. First Baptist Church West Columbia honored him by naming him as Pastor Emeritus.

In his retirement, he continued to supply pulpits across the state and served as a Field Representative for The Baptist Foundation of SC. He was honored by the SC Baptist Convention for his years of service. The Chaplains program at Lexington Medical Center named their Vision Award after him. The Baptist Foundation of SC named the Legacy Award after him.

Lonnie Shull was much loved and respected in his home and family. His sons, daughters-in-law, and grandchildren all give testimony of the marvelous ministry to family that was given and taught. The way that Hazel cared for him in his infirmity will forever serve as a glowing example of faithful love and devotion.

He is predeceased by his parents and his son, Lon Shull III. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Hazel, his sister Ann Hinson (Bob), his daughter in law, Lynn Horton Shull, his sons Rev. Tim (Gloria Saxon) Shull and Rev. Andrew Shull, his grandchildren Jared Shull, Dr. Hannah Nicks (Taylor), and Margaret Shull, a loving aunt, cousins, nieces and nephews.
<https://westmetronews.com/obituary-rev-dr-lonnie-houston-shull-jr/>

Florida Features



Lonnie H. Shull Jr.



Bruce McCoy

First Church, Plant City, called **Lonnie H. Shull Jr.** as pastor, effective Sept. 11. A graduate of the University of South Carolina, Columbia, and New Orleans Seminary, he goes from a 15-year pastorate at Northside Church, West Columbia, S.C.

First Church of Indian Rocks, Largo, has called **Bruce McCoy** as minister of music. He is the male soloist for the new religious telecast called "Praise Song" on the ACTS network, sponsored by the Radio and Television Commission, which begins in 1984. He is a graduate of Oberlin (Ohio) Conservatory of Music.

Timothy E. Pickern accepted the call as pastor of Antioch Church, Quincy, after being ordained by the church. A graduate of Luther Rice Seminary, Jacksonville, he has served other Florida churches as minister of music/youth.

On July 17, **Gene Goolsby** became pastor of Citra Church, Citra. A graduate of Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville, his bivocational pastorate is in addition to being a deputy sheriff with Marion County Sheriff's office, chaplain and head of the Christian Law Enforcement Officers. He was ordained to the gospel ministry June 12 by Sparr Church, Sparr.

Terry Wynn became minister of music and youth at Clay Hill Church, Maxville, on Sept. 4. He goes from Grace Church, Valdosta.

Missionary News

Pamela Beck, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. Frederick Beck (Indonesia), married Mark Aaron Hotmann in Amarillo, Texas, on Aug. 13. Her parents may be addressed at Jl. Bali 12, Klanten, Jateng, Indonesia.

Homecomings

Terry Parker Church, Jacksonville: Sept. 28-Oct. 2, 25th anniversary; former pastors Joe H. Courson, W. H. Carter and W. R. Smith, guests; concert Friday with Al Washburn, Eddie Lockamy, Gwen Hernandez; dinner on the grounds Sunday; Gene Force, pastor.

New Life Church, Milton: Sept. 18, third anniversary; John E. Watts, guest speaker; dinner on the grounds; singing in the afternoon; former members and friends invited; Joe Floyd, pastor.

North Main Street Church, Jacksonville: Sept. 25, 75th anniversary; dinner on the grounds; special music by Winston Miller Trip and Renee Lawless; former members and friends invited; Neil T. Hickem, pastor.

Crestview Church, Lakeland: Oct. 2, 12th anniversary; Bud Winstead, guest speaker; dinner on the grounds; music in the afternoon; former pastors, members and friends invited; Clyde Geren, interim pastor.

First Church of Shamrock, Haines City: Oct. 2; Glenn Collins, guest speaker; dinner on the grounds; special music in the afternoon; former pastors and members invited; Austin McElroy, pastor.

Clay Hill Church, Maxville: Sept. 25; dinner on the grounds; special music by the Gospel Servants; former pastors, members and friends invited; Bill Hendricks, pastor.

College Road Chapel, Ocala: Oct. 2; Bill Carmichael, guest speaker; dinner on the grounds; special music; constituting service; everyone invited; John Downing, pastor.

Riverview Church, Jacksonville: Oct. 9; Carlton Owens, guest speaker; dinner on the grounds; special music; former members and friends invited; David Knight, pastor.

Oak Hill Church, Gainesville: Oct. 2; special music by the Gospel Express; dinner on the grounds; Billy Wolfe, pastor.

H. Floyd Folsom, pastor emeritus of Miami Shores Church, Miami, died Sept. 8 of cancer. He was 69.

Edgar R. Cooper, editor, *Florida Baptist Witness*, conducted funeral services at First Church of Temple Terrace, Tampa, on Sept. 10. He was assisted by Earl Tharp, retired pastor, and Herb Dickinson, pastor at Temple Terrace. Andrew M. Hall, pastor, First Church, Delray Beach, conducted memorial services at Miami Shores Church on Sept. 11. Interment was in Sunset Memorial Gardens, Tampa.

A native of Marianna, Folsom was pastor at Miami Shores from 1952-1979. During his 27 years there, 29 entered full-time Christian service. Prior to that, Folsom served as pastor of Audubon Church, Louisville, Ky., and as superintendent of missions and evangelism for the Long Run Association in Kentucky.

Folsom's denominational service included: first vice president, Florida Baptist State Convention, 1959; member, State Board of Missions, 1962-63; member, Witness Commission, 1968-1972, and chairman, 1972-74. He also served on various state convention committees.

He was a graduate of Bowling Green (Ky.) Business College; Western Kentucky State Teachers College; and Southern Seminary, Louisville.

Survivors include his widow, Josephine; a son, David, of Louisville; a daughter, Grace Lynn, of Baltimore, Md.; a foster son, Mario Camacho of Quito, Ecuador; and four grandchildren.

W. A. Robinson,
Retired DOM, Dies

William A. Robinson, 65, who retired last October as director of missions, Ridge Association, died on Sept. 8 after contracting pneumonia.

Marcus Jowers, pastor, First Church, Haines City, and Austin McElroy, pastor, First Church of Shamrock, Haines City, conducted funeral services Sept. 11 at First Church, Auburndale. Interment was at Auburndale Memorial Park.

Robinson had been director of missions at Ridge since 1971. Prior to that he served as pastor of Northside Church, Ruskin; Behtel Church, Lakeland; and Cleveland Church, Cleveland, N.C. He also served as associate pastor of First Church, Key West.

Survivors include his widow, Martha; two daughters, Elaine Cooley of Fort Pierce and Nancy Morgan of Green Cove Springs; and five grandchildren.