

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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Simmons, B. L. served as pastor of First Baptist Church, Crestview in 1923. Simmons was a widower with several small children.

Mr. T. H. Edney	100.00
Mr. W. H. Mapoles	50.00
Miss Pearl Garrett	20.00
R. J. Diamond	75.00
Mrs. Churchwell	6.00
Dr. E. A. Fleming	50.00
Mrs. W. H. Spivey	25.00
TOTAL	\$2,342.00

In July, 1919, Mr. Roberts was speaker in a revival in the church. Prof. J. A. Hicks from Pensacola led the singing assisted by Thelma Webb. Several additions were added to the church during this revival.

B. L. Simmons (1923 -)

The Rev. B. L. Simmons was called to succeed the Rev. Roberts. Mr. Simmons, a widower with several small children, was the first pastor to live in Crestview and the first to hold weekly services. The situation of the church at this time was similar to a mission field.

The Florida Baptist Mission supplemented the pastor's salary in order to strengthen the Baptist work in Crestview.

*History of First Baptist Church
Crestview, Florida 1917-1979*

Following Mr. [redacted]
whose children were [redacted] pp.

elderly widower

The Rev. Floy [redacted] his efforts to increasing attendance. Under his leadership the first Brotherhood work was tried in the Crestview church. He pushed the established organizations: Sunday School, BYPU, and Women's Missionary Union. His efforts resulted in an increase in attendance at all services and in a new awareness of the possibilities of the church