

## 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](http://FloridaBaptistHistory.org)

**Simmons, J. B.** served as pastor of Alafia Baptist Church, 1911-1913 and Beulah Baptist Church, 1913-1925. He and his wife had nine children.



# Alafia, Lithia

## SOME PAST AND PRESENT CHURCH LEADERS 1850-2000

### PASTORS AND DATES OF SERVICE

1851-1868 J.M. Hayman (circuit riding preachers)

A. Wilson

1870 John W. Hendry

1877-1883 E.J. Hull

1883-1884 I.A. Redd

1884-1885 J.W. Hendry

1885-1886 E.J. Hull

1887 David Robertson

1887 Henry Messer

1888-1893 J.M. Hendry

1893-1894 Peter Brown

1894 W.M. McDonald

No conference from Oct. 1894 to Nov. 1895, preaching was occasional

1896-1897 W.D. Payne

1897-1898 No pastor - visiting preachers

1898-1900 B.H. Grey

1900 Vickers

1901-1902 J.W. Johnson

1903-1905 P.O. Miller

~~1905-1911 No information~~

1911-1913 J.B. Simmons

1913-1914 G.W. Long

1914-1918 Irvin Walden

1919-1920 G.A. Martin

1920-1924 W.P. Rivers

1924-1926 J.L. Yeomans

1926-1927 Owen Rimes

1927-1928 B.B. Tatum

1928-1929 J.H. Bethea

1929-1930 B.B. Tatum

1930-1931 J.H. Johnson

1931-1933 T.H. Medlin

Rawlins

1933-1935 D.J. Edwards

1936-1937 F.D. Gant

1938-1939 Clarence Connell

1939-1942 Gordon Halbert

1942-1944 B.S. Sutton

1945-1946 J. Edwards

1946-1947 Ben Yeargan

1947-1949 Roy Fobes

1949-1950 George Alderman

1950-1952 Charles Sutton

1952-1953 Arlo Wilson

1953-1955 J.Z. Crofton

1955-1961 Ed Townsend

1961 *First full-time*

1961-1962 Ed Townsend

1962 T.E. Connally (Interim)

1963 Jack Whidden

1964-1967 J.R. Brooks

1968 Harry DeVane (Interim)

1968-1978 Joe Hallam

1978-1979 C.A. Tate (Interim)

1979-1981 C.A. Tate

1981-1984 Wayne Weeks

1984 Terry Holland (Interim)

1984-1993 *Billy Sanders*

1993-1998 Don McLaughlin

1998-1999 Phil Nason (Interim)

1999-2000 Erle McMichen (Interim)

2000-2002 Larry Westman

2003-2007 Erle McMichen

Nov. 2007 Waylon Carlisle (Interim)

2008-2018 Waylon Carlisle

Jan. 2019 Glenn Rininger (interim)

## Beulah Baptist celebrates 78th homecoming

EDISON JUNCTION — Beulah Baptist Church held its 78th annual homecoming service the weekend of Aug. 24-25 with the **Rev. George Dobson** officiating at Sunday services.

The church, at 10334 S. Allen Road near the Polk County line, started its homecoming activities Aug. 24 with a fish fry and a gospel sing. The Floridians, a gospel group from Orlando, provided musical entertainment at the outdoor event.

Aug. 25 was designated as Old Fashioned Day, with church members arriving in old-fashioned clothing. Some men came dressed as Minutemen, while women in bonnets were dubbed "Minute-women." About 130 people attended Sunday school and 160 took part in the morning worship service.

Most people stayed after the service for "Dinner on the Grounds," a traditional outdoor homecoming event. The morning service was led by Dobson, who was pastor from 1964-1969. Dobson now lives in Greenville, a Madison County town near Tallahassee.

Beulah Baptist began in 1913 when the **Rev. J.B. Simmons**, assisted by **Irvin Walden**, met with 18 community residents in a tent near the Beulah cemetery for regular church meetings. The congregation was officially recognized on Aug. 31 that year. **Simmons** was pastor from 1913-1925.

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**MARK GOLDEN WEDDING**—The **Rev.** and Mrs. **J. B. Simmons** pioneers of East Hillsborough county, celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary at their home at Hopewell last week. They were married at Hopewell in 1888. Mr. and Mrs. **Simmons** have nine children, 23 great-grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. County Commissioner Earl **Simmons** is a son.