

Florida Baptist Historical Society Biography Collection

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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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Singletary, Aaron (1926-1983) was born in Wauchula. He graduated from Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville. Singletary served as pastor of the First Baptist Churches of Lake Garfield, Wimauma, Alturas, Altha, Raiford, Hernando Beach, Cypress Baptist Church, Cypress, Fellowship Baptist Church, Ocala and New Zion Baptist Church, Ona. He and his wife, Margaret E. Hall Singletary had four children.

This, That and the Other

Montverde Baptist Church Organized from Chapel



On October 4 Montverde Chapel, Montverde was organized into a church.

Pictured, from left, are: H. Clyde Harless, field secretary, Florida Baptist Convention; James F. Graves, pastor of First Church, Leesburg and moderator of Lake County Association; Rufus H. Kenney, pastor of Montverde Church, Clermont. Carter is presenting Kenney with the deed to the debt-free property of the new church.

Others who participated in the organizational service are: W. O. Boone, chairman of Missions Committee; W. R. Copeland, first chairman, Missions Committee; Larry Fussell, minister of music, Grace Church; and R. D. Smith, former chairman, Missions Committee.

Homecomings

On November 8 First Church, Babson Park will celebrate the second anniversary of Pastor Paul W. Murray with Homecoming. C. L. Rhoden, a former pastor, will preach at the morning worship service. A Gospel sing will be held after dinner on the grounds. Former pastors, members and friends are invited.

First Church, Jasper will close a week of revival services on November 8 with Homecoming. Assisting Pastor Sayer Canova with the services are Evangelist Bill Ligon and Singers Al and Ivy Walsh. Former pastors, members and friends are invited.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Pinder, Southern Baptist missionary appointees, left the States October 21 to begin their first term of service in Argentina. They may be addressed at Bolanos 139, Buenos Aires, Argentina. The Pinders are natives of Florida, he of Miami and she, the former Jane Hagood, of Crestview.

R. J. Johnson, Pastor of Marietta Church, Dies

Raburn J. Johnson, 47, pastor of Marietta Church, Jacksonville, died suddenly, apparently from a heart attack, on October 26.

Funeral services were held on October 28 at North Jacksonville Church with Pastor R. Wilbur Herring; Tom Collins, pastor of Cedar Hills Church; and James A. McKeithen, pastor of Highlands Church, officiating.

A native of Carrollton, Ga., Johnson had served a number of churches in Jacksonville, where he had lived for 28 years.

Survivors include his widow, Mrs. Ida Lee Johnson of Jacksonville; his mother, Mrs. W. E. Tackett, Carrollton, Ga.; two daughters, Mrs. Betty Jean McCall and Miss Charlotte Ann Johnson; a son, Wayne Morris Johnson; a grandson, Keith McCall, all of Jacksonville; four sisters and two brothers.

Southeastern Alumni To Meet for Breakfast

The Florida Chapter of the Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary Alumni Association will meet Tuesday, November 10, at 7:00 a.m. in the Corona Room of the Hotel Tampa Terrace for breakfast. The breakfast will cost \$1.50. Reservation should be sent directly to President Allen Higginbotham, First Baptist Church, Sebring, Fla.

Aaron Singletary became pastor of First Church, Lake Garfield on October 14.

A native of Wauchula, Singletary was pastor of First Church, Altha while attending Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville.

Mrs. Singletary is a native of Eaton Park. They have four children.

November 8 will be Homecoming Day at First Church, Lake Garfield. Former pastors and members are invited.

Oak Grove Church Calls George Barnett as Pastor

George A. Barnett of Hattiesburg, Miss. is the new pastor of Oak Grove Church in Graves Association.

Barnett attended Jones County Junior College and William Carey College both in Mississippi, before enrolling at Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville, where he is now a student. This is his first pastorate.

Mrs. Barnett was Rebecca Carter of Ellisville, Miss. They have a son, George, Jr., age 10 months.

New Music Director

Donald Lingle of Orlando has been called as music director at Gonzalez Church, Gonzalez, where W. P. Mitchell is pastor.

A graduate of Stetson University, Lingle is now attending New Orleans Seminary. While at Stetson, he served several churches in central Florida.

The Gonzalez Church recently ordained James Dunaway and Thomas Harley as deacons.

Ordained to Ministry

Whitney Lavender, Jr., 17, was recently ordained to the Gospel ministry by Cassia Church, Cassia, where his father, W. Whitney Lavender, is pastor.

Participating in the ordination service were: Joe Black, Marvin Holiday, Leslie Colding, Hugh Hawkins, Robert Mullis, James Watson, Coxy Johnson, Dewey Stallings, B. C. Collins and George Brown.

Whitney has been a regular church organist since he was nine years old.

Visitation Evangelist Carlyle Brooks of DeLand recently assisted Charleston Heights Church, Charleston Heights, S. C. during revival services led by Wilbur Herring of Jacksonville. John Huss is pastor.

On October 7 George T. Hobby was licensed to the Gospel ministry by Northside Church, Pensacola, Henry E. Marlow, pastor.

Fire Destroys Building of Philadelphia Church, McAlpin



The building and contents of Philadelphia Church, McAlpin were completely destroyed by fire on the morning of October 21. The fire was caused by the explosion of the air conditioning and heat pump.

The church was only partially insured. The loss includes an organ, new piano and the entire library.

The church will meet temporarily in the Community Center. If anyone can supply hymn books, please contact Pastor Vernon C. McDonald, Rt. 1 Box 129-A, McAlpin, Fla.

A leadership conference on "A Church Organized and Functioning" was held in September at Azalea Church, St. Petersburg, where Lane A. Patrick is pastor. Thomas J. Draper, minister of education at First Church, Columbia, S. C., directed the conference. A completely correlated church program was the central theme, and this provided a broad base upon which a church could build throughout the year.

Florida Features



Danny R. Stahl

Turkey Creek First Church, Plant City, called **Danny R. Stahl** as pastor. A graduate of Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, he goes from Bell Shoals Church, Brandon, where he served as associate pastor/youth minister.



Charlie Hahn

Charlie Hahn accepted the call as minister of music and youth at Bee Ridge Church, Sarasota, effective June 20.



Tom E. Capell

On June 1, **Tom E. Capell** became director of missions of Big Lake Association. He is former pastor of Mount Ephraim Church, Arcadia; Forest Hills Church, Tampa; and Palmview First Church, Palmetto.



Dennis C. Richards

Dennis C. Richards was recently called as minister of education at Fifth Avenue Church, St. Petersburg. A graduate of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, Tenn., and Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky., he goes from First Church, Tampa.



John Rainwater

Celebration Church, Tallahassee, called **John Rainwater** as full-time minister of music and youth. He has been serving part-time since 1981. He has also been minister of music at First Churches of Gilmore and Marshall, Texas, and Winbourne Avenue Church, Baton Rouge, La., and national prison director for Bill Glass Prison Ministries.



Tom A. Pilling

Tom A. Pilling became minister of music and youth of First Church, Altosna, on July 3. He goes from Central Church, Jacksonville, where he served two years in the same capacity.

Marvin Hart, media technician at Lake Yale Baptist Assembly, was recently called as part-time minister of education at the church.

First Church of Port Tampa, Tampa, has called **George Stemer** as associate pastor in charge of youth ministries.

C. E. Autrey, former evangelism secretary for the Southern Baptist Convention and professor of evangelism at several seminaries, has recently retired to Pensacola after serving a church in Salt Lake City, Utah. He is available for interim or supply work and may be reached at 4228 Bonway Drive, Pensacola, Fla. 32504, (904) 478-6055.

Corinth Church, Newberry, honored its pastor, **Dewey Waldron**, with a luncheon at the church in recognition of his 30th anniversary in the pastoral ministry. Waldron has been pastor of Corinth for seven years.

William E. Ball, a graduate of Southeastern Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C., was ordained to the gospel ministry by First Church of Hypoluxo, Lantana, on June 19. Ronald J. Byrd is pastor.

David Tyson recently resigned as minister of music from First Church, Fort Pierce, to serve in the same capacity at Mabel White Church, Macon, Ga.

Maurice A. Robinson is available for interim or supply work. He may be contacted at 504 First Ave. E., Bradenton, Fla. 33508, (813) 746-1505.

Aaron Singletary, 57, pastor of Zion Church, Ona, for a year, died of a heart attack on June 23. He had turned only a few days before for Lake Yale where he served as R. Ambassador camp pastor. More than 150 decisions were made.

D. J. Abernathy, executive director of United Christian Action Inc., officiated at funeral services at New Zion Church on June 25. **Jimmy Williams**, pastor, Grove Church, Wauchula, assisted in the service. The funeral home was in Wauchula Cemetery.

Singletary, a member of the UCA executive board, had served churches in Florida for many years, including: First Churches of Wimauma, Alturas, Al Raliford and Hernando Beach; Cypress Church, Cypress; and Fellowship Church, Ocala.

Survivors include his widow, Margaret; two sons, Roy and Glenn, and two daughters, Joyce Cox and Jean Jordan, all of Raliford.

Homecomings

Ferris Hill Church, Milton: July 24, Pastor William B. Raley, speaker; dinner on the grounds; special music; Jerry Watts; former pastors, members and friends invited.

First Church, Bushnell: July 24, 25th anniversary; Elbert Tyner, guest speaker; dinner on the grounds; singing in afternoon; Terry G. Townsend, pastor.

Baldwin Avenue Church, DeFuniak Springs: July 24, 28th anniversary; everyone invited; Johnnie Moore, pastor.



THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS of the Home Mission Board recently toured the Pacific Northwest to observe mission work, including Warm Springs Indian Reservation, Oregon. Standing in front of First Church there are (from left): Dr. and Mrs. Emit O. Ray, Riverside Church, Miami, and Ceell Sims, executive director-treasurer, Northern Baptist Convention.

1 July 14 1983 date

Rev. Singletary

Installed Altha P-TA President

ALTHA (Special) — The P-TA met Tuesday night in the school lunchroom.

President Drew Peacock, Jr. was in charge of the meeting.

Rev. Aaron Singletary, pastor of the Baptist Church presented the devotional, after which the pledge to the flag was given and "America" was sung.

Lewis Bailey, Calhoun County School Superintendent, spoke to the group concerning the school bond issue, after which W. C. Segers, mayor, spoke concerning subscriptions for the natural gas program which is hoped to be obtained for the town.

Plans were made for the senior reception, which the P-TA sponsors each year.

Mrs. Florence Creamers' second grade won the room count. The 1963-64 P-TA officers were installed by Mrs. Ruth Leftwich. The officers are as follows:

Rev. Aaron Singletary, president; Jodie Tatum, vice president; Mrs. Dauhrice Baldwin, treasurer; Mrs. Doris Johnson, secretary.

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Mrs. Betty Shirley Phillips, M

Rev. Singletary Is Pastor At Wauchula

GRACEVILLE — The Rev. Aaron Singletary assumed the pastorate of Cypress Baptist Church, Cypress, recently.

He resigned as pastor of the First Baptist Church, Alturas, to become a student at Baptist Bible Institute here.

The Rev. Mr. Singletary is a native of Wauchula, where his mother, Mrs. Jirelene Singletary, still lives.

His wife is the former Margaret Elizabeth Hall of Lakeland. They have three children, Roy Lee, 7, Joyce Lynn, 4, and Glen Aaron 1.

The family will move to Cypress Thursday, and the Rev. Mr. Singletary will commute to the Institute for morning classes five days a week.

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Hernando Beach Baptist Church names Rev. Singletary

Citrus-Hernando Times Bureau

BROOKSVILLE — Rev. Aaron Singletary has been called to be the full-time pastor of the First Baptist Church of Hernando Beach beginning July 4.

Rev. Singletary will replace Rev. Earl Fields, who died June 21.

Rev. Singletary will be leaving the Fellowship Baptist Church of Ocala to come to the Hernando Beach church.

He was born in Wauchula. After service in the U.S. Army in World War II, he graduated from Jefferson High School in Tampa. He attended the Business Institute of Tampa and the Baptist Bible Institute of Graceville.

Rev. Singletary holds a Bachelor of Divinity degree from the Luther Rice Seminary.

He is married to the former Margaret E. Hall of Lakeland. They have four children.

Wimauma Baptists Plan April Revival

The First Baptist Church of Wimauma will have a one week revival April 23-30. The **Rev. Aaron Singletary**, pastor, will be the preacher for the meetings.

Rev. Singletary was recently ordained by the Mission Hills Baptist Chapel and Spencer Memorial Baptist Church of Tampa.

Joe Thomas will be the pianist, and Berry Roberts and B. F. Tatom will lead the singing.

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Altha Easter Services Set

Altha Easter Sunrise Services will be held on the football field at 5:45 on Easter Sunday, April 14.

All churches are jointly conducting the Easter service.

The **Rev. Aaron Singletary**, pastor of Altha Baptist Church will deliver the morning message. Choirs of all three Altha churches will bring special messages in song, the **Rev. Singletary** said.

First Baptist Church, Raiford

(continued . . .)

week later at the Raiford First Baptist Church. He has done a great service to his Lord and has led many souls to accept Jesus as their Savior.

While James Henderson was pastor from January 3, 1994 to January 12, 1997, both of his sons committed their lives to preach the gospel. The oldest son, Rick, who is attending Florida Baptist Theological College, was licensed to preach while he was a member of this church.

Pastors serving the Raiford First Baptist Church have been: Sam Proctor, G. W. S. Ware, Dr. Peelman, William Malphus, Bonham Johns, Rev. Johnson, Rev. Overstreet, J. Tom Barnes, Rev. Kickliter, Rev. Morris, L. G. Hemingway, Rev. Leyes, Rev. Wilkes, S. J. Morgan, J. G. Knight, Ray Y. Strickland, William Wilson (served twice), John T. James, C. B. Stallings, Dolphus Wilkes, Allen Price, Joseph McCullough, Jack Stolte, Aaron Singletary, Henry Jones, Hugh Walters, Johnny Guilbert, Ronnie Kinsaul, Stephen Haskell, John Ross, Tom Bowling, Jack Whitley, Gary McCoach, James Henderson, James Coward, Sebbey Volge, and Stephen Bowman.

We would like to pay tribute to our deceased deacons who gave their all in service to their Lord: Colonel H. Hunter; Johnny Yarbrough, H. W. Raiford, Henry Thornton, Warren B. Bloodsworth, J. M. Conner, John Godwin, W. W. Carter, Charley Redding, J. M. Bradley, Harvey Williams, John G. Sapp, Drew C. Sweat, Ellery Redding, Arthur Crews, Hugh Rahn and John E. Ross.

Current active deacons are: Monroe Kitler and Robert Faulkner.



Small group: First Baptist, Raiford



Large group: First Baptist, Raiford