

Florida Baptist Historical Society Biography Collection

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Smiley, Trafton M. (1903-1947) was born in Liberty County, Georgia the son of Daniel Hampton and Emma R. Bryant Smiley. He served as pastor of churches in Louisiana and Florida including First Baptist Church, Live Oak, for seven years. He and his wife, Mabel Smiley, had three sons.



REV. T. M. SMILEY

We are grieved to learn of the death of Rev. T. M. Smiley in Lake City on August 14. He had served as pastor of the First Baptist Church, Live Oak, for seven years and had done an outstanding work. The funeral service was conducted in the First Baptist Church, Live Oak, Saturday, August 16, at 3 P. M. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Mabel Smiley; three sons, T. M., Jr., James Edward and Jack Victor; and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Smiley. He was scheduled to preach the annual sermon of the Florida Baptist Convention this fall. Florida Baptists will miss him.

Ground-breaking ceremonies for the John L. Hill Chapel of Georgetown College, Kentucky, were conducted on July 24. Dr. Hill delivered the principal address. The construction on the \$300,000 building was started at once. Georgetown College is Dr. Hill's Alma Mater. He also served the college as professor of history and political science for thirteen years and as dean for nine of these years. He resigned his position there to go to the Sunday School Board on June 1, 1922.

All States in the Southern Baptist Convention will be represented in the annual Christian Education Conference at Ridgecrest, N. C., under the direction of the Education Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, August 25-28. A pre-conference address on the general theme, "Extending the Service of the Christian School" will be delivered by Dr. John L. Plyler, president of Furman University, Greenville, S. C. Outstanding speakers are scheduled to be on the program.

Dr. Edward A. McDowell, Professor of New Testament Interpretation at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., who has just returned from Union Theological Seminary, New York City, where he spent last year studying and serving as visiting lecturer, has recently been giving a series of lectures on "The New Testament Basis for Social Action" at the Northern Baptist Assembly at Green Lake, Wisconsin.

Southern Baptist Hospital has several scholarships for the Mather School of Nursing which will be made available to young

women who would like to enter training but do not have the necessary funds. There is still time to secure a scholarship and enter the September class if these interested will act immediately. Full information upon request. Frank Tripp, Superintendent.

Miss Gladys Hicks, dean of women at Howard-Payne College at Brownwood, Texas, since 1937, has been elected dean of women at Baylor University and will take office on September 1.

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Quickly apply soothing and comforting GRAY'S OINTMENT with its wholesome antiseptics and nature aiding medication. Nothing else like it—nothing so comforting—or pleasant for externally caused skin troubles. 35c. Get a package today.

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FOR INFORMATION WRITE DR. I. E. ROUSE, PRESIDENT

EVANGELISM AT RIDGECREST

By JOHN CAYLOR

June 1-8 is the date set for the home mission week at Ridgcrest in 1948. Preparations are well under way for a program of evangelism.

Outstanding speakers have been engaged. Dr. R. G. Lee of Memphis will deliver messages on mass evangelism, personal evangelism, and the revival of concern.

Dr. Perry F. Webb of San Antonio is to discuss evangelism as a church-centered movement.

Dr. T. L. Holcomb of the Sunday School Board will speak on prayer in evangelism and youth evangelism.

Dr. J. B. Lawrence of the Home Mission Board will emphasize the place of the Holy Spirit in evangelism; and Dr. Ellis A. Fuller of Louisville will bring the closing message of the evangelistic week at Ridgcrest on the new birth.

Dr. C. E. Matthews, superintendent of evangelism of the Home Mission Board, will be in charge of the program of evangelism during the week.

Direct Missions

Dr. Alfred Carpenter, superintendent of the department of direct missions, will present missionaries from the field in devotional messages before the Ridgcrest meeting and conduct conferences for the missionaries in the field of direct missions, which includes the language groups, good will centers, the work in Costa Rica, Panama, and the Canal Zone, and field work.

Rural Missions

Dr. S. F. Dowis, superintendent of the department of co-operative missions which includes city missions, the rural church program, and the work in the western states, will conduct special conferences on rural missions.

Speakers emphasizing rural missions include Dr. O. T. Binkley, Louisville; Dr. J. O. Williams and Dr. C. W. Pope of Nashville; Dr. W. C. Boone of Kentucky; Dr. Courts Redford and Dr. John D. Freeman of Atlanta.

General Missions

Heads of all the departments of the Home Mission Board will have part in the program of Ridgcrest, June 1-8, and discussions will be had on all phases of home mission work. While the emphasis is on evangelism, it is understood that all departments of home missions promote evangelism and will profit by the special emphasis.

Change in Time

The change in the time of meeting at Ridgcrest for home mission emphasis is

that it is expected the earlier meeting will make it possible for representatives from rural fields to be present at Ridgcrest. The time selected is in advance of revival meetings usually scheduled for the summer, and pastors, rural evangelists, and those interested in evangelism in both rural and city areas are expected to take advantage of the early meeting.

The Magazine and the Budget

Unusual interest is being manifested in budget subscriptions to the magazine, **Southern Baptist Home Missions**. It is earnestly hoped that churches will place **The Commission, Southern Baptist Home Missions, and The Florida Baptist Witness** in the budget for the coming year. The cost is nominal; the benefits are innumerable.

OBITUARIES

God in His infinite wisdom has called our beloved pastor, Rev. T. M. Smiley, to His reward. A great emptiness has been left in our church, city, county and state due to his departure.

He was faithful in the reading of the Word, performing his vows and continually prayed for his people. He was always urging the people to be watchful of their daily conduct and to bear their cross cheerfully. One of his greatest joys was in feeding the flock that God had entrusted to his care.

Be it resolved that we must carry on in these matters which characterized the purpose of his life so that his ministry may go on bearing fruit.

Committee:

Woman's Missionary Society
First Baptist Church
Live Oak, Fla.
Rev. J. W. Finkell, Jr.
Mrs. G. A. Lee
Mrs. W. D. Gunter

Brother Walter A. DuBose passed away May 8. Brother DuBose was a faithful member of the Spencer Memorial Church and one of its loyal deacons. The funeral service was held from the church. His body was carried to the Crossland Cemetery at Starke. The funeral was conducted by the pastor, J. Elwood Rawls.

Survivors of Brother DuBose are as follows: Wife, Mrs. Fannie DeBose; four sons, William Albert DuBose, J. I. DuBose, Paul DuBose, Malcolm DuBose; four daughters, Mrs. W. E. Fisher, Mrs. L. N. Rasmussen, Mrs. Mildred Litchfield, Mrs. Pauline Howell.—J. Elwood Rawls.

Brother Eugene Thomas Ferguson, died after a brief illness, July 6. Brother Ferguson was a faithful, consecrated, dependable deacon of the Spencer Memorial Church of Tampa. He was born May 7,

1886, which made his age 61. His funeral was held from the church with the pastor, J. Elwood Rawls, officiating. He was laid to rest at the Garden of Memories. The deacons acted as honorary pall bearers and active pall bearers were chosen from the Friendship Bible Class.

Brother Ferguson leaves to mourn his going: Wife, Mrs. Maude Ferguson; seven sons, Wallace A. Ferguson, Hoyle Ferguson, Thomas Ferguson, Ralph Ferguson, S. J. Ferguson, Jack Ferguson, Dow Ferguson; one daughter, Mrs. Iva Mae Hendon.—J. Elwood Rawls.

IN LOVING MEMORY

of
MR. T. F. POLHILL,
who passed away one year ago today,
October 22nd, 1946.

In quiet peace, in love they dwell
in harmony as one;
Their days were filled with happiness,
with prayer each morn begun.
No hint of ill ever came near
"the beauty of the scene";
Ere cruel tragedy had struck,
and shattered life's sweet dream.

It seemed his spirit fled away,
like a bird in sudden flight.
Into the sunshine of God's love,
tho here loomed darkest night.
Courageous, full of faith was he,
unscathed by cruel darts of sin
A child could walk its way
into his manly heart.

O, sorrow not, sad one alone,
He's gone on home to rest.
He owns a house divinely planned,
In Heaven among God's best.
How lovely is that dwelling there,
Adorned with gems so fair,
Fashioned from out his kindly deeds,
Wrought as he sojourned here.

Seems all too soon was he borne away,
unfinished seemed life's scroll,
But not by God's own calendar
as He His plans unfold.
With in that home, your loving hands
ere long with jewels filled,
Will carry gifts of faithful love,
God's alchemy distilled.

Submitted by his
devoted wife.

Composed by
a Friend.

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7-11
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**Rev. T. M. Smiley, 44,
Pastor of Live Oak
Church, Succumbs**

LIVE OAK, Aug. 14—The Rev. Trafton M. Smiley, 44, pastor of the First Baptist Church, died today in Lake City, following a heart attack. Funeral services will be held at 3 P. M. Saturday in his church in this city.

The Rev. Mr. Smiley was a native of Ludowici, Ga. He had served the First Baptist Church in Live Oak for seven years.

Besides his widow, Mrs. Mabel Smiley formerly of Greenville, he leaves three sons, T. M. Jr., James Edward and Jack Victor Smiley; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Smiley, Miami; three brothers, S. B. Smiley and D. H. Smiley Jr., Miami, and L. S. Smiley, Greenville, and two sisters, Mrs. L. F. Woodcock and Mrs. R. E. Harris, Miami.

The Suwannee Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

**REVIVAL SERVICES
SLATED AT CHURCH**

The **Rev. T. M. Smiley**, pastor, of the Calvary Baptist Church, Algiers, will be the speaker in a series of revival services which open Sunday evening at the Emmanuel Baptist Church. Meetings will be held nightly through the week at 7:45 p. **m** Sunday morning the pastor, the **Rev. C. C. Alsobrooks**, will preach on "Samuel, a Child of Prayer."

LIVE OAK NEWS

**REV. SMILEY NEW
PASTOR AT BAPTIST CHURCH**

The **Rev. T. M. Smiley** and family have arrived in the city from Ocala, Fla., where **Rev. Spiney** was a former pastor. Mr. **Smiley** was called to the pastorate of the First Baptist Church of Live Oak and has already assumed his duties.

Rev Trafton Millard Smiley

Birth 15 Jun 1903 Liberty County, Georgia, USA

Death 1947 (aged 43–44)

Burial Live Oak Cemetery Live Oak, Suwannee County, Florida, USA

Inscription

Pastor

First Baptist Church

1940-1947

Family Members

Parents

Daniel Hampton Smiley 1878–1958

Emma R. "Emmie" Bryant Smiley 1882–1958

Spouse

Mable Scarboro Smiley 1903–1990 (m. 1920)

Children

Trafton Millard Smiley Jr 1921–1986

Jack Victor Smiley 1938–2012

https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/82734422/trafton_millard-smiley