

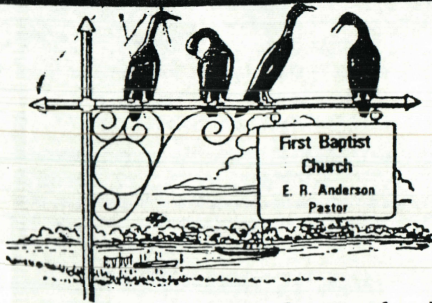
Florida Baptist Historical Society Biography Collection

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

Smith, C. S. graduated from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He served as pastor of churches in Kentucky and Florida, including, Talleyrand Road, Jacksonville; First Baptist Church, Lake Alfred, 1947-1949; Westside Baptist Church, Fort Pierce; Antioch Baptist Church, Gainesville; Fort Ogden Baptist Church, Arcadia; Samoset Baptist Church; Charlotte Harbor Baptist Church; Wahneta Baptist Church, Winter Haven; and First Baptist Church, Cedar Key.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
2nd & E STREETS
CEDAR KEY, FLORIDA A

P. O. BOX 94
CEDAR KEY, FLORIDA 32625

Bible Centered -- Love Motivated

RESPECT TO A NOBLE PAST

Due to the destruction wrought by fire and hurricanes much of the early history of the Church is hazy. Any help you can give in this area please write the information and hand to one of the leaders of the Church.

The First Baptist Church was organized in the year of 1891. The Church property and first church was located at the corner of 4th and E streets. (The present home of Mr. & Mrs. Tom Demeritt). This property was sold to one of the church deacons, J.J. Saunders prior to the purchase for the new location.

Sunday School was held at 10:00 o'clock a.m. with preaching services at 11:00 o'clock. Evening services were held at 8:00 o'clock. Preaching services were held the 1st and 3rd Sundays. The pastor serving another small church on alternate Sundays.

The charter members were as follows:

Mr. & Mrs. F. Wadley
Mr. & Mrs. J. Hughes
Mr. J. S. Bodiford & family
Mr. J. H. Thomas & family
Mr. R. T. Walker & family

The congregation and Sunday School increased in numbers and the membership of the Church grew rapidly.

Miss Leah Webster (Kepote) and Miss Ola

Wilson (McLeod) served as organists. Later Miss Virginia Tooke (Pugh) became pianist. The present pianist is Mrs. Ruth Wagner.

Serving as Trustees were:

J. S. Bodiford
Y. H. Thomas
R. T. Walker

In the year of 1922, due to the lack of room the Deacons of the Church decided with the consent of the Church to purchase land in order to build a new and larger Church building. Trustees and building committee appointed were as follows:

J. E. Hughes
J. C. Hodges
J. F. Taylor

February 2, 1923, Lots 1,2,3,4, Block 9 on Second street were purchased, deeds filed April 30, 1923. J. F. Taylor was chairman and supervisor of construction. He gave of his time and money to this building.

Many of the young men of Cedar Key donated their time to the building of the Church. The pews of the Church were built by Henry Taylor. The sacred Lectern was built by Joseph Wilson (deceased).

Thanks to the members for their splendid cooperation and generous gifts of money and time. The Church was built under the leadership of Rev. Forester Jones.

This year the Church building is fifty-three years old.

The First Baptist Church has been serving the Cedar Key Community for the past eighty-five years. At first the Church was pastored by itinerant preachers. Following are a list of names of pastors serving the Church since 1920.

Brothers: Hilton, Kersey, Ridenour, Forest James, O. B. Kersey, O. B. Davis, E. D. Boyer, Harris, Franklin, Horace McElroy, C. S. Smith, George Rector, Joe Wilson,

Indian River

1976 Indian River

THE WESTSIDE STORY

Mabel M. Perkins

The small, white frame building "out on Orange Avenue" had, for many years housed a small afternoon Sunday School. It was sponsored by the First Presbyterian Church of Fort Pierce. The attendance had dwindled and the Presbyterians made arrangements for the First Baptist Church to assume responsibility for this strategic mission point. The First Baptist Church operated the mission, and conducted Vacation Bible Schools and held other services until 1946 when the mission was organized into a church on November 3. There were 73 charter members, and the Reverend Rufus Higgenbotham was the first pastor. The Westside Baptist Chapel became the Westside Baptist Church.

In August of 1947 an Army Chapel at Camp Murphy (Jonathan Dickinson Park) was purchased, and was transported up the Indian River on a barge. On January 21, 1948 the first service was held in the "new" building.

Others who served the church as pastor were: C. S. Smith, A. C. Abney, Clyde Duncan, Jack Nightingale, Richard Parker, and in June 1969 Mark A. Dobbs became the pastor and is still serving in that capacity.

Through the years Educational buildings have been added and many other improvements made. The church has been blessed in many ways and today enjoys a full program of work, with a church staff of six.

Surely the Westside Story is one of growth and outreach, and of dedication to the work of the Kingdom.

Constituted
1946



WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

Antioch, Gainesville

ROLL CALL OF PASTORS

Abraham Crosby	1872-1877
Silas Weeks	1877-1878
Abraham Crosby	1878-1882
R. B. Mosely	1882-1889
R. W. Jones	1889-1890
N. B. Plummer	1891-1894
Abraham Crosby	1894-1895
R. B. Mosely	1895-1897
W. F. Malphurs	-1898
S. S. Proctor	-1901
W. F. Malphurs	-1902
W. J. Parker	1902-1903
F. M. Hartman	1903-
S. S. Proctor	1907-1923
G. E. Larimore	1911-
J. W. Hilton	1913-
Z. A. Crumpton	1914-
J. L. Norris	1914-
A. M. Yarborough	1920-
N. T. King	1920-
S. S. Proctor	
J. D. Hacker	1923-1923
R. W. Bugg	1923-1929
F. F. Gable	1930-
G. W. Parker	1932-
W. D. Cowart	1934-
C. A. Crosby	1935-1938
J. L. Norris	1939-1941
C. A. Crosby	1941-
Terry Allen	1946-1946
Lee Cooper	1946-1947
James Sims	1947-1948
A. R. Greene	1948-1951
William S. Keene	1951-1952
T. E. Cappel	1953-1954
C. S. Smith	1954-1957
B. E. Haddock	1957-1962
Ralph Peek	Interim
W. P. McElroy	1962-1968
A. D. Martin	1969-1973
Jimmie Rogers	1974-1976
O. D. Moore	1976-
Jimmie Rogers	1976-1977
Gerald Langley	1977-1980
Shep Bryant	1981 Interim
Raymond Estes	1981-1985
Allen Wilson	1986-1992
William Pruitt	1992-Present

park.

The Rev. C. S. Smith of the Lake Alfred Baptist Church will be in charge of the services, assisted by

The Orlando Sentinel (Orlando, Florida)
03 Sep 1953, Thu
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Rev. Smith Accepts Wahneta Pastorate

WINTER HAVEN— Rev. C. S. Smith has accepted the pastorate of the Wahneta Baptist Church on the Rifle Range Road.

Rev. Smith has served the past two years at Talleyrand Baptist Church of Jacksonville and formerly served the Lake Alfred Baptist Church. He is a graduate of Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville, Ky. and served several pastorates in Kentucky before coming to Florida.

Rev. Smith will work with Rev. James P. Rodgers, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Winter Haven, which sponsors the Wahneta group.

News-Press (Fort Myers, Florida)
22 Mar 1951, Thu
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Dr. L. C. Denise will give the invocation, Rev. C. S. Smith, Baptist minister of Charlotte Harbor will give the scripture and Rev. J. F. Linkins of the Methodist Church

New Winter Haven Church Organized

WINTER HAVEN, Jan. 18—(Special)—The Wahneta Baptist Mission, three miles south of this city, was constituted a fully organized congregation cooperating with the South Florida Association of the State Baptist Convention at a service yesterday afternoon.

The mission, sponsored the past two years by the Winter Haven First Baptist Church, has 140 members, a Sunday school of 217 and a Baptist Training Union of 78. The **Rev. C. S. Smith** has been pastor since Sept. 1, 1953 and under his leadership an educational annex, with six classrooms, has been completed. The congregation has a Woman's Missionary Union and organizations for young people.

At the service, Grover Hayes, E. F. Boone, Ray Hayes, Harold Ganey, Floyd Boone and George Branch were ordained as deacons.

Association churches and missions which so far have indicated their participation: Bee Ridge Church, led by the **Rev. J. T. Gillespie** of Miami; Manatee Church, Dr. John W. Dowdy, president of the Southwest College of Missouri; Osprey Baptist, the **Rev. Charles Beal** of Sarasota; Palmetto First Baptist, the **Rev. R. C. Cannon**, Memphis, Tenn.; Samoset Baptist, the **Rev. C. S. Smith**, Alachua; First Baptist, Sarasota, Dr. Marshall Craig of the Gaston Avenue Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Texas; Tenth Street Baptist, Palmetto, the **Rev. Joe Olachea** of First Bap-

Antioch Baptist Church Schedules 84th Homecoming

GAINESVILLE, June 18. — (Special) — The Antioch Baptist Church near LaCrosse will have its 84th annual homecoming Sunday with special services and basket lunches on the grounds.

Friends and members of the church—both past and present—are welcome, officials said.

The church was organized in June, 1872, by The Rev. Uriah Roberts and The Rev. Abraham Crosby, the latter becoming its first pastor. The Rev. C. S. Smith is the present pastor.

PASTOR RESIGNS AT LAKE ALFRED

WINTER HAVEN, March 21.— (Special.)—The Rev. C. S. Smith has announced his resignation as pastor of the First Baptist Church in Lake Alfred to accept a call to the Westside Baptist Church in Fort Pierce. The resignation becomes effective April 14.

The minister has served the Lake Alfred congregation since December, 1947, and has added 95 members. The Lake Alfred Church now numbers 250.

Class of the First Baptist Church returned home Wednesday from the East Coast Assembly at Ft. Pierce. They are: Linda Leathlean, Sharon Prevatt, Zelda Martin, Linda Wilder, Dan Willits, Payton and Clay Tom Smith, Mrs. Frank Prevatt, Mrs. Floyd Wilder and Mrs. Jay Smith motored to Ft. Pierce to bring them home.

Mrs. Frank Prevatt honored her daughter Juanell on her ninth birthday with a party at her home. Games were played and favors and refreshments were served to: Brian Beardsley, Terry Ryder and sister from Clewiston, Roger Harrell, Billy Blackwell, Junior Little, Jimmy Prevatt, Steve and Brenda Lowery, Ivy and Lou Barrett and Sharon Prevatt. Mothers attending were: Mrs. R. L. Barrett, Mrs. Bill Blackwell and Mrs. Bob Beardsley.

The Rev. C. S. Smith of the

Antioch Baptist Church, Gainesville, will fill the pulpit of the South Bay Baptist Church at morning and evening services Sunday. Mrs. Smith will accompany her husband to South Bay.

Mrs. Jewel Naples of Bartow and Mrs. Alden Wyse and Walter of Clewiston were guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Jefferies.

Mrs. W. M. Jefferies visited with her son-in-law and daughter Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Weathers, at Moore Haven.

CONTROLS CHANNEL

Turkey's location gives it control of an important waterway, the channel which is the outlet of the Black Sea. For many years, European powers have struggled to control Turkey and the Black Sea.

Nicaragua is named for an Indian chief, Nicaro.

Ft. Ogden Baptists To Dedicate New Sanctuary Sunday

ARCADIA, April 17. (Special) —The new Baptist Church at Ft. Ogden, which has been under construction the past several months, is to be dedicated at an all-day service Sunday, according to announcement of the pastor, The Rev. C. S. Smith.

The church replaces the frame church erected about 55 or more years ago, which was destroyed by fire the day after Thanksgiving two years ago.

With the \$12,000 insurance money for the old building supplemented by gifts from the members, the new \$40,000 building was erected. The auditorium will seat 225 persons.

The Sunday service will include dinner on the ground with the dedication in the afternoon, the dedicatory sermon by The Rev. Otis Garland, pastor of Wauchula Baptist Church. Also scheduled to participate are The Rev. Dow Durance, pastor at Mt. Ephraim Baptist Church, and The Rev. John Whitt, of Sarasota.