

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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Schaffer, Ronald L. (1937-2014) was born in Kansas City, Kansas the son of Roland D. and Ethel Eckoff Schaffer. He graduated from Louisiana Baptist University (aka Baptist Christian University) and Baptist Bible College. Schaffer served as pastor of Bethany Baptist Church, West Melbourne and Temple Heights Baptist Church, Tampa. He and his wife, Martha Ann Raines Schaffer had four children.





Dr. Ronald L. Schaffer, pastor of Temple Heights Baptist Church, Tampa, will lead a soul winning conference Monday and Tuesday at Lakeland's Bible Baptist Church. Pastor Roland Sanchez invites all to attend. Services are 7:30 p.m. each night. Church workers will be challenged each evening at 6:15.



Baptists El

In its 110th annual s Lakeland's Southside Bap the South Florida Bapti pastor of Edgewood Bap vice-moderator. **Rev** Dor tist Church, was named **Rev** Arnold Showers, pa chosen Vice-President of

The 44 churches of membership of 24,970 bap will cooperate in a state 1979. State goal is to star

The association move located on the campus of

WOMEN Cor

FAITH CITY

20 Million Dollar Church, School, College, Sr. Citizens Plant Voted upon by Temple Heights Baptist Church

10 year project -- 1st phase of one million dollars to begin immediately to house Jr.-Sr. High School and College to be occupied Sept. 1972.

X < > 14 of 14 matches

The Tampa Tribune
Sat, May 20, 1972 Page 57



REV. RONALD L. SCHAFER

REV. RONALD L. SCHAFER came to **TEMPLE HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH** in 1969 at the age of 32, after having successfully pastored three other churches.

Educated at Baptist Bible College, Springfield, Missouri, **Rev. Schaffer** came to Temple Heights from Bethany Baptist Church, Melbourne, Florida, which had grown under his ministry from thirteen members to over a thousand members, in five years. Pastor **Schaffer** founded the Brevard Christian School in Melbourne, having kindergarten through ninth grade, and also founded the Florida Children's Home, located in Melbourne, Florida, giving a Christian home to many needy and unwanted boys and girls.

Under the leadership of Pastor **Schaffer**, the Temple Heights Baptist Church has grown to be the largest Sunday School in Hillsborough County, and the fifth largest Baptist church in the State of Florida. Large additions have been built to Temple Heights Christian School, enabling the school to accept 1,400 students for the 1972-73 school term. The present church auditorium, designed by **Rev. Schaffer**, is the largest church auditorium on the west coast of Florida, seating more than 2,000 people.

Pastor **Schaffer** led the membership of Temple Heights Baptist Church to purchase forty-two acres in Sumter County, near the Croom-a-coochie State Game Reserve, on which has been located Temple Heights Hope Haven for the rehabilitation of alcoholics, a Boys' Ranch for wayward boys, and a summer camp grounds for use by the Temple Heights youth program.

Faith Children's Home, headquartered in Tampa, under the direction of Reverend **Schaffer**, has completed plans for the construction of two units and housing facilities for its staff. The Children's Home will provide Christian surroundings and education for many children who would otherwise have no homelife whatsoever.

mies, Tiny, Tillye and Uncle Cy, he has captured the hearts of the children everywhere. Along with these special features he will also be showing many Christian films and travel pictures that will interest the children.

GREAT capacity crowds have attended each of **Rev. Wellington's** crusades across the country. In a recent meeting in Palm Beach, over 500 children attended each of the nightly services. **Rev. Wellington** uses musical glasses, triple octave chimes, a musical saw and

Pastor Observes 2nd Year

WEST MELBOURNE — Sunday, Feb. 6 will mark the second anniversary for the **Rev. Ronald Schaffer** as pastor of Bethany Baptist Church, 2840 Dorchester Ave.

During the time that the **Rev. Schaffer** has been at the church the membership has grown from 13 to over 300. An educational build-

REV. SCHAFFER . . . Sees progress

ing and auditorium have been built and ground will soon be broken for a two story educational building. Bethany Baptist Church is also the home of South Brevard Christian kindergarten.

Year Day

< > 4 of 9 matches

Clip

Christian Day School Set For Fall

WEST MELBOURNE — West Melbourne can boast its first Private school with the opening in September of the South Brevard Christian Day Schools at 2840 Dorchester Ave.

Registrations are being accepted now for kindergarten which will open its doors to four and five year olds Sept. 8. A limited number will be accepted for enrollment, according to school director, the **Rev. Ronald L. Schaffer**.

THE SOUTH Brevard

Christian Day Schools proposed plan of progress includes expansion from kindergarten to first and second grades in September of 1965 and through the sixth grade by September of 1966.

Board of directors for the new school includes the **Rev. Mr. Schaffer**, pastor of the Bethany Baptist Church of West Melbourne; Mrs. **Schaffer** kindergarten instructor; Gene Price, associate pastor of the Bethany Baptist Church; Mrs. Price,

kindergarten teacher; and Kelly George, mayor of West Melbourne.

"We are offering South Brevard the very best for their children," said the **Rev. Mr. Schaffer**, adding that kindergarten is not just a play school, but a center of instruction where a child is always learning and developing. Through group living, stories and conversation, music experiences, learning good health habits, relaxation and both indoor

and outdoor supervised group play, "The prime kindergarten objectives of spiritual, physical, social, mental and emotional growth are achieved."

The **Rev. Mr. Schaffer** said "At South Brevard Christian Day Schools the Bible is not just an ordinary book; it's the favorite textbook.

The school already boasts beautiful new buildings, but a separate structure is now nearly completed to fulfill the needs of the kindergarten starting in September.

Bethany Baptist: Family Church

MELBOURNE — When **Ronald L. Schaffer** was called to pastor the Bethany Baptist Church in 1964 there were 13 active members and the average offering was \$43 a week. Four years later, on the pastor's fourth anniversary, Feb. 4, 1968, there were 1,071 present at the morning worship service.



Rev. Ronald L. Schaffer

Bethany Baptist Church is an independent Bible believing Baptist church. It has become known as the "Family Church." They have a Teens for Christ program set up to reach the teenagers of today. Brevard Christian Schools is a private school set up to give children the best Christian education possible. The church also runs 13 buses throughout Brevard County, bringing in over 300 people every Sunday morning. Their radio program "Truth for Today" is presented Monday through Thursday and on Saturday at 6:25 p.m. The Bethany Baptist Church program is also heard on the radio every Sunday at 7:45 a.m. Two records have been cut by the growing church "Be-

side Still Waters" and "The Wonder of it All."

The church is in the process of building an outdoor amphitheater which will be used to hold revival meetings, Gospel quartets, singspi-

"The Wonder of it All."

The church is in the process of building an outdoor amphitheater which will be used to hold revival meetings, Gospel quartets, singspirations, Bible conferences, special meetings, mission rallies and Sunday night services as weather permits. This summer an orphanage will be started on part of the 35 acres of land owned by the church. The church supports 45 missionaries and mission projects.

Schaffer gets doctorate

Rev. Ronald L. Schaffer, pastor of Temple Heights Baptist Church, 8406 46th St., was honored with a doctorate degree from Hyles-Anderson College, Hammond, Ind., at the commencement exercises of the college.

Schaffer is a graduate of Baptist Bible College, Springfield, Mo., and founder of the Temple Heights Christian College, which begins classes in September this year at the Faith City location east of Tampa at Interstate-4 and State Road 579.

Dr. Jack Hyles, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Hammond and founder of Hyles-Anderson College, commended **Schaffer** for his efforts in building the Temple Heights Baptist Church to become the 74th largest Sunday school in the nation, and for the establishment of the Faith City concept.

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T. Heights Baptist marks 16th year

The Rev. Ronald L. Schaffer pastor of the Temple Heights Baptist Church, announces that Dr. Bill Dowell Sr., executive vice-president of the Baptist Bible College, Springfield, Mo., will be guest preacher tomorrow at which time the church will celebrate its 16th anniversary.

Founded 16 years ago by Dr. V. C. "Cotton" Nelms, at the Temple Crest Civic Center, with 14 people in attendance at the first service, the Temple Heights church has grown to include the largest Sunday school on the West Coast of Florida which is 74th in the nation in size. Also, radio and television ministries covering the state, orphanages, an alcoholic rehabilitation center, a boy's ranch, Spanish ministry and Christian school facilities with an

Coast of Florida which is 74th in the nation in size. Also, radio and television ministries covering the state, orphanages, an alcoholic rehabilitation center, a boy's ranch, Spanish ministry and Christian school facilities with an enrollment of 1,400 students.

Everyone attending Sunday school tomorrow will receive a church anniversary folder which will contain the four-color Faith City book, and the 16th anniversary memory book.

VS:
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**WHY
NOT
VISIT
US
THIS
UNDAY?**

Dr Ronald Lee Schaffer VVeteran

Birth 8 Aug 1937 Kansas City, Wyandotte County, Kansas, USA

Death 19 Sep 2014 (aged 77) Ocilla, Irwin County, Georgia, USA

Burial Burial Details Unknown

In Memory of ...

Dr. Ronald Lee Schaffer

Dr. Ronald L. Schaffer, 77, of Ocilla, died Friday, September 19, 2014 at his residence.

Funeral services will be held 3:00 P.M. Friday at Waterloo Baptist Church. The family will receive friends from 1:00 - 2:30 before the service on Friday.

Dr. Schaffer is survived by his wife Martha Ann Raines Schaffer of Ocilla; three sons and daughters-in-law, Danny and Mary Schaffer of Ocilla, Jesse and Teresa Schaffer of Tampa, FL, and Al and Alice Schaffer of Land-O-Lakes, FL; one daughter and son-in-law Rebecca and Robert Rexroth of Indiana; one brother and sister-in-law Larry and Carol Schaffer of Jacksonville, FL; eight grandchildren Summer and Will Holt, Erika Lee, Paige and Thomas Klingel, Emma Schaffer, Mallory Schaffer and Allie Schaffer, Ashlee Rexroth and Austin Rexroth; and seven great-grandchildren Dacee, Hailee, Willow, Scout Alyandra, Aivan and Finn.

Dr. Schaffer was born on August 8, 1937, in Kansas City, Kansas to the late Roland D. Schaffer and Ethel Eckhoff Schaffer Rivers and was raised in Jacksonville, FL.

He was a veteran of the United States Navy, serving during the Korean Conflict. Shortly after his discharge from the service he married his wife of 57 years, Martha Ann Raines.

Dr. Schaffer earned his Doctorate of Philosophy degree at Louisiana Baptist University, originally called Baptist Christian University in Shreveport, LA.

Along with his many years of ministry Dr. Schaffer and his wife founded Hope Children's Home in Tampa, FL.

Dr. Schaffer's family and his ministry were always the focus of his life.

Albritton Funeral Directors is in charge of arrangements.

Family Members

Parents

Roland Doyle Schaffer 1903–1964

Ethel M. Eckhoff Schaffer-Rivers 1914–2012

Spouse

Martha Ann Raines Schaffer 1939–2016