

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.

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Smith, A. W. served as pastor of Concord Baptist Church, 1918-1919, Macedonia Baptist Church, Lee and Lamont Baptist Church (aka Olive Branch).

HISTORY OF LAMONT BAPTIST CHURCH LAMONT, FLORIDA

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The Olive Branch Baptist Church was organized in May of 1897 with seivces being held once a month. It continued under the name of the Olive Branch Baptist Church until October 3, 1908. The name was then changed to Lamont Baptist Church. The church through the years has had the following pastors: J. F. Farnell, Stephen Crockett, J. E. Evans, W. Frank Moore, A. N. Woodward, C. E. Glover, D. F. Barney, **A. W. Smith**, J. M. Cannon, J. P. McCan, S. L. Loudermilk, A. W. Rowe, L. W. Branch, Brother Gardner, Brother Axion, Brother Persons, L. N. Catlege, A. W. Rowe, W. L. Raneu, W. C. Taylor, R. C. Rittenhouse, Lewis Dobson, R. C. Hines, W. L. Robbins, E. A. Sapp, V. L. Ward, Durward Kilpatrick, E. A. Sapp, Dewitt Rehberg, Colburn Hobbs, and Verner Wheeler, who serves at the present time. It has been and continues to be a member of the Middle Florida Baptist Association, the Florida Baptist Convention, and Southern Baptist Convention. The following have served as the church's Clerks: W. H. Walker, G. F. Andrews, T. P. Williams, David Walker (who served for 50 years), and Mrs. Ada Bell Davis who serves at the present time.

The church voted to move to a half-time program while Rev. R. C. Rittenhouse was pastor in July 1917. They tried on one occasion to move to a full-time program but it was not successful and remained a half-time church until July 6, 1975, with Rev. Verner Wheeler as the pastor.

The church has the following orgnaizations: Sunday School, Church Training, W. M. U., Brotherhood and Music Ministry.

On March 3, 1976, the church voted to build a pastorium. A Building Fund was started for the project and a Building Committee was appointed for this purpose. In July of 1976, the church voted to accept one acre of land on Old Saint Augustine Road donated by the children of Uncle Bud and Aunt Sallie Timmons. This land was to be used for the pastorium site. On February 20, 1977, the ground was broken for the pastorium. The three oldest members of our church, Brother David Walker, Mrs. D. W. Shealy, Sr., an Brother Elijah Denmark, with Mrs. Mamie Capps (a daughter of Uncle Bud and Aunt Sallie Timmons) breaking the ground. A beautiful and spacious three bedroom house was finished in November of 1977. This was the biggest undertaking in the history of the church. Many people donated free labor and made monetary donations to the building of the pastorium for which we are grateful.

Since moving to the full-time program, our church has experienced spiritual, numerical and stewardship growth. In March of 1978, John R. Field was licensed to preach. He was the first person in our church's history to be licensed. In September, 1978, Harold Reams also felt the call of our Lord to preach and our church licensed him to the Gospel Ministry.

In 1979, we felt the need of a Constitution and By-Laws. Upon recommendation from the Deacons, the Church Council wrote the Constitution

Appendix to the History of Concord Church

Concord Pastors, 1841-Present

John Broome and Alex Moseley, organizing elders, June 20, 1841. They returned to nurture the congregation a number of times in the early days.

J. W. P. McCall, 1842-1843
Richard Johnson Mays, 1843-1846
J. W. P. McCall, 1847-1850
J. Houston, 1850-1852
H. Z. Ardis, 1852-1854
I. T. Houston, 1854-1860
S. C. Craft, 1855-1857
R. J. Mays, 1857-1860
W. H. Goldwire, 1860-1868
D. R. Milton, 1870-1872
W. M. Bryant, 1872-1884
J. S. Wharton, 1884-1885
J. E. Powell, 1885-1888
W. B. Bennett, 1888-1891
J. F. Reeves, 1891-1892
W. B. Bennett, 1892-1896
J. P. McCann, 1896-1897
W. B. Bennett, 1897-part year
Geo. M. Moore, 1897-1899
L. A. Cooper, 1899-part year
Stephen Crockett, 1899-1903
E. Trice, 1903-part year
J. D. Evans, 1903-part year
A. J. Taylor, 1907-1909
W. M. Tidd, 1909-1912
W. J. Chisholm, 1912-1915
F. Jerry Smith, 1915-1918
A. W. Smith, 1918-1919
Dr. Anderson, 1919-1920
W. T. Gaulden, 1920-1922
J. M. Conner, 1922-1 year
E. L. Todd, 1923-1926
Ben F. Rooks, 1928-1930
H. H. Parrish, 1930-1936

Macedonia, Lee (Middle Florida)

completed that year and was dedicated on Sunday, October 21, 1876. The Sunday School rooms of the present Church is the building, which stood at that time, between the present building and the highway.

The new part of the main sanctuary of the present building was constructed in 1927 and 1928 and dedicated on January 26, 1930. This building was made possible through the benevolence of the late W.C. Wells of Madison, whose memory will always be cherished. The Williams Family and E. E. West donated the land for the Church and cemetery. Later, Mrs. C. M. Ragans gave two acres. The pastorium now occupies part of that land. The pastorium consists of seven rooms and was dedicated April 4, 1954. It was constructed during the pastorate of Rev. P.O. Elrod.

As previously stated, Brother H. M. Frier was the first Pastor. He served Macedonia faithfully for more than 20 years. Brother Frier also served as Moderator of the Florida Association for seven years and was a Charter Member of three different churches. (Redland Baptist Church in Lowndes County, GA., Pine Grove (Piney) Baptist Church and Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, both churches are in Madison County.)

Other Pastors include:

T. P. Webb	A. M. Parker	A. L. Croy
F. M. Wells	A. N. Woodard	C. W. Crim
O. J. Revels	A. H. Townsend	E. L. Gurr
John Farnell	J. A. Nichols	A. C. McLain
J. L. Rutherford	Ed. McCullum	R. A. Kelly
S. S. Proctor	R. L. Williams	R. B. Reynolds
R. L. Hacker	M. T. Fowler	Lamar Harris
I. R. Clements	E. A. Milton	Travis English
J. J. Simmons	Ben Perry	Dozier Sapp
S. A. Cross	P. G. Elrod	Ray Etherton
M. T. Fowler	DeWitt Cox	Charles Clemons
S. G. Ward	L. F. Lafferty	Glenn Luttrell
A. R. Powell	Ralph Beasley	Michael Turner
A. W. Smith	John Hutcherson	David Johns

Some 42 Pastors have faithfully served the Macedonians. In January 2006, after a few months of supply. David Johns arrived from Clewiston, Fl as the 43rd Pastor, and is currently serving.