

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, H. Talmadge (1931-1999) was born in Montgomery, Alabama. He graduated from Howard College and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Smith served as pastor of churches in Alabama and Florida including Cinco Bayou Baptist Church, Fort Walton 1960-1982; Gold Coast Baptist Church, Palm Beach, 1982-1988 and Perdido Bay Baptist Church, Pensacola. He and his wife, Johnnie Ann Miller Smith had two children.

Rev. Smith Honored By Cinco Members

On April 17, the Rev. H. Talmadge Smith celebrated his ninth anniversary as pastor of Cinco Bayou Baptist Church.

Rev. Smith was born in Montgomery, Ala., and attended Howard College in Birmingham where he received his BA degree. He received his Bachelor of Divinity degree from Southwestern Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

The popular and well known minister is married to the former Johnnie Ann Miller of Mobile. The Smith's have two children Talmadge Jr., 11, and Kathi 8. They reside at 245 Pleasant Drive NW.

Under Rev. Smith's pastorate Cinco Baptist Church has expanded its church membership from 347 in 1960 to the present membership of 1229. The church formed a mission which is now a church in its own right, Shalimar Baptist Church.

The church facility has also grown during the past nine years. During this time the present sanctuary was built and the old auditorium has been remodeled into an educational and fellowship area. The church has purchased four adjoining tracts of land and is in the process of planning a new educational facility.

Members of the church honored Rev. Smith Wednesday evening with a special get-together in observance of his anniversary.

First Baptist Unit

Henry Talmadge Smith

Birth

28 Jul 1931

Montgomery, Montgomery County, Alabama, USA

Death

30 Jan 1999 (aged 67)

Pensacola, Escambia County, Florida, USA

Burial

Bayview Memorial Park

Pensacola, Escambia County, Florida

https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/184443034/henry_talmadge-smith

Cinco Recognizes **Smith** For 15 Years Service



Rev. H. **Talmadge Smith**

Rev. H. Talmadge Smith will be recognized by Cinco Baptist church on Sunday for 15 years of service.

Rev. Smith came to the pastorate of the church on Easter Sunday in 1960 along with his wife, **Johanna** and his son, **Tal**. The **Smiths'** daughter was born the following August.

The membership of the Cinco Church at that time was 347. There was a small concrete block sanctuary and an educational building. During the last 15 years, the membership has grown to 1,449 and the buildings and property holdings have grown to about \$750,000.

According to one of his church

members, he is a sincere evangelist in the pulpit and a comforting and intelligent counselor. His in-depth knowledge of the original Hebrew and Greek scriptures makes him a very adept teacher of the Bible, she said.

A special recognition and appreciation service in honor of **Rev. Smith** and his family will be held Sunday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. and the public is cordially invited to attend. The service will be conducted in the main auditorium with **Danny Adkinson** as master of ceremonies, and **James Ponder** of the Florida Baptist Convention's Department of Evangelism will be the guest speaker.

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The **Rev. H. Talmadge Smith** preached his first sermon on his fifteenth birthday. Since this sermon he has pastored churches throughout the south and was ordained in 1950.

One of the most memorable events in his ministerial career is that of conducting the funeral service of Hank Williams. Over 20,000 people attended the funeral of the country music star who had been a friend of the minister.

The **Rev. Mr. Smith** graduated from the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Tex., with a master's degree in theology. He has a B. A. degree from Sanford University.

The **Rev. Mr. Smith** is pastor of the Cinco Baptist Church on Yacht Club Dr. This congregation is associated with the Florida Baptist State Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention.

At the recent state meeting of the Florida Baptist Convention in Pensacola, the **Rev. Mr. Smith** made a motion that brought about an hour and a half of debate before it was finally passed.

Since this meeting much publicity and attention has been given to the new regulation: that of withdrawing any Baptist funds from church supported schools when the school accepts federal aid.

This motion was the result of Stetson University's acceptance of an \$800,000 federal grant. Stetson, a Baptist supported school, had accepted this money to build two new buildings.

Church. The meeting held in the auditorium of the Mary Esther School. The public may hear the physician

Ministerial Meet Tuesday

The monthly meeting of the Ministerial Association will be held Tuesday, Feb. 14, at the Bradford Hotel. Ministers are invited to this breakfast meeting. **B. Atkinson**, minister of the First Methodist Church, Walton Beach is president of the association.

Installation Set

The newly arrived **the Shalimar Church**

Playground Daily News

Fri, Feb 10, 1967 ·Page 12

"We Baptists have always said that we believe in complete separation of church and state," the Rev. Mr. Smith said, "Acceptance of federal support in our schools violates this principle."

The minister feels that the church schools cannot compete with tax supported state schools. The denominational school must of financial necessity charge tuition. However, the minister does not feel that state or federal funds should be used to relieve the financial burdens of the school.

"It is not fair," he said, "to tax a Roman Catholic to support a Baptist School, and vice versa."

It is this principle of separation rather than fear of governmental restrictions that led the minister to make the motion at the Pensacola meeting.

The two grants given Stetson had only two stipulations: that there be no discrimination because of a student's color, race or creed and that religion not be taught in either of the two buildings built with the funds.

As the ruling now stands, the Florida Baptist Convention will withdraw funds from any institution that accepts federal or state funds in the future. Because Stetson had already accepted the federal grants, the convention voted that the Baptist funds will continue, as long as Stetson accepts no more governmental aid.

Even with the funds from the Baptist Convention and tuitions from students, the colleges are in a financial strain to meet the growing needs of faculty and students.

"I am not an enemy of Baptist schools," the Rev. Mr. Smith said, "I know it is terrifically hard to operate now, especially in the light of competing with state supported schools."

schools."

"The future of the denominational college probably will include a return to the original purpose of the church school: that of training men for the ministry," he said.

The Rev. Mr. Smith feels that finances make it impossible for a denominational school to compete with a state school in math, science, and other specialized fields which require the hiring of top-salaried educators.

However, for students majoring in music, art, law, or other liberal arts subjects, the small denominational school can offer personalized attention that is lacking at the larger state supported schools. In the denominational school a student is given enough personal attention to create a one-ness with the school. In the larger state schools, mass technical education replaces this attention.

"We are in the beginning of a pilot program at the University of Southern Florida," the minister said, "and it may provide a solution to our problem."

The Baptist convention has set up a chair of Bible near the University campus. This provides easy access to students who wish to take Bible courses along with top-rated academic courses at the state supported school.

In the future, a student who wishes to major in Bible with an eye to the ministry may be a graduate of one of the state supported colleges and have received his theological training at a nearby Bible chair supported by a denomination.

"I am opposed to the encroachment of the church in government and of the government of the church," the minister said, "when the government interferes in church practices, the church becomes a political, not a spiritual church."

In his view, Baptist supported institutions that accept government aid violate the Baptist principle of complete separation of church and state, and thereby violate their nature as Baptist organs.

Smith Family Grateful For Son's Recovery

By Judy Regan

"We are so grateful." These simple words were used Monday by the Rev. H. Talmadge Smith as he told the Playground Daily News about his son's awaking after being in a coma for three months.

H. Talmadge Smith Jr., was at spring football practice at Fort Walton Beach High March 19 when he complained of dizziness and reportedly fell to the ground, got up and then collapsed again. He was taken to the local hospital and then to the Baptist Hospital in Pensacola where he underwent an operation to remove a blood clot at the base of his brain.

Young Smith remained in a coma until June 19 when he spoke his first words in three months.

His father said the boy, whose 13th birthday was April 23, is able to work math problems, has his memory and has apparently suffered no brain damage.

"Tal has many months of work ahead of him in both speech and physical therapy, but the worst is over and we are grateful to have our son on the road to recovery," said the popular preacher.

"The doctors had almost given up hope of his recovery without some damage if at all. It was a helpless feeling for me as

a parent— seeing my son lie there and not being able to do anything except pray that God would let him come back and be with us.

"My wife and I have remained with our son both together and alternating during the last three months. We have now, at the suggestion of the doctor, given up our room at the hospital motel and will be visiting Tal every other day.

"It has been a long trying period for our family. I would say it is the biggest test of faith I have ever faced in my life. We reached a near breaking point as we were told nothing more could be done for our son medically and that it was possible he would not ever wake up from



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could be done for our son medically and that it was possible he would not ever wake up from the coma. Only our beliefs as Christians and the prayers of our many friends in the Fort Walton Beach area— just knowing the concern was so great— made it possible for us to bear this burden."

According to medical officers young Smith suffered a subdural hematoma which is a blood clot under the dura—the sack which incases the brain.

Young Smith has lost approximately 50 to 60 pounds during the three month period, but is starting to eat strained foods and is expected to advance soon in this area.

"My son is easily frustrated in his desire to communicate completely and his inability to do so at this time without further therapy. The doctor has recommended the number of visitors be limited until Tal can express himself better and is physically able to move about," said Rev. Smith.

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The Smith family has requested that persons wanting to send cards address them as follows: Tal Smith, Room 1220, Speciality Care Center, Baptist Hospital, Pensacola.

"I only wish I could find the right words to express the way I and my family feel about Fort Walton Beach. Each hour of these last three months has proven to me that this area is filled with persons willing to give of themselves to ease the burdens of others. We are so grateful," The Cinco Baptist minister commented.

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**REV. HENRY TALMADGE
SMITH**

Rev. Henry Talmadge Smith, 67, of Pensacola, died January 30, 1999 in a local hospital.

He was a Southern Baptist Pastor in Florida, Alabama and Texas for 50 years. He was pastor of Cinco Baptist Church in Fort Walton Beach for 22 years. Since his retirement, he has served as Interim Pastor in several churches in Northwest Florida as a Chaplain for Marketplace Ministries. He is preceded in death by his brother, William D. Smith Jr.

He is survived by his wife, Johnnie M. Smith; son, Tal Smith Jr.; daughter and son-in-law, Robert and Kathi Hill; sister, Martha L. Wright; sister-in-law, Jane Smith; sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Dr. Donald R. and Arvo Jo South; grandson, John Robert Hill and numerous other relatives and friends.

A memorial service will be held 7:00 P.M. Thursday, February 4, 1999 at Brownsville Baptist Church.

The family will receive friends at the church from 5:00 P.M. until 7:00 P.M. Thursday.

April 14, 1960

This, That and the Other

SMITH BEGINS PASTORATE AT FORT WALTON BEACH



H. Talmadge Smith, for the past two years pastor of Westview Church, Opp, Ala., has accepted a call to Cinco Church, Ft. Walton Beach, effective April 17.

A native of Montgomery, Ala., Smith is a graduate of Howard College, Birmingham, Ala. and of Southwestern Seminary. Before going to Opp, he was associate pastor of Oakdale Church, Mobile, Ala.

Mrs. Smith is a native of Mobile. They have one son, Tal, Jr.

BARTON SHORES, ORLANDO CALLS BAUGHMAN PASTOR

W. Cecil Baughman has accepted a call as pastor of Barton Shores Church, Orlando, effective May 8.

Baughman has been pastor of Sorrento Church, Sorrento for the past three years, during which time the church purchased a new building site and adopted plans for a new church plant.

W. L. SPEARS, MINISTER, DIES IN BRADENTON

On April 1 W. L. Spears, 80, died suddenly of a heart attack at his home in Bradenton, where he had lived since retiring from the active ministry 15 years ago.

During 40 years of active pastorate, he served churches in Florida, Georgia and Alabama.

Spears is survived by his wife; a daughter, Mrs. Bob Storr of Bradenton; two sons, Rev. Julius H. Spears of Chatham, Va. and Buford L. Spears of Houston, Texas.

Frink Church, near Clarksville, will observe Homecoming Day on May 1 with a roll call of all members. Wayne D. Bryan, professor at Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville, will be guest speaker.

Dinner will be served at noon, followed by a song service. Otha L. Martin is pastor.

CARMICHAEL ORDAINED TO MINISTRY AT LIVE OAK

Billy Carmichael, a student at Norman Junior College, was ordained to the Gospel ministry on April 10 by First Church, Live Oak.

On April 2 Carmichael was examined by six ministers, who unanimously recommended his ordination.

Participating in the ordination were: Charge to Candidate, J. M. Sullivan, Live Oak; Charge to the Church, C. M. Gresham, Norman Park, Ga.; Presentation of Bible, Rees Mills, chairman of deacons; and Ordination Sermon, Cornelius Davis, pastor of First Church, Live Oak.

Carmichael was recently called as pastor of Salem Church, near Tifton, Ga.

REVIVAL REPORTS

During a week of revival services at Southside Church, Apopka, there were 16 additions (14 by baptism), one volunteered for mission services, and one surrendered to the ministry, according to Pastor Bob Scurlock. Bob Crowe, pastor of Northside, Miami, was evangelist and Ralph Smith was song leader.

There were 74 additions (46 by baptism) to North Jacksonville Church, Jacksonville during revival services March 27-April 3 with Billy Walker preaching and Leroy Summers singing. Pastor R. Wilbur Herring reports record attendances in Sunday school and Training Union on April 3.

George Palmer, senior at Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville, was evangelist in revival services, at Napier Field Church, Dothan, Ala., where Steve McKinley, a graduate of Baptist Bible Institute, is pastor. There were 15 additions (ten by baptism).

Robert G. Witty of Central Church, Jacksonville led in revival services March 20-27 at First Church, Hialeah, R. Perry Tomlinson, pastor. Music was under the leadership of Gratten E. Tomlinson, minister of music at Hialeah.

Mt. Piagah Church, McAlpin will observe Homecoming on April 17. Former members, pastors and friends are invited to attend the services and basket dinner at noon. W. C. Hall is pastor.

Thos. V. McCaul, pastor emeritus of First Church, Gainesville, preached in revival services March 20-27 at First Church, Cross City, Richard Gardner, pastor.

"What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us."

CARVER SCHOOL ALUMNI TO MEET IN MIAMI BEACH

Dr. Winston Crawley will speak to the alumni of the Carver School of Missions and Social Work in their meeting in Miami Beach on May 18. Dr. Crawley, secretary for the Orient of the Foreign Mission Board, is married to an alumna of the Carver School, the former Margaret Lawrence.

Dr. Nathan C. Brooks, Jr., Carver School president, will report on current plans of the school.

Mrs. Rice A. Pierce of Nashville is president of the Carver School Alumni Association and will preside over the Miami Beach meeting.

The annual meeting is to be a 7:15 a.m. breakfast in the Surf Room of the Shore Club Hotel. Miss Margaret McKinney, manager of the Baptist Book Store in Miami, is chairman of the committee for local arrangements. Miss McKinney is a former president of the Alumni Association.

NEW ORLEANS SEMINARY ALUMNI PLAN MEETING

The annual alumni meeting of New Orleans Seminary will be at 7 a.m., Thursday, May 19, at Hotel Seville in Miami Beach, according to Leo A. Hebert, Tallahassee, president of the Florida Alumni of the Seminary. Dr. H. Leo Eddleman, president of the Seminary, will be the principal speaker.

An attendance figure must be furnished the Hotel 48 hours prior to the meeting. Those expecting to be present should send for tickets immediately. Order tickets at \$2.00 each from the Office of Public Relations, 3939 Gentilly Blvd., New Orleans 26, La.

MARTINEZ MUSIC DIRECTOR AT TALLAHASSEE CHURCH

Harry Martinez, music major at Florida State University, is the new music director at University Heights Church, Tallahassee, Charles L. Phipps, pastor.

A concert pianist and cadet director of the Army ROTC band at FSU, Martinez succeeds Ervin Gatlin, who was music director for five years.

MRS. J. T. WILLIAMS, MISSIONARY TO CHINA, DIES

Mrs. Laurie Smith Williams, 74, emeritus Southern Baptist foreign missionary, died Friday afternoon, April 1. Funeral services and burial were held Tuesday morning, April 5, in Lakeland, Fla., where she and her husband, Dr. J. T. Williams, were making their home.

Mrs. Williams did educational and evangelistic work in China for 39 years before her retirement

Jewish Evangelism Clinic

More than 500 persons were in attendance at the annual Jewish Evangelism Clinic sponsored by the Miami Baptist Association. This clinic, held at Central Baptist Church on March 22, began with a dinner meeting at which J. Ray Dobbins, Supt. of Missions, urged those in attendance to make use of every available opportunity for winning the more than 100,000 Jews of Miami to Christ.

During the conferences, which followed the dinner, specific ways of using the organizations of the church in Jewish evangelism were pointed out by various associational leaders. Also serving as conference leaders were Mr. and Mrs. William B. Mitchell of the Department of Jewish Evangelism, Baptist Home Mission Board. At the conclusion of the conferences, Mitchell pointed out the fact that the Convention is looking to Miami to set the pace in winning the 5,500,000 Jews of America and indicated some of the ways this may be done.

The Clinic was brought to a close by Don Brandeis, a converted Jew and outstanding young Baptist evangelist whose headquarters are in the First Baptist Church, Tallahassee. His message was preceded by a solo by Mrs. Max Cohn, whose husband is also a Hebrew Christian and pastor of the Emmanuel Baptist Church, Miami. Morris Elliott, Director of Jewish Work for the Association, was responsible for the Clinic, which was planned under the direction of the Associational Jewish Committee, John Buell, chairman.

in 1952. During this time she taught in various Baptist schools and directed a kindergarten. She was also acting director of a school for the blind.

A native of Ivey, Ga., she attended Georgia State College for Women, Milledgeville, the University of Louisville (Ky.), the University of Georgia, Athens, and received the bachelor of arts degree from Howard College, Birmingham, Ala. She did further study at Woman's Missionary Union Training School (now Carver School of Missions and Social Work), Louisville, and the University of Alabama.

Before her appointment by the Foreign Mission Board in 1913 Mrs. Williams was a teacher in the Georgia public schools and principal of a Baptist school for Spanish-speaking people in Tampa, Fla.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by three children.

Black Mountain, N. C. big country style, 6 bedroom, sleep 15 to 20, 2 bath, cooking facilities. Furnished except towels. \$7.00 per person per conference. Reservations taken now. 1920 S. W. 27 Ave., Miami, Fla.

Pensacola.

Funeral services will be held at 1 P.M. Thursday at Harper Morris Chapel with the Rev. H. Talmadge Smith, Interim Pastor of Brownsville Baptist Church, officiating. Family and friends may call 5 to 7 P.M. Wednesday.

Belonging will be Mrs. Elenna

MARY FRANCES GLENN

Age 57, of 3711 Pinewood Ave, WPB died on Sunday, October 21, 1984. She was a member of the Gold Coast Baptist Church. She is survived by her husband, William W. of WPB; her mother, Clara B. Sloan; sister-in-law, Patrice Sloan & nephews, Kenneth Sloan & Don Sloan all of West Palm Beach. Funeral services will be held at 2PM on Wednesday, October 24th in the NORTHWOOD FUNERAL HOME CHAPEL with Rev. H. Talmadge Smith, Pastor of the Gold Coast Baptist Church, officiating. Committal Services & burial will follow in Hillcrest Memorial Park. Friends may call at the Northwood Funeral Home from 7-9PM today (Tuesday).

Rev. H. Talmadge Smith

HOUSE OF WORSHIP: Perdido Bay Baptist Church, 12600 Sorrento Rd.; about 100 members.

PERSONAL: Married to wife Johnnie for 37 years; son Tal and daughter Kathi.

CAREER CHOICE: "I preached my first sermon at age 15. When I was 14, I knew I'd be a minister."

EDUCATION: Bachelor's degree from Samford University, Birmingham, Ala., 1953; master's degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, 1960.

CAREER: Served as Pastor at Cinco Baptist Church, Fort Walton Beach, 1960 to 1982; Gold Coast Baptist Church, West Palm Beach, 1982 to 1988; Daphne Baptist Church, Daphne, Ala., 1989; evangelist and bible teaching before being called to serve Perdido Bay Baptist Church in August, first as interim pastor and recently selected as pastor.

OUTSIDE INTERESTS: Woodworking. "My goal is to get up to the furniture stage. I've fallen in love with wood. I'm making desks, revolving book cases and odds and ends around the house."

MOST SATISFYING: "The actual preaching experience."

MOST DIFFICULT: "I don't like paper-pushing. I'm a people person, not a paper person. But, like a lot of people say, 'No job's done until the paper-work's done.'"

GOAL: "Doing the best I can to reach the most people with the gospel."