

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, William R. graduated from East Tennessee State University, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and Union Theological Seminary in Richmond. He served as pastor of churches in Georgia, Virginia and Florida including Terry Parker Baptist Church in Jacksonville 1980-1982.



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directors. Those who have done good work with this assignment include Chuck Brannon, Dick Logsdon, Ron Bostic, Jim Touchton, Scott Conner, Robert Garrett, and Mrs. Beverly Zipperer.

Interim Pastors who have made a special contribution to the ministry of Terry Parker Baptist Church include: **Dr. Edgar R. Cooper**, Editor of the **Florida Baptist Witness**, who served the church twice as interim pastor. First, following the resignation of Rev. J. W. Oppert and again following the resignation of Rev. Will Carter. **Dr. Malcom Knight**, long-time pastor of Southside Baptist Church in Jacksonville, also served the church twice as interim pastor, first, prior to the arrival of Dr. William R. Smith and again prior to the arrival of Rev. Eugene Force, our present pastor. **Dr. W. G. Stracener**, former editor of the **Florida Baptist Witness**, served in this role following the resignation of Rev. Joe Courson.

Dr. William R. Smith . . . was enthusiastically welcomed in August, 1980 as the fourth pastor in the first quarter century of the church's existence. Dr. Smith had previously served the Chamberlayne Baptist Church in Richmond, Virginia for ten years. In that city and state he was an active and involved pastor and leader.



The beginning months of Dr. Smith's ministry were marked by a renewal of enthusiasm and optimism for the future growth and development of the church. He was an effective communicator in the pulpit and administrator of the total church program. He was well received in the life and work of the denomination and was called on to participate in community and state convention activities.

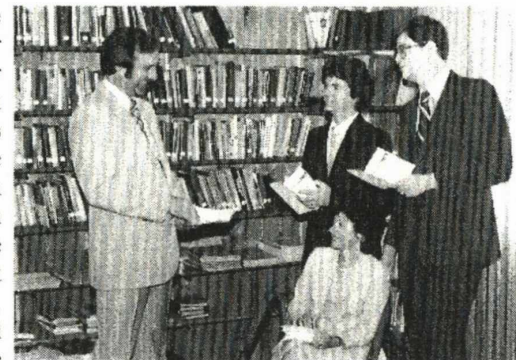
Joe Preston, who had worked with Dr. Smith as Minister of Music in Richmond, Virginia, came to serve Terry Parker in this same position in November 1980. He resigned in June, 1982, to join Dr. Smith in the First Church of South Miami, Florida.

Some of the immediate results of Dr. Smith's leadership are noted below:

- The church adopted its largest budget of \$377,714 for the church year, 1981.
- The largest Lottie Moon Offering for Foreign Missions in its history was received at Christmas time, 1980, and totaled \$9,448, exceeding the goal which had been set of \$7,080.
- The title and format of the church newsletter was changed from **The Vision to The Program of Terry Parker Church**.
- Dr. Smith announced his resignation on Sunday, November 22, 1981, to become pastor of First Baptist Church of South Miami.

A **Long Range Planning Committee** composed of Mrs. Mary Vickery, Chairman, Mr. Aaron Brown, Mrs. Bill Carmichael, Mr. Earl Dye, Mr. Jack Rice, Mrs. Frances Paysinger and Mr. Keener Pharr were given responsibility for evaluating the past program, recommending goals and strategies, programs actions and facilities needed for the future growth of the church. They made their first full report to the church in April, 1982. This committee will continue with this important assignment.

Rev. Gene Force became the fifth pastor to serve the Terry Parker Church during the first quarter century of its existence. Brother Force came from the Helena Baptist Church in Helena, Georgia. He preached his first sermon on Sunday, August 22, 1982. He and his wife, Naomi, were enthusiastically welcomed by the church following an interim of nine months when we were without a pastor. The Forces have three children, Tammy, Everett E., Jr., and Traci. Brother Force was called into the ministry late in life following a number of years service in secular work, which included working as agent and staff manager for an insurance company. He also worked for Sears Roebuck. He was converted somewhat late in life, being 27 years of age. His conversion, baptism, ordination as deacon and minister occurred at the Glyndale Baptist Church in Brunswick, Georgia.



The Helena Church was his first church following graduation from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1979. He served three other churches during college and seminary training days.

In the beginning months of Brother Force's ministry there are many evidences that God led our church to an enthusiastic, committed and dedicated pastor who is greatly concerned for a quality church program and characterized by strong evangelistic outreach into the Arlington community and to discipling and developing those who are reached and won.

The church enters its 26th year of ministry to this community with a full, complete staff which includes four vocational ministers, three office secretaries, a preschool director, and two maintenance staff workers. The vocational members who have joined the staff since Brother Force became the pastor in August, 1981, include:

Florida
Baptists
10/30/1980

Florida Features



William R. Smith



Dale P. Hawke

Terry Parker Church, Jacksonville recently called **William R. Smith** as pastor. He served Chamberlayne Church, Richmond, Va., for 10 years. Prior to that he was pastor of Morningside Church, Savannah, Ga., for three years. He is a graduate of East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, Tenn.; Southwestern Seminary; and Union Theological Seminary in Richmond.

Dale P. Hawke was called by First Church of Riverview as minister of music, effective Oct. 5. A former minister of music at Aeon Church, Tallahassee, he attended Florida State University, Tallahassee and University of South Florida, Tampa.

First Church, Ormond Beach has two new staff members: **Raymond Huckabee**, associate pastor and minister of education, and **Jerald Dunn**, minister of music and youth.

Huckabee is a native of North Carolina and a graduate of New Orleans Seminary. Dunn, who goes from West Hillsborough Church, Tampa, has also served churches in Alabama and Georgia.

Four students at Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville have been called to various positions in Florida churches: **Dennis Newton** as pastor, Round Lake Church, Marianna; **Burdette Docter** as pastor, Unity Church, Vernon; **Sue Diehl** as minister of music, West Bonifay Church, Bonifay; and **Ken McCall** as youth minister, Trinity Church, Marianna.

David L. Goins has resigned as associate pastor and minister of music of Parkview Church, Fort Pierce. He is available for interim or supply and may be contacted at 906 Sunrise Blvd., Fort Pierce, Fla. 33450, (305) 465-6101.

First Church, Sunrise called **Steven Parris** as pastor, effective Oct. 26. A graduate of Stetson University, DeLand and Southern Seminary in Louisville, he goes from First Church, Homestead, where he was minister of youth and outreach.

Cora Church, Jay spent more for missions than their total budget this year. The church's budget for 1979-80 was \$47,030; \$52,830 was given to missions. In the seven years that Pastor LaDon Hall has been at Cora, the mission gifts have totaled \$138,734.

Dan Chapman, pastor of Limestone Church, Darlington, was ordained to the gospel ministry by the church Sept. 28. John Martin, director of missions, Graves Association, officiated.

Bud Winstead resigned the pastorate of Crestview Church, Lakeland, effective Nov. 16. He is going into full-time evangelism.

Hugh Walters was called as interim pastor of Wellborn Church, Wellborn, effective Oct. 12. He was pastor there 1944-1946.

First Church, East Palatka called **Paul Norton** as part-time minister of music and youth.

Baptist Bible Institute Plans Open House

Florida Baptists are invited to attend an open house Nov. 9, from 3 to 7 p.m., on the Baptist Bible Institute campus in Graceville.

A tent will be erected adjacent to the student center and near the new McRae-Morrow Preschool Teacher/Training Center that is under construction, according to President Joseph P. DuBose Jr.

Activities will include a tour of the campus, a barbecue dinner at 4 p.m., and a musical presentation preceding the 6 p.m. worship service in the R. G. Lee Chapel with Brian Harbour, pastor of First Baptist Church, Pensacola, as speaker.

Homecomings

Philippi Church, Lake City, Nov. 1; **Hugh Walters**, guest speaker; dinner on the grounds; former pastors, members and friends invited; **E. Eugene Dykes**, pastor.

Airline Church, Mayo, Nov. 2; **Leighton Daughtry**, guest speaker; dinner on the grounds; former pastors, members and friends invited; **For Cranford**, pastor.

Beach Chapel, Port St. Joe, Nov. 2; dinner on the grounds; special music by the Bascom Quartet; former pastors, members and friends invited; **William R. Smith**, pastor.

Scrub Creek Church, Ocala, Nov. 2; **Leonard Hicks**, guest speaker; dinner on the grounds; former pastors, members and friends invited; **W. C. Lash**, pastor.

Main Street Church, Longwood, Nov. 2, 54th anniversary; dinner on the grounds; special music in the afternoon; former pastors, members and friends invited; **C. Russell Clemons**, pastor.

Stetson Church, DeLand, Nov. 3; **Hugh Hawkins**, guest speaker; dinner on the grounds; former pastors, members and friends invited; **John L. Gerson**, pastor.

O'Brien Church, O'Brien, Nov. 3; dinner on the grounds; singing in the afternoon; former pastors, members and friends invited; **Stedley Brown**, pastor.

Pisgah Church, Perry, Nov. 3; **Claude Hall**, guest speaker; dinner on the grounds; singing in the afternoon; **Douglas W. Mitchell**, pastor.

Parkview Church, Lakeland, Nov. 2, 24th anniversary; dinner on the grounds; former pastors, members and friends invited; **Paul D. Lash**, pastor.

First Church, Keystone, Nov. 2; dinner on the grounds; special music; everyone invited; **James I. Morgan**, pastor.

First Church, Wimmont, Nov. 3; **Roy Leep**, guest speaker; dinner on the grounds; special music by Mr. Leep; **Richard Hosea**, pastor.

Garden Grove First Church, Jacksonville, Nov. 9; dinner on the grounds; everyone invited; **Kenneth Frazier**, pastor.

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