

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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Snow, C. E. (also listed as J. H.) served as the first pastor of Seminole Heights Baptist Church, Tampa, 1921-1922.

FBW Jan. 5, 1939 p. 14

Pastor Seminole Heights Baptist Church,
Tampa, Florida

Seminole Heights Baptist Church was organized by Rev. J. L. Hampton, who secured a lot near his home and some property from the Home Mission Board in another part of the city. From the sale of the property and individual subscriptions, a little one-room building was erected and the church was organized on December 20, 1921, with 43 members. Only Nebraska Avenue was paved at that time.

It was a full time church from its organization. Rev. C. E. Snow, from the North, was its first regular pastor, but he only served about three months.

Rev. R. P. McPherson became pastor in the late fall of '22 and continued until June, 1927. Five small departmental rooms were built; a pastorium was bargained for and the church had just 300 members at the coming of the present pastor, Rev. A. W. Mathis, who has been here eleven years. The church has been in existence 17 years this very day, December 20. The Sunday School has been completely departmentized and runs well over 500. Two units of permanent plant have been built to care for 350 in Sunday School. The pastorium has been paid for; and done over this year. The present membership is 800. Mr. W. F. Jaudon is the Sunday School superintendent and Mr. A. E. Blount the B. T. U. director. The church gives about \$125 a month to missions. We are raising funds and developing plans for a new auditorium.

NEW EDUCATION-MUSIC DIRECTOR AT STANTON MEMORIAL CHURCH



Stanton Memorial Church, Miami has called Hal Shoemaker as music and education director. Mr. Shoemaker comes from North Carolina where he held a similar position with the Mineral Springs Church, Winston-Salem, N. C.

Northside Church, Ruskin recently ordained Haynes Wilder as a deacon. Assisting Pastor Clyde E. Hall with the program were J. Earl Tharpe, pastor of New Orleans Church, Tampa, charge to deacons; Joe Olechea, pastor of First Church, Ruskin, charge to church; B. P. Wilder, father of the candidate, the ordination prayer.

CHURCH TO CELEBRATE 32nd ANNIVERSARY

December 20, 1953 will mark the 32nd Anniversary for Seminole Heights Church of Tampa. This observance will feature: Inspiration, Fellowship, Recognition of Charter Members, Record attendances in Sunday school and Training Union, Dinner on the grounds and a special Building Fund Offering.

Seminole Heights Church was organized by J. L. Hampton, a State Missionary, on December 18, 1921 with 42 charter members. Organization was made possible by a gift of \$1,000 from the Florida State Mission Board. J. H. Snow was the first pastor. He served from Dec. 18, 1921 until Sept. 30, 1922 and was succeeded by R. P. McPherson, who led the church to become self-supporting Nov. 12, 1924.

A. W. Mathis became pastor Dec. 1, 1927, and served until Aug. 31, 1951. It was during his ministry that the beautiful sanctuary pictured here was built; other properties were also added. R. Cecil Moore, missionary to Brazil, who was home on furlough, served for three months as interim pastor during the latter part of 1951.

Thomas Dill Lide resigned his pastorate of Sans Souci Church of Greenville, S. C. to become pastor at Seminole Heights on Feb. 1, 1952.

During the past two years two additional houses and five lots have been added to the church property, and a mission building and four lots purchased. On Sept. 1, 1953 the church added Mel and Lucille Martin to its staff as minister of education and secretary. Church membership has grown to 1,431; Sunday school enrolment to 1,243; church budget is \$69,000 and property valuation has increased to \$300,000, plus the mission which is valued at \$8,500. The church sends the Baptist Witness to its entire resident membership.

More than 35 of its members have become full-time Christian

FIRST CHURCH, ST. PETERSBURG MARKS PASTOR'S 9th ANNIVERSARY

On Sunday, Dec. 6, First Church, St. Petersburg, celebrated the ninth anniversary of the pastorate of Dr. Earl B. Edington.

In reviewing the progress over the past nine years, *The Messenger*, their weekly bulletin, gave the following statistics: 2,223 new members received; average Sunday school attendance 1952-53, 1,016; total budget for 1954, \$191,993.22. During this period the church purchased property north of their auditorium and erected the first unit of an educational building at a cost of \$325,000. The lower floor of the main building has been completely remodeled. Two new churches have been started, the St. Petersburg Beach Church (new self-supporting) and Northeast Park Chapel which is still a mission of First Church.

W. A. RECTOR DIES IN CALIFORNIA

Walter A. Rector, formerly a pastor in Florida (Homosassa Church in Alachua Association), passed away Nov. 22 at the San Mateo Hospital, Palo Alto, Calif.

Rector and his wife had an accident Feb. 4, 1952 which resulted in her death. After many months of hospitalization he seemed to return to normal health, but had a heart attack on Nov. 21 and died two days later. He is survived by his three children and three brothers.

First Church, Palmetto witnessed a gracious revival recently under the preaching of Dr. Leon Latimer, pastor emeritus of First Church, Greenville, S. C. There were 21 additions to the church. Ralph E. Gwin is the pastor

FOR LOTTIE MOON OFFERING

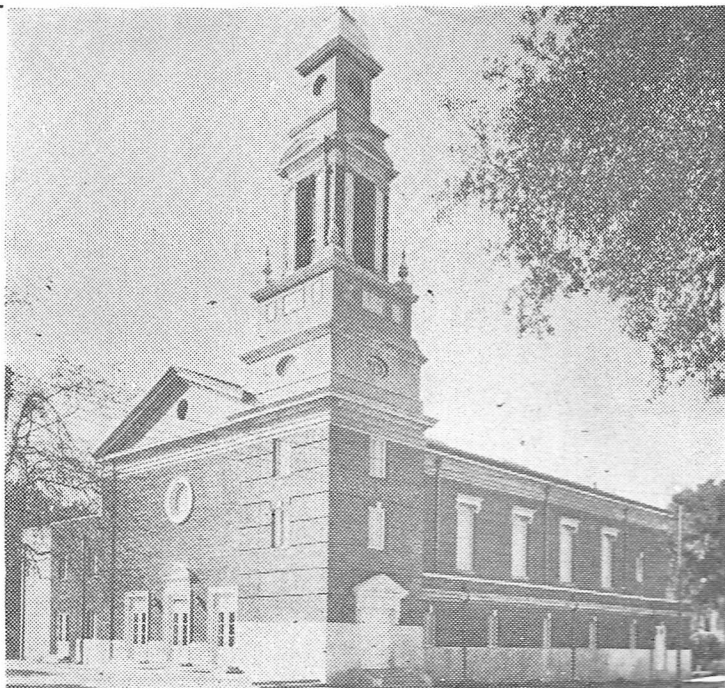
First Church, Starke voted to give \$500.00 to the Lottie Moon offering from the general fund of the church. The idea was prompted by the program presented by the W.M.U. during the regular mid-week service as a part of the Week of Prayer, a portion of which program was the play "The Other Woman." The decision followed the giving by the women of their largest Lottie Moon offering so that total gifts will be nearly \$900.00. Gifts through the Cooperative Program are also in excess of amount given during the same period last year. Lewis D. Haines is the pastor.

J. T. FANN, NEW PASTOR AT WILDWOOD CHURCH, IS ORDAINED

On Sunday Nov. 15, upon request of Wildwood Church of Bartow, Main Street Church of Bartow ordained J. T. Fann, who has been called as pastor of Wildwood Church, to the gospel ministry.

Pastor W. P. Padgett was assisted in the program by C. M. Peacock, ordination prayer; C. H. Eiland, presented the Bible; George Crowell, charge to candidate and church; and L. O. Calhoun, sermon from Isa. 6:1-8.

The Council was composed of Pastors C. H. Eiland, Leonard Branton, W. W. Dossey, J. B. Coston, G. E. Crowell, Harrison Crews, Bascom Sutton, L. O. Calhoun, Coleman E. Bassett, C. M. Peacock, Charles A. Sutton, D. D. Townsend, Austin McElroy, James L. Horne, and Deacons G. B. Colding, W. H. Lane, J. C. Blocker, J. P. Whatley, J. T. Henderson, Angus McLeod, Alonzo O'Riley, J. M. Stephens, M. V. White, E. E. Bruce, Jr., M. E. Hammond, Herman Johnson, T. J. Owens, E. J. Ellis, G. E. Roberts, G. W. Mimbs, E. C. Joyner, H. W. Walker and J. E. Harris.



workers during the 32-year history of the church, and four couples have gone out as missionaries to the foreign fields.

The Building Fund Offering will initiate the building program for the first unit of a new educational building proposed for the coming year.

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File Seminole Heights Tampa