

Florida Baptist Historical Society Biography Collection

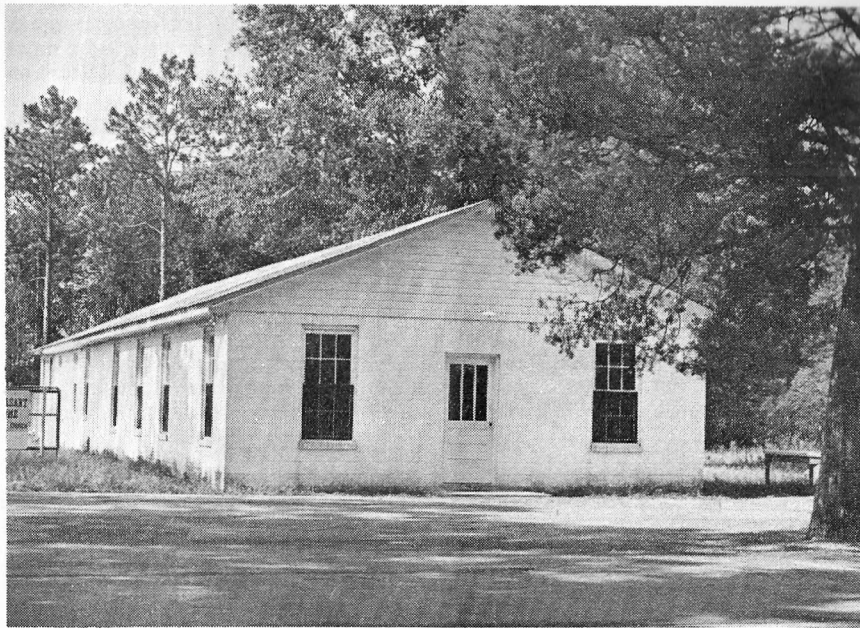
This link provides the specific resource information which documents and undergirds the biographical resource information on a specific Florida Baptist pastors, church staff or significant laity leaders.

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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Sansom, Charles B., Sr. (1931-2021) was born in Florala, Alabama. He served as a bi-vocational pastor in Northwest Florida and South Alabama, including Pleasant Home Baptist Church, Holt. Sansom and his wife, Joann had five children.

Pleasant Home, Holt



The Lord continued to bless, and two additional rooms, a nursery and a class room, were added to the rear of the building, but were incomplete at the time of Rev. Theodore Smith's resignation.

Rev. J.C. Shell was next on the field. He was a spirit filled man of God, but was soon called to other fields. His resignation came as a blow. However, Rev. C.C. Morris soon stood behind the sacred desk. Rev. Morris so full of Spiritual energy led the flock well for several years. The church was stunned when he, too, was called to broader fields. It was during his pastorate that the half-century old benches were replaced with our present pews. Also, the old lighter-knot heaters were replaced with gas heaters for each room.

History repeats itself. As the Lord calls our pastors—all dearly beloved, one by one to new or broader fields, he likewise has another prepared for Pleasant Home.

The Rev. Harvey G. Thornton, truly a man of tremendous Faith is our next Shepherd. He leads the flock well. During his leadership the church purchased an acre of land which joins the church property on the West. The old antiquated piano was also replaced with a new one. On several occasions Rev. Thornton expressed his desire for higher learning, each time with more sincerity and determination. Finally, with a glow on his face he told the church his plans for moving his family to New Orleans where he expected to enter the Baptist Theological Seminary. The church shared his happiness and recommended him to the Seminary for the Fall Semester. Faith which led Rev. Thornton there, carried him through to graduation.

Rev. Eric Arrant, a B.B.I. graduate answered the call and was our next pastor. He was spirit filled and a devoted pastor whom everyone loved. At his resignation the Lord led Rev. L.G. Stewart to the Pleasant Home Field. Rev. Stewart, strong in faith, promoted 11% instead of 10% of offerings to World Missions through the Cooperative Program. He also, initiated general clean-up to the church, the grounds and the cemetery. The establishing of authentic boundary lines to the church and cemetery property had its beginning under his pastorate. The church also observed its first Home Coming during his leader-

ship, and established it to be an annual affair on Easter Sunday of each year. He resigned because of failing health on Easter Sunday 1963. Our hearts are saddened as each of our pastors go.

For several weeks we had no pastor. However, some very sincere and spirit filled servants of God filled the pulpit. During this time God was preparing Rev. Charles B. Sansom as our pastor. Rev. Sansom, strong in spirit, and a man of great faith, was a challenge to each of us to a more complete dedicated Christian life. His success as pastor is very evident when one takes notice of the accomplishments achieved under his leadership. New pulpit furniture replaced the old, a small mobile home was purchased and moved to church property to accommodate the pastor and family on Sundays and week-ends.

Young Gregory Clements, probably the second in the entire church history, surrendered his life for ministry March 14, 1965 and was ordained as minister September 19, 1965. Rev. Gregory Clements is now serving a full time church, and at present he is treasurer to the Santa Rosa Baptist Association.

Perhaps Rev. Sansom excelled all other pastors in the number of church weddings he performed.

Complete and authentic boundary lines for church property, including the cemetery, were established by a registered surveyor and recorded during his pastorate, which reads as:

Commencing at the Northeast corner of the SW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 30, T3N, R26W, thence West along the North line of said SW 1/4 of the NW 1/4, a distance of 870 feet, thence South 210 feet, thence East 210 feet, thence South 54 feet, thence East 660 feet to the East line of said SW 1/4 of the NE 1/4, thence North 264 feet to point of beginning, containing 5.01 acres, more or less.

Annual Home Coming date was changed from Easter Sunday to First Sunday in August of each year.

There was a hushed silence in the congregation on the morning of January 7, 1968 when Rev. Sansom announced his resignation effective January 14, 1968.

Again the pulpit committee was faced with the responsibility of finding God's choice for our pastor. The pulpit was filled at each regular service with outstanding spirit filled men. Then on March 31, 1968, Rev. Harold A. Anderson answered God's call to shepherd the Pleasant Home flock. Rev. Anderson, a student at the Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville, Florida, was a licensed minister, but by request of the church was ordained in his home church in Jacksonville, Florida, April 28, 1968.

Rev. Anderson realized the need of more field work and immediately initiated a weekly prayer service. He also set the building committee in order for repairs and additions to the church. The accomplishments of so worthy a shepherd remains to be seen, as God continues to bless Pleasant Home Baptist Church.

By: Edith Cooper
(Mrs. L.B. Cooper)
July 6, 1968

JOANN S. SANSOM

Joann S. Sansom, 62, went home to be with Jesus on Thursday, June 29, 1995, at her home in Fort Walton Beach.

Mrs. Sansom was a native of Selma, Ala., and moved here 41 years ago from Pensacola. She was a member of the New Life Tabernacle in Fort Walton Beach where she was an exceptional teacher and ministered alongside of her husband for 45 years. She was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother and was a leader by example.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Robert G. and Myrtice Springle Sr. and a brother, Bobby Springle.

Survivors include her husband, The Rev. Charles B. Sansom Sr. of Fort Walton Beach; daughter and son-in-law, Deborah and Chuck Richards of Fort Walton Beach; sons and daughters-in-law, Charles B. and Lynne Sansom Jr. and Jerry and Brenda Sansom, all of Fort Walton Beach, Randy and Loretta Sansom of Gulf Breeze and Ray and Tricia Sansom of Destin; brother and sister-in-law, Richard and Doris Springle of Summerville, S.C.; a sister-in-law, Wanda Springle of Shalimar; 21 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Charles Sansom
Charles Buford Sansom Sr.

Charles Buford Sansom Sr. obituary, Fort Walton Beach, FL
FUNERAL HOME
McLaughlin Mortuary - Fort Walton Beach

17 Chestnut Avenue SE

Fort Walton Beach, Florida

Charles Sansom Obituary

Charles Buford Sansom Sr.

Charles Buford Sansom, Sr., "Pastor Charles", went home to be with his Lord and Savior on February 6, 2021, at 89 years old, due to complications from pneumonia. He moved to Fort Walton Beach in 1955 and lived there until his death. Pastor Charles was preceded in death by his wife Joann, son Charles, Jr., and daughter Debbie Richards. He is survived by three sons, Jerry (Brenda), Randy (Loretta), Ray (Tricia), daughter-in-law Lynne Sansom and son-in-law Chuck Richards. Pastor Charles has 21 grandchildren, 60 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great grandchildren.

Pastor Charles was born on September 25, 1931 in Florala, Al. He was married to the love of his life, Joann for 47 years until her death in 1995. He received his Certification of Ordination June 24, 1956 at Ocean City Baptist Church. Pastor Charles was a bi-vocational pastor in NWF and South Alabama for over 60 years. He sold furniture at Bay Furniture (FWB) and pastored small rural churches. For the last 15 years, he was the Family Pastor at Ocean City Church. Pastor Charles Sansom will be lovingly remembered as a Christ Follower who poured encouragement into everyone he met.

Munson High Graduates 8

News-Journal Bureau

MUNSON — Graduation for eight Munson High School seniors will be at 8 p.m. Monday in the school auditorium, according to Principal James T. Sheppard.

Valedictorian Harry Coogle and Salutatorian Cynthia Cooley are to be speakers for the event.

Rev. Charles Sansom, pastor of Pleasant Home Baptist Church in Munson will deliver a baccalaureate sermon at 11 a.m. Sunday in the auditorium.

Other graduating seniors include Myra Cabaniss, Glenda Hardy, Larry Hardy, Robert McCoy, Stella Pittman and Milard Mitchem.