

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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Spotts, Ralph Len (1928-2008) was a native of West Memphis, Arkansas. He graduated from Ouachita Baptist University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Spotts served as pastor of churches in Alabama, Arkansas, Texas and Florida including First Baptist Church, Elfers, Bonita Springs Baptist Church, Oneco Baptist Church and First Baptist Church, Jasper. He and his wife, Katherine Spotts had five children.





Oneco Baptist Welcomes New Pastor, Family

The First Baptist Church of Oneco last Sunday welcomed its new pastor, The Rev. R. Len Spotts, and his family of Bonita Springs.

Rev. Spotts replaces the Rev. W. Arnold Shower, who is now pastor of the First Baptist Church of Fort Myers.

The Spotts family comes to Oneco from the Bonita Springs Baptist Church where he had served as pastor for four years. He has also served as pastor of the First Baptist Church of Elfers and as associate pastor

NEW PASTOR AND FAMILY—This is the Rev. and Mrs. R. Len Spotts and their five children who have moved to Oneco from Bonita Springs. Rev. Spotts is the new pastor of the First Baptist Church of Oneco. From left to right in the picture are Susie, Dollie, Rev. and Mrs. Spotts, Tommy, Billy and Bobby.

The Bradenton Herald
Sat, Oct 15, 1966 · Page 5

A native of West Memphis, Ark., Rev. Spotts is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Ft. Worth, Tex.

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The family will reside for the present at the church parsonage on 17th Street, Court, East, in Oneco. Three of the children, Dollie, Tommy and Susie are students at Southeast High School and Billy and Bobby are students at Oneco Elementary.

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Rev. Spotts will bring both the morning and evening worship messages tomorrow. Special music for both services will be under the direction of Hansel Pipkins.



Macartney-Spotts

Lynne Marie Macartney and Robert Owen Spotts were married Sept. 8 at The First Baptist Church of West Palm Beach, Fla. The Rev. Greg Mausz and the Rev. R. Len Spotts, father of the groom, officiated the double-ring ceremony.

The bride, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Macartney of Narberth, is a graduate of Lower Merion High School. She is a commercial lines risk manager at Slayton Insurance Co. in West Palm Beach, Fla.

The bridegroom, son of Mrs. Katherine Spotts of Lake Park, Fla., and Rev. R. Len Spotts of West Palm Beach, Fla., is a graduate of Hamilton County High School. He is a supervisor of security at the West Palm Beach Auditorium and is a construction worker for Jonathan's Landing in West Palm Beach, Fla.

Friday's 77-degree low, 91 high.

Rev. Spotts Joins Elfers First Baptist

ELFERS — The **Rev. Len Spotts** has assumed his duties as the new pastor of the First Baptist Church of Elfers. Before coming here, he served as associate pastor of the Palma Ceia Baptist Church in Tampa.

He is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist College, Arkadelphia, Ark. and of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. Before coming to Tampa two years ago, he served churches in Alabama, Arkansas and Texas.

Both **Rev. Spotts** and his wife are natives of West Memphis, Ark. They have four children: Dolly, 6; Tommy, 5; Kathie Sue, 3; and Billy, 10 months.

Rev. Len R. Spotts Accepts Pastorate Of Elfers Church

Rev. Len R. Spotts has assumed his duties as the new pastor of the First Baptist Church of Elfers. Before coming to Elfers, he served as associate pastor of the Palma Celia Baptist Church in Tampa.

Rev. Spotts is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist College, Arkadelphia, Ark. and of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Tex. Before coming to Tampa two years ago, he served churches in Alabama, Arkansas and Texas. While in Tampa, Rev. Spotts served in several positions in the associational organization, namely, Associational Vacation Bible School, principal, member of the budget committee and member of the Youth Fellowship advisory committee.

Both Mr. Spotts and his wife are natives of West Memphis, Ark. They have four children: Dolly, 6; Tommy, 5; Kathie Sue, 3 and Billy who is the only native of Florida, 10 months.

ALFRED FRED MANSELL

Funeral service for Alfred Fred Mansell, 27, Bonita Springs will be at 1:30 p.m. from the First Baptist Church, Bonita Springs, with Rev. R. Len Spotts, pastor, officiating.

Honorary pallbearers will be David Floyd, Thomas Fernandez, John Berio and Russell Luckey. Active pallbearers will be Charles LeBuff, William Crews, Joe Burrus, Frank Williams, William Piper and Leonard Elwood. Interment will be in Bonita Springs Cemetery. Arrangements by the Harvey Funeral Home, Colonial Boulevard.

Obscenity charges dropped

By ELIZABETH RIGSBY
Democrat Area Correspondent

JASPER — Charges of possession of obscene materials against two men who operate a convenience store here have been dismissed, but the complaint may be filed again by the end of this week.

Hamilton County Judge John Teach dismissed the charges against George Johnson of Jasper, manager, and Larry Fredman of Live Oak, general manager, of the Jiffy Store here.

According to the Rev. Len Spotts, one of three complainants, the judge

ruled that the charges were too vague. Things such as the names of the magazines picked up needed to be spelled out said Spotts, pastor of First Baptist Church here.

Spotts said attorneys for Robert Marvin of the Hamilton County Chamber of Commerce and the Rev. Jesse L. Baker, a Methodist minister, and himself were currently drawing up more specific complaints and they plan to re-file.

Hamilton County Deputy Clerk Mary Runyon said Johnson and Fredman pleaded not guilty to the original

charges at a hearing Dec. 6 and asked for a trial by jury.

The trial was originally set for Dec. 19, continued to Jan. 16 and finally to Feb. 20, she said.

Johnson and Fredman were arrested by Sheriff Charlie Rhoden Nov. 5 and were released on \$1,000 bond each, reports showed.

An affidavit sworn by the complainants said the men "did knowingly sell or offer to sell and have in possession, custody or control for purpose of sale obscene, lewd, lescivious, filthy, indecent books, magazines, or periodicals."

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LEN SPOTTS

Rev. Len Spotts 80 years old, of West Palm Beach, FL, died Sunday, December 28, 2008, after an extended illness. He leaves to cherish his memory his four children, Dolly Spotts Penuel of Belle Glade, FL, Tom Spotts of Wellington, FL and Bill and Bobby Spotts, both of West Palm Beach, eight grandchildren and a brother, Johnnie Spotts of North Ridge, CA. Len was preceded in death by his daughter, Susie Spotts Fewell in September of 2006.

Memorial Services will be held at 4:00 PM on Sunday, January 4, 2009 at the Haverhill Baptist Church, 671 N. Haverhill Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33415. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in his memory to the Haverhill Baptist Church Building Fund or Gideons International.

Quattlebaum Funeral & Cremation Services
Family Owned and Operated
(561) 832-5171

To express condolences and/or make donations
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FBC, Jasper

Do not assume that church was every Sunday. In the case of Elder J. N. Reid, he had his monthly appointments and traveled with saddle bags on faithful old Selim.

In 1898 Miss Mamie Griffis organized a Sunbeam Band in the back of her millinery store. This was one of the first in the state.

In 1902 W.M.S. was organized although there was an Aid Society preceeding this. The ladies supplemented the church finances with oyster suppers, ice cream and strawberry festivals, rummage sales, spelling bees, box suppers, and other ways that ingenious minds could devise. The occasions met a need at that period for socialibility that is in remembering - nostalgic.

Independent communion cups are of recent years. There is somewhere, the old communion service, a pitch and two goblets.

We continue here with naming the pastors:

A. B. Calkins	September 1917-19
J. A. Davis	1920 - April 1921
No pastor	April 1921 - December 1921
P. A. Roberts	December 1921 - April 15, 1923
C. S. Ywan	May 1923 - January 1924
M. G. Diamond	September 1924 - June 1, 1927
R. P. McPherson	July 1927 - March 1, 1932
H. O. Hughes	1932 - 1942
E. L. Dupree	April 1943 - June 1945
C. A. Martin	June 1945 - March 1954
Rev. Fitzgerald	1954 (Interim)
Rev. P. Lawson	
Rev. W. J. Norton	1960 (Died - July 20, 1961)
Harry Hornon	1961
Sayer Canova	1965
Orland Wilson	1965-70
Carson Britton	Interim - part time
T.C. Broomall	Interim
Rev. Potts	Interim
David Gilliland	
Glen Spotts	Ralph Len Spotts
Harry Wainscott	1983-85
R. D. Holley	1986-