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.

Visit our website at FloridaBaptistHistory.org

Swan, Sherman W. (1920-2007) was born in Brookston, Pennsylvania. He graduated from



Syracuse University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Swan served as pastor of Lake Park Baptist Church, Jupiter-Tequesta First Baptist Church, Plantation Baptist Church and First Baptist Church, Palm Beach Gardens. He and his wife, Dorothy Lola Weakland Swan had two children.

New Lake Park Baptist Mission To Be Dedicated

Dedication of Lake Park Mission, sponsored by the First Baptist Church of West Palm Beach, will take place today at ceremonies set for 3 p.m. The mission at Chapel and Parker Avenues in Lake Park also bears the name of the First Baptist Church. The pastor, the Rev. Sherman W. Swan, will conduct dedicatory ceremonies, assisted by Dr. A. Warren Huyck, First Baptist Church; the Rev. Richard Heller, Riviera Beach Baptist Church; the Rev. Allan R. Watson, Northwood Baptist Church, and the Rev. A. D. Dawson, superintendent of city missions.

In the musical program the choral responses will be by the junior choir, directed by Mrs. Betty Hoyle.

Dr. Huyck will deliver the dedicatory message. Also on the program will be the chairmen of the finance and missions committees, Ernest C. Farmer and C. R. Dorsey; and R. Bruce Jones, co-chairman.

chairman.

The building committee includes E. B. Lee, chairman; H. H. Hampton, James Nemec, David Banks, chairman of the steering committee; G. W. Sykes, Robert Witt, Lamar Allen, C. J. Fauth, C. L. Rice, E. A. Swenson, Leon W. Payne, R. E. Rinker, Riley Sims, Kent Taylor, J. Myron Tedder, J. J. Cater, Sr., John M. Crabtree, C. R. Dorsey, Sr., and H. H. Hampton.

Maurice E. Holley is architect for the new edifice.



Staff Photo by Bob Rabe

SETTING THE STEEPLE — First Baptist Church, Lake Park, as it looked yesterday when workman placed the steeple in readiness for dedicatory ceremonies at 3 p.m., today. Pictured in the foreground is the church pastor, the Rev. Sherman Swan, and Mrs. Swan with their daughter, Betty, and son, Chip. The new church was a mission sponsored by the First Baptist Church, West Palm Beach.

The Palm Beach Post (West Palm Beach, Florida)
20 May 1994, Fri
Page 59



For information, call 697-0616.

■ **ELECTED** — Dr. Kenneth White, president of The Ministerial Association of the Northern Palm Beaches. He is Pastor of The Palm Beach Gardens Worship Center. Other officers: Rev. Thomas Mullins, pastor of Palm Beach Christ Fellowship, vice president; Rev. Sherman Swan. Community Baptist Church, secretary/treasurer.

■ NINE WEEK SERIES

The Palm Beach Post (West Palm Beach, Florida)
19 Sep 1963, Thu
Page 60



JUPITER — The First Southern Baptist Church will observe its fifth anniversary Sunday at 7:30 p.m. with a special program featuring Rev. Sherman Swan, Rev. Fred Crigler, and Rev. Paul C. Thompson, pastor, preaching on "The Missionary Opportunity In This Growing Area." Guests will be charter members who will be officially recognized and congregations of Swan's First Baptist Church of Palm Beach Gardens and Crigler's Bykota Baptist of Jupiter. A fellowship will follow with Mrs. William Armstrong as hostess.

The Miami Herald (Miami, Florida)
17 Mar 1964, Tue
Page 40

★ ★ ★

The Rev. Sherman Swan, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Palm Beach Gardens in suburban West Palm Beach, was "honored" to have a part in the wedding of **Mimi and Pete Widener.** He performed the ceremony.

This church and pastor were chosen by the bridegroom because the Rev. Mr. Swan was chaplain for the Kentucky State Police when Pete Widener was police commissioner. The two became friends.

The Rev. Mr. Swan was born in Pennsylvania, reared in New York, and was called to preach in Alabama. He was graduated from Louisville (Ky.) Theological Seminary, and ordained in 1948.

He says it seems to him that "June comes earlier in Florida — and lasts longer."

★ ★ ★

The Palm Beach Post (West Palm Beach, Florida) 13 May 1962, Sun Page 48

Gardens Church To Be Dedicated At Rites Today

PALM BEACH GARDENS — Dedication of the Community Baptist Church on SR A1A, a mile north of the RCA plant, is scheduled for 3 p.m. today.

So far only one building is partially completed. When finished it will be the first of several. Construction has only been underway since Easter.

The church will eventually house a memorial plaque honoring Anna Jarvis, founder of Mother's Day.

One of the unusual features of the new church will be 24-hour prayer facilities. Lights will shine at night and music will play throughout the day.

"The doors will never be locked," Rev. Sherman Swan, pastor, said.

He said the church will be open to all faiths.

Dr. Jess Moody, pastor of First Baptist Church of West Palm Beach, will deliver the dedication sermon. Others participating in the services will include Rev. Hal Hunter, pastor of Northwood Baptist Church, Rev. Peter Lord, pastor of Haverhill Baptist Church, and Rev. Spencer Aungst, pastor of the Lake Park Community Church and president of the Ministerial Association.

Mrs. Swan will give a tribute to mothers before the Rev. Swan directs the act of dedication.

The church is of cononial design and will have a steeple.

The Palm Beach Post (West Palm Beach, Florida) 28 Sep 1958, Sun Page 14

New Baptist Church Opening In Jupiter

First services will take place today at a newly organized Baptist church in Jupiter it was announced by pastor of the new church, the Rev. Sherman Swan. Services at Salhaven, site of the new center are set for 11 a.m. and at 8 p.m. evening services marking opening of a revival will be held in a large tent on Route 1.

Mr. Swan formerly pastor of Lake Park Baptist Church resigned his post there last Sunday in order to assume leadership of the new church which was organized as part of a program to establish 30,000 new Baptist churches in Florida by 1964.

Supply pastors will serve Lake Park Baptist Church until a permanent leader is appointed.

The Palm Beach Post (West Palm Beach, Florida)
25 Nov 1956, Sun
Page 54

ket was donated by students.

The Rev. Sherman Swan Lake Park Baptist Church gave a Thanksgiving message at the assembly program Wednesday. Also participating were: Earl Higgs, student council president and mas-

The Palm Beach Post (West Palm Beach, Florida) 06 Oct 1984, Sat Page 70

Special to The Post

The First Baptist Church, 625 Park Ave., Lake Park, will celebrate its 24th anniversary at a special service Sunday morning at 11.

The anniversary will be combined with a Homecoming, and activities for this anniversary day will continue with a picnic at 1 p.m.

First Baptist of Lake Park began as a Mission Sunday School, sponsored by the First Baptist Church of West Palm Beach, on Oct. 31, 1948. The first meeting was held in the Lake Park Town Hall.

In December 1949, the Rev. B. Wood became mission pastor. Under his guidance the church purchased property on Park Avenue, and in 1950 the first unit of the church building was constructed.

The Rev. David Jordan began his mission ministry in February of 1951, and the church building and congregation continued to grow. By September 1951, the first building at 625 Park Ave., was occupied.

On Sept. 27, 1953, the mission was formally organized into the First Baptist Church of Lake Park.

On Aug. 8, 1956, the Rev. Sherman Swan became pastor of the church and the congregation continued to grow. It was during his years of service that the sanctuary was completed (1958).

The Rev. Fulton Bryan served the church from 1959 through 1962, and in 1963 the Rev. Richard Pyburn assumed the duties of pastor. Pyburn served until August 1967. Under his guidance the church grew to include a number of new buildings.

The church was then served and grew under the guidance of the Rev. Fenton Moorehead 1967 to 1969; the Rev. James Leonard 1970 to 1973; the Rev. Gene Henson 1974 to 1976; the Rev. Thomas Graves 1977 to 1979; at which time (August 1, 1980) the Rev. Nash Odom, present pastor, joined the church.

The Rev. Nash Odom has continued this tradition of growth and service to God and the community.

UNITED METHODIST

LAKE WORTH

Calvary United Methodist Church

First Ave. So. & Fed. Hwy.

Sunday School	9:30 A.M.
Worship Services	9:30 & 11:00 A.M.
Youth Fellowship	6:00 P.M.

The Palm Beach Post (West Palm Beach, Florida) 12 Jul 2008, Sat Page B006

REV. SHERMAN WINSOM SWAN

Age 87, of Lake Placid, FL and formerly of Palm Beach Gardens, FL, went to be with his Heavenly Father on Wednesday, July 09, 2008 in Lake Placid. Born in Brookston, PA, he was the founder and Pastor Emeritus of the First Baptist Church of Palm Beach Gardens. Rev. Swan was a graduate of Syracuse University (NY) and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY. He was also the former Chaplain for the Kentucky State Police and a veteran of the US Army Air Force. Rev. Swan was in Gospel Ministry for over 55 years and pastored in five churches in Kentucky. He pastored in Florida at the Lake Park Baptist Church, Jupiter-Tequesta First Baptist Church and Plantation First Baptist Church. He served as interim Pastor for the Ministries of American Baptist Churches in W. Virginia, Iowa, Montana and New York State. He was a trumpeter for over 70 years. Rev. Swan wrote over 100 scriptural songs and choruses. He recently became a member of the Lake Placid Baptist Church. He was married to Dorothy Lola Weakland in 1941 who preceded him in death June 17, 2007.

Survivors include his daughter, Betty Luckey of Lake Placid, FL (husband, Gary) and his son, Lawrence Swan of New York City (wife, Lori Ellison). His four grandchildren are Libby Luckey, Sheri Bjorn, Tifton Luckey and Niki Brothen. He has six great-grandchildren, Justin and Sean Savacool, J.T. and Tiffani Luckey, Ernie and Daphne Brothen.

A Funeral Service will be held at 11 AM, Saturday, July 12, 2008 at the First Baptist Church, 11980 Alt. A1A, Palm Beach Gardens, FL. Friends are invited to meet with the family from 10:30 AM Saturday until service time. Interment will be in Sunset Hill Cemetery in Jamestown, NY.