Oak Island - 1967


Brunswick

Admit. to BRUNSWICK.
Dr. Tony Florio, a former teacher and family therapist, will be ordained into the pastoral ministry at 3 p.m. on Sunday, February 25 at First Baptist Church of Oak Island with the Rev. Charlie Carter officiating the ceremony.

Florio received his training and education from Moody Bible Institute, Wheaton College, University of South Dakota and Florida State University. He and his wife, Janice, moved to Oak Island six years ago from New Jersey.

Friends are invited to attend the ceremony.
Campbell College
Honors painter Joe King.
2 Mr 1968   9:1
"Time To Run", a film that is a mixture of problems and solutions will be shown at Oak Island Baptist Church on Saturday.

The feature will be shown once, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Filmed on location in Southern California, "Time To Run" stars Ed Nelson, Randall Carver, Barbara Sigel, Joan Winmill and Gordon Rigsby.

"Time To Run" is the deeply-moving drama of the conflicts that are tearing a family apart, conflicts that develop between husband and wife, and between father and son.
Church to hold ground breaking for new sanctuary

LONG BEACH — The First Baptist Church of Oak Island will hold ground-breaking services for a new sanctuary and administration building at 2 p.m. Sunday. A 35-foot bell tower housing chimes that were given in memory of a church member is featured in the building plans.

The facilities will be a contemporary design using brick construction and including laminated beams and a wood deck in the sanctuary. The worship area has a seating capacity of 562 people, which can be augmented by an overflow area to accommodate the seasonal influx of visitors to this beach community.

A library, rest rooms and offices for the staff and the pastor will be included in the administration building. The sanctuary building will contain a rehearsal area and space for the music ministry, Baptistry and dressing rooms.
Youth volunteer

The youth of First Baptist Church of Oak Island recently traveled to Charlotte with a group from Calvary Baptist Church in Rock Hill, S.C., to work in the gift processing center of Operation Christmas Child, which is a project of the international Christian relief organization Samaritan’s Purse. Through Operation Christmas Child, gift-filled shoe boxes are collected and sent to children around the world. Pictured are, from left, Joyce Odell of First Baptist and Robin Hyatt of Calvary Baptist, who chaperoned the youth.
Rev. Oren Bradley of Cama, Va., will be the guest minister during revival services at First Baptist Church of Oak Island, Long Beach. Services begin Sunday, September 30, and continue through Wednesday, October 3.

Bradley will speak at 8:45 and 11 a.m. and again at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, and at 7:30 p.m. Monday through Wednesday.

Bradley is a native of North Carolina. He received his seminary training at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex. Since graduation, he has served 27 years as director of missions for Baptist associations in North Carolina, 23 of these with the Surry Baptist Association. Since his retirement he continues to serve churches as interim pastor, and is now serving Little Richmond Baptist Church in Surry County.
All-Age Bible Study Planned

"Bible study is important for every age person," according to Ernest Poston, Jr., pastor of Oak Island Baptist Church, "and because we believe this to be true we are providing such an opportunity for the people of this community January 8-11."

Study sessions for every age group will be offered each evening from 7 to 9 p.m. at the church in Long Beach.

Dr. Henry Walden, Jr., Director of Missions for the Robeson Baptist Association, who holds an earned doctorial degree in Theology, will lead the adults as they study "Exodus: Called for Redemptive Mission."

Rev. Marvin Chapman, Th. M., a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and now serving as assistant director of the N.C. Baptist Assembly at Caswell Beach, will lead the youth as they study "Find Yourself in Genesis."

The elementary division, under the direction of Mrs. Rebecca Chapman, will be studying "Men Who Told His Story" and "The Story the Bible Tells." Mrs. Chapman is a native of Kentucky and is employed with the Brunswick County school system.

Provisions will be made for pre-schoolers, who will be studying "Things Families Do Together" and "My Church."

Pastor Postón pointed out that the Bible studies are open to anyone in the community and has invited all who are interested to participate.
Ready to march

By Laura Kimball
Staff Writer

The men of First Baptist Church of Oak Island are getting ready for the Fourth of July Parade, but their preparations don’t involve colorful streamers, floats or beauty queens.

They’re freezing more than 300 bottles of water.

The water will be distributed from the back of their new disaster relief trailer, a 7-by-16-foot mission-on-wheels they will use to help Brunswick County residents in the event of a local disaster, such as a hurricane.

Scott Poole, relief team captain, is hoping that being in the parade will make the people of Brunswick County familiar with their mission. After the parade, people will know what the trailer is for and what it looks like, in case they need to look for it at a disaster relief shelter.

According to Poole, the trailer is not only a mission to help other people but an opportunity for team members to serve. He pointed out that people can go to church every Sunday, but without a Christian purpose, they may get caught in a rut.

“As a Christian, everybody has to have a mission,” he said. “We can sit here and come to church on Sundays, but what’s our mission? We wanted to have something local that joins the men together in one job.”

Also, serving people in need will teach them what a blessing it can be to help others.

This disaster relief trailer will be part of the Fourth of July Parade on Monday. Pictured, left to right, are Denver Higginsbotham, Scott Poole and Pat Sturgis.

“Members of Oak Island Baptist Church take to the street for the Fourth of July parade, but they’ll be marching with something much better than a float.”

“‘This will give the men a feeling of being needed, but the best blessing will come when they hand out a plate of food to a smiling face,’” he said.

The trailer has the capacity to feed up to 10,000 people a day. In the case of an emergency, the team will be told by the American Red Cross where to set up.

The trailer contains long, wide shelves that hold large, watertight containers for food. Two insulated containers are designed to hold hot or cold food items and keep them at desirable temperatures. Two more shelves can be turned into bunk beds for the workers, and a small, portable sink attaches to the front water hook-up on the trailer. A water heater for washing hands and dishes, as well as a full-size refrigerator, will be run by a generator when used.

About four people are needed to operate the trailer by preparing food, distributing food and cleaning up afterward.

In addition to food, the group will have a recreation coordinator whose job will be to entertain children at the shelter.

“Relief from disaster to be provided by Baptist mission.”

Volunteer Denver Higginsbotham became involved in the disaster relief project because he knows what a blessing it can be to help others. He went to Florida after Hurricane Fran to help with disaster relief, and the experience left him wanting to help more.

“It was really rewarding to help somebody,” he said. “In that situation, just a cup of water can be very helpful to you. It can go a long way.”

Volunteer Pat Sturgis is in charge of organizing relief workers in the event of an emergency. Though she won’t be handing out food, and may not even have her home or the island, her job is to get the volunteers where they’re supposed to be.

She became interested in helping with a disaster relief project after her husband went on a mission trip. When he returned, she could see he had learned so much, and she wanted to be part of an outreach program.

When she considers how important the mission could be, Sturgis puts herself into other people’s shoes.

“I would hate to think that I could lose my house and have no one to help me at all,” she said.

Also, she knows that a small gesture can go a long way.

“Whatever you do up the line or down the line, it’s all an important part,” she said. “If I can help somebody in some small, tiny bit way, then I believe that’s what God’s called me to do.”
Island Baptist church first organized in ’59

Oak Island residents’ dream of a Baptist church on Oak Island was born in 1959 when the island’s primary developer, E. F. Middleton, donated two lots on Oak Island Drive to the Southport Baptist Church.

Two additional lots were secured with the help of the Missions Division of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

On Sunday, June 1, 1960, the Rev. Mark Owens presided over the first service of the mission church at Southport Baptist Church. In October, 1960, and the first service in the four-room building was held January 1, 1961. Church records indicate that 47 people attended the first service, led by the church’s new pastor, the Rev. Scott Turner.

The mission was officially named Oak Island Baptist Church on April 9, 1967, with 43 charter members on record. In 1979, the name of the church was changed to the First Baptist Church of Oak Island.

Throughout the 1970s and 1980s both the island and the church experienced rapid growth. The first addition to the church came in 1972 when an education and activities building was constructed.

In the late 1970s the church began planning for further expansion. Plans were drawn for a new sanctuary and construction began in September, 1981.

The first worship service was held in the new sanctuary on March 24, 1985.

The church has enjoyed continued growth throughout its history and now has a congregation of about 355 people. The Rev. Douglas Huff currently serves as pastor.

(Information provided by the church)
Oak Island Baptist Church of Long Beach honored one of its most distinguished members Sunday by declaring "Bess Watkins Day." A certificate of appreciation was presented to Mrs. Elizabeth Watkins by the church in the 11 a.m. worship service in recognition of her contribution to the music ministry of the church and for her role in instilling a love for music in the lives of her many pupils. She received friends at an afternoon tea given in her honor in the fellowship hall of the church. At 7:30, former pupils and friends were joined by the choir and congregation in presenting an appreciation service of sacred music. Mrs. Watlins, 83, "reflects the spirit of the true artist as she continues to use her skills in the service of the church," a spokesman declared. "I do it," she said, "because I love to use what God has given me."