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MORNING STAR
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Profile: T. Steven Bolton
**First Baptist Church
of Carolina Beach**

Age: 43.
Church membership: 461.

Hometown: Gastonia, N.C.

Education: Master of divinity from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary; bachelor of arts degree from Gardner-Webb College.

Became minister: 1979.

Became minister of current churches: August 1989.

Previous churches: Green Hill Baptist Church, Rutherfordton; West Oxford Baptist Church, Oxford; Evergreen Baptist Church, Delway.

Activities: Community work, reading, golf and fishing.

Reason for joining clergy: I joined the clergy in response to a spiritual experience and call of God.

Message for readers: One of the major goals of the Christian life is to become more like the Christ of our faith. We often put the responsibility of reaching this goal on God. But in reality, we are the ones responsible for reaching our destiny of



Christ-likeness. "He's got the whole world in his hand" is a reality. But the destination and outcome of our lives are in our own hands. We are responsible for our own lives, our own emotions, our own

attitudes, and our own decisions. Becoming Christ-like means a constant examination of our own lives; a constant conscious effort to live up to the Christ-likeness that we know for sure; a constant study of Christ. As we practice our responsibility, we will become more like the Christ of our faith. And, we will experience His peace, and possess the fullness of life that Jesus promised to the believer.

The Morning Star will feature a profile of an area minister in this column each week. To have your church's pastor featured, please write to Religion reporter, Wilmington Morning Star, P.O. Box 840, Wilmington, N.C. 28402-0840.