PROCEEDINGS OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

Thursday Morning, October 1, 2015

The Eastern District Association of Primitive Baptists convened in its 163rd annual session with Poplar Grove and West View Churches, Kingsport, TN hosting this blessed event.

The West View Primitive Baptist Church was organized in 1947 and became a member of the Eastern District Association of Primitive Baptists that same year. The church has lettered into the association every year since that time. When the association suffered a split in 1955 due to the practice of open communion in a number of the churches, the majority of the members of the West View Church voted to leave the association and became part of the Central Baptist Association. The minority members reorganized the church by resolution to remain in the Eastern District Association. They erected a new building and moved into it in 1958 with Elders J. H. Sybert and H. V. Hall as pastors.

Elders Gordon McCullough, Ray Gott and R. C. Whittemore have also served as pastors, with Elder Burnice Sybert serving the church since 2004. Church clerks have been R. C. Whittemore, Georgia Whittemore, Burnice Sybert, Anna Jane Donihe, and Delmer Wallen, Sr. with Nancy McCullough the present clerk. The deacons are Gale McCullough, Billy Walton, David Horton and Claude Smith.

The church was honored to host the association in 1976 and 1993. This 163rd gathering marks the first time two churches have joined together to act as co-hosts, and we are privileged to do so with our brothers and sisters in Christ at Poplar Grove Church. It is our prayer that this may encourage some of our smaller churches to work together in this great endeavor in the future.

The history of Poplar Grove Church was originally researched and written by Brother Ellis I. Wallen, Sr., a former clerk of the association, when the church hosted this "grand old body" in 1970. The church felt it suitable to use the same history with added information relative to the present. This being the fourth time that Poplar Grove Church has hosted the Association (1958, 1970, 1988, and 2015), we felt the need to recognize and pay tribute to the devoted, faithful, and prayerful members who helped organize the church and have maintained an interest and need to worship God for these 67 years.

It is somewhat difficult to arrive at a definite beginning of Poplar Grove Church. Cottage prayer meetings, singing services, and preaching services had been conducted in the community long before the church became a reality. Elder Milburn Morelock, sometime in early 1948, began to hold regular services in a building known in the community as "the chicken house." Brother Morelock, the first pastor, has now gone to meet his reward in a better land, and "the chicken house" has been torn down. These early meetings displayed a true spirit of Christianity. The attendance and interest shown became more meaningful than ever in the life of the community once there was a permanent meeting place established.

The Poplar Grove Church was organized by an arm from Pleasant View, then a Primitive Baptist church in the Eastern District Association, in June, 1948. The church lettered to the association and has not failed to letter and send delegates since that year. Originally, the church received one member by letter and six by experience and baptism. The following were charter members: Rome Adams, Mrs. Rome Adams, Luna Brown, Mrs. Luna Brown, Maggie Hill, Everett Sims, and Mrs. Everett Sims (all now deceased).

The church grew and flourished for about a year and then moved to its present location inspired by the scripture, Nehemiah 4:6, "So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto half thereof: for the people had a mind to work." All are happy and pleased with the present location, Romans 8:28, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purpose."

The church was dedicated in 1952 and is presently debt-free. With the passing of the years, Poplar Grove Church has been a haven of escape from the world. Today this place gives a feeling of the real meaning of Christianity, continuity, prayer, faith, dedication, patience, and obedience. In these surroundings of environment, one captures the sense of the strong, magnificent beauty of a powerful, all-wise, loving, personal Savior.

During the past 67 years the following pastors were dedicated to the calling of God and lead many souls to believe in Christ and join the church: Milburn Morelock (1948-1949), Joe Hickman (1950), Joe Hickman and Willard Carter (1951), J. H. Sybert (1952-1953), J. H. Sybert and Leon Lane (1954-1955), Walter Pendergrass (1956-1958), Leon Lane (1959), Leon Lane and Joel McMurray (1960), Joel McMurray (1961), J. H. Sybert (1962-1965), J. L. Hill (1966-1969), J. H. Sybert (1970-1973), Glen Williams (1974-1977), Howard Sybert (1978-1985), Bobby Williams (1986-1992), Gordon Justice (1993-1994), Bobby Williams (1995-1997), and Oscar Irvin (1997-Present).

Poplar Grove has been blessed with many faithful and devoted deacons: Luna Brown, Everett Sims, Ellis Wallen, Laney Shipley, Tom Ferguson, Hugh Price, Harold Thomas, Marvin Ketron, Paul Wallen, Ellis "Ikey" Wallen, Bill Poole, and Jerry Persinger (all now deceased). Our current faithful and devoted deacons are Austin Adams, R. B. Louthian, Bill Spurlock, Steve Hunt, and Gary Short.

Our church has had only five clerks during these 67 years: Luna Brown (1948), Delmer Wallen (1949-1950, drafted to military), Eliza Holmes (1951-1976), Jean Wallen (1976-1988), Joyce Greer (1988-1991), and Jean Wallen (1991-Present).

We have always had a closeness with West View Church, not only in miles but in God's Spirit and fellowship. West View's pastor, Elder Burnice Sybert, often expresses his special feeling for Poplar Grove because it is the church where he accepted Christ as his Lord and Savior, February 7, 1953. He joined Poplar Grove and was baptized March 8, 1953. West View was organized and elected his dad, Elder J. H. Sybert, to serve as pastor. The Sybert family later moved their membership to West View. Poplar Grove's pastor, Elder Oscar Irvin was also saved at Poplar Grove on March 25, 1972 during a revival held by Elder Lucian Lane. He also joined the church and was baptized. This is the fourth church pastored by Elder Irvin to host the Eastern District Association. (Caney Creek, Peterson's Chapel, Little Cowan, and Poplar Grove)

We have sincerely enjoyed the work shared with West View Church during the past year. The fellowship with our brothers and sisters has truly been a blessing. Psalm 133:1, "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" May God continue to bless both Poplar Grove and West View with His Holy Spirit, and may God continue to bless the Eastern District Association and this "grand old body."

The refreshing morning air greeted everyone as they arrived at this 163rd session of this grand body. The Lord blessed us with some much needed rain in the days leading up to this 163rd gathering. Sister Zula McCullough led us in singing songs of praise to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Won't it be wonderful there when we enter the glory land, joyously singing and praising our Redeemer? Keep your lamps all trimmed and burning, for the bridegroom watch and wait, for He will meet us just inside the

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eastern gate. It won't be very long till Jesus shall appear and the joy of that glad meeting will be upon us. Our burdens we will lay down, for when we meet up there, we will know as we are known. His unseen hand will lead us to that home where sin nor sorrow e'er can come. We long to see our Savior's face where we can praise Him for his guiding hand. Oh what a wonder that Jesus loves even us, and we can say, it is well with our soul, then Satan must flee.

Thanking the host for their work as joint hosts for this grand body, Elder Terry Sizemore welcomed everyone to today's service. As we continue on our journey that started long ago, our main goal is to praise our Lord and Savior. Those who came this way before set up a good work with Christ's help and many have moved on to their reward. Most of all, our prayer is that if there is one among us that is lost, we earnestly pray that you may find that blessed peace on these grounds before leaving today. He left us a light in this world and He will never leave us nor forsake us. May our light so shine. We cannot bring these dear saints back, but we can go where they are.

Sister Zula led the congregation in singing the old song that is the association's standard song, "Brethren We Have Met Again." Let us join in much prayer and sing songs of praise to our Lord and Savior, for all is vain unless the Holy Spirit comes down.

The Moderator asked all of our ministers to sign the minister's book, including ministers from other associations and church affiliations. He also asked each church to get their church letters, donations, and obituaries in so they might be counted.

Elder Sizemore mentioned the passing of Elders Delmas Harris, Jerry Persinger and Robert "Bobby" Carter, since we last met. Please remember their families in prayer. Thank God for each of them and their stand for God.

The moderator appointed the Committee on Religious Exercises which includes: Gerald Moore, (chairman), Clifton Horne and Jim Bowlin.

Sister Naomi Adkins blessed us with her song, reminding us of the crimson river that is a bond to heal the nation; for this river is filled with our Savior's precious blood. It will heal our mind and body, it will comfort and protect us when we are sad and alone and save your soul from sin, yes we are talking about our Savior's precious blood. Bradley Brown also blessed us with his rendition of where he took us in, for down at the cross is where the blood was applied at that precious fountain. Thank God for the talents that He blesses His children with.

Prayer requests were made for the lost, our churches, those serving in the military, our country, David Moody, Jim Burke and his family, Carson Johnson's family, Swan Creek community, Dakota Blevins' family, Porter Carroll, Sherrie Brown, Draxie and Angela Johnson, Dexal Greer, John Bowlin, Mark & Anita Newkirk, John and Maude Turner, Jim Lykins' brother and sister, June Kail family, Ratliff family, Cora L. Neeley and her daughter, Wayne Williams' family at the loss of his son, Brooks family, and a show of uplifted hands signified countless unspoken prayer requests. Elder Scott Tipton blessed us in a heartfelt prayer as he took our petitions to the Lord.

Having been chosen to preach the introductory sermon, Elder Oscar Irvin took the first part of the service. Welcoming everyone to this labor of love between the joint hosts of this year's association, he asked us to protect our doctrine at all costs for we have a spiritual heritage. He read Psalm 16, and used as his thought the 6th verse, "The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage." Who would we desire to be except the children of God? The hearts of mankind are evil, but God's blood is the cure. Noah found favor in God's eyes and he moved with fear, and when God shut

the door, those on the outside realized Noah was not as foolish as they thought. Abraham didn't know where he was going, but when God told him to move, he did. We must not wait for God to show us every little detail, but hasten to move and do what He bids. Abraham staggered not at God's instructions, but moved with haste up the mountain and as he drew back to take Isaac's life, God told him to stay his hand. Isaac was saved as God provided a sacrifice because of his belief and obedience. God made this foundation steadfast and strong, just as much today as when it was created. We see but just a little of it, but one day soon we will understand. He is indeed our all in all here and forevermore. He will never leave us nor forsake us. When God does a work, it is good for ever. Satan cannot snatch us from the arms of God. There is coming a time when we will rise and meet Him in the air. Our forefathers believed God and His promise that He does nothing for a while or part way, but what God does is everlasting. We do not know the time of His coming, but He will come again in due time to receive us unto Himself and we shall be with Him throughout all times.

Elder Burnice Sybert followed with another wonderful message from God on high as he thanked God for you all allowing them to host the association. Our purpose here is to honor Jesus Christ. As an example of God's handiwork, both men were lead to the same scripture for today's service. As we see our crowds reduced in size, we must pray that many souls will be saved and join our ranks. God is still in control and while we don't know what He has in mind for the new comers, we know He is still at the right hand of the father. As a warning to us, each of us needs to take every step necessary to ensure this Gospel will remain in its entirety. False doctrine will lead us astray if we allow it to come in. Great suffering and stress will follow, therefore we must resist and depend on God. Man and Satan are still trying to lead man astray, but God remains steadfast and true to His word. Our goodly heritage is great and we must stand firm in the Lord. This modern world has nothing to offer God's children; let us make sure we stick to God's word, for He will never fail us. Much evil abides in the world today, just as it did in Solomon's day, but that does not mean we should follow it. Churches must stand in these last days; many have failed in following God's word, but we can come together in one mind and one accord to worship God in truth and spirit. We welcome everyone in our midst, but take all care that Satan doesn't slip in unawares for he will wreak havoc in every way possible. Our ministers have preached, and continue to preach God's truth. A promise of reward for the saved and of eternal punishment for the unsaved exists today just as in times past. We must live for God on a daily basis, and when we sin, we have an advocate with our Father. The death, burial and resurrection are in all reality what it is about. Regardless of what religions we may see, stand firm in our heritage from God. Man says we must live it, but we must first have it, for only then can we do a good work for the Lord. Let us leave to the next generation what our previous generation left us. May we never allow things to come in among us that will cause division, for when He calls a man to preach His Gospel, He will also qualify him. Be busy about His work, and leave all others alone. As many as did believe Him, He gave them power to become the sons of God, for outside Jesus Christ there is no other way to glory.

We were dismissed for lunch with a song by Zula McCullough. What will we leave behind when we leave for worlds unknown? Farther on, still go farther for Jesus will never forsake us.

Thursday Afternoon, October 1, 2015

The host churches served us a wonderful lunch as God's children enjoyed this wonderful day. Sister Zula led the congregation in singing several songs of praise as the congregation gathered in the tent for the afternoon service. When the redeemed are gathering in, how we will shout as the saints sing redemption's story. We will hear His invitation, come ye blessed of the Lord; for we are washed like snow and free from all sin with joy unspeakable and full of glory. Dan Cross led another song after

testifying of God's saving grace, while thanking God for this privilege of meeting one more time this side of heaven. Wonderful Jesus, marvelous King, let us behold His glorious face as He guides our footsteps and shows us the way.

Further blessings were bestowed upon us with special singing and testimony from Billy Marcum, Eddie and Wanda Malone, Copper Creek Church singers, Terry Sizemore, and Virgie Williams. Thanking God for this heaven-bought privilege, everyone praised His name that He would receive all the honor and glory. We escaped that awful place when Jesus saved our soul and because of this, the only fire we will ever feel is burning in our heart. He is the resurrection and one day soon we will stroll down the streets of glory, and will say arise, arise my little one, arise. For all our life we have heard the wondrous story; do you know His wondrous love and mighty power? If you knew Him as we know Him, you would make our Savior yours this very hour. He didn't come here to stay, just to show us the way, then He got on a cloud and went home. How wonderful to know we belong to Him and He belongs to us! We are just weary pilgrims getting ready for that holy city, and to be in that number when the saints go marching in will be true peace and joy.

Elder Sizemore welcomed everyone to the afternoon service; as he thanked the host churches for taking such good care of God's people. He thanked God as we were blessed to hear the gospel.

Prayer requests were made for the unsaved, all those made during the morning service, an unspoken request for a friend who needs help with a problem, Virgie Grace Hill's granddaughter and her unborn child, David VanHoose, lady that had open heart surgery, Harold Shaw and family, Beulah Webb's 2 year old granddaughter, unspoken requests signified by many uplifted hands. Elder Harmon Willis led us to the throne of grace in a soul stirring prayer.

Brother Billy Walton, Chairman of the Committee on Church Letters, came forward to give the report of our state and standing. Letters were received from 36 churches. We should receive the letter from Clear Springs tomorrow. It was motioned, seconded and voted to accept the recommendations of the committee and seat those delegates duly elected or appointed by their respective churches as the voting body of the association.

The delegation was seated in order to conduct the business of the association.

The moderator asked for nominations to serve as moderator pro-tem during the election of the association officials. Elder Burnice Sybert was nominated. No other nominations were made. It was motioned, seconded and voted for nominations to cease. Elder Sybert came forward to serve during the election.

The moderator asked for nominations to serve as clerk and treasurer of the association. A nomination was made and it was seconded for Brother Danny Lawson to serve as clerk and treasurer. It was motioned and seconded for nominations to cease. Through the vote by acclamation, he will serve for the ensuing year.

The moderator asked for nominations to serve as moderator of the association. Elder Terry Sizemore was nominated and it was seconded for him to serve as moderator of the association. It was motioned and seconded for nominations to cease. Through the vote by acclamation, Elder Sizemore will serve as moderator for the ensuing year.

Elder Sizemore thanked Elder Sybert for standing as moderator pro-tem during the election of the association officials. The moderator thanked the delegation for their confidence in him. Continue to pray for your association officials, we desire your prayers as we go through another year.

Elder Sizemore read the report from the Religious Exercise Committee which includes:

Thursday night: October 1, 2015 Stand: Joseph Robinette and Jim Lykins

Friday morning: October 2, 2015 Stand: Terry Sizemore and Jason Robinette

The moderator asked for a motion and second to allow him to appoint all committees necessary to carry on the business of the association. It was motioned, seconded and voted to allow the moderator to appoint any and all such committees.

The moderator appointed the following committees:

Committee on Electrical and PA System: Delmer McPherson (chairman), Scott Mellons, Eric McPherson and Danny Lawson.

Committee on Newly Constituted Churches: Ministers: Greg Hill (chairman), Eddie Malone and Jerry Johnson; Deacons: Roy Jones, Ronnie Brooks and Dan Cross; Layman: Null Lawson.

Committee on Finance: Daniel Hurd (chairman), Jim Lykins and Mike Fullington.

Committee on Obituaries: Frank Gilliam (chairman), Charles Bernard and Joseph Robinette.

Committee on Arrangements and/or Queries: Ministers: Scott Tipton (chairman), Lewis Baker, Joe Pitzer, Carter Hagar and Richard Seiber; Deacon: Rodney Dotson; Layman: Joe Horton.

The moderator reminded the delegation that Excused Absence forms are available at the clerk's desk, as well as a Community Service form.

It was motioned, seconded and voted to have all things which are standard printed in the minutes.

It was motioned, seconded and voted to allow the clerk to replenish the necessary forms to properly perform his duties.

It was motioned, seconded and voted to allow the clerk \$1,800 in appreciation for his services.

It was motioned, seconded and voted to allow the moderator \$800 in appreciation for his services. The clerk reported all financial transactions of the year to the delegation.

Brother Delmer McPherson, chairman of the Electrical and PA System Committee came forward to give their report, stating that everything was in good working order.

Brother Roy Jones reported to the delegation on the Ayers Chapel property. Since last year, all known hurdles were crossed; however the buyer was not accepted for the loan. In dealings with the court clerk, we received the judge's OK to proceed and was named as the owner of the property. At this

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time, we do not have a committed buyer, nor can we obtain a deed in the association's name; even though the judge listed the association as owners. We need a buyer before we can go under contract and petition the court again. The moderator asked the delegation if we should place the property in a real estate company's hands. It was motioned, seconded and voted to allow Roy permission to do whatever it takes to help in taking care of the property. Whatsoever he deems necessary to help move the sale along, he and the Virginia trustees can do. A motion was made to increase the gift of \$600 to help defray costs and to compensate him for his time and trouble for brother Roy to \$1,000. Roy came forward and asked the delegation to allow the money to stay in the association treasury. The motion was withdrawn at his request.

The clerk reported on the costs to reprint the church direction books, as well as the Query books. These costs include: Direction Books consisting of 20 pages was \$593 for 500 books and \$846 for 1,000 books if they are stapled and \$649 for 500 and \$932 for 1,000 books if they are perfect bound. The publisher recommended that we staple the books. It was motioned, seconded and voted to order 1,000 stapled books at a cost of \$846.

The query books contain 32 pages and would cost more to print. This includes: 500 for \$730 and 1,000 for \$988, if stapled. If perfect bound, the costs would be 500 for \$852 and 1,000 for \$1,162. It was motioned, seconded and voted to print 500 stapled query books at a cost of \$730.

Elder Burnice Sybert reported on the updating of the query book. The query book will contain all of the entries of the previous book, plus those determined by the committee of Burnice Sybert (chairman), Scott Tipton and Mike Fullington.

The business being concluded, the delegation was dismissed until Friday morning, October 2, 2015.

Friday Morning, October 2, 2015

The Lord blessed us with some much needed rain, in addition to the showers of blessings. We should love Him evermore for the anguish that He bore for us. Knowing the Lord as we do, we cannot be denied His blessings. When He saved us, He made us whole, so Satan has no hold on us. On Christ the solid rock we stand, for all other ground is sinking sand, allowing us to rest on His unchanging grace. How sweet the sound of God's amazing grace that saved such a wretch as we were before we just began to live.

Elder Sizemore welcomed everyone to today's service on this beautiful day which the Lord made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Thank God for each one that is here today. Thank God for meeting with us today as He has in the past. Bless his Holy name! He set us aside from death, for this house of clay will be dissolved and we will be in glory.

We were blessed with special singing from the Swan Creek youth singers. The saved of the earth will be present, for when the roll is called up yonder; all God's children will be there. Let us labor for the Master from the dawn till setting sun, to talk of all His matchless love and care. We may face Satan all day, but God never fails to send reinforcement. Soon the sun will come up in the morning and like an eagle we'll take to the sky, as this old clay will give way to glory.

Prayer requests were made for the unsaved; all the requests from yesterday, those serving our country in the military, our association, our country, many wonderful testimonies were given thanking

God for His blessings. Please pray for Lisa Fowler, Frances Armstrong, Carson Johnson's family, and many unspoken requests signified by uplifted hands. Elder Chris Salley gave his wonderful testimony and gave us wonderful news of precious souls being saved just before he humbly took our petitions to the throne of grace.

The delegation was called to order to transact the business.

It was motioned for the clerk to make some amendments to the proceedings of yesterday, seconded and voted to adopt the business proceedings of yesterday with the amendments noted in the service.

Brother Harold Vance, a visiting minister from Ohio, blessed us with his wonderful testimony and song of praise to our Lord and Savior. A land where death can never enter, we'll be on the sunny banks of sweet deliverance, there to live forever, where God Himself will wipe the tears away.

Elder Terry Sizemore, having been chosen by the Committee on Religious Exercises, came forward to take the first part of the service. He blessed us with a wonderful song before he read Genesis 22:7-8 and used for a thought a portion of the 7th verse, "God will provide Himself a Lamb," or as we see it now, God has provided Himself a Lamb. When Isaac called to his father, Abraham, he responded, "Here *am* I." These are service words and need to be in our lives daily that we would serve the Lord more. As Jesus said, Father I'll go, I'll pay the sin debt for this child that is lost; He is the only one that could answer, for it is still the blood of Jesus that brings victory. The evidence in our faith must also be shown in our actions. We must know without a doubt that our promise is beyond this world and this peace that surpasses all understanding only comes from God. God always provides for His children just as He provided the lamb for Abraham and Isaac. God has a way where we can be at peace. God provided a Lamb for us in Jesus Christ that we might know and understand. Without the shedding of blood, there is no remission and Christ became the replacement to answer for sin on the cross. The answer for sin is death, but through Jesus Christ the answer is life. Our sustenance is in Him, not in the things of man. Behold the Lamb of God takes away the sin of the world and it is for gain to the sons of God. Embrace the promise of knowing that God is able and our victory is in the Lamb of God.

Elder Jason Robinette followed with a song of praise for our Lamb and another message from on high. Matters not what you think about us, if we have been washed in the blood, we have Jesus close beside us and He'll go with us all the way. God provided us a Lamb in His own Son, Jesus Christ. Abraham didn't know the ram would be caught in the thicket, but he went forward, believing as he told Isaac the Lord would provide a sacrifice. In looking as it were, we can see a Lamb slain before the foundation of the world. We have a better country just waiting for us whose builder and maker is God. When the Father said I need someone to pay the sin debt, Jesus Christ paid the debt in full and it no more hinders His children.

We were dismissed in song. What can wash away our sin, nothing but the blood of Jesus? God's children rejoiced as they continued with song, testimony and praise to our Savior.

Friday Afternoon, October 2, 2015

The congregation assembled after a wonderful lunch served by the host churches as everyone continued to praise the Lord. We may have dodged a few rain drops, but no one could dodge His Holy Spirit as it swept over His children. Witnessing what we have in our Lord and Savior, we can proclaim, my God how great thou art! Our soul will sing as we are blessed from the moment we wake up in the

morning, till we lay our head down to rest at night. This world is not our home; our treasures are laid up in a world beyond the blue, so we can't feel at home in this world anymore. We have no friend like Jesus. God places the rainbow in the clouds, and while we may not see a natural rainbow, we certainly witnessed a spiritual rainbow here today.

We were further blessed with special singing and testimony from Jerry Johnson and folks from New Life Church, Swan Creek singers, Scott Tipton and his daughters, Amy and Kala. It is a safe hiding place in the rock of Jesus, for we are His flock. As joint heirs with Jesus, He hides us in the rock. Some day we will stand in God's city to thank Him for what He has done. There will be no crying in that city, nor could there be when we consider what He has done. One day we'll kneel at the feet of Jesus to thank Him for all He has done. As we travel on the Jericho road, He will bless our heart, for on this road there is room for just two, Jesus and you. His unseen hand will lead through ways we cannot see. If we will just trust the unseen hand, it will lead us through this weary land and we will reach that strand. We long to see our Savior's face, for we know it leads where we have no fear, and it will lead us to that home where sin nor sorrow can come. When we walked down sin's long road, we were so lonely and miserable, but when we called on Jesus, He came to our rescue and we are well on our way to heaven. We have started for heaven and mean to go through. We are so unworthy of all He does for us, but just look around, see what all you have to thank Him for, in other words look where He brought you from.

Elder Sizemore thanked the church for a bountiful and delicious lunch and asked that everyone continue to obey the Lord.

Prayer requests were made with many wonderful testimonies. Always remember the unsaved, all those serving our country in the military and their families. Remember Peggy Harrold, Jim Burke, that he may come to know the Lord, T. J. Elliott, Eddie Malone's great grandsons, Walter and Alice Willis, Roy Jones' youngest brother and his wife, Kay Short, Jerry Scalf, Lowell Johnson and his wife, Edna Baker, and many unspoken requests signified by uplifted hands. Brother Ralph Baker blessed us with his wonderful and earnest testimony before he took our petitions to the Lord.

The delegation was seated in order to transact the business.

Brother Billy Walton gave the final report of the Letter Committee. The letter from Clear Springs Church was received and their state and standing was read. It was recommended by the committee to include this church as part of the voting body of the association. It was motioned, seconded and voted to seat those duly elected delegates as part of the voting body.

The moderator appointed the Church Letter Committee for 2016 which includes: Joe Robinette, (chairman), David Horton, Michael Peterson and Bradley Bowen (alternate).

The moderator read the report from the Committee on Religious Exercises.

Friday night:

Poplar Grove Church: Keith Holt and Matthew Stevens Blue Springs (Hiltons): Jason Robinette, Joseph Robinette, Jim Lykins and Sammy VanHoose

Saturday morning: October 3, 2015: Stand: Greg Hill and John Banks

Saturday night: Stand: Daniel Smith and Wally Berry Roller's Chapel: Joseph Robinette and Sammy VanHoose Wallen's Creek: Billy Marcum

Sunday morning, October 4, 2015: Stand: Scott Tipton and Lewis Baker Roller's Chapel: Billy Marcum, Mike Fullington and Jason Robinette

Please note that Sunday, October 18, 2015, Roller's Chapel will have a dedication service for their new church with Elders Terry Sizemore and Oscar Irvin, beginning at 2:30 p.m.

The clerk read the Resolution of Thanks that he had prepared. It was motioned, seconded and voted to print it in the minutes as read.

The Committee on Newly Constituted Churches reported that none had been received.

The Committee on Finance reported \$4,880 in receipts for the year. The chairman thanked each church and individual for their contributions.

The Committee on Obituaries reported that 30 have been received at this time.

The Committee on Arrangements and/or Queries reported that no queries had been received.

The moderator noted that all committees are dismissed upon delivering their final report.

The association has not received anything from Irondale Church. It was motioned, seconded and voted to allow the clerk to review the letter if it was received after the association and if deemed in order, include it in the body of the association.

The men chosen to write the circular letter for 2015 were Deacons Dennis Stewart, Steve Hunt and Doug Willis. All of these men came forward as Steve Hunt read the letter. Its message was to everyone, that we should dwell in love, peace and harmony as we trust in God. It was motioned, seconded, and voted to print the letter in our minutes as it was read.

The moderator appointed the Committee on Circular Letters for 2015 which includes: Minister: Joseph Robinette, Deacon: Delmer McPherson, and Layman: Andy Wallen.

After some discussion, it was motioned, seconded and voted to pick up new copies of Direction books and the Query Books at the association meeting in 2016 to reduce the cost of mailing them.

Purchasing new chairs will remain on hold until the Ayers Chapel property is sold. When it sells, the committee can buy the new chairs and the old chairs can be sold to our churches for \$5 each.

We were led in special song by Aubra Hill, as a special offering was taken up to help offset some of the costs incurred in rebuilding the mobile kitchen. A donation of \$1,403 was received.

Since Elder Sizemore would be involved in the plea process to determine where the association will be next year, it was suggested that Elder Burnice Sybert, having been elected moderator pro-tem in Thursday's service, come forward to handle this process. There were no objections, so Elder Sybert came forward. Before the plea process began, Elder Sybert requested that when we return to our home

churches that each church send a special donation to the association to help build up the funds. He also suggested that next year each church give as much to the association as they give to the host church.

The moderator reminded the delegation that only those chosen or appointed by their respective churches as delegates were allowed to vote. There were 3 churches that asked for the association to meet with them next year. These are: Fairview, OH (Bellbrook), Swan Creek and Valley View. No church withdrew during the first and second rounds of the plea process. During the vote, by a clear majority the delegation sent the association to Swan Creek Church, where the Lord willing we will convene on Thursday morning, (September 29, 2016) before the first Saturday in October, 2016. Introductory – Elder Terry Sizemore; Alternate – Elder Porter Carroll.

Adjourned until Saturday morning, October 3, 2015.

Saturday Morning, October 3, 2015

God continued to bless us with rain showers, as well as His blessings from His storehouse of love. Smiling faces were abundant as God's children gathered in the church for the memorial service. Sister Zula McCullough and Ralph Lawson, Jr. led the congregation in several songs praising our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Why should we long for this world and its sorrows when there is a country full of joy without measure? That beautiful home of the soul awaits us in the land where we'll never grow old. When our work here is done, our troubles and trials will be o'er in that land that is fairer than day. Our bountiful Father waits just over the way in the sweet by and by. A land of joy and peace with skies ever bright, where having been saved by grace divine, we are going that way. Our Savior is with us each day as we cling to him in this world, but we will meet Him in glory at last.

The Cadet Church singers, Dustin Lawson, Poplar Grove and West View church singers so wonderfully blessed us with their testimony and songs in honor of our Savior. Burdens come and are so hard to bear, but then our Lord from heaven above wipes our tears away. We don't need a mansion here, for Jesus said we could go to one that awaits us in our heavenly home. The old rugged cross, the emblem of suffering and shame, held our blessed Savior as He hung in our place. We will continue to cling to it and exchange it someday for a crown. The years spent in vanity and pride give way when we tremble at the law we spurned. The love of God is greater far than any words can ever tell. From the top to the bottom and side to side, His love covers all. If not for this love, we would be of all men most miserable. His redeeming grace is sufficient and His love will see us throughout any timeframe that might bind us here in this world. To be so glad that Jesus loves even us is beyond our comprehension, but one day we will understand it all. We pray that everyone can shout that Jesus loves even me. Special recognition was given to Pearl and H. C. Johnson for all their hard work and dedication to this grand body. We thank God for them and appreciate their years of devotion. We love them and thank God for the privilege of calling them our friends.

Elder Terry Sizemore welcomed everyone to our memorial service. Thank God for His blessings. As we think about our new home, we recall the countless souls that have passed from our midst over the years, we rejoice in their peace and rest. They no longer have to put up with the cares of this world. This life is temporary, but heaven is eternal. Time swiftly passes, and as we look at our life, God blesses us to know many saints and through memories they are still with us. Our relationship with each other is an important part of life. When we reach our eternal home, time will be no more, for we will not need it then.

Remember in prayer the lost, the requests made in previous services, our young people, all those serving our country in the military and their families, Roy Reed family, Billy Barrett family, Clifton Horne's 2 lost brothers, Jerry Scalf, and Fred Gilreath. Brother David Parsons humbly led us to the throne of grace.

We were further blessed with special singing and testimony from Jerry and Faye Johnson, who blessed us with songs of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. To be His child is worth more than this world will ever know. One day soon the eastern sky will open and reveal God's Son. Death is swallowed up in victory. In the sum of all things, to be His child is worth it all, for today is the day of salvation.

The delegation was seated in order to transact the business.

It was motioned, seconded and voted to adopt the business proceedings of yesterday as read with the amendments mentioned during the service.

Elder Oscar Irvin came forward to thank several of the area businesses and the surrounding community for all of their help during this blessed event. A special thanks to Jennifer Horton for securing so many donations, and to everyone who helped during this setting of the association. Please support these local businesses mentioned today to help them as they helped the association.

It was motioned, seconded and voted to print Sister Eileen Brown's contact information in the minutes as she continues sending out revival and special service notices. Please let her know by the 20th of the month for the notice to be included in next month's announcements. Individuals and churches should send a donation to help Sister Eileen with postage and handling. Her contact information is as follows:

Eileen Brown Phone: 865-993-4960 Email: ebrowntravel@gmail.com

For many years, the Saturday service has been dedicated as a memorial service for those saints who have passed from among us. The moderator read the names of those that have passed from our midst this year. Please remember their families in your prayers and thank God for having known them.

Having been chosen by the Committee on Religious Exercises, Elder Greg Hill took the lead of the service. Singing an old song of praise and testimony, he reminded us of the clouds opening up and there stood Jesus. He read from Solomon 8:13-14. If we are saved, we are planted in His garden, but those that do not belong to Him will be plucked up. God made man in His own image and placed man in His garden. We must be workers in His vineyard as He gave man dominion over things and charged him with keeping it intact. Adam dwelled in the Garden of Eden as we dwell in this world today, but we have a job to do here as well. We must be about His business each and every day, so others may see and believe and trust Him as their Savior. He blessed us with speech that we might preach and teach the Gospel and lead others to Christ, for we are the light of the world. He requires us to tell the wondrous story of Jesus and show others His greatness. May we all get to the point where we cannot hold it in any longer until we shout it from the roof tops and in the highways and byways of His truth and greatness. God bids us come unto Me all ye that are burdened and heavy laden and I will give you rest.

Elder John Banks came forward to take the second part of the service with a message from on high. Blessed are those that die in the Lord. If we sow to the spirit, He will reward us with everlasting

life. Nothing can separate us from God, for He loves us as no other can do. Our faith is not in vain because Christ lives and sets at the right hand of the Father making intercession for us. Our time here is limited, but Heaven knows no time constraints as we have here in this world. The world may say we have nothing, but as children of the Lord, we have it all. Let us always love one another, just as Jesus loves His children, for it is the only way to overcome evil. Because He lives, we have hope through faith in Him of a better home.

These men preached the Gospel to us and we thank Him for their dedication and faithfulness to the work of the Lord.

We were dismissed in songs of praise and wonderful testimonies as we were adjourned until Sunday morning, October 4, 2015.

Sunday Morning, October 4, 2015

The beautiful sunshine was abundant just like the blessings of the Lord have been all week. Smiling faces greeted everyone as they gathered in the church as the spirit of the Lord welcomed everyone. What a week we have had as God so richly blessed His children. Several songs were sung in honor of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. What a blessing it is to gather one more time this side of glory. Thank God we have the ticket we received when we believed and the boatman will take it to lead us safely home. When we sing our final song of our Savior's precious blood, the boatman will take our ticket and see us safely home. Let us all be overcomers when it comes to serving our Lord.

Elder Oscar Irvin welcomed everyone to today's service, thanking God for everyone coming this way. The house is full as well as the hearts of God's children. The liberty bestowed on the preachers and the spirit of God that visited us here at this association meeting was nothing but amazing. Let everyone gathered today obey the spirit and do what God bids. Our prayer is that some lost soul could come to know the Lord. We beg that everyone would obey Him.

We were blessed with songs from Willow Chapel Church singers; Andy Wallen led the congregation in songs of praise, Peggy Sizemore, Matthew and Terri Stevens, Steve Minton, Harold Vance, a United Baptist minister and the West View Church singers. God's Holy Spirit is welcome and needed in our lives today as we are attacked from every angle, but with God's help we can overcome. May His spirit flood our hearts with the assurance of His love. When the storm around us rages and we are tossed to and fro, stand still and let God move. When we feel we have reached the end, stand still and let God move. Glory, glory, glory the Lord touched us with His precious hand and made our life complete. Regardless of the day He touched you, it was the most precious moment that you will ever experience. Regardless of the weather, God's children always walk in Son-light. We can rejoice in singing His praise for He is ours and this light shows us the way.

A request was received from Jim Burke that Peggy Sizemore sing The Old Ship of Zion and record it that he might watch it from the hospital. Our prayer is that the Lord would save Jim. The old ship of Zion is sailing now, please do not let it pass you by. At the stern was the Captain, as He calls out your name, please get on board. Earth holds no treasure for God's children, for there is country to which we are going where joy without measure will be our treasure, as Heaven holds all to us. His unseen hand is there for each of us to lead us through the things we cannot see. Let us trust the unseen hand, for some sweet day we'll reach that strand. We long to see our Savior's face, to sing

the story saved by grace, to praise Him for His guiding hand. Long years ago when we were out in sin we had no hope, no peace within, but when we prayed to Jesus, He gladly set us free and rolled all the burdens of our soul away. We sing and shout it for He is everything to us. Oh sinner come to His dear feet and humbly bow, confess your sin, and He will cleanse you and save you. Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like us. We were once lost but now we are found through God's marvelous grace that taught our heart to fear and allowed us to believe. When God's amazing grace came in, we just began to live. As we travel through this weary land, we pray that Jesus will continue to hold our hand and protect us by His saving power. There is no other friend on which we can depend. God's Lamb is no longer in the grave, for He is alive forevermore.

Prayer requests were made for Sherri Brown, Steve Hunt's 2 brothers, Hershel Baker and his family, Wanda, Geraldine and her brother, Sadie Hensley, Daniel Hurd's oldest daughter, Danyale Hurd Wade and her family, our country, those suffering loss all over our country, Rick and his in-laws, Such wonderful testimonies all over the church.

Elder Scott Tipton took the first part of the service. Let each of us examine ourselves to know that we are the child of the King. We will never meet like this again. Reading from St. John 6:23, Elder Tipton brought a wonderful message. When we have a need, God is there in a mighty way. He has a purpose for everything and we could not stop it, even if we wanted to. Just ask yourself, what did He see in us? He saw in us something that we cannot comprehend, but God's power and spirit makes us strong. What God saved belongs to Him and while this old clay will go back to the dust, we have a wonderful home built by Jesus on high. Excuses do not work with God; He knows our heart and He will continue to fill us with His holy spirit. If you have never drunk from the fountain containing living water, you need to partake before it is too late. God is a spirit and He seeketh such to worship Him. We try to take things off of us and place the blame on someone else, in many cases the Lord. Let things go and answer the call of our Heavenly Father. What God put forth, it is finished.

Elder Lewis Baker followed with wonderful testimony and preaching from God our Father. This inward part can only be made alive through Christ Jesus. God condemned sin in the flesh and only He can wash our sin away with His precious blood. Wickedness in our land today causes fear to man, but God is still in control of all things and He will deliver on His promises. The Lord knows everything about us and He is willing to help us through any trial. What would our forefathers think of the job we are doing, if they could see us now? Thank God for His Son who died that we might have everlasting life. If we suffer with Him, we can also reign with Him. We have an inheritance with God our Father. He is from everlasting to everlasting and His ways, his thoughts and His ideas are so far above ours, we cannot comprehend, but be thankful that He is alive, and alive for evermore.

Such wonderful preaching, but more importantly God's spirit was with His people. Thank Him for meeting with us during these services. Thank God for all of our preaching brethren and folks that gathered with us today. The children of God were so wonderfully blessed throughout these services. Praise His Holy name for all His blessings and for meeting with us! Bless His Holy name. Please pray for the lost that they might find the Lord in the free pardon of sin and for the sick that the Lord may touch them and make them well again.

Every year, we must repeat this downtime, but then we think of all the blessings of the Lord. What a tremendous time we had in all of our services. It may be a little sad for our host churches, but they can rejoice in knowing with God's help they did a phenomenal job in taking care of God's children. God will take their sadness and put a smile on their face as they thank Him for everything. We pray God will richly bless those that could not attend. Our hope is that somewhere in the words of these minutes, there will be a blessing for everyone. It is a known fact that while we can't put the blessings

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experienced during the past few days in the minutes, our prayer is that God will bring to our remembrance those blessings received during this gathering, and that He will renew our strength daily. We pray God will continue to bless this grand body as we return to our earthly homes, rejoicing in the fact that we have a Heavenly home, not made with hands, where we can go to dwell forever. Bless His Holy name!

CIRCULAR LETTER

By the blessing of our Heavenly Father, we are gathered here for the 163rd session of the Eastern District Association hosted by Poplar Grove and West View Primitive Baptist Churches. We thank you and are very blessed to be among God's people. (Psalm 133:1) Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is* for brethren to dwell together in unity!

Dwelling in unity, we dwell in love. Eternal love was the high impulsive cause of the glorious cost of our salvation, and is the grand source whence all the endless blessings of grace and glory flow. God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. There are no better words to show how deep of love that God has for us. He gave His only Son to die on the cross for our sins, that whosoever believeth in Him, should not perish, but have everlasting life. It was the sovereign cause, and is the everlasting one of our union with Christ; a union that is indissoluble.

While dwelling in love, we must live by faith. Let us trust in the unseen power of God, allowing Him to guide us through all things. We that are filled with the Holy Spirit must believe and trust in God. All things are possible through Him. References can be found throughout the Bible over and over again demonstrating the love of God and the rewards of those who put their trust in Him and live by faith. Hebrews chapter 11 references several instances of faith through Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, and Sarah. As Noah moved by faith with fear in building the ark and saving of his house, he became heir of the righteousness. They were pilgrims and strangers on the earth. We are also pilgrims and strangers in our own times. We are blessed to have God to call upon, and churches for fellowship and worshiping together. The view of the apostle Paul when he wrote to the church at Ephesus, that God would grant you, according to the riches of His glory to be strengthened with might by His spirit in the inner man; that Christ may dwell in your heart by faith; that ye being rooted and grounded in love filled with the fullness of God.

The people of the Old Testament saw the great works of God, but still did not believe. We must trust in the unseen hand and obey His will. As Christians, one of the bigger struggles we face is putting our complete trust in God. We must remember God is a spiritual entity who will never fail or forsake His children. He is always there to love, listen, and comfort us. When we place our wholehearted faith into His hands, God will always encourage and provide us with everything that we could possibly need. We should never be afraid to call on God or to trust in His love for us. By placing our trust in Him, we will begin to live life more fully and heighten our spiritual growth in the Lord. He has a unique plan and purpose for each one of us. Don't be afraid to trust His guidance. No matter what we are tossed in life, we have a rock to lean upon. He is our firm foundation when we feel like our life is built on sinking sand. Together through daily prayer, meditation, and sharing of God's faith with others, we can grow more fully in our walk with Christ. Thankfully, even in our darkness of night, joy will come in the morning.

Being a child of God through belief and trust we know we have the hope that we will reign forever in heaven with Christ sitting on the right hand of our beloved Father. As Christians, we must want others to share in this hope. We can be the small stones that lead others to the solid rock by telling others what God has done for us, teaching them to use the Bible as a blueprint of life, encouraging them to attend church where they can hear the gospel, and let our lights shine to all people by living our life as an example of Christ. Through Adam we inherited sin and death, but through the love of God and death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven and we will live forever with Christ.

Divine love was the cause of that everlasting covenant, which is ordered in all things, and of the oath by which both it and all things in it, all things pertaining to eternal life and godliness. Grace and mercy are manifestations of His love, by those sovereign acts of his infinite wisdom and power, by which will fill all eternity with admiration and delight, the raising of many sons unto glory.

As the song writer states, we could never write down enough words to show just how great God's love is, even if we had enough ink to fill the ocean, and enough paper to stretch from sky to sky; but, we can depend upon Him with our walk through life, while dwelling and worshiping in unity with love until we reach that Heavenly shore.

Brother Steve Hunt Brother Dennis Stewart Brother Douglas Willis

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

For the first time we have two churches hosting our association. Poplar Grove and West View churches have been working tirelessly to prepare for your visit. Thank God for such wonderful friends willing to go the extra distance to make our stay the best it can be.

We are indebted to our sister churches and the countless others who have given in so many ways to help in this noble endeavor. West View and Poplar Grove churches thank each individual helping in this blessed event. Donations received from 37 churches contributing \$6,943 help the host churches tremendously. We trust God will receive all the honor, glory and praise for everything, for He is truly deserving.

We thank our moderator, Elder Terry Sizemore. His dedication and trust in the Lord are greatly appreciated. While our moderator stands before us during this gathering, it is just a small token of the time and prayers he commits to this grand body. We ask God to continue to bless him and his family in the coming years.

Writing this letter has become a great privilege to me while serving as the clerk and treasurer. As is the case every year, many thoughts come to mind, but the one lingering on my mind is of the many individuals that have helped me and have been a true blessing while serving this grand body. Please do not take this the wrong way, because all of you have truly been a blessing. The Lord has a way of sending in the right people at the right time to do the job and to bless His people. Many times over the years when things looked very bleak, you all came to my rescue with your words of kindness and encouragement. There are no words to express what this has meant to me over the years. I can't help but think He has blessed me more than most, but I realize He blesses all of His children in His own way. I cannot possibly mention all those who have helped me over the years in the pages of this book, but I would like to name a few in hopes that it might remind you of those special saints in your lives. Some dearly departed saints that come to mind are: Elder Carl Lawson, my dad, Orbin and Maxie Osborne and Tommy and Samantha Lawson, my grandparents; W. S. "Dub" Mellons, Madge Canter, Elders John Henry Sybert, Eckel Head, Henry Wheeler and Cassel and Beulah Caudill.

Those still on the battlefield today include: Becky, my devoted wife; Pauline Osborne Lawson, my mom; Peggy Mellons, Harold Shaw, Burnice and June Sybert, Oscar and Priscilla Irvin, Terry and Peggy Sizemore, Daniel Hurd, Roger VanHoose, Richard Seiber, Porter and Wanda Carroll, my Big

Door church family, many aunts, uncles, cousins and so many wonderful friends that I could never list them all. These folks have played such a tremendous role in my life. I can never thank God enough for all the blessings these and other folks have brought to me. I pray that as I prepare to leave this office that you will continue to pray for the new clerk just as you have for me. The new clerk cannot possibly do this work alone, but must depend on the Lord as I have all these years. I cannot explain the ways of God, but I know when things seemed at their worst and I did not know which way to go, the Lord blessed me and aligned my steps on the right path. What a blessing it has been for me and my family to serve this grand body of God's children.

Let us all strive to help those who don't know God in the free pardon of sin. We must endeavor to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ that we will remain steadfast and unmovable.

Terry Sizemore

Moderator

Danny Lawson

Clerk & Treasurer

PROCEDURE FOR ORGANIZING NEW CHURCHES

(Revised 1964)

1. Obtain an arm from the nearest sister church when practical. This arm must be chosen at a regular business session of the church and should consist of no less than seven members; three of whom should be ordained members.

2. When the arm arrives at the designated place, a moderator and clerk pro-tem shall be chosen after which the moderator shall call the council to order and have the clerk read the Articles of Faith, Church Covenant, Rules of Decorum and Church Constitution. These must be adopted and written in the church book.

3. The moderator shall ask for those who wish to become members of the church, and they shall be received in the manner approved by the Primitive Baptist Church. Should there be less than seven, they shall remain under the watchcare of the church from which the arm was obtained. This church shall be required to appoint such members as may be necessary to transact business. These members shall be required to be present at each regular church session until the new church becomes a body of at least seven members.

4. A pastor and clerk shall be elected at this time, and when practical, at least one member shall be chosen to prove himself for the office of deacon.

5. A name shall be given the church and their regular meeting time declared.

PROCEDURE FOR ORDINATION OF MINISTER OR DEACON

(Revised 1964, 1970, 1983, 1988, 2005, 2006, 2010, 2011)

Any person being considered by the church for the Ministry or the office of Deacon must be set apart by the church to prove himself as to his calling and qualifications for as long a time as the church may deem necessary.

In order to better acquaint both the presbytery and the local church pertaining to the qualifications of a minister and deacon, the past records have been thoroughly searched. There may have been many ideas, opinions and much discussion; however, the records are the only official means we have of knowing where the association stands and the action it has taken.

(A) We believe the only power that can qualify a person to preach the gospel is the Spirit of God, and no educational institution can qualify a person to preach the gospel.

(Adopted at Blackwater, Tennessee – 1881; published 1970)

(B) We advise the churches to be careful in the ordination of ministers and deacons in order that they observe gospel order. (See Paul's instructions to Timothy and Titus.)

(Adopted at Piney Grove Church – 1886; published 1970)

(C) How shall ministers from other associations be received into the Eastern District Association?

Answer: Any minister of any other organization desiring to become a member of any of the association churches as a minister: (1) shall first be received as a member of a local church; (2) the church then at their discretion shall set him aside to prove himself; (3) when the church is fully satisfied, they shall proceed to ordain him according to our rules.

(Adopted at Blackwater Lick Church – 1978; published 1988)

(D) Is it proper procedure for the ordained deacons and elders of the Eastern District Association to participate in ordination of brethren from other churches or church organizations that have not joined our membership?

Answer: No, an ordained deacon or minister of the Eastern District Association of Primitive Baptists has no authority to serve on the presbytery for the ordination of someone outside the association.

(Adopted at Riverside Church – 2005; published 2005)

(E) Resolved, that the ministers and deacons of the Eastern District Association of Primitive Baptists shall not officiate or participate in the marriage between two men or two women; neither will any who engage in a lifestyle contrary to the teaching of the Scriptures as recorded in the King James translation of 1611 be accepted as a minister or deacon in the Association.

(Adopted at Flower Gap Church – 2006; published 2006)

(F) Requirements or Qualifications for Ordination Procedures for Ministers or Deacons

(Titus 1:6-9). If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly. For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not self-willed, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate; Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

(I Timothy 3:2-7). A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?) Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

(I Timothy 3:8-13) Likewise *must* the deacons *be* grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being *found* blameless. Even so *must their* wives *be* grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things. Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

(Adopted at House Chapel Church – 2011; published 2011)

When the church is satisfied concerning the candidate for ordination and has voiced their approval of him, then at an appointed time the ordination is to be carried on in the following manner:

- 1. A Legal Presbytery is appointed which shall consist of not less than three nor more than seven ordained men, one of whom should, if possible, be an ordained deacon in the church in which the ordination is taking place. In case only three are used to compose the Presbytery, two ministers and one deacon, or two deacons and one minister, may be used.
- 2. The church presents the candidate for ordination to the Presbytery for examination. Each member of the Presbytery will have ample opportunity to question the candidate concerning his calling if to the ministry, also concerning his moral and spiritual qualifications and particularly to his understanding and belief of the Articles of Faith, Rules of Decorum and other principles of the church.
- 3. When the Presbytery has completed their examination of the candidate, they return him to the care of the church with their report.
- 4. If the report of the Presbytery is satisfactory and the church is satisfied, they express their approval and return the candidate to the hands of the Presbytery for the ordination.
- 5. The Presbytery with prayer and laying-on of hands ordain the candidate. A charge is given by one member of the Presbytery. A Certificate of Ordination may then be given with authorized signatures.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having been, as we trust, brought by the grace of God to embrace the Lord Jesus Christ, and to give ourselves wholly to him, we do solemnly and joyfully covenant with each other to walk together in Him in brotherly love to His glory as our common Lord. We do therefore, in His strength engage that we will exercise a mutual care as members one of another to promote the growth of the whole body in Christian knowledge, holiness, and comfort to the end that we may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God, and to promote and secure this object we will uphold the public worship of God, and the ordinances of His house, and hold constant communion with each other therein. That we will cheerfully contribute of our property for the support of the poor, and for the maintenance of a faithful ministry of the gospel among us, and that we will not omit family religion at home, nor allow ourselves the too common neglect of the great duty of training our children and those under our care with a view to the service of Christ and the enjoyment of heaven. That we will walk circumspectly in the world that we may win their soul; remembering that God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of a sound mind, that we are the light of the world, and the salt of the earth, and as a city set on a hill. That we will frequently exhort, and if occasion requires it, admonish one another according to Matthew 18; in the spirit of meekness considering ourselves, lest we also be tempted, and that as in baptism, we have been buried with Christ, and raised again, so there is on us a special obligation, thenceforth to walk in newness of life, and may the God of peace who brought again from the dead, our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, who through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make us perfect in every good work, to do His will working in us that which is well pleasing in His sight through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

- Copied from the Willis Chapel Church Book, 1807

CHURCH CONSTITUTION (Especially for Newly Constituted Churches)

We do, with mutual consent, agree to embody ourselves together as a religious body to worship God. Being a church congregated, we hold and teach:

Baptism of believers in Christ by a decent immersion of our whole bodies once in water;

The final perseverance of the saints;

The resurrection of our bodies;

A restricted communion to church members in full fellowship;

The Old and New Testament Scriptures (King James Version) to be the revealed will and mind of God;

The Christian Sabbath to be a holy and heavenly institution;

That we should not forsake the assembling of ourselves together as the manner of some is, and especially our regular church meetings should diligently be attended;

That we should not expose the infirmities of our members except in gospel order;

That we should not move out of the bounds of the church without applying for a letter of dismission;

And that we should communicate of our worldly substance for the decent support of the church and ministry.

With this mutual consent and understanding, having been duly and properly organized, constituted, and pronounced a church, we are ready, by the will of God, to proceed to business.

(Revised in 1959)

RULES OF DECORUM

Ordered, therefore that the following decorum be a rule for the church to conduct herself by in future conferences. See Nehemiah 10:39.

- 1. Conference shall consist of members of the church and visiting members of sister churches of the same faith and order if so desired.
- 2. Conference shall be opened and closed with praise and prayer to Almighty God. I Tim. 2:1; I Thess. 5:17, 18.
- 3. One shall be chosen to preside, who shall be addressed under the appellation of "Brother Moderator," to whom every speech shall be perfectly directed.
- 4. The members' names being regularly enrolled shall by the Clerk be distinctly called over.
- 5. A door shall be open when thought necessary for admission of new members into the church. But none shall be admitted but by unanimous consent, and shall first verbally relate their experience and give an account of the work of God in their hearts; and secondly, of their faith and principles, if the church requires it; and thirdly, the church shall make diligent inquiry respecting their moral conduct. When full satisfaction shall be obtained, the Moderator shall manifest the same by giving the right hand of fellowship and thus receive them in order.
- 6. No complaint shall be brought in the Conference respecting crimes of a private nature until the grieved party has complied with the directions of our Lord in Matt. 18:15.
- 7. Every motion and second shall come under the consideration of the Conference unless withdrawn by the member who made it.
- 8. Every query presented shall be three times read. When it is read, the Moderator shall put it to a vote to see if the majority is for or against answering it. The query shall be debated if deemed necessary, but the querist may withdraw it any time providing that no intricate question be asked.
- 9. If the minority at any time should be grieved at the determination of the majority, they are hereby directed to make the same known immediately to the church; and if satisfaction cannot be obtained, it may be necessary in that case to call for help from sister churches.

10. Section 1. All business of the Conference shall be recorded by the clerk before the conference rises; the same shall be distinctly read and corrected, if need be.

Section 2. Any member neglecting to attend conference, the same shall be disorder.

Section 3. Any member absenting himself or herself from conference without leave, the same is disorder.

Section 4. Any member whispering or laughing in time of public speech, the same is disorder.

Section 5. If two or more shall speak at one time, or any member speak without rising and addressing the Moderator, the same shall be disorder.

Section 6. Any member speaking more than three times on any subject without leave obtained, the same is disorder.

Section 7. Any member, grieved at anything done in conference, and shall hold his or her peace, and shall not let the same be known until conference rises and shall afterward speak of the same, as it manifestly tends to confusion, is hereby deemed disorder.

Section 8. Any member speaking or acting in wrath or anger, or in threatening or disregarding manner, as it shames religion, wounds the cause of Christ, and grieves the true Christian, is hereby deemed disorder.

Section 9. If any moderator shall neglect plainly and calmly to reprove any member transgressing these rules, or behaves in any manner irreverently in the time of conference, the same is disorderly in him, and himself, for the time, liable to be reproved.

Section 10. The woman hath not the right by the law of Christ to usurp authority over the man, and therefore ought not to speak in church, only in case of conscience, or in such particular circumstances that the nature of the case may require it.

Section 11. Amendments to these rules may be made at any time when the conference shall deem necessary.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

- 1. We believe in one true and living God as revealed in the Bible and the Holy Trinity by the name of The Father, Son and Holy Ghost. I John 5:7.
- 2. We believe the Old and New Testament Scripture, as recorded in the King James translation of 1611, to be the written and revealed Word of God. II Tim. 3:16; II Pet. 1:20, 21.
- 3. We believe God created the heaven and the earth and all things therein. Gen. 1:1; Col. 1:16, 17; Rev. 4:11.

- 4. We believe God made man of the dust of the earth, and He made him good and He gave him a law to keep and man transgressed the law and fell from his first estate and lost his righteousness. Gen. 1:27, 2:7, 2:16, 17, 3:6-23.
- 5. We believe in the total depravity of man, that he was unable to redeem himself from the fallen state he was in. Gen. 3:24; Rom. 5:9-19.
- 6. We believe God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son to be the propitiation for the sins of the world, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16; I John 2:2.
- 7. We believe sinners are justified by faith and saved by grace. Eph. 2:8; Rom. 5:1, 2.
- 8. We believe the Gospel is the only means God has ordained by which sinners are brought to Christ. I Cor. 1:21-24.
- 9. We believe he that believeth in the Son of God hath the witness in himself. I John 5:10.
- We believe baptism, the Lord's Supper, and feet washing are ordinances of Jesus Christ given to the church by example and command for us to observe until He comes again. Matt. 28:19; John 13; I Cor. 11:23-26.
- 11. We believe the only scriptural mode of baptism is by immersion of the whole body in water in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, and believers are the only fit subjects for baptism. Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12; Matt. 28:19.
- 12. We believe all the saints will persevere through grace and never fall away. Eph. 1:13, 14; I Pet. 1:5; John 10:28, 29.
- 13. We believe in election according to the foreknowledge of God and the sanctification of the Spirit through the belief of the truth. Eph. 1; I Pet. 1:2, 3.
- 14. We believe the church is the light of the world and is made manifest by keeping the commandments and examples of Jesus Christ, who is the Head of the church in all things. Matt. 5:14; Eph. 1:22, 23.
- 15. We believe God chooses, calls and qualifies those whom He would have to preach the gospel, and God has promised temporal support of His ministers. Rom. 10:14, 15; I Cor. 1:25-29; I Cor. 9:7-11.
- 16. We believe in a restricted communion confined to the church in fellowship, walking in the light and observing gospel order. I Cor. 5:11, 12; John 13; I Cor. 11:31, 32.
- 17. We believe Christ is the only lawgiver in Zion, and the New Testament scripture is perfect, a thorough furnisher to the man of God unto all good works. James 4:12; II Tim. 3:16.
- 18. We believe Jesus Christ, during the time of His earthly ministry, set up a spiritual kingdom on earth, in fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy; He being the King and all born again believers the subjects of the Kingdom, and they are now reigning with Him as Kings and priests on the earth. Dan. 2:44; Isa. 9:6, 7; Matt. 3:2; Luke 17:20, 21; John 18:36; Rev. 1:5-7.

- 19. We believe God hath appointed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness by His Son, Jesus Christ, and this day will be after the death of the body. Heb. 9:27; John 5:22; Acts 17:31.
- 20. We believe there will be a general resurrection at the last day, both of the just and the unjust; this will also be the day of final judgment and the eternal destiny of all people, of all ages, will then be made known. Acts 24:15; John 5:28, 29; I Cor. 15:23, 24, 54; I Thess. 4:14-17; II Thess. 1:7-10.
- 21. We believe the punishment of the wicked is everlasting and the joys of the righteous are eternal. Matt. 25:46.
- 22. We believe God instituted marriage as the union of one man and one woman as husband and wife and any other such union is an abomination. Gen 2:18-25; Lev. 18:22; 20:13; Rom. 1:24-32; Eph. 5:22-33; I Pet. 3:1-7.

ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

- 1. This Association shall be called "The Eastern District Association of Primitive Baptists."
- 2. The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our union, and producing letters from their respective churches shall be entitled to seats.
- 3. In the letters from the different churches shall be expressed the number in fellowship and gains and losses since the last Association.
- 4. The members chosen and convened shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, neither any clerical power over churches, nor shall they infringe upon the material rights of any church in the union.
- 5. The Association, when convened, shall be governed by a regular and proper decorum.
- 6. The Association shall have a moderator, clerk and treasurer, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.
- 7. New churches may be admitted into the union by letter and delegates; and if found orthodox and orderly, shall be admitted into the Association and manifested by the moderator giving each the right hand of fellowship.
- 8. Each church shall be entitled to one and not more than four representatives in the Association.
- 9. Each query presented by any church to the Association, being first debated in their own church, shall be taken up by the Association.
- 10. Each motion and second shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.
- 11. The Association shall furnish the churches with Minutes of the Association.

- 12. We think it necessary to have an Association fund for defraying expenses, for the raising and supporting of which it shall be the duty of each church in the union to contribute such sums as they may deem proper and send it by the hands of their delegates to the Association.
- 13. There shall be an Association book kept wherein the proceedings of the Association shall be recorded by the clerk, who shall have a compensation for his trouble.
- 14. The Minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if need be, and signed by the moderator and clerk before the Association rises.
- 15. Amendments to this form of government may be made at any time by a majority of the union, if they deem it necessary.
- 16. The Association shall have power to provide; first, for a general union of the churches; second, to preserve inviolable a chain of communion among the churches; third, to give the churches all necessary advice in matters of church difficulty.
- 17. The Association shall have power to inquire into the cause why churches fail to represent themselves at any time in the Association.
- 18. The Association shall have power to appropriate the money contributed by the churches to any purpose it may think proper.
- 19. The Association shall have power to appoint any member or members to transact any business it may deem necessary.
- 20. The Association shall have power to withdraw from any church that violates the rules of the Association or deviates from the principles of orthodox religion.
- 21. The Association shall have power to admit any orderly minister of our order to a seat in the Association.
- 22. The Association shall have power to adjourn to meet at any future time or place it may deem proper.
- 23. Each church shall endeavor to have its letter and delegates present on the first day of the Association. Any church not represented at that time shall report to the committee on letters giving their reason for delay.

BRETHREN, WE HAVE MET AGAIN

By: Elder I. S. Robinette

Brethren, we have met again, Let us join in prayer and sing, Twelve months more around have rolled Since we met this peaceful fold.

> Brethren, tell me how you do; Does your love continue true? Are you waiting for your King: When He shall return again?

Brethren, tell me of your love, Are your hearts and mind above? Do you love your blessed Lord And pursue His Holy Word?

> Since we met twelve months ago, Some have left this world below; Some have gone to join that band In that happy heavenly land.

We are waiting at each breath We may meet the monster death, Let him come with Jesus near, We will shout and never fear.

> Oh, how sweet in union dear, We have met in counsel here; The Lord is here, our souls to bless, And our faith and hope increase.

And when our work is done below, Then to glory we shall go, Meet our friends and brethren there, Who once joined us here in prayer.

- Authorized in 1968

Names, addresses and telephone numbers of ordained and liberated ministers, with the name of the church where each retains his membership. Optionally listed is the wife's name in parentheses.

Name & Address

Church Membership

Baker, Lewis A., 867 Fall Creek Rd., Blountville, TN 37617, (423) 323-5529	Chestnut Flats
Banks, Charles, (Rose) 25 Hitchcock Loop, Van Lear, KY 41265, (606) 789-3030 Banks .lohn (Barbara) 18 Sword Dr . Whiteshurd KY 41858 (606) 633-0443	Richardson Chapel
*Beaugard, Trov. 7871 Dogwood Way, Douglasville, GA 30134, (937) 218-6406	Macedonia
Bernard, Charles, 1221 S. Eastman Rd., Kingsport, TN 37660, (423) 245-6087	West View
/, Wally, 119 Hurd Rd., Church Hill, TN 37642, (423) 357-8567	Willow Chapel
lin, John H., (Brenda) 205 E. Central, Bristol, TN 37620, (423) 764-1070	Blue Springs, Hiltons, VA
Brown, Bob, (Debi) 241 Park Dr., Bean Station, TN 37708, (423) 289-6138	. Copper Creek (Addington Frame)
Carroll, Porter, 2020 Autumn Lane, Morristown, TN 37813 (423) 839-0275	Swan Creek
Cross, Kevin M., 5004 Madison Ct., Charlottesville, VA 22911, (434) 973-7941	Chestnut Flats
Dutton, Brad, (Annie) P. O. Box 1266, Louisa, KY 41230, (606) 673-3927	Richardson Chapel
Elliott, T. J., 6719 Tazewell Hwy., Sneedville, TN 37869, (423) 733-8696	Swan Creek
Fullington, Mike, (Tina) 2498 Lawson Rd., Morristown, TN 37814, (423) 587-4221	Willis Chapel
am, Frank, (Juanita) 180 Flanary St., Kingsport, TN 37660, (423) 408-4666	Sloantown
Hagar, Carter, 109 Walnut St., New Tazewell, TN 37825, (865) 585-5327	Swan Creek
Hill, Greg, 156 Horn Gap Dr., Gate City, VA 24251, (276) 690-6904	Roller's Chapel
Holt, Keith, 150 East Greenway St., Sneedville, TN 37869, (423) 733-2002	Swan Creek
	2Blackwater Lick
	Poplar Grove
Jarrett, Tim, 12422 Horton Hwy., Greeneville, TN 37745, (423) 579-2067	Caney Creek
Johnson, Donald L., (Janice) 561 Oak Grove Rd., Rogersville, TN 37857, (423) 272-0428	New Life
Johnson, Jerry, (Faye) 2600 Springvale Rd., Morristown, TN 37813, (423) 312-0282	New Life
npkin, Wiley, 726 Pleasant Hill Rd., Bulls Gap, TN 37711, (423) 235-9693	New Life
Little, Tony, (Tonya) 583 Sycamore Loop, Jeremiah, KY 41826, (606) 633-2257	Little Cowan
ns, Jim, (Anne) 7447 W. Third St., Dayton, OH 45417, (937) 572-1499	Rose Chapel
Malone, Eddie, (LaWanda) 1655 Billy Bible Rd., Greeneville, TN 37745, (423) 234-1972	Caney Creek
	Copper Creek (Addington Frame)
Meade, Tommy, 31 Miller Creek, Van Lear, KY 41265, (606) 789-6205	Richardson Chapel
Moody, David, (Leah) 1221 S. Eastman Rd., Kingsport, TN 37660, (423) 782-8830	West View
*Newkirk, Mark, (Anita) 3764 Stonebarn Ct., Franklin, OH 45005, (937) 475-1807	Rose Chapel

Osborne, Tommy, (Robin) 5091 Gate City Hwy., Bristol, VA 24201 *Peters, Tony, 501 Sequoyah St., Kingsport, TN 37660, (423) 246-5523	Blue Springs, Hiltons, VA Caney Creek Clear Springs
Richie, Leon, (Dee) 7381 Dayton-Liberty Rd., Dayton, OH 45417, (937) 835-3826 Robinette, Jason, (August) 9 W. Walnut St., Box 174, Spring Vallev, OH 45370, (937) 862-5106	Rose Chapel
Robinette, Joseph, (Jennifer) 106 Shepherds Ridge, Waynesville, OH 45068, (937) 212-8192	Fairview
Robinette, Josh, (Kristi) 320 St. Rt. 72N, Jamestown, OH 45335, (937) 499-0285	Clear Springs
Salley, Chris, 3445 Island Rd., Blountville, IN 37617, (423) 323-9507	Blue Springs, Hiltons, VA Wallen's Creek
Shaw, Harold, (Evelyn) 5645 State Route 380, Wilmington, OH 45177, (937) 382-8324	Fairview
Short, Freddie, (Anita) P. O. Box 506, Pound, VA 24279, (276) 769-5593	Cadet
Sizemore, Terry, (Peggy) 1225 Deneen Lane, Morristown, TN 37814, (423) 581-8496	Swan Creek
Smith, Daniel, (Mandy) 2682 Lanter Dr., Morristown, TN 37814, (423) 312-3147	Peterson's Chapel
Stapleton, David, (Linda) 612 Melinda Ferry Rd., Rogersville, TN 37857, (423) 523-4883	Burke's Union
*Stevens, Matthew, (Terri) 2819 Emory Lane, Johnson City, TN 37604, (423) 328-0602	Poplar Grove
Sybert, Burnice, (June) 2132 Welch Rd., Kingsport, TN 37660, (423) 288-2309	West View
Tipton, Scott, (Teresa) 235 Sante Fe St., Church Hill, TN 37642, (423) 967-6491	Willow Chapel
Turner, John, (Maude) 395 Robert Simmons Dr., Carlisle, OH 45005, (937) 746-0175	Rose Chapel
VanHoose, David, (Pam) 1752 W. St. Route 350, Wilmington, OH 45177, (937) 218-2115	Macedonia
VanHoose, Roger, (Penny) 1090 Jefferson Dr., Wilmington, OH 45177, (937) 728-3593	Clear Springs
VanHoose, Samuel, (Vicki) 972 Union Rd., Xenia, OH 45385, (937) 372-9264	Fairview
Weems, Everette, 261 McCloud Church Rd., Rogersville, TN 37857, (423) 754-7727	Marion Robinette
*Weems, Mark, 118 Pine St., Surgoinsville, TN 37873, (423) 754-7374	Long Hollow
Williams, Glenn, 340 Hurd Rd., Church Hill, TN 37642, (423) 357-5443.	Mt. Mitchell
	Osborne's Chapel

authority to exercise their gift. They are therefore liberated to preach, but are not legally ordained ministers. *These ministers have been recognized by their church as having a gift. Their church has given them the

Church and Clerk

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	VA 24244, (276)	24258, (276)		1716 Dawson Avenue West, Big Stone Gap, VA 24219, (276) 439-9097						P. O. Box 55, Ermine, KY 41815, (606) 633-7598			VA 24202,				(276)	НО	Ę	24244, (276)	TN 37642,				744 Poplar Grove Rd., Kingsport, TN 37664, (423) 349-4903					(423)		
Blackwater Lick - Anita H. Moore	Blue Springs (Duffield, VA) - Doris Fee	Blue Springs (Hiltons, VA) - Brenda B. Horton	Burke's Union - Ada McPherson		Caney Creek - Lloyd T. Morelock	Chestnut Flats - D. T. Cross	Clear Springs - Penny VanHoose	Copper Creek (Addington Frame) - Flo Minton	Davis Chapel - Janie Woodward	Edwin Holbrook Memorial - Pearl Noble	Fairview - Charlene Mitchell	Flower Gap - Onza Fisher	Gardner's Memorial - Cathy R. Baker	Kingswood - Denise Brooks	Little Cowan - Carol Caudill	Long Hollow - JoAnn Jones	Low View - Barbara Bledsoe	Macedonia - Pam VanHoose	Marion Robinette Memorial - Elizabeth R. Manes	Mountain View - Juanita Bowen	Mt. Mitchell - Peggy Harrold	New Life - Phyllis Lampkin	Osborne's Chapel - Joyce Neeley	Peterson's Chapel - Mandy Smith	Poplar Grove - Jean Wallen	Richardson Chapel - Rosemary Borders	Roller's Chapel - Kim Robinette	Rose Chapel - Sandra J. Johnson	Shelby Creek - Bonnie Wilson	Sloantown - Frank Gilliam	Swan Creek - Danita Dodson	

	llen's Creek - Francis Tomlinson	Valley View - Wanda Parsons
	st View - Nancy McCullough	Wallen's Creek - Francis Tomlinson
Willis Chanel - Millard R. Hall		llen's Creek - Francis Tomlinson

A LOOK INTO THE PAST

100 Years Ago – The 63rd annual Eastern District Association began on September 3, 1915 at Ida Church in Scott County, VA. Elder J. P. Peters preached the introductory sermon, after reading Revelation 1:15 "And His feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters." Elder F. M. Long was the alternate. Elder E. S. McPherson was elected moderator and J. J. Addington, clerk and treasurer and J. W. Hurd assistant clerk.

75 Years Ago – On October 3, 1940 the 88th annual session met with Peterson's Chapel Church, Duffield, Scott County, VA. The introductory sermon was preached by Elder F. M. Phipps from this text "Then said He; Lo I come to do Thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that He may establish the second" from Hebrews 10:9. He was followed by Elder T. R. Carter on the same subject. Elder E. A. Robinette was elected moderator and Elder T. R. Carter as assistant moderator, with Amos Osborne being elected clerk and treasurer.

50 Years Ago – Mt. Mitchell Church, Hawkins County, TN, hosted the 113th annual session beginning on September 30, 1965. The introductory sermon was delivered by Elder Alex Willis reading Revelation 22, using for his text, "The Spirit of God." Elder J. D. Maggard, the alternate, came forward using the same text. Elder J. H. Sybert, moderator and Ellis I. Wallen, clerk and treasurer were chosen by acclamation to serve for the ensuing year.

25 Years Ago – October 5, 1990 was the beginning of the 138th annual session, hosted by Blackwater Lick (Big Door) Church, Blackwater, Lee County, VA. Elder Carl Lawson preached the introductory sermon reading St. Matthew 12:41-42 taking as a text, "A greater than Jonas is here, a greater than Solomon is here." He was followed by Elder Walter Willis. Elder J. H. Sybert was chosen moderator and Danny Lawson was elected clerk and treasurer.

CHURCH DATA

NOTE: All regular morning services begin at 11:00 a.m. and all evening services begin at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted. EDT is Eastern Daylight Time (March - November) and EST is Eastern Standard Time (November - March). Starting times for Sunday school are not included.

BLACKWATER LICK: Blackwater, VA. Delegates: Hershel Baker, Daniel Hurd, Gerald Moore and Anita Moore; alternates: Pauline Lawson and Betty Baker. Deceased, 5; Total number on roll, 92; contribution, \$300.00; meeting day, 1st Saturday morning, Saturday night (6:00 p.m.) and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, Sunday (10:30 a.m.) following the 1st Saturday in May. Elders Porter Carroll and Mike Fullington asked to attend. Daniel Hurd, moderator.

BLUE SPRINGS: Duffield, VA. Delegates: None. Received by letter, 1; deceased, 1; total number on roll, 16; contribution, \$100.00; meeting day, 2nd Saturday night (7:00 p.m. EDT & 6:00 p.m. EST) and every Sunday morning. Daniel Hurd, moderator.

BLUE SPRINGS: Hiltons, VA. Delegates: Jim Bowlin, Gary Hall, Joe Horton and Chris Salley; alternates: Brenda Bowlin and John Bowlin. Deceased, 2; total number on roll, 33; contribution, \$50.00; meeting day, 4th Saturday afternoon (2:00 p.m.) and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, Spurrier Cemetery at 2:00 p.m. on the 3rd Sunday in May. Chris Salley, moderator.

BURKE'S UNION: Blackwater, VA. Delegates: Delmer McPherson, Joe Robinette, Clifford Bledsoe and Jean Robinette; alternates: Tyler Stapleton and Ada McPherson. Received by letter, 2; excluded, 1; total number on roll, 107; contribution, \$150.00; meeting day, 4th Saturday night (6:30 p.m.), and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, Sunday (10:30 a.m.) following the 4th Saturday in July. David Stapleton, moderator.

CADET: Big Stone Gap, VA. Delegates: Roy Jones, Justin Jones, Lois Collier and Lillie Akens; alternates: Vicky Jones and Freddie Short. Excluded, 1; total number on roll, 40; contribution, \$150.00; meeting day, 3rd Saturday night and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, Sunday (10:30 a.m.) following the 3rd Saturday in September. Burnice Sybert, moderator.

CANEY CREEK: Greeneville, TN. Delegates: Eddie Malone, Wanda Malone, Otis Roberts and Lloyd Morelock; alternates: Jimmy Bledsoe and Shelia Bledsoe. Deceased, 2; total number on roll, 87; contribution, \$75.00; meeting day, Sunday (9:30 a.m.) following the 2nd Saturday (6:00 p.m.) and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, 1st Sunday in June (9:30 a.m.). Eddie Malone, moderator.

CHESTNUT FLATS: Gate City, VA. Delegates: Lewis Baker, Ralph Baker, Dan Cross and Mary Baker; alternate: Kevin Cross. Total number on roll, 43; contribution, \$75.00; meeting day, 3rd Saturday night and following Sunday morning. Lewis Baker, moderator.

CLEAR SPRINGS: Spring Valley, OH. Delegates: Dennis Stewart, Karen Stewart and Carrie Fox. Received by relationship, 1; total number on roll, 139; contribution, \$236.00; meeting day, 4th Sunday morning and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, 3rd Sunday in October (10:30 a.m.). Roger VanHoose, moderator.

COPPER CREEK (ADDINGTON FRAME): Nickelsville, VA. Delegates: Anita Howell, Danny Howell, Carson Sturgill and Janice Sturgill; alternates: Allen Addington and Roger Manring. Total number on roll, 73; contribution, \$200.00; meeting day, Sunday following the 2nd and 3rd Saturday. Memorial service, Sunday (10:30 a.m.) following the 3rd Saturday in October. Elder Bob Brown asked to attend. Daniel Smith, moderator.

DAVIS CHAPEL: Jonesville, VA. Delegates: Rita Asbury, Phyllis Hurd, Butch Woodward and Janie Woodward; alternate: Ett Osborne. Total number on roll, 45; contribution, \$100.00; meeting day, 2nd Saturday night and every Sunday morning (10:30 a.m.). Memorial service, Sunday (10:30 a.m.) following the 2nd Saturday in April. Richard Seiber, moderator.

EDWIN HOLBROOK MEMORIAL: Ermine, KY. Delegates: Henrietta Adams, Casey Breeding, Roger Sturgill and Teresa Sturgill; alternate: Beulah Webb. Dismissed by letter, 1; deceased, 1; total number on roll, 10; contribution, \$55.00; meeting day, every Sunday except the 3rd. Memorial service, 1st Sunday in April. John Banks, moderator.

FAIRVIEW: Bellbrook, OH. Delegates: Sam VanHoose, Jason Robinette, Bobby Graham and Joseph Robinette; alternate: Shannon Payne. Received by experience and baptism, 2; received by letter, 1; received by relationship, 1; excluded, 1; deceased, 5; total number on roll, 150; contribution, \$250.00; meeting day, 3rd Saturday night and every Sunday morning (10:30 a.m.). Memorial service, Sunday (10:00 a.m.) following the 3rd Saturday in May. Jason Robinette and Joseph Robinette, moderators.

FLOWER GAP: Blackwater, VA. Delegates: Homer Osborne, Helen Willis, Doug Willis and Eugene Sullivan. Total number on roll, 73; contribution, \$75.00; meeting day, 4th Saturday night and every

Sunday morning. Memorial service, Sunday (10:30 a.m.) following the 4th Saturday in May. Doug Willis, moderator pro-tem.

GARDNER'S MEMORIAL: Bristol, VA. Delegates: Hiram Gardner, Gail Gardner, Gary Baker and Cathy Baker. Total number on roll, 104; contribution, \$50.00; meeting day, Sunday following the 2nd Saturday. Hiram Gardner, moderator pro-tem.

KINGSWOOD: Morristown, TN. Delegates: Denise Brooks, Ronnie Brooks, Anita Brown and Don Brown. Deceased, 1; total number on roll, 63; contribution, \$75.00; meeting day, Sunday night (after 6:30 p.m. service) following the 3rd Saturday (except in September when it follows the 4th Saturday) and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, Sunday (10:30 a.m.) following the 3rd Saturday in September. Ronnie Brooks, moderator pro-tem.

LITTLE COWAN: Whitesburg, KY. Delegates: Robert Sword, Linda Lucas, Carol Caudill and John Banks. Deceased, 3; total number on roll, 67; contribution, \$200.00; meeting day, 2nd Saturday night and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, 4th Sunday in May. John Banks, moderator.

LONG HOLLOW: Surgoinsville, TN. Delegates: Virgie Williams, Judy Head, Ada Harrison and Margaret Marrisett. Received by experience and baptism, 1; deceased, 1; total number on roll, 188; contribution, \$150.00; meeting day, 3rd Saturday night, every Sunday morning and 2nd and 4th Sunday nights (6:00 p.m.). Memorial service, Sunday, May 15, 2016 (10:30 a.m.). John Charles, moderator pro-tem.

LOW VIEW: Pennington Gap, VA. Delegate: Carter Hagar. Total number on roll, 35; contribution, \$40.00; meeting day, 4th Sunday and every Sunday morning (10:00 a.m.). Memorial service, 1st Sunday in June (10:00 a.m.). Carter Hagar, moderator.

MACEDONIA: Wilmington, OH. Delegates: Kenny Taylor, Clem Simmons, Alex Bartlett and David VanHoose. Received by experience and baptism, 9; dismissed by letter, 1; total number on roll, 138; contribution, \$50.00; meeting day, 2nd Sunday and every Sunday (10:00 a.m.). Memorial service, 3rd Sunday in April. David VanHoose, moderator.

MARION ROBINETTE MEMORIAL: Rogersville, TN. Delegates: Ralph Lawson, Shirley Lawson and Elizabeth Manes. Received by letter, 2; deceased, 1; total number on roll, 36; contribution, \$100.00; meeting day, every Sunday morning. Memorial service, 1st Sunday in May (10:45 a.m.) Everette Weems, moderator.

MOUNTAIN VIEW: Duffield, VA. Delegates: Bradley Bowen, Juanita Bowen, Charles Ayers and Paula Ayers. Deceased, 1; total number on roll, 20; contribution, \$75.00; meeting day, 4th Saturday night (6:30 p.m.) and following Sunday morning (10:30 a.m.). Memorial service, Sunday (10:30 a.m.) following the 4th Saturday in May. Richard Seiber, moderator.

MT. MITCHELL: Mt. Carmel, TN. Delegates: Shirley Blair, Mollie Gilreath, Peggy Harrold and Juanita Williams. Deceased, 3; total number on roll, 93; contribution, \$175.00; meeting day, Sunday following the 3rd Saturday and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, 1st Sunday in June. Frank Gilliam, moderator.

NEW LIFE: Whitesburg, TN. Delegates: Ervin Haager, Anthony Harris, Willie Stamey and Wiley Lampkin; alternates: Donald Lowell Johnson and Phyllis Lampkin. Received by experience and

baptism, 1; received by relationship, 1; total number on roll, 87; contribution, \$50.00; meeting day, every Sunday morning. Jerry Johnson, moderator.

OSBORNE'S CHAPEL: Blackwater, VA. Delegates: Null Lawson, Denver Osborne, Larry Fannon and Carolyn Fannon; alternates: James Davidson and Thelma Johnson. Dismissed by letter, 1; total number on roll, 88; contribution, \$100.00; meeting day, 2nd Saturday night and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, Sunday following the 2nd Saturday in May. Keith Holt, moderator.

PETERSON'S CHAPEL: Duffield, VA. Delegates: Tanya Berry, Jane Peterson, Michael Peterson and Lola Peterson; alternates: Zachary Berry and Matthew Smith. Received or restored by recantation, 1; total number on roll, 51; contribution, \$70.00; meeting day, Sunday following the 3rd Saturday and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, last Sunday in October, after 4th Saturday. Daniel Smith, moderator.

POPLAR GROVE: Kingsport, TN. Delegates: Rick Hickman, H. C. Johnson, John Shelton and Bill Spurlock; alternate: Austin Adams. Received by experience and baptism, 1; deceased, 2; total number on roll, 85; contribution, \$100.00; meeting day, Sunday following the 1st Saturday and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, Sunday before Memorial Day (10:30 a.m.). Oscar Irvin, moderator.

RICHARDSON CHAPEL: Louisa, KY. Delegate: Tommy Meade. Received by relationship, 1; deceased, 1; total number on roll, 193; contribution, \$50.00; meeting day, 1st Saturday night and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, Sunday night before Memorial Day. Tommy Meade and Brad Dutton, moderators.

ROLLER'S CHAPEL: Duffield, VA. Delegates: Greg Hill, Aubra Hill, Kathy Lawson and Kim Robinette; alternate: Don Stokes. Dismissed by letter, 2; deceased, 4; total number on roll, 45; contribution, \$250.00; meeting day, 1st Saturday night (6:30 p.m. EST) and every Sunday morning. Greg Hill, moderator.

ROSE CHAPEL: West Carrollton, OH. Delegates: Anne Lykins, Jim Lykins, Sandra Johnson and Luther Johnson. Received by experience and baptism, 6; received by relationship, 2; deceased, 4; total number on roll, 109; contribution, \$200.00; meeting day, every Sunday morning (10:30 a.m.) and Wednesday night. Memorial service, Sunday (10:30 a.m.) following the 3rd Saturday in October. John Turner and Jim Lykins, moderators.

SHELBY CREEK: Eidson, TN. Delegates: Bonnie Wilson, Thelma Tate, Dave Lauck and Chery Lauck. Excluded, 1; total number on roll, 11; contribution, \$50.00; meeting day, 3rd Saturday night, following Sunday night and 1st Sunday night. Walley Berry, moderator.

SLOANTOWN: Clinchport, VA. Delegates: Frank Gilliam and JoAnn Griffin. Total number on roll, 26; contribution, \$40.00; meeting day, Sunday (6:00 p.m.) following the 3rd Saturday. No services in January and February. James E. Bowlin, moderator.

SWAN CREEK: Sneedville, TN. Delegates: Rodney Dodson, Doyle Odell, Earl Lee Dodson and Larry Dean; alternates: Johnny Bunch and Keith Holt. Dismissed by letter, 1; total number on roll, 301; contribution, \$200.00; meeting day, 1st Saturday night and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, 3rd Sunday in June (10:30 a.m.). Terry Sizemore, moderator.

VALLEY VIEW: Pennington Gap, VA. Delegates: Curtis Pennington, David Parsons, Ronnie Leonard and Sandra Leonard; alternates: Anna Duncan and Carolyn Pennington. Received by

experience and baptism, 5; total number on roll, 68; contribution, \$200.00; meeting day, every Sunday morning. Memorial service, 2nd Sunday in October (10:00 a.m.). Wally Berry, moderator.

WALLEN'S CREEK: Duffield, VA. Delegates: Bill Tomlinson, Pauline Gillenwater, Richard Seiber and Michael Tomlinson. Dismissed by letter, 1; total number on roll, 42; contribution, \$100.00; meeting day, 1st Saturday night and following Sunday morning. Memorial service, Sunday following the 1st Saturday in May (10:30 a.m.). Elder Burnice Sybert asked to preach. Richard Seiber, moderator.

WEST VIEW: Kingsport, TN. Delegates: Jack Osborne, Joy Osborne, Wanda Osborne and Gracie Wallen; alternates: Burnice Sybert and Zula McCullough. Received by experience and baptism, 2; received by letter, 1; total number on roll, 62; contribution, \$1,000.00; meeting day, 2nd Saturday night (6:00 p.m.) and every Sunday morning and Sunday night (6:00 p.m.). Memorial service, Sunday following the 2nd Saturday in April (10:30 a.m.). Burnice Sybert asked to preach the memorial service. Burnice Sybert, moderator.

WILLIS CHAPEL: Kyles Ford, TN. Delegates: Mike Fullington and Millard Hall. Total number on roll, 89; contribution, \$100.00; meeting day, 2nd Saturday night and following Sunday morning. Memorial service, 2nd Sunday in September (10:30 a.m.). Mike Fullington, moderator.

WILLOW CHAPEL: Kingsport, TN. Delegates: Garnetta Miller, Kala Hale, Janice Jones and Donnie Jones; alternates: Teresa Tipton and Kevin Hale. Received by experience and baptism, 4; received by relationship, 5; excluded, 3; deceased, 2; total number on roll, 87; contribution, \$200.00; meeting day, every Sunday morning, Sunday night (6:30 p.m.), 3rd Wednesday night (6:30 p.m.) business, other Wednesday nights (6:30 p.m.), Bible study. Memorial service, Sunday following the 3rd Saturday in September (10:30 a.m.). Scott Tipton, moderator.

TOTALS: 37 churches (18 in VA., 12 in TN., 3 in KY., and 4 in OH.) Received by experience and baptism, 31; received by letter, 7; received by relationship, 11; received or restored by recantation, 1; dismissed by letter, 7; excluded, 7; deceased, 39; total number on roll, 2995.

There are 27 ministers serving as pastors - 21 are serving 1 church; 5 are serving 2 churches and 1 is serving 3 churches. There are 5 churches with a moderator pro-tem. There were 23 ministers and 1 visiting minister who signed the register at this year's association.

UNION MEETINGS - 2016

(NOTE: All Union Meetings start at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise shown.)

- APRIL -

1 - ROSE CHAPEL: To begin on Thursday night before the 1st Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Greg Hill, Oscar Irvin, Joe Pitzer, Jason Robinette, Burnice Sybert, Scott Tipton, David VanHoose, Roger VanHoose and all others who wish to attend.

2 - VALLEY VIEW: To begin on Friday night before the 1st Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: John Banks, Wally Berry, Carter Hagar, Greg Hill, Daniel Hurd, Oscar Irvin, Roger Manring, Daniel Smith, Matthew Stevens, Burnice Sybert, Harmon Willis and all others who wish to attend.

3 - DAVIS CHAPEL: To begin on Thursday night before the 2nd Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: John Banks, Frank Gilliam, Greg Hill, Keith Holt, Daniel Hurd, Oscar Irvin, Roger Manring, Terry Sizemore, David Stapleton, Tyler Stapleton, Burnice Sybert and Harmon Willis.

4 - WEST VIEW: To begin on Thursday night before the 2nd Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: John Banks, Wally Berry, Porter Carroll, Carter Hagar, Greg Hill, Oscar Irvin, Jason Robinette, Terry Sizemore and Harmon Willis.

5 - CADET: To begin on Thursday night before the 3rd Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: John Banks, Mike Fullington, Greg Hill, Daniel Hurd, Oscar Irvin, David Moody, Jason Robinette, Richard Seiber, Freddie Short, Terry Sizemore, Daniel Smith and Scott Tipton.

6 - PETERSON'S CHAPEL: To begin on Friday night before the 3rd Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Wally Berry, Oscar Irvin, Jason Robinette, Terry Sizemore, Tyler Stapleton, Burnice Sybert, Sammy VanHoose and all others who wish to attend.

7 - CLEAR SPRINGS: To begin on Thursday night before the 4th Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Greg Hill, Oscar Irvin, Terry Sizemore, Daniel Smith, Matthew Stevens, Burnice Sybert and Scott Tipton.

- MAY -

1 - SWAN CREEK: To begin on Thursday night before the 1st Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Lewis Baker, John Banks, Mike Fullington, Frank Gilliam, Greg Hill, Daniel Hurd, Oscar Irvin, Richard Seiber, Daniel Smith, David Stapleton, Tyler Stapleton, Burnice Sybert, Scott Tipton and Harmon Willis.

2 - MARION ROBINETTE MEMORIAL: To begin on Friday night (7:00 p.m.) before the 1st Saturday (6:00 p.m.) and Sunday morning (10:45 a.m). Ministers asked to attend: Mike Fullington, Greg Hill, Oscar Irvin, Terry Sizemore, Burnice Sybert and Harmon Willis.

3 - OSBORNE'S CHAPEL: To begin on Thursday night before the 2nd Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Porter Carroll, Greg Hill, Keith Holt, Daniel Hurd, Oscar Irvin, Roger Manring, Jason Robinette, Joseph Robinette, Richard Seiber, David Stapleton, Burnice Sybert and Scott Tipton.

4 - COPPER CREEK (ADDINGTON FRAME): To begin on Friday night before the 2nd Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: John Banks, Bob Brown, Greg Hill, Oscar Irvin, Jason Robinette, Richard Seiber, Terry Sizemore, Burnice Sybert, Scott Tipton, David VanHoose, Sammy VanHoose and Harmon Willis.

5 - SLOANTOWN: To begin on Sunday (6:00 p.m.) following the 3rd Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Lewis Baker, Greg Hill, Daniel Hurd, Roger Manring, Chris Salley, Richard Seiber and Freddie Short.

- JUNE -

1 - RICHARDSON CHAPEL: To begin on Thursday night before the 1st Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Oscar Irvin, Jason Robinette, Terry Sizemore, Daniel Smith and Roger VanHoose.

2 - LOW VIEW: To begin on Friday night (6:30 p.m.) before the 1st Saturday; Sunday (10:00 a.m.). Ministers asked to attend: John Banks, Porter Carroll, Daniel Hurd, Oscar Irvin, Roger Manring, Richard Seiber, Burnice Sybert and Harmon Willis.

3 - NEW LIFE: To begin on Friday night before the 1st Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Porter Carroll, Greg Hill, Oscar Irvin, Wiley Lampkin, Eddie Malone, Terry Sizemore, Burnice Sybert, David VanHoose, Roger VanHoose and Harmon Willis.

4 - CANEY CREEK: To begin on Wednesday night before the 2nd Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Oscar Irvin, Tim Jarrett, Donald Johnson, Jerry Johnson, Terry Sizemore, Daniel Smith, Burnice Sybert and Scott Tipton.

5 - BLUE SPRINGS (Duffield, VA.): To begin on Thursday night before the 2nd Saturday; Sunday (10:30 a.m.). Ministers asked to attend: Lewis Baker, John Banks, Frank Gilliam, Carter Hagar, Greg Hill, Oscar Irvin, Roger Manring, Jason Robinette, Joseph Robinette, Richard Seiber, Freddie Short, Burnice Sybert and any other ministers are welcome.

6 - LONG HOLLOW: To begin on Wednesday night before the 3rd Saturday; Sunday (10:30 a.m.). Ministers asked to attend: Wally Berry, Bob Brown, Porter Carroll, Frank Gilliam, Carter Hagar, Greg Hill, Oscar Irvin, Donald L. Johnson, Jerry Johnson, Roger Manring, Richard Seiber, Terry Sizemore, Burnice Sybert, David VanHoose, Roger VanHoose and Harmon Willis.

7 - BLUE SPRINGS (Hiltons, VA): To begin on Friday night before the 4th Saturday (2:00 p.m.). Ministers asked to attend: Lewis Baker, John Bowlin, Porter Carroll, Frank Gilliam, Carter Hagar, Roger Manring, Freddie Short, Terry Sizemore, Harmon Willis and all others who wish to attend.

- JULY -

1 - FAIRVIEW: To begin on Thursday night before the 2nd Saturday; Sunday (10:00 a.m.). Ministers asked to attend: Bob Brown, Greg Hill, Oscar Irvin, Burnice Sybert and Scott Tipton.

2 - SHELBY CREEK: To begin on Thursday night before the 3rd Saturday; Sunday (10:30 a.m.). Ministers asked to attend: Wally Berry, Greg Hill, Daniel Hurd, Oscar Irvin, Richard Seiber, David Stapleton, Matthew Stevens, Burnice Sybert and all others who wish to attend.

3 - BURKE'S UNION: To begin on Thursday night before the 4th Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Wally Berry, Porter Carroll, Mike Fullington, Oscar Irvin, Jason Robinette, Joseph Robinette, Richard Seiber, Burnice Sybert, Scott Tipton and Harmon Willis.

- AUGUST -

1 - WALLEN'S CREEK: To begin on Wednesday night before the 1st Saturday, Sunday 10:30 a.m. Ministers asked to attend: Lewis Baker, John Banks, Mike Fullington, Greg Hill, Daniel Hurd, Oscar Irvin and Burnice Sybert.

2 - BLACKWATER LICK: To begin on Friday night (6:00 p.m.) before the 1st Saturday (10:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.); Sunday (10:30 a.m.). Ministers asked to attend: Lewis Baker, John Banks, Porter Carroll,

Mike Fullington, Frank Gilliam, Greg Hill, Keith Holt, Oscar Irvin, Jason Robinette, Richard Seiber, Terry Sizemore, Burnice Sybert, Harmon Willis and all others who wish to attend.

3 - POPLAR GROVE: To begin on Friday night before the 1st Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Lewis Baker, Greg Hill, Chris Salley, Terry Sizemore, Daniel Smith, Burnice Sybert and Scott Tipton.

4 - WILLIS CHAPEL: To begin on Thursday night before the 2nd Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Greg Hill, Daniel Hurd, Oscar Irvin, Richard Seiber, Terry Sizemore and Burnice Sybert.

5 - GARDNER'S MEMORIAL: To begin on Friday night (6:00 p.m.) before the 2nd Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Lewis Baker, Frank Gilliam, Greg Hill, Oscar Irvin, Terry Sizemore and Burnice Sybert.

6 - MT. MITCHELL: To begin on Friday night before the 3rd Saturday; Sunday (10:30 a.m.). Ministers asked to attend: Lewis Baker, Mike Fullington, Carter Hagar, Greg Hill, Daniel Hurd, Roger Manring, Chris Salley, Richard Seiber, Freddie Short and Harmon Willis.

7 - MOUNTAIN VIEW: To begin on Thursday night (6:30 p.m.) before the 4th Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: John Banks, Greg Hill, Daniel Hurd, Oscar Irvin, Richard Seiber, Terry Sizemore and Burnice Sybert.

8 - **MACEDONIA:** To begin on Friday night before the 4th Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Greg Hill, Oscar Irvin, Joseph Robinette and Burnice Sybert.

- SEPTEMBER -

1 - ROLLER'S CHAPEL: To begin on Thursday night before the 1st Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Lewis Baker, John Bowlin, Bob Brown, Daniel Hurd, Oscar Irvin, Jason Robinette, Richard Seiber, Harold Shaw, Burnice Sybert, Scott Tipton and Harmon Willis.

2 - EDWIN HOLBROOK MEMORIAL: To begin on Friday night before the 1st Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Lewis Baker, John Banks, Frank Gilliam, Greg Hill, Daniel Hurd, Roger Manring, Richard Seiber and Burnice Sybert.

3 - LITTLE COWAN: To begin on Thursday night before the 2nd Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Carter Hagar, Greg Hill, Daniel Hurd, Oscar Irvin, Roger Manring, Jason Robinette, Richard Seiber, Terry Sizemore, Burnice Sybert and Harmon Willis.

4 - KINGSWOOD: To begin on Thursday night before the 3rd Saturday; Sunday (10:30 a.m.). Ministers asked to attend: Wally Berry, Porter Carroll, Mike Fullington, Keith Holt, Oscar Irvin and Terry Sizemore. Homecoming at 10:30 a.m. following the Union Meeting. No Sunday school or evening worship.

5 - CHESTNUT FLATS: To begin on Friday night before the 3rd Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Charles Bernard, Bob Brown, Frank Gilliam, Greg Hill, Oscar Irvin, Chris Salley, Richard Seiber and Burnice Sybert.

6 - WILLOW CHAPEL: To begin on Friday night before the 3rd Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Wally Berry, Porter Carroll, Greg Hill, Oscar Irvin, Terry Sizemore, Daniel Smith, Burnice Sybert, David VanHoose, Harmon Willis and all other ministers welcome.

7 - FLOWER GAP: To begin on Thursday night before the 4th Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Mike Fullington, Greg Hill, Daniel Hurd, Oscar Irvin, Richard Seiber, Burnice Sybert and Harmon Willis.

DIRECTIONS TO SWAN CREEK CHURCH

2226 Swan Creek Road Sneedville, TN 37869

Those coming from Virginia should take US 58 to Jonesville. Turn onto State Route 70 and proceed south to the intersection of Route 33. Travel to Sneedville and continue on Route 33 for approximately 8.5 miles to the church on the left.

Those coming from Ohio and Kentucky should take US 25E to Route 33 and travel east for approximately 13 miles to the church on the right.

Those coming from the Kingsport area should take US 11W to Rogersville. Turn right onto State Route 70 and proceed to the intersection of Route 33. Travel to Sneedville and continue on Route 33 for approximately 8.5 miles to the church on the left.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Balance from 2014	\$ 14,154.97
Receipt from kitchen damage insurance claim	2,430.00
Special Donation	1,403.00
Receipts from 2015	4,880.00
Receipts after association adjourned	225.00
Interest	21.67
TOTAL	\$ 23,114.64
DISBURSEMENTS:	
Rental of safety deposit box	\$ 75.00
Insurance premium (Kitchen and Liability)	874.30
Charter registration fee	22.25
Website domain fee (2015, 2016 and 2017)	54.51
Postage	75.59
Clerical Supplies	76.64
Repairs to the kitchen	5,403.00
Gift to Moderator	800.00
Gift to Clerk	1,800.00
Printing and packaging 1,300 copies of 2015 minutes	2,678.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 11,859.29
BALANCE IN TREASURY	\$ 11,255.35

NOTE: The total cost to operate the association based on number of minutes ordered was \$6.60



MEMORIAM

"PRECIOUS IN THE SIGHT OF THE LORD IS THE DEATH OF HIS SAINTS." – Psalm 116:15 –



We pause at this time to pay special tribute to our beloved people who have passed from among us since we last met.

"A person or loved one to us loaned; Was ever by the Father owned; Allotted time they're ours to keep; When God reclaims we'll trust, not weep."

Deep within our hearts will remain the sainted memory of these our brothers and sisters in Christ. Their names shall be engraved on the pages of our BOOK OF MEMORIES – We honor them. This association at large mourns their passing.

ADAMS, Mary Ellen BAKER, William J. BURKE, Jimmy Bruce DAY, Jack Floyd FAIRCHILD, Joe E. HILL, Clara Bell JOHNSON, Ronald MAY, Willard ORR, Ruby Osborne OSBORNE, Debra Kay PRICE, Lillian Irene ROBINSON, Kathy Johnson ROSE, Phillis SMITH, Coy P. WHITAKER, Gregory P. ARNOLD, Mary Ella Wells BORDERS, Jr., Wallace "Peanut" *CARTER, Elder Robert E. DAY, Violet Vivian FIELDS, Wanda Louise HILL, Katelyn Susan MAHAN, Judy MEADE, Earletta OSBORNE, Earletta OSBORNE, Bertha Sue OSBORNE, Laura Nell McPherson ROBERTS, Nettie ROSE, Mary Frances SAGE, Mattie Sue "Sudie" THACKER, Randall Sherrill "Sonny" WILLIAMS, Raymond H.

*Ministers

MARY ELLEN ADAMS, 68, Gate City, VA, went home to be with the Lord February 17, 2015 at Wellmont Medical Center.

She was born in Scott County, VA, and was a daughter of the late George L. and Rena Nickels Gibson.

She was a member of Poplar Grove Church in Kingsport.

A loving, caring Christian, wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother, she was loved by all.

She was preceded in death by 2 brothers, Eugene Gibson and Lidge Gibson; 2 sisters, Pauline Gibson Mossie and Maxie Gibson Dockery.

She is survived by her husband, Austin Adams; 2 sons, David and Micky Carrico; 3 stepchildren; 1 grandson; 1 granddaughter; 8 step grandchildren; 2 brothers Ralph and Kyle Gibson; 2 sisters, Kathleen Gillenwater and Phyllis Sluss; several nieces and nephews.

She is greatly missed by her family and friends.

- Written by her husband, Austin Adams

MARY ELLA WELLS ARNOLD, 83, Gate City, VA, passed away June 4, 2015 at NOVA Health and Rehabilitation in Weber City, VA.

Mary was born in Scott County, VA, on August 17, 1931, and was a daughter of the late Rev. Mitchell and Alice Rhoton Sloan.

In addition to her parents, her first husband, Elder L. C. Wells; 1 son, Larry Cecil Wells; her second husband, John C. Arnold; and 1 stepson, John C. Arnold, Jr. preceded her in death.

She is survived by her son, Rick Wells; 1 stepdaughter, Jane Roberts; 2 grandchildren; and 3 great grandchildren; 5 sisters, Opal S. McClain, Virginia Clendenin, Juanita Gilliam, Shirley Shelton, and Wilma Jones; 2 brothers, Olen Sloan and Richard Sloan, along with several nieces and nephews.

Mary was a true friend to her neighbors and everyone who came in contact with her. She is greatly missed by all who knew her.

- Written by the family

WILLIAM J. BAKER, age 77, of Clarksville, OH passed away May 4, 2015 at Clinton Memorial Hospital. He was born May 26, 1937 in Barwick, KY, the son of the late Thomas and Mary Jane Neace Baker.

Along with his parents, he is preceded in death by his brothers, Taylor, Isaac, Tommy Gene, infant brothers, Warren Lean and Willard Dean.

William is survived by his wife of 55 years, Margie Baker; 2 daughters, Brenda Moore and Wilma Baker; 1 son. Timothy Baker; 3 granddaughters; 1 great granddaughter; 1 step grandson; 1 step granddaughter; 2 step great grandsons; 5 sisters, Lillie McGowan, Hazel Zebold, Stella Ethridge, Mary Magdeline White, and Bobbie Jo Filar; 2 brothers, George Baker and Eddie Baker; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

William served in the United States Navy and also retired from General Motors. He was also a wonderful musician who played in the Bluegrass Badlanders band that played at a number of festivals in Ohio.

- Written by the family

WALLACE "PEANUT" BORDERS, JR., 71, went home to be with the Lord January 19, 2015. He was born August 27, 1943 and was the son of the late Wallace and Lois Borders.

He was member of Richardson Chapel Church.

He was preceded in death by 1 son, Jeff Borders; 1 sister, Dorthy Plumley; and 1 brother, John Borders.

He is survived by his wife, Juanita; 1 daughter, Dawn Jordan; 1 brother, William Borders; and 5 grandchildren.

Peanut was a friend to all and loved by all. He will be sadly missed by all that knew him.

- Written by the family

JIMMY BRUCE BURKE was not made of "snips and snails and puppy dogs tails" like other boys of his generation. Instead, according to his granddaughter Alley, "Pappaw" was made of "steel, raw eggs, and furry woodland creatures."

Jim was born and raised in Stickleyville, VA. At various times a milk truck driver, tobacco farmer, and laborer, he worked hard his entire life. There was never a lot of extra money floating around, but

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he always made sure his kids never wanted for anything they needed. He could sometimes seem a quiet sort, but his simple, straightforward exterior hid a fierce intelligence and humorous wit.

He raised his family in the Lord's house, and in his mind, there were very few excuses sufficient to keep a rebellious teenager from attending a service. But if the atmosphere in the car on the way to the meetin' house could be quiet due to surly teens, on the way home it never was: filled with the Holy Spirit, and inspired by the old timey singing that would often raise the rafters during the service, the whole family would sing hymns, led by his strong tenor, all the way back down the creek on the way home. As his family grew up, he passed on his musical talent by teaching his granddaughter to sing as he drove her to the little country church where both his daughters and granddaughter were all saved over the years. In later times, it was his granddaughter who would pick him up and drive him to church—the music continued even then.

Jim was called home on October 14, 2015 at the age of 73. His memory lives on in the hearts of his loving wife of 39 years, Doris Burke; his 2 daughters, Linda Burke and Joyce Skidmore; his granddaughter; 1 brother, Tyler Burke; 2 sisters, Francis "Wren" Tomlinson and Lois Page; and innumerable friends and loved ones.

At the time of his home going in Kingsport TN, he joined his father, Robert "Zack" Burke; his mother Mary Burke; 2 brothers, Robert "Champ" Burke and John David Burke; and 2 sisters, Eula Fern Marcum and Zelma Bowen; who were already there waiting for him.

- Written by the family

ELDER ROBERT E. CARTER, 75, was born on October 7, 1939 in Scott County, VA, the son of the late Rev. Robert Todd and Estelle Pippin Carter. He earned all-state honors in basketball at Virginia High School, and went on to star at the University of Tennessee. Carter graduated with a Master's in Education, then taught and coached at Beaver High School in Beaver, PA, Humboldt High School in Humboldt, TN and Union University in Jackson. He later had a successful career with the Coca-Cola Bottling Works in Jackson, from which he retired as Executive Vice-President.

Bobby was actively involved in the Jackson community, working with uncounted education, health, and children's causes. He was instrumental in the founding of the Episcopal Day School, where both of his children attended, and he volunteered as basketball coach for several years. Among many honors, he was the Exchange Club's Man of the Year in Jackson in 1986.

In 1994, he was elected to the Tennessee State Senate, representing District 27. He served two terms, earning a reputation for integrity and commitment.

His highest calling was his service to the Lord. He faithfully served for 32 years as pastor of Gardner's Chapel Church, the church his father founded in Bristol.

He is survived by 1 daughter, Genny Lee Carter; 1 son, Russ Carter; their mother, his former wife, Pauline Taber Carter; 2 grandchildren; and 1 great granddaughter. He also leaves 4 loving sisters, Betty Sue Schaughency, Mary Lou Smith, Sara Hue Odum, and Estelle "Cookie" Johnson, and numerous nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews and a large extended family.

He was preceded in death by his parents; stepmother, Juanita Copenhaver Carter; stepsister, Libby Copenhaver; 1 nephew, and 1 grandson.

- Written by the clerk

JACK FLOYD DAY of Little Cowan passed away March 4, 2015 at the Whitesburg Appalachian Regional Healthcare Center.

Jack was the son of the late Henry D. Day and Hester Day Banks.

He was born February 11, 1928, being 87 years and 23 days of age at the time of his passing.

Surviving are his wife, Bessie Mae; 4 sons: Wayne, James, Lannie and Randy; 1 sister, Imogene Williams; 6 grandchildren, along with other relatives and friends to mourn his passing.

Jack was preceded in death by 1 son, Kenneth; 1 grandson; and 5 brothers, Dee, Doug, Bennett, Charlie and Eugene.

Jack was a faithful member of Little Cowan Church for 42 years where his beautiful voice was used to praise the Lord.

- Written by the family

VIOLET VIVIAN DAY of Cowan passed away January 6, 2015 at her residence. Violet was the daughter of the late Alphonse and Blanche Gagnon Valois.

She was born September 24, 1930, being 84 years, 3 months and 8 days of age at the time of her passing.

She is survived by 1 brother, Paul Valois; 1 sister, Marie Valois; and other relatives and friends to mourn her passing.

Violet was preceded in death by her husband, Fred Day; 3 sons, Junior, Dale and Alan; and 1 daughter, Darlene.

Violet was a faithful member of Little Cowan Church for 24 years.

- Written by the family

JOE E. FAIRCHILD was born on April 29, 1931, and went to be with the Lord on August 2, 2015, at the age of 84.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John Jefferson and Arthena Hawkins Fairchild, and 2 brothers, Johnny Ralph Fairchild and Hugh Franklin Fairchild.

He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Dorcas Sexton Fairchild; 3 sisters, Mildred Wattenbarger, Beatrice Winstead and Genevieve Stapleton; 2 brothers, Lowell Fairchild and Arnold Fairchild; and several nieces and nephews.

A veteran of the U.S. Army, he served a year in Korea, where he was saved. As an educator in Hawkins County for 46 years, he influenced the lives of many people. He is missed by his family and friends.

- Written by his wife

WANDA LOUISE FIELDS, 72, of Rogersville, TN passed away on January 10, 2015.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Willie and Ruth Fields; 1 sister, Sue Laster and 3 brothers Dub, Fred and John Fields.

Survivors include 3 sisters, Gladys Thacker, Margie Charles and Dorothy Fields; 1 brother, Lynn Fields; several nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews.

Wanda was a member of Long Hollow Church. A loving and caring person, she is greatly missed. She's in a better place where there's no more pain or sorrow. Her battle is over and her race is run. She is at peace in the Lord. Sleep on until we meet again on Heaven's bright shore.

- Written by the family

CLARA BELL HILL, 85, of Kingsport passed away on February 6, 2015 at her home surrounded by her family.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Andy and Ella Hill; 3 sisters, Ethel McPherson, Ruby Wallen, and infant sister, Betty Hill; 5 brothers, Floyd Hill, William Hill, Eugene Hill, Jay Hill and Joe Hill.

Survivors include 1 sister, Gladys Falin; 1 brother, Jim Hill; many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Clara was a member of Big Door, Blackwater Lick Church. She was a farmer and a retiree of Pins and Needles Sewing Factory in Blackwater, VA. and of Harvest Inn, Sykesville, MD. She loved sewing, cooking, singing, listening.to gospel music and taking care of her dogs. She was also a caregiver to her family.

The family will forever be grateful for having Clara in their lives. We already miss her quick wit, humor, talent, friendliness and opinions on politics.

KATELYN SUSAN HILL was born April 9, 2002 and passed away July 16, 2015 and received her angel wings. Katelyn was 13 years old.

She was preceded in death by her maternal grandfather; maternal grandmother; and her paternal grandfather.

She is survived by her loving mother, Leah Wallace; father, Billy Dean Hill; 2 sisters, Nikki Jennings and Mary Rebecca Campbell; 1 brother, Scott Hill; paternal grandmother; maternal grandfather; several aunts, uncles, cousins, and a host of friends.

She will be remembered for her loving heart to everyone who knew her. We miss you very much, but we will meet you again in Heaven.

- Written by her grandmother, Virgia Grace Hill

RONALD JOHNSON, 65, of New Lebanon, passed away April 10, 2015 at Good Samaritan Hospital. He was born on October 27, 1949 in Dayton, OH.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Ollie Johnson; father, George Johnson, Jr., and by his brother, Roscoe "Babe" Johnson.

He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Kathleen Ousley Johnson; 3 sons, Robert Johnson, Ryan Johnson and Russell Johnson; stepmother, Pauline Johnson; 2 sisters, Brenda Hoskins and Freda Scanlan; 4 grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Ronald enjoyed boating and fishing.

- Written by the family

JUDY MAHAN, 73, passed away July 6, 2014 at Wellmont Holston Valley Hospital after a short illness.

She professed faith in Christ at a young age. She was a member of Blackwater Lick Church. Judy was a mother, homemaker and had retired from Cumberland Glove Company.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Franklin "Grady" and Alpha Nichols Kinsler; 3 sisters, Geneva Nichols, Marie Arnold and Oma Nichols and 3 brothers, Homer, Guy and Sonny Kinsler.

Survivors include her loving husband of 52 years, Pearl Mahan; 1 son, Roger Lee Mahan; 1 sister, Lois Kinsler; 1 brother, Buster Kinsler; several nieces and nephews.

Judy is greatly missed by her family, church family and all who knew her. We know we will see her again on Heaven's bright shore.

- Written by the family

WILLARD MAY, 63, was born July 26, 1951 at Matewan, WV, and went home to be with the Lord April 13, 2015.

He was the son of the late Ben and Zummer Jewell May.

He was preceded in death by 2 sons, Matthew Douglas May and Walter Benjamin May.

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Junenell May; 3 sons; Richard May, Stephen Ray May, and Willard Curtis May; 1 sister, Madalane Baldwin; 1 brother, Richard May and 8 grandchildren.

Willard was member of Richardson Chapel Church. He is greatly missed by his family and friends.

- Written by the family

EARLETTA MEADE, 63, went home to be with the Lord November 8, 2014. She was born October 24, 1951 to the late Earl and Margaret Booth.

She was preceded in death by 1 brother, Craig Allen Booth.

She is survived by her husband, Tommy Meade; 1 son, Tim Meade; 1 brother, Darrin Spears; 5 sisters, Londa Meek, Darla Stroud, Lisa Shockley, Marta Montoya, Bridget Yusef; 3 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild.

Earletta was a great help to Richardson Chapel Church and is loved and missed by all that knew her. - Written by the family

RUBY OSBORNE ORR, age 97, of Jonesville, VA, passed away on December 23, 2014 at Bristol Regional Medical Center in Bristol, TN.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Fred M. Orr; 1 son, Bobby Ray Orr; her parents, Dr. Andrew J. and Ollie Osborne; 3 sisters, Lizzie Johnson, Rose Poteet and a sister that died in infancy; 2 brothers, Henry and Arthur Osborne; and numerous cousins, nephews and grandchildren.

She is survived by 2 sons, Ralph and John Orr; 2 daughters, Carrie Efford and Mary Van Tassel; 9 grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

Ruby was a person of great faith that credits God with every good thing that has ever happened to her in life. Her life is a testimony of that through her many years as a midwife, and a nurse with Dr. Thomas Ely, and in other areas of medical and Christian service. She joined Blackwater Lick (Big Door) Church in February, 1932 and remained a proud member throughout her life.

Ruby is truly missed by her family, church family, friends and loved ones. She was indeed a treasure to know and be around. We know she is resting in her new home and we will see her again on Heaven's bright shore.

- Written by the family

BERTHA SUE OSBORNE, 74, of Blackwater, VA went home to be with the Lord on July 22, 2015 at her residence.

A native of Lee County, she was born January 7, 1941 to the late Roe W. and Rosa Osborne Fannon. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Franklin Delano Osborne and 1 daughter-in-law.

She worked at Pins and Needles Sewing Factory in Blackwater for 17 years. She was a longtime member of Blackwater Lick (Big Door) Church where she enjoyed singing and fellowship. She loved sewing and writing in her journals.

Sue is survived by 1 daughter, Carolyn Osborne; 2 sons, David Osborne and Carl Osborne; 6 grandchildren; 7 great grandchildren; 2 sisters, Wanda Sage and Latrena Smith; 2 brothers, P J. Fannon and Lester Fannon and a host of family and friends.

Sue was a devoted mother, wife, grandmother, aunt and friend. She is greatly missed by all that knew her, but we are assured she is at rest with the Lord. While we miss her songs of praise at church, we know we'll see her again in sweet Beulah Land.

- Written by the family

DEBRA KAY OSBORNE, 53, of Blackwater, VA passed away December 8, 2014 at Wellmont Hospital in Kingsport, TN, following a lengthy illness.

A native of Morgan County, WV, she was born November 15, 1961 to the late Pete and Mary Kerns Puffinberger. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by 2 brothers, Sonny and Jim Puffinberger and 1 sister, Joanne Golden.

She is survived by her husband, Eugene Carl Osborne; 2 sons, Josh and Chris Lyons; 4 sisters, Nancy, Geraldine, and Frannie Puffinberger and Penny Mendoza; 2 brothers, Wayne and Mark Puffinberger; 2 grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews and family.

She was a member of Blackwater Lick (Big Door) Church. Her health prevented her from attending regularly.

She is greatly missed by all that knew her, but we are assured she is at rest with the Lord. We know we'll see her again in sweet Beulah Land.

- Written by the family

LAURA NELL MCPHERSON OSBORNE was born to Charles Wesley McPherson and Catherine Joyner McPherson on January 19, 1924. She passed away on October 18, 2014 at the age of 90.

She was the youngest of 9 children and was preceded in death by her parents; 4 sisters, Addie, Cora, Ona and Mary, and 4 brothers, Elmer, Everett, Hampton, and Lloyd. She was married to Claude Allen Osborne who also preceded her in death.

Survivors include 1 daughter, Wilma Bledsoe; 1 son, Sherrill Osborne; 4 sisters-in-law and several nieces and nephews.

She was saved at an early age, baptized, and joined Burke's Union Church and then years later moved her membership to Roller's Chapel, where she remained loyal as long as her health permitted.

So often we heard her singing songs of glory and praise to our Heavenly Father. A loving mother, devoted wife and a dear friend, she was a divine blessing and inspiration to us. She was the example mentioned in Proverbs 31. We love you dearest mama; the sweetest of rest be yours, until we meet again in God's sweet paradise.

- Written by the family

LILLIAN IRENE PRICE, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister and friend was born October 23, 1932 and departed this life October 26, 2014.

She was preceded in death by her devoted husband, D. H. Price, Jr.; her parents, Joe and Volura Lawson; 4 brothers, T., Guy, M. B. and J. C.; and 1 sister, Sarah Winstead and her daughter-in-law.

She is survived by 3 sons, James, Donnie and H.; 2 daughters, Judy Wells and Mary Lane; 1 brother, Bud and 2 sisters, Dorothy Seals and Sally Herron.

She was saved at a young age and was a faithful member of Mt. Mitchell Church, where she loved attending all services.

Irene would call and invite family and friends to go with her to church. She kept the words to her favorite hymns in her purse and would often sing a heartfelt song that blessed all who heard her. She enjoyed cooking and would cook for the entire church. She wanted to work at the church and she cleaned it for many years. Lots of the money she made went back into the church. Nothing that needed to be done was too hard or too unimportant for her.

Irene also loved her family passionately. She loved and was loved. She will truly be missed by her family, church, and neighbors, but because of God's amazing grace we will see her again.

- Written by the family

NETTIE ROBERTS, daughter of the late Russell and Lizzie Mae Thaxton Rinehart, was born in Addyston, OH, on January 1, 1933. She entered eternal life September 7, 2015 at the Ft. Sanders Regional Medical Center in Knoxville, TN being 82 years, 8 months and 6 days of age at the time of her passing.

Nettie was married to the late Floyd Roberts. She was a loving mother, grandmother, sister and friend to all that knew her.

She is survived by 2 daughters, Patricia Bradley and Janet Cornett; 2 brothers; Stephen Rinehart and Phillip Rinehart and 3 grandchildren.

Nettie was preceded in death by her husband; 1 grandson, and 1 brother, Charles Rinehart.

Nettie was a member of the Little Cowan Church. A friend to all whom she ever met, she is missed by her family and her church family. We know she is at rest with the Lord and we will meet her again.

- Written by the family

KATHY JOHNSON ROBINSON, age 59, of Eidson, TN, passed away peacefully at her home following a lengthy battle with cancer. She was born August 5, 1955 and lived her life in this area. She was preceded in death by her nephew.

She was saved at a young age and later joined Blackwater Lick (Big Door) Church, where she remained a faithful member.

She is survived by her husband, Hugh Robinson; 1 stepson, Jamie Robinson; her parents, H. C. and Pearl Johnson; 1 step grandson; 1 brother, Marvin Johnson and several other family members and a host of friends and loved ones to mourn her passing.

Kathy worked for the Lord as long as her health permitted, especially with the children and the elderly. Perhaps her favorite was to work in the association kitchen, which she did for many years.

The day will come when all the tears will be wiped from our eyes and we will endure no more death or sorrow. Our pain will be gone as we look forward to that great day. Kathy is greatly missed by all of her family and friends, but we know she is at peace in heaven now.

- Written for the family by Danny Lawson

MARY FRANCES ROSE, 96 of Germantown, OH, passed away October 17, 2014 at her residence under the care of Hospice of Dayton. She was born March 2, 1918 in Kentucky to the late John and Magneline Mullins.

In addition to her parents, Mary was preceded in death by her husband, Orville M. Rose in 1996; her children, Clyde, Winford, Ronald and Clari; 1 grandson; 1 granddaughter; 3 sisters, 5 brothers and other infant siblings.

She is survived by her children, Phillis Rose, Roger Rose, and Teddy Rose; 15 grandchildren; 28 great grandchildren; 20 great-great grandchildren; as well as numerous other extended family members.

Mary worked hard to help provide for her family. She was employed by several area businesses, including Carlton Envelope, Twin Valley Aluminum and Kits Toys.

She was a member of Rose Chapel Church and enjoyed surrounding herself with family, caring for her home and raising her children.

- Written by the family

PHILLIS ROSE, 79 of Germantown, OH passed away peacefully on July 22, 2015 with her loving daughter by her side. She was born December 15, 1935 in Pikeville, KY to the late Orville M. and Mary Frances Rose.

Preceding her in death are 3 brothers, Winford "Wink", Ronald, and Clyde Rose; 1 sister, Clari; 1 niece and 1 nephew.

Phillis is survived by her daughter, Starla McCauley; 2 grandchildren; 2 great grandchildren; 2 brothers, Roger and Teddy Rose and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Phillis has been a longtime member of Rose Chapel Church, who collected dolls and dedicated her life to her family.

- Written by the family

MATTIE SUE (SUDIE) SAGE, left her earthly home on May 20, 2015 to go to her heavenly home. She was born June 18, 1920 near Jonesville, VA. She never ventured far from the same area as she lived in Stickleyville, VA for 73 years.

She enjoyed farming, along with her husband for 62 years, as well as gardening, and visiting with her neighbors and friends or staying in touch by phone. She enjoyed taking care of her animals as well. She worked briefly at Stickleyville School.

She was a member of Blue Springs Methodist and later Blue Springs Primitive Baptist Church.

Mattie was preceded in death by her husband, Earl Franklin Sage; parents, Eugene Porter and Laura Bell Warner; 1 sister, Eula Mae Flanary; 2 brothers, Eugene and Billy Patton Warner; and 1 grandson.

Mattie is survived by 1 daughter, Frankie Sage Lambert; 1 granddaughter; and 4 great granddaughters.

Her many friends enabled her to live her way as long as she was able to live alone, garden and go to her church.

- Written by her daughter, Frankie Lambert

COY P. SMITH, 72, was born December 25, 1942 and passed away September 1, 2015.

He was the son of the late Henry and Irene Smith. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his twin brother, Troy, and 2 other brothers, Gerald Wayne Smith and Doyle Gilliam.

He was saved at an early age at Willis Chapel Church.

He is survived by 1 brother, Ralph Smith; 2 sisters, Darsulla Sullivan and Geraldine Collins and 4 nieces.

- Written by family

RANDAL SHERRILL "SONNY" THACKER was born June 14, 1952 and departed this life on July 8, 2015 at the age of 63 years and 24 days after having a massive heart attack.

He was a member of Marion Robinette Memorial Church, having joined at an early age.

He was preceded in death by his parents, William Earl and Millicent Mead Robinette Thacker and 3 brothers, Rayburn, Rickey and Waylon Thacker.

Sonny is survived by his wife of 44 years, Kathie Greene Thacker and 1 sister, Karen Thacker Reed.

Sonny was a loving husband and is missed by his family and friends until we meet again.

- Written by his wife, Kathie Thacker

GREGORY P. WHITAKER passed away December 19, 2014.

RAYMOND H. WILLIAMS, 62, of Surgoinsville, TN, passed away May 15, 2015 at Wellmont Medical Center.

He was born in Hawkins County, where he lived all of his life. He retired from Quebecor Press following 32 years of service. He also was an avid farmer, spending all of his time on his farm.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Jamis Kay Williams; father, H. P. Williams; 1 brother, Eugene; 1 sister, Geneva Ann and a nephew.

He is survived by 2 sons, Jeremy and Joey Williams; 6 grandchildren; mother, Virgie Williams; 1 sister Phyllis Roop; 1 brother, Danny Williams; several nieces, nephews, cousins and many friends.

He attended Long Hollow Church when he was younger. He loved to go to Stanley Valley Market and hang out with his friends. He was a hard worker in anything that he worked at. He is missed by all.

- Written by his family

HISTORICAL DATA

Mulberry Gap Association of United Baptists organized 1835

YEAR	CHURCH	MODERATOR	CLERK	INTRODUCTORY SERMON
1835	Mulberry Gap	James Gilbert	Moses McGinnis	Moses McGinnis
1836	Blackwater, TN	Daniel Howery	Moses McGinnis	James Gilbert
1837	War Creek	James Gilbert	Moses McGinnis	
1838	Gap Creek	James Gilbert	Moses McGinnis	Isaac Crisman
1839	Thompson Settlement	James Gilbert	Moses McGinnis	
1840	New Found	James Gilbert	Moses McGinnis	
1841	Greasy Rock	James Gilbert	William McNiel	
1842	Little Sycamore	James Gilbert	William McNiel	
1843	Deep Springs	James Gilbert	William McNiel	
1844	Beens Creek	James Gilbert	William McNiel	
1845	Richardson's Creek	James Gilbert	William McNiel	
1846	Mulberry Gap	James Gilbert	William McNiel	
1847	Zion	James Gilbert	William McNiel	
	Ea	stern District Association of Prin	nitive Baptists organized 1848	
1848	Blackwater Lick	Isaac Crisman	John Hurst	Mark Hurst
1849	Blackwater, TN			William White
	There are no records available		nnual meetings were held during the Civil War,	(1861-1865?)
1881	Blackwater, TN	I. S. Robinette	William Henry	I. S. Robinette
1882	Sulphur Springs	I. S. Robinette	E. D. Bowen	S. R. T. Robinette
1883	Hopewell	I. S. Robinette	E. D. Bowen	I. S. Robinette
1884	Swan Creek	I. S. Robinette	E. D. Bowen	J. P. Peters
1885	Zion	I. S. Robinette	E. D. Bowen	I. S. Robinette
1886	Piney Grove	I. S. Robinette	E. D. Bowen	E. D. Bowen
1887	Walnut Grove	George Edens	A. T. Bowen	E. S. McPherson
1888	Blackwater Lick	George Edens	A. T. Bowen	George Edens
1889	Hopewell	E. D. Bowen	John Walker	E. D. Bowen
1890	Enterprise	E. D. Bowen	William Henry	George Edens
1891	Swan Creek	George Edens	E. S. McPherson	J. P. Peters
1892	Beech Hill	J. P. Peters	William Henry	Alfred Wallen
1893	Sulphur Springs	George Edens	E. S. McPherson	John Dean
1894	Blackwater, TN	George Edens	William Henry	E. S. McPherson
1895	Blackwater Lick	Alfred Wallen	A. Y. Willis	J. P. Peters

1896	Hopewell	E. S. McPherson	William Henry	J. B. Wallen		
1897	Flat Rock	E. S. McPherson	John Walker	E. A. Robinette		
	Two as	sociations formed, divided by Vir	ginia-Tennessee state line, in 1898			
	Eastern District in Virginia: Southwestern District in Tennessee					
1898	Bloomer's Chapel – ED	E. S. McPherson	J. P. Pierson	John Dean		
1898	Hopewell – SWD	John Dean	G. W. Johnson	Alfred Wallen		
1899	Natural Tunnel – ED	E. S. McPherson	E. A. Robinette	M. F. Robinette		
1899	Long Hollow – SWD	William Henry	A. Y. Willis	J. B. Wallen		
1900	Dry Creek – ED	E. S. McPherson	G. W. Robinette	E. S. McPherson		
1900	Blackwater, TN – SWD	John Dean	A. Y. Willis	John Dean		
1901	Sloantown – ED	E. S. McPherson	G. W. Johnson	T. H. Franklin		
1901	Pilgrim's Rest – SWD	John Dean	Ezekiel Barker	Johnny Johnson		
1902	Zion – ED	E. S. McPherson	E. A. Robinette	J. P. Peters		
1902	Sulphur Springs – SWD	Alfred Wallen	M. H. Johnson	William Henry		
1903	Osborne's Chapel – ED	E. S. McPherson	E. A. Robinette	J. P. Peters		
1903	Swan Creek – SWD	John Dean	Ezekiel Barker	Ezekiel Barker		
1904	Enterprise – ED	E. S. McPherson	E. A. Robinette	E. A. Robinette		
1904	Hopewell – SWD	Ezekiel Barker	Nicholas Alder	Alfred Wallen		
1905	Flat Rock – ED	E. S. McPherson	E. A. Robinette	E. S. McPherson		
1905	Blackwater, TN – SWD	H. R. Fields	J. M. Brotherton	H. R. Fields		
		The two associations ur	nited again in 1906			
1906	Natural Tunnel	E. S. McPherson	E. A. Robinette	J. R. Robinette		
1907	Mountain View	E. S. McPherson	E. A. Robinette	J. R. Robinette		
1908	Blackwater Lick	E. S. McPherson	Nicholas Alder	J. P. Peters		
1909	Riverside	E. S. McPherson	E. A. Robinette	E. S. McPherson		
1910	Hopewell	E. S. McPherson	E. A. Robinette	J. P. Peters		
1911	Zion	E. S. McPherson	E. A. Robinette	J. P. Peters		
1912	Osborne's Chapel	E. S. McPherson	Amos Osborne	J. P. Peters		
1913	Ayers Chapel	E. S. McPherson	E. A. Robinette	J. P. Peters		
1914	Copper Creek	E. S. McPherson	J. J. Addington	E. A. Robinette		
1915	Ida	E. S. McPherson	J. J. Addington; J. W. Hurd, Ass't.	J. P. Peters		
1916	Swan Creek	E. A. Robinette	J. J. Addington; J. W. Hurd, Ass't.	J. P. Peters		
1917	Hopewell	J. P. Peters	J. J. Addington; J. W. Hurd, Ass't.	J. P. Peters		
1918	Beech Grove	E. A. Robinette	J. J. Addington; J. W. Hurd, Ass't.	C. M. Fuller		
1919	Mountain View	J. P. Peters	J. J. Addington; J. W. Hurd, Ass't.	J. P. Peters		
1920	Blackwater Lick	E. A. Robinette	J. J. Addington; J. W. Hurd, Ass't.	E. Barker		
1921	Blackwater, TN	E. A. Robinette	J. J. Addington; J. W. Hurd, Ass't.	F. M. Long		
1922	Swan Creek	E. A. Robinette	Amos Osborne; Hampton Osborne, Ass't.	A. N. Joyner		
1923	Jenkins Chapel	E. A. Robinette	Amos Osborne; Hampton Osborne, Ass't.	C. M. Fuller		

1924	Hopewell	E. A. Robinette	Hampton Osborne	H. S. Laster
1925	Valley View	E. A. Robinette	Hampton Osborne; J. W. Hurd, Ass't.	E. Barker
1926	Big Cut	E. A. Robinette	J. W. Hurd	E. A. Robinette
1927	Hurricane Gap	E. A. Robinette	J. W. Hurd	A. N. Joyner
1928	Robinette Chapel	E. A. Robinette	J. W. Hurd; Julia A. Walker, Ass't.	E. Barker
1929	Burke's Union	E. A. Robinette	J. W. Hurd; Julia A. Walker, Ass't.	E. A. Robinette
1930	Jenkins Chapel	E. A. Robinette	J. W. Hurd;	F. T. Carroll
			Maudie May Brotherton, Ass't.	
1931	Little Cowan	E. A. Robinette	E. I. Robinette	E. A. Robinette
1932	Osborne's Chapel	E. A. Robinette	E. I. Robinette	F. T. Carroll
1933	Swan Creek	E. A. Robinette;	E. I. Robinette	Pleas Jenkins
		F. J. Johnson, Ass't.		
1934	Cox's Chapel	E. A. Robinette	E. I. Robinette	F. J. Johnson
		W. H. Burke, Ass't.		
1935	Cadet	E. A. Robinette	Amos Osborne	T. R. Carter
		B. L. Lawson, Ass't.		
1936	Pleasant View	E. A. Robinette; T. R. Carter	Amos Osborne	F. T. Carroll
1937	Beech Grove	E. A. Robinette; T. R. Carter	Amos Osborne	B. L. Lawson
1938	Little Dove	E. A. Robinette;	Amos Osborne	E. A. Robinette
		T. R. Carter, Ass't.		
1939	Spires Chapel	E. A. Robinette	Amos Osborne	F. J. Johnson
		T. R. Carter, Ass't.		
1940	Peterson's Chapel	E. A. Robinette	Amos Osborne	F. M. Phipps
		T. R. Carter, Ass't.		
1941	Blackwater Lick	E. A. Robinette	Amos Osborne	J. H. Sybert
		T. R. Carter		
1942	Fairview (OH)	T. R. Carter	Amos Osborne	J. H. Sybert
1943	Big Cut	T. R. Carter	Amos Osborne	L. R. Hensley
1944	Fairview (VA)	T. R. Carter	Amos Osborne	J. H. Sybert
1945	Alvis Chapel	T. R. Carter	Amos Osborne	Claude Taylor
1946	Willis Chapel	T. R. Carter	Amos Osborne	B. L. Lawson
1947	Hopewell	T. R. Carter	H. G. Busic	J. H. Sybert
1948	Ida	T. R. Carter; J. H. Sybert	H. G. Busic	Joe Hickman
1949	Gardner's Chapel	T. R. Carter; J. H. Sybert	G. D. Smith	Frank Brown
1950	Gilliam Chapel	T. R. Carter; J. H. Sybert	G. D. Smith	Dana Crawford
1951	Belcher's Chapel	T. R. Carter; J. H. Sybert	G. D. Smith	J. H. Sybert
1952	Willis Chapel	J. H. Sybert	G. D. Smith	C. C. Johnson
1953	Swan Creek	J. H. Sybert	G. D. Smith	Clifford Williams
1954	Blair Chapel	J. H. Sybert	G. D. Smith	Basil Freeman

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1983Caney CreekJ. H. SybertBurnice R. SybertDarrell Ratliff1984Slate HillJ. H. SybertBurnice R. SybertHenry Wheeler1985Long HollowJ. H. SybertBurnice R. SybertHasco Jenkins1986Edwin Holbrook MemorialJ. H. SybertBurnice R. SybertOscar Irvin1987Oak GroveJ. H. SybertBurnice R. SybertUccian Lane1988Poplar GroveJ. H. SybertBurnice R. SybertAllen Hensley1989Mt. MitchellJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonEckel Head1990Blackwater LickJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonCarl Lawson1991Burke's UnionJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonRoger Trent1992Clear SpringsJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonTerry Sizemore	1981	House Chapel	Basil Freeman		H. V. Hall
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1985Long HollowJ. H. SybertBurnice R. SybertHasco Jenkins1986Edwin Holbrook MemorialJ. H. SybertBurnice R. SybertOscar Irvin1987Oak GroveJ. H. SybertBurnice R. SybertLucian Lane1988Poplar GroveJ. H. SybertBurnice R. SybertAllen Hensley1989Mt. MitchellJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonEckel Head1990Blackwater LickJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonCarl Lawson1991Burke's UnionJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonRoger Trent1992Clear SpringsJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonTerry Sizemore	1983	Caney Creek	J. H. Sybert	Burnice R. Sybert	Darrell Ratliff
1985Long HollowJ. H. SybertBurnice R. SybertHasco Jenkins1986Edwin Holbrook MemorialJ. H. SybertBurnice R. SybertOscar Irvin1987Oak GroveJ. H. SybertBurnice R. SybertLucian Lane1988Poplar GroveJ. H. SybertBurnice R. SybertAllen Hensley1989Mt. MitchellJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonEckel Head1990Blackwater LickJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonCarl Lawson1991Burke's UnionJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonRoger Trent1992Clear SpringsJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonTerry Sizemore	1984	Slate Hill	J. H. Sybert	Burnice R. Sybert	Henry Wheeler
1986Edwin Holbrook MemorialJ. H. SybertBurnice R. SybertOscar Irvin1987Oak GroveJ. H. SybertBurnice R. SybertLucian Lane1988Poplar GroveJ. H. SybertBurnice R. SybertAllen Hensley1989Mt. MitchellJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonEckel Head1990Blackwater LickJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonCarl Lawson1991Burke's UnionJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonRoger Trent1992Clear SpringsJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonTerry Sizemore	1985	Long Hollow			
1987Oak GroveJ. H. SybertBurnice R. SybertLucian Lane1988Poplar GroveJ. H. SybertBurnice R. SybertAllen Hensley1989Mt. MitchellJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonEckel Head1990Blackwater LickJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonCarl Lawson1991Burke's UnionJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonRoger Trent1992Clear SpringsJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonTerry Sizemore	1986				Oscar Irvin
1988Poplar GroveJ. H. SybertBurnice R. SybertAllen Hensley1989Mt. MitchellJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonEckel Head1990Blackwater LickJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonCarl Lawson1991Burke's UnionJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonRoger Trent1992Clear SpringsJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonTerry Sizemore		Oak Grove			Lucian Lane
1989Mt. MitchellJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonEckel Head1990Blackwater LickJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonCarl Lawson1991Burke's UnionJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonRoger Trent1992Clear SpringsJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonTerry Sizemore		Poplar Grove			
1990Blackwater LickJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonCarl Lawson1991Burke's UnionJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonRoger Trent1992Clear SpringsJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonTerry Sizemore	1989	•			
1991Burke's UnionJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonRoger Trent1992Clear SpringsJ. H. SybertDanny LawsonTerry Sizemore					
1992 Clear Springs J. H. Sybert Danny Lawson Terry Sizemore					
I 1993 West view J. H. Sybert Danny Lawson J. H. Sybert	1993	West View	J. H. Sybert	Danny Lawson	J. H. Sybert

1994	Little Cowan	J. H. Sybert	Danny Lawson	Oscar Irvin
1995	Peterson's Chapel	Terry Sizemore	Danny Lawson	Bob Brown
		(J. H. Sybert & Basil Freeman,		
		Honorary Moderators)		
1996	Wallen's Creek	Terry Sizemore	Danny Lawson	Richard Seiber
1997	Riverside	Terry Sizemore	Danny Lawson	Roger Trent
1998	Blue Springs (Hiltons, VA)	Terry Sizemore	Danny Lawson	John Bowlin
1999	Roller's Chapel	Terry Sizemore	Danny Lawson	Greg Hill
2000	Butcher's Valley	Terry Sizemore	Danny Lawson	Henry Wheeler
2001	Clear Springs	Terry Sizemore	Danny Lawson	Roger VanHoose
2002	Blackwater Lick	Terry Sizemore	Danny Lawson	David Smith
2003	House Chapel	Terry Sizemore	Danny Lawson	Neal Drinnon
2004	Beech Grove	Terry Sizemore	Danny Lawson	Phil Crittenden
2005	Riverside	Terry Sizemore	Danny Lawson	Roger Trent
2006	Flower Gap	Terry Sizemore	Danny Lawson	Greg Hill
2007	Pilgrim's Rest	Terry Sizemore	Danny Lawson	Virgil Lipe
2008	Little Cowan	Terry Sizemore	Danny Lawson	John Banks
2009	Fairview (OH)	Terry Sizemore	Danny Lawson	Jason Robinette
2010	Richardson Chapel	Terry Sizemore	Danny Lawson	Neal Drinnon
2011	House Chapel	Terry Sizemore	Danny Lawson	Fred Gilreath
2012	Fairview (OH)	Terry Sizemore	Danny Lawson	Burnice Sybert
2013	Blackwater Lick	Terry Sizemore	Danny Lawson	Daniel Hurd
2014	Copper Creek (Addington Frame)	Terry Sizemore	Danny Lawson	Daniel Smith
2015	Poplar Grove / West View	Terry Sizemore	Danny Lawson	Oscar Irvin