

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

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**Thursday Morning, September 29, 2016**

The Eastern District Association of Primitive Baptists convened in its 164<sup>th</sup> annual session with Swan Creek Church, Sneedville, TN hosting this blessed event.

Organized in 1872, soon after the Civil War, the foundations of Swan Creek Primitive Baptist Church began in Hancock County's Briar Creek community when Elder Hardin C. (H. C.) Foley was ordained to the ministry. Working ardently in its organization alongside his brother-in-law, Elder Thomas Dodson, Elder H. C. Foley aspired to found a church "to heal the hurts of the Great War" after observing abysmal violence and conflict during his two years as a sergeant. Thus, Swan Creek Church's roots are grounded in a mission of peace and unity in the post-Civil War Reconstruction Era. In addition to the names of Elder Foley and Elder Dodson, the charter membership roster included Sarah Joyce Dodson Foley, Susannah Dodson, Mary Ann Hatfield, Lydia Williams, Emaline Foley, Joseph Wilson, Josiah Moles, William Seals, Henry Wilson, Wilson Purkey, John Royston, Joseph Royston, Jacob Winkler, George Winkler, Elijah Johnson, Mary Moles, Armenda Purkey, Jane Hatfield, Nancy Hatfield, John P. Jefferson, Lucinda Jefferson, Nathan Hatfield, Mary Dodson, Abram Lee Dodson, Sarah Dodson, Rutha Dodson, William Purkey, and Nancy Purkey. Written in graceful calligraphy, the original Church Covenant dates on paper to 1874 and beautifully articulates a commitment to harmony, equality, and fellowship: "We will walk with one another in love and in the power of the Lord and not discover to the world the infirmities of each other . . . that each member shall have equal right in the body, that none shall have preeminence one over another . . . that we endeavor to live in love and in fear of the Lord and endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace."

Several years after its initial organization, the church was moved to Oak Grove on the banks of Swan Creek, the exact date now unknown. This building served as both a school and a church until it was destroyed by fire. Soon afterwards, Elders Hardin C. Foley, Thomas Dodson, Isaac Robinette, Wilson Purkey, John Fannon, and others built a hewn log house one-half mile west of the present Swan Creek Church. This served as the church until 1914, when Elder H. C. Foley donated land to build a new church on the same grounds upon which the current building stands. The building that was erected in 1914 provided shelter for the congregation for 77 years. After dilapidation made necessary the construction of yet another church house, in 1991 the present building was completed under the guidance of then-pastor, Elder Silas (Porter) Carroll, who also served as the master carpenter. Elder Carroll miraculously excised the painting of the Last Supper from the sheetrock of the old church and mounted it behind the pulpit of the new building. Created by Sister Debra Reed, a descendent of Elder Thomas Dodson, this artwork continues to inspire the congregation during each service. Also, the present-day church contains the bell, the remembrance table, and the front door from the old church.

Among the pastors who served the church through the long history were the following: Elders H. C. Foley, Thomas Dodson, I. S. Robinette, Alfred Wallen, John W. Fanon, Emory Robinette, Nickolas Alder, William Jefferson, Wilson Purkey, Freeman Johnson, Floyd Ferguson, Hobart Hall, Logan Willis, Elmo Dodson, Clifford Williams, Clarence Johnson, John Purkey, J. L. Hill, Walter Willis, Oscar Irvin, Bobby Williams, T. J. Elliott, Eckel Head, Carl Ray Cope, Tommy Seals, Donnie Clifford, Silas Carroll, and Richard (J. R.) South. At its present moment in history, the church is exceptionally happy and proud that Elder Terry Sizemore, the Moderator of the Eastern District Association, is a beloved member of the Swan Creek family; he has served devotedly as the pastor since September 2012. In

addition to Moderator Sizemore, four other ministers are also faithful members of the church: Elders T. J. Elliott, Silas Carroll, Carter Hager, and Keith Holt.

Not only is Swan Creek grateful for the devoted ministers in its past and present history, but it also gives thanks for the blessing of committed deacons since its foundation, including the following: Allen Chandler, George Winkler, William Jefferson, Abram Lee Dodson, Washington Barnard, Morrison Reed, and Reece Jefferson (all now deceased). Also serving in more recent decades were Bud Haire, Larry Coleman, Dwight Wilson, Bill Wilson, and Silas Carroll. The current roster of devoted deacons is comprised of Earl Lee Dodson, Clarence Morgan, Rodney Dodson, and Johnny Bunch.

Knowledge of Swan Creek's past derives from the writings of its record-keepers. In its long history, the church has only had eight clerks. The first three elected clerks each served short terms: Joseph Wilson (1874-1878), Jacob N. Winkler (1878-1879), and James Wilson (1879-1880). Then, one of the charter members, Abram Lee Dodson, a young man when Swan Creek was first organized, was elected as clerk; he served over a half-century (52 years), from August 1880 - December 1932. The clerkship has been held consecutively by A. L. Dodson's descendants for the past 83 years: son Harrison Dodson (January 1933 - May 1954), son Elder Elmo Dodson (June 1954 - August 1972), grandson Clarence Dodson (September 1972 - May 1992), and great-granddaughter Danita Dodson (June 1992 - present). Though the position of Clerk was once combined with Treasurer, a separate office was created in June 1989, at which time Sister Lillie Belle Reed was elected, and she is still serving efficiently as the current Swan Creek Treasurer.

Since its foundation, Swan Creek Primitive Baptist has been honored to host the Eastern District Association nine times in its history: in 1884, 1891, 1903, 1916, 1922, 1933, 1953, 1960, and 1980. The first time that the Association convened at Swan Creek, in 1884, it is noteworthy that the Moderator, Isaac Robinette, was also the church's pastor, a remarkable parallel fact to this year's assembly. The Swan Creek church clerk during this first Association gathering was Abram Lee Dodson. In 1980, the last time that the Association assembled at Swan Creek, Elder Basil Freeman was Association Moderator, Elder Burnice Sybert was Association Clerk, Elder Bobby Williams was the Swan Creek pastor who delivered the introductory sermon, and Clarence Dodson was the Swan Creek clerk. Today, thirty-six years later, the entire Swan Creek Primitive Baptist body is extremely happy and proud to host the 164<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Association, still cherishing the unity, love, and bonds of peace expressed by the founding members in the 1874 Covenant.

The refreshing morning air greeted everyone as they arrived at the 164<sup>th</sup> session of this grand body. Sister Zula McCullough led us in singing songs of praise to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It won't be very long till our burdens we'll lay down and all the saints get home to receive our crown. We will raise the heavenly anthem in that meeting in the sky, when the redeemed are gathering in. When the great procession is over, how we will shout and how we will sing. We will tell redemption's story for we are washed like snow and free from sin. Just over in the glory land we'll join the happy angel band. His unseen hand will lead us through ways we cannot see. His hand has led through shadows drear and while it leads, we have no fear. Some sweet day we'll reach that strand still guided by the unseen hand. Let us ever praise Him for His guiding hand.

As the host, Elder Terry Sizemore welcomed everyone to today's service. Thank God for each and every one gathered here today. We praise Him for every smiling face we see here today. He is faithful, just and willing to give us our desire to praise Him for everything. During this past year, we have lost two of our Elders; remember in prayer the families of Elders John Turner and John Bowlin. Thank God for these men and their stand for God.

The moderator also reminded everyone to turn in church letters, obituaries and financial contributions. He then appointed the Committee on Religious Exercises which consists of Roy Jones (chairman), Doug Willis and Ronnie Brooks.

Sister Zula came forward to lead the congregation in singing the old song that is the association's standard song, "Brethren We Have Met Again." Twelve months have rolled around again and many have gone to join the band in that happy heavenly land. When our work is done down here below, then to heaven we will go. 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. I. S. Robinette, a former pastor at Swan Creek who is buried just up the road, is officially credited with writing this song.

Elder Sizemore led the congregation in singing "Amazing Grace." It was His amazing grace that taught our heart to fear. Through many dangers, toils and snares we have already come and His grace will lead us on, for we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we first begun. We have just begun to live and God's grace is sufficient for all things. God is there for all our troubles, especially for that one that doesn't know him in the free pardon of sin.

The Moderator asked all of our ministers to sign the minister's book, including ministers from other associations and church affiliations.

Elder Eddie and Sister Wanda Malone blessed us with their songs of praise. It is harvest time in our country. The true and faithful must come forward, for the fields are white; it's harvest time.

Prayer requests were made for the lost, our churches, those serving in the military, our country, Roy Jones family, John Bowlin family, Matthew Montgomery, Steve Brown, Chester Rayburn, Brandon Williams, Jackson and Easton Bledsoe, Thelma Gunner, Francis Armstrong, Phyllis Hurd, Juanita Bowen, Mrs. Reed, Pat Fuller, Sherrie Brown, Nancy McCullough, Vicky Jones sons and her sister, and a show of uplifted hands signifying countless unspoken prayer requests. Elder Tommy Meade blessed us in a heartfelt prayer as he took our petitions to the Lord.

Having been chosen to preach the introductory sermon, Elder Terry Sizemore took the first part of the service. God will fill our every need. Pray that the community might see something in these services and the church would stand as a light. He read Philippians 2:1-11. As a thought, "look every man on the things of others, God's teachings are universal to all." Christ came that He might become a servant, so take this example and present ourselves as servants of God. His name is above all names. We must keep our minds on the things above, not on the things of this world. Let this mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus. He was the propitiation of sin, willingly taking our place. Never take your eyes off the things of Christ. Everybody will be happy over there, but we need to be happy on the journey now. Let us be likeminded, as Christ made Himself of no reputation. If we want Christ in our life, we must embrace the things of Christ. Forgiveness is a foundational principle of our Christian lives. Be willing always to say thank you God, for being in our lives. If our thoughts are about the mind of Christ, we can build our life with a forgiving heart.

Elder Porter Carroll followed with another wonderful message from our Lord and Savior. We lose Christian soldiers from one gathering to another, but we'll never lose Christ, for He will go with us till the end. Regardless of the adversary, Christ is able: it is all Jesus. Whatever Jesus tells us, do it. We each fall short in this respect, but until we abide in Him, we cannot prosper. We must trust, but we must also obey if we are to overcome the power of the hour. Walk in the spirit to know when the adversary is coming after us. May we always strive to please our heavenly Father. He did something for us that no one else could do. We can never repay Him, but we can serve Him in truth and in spirit.

There is no other way to do things other than the way Jesus set before us. True peace and joy comes from our Father, regardless of what man might say or do. We all like to have things done our way, but we must place our full trust in Him and obey Him in all things. Our country has changed so much it is hard to recognize, but bless His Holy name, God changes not.

We were dismissed for lunch with a song. The field of endless day lies just a little farther on, still go farther on.

### **Thursday Afternoon, September 29, 2016**

The host church served us a wonderful lunch as God's children enjoyed this glorious day. Sister Zula led the congregation in singing several songs of praise as the congregation gathered in the tent for the afternoon service. His matchless love was shown for each of us when He suffered all alone in our place. Thru eternal ages, His praises ring as we stand on the promises of God our Savior. Steve Minton led us in singing some more hymns of praise. We have been redeemed by God's love divine and we owe everything to our Savior. Great is our joy, as we resolve all things to Him. We have a home on God's celestial shore and there's just a few more weary days to labor before we'll fly away to that land where joy shall never end.

Further blessings were bestowed upon us with special singing and testimony from Loretta Emery, Bradley Brown, and Billy Marcum. It must have been a sad day for the disciples, but He left us this message that He would come back the same way. Tarry here, it won't be much longer; for very soon we're all going home, so work while it is day. A fair haven of rest for the weary in a place called Heaven made for the true and the free, how beautiful Heaven must be. God's love is forever there shining, it is indeed the home of the happy and free. This may be our last time to gather here on this side of Jordan, so let's take advantage of it. Good news came to us when we arose and went to Jesus. Jesus stands ready to save every believer, and He will receive us, for in His arms are ten thousand charms. Let us arise and go to meet Him.

Elder Sizemore welcomed everyone to the afternoon service as he thanked God for everything and for the wonderful lunch. The joy of knowing our blessed Redeemer is beyond anything we can imagine in this world.

Prayer requests were made for the unsaved, all those made during the morning service, Walter and Alice Willis, Earl and Betty Dodson, T. J. and Evelyn Elliott, Lenore Stevens daughter, Copper Creek members, Sherrie Brown, Bobbie Fuller, Harmon Willis and many unspoken requests signified by many uplifted hands. Elder Harmon Willis led us to the throne of grace in a soul stirring prayer.

Brother Joe Robinette, Chairman of the Committee on Church Letters, came forward to give the report of our state and standing. Joe has trouble reading, so he asked Brother David Horton to read the report. There were some questions with the Sloantown Church letter, nothing major, the committee just needed some more information. The letter from Sloantown would be reviewed later when additional information could be obtained. 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 Oscar Irvin was nominated. No other nominations were made. It was motioned, seconded and voted for nominations to cease. Elder Irvin 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 Irvin asked the congregation to stand and recognize their confidence in these officials and in so doing they would pray for us.

Elder Sizemore thanked Elder Irvin for standing as moderator pro-tem during the election of the association officials. The moderator thanked the delegation for their vote of confidence. Continue to pray for your association officials; we desire your prayers as we go forward into another year.

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

Thursday night, September 29, 2016:

Stand: Mike Fullington, David VanHoose, and Keith Holt

Friday morning, September 30, 2016:

Stand: Lewis Baker, Daniel Hurd, and Eddie Malone

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, Clifford Bledsoe and Danny Lawson.

Committee on Newly Constituted Churches: Ministers: Scott Tipton (chairman), Mike Fullington, Roger VanHoose; Deacons: Steve Hunt and Ralph Baker; Laymen: Don Brown and Robert Brown.

Committee on Finance: Jason Robinette (chairman), Jim Emery and Chris Salley.

Committee on Obituaries: Eddie Malone (chairman), David VanHoose and Tommy Meade.

Committee on Arrangements and/or Queries: Ministers: Oscar Irvin (chairman), Harmon Willis, Richard Seiber, Joseph Robinette, Porter Carroll and Sam VanHoose.

The moderator reminded the delegation that Excused Absence forms will be available at the clerk's desk tomorrow, 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.

The Letter Committee reported that information had been obtained concerning the Sloantown Church letter and everything is in order. The committee recommends accepting their letter and seating them as part of the voting body of the association. 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 part the voting body of the association.

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.

Brother Delmer McPherson, chairman of the Electrical and PA System Committee came forward to give their report, stating that we are experiencing some trouble with our microphones and they would need to be replaced. The committee asked the delegation if it would be okay to do so. It was motioned, seconded and voted to allow the committee to purchase the new equipment.

The clerk spoke concerning the Ayers Chapel Church property. A contract has been signed with James Bass for the "rent to own" purchase of the church property. While Mr. Bass was not current on his payments, it was felt we needed to help him to meet the conditions of the contract. Elder Sizemore recommended that we try to help him in hopes that he could successfully follow through. It was suggested that we recommend that Mr. Bass pay some amount, even if it is not the full payment to show good faith on his part. It was motioned, seconded and voted for the clerk to make this recommendation to him.

The clerk reported all financial transactions of the year to the delegation.

The business being concluded, the delegation was dismissed in prayer, led by Elder Richard Seiber until Friday morning, September 30, 2016.

### **Friday Morning, September 30, 2016**

The Lord blessed His people as they gathered for the second day of this 164<sup>th</sup> association. Sister Zula McCullough led the congregation in singing several songs of Zion. Till Jesus came and made us whole, we would not be denied. Satan may tell us that God will not hear our prayers, but bless His name, He is here for His children. We're headed for a place where there will be no sad farewells, no tear dimmed eyes, and the soul of man never dies. Won't it be wonderful there with no burdens to bear, for it will be joy without measure? Brighter its glory will be while millions sing the wonderful story that Heaven holds all to God's children.

We were blessed with special singing from Jason Robinette, Naomi Adkins, Peggy Shaw-McBee and Jonathan McBee. Deliverance will come for those that remain true to our Lord and Savior. Palms of victory, crowns of glory we shall wear as we shout hallelujah when we reach the Promised Land. Let us never cease to thank Him for what He has done. Look back to the crucified One and kneel once more to thank Him for what He has done. In the great beyond we'll meet friends who left

this world so long ago, but most importantly, we'll meet the One who made a way for us at Calvary, so we can praise our blessed Lord for evermore. Jesus is the lighthouse that shines the light around us so we can clearly see. A wonderful time is just ahead as the gates of Glory land are opened that we may see what God has in store for us.

Elder Sizemore welcomed everyone to today's service. It is wonderful to be here with God's people. Thank God for being that lighthouse. Please be obedient to the Holy Spirit that God would have His way. No one can measure what God has done. We will be released from the bonds of this old world, for eye hath not seen nor can we imagine the treasures laid up for those who are saved by His marvelous grace. We truly have something to be excited about. If there is one among us that does not know our Lord, we pray that you might seek Him; He will save you. Let us hide in Him, for His protection is never ending. We are hid in the cleft of the rock that we can see the hinder parts. Satan may try to blind us, but through God we can see through every fiery dart sent our way. It is well with our soul. Shouts of praise for our Savior rang out throughout the tent.

The Swan Creek singers blessed us, as did the young people of the church, with their songs of praise. God's amazing grace will allow us to stand on top of Mount Zion where he will say welcome home, you're here for good. He brought salvation to you and to me, He brought salvation so full and so free. It will be worth the wait as we step through the gate. We'll never walk in that dark valley again. We have so much to thank Him for, we could never finish.

Prayer requests were made for the unsaved; all the requests from yesterday, those serving our country in the military, our association, our country, Virgie Grace Hill's children, Brandon, Terry's children, Gary Hall's mother and daughter, Casey Breeding's daughter, Frank Gilliam's grandson, the Bowlin family, Steve Hunt's grandson and brother, Roger Manring, Doug, revivals, young people, Charlie Banks, our churches, several others that the clerk could not get, rest assured the Lord knows, and many wonderful testimonies were given thanking God for His blessings. Many unspoken requests were signified with uplifted hands. Brother Ralph Baker humbly took us to the throne of grace in a soul stirring prayer.

The moderator acknowledged the attendance of Elder Harold Shaw as he welcomed him to today's services, thanking God for the many miles he and others have traveled over the years.

The delegation was called to order to transact the business.

It was motioned, seconded and voted to adopt the business proceedings of yesterday as read.

Elder Lewis Baker, having been chosen by the Committee on Religious Exercises, came forward to take the first part of the service. The great God of heaven is all-wise and everlasting. He read Romans 8:1-7. Everything we do or even attempt to do, must bring honor and glory to God. We cannot do anything without Him. His word was made flesh and we have eternal hope. Religion can be almost anything, but salvation is of God. It all belongs to Him; He owns it all, whether man agrees with it or not. We await a new body and we shall be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye. He is coming back after His redeemed. How great it is to feel and know His spirit. Nothing can separate us from the love of God. His spirit will bear witness with those saved by His marvelous grace.

Elder Daniel Hurd followed with another wonderful message from on high as he read verses 8-11. We must humble our hearts before God. They rebuilt the walls because they had a mind to work. When we were saved, we stepped into a brand new world. We are a family, and this divine body

means something to Christ; He died for us that we might be a part of it. Our travels might lead us to places unknown, but our greatest journey will end in sight of our precious Redeemer. Our destination is not of this world, but for a place that God has prepared for those that believe and trust in His salvation. This free gift cost us nothing, but it cost Jesus everything, for He paid the supreme sacrifice. May we never fail to lift our hands in Holy praise of our Savior, for He took all our sins to the cross that we would have eternal life.

Elder Eddie Malone followed with still another wonderful message directly from our Savior on high. The love shown to God's children is beyond measure. And we know that all things work together for good to them that love and serve Him. His grace should lead us to seek after more grace. It is such an honor to know these men of God.

We were dismissed in song. He will take us home where joy will fill our heart and we can exclaim how great Thou art.

### **Friday Afternoon, September 30, 2016**

The congregation assembled after a wonderful lunch served by the host church as everyone continued to praise the Lord. When the roll is called up yonder, we'll be with our blessed Redeemer. We can say it is well with my soul, praise the Lord, oh my soul. When we are down in spirit and soul, He whispers sweet peace to us.

We were further blessed with special singing and testimony from Aubra Hill, the Clear Springs Church singers, Hunter King, and Naomi Adkins. The blood bought redeemed have a reservation paid for by the blood of the Lamb. Think of the moment when our soul shall leave this earth, we'll behold Jesus face to face. The joy of knowing to Heaven we are going. Just imagine that moment when you see Jesus. Let us show Him how His faithfulness has helped us and how much we love Him. When there seems to be no way to go, He makes a way; He is our rock, our shelter, and our way out when we get in trouble, He is truly our all in all. No gems nor jewels, nothing this world can offer to pay our sin debt, but it's only by the blood that Jesus shed for us. There is a crimson river flowing from where our Savior died which is filled with His precious blood that can do all things, comfort and protect us in our midnight hours alone, heal our mind and body, save our soul from sin, and take us through the flood. It can do these things because it is our Savior's precious blood.

Elder Sizemore thanked the church for the bountiful and delicious lunch and asked that everyone continue to obey the Lord. This is such a wonderful time in the Lord and a precious place to be.

Prayer requests were made with many wonderful testimonies. Always remember the unsaved, all those serving our country in the military and their families. Remember in prayer: David Jerrell, Tommy Meade's sister, Linton Harrold, Sister Stewart's brother and sister, and many unspoken requests signified by uplifted hands. Brother Jim Bowlin 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.

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

Friday night: Scott Tipton, Joseph Robinette, Chris Salley.



Saturday morning: October 1, 2016:

Stand: Burnice Sybert, Oscar Irvin and Greg Hill.

Saturday night:

Stand: Jason Robinette

Rollers Chapel: Billy Marcum and Sammy VanHoose.

Kingswood: Porter Carroll, Roger VanHoose and Harmon Willis.

Sunday morning, October 2, 2016:

Stand: Those in attendance

Kingswood: (10:00 a.m.) Ohio Connection

Rollers Chapel: Roger VanHoose and Harmon Willis

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 moderator appointed the Church Letter Committee for 2017 which includes: David Horton (chairman), Bradley Bowen, Steve Hunt and Steve Minton (alternate).

The Moderator asked that we add Elder Allen Hensley to our list of preaching brethren that have died during this past year.

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

The Committee on Finance reported \$5,475 in receipts for the year. The chairman thanked each church and individual for their contributions.

The Committee on Obituaries reported that 33 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 men chosen to write the circular letter for 2016 were Minister: Joseph Robinette, Deacon: Delmer McPherson, and Layman: Andy Wallen. All of these men came forward and testified of their salvation as Andy Wallen read the letter. Its message contained advice to each of us in a spiritual and scriptural manner, reaching directly to our hearts. As Christians, we all have a job to do. We are a peculiar people, the family of God who must promote the cause of Christ, that He would always receive the glory and honor for everything. It was motioned, seconded, and the moderator asked the delegation to stand to their feet as a means of voting to show their approval to print the letter in our minutes as it was read.

The moderator appointed the Committee on Circular Letters for 2017 which includes: Elders Burnice Sybert, John Banks, and Lewis Baker.

The committee formed to check on chairs for the association gave their report. They went to the company and found the chairs were \$13 each, padded on the back and bottom, and are residential chairs with a 250 pound rating. The committee recommended that we wait on money from the sale of the Ayers Chapel property. While the property is considered sold, just under another plan, we can

wait until additional funds are received. It was suggested that we buy some if needed. It was stated that we are in good shape with those we have until such time the funds are available.

We were led in a special song by Elder Sizemore, as a special offering was taken up to help offset some of the costs incurred in rebuilding the kitchen floor. In addition to replacing the floor, the inside was repainted, a new freezer was purchased and 2 new fire extinguishers were purchased to replace the existing ones that have been out of service for a while. Jesus didn't come here to stay, just to show us the way, so he got on a cloud. A donation of \$1,437.40 was received.

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: Blackwater Lick, Fairview, and Swan Creek. Swan Creek withdrew before the plea process began, leaving the plea process between Blackwater Lick and Fairview. During the vote, by a clear majority the delegation sent the association to Blackwater Lick Church, where the Lord willing we will convene on Thursday morning, (October 5, 2017) before the first Saturday in October, 2017 for the 165<sup>th</sup> gathering. Introductory – Elder Richard Seiber; Alternate – Elder Mike Fullington.

Adjourned until Saturday morning, October 1, 2016.

### **Saturday Morning, October 1, 2016**

God continued to bless His children as everyone gathered in the tent for our memorial service. As God's children, we have and look forward to more joy unspeakable and full of glory. Pleasure will no longer our soul enslave for we are saved, saved, saved. Our soul is redeemed and we are happy in Jesus our King. When we are happy in Him, December is as pleasant as May, and His presence disperses our gloom for we are sensed with His love. By His good pleasure we will arrive home some glorious day. There is coming a day when no tears will dim the eye as we arrive on that golden shore. What a day, glorious day that will be when our Jesus we shall see. Just think, no more parting and forever it will be eternal peace as He takes us by the hand and leads us through the promised land. We will meet in the morning just inside the eastern gate. If you make it there before we do, just linger near the gate as we see all the riches God has in store for us.

Elder Terry Sizemore welcomed everyone to our memorial service. He thanked sister Zula for all the years she has led the congregation in singing. Thank God for everyone in attendance today and throughout the week.

We were further blessed with special singing and testimony from Dustin Lawson, Rita Marcum Asbury, and Daniel Smith. Consider all the ways God blesses us to proclaim how great thou art. Have you been anointed with the Father's love? He extends mercy as He whispers peace be still. He is still anointing with His blood that all may come to know Him. Earth holds no treasure, but perish with using, yet there's a country to which we are going for Heaven holds all to us. Joy without measure will be our treasure. As sweet as heaven is, hell is just the opposite; that this world needs to realize. We pray that if there be one among us that does not know Him, that they could see His redemption.

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, Steve Brown, Paul, Teresa Step, Tony Step,

Brenda Neely and family, J. R. South's daughter, young man from Poplar Grove, and Keith Holt's friend. Brother Mark Newkirk humbly led us to the throne of grace.

Special singing from the trio of Talmadge Gibson, Sharon King and Terry Sizemore blessed the congregation. Jesus came from Heaven the sins to atone. The saints will arise to meet in the sky and we'll get on a cloud and go home. The tomb of Buddha contains his bones, but the tomb of Jesus is empty today, for He arose on that third and appointed morning. If you're wandering in darkness, please step into the light where Jesus leads the way.

Brother Johnny Bunch came forward to thank the surrounding community for all their help throughout the association meeting. Thanking all the churches, businesses, elected officials, and individuals for their donation of money, time, prayers and everything else regardless of what it may have been.

Mishayla Hensley blessed us with her song of the splendor of almighty God, our Heavenly Father above. He cares when our head is bowed low. Please let us introduce you to the greatest friend ever known. Consider the lilies and then you will know He is never too busy to care about you. Thank God for our young people.

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.

Sunday service will be held on the grounds, weather permitting.

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 20<sup>th</sup> 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: Please report to her via email.

Eileen Brown

Phone: 865-993-4960

Email: [ebrowntravel@gmail.com](mailto: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 Burnice Sybert took the lead of our memorial service. He read Acts 9:36-41 then he also read Acts 11:24 and used as his thought: "To let people know that you were a good person and helped lead many souls to Christ." Most of our churches have more women than men. They are special in our churches and we are truly blessed to have them in our lives. Tabitha was a good woman, well known for her charity and as a garment maker. We are all part of the family of God. Remember how things used to be. The Apostle Paul traveled much as he told many what happened to him on the road to Damascus. As God deals with us, let us always ascertain that all of the honor and glory goes directly to God. These saints that have passed from us during this past year are no different than Tabitha. God deals with His children and ensures we are taken care of. Each of them is special in their own way, because they knew the Lord

and they wanted Him to have all the glory. Remember these saints as they served God, for we will rise to meet them in the air and so shall we be with the Lord forever. These saints are asleep in Christ, just waiting for the time when God will pass by to receive us unto Himself.

Elder Oscar Irvin was the second servant of our Heavenly Father to take the stand in this memorial service. There is a time coming for all of us when death will come, but to die in Christ is good. We have walked, talked and worshiped with many of these folks whose names were read today. We can rejoice in knowing they are home awaiting our coming. It behooves us to know that we are saved as the spirit will reveal the deep things of God in our life. To know Him is to love Him and want to serve Him in any way He so desires. Christ paid the debt we could not. We may call it dying, but we will simply move to our new home, for His word states that to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. We live because He lives. We have a resting place for those that die in the Lord. Gone home, some day, if time permits, they will say that about us, but until that day, let us labor in the fields for God. This world is full of troubles, trials and heartaches, but we will go home to be with the Lord forever.

Elder Greg Hill came forward with another wonderful message from God. He has not changed, He is the same. Remember the good counsel we received from these saints that have gone on to their reward. These have fought a good fight and finished their course, so we need to do likewise. We will miss these loved ones, but we know they have gone home to be with our Lord. Trust in the Lord and He will fill the empty spaces in our hearts. This woman from the readings, Tabitha, or Dorcas as she was called, was a good woman, well liked and respected in her community. More importantly, she belonged to Christ. Look around to see the handiwork of God in these dear departed saints' life and be proud of the work we have done for the Lord.

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 from the Clear Springs youth class. Such wonderful testimonies were given as we were adjourned until Sunday morning, October 2, 2016.

## **Sunday Morning, October 2, 2016**

The morning began with sunshine and the colors of harvest, echoing the blessings that God has graced us with throughout the week. Gathering outside for one last time in gracious fellowship, we were welcomed once again by the spirit of the Lord. With uplifted voices in praise of our Lord Jesus Christ, Ronnie Brewer, Danita Dodson, Clarence Dodson, and Tee Osborne led the congregation in songs of praise. Our singing together this lovely morning reminds us that there will be a happy meeting in heaven and that will be a glad reunion day. He bids us seek His face, believe His word, and trust His grace. We are redeemed by His love divine, and great is our joy as onward we go. As day by day we travel, we'll keep Him ever nigh, knowing that we are headed for that jubilee, yonder in the skies. We were also blessed with a song from Lillian, Leigha, and Ann Bunch: "God Saves Old Sinners."

Elder and Moderator Terry Sizemore welcomed everyone to today's service, offering gratitude and love to the host church for the dedicated work during the association. Every individual worked so hard to make our visit with them enjoyable and we thank each one for their labor of love. Today's

service was held outside to allow the ladies in the kitchen to hear and take part in the service. What a joy to serve God with our fellow Christian brothers and sisters.

We were blessed with special singing and precious testimonies from Sharon King, Wanda Carroll, Pauline King and Jim Bowlin. People may not understand the joy and happiness, but we strive to go to a perfect land, built by Jesus' own hand where we'll live forever. We are assured that this unseen hand will lead us to a home where sorrow never shall come. We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we first begun. Glory will be ours forevermore. The wisdom of man is foolish, so we need be willing to humble ourselves before God and be saved. At this point we can use our talents for God and hopefully see many souls saved.

Moderator Sizemore was then liberated to share glorious words of praise that we have a country we are heading to, a land where there is no sorrow, no more pain, trouble or strife.

Prayer requests along with some wonderful testimonies were offered to our Savior. Please remember the unsaved, the sick, and the destitute. A special request was made for Daniel Smith's family during this time of sorrow due to the passing of his wife Mandy's father, our country, those serving our country in the military, the lost and Frank Gillam's grandson, Matthew. Gary Hall humbly took our petitions to the Lord.

Following prayer, we were further blessed with songs from the Copper Creek Quartet: "Let's Meet By the River." Clifton Horne shared his testimony and sang "He Has Spoken My Name."

Elder Daniel Hurd took the first part of the service. There is a wondrous attraction and beauty in the cross where our Lord and Savior died for our sins. Can you see the blood flowing today? It is still there; it is here today, in our hearts. Over 2,000 years ago, He opened the way by His beautiful sacrifice. Beaten and scourged, His blood dripping on the ground, He left a trail for us to find Him. Can you hear the hammer ringing on the spikes that nailed Him to the cross? He hung there humble as a babe, though He made all things. We should close our eyes and envision the suffering, with Jesus crying out to all humankind to come unto Him in equal humility and willingness. He prayed to let this cup pass from Him, not His will but the will of our Father be done. With His death, we have the power to overcome things in the flesh because we are joint heirs with Jesus Christ. The best is yet to come.

Elder Chris Salley followed with a wonderful testimony and preaching. Reading from I Corinthians 1:11-21. The preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; however, unto us who are saved, it is the power of God. The blood atonement at Golgotha, once and for all, rent the veil and opened the way for grace. We have been made alive forevermore. He opened our eyes, gave us a measure of faith to believe in Him and one day soon we will receive a new body and be with the Lord forever more. In glory, we'll be able to worship Him the way He so richly deserves. The crimson flow has redeemed us and given us hope, saving souls to the uttermost. There will be perfect praise and perfect glory.

Elder Silas (Porter) Carroll, Jr. also preached to us, expressing his thanks for this week's gathering and recalling the saints of old that he knew when the association last convened at Swan Creek in 1980. Sharing the introductory verse from Genesis 1, he reminded us of the power of the Word, established from the beginning and following Jesus to the cross. The Word was taken down from the cross, the Word was put in the tomb, and the Word rose again. Sadly, the Word is ignored throughout our land. We have been taught to walk in the integrity of the cross, to put on the Word daily. Just like in the beginning, His word has been there and remains there today.

Following the preaching, a beautiful testimony was offered from Dustin Lawson, who expressed his desire to be a blessing to others. Offering love to the congregation, he gave thanks.

A beautiful final fellowship of congregants ended the association service.

The clerk was not able to attend Sunday's service, but I would like to thank Sister Danita Dotson and Brother Dustin Lawson for their help in providing me all the details of the last service of this great gathering of God's children. I appreciate their willingness to help me and put their notes together for me.

## **CIRCULAR LETTER**

The Lord has blessed us to attend this 164<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Eastern District Association of Primitive Baptists at Swan Creek Church. We feel humbled to have been asked to write the circular letter this year. It is with much prayer and meditation that we have attempted to write this letter, and it is our prayer that what we have written will be a blessing.

Today, now, at this very moment in time, we as Christians have a great challenge before us. That great challenge is to be a light in what has increasingly become a dark world. The redemptive plan of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is declared in the book of Titus. The Christian life begins with salvation through the precious blood of Jesus Christ. He then purifies unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works (Titus 2:14). We as Christians must strive to embrace the purification of our conduct, character, and conversation. We should desire to be the peculiar people that are the family of God and contribute to the cause of Christ. We have read the good advice of past circular letters that have encouraged us to stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein (Jeremiah 6:16). Time and again, we have heard our preachers promote the best advice. Not long after we were saved, we may have received the advice from a dedicated Christian that had been on the road for many years and was concerned about our future walk with the Lord. That simple advice is still the best advice for Christian living. If we want to fully enjoy our Christian life and be a light to a dark world, we must follow the advice given by the saints: 1) Read and study your Bible, 2) Always remember to pray, 3) Assemble yourself with God's people.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge (Proverbs 1:7). The wisdom and instruction in the word of God directs our lives and is our daily guide to Christian living. Away from the daily distractions of the world around us, the book of Timothy encourages us to study to shew thyself approved unto God (2 Timothy 2:15). The Holy Bible possesses no wasted words or space. All scripture is given by inspiration of God (2 Timothy 3:16). The Word of God corrects us and provides instruction in righteousness. 2 Peter 3:18 advises us to grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We do find in reading and studying the Bible that the more we know, the more we want to know.

Jesus Himself provided in the book of Mark a model of prayer. He rose up early in the morning before day and departed into a solitary place to pray (Mark 1:35). Our time spent alone with Almighty God is time well spent. The songwriter wrote that there is peace and joy sublime when we take our sorrows all to Him alone. We must humble ourselves and seek the face of God (2 Chronicles 7:14). Each of us has faults and failures, and we must acknowledge them and confess them to God. In doing so, He has promised to forgive our sin and heal our land. We as Christians have so much to pray about. Our loved ones are facing difficult circumstances of sickness and illness. Death is visiting the homes of those we love and have shared our lives with. Many of our people need desperately to return to God and the joys of salvation. Our loved ones, neighbors, and people in our church communities are lost in darkness and need to be saved. The good news is that we have a friend in Jesus. We must simply take it to the Lord in prayer. We must strive for righteousness in our Christian life, and the book of James tells us that the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much (James 5:16).

The love, peace, and unity that can be shared among the born again Christian believers in the house of the Lord cannot be found in the world. We must continue to provoke one another unto love and to good works, and we must never forsake the assembling of ourselves together (Hebrews 10:24-25). In the troubled times we now live, Christians should unite together more than ever. As Paul told the churches in Galatia, bear ye one another's burdens. We are urged throughout the scriptures to be like minded one toward another. Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another (Romans 14:19). That ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 15:6). As born again believers, we understand that the grace of God has removed our sin and has the power to remove the sin of others. If we live knowing that the grace of God is sufficient for us, we know also that it is sufficient for those around us that stand in need and to the far reaches of the world. Justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. We have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand (Romans 5:1-2). And where sin abounded, grace did much more abound (Romans 5:20). When we assemble and worship together, we must remember that if we have faith that the Lord would forgive us by grace, then He will also forgive those who stand in need of salvation. How glorious the sights when we are able to witness with our own eyes or hear the good news of our people coming to know Christ as their personal Savior. Let us then continue to assemble, and in doing so, let us therefore love one another as Christ loved us. And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity (1 Corinthians 13:13).

Belief in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ brings salvation and provides each of us with an opportunity through our Christian life to be a light to the world. Reading and studying the Bible, remembering to pray, and assembling ourselves with God's people will only strengthen our light and relationship with the Lord. The book of Ecclesiastes provides us with the conclusion of the whole matter. Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man (Ecclesiastes 12:13). We must pass the time of our sojourning here in fear (1 Peter 1:17). And we know that if we fear His name, the Sun of righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings (Malachi 4:2). The wise words and the testimonies of the saints remind us of how quickly our lives pass here in time. The great day of the resurrection is coming. Let us use our time remaining to finish our course with joy, and the ministry, which we have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God (Acts 20:24). Let us abide in Him; that when He shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before Him at His coming (1 John 2:28). Let us continue in our efforts and obedience to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and at the thought of His coming let each of us gathered here today say the words, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus" (Revelation 22:20).

Deacon Delmer McPherson  
Elder Joseph Robinette  
Layman Andy Wallen

## RESOLUTION OF THANKS

Not since 1980 has Swan Creek Church hosted the association. For thirty six years they have waited for your visit. Their work is greatly appreciated by the association as Swan Creek Church has been working tirelessly to prepare for this gathering of God's children. Thank God for such wonderful friends willing to go the extra mile to make our stay great!

Donations received from 36 churches contributing \$5,200 helps the host church tremendously. We are appreciative to our sister church and the countless others who have taken part to make this hallowed occasion a magnificent experience in the Lord. Swan Creek Church thanks each individual who participated in this blessed event. God is the only one who is truly deserving and we pray God will receive all the honor, glory and praise for everything.

We thank our moderator, Elder Terry Sizemore for not only his service and his dedication to the Lord, but for his dedicated service throughout the year. This is the first time he has had the privilege of serving as pastor of

the church who is hosting this grand body. His devotion and trust in the Lord are greatly needed and appreciated. Standing before us during this gathering, he represents the best interests of this grand body and he exemplifies the best of our association throughout the year. We ask God to continue to bless him and his family in the coming years.

The privilege of writing this letter each year is more evident as I increase my trust in the Lord. I try my best to never fail to mention His blessings each and every day. This resolution of thanks means we resolve or we shall continue in God's will. Our thanks to Him is for all He has done, all He is doing, and all He is going to do for His children. First, we thank Him for salvation, for without this marvelous gift we would have no hope. Beyond our salvation, everything else just falls in line and we praise Him for it all, because we know our very being comes from our Lord. Stop and think, just for a few minutes, of what He has done for you and your family. There is no comparison when we consider His blessings.

We take many things for granted as we live in the greatest country ever. The Lord has blessed us to the utmost and we need to ensure that He receives all the honor, glory and praise for everything. If we look around us, it doesn't take very long to conclude that we are blessed beyond compare and we have our blessed Redeemer to thank for everything. Our forefathers created this nation based on Godly principles and their prayers led this nation to greatness. Now our country is in dire need of our prayers again. We must pray that God will continue to keep His hand on the United States and that America will put their faith and trust in Him. The prayers our forefathers prayed made this nation great in every way imaginable. Pray that America will come to the realization that we are nothing without God. Never forget to give God all the honor, praise and glory for all things, as He is our blessed Redeemer and it is only through Him and by Him that we live and have our being. His promise that He will never leave us, nor forsake us holds just as true today as it did the day it was spoken. We truly are a blessed nation, but God is not pleased with all the happenings He sees in our world today. We have much to pray about, and while our hearts are thankful, there is much work to be done before He comes to take His children home.

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 behavior, 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 double-tongued, 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.
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

## LIST OF MINISTERS

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	Richardson Chapel
Banks, John, (Barbara) 18 Sword Dr., Whitesburg, KY 41858, (865) 805-6045	Little Cowan
*Beaugard, Troy, 7871 Dogwood Way, Douglasville, GA 30134, (937) 218-6406	Macedonia
*Begley, Tucker, 3373 Manville Rd., Gate City, VA 24251, (276) 452-1686	Peterson's Chapel
Bernard, Charles, 1221 S. Eastman Rd., Kingsport, TN 37660, (423) 245-6087	West View
Berry, Wally, 119 Hurd Rd., Church Hill, TN 37642, (423) 357-0733	Shelby Creek
Carroll, Porter, 2020 Autumn Lane, Morristown, TN 37813 (423) 839-0275	Swan Creek
Cross, Kevin M., 5004 Madison Ct., Charlottesvile, VA 22911, (434) 973-7941	Chestnut Flats
Elliott, T. J., 6719 Tazewell Hwy., Sneedville, TN 37869, (423) 733-8696	Swan Creek
Emery, Jim, (Loretta) 280 Obe Kirk Loop, Mohawk, TN 37810, (423) 235-6832	Kingswood
Fullington, Mike, (Tina) 2498 Lawson Rd., Morristown, TN 37814, (423) 587-4221	Willis Chapel
Gilliam, Frank, (Juanita) 180 Flanary St., Kingsport, TN 37660, (423) 444-1644	Sloantown
Hager, Carter, 109 Walnut St., New Tazewell, TN 37825, (423) 489-0861	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
Hurd, Daniel, (Phyllis) 9803 Middle Wallen's Creek Rd., Jonesville, VA 24263, (276) 346-3402	Blackwater Lick
Ivin, Oscar, (Priscilla) 349 Rock Springs Valley Rd., Kingsport, TN 37664, (423) 349-6226	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
*Lampkin, Wiley, 2111 Thomas Dr., Morristown, TN 37814, (423) 277-8222	New Life
Little, Tony, (Tonya) 583 Sycamore Loop, Jeremiah, KY 41826, (606) 633-2257	Little Cowan
Malone, Eddie, (LaWanda) 1655 Billy Bible Rd., Greeneville, TN 37745, (423) 234-1972	Caney Creek
Manring, Roger, 3769 Fairview Rd., Duffield, VA 24244, (276) 940-2900	Copper Creek (Addington Frame)
Meade, Tommy, (Dorlane) P. O. Box 403, Hager Hill, KY 41222, (606) 367-0199	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 (276) 591-7777	Blue Springs, Hiltons, VA
*Peters, Tony, 501 Sequoyah St., Kingsport, TN 37660, (423) 246-5523	Caney Creek

Pitzer, Joe, (Susie) 68 East Maple St., Cedarville, OH 45314, (937) 266-7495 .....	Clear Springs
Robinette, Jason, (August) 9 W. Walnut St., Spring Valley, OH 45370, (937) 245-1746 .....	Fairview
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, (Carol) 3445 Island Rd., Blountville, TN 37617, (423) 323-9507 .....	Blue Springs, Hiltions, VA
Seiber, Richard, 4596 Middle Wallen's Creek Rd., Jonesville, VA 24263, (276) 546-3146 .....	Wallen's Creek
Shaw, Harold, 5645 State Route 380, Wilmington, OH 45177, (937) 382-8324 .....	Fairview
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) 415 Walnut St., Erwin, TN 37650, (423) 270-2194 .....	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
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) 673-6865 .....	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, Glen, 340 Hurd Rd., Church Hill, TN 37642, (423) 357-5443 .....	Mt. Mitchell
Willis, Harmon, 3200 Cameo Loop, Lot 26, White Pine, TN 37890, (865) 674-6971 .....	Osborne's Chapel

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

# **NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF CHURCH CLERKS**

<b>Church and Clerk</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Blackwater Lick - Anita H. Moore	651 Roy Cheek Rd., Jonesville, VA 24263,	(276) 346-1392
Blue Springs (Duffield, VA) - Doris Fee	327 Dry Creek Rd., Duffield, VA 24244,	(276) 546-3549
Blue Springs (Hiltons, VA) - Brenda B. Horton	7514 Bristol Hwy., Hiltons, VA 24258,	(276) 386-3535
Burke's Union - Ada McPherson	4650 Dry Creek Rd., Blackwater, VA 24221,	(276) 431-2756
Cadet - Vicky Jones	1716 Dawson Avenue West, Big Stone Gap, VA 24219,	(276) 219-5759
Caney Creek - Lloyd T. Morelock	P. O. Box 1085, Greeneville, TN 37744,	(423) 787-9342
Chestnut Flats - D. T. Cross	P. O. Box 415, Rural Retreat, VA 24368,	(276) 686-5573
Clear Springs - Penny VanHoose	1090 Jefferson Dr., Wilmington, OH 45177,	(937) 725-1189
Copper Creek (Addington Frame) - Flo Minton	439 Farmhouse Dr., Nickelsville, VA 24271,	(276) 479-2905
Davis Chapel - Janie Woodward	574 Windswept Rd., Jonesville, VA 24263,	(276) 346-1403
Edwin Holbrook Memorial - Vicky Webb	970 Webb Br., Jenkins, KY 41537,	(606) 831-0720
Fairview - Jennifer Robinette	106 Shepherds Ridge, Waynesville, OH 45068,	(937) 416-8799
Flower Gap - Onza Fisher	2001 A. J. Osborne Hwy., Blackwater, VA 24221,	(276) 346-2292
Gardner's Memorial - Cathy R. Baker	5258 Boozy Creek Rd., Bristol, VA 24202,	(423) 361-4777
Irondale - Ann Phillips	1529 Irondale Rd., Big Stone Gap, VA 24219,	(276) 523-2621
Kingswood - Denise Brooks	2020 Joe Stephens Rd., Morristown, TN 37814,	(423) 231-2219
Little Cowan - Carol Caudill	735 Hwy. 2035, Whitesburg, KY 41858,	(606) 633-7268
Long Hollow - JoAnn Jones	P. O. Box 415, Surgoinsville, TN 37873,	(423) 345-2255
Low View - Barbara Bledsoe	138 Virginia Ave., Pennington Gap, VA 24277,	(276) 546-5004
Macedonia - Pam VanHoose	1752 W. St. Route 350, Wilmington, OH 45177,	(937) 728-7508
Marion Robinette Memorial - Elizabeth R. Manes	541 Kite Rd., Rogersville, TN 37857,	(423) 272-9483
Mountain View - Juanita Bowen	403 Dry Creek Rd., Duffield, VA 24244,	(276) 546-1014
Mt. Mitchell - Peggy Harrold	617 Pearl St., Church Hill, TN 37642,	(423) 357-4417
New Life - Phyllis Lampkin	2111 Thomas Dr., Morristown, TN 37814,	(423) 839-9025
Osborne's Chapel - Joyce Neeley	164 Neeley Dr., Blackwater, VA 24221,	(276) 346-3563
Peterson's Chapel - Mandy Smith	2682 Lanter Dr., Morristown, TN 37814,	(423) 312-8753
Poplar Grove - Jean Wallen	744 Poplar Grove Rd., Kingsport, TN 37664,	(423) 349-4903
Richardson Chapel - Rosemary Borders	13657 Hwy. 1690, Louisa, KY 41230,	(606) 673-4516
Roller's Chapel - Kim Robinette	2516 Canton Rd., Blackwater, VA 24221,	(276) 431-4725
Rose Chapel - Sandra J. Johnson	360 Ethelrob Circle, Carlisle, OH 45005,	(937) 743-2017
Shelby Creek - Bonnie Wilson	4349 Stanley Valley Rd., Church Hill, TN 37642,	(423) 357-7071
Sloantown - Frank Gilliam	180 Flanary St., Kingsport, TN 37660,	(423) 444-1644
Swan Creek - Danita Dodson	5444 Tazewell Hwy., Sneedville, TN 37869,	(423) 300-8593

Valley View - Wanda Parsons .....	1853 Cave Springs Rd., Dryden, VA 24243, (276) 639-0813
Wallen's Creek - Francis Tomlinson .....	370 Middle Wallen's Creek Rd., Lot 109, Duffield, VA 24244, (276) 546-5474
West View - Robert Brown .....	105 Knollcrest Dr., Jonesborough, TN 37659, (423) 483-4385
Willis Chapel - Millard R. Hall .....	9867 Middle Wallen's Creek Rd., Jonesville, VA 24263, (276) 346-3024
Willow Chapel - Earika Marshall .....	2100 Welch Rd., Kingsport, TN 37660, (423) 288-3675

## A LOOK INTO THE PAST

**100 Years Ago** –The 64<sup>th</sup> annual Eastern District Association began on October 5, 1916 at Swan Creek Church in Hancock County, TN. Elder J. P. Peters preached the introductory sermon, from St. John 3:2, “The same came to Jesus by night and said unto Him, Rabbi We know that thou art a teacher come from God for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.” 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 2, 1941 the 89<sup>th</sup> annual session met with Blackwater Lick Church, Blackwater, Lee County, VA. The introductory sermon was preached by Elder John Henry Sybert from this text, “Preach the Word” II Timothy 4:2. He taketh away the first that He may establish the second from Hebrews 10:9. He was followed by Elder John Robert Gardner on the same subject. Elders E. A. Robinette and T. R. Carter were elected moderators with Amos Osborne being elected clerk and treasurer.

**50 Years Ago** – Fairview Church of Bellbrook OH, hosted the 114<sup>th</sup> annual session beginning on September 29, 1966. The introductory sermon was delivered by Elder H. V. Hall reading II Peter 3, using the 9<sup>th</sup> verse for his text, “The Lord is not slack concerning His promises, as some men count slackness but is longsuffering to usward not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.” Elder Gerald Hopkins, 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 3, 1991 was the beginning of the 139<sup>th</sup> annual session, hosted by Burke’s Union Church, Blackwater, VA. Elder Roger Trent preached the introductory sermon reading II Timothy 2:19 using as a text, “Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, the Lord knoweth them that are His. And let everyone that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.” He was followed by Elder Howard Sybert. 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 J. T. Osborne; alternates: Betty Baker and Anita Moore. Deceased, 2; Total number on roll, 90; contribution, \$300.00; meeting day, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday morning, Saturday night (6:00 p.m.) and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, Sunday (10:30 a.m.) following the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in May. Elders Porter Carroll and Mike Fullington asked to attend. Daniel Hurd, moderator.

**BLUE SPRINGS:** Duffield, VA. Delegates: Doris Fee and Judy Burke. Total number on roll, 16; contribution, \$75.00; meeting day, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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, Brenda Bowlin and Chris Salley; alternates: Brenda Horton and Joe Horton. Deceased, 2; total number on roll, 31; contribution, \$50.00; meeting day, 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday afternoon (2:00 p.m.) and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, Spurrier Cemetery at 2:00 p.m. on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in May. Chris Salley, moderator.

**BURKE'S UNION:** Blackwater, VA. Delegates: Delmer McPherson, Joe Robinette, Clifford Bledsoe and David Stapleton; alternates: Tyler Stapleton and Jean Robinette. Received by experience and baptism, 3; received by letter, 2; received by relationship, 1; deceased, 1; total number on roll, 112; contribution, \$200.00; meeting day, 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday night (6:30 p.m.) and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, Sunday (10:30 a.m.) following the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday in July. David Stapleton, moderator.

**CADET:** Big Stone Gap, VA. Delegates: Roy Jones, Vicky Jones, Justin Jones and Lillie Akens; alternates: Josh Jones and Angela Tignor. Excluded, 2; deceased, 1; total number on roll, 37; contribution, \$100.00; meeting day, 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday night (6:00 p.m.) and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, Sunday (10:30 a.m.) following the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in September. Greg Hill and Matthew Stevens, moderators.

**CANEY CREEK:** Greeneville, TN. Delegates: Eddie Malone, Wanda Malone, Jimmy Bledsoe and Shelia Bledsoe; alternate: Lloyd Morelock. Total number on roll, 89; contribution, \$75.00; meeting day, Sunday (9:30 a.m.) following the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday (6:00 p.m.) and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in June (9:30 a.m.). Eddie Malone, moderator.

**CHESTNUT FLATS:** Gate City, VA. Delegates: Lewis Baker, Ralph Baker, Dan Cross and Kevin Cross. Received by experience and baptism, 1; deceased, 1; total number on roll, 43; contribution, \$75.00; meeting day, 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday night and following Sunday morning. Lewis Baker, moderator.

**CLEAR SPRINGS:** Spring Valley, OH. Delegates: Dennis Stewart, Myra Andrews, Karen Stewart and Carrie Fox; alternate: Roger VanHoose. Received by relationship, 2; dismissed by letter, 2; total number on roll, 139; contribution, \$250.00; meeting day, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday morning and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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. Received by experience and baptism, 2; deceased, 1; total number on roll, 74; contribution, \$200.00; meeting day, Sunday following the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday. Memorial service, Sunday (10:30 a.m.) following the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in October. Daniel Smith, moderator.

**DAVIS CHAPEL:** Jonesville, VA. Delegates: Rita Asbury, Phyllis Hurd, Butch Woodward and Janie Woodward; alternate: Barbara Collingsworth. Total number on roll, 45; contribution, \$175.00; meeting day, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday night and every Sunday morning (10:30 a.m.). Memorial service, Sunday (10:30 a.m.) following the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in April. Richard Seiber, moderator.

**EDWIN HOLBROOK MEMORIAL:** Ermine, KY. Delegates: Henrietta Adams, Casey Breeding, Roger Sturgill and Treasa Sturgill; alternate: Vicky Webb. Received or restored by recantation, 1; total number on roll, 11; contribution, \$50.00; meeting day, 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday night (6:00 p.m.) and 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday morning. Memorial service, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in April. John Banks, moderator.

**FAIRVIEW:** Bellbrook, OH. Delegates: Jennifer Robinette, Peggy Shaw-McBee, Bobby Graham and Joseph Robinette; alternate: Samuel VanHoose. Received by experience and baptism, 5; received by letter, 2; deceased, 1; total number on roll, 155; contribution, \$350.00; meeting day, 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday night

and every Sunday morning (10:30 a.m.). Memorial service, Sunday (10:00 a.m.) following the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in May. Jason Robinette and Joseph Robinette, moderators.

**FLOWER GAP:** Blackwater, VA. Delegates: Homer Osborne, Helen Willis and Doug Willis. Total number on roll, 73; contribution, \$100.00; meeting day, 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday night and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, Sunday following the 4<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday. Tommy Osborne, moderator.

**IRONDALE:** Big Stone Gap, VA. Delegates: Frankie Phillips and Ann Phillips. Total number on roll, 26; contribution, \$15.00; meeting day, None. Memorial service, None. Frankie Phillips, moderator pro-tem.

**KINGSWOOD:** Morristown, TN. Delegates: Denise Brooks, Ronnie Brooks, Anita Brown and Don Brown; alternates: Joey Brooks and Loretta Emery. Received by relationship, 2; total number on roll, 64; contribution, \$100.00; meeting day, Sunday night (after 6:30 p.m. service) following the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday (except in September when it follows the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday) and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, Sunday (10:30 a.m.) following the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in September. Jim Emery, moderator.

**LITTLE COWAN:** Whitesburg, KY. Delegates: Robert Sword, Linda Lucas and Carol Caudill; alternates: John Banks and Marsha Roberts. Deceased, 2; total number on roll, 65; contribution, \$200.00; meeting day, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday night and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in May. John Banks, moderator.

**LONG HOLLOW:** Surgoinsville, TN. Delegates: Ralph Lindsey, Danny Bailey and Mark Weems. Received by experience and baptism, 1; deceased, 3; total number on roll, 186; contribution, \$150.00; meeting day, 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday night, every Sunday morning and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday nights (6:00 p.m.). Memorial service, Sunday, May 21, 2017 (10:30 a.m.). Mark Weems, moderator.

**LOW VIEW:** Pennington Gap, VA. Delegates: Carter Hager, Jan Bledsoe and Barbara Bledsoe. Received by relationship, 1; total number on roll, 36; contribution, \$50.00; meeting day, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday and every Sunday morning (10:00 a.m.). Memorial service, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in June (10:00 a.m.). Carter Hager, moderator.

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

**MARION ROBINETTE MEMORIAL:** Rogersville, TN. Delegates: Ralph Lawson, Shirley Lawson, Frankie Manes and Elizabeth Manes; alternates: Joy Phillips and Jordan Lawson. Received by experience and baptism, 1; deceased, 2; total number on roll, 35; contribution, \$100.00; meeting day, every Sunday morning (10:45 a.m.). Everette Weems, moderator.

**MOUNTAIN VIEW:** Stickleyville, VA. Delegates: Bradley Bowen, Juanita Bowen and Paula Ayers. Deceased, 2; total number on roll, 18; contribution, \$75.00; meeting day, 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday night (6:30 p.m.) and following Sunday morning (10:30 a.m.). Memorial service, Sunday (10:30 a.m.) following the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday in May. Richard Seiber, moderator.



**MT. MITCHELL:** Mt. Carmel, TN. Delegates: Shirley Blair, Mollie Gilreath, Ben Morelock and Juanita Williams. Excluded, 5; deceased, 4; total number on roll, 84; contribution, \$175.00; meeting day, Sunday following the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in June. Frank Gilliam, moderator.

**NEW LIFE:** Whitesburg, TN. Delegates: Ervin Haager, Jerry Johnson, Phyllis Lampkin and Wiley Lampkin; alternates: Faye Johnson and Emma Merrifield. Received by experience and baptism, 1; received by relationship, 3; excluded, 1; deceased, 1; total number on roll, 89; contribution, \$50.00; meeting day, every Sunday morning. Jerry Johnson, moderator.

**OSBORNE'S CHAPEL:** Blackwater, VA. Delegates: Denver Osborne, James Davidson, Mary Ruth Davidson and Jacob Osborne; alternates: Larry Fannon and Carolyn Fannon. Received by experience and baptism, 5; total number on roll, 93; contribution, \$100.00; meeting day, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday night and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, Sunday following the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in May. Keith Holt, moderator.

**PETERSON'S CHAPEL:** Duffield, VA. Delegates: Zachary Berry, Jon Lawson, Jane Peterson and Michael Peterson; alternates: Jesse Begley and Tonya Berry. Received by experience and baptism, 9; total number on roll, 60; contribution, \$70.00; meeting day, Sunday following the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, Sunday following the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday in October. Daniel Smith, moderator.

**POPLAR GROVE:** Kingsport, TN. Delegates: Larry Holden, Steve Hunt, Richard Stevens and Andy Wallen; alternate: John Shelton. Received by experience and baptism, 1; deceased, 2; total number on roll, 84; contribution, \$100.00; meeting day, Sunday following the 1<sup>st</sup> 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. Dismissed by letter, 7; deceased, 2; total number on roll, 186; contribution, \$50.00; meeting day, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday night and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, Sunday night before Memorial Day. Tommy Meade, moderator.

**ROLLER'S CHAPEL:** Duffield, VA. Delegates: Greg Hill, Aubra Hill, Kathy Lawson and Don Stokes; alternates: Betty Stokes and Kim Robinette. Dismissed by letter, 2; deceased, 2; total number on roll, 41; contribution, \$250.00; meeting day, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday night (6:30 p.m. EST) and every Sunday morning. Greg Hill, moderator.

**ROSE CHAPEL:** West Carrollton, OH. Delegates: Anita Newkirk and Mark Newkirk. Received by experience and baptism, 3; received by relationship, 1; excluded, 2; deceased, 2; total number on roll, 107; contribution, \$200.00; meeting day, every Sunday morning (10:30 a.m.) and evening (6:00 p.m.) and Wednesday night. Memorial service, Sunday (10:30 a.m.) following the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in October. Samuel VanHoose, moderator.

**SHELBY CREEK:** Eidson, TN. Delegate: Wally Berry. Received by letter, 1; total number on roll, 12; contribution, \$50.00; meeting day, 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday night, following Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday night and 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday night. Wally Berry, moderator.

**SLOANTOWN:** Duffield, VA. Delegates: Frank Gilliam and Jo Ann Griffin. Total number on roll, 26; contribution, \$40.00; meeting day, Sunday (6:00 p.m.) following the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday. 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. Deceased, 1; total number on roll, 300; contribution, \$200.00; meeting day, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday night and every Sunday morning. Memorial service, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in June (10:30 a.m.). Terry Sizemore, moderator.

**VALLEY VIEW:** Dryden, VA. Delegates: David Parsons, Ronnie Leonard, Anna Duncan and Sandra Leonard; alternates: Curtis Pennington and Carolyn Pennington. Deceased, 1; total number on roll, 67; contribution, \$200.00; meeting day, every Sunday morning. Memorial service, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in October (10:00 a.m.). Wally Berry, moderator.

**WALLEN'S CREEK:** Duffield, VA. Delegates: Bill Tomlinson, Richard Seiber and Francis Tomlinson. Received by experience and baptism, 2; total number on roll, 44; contribution, \$100.00; meeting day, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday night and following Sunday morning. Memorial service, Sunday following the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in May (10:30 a.m.). Elder Burnice Sybert asked to preach. Richard Seiber, moderator.

**WEST VIEW:** Kingsport, TN. Delegates: Robert Brown, David Horton, Gale McCullough and Billy Walton; alternates: Burnice Sybert and Charles Bernard. Received by experience and baptism, 1; excluded, 3; deceased, 2; total number on roll, 58; contribution, \$1,000.00; meeting day, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday night (6:00 p.m.) and every Sunday morning and Sunday night (6:00 p.m.). Memorial service, Sunday following the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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. Deceased, 1; total number on roll, 88; contribution, \$100.00; meeting day, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday night and following Sunday morning. Memorial service, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in September (10:30 a.m.). Mike Fullington, moderator.

**WILLOW CHAPEL:** Kingsport, TN. Delegates: Scott Tipton, Adam Hensley, Mishayla Hensley and LaDonna Smith. Received by relationship, 1; dismissed by letter, 1; deceased, 2; total number on roll, 85; contribution, \$250.00; meeting day, every Sunday morning, Sunday night (6:30 p.m.), 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday night (6:30 p.m.) business, other Wednesday nights (6:30 p.m.) Bible study. Memorial service, Sunday following the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in September (10:30 a.m.). Scott Tipton, moderator.

**TOTALS:** 38 churches (19 in VA., 12 in TN., 3 in KY., and 4 in OH.) Received by experience and baptism, 37; received by letter, 5; received by relationship, 11; received or restored by recantation, 1; dismissed by letter, 13; excluded, 13; deceased, 39; total number on roll, 3,015.

There are 31 ministers serving as pastors - 25 are serving 1 church; 5 are serving 2 churches and 1 is serving 3 churches. There are 2 churches with a moderator pro-tem. There were 33 ministers and 1 visiting minister who signed the register at this year's association.

## UNION MEETINGS - 2017

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

### - APRIL -

**1 - VALLEY VIEW:** To begin on Friday night before the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: John Banks, Carter Hager, Greg Hill, Keith Holt, Daniel Hurd, Oscar Irvin, Roger Manring, Daniel Smith, David Stapleton, Tyler Stapleton, Matthew Stevens, Burnice Sybert, Scott Tipton, Harmon Willis and all others who wish to attend.

**2 - DAVIS CHAPEL:** To begin on Thursday night before the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**3 - WEST VIEW:** To begin on Thursday night before the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: John Banks, Wally Berry, Porter Carroll, Greg Hill, Keith Holt, Oscar Irvin, Jason Robinette, Terry Sizemore, Scott Tipton and Harmon Willis.

**4 - CADET:** To begin on Thursday night before the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: John Banks, Greg Hill, Daniel Hurd, Oscar Irvin, David Moody, Jason Robinette, Richard Seiber, Terry Sizemore, Daniel Smith, Matthew Stevens, Burnice Sybert and Scott Tipton.

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

**6 - ROSE CHAPEL:** To begin on Thursday night before the 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

### - MAY -

**1 - SWAN CREEK:** To begin on Thursday night before the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday (6:00 p.m.) and Sunday morning (10:45 a.m.). Ministers asked to attend: Mike Fullington, Greg Hill, Oscar Irvin, Burnice Sybert, Harmon Willis and all others who wish to attend.

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

**4 - COPPER CREEK (ADDINGTON FRAME):** To begin on Friday night before the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: John Banks, 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Lewis Baker, Daniel Hurd, Roger Manning, Chris Salley and Richard Seiber.

**- JUNE -**

**1 - RICHARDSON CHAPEL:** To begin on Thursday night before the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday; Sunday (10:00 a.m.). Ministers asked to attend: John Banks, Porter Carroll, Daniel Hurd, Oscar Irvin, Roger Manning, Richard Seiber, Burnice Sybert and Harmon Willis.

**3 - NEW LIFE:** To begin on Friday night before the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Porter Carroll, Jim Emery, Greg Hill, Oscar Irvin, Wiley Lampkin, Eddie Malone, Terry Sizemore, Burnice Sybert, Roger VanHoose and Mark Weems.

**4 - CANEY CREEK:** To begin on Wednesday night before the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Carter Hager, 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday; Sunday (10:00 a.m.). Ministers asked to attend: Lewis Baker, John Banks, Frank Gilliam, Carter Hager, Greg Hill, Oscar Irvin, Roger Manning, Jason Robinette, Joseph Robinette, Richard Seiber, Burnice Sybert and all other ministers are welcome.

**6 - LONG HOLLOW:** To begin on Wednesday night before the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday; Sunday (10:30 a.m.). Ministers asked to attend: Wally Berry, Porter Carroll, Frank Gilliam, Carter Hager, Greg Hill, Daniel Hurd, Oscar Irvin, Donald L. Johnson, Jerry Johnson, Roger Manning, Richard Seiber, Terry Sizemore, Burnice Sybert and Harmon Willis.

**7 - BLUE SPRINGS (Hiltons, VA):** To begin on Friday night before the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday (2:00 p.m.). Ministers asked to attend: Lewis Baker, Porter Carroll, Kevin Cross, Jim Emery, Frank Gilliam, Carter Hager, Greg Hill, Roger Manning, Jason Robinette, Joseph Robinette, Terry Sizemore and Harmon Willis.

**- JULY -**

**1 - FAIRVIEW:** To begin on Thursday night before the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday; Sunday (10:00 a.m.). Ministers asked to attend: Oscar Irvin, Joe Pitzer, Matthew Stevens, Scott Tipton and Roger VanHoose.

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

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

**- AUGUST -**

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

**2 - BLACKWATER LICK:** To begin on Friday night (6:00 p.m.) before the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Lewis Baker, Frank Gilliam, Greg Hill, Oscar Irvin, Terry Sizemore, Matthew Stevens and Burnice Sybert.

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

**7 - IRONDALE:** To begin on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday night (6:30 p.m.). Ministers asked to attend: All who wish to attend.

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

**9 - MACEDONIA:** To begin on Friday night before the 4<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday; Sunday (10:30 a.m.). Ministers asked to attend: Lewis Baker, Daniel Hurd, Oscar Irvin, Jason Robinette, Richard Seiber, Harold Shaw, Terry Sizemore, Burnice Sybert, Scott Tipton and Harmon Willis.

**2 - EDWIN HOLBROOK MEMORIAL:** To begin on Friday night before the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Lewis Baker, John Banks, Frank Gilliam, Greg Hill, Daniel Hurd, Oscar Irvin, Roger Manring, Chris Salley, Richard Seiber, Burnice Sybert and Harmon Willis.

**3 - LITTLE COWAN:** To begin on Thursday night before the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Lewis Baker, Carter Hager, Greg Hill, Daniel Hurd, Oscar Irvin, Roger Manning, Jason Robinette, Richard Seiber, Terry Sizemore, Burnice Sybert and Harmon Willis.

**4 - KINGSWOOD:** To begin on Thursday night before the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday; Sunday (10:30 a.m.). Ministers asked to attend: Wally Berry, Porter Carroll, Mike Fullington, Carter Hager, Greg Hill, Keith Holt, Oscar Irvin, Donald Johnson, Jerry Johnson, Terry Sizemore and Harmon Willis. 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Charles Bernard, Frank Gilliam, Greg Hill, Oscar Irvin, Chris Salley, Richard Seiber and Burnice Sybert.

**6 - WILLOW CHAPEL:** To begin on Friday night (6:30 p.m.) before the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday. Ministers asked to attend: Mike Fullington, Greg Hill, Daniel Hurd, Oscar Irvin, Richard Seiber, Burnice Sybert and Harmon Willis.

## **DIRECTIONS TO BLACKWATER LICK (BIG DOOR) CHURCH**

1440 A J Osborne Highway  
Blackwater, VA 24221

Coming from Kingsport or Big Stone Gap on Route 23, turn at the Duffield intersection onto Route 58 West. Follow Route 58 for 0.8 mile, turn left onto Route 604. Follow Route 604 for the next 2.6 miles to Pattonsville, where Route 604 turns to the left. After 1 mile, the road forks and Route 604 continues to the right. Follow Route 604 until it intersects with Route 603 (approximately 10.6 miles). Turn right across bridge, staying on Route 604 for approximately 0.4 mile to the church on the left.

If coming in from the Rogersville area (Route 11W), turn North onto Route 70 and follow it to Blackwater. After 5.2 miles, Route 70 and Route 94 split. Remain on Route 70 for another 16.7 miles until you get to Route 604. Turn right and go approximately 1.3 miles to the church.

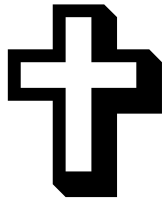
When coming in from the Jonesville area, turn South onto Route 70 and follow it for about 12 miles to Route 604, turn left and go approximately 1.3 miles to the church.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

Balance from 2015	\$ 11,255.35
Receipt from sale/rent of Ayers Chapel Property	1,500.00
Reduced Printing Cost	20.00
Special Donation	100.00
Receipts from 2016	5,475.00
Special Offering	1,437.40
Receipts after association adjourned	886.00
Interest	19.29
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 20,693.04</b>

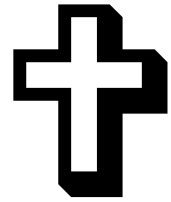
**DISBURSEMENTS:**

Rental of safety deposit box	\$ 75.00
Insurance premium (Kitchen and Liability)	912.00
Charter registration fee	22.25
Postage	68.62
Clerical Supplies	7.88
Repairs to the kitchen	2,359.46
Gift to Moderator	800.00
Gift to Clerk	1,800.00
Printing and packaging 500 copies of 2015 Query books	730.00
Printing and packaging 1,000 copies of 2015 Direction books	495.00
Printing and packaging 1,350 copies of 2016 minutes	2,678.00
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$ 9,948.21</b>
<b>BALANCE IN TREASURY</b>	<b>\$ 10,744.83</b>



## 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, Viola  
BLEDSON, Rosa Lee Berry  
BURTON, Larry D.  
CAUDILL, Dorothy  
FIELDS, Dorothy D.  
GREER, Dexal Laster  
HORNE, Ina Christine Smith  
HURD, Gladys Murel  
JESSEE, Evelyn Nervestia Robinette  
LAWSON, Tommie  
PEARCY, Ida  
PROFITT, James Earl  
ROBINETTE, Dorothy B.  
SHAW, Evelyn Faye  
STAPLETON, Nora Jean  
\*WEEMS, Elder Robert Edward  
WOODARD, Edna Louise Mitchell

ADDINGTON, Omer Cecil  
\*BOWLIN, Elder John “Johnny” Howard  
CARTER, Rita Faye Robinette  
DUNCAN, Joel Alvin  
GLOVER, Geneva Elizabeth  
HICKMAN, Helen Faye  
HOSKINS, Bertha Carnell Lambert Bledsoe  
JEFFERSON, Alta Marie  
LAWSON, Calvin Brownlow  
OSBORNE, Anderson Jess  
PRICE, Phyllis Amy Childers  
RITCHIE, Johnnie Leon  
ROBINETTE Michael (Mickie) Keith  
SMITH, Claude Warren  
\*TURNER, Elder John  
WILLIAMS, Virgie Virginia

### \*Ministers

**VIOLA ADAMS**, age 79 was born January 30, 1937 and went to be with the Lord July 10, 2016. She was preceded in death by her parents, Kelly and Ruby Head, 2 infant brothers and 1 granddaughter.

She was saved at a young age. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother and sister. She attended church as long as she was able.



She is survived by her husband of 60 years, Craft Adams; 1 daughter, Trish Porter; 1 son, Mike Adams; 5 grandchildren; 6 great grandchildren; 2 sisters, Bonnie Wilson and Lorene Eldridge; 2 brothers, Clarence Head and Lowell Head and several nieces and nephews.

Viola is greatly missed by all who knew her, but we know she's at peace in Heaven. See you soon.

- Written by the family

**OMER CECIL ADDINGTON** was born August 7, 1915 and passed away on December 19, 2015 at the age of 100 years and 4 months. Mr. Addington was born near Snowflake, VA to the late Eliza W. Elliott and James Robert Addington.

Along with his parents, Omer was preceded in death by 1 daughter, Anita Lea Addington Smith and 1 brother, Orville Addington.

Survivors include his loving wife since December 19, 1941, Violet Gertrude (Smith) Addington; 1 son, Randal B. Addington; 1 granddaughter; 1 grandson; 2 great granddaughters and 3 great grandsons.

Omer was a renowned local historian and recognized as one of the foremost chroniclers of Scott County, VA's heritage. He recorded and kept track of Scott County's history for more than 60 years and served as president of the Southwest Virginia Historical Society. He has played a vital part in that heritage as a student, teacher and administrator in the public school system. As a youth, he attended one and two room school houses, including Mineral Hill, Greenwood and Midway School. He obtained his teaching certificate from East Tennessee State University and worked in Sullivan and Scott County Public Schools. He retired from Scott County Public Schools in 1979.

- Written by the family

**ROSA LEE BERRY BLEDSOE** was born March 25, 1925 and went to be with the Lord June 1, 2015 at the age of 90.

She was the daughter of O. E. Berry and Maggie Barnette Berry.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Orbin Bledsoe; her parents and 1 sister, Bessie Robinette.

She is survived by 1 son, Kyle Bledsoe; 1 daughter, Kate Osborne; 6 grandchildren; 4 step grandchildren; 4 great grandchildren; 4 sisters; 2 brothers; several nephews and nieces.

She was saved at an early age and joined Roller's Chapel Church, attending as long as she was able.

A devoted wife to her husband, a dear loving mother to her children, and a kind, helpful neighbor to all those around who knew her.

She is missed by family, friends and neighbors, but we look forward to meeting her again on the great resurrection day.

- Written by her family and friend

**ELDER JOHN "JOHNNY" HOWARD BOWLIN**, age 76, Bristol, TN crossed over the Great Divide to greet his Savior Jesus Christ, his blessed Hope, on September 24, 2016.

Elder Bowlin began his life on March 6, 1940, in Scott County, VA where he grew up on a farm which he loved, and later left his humble home to work in the textile industry to raise his beloved family. He was a humble man and a friend to those in need. Most importantly, Elder Bowlin was a devout Christian who loved to spread the "good news" to all that he met. He began his Christian walk on March 1, 1959, when he, along with his brother, Jim, was saved in a revival meeting at Blue Springs Church which was officiated by Coba Carter and Rader Ketron.

Throughout his life, Elder Bowlin would often testify, "I was under so much conviction that I couldn't wait to get to the altar to be saved." From that day forward, Elder Bowlin spent hour upon hour studying the Word of God and attending services with an avid passion to learn about the "Great

Big God” that he served. In addition, Elder Bowlin had a passion for singing, which he shared along with his brothers and sisters’ family quartet on many occasions. As he grew in the Lord, Elder Bowlin answered his call to preach the gospel, and on a Tuesday night, September 18, 1984, he was ordained by the Eastern District Association of Primitive Baptists at Blue Springs Church. During his ministry, Elder Bowlin was the pastor at Miller’s Chapel, and later became the pastor at Blue Springs (Beech Grove). As he travelled and preached at many churches, Elder Bowlin remained a humble servant who was tempered with humility, kindness, love, and wisdom that only Jesus could provide. His desire was to live his life as Jesus lived.

Elder Bowlin was known for many aphorisms and his talent to touch the lives of many. He would often say things like, “We serve a great big God,” “I’m so glad I’m saved, I don’t know whether to run, jump, or shout,” “I wouldn’t trade what Jesus has for me for anything in this world,” or “I’m looking forward to that Great Big Meeting in the air.” These aphorisms would put smiles on people’s faces, but everyone knew he was sincere about them. Elder Bowlin was happiest when he was in church and he would encourage the congregation many times with some of his favorite verses from John 14:1-3. Elder Bowlin cherished these words and held tight to this promise during his lifetime. Throughout his trials and tribulation, Elder Bowlin never failed to give praise to the author of his faith and destiny, Jesus.

As the family rejoices Johnny’s crossing, we would like to share his final words of encouragement he gave just a few days ago: “For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.” Blessed be the name of Jesus!

Elder John Bowlin was preceded in death by his father, Claude Bowlin; mother, Mary Bowlin; and brother, William Bowlin.

He is survived by his wife, Brenda Bowlin, 1 daughter, Kim Bowlin; 2 sons, Brad Bowlin and Matthew Bowlin; 2 granddaughters; 3 sisters, Jean Wilson, Sue Johnson, and Brenda Horton; 2 brothers, Jim Bowlin and Kenneth Bowlin; and many wonderful nieces, nephews and extended family.

- Written by the family

**LARRY D. BURTON** was born February 20, 1949 and passed away July 9, 2016 at home in his sleep. He was a loving husband, father and papaw who enjoyed spending time with his family. He laughed with them in the good times, cried with them in the sad times, emotionally supported and prayed for them always.

Larry joined Cadet Church in July, 1961. He was a Vietnam Veteran serving in the Army as a Green Beret. He loved the outdoors and enjoyed farming, fishing and hunting.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Charley Lee and Mary Catherine Burton; 1 son, Earl Eugene Rose and his former wife, Juanita (Rose) Burton.

He is survived by his wife, Laura Elaine Burton of the home; 2 sisters, Judy Parriman and Monica Fox; 5 daughters, Rhonda Burton, Cary Flanary, Violet Robbins, Janie Gibson, and Illine Huff; 4 sons, Jerry Rose, Chad Rutherford, Shane Rutherford and Steve Rutherford. He leaves behind many grandchildren, honorary grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Larry was known to open his arms, home and heart to all those in need. He will be missed by all those who knew him.

- Written by the family

**RITA FAYE ROBINETTE CARTER** was born December 15, 1958 and passed away November 1, 2015 at the age of 56 after a courageous battle with cancer.

Rita attended Marion Robinette Memorial Church.

She was preceded in death by her father, M. C. Robinette, Jr. and her grandparents.

Rita is survived by her husband, Clay Carter; 2 sons, Mickie and John; 1 granddaughter; mother, Barbara Robinette; 3 brothers, Phillip, David and Mike Robinette; 1 sister, Robin Tipton; several nephews and nieces and other family members and friends.

She is greatly missed by everyone that knew her.

- Written by her sister, Robin Tipton

**DOROTHY CAUDILL**, of Little Cowan passed away November 26, 2015 at the Whitesburg Appalachian Regional Healthcare Center.

Dorothy was the daughter of the late Joe and Delia Basham.

She was born May 12, 1919 being 96 years, 7 months, and 14 days of age at the time of her passing.

Dorothy was the widow of David Caudill.

Surviving is 1 son, Dorce "Sonny" Caudill; 2 sisters, Lorraine Wooten and Hazel Gross; 2 grandchildren; 1 great grandchild, along with a host of other relatives and friends to mourn her passing.

Dorothy was a member of the Little Cowan Church.

- Written by the family

**JOEL ALVIN DUNCAN**, age 70, was born May 6, 1945 and went home to be with his Lord March 18, 2016. He passed on from his residence with his loving family by his side. He attended Shelby Creek Church as he grew up. He attended Long Hollow Church later on. He was saved a little while before he passed. He wanted to come home and come to church and be baptized, but God called him home.

Joe was retired from Holston Builders where he was a truck driver for 32 years. He was an avid softball player and a two-time state champion in horse shoes. He loved hunting turkey and deer and enjoyed gardening. He never met a stranger and would help anyone.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Lawrence and Oakel Duncan, and 1 brother, Rufus Duncan.

He is survived by his loving wife of 52 years, Gladys Duncan; 1 daughter, Brandy Murphy; 2 sons, Terry Duncan and Tony Duncan; 1 grandson; 2 sisters, Ruth Lawson and Marie Lawson; 2 brothers, George Duncan and Billy Duncan; several nieces and nephews and a host of friends.

Joe's at peace now with no more suffering. He is missed by all who knew him. Sleep on, Joe, until we meet again. Walk slow, we won't be far behind you.

- Written by the family

**DOROTHY D. FIELDS**, 57 of Surgoinsville, TN went home to be with her heavenly Father and family on January 18, 2016 at her residence.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Willie and Ruth Fields; 2 sisters, Sue Laster and Louise Fields; 3 brothers, Dub, Fred, and John Fields.

Survivors include 2 sisters, Gladys Thacker and Margie Charles; 1 brother, Lynn Fields; several nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews.

Dorothy was a faithful member of Long Hollow Church and was a loving and caring person. She will be greatly missed by everyone who knew her. Sleep on, little sister, until we meet again on Heaven's bright shore.

- Written by the family

**GENEVA ELIZABETH GLOVER**, 75, of Statesville, passed away on May 4, 2016 at Gordon Hospice House in Statesville.

She was born on March 30, 1941 in Blackwater, VA, to the late Ben and Flora Anderson Hill.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her first husband, Joe Glover; 1 son, Ricky Glover; and 3 brothers, Roy Anderson, Kelly Hill and Lewis "L. E." Hill.

Survivors include her husband, Anthony "Tony" Kent; 5 children, Benny Glover, Terry Glover, Polly Glover, Michael Glover and Sandy Luecht; 2 sisters, Emma Jean Robinette and Edith Sybert; 1 brother, Gaylord Hill; 37 grandchildren and great grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Geneva was a member at Roller's Chapel. Since she lived in North Carolina, she wasn't able to attend many services. She was always faithful to the church by sending donations each month and was always interested in how the church was doing. Geneva had a sweet spirit about her and always had a testimony of the goodness of the Lord in her life. Rest on, sister Geneva until we meet again in a land where we will never part.

- Written by the church clerk, Kim Robinette

**DEXAL LASTER GREER** was born November 10, 1927 in Stickleyville, Virginia. She left her earthly home to join her Savior Jesus Christ and loved ones November 21, 2015 being 88 years and 11 days in age.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 63 years, Dallas Eugene Greer; 1 daughter, Andrea Erwin; parents, Hal and Callie Laster; 1 sister, Bernice Epps; and 1 brother, Leonard Laster.

She retired from Wellmont Holston Valley Hospital after 30+ years of service. She was an active member of West View Church. She is greatly missed by family and friends.

Surviving are her daughters, Sharon Jordan and Colleen Frazier; 9 grandchildren; 15 great grandchildren; 1 sister, Genevieve Washburn; 1 brother, Eunice Laster; and several nieces and nephews.

- Written for the family by Elder Burnice Sybert

**HELEN FAYE HICKMAN**, age 82 of Surgoinville, entered into eternal rest with the Lord on May 6, 2016. She was a lifelong member of Long Hollow Church, where she was saved at an early age. Her love of the home and cooking was enjoyed by many friends and family over the years, where her kindness was always shown. She will forever live in our hearts.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ralph Haburn Hickman; 1 daughter, Melanie Renee; parents Wally Ed Ward and Lily Presley Ward and 1 sister Francis Ward.

Survivors include her sister, Ruth Ward; 1 daughter, JoAnn Jones; 1 son, Gary Hickman; half sister, Betty Hughes; half brother, Doyle Edward Ward; 2 grandchildren; 3 great grandchildren; many special friends and cousins.

She is greatly missed by her family and friends. Mom is now free from the pains she suffered in this life and we look forward to the day when we meet her again in Heaven.

- Written by her daughter, JoAnn Jones

**INA CHRISTINE SMITH HORNE**, 53 years old of Rogersville, TN, went to be with the Lord on July 12, 2016.

She was preceded in death by her father, mother and brother.

She is survived by her husband of 34 years, Scotty Thomas Horne; 1 daughter, Kerri Lyn Seal; 1 grandson; 2 sisters and 3 brothers.

Ina was a member of Long Hollow Church for several years and taught the Beginner class.

Ina battled an unknown disease for some time. She's at peace now with her Lord. She is greatly missed by all her family and friends that loved her so much.

She will never be forgotten.

- Written by her family

**BERTHA CARNELL LAMBERT BLEDSOE HOSKINS**, age 88, of the Stickleyville, Virginia community went to be with the Lord peacefully in her sleep on July 11, 2016. She was a member at Mountain View Church and also attended First Christian Church of Appalachia.

She was a mother, a grandmother, a great grandmother, and a great-great grandmother, a wonderful sister, a homemaker, a farmer, and an avid fisherman who was a great inspiration to everyone she met. She always had a smile and was always willing to help anyone in need.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Henry and Ruby Lambert; her husbands, H. C. Bledsoe, Jr. and Bill Hoskins; 1 son, Ronnie James Bledsoe; 1 daughter, Elizabeth Ann Myers; and 1 granddaughter.

She is survived by 1 daughter, Margaret Cassell; step children, Virginia Ruth Pridemore, Willie Mae Staly, Martha Brothers, Mary Marquis, Betty Collier and Billy Ray Hoskins; several grandchildren; 11 great grandchildren; 3 great-great grandchildren; her 6 beloved sisters and 4 brothers, and many friends. She will be dearly missed by everyone and we look forward to meeting her again on Heaven's golden shore.

- Written for the family by Joyce Skidmore

**GLADYS MUREL HURD**, of Mount Carmel went home to be with her Lord and Savior just one day before her 96<sup>th</sup> birthday, on May 12, 2016 at Holston Manor Nursing Home in Kingsport following a lengthy illness. She was born on May 13, 1920 to the late Floyd Jackson Hurd and Rhoda Giles Hurd in Lee County, VA.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her loving husband, Curtis H. Hurd; 1 daughter Peggy Hurd; 1 grandson and 11 siblings.

Left to cherish her memory is her son, Curtis "David" Hurd; 3 grandchildren, 9 great grandchildren; 3 great-great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

She was a homemaker who was a talented seamstress. Her enduring devotion was in caring for her precious daughter, Peggy. She also enjoyed working in her flower and vegetable gardens. She attended Willis Chapel Church as a young lady where she was saved. She later became a member of Mount Mitchell Church in Mount Carmel. Even though Alzheimer's took her memory, she never forgot what the Lord had done for her and continued to give her testimony until just weeks before her passing. She taught us hard work and selflessness by her powerful example and she is greatly missed.

- Written by the family

**ALTA MARIE JEFFERSON**, age 95, went to be with the Lord on February 14, 2016.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Reece Jefferson; her parents, John and Eliza Bell; 2 sisters, Gustava Royston and Clona Smith; 5 brothers, Hubert, Hoover, Coy, Utah and Cliff Bell.

She was a member of Swan Creek Church in Sneedville, Tennessee. She is survived by 3 daughters, Lorene Caylor, Louella Ferguson and Linda Eldridge; 8 grandchildren; her great grandchildren; and several nieces, nephews and a host of other relatives and friends.

- Written by the family

**EVELYN NERVESTIA ROBINETTE JESSEE**, of Bulls Gap, Tennessee, entered into eternal rest at her home with her family by her bedside on April 9, 2016, at the age of 93.

She was a Christian from the age of 12 and a faithful member of Marion Robinette Memorial Church until her death. She served the church as clerk and secretary and treasurer for many years. She stated that her happiest days were when she was at the Lord's House during worship services.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 46 years, James Arnold Jessee; parents, Carson and Clara Goan Robinette; 2 sisters, Eula Kate Sexton and Millicent Thacker; and 1 brother, Marion Carson (M. C.) Robinette, Jr.

She is survived by 2 sons, Larry Jessee and Mitcher Jessee; 3 grandchildren; 3 great grandchildren; 1 sister, Polly Gene Penley; 1 brother, Wayne Robinette; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

- Written by Elizabeth Rose Manes, her cousin and church clerk

**CALVIN BROWNLOW LAWSON**, age 85, of Dryden, VA, passed away on May 7, 2016 at Lonesome Pine Hospital. He was a member of Valley View Church. He was a lifelong resident of Lee County and a retired Coal Miner from Westmoreland Coal Company with 23 years of service.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Irvin Kyle and Nannie Carrie Lawson; 7 brothers and 5 sisters.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Wilma Jean Lawson; 1 daughter, Judith Marie Lawson; 1 grandson; 1 brother, Billy Gene Lawson; several nieces and nephews, and special friend.

Brownlow enjoyed worshipping with his church family and especially enjoyed his Tuesday morning Bible study time with the gentlemen.

- Written by the family

**TOMMIE LAWSON**, 89, of Blackwater, VA, was born April 10, 1926 and passed away on December 8, 2015.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Davey and Jane Lawson; 1 daughter, Tammie Nichols; 7 sisters and 3 brothers.

He was a faithful member of Blackwater Lick Church for as long as his health allowed him. He was a retired school bus driver for the Lee County School System.

Survivors include his loving wife of 63 years, Betty Jo Lawson; 1 grandson; 1 granddaughter and 1 great granddaughter whom he loved dearly.

Tommie is greatly missed by his family, the church and by everyone who knew him. We know he is at peace and we will see him again on Heaven's bright shore.

- Written by his family

**ANDERSON JESS OSBORNE**, 91 passed away August 25, 2016 after a lengthy illness.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife; 13 brothers and 2 infant sisters.

He is survived by his loving wife of 35 years and caretaker, Etta Osborne; 2 daughters from his first marriage; he inherited 6 daughters and 1 son from his second marriage; 20 grandchildren and 34 great grandchildren.

He attended Davis Chapel Church. He was a loving husband, father and grandfather.

- Written by his family

**IDA PEARCY** was a charter member of Roller's Chapel Church. She died in August of 2016.

She was preceded in death by her husband and 3 children.

- Written by the church clerk, Kim Robinette

**PHYLLIS AMY CHILDERS PRICE**, 89, of Nat's Creek went home to be with the Lord July 22, 2016 surrounded by her family. She was born April 15, 1927 at Auxier, KY.

She was the daughter of the late Reck and Goldie Price Childers. She was a homemaker and a member of Richardson Chapel Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Cecil Price; 1 grandson; 2 sisters, Joyce Stepp and Fern Tucciarone and 1 brother, Arie Childers.

Survivors include 3 daughters, Juanita Borders, Gail Boyd and Judy Burgess; 1 son, Dr. Charles Price; 7 grandchildren, 21 great grandchildren and a great-great granddaughter.

Her husband helped pastor the church for years. She worked beside him. She touched a lot of lives and told people about the Lord until the end.

- Written by the family

**JAMES EARL PROFITT** of Little Cowan passed away March 23, 2016 at his residence.

Earl was the son of the late Strawther M. and Rosa C. Hensley Profitt.

He was born March 13, 1919, being 97 years and 10 days old at the time of his passing.

Surviving are his wife of 48 years, Juanita Dickenson Profitt; 2 daughters, Helen Doris Miller and Shelia Brown; 2 grandchildren; 1 great grandchild, along with a host of other relatives and friends to mourn his passing.

Earl was preceded in death by his 1<sup>st</sup> wife, Edna Ison Profitt; 1 daughter, Carol; 3 brothers, T. Lawrence Profitt, Claude Moore Profitt and Carl Profitt; 5 sisters, Lou Emma Profitt, Della Leona Profitt, Loretta Profitt, Lavina Profitt, and Cuba Annetta Profitt.

Earl was a member of Little Cowan Church.

- Written by the family

**JOHNNIE LEON RITCHIE**, age 69, of Carlisle, Ohio, passed away October 12, 2015. He was born September 30, 1946 in Hindman, Kentucky, the son of Johnnie and Rozella Ritchie.

Johnnie was employed with G & B Body Shop for many years and was a member of Rose Chapel. He also served his country in the United States Army.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Cora Ritchie; and his mother, Rozella Ritchie.

Johnnie is survived by his father, Johnnie (Hazel) Ritchie; 1 son, Tracy Ritchie; 12 grandchildren and great grandchildren; 2 sisters, Donetta Willoughby and Sherry Walters; 4 brothers, Randy Ritchie, Tim Ritchie, Charlie Ritchie and Merrill Ritchie; along with numerous nieces and nephews.

- Written by the family

**DOROTHY B. ROBINETTE** was born May 2, 1937 and passed away April 4, 2016 at the age of 70.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Roy W. Robinette; 1 daughter, Tammy Robinette; parents, Sam and Lucy Vaughn; 1 sister, Maxie Ruth Berry; 3 brothers, John Dennis Vaughn, Carl Vaughn and Eugene Vaughn.

She is survived by 1 daughter, Elaine Robinette; 2 granddaughters and 1 great granddaughter.

She was a devoted member of Marion Robinette Memorial Church. She was a virtuous woman as written in Proverbs chapter 31, verses 10-31.

- Written by her family

**MICHAEL (MICKIE) KEITH ROBINETTE** was born August 1, 1979 and passed away August 1, 2016 at the age of 37. Mickie was of the Baptist faith.

Mickie was preceded in death by his mother, Rita Robinette Carter; and 3 of his grandparents.

Mickie is survived by his daughter, Katie Robinette; father, Clay Carter; 1 brother, John; a grandmother; uncles, aunts, several cousins and other family members.

He will be missed and always in our hearts.

- Written by his aunt, Ruth Tipton

**EVELYN FAYE SHAW**, age 79, of Wilmington, Ohio passed away peacefully on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at her residence with her daughter and grandchildren at her side. She was born May 22, 1936 in Pedro, Ohio, and was raised in New Burlington, Ohio by her mother and step father, Maymie and George DeLong.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brother, Don Messer.

She is survived by her husband of 62 years, Elder Harold L. Shaw; 3 children, William Shaw, Peggy Shaw-McBee, and Philip Shaw; 4 grandchildren; 5 great grandchildren; and 1 great-great grandchild.

She graduated from Spring Valley High School, OH. Mom loved depression glassware, jewelry, gardening, flowers, and above all the Lord. She enjoyed canning the food she grew—it so pleased

her to hear the 'ping' of the jars. She was a very active member in the churches where Dad pastored. Mom was very family oriented and was the glue for the family.

Mothers hold their children's hands for a short while, but their hearts forever. Although our hearts are heavy with sorrow for our loss, God has gained a beautiful angel.

- Written by her daughter, Peggy Shaw-McBee

**CLAUDE WARREN SMITH** was born March 15, 1942 in Scott County, Virginia and passed away on February 5, 2016 at the age of 73 years, 10 months and 21 days. He was a son of the late Elmer and Mary Kate Booher Smith.

Claude was saved and baptized at the age of 11. He was a member and deacon of West View Church. He loved to go to church and his church family.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Charlene Baker Smith; 1 son, Gregory Warren Smith; 1 brother, Joe Smith; 2 sisters, Doris Faulkner and Betty Ringley; a special child, Parker Maggard, who gave much happiness to his life; several nieces and nephews; uncle; aunt; and a host of friends.

- Written by the family

**NORA JEAN STAPLETON**, 83 of Nats Creek went to be with the Lord on January 17, 2016 at her home surrounded by her family.

Nora was born October 10, 1932 at Richardson, KY the daughter of the late William and Elizabeth Louise Fitch Terry.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Clarence Stapleton.

Nora was a homemaker and member of the Richardson Chapel Church. She had been a Christian for over 50 years.

Survivors include 6 daughters, Bonnie Meade, Alice Stapleton, Mary Howell, Julia Stapleton, Brenda Stapleton and Nora Truitt; 4 sons, Clarence Stapleton, Johnny Stapleton, Terry Stapleton, and William Stapleton; 3 brothers, Bob Terry, Ronald Terry and Larry Milton Terry; 15 grandchildren, 24 great grandchildren, and fifth generations great-great granddaughters.

- Written by her family

**ELDER JOHN TURNER** of Carlisle, Ohio was born January 21, 1936 in Breathitt County Kentucky. He left this world to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on June 7, 2016.

John was a member and pastor of Rose Chapel Church in West Carrollton, Ohio for 33 years. He was a true Christian, and a man of God. He had been preaching for 60 years and pastored several churches.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Maude; 5 daughters, Anita Newkirk, Marcella Simpson, Loretta Eastridge, Melissa Jarvis and Jessica Moss; 1 son, Rick Turner, his family, church family; and many friends.

John was so good to share his pulpit with his preaching brethren, especially to new young preachers. He was there to help them in any way he could. As he was crossing ol' Jordan we were singing his song, It is better "Farther On."

- Written by his wife, Maude Turner

**ELDER ROBERT EDWARD WEEMS**, age 74 of Rogersville, went home to be with his Savior on April 12, 2016 at his home. He was loved and cherished by his wife and children. Everyone that came to know him shared this same love.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ray and Bernice Weems.

He is survived by his wife, Lelia; 1 daughter, Kimberly Weaver; 2 sons, Mark Weems and Everette Weems; 5 grandchildren; 1 great granddaughter; 3 brothers, Donald, Lowell and Gary Weems; several nieces and nephews and special friends who helped in this journey.

- Written by the family



**VIRGIE VIRGINIA WILLIAMS**, age 83 of Surgoinsville went to be with the Lord June 24, 2016. She was a lifelong member of Long Hollow Church, where she was saved at an early age. The church was the most important part of her life. She walked when she had no other way there. Many times people would pick her up and take her there. She was a friend to all who knew her. Her life here on earth will be missed, but she was so ready to go home.

She was preceded in death by her husband, H. P. Williams; 2 sons, Raymond and Eugene; 1 daughter, Geneva; parents, Carter and Alvie McPeek; 1 grandson, and 3 sisters.

Survivors include 1 daughter, Phyllis Roop; 1 son, Danny Williams; 2 brothers, J. E. and Jimmy McPeek; 6 grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren; and many special friends.

We know that we will meet her again on Heaven's bright shore.

- Written by the family

**EDNA LOUISE MITCHELL WOODWARD** was born December 24, 1933 in Church Hill, TN and departed this life January 31, 2016.

She was the daughter of George Edd and Ollie Mae Mitchell.

She was preceded in death by her parents; 2 brothers, Robert and George, Jr.; 2 sisters, Alice White and Lillie Broome and 1 niece.

She is survived by 3 sisters, Betty Jo Mitchell, Helen Darnell and Hazel Bowlin; and several nieces and nephews.

Louise was a member of Mt. Mitchell Church and attended when her health permitted.

One day we will meet again on Heaven's bright shore.

- Written by her sisters

## 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	
<b>Eastern District Association of Primitive Baptists organized 1848</b>				
1848	Blackwater Lick	Isaac Crisman	John Hurst	Mark Hurst
1849	Blackwater, TN			William White
There are no records available from 1850-1880. It is known no annual 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
<b>Two associations formed, divided by Virginia-Tennessee state line, in 1898</b>				
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
<b>The two associations united again in 1906</b>				
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; Maudie May Brotherton, Ass't.	F. T. Carroll
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; F. J. Johnson, Ass't.	E. I. Robinette	Pleas Jenkins
1934	Cox's Chapel	E. A. Robinette W. H. Burke, Ass't.	E. I. Robinette	F. J. Johnson
1935	Cadet	E. A. Robinette B. L. Lawson, Ass't.	Amos Osborne	T. R. Carter
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; T. R. Carter, Ass't.	Amos Osborne	E. A. Robinette
1939	Spires Chapel	E. A. Robinette T. R. Carter, Ass't.	Amos Osborne	F. J. Johnson
1940	Peterson's Chapel	E. A. Robinette T. R. Carter, Ass't.	Amos Osborne	F. M. Phipps
1941	Blackwater Lick	E. A. Robinette T. R. Carter	Amos Osborne	J. H. Sybert
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

1955	Fairview (OH)	J. H. Sybert	G. D. Smith	Alex Willis
1956	Valley View	J. H. Sybert	G. D. Smith	R. T. Carter
1957	Marion Robinette Memorial	J. H. Sybert	G. D. Smith	C. C. Johnson
1958	Poplar Grove	J. H. Sybert	Ellis I. Wallen	J. L. Hill
1959	Peterson's Chapel	J. H. Sybert	Ellis I. Wallen	J. R. Gardner
1960	Swan Creek	J. H. Sybert	Ellis I. Wallen	Basil Freeman
1961	Roller's Chapel	J. H. Sybert	Ellis I. Wallen	Alex Willis
1962	Little Cowan	J. H. Sybert	Ellis I. Wallen	R. T. Carter
1963	Beech Grove	J. H. Sybert	Ellis I. Wallen	J. L. Hill
1964	Mountain View	J. H. Sybert	Ellis I. Wallen	H. V. Hall
1965	Mt. Mitchell	J. H. Sybert	Ellis I. Wallen	Alex Willis
1966	Fairview (OH)	J. H. Sybert	Ellis I. Wallen	H. V. Hall
1967	Marion Robinette Memorial	J. H. Sybert	Ellis I. Wallen	Basil Freeman
1968	Cadet	J. H. Sybert	Ellis I. Wallen	Fremon Thacker
1969	Roller's Chapel	Basil Freeman	Ellis I. Wallen	J. R. Peters
1970	Poplar Grove	Basil Freeman	Ellis I. Wallen	H. V. Hall
1971	Blackwater Lick	Basil Freeman	Burnice R. Sybert	H. L. Shaw
1972	Richardson Chapel	Basil Freeman	Burnice R. Sybert	Bert Banks
1973	Liberty Chapel	Basil Freeman	Burnice R. Sybert	H. V. Hall
1974	Clear Springs	Basil Freeman	Burnice R. Sybert	Ben Hill
1975	Irondale	Basil Freeman	Burnice R. Sybert	J. H. Sybert
1976	West View	Basil Freeman	Burnice R. Sybert	H. L. Shaw
1977	Chestnut Flats	Basil Freeman	Burnice R. Sybert	J. H. Sybert
1978	Blackwater Lick	Basil Freeman	Burnice R. Sybert	Walter C. Willis
1979	Mountain View	Basil Freeman	Burnice R. Sybert	J. H. Sybert
1980	Swan Creek	Basil Freeman	Burnice R. Sybert	Bobby Williams
1981	House Chapel	Basil Freeman	Burnice R. Sybert	H. V. Hall
1982	Jenkins Chapel	Basil Freeman	Burnice R. Sybert	Hasco Jenkins
1983	Caney Creek	J. H. Sybert	Burnice R. Sybert	Darrell Ratliff
1984	Slate Hill	J. H. Sybert	Burnice R. Sybert	Henry Wheeler
1985	Long Hollow	J. H. Sybert	Burnice R. Sybert	Hasco Jenkins
1986	Edwin Holbrook Memorial	J. H. Sybert	Burnice R. Sybert	Oscar Irvin
1987	Oak Grove	J. H. Sybert	Burnice R. Sybert	Lucian Lane
1988	Poplar Grove	J. H. Sybert	Burnice R. Sybert	Allen Hensley
1989	Mt. Mitchell	J. H. Sybert	Danny Lawson	Eckel Head
1990	Blackwater Lick	J. H. Sybert	Danny Lawson	Carl Lawson
1991	Burke's Union	J. H. Sybert	Danny Lawson	Roger Trent
1992	Clear Springs	J. H. Sybert	Danny Lawson	Terry Sizemore
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 (J. H. Sybert & Basil Freeman, Honorary Moderators)	Danny Lawson	Bob Brown
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
2016	Swan Creek	Terry Sizemore	Danny Lawson	Terry Sizemore

