

**MINUTES**

OF THE

**EIGHTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION**

OF THE

**SARDIS ASSOCIATION  
OF OLD REGULAR BAPTIST**

**THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST**

**In Session with Bent Branch Church  
Meta, Pike County, Kentucky  
September 8, 9 and 10, 1978**

**Elder Edwin May—Moderator**

**Elder Wayne Herald—Assistant Moderator**

**Bro. Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr.—Clerk**

**Bro. James M. Ray—Assistant Clerk**

**PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
EIGHTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION  
OF THE  
SARDIS ASSOCIATION  
OF OLD REGULAR BAPTIST  
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST**

**FRIDAY  
September 8, 1978**

The Sardis Association of Old Regular Baptist, the Church of Jesus Christ, assembled with the Bent Branch Church, Meta, Pike County, Kentucky on Friday before the second Saturday in September 1978.

Our Moderator, Elder Edwin May, came to the Stand welcoming the large congregation and advising that if the Sardis Association does not have peace it will not be God's fault because we reap just what we sow. If we have sowed discord we will reap discord but if we have sowed the seed of peace we will reap peace and this Association will show us just what we have sowed. We have so much that needs to be done and such a very short time to do it in; life is swiftly passing by and we must use the precious time we have to sow all the peace and love we possibly can. Brother Ed was thankful that the family had been allowed to come together once more on earth and prayed that God would be our chief Moderator and that His will would be done in all things.

Elder John P. Church opened the services about the hour of 9:30 a.m. stating that after having seen many friends and Brethren here today he couldn't help but remember the many that had already crossed over Jordan and will not attend our Association anymore. We are truly passengers on a swift journey who soon fade out of life's picture. Brother John took only a short time to bring up the services and point to Jesus to be the way to Heaven and eternal life. He hoped that Jesus would be our chief Moderator and that Zion would bend down low in our behalf during the Association. Brother John then led in prayer.

Elder James Gannon came forward to preach the Introductory Sermon. He did not use a specific Text but hoped that all of God's children had been praying for this Association and if they had not they should be ashamed because prayer is the key that opens the windows of Heaven for us. Brother James preached the "inward man" to be the man born again by the divine power of God and the man who receives the seal of God and can not sin. But the "outward man" to be a bound man, bound by the stronger "inward man", but still the man subject to mistake until the redemption of the body.

Brother James preached one Lord, one faith and one baptism and there

must, therefore, be only one Church. God adds to His Church daily such as should be saved. The timber that is added to the Church is made ready in the field and is the tall "trees" not the little "bushes". This Church is a clean Church and God adds only that which is clean, that which has been born again of the Spirit, and that which should be saved. If a member's name has not been added to the Lamb's Book of Life we can't put it there by adding their name to the Church Book here on earth. Brother James stated that God will not dwell in any unclean thing and it is high time we were more careful than we have ever been. We don't have time to mix and mingle with other Churches and to do so is to commit spiritual fornication. Any member who does not agree with Old Regular Baptist doctrine should get out because we stand on the old principals as laid down in the Scriptures. A member can't enter into the Church today and go out tomorrow — God does a whole work when He works and if we are a branch in that "true vine" we will bear the fruit of that "vine".

Brother James stated he believed in a clean Church and that God's Church is clean. There is only one Church, the true Bride, a city set on a hill that can't be hid. If you are a stick in the Church today, God added you and you won't be ashamed of Her. Go, if you are ashamed of Her, get out! Brother James stated he believed the name "Baptist" came down from Heaven and that he believed in the old time Regular Baptist way. He stated there were too many who wanted to wear the name of Old Regular Baptist but wanted to wear their own apparel and not the old time Baptist apparel.

The Sardis Association delegates and a large delegation from our corresponding Sister Associations then assembled at the Bent Branch Church House where arrangements had been made for the work of the Sardis Association. As is our custom, the several Brethren, Sisters and friends remained at the tent where preaching of good tidings and great joy echoed up and down the valley proclaiming Jesus to be the life and the way to eternal peace and happiness.

Elder Baxter Osborne of the Northern New Salem Association introduced the services at the House, using only a little time but patiently and clearly admonishing the Brethren to be careful in their deliberations and to look to Jesus for guidance.

Elder Ivan Amburgey of the Indian Bottom Association led in prayer.

We then proceeded as follows:

(1) Elder Edwin May, our dearly loved and humble Moderator, sought out the Officers of our Sister Associations and seated them on the Stand as our way of showing honor to our beloved Correspondence. Then he wisely admonished the Sardis delegates to take heed unto themselves and look to Jesus to be our chief Moderator during this Association. Let us engage in prayerful deliberation striving to do God's will in all things.

(2) The Moderator appointed a Committee on Finance to receive the contributions sent to the Association by the several Churches as follows:

Elder Ellis Davis  
Elder Ross Cline  
Brother Edwin Hay

(3) The Moderator called for the Letters from the Sardis Association Churches to be handed in to the Clerk and for the contributions to be handed in to the Committee on Finance.

(4) The Letter from the Bent Branch Church was read by the Clerk and, upon motion and second, all Letters were received, the delegates seated and all Queries and Requests were referred to the Committee on Arrangements.

(5) The Committee on Finance reported \$1,650.00 received from the Churches as reported in the Statistical Table and, after turning this amount over to the Treasurer, was discharged.

(6) The Moderator appointed a Committee to take the vote of the Sardis Association delegates, who voted for a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and Assistant Clerk, as follows:

Elder Fon Bowling, Union Association  
Elder Grover Adkins, New Salem Association  
Elder Baxter Osborne, Northern New Salem Association

(7) The Sardis Association then completed its organization by selecting the following Officers to serve for the coming year:

Elder Edwin May, Moderator  
Elder Wayne Herald, Assistant Moderator  
Brother Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr., Clerk  
Brother James M. Ray, Assistant Clerk

(8) By motion and second, it is ordered that the Moderator make all temporary appointments during the setting of the Association.

(9) Committee appointed to take care of the visiting Brethren, to see that the Stand be supplied with Ministers and that peace be preserved as follows:

Elder Clifford Maynard  
Brother Dewey Blackburn  
Brother Larry May  
Brother Hatler Stone

(10) By motion and second, the reading of the Constitution and Rules of Decorum was omitted.

(11) The Moderator called for the Letters from our corresponding Sister Associations. The following Letters were read and, by regular move and second, were received and the Delegates seated with us in council, being given the right hand of fellowship by our Moderator:

*UNION*: Represented by the following delegates: Jesse L. Williamson, Jimmy Dale Sanders, N. A. England, Earl Belcher, Teddy Parker, Jack Clevinger, Fred Rowe, Hermon West, Dallas Ramsey, Fon Bowling, John C. Layne, Theodore M. Looney, Harry Lester, Jesse Thacker, Felix Sexton, Dewey Sexton, Edgar Deel, Andy Bates, Howard Coleman, Paris Centers, Herman Puckett, Rex Stanford and Frank Thacker.

**NEW SALEM:** Represented by the following Delegates: W. B. Day, Dextor Dixon, Burt Howard, Woodrow Dye, E. J. Little, Ellis Holbrook, Tivis Akers, Arnold Tackett, Lee Fields, Orville Hamilton, Jesse Jones, Able Johnson, Banner Manns, Eddie Tackett, Lonnie Tackett, Perry Jones, Monroe Jones, Mitchell Chaffins, Grover Adkins, Millis Roberts, Lewis Marcum, Elijah Hamilton, Jethro Hampton, Hatler Kiser, Lennie Boyd, Preston Tackett, Elford Holbrook, Clifford Williams, Jink Ray, Joe Brown, Hobert Bates, James Tackett, Ted Robinson, Don Parker, George Woods, Wendel Hamilton, Hobert Hamilton, Don Blake Little, John G. Stratton, George Kidd, Ballard Williams, Joe Innis and Perry Tackett.

**NORTHERN NEW SALEM:** Represented by the following Delegates: Baxter Osborne, Hiram Adkins, Roy Hudson, Roger Hamilton, Don Workman, Chester Dials, Gene Robinette, John B. Hale, Hillard Newsome, Raymond Gillman, Paul Adkins and Squire H. Watts.

**PHILADELPHIA:** Represented by the following Delegates: James Miller, Rush Stanley, W. C. Elkins, Emmitt Gilispie, Lowell Adkins, Walter Morrison, David Gilliams, Paul Boggs, Paul Morrison and Thurman Carter.

**OLD FRIENDSHIP:** Represented by the following Delegates: Herbert May, Charlie Wolford, Miles Charles, Delbert Justice, Josh Justice, Jr., Hayes Hatfield, Edd Sparks, John Blankenship, David Lester, Wayne Bryant, Leonard Coleman, Dave Gibson, Robert L. Lester, Finace Lester, Elzie Reed, Miles Charles, Orville Street, Robert Mullins, Elmer Little, Elmer Mullins and Plennie Rowe.

**INDIAN BOTTOM:** Represented by the following Delegates: Kirby Ison, Manns Ison, J. Nelson Seals, Ivan Amburgey, Jess Blair, Merle Smith, McKinley McIntosh, Odus Baldrige, Elwood Cornett and Chester Gibson.

(12) The Moderator called for transient Ministers and members of our same faith and order and received the following: Ross Cline, R. W. E. Varney, Jr., James M. Ray, H. Jimmy Deeley, Claude Brown, Andrew Maynard, Berlin Thornsbury, Wallace Muncy, Billy Brumfield, James Gannon, Bobby Scott, Uley Perry, Willie Varney, Edward Cline, Howard Sammons, Tracy Hatfield, Lawrence Lester, and Joe Evans.

(13) The Moderator called for newly organized Churches or other Churches and Associations of our same faith and order desiring to take up fellowship with the Sardis Association and Little Tavie Church, Pt. Pleasant, West Virginia responded. A letter to the Sardis Association was read setting out its organization and petition for membership.

On motion by Brother Claude Brown, second by Brother K. H. Williamson, the Delegates were seated and letter referred to the Committee on Arrangements.

(14) Committee appointed to arrange the preaching for Friday night and Saturday consisting of one Delegate from each Church and the entire Bent Branch Church delegation. They reported as follows:

**FRIDAY NIGHT**

Elder Hobert Hamilton, Northern New Salem Association  
Elder Hiram Adkins, Northern New Salem Association  
Elder Jesse Thacker, Union Association

**SATURDAY**

Elder Clifford Williams, Northern New Salem Association  
Elder John Layne, Union Association  
Elder Grover Adkins, Northern New Salem Association  
Elder Ivan Amburgey, Indian Bottom Association  
Elder Baxtor Osborne, Northern New Salem Association

(15) Committee on Arrangements appointed consisting of one Delegate from each Church in the Sardis Association, along with the Moderators and Clerks, and the entire delegation from our corresponding Sister Associations to arrange the business for Saturday's session.

(16) On motion from Brother Alvin Thornsbury and second by Brother Stewart Brown, the Sardis Association was adjourned, by way of prayer, until 9:00 a.m. Saturday morning.

**SATURDAY  
September 9, 1978**

Met pursuant to adjournment amidst joyful and melodious singing from the Brethren we love so dearly.

Elder Monroe Jones of the New Salem Association opened the session with preaching.

Elder Fon Bowling of the Union Association led in prayer.

Business then proceeded as follows:

- (1) Called the roll of Delegates and marked the absentees.
- (2) Read the Bill of Arrangements and, upon motion and second, received the report and discharged the Committee on Arrangements.
- (3) Appointed the same Committee to arrange the preaching for Saturday night and Sunday. They reported as follows and were discharged:

**SATURDAY NIGHT**

Elder Millis Roberts, New Salem Association  
Elder Frank Thacker, Union Association  
Elder Paul McClanahan, Union Association  
Elder Jimmy Dale Sanders, Union Association

**SUNDAY**

Elder Perry Jones, New Salem Association  
Elder Fon Bowling, Union Association  
Elder Wayne Herald, Sardis Association  
Elder Edwin May, Sardis Association

(4) Called for the Association treasurer to report and, upon motion and second, received the following report:



Balance on hand, September 11, 1977	.....	\$2,972.42
Add: Interest earned on Savings Account at 1st National Bank of Pikeville	.....	53.76
Total available for 1977	.....	\$3,026.18
Less paid out for 1977:		
Printing 4,000 minutes	.....	\$1,990.00
Donation to New Salem Association	.....	400.00
Refund of Obiuary Money	.....	20.00
Interest paid on loan	.....	7.62
Balance on Hand September 8, 1978	.....	\$2,417.62
1st National Bank of Pikeville balances:		\$608.56
Checking Account	.....	\$153.38
Savings Account	.....	455.18
Total As Above	.....	\$608.56
Add 1978 Receipts:		
Received from the Churches	.....	\$1,605.00
Received for Obiutary pictures	.....	240.00
Received from Little Tavie Church	.....	50.00
Apple Orchard sent to Bent Branch	.....	25.00
Total Receipts for 1978	.....	\$1,920.00
Balance on Hand September 10, 1978	.....	\$2,528.56

(5) By motion and second, it is ordered that we advise the Churches to try to increase their contribution to the Association by at least 25% because of increased cost.

(6) By motion and second, it is ordered that the Clerk be appointed Secretary-Treasurer for 1978 and that he allowed \$50.00 for his expense.

(7) By motion and second, it is ordered that the Clerk superintend the printing of our Minutes, that he have 4,000 copies printed and that he be allowed \$100.00 for his expenses.

(8) The Circular Letter written by Elder Ernest Cochran was read by him and, by regular move and second, was accepted and ordered to be printed in our Minutes.

(9) The Delegates who attended the Union Association last year made a report on the Request we sent to our esteemed Sister, the Union Association. All reports were favorable and our request was answered in full. Our Brethren were received in great love and harmony. Elder Fon Bowling reported that the Union Association had done as requested by the Sardis Association and the problem no longer exists. These Reports and the work done by Union Association were received by regular move and second.

(10) By regular move and second, it is ordered that we correspond with the UNION, NEW SALEM, NORTHERN NEW SALEM, PHILADELPHIA, OLD FRIENDSHIP and INDIAN BOTTOM Associations: that the Clerk prepare the letter and a file of minutes; and Delegates appointed to attend as follows:

*UNION*: When convened with the Dorton Creek Church, Dorton, Kentucky on Friday before the third Saturday in September 1978: Marshall Williamson, Stewart Brown, Julius Cochran, Chester Belcher, Mike Sheppard, Billy Cochran, Chester Cochran, Hi Young, K. H. Williamson, John P. Church, Frankie White, Sabert Nichols, Edwin May, Emerson Jarrell, Willie Stitner, Clifford Maynard, Wayne Herald, Fay Scott, J. M. Francis, Alson Thornsbury, Russell Thacker, Jim Bevins and James Gannon. Letter in the hands of Elder Edwin May.

*NEW SALEM*: When convened at the Association Building, Minnie, Kentucky on Friday before the fourth Saturday in September 1978: Marshall Williamson, Wallace Muncey, Mike Sheppard, Stewart Brown, Fred Muncey, Ross Cline, John P. Church, K. H. Williamson, Uley Perry, J. L. Nichols, Larry May, Edwin May, Wayne Herald, Edwin Hay, Joe Warrix, Kermit Romans, Tom Fraley, Emerson Jarrell, Delbert Kazee, Kelly Castle, Jim Bevins, Frankie White, Clayton Scott, J. M. Francis, Alex Edmons, Tracy Hatfield and James Gannon. Letter in the hands of Elder Wayne Herald.

*NORTHERN NEW SALEM*: When convened with the Little Ida Church, Ecorse, Michigan on Friday before the first Saturday in August 1979: Marshall Williamson, Edwin Hay, W. H. Hale, Clyde Brown, John P. Church, Johnny Cline, Willie Stanley, Julius Cochran, Emerson Jarrell, Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr., Edwin May, Mike Sheppard and Mark Cline. Letter in the hands of Brother Edwin Hay.

*PHILADELPHIA*: When convened with the New Mt. Olive Church, Maloneon, Kentucky on Friday before the second Saturday in August 1979: Berlin Thornsbury, Wallace Muncey, Marshall Williamson, Stewart Brown, Delbert Kazee, Kelly Castle, Claude Brown, Tom Dials, Sabert Nichols, Bill Cochran, Marion Duncin, John P. Church, Julius Cochran, Ralph Smith, Fred Muncey, Edwin Hay, Mike Sheppard, Clifford Maynard, Virgil Stanley, James Gannon, K. H. Williamson and Bobby Scott. Letter in the hands of Elder Berlin Thornsbury.

*OLD FRIENDSHIP*: When convened with the Pine Grove Church, Hurley, Virginia on Friday before the fourth Saturday in August 1979: Edwin Hay, Wallace Muncey, Berlin Thornsbury, Johnny Cline, Mark Cline, Tracy Hatfield, Marshall Williamson, Stewart Brown, Claude Brown, Isom Hannah, Edward Cline, James Gannon, Russell Thacker, John Fouts and S. B. Hensley. Letter in the hands of Elder Berlin Thornsbury.

*INDIAN BOTTOM*: When convened at the Association Building, Sassafras, Kentucky on Friday before the first Saturday in September 1979: Edwin May, Wayne Herald, Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr., Marshall Williamson, Steve Robinson, Jr., David Baisden, Lindsey Vance and Russell Thacker. Letter in the hands of Elder Wayne Herald.

(11) The Letter of Petition for membership in Sardis Association from Little Tavie Church was read and, on motion by Brother Stewart Brown and second by Brother Fred Muncey, the Little Tavie Church was accepted into full membership and fellowship of the Sardis Association.

(12) Called for the Tent Committee Report and, by move and second, received a report from Elder Clifford Maynard of little activity except paying for trailer license and storing the tent for next year.

(13) A move by Elder Steve Robinson, Jr., second by Brother J. T. Watts, to reprint Item (12) of our 1977 Minute met with an Objection from Brother Stewart Brown. Voting of the Delegates showed 55 in favor of the move and 10 against it. Therefore, Item (12) is reprinted as follows:

To answer a Query from Dix Fork Church regarding wearing apparel of the Sisters, the Committee on Arrangements, by regular move and second, requested the Moderator to appoint a Committee of Sardis Brethren to prepare an answer for consideration of the full Association at Saturday's session. Committee appointed as follows: Elder Wayne Herald, Brother Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr. and Brother James M. Ray.

On Motion by Elder Ernest Cochran and second by Elder James Gannon, both delegates from Dix Fork Church, the Association approved the Committee Report as its answer to the Query and discharged the Committee. The Committee Report is as follows:

Dingess, West Virginia  
September 13, 1975

Sardis Association of Old Regular Baptist

Brethren:

In answer to the Query from the Dix Fork Church asking "Does the Sardis Association believe in Sisters wearing pants, slacks or shorts?" We, as an Advisory Council and not as a law making body say:

To answer this Query in the affirmative would be interpreted by some Brethren too liberally and they would say we have laid down the gate and opened the doors to anything and everything.

To answer this Query in the negative would be interpreted by some Brethren too strictly and they would say we have shut the door on everything and Committees would flow from Church to Church like water.

We believe the Sardis Association should advise the Churches to advise their members — both Brethren and Sisters — to dress soberly and modestly and to conduct themselves in a manner that becometh a Child of God. We believe that each Child of God will adorn themselves in such a manner that they can easily be identified from the World. We feel the Bible, the infallable Word of God, sets forth and the Spirit will teach us how we should dress and conduct ourselves.

We believe, and the Association has so stated in the past, that each Church in the Sardis Association holds the key to its own

door and is the sole judge of the conduct of its members so long as they follow the orthodox principles of religion and keep up a Godly discipline according to the rules of the Gospel as laid down in the Scriptures. In fact, Article 3 of our Constitution guarantees that the Association shall not infringe on the internal right of the Churches.

Elder Wayne Herald  
Brother Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr.  
Brother James M. Ray

(14) Read a Request from Dix Fork Church to change Item (12) of our 1977 Minute to read as follows: "That our Brethren not wear shorts so as to expose their bodies and should not go without shirts and keep their hair trimmed so as not to be offensive, and that our Sisters not wear pants, pant suits or shorts." After discussion, a move by Elder David Baisden and second by Brother George Martin to send the Request back to Dix Fork Church met with an Objection filed by Brother Mike Sheppard. A vote of the Delegates showed 33 in favor of the move and 34 against it. However, after much discussion the Dix Fork Church Delegates all agreed to take the Request back, reword it and bring it back next year for consideration.

(15) The Association by regular move and second said that if a Sister has cut her hair, she should be asked to let it grow out; if she fails to do so and cuts her hair again, she will be excluded.

(16) By motion and second it is ordered that we advise our Ministers of our Association not to marry people in adultery, where either man or woman has a living wife or husband.

(17) In answer to the question, "Shall we receive into fellowship men or women having more than one wife or husband?" The Association by regular move and second said, "We advise the Churches not to receive into their fellowship any such, except those who have put away their companion for the cause of fornication, such cases to have Gospel or Church evidence of same."

(18) A complete and thorough report of the Committee sent to Sardis Church last year was read by Brother Edwin May. After discussion and on move and second, the report was received and the Committee discharged. Further, by move and second, the Sardis Association advised the Sardis Church at its next meeting to recant and do away with all work concerning Johnny Adair since the first time he was excluded in 1968 unto the present time.

(19) Requests from Turkey Creek Church, Buck Creek Church and Sidney Church asking for Sardis Church to be set aside for being in disorder were read. By move and second, the Requests were returned to these Churches for being out of order since they were not legally and properly brought because none of these Churches had visited Sardis Church with committees to work with her.

(20) The Request from Mary Elizabeth Church to print the obituary of Brother George Fraley was granted by move and second.

(21) The Committee on a convenient and permanent place to hold our Association made its report. Elder John P. Church stated little progress had been made because very little land is available and the cost of it is high. By move and second, it is ordered that we receive the report and keep the same committee who will report again next year.

(22) By motion and second it is ordered that request for Union, Communion and Memorial Meetings be published in our Minutes.

(23) By motion and second it is ordered that Obituaries of our deceased Brothers and Sisters that are in good standing with the Church at the time of death be printed in our Minutes. These are to be presented to the Clerk at the end of the Association. A charge of \$10.00 will be made for a picture printed with the Obituary, except pictures of Elders and their wives will continue to be printed free.

(24) By move and second, the report of Brethren attending Union, Communion and Sister Association meetings was omitted.

(25) No Request was received from the Churches to host the 1979 Sardis Association. Therefore, on motion and second, the verbal request to host our 1979 Association from Mt. Pleasant Church Delegate was granted. The Enon Church, Narrows Branch Church, Salem Church and Mary Elizabeth Church will co-host the Association.

The Mt. Pleasant Church is located on U. S. Route 119, mid-way between Pikeville, Kentucky and Williamson, West Virginia, at the junction of Kentucky 468.

(26) By motion and second, it is ordered that we request all of our Churches, who can and want to, to send help to the Church that will host our next Association, the Mt. Pleasant Church.

(27) A Committee was appointed to take the vote of the Delegates on who shall preach the Introductory Sermon next year; who shall be his alternate; and who shall prepare a Circular Letter for next year. They reported as follows and, on move and second, were discharged:

Elder Wayne Herald to preach Introductory Sermon

Elder Ross Cline to be his alternate

Elder Kelly Castle to write the 1979 Circular Letter.

(28) By regular move and second, it is ordered that we, the Sardis Association, tender our deeply felt "thank you" to the Bent Branch Community and, as Elder Clifford Maynard writes:

We at the Bent Branch Church wish to express our sincere thanks to the Pike County Board of Education and the Johns Creek High School for the use of the lunch room; the Pike County Sheriff Department for directing traffic; Emma Grace Blankenship and family for use of the grounds to put our tent on; Thomas and Arlie Ruth Taylor and other friends, Sisters, Brothers and

Churches for financial support; and the many wonderful people who helped change this job of hosting the Association from an almost impossible task to a work of real joy.

Especially a big thank you to the cooks at Johns Creek High School and the Sisters and friends who did a truly remarkable job of feeding the people and, let's don't forget, all those good cakes and pies our Sisters and friends baked for us.

Again thank you and may God bless you all, each and every one.

(29) After reading of the Minutes by the Clerk they were, by regular move and second, approved as read and ordered to be signed by the Officers of the Sardis Association.

(30) On motion by Brother J. T. Watts and second by Elder David L. Baisden, it is ordered that the Sardis Association adjourn to the time and place mentioned above.

(31) The Sardis Association then adjourned by way of prayer offered by our beloved Elder Tommy Adair.

This work done and signed by the Sardis Association of Old Regular Baptist, the Church of Jesus Christ.

Elder Edwin May, Moderator

Elder Wayne Herald, Assistant Moderator

Brother Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr., Clerk

Brother James M. Ray, Assistant Clerk

## SUNDAY

September 10, 1978

The sights and sounds of the family gathering in never seems to be the same and brings a warm and happy feeling over me. Everything is going on at the same time - some Brethren driving in, some parking, some visiting, some singing, some listening, some shaking hands, some hugging, some saying goodby, some making plans for other meetings, some going over the events of Saturday's session and some, like me, just enjoying it all.

About the hour of 9:30 a.m. Elder Perry Jones of the New Salem Association came forward to introduce the services from his text: "... Go, doubting nothing." Brother Jones proclaimed the everlasting truth that we must look to Jesus for salvation because our arms are too short. Brother Jones then led in prayer.

Elder Fon Bowling, Assistant Moderator of the Union Association and greatly beloved among all Associations, came next to the stand with tears of gladness for this Sabbath morning but also with sadness, realizing that for some of us this will be our last Association until we meet in Heaven. Brother



For saw a great army of God's people led by the greatest captain that ever was, Jesus! His word has gone out into all the world and it is up to mankind to forsake his evil ways and to come see a man who told me all things that ever I did.

Elder Wayne Herald, our own esteemed Assistant Moderator, came to the stand singing and soon was carried away in the Spirit to preach from his text: "...the Lord stood upon a wall made by a plumbline, with a plumbline in his hand. And the Lord said unto me, Amos, what seest thou? And I said, a plumbline. Then said the Lord, behold, I will set a plumbline in the midst of my people Israel." Brother Wayne then proclaimed this wall was located in Zion and had not a crook nor a twist, because it was laid with a plumbline. The Lord stood on this wall when He set a plumbline in the midst of Israel on the banks of Jordan, in a place where two ways met and where the Law ended and Grace began. Jesus was this plumbline. He fulfilled the Law of Sacrifice and rolled it back to the Law — giver but the moral Law of the ten commandments he rolled not back.

Then, carried up on the high mountain, Brother Wayne preached as the Spirit gave him utterance from Ezekiel 40:3, "and he brought me thither, and behold, there was man, whose appearance was like the appearance of brass, with a line of flax in his hand, and a measuring reed;" And continued from Ezekiel 47:3 to 5, "and when the man that had the line in his hand went forth eastward, he measured a thousand cubits, and he brought me through the waters; the waters were to the ankles. Again he measured a thousand, and brought me through the waters; the waters were to the knees, again he measured a thousand, and brought me through; the waters were to the loins. Afterward he measured a thousand; and it was a river that I could not pass over; for the waters were risen, waters to swim in, a river that could not be passed over."

The Lord raised the "waters" in the congregation so high your unworthy could not write, the Sisters could not be quieted, the Brethren could not be stilled and the meeting broke itself up before our Beloved Moderator, Elder Edwin May, could come to the stand according to the arrangements. But from the lovely countenance on Brother Ed's face I know he did not mind as he too gave God the praise for such a wonderful meeting.

May God bless the Sardis Association with a double portion of His love until we meet again.

Your Clerks

## CIRCULAR LETTER

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Sardis Association

Since it has been your mind to appoint me to write the Circular Letter for your approval at the 86th Annual Session of this Association, after much prayer and meditation, the subject I feel God has given me is "Light".

I will call your attention to John 1:6 and 12:36 — "There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light, that was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. In him was life; and the life was the Light of men, and the Light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not."

"The people which sat in darkness saw great Light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death Light is sprung up." So Jesus was the Light of the world as long as He was in the world and when He had finished His work which God gave Him, He turned to the Church and said unto them, "Ye are the Light of the world, a city set on a hill that cannot be hid. Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father, which is in Heaven."

We hear Jesus saying in John 12:36, "While ye have Light, believe in the Light, that ye may be the children of Light." When you know to do good and do it not, you become a sinner in the sight of God. Then the Light shined and showed you what you were by nature and what you must be by the Grace of God.

And so, dear Brethren, having the Light of God to lead us, let us live today as though it was our last day on earth. Jesus said, "There is a Light in man which is the Candle of the Lord, and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding."

I hope that you will continue to read after this great subject, which I have just begun to write about. So, I will close with a prayer, "May God bless you all."

Written by your humble servant in the Lord,  
Elder Ernest Cochran



## UNION AND COMMUNION MEETINGS AND MINISTERS TO ATTEND

### APRIL

*SOUTHERN HOME* - First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening. Ministers called: Kirby Ison, Nelson Seals, David Baisden, Joe Evans, Clifford Maynard, Millis Roberts, James Gannon and Monroe Ousley.

*OKECHOBEE* - Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening. Ministers called: Edwin Hay, Tommy Adair, Ellis Amburgey, Ellis Davis, Clifford Maynard and H. Jimmy Deeley.

*LITTLE ROSA* - Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Tracy Hatfield, Alison Thornsbury, Steve Robinson, Jr., Johnny Cline, Wallace Muncy, Woody Pack and Moderator attending.

### MAY

*SALEM* - First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Charlie Johnson, Harold Edmonds, Isom Hannah and Robert Haney.

*TURKEY CREEK* - Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Hobert Hamilton, Charlie Johnson, Ted Glenden and Moderator attending.

### JUNE

*APPLE ORCHARD* - First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 1:00 p.m. Ministers called: Wayne Herald, Edward Runyon, Isom Hannah and Moderator attending.

*ENON* - First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: John P. Church, Wayne Herald, Hobert Hamilton, James Tackett and Moderator attending.

*ELIZABETH* - First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Sunday evening. Ministers called: Wayne Herald, Wallace Muncy, Edwin May, Isom Hannah and Moderator attending.

*MUNCH VALLEY* - Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: All Regular Baptist Ministers invited.

*PILGRIM'S REST* - Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Sunday evening. Ministers called: Clifford Maynard, James Tackett, Steve Robinson, Jr., Hiram Adkins and Moderators attending. Dinner on the ground.

*BUCK CREEK* - Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: James Tackett, Burton Howard, Kelly Castle, Tom Dials, John P. Church and Moderator attending.

*SIDNEY* - Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Wayne Herald, Wallace Muncy, James Gannon and Isom Hannah.

*LITTLE VIRGIE* - Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Steve Robinson, Jr., David Baisden, Johnny Cline and Woody Pack.

### JULY

*DIX FORK* - First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: N. A. England, Eddie Tackett, James Tackett, Jimmy Dale Sanders and Fon Bowling.

*SAMARIA* - First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Wallace Muncy, Isom Hannah, Steve Robinson, Jr. and Wayne Herald.

*LEANNAH* - Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 1:00 p.m. Ministers called: Wayne Herald, Edwin May and Tracy Hatfield.

*MT. PLEASANT* - Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Hershell Huff, Wayne Herald, Hiram Adkins, Mitchell Chaffins, John P. Church and Moderator attending.

*LITTLE TAVIE* - Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: James Tackett, Anthony Hamilton, Wayne Herald, Clifford Colley, Buddy Carty, Hobert Hamilton, Delbert Sanders, Ray Hamilton, Ross Cline and Jimmy Dale Sanders.

*BIG BRANCH* - Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 1:00 p.m. Ministers called: Howard Coleman, Alison Thornsbury and Clifford Maynard.

*MARY ELIZABETH* - Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening. Ministers called: Wayne Herald, Hobert Hamilton, Eddie Robinson, Isom Hannah and Moderator attending.

*NARROWS BRANCH* - Friday before the fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Wayne Herald, Hobert Hamilton, David Crigger, Wallace Muncy, Ronald Scott and Moderator attending.

### AUGUST

*TIBITHA* - First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Isom Hannah, Ellis Davis, Melvin Watts and Willie Varney.

*REBECCA* - Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Isom Hannah, Virgil Fields, Paul Adkins, Jimmy Miller, Hiram Adkins and Hobert Hamilton.

*ELK FORK* - Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Johnny Cline, Steve Robinson, Jr., Mark Cline, Raymond Smith, Tracy Hatfield and Ivan Amburgey.

*BENT BRANCH* - Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Wayne Herald, Jesse Thacker, Delbert Sanders, Fon Bowling and Moderator attending.

*ROSA* - Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Sunday evening. Ministers called: Burl Sturgill, Eales Cotton, David Lester and Wayne Herald.

*BETHANY* - Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Charley Evans, Eales Cotton, George Woods, Wallace Muncy, Edward Runyon and H. Jimmy Deeley.

*SARDIS* - Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Charley Evans, Johnny Cline, Mont Ellis, Raymond Smith, Tommy Adair, Tommy Ellis, David Baisden, Mark Cline and Kirby Ison.

*PILGRIM'S HOME* - Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Sunday evening. Ministers called: Bobby Scott, Kelly Castle, Thomas J. Dials and Moderators attending.

## MEMORIAL MEETINGS

### MARCH

*OKEECHOBEE CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting for all deceased members of Okeechobee Church on the second Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Jay Mitchell, Eddie Tackett, Marshall Williamson, Edwin May, Edwin Hay and Moderators attending.

### APRIL

*MEMORIAL MEETING* of Victoria Smith will be held at the Mt. Pleasant Church on Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Edwin May, Clifford Maynard, John P. Church and Hershell Huff.

### MAY

*LEANNAH CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting of George Duncan on Middlefork of Big Rockcastle Creek, four miles from Inez on Route 3, on Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Sabert Nichols, Tom Dials, Milford Lowe, Louie Muncy and Wayne Herald.

*ELK FORK CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting on the third Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Willie Stiltner, Alson Thornsbury and John P. Church.

*BIG BRANCH CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting of the Ratliff family on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: J. L. Nichols, Clifford Williams, Ernest Cochran and David Crigger.

*LITTLE VIRGIE CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting on the fourth Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: James Tackett, Berlin Thornsbury and Clifford Maynard.

*NARROWS BRANCH CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting on the fourth Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Lloyd SESCO, Frankie Scott, Hershell Huff, Alson Thornsbury, Edwin May and Clifford Maynard.

*MEMORIAL MEETING* of Jobe Blackburn and all the deceased on that cemetery will be held on the fourth Sunday. Ministers called: Wallace Muncy, Wayne Herald, Edward Runyon, Milford Lowe and Louis Muncy.

*BETHANY CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting at the Hannah Cemetery on Sunday after the fourth Saturday. All Regular Baptist Ministers are invited.

*MEMORIAL MEETING* will be held on the fourth Sunday on the Justice Cemetery at Lando, West Virginia in memory of Clayburn Justice, Dolly Justice, Children and Grandsons. Ministers called: Steve Robinson, Jr., Tracy Hatfield, Johnny Cline and Raymond Smith.

*MEMORIAL MEETING* will be held for all the deceased on the Cochran Cemetery at Dix Fork at 4:00 p.m. on the last Saturday. Ministers called: Claude Brown, Berlin Thornsbury, David Crigger, Ted Robinson, Donnie Brown and all Regular Baptist ministers are invited. Dinner on the ground.

*MEMORIAL MEETING* will be held on the Stanley Cemetery at Dix Fork at 11:00 a.m. on the last Sunday. All Regular Baptist ministers are invited. Also, a Meeting up the hollow at John Brown's about 4:00 p.m. the same day.

*SARDIS CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting on the Pigeon Roost Cemetery on May 30th at 2:30 p.m. Ministers called: Steve Robinson, Jr., David Baisden and Joe Evans.

### JUNE

*SOUTHERN HOME CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting on the first Saturday and Sunday for all members of Southern Home Church. Ministers called: Monroe Ousley, Julius Lester, Earl Belcher and Moderator attending.

*TIBITHA CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting at the Church for all deceased members on the first Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Samuel D. Hensley, Joe Evans and Johnny Cline.

*DIX FORK CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting on the Morris Cemetery on the First Sunday. Ministers called: Bobby Scott, Ernest Cochran and Ross Cline. Church will be moved to the Cemetery on Sunday.

*LEANNAH CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting of all the deceased on Muncy Cemetery on Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Edwin May, Steve Robinson, Jr., Wayne Herald and John P. Church.

*MEMORIAL MEETING* will be held at the home of Okie Robinette on the second Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: John Fouch, Chester Belcher, Edward Runyon, Isom Hannah, Charley Evans, Ellis Davis and Willie Stiltner.

*BENT BRANCH CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting on the third Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: John P. Church, Johnny Cline, Monroe Jones and Moderator attending.

*ELK FORK CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting on the third Saturday and Sunday on the Gilman Cemetery. Ministers called: Andrew Maynard, Burbage Mullins, Joe Evans, Raymond Smith and Moderator attending.

*MEMORIAL MEETING* of Johnie Nichols, Sr. and wife and all that are buried on the Lowe Cemetery on Sycamore at Gulhare, Kentucky will be held on Sunday after the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: J. L. Nichols, Roosevelt Lowe, Clifford Maynard and Dave Williams.

*MEMORIAL MEETING* will be held on the Jarrett Smith Cemetery in the head of the Right Fork of Brushy Creek on the fifth Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Wayne Herald, Edwin May and Berhn Thornsbury.

## JULY

*MEMORIAL MEETING* will be held at the home of Mrs. Williard (May) Robinette for all the deceased on the Robinette Cemetery on July 1st at 11:00 a.m. Ministers called: Virgil Fields, Clarence Owens, Glen Maddos, David Crigger and Clifford Maynard.

*MEMORIAL MEETING* of Ted Blackburn will be held at the home of his son, Dewey Blackburn, on Wynn's Branch on July 1st. Ministers called: James Tackett, Edwin May and Hiram Adkins. Dinner will be served.

*LEANNAH CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting of George Lowe, Jane Lowe, Sam Staton and Joseph Staton on Pigeon Roost Fork of Wolf Creek on the first Sunday. Ministers called: Milford Lowe, Roosevelt Lowe, Dave Williams and Wayne Herald.

*TURKEY CREEK CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting in the head of Long Fork on the Reed Cemetery at 11:00 a.m. on the first Sunday. Ministers called: Willis Lowe, Robert L. Robinson, Andrew Maynard, H. Jimmy Deeley and all Regular Baptist ministers are invited. Dinner near by.

*MEMORIAL MEETING* of Ballard Blackburn and baby of Cashier and Opal Blackburn will be held on the Blackburn Cemetery at Dix Fork on Sunday after the first Saturday. All Regular Baptist ministers are invited.

*LEANNAH CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting of all the deceased in the Robinson Cemetery on Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Edwin May, Steve Robinson, Jr., Clifford Williams, David Baisden and Moderator attending.

*MEMORIAL MEETING* for the deceased of the J. M. (Mont) Lowe family will be held on Sunday after the second Saturday at the home of Byrd Lowe

on lower Brushy Creek. Ministers called: Ted Robinson, James Tackett and Clifford Maynard.

*ELK FORK CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting at the home of J. T. Watts on Trace Creek on the third Sunday. Ministers called: Mont Ellis, Willie Varney, Steve Robinson, Jr., Tommy Adair, Raymond Smith and Moderator attending.

*MEMORIAL MEETING* will be held for all the deceased on Julius Scott Cemetery at Hardy, Kentucky on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: John P. Church, Edwin May, Bobby Scott, Wayne Herald and Grover Adkins.

*BIG BRANCH CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting of the Taylor family on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Clifford Maynard, Wallace Muncy, Alson Thornsbury and Moderator attending.

*BUCK CREEK CHURCH* will give away to a memorial meeting on the third Sunday at the Dave Jude Cemetery on Peter Cave. Ministers called: Wayne Herald, Edward Runyon, Milford Lowe and Louie Muncy.

*TIBITHA CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting about three miles from Route 10 on Sand Creek Road on the Maynard Cemetery on the third Sunday at 11:00 a.m. Ministers called: Samuel D. Hensley, John Fouch, Lindsey Vance and H. Jimmy Deeley. Dinner on the ground.

*SARDIS CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting on the Adair Cemetery at Millstone on Sunday after the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: Tommy Adair, Kirby Ison, Raymond Smith, David Baisden and Steve Robinson, Jr.

*MEMORIAL MEETING* will be held at the Joe Taylor Cemetery on lower Brushy Creek on Sunday after the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: Edwin May, Clifford Maynard, James Gannon and J. C. Tackett.

*MEMORIAL MEETING* of Sister Rachel Stacy will be held at the home of Johnny Stacy on Sunday after the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: Roosevelt Lowe, Clinton Howard, Milford Lowe, Steve Robinson, Jr. and Ben Robinson.

## AUGUST

*MEMORIAL MEETING* will be held on the Smith Cemetery on Rockhouse Fork of Big Creek on Sunday after the first Saturday. Ministers called: Grover Adkins, John P. Church and Isom Hannah.

*SAMARIA CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting at the Dillon Cemetery on Sunday after the first Saturday. Ministers called: Steve Robinson, Jr., Isom Hannah, Edward Runyon and Wallace Muncy.

*ENON CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting on the first Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Johnny Cline, Clifford Maynard, David Baisden and Fay Scott.

*DIX FORK CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting for all the deceased members of Dix Fork Church on the first Saturday and Sunday. Ministers



called: H. Jimmy Deeley, Jethro Hampton, Millis Roberts, Plennie Rowe and Delbert Sanders.

*APPLE ORCHARD CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting on the first Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Ellis Davis, Wallace Muncy, Ross Cline and Moderator attending.

*REBECCA CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting of Elders Hi Maynard, W. C. Hay, M. J. Mounts and all the deceased of the Rebecca Church on Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called in Union Meeting will be used.

*LEANNAH CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting on the Lowe Cemetery on the second Sunday. Ministers called: Alson Thornsberry, James Tackett, Tracy Hatfield, Ernest Cochran and Moderator attending.

*LITTLE ROSA CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting for all deceased members of Little Rosa Church on Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Fay Scott, Charley Evans, Isom Hannah, Wayne Herald and David Crigger.

*PILGRIM'S REST CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting on the second Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Wayne Herald, Frank Hopkins, James Gannon, Bobby Scott and Moderators attending. Dinner on the ground.

*MARY ELIZABETH CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting of Elder J. W. Smith and all deceased members of the Mary Elizabeth Church on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: James Gannon, Grover Adkins, Fay Scott and Ernest Cochran.

*SAMARIA CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting on the Hannah Cemetery on the third Sunday. Ministers called: Isom Hannah, Edward Runyon, Billy R. May and Charles Hall.

*BIG BRANCH CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting of the McCoy family on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Ernest Cochran, Clifford Maynard and J. L. Nichols.

*SIDNEY CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting for the deceased members of Sidney Church on Sunday after the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: Alson Thornsberry, Edward Runyon, Grover Adkins, James Gannon and Tom Dials.

*MEMORIAL MEETING* on the Henry Taylor Cemetery will be held on Sunday after the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: Ernest Cochran, J. L. Nichols, Clifford Maynard and Clifford Williams.

*BETHANY CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting on Sunday after the fourth Saturday, the same time of its Communion Meeting and the same Ministers will be used.

## SEPTEMBER

*LEANNAH CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting near the Leannah Church of Tom McCoy and others buried in the Buck Branch Cemetery and of Money McCoy and others buried in the McCoy Cemetery in the head of Meat House Fork of Wolf Creek on the first Sunday. Ministers called: David Baisden, Fay Scott, Burbage Mullins and Steve Robinson, Jr.

*SAMARIA CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting on the Lackey Cemetery on Sunday after the first Saturday. Ministers called: Isom Hannah, Edward Runyon, Billy R. May and Hobert Hamilton.

*MEMORIAL MEETING* will be held on the A. C. and Wesley Young Cemetery in memory of Bessie Young and others on Sunday after the first Saturday. Ministers called: Hiram Adkins, Bobby Scott, Willie Stitner, Wayne Herald, James Gannon, Woody Pack and Louie Muncy. There will be dinner on the ground.

*BUCK CREEK CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting at the Church for their deceased members and for the deceased buried in the Maynard Cemetery at Warfield, Kentucky on the third Sunday. Ministers called: Kirby Ison, Hiram Adkins, Sabert Nichols, Hershell Huff and Moderator attending.

*MARY ELIZABETH CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting of Elder Wallace Jackson and others on the third Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Charlie Johnson, Andrew Maynard, John P. Church and Moderator attending.

*MEMORIAL MEETING* will be held at Oscar McCoy's home in memory of Roscoe McCoy and others on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: J. L. Nichols, Willis Lowe, Ernest Cochran and Clifford Williams.

*MEMORIAL MEETING* of John Jude and son and the Howells will be held on the fourth Sunday. Ministers called: Tom Dials, Tracy Hatfield, Milford Lowe and Clinton Howard.

## OCTOBER

*ELIZABETH CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting on the first Saturday and Sunday for all deceased members of Elizabeth Church. Ministers called: Wayne Herald, Milford Lowe, Wallace Muncy and Edward Runyon.

*SALEM CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting on the first Saturday and Sunday for all deceased members of Salem Church. Ministers called: Wayne Herald, Edwin May, Grover Adkins and Zee Holbrook.

*TURKEY CREEK CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting the second Saturday and Sunday for all deceased members of Turkey Creek Church. Ministers called: Andrew Maynard, Ernest Cochran, Raymond Smith, Hobert Hamilton and Moderator attending.

*MT. PLEASANT CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting for all the deceased members of Mt. Pleasant Church on the second Saturday and Sunday.



Ministers called: Jesse Thacker, Johnny Cline, James Tackett and Mark Cline.

*LEANNAH CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting on the Scott Cemetery in the head of Finley Fork on Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Wayne Herald, Steve Robinson, Tracy Hatfield, Edwin May and Moderator attending.

*ROSA CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Rosa Church on the third Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Steve Robinson, Jr., Lloyd SESCO, David Baisden and Hassell Estep.

*PILGRIM'S HOME CHURCH* will hold a memorial meeting on the fourth Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Perry Jones, John P. Church, Thomas J. Dials, Edward Runyon and Moderators attending.

## OBITUARIES

### ELDER WILLIAM J. WHITE

It is with a sad heart that I will try and write the Obituary of my beloved husband, Elder William J. White, who I loved so well and I feel my loss is Heaven's gain. I miss him so much but I hope and pray that we all will meet him in Heaven when this life is over. That is my hope.

Elder William J. White was born September 30, 1901 and deceased this life September 25, 1977, on our Church meeting time. He took care of the Church on Saturday morning and God called him away Sunday morning. We raised two children, Lottie Cable and Albert Ray Cable, both of Rt. 1, Lenore, W. Va. He also leaves to mourn his loss one brother, James Riley White.

Elder William J. White was ordained a Minister on July 3, 1931 by Brother Frank Canterbury and Brother Percy Canterbury, Clerk. He was well thought of and went to Church everywhere for as long as he was able to go. He had good patience while he was sick.

Pa is gone and he can't come back to us but if we live a good life we can see him some day. Pa had been sick for a long time but now he is no longer to bear the pains of life. He is gone to Heaven where he is at rest. I will never forget him and still I can see him at the closing of the day. In Heaven we can all be together again and be happy as one family again.

Written by his beloved Wife and Son,  
in God we trust.  
Your Sister in hope, Choley White.

I hope Sister White will not mind this addition to the Obituary of Brother Willie. I feel future generations who read this should know that Brother Willie was Moderator of several Churches at one time or another over the last several years and served the Sardis Association as Moderator for a period of time. Brother Willie, I believe, served the Sardis Association well over the years I knew him and was always an advocate for peace among the Churches and the Brethren. We will surely miss his wisdom and his ability to reason with the Brethren, especially during our Associations.

Brother Ralph

### LEONARD VARNNEY

With a loving memory and help from our sweet Lord I will attempt to write the Obituary of our kind and loving Daddy, Leonard Varnney. He was born in



Pike County, Kentucky on January 9, 1901 and died on January 2, 1978, making his stay here on earth 76 years, 11 months and 24 days. He was the son of the late Henry and Dolly Varney. He was united in marriage on June 25, 1924 to Maggie Smith Varney and to this union was born 12 children, 6 sons and 6 daughters, and all of them are still living. He is also survived by 44 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren, 4 sisters and 3 brothers. A brother preceded him in death.

He was a true and dedicated member of the Narrows Branch Church of Old Regular Baptist for a great many years and was a Deacon of the Church for ten years prior to his death.

He was a kind and loving husband and Daddy to us all. He always tried to guide us in the right path toward God and help solve whatever problems we had. His last wish was for us children to be good to Mommy and to take care of her and one another. We believe that Daddy is resting in that beautiful mansion with God and his troubles are all over.

Sometimes I get so lonely for him to talk with me. I am filled with beautiful memories of all the sweet times we had together and the hope that someday we can all be together again. Daddy, we all miss you so much!

Written by your loving daughter,  
Eloise Mills

### LILLIE A. SMITH

It is with much sadness, and by the help of the Lord, I will try to write an Obituary of Sister Lillie A. Smith. She was born on September 15, 1903 in Pike County, Kentucky and departed this life March 1, 1978, making her stay on earth 75 years, 5 months and 14 days. She was the daughter of the late Chris and Cynthany Blair. She was united in marriage to Melvin Adkins, who departed this life April 7, 1950, and to this union was born three children: Mrs. Ernestine Stevens, Blue Creek, Ohio; Raymond Adkins, Sidney, Ky.; and Virgil Adkins, Greenup, Ky.

In June 1954 she was united in marriage to Brother Marvin Stanley who departed this life on June 5, 1958.

On October 14, 1960 she was united in marriage to Brother Carl Smith who departed this life November 18, 1970.



Surviving are the following step-children, who loved and miss her very much: Kelly Stanley, Cincinnati, Ohio; Coda Stanley, Sidney, Ky.; Rush Stanley, Greenup, Ky.; Trimble Stanley, Huddy, Ky.; Mrs. Bessie Gannon, Canada, Ky.; Victor Stanley and Mrs. Minnie Stanley, Ypsilanti, Mich.; Luther Smith, Sidney, Ky.; Mrs. Allene Stacy, Hardy, Ky.; Emogene Abshire, Grapevine, Ky.; Lester Smith, Columbus, Ohio; and Ora Lewis, Orange, Calif. Also surviving are ten grandchildren, thirteen great-grandchildren and one sister, Tilda Stiltner.

She professed a hope in Christ in July 1961 and placed her membership with the Narrows Branch Church of Old Regular Baptist where she was a faithful member until death.

Children, you have lost a good Mother and Step-mother and the Church a wonderful member. We feel our loss is Heaven's gain and that Sister Lillie is asleep and resting in Christ, our Lord. So children, to the ones who have not made peace with God, you will have to repent of your sins and be born again of the spirit of God. May the good Lord bless each and everyone of you children and your families. I love all of you.

Written by request,  
Elder James E. Gannon

### ASBURY FRANCIS

On July 21, 1978 Asbury Francis passed from this life at age 90 leaving a loving memory and a deep sadness to those that knew him and loved him. He was my "Poppaw", whom I dearly loved and miss. All those who knew him, young and old, family or friend, quickly adopted him as "Poppaw".

Poppaw was born February 18, 1888 in Pike County, Ky. to the late Tom and Mary Hatfield Francis, the second of seven children. Two brothers, J. M. Francis of Varney, Ky. and Delmon Francis of Turkey Creek, Ky. and one sister, Bessie Robinette of Varney, Ky. survive him. Three sisters and one brother preceded him in death.

On June 8, 1911 he married Estie Jane Walters and to this marriage of 67 years was born six children. Three daughters, Odessa Walters, Hatfield, Ky.; Gladis Staton, Turkey Creek, Ky.; and Mexie Robinette, Meta, Ky. are left to mourn his passing. Two sons, Jess Francis and Gomer Francis and one daughter, Mary Betty Elkins, preceded him in death. Poppaw and Momma were residents of Hatfield, Ky. but for the past six years Poppaw resided at Meta, Ky. with a daughter while Momma has been in the nursing home. For



28 years he was a member of the Pilgrim's Home Regular Baptist Church of Varney, Kentucky.

Poppaw was a farmer, mail carrier and carpenter. Some of my fondest memories are of the times when he would talk of the days when he carried mail on horseback down Big Creek to Nolan, W. Va. He would talk for hours on the "Hatfields and McCoy's" and was especially proud to say "my mother was a Hatfield".

I never heard Poppaw complain, not even at the end. He was a gentle, kind, easy going fellow with a peculiar wit about him. He mentioned to me several times how he never intentionally caused any man to be angry with him because he had hopes of a better home someday. As one of his grandchildren, I also remember the funny way he would wiggle his mouth to make us smile when we were around him. Just as we were entranced and thought we had the trick mastered he would smile from one side of his face to the other and his eyes would sparkle. These memories and more I will cherish always.

These past six years had been especially trying for Poppaw. Since Mommaw has been ill and in the nursing home he would go everyday to be by her side when he was able. However, during the past year he was unable to go as often as he liked due to his failing health. His thoughts were always with Mommaw and he was especially appreciative to those who cared for her.

To Mommaw, the three daughters, two brothers, one sister, twenty-nine grandchildren, thirty-two great-grandchildren and numerous friends, there will always be sweet memories of Poppaw to treasure in our hearts. We are especially thankful that he lived a long and useful life but, most importantly, that he was a loving husband, father and grandfather.

Written lovingly by his granddaughter,  
Billie Kay Stanley

## JOSEPH FLOYD MORRIS

Joseph Floyd Morris, age 74 years, was born October 2, 1903 the son of Thomas B. And Sinda Mullins Morris, both of whom preceded him in death. God called his spirit home to be with Him and other of His Saints on November 29, 1977. He was married to Gracie (Anderson) Morris on September 14, 1930 who survives and cherishes the many years companionship while serving the Lord and raising their family.

They were blessed with four children, one daughter, Aletha Davis, William, W. Va.; three sons, Donald Morris, Knoxville, Tn., Paul Morris, Forest



Hills, Ky. and Rodger Morris, at home with Aunt Gracie. Six grandchildren also survive.

Brother Floyd professed a hope in Christ and was baptized into fellowship of the Salem Church on April 6, 1941 by Elder Jonah Bevins and Elder Harrison Bevins. His love of God's work and the Church was typified by his willing heart and you could count on him to do his part in matters pertaining to the Church, realizing his labor was not in vain. He was ordained a Deacon on November 5, 1949 and remained faithful to the calling until death. His warm smile and tender handshake will greet us no more here on earth but will be renewed again in the New Jerusalem where God will wipe away all tears. His spirit is absent from the body but present with the Lord, awaiting the resurrection of his body from the grave where he, his loved ones and all the Saints of God will worship and sing praises throughout all the endless ages of eternity.

To Uncle Floyd's children, seek God now that He may apply His grace through the blood of His Son and when this life is over God's house forever more your dwelling place shall be.

Written by his nephew,  
Brother Calvin C. Bevins

## NELLIE MAYNARD SPILLMAN

It is with much sadness I will try to write the Obituary of my beloved Aunt, Sister Nellie Maynard Spillman. She was born July 8, 1916 and deceased this life July 2, 1978, making her stay here on earth 61 years, 11 months and 24 days. She was the daughter of Levi and Nancy Smith Maynard.

Sister Nellie was married to James Tilden Spillman on May 6, 1945 and to this union was born four children: Mrs. Helen Bernice Rose, Hardy, Ky.; Mr. Roger Lee Spillman, Turkey Creek, Ky.; Mr. Otis Darrell Spillman, Miami, Fla.; and Mr. Gordon Eugene Spillman, Hardy, Ky. She leaves one brother, Rell Samuel Maynard, Hatfield, Ky.; eight grandchildren and a host of nieces and nephews to mourn her passing.



Sister Nellie joined the Old Regular Baptist Church at Turkey Creek, Ky. in 1951 where she lived a faithful life until God called her home. Sister Nellie and I have talked a lot on the Scriptures and she believed in the complete resurrection of the dead. I believe she let her light shine. Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord; henceforth says the spirit they do rest from their labor and their works follow them.

It was requested by Sister Nellie that I write her Obituary. I want to leave this for her children, if you want to see Mother again, to repent of your sins, believing in the Lord, Jesus Christ, pick up the cross and follow Him.

Written by one who loves her dearly,  
her nephew,  
Arnold Lee Maynard

### JOHN L. FRALEY

With much sadness we will attempt to write the Obituary of our beloved Brother, John L. Fraley. He was born March 13, 1904 and deceased this life on May 30, 1978 at the age of 74 years, 2 months and 16 days. He was married to Manda Blackburn and to this union was born two children, Mary Lena of Pilgrim, Ky. and Clell Fraley of Ohio.

Brother John joined the Old Regular Baptist Church several years ago and took membership with the Leannah Church where he was a faithful member until death. He also served as Deacon for several years. In his latter years he was much afflicted and this prevented him the privilege of going to Church but he always had a desire to go and be with his Brethren. We have lost a good Church member, the family has lost a good husband and father and the neighbors have lost a good neighbor but we feel our loss is Heaven's gain.

We would like to say to his children, if you want to see Dad again you will have to repent and be born again. We feel he has ceased from his labors and entered into that rest where he may be free from sickness, pain and suffering waiting for the resurrection of the body to go home, both soul and body, to live and rejoice with the Saints of God while eternal ages roll. So children, be good to your Mother and prepare to go to Heaven where there will be no more dying and where the family circle can be complete again.

Sadly missed by all,  
Written by the Leannah Church members



### KATHERINE ALLEN

Sister Katherine Allen was born December 10, 1894 in Pike County, Ky. the daughter of Daniel and Mary Ann (Gibson) Allen and deceased on January 3, 1978. She spent the last several years of her life on Wynn's Branch living with two sisters who preceded her in death. She was baptized on July 15, 1972 by Elder Edwin May and Elder Clifford Maynard and placed her membership with the Bent Branch Church where every member rejoiced upon her entry through the door at meeting time because she looked so lovely in her hand made long dress and "slat bonnet".

Sister Katherine was a wonderful person with a marvelous personality yet my first impression of her, when I first met her, was that she was one of the less intelligent people who had withdrawn from society. I apologize for this shallow and very erroneous thought. After becoming acquainted with her I found that it was the less intelligent society who had withdrawn from her and her day. She was, in my opinion, the last of a long line of standard bearers who have fallen one by one until finally she was left alone to face a society that was determined to overcome her day. But she stood firm, giving no quarter and asking none, having found her station in life and proving her high intellect by being content with such as she had.

There is much joy in the thought that she has now entered into that rest which remains for the people of God and that we will see her again. But there is much sadness in the knowledge that when we laid her to rest we also laid to rest forever the end of the era of the "slat bonnet", the high top shoes and the long black dress. I ask you, who won the battle? Society is still rushing madly along to it knows not what while Sister Katherine is comforted in the arms of Jesus.

I thank God for having allowed me to know this wonderful Sister!  
Elder Clifford Maynard

### FRED GLANDEN

With much grief and sorrow I will try and write the Obituary of my beloved father, Fred Glenden. He was born May 10, 1913 and deceased this life on June 29, 1978.

Dad was married to Vernie Thompson on August 30, 1941 and to this union was born 6 children: Patsy Carter and Bernice Henderson, of Batsden, W. Va.; Hubert Glenden of Hampden, W. Va.; Judy and Sandra Glenden, at home; and one daughter preceded him in death. Daddy was the son of the late Henry





Glanden and Susie Perry Glenden. He had 8 sisters and 3 brothers. Two sisters and one brother preceded him in death.

Daddy joined the Rosa Regular Baptist Church at Baisden, W. Va. 17 years ago and lived a wonderful life for God. Daddy was a wonderful person and always greeted people with a smile. Everyone that knew him loved him and spoke highly of him. On Church meeting time he wanted as many that would to come home and eat with him. He always wanted them to come back.

We miss Daddy so much it hurts but we feel our loss is Heaven's gain. Sometimes I feel like I would love to go on and be with Daddy but I know God isn't ready for us yet. Daddy was very sick but he never complained and would just tell us he was alright. If Daddy could speak to us we know he would tell us to live right and not worry about him because he is O.K. So, I would like to say to the ones that are still wandering in sin, if you ever meet Daddy again you will have to live right and go to Church as Daddy did.

We are all so lonely since Daddy died but we are looking forward to that wonderful day when we can all meet around God's beautiful throne where we will never have to part or say good-bye anymore.

Written by  
Fred Glenden's family

### GEORGE I. FRALEY

By request of the family I will try to write the Obituary of my beloved Brother, George Fraley. He was the son of the late J. H. and Vicie (Lowe) Fraley. He was born January 31, 1903 at Hatfield, Ky. and departed this life on August 14, 1977, making his stay on earth 74 years, 7 months and 2 weeks. He is survived by the following brothers and sisters: S. B. Fraley of Lexington, N.C.; W.T. (Tom) Fraley of Hatfield, Ky.; Verla Harrison of Hardy, Ky.; and Zella Harrison of Chattaroy, W. Va. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Nellie (Gillman) Fraley. They had two children, a daughter, Mrs. G. F. (Lois) Deskins of Columbus, Ohio and a son that preceded him in death..



His second wife, Myrtle (Jackson) Fraley, also preceded him in death in October 1962. To this union was born 11 children as follows: Irvin of Vermillion, Ohio; Eugene, Curtis and Richard of Columbus, Ohio; Willie of North Madison, Ohio; Thomas of Lorain, Ohio; George Hay of Greenup, Ky.; Mrs. Estil (Sue) Nichols of Sheffield Lake, Ohio; Mrs. Larry (Katherine) Hull of Columbus, Ohio; Mrs. Ronald (Lorraine) Bennett of Lebanon, Ohio; and Ms. Doris Fraley of Greenup, Ky.

His third wife, Mary Belle (Lowe) (Maynard) Fraley resided at Greenup, Ky. He has one step-son, A. C. Maynard of Greenup, Ky. He also leaves 21 grandchildren and a host of friends and relatives to mourn his passing.

He joined the Old Regular Baptist Church in August 1944 and was baptized by Elder Basil Robinette and Elder S. B. Fraley. He placed his membership with the Mary Elizabeth Church at Hatfield, Ky. and remained there for 24 years. In 1968 he moved his membership by Letter to the Little Mary Church in the Philadelphia Association at Greenup, Ky. Shortly before he died he moved his membership to the Long Fork Church at Hartley, Ky. of the New Salem Association.

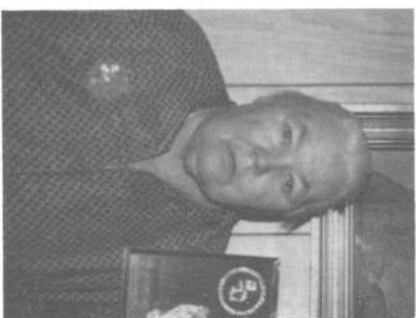
May I say in closing as the Psalmist says, he is gone from us and can no more come to us but, by the grace of God, we can go to him. So, children and grandchildren and the rest of his close relatives and friends, my advice to you that have not sought God in a pardon and remission of your sins is to seek God and be born again and meet Brother George in Heaven where there will be no more parting. May God bless each and everyone of you all.

Written by his brother,  
William Thomas Fraley

### VIRDILLA FOUCH

It is with tearfilled eye's and a broken heart that I now try, by the help of God, to write an Obituary of my mother, Virdilla Blevins Fouch. She was born March 25, 1902 in Ash County, North Carolina and departed this life on earth October 14, 1977, making her stay in this world 75 years, 6 months and 20 days. She was the daughter of Levi Blevins and Eliza Ball Blevins.

She was united in marriage to Elder John T. Fouch on May 26, 1924 and to this union 12 children were born. Four sons and two daughters preceded her in death as infants and her first son, James Fouch, preceded her in death in 1959. This leaves her five living children, Arvel, John C. and Jerry, all of Chapmanville; Geraldine Hensley of Pie; and Maxine Harmon of Big Creek.



Mother joined the Old Regular Baptist Church called Tibicha in May 1938 and was baptized by Elder John H. Hensley and Elder Asa Evans. She was a member for 39 years and 5 months and she attended Church as long as she was able to go. She lived a good and truly faithful life in the Church and before all her children and grandchildren. She gave good council to those who were in need of it.

She leaves behind in this world a host of friends, Brothers and Sisters in the Church, one brother, six sisters, 19 grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren to mourn her death. She let her light shine and her heart fill with love to all who knew her and her cup runneth over with kindness. She was pure as gold to us all. Somewhere beyond the horizon here light still shines to never go out.

Make peace with God while you still have time and fill your heart with love to all people and let your light shine so someone, somewhere can see it.

Sadly missed by the family who loved her,  
Written by her son, John C. Fouch

### BRADLEY GROSS

By the family's request and the help of God, I'll try to write the Obituary of Uncle Bradley Gross who departed this life on April 30, 1978 at the age of 87 years. He was the son of the late Elder Jerry and Rebecca Burnett Gross. He was married to Ressa Johnson Gross and unto this union were born 11 children. One son and one daughter preceded him in death.

He became a member of the Bent Branch Church of Old Regular Baptist, being baptized at the hands of Elder Harvey Lowe and Elder Ernest Cochran on November 9, 1958 and remained a faithful member until death took him from our midst.

He is survived by his wife, Ressa Gross, four sons, Melvin, Bradley, Jr., and Arnold, all of Joes Creek, and Robert of Detroit, Michigan; five daughters, Mrs. Euna Cundiff and Mrs. Betty May, both of Detroit, Michigan, Mrs. Sadie Bowns and Mrs. Esta Mae Justice, both of Chattaroy, W. Va. and Mrs. Fay Nell May of Sidney, Ky.; 68 grandchildren, several great-grandchildren and a great host of relatives and friends who are left to mourn his loss. But we feel that our loss is his eternal gain for the good life that Uncle Bradley lived before his children, neighbors and friends says more than I can write on paper. I feel, children and grandchildren, that it will live in your hearts. I know that you



miss his kindness and his comforting words but prepare to meet him in Heaven when your lives are ended here.

Aunt Ressa, you are lonely here without him but just pray on a few more days and you can join him in that beautiful home that Jesus went to prepare for you. I believe that I'll meet you, Uncle Brad and my loved ones that are waiting for me, where there will be no more sad farewells.

Written by a niece,  
Audry Cochran

### MADÉLINE FERGUSON CAREY

It is with sad hearts that we will try, with the help of the Lord, to write the Obituary of our loving daughter and sister, Madeline Carey, who departed this life on January 19, 1978 at the age of 58.

Born on September 17, 1919 at Holden, W. Va., she was the daughter of Georgia Riffe Ferguson and the late Harry Ferguson, Sr. She was married to Wallace Carey and to this union was born two children, Judith Ann Belcher of Elk Creek and Patrick Edward Carey of Panama City, Florida. There are three grandchildren. Additional survivors include two brothers, Harry Ferguson, Jr. of Meally, Ky. and Jimmie Ferguson of Abingdon, Va.; three sisters, Mrs. Virginia Farley of Dingess, Mrs. Anna Lee Williamson and Mrs. Florence Blevins, both of Chapmanville, and many friends and relatives.

Madeline joined the Regular Baptist Church at Elk Creek in March 1977 and was baptized by Elder Andrew Maynard and Elder Steve Robinson. She was a faithful member of the Church and went to Church somewhere every week as long as she could possibly go. That was her heart's desire - to hear the gospel preached and to serve the Lord. Through all her pain and illness she had time to listen to everyone else's problems and always gave them good and sound advice.

We all miss her so and her place will never be filled again but the Lord saw fit not to let her suffer as long as some in her condition. The Lord knew her life, as He does us all, and saw it was time for her to go home. We are all thankful to the Lord and hope to see her again when this life is over.

Written by her Mother, Georgia Ferguson  
and Sister, Florence Blevins



## W. ELMER BLACKBURN

W. Elmer Blackburn, born June 11, 1900, departed this life April 27, 1978 at the age of 77 years, 10 months and 16 days. He was born in Pike County, Ky. a son of the late Thomas and Victoria Maynard Blackburn.

He grew up in the Johns Creek area of Pike County and as a young man he taught school, worked as a Clerk for the N & W Railway Company at Williamson, W. Va. and, later, operated a general merchandise store at Goody, Ky. He was County Judge Pro Tem of Pike County just prior to joining the staff of the First National Bank of Pikeville in the early 1940's and was thereafter active in banking circles for 35 years. He was a former Mayor of Pikeville and during the 1957 flood he worked persistently for the rehabilitation of the City of Pikeville and its people. He was also very much interested in and was active in the Agricultural program in Eastern Kentucky.

He was a member and past President of the Pikeville Kiwanis Club and served as a member of the Board of Regents at Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, Ky. in the late 1940's and early 1950's. For over a half-century he was a member of the Bent Branch Regular Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Vicy Stratton Blackburn, whom he married in 1918; a daughter, Mrs. Virginia Lenore Adams; a son, Dr. John Thomas Blackburn; and five granddaughters, Susie, Patti, Terri, Kitti and Christi Blackburn. Three brothers, Alex Blackburn, Okey Blackburn and George Blackburn, preceded him in death.

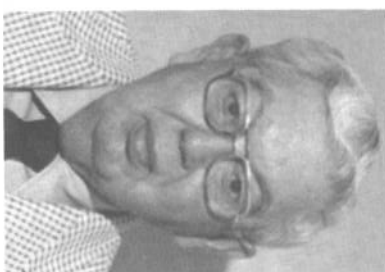
Written by,  
Elder Grover Adkins

## BERTHA BEVINS

With the help of God, I will try to write the Obituary of my loving Mother, Bertha Bevins, who departed this life on August 22, 1978, making her stay here on earth 80 years, 1 month and 14 days. She was born July 7, 1898 the daughter of Roland and Maggie Justice Goff.

Mother was united in marriage to Leonard Layne who preceded her in death. To this union was born 2 sons, Bruce Layne of Warren, Ohio and Ireland Layne of Albany, Georgia; 2 daughters, Erma Williamson of Cape Coral, Florida and Goldie Kuhn of Columbus, Ohio.

Later in life she met and married James Bevins who also preceded her in death in 1957. To this union was born 2 sons, James Bevins, Jr., who preceded



her in death in 1967, and Ray Bevins of Meta, Ky.; 2 daughters, Irene Sebree of Anderson, Indiana and Ruby Scott of Meta, Ky. She also leaves behind one brother, John Goff of Vansant, Va.; 3 step-daughters, Mayme Blackburn of Williamson, W. Va., Myrtle Stratton of Happy Valley, Ky. and Ima Bevins of Turkey Creek, Ky.; and one step-son, Farrest Bevins of Prestonsburg, Ky. She was preceded in death by three step-sons. Mother also leaves behind to mourn her loss 20 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and a host of her many friends and neighbors. She was a faithful member of the Bent Branch Old Regular Baptist Church for many years.

No one but God knows how we miss her but we believe she is resting in peace. No one can take her place, she had kind and loving words for everyone. We believe she is resting in Heaven today.

Written by her daughter,  
Ruby Scott and Grandchildren

## JAMES LEE STRATTON

In the early morning hours of July 7, 1978 James Lee Stratton made the final part of his journey to God's home. He had lived in this world for 86 years, having been born the son of John Crit and Melinda (Bevins) Stratton February 22, 1892 on the homelace purchased soon after the Civil War by his grandmother, Susannah Howard, the widow of Richard Stratton from Joe's Creek.

He had inherited from his mother a deep appreciation for the Bent Branch Regular Baptist Church and it was there his funeral services were held, presided over by Elder Edwin May. It was there he had graciously been accepted into its membership by Elder Edwin May through baptism and profession of faith. He was baptized in almost the same spot in the Bent Branch where his wife, Pluma, had made her confession of faith and was baptized in 1934.

He was married to Pluma Harrison, the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. J. G. and Octavia (Varney) Harrison of Varney, Ky. They moved back to Meta, Ky. on August 31, 1926 and there were born their four children: Virginia Ruth (Mrs. G.A. Deskins) Donnalie, Paul Leroy and James Critt. All of these survive him.

He is also survived by his much loved sister, Vicy (Mrs. W. Elmer Blackburn) and four grandsons: James Paul, Stephen Paul, Jonathan Lee and James Christian.

Written by his son,  
Jim Critt Stratton





## JOSEPH ROBINETTE

With a sad heart I will try to write the Obituary of my late husband, Joseph Robinette. He was the son of the late Hiram and Florence (Pinson) Robinette. He was born on May 23, 1896 in Pike County, Ky. and deceased this life on October 19, 1977, making his stay on earth 81 years and 5 months.

He was married to Thelma (Williamson) Robinette on October 23, 1923 and to this union was born 12 children. One daughter, Grace Lucas, preceded him in death. The remaining children are: Luther, of Idaho; George, of Vinton, Ohio; Sonny, of Florida; Loanis, of Va; Carl, of Big Creek; Jack, Sammie, Marie and Lucille, all of Switzer; Okie, of Barnabus; Ann, of Michigan; and Saundra, of Florida. He raised two grandsons, Clyrd and Tony. He leaves 43 grandchildren and a host of great-grandchildren. He also leaves two brothers, Okey and Bill, and one sister, Minnie, all of Ky.

He was a member of Old Regular Baptist Church for 40 years and was a faithful member until death. We are living in hope of seeing him again, by the help of the Lord.

Written by the one that misses him very much and loved him,  
his lonely wife, Thelma Robinette



## MARY WALTERS BURRIS

It is with much sadness and by the help of the Lord I will try to write an Obituary of my niece, Mary Burris. She was born October 24, 1914 in Pike County, Ky. and departed this life February 7, 1977 in the Mountain Manor Nursing Home, Pikeville, Ky. She was the daughter of Lacy Walters and Dixie Francis Walters. She was united in marriage to Joseph Bud Burris who preceded her in death.

Surviving are one son, Joseph Virgil Burris, and four step-daughters, Mrs. Maxine Young, Mrs. Hattie Bevins, Mrs. Lake Robinette and Mrs. Luna Bevins, all of Hatfield, Ky.; five brothers, Newton Walters,



Dover Walters and L.C. Walters, all of Hatfield, Ky., Joe L. Walters of Turkey Creek, Ky. and Troy Walters of Sidney, Ky.; two grandchildren and a host of step-grandchildren.

She joined the Old Regular Baptist Church several years ago and placed her membership with the Pilgrim's Home Church. Sister Mary always filled her seat in the Church as long as she was able to get there. She was sickly just about all her life but she bore her sickness with much patience. I thought she was the most humble and loving person I ever saw. She would have the nurses call Brother Grover Adkins to come and hold prayer for her in the Nursing Home. She would pray for the Lord to take her on home. I believe she is resting in that beautiful home she talked so much about with no more sickness and troubles.

She suffered so much in this world. We want to thank Brother Ulan Childers and his sweet wife for visiting her so much. They took the time to stop in the Nursing Home to visit with her so many times to try and cheer her up.

Virgil, she loved you so much. Do not forget her good council. I hope and pray that we can all meet her some sweet day in that beautiful home not made with hands where we will not have to part anymore. May God bless you all in my prayer.

Written by,  
Bessie E. Robinette and Nancy Walters

## VIRDA THORNSBURY

Sister Virda Thornsbury, the daughter of the late Wayne and Victoria (Maynard) Blackburn, was born September 21, 1898 at Canada, Ky. and deceased this life on Sunday, May 14, 1978 at the Mountain Manor Nursing Home at Pikeville, Ky., making her stay here 79 years, 7 months and 23 days.

She married Elder J. G. Thornsbury on January 29, 1914 and to this union was born 18 children, nine sons and 9 daughters. Brother Jim, as we liked to call him, preceded Sister Virda in death on March 9, 1971. Three sons, Wayne, Leonard and Frank also preceded their mother in death.

She became a member of the Dix Fork Church of Old Regular Baptist on August 5, 1928 being baptized at the hands of Elder Jonah Bevins and Elder John H. Brown. She filled her seat in the Dix Fork Church regularly and remained a faithful member until death took her from our midst. Those of us who are left behind will long remember the good meals





she cooked for visitors to the Dix Fork Church and the gracious manner in which she and Brother Jim invited us into their home.

Survivors include: Enoch Thornsbury, Alta Loma, Calif.; Troy Thornsbury, Baltimore, Md.; Kenneth C. Thornsbury and Elder Berlin Thornsbury, Sidney, Ky.; Harold E. Thornsbury, Medora, Ill.; Vern E. Thornsbury, Marshville, N.C.; a foster son, Gregory Thornsbury, Royal Oak, Mich.; Gertrude Merricks, Jackson, Ohio; Hattie Baker, Cinderella, W.Va.; Bertha Parks, Baltimore, Md.; Ocie Varney and Lois Jean Collins, Toler, Ky.; Shirley Young, Detroit, Mich.; Sadie Cox, Alton, Ill.; Wanda Waddell, Al-Canto, Fla.; and Sue Johnson, Royal Oak, Mich. Also surviving are five brothers, Enoch Blackburn, Baltimore, Md., Hassell Blackburn and E. W. Blackburn of Wheelersburg, Ohio, Luther Blackburn, Clarksburg, N.J. and Fremie Blackburn, Tucson, Ariz.; two sisters, Effie Crigger, Sidney, Ky. and Brady McManaway, Lucasville, Ohio; 57 grandchildren and 30 great-grandchildren; and a host of relatives and friends who are left to mourn her loss. But we feel that our loss is her eternal gain. For she, like Mary, hath chosen that good part which shall not be taken away from her. We believe that she, like the Psalmist David, could say, "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord, for ever."

To the children, brothers and sisters, relatives and friends we say, weep not for Sister Virda, whom we feel will meet us in Heaven when this life is over, but rather weep for yourselves and your children. She and Brother Jim made you children a good home here in this world and now they are waiting for you to join them to live forever in Heaven where all will be peace, joy and happiness forever and ever. Our prayer for all of us is that we may meet Jesus and the Holy Angels and dwell with them and God forever.

Written as requested by the family,  
by one she dearly loved,  
Elder Harold Edmonds

### SOPHIA EDITH WILLIAMSON

It is with much sadness and a very heavy heart that I attempt to write the Obituary of Sister Sophia Williamson. I trust God that He will enable me to write this Obituary with the same Spirit that guided Sister Sophia throughout her Christian life. Sister Sophia was the daughter of the later Brother Alonzo Hale and Sister Fannie (Taylor) Hale. She was born October 7, 1920 and departed this life August 3, 1978, making her stay here on earth, God's footstool, 57 years, 9 months and 27 days. Sister Sophia (Hale) Williamson was united in marriage to Brother K. H. (Hi) Williamson on December 3, 1938. To this union three children were born, namely, Phillip Lloyd Williamson of Oakford, Indiana, Mrs. Doris Madeline Tackett of Pikeville, Ky.; and Mrs. Phyllis Wonder Lawson of Meta, Ky.

Sister Sophia leaves her mother; her husband; her children; her grandchildren, Phillip Lloyd Williamson II and Scott Mathew Williamson; two

brothers, Brother Wonder Hale of Williamson, W.Va. and Brother John B. Hale of Route 1, Dexter, Ohio; a host of friends and relatives far and wide; and the entire membership of the Pilgrim's Home Church to mourn her departure. One grandson, Shawn Patrick Lawson, preceded her in death.

Sister Sophia professed a hope in Christ and was baptized into the fellowship of the Pilgrim's Home Church on the 4th Sunday of October 1949. She served this Church in such a wonderful manner, a manner in which I am sure pleased our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. She always filled her seat in Church. Her voice was always pleasant, loud and clear, in singing songs of praise to our Savior dear. The numerous, tasty, delicious meals she did prepare to nurture God's family as they came by. Work at home up to par. Sister Churches and Associations she did attend because she loved God's band of children here below. Her duties as a Sister and wife of a Deacon she did perform. Her counsel to us all, we would do good to heed. It would lead us to see her again and meet Jesus at the end.

Sister Fannie, may God bless you, Brother Hi and children, one that loved all of you so dearly has now gone from your midst. Her suffering is now over and her severed leg she will not miss, the death Angel that came so quickly and took her soul home to God in Heaven because He loved her so well for the life she lived.

You that have met God in a pardon and remission of sin will see Sister Sophia again. If you haven't repented of sin, do so, and you can be with Mother again in the Paradise of God.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Methodist Hospital staff, doctors, nurses and all; to J. W. Call and Sons Funeral Home; to the Brothers, Sisters and respectable friends that have sent flowers, food or in any way have helped; we offer a sincere thank you. You have been so kind. May God bless each of us in my prayer.

Written as requested by a Brother in Hope of Eternal Life  
James M. Ray

### CHARLES SAM MAYNARD

It is with much sadness and by the help of the Lord I will try to write an Obituary of my dear beloved grandfather, Charles Samuel Maynard. He was the son of the late Wayne Maynard and Frances Huff. He was born October 17, 1892 and departed this life August 22, 1977.



He was married to Allie White Maynard on April 13, 1913. To this union was born eleven children: Wayne, Gunnie, Frelin, Reta Lee, Audie Mae, Magna Violet, Dorothy, Bradley, Phillip, Patty and Larry. He leaves to mourn his passing his broken-hearted children and grandchildren.

He professed a hope in Christ and joined the Old Regular Baptist Church in 1930 and placed his membership in the Elk Fork Church.

My grandfather was a wonderful person, the best anyone could ever ask for. I would like to leave a thought with his children, grandchildren, friends and relatives, God broke our hearts to prove to us that He only takes the best, but even though he took Papa I know that a part of each and everyone of us went with him. Children, if you have a Mother and Daddy, cherish them as long as they live. You'll never know the heartache until you see their vacant chair.

Sadly missed by all the family,  
Ramona Helton, granddaughter



## FERRELL D. FRANCIS

It is with a sad and broken heart that I am trying to write this Obituary of my darling husband, Ferrell D. Francis. He was the son of Delmon and Gladys Francis. He was born August 2, 1943 and left us for a better home March 8, 1978, making his stay here on earth 34 years, 7 months and 6 days. He was united in marriage to Alpharetta Sue Fraley on December 23, 1961. We were blessed with three daughters. Two daughters, Debronica and Sherry are left to mourn his loss. One sweet daughter, Lola Marie, was called to be with Jesus at birth and now her Daddy is with her. Among those that are left behind, besides me and his dear, sweet Mom and Dad, are two sisters, Bonnie Rose Ward of Williamson, W.Va. and Mary Elon Lowe of Sidney, Ky.; three brothers, R.B. Francis of Williamson, W.Va., D. H. Francis of Turkey Creek, Ky. and Willie Stotridge of Maher, W.Va.; a half-sister and brother, Virginia Perkins and Henry Francis of Williamson, W.Va.; several neices and nephews, sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law; and a mother-in-law, all who loved him dearly.



He joined the Regular Baptist Church on March 9, 1965 and was baptized by the hands of Elder Lewis Marcum and Elder Cecil Evans on March 10, 1965. He placed his membership at Pilgrim's Home Church. My darling, I have now accepted Jesus as my personal friend. You didn't know it but so many days while you were at work I would pray that Jesus would come into my life and heart and that I could tell you when you came home but, darling, I know now that Jesus has His way, we don't have ours. I'm so thankful that we had 16 happy years together and now I have a hope of meeting you again someday and being with Jesus in a home where there's no more heart attacks or troubles. I miss you so much only God in Heaven knows. This life is so lonesome now but when things get so bad I don't think I can go on. I just go to Jesus in prayer and He comforts my heart and gives me strength to go on. I want to say to all who loved Ferrell and don't know Jesus as their personal friend, start praying and keep on praying so that we all can meet in Heaven someday.

Sadly missed by his wife, girls and family,  
Mrs. Alpharetta Sue Francis

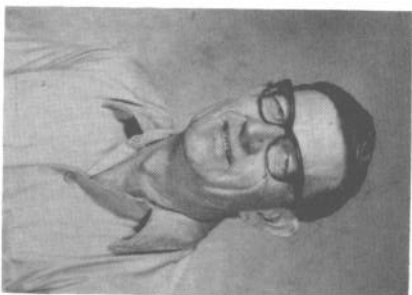
## JOHN G. BLACKBURN

Brother John Gilbert Blackburn, the son of the late Elder Willis Blackburn and Matilda Blackburn, was born April 10, 1919 at Varney, Ky. and deceased this life about 11:30 p.m. on March 31, 1978 enroute to a Huntington, W.Va. hospital, making his stay here 58 years, 11 months and 21 days. An employee of the Pike County Board of Education for 13 years, he was working at his job at Bevins School, Sidney, Ky. when he fell to the floor and injured his head.

His mother died when he was 13 days old and Brother John Young and Sister America Young of Varney, Ky. took him and raised him until he got married. He was married to Lizzie Robinette on December 16, 1939 and to this union was born 3 children, one son and two daughters.

Brother John professed a hope in Christ and was baptized at the hands of Elder Jonah Bevins and Elder Basil Robinette on September 24, 1939. He placed his membership with the Pilgrim's Home Church of Old Regular Baptist at Varney, Ky. where he was a member at the time of his death.

Survivors include his wife, Sister Lizzie Robinette Blackburn; one son, Willis Raymond Blackburn of Hatfield, Ky.; two daughters, Maggie Blackburn and Katherine Blackburn, both of Sidney, Ky.; one brother, Fred



Blackburn of Aflex, Ky.; two sisters, Mae Blackburn and Mrs. Polly Kennedy both of Aflex, Ky.; seven grandchildren; and a great host of relatives and friends who are left to mourn his loss.

Although he will be missed by all his loved ones, the Church and the community at large we sincerely hope that our loss will be his eternal gain. For, if Brother John was not mistaken in the strong hope that he had of the resurrection of the dead, he will hear Jesus say, "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." And the scriptures tell us that the righteous enter into life eternal where all will be peace, joy and happiness forever and ever. So, we say to Sister Lizzie, the children, brothers and sisters, relatives and friends, weep not for Brother John but rather weep for yourselves and your children. To those of us who have not already done so, "Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near." He is close enough to hear out lowest whisper if we will repent of our sins, believe the everlasting Gospel and obey Him in this life that we may live forever with Him in Heaven when our journey is ended here.

May God richly bless and save us all is my prayer in Jesus' sweet and blessed name.

Written as requested by the family, by one he loved,  
Elder Harold Edmonds

### TANDY DONNIE LOWE

Brother Donnie Lowe was born December 10, 1892 at Hatfield, Ky. He was the son of the late Thomas and Ester Stepp Lowe. He was married to Mary Louise (Caines) Lowe and to this union was born six children. One daughter, Mrs. Blanche Nelson preceded him in death. The surviving children are: sons, Cecil B. Lowe and Don Lowe, Jr.; daughters, Mrs. Lois Trout, Mrs. Louise Sanford and Mrs. Myrtha Skinner. There were 13 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren and one great-great-granddaughter. All of these along with the Old Regular Baptist family and a host of friends are left to mourn his loss.



Brother Donnie was an Old Baptist for 42 years, faithful, steadfast and unmoveable, strong in the faith and principles of the Old Regular Baptist Church. Brother Donnie gave freely of his time and money, not only to the Church, but to anyone in need. He loved to go to Church and went as long as he was able. In the last years of his life he came to Florida where he and I enjoyed many happy hours together. Once, when Brother Donnie was coming to Florida, he called and told me he was bringing another Brother and Sister

with him. At the time I didn't know who but when I met them it was Brother J. R. and Sister Jane Triplet, two wonderful people. Brother Donnie and the Triplets loved each other and spent many happy hours together here in Florida. Now they are all together in a land where it is springtime always.

Brother Donnie suffered a lot and in his last days was admitted to a convalescent home in Louisa, Ky. He and his wife both were there. I made one trip up there to see them and it tickled him to death to see me. How he went on about me coming all the way from Florida to see him. He was nearly blind and I fed him his dinner. I am so glad that I was able to do just that little bit for him before he passed away. He loved his family very dearly and no doubt they miss his strong, toil-worn hands and words of wisdom.

Brother Donnie was toiler, a man that believed in work. I could write a book about this wonderful Brother. He called me and made me promise that I would write this Obituary and I shed tears as I write. I can see him as he labored that as the Bible says to not be chargeable to any man. Brother Donnie has earned his night's repose. His body is sleeping. His soul is in Paradise and when God brings all the souls of the Saints back to get the sleeping dust we will meet Brother Donnie again.

May God bless all of Brother Donnie's family.

Written by your unworthy,  
Elder Tommy Adair

### RENDA DEEL

In loving memory we write the Obituary of our loving mother, Renda Deel, who departed this life on Friday, January 13, 1978. Born at Jenny's Creek, W. Va., she was the daughter of the late William and Betty Messer Hodge. She was married October 1, 1930 to Robert F. Deel who preceded her in death on July 16, 1964.

Survivors include the following children: Clifford Deel of Pontiac, Michigan; Clyde Deel of Forest Hills, Ky.; Carlos Deel of McAndrews, Ky.; Burley Evans of Pontiac, Michigan; Florence Varney of South Williamson, Ky. and Remona Roberts of Pontiac, Michigan. She is also survived by nine grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and one living brother, James Messer of Point Pleasant, W. Va.





She was a member of the Salem Regular Baptist Church at Goody, Ky. for some forty years. Our Dad was also a member of the Salem Church.

She leaves behind an everlasting flame to all her loved ones and to all that knew her.

Sadly missed by,  
the Children and Grandchildren

### ROBERT J. ELKINS

It is with a sad heart that I will try to write the Obituary of my father-in-law, Robert J. Elkins, who passed away June 3, 1978 at the age of 95 years, 3 months and 26 days.

Pa was born February 8, 1883 in Pike County, Ky. the son of the late Jefferson and Merinda Maynard Elkins. He was married to Ancia Fields Elkins who preceded him in death. He is survived by two sons, Adron Elkins of Meta, Ky. and Chester Elkins of McCombs, Ky. One son preceded him in death. G. D. Elkins. One sister survives, Edna Gilliam of Citra, Florida. Two sisters and three brothers preceded him in death. He also has 7 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and 5 great-great-grandchildren.

Pa was a member of the Apple Orchard Old Regular Baptist Church and was baptized while in the hospital by Elder Edwin May and Elder Monroe Jones in August 1977. I believe Pa is resting in peace.

Written by,  
Nancy Elkins



## CONSTITUTION OF THE SARDIS ASSOCIATION

From a long series of experiences we, the OLD REGULAR BAPTIST CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST, being baptized upon a profession of faith in Christ are convinced of the necessity of a combination of Churches in order to perpetuate a union and communion among us and to keep the order and rules of an Association according to the following plan of government.

*ARTICLE 1.* The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different Churches in our union and sent to represent them in the Association and, upon their producing Letters from their respective Churches certifying their appointment, they shall be entitled to a seat.

*ARTICLE 2.* In the Letters shall be expressed their number in fellowship, those baptized, received by Letter, dismissed, excluded, and deceased since our last Association.

*ARTICLE 3.* The members thus chosen and convened shall have no power to lord anything over God's heritage nor shall they have any clerical power over the Churches nor shall they infringe on any of the internal rights of any Church in the union.

*ARTICLE 4.* The Association when convened shall be ruled by a regular and proper decorum.

*ARTICLE 5.* The Association shall have a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and Assistant Clerk, each chosen separately by a majority vote of the delegates present.

*ARTICLE 6.* New Churches may be admitted into this union who shall petition by Letter and delegates and, if found upon examination to be orthodox and orderly, shall be received; and every Church in the union shall be entitled to a representative in the Association.

*ARTICLE 7.* Every query presented by the Church to the Association, being first debated in their own Churches, shall be taken up by the Association.

*ARTICLE 8.* Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except when withdrawn by the one made it.

*ARTICLE 9.* The Association shall endeavor to furnish the Church with Minutes of the Association.

*ARTICLE 10.* We think it necessary that we should have an Association fund for defraying expenses of the same. We think it the duty of each Church in the union to contribute such sums as they think proper and to send it by their delegates to the Association; and such sums be deposited in the hands of the Treasurer chosen by the Association who shall be accountable for the money paid him by the Association, and paid out according to the Association.

*ARTICLE 11.* There shall be an Association book kept wherein the proceedings of every Association shall be recorded by a Secretary appointed by the Association who shall receive a compensation for his services.



*ARTICLE 12.* The minutes of the Association shall be read, and corrected if need be, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association arises, unless the same is dispensed with.

*ARTICLE 13.* Amendments to this plan or form of government may be made by a majority of the union, if deemed necessary.

*ARTICLE 14.* All matters coming before the Association shall be decided by will of a majority of the delegates present.

*ARTICLE 15.* The Association shall have the power for the general union of the Churches: to preserve inviolable a chain of communion among the Churches; to give Churches all necessary advice in matters of difficulty; to inquire into the cause of the Churches failing to represent themselves at any time in the Association; to appropriate the money contributed by the Churches for the Association fund to any purpose they may think proper: to appoint any member, by their consent, to transact any business which they see necessary; and they shall have power to withdraw from any Church in the union which violates the rules of the Association or deviate from the orthodox principles of religion; and to admit any orderly Minister of our order to seat with us. The Association shall have the right to adjourn themselves to any future time or place they may think most convenient to the Churches.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH OF THE SARDIS ASSOCIATION

*ARTICLE 1.* We believe in only one true and living God, the Father, the Son, and Holy Ghost; and these three are one, equal in power, essence and glory.

*ARTICLE 2.* We believe the Scripture of the Old and New Testaments of the Authorized King James Version of the Bible are the written words of God and are the only rules of faith and practice.

*ARTICLE 3.* We believe in the doctrine of election by grace, for by grace are ye saved through faith.

*ARTICLE 4.* We believe in the doctrine of original sin and of man's inability to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, therefore the Saviour is needed for our redemption.

*ARTICLE 5.* We believe that sinners are called to repentance and believe in the Gospel and regeneration of the soul and sealed with Holy Spirit of promise, and none shall fall away and be lost.

*ARTICLE 6.* We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ.

*ARTICLE 7.* We believe that baptism is the ordinance of God's Church on earth and the mode of IMMERSION, back foremost, so as to cover all over.

*ARTICLE 8.* We believe that the Lord's Supper is the command

of the Saviour, and that by the use of bread and the fruit of the vine; and feet washing should be kept up until His second coming by His believers.

*ARTICLE 9.* We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust, and that the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked shall be eternal.

*ARTICLE 10.* We believe that no Minister has the right to administer the ordinances and commands of the Gospel except such as regularly ordained and baptized, and that by immersion by a legal administrator of the Gospel comes under the hands of a regularly chosen presbytery of the Church.

*ARTICLE 11.* We believe it to be the duty of all Church members to contribute for defraying all reasonable expenses of the Church, never forgetting the poor according to their several abilities.

*ARTICLE 12.* We believe that every doctrine that goes to encourage or indulge people in their sins or cause them to settle down on anything short of saving faith in Christ for salvation is erroneous, and such doctrine will be rejected by us.

*ARTICLE 13.* We believe that the Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful believers in Christ who have obtained fellowship with the Lord and one another, and have given themselves to the Lord and have agreed to keep up a Godly discipline according to the rules of the Gospel.

*ARTICLE 14.* We believe that Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church and the government thereof is upon His shoulders.

*ARTICLE 15.* None of the above Articles shall be considered as to hold with particular election and reprobation so as to make God partial, directly or indirectly, nor to injure any of the children of men; nor shall any of these Articles be altered without legal notice and free consent.

## RULES OF DECORUM

*ARTICLE 1.* The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

*ARTICLE 2.* The Association shall have a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and Assistant Clerk each chosen separately by a majority vote of the delegates present.

*ARTICLE 3.* Only one member shall speak at a time who shall arise from his seat and obtain consent from the Moderator when he is about to make his speech.

*ARTICLE 4.* The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in his speech by anyone except the Moderator until he is through.

*ARTICLE 5.* He shall strictly adhere to the subject and in no wise reflect on the person who has spoken so as to make remarks on his slips or imperfections, but shall fairly state the cause as nearly as he can so as to convey his ideas.

*ARTICLE 6.* No person shall abruptly absent himself from the Association without leave of the Association.

**ARTICLE 7.** No person shall speak more than three times on any subject without leave of the Association; and only five minutes at a time.

**ARTICLE 8.** No person shall have the liberty of laughing during the sitting of the same nor whisper in time of public speech.

**ARTICLE 9.** No member of the Association shall address another in any other term of appellation than that of "Brother".

**ARTICLE 10.** The Moderator shall not interrupt or prohibit any member from speaking until he gives his light on any subject unless he violates the Rules of Decorum.

**ARTICLE 11.** The names of the members of the Association shall be enrolled by the Clerk and called as often as the Association requires.

**ARTICLE 12.** The Moderator shall have the same right of speech as any other member, provided the chair be filled; and he shall have no right to vote unless the Association be equally divided, then he may give the deciding vote.

**ARTICLE 13.** Any member who shall willingly and knowingly violate any of the Decorum shall be reproved by the Association as they think proper.

### ORDAINED MINISTERS

NAME	ADDRESS
Adair, Tommy	Box 824, Oklawaha, Fla. 32679
Baisden, David L.	Box 429, Delbarton, W. Va. 25670
Belcher, Chester	Meta, Ky. 41501
Blair, Lesly	Box 481, Man, W. Va.
Brown, Claude	Sidney, Ky.
Brunfield, Billy	Delbarton, W. Va. 25670
Castle, John	Rt. 1, Box 15, Fort Gay, W. Va.
Castel, Kelly	Box 224, Louisa, Ky.
Church, John P.	Box 144, Hardy, Ky. 41531
Cline, Johnny	Box 340, Baisden, W. Va.
Cline, Mark	Box 75, Baisden, W. Va.
Cline, Ross	Baisden, W. Va.
Cochran, Ernest	Sidney, Ky.
Cochran, William H.	2612 Madison Ave., Pt. Pleasant, W. Va. 25550
Crigger, David	Sidney, Ky.
Davis, Ellis	Rt. 1, Box 180, Williamson, W. Va.
Deeley, H. Jimmy	Delbarton, W. Va. 25670
Dials, Thomas J.	Box 31, Warfield, Ky. 41267
Dials, Willis	Lovely, Ky. 41231
Edmonds, Harold	Box 31, Sidney, Ky.
Ellis, Mont	Rt. 2, Box 290, Delbarton, W. Va. 25670
Ellis, Tommy	Box 296, Varney, W. Va.
Evans, Charley	Box 107, Stirrat, W. Va. 25645
Evans, Joe	Rt. 2, Box 54, Delbarton, W. Va. 25670

Fouch, John	Rt. 1, Box 223, Chapmanville, W. Va.
Fouts, John	1020 Malaga St., Orlando, Fla. 32870
Fralely, S. B.	Rt. 2, Box 190, Lexington, N. C.
Franks, Sam	Rt. 2, Vinton, Ohio 45686
Gannon, James	Canada, Ky.
Gibson, Carlos	Box 201, Scarbo, W. Va.
Glanden, Ted	Baisden, W. Va.
Graham, Hobert	Medway, Ohio
Hall, Charles	Lenore, W. Va.
Hannah, Isom	Koperston, W. Va.
Hannah, Hayden	Rt. 1, Box 380-B, Ironton, Ohio
Hatfield, Tracy	Hampden, W. Va.
Hay, Maynard	Naughtatuck, W. Va.
Hensley, Samuel D.	Pie, W. Va. 25689
Herald, Wayne	Box 586, Kermie, W. Va. 25674
Howard, Clinton	Rt. 1, Thurman, Ohio 45685
Kent, Okie	Pilgrim, Ky.
Lester, Lawrence	Rt. 1, Thurman, Ohio 45685
Lowe, John	Box 402, Anthony, Fla. 32617
Lowe, Milford	Pilgrim, Ky.
Lowe, Roosevelt	Goody, Ky. 41529
Lowe, Willis	Box 85, Turkey Creek, Ky. 41570
May, Edwin	Rt. 4, Box 200, Abindgon, Va.
May, W. H.	Dingess, W. Va.
Maynard, Andrew	Rt. 1, Delbarton, W. Va. 25670
Maynard, Clifford R.	Meta, Ky. 41501
Mullins, W. Burbage	Delbarton, W. Va. 25670
Municy, Wallace	Nolan, W. Va.
Nichols, J. L.	137 Dixie Apt., Prestonsburg, Ky. 41653
Ousley, Monroe	1210 S. W. 2nd Street, Okeechobee, Fla. 33472
Perry, George	312 Perry St., Louisa, Ky.
Robinson, Robert L.	Box 139, Chattaroy, W. Va. 25667
Robinson, Steve, Jr.	Box 324, Delbarton, W. Va. 25670
Runyon, Edward	Box 90, Rt. 1, Delbarton, W. Va. 25670
Scott, Bobby	Hardy, Ky. 41531
Scott, Fay	Rt. 1, Box 220, Williamson, W. Va. 25661
Scott, Frankie	Box 9, Canada, Ky. 41519
Sesco, Lloyd	Meta, Ky. 41501
Sheppard, A. A.	Holden, W. Va.
Stilner, Willie	Kimper, Ky. 41539
Thornsberry, Alson	Kimper, Ky. 41539
Thornsberry, Berlin	Rt. 4, Box 112, Proctorville, Ohio
Vance, Lindsey	Ragland, W. Va. 25690
Varney, Willie	Goody, Ky. 41529
Williams, Dave	Rt. 4, Box 406-C, Ocala, Fla. 32670
Young, Hiram	

## LIBERATED BRETHERN

Blair, Willard..... Lenore, W. Va.  
Clay, Robert R..... Rt. 1, Box 36, Dummellon, Fla. 32630  
Hay, Edwin..... 1611 Charity Lane, Hazel Green, Ala. 35750  
May, Billy R..... Dingess, W. Va.  
Muncy, Louie..... Varney, Ky. 41571  
Nichols, Sabert..... Pilgrim, Ky.  
Reed, Ralph..... 736 Hibiscus Dr., Royal Palm Beach, Fla. 33411  
Sheppard, Mike..... Rt. 1, Delbartson, W. Va. 25670  
Smith, Ralph..... Rt. 1, Box 782, Pikeville, Ky. 41501  
Williamson, Marshall..... Box 224, Louisa, Ky.

## SARDIS ASSOCIATION OFFICERS AND ADDRESSES

Elder Edwin May..... Rt. 4, Box 200, Abingdon, Va.  
Elder Wayne Herald..... Box 586, Kernit, W. Va. 25674  
Brother Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr..... Box 746, Pikeville, Ky. 41501  
Brother James M. Ray..... Box 132, Varney, Ky. 41571

## CHURCH DELEGATES TO THE 1978 SARDIS ASSOCIATION

MT. PLEASANT: Clayton Scott, Frankie Scott, James Scott  
APPLE ORCHARD: E. P. Maynard, Van Maynard, Elwood Maynard  
ENON: Willis Staton, Marvin Rose, James Spencer  
REBECCA: Mike Sheppard, Edwin Hay, James Gilman  
BENT BRANCH: Lloyd SESCO, Merlin SESCO, Homer Collins  
SARDIS: George Martin, Cornwell Evans, J. T. Watts  
BIG BRANCH: J. L. Nichols, Oscar McCoy, Harrison Thompson  
MARY ELIZABETH: Tom Farley, Alex Edmiston, Kermit Romans  
BETHANY: Isom Hannah, Ellis Davis, Charles Hall  
ELK FORK: Harrison Baisden, David L. Baisden, Wayne Sheppard  
PILGRIM'S HOME: K. H. Williamson, Ralph Smith, Fred Muncy  
SALEM: John P. Church, Carl Bevins, Admiral Blackburn  
SIDNEY: Andy Scott, Bill Maynard, Tan Howell  
DIX FORK: Omer Williamson, Stewart Brown, Ernest Cochran  
NARROWS BRANCH: Clyde Brown, Russell Thacker, Vernon Lockard  
LEANNAH: Steve Robinson, Jr., Sabert Nichols, Ben Robinson  
BUCK CREEK: Delbert Kazee, Tom Dials, Marion Duncan  
TIBITHA: S. D. Hensley, John Fouch, Lindsey Vance  
LITTLE ROSA: Fay Scott, Frankie White, Emerson Jarrell  
TURKEY CREEK: Willis Lowe, Roy Maynard, Conder Lockard  
SAMARIA: Sherman May, Larry May, Jeff May, Jr.  
ROSA: Johnny Cline, Mark Cline, Lelsie Blair  
MUNCY VALLEY: Mont Ellis, Thomas Ellis, Avery Hensley  
LITTLE VIRGIE: Willie Stiltner, Alvin Thornsbury, Alson Thornsbury  
SOUTHERN HOME: Tommy Adair, Hiram Young, Edward Youmans  
PILGRIM'S REST: Wayne Ray, Van Pinson, Willie Stanley  
OKECHOBEE: Mosco Gillman, Charley Stewart  
ELIZABETH: Kelly Castle, John Castle, Marshall Williamson  
LITTLE TAVIE: Julius Cochran, Sam Franks, William H. Cochran

## CHURCHES AND CLERKS

CHURCH	ADDRESS	CLERK AND ADDRESS
MT. PLEASANT	Sidney, Ky.	James Scott, Box 105, Canada, Ky. 41519
APPLE ORCHARD	McCombs, Ky.	E. P. Maynard, McCombs, Ky. 41545
ENON	McCarr, Ky.	James Spencer, Rt. 2, Box 25, McCarr, Ky. 41544
REBECCA	Myrtle, W.Va.	Merlon Workman, Rt. 1, Box 154-B, Delbarton, W.Va. 25670
BENT BRANCH	Meta, Ky.	Homer Collins, Lower Raccoon Road, Raccoon, Ky. 41557
SARDIS	Delbarton, W.Va.	Joe Evans, Rt. 2, Box 53, Delbarton, W. Va. 25670
BIG BRANCH	McCombs, Ky.	J. L. Nichols, 137 Dixie Apts. Prestonsburg, Ky. 41653
MARY ELIZABETH	Hatfield, Ky.	Tom Fraley, Box 93, Hatfield, Ky.
BETHANY	Lenore, W.Va.	Ellis Davis, Rt. 1, Box 180, Williamson, W.Va.
ELK FORK	Delbarton, W.Va.	Wayne Sheppard, Rt. 1, Delbarton, W.Va. 25670
PILGRIM'S HOME	Varney, Ky.	James M. Ray, Box 132, Varney, Ky. 41571
SALEM	Goody, Ky.	C. C. Bevins, 209 Maplelawn NE, Roanoke, Va. 24012
SIDNEY	Pilgrim, Ky.	Hershel Jude, Three Forks, Ky. 41261
DIX FORK	Sidney, Ky.	Omer Williamson, Sidney, Ky.
NARROWS BRANCH	Hardy, Ky.	Clyde Brown, 1613 Pine St., Kenova, W.Va. 25530
LEANNAH	Pilgrim, Ky.	Bill Robinson, Warfield, Ky. 41267
BUCK CREEK	Beauty, Ky.	Thomas J. Dials, Box 31, Warfield, Ky. 41267
TIBITHA	Omar, W. Va.	S. D. Hensley, Pie, W.Va. 25689
LITTLE ROSA	Chattaroy, W.Va.	Robert L. Robinson, Box 139, Chattaroy, W.Va. 25667
TURKEY CREEK	Turkey Creek, Ky.	Landon Taylor, Rt. 3, Box 30, Turkey Creek, Ky. 41570
SAMARIA	Dingess, W.Va.	Ersel Prince, Dingess, W. Va.
ROSA	Baisden, W.Va.	Mark Cline, Box 75, Baisden, W.Va.
MUNCY VALLEY	Pie, W.Va.	Mont Ellis, Rt. 2, Box 290, Delbarton, W.Va. 25670
LITTLE VIRGIE	Kimper, Ky.	Chester Belcher, Meta, Ky. 41501
SOUTHERN HOME	Rt. 1, Citra, Fla.	Robert R. Clay, Rt. 1, Box 36, Dunnellon, Fla. 32630
PILGRIM'S REST	Piso, Ky.	K. H. Williamson, Box 76, Varney, Ky. 41571
OKEECHOBEE	Okeechobee, Fla.	Ralph Reed, 736 Hibiscus Dr., Royal Palm Beach, Fla, 33411
ELIZABETH	Rt. 3, Louisa, Ky.	George Sparks, 205 Berry St, Louisa, Ky.
LITTLE TAVIE	Pt. Pleasant, W.Va.	Julius Cochran, 2223 Jackson Ave., Pt. Pleasant, W.Va. 25550

CHURCH	MODERATOR	MINUTES REQUESTED	RECEIVED BY BAPTISM	RECEIVED BY LETTER	RECEIVED BY RESTORATION	RECEIVED BY RECOMMENDATION	DISMISSED BY LETTER	DECEASED	EXCLUDED	TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS	CHURCH TIME	UNIONS AND COMMUNION
MT. PLEASANT	Lloyd SESCO	125	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	42	\$50	2	July
APPLE ORCHARD	Andrew Maynard	75	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	40	25	1	June
ENON	Lloyd SESCO	75	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	25	1	June
REBECCA	Edward Runyon	100	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	63	75	2	Aug.
BENT BRANCH	Edwin May	100	1	0	0	0	0	4	0	68	75	3	Aug.
SARDIS	Steve Robinson, Jr.	150	2	0	0	0	0	2	5	81	85	4	Aug.
BIG BRANCH	Ernest Cochran	75	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	40	3	July
MARY ELIZABETH	Wallace Muncy	100	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	49	50	3	July
BETHANY	Isom Hannah	125	1	0	0	0	1	2	1	49	50	4	Aug.
ELK FORK	David L. Baisden	50	2	0	0	0	2	5	4	35	50	3	Aug.
PILGRIM'S HOME	Wayne Herald	250	2	0	0	0	2	5	4	109	100	4	Aug.
SALEM	John P. Church	125	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	76	100	1	May
SIDNEY	Milford Lowe	75	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	40	4	June
DIX FORK	Ernest Cochran	200	0	0	0	0	7	1	0	68	75	1	July
NARROWS BRANCH	John P. Church	100	1	1	0	0	1	5	0	48	65	4	July
LEANNAH	Wallace Muncy	125	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	50	75	2	July
BUCK CREEK	Wayne Herald	125	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	44	75	3	June
TIBITHA	Charley Evans	70	0	0	1	0	0	4	1	37	50	1	Aug.
LITTLE ROSA	Wayne Herald	50	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	19	20	2	April
TURKEY CREEK	Willis Lowe	125	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	75	80	2	May
SAMARIA	Edward Runyon	75	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	42	75	1	July
ROSA	Johanny Cline	175	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	71	85	3	Aug.
MUNCY VALLEY	Tommy Ellis	20	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	21	10	2	June
LITTLE VIRGIE	Lloyd SESCO	50	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	40	4	June
SOUTHERN HOME	Tommy Adair	100	4	0	0	0	0	1	4	30	75	1	April
PILGRIM'S REST	Willie Siltner	65	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	40	2	June
OKEECHOBEE	Monroe Ousley	75	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	17	50	2	April
ELIZABETH	Milford Lowe	50	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	20	25	1	June
LITTLE TAVIE	Claude Brown	100	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	50	2	July
TOTALS		2930	36	5	1	0	12	35	24	1274	1655		