

MINUTES
OF THE
NINETY—FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
SARDIS ASSOCIATION
OF
OLD REGULAR BAPTIST

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

In session with the Rebecca Church
Myrtle, Mingo County, West Virginia
September 11, 12, and 13, 1987

Elder Edwin May — Moderator
Elder Isom Hannah — Assistant Moderator
Bro. Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr. — Clerk
Elder Edwin Hay — Assistant Clerk

PROCEEDINGS
of the
NINETY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION
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FRIDAY

September 11, 1987

The Sardis Association of Old Regular Baptist, the Church of Jesus Christ, assembled with the Rebecca Church, Myrtle, Mingo County, West Virginia on Friday before the second Saturday in September, 1987.

Elder Edwin May, the venerable moderator of the Sardis Association, came to the Stand under the tent to announce the arrangements and welcome the multitude of Brethren, Sisters and friends. "In spite of the rain it's a wonderful morning because of the assembling of the Brethren," he stated. With much feeling Brother Ed declared, "our heavenly Father has all things ready and there is no reason why we can't have the best Association ever. If we put our net down on the 'right side' there is food and plenty of it," he stated.

Looking about the congregation with a mournful spirit, Brother Ed noted the absence of Elder Ellis Davis, Elder Ross Cline, and Elder Ralph Smith, beloved Brethren who have passed over the river of death since our last Association.

According to our practice, the alternate chosen in the Introductory last year would have opened the Service today. However, he is not with us any longer, having left the Old Regular Baptist family. Next would have been the Moderator of the host Church, Elder Edward Runyon, but he is absent because of illness. Our custom and practice did, therefore, let the lot fall upon the Assistant Moderator of Sardis Association to introduce these Services.

Elder Isom Hannah, the gifted Assistant Moderator of Sardis Association, came to the Stand to introduce the Services. Not standing long in the opening, Brother Isom stated he felt out of place but trusted God would be pleased with his attempt. "What is your life," he asked, "but a little vapor upon the water?" We can see in our lifetime and as it was foretold us that sin hath multiplied and doth abound throughout the land. In our schools, in our government, in our everyday life the working of sin doth sorely perplex us and such sin as was never before in the heart of man to do. But, continued Brother Isom, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our faith, the Lord Jesus Christ, who is a shelter in a weary land, a refuge in the troubled sea of life. He will forgive your sins, give you a new birth in the Spirit, establish your going in the walks of this life, comfort you in troubled times, put a new Spirit of love in your heart, anoint your eyes and give you the peace and joys of the Lord in this life through the Spirit. "...the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth; for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. God is a spirit; and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth." (St. John 4:23, 24).

Elder Paris Tackitt, the able Assistant Moderator of the Northern New Salem Association, led in prayer and petition to the most high God.

Elder Richard Staton came to the Stand to preach the Introductory Sermon and very humbly admitted he had never been so scared in all his life. This fear, he stated, is not a fear of the congregation nor of man, but a Godly fear of Him that sits upon the eternal throne and a fear that God would not bless him to preach unto such a lovely congregation of Brethren and Sisters.

"We're on a journey", he said, to a place where a larger number of Brethren will assemble and where Jesus will be. To a city not made with hands, a city that God hath built and all His children from the four corners of the earth shall flow through the twelve gates thereof. God will thoroughly purge His floor and gather the wheat into His garner but the chaff He will burn with an unquenchable fire.

Brother Richard stated, "there was a fountain of blood and water opened up when they pierced the side of Jesus, a fountain of pure water flowing from the throne of David for the cleansing of mankind and a fountain of blood that taketh away the sin of the world." Jesus tells us to keep ourselves unspotted from the world for, "Behold I come quickly and my reward is in my hand."

Brother Richard plead with the people who have not found forgiveness in Jesus and had their sins covered by His blood to consider where they will spend eternity and to find this "peace in Jesus" in this time world. "Children are you ready to go, are you ready to face eternity?" he asked.

The Sardis Association delegates and a host of delegates from our corresponding Sister Associations then assembled at the Rebecca Church house where arrangements were made for the work of the Sardis Association. According to our custom the several non-delegate Brethren, the Sisters and friends remained at the tent to enjoy the inspired preaching of:

Elder Irvin Breeding, Philadelphia Association
Elder Fon Bowling, Union Association
Elder John R. Justice, Old Friendship Association
Elder Ellis Holbrook, New Salem Association
Elder Hilliard Newsome, Northern New Salem Association

The delegates having assembled themselves in order, Elder Hiram Adkins of the New Salem Association opened the proceedings at the House declaring, "I've heard of a city called Heaven and I've started to make it my home."

Elder Grover Adkins, the esteemed Moderator of the New Salem Association, then led in prayer asking for God's blessing upon this Association and for His will to be done in every work done by the delegates seated here today.

The Sardis Association then proceeded as follows:

(1) Elder Edwin May, our humble but capable Moderator, came to the Stand praying for strength to continue and was glad to be here today because he had been very sick, felt better now but is still sick. Brother Ed further hoped and prayed that this would be the best Association we ever had. We're here, he said, the Lord is here and if we have assembled in

the right spirit by asking the Lord, "What will you have me do?", there is no reason this can't be a memorable Association. He further stated that no trouble has ever been in our Association except the trouble we brought in. He admonished the Brethren to be quick to hear, but slow to speak, always preferring the Brethren above ourselves.

(2) Brother Ed called attention to the many Brethren that have crossed over the sea of death since we last met and wondered who among us today would not be here next year. At the request of Brother Ed, and by regular move and second, this Association is dedicated to the memory of Elder Ellis Davis, who served as Clerk of Sardis Association for many years; of Elder Ross Cline, who was a well read and powerful preacher among us; of Elder Ralph Smith, who was an humble and dedicated servant of the Lord; and of others who walked with us on this earth, God's footstool.

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

Brother Landon Taylor
Elder Edwin Hay
Brother Randall H. Runyon

(4) The Moderator then 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.

(5) Having reviewed the Letters received from the Churches for regular form and order, the Clerk read the Letter from our host Church, the Rebecca Church and, upon regular move and second, all Letters were received, the delegates seated and the Queries and Requests were referred to the Committee on Arrangements.

(6) The Committee on Finance reported \$3,715.00 received from the Churches as reported in the Statistical Table and, after turning this amount over to the Treasurer, was discharged.

(7) The Moderator appointed the following Committee of Tellers to take the vote of the Sardis Association delegates for Officers to serve the Sardis Association for the coming year and instructed the delegates to vote for a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and Assistant Clerk:

Brother Jesse L. Williamson, Union Association
Elder Hiram Adkins, New Salem Association
Elder Paris Tackitt, Northern New Salem Association

(Clerk's note: Brother James M. Ray sent word to the Association by Brother K. H. Williamson asking that he not be re-elected as Assistant Clerk because sickness would not permit him to serve any longer.)

(8) The Sardis Association then completed its 1987 organization by selecting the following Officers to serve for the coming year and the Committee of Tellers was discharged:

Elder Edwin May, Moderator
Elder Isom Hannah, Assistant Moderator
Brother Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr., Clerk
Elder Edwin Hay, Assistant Clerk

(9) By move and second, it is ordered that our Moderator make all temporary appointments during the sitting of the Association.

(10) Committee appointed to arrange the preaching for Friday night and Saturday consisting of one delegate from each Church in the Sardis Association and the entire Rebecca Church delegation. They reported as follows:

FRIDAY NIGHT

Elder Herman West, Union Association
Elder James Barney, Sardis Association
Elder Junior Mosely, Northern New Salem Association

SATURDAY

Elder David Lester, Old Friendship Association
Elder John Lowe, Union Association
Elder Rush Stanley, Philadelphia Association
Elder Ted Robinson, New Salem Association
Elder Paris Tackitt, Northern New Salem Association

(11) Committee appointed to take care of the visiting Brethren and to see that the Stand at the tent be supplied with ministers:

Brother Merlin Workman
Brother Hi Preece
Brother Frank Sheppard

(12) By regular move and second, the reading of our Articles of Faith, Constitution, and Rules of Decorum was omitted.

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

UNION: Represented by the following delegates: Jesse L. Williamson, Fon Bowling, Howard Coleman, Charley Akers, Grant Akers, Franklin O'Quinn, Carson Wright, Paul McClanahan, Frank Newsome, Perry Layne, King Coleman, Bill Hess, Herman West, Amos Bartley, Frank M. Coleman, James A. Justice, Victor Coleman, Bill Rose, Marshall Williamson, John Lowe, Mike Sheppard, Gary Varney, Victor Justice, Michie Paul Coleman, Thomas Thacker, and Edgar Baker.

NEW SALEM: Represented by the following delegates: Forest D. Hall, Jethro Hampton, Norman Conn, Hatter Kiser, C. B. Smith, J. D. Clarke, Ellis Holbrook, Lense Vance, Walter Akers, Ted Robinson, Jimmy Waddles, James Tackett, Grover Adkins, Clifford Williams, Hiram Adkins, Wendell Hamilton, Alvin Brown, and Paul Griffey.

NORTHERN NEW SALEM: Represented by the following delegates: Pete Hensley, Forrest Osborne, John Jude, Junior Mosley, Paris Tackitt, Jackson Holbrook, Buddy W. Carty, Duane Graves, Elliott Corder, Reed Triplett, C. W. Turner, Ellis Banks, and Hillard Newsome.

PHILADELPHIA: Represented by the following delegates: Harlan Barney, Walter Morrison, Glen Merritt, Douglas Colegrove, Paul Morrison, David Gilliam, Rush Stanley, Luther Ramey, Jr., Lowell Adkins, George Woods, Willis Roberts, Billy Joe May, Irvin Breeding, Dick Reed, Junior Ruggles, Willis Tolliver, and Coy Tolliver.

OLD FRIENDSHIP: Represented by the following delegates: Walter Justice, John R. Justice, Howard Slinger, Wilson Reynolds, Zeb Justice, Matthew Justice, Lacy Justice, Richard Reynolds, Burl Davis, Leonard Coleman, David Bailey, David Lester, Perry Hagerman, and Henry Stacy.

(14) The Moderator called for Transient Ministers and other members of our same faith and order desiring to take a seat with us and received the following: Willis Lowe, Hobart Hamilton, Donnie Brown, W. H. Cochran, Albert Stanley, Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr., Virgil Fields, Johnie Cline, Tommy Adair, Sr., Ernest Cochran and Andy Stump.

(15) The Moderator called for newly organized churches or other Churches and Associations of our same faith and order desiring to take up fellowship or correspondence with the Sardis Association and none responded.

(16) The Moderator appointed a Committee on Arrangements consisting of one delegate from each Church and all the Officers of Sardis Association, along with the entire delegation from each of our corresponding Sister Associations, to arrange the business for Saturday's session of the Sardis Association.

(17) On motion from Elder Bobby Scott, second by Brother Jonah Elkins, the Sardis Association was adjourned until 9:00 o'clock Saturday morning, September 12, 1987.

SATURDAY

September 12, 1987

Met pursuant to adjournment at the Rebecca Church house where Elder Billy Adair, a young Brother from Southern Home Church whose sincere humility cannot hide the talents that God has shown forth in him, opened this session of our Association with preaching and led in a prayer of thanksgiving to our most high God.

The Sardis Association then proceeded as follows:

(1) Called the roll of delegates and marked the absentees.

(2) Read the Bill of Arrangements and, by move and second, received the report and discharged the Committee on Arrangements.

(3) Appointed the following Committee of Tellers to take the vote of the Sardis Association delegates as to who shall preach the Introductory Sermon at our 1988 Association; who shall be his Alternate; and who shall prepare the Circular Letter for our 1988 Association:

Elder Hillard Newsome, Northern New Salem Association
Elder Willis Tolliver, Philadelphia Association
Elder Herman West, Union Association

The Committee reported as follows and was discharged:

Elder Isom Hannah, Preach Introductory Sermon
Elder Elbert SESCO, Alternate
Elder Lloyd SESCO, Prepare Circular Letter

(4) The Committee appointed Friday to arrange the preaching met and selected the following Brethren to preach Saturday night and Sunday and was discharged:

SATURDAY NIGHT

Elder Stanley Campbell, Sardis Association
Elder Willis Tolliver, Philadelphia Association
Elder James Tackett, New Salem Association

SUNDAY

Elder Forrest Osborne, Northern New Salem Association
Elder Isom Hannah, Sardis Association
Elder Buddy W. Carty, Northern New Salem Association
Elder Edwin May, Sardis Association

(5) Called for the Sardis Association Treasurer Report and, by regular move and second, received the following report:

Balance on hand 9-13-86

\$12,244.96

Interest received on account to 7-3-87

533.41

Total available for 1986

\$12,778.37

Less 1986 Expenses:

Print 4,000 copies of the minutes

\$2,221.50

Type 1986 minutes

50.00

Delivery and mailing of minutes

60.00

Total 1986 Expenses

(2,331.50)

Balance on hand 9-11-87

\$10,446.87

Add 1987 Receipts:

Contributions from Churches

\$3,715.00

Obituary Pictures

364.00

Total 1987 Receipts

4,079.00

Balance on hand 9-12-87

\$14,525.87

(6) By regular move and second, it is ordered that the Clerk be appointed Secretary-Treasurer for 1987 and that he be allowed \$50.00 for his expense.

(7) By regular move 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 \$300.00 for his expense.

(8) Elder Hobart Hamilton, chosen to prepare the Circular Letter for this session of the Sardis Association, came to the Stand very humbly and acknowledged his fears during the last 12 months that he would be unable to prepare an acceptable Circular Letter but, through much prayer and meditation, was ready to deliver his best effort. Brother Hobart's offering was received by the Brethren as news from a far country and, by regular move and second, ordered printed in our minutes.

(9) It is ordered, by regular move and second, that we correspond with the Union Association, New Salem Association, Northern New Salem Association, Philadelphia Association, and Old Friendship Association; that our Clerk prepare the Letters of Correspondence and file of Minutes; and that Brethren to attend these Associations as delegates be appointed as follows:

UNION: When convened with the host Churches at Wise, Wise County, Virginia, beginning on Friday before the third Saturday in September, 1987: Clifford Maynard, Stewart Brown, Berlin Thornbury, Virgil Fields, Leonard Napier, Leon Robinson, James Gannon, Fred Muncy, Edwin May, Isom Hannah, Dallas Maynard, Frankie White, Homer Collins, Emerson Jarrell, Frankie Scott, Willie Siltner and Alson Thornsbury. Letter in the hands of Elder Clifford Maynard.

NEW SALEM: When convened with the host Churches at the New Salem Association Building, Minnie, Floyd County, Kentucky, beginning on Friday before the fourth Saturday in September, 1987: Wayne Herald, Jr., James Gannon, Edwin Hay, Leonard Napier, Stewart Brown, Delbert Kazee, Johnny Nichols, Homer Collins, Fred Muncy, Richard Stator, Emerson Jarrell, John Elkins, Kelly Castle, Lloyd SESCO, Jim Bevins, Merlin SESCO, Troy Walkers, Edwin May, Berlin Thornsbury and K. H. Williamson. Letter in the hands of Brother Wayne Herald, Jr.

NORTHERN NEW SALEM: When convened with the Lily of the Valley Church, Geneva, Ohio, beginning on Friday before the first Saturday in August, 1988: Edwin Hay, James Gannon, Chester Cochran, Maynard Hay, Frankie Scott, Rush Runyou, Sr., Julius Cochran, Wayne Herald, Jr., Paul Vance, Leonard Napier, Virgil Fields, Johnnie Cline, Isom Hannah, James Barney, Clyde Brown and S. D. Hensley. Letter in the hands of Elder Edwin Hay.

PHILADELPHIA: When convened with the Mount Olivet Church at the Philadelphia Association Building, Worthington, Kentucky beginning on Friday before the second Saturday in August, 1988: James Gannon, Edwin Hay, Julius Cochran, Donnie Brown, W. H. Cochran, Stewart Brown, Virgil Fields, Leonard Napier, K. H. Williamson, Fred Muncy, Kelly Castle, Delbert Kazee, Andy Scott, Frankie White, Clyde Brown, Merlin SESCO, Chester Cochran, Homer Collins, Billy Brumfield, Wayne Herald, Jr., S. D. Hensley, Joe Evans and Paul Vance. Letter in the hands of Elder James Gannon.

OLD FRIENDSHIP: When convened with the Panther Creek Church, Panther, West Virginia beginning on Friday before the fourth Saturday in August, 1988: Berlin Thornsbury,

Edwin Hay, Julius Cochran, Donnie Brown, James Gannon, W. H. Cochran, Chester Cochran, Maynard Hay, Jerry Thompson, Johnnie Cline, Stewart Brown, Virgil Fields, Leonard Napier, Hubert Glanden, Frankie White, Isom Hannah, Clifford Stanley, Charles Thompson, and Paul Vance. Letter in the hands of Elder Berlin Thornsbury.

(10) Read the Letters of Condolence received from our Sister Associations and, by move and second, ordered they be printed in our Minutes.

(11) Read a Request from Elizabeth Church concerning our Order of granting Letters of Dismission to members of a Church "for convenience only." The Request asked that "...the Sardis Association repeal and remove this Order as it now stands on record."

A move from Elder Leonard Napier, second by Brother Wayne Herald, Jr., to grant the Request met with an objection filed by Elder Joe Evans. Our Moderator advised the delegates to cut off and not allow any discussion on the Request because, he believed, debate could continue all day and not change the mind of a single delegate on the subject and that the question would come to a vote anyway.

A vote of the delegates showed 34 in favor of the move to grant the Request and 44 in favor of the objection. Therefore, the Request is denied.

(12) A Tent Committee Report from Elder Clifford Maynard covered the help and expenses associated with the tent; the donations of material and money by the Brethren; and of the immediate need to purchase a new "big top" for the tent, if the Union Association Tent Committee would agree.

A move and second authorized our Tent Committee to work with the Union Association Tent Committee and investigate the cost of this tent addition and report back next year.

Voluntary donations from the House totaling \$215.00 were given to Brother Clifford to defray tent expense as needed.

(13) By move and second, Item 14 of our 1975 Minutes is reprinted, without the Preamble, as follows:

September 13, 1975
Dingess, West Virginia

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 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--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 a manner that they can easily be identified from the World. We feel the Bible, the infallible 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 as 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 any internal right of the Churches.

Elder Wayne Herald

Brother Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr.

Brother James M. Ray

(14) 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.

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

(16) A request from Little Tavie Church to change their meeting time back to the second Saturday and Sunday of every month was granted by move and second.

(17) By move and second, a Request from Little Tavie Church was granted to reprint Item 18 of our 1919 Minutes, which was as follows:

"Ordered that we advise our churches not to allow their Ministers to preach with any Minister who has two living women."

(18) A Request from the Rebecca Church asks, "In the receiving of members having more than one living companion, does the criteria of receiving the innocent party also apply to the receiving of members by other than baptism, (restoration, recommendation, letter)? On regular move and second, the word "receive" in the following Item (19) is defined to include "any means of receiving members."

(19) 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."

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

(21) By motion and second, it is ordered that Obituaries of our deceased Brethren and Sisters that are in good standing with the Churches 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 with the obituary, except that pictures of an Elder or his wife will continue to be printed free.

(22) Read the Request from Samaria Church to remove Billy Ray May from our register of Ordained Ministers because he stands excluded from that Church. By regular move and second the Request is granted and Billy Ray May is no longer preaching, and may not exercise the privilege and duty of an Ordained Elder, under authority from the Samaria Church nor from the Sardis Association.

(23) By move and second, granted a Request from Pilgrims Home Church to print in our minute the Obituary of Sister Mary Ann Church, a member of Little Stone Church in the Union Association.

(24) In a departure from our normal rule and practice, received a Request from the floor by our delegates to correct an oversight by the family and of our Churches in not bringing a formal Request to print the Obituary of Elder Monroe Ousley and Brother Van Maynard in our Minutes. Both of these beloved Brethren had their membership in the Sardis Association for many years but had moved their membership prior to death.

By regular move and second, it is ordered that we recognize the departure from our normal practice of not receiving a Request unless brought by a Church and our departure from the rule in Item 21 above and, nonetheless, print these two Obituaries in our Minutes.

(25) Called for the Brethren called in Association, Union, Communion and Memorial meetings to make their report. Elden Edwin Hay, chosen last year to carry our Letter to the 1987 Northern New Salem Association, made the report required of him. In humility and a demonstrated love for Brother Varney through carefully chosen and very kind words, he reported the failure of Brother Varney, our Clerk, to provide him with a Letter to carry to that Association and that he had improvised by preparing and presenting a "form" of a Letter which was, in love and understanding, received by the Northern New Salem Association.

The Brethrens were commended for their efforts and, by move and second, their report received.

Clerk's note: In addition to my verbal apology to the Northern New Salem Association, to Brother Edwin Hay and to the Sardis delegates attending that Association, I extend this further public apology and deeply regret having embarrassed them, the Sardis Association and myself.

(26) Read the Request to host our 1988 Association from Southern Home Church and Pilgrims Home Church. A move from Elder Charles Hall, second by Elder S. D. Hensley, to grant the Request from Southern Home Church met with an Objection filed by Elder Kelly Castle.

A vote of the delegates showed 27 in favor of the motion and 55 in favor of the objection. Therefore, the Pilgrims Home Church will host our 1988 Association. Pilgrims Home Church is located at Varney, Pike County, Kentucky. Follow U.S. Route 119 from Pikeville, Kentucky toward Williamson, West Virginia for about 12 miles to near the top of Bent Mountain, turn left onto Route 881 for about 2 miles to the Church. If traveling 119 from Williamson, West Virginia toward Pikeville, Kentucky, the distance is about 23 miles to Route 881.

All of our Churches should send contributions to help Pilgrims Home Church defray the expense of hosting the Association no later than July, 1988.

(27) Blessed is the name of our God who extends to us yet another peaceful and good Association and, by regular move and second, we tender our humble "thank you" to the Rebecca Church and to each of her members and many friends throughout the community for being a generous and gracious host.

With beams of love shining through eyes overflowing with tears of joy, the Rebecca Church, first of all, thanks the supreme God above for the strength, opportunity and resources to host this grand old Association. Then, thanks to our nearby Sister Churches and the many friends of the Old Regular Baptist family who from the beginning joined their heart and hand with Rebecca Church to help prepare the grounds, the tent, the food service building, the abundance of delicious food and the many, many other jobs, large and small, that had to be done in preparing for and attending the hundred of people attending this Association. And, finally, thanks to Billy Ray and Grover C. Runyon, two very special helpers whose dedicated and untiring efforts helped prepare the tent area and feeding facility. To all these, we say thanks, thanks, thanks! We could never repay you, but we pray that in His own special way the Lord will bless you for all your efforts.

(28) By move and second, the reading of the Minutes before the association arises is omitted and it is ordered that these Minutes be signed by the Officers of the Sardis Association.

(29) On motion from Elder S. D. Hensley and second by Brother Oscar Stepp, it is ordered that the Sardis Association adjourn to the place set out above at our regular meeting time, the Friday before the second Saturday in September, 1988.

(30) Closing was offered by Elder Paul McClanahan of the Union Association and the Sardis Association then adjourned by way of prayer.

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

Elder Edwin May, Moderator
Elder Isom Hannah, Assistant Moderator
Brother Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr., Clerk
Elder Edwin Hay, Assistant Clerk

SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 13, 1987

The cool, drizzly rain could not deter a large and lovely congregation of faithful Brethren.

Sisters and friends from filling the old Rebecca Church house to overflowing and joyfully singing the old-time songs of praise to our exalted, most high and living God. It seemed the Spirit filled the house and everyone in it as Elder Isom Hannah, Assistant Moderator of Sardis Association came to the Stand to welcome the congregation and announce the Arrangements.

Elder Forrest Osborne, a beloved Northern New Salem Association Brother, came forward in the Introduction and spoke about the preaching of John the Baptist, his work and his testimony of the coming of Jesus. Then, after singing of "Precious Memories" by the congregation, Brother Forrest led in prayer.

Elder Buddy W. Carty, another beloved and faithful Brother from Northern New Salem Association, approached the Stand singing, amidst the shouting and rejoicing of the people, and thankful for a God that allows us the privilege of assembling together in such a manner as this.

Brother Buddy was blessed to preach on "repentance". "How old must you be", asked Brother Buddy, "for the Light to shine to you and for you to repent and come to the Lord for forgiveness?" "Some say you must be 20-years old, 30-years old or older before you can repent," stated Brother Buddy. "I say you must be exactly the age at which you know to do good and do it not," declared Brother Buddy. He further explained the travel from nature to grace and the ultimate necessity for the new birth in Christ to inherit a home in Heaven. "Cry out to the Lord to save your dying soul," pleaded Brother Buddy, "and fear God who has the power to destroy both soul and body in hell."

Elder Isom Hannah, our well-blessed and capable assistant Moderator, came to the Stand to preach and closeout this ninety-fifth Session of our beloved Sardis Association. Brother Isom admitted he felt afraid, like the young Brother who preached the Introductory Sermon on Friday, not afraid of the crowd but afraid of the place he now occupied. Stating he felt so little to be surrounded by all these beloved old Elders and hoped the Lord would allow him to enter into the inner-most chamber of the tabernacle in his attempt to preach today. As the tabernacle in the wilderness was divided into two tabernacles, so it is today with the inner most tabernacle being the holiest of all.

Brother Isom, I believe, did enter into that inter-most tabernacle today as he preached mightily from both the old and the new testaments expounding the "Plan of God" and the "faith" that was once delivered unto the Saints.

As Brother Isom ably moved about in the Scriptures, I couldn't help but remember the "glow" that seemed to surround the many young Elders with us this year that God has called into His vineyard - they look so good, so eager to get on with the work God has called them to do. What they lack in knowledge and experience they make up for with faith and enthusiasm.

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

Your Clerk

CIRCULAR LETTER

Dear Brethren of the Sardis Association:

I will try with God's help to comply with your request that I write a Circular Letter for your inspection at our 1987 session. I pray this Letter will be received in the same spirit and purpose I feel compelled to write about. After praying for months, and at times fearing we would not have a Circular Letter this year, I have chosen to address the subject of "mercy". I believe God pressed my mind and directed me to write on this subject. "Mercy", perhaps has many different meanings to people. However, I believe "mercy" should be defined in three categories: (1) God's gracious compassion to sinners; (2) compassionate treatment of one that has offended or erred, and (3) a disposition to be kind and forgiving.

First, God's gracious compassion to sinners. The Lord's compassion for sinners depicts a loving God that loved us in spite of all our transgressions. Mankind had no way back to the Father. Therefore, God unboomed His only begotten son, Jesus Christ, to come to this low ground of sorrow to die in our room and in our stead, to reconcile, or bring us back in favor with God. Apostle Paul writes in Romans 11:32 - "For God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that He might have mercy upon all." The beneficiaries' gratitude of God's abundant mercy is expressed in 1 Peter 1:3 - "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." Greater love hath no man than to lay down his life for his friends and Jesus said ye are my friends if you do whatsoever I command you. God has commanded all men to repent. However, it takes the blood of Jesus to wash away their sins and to make them heirs with God and joint heirs with Jesus Christ.

Second, compassionate treatment of one that has erred or offended. Brethren, if we can witness that God, for Christ's sake, has heard our cries and bestowed His mercy upon us, then we should be a merciful people unto others, particularly the household of faith. Jesus said in St. Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy." Furthermore, Jesus teaches the offended that has been trespassed against, how to work with his brother. In St. Matthew 18:15 - "Moreover, if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone. If he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother." We can see then, through the application of mercy, we may be able to make peace with our brother and walk together in peace in the upbuild of God's Kingdom.

The scripture continues to teach how to deal with one that will not hear his brethren or the Church. When our brother or sister has a problem, we need to lift them up. Rather than adding more suffering to them, let's labor with them and help bear their burdens. Apostle Paul writes in Galatians 6:2 - "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." Since the scripture has taught that bearing one another's burdens fulfills the law of Christ, then we should live for one another in the meekness of the spirit, remembering we are members of the body of Christ. Therefore, if one member hurts, the whole body hurts. Brother Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 12:26 - "And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it." Brethren, pray for one another, be understanding, lift up your brother, and be merciful to one that has erred. Again, Apostle Paul's writing teach the correct way to work with a brother that has erred.

Please refer to Galatians 6:1 - "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted."

Third, a disposition to be kind and forgiving. Because God bestowed His abundant mercy on us when He freely forgave all our sins, we also need to forgive one another. Jesus taught forgiveness in St. Matthew 6:14, "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly father will also forgive you." Jesus warns us of the consequences of not having a forgiving heart in St. Matthew 6:15 - "But if you forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." It is human nature to want to move swiftly to set in order a brother or sister that has trespassed. However, we must be careful that we work in order, to set in order the one that has trespassed. Apostle Paul writes in Colossians 3:12 and 3:13 - "Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; forbearing one another and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any; even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye."

Satan is working harder than ever before to bring division in the Church and confusion among the brethren. However, the spirit of Christ is working for understanding, peace, love, joy, and forgiveness.

Brethren I realize this letter is getting lengthy but, before I close, I want to refer you to the message of great mercy Jesus taught in Luke 13:6 through 13:9 - "He spake also this parable: A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came and sought fruit thereon, and found none. Then said he unto the dresser of his vineyard, behold these three years I came seeking fruit on this fig tree and find none: Cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground? And he answering said unto him, Lord, let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it, and dung it; and if it bear fruit, well: and if not, then after that thou shalt cut it down."

Brethren, we have written to be merciful, to be kind and tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you. However, we are not advocating that mercy toward one another give room for membership in the Church to willful sin. But rather, give the one that has erred enough room through mercy to make things right, and if he makes things right, he will love you for your mercy and correction.

Farewell, dear brothers and sisters, may God continue to bless this great family here on His footstool. Brethren, let's press on toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Your brother in Christ
Elder Hobart Hamilton

**LETTER OF CONDOLENCE
TO
OUR SISTER ASSOCIATIONS**

We, the Northern New Salem Association, would like to express to you, our Sister Association, our deepest sympathy in the passing of your loved ones.

Our prayer is that you may find great consolation in the thought that some day, in God's own good time, we shall see them again.

Humbly yours,
Brother Newsome, Clerk

**LETTER OF CONDOLENCE
TO
OUR SISTER ASSOCIATIONS**

We, the Philadelphia Association, would like to express our deepest sympathy on the passing of your dear Brothers, Sisters, and friends.

It is our prayer that we would show more love and kindness toward each other and the world, that they may know that there is really in serving the true and living God.

May brotherly love continue,
Brother Paul E. Morrison, Clerk
Brother Lowel Adkins, Assistant Clerk

**UNION AND COMMUNION MEETINGS
AND
MINISTERS TO ATTEND**

APRIL, 1988

SOUTHERN HOME: First Saturday and Sunday. Services begin on Friday evening at 6:30 p.m. Communion Saturday evening. Ministers called: Joe Evans, Billy Brumfield, Clifford Maynard, James Barney, Isom Hannah, Chris Watts, and Richard Reed.

OKEECHOBEE: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Rush Stanley, James Gannon, Elbert SESCO, Clifford Maynard, Kelly Castle, Tommy Adair and Hiram Young.

LITTLE ROSA: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Thomas J. Dials, Isom Hannah, Paul Vance, Richard Staton, and moderators attending.

MAY, 1988

SALEM: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Charley Johnson, Richard Staton, Louie Muncy, Bobby Scott, and Fay Scott.

TURKEY CREEK: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Edward Runyon, Elbert SESCO, Isom Hannah, and James Gannon.

JUNE, 1988

APPLE ORCHARD: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 1:00 p.m. Ministers called: Isom Hannah, Bobby Scott, Hurshel Huff, and Sabert Nichols. Dinner will be served near the Church on Sunday.

ENON: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Bradley Blitter, Joe Evans, Hobart Hamilton, Earl Cantrell and Dewey Ratliff.

ELIZABETH: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. Ministers called: Woody Pack, Sabert Nichols, Johnnie Cline, Mike Campbell, Ivory Sowards and Vernon Rose.

MUNCY VALLEY: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Andrew Maynard, Joe Evans, Clifford Maynard, and Steve Robinson, Jr.

PILGRIMS REST: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Bobby Scott, Lloyd SESCO, Don Little and Edwin May.

BUCK CREEK: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Wallace Muncy, Isom Hannah, David Lester, Sabert Nichols, Leonard Napier, Junior Ruggles, and moderators attending.

SIDNEY: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Isom Hannah, Virgil Fields, Milford Lowe, Paul Vance, Richard Staton, and Thomas J. Dials.

LITTLE VIRGIE: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Virgil Hess, James Tackett, Steve Robinson, Jr., Elbert SESCO, and moderator attending.

JULY, 1988

DIX FORK: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Joe Evans, Virgil Fields, James C. Tackett, Ralph Adkins and Halter Kiser.

SAMARIA: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: George Woods, Isom Hannah, Edwin Hay, Sabert Nichols, Joe Evans and Wallace Muncy.

LEANNAH: Second Saturday. Communion at 1:00 p.m. Ministers called: Alson Thornbury, Sabert Nichols and Lacy Walters.

MT. PLEASANT: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Hobart Hamilton, Wendell Hamilton, Thomas J. Dials and Don Little.

LITTLE TAVIE: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: David Lester, Isom Hannah, Paul Vance, Berlin Thornsbury, Claude Brown and Rush Stanley.

BIG BRANCH: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 1:00 p.m. Ministers called: Clifford Maynard, Virgil Fields, Steve Robinson, Jr., J.L. Nichols and moderators attending.

MARY ELIZABETH: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Sabert Nichols, Isom Hannah, Wendell Hamilton, and Alson Thornbury.

NARROWS BRANCH: Our Union meeting begins on Friday, before the fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Steve Robinson, Jr., David Crigger, Hobart Hamilton, Paul Vance, Richard Staton and Louie Muncy.

AUGUST, 1988

TABITHA: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Isom Hannah, Willie Siltner, Alson Thornbury, Mont Ellis, Tommy Ellis, Paul Barney and Joe Evans.

REBECCA: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Hobart Hamilton, Rush Stanley, Richard Staton, Edwin Hay, Buddy W. Carty and moderators attending.

ELK FORK: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Willis Lowe, Joe Evans, Mont Ellis, Steve Robinson, Jr., Danny Runyon and Billy Brumfield.

BENT BRANCH: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Jessie Thacker, Richard Staton, Elbert SESCO and Louie Muncy.

ROSA: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Sunday evening. Ministers called: Isom Hannah, Eales Cotton, Burl Sturgill, Virgil Fields, Frank Newsome, Hurshell Hurley and Paul Vance.

BETHANY: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Eales Cotton, George Woods, Wallace Muncy, Andrew Maynard, Edward Runyon and Clinton Moore.

SARDIS: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: George Woods, Elbert SESCO, Tommy Ellis, Stanley Campbell and Willie Stillner.

PILGRIMS HOME: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Sunday evening. Ministers called: Alvin Osburn, Wendell Hamilton, Hiram Adkins and moderator attending.

MEMORIAL MEETINGS

MARCH, 1988

OKEECHOBEE CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of Okeechobee Church on the second Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Edwin Hay, John Lowe, Billy Williamson, Dale Williamson, Otis Williams and Billy Adair.

APRIL, 1988

SAMARIA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of Samaria Church on Sunday after the first Saturday. Ministers called: Wallace Muncy, Fay Scott, Isom Hannah and Wendell Hamilton.

MEMORIAL MEETING of Victoria Smith and her great-grandson, Joseph Thornsbury, and of Gertrude Thacker will be held at the Mt. Pleasant Church on Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Edwin May, Clifford Maynard, Richard Staton, Hurshell Huff and moderator attending.

MAY, 1988

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all the deceased on the Howell and Jude Cemeteries in the head of Peter Cave at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Virgil Fields, Milford Lowe, Gabe Lowe, and moderator attending.

MUNCY VALLEY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of Muncy Valley Church on the second Sunday. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Dale Williamson, Joe Evans, Johnnie Cline and moderator attending.

ELK FORK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the third Sunday. Ministers called: Willie Stillner, Alson Thornsbury, Lloyd Lowe, and Clifford Maynard.

BIG BRANCH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of the Ratliff, McCoy, Morrison and Blackburn families on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Ernest Cochran, Gabe Lowe, and J. L. Nichols.

MARY ELIZABETH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Zella May Farley Harrison at the Church on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Paul Vance, Bobby Scott, Hobart Hamilton and Wallace Muncy.

TURKEY CREEK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the John C. Maynard Cemetery on the fourth Sunday at 11:00 a.m. in memory of Angeline Taylor Maynard and deceased members of the family. Ministers called: Andrew Maynard, Elbert SESCO, Fay Scott, Richard Staton, Louie Muncy and Freddie Maynard. Dinner will be served nearby.

LITTLE VIRGIE CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting for all deceased members and friends of the Little Virgie Church on Sunday after the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: Berlin Thornsbury, Matt Justice, Richard Staton, James Tackitt and Assistant Moderator attending.

NARROWS BRANCH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the fourth Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Frankie Scott, Thomas J. Dials, Edwin May, Elbert SESCO, Virgil Fields and Edwin Hay.

SIDNEY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Jobe Blackburn and the deceased on that cemetery on the fourth Sunday. Ministers called: Milford Lowe, Edward Runyon, Thomas J. Dials, Sabert Nichols and Moderator attending.

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

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held on the Williamson Cemetery one-half mile below the Pilgrims Home Church on Brushy Road on the last Sunday at 5:00 p.m. All Regular Baptist Ministers are invited.

DIX FORK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the Cochran Cemetery on the last Saturday at 4:00p.m. Ministers called: Claude Brown, Berlin Thornsbury and Donnie Brown.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held on the Stanley Cemetery at Dix Fork on the last Sunday. All Regular Baptist Ministers are invited. Also, a meeting will be held at the Brown Branch Cemetery at 4:00 p.m.

SARDIS CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the Pigeon Roost Cemetery on May 30th at 2:30 p.m. Ministers called: Joe Evans, Billy Brumfield, Tommy Ellis, S. D. Hensley and George Woods.

JUNE, 1988

SOUTHERN HOME CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the first Saturday and Sunday for all members of Southern Home Church. Ministers called: Elbert SESCO, Billy Williamson, Dale Williamson, and Paul Barney.

TABITHA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting for all deceased members on the first Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Mont Ellis, Joe Evans, Billy Brumfield, Tommy Ellis and James Barney.

DIX FORK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the Morris Cemetery on Sunday after the first Saturday. All Regular Baptist Ministers are invited.

MEMORIAL MEETING of Mary Thompson, husband George, and all the deceased on the Thompson Cemetery at the old home place at the foot of Brushy Mountain on Brushy Creek will be held on the first Sunday at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Hiram Adkins, Clifford Maynard and Billy Williamson.

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all the deceased on the Muncy Cemetery at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Virgil Fields, Freddie Maynard, Richard Staton, Gabe Lowe and Monroe Jones.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held at the home of Okie Robinette on the third Saturday evening and Sunday. Ministers called: Milford Lowe, Clifford Maynard, Willie Stillner, Perry Layne, Edward Runyon, Isom Hannah and Elbert SESCO.

BENT BRANCH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting for all deceased members of Bent Branch Church on the third Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Paul Vance, Hobart Hamilton, Fon Bowling and Frank O'Quinn.

ELK FORK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the third Sunday on the Gilman Cemetery. Ministers called: Joe Evans, Steve Robinson, Jr., and Danny Runyon.

DIX FORK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the Marvin Stanley Cemetery for Marvin Stanley, Emma Stanley and Bill Crigger on the third Saturday at 4:00 p.m. All Regular Baptist Ministers are invited.

BIG BRANCH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Johnnie Nichols Sr., and wife, and all their descendants on the Lowe Cemetery at Gulnare, Kentucky, on Sunday after the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: J. L. Nichols, Willis Lowe, Clifford Maynard and Roger Stepp.

JULY, 1988

TURKEY CREEK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting in the head of Long Branch on the Reed Cemetery on the First Sunday. Ministers called: Willis Lowe, King Coleman, Elbert SESCO and Bobby Scott. Dinner will be served nearby.

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all the deceased in the Robinson Cemetery at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Steve Robinson, Jr. Alson Thornsbury, and Hobart Hamilton

BETHANY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on Sunday after the second Saturday at the May Cemetery in the Flatwoods on Marrowbone Creek in West Virginia. Ministers called: Isom Hannah, Paul Vance and others invited.

REBECCA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting for all the deceased at the A. J. Gilman Cemetery on the right-hand fork of Laurel Creek on Sunday after the second Saturday at 11:00 a.m. Ministers called: Edward Runyon, Joe Evans, Charles Hall and Edwin Hay. Church on Sunday will be moved to the Cemetery.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held for all the deceased on the Julius Scott Cemetery (Blackberry Fork), Hardy, Kentucky, on Sunday following the third Saturday beginning at 11:00 a.m. Ministers called: Bobby Scott, Junior Ruggles, Richard Staton and Edward Runyon.

BIG BRANCH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of the J. M. Taylor family and will include the Maynard, Fields, Lowe, Taylor, Scott, Blackburn and Nichols families on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Clifford Maynard, Virgil Fields, J. L. Nichols, and Moderator attending.

SARDIS CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the Adair Cemetery on the fourth Sunday. Ministers called: Tommy Adair, Clifford Maynard, Mont Ellis and Billy Adair.

SIDNEY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Johnnie Stacy and Rachel Stacy on the fourth Sunday. Ministers called: Sabert Nichols, Thomas J. Dials and Milford Lowe.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held on the Blackburn Cemetery at Dix Fork of Big Creek on the last Sunday at 5:00 p.m. in memory of John Gilbert Blackburn. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Elbert SESCO, Billy Williamson and Herald SESCO.

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Garnet Maynard on the odd Sunday at 10:30 a.m. on the Cemetery near her home. Ministers called: Freddie Maynard, Clinton Moore, Thomas J. Dials, Wallace Muncy and Moderator attending.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held at the Jarrett Smith Cemetery on the Right Fork of Brushy on the fifth Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Paul Vance, Berlin Thomsbury, Edwin Hay and Isom Hannah.

MEMORIAL MEETING of Ted and Ressie Blackburn will be held at the home of their son, Dewey Blackburn, on Wynn Branch on the odd Sunday at 10:00 a.m. Ministers called: Hiram Adkins, Isom Hannah and Wendell Hamilton.

AUGUST, 1988

ROSA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting in memory of the Cline family on the right-fork of Gilbert Creek on the first Sunday. All Regular Baptist Ministers are invited.

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of George Lowe, Jane Lowe, Sam Staton, Lara Staton and Joseph Staton on Pigeon Roost Fork of Wolf Creek at 10:30 a.m. on the first Sunday. Ministers called: Milford Lowe, Gabe Lowe, Thomas J. Dials and Roosevelt Lowe. There will be dinner on the ground.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held on the Smith Cemetery on Rockhouse Fork of Big Creek on Sunday after the first Saturday at 11:00 a.m. Ministers called: Grover Adkins, Clifford Maynard, Richard Staton, Billy Williamson, Lacy Walters and Elbert SESCO.

SAMARIA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting at the Dillon Cemetery on Sunday after the first Saturday. Ministers called: Isom Hannah, Hobart Hamilton, Jeffery Dillon and Fay Scott.

ENON CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting for all the deceased members of Enon Church on the first Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Charles Wright, Elbert SESCO and Steve Robinson, Jr.

DIX FORK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all the deceased members of Dix Fork Church on the first Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Jethro Hampton, Richard Staton, Edwin Hay and Teddy Robinson.

APPLE ORCHARD CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the first Saturday and Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Ministers called: Louie Muncy, Don Little, James Tackett and Andrew Maynard. Dinner will be served near the Church on Sunday.

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

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all the deceased on the Lowe Cemetery and of Clinton B. and Marie Lowe that are buried at Maher, West Virginia, at 10:30 a.m. on the second Sunday. Ministers called: Ernest Cochran, Milford Lowe, Alson Thonbury, Richard Staton, Berlin Thornbury and Thomas J. Dials.

LITTLE ROSA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting for all deceased members of Little Rosa Church on Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Kelly Castle, Hobart Hamilton, David Crigger, Fay Scott and Moderator attending.

PILGRIMS REST CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on Sunday after the second Saturday for the deceased members of Pilgrims Rest Church and the Community. Ministers called: Rubin Baker, Thomas J. Dials, Wallace Muncy, Louie Muncy, Hurshell Huff, and Moderators attending. Dinner will be served nearby.

BUCK CREEK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the Blackburn Cemetery at Morrowbone, West Virginia, on Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Sabert Nichols, Thomas J. Dials, and Steve Robinson, Jr.

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: Leonard Napier, Alvin Osborne, Freddie Maynard and Dewey Roberts.

SAMARIA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the Hannah Cemetery on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Isom Hannah, Edward Runyon, and Wendell Hamilton.

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

BUCK CREEK CHURCH will give way to a memorial meeting on Sunday after the third Saturday to be held on the Dave Jude Cemetery on Peter Cave. Ministers called: Sabert Nichols, Milford Lowe, Wallace Muncy and Thomas J. Dials.

MEMORIAL MEETING of Elder Jonah E. Williamson and loved ones will be held on the Williamson Cemetery one-half mile below Pilgrims Home Church on the third Sunday at 5:00 p.m. All Regular Baptist Ministers are invited.

SIDNEY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all the deceased members of Sidney Church and of all that are buried on the Bascom Maynard Cemetery on Peter Cave on Sunday after the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: Milford Lowe, Clifford Williams, Woody Pack, Jimmy Hall, and Moderator attending.

BETHANY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of Bethany Church on Sunday after the fourth Saturday and the same ministers used in the Communion Service will be used in this memorial meeting.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held at the Henry Taylor Cemetery at 11:00 a.m. on the fourth Sunday. Ministers called: J. L. Nichols, Willis Lowe, Virgil Fields, Gabe Lowe, Harold Coleman and Roger Stepp.

SEPTEMBER, 1988

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held at Gulnare, Kentucky on September 3rd, at 11:00 a.m., Saturday only, at Anna Lowe's residence. Ministers called: Louie Muncy, Elbert SESCO, Roger Stepp and Richard Staton.

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting near the Leannah Church of Tom McCoy and others buried in the Buck Branch Cemetery and of Shitley McCoy, and others buried in the McCoy Cemetery in the head of Meathouse Fork of Wolf Creek at 10:30 a.m. on the first Sunday. Ministers called: Milford Lowe, Clinton Howard, Steve Robinson, Jr., Fay Scott, Gabe Lowe and Freddie Magnard.

SAMARIA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the Lackey Cemetery on Sunday after the first Saturday. Ministers called: J. L. Nichols, Clarence Owens, Clifford Maynard and Thomas J. Dials.

APPLE ORCHARD CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the Joe Taylor Cemetery on Lower Brushy Creek on Sunday after the first Saturday. Ministers called: J. L. Nichols, Clarence Owens, Clifford Maynard and Thomas J. Dials.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held on the A. C. and Wesley Young Cemetery in memory of A. C. and Bessie Young and others on Sunday after the first Saturday at 11:00 a.m. Ministers called: Hiram (Hi) Young, Roger Stepp and others.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held at the Hensley Family Cemetery at the head of Pigeon Creek on Sunday after the third Saturday beginning at 10:30 a.m. Ministers called: Joe Evans, Tommy Ellis, Mont Ellis, Isom Hannah, and Billy Brumfield.

BUCK CREEK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting at the Church for the deceased members of Buck Creek Church and for the deceased buried in the Maynard Cemetery at Warfield, Kentucky, on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Billy Cotton, Milford Lowe, Bobby Scott and Steve Robinson, Jr.

MARY ELIZABETH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Elder Wallace Jackson, George Fraley, Donnie Lowe, and others on the third Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Andrew Maynard, Willis Lowe, and Berlin Thornsbury.

BIG BRANCH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting at Oscar McCoy's home in memory of his parents and others on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Willis Lowe, Ernest Cochran, Virgil Field, J. L. Nichols and Hurshell Huff.

SIDNEY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Johnnie Jude and two sons and of the Howells on the fourth Sunday. Ministers called: Milford Lowe, Sabert Nichols, Virgil Fields, Freddie Maynard and Thomas J. Dials.

OCTOBER, 1988

ELIZABETH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the first Saturday and Sunday for all deceased members of Elizabeth Church. Ministers called: Isom Hannah, Wallace Muncy, Paris Tackitt, Wendell Hamilton and Steve Robinson, Jr.

SALEM CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the first Saturday and Sunday for all deceased members of Salem Church. Ministers called: Isom Hannah, Lloyd SESCO, Steve Robinson, Jr., and Mont Ellis. The Moderator and both Assistant Moderators to attend.

TURKEY CREEK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the second Saturday and Sunday for all deceased members of Turkey Creek Church. Ministers called: Wendell Hamilton, Richard Staton, Willis Lowe, Freddie Maynard and James Damron.

MT. PLEASANT CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting for all deceased members of Mt. Pleasant Church on the second Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Edwin May, Kermit Newsome and Isom Hannah.

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting at the Church of all the deceased on the Scott Cemetery at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Steve Robinson, Jr., Clifford Williams Sabert Nichols and Wallace Muncy.

LITTLE TAVIE CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the second Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: David Crigger, Willis Tolliver, Orbin May, Feldon Ruggles, Jr., Sam Franks and Webster Bartley.

ROSA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Rosa Church on the third Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Lacy Justice, Sidney Collins, Johnny Newsome, Herman West, Raymond Smith, Hobart Hamilton and Richard Staton.

SIDNEY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of John Jude, Belle Jude, Annie Jude and her son, T. J. Jude, on Sunday after the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: Clinton Howard, Thomas J. Dials, Sabert Nichols and Willis Lowe.

PILGRIMS HOME CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of deceased members of Pilgrims Home Church on the fourth Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Walter Akers, Don Little, Lacy Walters, and Moderators attending.

OBITUARIES

ELDER MONROE OUSLEY

By the help of the good Lord, I'll try to write an obituary of my dear husband. Elder Monroe Ousley was born on November 4, 1909 at Dock, Kentucky, the son of Thomas Ousley and Sarah Stephens Ousley. His life here on earth was 77 years, 5 months and 21 days.

He was married to Bertha Sizemore on March 10, 1930. We were married for 57 years and had a very happy life together till death came and took him. Mourning for his loss are his wife, three sons and two daughters, whom he dearly loved. His surviving family includes his wife, Bertha, and children, Rufus J. Ousley of Wilmington, Oh. Thomas R. Ousley of Franklin, Ohio, James D. Ousley of Carlisle, Ohio, Eva L. Lovely of Camden, Ohio and Sarah A. Hale of Lebanon, Ohio. Also, there are 16 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren; 2 brothers, Alonzo Ousley of Dayton



Ohio and Newton Ousley of Franklin, Ohio; and 1 sister, Josie Litton of Martin, Kentucky.

He was a faithful member of the Old Regular Baptist Church for approximately 45 years and went every Saturday and Sunday for as long as he was able to go. He liked to visit all of the Churches in all of the Associations as often as he could. He was the Moderator of Okeechobee Church, a wonderful little Church in the Sardis Association at Okeechobee, Florida, and really hated to leave but he was getting sicker than usual and said he was not able to Moderate as he should, so he came back to Ohio. He was a member of The House of Prayer Church at the time of his passing away and he dearly loved this Church. I want to thank all of the Brothers and Sisters from all of the Churches who came and visited him in the hospital.

Sleep on, we will meet you some sweet day. I want to say to the children that don't know God in a pardon of your sin, get right with God and meet Dad and me up in Heaven and that will be a wonderful re-union.

Written by his wife,
Bertha

ELDER CHARLES E. PINSON

It was with great sadness and much pain of heart that we try to write the obituary of Charles Edward Pinson. Brother Charles was born May 30, 1939 and departed this life September 12, 1987, making his stay here on earth 48 years and 3 months. He was the son of the late Alton Pinson. Survivors include his mother, Opel (Holland) Pinson Walters of Hatfield, Kentucky.

Brother Charles was united in marriage to Bonnie (Walters) Pinson on October 30, 1959 and to this union was born three children, Charles David and Kendall Pinson, both of Hatfield, Kentucky, and Dover Wayne Pinson who preceded him in death.

Six brothers and three sisters are left to mourn his loss, John Pinson of Louisa, Kentucky, James and Billy Pinson, both of Sidney, Kentucky, Wilson Gene and Donnie, both of Canada, Kentucky, Lonnie Dale Pinson of Hardy, Kentucky, Lucille (Pinson) Stanley of New London, Ohio and Sharon Faye Pinson of Hatfield, Kentucky.

Brother Charles saw that great light that Paul saw, which was Jesus Christ, and gave his hand to the Church. He was baptized on November 22, 1977 and placed his membership with the Pilgrims Home Church where he was ordained a Minister. Brother Charles loved the Lord and sang His praise all through the day. Brother Charles was also a retired coal miner having worked for Island Creek Coal Company.



Written with love by his son, David Pinson, and his Brother in Christ, Donnie Scaggs

ELDER ELLIS DAVIS

It is with much sadness and heartache that we write the obituary of our beloved husband and father, Elder Ellis Davis. Daddy was born on August 4, 1920 at Belo, West Virginia, to the late Mack and Brookie (Justice) Davis. He departed this life on August 26, 1987, at his home, making his stay here on earth 67 years and 22 days.

He became a member of the Old Regular Baptist Church on July 5, 1942 and was ordained an Elder on March 1, 1947. Daddy was Clerk of the Bethany Old Regular Baptist Church for 38 years, and served his beloved Sardis Association for many years as a talented and capable clerk.

He was married to Lola Thompson on May 23, 1953. He leaves to mourn his passing, his wife Lola Davis, and five children, two sons and three daughters: Earl Ellis Davis of Belo, West Virginia; Brookie Sue Rose of Belo, West Virginia; Linda Kay Hensley of Naugatuck, West Virginia; Wetzel S. Davis of Belo, West Virginia; and Ertia Hale of Belo, West Virginia; and seven lovely grandchildren. Daddy also leaves two



brothers, Wilburn Davis of Belo, West Virginia and Jerry Davis of Mesa, Arizona, to mourn his passing. He was preceded in death by his parents, three sisters and one brother.

Daddy was a retired coal miner, World War II veteran and lived a good Christian life before his family and community. He loved to visit with the sick and neighboring churches. We believe with all our hearts that our loss is Heaven's gain. We also believe that, if we live the life Daddy lived before us, we will be united with him in Heaven to live forevermore.

We Love You and Miss You,
Lola and Children

ELDER ROSS CLINE

Elder Ross Cline, a member of the Old Regular Baptist Church for 35 years, died October 18, 1986 at Chippenham Hospital in Richmond, Virginia after complications occurring from open-heart surgery. He was 64 years old. He was born January 23, 1922 to Frank and Stella Cline. Both of his parents and one brother, Wilford, preceded him in death.

He is survived by his wife, Sister Pearl Cline; two daughters, Pam Montgomery of Shelbyville, Kentucky and Fran Robinson of Richmond, Virginia; one granddaughter, Heather Montgomery; and one grandson, Christopher Robinson; and two sons-in-law. Also surviving are three brothers, Sid, Leck and Willard, and one sister, Georgia Paynter.

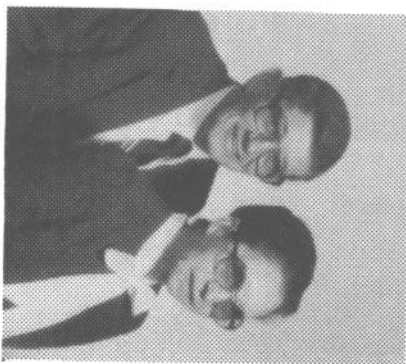
Brother Ross gave his hand to the Church on January 19, 1951 and was baptized on January 21, 1951. He became a member of the Rosa Baptist Church of Baisden, West Virginia and was ordained as an Elder in that Church in 1954. From 1960 to 1973, he served as Assistant Moderator of the Church. In 1974 he moved his membership by Letter to the Dix Fork Old Regular Baptist Church in Sidney, Kentucky and was a member there until death.

Brother Ross, known to members of his community as Jake, loved his Church. One of his greatest joys was preaching the Gospel and welcoming his fellow sisters and brothers-in-Christ to his home. There he would continue to enjoy their fellowship while he talked with them about the Bible. Many times it seemed to us children that they just continued the same service.

While assembling information for this obituary Mom found his worn Bible, the one I remember him reading aloud each night as he studied God's word. In it he had written about his Experience of Grace. He talked about going to be with Jesus and having a new Christ-like body after death. I know that he is with Jesus now.

Daddy's favorite song, the one he sang before he began to preach was "I Am A Little Traveler", whose first verse sums up Daddy's life: "I am a little traveler, a traveling through this land, I am hastening on my journey which is short to every man. I am pressing onward, to reach that happy goal where I shall see my Savior, when the Pearly Gates unbar."

Pam Montgomery



ELDER RALPH SMITH

In loving memory of Elder Ralph Smith of Route 1, Pikeville, Kentucky. Ralph was born February 7, 1928 and departed this life on December 3, 1986, making his stay on this troubled earth 58 years, 10 months and 3 days. Ralph was the son of the late Tom Smith, and Jane (Ray) Smith of Piso, Kentucky.

He is survived by his wife Emelie Smith of Route 1, Pikeville, Kentucky. Ralph and Emelie were married on June 17, 1949 and they had three children. One son, Philip Ralph Smith of Morehead, Kentucky and two daughters: Linda Kay Justice of Pikeville and Rachel Michelle Smith of the home. Other survivors left to mourn his loss are two grandchildren, Shona Emelie Justice and Roger Shannon Justice; two sisters, Ruth Clemmons of Pontiac, Michigan and Muza Jenkins of Pikeville, Kentucky; one son-in-law, Roger Lee Justice, who stood by his side day and night; and one daughter-in-law, Margaret Smith. He was preceded in death by one brother, Paris Smith, and three sisters, Barbara Reed, Opal Smith, and Mable Smith.



Ralph, by trade was a carpenter and blue print reader. Ralph joined the Regular Baptist Church on the fourth Sunday in October, 1967 and became an Ordained Minister on October 11, 1980 at the Pilgrim Rest Church.

It was with a sad and aching heart that I have written the obituary of my beloved husband. I believe that he is at rest and free from all his pain. He went to sleep in the arms of Jesus and his soul is presently in paradise.

When he had surgery in 1981 at the Lexington hospital, doctors told us that six months would be a long time for him to live. We were so upset. Ralph had a dream and he started telling us not to worry, that he had more time to spend with us. So many times he told his dream while preaching. He said that the Lord had shown him that he had a least 4½ to 5 years to spend with his family and friends. Ralph went to church as long as he could; he went several times when he thought that he was too ill. Nearing the end, he was totally reliable on oxygen to live so he took it wherever he went. Sleep on Dad, there won't be any cancer in Heaven.

Oh, Dear Dad, how we miss you! We loved you so much! My children and I are so lonely since you went away. Jesus called you to Heaven and we know you had to go. Now all we can do is to watch and pray that we will meet you, Dad, some sweet day.

Written by his wife,
Emelie Smith

MARY ANN CHURCH

It is with sadness of heart that we write the obituary of our daughter and sister in Christ, Mary Ann Church. She was born on December 10, 1969, and departed this world on October 17, 1986, making her stay on earth sixteen years, ten months, and seven days. She was in her senior year at Belfry High School and had went to Bevins Grade School. She was a member of the Little Stone Church of the Old Regular Baptist for one year as of the day of her funeral. She leaves us with many memories. She loved art, to paint and to draw and she wrote many poems, some about her experience of grace. But the best thing she left was the good light, the life she lived not only as a child but as a young woman. The things that we could see in the travel she went through at the age of 15.

The way she talked about the goodness of God. God was first in her life and we were second. The hope she leaves gives all of us that are in Christ Jesus a real hope that we will meet again, not as our daughter, for we went as far as we could with her, but as our Sister when she and all the children of God will come out of the grave on that appointed day. I believe that it will be Sister Mary, Brother Elbert and Sister Gail when we get a body like unto Christ's most glorified body. We are the generation of Jesus Christ.

Thank you God for sixteen years, ten months, and seven days that you gave us one of your angels to walk with. The Lord gives and the Lord takes away and Blessed be the name of the Lord.

With love in all of our hearts we write this and may God bless whoever reads this with an understanding.

Written by Her Dad, Elder Elbert C. Church,
Mother, Janice Gail Church, and her brother
and sisters.

THELMA ROBINETTE

This obituary is written with much love and many fond memories of my grandmother, Thelma Robinette, who died at her home on May 22, 1987. She was preceded in death by her husband, Joe Robinette, and one daughter. She was born March 7, 1906 in Lawrence County, Kentucky, the daughter of Elizabeth Sammons Williamson and George Williamson. She was a member of the Tabitha Old Regular Baptist Church since her baptism on March 6, 1938. She was blessed with seven sons and six daughters and a host of grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



Her struggles with this world are over now and she is finally at peace with the heavenly Father, singing with the angels on high. We all miss her so very much but we know she's in the hands of the Lord.

Written by her granddaughter,
Micky Crickman Preece

FINICE MARIE ELKINS

With a sad heart and loving memories, we will try, with the help of the good Lord, to write the obituary of our sweet and loving mother, Finice Marie (Bevins) Elkins. She was the daughter of the late George W. and Mary (Smith) Bevins. She was born November 13, 1916 and deceased this life May 10, 1987, making her stay here on earth 70 years, 6 months, and 3 days.

Mother was united in marriage to Charlie Elkins on November 19, 1934, who preceded her in death on April 3, 1983. To this union was born six children, two of whom preceded her in death. Surviving are James Charles and John Henry, both of Hatfield, Kentucky, Lois Marie Webb of Williamson, West Virginia, and Joyce Ann Smith of Canada, Kentucky.

Mother had five brothers and two sisters. Three brothers and one sister preceded her in death. They were Flavy, Johnny and Jonah, Jr., all of Hatfield, Kentucky and Fonnie Elkins of South Williamson, Kentucky. Surviving are two brothers and one sister: Jim Bevins of Hatfield, Kentucky; Willie Bevins of Turkey Creek, Kentucky; and Ida Williamson of Ashland, Kentucky. Mother had eleven grandchildren (one of whom preceded her in death) nine great grandchildren and a host of friends and neighbors.

Mother joined the PilgrimHome Church of Old Regular Baptist and was baptized by hands of Elders Emmitt Case and Harold Edmonds on August 20, 1950, and remained a faithful member until death took her from us.

Though Mother and Dad are gone from us, our memories of them will always be in our hearts. We have a hope of meeting again some day, never to part anymore. So sleep on Mother and Dad. God has a land far away from this old troublesome world where no heartaches or pain will come. There will be peace and joy forever and ever. The old home place will never be the same anymore. Your seats are empty. The light in the window has gone out. We know you are at rest now from all your pain. We love and miss you both so much.

Your Loving Children,
Charles, John, Lois and Joyce



MATILDA THOMPSON

It is with a very sad feeling in my heart that I try, with the help of the Lord, to write the obituary of my dear, sweet, loving mother, Matilda Thompson, of McCombs, Kentucky. Mother was born November 18, 1917 and deceased from this life May 20, 1987 at the age of 69 years, 6 months and 2 days when God called her home. Mother was the daughter of Henry Pinson, deceased, and Vangie (Taylor) Pinson who survives. Two sisters, Margaret Morrison and Minnie Scalf.

Mother was married to my Daddy, Harrison Thompson, on January 6, 1940 and they were blessed to raise us five children, Charles Thompson of Pikeville, Kentucky, Emogene Lowe of Kimpfer, Kentucky, Reford Thompson of Noblesville, Indiana, Geraldine Tackett of Meira, Kentucky and Christine Maynard of McCombs, Kentucky. She was blessed with 14 grandchildren and one who preceded her in death. She also leaves one great-grandchild to mourn her loss.

Mother was baptized the first Sunday in June, 1947 and had her membership at the Apple Orchard Old Regular Baptist Church. She was a faithful member as long as her health permitted her to go. She attended Church many times after having a stroke last winter. Church meant more to her than anything else in life and I thank God for making it possible for me to walk with her in Church for about 10 years.

Daddy passed away about 2 years ago and I miss them more every day, but, thanks to God, I have a strong hope of meeting them on that beautiful resurrection morning. Children, mother and daddy are gone from our presence and are resting from their labors. I believe they both fell asleep in the arms of sweet Jesus. The dead know not what the living are doing, but God knoweth all things. So, children, let us live a life like they taught us, to love one another and be good to each other. For God is love and if the love of God abides in us the world will surely know it. To those of my brothers and sisters who know not the Lord, fall out with sin, repent, believe and be baptized so that we can all be with mother and daddy again when Jesus calls for us to meet Him in the air and forever be with Him. There will be no more sickness over there where all is love, joy and peace throughout eternity. Mother will be well over there and she won't have any more heart failures or pain. Sometimes I get homesick and would love to go on over home and meet mother and daddy, but all my labors on this earth are not done. So, I'll just wait patiently for Jesus to call me home.

To the rest of the family, friends and loved ones who knew mother, there's not a lot I could tell that you don't already know about her and the sweet life she lived. She was such a sweet person and I'm sure you will miss her very much but God has made it possible for all of us to meet again someday if we do what He commands.

So, farewell my dearest, loving, sweet mother. I loved you so much and miss you so much I can hardly write for the tears in my eyes, but I realize God loved you more than I possible could. Rest on mother and my prayers are to meet you someday in Heaven.

Written by her daughter in hope of eternal life,
Emogene Lowe



VICY STRATTON BLACKBURN

Sister Vicy was born on Bent Branch at Meira, Kentucky on August 20, 1898 and passed away on September 16, 1986 at Melbourne Beach, Florida. She was the daughter of John Crit Stratton and Melinda Bevins Stratton.

Vicy was married to W. Elmer Blackburn in 1918 and to this union two children were born, Dr. John T. Blackburn and Virginia Lenore Blackburn Adams, both of whom preceded her in death. Also preceding her in death were two sisters, Myrtle Stratton Sparks and Anna Stratton Mitchell, and two brothers, Sidney Stratton and James Lee Stratton.

Vicy is survived by her daughter-in-law, Ann Blackburn of Melbourne, Florida, five granddaughters, Susie, Pattie, Terry, Kitty and Christie, three great-grandchildren and lots of nieces and nephews.

She was a faithful member of the Salem Old Regular Baptist Church for over 50 years and even in her absence, attended to the needs of the Church. Vicy and her husband, W. Elmer Blackburn, an astute but compassionate banker at the First National Bank of Pikeville for many years, are widely known, loved and respected throughout the Big Sandy and Tug River Valleys. Together they made a superb team and, while their friends can be numbered in the thousands, their acts and deeds of compassion for their fellowman are innumerable.

Written by her Sister-in-law,

Marie L. Blackburn

VIRGIE (TAYLOR) MAYNARD

Virgie (Taylor) Maynard was born February 2, 1889 and was the daughter of the late Calvin and Parlee (Smith) Taylor of Zebulon, Kentucky. She was married to Sam Maynard in August 1906, and to this union was born thirteen children, Gerald Maynard of Williamson, West Virginia, Mildred Reidsen of Dallas, Texas, Jack and James of Austin, Texas, Christine Billingshurst of Youla Linda, California, Mabel Johnson of Chester, Pennsylvania, Susie Green of Bremen, Georgia and Wilma Maynard of Goody, Kentucky, with whom she made her home. Preceding her in death were three sons and two daughters.

Mom departed this life on November 14, 1986 after a long and happy life. She was a member of the Salem Old Regular Baptist Church at Goody, Kentucky and was baptized in 1918 by Elder John Weddington.

She leaves a host of friends and relatives but, most of all, she left her children with a hope of spending eternity with her.



Written by her daughter and Sister in Christ,
Wilma Maynard

FLOYD WILLIAMSON

In much sadness but with many ever so precious memories that outweigh the sad ones, I'll write this obituary of my husband, Floyd Williamson. He was born on January 22, 1901 in Wayne County, West Virginia and passed away on October 24, 1986. Floyd was a son of the late Elder Gideon Williamson and Rebecca Porter Williamson.

On December 24, 1924 he was united in marriage to Fannie Staton by Elder Ester Hopkins at Goody, Kentucky and we were blessed with four children, a son, Jack D. Williamson of Forest Hills, Kentucky and three daughters, Mrs. James (Muriel) Reson of Suitland, Maryland, Mrs. Frank B. (Joann) Smith of Matewon, West Virginia and Lois who preceded him in death. Also left to mourn his passing are nine wonderful grandchildren, twelve great-grandchildren, two sisters, Mrs. Raymond Varney of Huntington, West Virginia and Mrs. Hurshel Miller of Portsmouth, Ohio and a host of dear friends, nieces, nephews, cousins and Brothers and Sisters in the Church who were very dear to him. He was preceded in death by three brothers and four sisters.

Floyd confessed a hope in Christ in August, 1963 and was baptized at the hands of Elder Wayne Herald and Elder Willis Lowe. He placed his membership with the Turkey Creek Old Regular Baptist Church of Jesus Christ where he was ordained a Deacon and a very faithful servant. Some two years later he moved his Letter and membership to the Salem Church where he continued to serve as a Deacon and was a dedicated member working hard for the upbuilding of the Church. Floyd always filled his seat in Church until his health prevented him from attending. He missed meeting with the Brothers and Sisters and it made him so happy when some of them paid him a visit and had prayer.

Floyd was a devoted husband and Daddy, always providing the best he could for his family. What he may have lacked in material provisions he more than made up for it in spiritual provisions of love and devotion and just those little things of life that mean so much in bringing happiness and joy. He was very patient during his illness and I know that God soothed his pain because he seldom complained of any. We shared our joys and sorrows together for almost 62 years.

He was a retired U. S. Postal Mail Carrier, having worked there for 25 years. Before that he was a coal miner and later worked for Columbia Gas Company.

I want to say to our children, it is lonesome here at home on this earth but some sweet day we can meet him again around the throne of God where the family circle will be unbroken. We feel our loss is Heaven's gain and that he will be waiting at Heaven's gate to greet us.

Written by one who loved him
His wife and Sister in hope.



ELLIS DIALS

With much sadness and with the help of the Lord, I will try to write the obituary of our dear brother, Ellis Dials.

Ellis was born in Martin County on October 3, 1913. He departed this life on October 23, 1986, making his stay on earth 73 years and 20 days. Ellis was the oldest son of Pete and Wilda (Pauley) Dials who are now deceased.

At the age of about three, he had infantile paralysis which left him without the use of his left side. With the help of our Mother, he was able to walk again but always with a limp. As time went on, he had brothers and sisters to play with. He was able to do some of the chores around the homeplace. His brothers and sisters were taught to look out for him. He went to school and got an eighth grade education. When he was 13 years old, he had his first epileptic seizure which he lived with the rest of his life.

At an early age, Ellis was converted and joined the Buck Creek Regular Baptist Church at Beauty, Kentucky. He was baptized by the hands of Elder Shadle Pauley. Ellis loved to sing those good old songs of Zion. He was a wonderful singer just as our Dad was.

Around the age of 27, Ellis met and married Oma Lowe. To this union was born two wonderful boys--Hayes Martin and Jarrett Dials.

As Ellis grew older, he began to lose the use of his legs again and was finally confined to a wheelchair. When our Mom and Dad's health began to fail them and they could no longer look after Ellis, they decided to put him in a nursing home. When our Mom and Dad departed this life, Ellis was left in the custody of our youngest sister, Gladys Dials.

As long as he was able, she would bring him home for church and visits. She often took him to other places to church. When the family came in, they would always bring Ellis home. When he was no longer able to come home, the family would visit him in the nursing home. He loved his family. When his health grew worse, his sons, brothers, and sisters came to be with him. Part of his family were with him at all hours. The names of his sons, brothers, and sisters are as follows: Sons--Hayes M. Dials of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and Jarrett Dials of Inez, Kentucky; Brothers--Elder Burgess Dials of St. Albans, West Virginia, John Dials of Columbus, Ohio, Acey P. Dials of Medicine Lodge, Kansas, Jerome Dials, deceased, and Elmer Dials of Tomahawk, Kentucky; Sisters--Oma Murcy of Beauty, Kentucky, Nona D. Mills of Inez, Kentucky, Mary Elen Moore of Pilgrim, Kentucky, Gladys D. Hale of Pilgrim, Kentucky, and Hattie Mae Cassell of Louisa, Kentucky.

Just before Ellis passed away, he hugged each and every one of his family that was there with him and called them by name. Shortly after that, he fell asleep. Ellis suffered much in this life but his suffering is over now. His soul is housed in Paradise and is awaiting the Resurrection. I believe that our loss is Heaven's gain.

In closing this obituary, I would like to say to his sons, brothers, sisters, and friends that if you have not met God in the pardon and remission of your sins, you will have to repent of your sins and live for Jesus. Ellis is awaiting our coming. I pray that our family circle won't be broken over there.

May God help us to live together and pray for one another.



Written by his sister, in hope of eternal life
Nona D. Mills

VAN MAYNARD

It is with much sadness that we will try to write the obituary of my beloved husband and a dear brother in the Lord, Van Maynard.

He was the son of the late Rell and Nancy (Lowe) Maynard. He was born January 20, 1903 and departed this life October 29, 1986, making his stay here on earth 83 years, 3 months and 8 days. He was married to Sister Mary Runyons, who preceded him in death in 1971, and to this union was born six children. Two preceded him in death in infancy, a son, Ramond, preceded him in death in 1971 and a son, Fred, in 1985. He leaves his widow of twelve years, Minta Mae Maynard; one son, Rell Maynard of Turkey Creek, Kentucky; one daughter, Nancy Adkins of Turkey Creek, Kentucky; seven grandchildren; seven step-children; and a host of great-grandchildren to mourn his passing.

Van professed a hope in Jesus Christ many years ago. Placing his membership with the old Apple Orchard Church in the Sardis Association, he was a Clerk and Deacon there until he moved his membership to Crystal Springs, Florida and placed his Letter in the Star of Bethlehem Church in the Union Association. He served as a Deacon there and was a faithful member until he fell asleep in the arms of Jesus Christ.

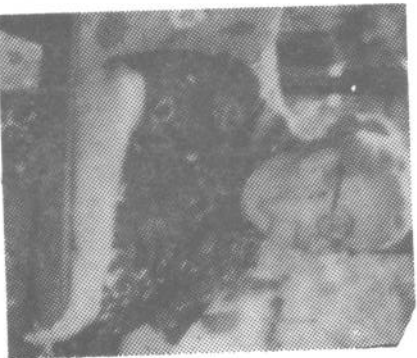
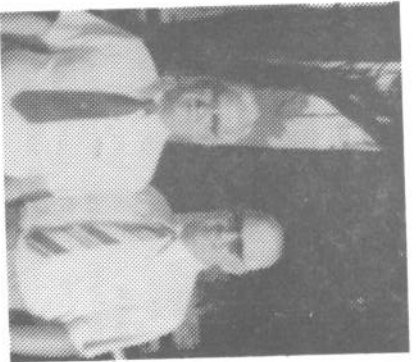
I believe the like that Van lived left a great record for his children, his neighbors, and friends.

Written by his Widow,, Minta Mae Maynard
and A brother in hope of eternal life,
Elder John Lowe

GERTRUDE SMITH THACKER

Sister Gertrude Smith Thacker deceased this life on Saturday, March 14, 1987 at the Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Her stay on this earth being 81 years, 1 month and 6 days. She was born February 8, 1906 in Pike County, Kentucky the daughter of the late Pat and Victoria (Street) Smith.

She was married to John A. Thacker, who preceded her in death on August 13, 1980. She leaves three children to mourn her passing, Bobby Thacker of Bethel, Ohio and Jean Ann Thacker and David B. Thacker, both of Canada, Kentucky; three grandchildren, Robert Thacker of Bethel, Ohio and Deidra Renee (Thacker) Williamson and David Eugene Thacker, both of Canada, Kentucky; and three great-grandchildren, Brian Douglas Thacker of Bethel, Ohio and Bethel Renee Williamson and



Heather Nicole Williamson, both of Canada, Kentucky. She is also survived by one brother, John Smith of Canada, Kentucky and seven sisters, Flossie Blackburn and Grace Smith of Canada, Kentucky, Maxie Laferty, Hazel Edmonds and Mary Thomsbury, all of Sidney, Kentucky, Ethel Layne of Betsy Layne, Kentucky and Tina Carpenter of London, Kentucky. She was preceded in death by one sister, Octavia (Smith) Thacker of Belfry, Kentucky.

She was a member of the Mt. Pleasant Old Regular Baptist Church for 25 years, being baptized June 24, 1962. Sister Gerta lived a humble Christian life, so when it came time to go she could say, I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course and I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness which the Lord shall give me in that day. Now, we must say farewell Sister Gerta until we meet again. As the song says, we shall sleep but not forever. There will be a glorious morning when God shall call for us.

Written by
Elder Lloyd SESCO

REBECCA BLACKBURN

I will try, with the help of my Lord, to write the obituary of Rebecca Blackburn. Mom, as we all called her, passed away on Saturday evening, the twenty-eighth day of September, 1975, at the age of 82. She was a patient in the Williamson Memorial Hospital. I was holding her hand when the Lord called her home. She went to sleep in the arms of Jesus.

Born December 27, 1891, at Coon Creek, Kentucky, she was the daughter of the late Epp and Polly Stone. She had been a member of the Salem Old Regular Baptist Church for several years and a resident of Goody, Kentucky since 1963. Her husband, Trimble Blackburn preceded her in death in 1970.



This obituary should have been written years ago. So much has happened since Mom passed away. I pray the Lord will bless me to write this now. I feel so humble in doing this.

Survivors include, three sons: Willard Blackburn of Forest Hills, Kentucky, Glen Blackburn of Varney, Kentucky and Frank Porter of Oakwood, Virginia, Willis Blackburn, also her son, passed away on August 9, 1987 leaving us to mourn his loss; two daughters: Ada Stanley of Goody, Kentucky and Fannie Sandefur of Portsmouth, Virginia, three daughters have preceded her in death: Mrs. Grace Stanley of Sidney, Kentucky, Mrs. Alta Murphy of Sidney, Kentucky and Mrs. Alma Miller of Logan, Ohio. Her brother, Sterling Stone, preceded her in death in 1986.

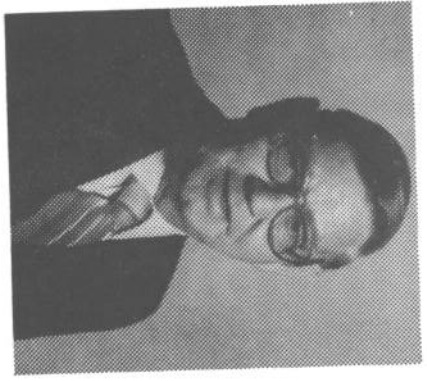
She has forty-seven grandchildren and seventy three great-grandchildren and a host of friends and relatives to mourn her loss. Mom has been gone a long time and we miss her so. She went to Church as long as she was able. Papa and Mommie came to our house and stayed part of the week so they could go to the Pilgrim Home Church the fourth of each month. I don't know her sisters but she had five and I think most of them passed away. Mrs. Sarah Lowe of Turkey Creek, Kentucky, Mrs. Minnie Stratton of Varney, West Virginia, Mrs. Fannie Young, "Aunt Fannie", of Hatfield, Kentucky (I knew her and loved her so much), Mrs. Maudie Stone of Ohio and Mrs. Ollie Stone of Big Rock, Virginia.

I have been in the family so long that this is my family. I pray to the Lord above that the children that are left will stay close together and keep in touch with each other, for we don't know which one will be called next. I am saying to us all, Love one another and let's all try to meet our beloved Papa and Mommie. Mom, if I could talk to you I would tell you I have been good to Glen, for you loved your children so much.

Written by Someone who loved you,
Your Sister in the Church and daughter-in-law,
Mrs. Glen Blackburn

WILLIAM CODA STANLEY

With the help of the Lord, I will try to write the obituary of my brother-in-law and Brother in Christ, Brother Coda Stanley. He was born March 10, 1920 and deceased this life January 22, 1987 at the St. Joseph Hospital in Lexington, Kentucky from complications of open-heart surgery, making his stay on earth 66 years, 10 months, and 12 days.



He was the son of the late Brother Marvin and Sister Emma (Brown) Stanley. He was united in marriage on the 14th of February 1942 to Sister Leona (Blackburn) Stanley and to this union was born three children, two sons, Trimble Lee Stanley of Columbus, Ohio and Danny Ray Stanley of Sidney, Kentucky and one daughter, Patsy Rogers of Justiceville, Kentucky. He is survived by four brothers, Trimble Stanley of Huddy, Kentucky, Victor Stanley of Jacksonville, Florida, Rush Stanley of Greenup, Kentucky, and Kelly Stanley of Cincinnati, Ohio, and one sister, Mrs. James (Bessie) Gannon of Canada, Kentucky. Five sisters preceded him in death. He is also survived by one grandson, four granddaughters, one great-grandson and two step grandchildren and several sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nieces, nephews and the brothers and sisters of the Old Church and many other relatives and friends who will mourn his loss.

Brother Coda was a member of the Dix Fork Regular Baptist Church for 36 years. He had a wonderful gift of singing and we will all miss his beautiful voice so much. Some of the Brothers and Sisters has had some good dreams of him. Brother David Crtgger dreamed of seeing him all dressed up among a large crowd of people and he said to himself, Oh, we're going to get to hear him sing one more time and he said Bro. Coda lifted up his hand and began to sing "Dear Friends Farewell" and everyone started to cry and the tears fell from the young peoples eyes, and Bro. David's wife dreamed of seeing him in white and he told her he was just resting in his new eternal home. So, we all live in hope of hearing him sing again when his voice will ring out on the shores of sweet deliverance.

Sister Leona, just press on and we will keep those good memories in our hearts of when we all used to gather together and sing the old songs of Zion and how our cheerful voices did rejoice. We shall all meet Bro. Coda again in the resurrection morning. Children, be good to mother, and I feel you will, and may God bless all of you is my prayers.

Written by a Brother in Christ,
Elder James Gannon

EUNICE CLINE

How often when some loved one dies, people think of what sorrow and tragedy has happened. It is sorrow for us in nature, but we must remember that there are far better things to come after they leave this world. In spirit we must have the hope of rejoicing and meeting with them again in Heaven. I know we do miss them and how at times we wish only to see their faces and hear their sweet voices once more. And at certain times it is as if you can almost hear and see them.

Our Mom, Eunice Cline, was born November 11, 1918. She was the daughter of Burgess and Liza Lester of Baisden. Mom was united in marriage to Emery Cline, the son of James Oliver Cline and Hople Walls Cline.

Mom was a faithful member of the Rosa Regular Baptist Church. For years she took great pride in fixing something to eat to take to the church on Sunday. Her church was very important to her, for she loved it dearly.

On September 1, 1986, God called our loving Mother home at the age of 67. Joining her in death was her youngest daughter, Christena Rife and her grandson, Darrell Rife.

The children that remain are Eleanor Cline and Curtis C. Cline of Baisden, and Arelene Hamerick of Sprattsville, West Virginia. She also has 13 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren, who will miss her so much.

Every Sunday Mom looked forward to seeing us children come home for dinner. The old home place will never be the same, but we'll always thank God for those precious memories, not only did we have with her, but neighbors and friends always felt welcome to eat at Mom's house.

I just hope that someday we can leave behind a report like our mother. She truly was and is an Angel. Our mother was without a spot. To us, mother was the most perfect person.

Sadly missed by all the family,
Written by her daughter, Eleanor Cline, and
granddaughter, Annette Hatfield

CLYDE VARNEY

With an humble heart I write the obituary of Brother Clyde Varney. Brother Clyde was born July 4, 1908 in Pike County, Kentucky and died May 19, 1987. He was the son of the late Henry and Dolly Varney. He was a veteran of World War II, having served his country honorably.

He is survived by a sister, Grace Pauley, and three brothers, Fred, Alex and Monroe. Also surviving is a niece, Norma Ruth Lowe, who was like to daughter to Brother Clyde.

He professed a hope in Christ and was baptized by the hands of Elder Bobby Scott and Elder Willis Lowe at the A.R.H. Hospital and placed his membership with the Old Narrows Branch Church.

Death called Brother Clyde away from his suffering into that eternal rest that God has promised to all who love and serve Him. Rest on, Brother Clyde, for the time is at hand, yea, even at the door, when God will call all His children home.

Written by a Brother in Christ,
Elder Bobby Scott

JOHNNIE WILLIAMSON

In my weakness and by the help of God, I will attempt to write this obituary of our dear brother in Christ, Johnnie Williamson.

Brother Johnnie was born to John D. and Bell Williamson on September 18, 1901 at Phyllis, Kentucky. He later moved to and lived the remainder of his life at Kimper, Kentucky. He was married to Annie (Bostic) Williamson. They were blessed with three daughters, Gertie Smith, Ethel and Esta Hensley, all of Kimper, Kentucky, and twelve grandchildren.

Brother Johnnie gave his hand to become a member of the Little Virgie Old Regular Baptist Church and was baptized at the hands of Elders Jille Stithner and Alson Thornbury the first Saturday in July, 1933 at a special called meeting at his home.

God blessed Brother Johnnie to labor for over thirty of his eighty-four years in the coal mines, but on June 12, 1986 the Lord saw fit to give him rest. We who are left to mourn his passing are comforted in the thought of meeting with him around the beautiful throne of God in the morning of the resurrection of the dead.

Written by his Brother in Christ Jesus,
Alvin Thornbury



GAY (JUSTICE) SCOTT

It is with loving memories and a sad heart that I write the obituary of my precious grandmother. Gay (Justice) Scott was born to John and Anna Justice of Kimper, Kentucky on April 8, 1907. She passed away after long suffering on May 29, 1987. She was preceded in death by her husband, John J. Scott of Kimper, Kentucky and three granddaughters and three grandsons.

Gay and John were both long time members of the Little Virgie Regular Baptist Church.

Left to mourn her passing are two brothers and three sisters: two sons, Charles Scott of Phyllis, Kentucky and Ester Scott of Kimper, Kentucky; and five daughters, Earlene Stithner of Pikeville, Kentucky, Ruth Williams of Oak Hill, Ohio, Lee Etta Thornbury of Kimper, Kentucky, Nolaine Coleman Thornbury of Kimper, Kentucky, and Lorraine Looney of South Point, Ohio. Gay left twenty-two grandchildren, thirty-nine great-grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren.

We will miss her and think of her often, but live with the hope of seeing her again at the right hand of God.



Written by her loving granddaughter,
Barbara (Thornbury) Wright

HARRISON BAISDEN

Loving and dear friends, this is the obituary of our dear, sweet and loving Dad, Harrison Baisden. By the grace of God, He will give me the strength to write this. Dad gave his life to the Lord Jesus Christ when he was 68 years old and he served Him and the Church faithfully until his Saviour called him home. Many times he went to Church when he wasn't really able, but he loved the Church and enjoyed being with his Brothers and Sisters in Christ. Even before he came to the Church, Dad made sure we went with Mother.

Our home is so empty without Dad, he had so much love for his family. Sometimes I would love to be able to talk to Daddy one more time, but I know he is at rest. So, deep down, I would not, even if I could, bring him back to a world of suffering. I know that if we want to see our dear, sweet Daddy again we must live as he did, putting our trust in a Saviour who gave His life for us. We can then live in hope of seeing our Dad and our Lord Jesus Christ. I think Dad knew that in God's heavenly wardrobe was a beautiful robe for him, a robe of righteousness, made snowy white by the blood of the Lamb of God. By the grace of God, we live in faith and hope that we will meet again in Heaven to part no more. So, rest on Dad, until we meet again.

Dad was born on September 24, 1900 and departed this life on March 16, 1987, making his stay on earth 86 years and 6 months. He met my dear, sweet Mother, Cella, some 42 years ago and they were united in marriage. To this union was born seven children, Harrison T., David, Eloise, Brenda, Kathy Elaine (who preceded him in death), Danny and Paul Ray. He also was a Daddy to three step-sons that he raised and loved as his own, James, Alfred and Alonzo. He was the son of the late John Henry and Martha (Farley) Baisden. He had six brothers to precede him in death, Jonce, Allen, Jim, Howard, Greenway and Elbert.

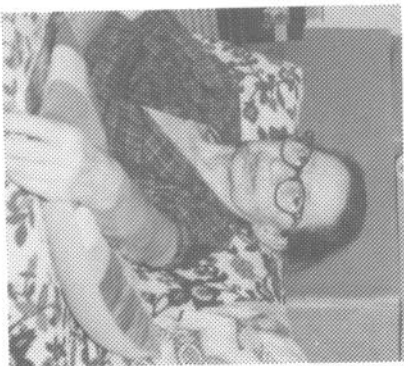
He leaves a host of grandchildren and great-grandchildren and many friends to mourn his loss. To know him was to love him. He showed his love for us in everyday he knew. He was the best Dad and husband anyone could have and we are so thankful for the years we had him with us. He is missed by all.

Sadly written by a loving and thankful wife
and daughter, Cella and Eloise Baisden

ALLIE HALE

With the help of my Lord and Saviour, I will try to write the obituary of my friend and Sister in Christ, Allie Hale. She was born March 2, 1907 and deceased this life on Friday, August 7, 1987 at the age of 80 years, 4 months and 5 days.

Allie was married to Bill Hale, who preceded her in death, and to this union was born two sons, William Hale of Williamson, West Virginia and James Edward Hale of Winchester, Kentucky. She has one grandchild, Terri Haynes of Portsmouth, Virginia. She was preceded in death by one brother, Tom Hampton of Williamson, West Virginia and one sister, Maud Franklin of Hi Hat, Kentucky.



Allie joined the Salem Old Regular Baptist Church at Goody, Kentucky on March 6, 1948 and was baptized by Elder Harrison Bevins. She was a true and faithful member as long as her health permitted her to attend Church. She was in a wheelchair for 35 years but took care of herself until the last few years of her life. She was a real friend to me and my family, always helping when she could.

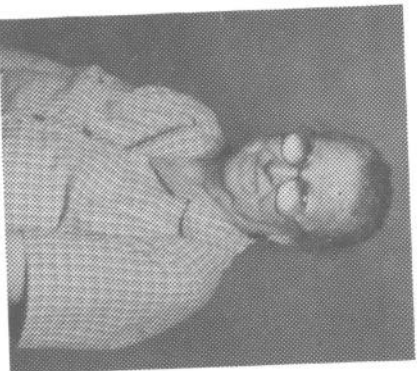
She will be missed by us all and I feel her race is run and that she is now resting with Jesus where she will not be an invalid and be able to walk on the streets of gold in Heaven. I wasn't able to walk here for a long time and we feel that our loss is Heaven's gain and I pray I'll meet her there someday.

Written by her Sister in Christ,
Sister Nellie Jarrell

LIDDIE FLETCHER

Liddie Fletcher, 73, wife of T. J. "Jeff" Fletcher of Lovely, Kentucky, died at 8:50 p.m., Monday, February 2, 1987, in St. Mary's Hospital in Huntington, West Virginia, following a long illness. Born October 3, 1913, she was the daughter of the late Lee and Virgie Cline. She was a member of the Old Regular Baptist Church at Threeforks, Kentucky.

Surviving are three sons: James Russell Fletcher of Richlands, Virginia, Kenneth Fletcher of Toler, Kentucky, Delmer Fletcher of Lovely, Kentucky; one daughter, Helen Webb, also of Lovely, Kentucky; one brother, Walker Cline of Inez, Kentucky; three sisters, Myrtle Moore of Columbus, Ohio, Vina Music of Lovely, Kentucky and Mary Ellen Jude of Pilgrim, Kentucky; one step-brother, Hayse Moore of Pilgrim, Kentucky; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by one son, Haskel, four brothers and one sister. Sister Liddie was a wonderful person. She loved the "good old time way." She is resting now from all her labor and toils here on the earth, awaiting that great day when Jesus shall appear on the cloud of His Glory. Marvel not at this: For the hour is coming in which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice and shall come forth.



Elder Sabert Nichols

DIXIE LOWE

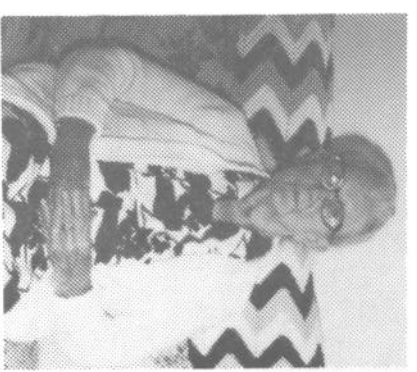
In loving memory, I will try to write the obituary of Sister Dixie Lowe. She was born January 14, 1901, the daughter of Johnnie and Louise (Morrison) Nichols, and departed this life on July 7, 1987.

She was married to Thomas Elliot Lowe and to this union was born four children. She was preceded in death by two sons, William Jason Lowe and Lowell Thomas Lowe. Surviving are two daughters, Beatrice (Lowe) Miller and Nell Ruth (Lowe) Crider. Other survivors are, two brothers, T. T. Nichols and Elbert Nichols; three sisters, Amy Lowe, Annie Lowe and Ella Parsons; seven grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

She was a member of the Salem Old Regular Baptist Church at Goody, Kentucky. She was baptized on April 4, 1960 by Elder B. H. Bevins and Brother Floyd Morris and attended Church faithfully as long as her health permitted.

She will be missed by all who know and loved her so much, but we know our loss is Heaven's gain.

Written by request of the family,
Ruby Lois Blackburn



ELSIE CLEVINGER CLARK

Elsie Clark was born on January 13, 1903 to John and Sarah Ray Clevenger. She was married to Lee Clark, who preceded her in death. Also preceding her in death were three sons, John B. (infant), Luther and Bill, and one great-great-grandson, Bobby J.

She is survived by one son, Earnel Lee (Peanut) Clark of Chicago, Illinois; one daughter, M. J. Ethel Jarrell Gray of High Point, North Carolina; 12 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; 5 great-great-grandchildren; daughters-in-law; nieces and nephews; and many friends and loved ones who miss her dearly.

She joined the Pilgrims Home Old Regular Baptist Church on October 22, 1949 where she remained a faithful member until she had to move to Illinois because of her health. She continued to attend Church as often as she was physically able to make the long trip.

Written by her granddaughter,
Elsie Loudermilk



NORA TAYLOR

With love, respect and many fond memories, we will attempt to write the obituary of Nora Eunice Roop Taylor. She was born January 18, 1891 at Gulnare, Kentucky and deceased this life on October 30, 1986, making her stay on earth 95 years, 9 months, and 12 days. She was the daughter of the late Thomas Jefferson Roop and Oma Elizabeth (Kink) Runyon Roop. She was married to the late Sidney Taylor on July 19, 1913 and to this union three sons were born.

Left to mourn her passing are two sons, Cecil Taylor of McCombs, Kentucky and Lucien Allen Taylor of Gulnare, Kentucky; seven grandchildren; fifteen great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren. One son, Glenn Taylor, three grandchildren, one great-grandchild and one brother, Oscar E. Roop, preceded her in death.

She was a member of the Big Branch Old Regular Baptist Church, having been baptized November 29, 1958. She was a housewife, school teacher and Assistant Postmistress at McCombs, Kentucky. She was an outstanding member of the community and a great inspiration to the many people she met during her lifes span. She will be sadly missed by her family and friends.

Written by the family.



MONROE SMITH

Monroe Smith, age 88, of Sidney, Kentucky died Tuesday evening at the Pikeville Methodist Hospital of a lingering illness. He was born on November 7, 1897 in Pike County, Kentucky, the son of the late W. T. and Mary Hinkle Smith. He was a retired coal miner and a member of the Mt. Pleasant Old Regular Baptist Church for 35 years.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Jane Smith of Sidney, Kentucky, three sons, Michael Smith and James David Smith of Sidney, Kentucky and Davell Eugene Smith of Pinsonfork, Kentucky, seven daughters, Lou Ellen Smith of Dayton, Ohio and Phyllis Kirk Young, Mary Ann Elkins, Rose Ann Taylor, Terri Kay Smith, Tammy Dianne Edmiston and Patricia Webb, all of Sidney, Kentucky. Other survivors include a sister, Gladys Ray of Apopka, Florida, 13 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. Preceding him in death were three sons, four brothers, three sisters and one half-brother.



Written by his daughter,
Rose Ann Taylor

LARRY T. HALL

With a sad and aching heart I will try, with the help of our loving Saviour, to write the obituary of our darling son, Larry T. Hall, the son of Charles and Mabel Hall of Lenore, West Virginia. Larry was born April 5, 1943 at Holden, West Virginia and departed this life on December 1, 1986, making his stay with us 43 years, 7 months and 26 days.

Larry joined the United States Marine Corp after High School and served four years. While in service he married Lila Bryant and to this union was born three children, Sonnya, Kelly and Todd Hall, all at home.

Larry was baptized into the Bethany Old Regular Baptist Church by Elder Edward Runyon and Elder Charles Hall. His wonderful smile when he came out of the water was enough to let everyone know he was saved by the Lord's saving grace. Children, if you want to see Daddy again, get ready.

Written by his lonely mother,
Mabel Hall



IDA (CHARLES) WOODS

In much sadness but with great love, I write this obituary of my dear, sweet mother, Ida Woods. She was born March 8, 1899, a daughter of Tolbert and Sarah Ann (Coleman) Charles, in Buchanan County, Virginia. The Lord took mother home on November 7, 1986 at the age of 87 years and 8 months.

Our Dad, Elder Jesse Woods, preceded Mother in death and they had been married forty six years when the Lord called Dad home. Also preceding her in death was an infant son, James, and a grandson, Joe Woods, the son of Clyde Woods. Mother is survived by four sons, Clyde Woods of Bellevue, Florida, Jessie Woods, Jr. of Ocala, Florida, Ernest Woods and Floyd Woods of Pike County, Kentucky and three daughters, Cora Starn of Pike County, Kentucky, Flora Bethel of Ocala, Florida and Bethel Slater of Summerfield, Florida. Also surviving are 14 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren and 9 great-great-grandchildren. Mother was laid to rest at Spart, Florida.

Mother lover her Southern Home Church family and often told us she felt loved by everyone there. It is my prayer that God will always bless this Church and all of the good people in it.

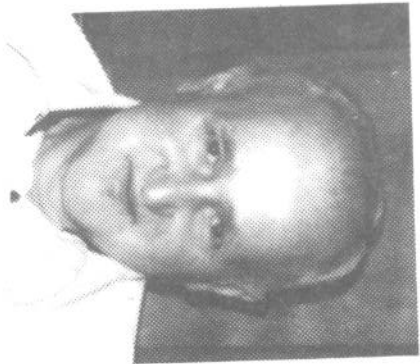
I pray that all of Mother's family and friends will prepare to meet her in heaven where we will never have to part.

Written by her daughter,
Bethel Slater



WALTER HARMON YOUNG

It is with much sadness, but fond memories that I write this obituary of Walter Harmon Young. Harmon was born April 19, 1931 and deceased this life at 4:48 p.m. on Thursday, May 7, 1987 at Pikeville Methodist Hospital, making his stay here on God's footstool 56 years and 19 days. Harmon was a son of the late Alfred and Betty Thompson Young. He was a miner and a member of Pilgrims Rest Old Regular Baptist Church where he served as a Deacon.



Left to mourn his death are his wife, Alba (Maynard) Young of Varney, Kentucky; one son, Walter Lynn Young of Johns Creek; and three daughters: Sharon Kay Coleman of Harolds Branch, Pikeville, Kentucky, Vada Louise Williamson of Varney, Kentucky and Carolyn Young of Varney, Kentucky. He also leaves: four brothers, Malcom Young of Varney, Kentucky, Junior Young of Big Creek, Kentucky, Curtis Young of Meta, Kentucky and Buddy Lee Young of Hardy, Kentucky; four sisters, Grace Robinette of Varney, Kentucky, Lucy and Robinette of Varney, Kentucky, Christine McGuire of Ohio and Bronis Parsons of Ohio; and four grandchildren, Bert Allen Williamson, Alisha Young, Jennifer Young and Miranda Coleman.

Brother Harmon will be sadly missed by his family, the Church, this community and a host of friends. He was a humble neighbor and friend with a sweet, soft smile always on his face and a hearty handshake you could feel from his heart.

We truly believe God has gained another flower in the Master's bouquet because Brother Harmon's life before the world has left a light shining in the window. We are grateful to God for letting us have such an humble servant as this Brother was. Words cannot express how much his family, the Church, his friends and neighbors miss him. So, Brother Harmon, it's not goodby, just farewell for a short season. We love you.

Written by a Brother in Christ,
Foster Blackburn

VIRGIE BOWLING CLINE

It is with much sadness, but many fond memories that we attempt to write this obituary of this dear Mother, friend and neighbor, Virgie Bowling Cline. She was born March 17, 1904 and departed this life on January 2, 1987 at Pikeville Methodist Hospital, making her stay here on God's footstool 82 years, 9 months and 2 days. Virgie was a daughter of William and Dixie Bowling.

She was married to Marvin Cline, who preceded her in death, and to this union was born five sons and three daughters: Marvin Cline, Jr. of Albion, Michigan, James W. Cline of Litchville, Michigan, Virgil Cline of Varney, Kentucky, Lee Cline of Brushy, Jack Cline, who preceded her in death, Mintie Jane Hensley of Brushy, Edna Mae Stanley of Ecorse, Michigan and Jackie Beane of Albion, Michigan. Other survivors include:



23 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; a brother, Eimer Bowling of Chattaroy, West Virginia; a sister, Edna Maynard of Florida; and two step-sons, Watha Cline and Rocce Cline. Preceding her in death were a sister, Sally Starr, and two brothers, Ireland Bowling and Sidney Bowling.

Mom joined the Old Regular Baptist family some 46 years ago and was a faithful member of Pilgrims Rest Church. Mom, words cannot express how much we miss you, but we feel our loss is Heaven's gain. You have moved up just a little higher and gone home with a friend. Mom, we hope to meet you some joyous day on the banks of sweet deliverance, in a land where we will never grow old. We are grateful to God for sweet memories you leave us. Mom, we love you.

Written for the Children by
Shariene Cline and Foster Blackburn

CULLEN SMITH

There is much sadness in my heart but, with the help of my Lord, I'll write the obituary of my beloved Daddy, Cullen Smith. Dad was born January 18, 1907 at Canada, Kentucky, being the oldest son of Tom and Gracie (Stanley) Smith. God called him home to a land of rest on Saturday, May 16, 1987 following a lingering illness. God blessed him with 80 beautiful years upon His footstool.

Dad was married to Ethel (Crigger) Smith on August 15, 1931 and they shared 56 golden years. To this union was born six children: four daughters, Nita Kendrick of Sidney, Kentucky, Ruby Carter of Lambert, Illinois, Maggie Carter of Marengo, Illinois and Betty Kuhn of Glen Elynn, Illinois; and two sons, Paul and Donnie Smith of Sidney, Kentucky.



He had 19 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren who brought much joy to him. They all loved him so much and to some of them he was more than a Papa, he was a Daddy.

Also surviving are: six brothers, Harold Smith of Huddy, Kentucky, Elder Raymond Smith, Verlin Smith, Tom Smith, Jr. and Everett Smith, all of Canada, Kentucky and Will Smith of Morehead, Kentucky; and one sister, Ethel McCure of Elyria, Ohio. Two brothers preceded him in death.

Daddy was a retired miner and worked hard to provide for the family. He was a member of the Dix Fork Old Regular Baptist Church for 35 years. Being a faithful member, he enjoyed the fellowship with his Brothers and Sisters and the sharing of God's word. Due to his illness in recent years he couldn't attend the Services, but his heart was always there.

Daddy leaves behind a host of relatives and friends to mourn his passing, but we feel in our heart that our loss is Heaven's gain. I feel that Daddy is basking in the sunlight and enjoying the beauties of that glorious City and will never suffer again. Our home will be so lonely without him, but I know that God will give us strength. I thank you Lord for the years that we shared together. So, Daddy it's not goodby, it's just goodnight till we all meet again. Sadness you'll see in my face as the many tears fall down, but there's great joy in my heart to know Daddy will wear a crown.

Written by his daughter,
Nita Jean Kendrick

ALFRED YOUNG

It is with a sad and aching heart, and so many tears I can hardly see, that I try to write the obituary of my loving father, Alfred Young. Dad was born March 20, 1904 and departed this life September 19, 1987, making his stay here on this earth 83 years and 5 months. God was so good to Dad for letting him stay with us that long. Thank you, Lord, for being there when he needed you. Dad was the son of John and America Young.

He was united in marriage to Betty (Thompson) Young and to this union was born nine children, Walter Harmon Young who passed away five months after Dad, John, Jr., of Canada, Kentucky, Buddy Young of Hardy, Kentucky, Curtis Young of Meta, Kentucky, Malcolm Young of Varney, Kentucky, Grace Robinette and Lucy Robinette of Varney, Kentucky, Bronis Persons and Christine McGuire, both of Ohio; and two step-children, Fred Muncy and Janie Amor.

After Mom passed away, Dad married Mary (Muncy) Young who is still living and, bless her heart, she took such good care of Dad after he got sick. Dad also leaves two sisters, Birtha Robinette of Lexington, Kentucky and Bronis Robinette of Varney, Kentucky, 34 grandchildren and a host of great-grandchildren and, my mind is so wrecked at the moment, I can't think of all their names, but God knows them all.

Dad was a member of the Old Regular Baptist Church for many years. He has now paid the debt we all must pay and I want to say to all the children, if you want to meet Dad again, you had better make peace with your Lord.

Dad, I love you, sleep on and I hope to meet you some sweet day around God's throne.

AMANDA CLINE

Written by his daughter and Sister in Christ,
Lucy Robinette

With loving but sad memories I'll try to write the obituary of my mother, Amanda Cline. Mom was born May 12, 1901 and died April 18, 1987. She was blessed to live 85 years here on God's good earth. Her parents were Fred and Brooke Trent of Long Pole, West Virginia. She was married to Mose Cline and to this union was born two children, DePass of the home, and a daughter, Juanita Layne of Baisden, West Virginia. Other survivors include seven grandchildren, fourteen great-grandchildren, three great-great-grandchildren and three step-great-grandchildren.

Mom was blessed to live her life in a way to let her light shine so that the people she touched along the way will always remember her and keep her memory alive in their heart. Mom belonged to the Rosa Regular Baptist Church for over 53 years and loved to fill her seat as long as she was able.



Mom used to come down every day to eat and drink coffee with Sanford, my husband, and me and she enjoyed that so much. But, she got so sick in her last days that she was like a little child. Mommy sent for me one night about midnight and wanted me to sing for her "The Old Ship of Zion" and "Loving Memories". She said, "I wish I could go to Church with you." She wanted to see her Sisters and Brothers so much, but she couldn't use her legs. Mom said, "Honey, I love everyone so much."

I believe Mom's spirit went back to God who gave it and, by His grace, I'll see her again. It broke my heart to lose you, and you did not go alone, part of me went with you when God called you to come home.

Written by ones who love you,
Juanita Layne and Sanford Layne

ARTHELLA B. CHURCH

This is the obituary of our beloved mother, Arthelia B. Church of Austin, Texas and formerly of McCarr, Kentucky. She was born on May 8, 1904 at Broxton, West Virginia to Mammie and Burt Knight, both of whom preceded her in death. Mother entered into rest on March 8, 1987, making her stay here on earth 82 years, 10 months and 3 days.

Mother was married to Allen Church in the year of 1922 and he preceded her in death in 1950. To this union was born 13 children. One daughter, Dorothy M. Ross, and two sons, Delbert Church and Wilbert Church, preceded her in death. Surviving are one son, James H. Church of Williamson, West Virginia, and eight daughters, Dolly D. Church of Varney, West Virginia, Geraldine Swigert of Spartanburg, South Carolina, Thelma J. Wallace of Austin, Texas, Eula Jane Pettigrew of Lincoln, Arkansas, Oma Sarah Branham of Midwest City, Oklahoma, Martha Edith Falcon of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and Bonnie Faye Church of S. E. Mount Sterling, Ohio. Also surviving are 30 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by one sister, Rosie Knight, and three brothers, Charlie Knight, Johnny Knight and George Knight. She has three surviving sisters, Sara Thompson of Meta, West Virginia, Goldie Brown of Bakula, Florida and Minnie Culzer of Richmond, West Virginia.

Mother joined the Old Regular Baptist Church in 1945. Her membership was with Enon Church and she attended faithfully when she was able. She was a faithful and loving wife and mother. I believe she is singing with the angels in heaven. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

Written with love and hope,
her daughter, Thelma J. Wallace



NEWTON WALTERS

It is with great sadness, but not without some joy that, by the grace of God, I try to write the obituary of Thomas Newton (Newt) Walters of Hatfield, Kentucky. Born on October 31, 1910 in Pike County, Kentucky, he was the son of the late Lacy and Dixie (Francis) Walters and deceased this life on December 31, 1986, making his stay on earth 76 years and 2 months.

Survivors include his wife, Nancy Mildred (Young) Walters; two daughters, Mildred Loraine Lowe of Madison, West Virginia and Patty Jean Scaggs Bevins of Hatfield, Kentucky; four brothers, Troy Walters of Sidney, Kentucky, Joe Late Walters, of Turkey Creek, Kentucky, L. C. Walters and Dover Walters, both of Hatfield, Kentucky; seven grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and one step-grandchild. One sister, Mary Burris, preceded him in death.

Papa was a retired coal mined and had been a member of the Pilgrims Home Church for almost 37 years where he served as Deacon and Trustee for most of that time. That's the reason I said his leaving was not without some joy, because I feel with all my heart he is resting from his labors and waiting for that great day when the dead in Christ shall rise. Then I also know he'll not have to suffer anymore, the way he did in this world. So, sleep on sweet Papa, as long as I live I will always love and remember you and pray for the day when I too, shall rest from my labor.

Thanks to all the Brothers and Sisters and friends for the love they showed. I know that Mama and the family, and especially me, love you all.

Written by his Grandson and Brother in Christ,
Donnie Scaggs

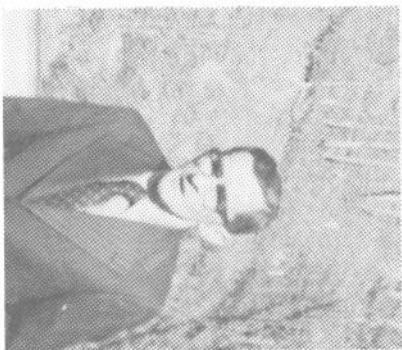
OCTAVIA (STANLEY) COCHRAN

Born March 15, 1895, Died December 15, 1986

With a sad heart I will try to write Grandma's obituary.

A long and useful life ended December 15, 1986 when wife, mother, sister, Grandma and friend passed on to a better life. She lived on this earth 91 years and 9 months. She was a true and faithful member of the Dix Fork Old Regular Baptist Church and was baptized January 2, 1927 by the late Elder John H. Brown.

She was the daughter of the late George and Mary Ellen Stanley and was also preceded in death by six sisters and three brothers. One brother, Dewey Stanley, survives.



She was married to the late John H. Cochran and from this marriage eleven children were born. Two sons, Earl and John, Jr., preceded her in death and surviving children are Ernest, Gracie, Julius, Luther, William H., Harold, Magdelene, Eugene and Chester. She has 36 grandchildren, 64 great-grandchildren and 24 great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her second husband, Mitch Cochran, and two step sons. She has five living step-children.

She was blessed with a long life, a brilliant memory and always had a kind word for everyone. She "mothered" everyone she came in contact with and was a second mother to me. Her mourning survivors will always remember her love for them. Our loss is Heaven's gain. We all love you Grandma.

George Ed

CONSTITUTION OF THE SAKDIS 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 to 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 who made it.

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

ARTICLE 10. We think it necessary that we should have an Association Fund for defraying the 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 to provide 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 the 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 are 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 Jesus 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 those 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 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 or 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 and Telephone	Address
Adair, Tommy Sr. (904) 629-9891	1842 N. E. 23rd Street, Ocala, Florida 32670
Adair, William Sr. (904) 629-7888	4140 N.E. 25th Avenue, Ocala, Florida 32670
Barney, James (813) 763-4891	816 S.E. 11th Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34974
Barney, Paul (813) 763-9241	150 N.W. 98th Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34972
Blackburn, Foster (606) 631-1432	Box 299, Wolf Mt. Road, Varney, Kentucky 41571
Blair, Leslie	Box 481, Man, West Virginia 25635
Brown, Claude (606) 353-7453	Sidney, Kentucky 41564
Brown, Donnie (304) 675-5743	Rt. 2, N. Pt. Pleasant, West Virginia 25550
Brumfield, Billy	Rt. 1, Box 18, Delbarton, West Virginia 25670
Campbell, Stanley (904) 368-3998	P. O. Box 777, Anthony, Florida 32617
Castle, Kelly (606) 638-4115	913 N. Public Way, Louisa, Kentucky 41230
Clay, Robert R. (904) 489-2035	16297 S.W. Co. Hwy. 484, Dunnellon, Florida 32630
Cline, Johnie F.	Box 340, Baisden, West Virginia 25608
Cochran, Chester (304) 675-5162	Rt. 2, N. Pt. Pleasant, West Virginia 25550
Cochran, Ernest (606) 353-7964	Sidney, Kentucky 41564
Cochran, W. H. (304) 675-2563	Sand Hill Road, Pt. Pleasant, West Virginia 25550
Crigger, David (606) 353-7042	Sidney, Kentucky 41564
Dials, Burgess (304) 722-3751	1426 Strawberry Rd., St. Albans, West Virginia 25177
Dials, Thomas J. (606) 395-6572	P. O. Box 31, Warfield, Kentucky 41267
Dials, Willis	Cold Water Road, Inez, Kentucky 41224
Edmonds, Harold (606) 353-7532	149 Dix Fork Road, Sidney, Kentucky 41564
Ellis, Mont	Rt. 2, Box 290, Delbarton, West Virginia 25670
Ellis, Tommy	Box 296, Varney, West Virginia 25696
Evans, Joe	Rt. 2, Box 53, Delbarton, West Virginia 25670
Fields, Virgil (606) 652-3887	Rt. 3, Box 95-C, Louisa, Kentucky 41230
Gannon, James (606) 353-7437	Canada, Kentucky 41519
Hall, Charles (304) 475-4211	Rt. 1, Box 393, Lenore, West Virginia 25676
Hamilton, Hobart (304) 475-4225	Myrtle, West Virginia 25684
Hannah, Ison	Kopperston, West Virginia 24854
Hannah, Hayden	Rt. 4, Box 100, Ironton, Ohio 45638
Hay, Edwin (205) 828-4607	1611 Charity Lane, Hazel Green, Alabama 35750
Hensley, Samuel D.	509 W. New Market Road, Hillsboro, Ohio 45123
Howard, Clinton	Pilgrim, Kentucky 41250
Jude, Harrison	Tomahawk, Kentucky 41261
Jude, Nathan (606) 237-6015	Burrwell, Kentucky 41518
Lester, Lawrence	Balsden, West Virginia 25608
Lowe, Gabe D. (606) 395-6355	Pilgrim, Kentucky 41250
Lowe, Lloyd	HC 35, Box 8848, Kimper, Kentucky 41539
Lowe, Milford (606) 432-1514	Myra Barnes Avenue, Pikeville, Kentucky 41501
Lowe, Roosevelt	Goody, Kentucky 41529
Lowe, Willis L. (606) 237-4407	Box 185, Turkey Creek, Kentucky 41570
May, Edwin	Rt. 5, Box 579, Abingdon, Virginia 24210
Maynard, Andrew	Box 1014, Williamson, West Virginia 25661
Maynard, Clifford R.	Meta, Kentucky 41501
Maynard, Freddie	Box 1298, Brushy Road, McCombs, Kentucky 41545
Muncy, Louie (606) 631-9104	Box 8723, Brushy Road, Varney, Kentucky 41571
Muncy, Wallace (606) 237-6685	Nolan, West Virginia 25687

Napier, Leonard (304) 486-5119	Rt. 1, Box 203, Pritchard, West Virginia 25555
Nichols, J. L.	137 Dixie Hts., Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41563
Nichols, Sabert (606) 395-5055	Box 133, Pilgrim, Kentucky 41250
Perry, George O.	312 Perry Street, Louisa, Kentucky 41230
Robinette, Jack	Box 426, Switzer, West Virginia 25647
Robinson, Leon (606) 631-9825	Box 187, Varney, West Virginia 41571
Robinson, Steve, Jr. (304) 475-2841	Box 324, Delbarton, West Virginia 25670
Runyon, Danny (606) 631-9542	Brushy Road, Varney, Kentucky 41571
Runyon, Edward (304) 475-2662	Route 1, Box 158-A, Delbarton, West Virginia 25670
Sartin, James R. (606) 395-6487	HC 67, Box 14, Pilgrim, Kentucky 41250
Scott, Bobby (606) 353-7858	P. O. Box 382, Hardy, Kentucky 41531
Scott, Fay (304) 235-2708	Rt. 1, Box 220, Williamson, West Virginia 25661
Scott, Frankie (606) 744-8580	23 Sherwood Court, Winchester, Kentucky 40391
Sesco, Elbert (606) 237-6651	Box 241, Turkey Creek, Kentucky 41570
Sesco, Lloyd	Meta, Kentucky 41501
Stanley, Clifford	Rt. 2, Box 5-A, Sidney, Kentucky 41564
Stanton, Richard (606) 237-1217	Turkey Creek, Kentucky 41570
Stepp, Roger	Hardy, Kentucky 41531
Stihner, Willie	HC 35, Box 604, Kimper, Kentucky 41539
Thompson, Jerry R.	Box 142, Balsden, West Virginia 25608
Thornbury, Alson	HC 35, Box 100, Kimper, Kentucky 41539
Thornsbury, Berlin (606) 353-7122	Sidney, Kentucky 41564
Vance, Paul (304) 752-7865	Dingess, West Virginia 25671
Walters, Lacy (606) 353-7127	898 Dix Fork Road, Sidney, Kentucky 41564
Watts, Chrs.	Ocala, Florida 32670
Williamson, Billy (606) 631-1917	Brushy Road, Varney, Kentucky 41571
Williamson, Dale (606) 631-9238	Brushy Road, Varney, Kentucky 41571
Wood, L. W. (606) 473-9419	3809 Sycamore Street, Greenup, Kentucky 41144
Young, Hiram (Hi) (904) 629-2266	1126 N.E. 71st. Lane, Ocala, Florida 32670

LIBERATED BRETHREN

Blackburn, Willie	Turkey Creek, Kentucky 41570
Chafins, Ransom	Box 8, Lenore, West Virginia 25676
Cline, Rutherford	Balsden, West Virginia 25608
Glandon, Buddy	Hampden, West Virginia 25628
Hensley, Atter	Big Ugly, West Virginia
Peaden, Arlis	2659 Bacon Point Road, Panokee, Florida 33476
Reed, Ralph	6720 N.W. 57th Avenue, Ocala, Florida 32675
Robinson, Curtis	Varney, Kentucky 41571
Sesco, Harold	Sidney, Kentucky 41564
Sesco, Leonard	Hatfield, Kentucky 41514
Sheppard, Frank (304) 475-4908	Rt. 1, Box 325, Delbarton, West Virginia 25670

SARDIS ASSOCIATION OFFICERS and ADDRESSES

Elder Edwin May	Rt. 5, Box 579, Abingdon, Virginia 24210
Elder Ison Hannah	Kopperston, West Virginia 24854
Brother Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr.	237 Cherry Knoll, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Elder Edwin Hay	1611 Charity Lane, Hazel Green, Alabama 35750

**CHURCH DELEGATES
TO THE 1987
SARDIS ASSOCIATION**

MT. PLEASANT: Edgar Scalf, Frankie Scott, Lacy Walters
APPLE ORCHARD: Ollie J. Morrison, Charles Thompson, Freddie Maynard
ENON: Willis Staton, Clifford Stanley, James Spencer
REBECCA: Edwin Hay, Maynard Hay, James Gillman
BENT BRANCH: Homer Collins, Lloyd SESCO, Clifford Maynard
SARDIS: Billy Brumfield, Joe Evans, Luke Estep
BIG BRANCH: Landon Taylor, J.L. Nichols, James W. Blackburn
MARY ELIZABETH: Oscar Stepp, Wallace Muncy, J. D. Walters
BETHANY: Marton Ledson, Charles Hall, Claude Cantebury
ELK FORK: Brad Maynard, Wayne Sheppard, Jonah Elkins
PILGRIMS HOME: J. M. Francis, Forrest McGuire, Bob Ray
SALEM: W. H. Hale, Randall H. Runyon, Cletis Stump
SIDNEY: Arnold Howell, Sabert Nichols, John Jude
DIX FORK: James Gannon, Stewart Brown, Berlin Thornsbury
NARROWS BRANCH: Clyde Brown, Bobby Scott, Russell Thacker
LEANNAH: Ira Robinson, Clarence Robinson, Steve Robinson, Jr.
BUCK CREEK: Delbert Kazee, Wayne Herald, Jr., Paul Moore
TABITHA: S. D. Hensley, Jack Robinette, Rush Hensley
LITTLE ROSA: Fay Scott, Frankie White, Emerson Jarrell
TURKEY CREEK: Lonzie Thomas, G. C. Reed, Willie Blackburn
SAMARIA: Sherman May, James Baisden, Larry May
ROSA: Jerry R. Thompson, Jude Cline, Hubert Glanden
MUNCY VALLEY: Rush Runyon, Sr., Tommy Ellis, Mont Ellis
LITTLE VIRGIE: Alson Thornbury, Lloyd Lowe, Willie Stillner
SOUTHERN HOME: Stanley Campbell, Edward Youmans, William Adair, Sr.
PILGRIMS REST: Leon Robinson, Dallas Maynard, Fayette Maynard
OKEECHOBEE: John Stewart, Artis Peaden, Mosco Gillman
ELIZABETH: Kelly Castle, Leonard Napier, David Castle
LITTLE TAVIE: Julius Cochran, Chester Cochran, L. W. Woods

CHURCHES and CLERKS

CHURCH

ADDRESS

CLERK and ADDRESS

MT. PLEASANT Sidney, KY
 APPLE ORCHARD McCombs, KY
 ENON McCarr, KY
 REBECCA Myrtle, WV
 BENT BRANCH Meta, KY
 SARDIS Delbarton, WV
 BIG BRANCH McCombs, KY
 MARY ELIZABETH Hatfield, KY
 BETHANY Lenore, WV
 ELK FORK Delbarton, WV
 PILGRIMS HOME Varney, KY
 SALEM Goody, KY
 SIDNEY Pilgrim, KY
 DIX FORK Sidney, KY
 NARROWS BRANCH Hardy, KY
 LEANNAH Pilgrim, KY
 BUCK CREEK Beauty KY
 TABITHA Omar, WV
 LITTLE ROSA Chattaroy, WV
 TURKEY CREEK Turkey Creek, KY
 SAMARIA Dingess, WV
 ROSA Baisden, WV
 MUNCY VALLEY Pie, WV
 LITTLE VIRGIE Kimper, KY
 SOUTHERN HOME Sparr, FL
 PILGRIMS REST Pisco, KY
 OKEECHOBEE Okeechobee, FL
 ELIZABETH Rt. 3, Louisa, KY
 LITTLE TAVIE Rt. 2, N. Pt. Pleasant, WV

Edgar E. Scalf, Box 144, Canada, KY 41519
 Freddie Maynard, Box 1298, Brushy Road, McCombs, KY 41545
 James Spencer, P.O. Box 248, McCarr, KY 41544
 Merlon Workman, Rt. 1, Box 299, Delbarton, WV 25670
 Homer Collins, Box 129, Raccoon, KY 41557
 Billy Brumfield, Rt. 1, Box 18, Delbarton, WV 25670
 James W. Blackburn, 787 Brushy Road, McCombs, KY 41545
 Oscar Stepp, HC 61, Box 1860, Hatfield, KY 41514
 Archie Prince, 3305 Cloverdale Addn., Huntington, WV 25704
 Wayne Sheppard, Rt. 1, Box 110 N, Delbarton, WV 25670
 Donnie Scaggs, P.O. Box 71, Canada, KY 41519
 A.D. Blackburn, Box 165, Goody, KY 41529
 Sabert Nichols, Box 133, Pilgrim, KY 41250
 Omar Williamson, Sidney, KY 41564
 Clyde Brown, 422-"B" St., P.O. Box 220, Ceredo, WV 25507
 James R. Sartin, HC 67, Box 14, Laura, KY 41227
 Thomas J. Dials, P.O. Box 31, Warfield, KY 41267
 Jack Robinette, Box 426, Switzer, WV 25647
 Emerson H. Jarrell, 638 Goodman Ave., Williamson, WV 25661
 Willie Blackburn, Turkey Creek, KY 41570
 Larry May, Rt. 2, Box 2515, Dingess, WV 25671
 Jerry R. Thompson, Baisden, WV 25608
 Mont Ellis, Rt. 2, Box 290, Delbarton, WV 25670
 Alvin, Thornbury, Gen. Delivery, Kimper, KY 41539
 Robert R. Clay, 16297 S.W. Co. Hwy. 484, Dunnellon, FL 32630
 Foster Blackburn, Varney, KY 41571
 Ralph Reed, 6720 N.W. 57th Ave., Ocala, FL 32675
 Kelly Castle, 913 N. Public Way, Louisa, KY 41230
 Julius Cochran, 2223 Jackson Ave., Pt. Pleasant, WV 25550

CHURCH	MODERATOR	MINUTES REQUESTED	CONTRIBUTION	RECEIVED BY BAPTISM	RECEIVED BY LETTER	RECEIVED BY RESTORATION	RECEIVED BY RECOMMENDATION	DISMISSED BY LETTER	DECEASED	EXCLUDED	TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	SAT. STARTING TIME	MEETING TIME	UNION AND COMMUNION	
MT. PLEASANT	Lloyd Sesco	100	100						1		37	10:00/10:30	2	July	
APPLE ORCHARD	Wallace Muncy	100	100						1		38	11:00/1:00	1	June	
ENON	Lloyd Sesco	75	75						1		14	11:00/1:00	1	June	
REBECCA	Edward Runyon	150	175								62	11:00/1:00	2	Aug	
BENT BRANCH	Edwin May	150	150		1						70	10:00/10:00	3	Aug	
SARDIS	Joe Evans	150	200								86	11:00/1:00	4	Aug	
BIG BRANCH	Willis L. Lowe	150	150		7				1		30	11:00/1:00	3	July	
MARY ELIZABETH	Wallace Muncy	125	150						1		50	11:00/1:00	3	July	
BETHANY	Isom Hannah	80	150		5				1		153	11:00/1:00	4	Aug	
ELK FORK	Steve Robinson, Jr.	40	100		1				3		2	19	11:00/1:00	3	Aug
PILGRIM'S HOME	Billy Williamson	300	200		2		2		5		2	123	11:00/10:30	4	Aug
SALEM	Clifford Maynard	150	150		2		1		6		47	2:00/1:00	1	May	
SIDNEY	Wallace Muncy	150	150						1		4	31	10:30	4	June
DIX FORK	Ernest Cochran	200	200		1			1	4		59	11:00/1:00	4	July	
NARROW'S BRANCH	Willis L. Lowe	125	125						1		2	35	11:00/1:00	4	July
LEANNAH	Steve Robinson, Jr.	125	100		1		1		1		41	10:30/10:30	2	July	
BUCK CREEK	Virgil Fields	125	125						1		40	10:30/10:30	3	June	
TABITHA	S.D. Hensley	100	100		1				1		17	11:00/11:00	1	Aug	
LITTLE ROSA	Wallace Muncy	40	50						1		17	11:00/11:00	2	Apr	
TURKEY CREEK	Willis L. Lowe	150	150		5		2		1		80	11:00/11:00	1	May	
SAMARIA	Paul Vance	100	150		6		1		1		54	11:00/11:00	1	July	
ROSA	Johanna Cline	175	175		1				2		63	10:00	3	Aug	
MUNCY VALLEY	Tommy Ellis	40	40				1		1		16	11:00	2	June	
LITTLE VIRGIE	Fredddie Maynard	65	75						1		14	11:00/11:00	4	June	
SOUTHERN HOME	Tommy Adair, Sr.	175	200		5		1		3		44	2:00/10:30	1	Apr	
PILGRIM'S REST	Clifford Maynard	75	100						3		17	10:30/10:30	2	June	
OKECHOBEE	James Barney	75	75		1		1		1		20	6:00/10:00	2	Apr	
ELIZABETH	Virgil Fields	125	125		1				1		34	10:00/10:00	1	June	
LITTLE TAVIE	W. H. Cochran	100	75						1		14	10:30/10:30	2	July	
TOTALS		3,495	3,715	39	9	2	1	8	36	19	2,232				