

**MINUTES
OF THE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD
ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
SARDIS ASSOCIATION
OF
OLD REGULAR BAPTIST
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST**

**In session assembled with the
Southern Home Church
Sparr, Marion County, Florida
September 8, 9 and 10, 1995**

Elder Isom Hannah - Moderator

Elder Thomas J. Dials - Assistant Moderator

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

Elder Edwin Hay - Assistant Clerk

Brother Archie Prince - Assistant Clerk

PROCEEDINGS
of the
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD ANNUAL SESSION
of the
SARDIS ASSOCIATION
OF
OLD REGULAR BAPTIST
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

FRIDAY

September 8, 1995

The Sardis Association of Old Regular Baptist, the Church of Jesus Christ, assembled with the Southern Home Church at Sparr, Marion County, Florida on Friday before the second Saturday in September, 1995.

About the hour of 9:30 a.m. Elder Isom Hannah, our Moderator, came before a larger than expected congregation to announce the Arrangements and begin the very first Service to be held in the beautiful new Church house built by Southern Home Church. Brother Isom remembered our members who passed away in the last year and dedicated this Association to Elder Lloyd Sesco.

Elder Elbert Sesco, having been chosen as Alternate for this session's Introductory Sermon, came to preach the Opening of the Service. Preaching the whole duty of man is to fear God and keep His commandments, Brother Elbert declared that we are trusting in the same God that led our older Brethren and the same God that led the Children of Israel and the same God will lead us today if we put our trust in Him. Brother Elbert then led in prayer.

Elder Hobart Hamilton came to deliver the Introductory Sermon and preaching that faith without works is dead, he quoted from James 2:18: "Shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works". Brother Hobart was rich in scripture and example of faith and works and blessed of God to show how they work together.

Brother Hobart pointed out a difference about the Children of God: they have a love about them that shows "inward" to us and "outward" to the world. Christ said in John 13:34,35: "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another".

The Sardis Association delegates and a large delegation from our Corresponding Sister Associations then assembled at the old Southern Home Church house where arrangements had been made for the work of the Sardis Association. As is our custom the several non-delegate Brethren, Sisters and friends remained at the new church house to enjoy the preaching of:

Elder Floyd Jude, Union Association
Elder Doug McCarty, Northern New Salem Association
Elder Albert Hamilton, Union Association
Elder Johnny Newsome, Northern New Salem Association

The delegates having assembled themselves in Order, Elder Isom Hannah, Moderator of our Sardis Association, called to seats the delegates from our churches sent to represent them in this Association and the many delegates sent by our corresponding Sister Associations. He spoke a few words asking that we all pray for the Lord's will to be done in all of our proceedings and, if He will bless us, we will have a good Association.

Brother Isom then called upon Elder Franklin O'Quinn, Moderator of the Union Association to open the Services at the House. Brother Frank, a capable Moderator and an able preacher, declared that, if God is in our midst it will be good going home full of love for the Lord, the Brethren and the Association. Love and respect your Brethren, he said, and move by faith to step out on the Promises of God. Quoting scripture that Satan has found a seat among us and we are aware of his ways, Brother Frank stated that too much of the world is being brought into the Church but, he said, be subject unto the higher power, fight Satan and work in the Spirit and not in the flesh and put your faith in God. Brother Frank then led in prayer.

The Sardis Association then proceeded as follows:

(1) Elder Isom Hannah, our Moderator, came to the Stand asking the delegates to look to the Lord for He is a succorer in time of trouble and if we fight we devour one another.

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

Brother James Blackburn

Elder Stanley Campbell, Sr.

Elder Thomas J. Dials

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

(4) Having reviewed the Letters received from the Churches for regular form and order, the Clerk read the Letter from our host Church, the Southern Home 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.

Clerk's Note: The letter of dismissal granted to Little Tavie Church at our last Association was not laid in at the Philadelphia Association and by its term was void. Therefore, we did receive the letter of the Little Tavie Church.

(5) The Committee on Finance reported \$ 4,010.00 received from the Churches as reported in the Statistical Table and, after turning this amount over to the Treasurer, was discharged.

(6) The Moderator appointed a Committee to arrange the preaching for Friday night and Saturday consisting of one delegate from each Church in the Sardis Association and the entire Southern Home Church delegation.

(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:

Elder Paris C. Tackitt, Northern New Salem Association
Elder Murl Caudill, Old Indian Bottom Association
Elder Milton Dye, Northern New Salem Association

(8) The Sardis Association then completed its 1995 organization by selecting the following Officers to serve for the coming year and the Committee of Tellers was discharged:

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

(9) Prior to the selection of officers, the Clerk and Assistant Clerk had asked the delegation to select a new set of Clerks because it was time for a change. The Brother delegates thought otherwise and retained them in their present offices. In order to get the Association focused on other qualified and skilled Brethren for future consideration as clerks, Elder Edwin Hay, under the 15th Article of our Constitution, offered a motion to appoint Brother Archie Prince, with his consent, to serve as an Assistant Clerk. Motion was seconded by Brother Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr. No Objection. Therefore, Brother Archie Prince is listed with the Officers of the Sardis Association for the 1995 year as an Assistant Clerk.

(10) By move and second, it is ordered that our Moderator make all temporary appointments during the sitting of the Association and until new officers are selected at our next Association.

(11) The Committee appointed to arrange the preaching for Friday night and Saturday reported as follows:

FRIDAY NIGHT

Elder Murl F. Caudill, Old Indian Bottom Association
Elder Odes Williams, New Salem Association
Elder Paris C. Tackitt, Northern New Salem Association

SATURDAY

Elder Arnold Whitaker, Old Indian Bottom Association
Elder Milton Dye, Northern New Salem Association
Elder Jason Lowery, New Salem Association
Elder Frank O'Quinn, Union Association
Elder Ellis Amburgey, Union Association

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

Elder Bill Campbell
Brother Charles Youmans
Elder Chris Watts

(13) By regular move and second, the reading of the Constitution and Articles of Faith was omitted but the Rules of Decorum were read.

(14) 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: Frank O'Quinn, Jesse L. Williamson, Billy Hutchings, Robert Clay, Walter Mullins, Floyd Jude, Garland H. Deel, Stanford Branham, James Estep, John M. Mullins, Arthur Deel, Gene Ratliff and Albert Hamilton. Letter in the hands of Elder Frank O'Quinn.

NEW SALEM: Represented by the following delegates: Pete Hensley, John Lowe, Odes Williams, Auttis Cox, Jason Lowery, Richard Lowe and Paul Reynolds. Letter in the hands of Brother Pete Hensley.

NORTHERN NEW SALEM: Represented by the following delegates: John M. Elkins, Doug McCarty, Johnny Newsome, Paris Tackitt, Milton Dye, Ballard Brown, Sam Franks and Gillis Hamilton. Letter in the hands of Brother John M. Elkins.

PHILADELPHIA: Represented by the following delegates: Glen Merritt and Luther Ramey, Jr. Letter in the hands of Brother Glen Merritt.

OLD FRIENDSHIP: Represented by the following delegates: Leonard Coleman, Monroe Matney and Woodrow Whitt. Letter in the hands of Brother Woodrow Whitt.

OLD INDIAN BOTTOM: Represented by the following delegates: Haston Whitaker, Murl F. Caudill, Arnold Whitaker, Rodney D. Slone, Claren Williams and Melvin Fields. Letter in the hands of Elder Haston Whitaker.

(15) 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: David Crigger, Charles Jarrell, William Adair, Sr., Gary Adair, Bill Campbell, Eddie Marcum and Elbert Sesco.

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

(17) The Moderator appointed a Committee on Arrangements consisting of one delegate from each Church and all the Officers of the 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. By regular move and second this committee will meet at 2:30 p.m. today.

(18) On motion by Brother Clifford Maynard, second by Elder Joe Evans, the Sardis Association was adjourned until 9:00 o'clock Saturday morning, September 9, 1995.

SATURDAY

September 9, 1995

Met pursuant to adjournment at the old Southern Home Church house where, about the hour of 9:00 a. m., our Moderator, Elder Isom Hannah, called the house to order, and asked Elder Claren Williams of the Old Indian Bottom Association to open these services.

Brother Claren with a countenance so humble and so beautiful declared, "This life is trouble but God is peace." Filled with the Spirit, he preached in power the "outward" man is trouble but the "inward" man will keep the "outward" man under subjection. "Give me my troubles here", he said.

Brother Claren said he was glad to be among Baptist Brethren and defined "Baptist" to mean "them that have been baptized with fire and the Holy Ghost and cleaned up of God." The house was filled with the Spirit, shouting and preaching as we sang "Beulah Land." Brother Claren then led in prayer.

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 1996 Association; who shall be his alternate; and who shall prepare the Circular Letter for our 1996 Association:

Elder Floyd Jude, Union Association
Elder Murl F. Caudill, Old Indian Bottom Association
Elder Paris C. Tackitt, Northern New Salem Association

The Committee reported as follows and was discharged:

Elder Wayne Herald, Jr., Preach the Introductory Sermon
Elder Richard Staton, Alternate
Elder John Paul Hamilton, 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 Floyd Jude, Union Association
Elder John Jude, Northern New Salem Association
Elder Joe Evans, Sardis Association

SUNDAY

Elder Johnny Newsome, Northern New Salem Association
Elder Tommy Adair, Sr., Sardis Association
Elder Isom Hannah, Sardis Association

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

Balance on hand 9-10-94		\$ 29,647.04
Interest received 8/1/94 to 8/7/95		<u>\$ 890.35</u>
Total available for 1994		\$ 30,537.39
Less 1994 Expenses:		
Print 4,000 copies of minutes	\$ 4,280.00	
Liability Insurance to Samaria Church	\$ 525.00	
Interest on \$500.00 Loan	\$ 11.41	
Engineer Service at Mary Elizabeth Church	<u>\$ 300.00</u>	
Total 1994 Expenses	(\$ 5,116.41)	
Balance on hand 9-8-95		\$ 25,420.98
(includes \$12,389.00 Building Fund)		
Add 1995 Receipts:		
Contributions from Churches	\$ 4,010.00	
Obituary Pictures	<u>\$ 495.00</u>	
Total 1995 receipts		<u>\$ 4,505.00</u>
Balance on hand 9-9-95		\$ 29,925.98

(6) By regular move and second, it is ordered that the Clerk be appointed Secretary-Treasurer for 1995 and that he be allowed \$50 for his expense.

(7) By regular move and second, it is ordered that the Clerk superintend the printing of our Minutes, that he have 4000 copies printed and that he be allowed \$300 for his expense.

(8) Elder Joe Evans, chosen to prepare the Circular Letter for this session of the Sardis Association, came to the Stand and humbly read his letter. Though short, this letter has much love and truth that stands out boldly. By regular move and second, the Letter was received and ordered to be printed in our minute.

(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, Old Friendship Association and Old Indian Bottom 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 the Union Association Building, Ash Camp, Pike County, Kentucky, beginning on Friday before the third Saturday in September, 1995: James Blackburn, Thomas J. Dials, Willie Blackburn, Frank Sheppard, Isom Hannah, Hobart Hamilton, Clifford Maynard, Berlin Thornsby, Frankie White, Billie Brumfield, Stewart Brown, Sabert Nichols and Marion Duncan. Letter in the hands of Elder Isom Hannah.

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, 1995: Hobart Hamilton, Willie Blackburn, Frank Sheppard, James Blackburn, Stewart Brown, Berlin Thornsby, Clifford Maynard, Richard Staton, John Paul Hamilton, Thomas J. Dials, Marion Duncan, Wayne Herald, Jr., Sabert Nichols, Elbert SESCO and Paul Vance. Letter in the hands of Elder Wayne Herald, Jr.

NORTHERN NEW SALEM: When convened with the Little Angel Church, Columbus, OH, beginning on Friday before the first Saturday in August, 1996: Chester Cochran, Marion Duncan, Gary Adair, Joe Evans, Glen Dixon, Frank Sheppard, Gordon Akers, Willie Blackburn, James Barney, Hobart Hamilton, Richard Staton, Frankie White, Paul Vance, Billie Brumfield, John Wayne White, Elbert SESCO, Jim Cochran, Clyde Brown, Thomas J. Dials, S. D. Hensley, Wayne Herald, Jr. and Billy Adair. Letter in the hands of Elder Hobart Hamilton.

PHILADELPHIA: When convened with the Southfork Church at the Philadelphia Association Building, Worthington, Kentucky beginning on Friday before the second Saturday in August, 1996: Eddie Marcum, Ron Knox, Berlin Thornsby, Clyde Brown, Stewart Brown, Chester Cochran, Jim Cochran, Frankie White, Joe Evans, Frank Sheppard, Isom Hannah, S. D. Hensley, Glen Dixon, Gordon Akers, Willie Blackburn, James Barney, Archie Prince, Damon Runyon, John Wayne White, Paul Vance, Billie Brumfield, Larry R. May, Thomas J. Dials, Marion Duncan and John Henry Hensley. Letter in the hands of Brother Archie Prince.

OLD FRIENDSHIP: When convened with the Pine Grove Church, Hurley, VA, beginning on Friday before the fourth Saturday in August, 1996: Berlin Thornsby, Jerry Thompson, Elbert SESCO, Paul Vance, Damon Runyon, John Wayne White, Isom Hannah, Joe Evans, Willie Blackburn, Marion Duncan, Clyde Brown, Charles Testerman, Thomas J. Dials, Billie Brumfield, Stewart Brown and Frank Sheppard. Letter in the hands of Elder Berlin Thornsby.

OLD INDIAN BOTTOM: When convened with the Doty Creek Church, Jeremiah, KY, beginning on Friday before the first Saturday in September, 1996: Joe Evans, Berlin Thornsby, Paul Vance, Elbert SESCO, Larry R. May, Frankie White, Damon Runyon, James Blackburn, Adam Runyon, John Wayne White, Sabert Nichols, Frank Sheppard, Glen Dixon, Willie Blackburn, Isom Hannah, Billie Brumfield, Thomas J. Dials, Stewart Brown, Ransom Marcum, James Barney, Gordon Akers and James Brown. Letter in the hands of Elder Joe Evans.

(10) Read the Letter of Condolence from our Sister Association, the Northern New Salem Association, and, by move and second, ordered it be printed in our Minutes.

(11) In the absence of other Tent Committee members, the Clerk gave the Tent Committee report that it was old, frayed and needed to be replaced. Report was received by move and second.

(12) Discussed Liability Insurance and re-imbusement to the Southern Home Church for the cost of insurance for this year. By regular move and second, the Brother Clerk was authorized to pay the Southern Home Church \$525.00 for Liability Insurance premium.

To further help the Southern Home Church with its expense of hosting the Association, a donation was made up at the House and the Stand totaling \$988.00.

(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, both Brethren and Sisters, to dress soberly and modestly and to conduct themselves in a manner that becometh a Child of God. We believe that each Child of God will adorn themselves in 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) Ordered that we advise our Ministers of our Churches not to marry anyone having a living husband or wife unless they bring scripture evidence for putting their husband or wife away. (1929 minute)

(16) Ordered that we advise our Churches not to allow their Ministers to preach with any Minister who has two living women. (1919 minute)

(17) Read the Request from Dix Fork Church asking that we print in our 1995 Minutes the advice given by our Moderator, Elder Isom Hannah, concerning the Okeechobee Church Request at Item (19), page 9 in our 1994 Minutes, and as answer to the second part of the question add: "But it is not our practice to do so".

Brother Tommy Dials standing as Moderator allowed an orderly discussion on the Floor about the practice in times past of some of the older Brethren in some of our Churches, including the calling upon Sisters to hold prayer and serving as Clerk of the Church. On regular move and second, the Request was denied.

(18) Item (19) of our 1994 minutes: Read the Request from the Okeechobee Church asking if the Sardis Association has an order against using double married men in any function of the ministry, including holding or leading prayer? If not, would it give advice in the matter and consider adopting an order to that effect?

After discussion and on advice from our Moderator, by move and second the answer to the first question is that we do not have an order against such practice and the answer to the second question is that each Church holds its own key.

(Clerk's Note: On Sunday our Moderator, Elder Isom Hannah, verified the words used in this move and second. Realizing we can not now change this wording, he asked that his intent, and, he believed, the understanding of the Brethren, be recorded as being the same advice given by this Association 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.)

(19) Read the Request from Big Branch Church, Pilgrims Rest Church, Pilgrims Home Church and Salem Church asking that Sardis Association adopt as advice to it's member Churches the same advice given by our Mother, the New Salem Association, to her Churches in Item (16), page 8 of the 1991 New Salem Association Minutes.

Brother Tommy Dials standing as Moderator directed an open, long, informative and Brotherly discussion on the subject by the delegates. A move by Brother Billy Williamson, second by Brother Danny Runyon, to grant the Request met with an objection from Brother Sabert Nichols. Before a vote of the delegates was called for, Brother Tommy asked if the move, second and objection would be withdrawn to allow Brother Ralph W.E. Varney, Jr. to speak and they all did so. Brother Ralph asked for and received permission for the delegates from the four Requesting Churches to be excused for a conference on withdrawing the Requests.

Upon returning to the Association Floor and the Association being called to Order, the four Churches announced they would withdraw their Requests if the Association would appoint a Committee to study their Request. After discussion, a motion made by Brother Ralph W.E. Varney, Jr., second by Brother Clifford Maynard, to answer these Requests by appointing a Committee to study the Requests and report back to this Association next year with a recommended answer was approved and the following Committee appointed:

Elder Billy Williamson
Brother Ralph W.E. Varney, Jr.
Brother Gary Young

Elder Isom Hannah
Elder David Crigger
Elder Sabert Nichols
Elder Edwin Hay

(20) 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 (22) is defined to include "any means of receiving members."

(21) Read the Request from Sidney Church to amend Item (21), page 9, of our 1994 Minutes by adding as a last sentence: " And the Association also advise the Churches to adhere to the qualifications set forth in the Bible in 1st. Timothy, Chapter 3, also Titus, Chapter One, which excludes them from any part in the Ministry or Officers of the Church".

After discussion on the Floor, a move by Brother Frankie White, second by Brother Jim Cochran, to grant the Request met with an objection from Brother Jimmy Blackburn. A vote of the delegates showed 18 for the move and 32 for the objection and the Request is denied.

(22) 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."

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

(24) Read the Request from Rebecca Church asking that our practice of printing Obituaries in Minutes of our Proceedings of the Association be limited to those of deceased members of the Association that are in good standing at the time of their passing. In other words, return to the practice we had before the 1994 session.

After discussion a move by Brother S.D. Hensley, second by Brother Billie Brumfield, to grant the Request met with an objection filed by Brother Willie Blackburn. A vote of the delegates showed 16 for the move and 30 for the objection and the Request is denied.

(25) 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. Also, friends of the Churches that are recommended by the Churches be printed in a separate section of our minute. These are to be presented to the Clerk at the end of the Association. A charge of \$15.00 will be made for a picture (beginning in 1995) with the obituary, except that pictures of an Elder or his wife will continue to be printed free.

(26) By regular move and second, the report of Brethren called in Associations, Union, Communion and Memorial Meetings was omitted for this year because of time already used today.

(27) Little Tavie Church asked that Leonard Napier be removed from our register of Ordained Ministers and, by move and second, this was granted.

(28) Report of the Committee on Acquisition of Property was given by Brother Ralph W.E. Varney, Jr., as follows:

(a) Paid \$300.00 for Engineering work that found a section of land about 150 feet long by 75 feet wide (that can be made larger by dozer work) directly behind the Mary Elizabeth Church that is above the "flood plain". A 100-foot long by 60-foot wide metal building can be constructed upon this land with bathrooms, kitchen, food serving area, a 60-foot by 60-foot preaching area with seats and Stand, heating and air conditioning, water and septic system. Eating sheds, driveway and parking area can be constructed in the "flood plain" area.

(b) Mary Elizabeth Church can be enlarged from approximately 40-foot by 40-foot to a 60-foot by 40-foot building for the Work of the Association.

(c) Assuming we get dozer and other machinery work done free, the estimated cost of the above is \$150,000.00. This price is only 150-persons giving \$1,000.00 each; or 300-persons giving \$500.00 each; or 600-persons giving \$250.00 each.

WE CAN DO IT !

(d) Discussion with authorities for the Cinderella School and the Turkey Creek School properties are continuing.

(e) By regular move and second, the Report was received and the following Committee ordered to continue it's work:

Elder Bobby Scott
Brother Isaac Williamson
Brother John Henry Elkins
Elder Jerry Thompson
Elder Billie Brumfield

Elder Isom Hannah
Elder Thomas J. Dials
Brother Ralph W.E. Varney, Jr
Elder Edwin Hay
Brother Archie Prince

(29) The Request from the Sardis Church to host our 1996 Association was read and by regular move and second the Request was granted. Therefore, the Sardis Church will host our 1996 session.

The Sardis Church is located on WV Route 65, at Delbarton, Mingo County, WV.

All of our Churches should send contributions to help Sardis Church defray the expense of hosting the Association no later than July 1996.

(30) By regular move and second, the Sardis Association extends a truly heartfelt "Thank You" to each and every member and friend of the Southern Home Church and a "Special Thank You" to the many Brethren, Sisters and friends of our Corresponding Sister Association Churches - Little Ruth Church, Melrose Church and Naomi Church - and all others who helped in so many ways, including: Gilchrist Sausage Company (for refrigeration truck), Brown's Refrigeration (for air conditioning work), Jimmy Walton (for ice box, ice and tent), Barnette Bank (for tent, trash cans and podium) and Jerry Bonner (for tents). So many wonderful people helped in so many ways it is impossible to name them all.

Driving down to Florida was a very long trip but the love and care we found upon our arrival and the following days made the trip back a lot shorter. On the Association ground and in your homes you showered us with care and concern for our well-being. You made us feel special.

(31) By regular move and second, the reading of the Minutes before the Association arises was omitted and it is ordered that these minutes be signed by the Officers of the Association.

(32) On motion by Elder Stanley Campbell, Sr., second by Elder Joe Evans, 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, 1996.

(33) The Sardis Association was closed by preaching by Elder Johnny Newsome of the Northern New Salem Association and Prayer by Elder Murl Caudill of the Old Indian Bottom Association.

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

Elder Isom Hannah, Moderator
Elder Thomas J. Dials, Assistant Moderator
Brother Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr., Clerk
Elder Edwin Hay, Assistant Clerk
Brother Archie Prince, Assistant Clerk

SUNDAY

September 10, 1995

Most of our beloved Brethren, Sisters and friends have left for the return trip home but there are many who stayed for today. The old Southern Home Church has standing room only as we come together to praise our God for His divine love that is surely continuing to overshadow us. Brother Isom told me yesterday that he knew it was very unusual for a Moderator to sit still and let the Assistant Moderator do all the work Brother Tommy did but, he said, "I felt the power of God leading him and the delegates and the Spirit bid me to keep my seat". Sweet Jesus, how can we ever thank you for taking notice of this little band of Sheep?

About the hour of 10:00 am, Elder Tommy Dials, our Assistant Moderator, came to the Stand giving all the glory to God for His love we have experienced at this Association. A love has been shown that surely is a manifestation that we are born of love through a baptism that has taken place in the heart; He is so good to us, he said. Brother Tommy announced the Arrangements.

Elder Johnny Newsome of the Northern New Salem Association came in the Introduction singing and, declaring we are having one good Meeting after another, he preached, "He that hungers and thirsts after righteousness shall be filled".

Elder Tommy Dials led in prayer.

Elder Tommy Adair, Sr., so stately and highly respected of the Brethren, come so happy in the Spirit and, in spite of his weak and infirmed body, happy in body. Talking and preaching on many subjects as he walked through the Scripture, he gave much good advice gained over his years in the warfare and preached of God's love, grace, mercy and long-suffering extended to us and all mankind.

All things, he said, work for good to them who love the Lord and we may not understand it at the time but will see it when it is finished. God is never defeated in His purpose and sometimes you have to flee when bid to do so by His Spirit. God works all the time, in His way and His manner, for His children and nothing is out of His control. I'm a preacher of Grace, he declared, and nothing is impossible with God for, as Jesus told Paul, "My Grace is sufficient".

Brother Tommy, thinking he may never again stand before his beloved Sardis Association, bade his Brethren farewell. "Be good to one another-love one another- look up for your redemption draweth nigh- I love you- God loves you", he said.

Elder Isom Hannah, our humble, quietly capable and unassuming Moderator, come in the Closing desiring, as always, to be led of God, and quoting from Hebrews 3:1, "Consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus". Consider this Apostle, he said, for only His blood can redeem us. He brought in the Spiritual Kingdom and became the High Priest- He trod the winepress along- purged our sins- and fulfilled the Law. Moses said, God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy Brethren, like unto me; unto Him ye shall hearken and whosoever will not harken unto my words which He shall speak in my name, I will require it of him (Deuteronomy 18: 15 and 19). If we won't hear Jesus, that Prophet, he asked, how can we please God? Not standing long, Brother Isom stated that sometimes evil must come among us to bring out the good intent of the Lord but all things work to the good for them that love the Lord.

Elder Doug McCarty of the Northern New Salem Association called dismissal.

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

Your Clerks

CIRCULAR LETTER

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. On the sixth day God said, let us make man in our image and after our likeness, and it was very good. God planted a garden and put man, and commanded him not to eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. In the day thou eat, thou shalt surely die. Adam died both soul and body that day. Then in the cool of the day, God found Adam and pronounced physical death also. Dust thou art, dust thou shalt return. So man needed help from the dead state he was in by his own choosing. By one man sin entered into the world. By one man Jesus Christ (the resurrection from the dead). What we lost in Adam, we gained in Christ. In Adam we lost a perfect world, perfect body and perfect soul. In Christ, we gain it all back.

By belief in Gods word, mans soul has had a resurrection, but the body is still dead, still corrupt, still unable to rise above its sinful state, but with the help of the spirit, (for the Spirit helpeth our infirmities) Romans 8:26. We are able to mortify the deeds of the body. Before we can be completely alive again, we must through the hope of Christ wait on the Resurrection. But some man will say how are the dead raised and with what body do they come. The Corinthian Church seem to be disputing, and using the ideal, if you plant seed, you get another or different kind of body. But Paul called them fools and used the same seed to show a type of the Resurrection. Every seed its own body. In a seed of corn is a great stalk. The soul of man is seed and it has flesh for a body. (Still every seed its own body).

Now flesh was not evil until sin entered, neither was the soul evil until sin came. For they were made very good in the beginning. The flesh of man is different than all other flesh, for He promised it the resurrection, life eternal.

Paul used the comparison of the glory of different bodies to show how great the body will be in the resurrection. One Glory of the moon, and one of the Sun. Moon represents this sinful body, sun the glorious sinless body. Bodies terrestrial and bodies celestial. Terrestrial represents this sin nature body. Celestial, the changed spiritual body. As one star differs from another in glory, we are a little dim star before; after the resurrection, a bright star. All different kinds of flesh, but he only died for Adam flesh.

It doth not yet appear what we shall be. We have had a dead body all our lives and we cannot comprehend a lively body. Our body is not quickened today, but has to wait for the resurrection. For the natural man received not the things of the spirit, neither can he know them. But we know we shall be like him. What kind of body did Jesus have? Made of a woman, made under the law. Jesus had Holy flesh (so will we.) The Psalmist said, "I'll be satisfied when I awake with thy likeness". Man was created in the likeness of God, then sinned. He became depraved and corrupt.

How is the dead raised. (I Cor. 6:14) And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power. Then the meeting in the air. Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God. To inherit is to have because of birthright. The Jew, though they inherited heaven because they had Jew flesh and Jew blood. It is God's grace and mercy that he would change this corruptible to incorruption. It is a gift, not inheritance. Our bodies will be changed (not to another kind of body.) It will have no corruption, no weakness, no sickness, pure, sinless; holy like Jesus Christ

body, a body that is alive. The natural body loves the things of this world, man did not have a sin nature before the fall, but since, his nature has become sinful, a spiritual body loves the things of God.

Elder Joe Evans

**LETTER OF CONDOLENCE
TO
OUR SISTER THE SARDIS ASSOCIATION**

Please allow us, the Northern New Salem Association, to express to you our deepest sympathy in the loss of your Elders, beloved Brothers and Sisters since your last setting.

May you take comfort that their labor wasn't in vain, that through and by the life they lived, the light they let shine, our lives was enriched by their fellowship with us here.

Look far beyond this veil of tears, to a land of perfect peace, when and where we hope to meet them in a land, where there shall be no more death.

Our warmest regards,
Bro. Hillard Newsome,
Bro. C.W. Turner;
Clerks

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

APRIL, 1996

SOUTHERN HOME: First Saturday and Sunday. Services begin on Friday evening at 6:30 p.m. Communion Saturday evening. Ministers called: Joe Evans, Billie Brumfield, Gene Johnson, Floyd Jude, Mark Murphy, Billy Blevins and Arvid Blevins.

LITTLE ROSIE: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Isom Hannah, Thomas J. Dials, Joe Evans, John Wayne White, Paul Vance, Lacy Walters, Richard Staton and Wayne Herald, Jr.

OKEECHOBEE: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Arvid Blevins, Odes Williams, Ellis Amburgey, Earl Hill, Walter Mullins, Rickie Akers, Garland Deel and William Adair, Sr.

MAY, 1996

SALEM: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. immediately following our once per year special business meeting set for 3:00 p.m. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Lacy Walters, Steve Robinson, Jr., Bobby Scott and Dale Williamson.

TURKEY CREEK: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Arvid Blevins, Wallace Muncy, Richard Staton, James Gannon and Paul Vance.

REBECCA: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Gary Blevins, Phillip Estep, Chuck Hall, Paul Vance and Murl Caudill.

JUNE, 1996

APPLE ORCHARD: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 1:00 p.m. Ministers called: James Tackett, Don Little, Richard Staton and Sabert Nichols. Dinner served near church on Sunday.

ENON: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Bobby Scott, Wendell Hamilton and John Paul Hamilton with Assistant Moderator attending.

ELIZABETH: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Sunday. Ministers called: Gabe Lowe, Jr., Steve Robinson, Jr., Vernon Rose and Richard Staton.

MUNCY VALLEY: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Danny Runyon, Joe Evans, Lacy Walters, Steve Robinson, Jr., Jack Robinette, Henry Jude, Jerry Thompson and Elbert Sesco.

PILGRIMS REST: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Sunday following Regular Church Service. Ministers called: Harold Sesco, Bobby Scott, Lacy Walters and Dale Williamson.

BUCK CREEK: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Wallace Muncy, Virgil Fields, Homer Muncy, Jr., Milford Lowe, Henry Jude, Isom Hannah, Kenneth B. Jude and Vernon Rose.

SIDNEY: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Isom Hannah, Homer Muncy, Jr., Paul Vance, Berlin Thornsbery, Thomas J. Dials and Wayne Herald, Jr.

LITTLE VIRGIE: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 2:00 p.m. Ministers called: Thomas J. Dials, Steve Robinson, Jr., Wendell Hamilton and Hobart Hamilton.

JULY, 1996

DIX FORK: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Herman West, Ralph Adkins, Buford Brooks, Steve Robinson, Jr. and Curtis Carroll.

SAMARIA: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Edwin Hay, Buddy W. Carty, Isom Hannah, Thomas J. Dials, Hobart Hamilton and Joe Evans.

LEANNAH: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 1:00 p.m. Ministers called: Jason Lowery, Elbert SESCO and Wendell Hamilton.

MT. PLEASANT: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: John Paul Hamilton, Hobart Hamilton, Dewey Roberts and Paul Vance.

LITTLE TAVIE: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Bill Cochran, Bobby Adkins, Berlin Thornsbery, Paul Vance, Edwin Hay and Lacy Walters.

BIG BRANCH: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 1:00 p.m. Ministers called: John Paul Hamilton, Steve Robinson, Jr., Virgil Fields and Moderator attending. Everyone welcome.

MARY ELIZABETH: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Monroe Jones, Vernon Rose, Isom Hannah, Wendell Hamilton and Odes Williams.

NARROWS BRANCH: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: David Crigger, Hobart Hamilton, Elbert SESCO, Danny Runyon, Richard Staton and Wendell Hamilton with Moderator attending.

AUGUST, 1996

TABITHA: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Isom Hannah, Joe Evans, Billie Brumfield, Tommy Ellis, Roger Stepp and James Barney.

ELK FORK: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Jack Robinette, Mark Murphy, Steve Robinson, Jr., Billie Brumfield and Leon Robinson.

BENT BRANCH: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Hiram Adkins, Foster Blackburn, Chuck Hall and Teddy Honaker.

ROSA: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Sunday afternoon. Ministers called: Isom Hannah, Paul Vance, Steve Robinson, Jr., Bill Cotton, Elbert Sesco, Danny Runyon and Burl Sturgill.

BETHANY: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Wallace Muncy, Paul Vance, Hobart Hamilton, Edward Runyon, Clinton Moore and Edwin Hay.

PILGRIMS HOME: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Sunday evening. Ministers called: Teddy Robinson, Robert Haney, Jerry Estep and Claren Williams.

SARDIS: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Robert R. Clay, Stanley Campbell, Dave Gibson, Berlin Thornsbery and Willie Blackburn.

MEMORIAL MEETINGS

MARCH, 1996

OKEECHOBEE CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Okeechobee Church on the third Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Hobart Hamilton, Edwin Hay, Isom Hannah, Stanford Branham and Paul Barney.

APRIL, 1996

SAMARIA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Samaria Church on Sunday after the first Saturday. Ministers called: Isom Hannah, Lacy Walters, Jerry Thompson, Elbert Sesco and Thomas J. Dials.

MEMORIAL MEETING of Victoria Smith, great-grandson Joseph Donovan Thornsbery, Gertrude Thacker and grandson, David Eugene Thacker, Ethel Layne, Maxie Laferty, and Patty Thornsbery, daughter-in-law of Mary Thornsbery, will be held at the Mount Pleasant Church on Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Hobart Hamilton, Dale Williamson, Wendell Hamilton, Richard Staton and Hurshell Huff.

MAY, 1996

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members 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 and Gabe D. Lowe. Memorial to be held at the Leannah Church.

MUNCY VALLEY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Muncy Valley Church on the second Sunday. Ministers called: Joe Evans, Billy Adair, Dale Williamsom, Chris Watts and Richard Staton.

ELK FORK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Elk Fork Church on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Paul Vance, Tommy Ellis, Lacy Walters and Willie Blackburn.

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, Richard Staton and J. L. Nichols.

MARY ELIZABETH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Zella May (Fraley) Harrison at the Church on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Paul Vance, Bobby Scott, Lacy Walters and Joe Evans.

LITTLE VIRGIE CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members and friends of the Little Virgie Church on Sunday after the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: Berlin Thornsbery, Foster Blackburn, Bobby Sesco and Leonard Sesco.

NARROWS BRANCH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Narrows Branch Church on the fourth Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Hiram Adkins, Leonard Sesco, Frankie Scott, Thomas J. Dials, Lacy Walters and Bobby Scott.

SIDNEY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Jobe Blackburn and Trixie Blackburn, his wife, and all the deceased on that cemetery at the old home place on Pigeon Roost Fork of Wolf Creek on the fourth Sunday. Ministers called: Sabert Nichols, Tom Dials, Milford Lowe, Edward Runyon and Wallace Muncy.

BETHANY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting at the Hannah Cemetery on the fourth Sunday. Ministers called: Paul Vance, David Crigger, Joe Evans and Moderator to attend. There will be no church at the Bethany Church house on this Sunday.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held on the Stanley and Hinkle Cemetery on the Right Fork of Brushy Creek on the fourth Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Danny Runyon, Billy Williamson, Richard Staton and Foster Blackburn.

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

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held on the Cochran Cemetery at Dix Fork on the last Saturday at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Lacy Walters and Berlin Thornsbery.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held on the Stanley Cemetery at Dix Fork on the last Sunday. Ministers called: Billy Cochran, W. H. Cochran, Chester Cochran and Berlin Thornsbery.

SARDIS CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the Pigeon Roost Cemetery on Memorial Day at 2:30 p.m. Ministers called: Frank Sheppard, Tommy Ellis and Mark Murphy.

JUNE, 1996

SOUTHERN HOME CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Southern Home Church on the first Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Edwin Hay, Dale Williamson, Danny Runyon, Odes Williams, Walter Mullins and Isom Hannah.

TABITHA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members on the first Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Leonard Sesco, Joe Evans, Tommy Ellis, Billie Brumfield and Harold Sesco.

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 in June at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Elbert Sesco, Dale Williamson and Billy Williamson.

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased on the Muncy Cemetery, also Elder Homer Muncy, Sr. and all others buried on the Ruby Muncy Cemetery. Sister Garnet (Lowe) Maynard who is buried on the cemetery near the mouth of Lackey Branch will be included in this Memorial, at 10:30 a. m. on Sunday following the second Saturday. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Wayne Herald, Jr., Kenneth B. Jude and Elbert Sesco.

MARY ELIZABETH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Glen Lowe and his wife, Mary E. Lowe at the home on Big Creek on the second Sunday at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Elbert Sesco, Wendell Hamilton and Hobart Hamilton.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held on the Robinette Cemetery on the Sunday after the third Saturday at 11:00 a. m. Ministers called: Elbert Sesco, Richard Staton, Bobby Scott, Lacy Walters and Billy Williamson.

BENT BRANCH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Bent Branch Church on the third Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Jerry Estep, Clinton Moore, Bobby Scott, Bill Campbell and Don Little.

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

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held at Pilgrims Home Church on the Sunday after the third Saturday at 6:00 p.m. in memory of John Gilbert Blackburn. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Elbert Sesco, Billy Williamson, Lacy Walters and Harold Sesco.

SARDIS CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Sardis Church on the fourth Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Paul Vance, Jack Robinette, Rex Napier and Ed Runyon.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held on the A. C. and Bertha Young Cemetery in memory of A. C. and Bertha Young and other deceased on the odd Sunday (June 30) at 11:00 a.m. Ministers called: Roger Stepp, Larry Thacker, Dale Williamson, Danny Runyon, Richard Staton and Billy Williamson.

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all the deceased on the Fields and Kirk Cemetery on the odd Sunday in June (June 30th) at 10:30 a.m.. This will include Elder E. F. (Frank) Fields, his wife, Rebecca, who are buried on Big Branch, Ellen (Kirk) Moore and Dim Moore, Vina (Fields) Kirk and Andy Kirk, Jean K. Webb, David Fields, Elmer Fields and Mint Fields and others. The cemetery is located about a mile below the Leannah Church. Ministers called: Freddy Ramey, Jason Lowery, Freddy Kidd and Vernon Rose.

JULY, 1996

BUCK CREEK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on Sunday after the first Saturday at the Maynard Cemetery in Warfield, KY. Ministers called: Henry Jude, Thomas J. Dials, Wayne Herald, Jr., Virgil Fields and Sabert Nichols.

TURKEY CREEK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting in the head of Long Branch on the Reed Cemetery on the first Sunday. Ministers called: Hobart Hamilton, Bobby Scott, Roger Stepp, Elbert Sesco, Leonard Sesco Jr. and Richard Staton.

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased on the Robinson Cemetery at 10:30 a.m. on the Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Sabert Nichols, Leonard Sesco, Vernon Rose and Clifford Williams.

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: Paul Vance, Joe Evans and Isom Hannah. Other Regular Baptist Ministers are invited.

TURKEY CREEK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the second Sunday in July at 5:00 p.m. at the Turkey Creek Church house for Mary M. Maynard and deceased family. Ministers called: Elbert Sesco, Kenneth B. Jude, Hobart Hamilton, Danny Runyon, Richard Staton, Leonard Sesco, Jr. and Willie Blackburn.

BUCK CREEK CHURCH will give away to a memorial meeting on Sunday after the third Saturday to be held on the Dials Cemetery on the Jack Cassidy Branch of Coldwater Road. Ministers called: Virgil Fields, Wallace Muncy, Thomas J. Dials, Jason Lowery and Paul Vance.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held for all the deceased on the Julius Scott Cemetery (Blackberry Fork), Hardy, KY, on Sunday following the third Saturday beginning at 11:00 a.m. Ministers called: Paul Vance, Hobart Hamilton, Richard Staton, Bobby Scott, Lacy Walters and Elbert Sesco.

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: Danny Runyon, Dale Williamson, Richard Staton, J. L. Nichols and Moderator attending.

SARDIS CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the Adair Cemetery on the fourth Sunday. Meeting begins at the Sardis Church house on Friday before the fourth Saturday and Sunday at 7:00 p.m. Ministers called: Chris Watts, Tommy Adair., Isom Hannah, Charles Jarrell and Billy Adair.

SIDNEY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Johnnie Stacy and Rachel Stacy, his wife, and of Cora Stacy, and other family members on Sunday after the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: Sabert Nichols, Homer Muncy, Jr., Steve Robinson, Jr., Tom Dials and Kenneth B. Jude.

AUGUST, 1996

ROSA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting in memory of the Cline family on the right-fork of Gilbert Creek on the first Sunday at 5:00 p. m.. All Regular Baptist Ministers are invited.

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

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of George Lowe, Jane Lowe, Sam Staton, Lora Staton and Joseph Staton on Pigeon Roost Fork of Wolf Creek at 10:30 a. m. on the first Sunday. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Milford Lowe, Gabe D. Lowe and Wayne Herald, Jr.

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

ENON CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting for all deceased members of the Enon Church on the first Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Kenneth B. Jude, Don Little and Leonard Sesco with Moderator attending.

DIX FORK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Dix Fork Church on the first Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Monroe Jones, Marvin Bryant, Lacy Walters and Jethro Hampton.

APPLE ORCHARD CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all the deceased on the Apple Orchard Cemetery, the Pine Grove Cemetery in Lenox, GA and the Millwood Cemetery in Reddick, FL on the Sunday following the first Saturday. Ministers called: Clifford Williams, Thomas J. Dials, Bobby Scott and Wendell Hamilton. Dinner served near the Church on Sunday.

REBECCA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Elders Hi Maynard, W. C. Hay, Marion Preece, Sr., M. J. Mounts, A. A. Sheppard and all the deceased members of the Rebecca Church on Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Greg Scott, Monroe Jones, John Wayne White, Sam Franks and Berlin Thornsby.

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

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all the deceased on the Lowe Cemetery and of Clinton B. Lowe and Marie Lowe that are buried at Maher, West Virginia, at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Clifford Williams, Billy Williamson, Ben Scott and Ernest Cochran.

LITTLE ROSIE CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Little Rosie Church on Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Joe Evans, Kelly Castle, John Wayne White, Elbert SESCO, Lacy Walters, Bobby Scott, Wallace Muncy, David Crigger and Isom Hannah.

PILGRIMS REST CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on Sunday after the second Saturday for the deceased members of the Church and the community. Services will begin at 10:30 a. m. Ministers called: Danny Runyon, Richard Staton, Don Little, Arvid Blevins and Moderators attending. Dinner will be served nearby.

MARY ELIZABETH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Elder J. W. Smith and all the deceased members of the Mary Elizabeth Church on Sunday after the Third Saturday. Ministers called: Sabert Nichols, Johnny Bentley, John P. Hamilton, Herman West and Richard Staton.

SAMARIA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the Hannah Cemetery on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Paul Vance, Isom Hannah, David Crigger, Berlin Thornsby and Ed Runyon.

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

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

SIDNEY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Sidney Church and of Elder W. W. Fields and all that are buried on the Bascom Maynard Cemetery on Peter Cave on Sunday after the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: Steve Robinson, Jr., Milford Lowe, Sabert Nichols, Berlin Thornsby and Moderator attending.

BETHANY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Bethany Church on Sunday after the fourth Saturday and the same ministers called 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 Sunday after the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: J. L. Nichols, Virgil Fields, Ben Scott, Gabe Lowe and Roger Stepp. Dinner will be served nearby. Everyone welcome to bring a dish of their choice.

SEPTEMBER, 1996

MEMORIAL MEETING of Ted and Ressie Blackburn will be held at the home of their son, Dewey Blackburn, on Winn Branch on the odd Sunday in September (September 1) at 10:00 a. m. Ministers called: Don Little, Monroe Jones and Dewey Roberts.

SAMARIA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the Lackey Cemetery on Sunday after the first Saturday. Ministers called: Virgil Fields, Paul Vance, Joe Evans, Isom Hannah, Edward Runyon and Hobart Hamilton.

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the McCoy Cemetery in the head of Meathouse, about a mile above the Leannah Church, on the first Sunday at 10:30 a.m. in memory of Shirley McCoy, his wife, Lucy McCoy, Van Avory McCoy, and others buried in this Cemetery. Also, Elder Dike Blackburn and his wife Ora Blackburn, and daughter Mae Blackburn and all others buried near the mouth of Buck Branch are included. Ministers called: Milford Lowe, Gabe D. Lowe, Clifford Williams and Ben Scott.

APPLE ORCHARD CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting in the home of Brother Charles Lowe on Lower Brushy Creek for those buried in the Joe Taylor Cemetery on Sunday following the first Saturday. Ministers called: Dale Williamson, Sabert Nichols, Danny Runyon, J. L. Nichols and Tom Dials.

BUCK CREEK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting at the Church for all the deceased members of the Buck Creek Church and the deceased buried in the Maynard Cemetery at Warfield, Kentucky on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Sabert Nichols, Richard Staton, Steve Robinson, Jr., Monroe Jones and Kelly Castle.

MARY ELIZABETH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Elder Wallace Jackson, George Fraley, Donnie Lowe and others on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Bobby Scott, John Lowe, Monroe Jones, Lacy Walters and Wallace Muncy.

BIG BRANCH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting at Oscar McCoy's home in memory of his wife, Nannie, and their parents and other family members on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Virgil Fields, J. L. Nichols, Bradley Billiter, Richard Staton and Hurshell Huff.

SIDNEY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Johnnie Jude, America Jude, their three sons, Ambrose, Matthew and Russell, and other family members on Sunday after the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: Kenneth B. Jude, Ben Scott, Sabert Nichols and Tom Dials.

OCTOBER, 1996

ELIZABETH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the first Saturday and Sunday for all deceased members of the Elizabeth Church. Ministers called: Kenneth B. Jude, Richard Staton, John Paul Hamilton, Gabe Lowe, Isom Hannah, Hobart Hamilton and Wayne Herald, Jr. with Moderator attending.

SALEM CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the first Saturday and Sunday for all deceased members of the Salem Church. Ministers called: Foster Blackburn, Jerry Estep, Gary Compton and Willie Blackburn with our Moderator and Assistant Moderator to attend.

TURKEY CREEK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Turkey Creek Church on the second Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Monroe Jones, Wendell Hamilton, Richard Staton, Bobby Scott and Thomas J. Dials.

MOUNT PLEASANT CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Mount Pleasant Church on Sunday after the second Saturday at 10:00 a.m. Ministers called: Jason Lowery, Wendell Hamilton and Thomas J. Dials.

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

LITTLE TAVIE CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the second Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Gary Compton, Bill Staton, Johnny Thornsby, Donnie Brown and Raymond Stapleton.

ROSA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Rosa Church on the third Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Dale Williamson, Freddy Ramey, Herman West, Roscoe Crouse, Hobart Hamilton, Joe Evans, Sidney Collins and Richard Staton.

SIDNEY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of John Jude and Belle Jude, his wife, Annie Jude and her son T. J. Jude on Sunday after the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: Sabert Nichols, Wallace Muncy, Clifford Williams and Virgil Fields.

PILGRIMS HOME CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Pilgrims Home Church on the fourth Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Curtis Crouse, Roscoe Crouse, Wendell Hamilton and Hobart Hamilton.

OBITUARIES
of
BRETHREN AND SISTERS

ELDER MONT ELLIS

With the help of the Lord I will attempt to write the obituary of my dad, Elder Mont Ellis. Dad was born on January 5, 1918 in Logan County, West Virginia, and departed this life on December 16, 1994 making his stay on earth 76 years. He was the son of the late Robert Ellis and Fannie Rollins Ellis. He left behind to mourn his loss, his wife, Julia Midkiff Ellis, 3 sons and 6 daughters. Dad joined the Tabitha Church early in life and was ordained to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ in May 1954.



He brought his letter to the Muncy Valley Church in February 1958, where he remained a member until his death.

He served as pastor of the church for many years. He loved to read the Bible, and go to church. The last two years of his life he was a bed patient and unable to go to church, but he would lay in his bed and sing "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder I'll Be There." I believe our loss is Heaven's gain.

Written By, Elder Tommy Ellis

ELDER LLOYD SESCO

He was born in Pike County, Kentucky on December 6, 1924, the son of the late Annie Stanley Sesco and Willie Sesco. Brother Lloyd was a man at peace with God, one who walked with God, one who left the testimony that God walked with him. He passed this life June 1, 1995 at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Mourning his passing of this time life are: his loving companion Lorraine Runyon Sesco, two daughters: Della Sue Reed of Sidney, KY and Deborah Ann Justice of Raccoon, KY; one son, Lloyd Irvine Sesco of Plano, TX.



Left also to mourn his passing are two brothers; Chester Sesco of Orange Lake, FL and Billy Jean Sesco of Meta, KY. Survivors also include three sisters: Vernice Johns of Otter Creek, FL; Bronis Brown of Dayton, OH and Nettie Postell of Lincoln Park, MI. Surviving grandchildren are Patrick Glenn Sesco, Raymond Lloyd Sesco, Amy Sue Reed, Erin Elizabeth Reed and Christopher Jordan Belcher. Christopher often attended church with him. And Brother Lloyd would always make sure that we would sing Chris's favorite song, "Jesus Left His Home In Glory".

We will all miss Brother Lloyd, Lorraine, the family, friends, neighbors and the Bent Branch Church. But though we miss him, Apostle Paul said, "That to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord". We feel he is present with Christ in the Paradise of God. Our Loss is Heaven's gain.

Brother Lloyd retired from the Norfolk and Western Railroad where he worked for forty two years. And His many friends he worked with, many brothers in the Lord, will certainly miss him.

Lloyd was an ordained Elder of the Bent Branch Regular Baptist Church, where he was a member for over forty years. Baptized around 1950, he soon was ordained as a minister. He later begin to serve the church as an assistant moderator to Elder Edwin May. And at Brother Ed's passing he began to lead the church. He served as the moderator at the time of his death. The Bent Branch Church will miss him dearly. In his words, "it is my life". To some extent he gave his life for it. He worked hard to see peace abound in the church and to see it grow and prosper. With the church, he lamented the loss of Brother Ed May. And as moderator, he continued working to ensure that the teachings of God was upheld, that the freedom of the Spirit could continue in the church. He was pleased to see Gods blessings continue to pour out on the Bent Branch Church.

The brothers and sisters of the Enon and the Mount Pleasant Old Regular churches mourn his passing. As a young minister, he served both churches as the assistant moderator to brother Jonah Ester Williamson and at brother Jonah's death, in May of 1969, he was put in as moderator. He served both churches as moderator, leading them in a peaceful manner until now. While leading these churches, he also was moderator of the Little Virgie church for several years. That community and the church will certainly miss him. He was truly a great leader in Church, a pillar to the Sardis Association, a father to several younger ministers, and to many brothers and sisters.

God showed Lloyd's children, through their dad, where he is today. For a few days ago, when Brother Lloyd was hospitalized, they stood by his bedside while he was able to see and tell them of the sweet glories of his home. They heard him testify of his vision of the beauties of where he is now. During his stay in the hospital, when one was with him one understood that he was a man at peace with God. By the communion of the comforting Spirit of God, his children and family saw that God was with him. A few hours before he left we prayed asking God to continue on with him into the next moment, the next hour, and on with him into a realm where time is no more. God is not slack concerning his promises. I feel God answered that prayer and that our loss here is Heaven's gain.

He, giving his life to the Lord and becoming a minister as a young father, missed many activities that other fathers may be allowed to enjoy with their companion and children. But at the end, as dad left, the peaceful countenance of both father and children indicated that he and they were glad that he had asked God to lead him as a father. He leaves not a wealthy man but a man with riches that far exceed earthly treasures. The legacy he leaves his children is the riches that was bestowed on him by the touch of the master's hand. The hand of God which allowed the children to hear him testify of the great mansions of the land he was soon to move into. Leaving them something more precious than fine gold, a witness that precious in the eyes of God is the death of his saints.

We have the promise that through Christ we can all be united again where parting will be no more, thus we say, "farewell for a little while dear brother"!

Your unworthy assistant, Elder Billy Williamson

FANNIE BEVINS

It is with much sadness and sorrow that we write the obituary of our dear Mother, Fannie Marie Adkins Bevins. She was born in Williamson, West Virginia, on November 7, 1912, the daughter of the late Lee and Elisha Adkins, and departed this life on January 31, 1995, making her stay on earth 82 years, 2 months, and 24 days. She was also preceded in death by her husband, Fred Bevins, one son, Freddie Bevins, one sister, and four brothers.



She is survived by eight children: Virginia Garrett of Dayton, OH; Drexel Bevins of Hamilton, OH; Joan Ashcraft, of Seminole, FL; John Bevins, Barbara Thacker and Darlene Lowe all of Meta, KY; Gloretta McGuire of Varney, KY; Omeki Becknell of Smyrna, TN; one brother, Wallace Adkins of Fort Gay, WV; 23 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

She was a member of the Bent Branch Old Regular Baptist Church. Mommy loved to go to church, and attended faithfully for many years. When she became sick, she still wanted to go, and did so on many occasions when she really was not able to attend. She would say, "That's what you're supposed to do." Mommy spent most of the last three months of her life in the hospital. As we gathered around her bed, she would often tell us, "I have to go, you have to let me go. The evening came when we had to stand back and let Mommy go. When she took her last breath, we knew she had crossed over to the other side, where there is no more pain and suffering.

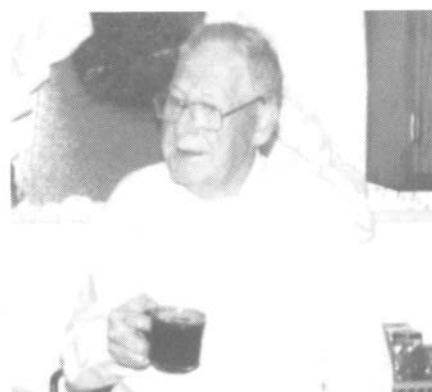
There was such a feeling of peace as she left us, however it has left a great pain as we miss Mommy immensely today. We have an emptiness that only she could fill, and the old homeplace where we all gathered so many times will never be the same. Sweet memories will always live in our hearts. She was a good mother and an inspiration to us all. We are thankful for the time God allowed her to stay with us, and we all strive to meet mother in heaven some bright and joyous day.

Written by her daughters, Gloretta McGuire and Darlene Lowe

BURNIS BLACKBURN

It is with much love and wonderful memories, we will write the obituary of our loving husband, father, grandfather and brother. Burnis (Bun) Blackburn was born August 5, 1910. He was the son of the late Esta Gross and John I. Blackburn. The Lord called him away May 3, 1995 making his stay on earth 84 years, 8 months and 3 days.

He was preceded in death by one son, Douglas Lucian. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Goldie Ratliff Blackburn. They were united April 27, 1940. To this union were born 10 children: Eugene Blackburn, Douglas Lucian Blackburn, Kelly Ray Blackburn, Roger Darrell Blackburn,



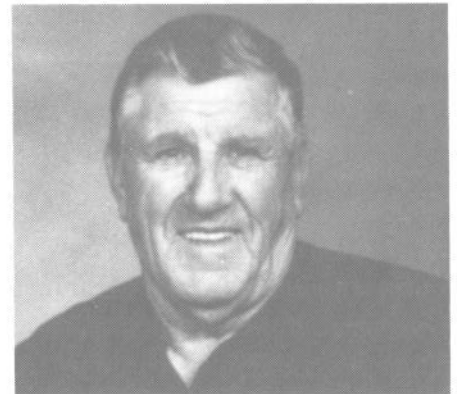
Archie Dale Blackburn, Vernon Franklin Blackburn, Jewel Blackburn, Kathy Lee Cannon, Janice Gay Collins and Cherri Denice Newsome. He is also survived by one sister, Audrey Cochran. He joined the Bent Branch Old Regular Baptist Church on October 18, 1980.

Saying I love you never meant much. You taught us the meaning and value which is more important. You instilled in us something more precious than gold, to love each other, as we do so.

Written by His family

CHARLIE BLACKBURN

It is with much sadness, love, respect and precious memories that with the help of the Lord I will try to write the obituary of my husband, Charlie Blackburn. Charlie was born October 6, 1924 at Sutton, KY, the son of Wesley Albert (Abb) Blackburn and Betty Thacker Blackburn Thacker. He was preceded in death by his dad, his first wife Marie Lockard, a sister Margaret Ellen Gillespie, and his son Charles Edward. Those left to mourn his death is his wife Louise Maynard Blackburn, his mother and step-dad Tommy Thacker of Harold, KY; Five sons: David and Ben of Shelby, Larry Ray Blackburn of Varney, KY; Dallas of Millard, KY and Samuel Amos of Hurricane, WV; also six daughters: Shelby Jean Thomas, Geraldine Hall and Margaret Coleman of Pikeville, KY; Mahala Patches Atkinson of Tazwell, VA.; Myra Cordelia Tackett of Virgie, KY and Charla Meredith Blackburn of Shelbiana, KY; one brother Everett Blackburn of Regina, KY; twenty grand-children and seventeen great-grand-children.



Charlie joined the Big Branch Church of Old Regular Baptist August 20, 1978. He was a faithful member and he loved the church and his church family. He prayed daily for them and his family. He attended the home church as long as he was able. He had attended a funeral on Friday before his stroke on Saturday morning. After his body began getting weaker he had asked for his letter to be sent to the Ratliff Church of Old Regular Baptist at Shelbiana where he would be closer home, but the Lord called him home before this could be done. Charlie will be sadly missed by all who knew him. We know that our loss is heavens gain and that we will be reunited with him again in heaven when God calls us home.

Much Love and a Very Sad Heart, Louise and Children

WILLIAM S. (BILL) BROWN

Uncle Bill was born Dec. 20, 1889 at Dix Fork, Ky. and died May 27, 1995 making him 105 years old. He was the son of the late Elder John Henry and Victoria "Aunt Doll" Williamson Brown. He was married to Alma Amburgy Brown and to this union was born four sons and one daughter. Survivors: sons, Earl Brown, South Williamson, KY; R. C. Brown, Columbus, OH; a nephew, James Brown, Forest Hills, KY; 13 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren and 8 great-great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, two sons, John and Harold and one daughter, Bernice, five brothers, four sisters and a daughter-in-law Mary, whom he made his home with died a short time after he was buried.



He was a retired trainman for the railroad and a member of the Dix Fork Church. He was baptized the first Saturday in March 1979 by Elders Ernest Cochran and David Crigger, a great nephew-of Uncle Bills. He loved the church and always looked forward to the Dix Fork brothers going and having church for him. He was such a loving and gentle elderly man. Being as old as he was, you could always sit down and talk to him about the old times and he would have a lot of stories to tell. He waited until he was 88 years old before he joined the church, but he would have been the first to say that he missed out on a lot of joy and wished he had gave his heart to Jesus when he was a young man. I count it an honor to have known him and he always made an impression on all those that met him. He has gone home to be with Jesus and rest in Paradise until the Judgement Day when both soul and body will reunite and go to a land where death will be a stranger and tears are no more. Farewell, Uncle Bill, until we meet again.

Written by, Sister Geraldine Crigger

BESSIE MAE CLINE

It is with much sadness that I write this obituary of my very special beloved grandmother Bessie Cline. Bessie Cline, 96, of West Milton, OH, formerly of Baisden, died Friday in West Milton. She was born Dec. 8, 1898, at Baisden, the daughter of the late James Oliver and Hopie Walls Cline. She was preceded in death by her husband, Emerson Cline; five daughters, Bonnie Jean Brooks, Jala Ellis, Blonnie Cline, Geneva Cline, and Josie Hanson; one son, Jason Cline; six brothers, Silas, Walter, Ula, Emory, Sherman, and Sampy Cline and four sisters, Lizzie Lester, Alsie Richie, Onie Ritchie, and Ava Robinson.

She was a member of a Pioneer family that settled Baisden. Together, she and her husband operated the B&E Grocery at Baisden for 70 years. She was a member of the Rosa Regular Baptist Church at Baisden, and resided near her granddaughter, Sharon Szakal at West Milton, Ohio for the past several years. Surviving are one daughter, Nina Osborne of Atlanta, GA; four granddaughters, Janet Prater, Twyla Weinberg, Deborah Williams, Sharon Szakal; one grandson, Esmond Cline; three great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

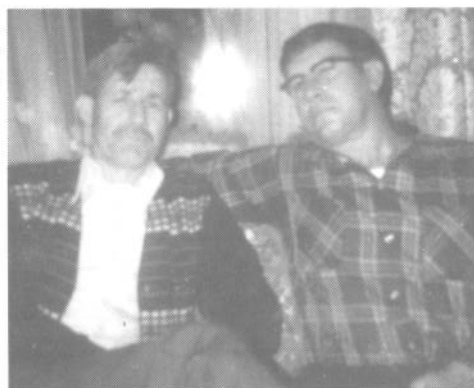
Services were held at 11 a.m. Monday at the Mounts Funeral Home Chapel in Gilbert with Elder Jerry Thompson officiating. Burial followed in the Oak Log Cemetery at Baisden. Honorary pallbearers were Clarence Treat, Charles Lester, and Con Hatfield. Active pallbearers were Danny Hatfield, Jerome Treat, Layton Cline, Joshua Kastan, Randy Schweikert and John Hatfield.

Bessie's death was the end of an era for her generation. She was the last surviving child of Hopie and James Cline. She resided in Ohio with me until her death she was so kind, so humble, and had very strong religious beliefs. She often talked of wanting to go home to Gilbert Creek - her final resting place is there. I miss her so much but I know she's in a beautiful place - my loss is heaven's eternal gain.

Written by granddaughter, Sharon Brooks Szakal

CLIFTON COCHRAN

With the help of the Lord, I will try to write the obituary of my dear Brother in the flesh and in the Lord. He was the son of the late Harrison and Maggie Stanley Cochran. He was born at McVeigh, KY on July 26, 1923. Clifton deceased this life on July 9, 1995 at the age of 71. Clifton was preceded in death by an infant son and brothers Charlie Cochran and Marvin Cochran. Clifton is survived by his wife Lillian Smith Cochran and the following children: Kathy Cochran of Lexington, KY; Paul Cochran and Joey Cochran of Canada, KY and one granddaughter also of Lexington, KY. He is survived by the following brothers and sisters: Billy Cochran of Huddy, KY; Bobby Cochran of Pineville, WV; Herman Cochran of Belfry, KY; Hazel Pope of Huddy, KY and Ruby Trout of Ypsilanti, MI.



Clifton belonged to the Dix Fork Church of Old Regular Baptists for 47 years. He loved the old church and was a firm believer in the Lord. He would visit me nearly every Sunday. We would sit and talk of good things of the Lord. This has been hard to write for we loved him and will miss him. But we have a hope to meet again. We believe our loss has been his gain.

Sadly missed by, Elder Billy Cochran

GOLDIE SCOTT HANKINS

Mother was born January 26, 1919 at Canada, KY and deceased this life June 12, 1995, making her stay here 76 yrs. Her parents were Madison and Octavia Smith Thornsby. She was married to Elder Dock Scott, assistant clerk of the Sardis Association, on May 21, 1936 and to this union was born three children; Janice Bogar, Hardy, KY, Elder Bobby Scott, Hardy, KY, and Geraldine Crigger, Canada, KY. In June of 1960, she married David Carl Hankins who resides at the Robinson Creek Nursing Home. She had nine- grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Survivors are sisters: Lola West, Canada, KY, Ethel Scott, Richmond, KY, and Betty Jane Cook, Superior, AZ; Brothers: John Thornsby, Canada, KY, and Calvin Thornsby, Greenup, KY. Six brothers and one sister preceded her in death.



Mother joined the Mt. Pleasant Church and was baptized August, 1938 by Elder Jonah Bevins, making her a member for almost 58 yrs. After Dad joined the church, they moved their letters to the Narrows Branch Church. After Dad's death, she later placed her letter with the Dix Fork Church where she was a member for 35 yrs. Being a little girl when Dad was baptized, I can still remember her telling her mother and sister Lena how happy she was that Dad had repented and that she felt like getting on the housetop and shouting.

We gathered around her bedside as she was dying and told her how much we loved her and would meet her in Heaven. I ask her if she would watch for us and she said "yes". She loved all three of us so much and ever so often, she would open her eyes and take one last look at our faces. She would whisper "I love you". We sang to her and she tried so hard to help us sing "Farewell My Dear Brethren", which was the song she had told me she wanted sung when she died. Before she died, she told us she was almost down to the river and she could see little children playing. She called her mothers name and said she seen beautiful flowers. We held her as she was dying and we seen the sting of death come over her sweet face. We knew she could hear us crying for her, because a tear ran down her face but she couldn't respond to us anymore. No wonder the song says "the bond is so hard to sever."

I dreamed of mother's funeral and we were standing outside the church waiting for the ambulance, but mother was deemed so highly in Heaven for the way she had lived her life here on earth, that the Lord sent a team of white horses pulling a carriage that carried her coffin and there were men dressed in white marching on each side escorting her as she came toward the church. I thought she had a spray of roses on her coffin and each rose represented each year of her life so on mother's coffin were 76 roses. A few nights before she died, the birds gathered outside her window and sang all night and Janice said she heard them and ask why were they singing so loud.

Mother was like the women of olden times who trusted in God and adorned herself in modest apparel and her beautiful hair was her glory. The Bible says "the ornament of a meek and quiet and gentle spirit in the sight of God is of great price" and that describes our mother. Everything she touched along life's way has left a hallow spot. She was our counselor and there is not a day goes by that we are not reminded of precious memories of days we spent with her.

After Dad died, mothers expression gradually changed and we became adjusted to her sad face but when we walked into the funeral home, we were pleasantly surprised. All the sadness and pain was gone and she was young again. As long as we live, we will never forget the spiritual glow upon our sweet mother's face and it was a witness to all of us that if only she could speak, she would have a sweet story to tell. On her final day with us, she softly whispered, "today I'm going home," and we believe that is where she is today.

Now the flowers have bloomed in her garden, and the warm winds blow across the fields of green, she's gone where angels sing, our loss is Heaven's gain, we'll meet when God gathers flowers, Come Spring.

Sweet Dreams, Mother (Your children, Janice, Bob and Geraldine)
Written by her daughter, Geraldine Crigger

JANE BOOTEN HANKINS

It is with a sad broken heart that I will attempt to write the obituary of my dear mother. Mom was born May 6, 1907 at Hatfield, KY to the late Melvin B. and Carrie (Stepp) Romans. The Lord called Mom home on March 26, 1995, making her stay here on earth 87 years, 10 months and 20 days.

She was married to Clyde Booten, who preceded her in death on November 23, 1955. To this union was born four children: one daughter; Mildred Ann Bevins of Sidney, KY, and three sons: James O. Booten of Turkey Creek, Jack E. Booten of Williamson and Donald R. Booten. Donald preceded her in death May 26, 1968. Mom also leaves eleven (11) grandchildren and eleven (11) great grandchildren. Mom remarried in 1963 to Thomas Hankins who also preceded her death on September 30, 1979.



Mom was a member of the Mary Elizabeth Old Regular Baptist Church at Hatfield, KY for sixty three years this past February. She was baptized by Elder Jonah Bevins in February 1932, and was a faithful member as long as her health would allow. I believe mom is at rest waiting for the resurrection.

Written by her daughter, Mildred Ann Bevins

PRICIE PAULEY JUDE

With happy memories of a warm, loving grandmother, I write the obituary of Pricie Pauley Jude. Mommy was born June 30, 1900 to Johnson & Vicie Varney McCoy. She went to be with Jesus on May 23, 1995; making her stay on earth 94 years, 10 months, & 23 days. She came from a large family - having 12 brothers and 5 sisters, all of whom preceded her in death.



She was first united in marriage to John H. Pauley. Five children were born to this union. John H. Pauley, Jr. and Wade-O-Lee Marcum Allen preceded her in death. Survivors include James Lester Pollard of Dallas, OR and Gay H. Pauley and Glendean Bunch of Beauty, KY. Her second husband, John Jude of Threeforks, KY also preceded her in death. Also surviving are 16 grandchildren, 28 great grandchildren, and 4 great-great grandchildren.

Mommy was a member of the Sidney Old Regular Baptist Church and was faithful to attend as long as her health permitted. How she loved the Lord and her brothers and sisters in Christ! I can see her rejoicing upon hearing her favorite song "When I Heard About a Better Home."

Mommy, we miss you so very much. We miss your sweet smile, your hugs and kisses, and loving counsel. You had such a positive attitude and would always make the best of any situation. I hope we all can follow your wonderful example. I am so thankful that just two short months before you had to leave me, I was able to tell you that the Lord had spoken peace to my soul. I will always treasure the memory of how you rejoiced and said you had waited so long to hear me say those words. Praise the Lord! I remember your concern for the ones still out in sin and know you would want me to ask them to please repent before it is too late. So I will direct my closing remarks to the ones who have not made a confession: I know from experience that as soon as you are ready to give your whole heart, Jesus will come in. We waste so much of our lives trying to fill that dark, empty spot which is in every sinner's heart. We search for things, hoping to find contentment. But the only true happiness and peace to be found in this world is in knowing your sins are forgiven and that Heaven will be your home. Please don't put off your salvation.

Whether we're old or young, not one of us can say; Just when will come to each his final earthly day; Thus while this life is ours, Lord, may we now prepare, So death may never come and take us unaware. --- Anon.

Mommy, I look forward to being with you in Heaven.

Written by her granddaughter, Zola (Pauley) Howell

CORNELIUS LACKEY

With great sadness but with the help of the Lord, I will try to write the obituary of my precious Dad, Brother Cornelius Lackey. Daddy was born January 11, 1921 at Kirk, WV and went to be with the Lord November 4, 1994 after a long illness with his lungs.



He was preceded in death by his parents, James and Mary York Lackey, four brothers and three sisters. Left to mourn his loss is his loving wife of 49 years, Sister Otellia Lackey of Lenore, WV; sons: James, Chester, Cornelius, Jr. and Tracy all of Lenore, WV; daughters: Earnestine Hall and Wilma Ramey of Lenore, WV; Rachel Flemings of Dingess, WV and Eva Little of Wolf Creek, KY; a brother, Shelva Lackey of Big Rock, TN; 18 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. Through nature we don't understand why he had to suffer and die, but God had a purpose for it and now Daddy has fulfilled a part of God's plan. So I say to the children, Daddy has gone to a better home where he will not suffer anymore. He cannot come back to us, but all of us can be with him and the Lord.

Written by his son and brother in the Lord, Chester Lackey, and sadly missed by all the family

MAGGIE SARTIN LAWSON

With a sad heart and many memories we will try to write the obituary of our dear Mother, Maggie Sartin Lawson. Mommy was born November 21, 1919 in Martin County, KY, the daughter of Elijah and Easter Ward Sartin. Jesus called Mommy at 8:55 a.m. October 30, 1994 at Pikeville Methodist Hospital, making her stay here on earth 74 years, 11 months, and 9 days. She was united in marriage to Denny Lawson who preceded her in death September 28, 1940. Mommy leaves 7 children; Phillip, Clyde, Charles, Lloyd, Sue, Judy and Linda who miss her very much. Mommy also leaves 18 grandchildren, 12 great grandchildren, 3 brothers, 2 sisters and several nieces and nephews who were very close to her. She was preceded in death by a grandson, a sister and 7 brothers.



Mommy was baptized October 9, 1988 by Elders Billy Williamson and Danny Runyon and took her membership at Pilgrim Home Church at Varney, KY. Mommy filled her seat as long as her health permitted. She was a good neighbor and friend to the church and community of Brushy. She loved to have company and nothing pleased her any more than to have the members of the church to visit her. Her pain seemed to fade for a while. Mommy's suffering has ended now and we miss her so much. There is an emptiness in our hearts that can never be filled. Mommy is gone from us and it is lonely without her but our loss is heaven's gain. Mommy is with Jesus and she will suffer no more.

Written by her broken-hearted family

ARVID BUSTER LOWE

With a broken heart, full of sadness, but filled with love and precious memories of our forty eight years of marriage, I'll try to write the obituary of my loving husband. Arvid "Buster" Lowe was born November 5, 1923 and he passed away at home June 6, 1995 making his stay here on earth 71 years, 7 months and one day. He was laid to rest at Mountain View Garden at Huddy, KY.

He was preceded in death by his parents, William and Sarah Slone Lowe. He joined the church and was baptized May 10, 1981 at the hands of Elders Willis Lowe and Bobby Scott and placed his membership with the Turkey Creek Old Regular Baptist Church. Due to illness he was unable to attend church the last several months. He enjoyed the brothers coming, having prayer and singing.

A retired coal miner and member of the UMWA Local Union 1532, he has 38 years of mining, working at the old N&W mines, Slater Mining and Eastern Coal Co. and the last twenty with Island Creek Coal Co. Gunn mines, retiring May, 1987. He had also worked in Detroit in automobile plants, in Columbus at Western Electric and Kentucky Highway Dept. He was a hard worker and provided for his family well. He was also a commissioned Kentucky Colonel. A World War II Army veteran entering the Army May, 1943 stationed at Fort Thomas, Fort Campbell, KY, Fort Hulen, TX and Camp Davis, NC going overseas and was in seven countries entering in Scotland, the countries included France, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland and Germany. Spent approximately a year and a half in combat zones. He was in several major battles in Europe, the invasion of Normandy, the Rhineland, the Ardennes and the Battle of the Bulge. In the 9th Division he was an anti aircraft gunner and received the good conduct medal. When he returned to the states he was stationed in New York at the United Nations as a guard. Then was stationed at the Army War College with the 712th Military Police battalion in Washington D.C. and was honorably discharged on October 15, 1948.

On June 5, 1947 Buster and I, Ellen Kazee, were married and to this union three children were born. One son, Arvid Gene was born at Walter Reed General Hospital in Washington, D.C. and two daughters, Connie Sue and Betty Yvonne, were born at Williamson Memorial Hospital. He is survived by his wife Ellen Lowe of Turkey Creek, KY; son, Arvid Gene Lowe of Ashland, KY; two daughters: Connie Justus of Ashland, KY and Betty Reeve of Franklin, KY; daughter-in-law, Judy Lowe; sons-in-law: Lesly Justus and Kenneth Reeve. Six grandchildren and two great grandchildren. He loved his grandchildren so good. Also surviving: two brothers, William Lowe, Jr. and Jessie Lowe; two sisters: Emogene Webb and Josephene Runyon; several nieces and nephews and a host of friends. Was a loving and devoted husband, good daddy and good Papa Lowe. Our home is not the same.



Written with the greatest of love
(Wife) Ellen Lowe

OKIE MARIE LOWE

With the Lord's help I will write my Mother's obituary. Okie Marie (Smith) Lowe, my Mother, was born at Brushie Creek, KY on November 8, 1910. The daughter of Elace Smith and Anne (Caines) Smith who preceded her in death.

On May 21, 1932 she was married to Roosevelt Lowe, who was a minister at the Old Regular Baptist Church, who preceded her in death. The Lord blessed them to celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary together. They had three children who loved them very much. One son, Haskell Lowe of Norfolk, VA; two daughters: Peggy Gable of Waverly, OH and Ruth Ann Williamson of Williamson, WV.



My mother was a wonderful person. She worked in the home very hard to make a good home for my Dad and us children. She loved to cook and she was a very good cook. She loved to stop by the side of the road when they were selling green beans and tomatoes. She liked to put green beans in the freezer so when the children would come home she would cook them and they would take some home with them, too. Every time I pass a fruit and vegetable stand I think of Mom. She made Christmas and other holidays special for us and we always had plenty for Christmas and candy and fruit. After my Dad passed away seems like Mom just gave up on life.

I miss my mother very much. I was with her a lot after my Dad passed away. We talk a lot, we had good times and we had bad times. I know my mother was in a lot of pain and it hurt me so much to see her suffer and not be able to do anything to make it go away. I know my mother is in a place where she will never suffer anymore. She is at rest with the Lord where she will never know pain anymore. When we would talk about her sickness, she would always tell me that she didn't want to leave us children. I know she loved us very much and worried about all of us, She loved her grandchildren, too. The Lord called my Mother to her new home in September 19, 1994. He called her away from all her sickness to a land of joy, peace and rest. We children miss Mom and Dad very much. The house that they lived in isn't home anymore because they made it home with their love. I loved my Mom very much and miss her.

Written by her oldest daughter, Ruth Ann Williamson

REBECCA ELIZABETH McCOY MAYNARD

Today, with great difficulty, I will attempt to write the obituary of my beloved mother, Rebecca Elizabeth McCoy Maynard who was born May 15, 1906 and deceased February 23, 1995. She was the daughter of William T. and Mary Jane Sherman McCoy and the wife of William Lark Maynard who preceded her in death on January 6, 1991. To their union four children were born, two of which preceded them in death.

Mother and Dad were members of the Apple Orchard Old Regular Baptist Church. They loved to go to church and I can remember them speaking of the good preaching they would hear



when they were able to go. They always encouraged their children, as well as their grandchildren, to be good and to go to church. Mother and Dad were both hard workers and enjoyed helping others which they felt was their Christian duty.

Mother was a good homemaker and loved her home, her family and her friends. It is very difficult for me to explain the loss of my mother. Mother lived with me approximately four years before her death, and even though I cannot sit and visit with her, or reach out to touch or hold her, I can feel my mother's presence with me.

Loving Memories, Nancy Edith Clark, Daughter

JAMES TROY MULLINS

James Troy Mullins, 90, of Sidney, KY died Monday, April 17, 1995 in Williamson Memorial Hospital. He was born October 14, 1904 in Pike County, KY the son of the late Preston and Alice Morris Mullins. He was also preceded in death by his wife, Lena Thornsby Mullins and 13 brothers and sisters.

He was self employed for many years and a member of the Old Regular Baptist Church. Survivors are, daughters: Lena Faye Elkins of Lexington, KY and Barbara Ann Lowe of Zanesville, OH, six grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

His funeral was held 11:00 a.m., Thursday, April 20, 1995 at the Rogers Funeral Home Chapel, Belfry, KY with Elders Berlin Thornsby, Richard Staton and Bobby Scott officiating.



TRINNIE PINSON

It is with a sad but a heart full of love that I will attempt to write the obituary of our dear grandmother, Trinnie Pinson. Maw had 96 years, 24 days on this earth. She was born December 1, 1898 at (Brushy) Varney, KY. And was the daughter of the late Harkons Blackburn and Alta Elswick Blackburn Keesee. She was married on March 11, 1914 to Will H. Pinson.

Maw and Granddaddy were blessed with eight children: Raymond, Minnie, Fannie, Dixie, Condor, George, Layton and Clayton. Maw and Granddaddy were preceded in death by all their children except Dixie Francis and Layton Pinson both of Sidney, KY.

Also left to mourn her passing are seventeen grandchildren, two step grandchildren, twenty nine great grandchildren, nine great-great grandchildren and a host of family and friends.

She was a faithful member of the Mt Pleasant Old Regular Baptist Church. And was a faithful member as long as her health permitted her to attend. Her health failed her but she loved but she



loved the Church and Jesus with all her heart. Although her last years were filled with sickness and pain, I know she is now at rest and peace in the arms of Jesus. We love and miss you Maw: you will never be forgotten.

Written by her granddaughter, Joan Blackburn

BLUFORD REED

Bluford Reed was born on December 14, 1924 to G. D. Reed and Annie Reed. He departed this life on November 1, 1994. He was married to Mazola Maynard on June 2, 1945 and they had eight children, six children still living. They are: Mary Lou McCoy, Robert George Reed, Kenneth Lee Reed, Donnie Reed, Sheryl Reed and Michael Reed. The two children that are deceased are Otis Reed that was killed in Vietnam on June 25, 1967 and Pamela Reed who died July 18, 1957 - she died at birth. They have seven grandchildren. Bluford has four brothers living: Oscar Reed, C. B. Reed, George Rell Reed, Homer Reed and Wayne Runyon. He has three sisters: Sally Jude, Julia Thompson and Genivia Adams.



Bluford was baptized November 5, 1961 at the Apple Orchard Old Regular Baptist Church. He was faithful as long as his health permitted. Many times he attended church when he wasn't able to go but he desired to be with the church and made every effort to attend. Bluford was a wonderful husband, a loving father and a good neighbor. He was a veteran of World War II and was in a concentration camp in Germany for three and one-half months. He served his country with honor and dignity. When our minds wonder back over the years we spent with him we have good memories of him. It is so hard to live life without him, but when he had suffered enough God called him home. We will never be able to see him again on earth, but if we obey the Bible I feel that we can be with him again and there we will never say goodbye but live with him and Jesus and all the saved ones for eternity. We love you and miss you so much.

Written by his wife and children, Mazola Reed and Family

WILLIAM HOWARD SAMMONS

It is with great sadness that I write the obituary of my Dad, William Howard Sammons. Dad always placed the church and the family as the center of his life. Even though he knew he was dying from cancer, Dad's concern was not for himself but for the family and friends he would leave behind. He not only showed us how to live, but he showed us how to die. Dad's courage and faith is a lasting testament to all who knew him, and while our hearts ache at our loss, we rejoice at heaven's gain. Dad was born on November 3, 1924 and died on July 25, 1995.



He was the son of the late Pearley Sammons and Goldie Sammons. He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Opal Cline Sammons; four sons: Tom, Terry, Drexel and Scotty and six grandchildren: Allyson, Howard, Olivia, Amanda, Brandon, and Sarah Sammons. He leaves behind six sisters: Lucille Steel, Elizabeth Thompson, Geneva Shands, Verna McKean, Faye Testerman and Carol May; and four brothers: Roy & Benny Sammons, Buddy Johnson, and Sonny Steele. He was preceded in death by his brother, Leonard Sammons. Dad was a member of the Rosa Regular Baptist Church at Baisden for 45 years and a Deacon for 23 years. He was a World War II Army veteran.

It is so hard to put in words the loss we feel. Dad told us that he was ready to go Home, and he hoped someday that we would choose to meet him. Dad's last words as he raised his arms toward heaven was, "I'm going Home." His earthly struggles have become heavenly rewards. As Dad was telling us his wishes for his funeral, he picked up an old tattered song book, and with quivering lips and tears in his eyes, he read the words to us from the song he wanted sung at his funeral, What Will I Leave Behind .."THE FOOT STEPS I HAVE MADE; WHILE PASSING THROUGH LIFE; WILL THEY STAND THE TEST OF TIME; WILL THEY HAVE A BEARING IN SOMEBODY'S LIFE; WILL THEY BE THERE FOR MY CHILDREN TO FIND ..."

I know for sure that Dad has left behind wonderful memories for his family. The tears we shed are from the loneliness we feel as we try to face the world without him. God has blessed us with a wonderful and caring Dad, and he has shown us the way we can meet him again, where there will never have to say goodbye. Dad has shown us by his wisdom and example the way to live a Christian life. He loved us and cared for us and provided for us. So much of what we are today is because of what he was. Dad, I only hope we can follow the footsteps that you have so lovingly left behind.

Written by Terry R. Sammons, Son of Howard & Opal Sammons

BERTHA SCOTT

With a sad heart, but with many precious memories I will attempt to write the obituary of my aunt and sister in Christ. She entered her eternal rest August 1, 1995 in Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital, Skilled Nursing Facility, South Williamson, Ky. Born May 1, 1927 in Martin County, she was a daughter of the late Julius and Mimie Nelson Burgett. She was also preceded in death by her only son, Gary Scott, a sister, Dolly Callihan and two brothers, Watson and J.C. Burgett. Survivors are husband, Cecil Scott, Turkey Creek, KY, daughters, Sharon Cochran, Columbus, OH; Shelia Brock, Sidney, KY; Sister Polly Thomas, Turkey Creek, KY; brother, Wallace Burgett, Ocala, FL, and a grandson, Joshua Dewayne Cochran.



Bertha joined the Old Regular Baptist several years ago and was a faithful member for as long as she was able to attend and I do know her heart was at church many a time that she wasn't able to be there in body. We all will miss her but we know she wanted to climb that Great High Mountain and Drink from that Fountain. Bertha, I feel that God took your pain and heartache away and gave you peace, joy and happiness in paradise and I hope to meet you there.

Written by niece and Sister in Christ, Genola Smith

ELMO SMITH

On a cold and sunny morning, Dec. 2, 1994, in the intensive care unit of the Pikeville Methodist Hospital, and after Mom labored many hours for breath, the good Lord decided to let my Mommy come on home. Hour after hour we stood by her bed holding her frail little hands. Then nurse knew that at this hour Mom was ready to go. As all the family and the Doctor gathered around her bed, the nurse drew the curtain around us and I sang one of Mom's favorite songs (In the Sweet Bye and Bye). Just as I finished singing, I could almost hear the rush of angels wings, and I saw glory on each face, for surely the presence of the Lord was in this place. Although my heart was breaking over losing the best friend I ever had, I was still so very proud to be a part of something so beautiful as this experience.



Mothers and fathers leave to their children many possessions such as money and land. But there is nothing on this earth Mommy could give me that could compare to the beautiful peace I saw on her face as she departed this life! I miss her sweet little smile every day, but I know that I will see her soon if I hold to God's unchanging hand.

My Mom, Flora Elmo Smith, was born March 10th, 1918 to Trimble H. and Alice V. Lowe Maynard of Hennon, KY. She was preceded in death by one sister, Marie Taylor. In March of 1935 she married James Smith who preceded her in death January of 1982. Mom lived with me and my family at Raccoon, KY for the next thirteen years until her death. She had one son, Louie Raymond Smith of Rockford, IL, one daughter, Jennifer L. Maynard of Raccoon, KY, six grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. She was a loving and faithful member of the Bent Branch Old Regular Baptist Church. She shall rest until the Lord comes on the Bent Ridge Cemetery.

Written by daughter, with much love, Jennifer L. Maynard

ROSIE BELL STATON SPENCE

Our last Heavenly gain in loving memories of Mom so dear and precious to all our hearts, Rosa Bell Staton Spence. She belonged to the Leannah Old Regular Baptist Church Meathouse Fork of Wolf Creek for many years until her death. She has gone home to be with our Lord.

Rosie was the daughter of Rebecca Collins and Tom Jude. She was born March 23, 1922 and passed away December 12, 1994 after a short illness. She is very sadly missed by her daughter Altia, and granddaughter, Donnia, and son-in-law James, and sisters: Dorothy McCoy and Marie McCoy and a brother, Elijah Collins.

Sadly missed by family and friends.



Written by daughter: Altia Lea Kirk

WILLIAM G. "BUSTER" VARNEY

With the help of the Blessed Lord, I'll attempt to write the obituary of my dear and loving husband, William G. "Buster" Varney. Born on July 21, 1917 at Williamson, WV to the late Elder Ken and Sister Lillie (Williamson) Varney. Preceding him in death were two sisters, Victoria Varney and Sister Hazel Phillips and one brother, Brother Floyd Jr. Varney. Left to mourn this loss, his wife of 35 years, Ernestine (Maynard) Thomas Varney; two daughters, Mrs. Charles R. (April) Parrigin of Belfry, KY and Mrs. Frazier H. (Rita) Barbery of Tucson, AZ; two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; one sister, Mrs. Eng (Mary Helen) Gillman of Vinton, OH; and two brothers, Avery Varney and Lonnie Varney both of Turkey Creek, KY; and a host of relatives, friends and neighbors.



Buster joined the Turkey Creek Regular Baptist Church on September 6, 1994 and was baptized by Elders Bobby Scott and Richard Staton. He dearly loved the Church and all the Brothers and Sisters, but was unable to attend due to his illness. However, to fill this void in his life, he requested that the Brothers visit and hold services and prayer with him. On January 16, 1995, Buster's four year battle with cancer came to an end. The Blessed Lord and Savior reached down with open arms and took him away from this world of sin and sorrow, to a beautiful garden where there is nothing but peace and happiness.

To the family I want to say that our loss is Heaven's gain. Buster is at rest, no more pain, just peace and happiness. I miss him so much, but I feel that some sweet morning I will meet him in that happy home Jesus has prepared for us on the other side of Jordan. Rest on Buster, it won't be long. To the Turkey Creek Church, all the ministers, friends and neighbors, I thank all of you so much for being there when we needed you. May the Lord Bless each and all of you.

Written by his Wife and Sister in Christ, Ernestine M. Varney

BRUCE WAGNER

Brother Bruce Wagner of Mount Dora, Fla., formerly of Pikeville, Ky., was born April 5, 1898 and died Sunday, November 27, 1994. He was the son of the late Nicholas and Malden Stratton Wagner. Survivors are three sons, Garland of Westland, Mich., Charles of Lexington, Ky. and Raymond of Mount Dora, Fla., two daughters, Ruby Small of Somerset, Ky. and Violet Taylor, Pikeville, Ky., one brother, Jimmy Wagner of Betsy Lane, Ky. seven grandchildren, fourteen great grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren.

Brother Bruce became a member of the Southern Home Church June 22, 1980. He was baptized by Elder Tommy



Adair. I remember the day vividly when Brother Bruce came upon the stand to give his experience. I didn't know him at that time. I asked Brother Bruce if he had a desire to become a member of the church. He said, "Yes, I do. I've been to many churches and the little Southern Home Church is all I can see. I believe the Lord has sent me here". Praise the Lord! I believe He sent him to our little church to brighten up our lives for a short time.

He was a wonderful man. He had visions of Heaven, where I believe he is now. He filled his seat as long as he was able. Brother Bruce suffered long in sickness, bearing his illness well, without self pity. He was a gentle and kind person. We all loved him and hope to meet him when this life is over. We believe his family loved him and we hope they will remember the little Southern Home Church where he was a member.

Written by Elder Tommy Adair

LILLY MAYE WHITE

With a sad and lonely heart I will try to write the obituary of my sister, Lilly Maye White. Maye was born on January 21, 1935 and departed this life on October 25, 1994 making her stay on earth 59 years, 9 months and 4 days.

She was the daughter of the late William and Betty Sartin Lackey. She was united in marriage to Johnny White who preceded her in death. Unto this union was born seven children, five sons and two daughters: James William and Samuel White of Lenore, WV; Curtis Ray and Walter White of Dingess, WV and John Wayne White of Ironton, OH; Betty Lou Newsome of Lenore, WV and Roxie Lois Smith of Huntington, WV. Maye left 18 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren.



Maye left four brothers and three sisters: Clyde, Raymond and Bill Lackey of Lenore, WV and Lonnie Lackey of Delbarton, WV; Florence May and Edith Faye White of Lenore, WV and Ethel Mullins of Haysi, VA.

Maye was a member of the Samaria Old Regular Baptist Church at Dingess, WV for many years and she went when she was able. Her greatest concern was for her family and friends, she loved and worried about them so much. Your worrying and suffering is over. You will never shed another tear. I truly believe you are resting in the arms of Jesus. No one will ever know how much I miss you but we will meet some happy day in Heaven on that Beautiful Bright Shore.

Written by her sister, Edith Faye White

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Written by her sister, Edith Faye White

OMER WILLIAMSON

With the help of the Lord, I will write the obituary of my dear friend, Brother Omer Williamson. Brother Omer was born July 23, 1907 at Crigger, KY and deceased this life October 31, 1994 making his stay here 87 years. He was the son of the late Don and Lena Smith Williamson. He was married to the late Gladys Crigger Williamson in 1928 and to this union was born eight children. He was preceded in death by one daughter, Sister Bessie Mae Stacey, three sons, Okey, Clifford and Perry also one sister, Verda Mullins and four brothers, Lee, Vanis, Clayton and Clinton.



Survivors include: Hazel Thacker of Sidney, KY, Anna Lois Baldwin of Winchester, KY, Sister Barbara Deskins of Romeo, MI, one son, Clinton Jr. of Sidney, KY and one brother Glen Williamson of Sidney, KY. He had eighteen grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren besides a host of family and friends. Brother Omer was baptised October 1, 1938 by Elders H.C. Maynard and E.S. Coleman and placed his membership with the Dix Fork Church. He was ordained as a deacon in 1940 and served as Clerk forty eight years and was faithful until he became ill.

Brother Omer was such a good friend to me and a very special person. He would have given his life for me and loved me as though I was his daughter. If everyone showed each other as much love and mercy as Brother Omer showed to me, there would be more unity among us and that bond would overcome any obstacle that gets in our way. I visited him several times at home and in skilled nursing and he always greeted me with a smile and would kiss my hands. The last time I left him, when I looked back, he was waving goodbye at me. When any of us lose a friend in death, we each die a little. I know that part of me died with Brother Omer because his love had no price and he gave it so freely. He was a loving father who was firm in his teachings but gentle with his love. He would want you children and grandchildren to trust in the Lord and not weep for him because he has labored and toiled in this life and faced many storms and he made preparations over fifty six years ago to go to a better land where his soul is in a Haven of Rest today.

One of the greatest treasures we possess on earth is when a child of God sends up prayers in our behalf, and now we have one less person to pray for us but if we trust in the Lord and stagger not at the promises of God, we too shall overcome and in the end obtain the victory. The Lord showed me in a special dream that when a righteous person died on earth that a golden bell rang in Heaven and I do believe that the Golden Bell rang for Brother Omer on October 31, 1994. So farewell our precious friend and loved one and take your peaceful sleep that you have long been waiting for and we'll meet again at the pearly gates.

Written by his daughter in Christ
Sister Geraldine Crigger

OBITUARIES
of
FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH

THURMAN HINKLE

With a sad and heavy heart we attempt to write the obituary of Thurman Hinkle of Spring, Texas. Thurman was born on March 9, 1924, the son of William Landon Hinkle and Sarah Ellen (Maynard) Hinkle of Piso, KY. He passed away on July 28, 1995 in Spring, Texas being 71 years old. He moved from Brushy Creek to Michigan in 1965. While in Michigan he worked and retired from Milco Manufacturing Co.



Survivors include one brother, Irvin Hinkle of Spring, TX. Three sisters, Greetis Stanley of Sidney, KY and Lishia Philpot of Lopoorte, TX and Clara Blevins of Lincoln Park, MI. He was preceded in death by his mother and father, three sisters and two brothers.

Thurman was a very special person in his own way. Being a lover of animals, always keeping dogs and cats. He never married or had children of his own, but because of his host of nieces and nephews he was loved very dearly, especially by Jimmy and Becky with whom he made his home when they were young. Thurman will be greatly missed and to all the family - live as close and love one another as much as possible. Thurman always talked that he would like to get better enough to get out of the nursing home and come home to Kentucky, Strive to enter that great country where no sickness can come and death will never separate us anymore.

Written by the Family

ELSIE SESCO LAWSON

It is with a sad and aching heart, and with the help of the Lord, that I will try to write the obituary of my humble aunt Elsie Sesco Lawson. Aunt Elsie was born January 9, 1914. She was the daughter of the late Rodolph and Eliza Maynard Sesco. She passed away on Sunday morning, March 19, 1995, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital following an extended illness at the age of 81 years. She was preceded in death by three sons: Henry Lawson, Clyde Willard Lawson, and James Louie Lawson; and three brothers: Ira Sesco, Leonard Sesco, and Denny Sesco.



She is survived by her husband, James Lawson, to whom she was united in marriage on March 6, 1936; and two sons, James Lawson, Jr. of Pikeville KY and Gilford Lawson of Mt. Sterling, MI; two daughters, Maxine Sword of Pikeville, KY and Roxie

Lawson of Chicago, IL; two brothers, Oliver Sesco of Elkhorn City, KY and Junior Sesco of Florida; and one sister, Elkie Young of Pikeville, KY. She has also left behind to mourn her loss, twelve grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

I believe she fell asleep in the arms of sweet Jesus. He is the one who knew her faith. Aunt Elsie is sadly missed by her family and many friends. She loved to see them come to visit. I know if she could talk, she couldn't thank them everyone enough for what they did for her. She loved you all very much. Her suffering is over. She is at rest with our Lord. I believe we will meet again. Where there will be no sorrow or sickness, but joy and peace forever. The Lord is not short of His promises.

May God bless all the family and friends. We love you very much.

Written by, Vernel Sesco

VAN AVORY McCOY

In loving memory of our dad Van Avory McCoy. It is with much sadness that we attempt to write the obituary of our sweet daddy. Daddy was born Oct. 22, 1938 in Martin County, he was the son of the late Shirley and Lucy Blackburn McCoy. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by brothers Money Richmond McCoy, Augustine McCoy, and two sisters Margaret and Roberta McCoy. Survivors include his wife, Betty Lou Dials McCoy; four daughters; Kitty Lynn Lowe, Lisa Ann Lowe, Tabitha Preston, Jessica Lou McCoy. Six brothers: Mosey Mack McCoy, Almond McCoy, James C. McCoy, Willam Raymond McCoy, Virgil T. McCoy, Thomas McCoy Jr. and three sisters: Lora Goble, Ruth Ann Howard, and Mildred Blackburn; two grandchildren: Ronnie O'Neal Lowe Jr. and Kelli McCoy Preston.



Daddy was a kind, loving man whom always put the needs of his family before his own. We always knew when we needed Daddy, he would be there. He always did his best to guide us in the right direction with the help of our mother, Betty Dials McCoy. Our parents had a special bond, their love for each other always shown. We were very blessed girls to have grown up in their home. Words cannot express the love we had for this man. There's not a day goes by without his girls, our mother, or Dad's brothers and sisters thinking about him. Daddy was laid to rest at the McCoy Cemetery in the head of Meathouse on Wolfcreek.

Written by daughters

KRISTEN FAITH NICHOLSON

It is with sad and aching hearts, and with the help of the Lord that we'll try to write the obituary of Kristen Faith Nicholson. Kristen was born April 25, 1989 in Sylva, NC. She deceased this life August 27, 1994 at the age of 5 years 4 months and 2 days old. She was the daughter of Timothy and Paula Jean (Robinette) Nicholson of Clayton, GA. She was preceded in death by a brother Timothy Joseph Nicholson in 1987. Kristen is survived by one sister, Alicia Pauline Nicholson of the home. She is also survived by her grand parents, Bryant and Diane (Walters) Holland of Franklin, NC and Grady and Margie Nicholson of Parachute, CO.



She was the great grand-daughter of the late Dewey and Odessa Walters of Hatfield, KY; and the great grand-daughter of Mae Robinette and the late Willard Robinette of Varney, KY. She is survived by many aunts, uncles and relatives to mourn her passing.

Kristen was such a loving child, always had a smile on her face, and we miss having her put her arms around our necks and saying in her own sweet way "I Love You." She had such a loving touch that can never be replaced in this world. It was such a shock to us all when the phone call came that our darling baby had been killed in a car accident, but we know that she is resting in the arms of Jesus.

Sleep on Kristen and some sweet day we hope to meet you when this life is over.

Written by two who dearly loved her: Grandmother,
Diane (Walters) Holland & Great Aunt, Charlotte Walters

IVORY ROBINSON

With great sorrow and a broken heart, we will try to write the obituary of our aunt, Ivory Robinson. Ivory was born on March 9, 1926. She left this world on February 2, 1995. Ivory was the daughter of the late Samuel and Stella (McCoy) Robinson. Ivory is preceded in death by three brothers and one sister: Tom, Elmer, and Henry Robinson, and one sister, Pearlie Cline. She leaves behind one brother and three sisters: Ira Robinson, Norma Cline, Mary Fields, and Irene Griffey. Ivory was never married. She lived with Dad and Mom. She worked for the Martin County Board of Education for many years until she suffered a stroke. Ivory loved little children. She is sadly missed by family and friends. She was loved by all who knew her. Before Ivory passed away, she made her confession to Elder Sabert Nichols and Brother Robert Jude. We feel Ivory is at rest with her loved ones in Heaven and sadly missed by her family.



Written by: Brother Billie Joe and Sister Tracy Robinson

WILLIE B. ROBINSON

We are writing this in memory of our departed father Willie B. Robinson. He was born on November 11, 1925 to William Burley Robinson and Gladys Canada Robinson, who has preceded him in death. Willie had been sick for several years, but he took worse suddenly January 5, 1995 where he passed away at home. Making his stay with us 69 years 1 month and 25 days. On May 22, 1948 he was united in Holy wedlock with our mother Mae Caines Robinson, which resulted in the birth of two daughters, Joyce Robinson Cool and Janet Robinson Ross. In Willie's younger years he worked with the Gas Company drilling wells. Later he worked with Chisholm Mines at Phelps where he worked as a tipple operator for twenty years when he retired.



Willie shared forty-two happy, loving years with our mom, Mae Robinson, until her death on April 10, 1990. Willie also had one sister, Emma who preceded him in death as an infant. Our family has been very fortunate receiving more happiness, when Peggy Robinette Robinson walked into our lives. She and our father were united in marriage on April 21, 1992, and shared a short but happy time together.

Willie is survived by and left to mourn his loss by his wife Peggy Robinson, Janet Ross, his daughter of Lexington, KY and Joyce Cool, his daughter of Meta, KY, two grandchildren, Candace Nicole and Stephen Justin Cool also of Meta, KY. Also to mourn his loss is two sisters, Alice Marie Maynard of Rush, KY and Mary Ruth McCloud of Orange Lake, FL and one brother James Samuel of Orange Lake, FL. His step-children, Reba Carol Thacker, Tonya Robinson and Ricky Dale Miller. Also there is six step grandchildren, Gregory Doyle Ross and Emmily Ann Ross, Brandon Michael Miller, Shawn David Miller, Daniel Raye Thacker, and Jessica Lynn Thacker.

Our father will never be gone, because he lives on in each of our memories. We have named only a few of the people who will miss him. He had many friends, neighbors, and other family members who share our loss. We can all take comfort knowing that he spent sixty nine years that were blessed with more love and happiness than most people will ever experience.

Our father is gone, but he lives on in the memories of us all.

Written by His daughters, Janet & Joyce

We are speaking as friend's and neighbors for many years. Willie will be missed for a lot of reasons. But the ones that stands out in my mind is his beautiful smile he always had on his face and also the way he told his little jokes that could always cheer you up. He will surely be missed. I believe the smile we see now, We will see again some sweet day.

Your friend's, Sharlene Cline & Francis Collins

JANET LOU ROBINSON ROSS

It is with the greatest sense of loss that we have ever experienced that we find ourselves writing the obituary of our sister and friend. Janet Lou Robinson Ross, born July 16, 1949, deceased February 28, 1995, making her stay with us 45 years, 7 months and 12 days. Janet was the daughter of Willie Robinson and Mae Caines Robinson who preceded her in death. She is survived by a loving husband, Donald, and two stepchildren, Emily Ann and Gregory Ross of Harrodsburg, KY and her sister, Joyce Robinson Cool and brother-in-law, Stephen Cool and Candi and Justin Cool, her niece and nephew, and her stepmother, Peggy Dean Robinson of Pikeville, KY.



Janet was a vivacious, caring person who loved life and nature. This led her to pursue a career as a lineman and optic splicer for South Central Bell Telephone Co. for the past 27 years. She worked at the Winchester location for the past several years where she made many friends who will always cherish her. Janet was a very caring, loving person to all that knew her. She loved life and people and everyone who met and got to know her, loved her.

The most joyous event in Janet's life was when she fell in love and married Donald Ross. Donald and his children, Emily and Greg, made Janet's life complete and her last year her happiest. Janet was a loving wife and stepmother to Don, Emily and Greg, a cherished sister to Joyce and Steve, and a wonderful aunt to Candi and Justin, who she loved as if they were her own children, and a wonderful stepdaughter to Peggy. Her family is so saddened by her death but stronger because she was such a great part of their lives.

An example of the way that Janet touched lives was her involvement with the big sister program of Winchester. While working with the program, Janet devoted many hours to helping others. She became particularly close to a little girl named Angel. Janet loved so many people, but there was always enough love left for one more. We truly think that the Lord picks people that go together and he truly gave us the best wife, stepmother, sister, aunt and friend when he gave us Janet. Now the Lord has picked Janet to join her Mom and Dad. We have to say goodbye for now, but we will all cherish her memory because we have all been -- touched by an angel.

Written by: Joyce and Candi Cool
Special Friend and Former Co-worker Linda Wright
and the thoughts and feelings of all the family & Friends

IRELAND AND PERNIE STANLEY

It is with a sad heart I will try to write the obituary of Ireland and Pernie Stanley of Wolf Mountain Road, Varney, KY.

Pernie Jane Stanley, 90 years of age, died at her home on August 23, 1994. She was the daughter of Mont B. Stanley and Nancy Bowling Stanley. She leaves behind one brother Carlos Stanley and one sister Trudy Maynard. Four sisters and two brothers preceded her in death.

Ireland Stanley, 90 years of age, died on December 1, 1994 at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. He was the son of Mont R. Stanley and Josephine Price Stanley. He also leaves behind three brothers, Oscar, Charlie and David Stanley and one sister Josie Nichols. Two sisters and one brother has preceded him in death.

Uncle Ireland and Aunt Pernie were united in marriage in November 1923, to this union were born six children: Ermal and Dennis Stanley of Melvindale, MI, Garrett and Harley Stanley of Varney, KY; Two daughters, Nicie Crider of Varney, KY and Emilee Maynard of Macon, GA. Twenty grandchildren, Thirty six great grandchildren, and four great great grandchildren are left to mourn their loss. Our family and community has lost two wonderful people. They will be sadly missed by their family, friends, and neighbors on Brushy. By Gods love and mercy may we meet them in Heaven.

Written by their Niece, Phyllis Maynard



ZELLA TAYLOR

It is with precious and loving memories that we attempt to write the obituary of our mother and mother-in-law. Zella (McCoy) Taylor was born October 9, 1912 at Thomas, KY to Jane (Sherman) McCoy and William T. McCoy. Mom passed from this life August 8, 1995 making her stay here on earth 82 years, 9 months and 29 days.

Her first marriage was to Wallace Bailey Taylor. To this union was born three sons and four daughters: Grover Taylor of Johnson City, TN; James Taylor of Pikeville, KY; Jonah Taylor of Galion, OH; Ruby Kinzer of Allen, KY; Phyllis Taylor of Pikeville, KY; Verna Ford of Ford's Branch, KY and Pauline Bentley, Pikeville, KY. She has one surviving sister, Mary Jane Gore of Dingess, WV. She is also survived by twenty four grandchildren including one she raised, Melony Dawn Barnett. She has 18 great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Bailey Taylor, in 1958 and her second husband, John Taylor, in 1988. She was also preceded in death by three sisters and two brothers: Audrey Goble, Fannie Robinson, Rebecca Maynard, Condor McCoy and Joe McCoy. One grandchild, Glenna Lea Taylor, preceded her in death.



Even though our grief of her loss is heavy, we have her good testimony of going with Jesus and we are happy for her. We love and miss you Mom and your memory will always be with us. (Zella had requested to be baptized).

Written by her daughter, Pauline and
Daughter-in-law, Donna Taylor

LONA COLEMAN

I will try to write the obituary of my dear mother, Lona Coleman. Lona Coleman was born November 12, 1901, to the late Ed Shannon and Mary Elizabeth Chapman at Kimper, Ky. She died November 15, 1994, at the Skilled Nursing Facility at the Appalachian Regional Hospital in South Williamson, KY, making her 93 years and 3 days old.

She was also preceded in death by two husbands, David Justice and Elder E.S. Coleman. One daughter, Merdie J. Justice; one son David Justice, Jr.; four sisters: Saran Sloan, Ollie Sloan, Lucy Anderson, and Lassie Chapman; one brother James Brian Chapman; one great-great granddaughter; and 11 step-children. Lona was survived by nine children, 5 daughters: Marie C. Stuart of Birmingham, MI; Lorene C. Gallimore, Welch, WV; Irene C. Kiser of War, WV; Shirley C. Selby of Baltimore, MD; and Margaret C. Cooper of Winston-Salem, NC; Four sons also survive: John Coleman of Seattle, WA; James Coleman of Hardy, KY; E.S. Coleman, Jr., address unknown; and Larry Chester Coleman of Bellevue, WA. She also has one living sister, Gladys Lopez of Chicago, IL; 20 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren, and 2 great-great grandchildren.

I would like to thank the Staff of the Skilled Nursing Facility at ARH for taking such good care of my mother while she was there; and Elders Berlin Thornsberry, Billy Cochran, Ernest Cochran, Grover Adkins, and Lacy Walters for their services that night and at the funeral.

Written by her son: James Coleman

**CONSTITUTION
OF THE
SARDIS ASSOCIATION**

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

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

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

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

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

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

ARTICLE 6. New Churches may be admitted 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 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 the will of the 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 the 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 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 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 shall 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
OF THE
SARDIS ASSOCIATION**

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, Gary (904)732-3285	2635 N.E. 50th PL, Ocala, FL 34479
Adair, Tommy Sr. (904)629-9891	1842 N.E. 23rd St, Ocala, FL 34470
Adair, William Sr.(904)629-7888	4358 N.E. 19th Ave, Ocala, FL 34479
Barney, James (941)763-4891	816 S.E. 11th St, Okeechobee, FL 34974
Blackburn, Foster(606)631-1432	Box 870 Stanley Fork, Varney, KY 41571
Blackburn, Willie (606)237-4377	Box 246, Turkey Creek, KY 41570
Brumfield, Billie (304)475-3952	Rt. 1, Box 18, Delbarton, WV 25670
Campbell, Stanley, Sr. (904)368-39983	109 N.E. 100th St., Anthony, FL 32617
Campbell, William, Jr., (904)624-9370	3212 S.E. 35th St., Ocala, FL 34471
Castle, Kelly (606)638-4115	913 N. Public Way, Louisa, KY 41230
Cline, Johnnie F. (304)664-9551	HC 88 Box 340, Baisden, WV 25608
Cochran, Chester (304)675-5162	Rt. 2 N., Pt. Pleasant, WV 25550
Cochran, Ernest (606)353-7964	Box 162, Sidney, KY 41564
Cochran, W. H. (304)675-2563	R1, Box 579 Sand Hill Rd, Pt. Pleasant, WV 25550
Crigger, David (606)353-7042	HC 60 Box 1422 Stratton Rd., Canada, KY 41519
Dials, Thomas J. (606)395-6572	P. O. Box 31, Warfield, KY 41267
Dixon, Glen (941)774-1542	130 Sugar Loaf Lane, Naples, FL 33961
Ellis, Tommy (304)426-6366	Box 296, Varney, WV 25696
Evans, Joe (304)475-2102	Rt. 2, Box 53, Delbarton, WV 25670
Fields, Virgil (606)652-3887	Rt. 3, Box 3285, Louisa, KY 41230
Forsyth, Bruce (904)629-0505	P. O. Box 396, Sparr, FL 32192
Glandon, Hubert (304)664-3461	Box 425, Gilbert, WV 25621
Hall, Charles (304)475-4211	Rt. 1, Box 393, Lenore, WV 25676
Hamilton, Hobart (304)475-4225	Route 1, Box 335, Delbarton, WV 25670
Hamilton, John Paul (606)297-2315	5190 U. S. Hwy. 23 N., Nippa, KY 41240
Hannah, Isom (304)682-8896	Kopperston, WV 24854
Hay, Edwin (304)762-1123	P. O. Box 389, Lesage, WV 25537
Hay, Maynard (304)235-3241	Box 15, Naugatuck, WV 25685
Hensley, Samuel D. (513)288-2796	5091 W. New Market Rd., Hillsboro, OH 45133
Herald, Wayne Jr. (304)393-9149	Box 348, Crum, WV 25669
Holbrook, Gary (941)467-0602	3689 N. W. 6th. Ave., Okeechobee, FL 34972
Jarrell, Charles (904)629-4261	P. O. Box 325, Sparr, FL 32192
Jude, Henry (606)395-5739	HC 67, Box 1340, Pilgrim, KY 41250
Jude, Kenneth B. (606)395-6286	HC 67, Box 165, Pilgrim, KY 41250
Jude, Nathan (606)237-6015	Burnwell, KY 41519
Lester, Lawrence (304)664-3692	Baisden, WV 25608
Lowe, Gabe D. (606)395-6355	HC 67, Box 740, Pilgrim, KY 41250
Lowe, Milford (606)631-3658	3570 Brushy Road, Varney, KY 41571
Muncy, Homer, Jr. (606)395-5686	HC 67 Box 620, Pilgrim, KY 41250
Muncy, Wallace (606)237-6685	Nolan, WV 25687
Murphy, Mark (304)776-7662	Dover Dr., Cross Lanes, WV 25143

Nichols, J. L.
 Nichols, Sabert (606)395-5055
 Peaden, Arlice (941)357-2410
 Robinette, Jack (304)946-4284
 Robinson, Leon (606)631-9825
 Robinson, Steve, Jr., (304)475-2841
 Runyon, Danny (606)631-9542
 Runyon, Edward (304)752-8134
 Scott, Ben
 Scott, Bobby (606)353-7858
 Scott, Frankie (606)624-0598
 Scott, Gregory Dale (606)353-9883
 SESCO, Bobby (606)353-1221
 SESCO, Elbert (606)237-6651
 SESCO, Harold (606)353-7668
 SESCO, Leonard (606)353-7944
 Sheppard, Frank (304)475-4770
 Staton, Richard (606)237-1217
 Stepp, Roger (606)353-9559
 Stiltner, Willie (606)835-2156
 Thompson, Jerry (304)664-3779
 Thornsby, Berlin (606)353-7122
 Vance, Paul (304)752-7865
 Walters, Lacy (606)353-7127
 Watts, Chris (904)867-0654
 White, John Wayne (304)762-2926
 Williamson, Billy (606)631-1917
 Williamson, Dale (606)631-9328

Box 172, Belfry, KY 41514
 HC Box 3506, Pilgrim, KY 41250
 P. O. Box 2185, Okeechobee, FL 34973
 Box 426, Switzer, WV 25647
 Box 356 Stanley Fork, Varney, KY 41571
 Box 324, Delbarton, WV 25670
 Brushy Rd., Varney, KY 41571
 SR Box 875, Dingess, WV 25671
 Pilgrim, KY 41250
 P. O. Box 382, Hardy, KY 41531
 601 Hackett PK, Richmond, KY 40475
 P. O. Box 74, Huddy, KY 41535
 Box 231, Sidney, KY 41564
 HC 61, Box 349, Turkey Creek, KY 41570
 Sidney, KY 41564
 Canada, KY 41519
 Rt. 1, Box 345-C, Delbarton, WV 25670
 Turkey Creek, KY 41570
 Hardy, KY 41531
 2477 Long Fork Rd., Kimper, KY 41539
 HC 88 Box 142, Baisden, WV 25608
 2422 Dix Fork Rd., Sidney, KY 41564
 Rt. 1, Box 1060, Dingess, WV 25671
 898 Dix Fork Rd., Sidney, KY 41564
 P. O. Box 722, Sparr, FL 32192
 8174 Lunsford Lane, Lesage, WV 25537
 Brushy Road, Varney, KY 41571
 Brushy Road, Varney, KY 41571

LIBERATED BRETHERN

Adair, Henry (916)929-5735
 Akers, Gordon (941)467-4124
 Cline, Rutherford (304)664-8765
 Cordell, Kenneth

2847 Garden Hwy, Sacramento, CA 95833
 8951 HWY 78W, Okeechobee, FL 34974
 HC 88, Box 338, Baisden, WV 25608
 P. O. Box 2001, Sylvania, GA 30467

SARDIS ASSOCIATION OFFICERS and ADDRESSES

Elder Isom Hannah, Moderator
 Elder Thomas J. Dials, Assistant Moderator
 Brother Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr., Clerk
 Elder Edwin Hay, Assistant Clerk
 Brother Archie Prince, Assistant Clerk

Kopperston, WV 24854
 P. O. Box 31, Warfield, KY 41267
 P.O. Box 746, Pikeville, KY 41502
 P.O. Box 389, Lesage, WV 25537
 3475 Whites Creek Rd, Prichard, WV 25555

**CHURCH DELEGATES
TO THE 1995
SARDIS ASSOCIATION**

MT. PLEASANT: Frankie Scott, Edgar Scalf
APPLE ORCHARD: Charles Lowe, Elwood Maynard
ENON: Richard Staton, Pete Maynard, James Spencer
REBECCA: Frank Sheppard, Maynard Hay, Edwin Hay
BENT BRANCH: Andy Maynard, Dean Lowe, Hatler Slone
SARDIS: John Henry Hensley, Mark Murphy, Billie Brumfield
BIG BRANCH: James W. Blackburn, Landon Taylor, Clifford Maynard
MARY ELIZABETH: Hobart Hamilton, Ransom Marcum, David Marcum
BETHANY: David May, Archie Prince, Arthur May
ELK FORK: Joe Evans
PILGRIMS HOME: Billy Williamson, Dale Williamson, Danny Runyon
SALEM: Condor Maynard, Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr., Ernest Sesco
SIDNEY: Sabert Nichols, Virgil Fletcher
DIX FORK: Stewart Brown, Glen Williamson, Berlin Thornsbury
NARROWS BRANCH: Clyde Brown
LEANNAH: John Paul Hamilton, Lonnie Robinson
BUCK CREEK: Thomas J. Dials, Wayne Herald, Jr., Vadis Blackburn
TABITHA: Alex Hensley, S. D. Hensley
LITTLE ROSIE: Frankie White, Marion Duncan, David Staten
TURKEY CREEK: Willie Blackburn
SAMARIA: Paul Vance, Larry May, John Wayne White
ROSA: Jerry Thompson, Charles Testerman
MUNCY VALLEY: Letter, No Delegates
LITTLE VIRGIE: James G. Thornbury, Alvin Thornbury
SOUTHERN HOME: Tommy Scott Watts, Tommy Adair, Sr., Stanley Campbell, Sr.
PILGRIMS REST: Raymond Maynard, Vernon Maynard
OKEECHOBEE: James Barney, Gordon Akers, Glen Dixon
ELIZABETH: Letter, No Delegates
LITTLE TAVIE: Chester Cochran, Jim Cochran

CHURCHES and CLERKS

CHURCH	ADDRESS	CLERK and ADDRESS
MT. PLEASANT	Sidney, KY	Edgar E. Scalf, Box 144, Canada, KY 41519
APPLE ORCHARD	McCombs, KY	Elwood Maynard, RR2, Box 486, Rush, KY 41168
ENON	McCarr, KY	James Spencer, P. O. Box 248, McCarr, KY 41544
REBECCA	Myrtle, WV	Merton Workman, Rt. 1, Box 299, Delbarton, WV 25670
BENT BRANCH	Meta, KY	Hommer Collins, Box 129, Raccoon, KY 41557
SARDIS	Delbarton, WV	Billie Brumfield, Rt. 1, Box 18, Delbarton, WV 25670
BIG BRANCH	McCombs, KY	James Blackburn, 15520 Brushy Rd., Pikeville, KY 41501
MARY ELIZABETH	Hatfield, KY	Oscar Stepp, P. O. Box 137, Sidney, KY 41564
BETHANY	Lenore, WV	Archie Prince, 3475 Whites Creek Rd., Pritchard, WV 25555
ELK FORK	Delbarton, WV	Clayburn Varney, General Delivery, Ragland, WV 25690
PILGRIMS HOME	Varney, KY	John H. Elkins, 31 Middle Fork, Hatfield, KY 41514
SALEM	Goody, KY	A. D. Blackburn, 159 Forest Hills Rd, Forest Hills, KY 41527
SIDNEY	Pilgrim, KY	Sabert Nichols, HC 67, Box 3506, Pilgrim, KY 41250
DIX FORK	Sidney, KY	James Brown, P. O. Box 152, Forest Hills, KY 41527
NARROWS BRANCH	Hardy, KY	Clyde Brown, 422 "B" St., P. O. Box 220, Ceredo, WV 25507
LEANNAH	Pilgrim, KY	Homer Muncy, Jr., HC 67, Box 620, Pilgrim, KY 41250
BUCK CREEK	Beauty, KY	Wayne Herald, Jr., P. O. Box 348, Crum, WV 25669
TABITHA	Omar, WV	James P. Hensley, 9365 Ballentine Rd, Hillsboro, OH 45133
LITTLE ROSIE	Chattaroy, WV	Thomas J. Dials, P. O. Box 31, Warfield, KY 41267
TURKEY CREEK	Turkey Creek, KY	Willie Blackburn, Box 246, Turkey Creek, KY 41570
SAMARIA	Dingess, WV	Larry May, Rt. 2, Box 2515, Dingess, WV 25671
ROSA	Baisden, WV	Jerry R. Thompson, HC 88, Box 142, Baisden, WV 25608
MUNCY VALLEY	Pie, WV	Tommy Ellis, Box 296, Varney, WV 25696
LITTLE VIRGIE	Kimper, KY	Alvin Thornbury, 26335 Pewter Lane, Abingdon, VA 24211
SOUTHERN HOME	Spart, FL	Bruce P. Forsyth, P. O. 396, Spart, FL 32192
PILGRIMS REST	Piso, KY	Foster Blackburn, 870 Stanley Fork, Varney, KY 41571
OKEECHOBEE	Okeechobee, FL	Gordon Akers, 8951 Hwy 78W, Okeechobee, FL 34974
ELIZABETH	Rt. 3, Louisa, KY	David Castle, 901 N. Public Way, Louisa, KY 41230
LITTLE TAVIE	Rt. 2, N. Pt. Pleasant, WV	Julius Cochran, 2223 Jackson Ave., Pt. Pleasant, WV 25550

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCH	MODERATOR	Minutes Requested	Contribution	Received by Baptism	Received by Letter	Received by Restoration	Received by Recommendation	Dismissed by Letter	Deceased	Excluded	Total Membership	Starting Time	Meeting Time	Union and Communion
Mt. Pleasant	Frankie Scott	100	100						3		21	10:00/10:00	2	July
Apple Orchard	Thomas J. Dials	75	135	1		2		1	2		28	11:00/11:00	1	June
Enon	Richard L. Staton	60	100							1	11	11:00/11:00	1	June
Rebecca	Edward Runyon	150	200							1	51	11:00/11:00	2	May
Bent Branch	Billy Williamson	150	150	1				2	2		56	10:00/10:00	3	Aug
Sardis	Joe Evans	150	200	5					2		75	11:00/11:00	4	Aug
Big Branch	Richard Staton	125	140	1	1				1		24	11:00/11:00	3	July
Mary Elizabeth	Wallace Muncy	125	150	1	1				1		43	11:00/11:00	3	July
Bethany	Isom Hannah	75	200		1						43	11:00/11:00	4	Aug
Elk Fork	Joe Evans	50	75	2							15	11:00/11:00	3	Aug
Pilgrims Home	Elbert SESCO	300	300	3					2	1	110	10:00/10:00	4	Aug
Salem	Elbert SESCO	100	150		2				1	1	53	11:00/11:00	1	May
Sidney	Wallace Muncy	100	125	2					1		28	2:00/10:30	4	June
Dix Fork	Ernest Cochran	200	225	3	2			2	4	1	45	11:00/11:00	1	July
Narrows Branch	Bobby Scott, Sr.	100	100						1	1	35	11:00/11:00	4	July
Leannah	Steve Robinson, Jr.	125	150					1	1	2	49	10:30/10:30	2	July
Buck Creek	Thomas J. Dials	100	150	1				1			25	10:30/10:30	3	June
Tabitha	S. D. Hensley	75	100	1							21	2:30/11:00	1	Aug
Little Rosie	Joe Evans	40	50								11	11:00/11:00	2	Apr
Turkey Creek	Leonard SESCO, Jr.	150	150					2	3		73	11:00/11:00	2	May
Samaria	Edward Runyon	100	150	3					2	1	48	11:00/11:00	1	July
Rosa	Virgil Fields	125	150	2		1			2		45	2:00/10:00	3	Aug
Muncy Valley	Tommy Ellis	25	50							1	9	/11:00	2	June
Little Virgie	Richard Staton	75	100								11	11:00/11:00	4	June
Southern Home	Tommy Adair, Sr.	200	200	4				1	1		70	2:00/10:30	1	Apr
Pilgrims Rest	Elbert SESCO	50	50								13	10:30/10:30	2	June
Okeechobee	James Barney	125	185	3							26	4:00/10:00	3	Apr
Elizabeth	Wallace Muncy	75	75						1		22	10:30/10:30	1	June
Little Tavia	W. H. Cochran	100	100	2						4	13	10:30/10:30	2	July
TOTALS		3225	4010	35	6	3	0	10	28	14	1074			