

**2022 MINUTES  
OF THE  
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH  
ANNUAL SESSION  
OF THE  
SARDIS ASSOCIATION  
OF  
OLD REGULAR BAPTIST  
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST**

**In session and assembled with the host  
*TURKEY CREEK CHURCH*  
AT THE SARDIS ASSOCIATION BUILDING  
180 Brushy School Road  
Varney, Pike County, Kentucky  
September 9, 10, and 11, 2022**

**Elder Thomas J. Dials - Moderator  
Elder Richard Staton - Assistant Moderator  
Elder Michael D. Lowe- Clerk  
Brother Alvin Thornbury- Assistant Clerk  
Elder Todd J. Dials - 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Clerk**

# DEDICATION OF THE 2022 SARDIS ASSOCIATION TO THE MEMORY OF THE LATE ELDERS

We the Sardis Association of Old Regular Baptist Churches of Jesus Christ, mourn the loss of our dear Elders that have outstripped us and gone on to that eternal home of glory since our last meeting.

We hereby dedicate this our 130<sup>th</sup> session of the Sardis Association to the memory of these bold soldier of the Cross.

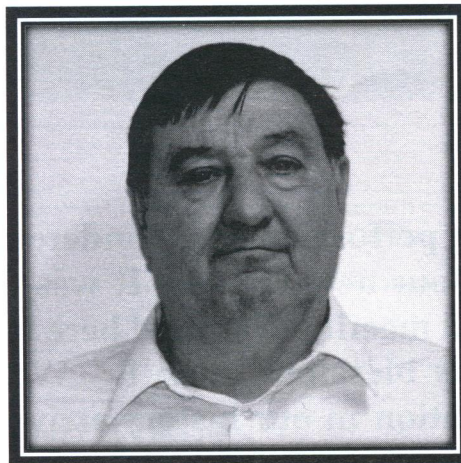
*How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!*



*Elder Lester Cochran*  
**Little Tavie**



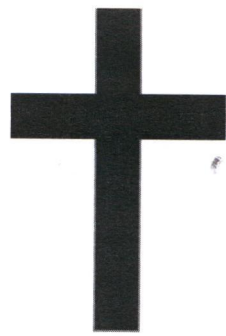
*Elder Kenneth B. Jude*  
**Sidney**



*Elder Clyde Perry*  
**Elizabeth**

**25**

Years  
Ago



Back  
In

**1997**



In 1997, the Sardis Association found a permanent home in the old Brushy School building at Varney, Ky. This year, 2022, we celebrate 25 wonderful years in this home God gave us!

*From Brother Ralph W.  
E. Varney, Sardis Clerk,  
1997 Minute.....*



Friday, September 12, 1997,

**"The mighty God of Heaven performed His wonderous work and for the first time ever we assembled in our new Home! It was, therefore, fitting that a joyous and Holy Ghost filled meeting was held here last night to dedicate this Site to the Lord and ask His blessings upon it. We were not surprised by perhaps the largest congregation in our history arriving today and over 1000 people ate dinner in the cafeteria. This display of confidence and approval by our members, our corresponding Sister Associations, other Associations and our friends does not give cause for pride but rather a deep feeling of humbleness and thankfulness to God who thought of us for good."**

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

**FRIDAY**  
**September 9, 2022**

The Sardis Association of Old Regular Baptist, the Church of Jesus Christ, assembled in the Business Room of the Sardis Association Building at 180 Brushy School Road, Varney, Pike County, Kentucky, with our host, the Turkey Creek Church and co-host Churches; Apple Orchard, Bent Branch, Pilgrims Home and Big Branch, on Friday before the second Saturday in September 2022. This year being the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of God's wonderful gift of a permanent site home, with the first meeting being held on Friday, September 12, 1997.

About the hour of 9:00 a.m., our Moderator, Elder Thomas J. Dials, came to the stand to an overflowing crowd and welcomed everyone, including the Brothers, Sisters, Friends and all in attendance. Brother Tommy spoke, saying we have been blessed another year to gather once again. These are three days of worship to glorify God. Many years ago, they started these old associations by realizing the importance of gathering together. God's salvation, which is in Jesus Christ, will take us home to Heaven, but sin, unrepented of, will take us to that bad place. We need to live in this world in a way that they can see the light and glorify the Father. He proceeded to read the prayer list of sick and afflicted, who are in need of God's healing power.

Elder Clyde Perry was chosen as the alternate for this session's Introductory Sermon. Having passed away and gone on to his eternal home, our tradition is that the moderator of the host church open the service. Elder Hobart Hamilton came to the stand to preach the opening of the service, saying he was surprised to be standing here. We came here because we love the Lord and each other. There is nothing greater on this earth than the love of God. Remember we are in the house of the Lord. I come to this place to tell you the whole world needs Jesus Christ. If we repent and serve him, he will forgive us of our sins and take us home to Heaven after this life is over. We worked for years following the wrong master. We clung to sinful ways for a long time. Years ago, God brought me down through my son's illness. God's people are willing to show love to others. God showed us mercy.

You may stray but you will never go over the line, if once you are forgiven. In that great day, the Lord will bring their souls back, the dust will come together again. We need to realize God has all power, and with that power he shows mercy. When I was down on my knees, I didn't know how to pray. The Lord will teach you how to pray if you desire to do so. I am willing to stand for the Lord whenever the occasion may arise.

He called for a song, as we sang "Salvation, O' The Name I Love."

Elder John Paul Hamilton, of the New Salem Association, then led in prayer.

Elder Charles Edwards, having been chosen last year, came to preach the Introductory Sermon. He came to the stand saying, I give God the glory and praise for being here today. I would ask you to pray for me, but I know that if you are brothers, you are praying already. God has been the best thing to come into my life. Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever more. Man thinks he can change God's word, but he cannot. God is leading and guiding this ole man. No matter how powerful you think you are, you know not how powerful God is. When Saul, called Paul, rode to Damascus to persecute the church, he felt the real power of God when he was stricken blind and brought to his knees. Blinded by the power of the light which shown round about him. That power of God came into me when I received forgiveness. God will baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire. Paul was without food or drink and without his sight for three days as he was led to Ananias, who taught him that he needed Jesus Christ as his Savior. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. We need to give God all the praise! Ananias was shown by God what was coming. He knew he had to go to Paul even though he had previously feared him. God had assured him Paul was now a praying man. When he met Paul, he called him brother.

Brother Charles continued, I was left on the streets of Columbus when I was twelve years old by my parents. A voice came to me and even though I wasn't brought up that way I knew who it was. I tried to compromise with God but that failed. Every time I went to do something wrong, that voice told me to not do it. At the age of eighteen, I met a wonderful lady from Pike County. I got married and had a nice family. As my life developed, I still worried about my parents. My dad hated me, if I came to see him, we would go out the back door until I left. I prayed for God to make him suffer so he would turn to God. One day at work my wife called me to tell me of my dad's repentance and forgiveness. I was also blessed to re-marry my mom and dad and then to baptize my dad. God walked with this little boy on the streets, then gave me my family, then God gave me my mom and dad back. God changes not, he is the same yesterday, today, and that forever more. The steps of a righteous man are ordered of the Lord. I just wanted to tell you all how God has blessed me. Looking back, I see God has been with me all my life. He that is in you is greater than he that is in the world. God gave me a dream, telling me I would be called to pray for a certain child and that he would heal her. The dream came to pass and as I arrived at the hospital to pray for her, the child died, was revived by the doctors, and then died again before they would let me in the room to pray. The frustrated doctor allowed me to pray and after following God's direction, the child lived and the parents brought her to church. God's the same yesterday, today, and forever more! God has blessed me and brought me to a place in my life where I had to make a choice. He wants you to come. Do what God is telling you to do. Come and taste of him and see that he is good.

He called for a song, we were blessed to sing, "There Is A Fountain Filled With Blood."

The Sardis Association delegates and a moderate delegation from our Corresponding Sister Associations remained in the Business Room for the Work of this Association, and as is our custom, the many non-delegate Brethren, Sisters and friends were dismissed to assemble in the Preaching Room to hear the preaching of:

Elder Chester Johnson, New Salem Association  
Elder Larry Newsome, Northern New Salem Association  
Elder Paul David Moore, Philadelphia Association  
Elder Jimmy Dale Sanders, Union Association

The delegates having assembled themselves in order, Elder Thomas J. Dials, our Moderator, called to seats the delegates from our Churches sent to represent them in this Association and the delegates sent by our Corresponding Sister Associations. Brother Tommy called upon Elder Gary Estep of the Old Friendship Association to open the service.

Brother Gary fearfully came to the stand, trusting in God to remove that fear which was upon him. He was blessed to preach there is only one way to Heaven, that being through and by Jesus Christ. If you try to get there any other way you will be the same as a thief and a robber. God will not accept you that way. I had to get in a condition that God would receive me. I didn't have to do it by myself, God was there with me every step of the way. I've been down to the foot of Jesus, not naturally so, but through faith. If you love Jesus, you will keep his commandments. I don't need to carry around his book for he has written his commandments in my heart. How sweet it is to feel the presence of the Lord! What you have to offer is your whole heart, soul, mind, body and strength. The reason we have our orders written in our minutes is for those who try to sneak into our churches as wolves in sheep's clothing. We need to tell them the truth whether they hear or whether they forbear. Today is the day to get down to the foot of Jesus. Choose whom you will serve today. If it be God, let it be God, but if it be Baal, let it be Baal. Over in Heaven there will be peace, love, and joy. Come and go with me! We are in the evening of time. Don't tell our children any way is okay! Jesus Christ came and died on the cross and set up a new and living way. If you are in your sins and read the twenty-fourth chapter of Matthew you will get scared. This ole family is a great people. God offered Solomon anything he would ask of him. Solomon asked for wisdom to judge so great a people as Israel. Because Solomon choose wisely, God gave him that plus riches. Get ready, today is the day, tomorrow may be too late! The rich man didn't like Hell. He suffered then, suffers now, and will suffer forever. God's people are a peculiar people. Repent of your sins, be born again of God's divine love, and serve Jesus. God will give you increase. Brother Gary called for a song.

Elder Estill Hamilton, of the Union Association, then led in prayer.

The Sardis Association then proceeded as follows:

(1) Our Moderator, Elder Thomas J. Dials, came to the stand and called this One Hundred and Thirtieth Session of the Sardis Association to order. He said, we need to trust in the power that can raise the dead. We will have a spiritual body.

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

Brother Bobby Scott, Jr.  
Elder Randy Lackey  
Brother Ernest SESCO

(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 Letter from the Turkey Creek Church was read, and upon regular move and second, all Letters were received, the delegates were seated and the Queries and Requests were referred to the Committee on Arrangements.

(5) The Committee on Finance reported \$4,445.00 received from the Churches and after turning this amount over to the Treasurer was discharged by regular move and second.

(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 delegation from the host church.

(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 David Lester, Old Friendship Association  
Elder Jeff Little, Union Association  
Brother Dannie Caudill, Old Indian Bottom Association

(8) The Sardis Association then completed its 2022 organization by selecting the following Officers to serve for the coming year, and by regular move and second, the report of the Committee of Tellers was accepted, and the Committee was discharged:

Elder Thomas J. Dials, Moderator  
Elder Richard Staton, Assistant Moderator  
Elder Michael D. Lowe, Clerk  
Brother Alvin Thornbury, Assistant Clerk

The Moderator, Elder Thomas J. Dials, announced that this work having been completed, the Sardis Association is seated and is now in working order.

(9) The Moderator asked the Association what they wanted to do about appointing a second Assistant Clerk to help with the clerk's duties. By regular move and second, Elder Todd Dials was appointed to serve as an Assistant Clerk for the year 2022.

(10) The Committee appointed to arrange the preaching for Saturday reported. The following Brethren were used:



## FRIDAY NIGHT

Elder Preston Lewis, Philadelphia Association  
Elder Matthew Ison, New Salem Association  
Elder Brian Adams, New Salem Association

## SATURDAY

Elder David Lester, Old Friendship Association  
Elder Northern Gayle Brown, New Salem Association  
Elder Danny Carty, Northern New Salem Association  
Elder Scott Hamilton, Northern New Salem Association

(11) Committee appointed to take care of the visiting Brethren and to see that the stand be supplied with Ministers:

Elder Gary Young

(12) By regular move and second, the Articles of Faith were read, with the Rules of Decorum, and the Constitution being omitted.

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

**UNION:** Represented by the following delegates: Jimmy Dale Sanders, Jeffrey Little, A. B. Thacker, Lance Looney, Paul Huffman, Barry Lucas, Toy Looney, Jerry Overstreet, Dennis Elkins, Charles Eddie Huffman, Roger Coleman, Estill Hamilton, Jimmy Stacy and Terry D. Hall. Letter in the hands of Elder A. B. Thacker.

**NEW SALEM:** Represented by the following delegates: Northern Gayle Brown, Logan Kiser, Teddy Honaker, Chester Johnson, Ronnie Halbert, Randy Combs, Chuck Hall, Paul Boggs, Brian Adams, Darrell Stanley, Earl Thornsberry, Richie Johnson, Joe Caudill, Rodney Hall, Phillip Hamilton, Daniel Samons, Ted Burke, Curtis Hall, , Jimmy Dye, Randy Newsome, Clement Caudill, Tony Roberts, Thomas Roberts, John Paul Hamilton, Jesse Lewis and Tommy Bentley. Letter in the hands of Brother Ronnie Halbert.

**NORTHERN NEW SALEM:** Represented by the following delegates: Danny Carty, Scott Little, Wayne Sartin, Hillard Newsome, Scotty Hamilton, Larry Newsome, Melvin Adams Jr. and Ray Hamilton. Letter in the hands of Elder Wayne Sartin.

**PHILADELPHIA:** Represented by the following delegates: Rondell Bledsoe, Gary Adkins, Clyde Lewis, Scott Adkins, Jeff Sparks, Darrell Kidd, Dallas Bledsoe Jr., C. Preston Lewis, Gary Blevins, Willis Tolliver, Paul David Moore and Gary Adkins Jr. Letter in the hands of Brother Darrell Kidd.

**OLD FRIENDSHIP:** Represented by the following delegates: Steve Baker, Larry Mullins, Gary Estep, Joe Gibson, Tony Lester, Larry Gibson, Jackie Gibson, Breck Stiltner, Ivan Blankenship, George Baker, David F. Lester, Roger Baker, Tarzan Justus, Will Matney, Monroe Matney, Bradley Matney, Danny Puckett and Edgar Baker Jr, Letter in the hands of Brother Edgar Baker.

**OLD INDIAN BOTTOM:** Represented by the following delegates: Ralph Cloud, Dannie Caudill, Sam Derrickson, Jeff Lewis, Travis Lewis, Kevin Blevins, Steven Tate, Luke Haynes, Nick Plowman, Raymond Cloud, Danny Adams, Aaron Whitaker, Jr. and Boyd Hatton. Letter in the hands of Brother Dannie Caudill.

(14) The Moderator called for Transient Ministers and other members of our Association desiring to take a seat with us and received the following: Hobart Hamilton, John Wayne White, Edward L. Smith and Matthew Jude.

(15) 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.

(16) By regular move and second the Clerks were given the authority to arrange the business for Saturday's session of the Sardis Association since no controversial Queries or Requests were received.

(17) On motion from Brother Ron Hamilton, seconded by Brother Ernest Sesco, the Sardis Association was adjourned until 9:00 a.m. Saturday morning, September 10, 2022.

# SATURDAY

September 10, 2022

Met pursuant to adjournment at the Sardis Association Building where, about the hour of 9:00 a.m., our Moderator, Elder Thomas J. Dials, came to the stand to welcome all, stating Jesus is on the right hand of the Father making intercession for us. If we all have the blood of Jesus Christ, we are family. We will not change from one thing to another. Nothing can remove us from that rock, Jesus Christ. I'm thankful we can come together in love. God has carried us through all our troubles. We will be changed and we are waiting on it. There is some suffering in it but the reward is worth it. Come together under him, I'm thankful. Sometimes I long for that cloud of glory. Get Jesus! He's the only thing that can take you home to glory.

He then called upon Elder Ralph Cloud, of the Old Indian Bottom Association, to open these services. Brother Ralph stated he was glad for God's mercy. God is able, his words are truth and life. He came to seek and save those who were lost. Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin. Hebrews 9:16, *"For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator."* We preach from the power from on high, the inspiration of the almighty. God can open that door and no man can shut it. Time and chance happen to them all. If Christ be lifted up above the earth, he will draw all men unto him. Jesus Christ was like a lamb, led down before his shearers. In his humiliation he opened not his mouth but suffered it all for all who would believe. Abraham, on his way back from the slaughter of the kings, met Melchizedek, King of Salem, the priest of the most high God, who blessed Abraham. I serve a God who never sleeps and will never forsake you. Don't put off salvation! We will be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, and called up to meet God. The old-time way is not just for old people. There is a better day coming. when we will meet God in the air and there, we will be with him forever. If you don't have a spot prepared in Heaven, call upon God. There will be no more trouble, no more sorrow. There are not enough devils in Hell to separate you from the love of God. Because he lives, we live. This man is getting up after a while. There is better to come after this life, if you are saved by the blood of the lamb. God is not pleased in change to please the world. He called for a song as we sang, "Beulah Land."

Elder David Lester, of the Old Friendship Association, 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 regular move and second, received the report.

(3) Elder Andy Walters, chosen to prepare the Circular Letter for this session of the Sardis Association, came to the stand and read his letter. By regular move and second, the Letter was received and ordered to be printed in our Minutes. At this time the Moderator released the Brethren, Sisters and friends to assemble in the Preaching room.

(4) Called for the Sardis Association Treasurer Report. A move and second was made to receive the following report:

### SARDIS ASSOCIATION TREASURER REPORT 2022

Balance on hand 9-01-21 \$ 8,383.46

Add 2021 Income:

Church Contributions for Minutes	\$4,615.00
Obituary Pictures	\$345.00
Rent Income	\$3,599.12
Building Fund Contributions	\$4,492.52
Food Fund Contributions	\$7,260.00
Saving Account-Asphalt	\$8,000.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$4,605.29
Apartment Sell	\$20,000.00

Total 2021 Income \$ 52,916.93  
 Total Available for 2021 **\$ 61,300.39**

Less 2021 Expenses:

Minute Expense/Mailing	\$4,612.01
Clerk Expense/Stamps	\$87.69
Building and Land Expense	\$32,755.60
Building Security	\$241.89
Electric Expense	\$4,013.22
Water Expense	\$602.78
Telephone Expense	\$1,484.29
Insurance Expense	\$890.80
Food and Supply Expense	\$6,287.39
Apartment Expense	\$439.00

Total 2021 Expense (\$ 51,414.57)

Balance on Hand 8-31-22 **\$ 9,885.82**

(5) Received the report of the Building Committee and the request to remove Elder Arthur May as a trustee. By regular move and second, ordered the request be granted, the Building Committee be discharged and the Moderator appoint a new Building Committee to be responsible for all use, repair, improvements, maintenance and preservation of the property as follows:

Brother Daniel Stanley	Brother Ferrell Sesco	Brother Butler Fletcher
Elder David May	Elder Andrew Walters	Elder Sam Frye
Elder Michael Lowe	Brother Danny Reed	Elder Harold Sesco
Brother Ervin Thacker	Elder Chester Cochran	Brother Clyde James
Brother Tony Williamson	Brother Ernest Sesco	Elder Ron Gannon
Brother Dwight Maynard	Elder Richard Staton	Elder Thomas J. Dials
Elder Hobart Hamilton	Elder Edward L. Smith	Brother Bobby Scott, Jr
Brother David Staten	Elder Todd Dials	Brother Alvin Thornbury
Brother Shane Reed	Brother Jimmy Newsome	Brother David Marcum

(6) By regular move and second, the report of the Committee on the Historical Library of the Sardis Association of Old Regular Baptist, as given by Elder Mike Lowe, was received. The Pike County Public Library can be reached at the address: [WWW.PIKELIBRARY.ORG](http://WWW.PIKELIBRARY.ORG). On the home page select **DIGITAL LIBRARY**, there is a direct link under **FEATURED**, and select **SARDIS MINUTES**. Scroll down and click on the link. You will be taken to a page with all the years listed as boxes. Second Option, Under **SUBJECTS**, click on **A-Z BY SUBJECT**. Type **SARDIS** in the search box.

Clerks Note: We need minutes for the years 1893, 1897 - 1907, 1911, 1913 and 1914. Also, any pictures and histories of the Sardis Association Churches are requested. If available, contact:

Elder Edward L. Smith	(606) 834-9958
Brother Jimmy Cochran	(304) 674-5177
Elder Mike Lowe	(606) 253-1992

(7) Appointed a Committee of Tellers to take the vote of the Sardis Association delegates as to who shall preach the Introductory Sermon at our year 2023 Association and who shall be his alternate:

Elder Dennis Elkins, Union Association  
Elder John Lewis, Philadelphia Association

Appointed a second Committee of Tellers to take the vote of the Sardis Association delegates as to who shall prepare the Circular Letter for our 2023 Association:

Elder Chuck Hall, New Salem Association  
Elder Estill Hamilton, Union Association  
Elder Ralph Cloud, Old Indian Bottom Association

These Committees reported as follows and were discharged by regular move and second:

Elder Tim Robinson, Preach the Introductory Sermon  
Elder John Wayne White, Alternate  
Elder Duane Smith, Prepare Circular Letter

(8) The Committee appointed on Friday to arrange the preaching met and reported. By regular move and second the report was received, and the committee was discharged. The following Brethren was chosen to preach Sunday:

#### SUNDAY

Elder Sam Frye, Sardis Association  
Elder John Wayne White, Sardis Association  
Elder Richard Staton, Sardis Association  
Elder Thomas J. Dials, Sardis Association

(9) By regular move and second, it was ordered that the Clerk be appointed Secretary-Treasurer for 2022 and that he be allowed \$75.00 for his expense.

(10) Read the request from the Pilgrims Home Church requesting to host the 2023 Sardis Association. By regular move and second, the request was granted. Bent Branch, Turkey Creek, Big Branch and Apple Orchard Churches verbally requested to co-host the 2023 Association.

It is requested that all donations for food be sent no later than June 2023, to:

Elder Michael Lowe  
169 Scott Fork  
Pikeville, KY 41501

The Sardis Association Building is located on KY Route 881 at 180 Brushy School Road, Varney, Pike County, Kentucky. Follow US Route 119 from Pikeville, Kentucky toward Williamson, West Virginia, for about 12 miles to the foot of Bent Mountain and turn left onto KY Route 881 for about 10 miles to the large Sardis Association sign on the left and onto Brushy School Road. If traveling from Williamson, West Virginia toward Pikeville, Kentucky on US Route 119, the distance is about 16 miles and turn right onto KY Route 881.

(11) By regular move and second, it is ordered that the Clerk superintend the printing of our Minutes, that he have the number of copies necessary printed and that he be allowed \$300.00 for his expense.

(12) 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, Ashcamp, Pike County, KY, beginning on Friday before the third Saturday in September, 2022: Thomas J. Dials, Hobart Hamilton, Marion Duncan, Dwight Maynard, Stony Blackburn, Sam Frye, Richard Staton, Bobby Scott Jr., Alvin Thornbury, Leonard Napier, Paul Maynard, Daniel Stanley, Wayne Blackburn, Arthur Mathis and Randall Lowe. Letter in the hands of Elder Thomas J. Dials.

**NEW SALEM:** When convened with the host Churches at the New Salem Association Building, Minnie, Floyd County, KY, beginning on Friday before the fourth Saturday in September, 2022: Thomas J. Dials, Hobart Hamilton, Marion Duncan, Dwight Maynard, Stony Blackburn, Richard Staton, Bobby Scott Jr., Alvin Thornbury, Ron Gannon, Butler Fletcher, Matthew Jude, Arthur Mathis, Paul Maynard, Ritchie Hale, Wayne Blackburn, Buster Hall, Daniel Stanley and Todd Dials. Letter in the hands of Elder Hobart Hamilton.

**NORTHERN NEW SALEM:** When convened with the Pleasant View Church, Litchfield, Ohio, beginning on Friday before the first Saturday in August, 2023: Hobart Hamilton, Thomas J. Dials, Stony Blackburn, Richard Staton, Marion Duncan, Alvin Thornbury, Buster Hall, Matthew Jude and Todd Dials. Letter in the hands of Elder Stony Blackburn.

**PHILADELPHIA:** When convened with the host Churches at the Philadelphia Association Building, Worthington, KY, beginning on Friday before the second Saturday in August, 2023: Hobart Hamilton, Thomas J. Dials, Richard Staton, Sam Frye, Stony Blackburn, Marion Duncan, Bobby Scott Jr., Albert Cable, Alvin Thornbury, Edward L. Smith, Leonard Napier, Buster Hall, Richie Hale, Butler Fletcher and Arthur Mathis. Letter in the hands of Elder Edward L. Smith.

**OLD FRIENDSHIP:** When convened with the host Churches at the Panther Creek Church located at 716 Panther Creek Road, Panther, WV 24872, beginning on Friday before the fourth Saturday in August, 2023: Thomas J. Dials, Hobart Hamilton, Marion Duncan, Richard Staton, Stony Blackburn, Bobby Scott Jr., Sam Frye, Alvin Thornbury, Matthew Jude, Jim Cochran and Sam Frye. Letter in the hands of Brother Alvin Thornbury.

**OLD INDIAN BOTTOM:** When convened with the host Churches at the Association Building at the Mallet Fork Church, Pine Top, Knott County, KY, beginning on Friday before the first Saturday in September, 2023: Thomas J. Dials, Stony Blackburn, Hobart Hamilton, Marion Duncan, Bobby Scott Jr., Richard Staton,, Leonard Napier, John Butler Fletcher, Monty Messer, Buster Hall, Ritchie Hale, Arthur Mathis and Alvin Thornbury. Letter in the hands of Elder Buster Hall.

(13) By regular move and second, the report of Brethren called in Associations, Union, Communion and Memorial Meetings was omitted today.

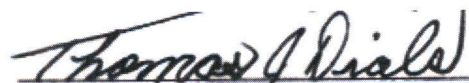
(14) The Sardis Association is so thankful for the many Brothers, Sisters and Friends, along with our Host Churches and the Building Committee, who have labored so much for this the One Hundred and Thirtieth Session of the Sardis Association. We are so thankful for the attendance of our corresponding Brothers and Sisters. We extend our sincere "Thank You" to Velocity Market at Zebulon, Kentucky; to Jason Jude and his family for weed eating the many hours; to the Pike County Solid Waste Department for taking our garbage; to Brother Jimmy Newsome of Pepsi Cola Co. at Pikeville, who handled the soft drinks; to Food City at South Williamson for providing the chicken; to Brother James McDonald and Brother Danny Reed for transporting chicken, to the Campers for being excellent guests; to Brother Danny Reed, Brother Daniel Stanley, Brother Dean Lowe and Brother Richard Station for picking up food and supplies; to all the Sisters, Brothers and Friends who worked together in the kitchen, all the special young men and ladies that helped in the kitchen, and to the Brethren, Sisters and Friends of the Pilgrims Home Church who staffed the Concession Stand. We thank everyone who had anything to do for this grand old Association. We thank God so much for his mercy and grace and the great love and peace found at the Sardis Association.

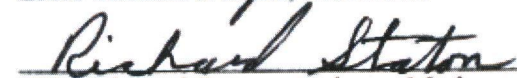
(15) By regular move and second, the reading of the Minutes before the Association arises was omitted and it is ordered that these Minutes be signed by the Officers of the Sardis Association.

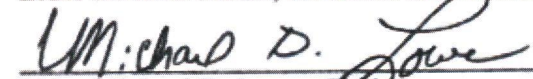
(16) On motion from Elder Stony Blackburn, seconded by Brother Bobby Lee Scott, it is ordered that the Sardis Association adjourn to reconvene at the Sardis Association Building at our regular meeting time, the Friday before the second Saturday in September 2023.


(17) The Sardis Association was closed with preaching by Elder Teddy Honaker, of the New Salem Association. Elder Estill Hamilton, of the Union Association led the closing prayer and called dismissed.

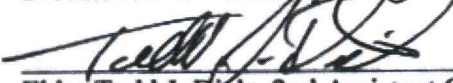
(18) This work done and signed by the Sardis Association of Old Regular Baptist, the Church of Jesus Christ.

  
Elder Thomas J. Dials, Moderator

  
Elder Richard Staton, Assistant Moderator

  
Elder Michael D. Lowe, Clerk

  
Brother Alvin Thornbury, Assistant Clerk

  
Elder Todd J. Dials, 2nd Assistant Clerk



## STANDING ITEMS

**Item 1.** Item 14 of our 1975 Minutes is reprinted, without the preamble, as follows:

Sardis Association of Old Regular Baptists                      September 13, 1975  
Dingess, West Virginia

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

**Item 2.** 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.

**Item 3.** It is 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)

**Item 4.** It is ordered that we advise our Churches not to allow their Ministers to preach with any Minister who has two living women. (1919 minute)

**Item 5.** It is ordered that requests for Union, Communion and Memorial meetings be published in our Minutes.

**Item 6.** 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 with the obituary, except that pictures of an Elder or his wife will continue to be printed free.

**Clerks Notes on Item 6:**

- ❖ Please note the above order - it is incumbent upon the churches in the Sardis Association that they be the screen and recommending body of Obituaries of Friends to be printed in our minutes and identify the same (by note or otherwise) to the Clerks when the Obituary is turned in. Each Church Moderator is further required to screen and approve any Obituary of a Friend of the Church and to reject any Obituary that has language that is offensive to the Sardis Association.
  
- ❖ To expedite the processing of the Minutes, obituaries should be typed, please be sure the name of the deceased is written on the back of the picture and indicate if you want the picture returned. Include a self-addressed stamped envelope for returned pictures. You may also email your typed obituaries and pictures to Elder Michael Lowe throughout the year at the following email address: [MDL448@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:MDL448@HOTMAIL.COM), You would still need to send the \$15 payment for printing pictures.

**Item 7.** "We the Sardis Association, advise our Sister Churches that it is not our practice to use sisters or double-married men in any function of the ministry, including leading prayer, in any of our Church services."

**Item 8.** By regular move and second, it is ordered that Item (15) of our 1999 Minute be reprinted as follows: "It is a sin for anyone to put away their wife or husband for any cause except for fornication and marry another. In regards to going behind one's experience or receiving one in the Church with more than one living companion, we say that each Church shall be the sole judge to the validity of one's experience. Churches should not be forced to receive members, however, that would destroy the body. (Receive should be interpreted to include all means of receiving members.)"

# SUNDAY

September 11, 2022

A heart felt spirit greatly filled the wonderful congregation gathered together as we lifted up God in song and praise as the Brothers, Sisters and Friends were blessed to meet at the Sardis Association building once again. About the hour of 10:00 a.m., our beloved moderator, Elder Thomas J. Dials, came to the stand and welcomed everyone, saying we are so glad you are here, we ask that you keep praying. Abraham spoke of the foundation of a city, whose builder and maker is God. When God adds us to the church, we don't have to guess about it. We have an experience. We believe in a real God, that there is a real Heaven and that real men and women are going to Heaven. Jesus said I am the resurrection. I hope the same spirit that has been here all weekend, will be here today. You have to have a desire, there is a drawing power. That light shined to me, that light shines through these brothers and sisters. Jesus did for us what no one else could do. Jesus Christ came and offered himself a sacrifice. Jesus is the answer to our sins. Brother Tommy then read the prayer list and called upon Elder Sam Frye to come and introduce the service.

Elder Same Frye, of the Sardis Association, came saying, the Lord gave us the grace to get out of the bed this morning. Without that grace we have nothing. *For the grace of God appeared to all men, teaching us that denying ungodliness and worldly lust, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world.* Today is the day of salvation, not tomorrow. If you got Jesus, you are rich forever. Salvation will last forever. We all have problems and troubles, but the Lord made it possible for me to still be here today. His grace has brought us this far, and his grace will lead us home. What a beautiful congregation this morning. The Lord has always been there, he hasn't let me down yet.

He said I am the same yesterday, today and forever, I change not. If we are God's people, we change not. One Lord, one faith and one baptism. If the Lord don't save you, you're going down to a devil's hell. I don't want no one to go down to that place. You will be crying like the rich man, he is still crying for water today. People don't want to hear about Jesus. They took the Apostle Paul out and stoned him, threw him over the hill. They thought he was dead, but in a while he was back up preaching God. If you say no to God, you will send yourself down there. God is going to withdraw his spirit one day. I see tears coming from men and women's eyes, they hold back and don't do what God tells them to do. Since 1961, God gave me eternal life. We are still on our journey, we are going home one day. You are either in or you are out. If you get it you won't lose it. You are eternally sealed. The book says there are two ways, a wide gate and a broad road. Take the straight gate and narrow road and he will seal you. Jesus will lead you home. Man has to get in that old time way. God will lead you there, he will change your walk and your talk. You will be a brand new man, to live forever. When the Lord puts you on that path, you will walk straight. If you get Christ in you, you will be a good man. You are on your way home. If you haven't been born again, you will have to go down where the rich man is at. Hear his voice and harden not your heart. What are you going to do with him when he comes?

He called for a song, and we sang, "Salvation O' the Name I Love."

Elder Same Frye continued with a humble prayer.

Elder John Wayne White, of the Sardis Association, came to the stand saying, I am thankful to be here today and for what I feel today. The Lord spoke to the prophets one time and told them to keep the camps of Israel clean. *I will walk among you, and will be your God, and ye shall be my people.* We know if we preach, we know the Word has to be preached. The Lord commanded us to preach the Word. Today they twist the word to suit their own ways. The spirit in man, the inspiration of the almighty will teach them to understand.

Speaking of the foundation, it was laid among the apostles and prophets with Jesus Christ, the chief cornerstone. Down in the old book you can read about Jesus Christ. It is the foundation, God told Abraham to get up and move out. Abraham believed God, and God imputed to him for righteousness. This one says there is no faith out in the world. Abraham believed God, thirty years after Isaac was born. God told him to take his son on the mountain and offer him up to God. Abraham believed him because God had already told him in Isaac thy seed will be blessed. He told his servants, the lad and I will return, because he believed God. Abraham made the alter and gathered the wood. The lad asked, where was the sacrifice. God will provide. Abraham would have taken his life, but the angel told him to do the lad no harm. God told Abraham thirty years later, now I know thou heart is with me. The Lord won't have you like you are. God requires some work on our part. The Word says work out your own salvation. I worked it out in 1977, working it out with fear and trembling.

The old church has been around a long time. Go back and read a little, God's ministers need to study to show thysself approved. We need to get down in the Word of God, we need the Word to fight against the world. This church will be here until Jesus Christ returns. We can read about the old church in the wilderness. Jesus Christ was with that church. Jacob had a vision, and on his way he made a pillow out of a stone. In the dream he saw a ladder into Heaven. He saw angels ascending and descending up and down. This was the first stone in the foundation of this church. Paul said the church is the house of God. People might think I only need God, I don't have to belong to the church. Jesus Christ is coming back for the old church. He made Abraham a promise, through thy seed all nations will be blessed. In Christ all the earth will be blessed in his seed, as we are the generation of Jesus Christ. It all goes back to Abraham, God knew what he was doing when he made this old time way. He told Noah he would no longer curse the earth for man's sake. Man's imagination is evil from his youth. God said I made man and I know what is in him.

God drove Adam from the garden. We got to get back to the tree of life, it is something you got to do. It's not of works. The scripture says there are two roads, a broad road to destruction. All men and women in this world are traveling that road. It leads to destruction. Some are on the narrow path, we seek God and his love to get to know Jesus Christ. Once I went through the gate, I received salvation of my soul. He that taketh hold of the plow and look back is not worthy of the Kingdom of God. I ate a little bread when I was out in the field. God is not slack concerning his promise. Nothing can give life today except God, when he made man he breathed

the breath of life into him and he became a living soul. The bones said our hope is gone, we have no hope. God told Ezekiel, tell them when I go down into the grave, I the Lord thy God has performed it. They got hope when Jesus Christ arose from the dead.

In the book of Revelation it says, I saw the souls of those that were beheaded, as they cried out oh Lord how long to avenge our blood. When Jesus Christ arose, his blood covered it all, some to the hinder sea, some to the former sea, and they were given white robes. We were stained with sin, the writer said I saw those that came through the great tribulation, washed white in the blood of the Lamb. The Lord applied the blood for the washing of sins. Listen to God's ways, if we will walk in his way, he will be there. God said lift your eyes toward the hills and you will know your redemption draws nigh. On that resurrection day we are going to win the war. Once we are changed we will go home to live with him forever.

Elder Richard Staton, our Assistant Moderator, came to the stand and stated, there's nothing in this world like the blessing of the Lord. Jesus left his father's house and took on a body of flesh so that he could taste death for all mankind. I'm going to a place where I won't have to worry about the things of this world. I believe that we have heard the gospel preached today. If you take heed to that gospel it will save your soul. I feel the least among you today. Jesus said go and open your mouth and I'll fill it. In that morning of all mornings, he'll say get up little children I've got a better place for you. If you miss Heaven you won't miss it all, you've just missed the good part. Jesus is the chief corner stone. I got in trouble on account of my sins. I prayed and I know he was listening. I prayed and I felt a witness. He's got a home in Heaven for everyone that wants it. If you haven't got something you can feel, you better get rid of it and get something you can feel down on the inside. There's a time for all things. A time to live and a time to die. A time to kill and a time to heal. A time to cast down stones and a time to pile up stones. He'll write your name in the lamb's book of life and no one can blot it out. I can remember when I was a boy playing out in the hills. I could hear my mother calling us to supper time. I thought that natural food was so good, but now I'm eating from mother Jerusalem's table. All the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change comes. I'm seeking a city whose builder and maker is God. Jesus asked Peter, lovest thou me Peter? And Peter said, yea Lord, thou knowest. Jesus said, many honor me with their lips but their hearts are far from me. He asked him again, lovest thou me Peter? He said, if you love me, feed my sheep. If you want some good food, Jesus has it for you today. He said I'm the bread that comes down from God out of Heaven that a man may eat thereof and never die. When I get over there, I'm going to give him the honor and praise that he so richly deserves. Jesus said I'll never leave you and I'll never forsake you. I'll go with all the way to the end of the Earth. God has got a place prepared for those that love and serve him. By grace are you saved through faith, not of works lest any man should boast. After God has saved you, he'll have you go tell your friends the good things the Lord has done for you. You have to repent, you have to believe and you have to be baptized. That water won't save you, it answers a good conscious towards God. It's that fire and Holy Ghost baptism that does the saving. God's got children all over this world. I don't know everything but I know my experience. I'm willing to die on that experience. This old outward man is going to perish but there's a man on the inside that is renewed day by day.

Elder Thomas J. Dials, our Moderator, came to the stand to close out the service saying, I am very thankful for the way things have been this weekend. The Lord is precious to me. John 3:16, *"God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."* He gave us a way to get out of our sins. There's only one way to get back and that's through the blood of Jesus Christ. We loved the things of this world. We need to realize that God is the source of salvation. We need to move toward him and if we aren't moving toward him, we are moving toward the devil. In order to get to the cross, I had to lay down the things that I had picked up that were contrary to the ways of the Lord. Under the law, that natural blood didn't make anything right. It didn't give them everlasting salvation, it only saved them for a short time. He puts his laws in our minds and writes them in our hearts. When he does, he'll show us where we need to go and where we need to stay. He laid in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation. There appeared a wonder in Heaven. A woman clothed with the sun and the moon in under her feet, travailing in birth to be delivered. And she brought forth a man child. There's only one we can give our troubles to. He'll give us a witness that he is on the right hand of the Father making intercession. And there appeared another wonder in Heaven, a great red dragon and his tail drew the third part of the stars. In the garden, God gave them everything they needed but the old devil came in the form of a serpent. He brought in the first false doctrine we can read of. God had given them a commandment. God had told them that the day they eat of the fruit from the tree of good and evil that they shall surely die. The old serpent added one little word and he told them, you shall not surely die. They disobeyed God's commandment and they suffered for it. God loved mankind so much that he gave the very best he had. He brought him forth through a virgin birth, a miracle birth. There was a great mountain that I couldn't cross over on my own but because of Jesus I was set free. The whole duty of man is to fear God and keep his commandments. He puts that love down on the inside of a man or a woman when they receive that inward baptism and they don't ever lose it. You'll lean the way God wants you to go.

The congregation sang the song, "I'm Going to Die on the Battlefield."

Elder Albert Cable, of the Sardis Association, dismissed the service.

Your Clerks,

Elder Michael Lowe  
Brother Alvin Thornbury  
Elder Todd Dials

## CIRCULAR LETTER OF THE SARDIS ASSOCIATION 2022

I write this letter to all my beloved brothers and sisters and delegates of the Sardis Association: When I realized I had been chosen to write the circular letter a great fear fell upon me. Knowing that I alone could not do this task. Through many times of asking our Lord to guide my mind and my heart, the thing that kept coming to my mind most was love.

The bible says (John 3:16-17) "for God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have an everlasting life; for God sent not his son into the world to condemn the world but that world, through him might be saved."

As far back as I can remember as a small boy, I was taught about God and his son, Jesus. As I grew into a young man, I realized that there was something missing in my life. I had loved my mom and dad and was blessed with a wife and daughter whom I love so very much. But there was something missing. As I began looking and searching for what was missing, I found myself at the old church. There I found what I had been missing. I saw a love that I had not seen before and I wanted that love in my life. It was there I learned more about the love of God and what I must do to get that. We must believe that Jesus came into this world and shed his blood on a cross so we could go to Heaven. Some people believe that it was the nails that held him on that cross. But I stand here today to tell you that it was not those nails, it was his love for us that held him there on the cross.

The bible says (1 John 4:8) "He that loveth not, knoweth not God; for God is love."

Jesus died on a cross and was placed in a tomb and on that third and glorious day He came out of that tomb. He did it all because of his love for us. He could have called for legions of angels to come and bare him down. But he did not.

I could not imagine the pain and suffering that he went through while he was here. And to think that he did it all just for me. That day on Mt. Calvary when the soldier pierced him in the side, He released something. John 19:32-34 says "Then came the soldiers and brake the legs of the first and of the other which was crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs. But, one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side and forthwith came there out blood and water." That blood must be applied to our hearts and we

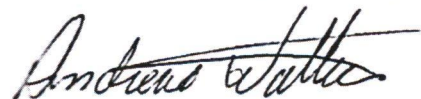
must believe that he did this.

Many, many times when I was just a boy, my daddy told me that he would do anything for me, even lay his head on the chopping block for me. I believe that he would have done so. But thanks be to God he didn't have to. But I met the man that did just that and his name is Jesus. Some may ask why he did this. Well, it is all because of love. I stand here today before you trying to read the words that I had chosen to tell you and to try to describe our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. But as I did this, I realized that there are no words that can even come close. All I can say is that its better felt than told and we know what we feel.

To say my life has been easy since I accepted the lord would not be true. I have troubles and trials and the bible says, (Matthew 5:45) "ye may be children of your father which is in Heaven; for He maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and unjust." But thanks be to God, I don't have to walk it alone. He is always by our side and will be until the end of the world. The love that can be felt in this old church is something that I long for. Romans 8:16 says "the spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit that we are the children of God."

I love this old church family and its ways and I'm glad to be part of it. We all need each other while here on God's footstool. My hope is that we can all sit down together in that place the Lord has prepared for all his children and be able to see the one that loved us first.

May God bless and be with you always,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrew Walters". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Elder Andrew Walters



**U**NION AND COMMUNION MEETINGS  
AND  
MINISTERS TO ATTEND

**APRIL 2023**

**LITTLE ROSIE:** Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 3:00 p.m. Ministers called: Hobart Hamilton, Richard Staton, Mike Lowe and Andrew Walters.

**MAY 2023**

**SALEM:** First Saturday and Sunday. Communion following our 3:00 p.m. business meeting on Saturday. Ministers called: Hobart Hamilton, Larry Thacker, Harold Sesco with Moderator attending.

**TURKEY CREEK:** Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 3:00 p.m. Ministers called: Albert Cable, Stony Blackburn, Harold Sesco, Charles Edwards, Greg Stanley, Sam Frye, Bruce Williamson and Gary L. Young.

**JUNE 2023**

**APPLE ORCHARD:** First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 1:00 p.m. Ministers called: Dale Williamson, Arthur Mathis, Freddie Murphy, Billy Joe Robinson and Andrew Walters.

**ELIZABETH:** First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Sunday. Ministers called: Albert Cable, Sam Frye, Thomas J. Dials and Johnny Thornsberry.

**PILGRIMS REST:** Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Sunday following regular church service. Ministers called: Daniel Newsome, Mike Lowe, Andrew Walters, Nathan Little, with Moderator and Assistant Moderator attending.

**BUCK CREEK:** Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Gary Blevins, Arthur May, Northern Gayle Brown, Reuben Lykins, Ron Gannon and Albert Cable.

**SIDNEY:** Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Albert Cable, Stony Blackburn, Todd Dials, Thomas J. Dials and Reuben Lykins.

**LITTLE VIRGIE:** Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday, immediately following 2:00 p.m. business meeting. Ministers called: David May, Northern Gayle Brown, Phil Hines and Mike Lowe.

## JULY 2023

**DIX FORK:** First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Thomas J. Dials, Arthur May, Danny Hurley, Freddie Murphy and Richard Staton.

**SAMARIA:** First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Thomas J. Dials, Sam Frye, Billy Joe Robinson, Hobart Hamilton and Stony Blackburn.

**LEANNAH:** Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 1:00 p.m. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Harold Sesco and Stony Blackburn. Business on this day only starts at 11:00 a.m.

**MT. PLEASANT:** Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Thomas J. Dials, Todd Dials, Stony Blackburn and Paul Maynard.

**LITTLE TAVIE:** Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion after business meeting on Saturday. Ministers called: Thomas J. Dials, Gary Blevins, Arthur Mathis, Albert Cable, Edward Smith and Matthew Ison.

**BIG BRANCH:** Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 1:00 p.m. Ministers called: John Paul Hamilton, Duane Smith, Billy Joe Robinson, Bruce Williamson and Harold Sesco.

**MARY ELIZABETH:** Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Bruce Williamson, Hobart Hamilton, Tim Robinson, John Wayne White, Matthew Jude and Billy Joe Robinson.

**BRIDE OF CHRIST:** Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Sunday following regular service. Ministers called: Gary Blevins, Arthur May and Jimmy Stewart.

**NARROWS BRANCH:** Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday immediately following 11:00 a.m. business meeting. Ministers called: Edward L. Smith, Thomas J. Dials, Albert Cable, Charles Edwards and Hobart Hamilton.

## AUGUST 2023

**TABITHA:** First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 3:00 p.m. Ministers called: Arthur May, Thomas J. Dials, Todd Dials, Sam Frye and Arthur Mathis. Church service on this Saturday only starts at 11:30 a.m.

**BENT BRANCH:** Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion following Sunday Church Service at 10:00 a.m. Ministers called: Arthur Mathis, Bruce Williamson and Andrew Walters.

**ROSA:** Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion on Sunday. Ministers called: Stony Blackburn, Ivan Blankenship, Harold Sesco, Eric Williamson and Steve Baker.

**ANTIOCH:** Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Sunday following the regular Church service. Ministers called: Paul Maynard, Billy Joe Robinson, Gary Blevins, Jimmy Stewart and Preston Lewis.

**BETHANY:** Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Thomas J. Dials, Hobart Hamilton, Paul Maynard, Sam Frye and Ron Gannon. Church service on this Saturday only starts at 2:00 pm.

**PILGRIMS HOME:** Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Sunday. Ministers called: Mike Lowe, Billy Joe Robinson and Bruce Williamson.

## **OCTOBER 2023**

**REBECCA:** Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday following normal business meeting. Ministers called: Thomas J. Dials, Arthur May, Ralph Cloud, Arthur Mathis, Jimmy Amos and Sam Frye.

# MEMORIAL MEETINGS AND MINISTERS TO ATTEND

## APRIL 2023

**SAMARIA CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Samaria Church on Sunday after the first Saturday, at the church house. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Arthur May, Todd Dials and Billy Joe Robinson.

**PILGRIMS HOME CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting, at the church, of all those buried on the Williamson Family Cemetery on the second Saturday night. Service will begin at 6:00 p.m. Ministers called: Andrew Walters, Bruce Williamson and Richard Staton.

**MEMORIAL MEETING** of all the deceased members of the Sardis Association will be held on the odd Sunday in April (April 30) at the Sardis Association Building at 10:00 a.m. Ministers called: John Wayne White, Clyde Lewis, Freddie Murphy, with Moderator and Assistant Moderation attending. Everyone please bring a covered dish.

## MAY 2023

**LEANNAH CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting at the Church of all the deceased on the Fields and Kirk Cemetery on the second Sunday in May at 10:30 a.m. Ministers called: Harold Sesco, Albert Cable, Sam Frye, Mike Lowe, with the moderator attending.

**LITTLE ROSIE CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of the White family on Sunday following the second Saturday at the Church. Ministers called: Randy Lackey, Tim Robinson, Andrew Walters and Duane Smith.

**BIG BRANCH CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of the Ratliff, McCoy, Morrison and Blackburn families, also those buried on the Hanners Cemetery on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Eric Williamson, Richard Staton, Bruce Williamson and Dale Williamson.

**MARY ELIZABETH CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of Zella May (Frale) Harrison and son Charles E. Harrison and family at the Church on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Harold Sesco, Albert Cable and Stony Blackburn.

**LITTLE VIRGIE CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of the deceased members and friends of the Little Virgie Church on Sunday after the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: Stony Blackburn, James C. Tackett, Steve Baker and Jimmy Amos.

**NARROWS BRANCH CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members and friends of the Narrows Branch Church, the Julius Scott Cemetery and Brother Clyde and Sister Fern Brown who are buried on the Hill Crest Cemetery at Kenova on the fourth Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Thomas J. Dials, Gary Young, James Young, Charles Edwards, Harold Sesco and John Wayne White.

**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 Sunday following the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: Thomas J. Dials, Gary Blevins, Arthur Mathis and Sam Frye.

**BETHANY CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting at the Hannah Cemetery on Sunday following the fourth Saturday at 11:00 a.m. Ministers called: Sam Frye, Billy Joe Robinson, John Wayne White and Albert Cable, with Moderator attending.

**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: Dale Williamson, Richard Staton, Andrew Walters, with Moderator and Assistant Moderator attending.

**MEMORIAL MEETING** will be held on the Stanley Cemetery at Dix Fork on the last Sunday in May (May 28, 2023), at 11:00 a.m. Ministers called: Bruce Williamson, Charles Edwards, Stony Blackburn and Edward L. Smith.

## JUNE 2023

**DIX FORK CHURCH** will have a Memorial Meeting at the church house for all those buried on the Morris/Mullins Cemetery at Double Hollows on Dix Fork the first Sunday following the first Saturday in June, at 11:00 a.m. Ministers called: Randy Newsome and Mike Lowe.

**MEMORIAL MEETING** will be held on the Smith Cemetery on the Rockhouse Fork of Big Creek on the first Sunday in June at 11:00 a.m. Ministers called: Dale Williamson, Richard Staton and Mike Lowe.

**SIDNEY 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 third Saturday. Ministers called: Gabe Lowe, Randall Lowe, Dewey Jude and Lacy Fletcher.

**TABITHA CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members on the first Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Jerry Runyon, Leonard Napier, John Wayne White, Matthew Jude and Ron Gannon.

**LEANNAH CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased on the Muncy Cemetery, including Elder Homer Muncy, Sr. and all others buried on the Ruby Muncy Cemetery. This memorial will also include Sister Garnet (Lowe) Maynard who is buried on the cemetery near the mouth of Lackey Branch and others buried on area cemeteries. This memorial will be at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday following the second Saturday. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Albert Cable and Thomas J. Dials.

**LITTLE TAVIE CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting on the Cemetery next to the Church of all deceased members of the church on our regular church time 10:30 a.m. Ministers called: Wayne Sartin, Greg Sowards, Ralph Cloud, Rex Napier, Jerry Overstreet and Albert Cable.

**MARY ELIZABETH CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of Glen Lowe and his wife, Mary E. Lowe, at the church on Sunday after the second Saturday at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Harold Sesco and Hobart Hamilton.

**REBECCA CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting on the Lackey Cemetery beginning at 11:00 a.m. on the second Sunday. Ministers called: David May, Sam Frye and Arthur May.

**BRIDE OF CHRIST CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting, at the church house, for Elder Sammie Moore and all the deceased on the Webb Cemetery on the third Sunday in June at 10:30 a.m. Ministers called: Leonard Napier, Sam Frye, Arthur Mathis and Gary Blevins.

**PILGRIMS HOME CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting at the Robinette Cemetery for the Robinette and Young Memorial on Sunday following the third Saturday in June at 11:00 a.m. Ministers called: Gary Young, Andrew Walters, Stony Blackburn and Harold Sesco.

**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: Edward L. Smith, Hobart Hamilton, Ron Gannon and Richard Staton.

**REBECCA CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting on the Muncy Cemetery beginning at 11:00 a.m., on the third Sunday. Ministers called: Leonard Napier, David May, Ivan Neil Thornsbury, Arthur May and Gary Estep.

**MEMORIAL MEETING** will be held on the Blackburn Cemetery on Dix Fork Road at Sidney, KY on the fourth Saturday in June, 2021, at 3:00 p.m., in memory of James Ballard and Mazie Smith Blackburn, William Cashier and Opal Crigger Blackburn, William Cody and Leona Blackburn Stanley, Geraldine Blackburn, Linda K. Deskins, Delores Johnson Blackburn, Elder Rush Stanley, George and Sylvia Blackburn Smith, Ermal and Dolly Blackburn Deskins, and Vernon and Darlene Blackburn Crigger (who are buried on the Crigger Cemetery). We welcome all Old Regular Baptist Ministers.

**ANTIOCH CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting at the Mathis Cemetery in the head of Buffalo Creek in Wayne County, WV on Sunday following the fourth Saturday in June at 10:00 a.m. Ministers called: Leonard Napier, Zack Stewart, Sam Frye, and Edward L. Smith. Everyone welcome. Dinner is to be served.

## JULY 2023

**TURKEY CREEK CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting, at the church house, for all those buried on the Reed and Lockard Cemetery, on the first Sunday. Ministers called: Gary Young, Richard Staton, Andrew Walters and Stony Blackburn.

**LEANNAH CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased on the Robinson and Scott Cemetery near the Leannah Church at 10:30 a.m. on the Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Andrew Walters, Mike Lowe, Greg Stanley and Bruce Williamson.

**BETHANY CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting on Sunday following the second Saturday at 11:00 a.m. at the May Cemetery in the Flatwoods on Marrowbone Creek in West Virginia. Ministers called: Arthur Mathis and Sam Frye with Moderator and Assistant Moderator attending.

**BUCK CREEK CHURCH** will give away to a memorial meeting on Sunday after the third Saturday to be held on the Dials Cemetery on Jack Cassidy Branch of Coldwater Road. Ministers called: Thomas J. Dials, Albert Cable and Todd Dials.

**BIG BRANCH CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of the J. M. Taylor family and will include the Maynard, Lowe, Taylor, Scott, Blackburn and Nichols families on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Dale Williamson, Duane Smith, Andrew Walters, Mike Lowe and Richard Staton.

**SIDNEY CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of Johnnie Stacy and Rachel Stacy, his wife; Cora Stacy, Tan Howell, Ora Howell, his wife; Mary Jude, Mary Moore, Ralph and Carey Reed, Robert Howell and other family members on Sunday following the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: Sam Frye, Albert Cable, Leonard Napier and Thomas J. Dials.

## AUGUST 2023

**MEMORIAL MEETING** of George Lowe, Jane Lowe, Sam Staton, Lora Staton, Joseph Staton, Mont Staton, Lilburn (Zeek) Staton, Ruth Staton, Jerry Staton and Mary Staton will be held at the Elizabeth Church at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday after the first Saturday. Ministers called: Sam Frye, Gabe D. Lowe, Jr., Jerry Runyon and Stony Blackburn.

**SAMARIA CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting, at the Dillon-Prince Cemetery, on Sunday after the first Saturday. Ministers called: Duane Smith, Arthur May, Eric Williamson and Jeffrey Dillon.

**APPLE ORCHARD CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of all the deceased on the Apple Orchard Cemetery, the Pine Grove Cemetery in Lennox, GA, the McCealy Cemetery at Maher, WV, the Millwood Cemetery in Reddick, FL, the Joe Taylor Cemetery and Joe Taylor family buried at Maher, WV, the Bent Ridge Cemetery, the Rose Hill Cemetery in Ashland, KY, the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, FL, Ft. McCoy Cemetery in Ft. McCoy, FL and Hennon Scalf Cemetery on Curry Branch and Sister Hester Maynard and all that are buried on the Williamson Cemetery, and the Bobby Fields Family Cemetery on Billy Lowe Branch, on Sunday following the first Saturday. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Greg Stanley, Mike Lowe, Nathan Little and Hobart Hamilton.

**DIX FORK CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Dix Fork Church on the first Saturday and Sunday in August. Ministers called: A.B. Thacker, Stony Blackburn and Arthur Mathis.

**BUCK CREEK CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of the deceased on the Blackburn Cemetery at Marrowbone, WV. This meeting will be held on the Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Lacy Fletcher, Thomas J. Dials, Todd Dials and Albert Cable.

**LEANNAH CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday after the second Saturday for all the deceased on the Lowe Cemetery and for Clinton B. Lowe and Marie Lowe that are buried at Maher, West Virginia. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Harold Sesco and Mike Lowe.

**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: Harold Sesco, Larry Thacker, and Stony Blackburn.

**PILGRIMS REST CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting on Sunday after the second Saturday of the deceased members of the Church and the friends of the community and veterans killed in action. Services will begin at 10:30 a.m. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Dale Williamson, Freddie Murphy, Harold Sesco, with Moderator and Assistant Moderator attending.

**REBECCA CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting at 11:00 a.m. of all deceased members of the Rebecca Church on Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Danny McCoy, Danny Hurley, Danny Carty and Todd Dials.

**BRIDE OF CHRIST CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting at the Community Garden Cemetery, located on Route 37, approximately 5 miles south of Wayne, WV (Maynard Memorial) on Sunday following the second Saturday at 10:30 a.m. Ministers called: Edward L. Smith, Arthur Mathis, Sam Frye and Leonard Napier.



**BIG BRANCH CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of all the deceased on the McCoy Cemetery including John and Margret McCoy, Oscar McCoy family, Tolbert McCoy family, also Johnnie Nichols, Sr. family and Lowe family of Gulnare, KY, Sister Victoria (McCoy) Maynard, Brother R. C. Maynard, Sr. and Elder Randall Scott on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Dale Williamson, Abe Howell, Jimmy Amos, Bruce Williamson and Mike 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: Albert Cable, Danny Hurley, Todd Dials and Thomas J. Dials.

**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: Arthur May, David May, Lacy Fletcher and Charles Edwards.

**BRIDE OF CHRIST CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the church on Sunday following the third Saturday at 10:30 a.m. Ministers called: Jimmy Stewart, Arthur May, Ivan Neil Thornsby and Albert Cable.

**SIDNEY CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of Will and Charity Jude, Johnny and America Jude, Mark Jude, son of Kenneth B. and Dolly Jude, Henry Lee and Doris Jude, Mitchell Jude and other family members buried at the head of Peter Cave on Sunday following the third Saturday. Ministers called: Lacy Fletcher, Gabe Lowe, Jr., Billy Joe Robinson and Dewey Jude. Church will be held at the cemetery.

**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 following the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: Wayne Sartin, Dewey Jude, Todd Dials and Sam Frye.

**BIG BRANCH CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting at the Henry Taylor Cemetery at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday after the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: Gabe Lowe, Jr., Billy Joe Robinson, Randall Lowe, Bruce Williamson and Mike Lowe.

## SEPTEMBER 2023

**MEMORIAL MEETING** of Brother Dewey Jude's Family will be held on the Jude Cemetery in the head of Big Peter Cave on the Sunday after the first Saturday in September, 2023. Ministers called: Todd Dials, Randall Lowe, Gabe D. Lowe, Jr., and Lacy Fletcher. Elizabeth Church will give away for this meeting.

**SAMARIA CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting on the Lackey Cemetery on Sunday before Labor Day in 2023. Ministers called: Hobart Hamilton, Sam Frye, Arthur Mathis and Randy Lackey.

**LEANNAH CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting in memory of all deceased members of the Leannah Church on the first Sunday evening at 5:00 p.m. at the Leannah Church. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Hobart Hamilton and Harold Sesco.

**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 on the Maynard Cemetery Warfield, KY on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: David Lester, George Thomason, John Lewis and Jeff Lewis.

**MARY ELIZABETH CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of Elder Wallace Jackson, George Fraley, Donnie Lowe, William (Tom) Fraley and his wife, Inis Fraley Jackson and others on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Gayle Brown, Paul Maynard, Arthur Mathis, Stony Blackburn and Bruce Williamson.

**SAMARIA CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting on the Hannah Cemetery on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Albert Cable, Leonard Napier, Dale Williamson and David May.

**BETHANY CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Bethany Church on Sunday after the fourth Saturday at 11:00 a.m. Ministers called: Danny Hurley, Harrison Runyon, Edward L. Smith, Bruce Williamson and Steve Baker.

**SIDNEY CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of Elder Earnest and Florence Hale, Bernice and Sherman, Connie Sue and Ruvil Hale, along with Joe and Effie Fields and all those buried on the Caney Cemetery up Pigeon Roost, , on Sunday after the fourth Saturday at 10:30 am. Ministers called: Ralph Cloud, Thomas J. Dials, Jeff Lewis and Todd Dials.

## OCTOBER 2023

**ELIZABETH CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting on the first Saturday and Sunday of all deceased members of the Elizabeth Church. Ministers called: Albert Cable, Arthur Mathis, Leonard Napier and Sam Frye.

**SALEM CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Salem Church on the first Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Sam Frye, Richard Staton, Greg Stanley, Kelly Slone, Leonard Napier and Abe Howell.

**TURKEY CREEK CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members on the second Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: John Paul Hamilton, Kelly Slone, Ralph Slone, Jr., Squire Hamilton, Scott Hamilton, Roger Coleman and Dale Williamson.

**MT. PLEASANT CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Mt. Pleasant Church on Sunday after the second Saturday at 11:00 a.m. Ministers called: Paul Boggs, Harold Sesco, Ivan Neil Thornsby, Dale Williamson and Stony Blackburn.

**LEANNAH CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting at the Church of all the deceased who are buried on the Scott Cemetery at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Thomas J. Dials, Richard Staton, Arthur May and Albert Cable.

**LITTLE TAVIE CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting on the second Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Randall Lowe, Gabe Lowe, Jr., Sam Frye and Charles Edwards.

**ROSA CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Rosa Church on the third Saturday and Sunday at 10:00 a.m. Ministers called: Albert Cable, Richard Staton, Zeb Justice, Arthur Mathis and Gary Estep.

**PILGRIMS HOME CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members and friends of the Pilgrims Home Church on the fourth Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Hobart Hamilton and Stony Blackburn.

### **NOVEMBER 2023**

**ANTIOCH CHURCH** will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members and friends of the Antioch Church on Sunday following the fourth Saturday at 10:00 a.m. Ministers called: Ralph Cloud, Kelly Slone, John Lewis and Matthew Ison.

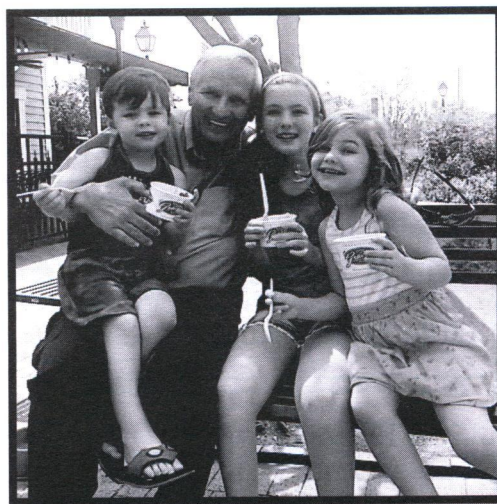
## SPECIAL MEETINGS

CHURCH	DAY AND TIME
Bent Branch Church	Every Odd Sunday at 10:00 a.m. (No meeting on Odd Sunday of Sardis Association memorial meeting, April 30, 2023)
Bent Branch/Pilgrims Home at Pilgrims Home	New Year's Eve at 7:30 p.m.
Sidney	New Year's Eve at 7:30 p.m.
Little Tavie Church	Every Odd Sunday at 10:00 a.m.
Little Rosie	Every Third Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m.
Leannah Church	Every Odd Sunday at 10:30 a.m.
Mary Elizabeth Church	Every Odd Sunday at 11:00 a.m.
Pilgrims Home Church	Second Saturday night at 7:00 p.m.
Pilgrims Rest	Fourth Saturday night at 7:00 p.m. No services in the months November 2022 - March 2023.
Salem Church	Easter Sunday, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.
Samaria Church	Every Odd Sunday at 11:00 a.m. (No meeting on Odd Sunday of Sardis Association memorial meeting, April 30, 2023)
Sardis Association at Building	Every Odd Saturday evening at 6:00 p.m. (This meeting delayed until the COVID-19 pandemic expires)
Rosa Church	Christmas Eve at 5:00 p.m.
Turkey Creek	New Year's Eve at 7:30 p.m. Every Odd Sunday at 11:00 a.m. Second Saturday and Sunday in June. Ministers called: Estill Hamilton, Ray Hamilton, Edward Lee Smith, Kelly Slone, Daniel Jacobs, A.B. Thacker and Andy Fields.

# Obituaries-MEMBERS OF THE SARDIS CHURCHES

## ELDER LESTER COCHRAN

Elder Lester Cochran left this world on January 15, 2022. He was born on December 1, 1951 in Pikeville, Kentucky, to the late Elder William Cochran and Sister Sela Cochran. He was preceded in death by his wife of nearly forty-one years, Sister Sheila Cochran. He is survived by his sons; Tony Cochran of Point Pleasant, West Virginia and Dustin (Kristen) Cochran of Centerville, Ohio; grandchildren; Natalie, Skylar, and Jase; his sister, Brenda (John) Sayre of Point Pleasant, West Virginia; and brother, Billy Cochran of Cheraw, South Carolina.



Lester was known to many as the “Magic Man” in Point Pleasant. He did not know a stranger and was always quick to wow you with a magic trick. His favorite acts involved making coins disappear and he would always end it by giving a quarter, half-dollar, or even a silver or gold dollar to every kid watching. However, Lester would never perform a trick without ensuring everyone knew that is exactly what it is...a trick...because only the good Lord performs real miracles.

I believe the Lord performed one of those miracles in Elder Lester Cochran by giving him a unique personality. Not only did he give away countless amounts of coins to kids, but he also caused people to want to change their attitudes, their perspectives, and even their ways. A conversation never stayed on the topic of “magic” because that was not his love. His love was preaching the word of God. Magic was a way for him to show you his kindness and his heart which led most to want to know what changed him.

Magic is only the starting point of why people wanted to hear more from Elder Lester Cochran. Here are some things anyone who knew him would tell you. Everyone got the same version of him. He did not try to impress anyone, and he was not afraid to speak the truth. He gave thanks to the Lord for everything in his life and did everything in his power to be the best Christian example a person could see. Rather than search the Bible for reasons he was right in a disagreement, he would search it for reasons he was wrong to make sure he was not biased. Simply put, there are not enough words I can use to describe the kind of man Elder Lester Cochran emulated. It would be hard to think of a moment where he acted without humility, kindness, and godly love. His entire world revolved around going to church, loving God, and preaching God’s word. Most everyone can still hear him singing “I’m a winner either way,” and we all hope to hear him singing it again one day.

Submitted by his son, Dustin Cochran

## ELDER KENNETH B. JUDE

It is with much sadness I try to write the obituary of my beloved husband, Kenneth B. Jude, who was known to everyone as "B." Kenneth B. Jude, age 77, of Louisa, Kentucky, went to be with the Lord on August 5, 2022, in the comfort of his own home surrounded by his loving family. He was born July 14, 1945 in Martin County, Kentucky, to the late Sherman and Spicy (Howell) Jude. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his infant son, Mark Jude, his only brother, Henry Lee Jude, and his infant sister, Roberta Jude. He is survived by his wife, Dolly Jude, and his one and only beloved daughter, Pamela Sue Jennings. He is also survived by his one and only beloved granddaughter, Shawnda Tess Jennings, his special



nieces, Lora (Ritchie) Hale and Michelle (Logan) Price, special great nieces and nephews, Breanna (Eddie) Greer, Brett Hinkle, Brayden and Madison Price, his special great-great nephews that he thought of like grandchildren, Eli Brantley and Dawson Tate Greer, as well as a host of other family and friends. Pallbearers included his loving family; Ritchie Hale, Eddie Greer, Sonny Howell, Logan Price, Brett Hinkle, Brayden Price, Buddy and David Stacy. Kenneth B. was an ordained minister and Elder of the Sidney Old Regular Baptist Church for many years. He loved and enjoyed attending church and all of the special called meetings. Kenneth B. was a faithful man of God for as long as his health allowed him to be. When he was unable to attend church during Covid and his illness, it saddened his heart because that was his biggest joy in life, serving the Lord.

Kenneth B. and I were married on July 9, 1966, and were wed for fifty-six years, three weeks, and six days. We shared a beautiful life together, and we were very blessed to have had each other to walk through this life by each other's side. I am so thankful that God blessed us to be a help mate to each other. Kenneth B. loved life, but he told me as well as others so many times, "if I die tonight, I have had a good life and the Lord has been good to me." He loved his family so dearly and always provided for them. Kenneth B. loved for family and friends to visit, and he always made them feel so very special. He always offered his hospitality, which came in the form of a good meal and most often a discussion of the Good Book. That was his way of showing them how much he cared for them.

He came into the old church in 1979 on the fourth of July. For over forty-three years, he served the Lord. His favorite songs to sing and hear were, "I'll Fly Away" and "He's My All and All." I can still hear him singing, "Some sweet day I'm going to travel, to that happy home on high, for I've been washed in the Blood of Jesus, and I'm ready now to die, I'd hate to go and leave my children, in this awful world of sin, but if they've been washed in the Blood of Jesus, then we shall all meet again, he's my all and all, he's my all and all, every time I get in trouble, on Him I call."

I've never faced such loneliness like this, but I know he's in a better place where he will never suffer anymore. He did hate to leave his family, but he made his preparations for that day many years ago. My heart is broken in a way that can never be mended, but I know that our loss is Heaven's gain. I look forward to meeting him again when this life is over in Heaven's fair country, where we will never part again. Kenneth B. will be so sadly missed by his family and friends and all who knew and loved him.

Written by your loving wife who is so broken hearted,  
Dolly

### ELDER CLYDE PERRY

I will try to write this obituary of Brother Clyde Perry. He was a member of the Elizabeth Old Regular Baptist Church, and the assistant moderator at Elizabeth. He was born in Martin County on Rockhouse of Tomahawk on January 3, 1959, and passed away on March 16, 2022. Brother Clyde was a good Brother in the Lord. He was ready to help anyone who needed help, both naturally and spiritually in the church. Brother Clyde had a lot of love.

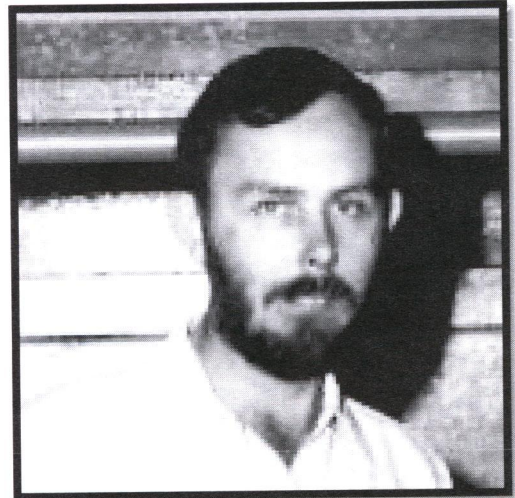
He had one son, Clyde Joseph Perry and he was married to Earnestine Fletcher Perry. Brother Clyde had two sisters, Mary Jane Nichols and Verla Dean Rizer. He was preceded in death by his mom, Arize Cornett and his daddy, Clyde Perry, Sr. Brother Clyde will be sadly missed by all who knew him. So we are not saying goodbye, but so long for a little while.



Written by Elder Lacy Fletcher  
Your brother in law and brother in the Lord

## RANDALL PAUL "COON" BEVINS

Randall Paul "Coon" Bevins passed from this earthly life on Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at his residence on Frozen Creek of Raccoon, Kentucky. Coon was born on Friday, February 6, 1959 in Pike County, Kentucky, a son of the late Vernon Ray and Pluma Jean Ratliff Bevins. Coon was a member of the Bent Branch Old Regular Baptist Church at Meta, Kentucky. He worked at Johns Creek School as a custodian.



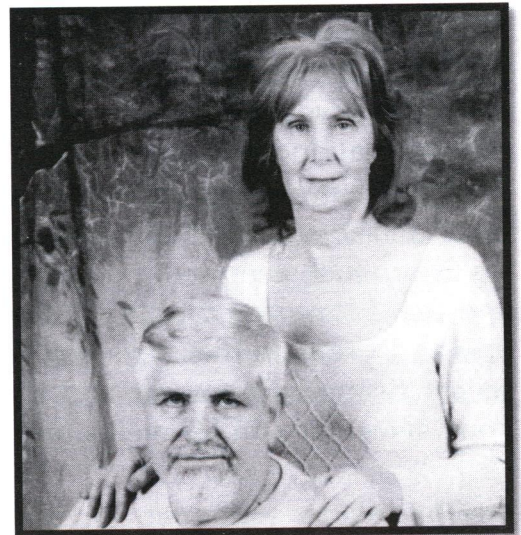
Coon had a passion for the funeral business. He began his career with the funeral business at Harris Funeral Home at Johns Creek, then the Johns Creek Funeral Home at Johns Creek, Justice Funeral Home of Pikeville, R.E. Rogers Funeral Home at Belfry, Lucas and Son Funeral Home of Pikeville, Roberts Funeral Home at Robinson Creek, and at last the Community Funeral Home at Zebulon.

Other than his parents, Coon was preceded in death by one brother, Donald Floyd Bevins and a special aunt and uncle, John B. and Ruby Scott. Coon is survived by his wife, Deborah Lynn Adkins Bevins of Frozen Creek, two daughters, Brandi Rae Bevins and Tiffany Dawn Bevins, both of Frozen Creek, two brothers, Roger Dale Bevins and his wife Linda of Meta, Kentucky, and Danny Ray Bevins and his wife Lorrie of Lower Johns Creek, and his mother in law, Ruby Adkins.

Submitted by his wife, Debbie

## LINDA GAIL BLACKBURN

As humble as I can, I will try to write the obituary of my sweet loving mother. Linda Gail Blackburn was born into this world on August 14, 1954, and she drew her last breath on July 25, 2022, when the Lord called her home. Making her stay here on earth 67 years 11 months and 19 days. Mom was the daughter of the late Wayne "Bob" Ray and Lillian Marie Ray of Varney, Kentucky. Mom was the second oldest of six children born into this union. She is survived by two sisters, Nadine (Will) Jones of Stone, Kentucky and Lenna (Joe) Dotson of Meta, Kentucky, and three brothers; Scot (Linda) Ray of Gulnare, Kentucky, Johnny (Ardena) Ray of Raccoon, Kentucky and Bobby (Carol) Ray of Varney, Kentucky.





The love of mom's life, she married on her birthday on August 14, 1974, Larry Ray Blackburn, who has preceded her in death on November 17, 2021. Unto this marriage was born her three children who she adored and loved so much. Two sons; Michael (Christine) Blackburn of Kimper, Kentucky, Steven (Wendy) Blackburn of Kimper, Kentucky and one daughter, Cindy (Chris) Tibbs of Varney, Kentucky. Mom was blessed to have five grandchildren; Tyler Tibbs, Hannah Tibbs, Lilly Blackburn, Elijah Blackburn, Michael (Kendra) Ray and two great grandchildren; McKinley Ray and Caden Ray.

Mom so loved her family especially our dad, he was her life for so many years. She lived her life to make sure he was taken care of. Mom also loved the Lord and made her public confession of this faith on April 24, 2011, on an Easter Sunday at the Pilgrim Home Church. She was baptized the same day by Billy Williamson, Danny Runyon and Duane Smith. She was so happy on that day, and I remember it so well. Brother Danny sang "Almost Home", I believe in my heart that she is home now resting in the arms of our Lord.

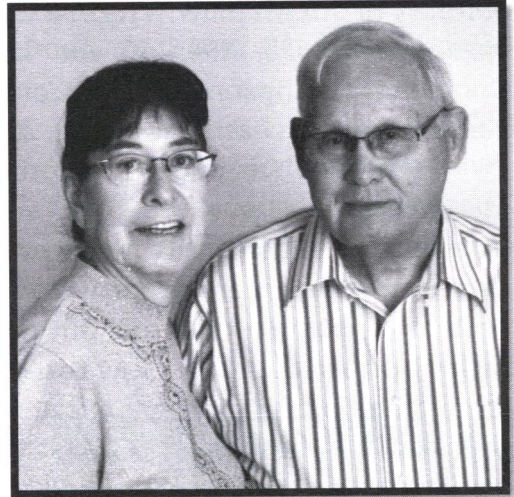
There's so many that mom cared for and loved, it would take a long time to name them. Mom would want me to thank a few that held a special place in her heart. As Dad became so sick and mom's health was also failing she could no longer give Dad the care that he needed and needed help to take care of herself, she turned to two special people in her life and that was Linda Ray and Carol Justice, who were instrumental in helping us kids take care of them both. All the early mornings that Linda would come over and sit with them and all the late night calls that Carol and mom's brother Bobby would tend to I know she cherished them and loved you guys for that. And to the lady who by blood wasn't her natural sister but she thought of just the same, Annette Canada. Who wanted to be by mom's side every morning as she came down to her last days. Something that sticks in my mind is what Sister Annette said as I came and got her one morning to sit with mom. I told her how much we appreciated her doing what she was doing and she told me, Stevie it's the most important thing in my life right now is to be there with her, I love her that much.

To my brother and sister I know mom loved you guys and would not have made it as long as she did without the things you guys gave up to ensure that her every need was met. That is something I will never forget as long as I live. I love you both so much for the love you had for her. I know it will be hard on us and the loneliness we will feel knowing she won't be coming back home with us today is unbearable to think of but, we told her as we stood by her bedside that we were fine and everything would be ok let's stick to that and take care and love one another like she would want us to. Let's lean on the faith that she had in her personal savior that if we follow along in her footsteps that we shall see and meet her again and never depart. So in closing, I myself would like to say Mom just sleep on and rest easy. I know that my life here will never be the same and that I love you with my entire heart. There's a line in the old song, should you go first and I remain that says that "memories are a gift from God that death can't destroy" seems fitting here for me and those memories are what I will hold on to until I can see your sweet face on Heaven's bright shore!

Your loving son, Steve

## ELSTER RAY BLACKBURN JEWEL BLACKBURN

Elster Ray Blackburn, age 78, passed away on March 22, 2022. He was born October 5, 1943 to the late Elster and Sarah Blackburn. Jewel Blackburn, age 74, passed away on September 2, 2022. She was born August 24, 1948, to the late Burnis and Goldie Blackburn. Ray and Jewel were married October 18, 1968. They were both members of the Bent Branch Old Regular Baptist Church. Jewel joined on October 18, 1998 and Ray joined on October 17, 2004. He was ordained as a Deacon on October 15, 2005.



Other than their parents, they were preceded in death by their brothers; Ralph Blackburn, Roger Blackburn, Douglas Blackburn, Eugene Blackburn, Rod Blackburn and brother-in-law, Roy Gannon.

They are survived by their children; Angela and Teddy Branham, and Sara Blackburn; Ray's sister: Shirley and her husband Bob Sweaney, his sister-in-laws Sandra and Dicie Blackburn, as well as, Jewel's siblings; Kelly and Wanda Blackburn, Archie and Rita Blackburn, Vernon and Carol Blackburn, Kathy Gannon, Janice and Harold Collins, Cherri and Rick Newsome. They had many nieces and nephews that they also loved dearly.

Mom and Dad started their life together in a little apartment at 606 1/2 Middle Street in Fairborn, Ohio. Dad went up there first to get the apartment ready, then he came back to get Mom. They loved it there and often reminisced about the good times they had. Dad would take Mom shopping on the weekends. She said he never took her to town the same way twice, so they could explore and find new places to see. Each story they told usually included at least one of their siblings coming to stay with them for a while. Even though they had moved four hours from home that did not stop them from sharing their love with the entire family.

They soon moved back to Pikeville, Kentucky to begin their journey as parents. They left their little apartment and moved into a house. They were so proud when Angie was born, showing her off in her little bassinet, watching her grow and finding the love of her life, Teddy. Then, Sara, a big surprise to Mom and Dad both, was born. Now, with Mom, Dad, Angie, Teddy, and Sara, the family was complete. With all the love and memories, that house became a home.

They lived there together until March 2022. That was when, just like before, Dad went first and in September 2022, Mom went to join him. They began with a little apartment, move to a nice home, and now have moved to a mansion in Heaven! I can just about see Dad dragging Mom down every street in Heaven, showing her all the places he found for them to see. The miles to Fairborn didn't keep them away from their family and the distance to Heaven won't either. On earth, they will forever live on in our hearts and memories. One day, thanks to God, we will be able to be with them again!

Written by their loving daughters, Angie and Sara

## VIRGINIA CANADA

It is with a sad and broken heart that we write the obituary of our Mamaw, Virginia Canada. Mamaw was born August 25, 1945 to the late Henry and Inez Robinette Thompson in Pike County, Kentucky. She passed from this earth on June 2, 2022.

There is so much that could be said about our Mamaw. She was so kind, so sweet, so patient. Growing up, the majority of my evenings and every one of my summers were spent with her and Papaw. She not only raised her children, but she helped to raise me, Kasey and Jarrod, too. How fortunate was I to say that the woman who raised my mom, who helped raise me, was also helping to raise my kids. Although she never held a paying job, she worked. Her work came in helping her neighbors, and caring for those in her little community and church. She was a homemaker and a caregiver, always willing to lend a hand to those in need. On September 24, 1995, she gave her life to the Lord. She was baptized and became a member of the Pilgrims Home Old Regular Baptist church. She loved her church family and enjoyed being in their presence for so many years.



Our Mamaw, loved just about anyone she met, and I think she made you feel that from the time she met you. Whether us grandkids were bringing over a friend, a boyfriend, a girlfriend, our friend's kids, our in-law's, it may have been the first time and last time she'd meet them, but she made them feel welcomed and loved. What a better world if would be if we had more Mamaw Ginga's in it. So much love in her heart that she shared so freely without hesitation. She would want us all to do the same. To love one another, to try and forgive any hurt in our heart we held against one another.

On November 14, 1964, Mamaw married our Papaw Landon. While out squirrel hunting, he heard a beautiful voice singing. He followed the sound of the singing which led him to who would soon be his wife. They were married for nearly fifty years when he passed. From their marriage was born three children; Charles Edward "Chuck" Canada (Becky), Michael Landon Canada (Sandy) and Kimberly Lynn Walters (Andrew).

From those children later came four grandchildren and two step-grandchildren. Brandi (Mark) Adkins, Kasey Canada, Jarrod (Lindsey) Canada, Morgan (Alex) Holbrook, Austin Maynard and Aaron (Kaci) McGuire. She spent many evenings and summers helping to raise us grandchildren. She never failed to show us an abundance of patience and love, and tried to teach us to do the same, along the way.

While us grandchildren brought her joy, our spotlights were stolen when her great grandbabies began to enter this world. Zoey, Matthew, Ruby, Maggie, Wade and Josie brought her so much happiness. Her eyes and heart would light up whenever she was around any of them. She would often tell people that her great grandbabies were her joy in life. She spent time helping to raise and teach them, too. She taught her "little feller", Wade, how to garden and cooked him endless amounts of biscuits and gravy. She taught Ruby and Maggie how to clean the turkey to prepare for Thanksgiving dinner. She went on adventures and experienced new things with them that helped to keep her going after Papaw passed away.

While we never expected the Lord to take her home so soon, we know that she is resting now and free from the ailments that made her so sick in the past months. We take comfort in how peacefully she passed and in knowing that she is with our Papaw Landon again, something we're sure she has longed for since losing him.

We will miss you always and we love you a bushel and a peck and a hug around the neck!

Written with Love,  
The Grandchildren

## PATSY GAY CARTER

It is with sadness and precious memories that I try to write the obituary for my beloved Mother. Patsy Gay Carter, age 79, of Baisden, West Virginia, took her Heavenly flight on Sunday May 1, 2022, from her residence. She was born on August 25, 1942 in Baisden, West Virginia. The daughter of the late Fred and Vernia (Thompson) Glanden. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband; Bobby Carter, brother, Hubert Glanden; sisters; Judy Glanden, Sandra Sims, Bernice Henderson, and Glenda Glanden and son-in-law; Buell E. Ellis III.

She was loved by everyone who knew her. She loved traveling and attending church, working in her garden, and telling everyone about her precious grandsons. She was a member of the Rosa Old Regular Baptist Church at Baisden, West Virginia. She was a wonderful and



loving mother of two children; Timothy (Patricia) Carter of Orlando, Florida and Andrea Ellis of Baisden, West Virginia. Three grandsons: Christian, Cameron and Collin Carter all of Orlando, Florida; special niece/daughter Angela Sims of Baisden, West Virginia. She also leaves behind a host of nieces, nephews, and other dear friends and relatives.

Funeral services were conducted on Wednesday, May 5, 2022, at Mounts Funeral Home Chapel in Gilbert, West Virginia with Elders Richard Staton, Freddie Cline, Gary Young, and Hobert Hamilton officiating. Burial followed in the Glanden Cemetery at Baisden, West Virginia. If roses grew in Heaven, lord please pick a bunch for me place them in my mother's arms and tell her they're from me. Tell her that I love and miss her and when she turns to smile, place a kiss upon her cheek and hold her for a while. Because remembering you is easy I do it every day, but there's an ache within my heart that never goes away.

## BRIAN "KEITH" CLINE

Brian "Keith" Cline, age 59, of Christian, West Virginia went to be with the Lord on March 26, 2022, from Cabell Huntington Hospital.

Born on June 28, 1963, to the late Judd and Dessie Mae Cline, he was their baby boy, the youngest of three boys. He was preceded in death by both paternal and maternal grandparents and many other family members, but I know he is rejoicing with Granny and Paw now.

Keith went through a lot of sickness for the last several years on earth, but I'm comforted to know that is all over and he will have a brand new body now!

Keith is survived by his wife of fourteen years, Marsha Cline, his son, Brian Keith Cline Jr., his daughter Emily Cline, four precious grandchildren; Annabelle, and Freddy Cline, and Malibou and Maliah Cline his two brothers Chris (Pam), Benjie (Tammy) Cline, and many other family and friends.

Keith was a member of the Rosa Old Regular Baptist Church where he loved to attend and sing when he was able. Keith loved the Lord and had a giving heart. He would always give to anyone anything he had, he didn't care he just loved to give. That's just the kind of person he was. He dedicated his time to taking care of his precious mother the last few years of her life and I am so proud of him for that!

Keith may be gone from this earth, but he will never be forgotten by his wife and kids and family. Until we meet again in Heaven, honey wait for me.

Love your wife, Marsha Cline



## ARMINDA SHEPPARD COLLINS

I will try to write the obituary of my aunt, Arminda Sheppard Collins of Ashville, Ohio, but formerly of Mingo County, West Virginia. She passed away on Friday November 5, 2021, at Mount Carmel East, Columbus, Ohio. She was a member of the Rebecca Old Regular Baptist Church for many years.

She was born November 10, 1931, at Myrtle, West Virginia, to the late William Preston "Dock" and Susan (Gilman) Sheppard. She was preceded in death by three sisters and five brothers. Sister Arminda was survived by two children. One son, Herbert Lee (Laura Runyon) Collins of Georgia and Dreama (Jerry) Collins Kirk of Ohio, three grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.



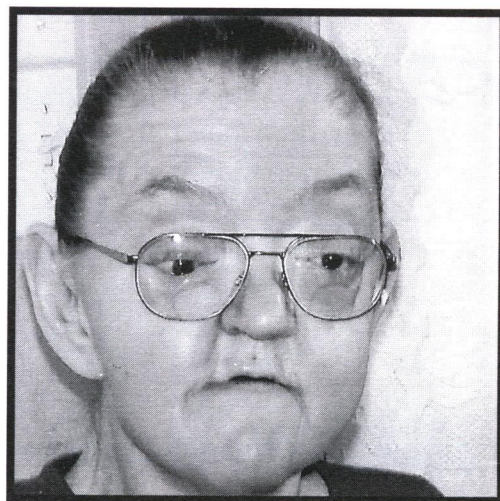
Written by Susan Coffee

## AMANDA CLEO FARLEY

It is with a sad and broken heart that I try to write the obituary of my sweet, loving sister, Amanda Cleo Farley "Sister Cleo." She passed away at her home in Belfry, Kentucky on January 30, 2022, at the age of 71. Cleo was born on January 3, 1951, to the late Lawrence and Nolie Farley. She was a member of the Pilgrims Home Old Regular Baptist Church for fifteen years. Cleo came to live with us after the passing of our precious mother in May 2001. She was a very special part of our wonderful family.

In addition to her parents, Cleo was preceded in death by two sisters; Eba Helen Farley and Barbara Williamson; five brothers; Darrell, Harold, James, Donnie and Charles Farley; three sister-in-laws; Eula, Carol, and Betty Farley; two brother in laws; Roscoe Williamson and Vernel Sesco. Cleo is survived by her sisters; Ollie (Johnny) Scott of Cincinnati Ohio, Daisy Sesco of Belfry, Kentucky, Connie (Bill) Huddle of McCarr, Kentucky, Patty (Lewis) Luster of Sabina, Ohio, Patsy (Gary) Dotson of Ransom, Kentucky, Judy (Clayton) Stanley of Sidney, Kentucky, and one brother, Jerry (Carol) Farley of Hardy, Kentucky. She is also survived by several nieces and nephews who loved her dearly. Cleo never let her disabilities stop her from enjoying life. She loved making quilts, embroidery, and playing games with little children. She was a devoted Christian, and loved her church family dearly.

Sister Cleo, which she loved to be called, had a favorite song, "Shake My Mothers Hand", that she wanted to be sung at every church service. She always brought joy and laughter to all who knew her. Cleo will be greatly missed and will live in our hearts forever!



Written by her heart broken sister,  
Daisy Sesco

## BETTY FARLEY

Betty June Farley, wife of Donnie Farley for fifty years passed away Sunday, December 26, 2021, after braving a brief battle of colon and liver cancer. Born in Dans Branch, West Virginia on September 4, 1948, she was the daughter of the late Jack and Gladys Keene.

Betty spent most of her life up Narrows Branch in Hardy, Kentucky. She was a very hard worker from early childhood helping care for and support her siblings and her family. Betty was blessed to work and be independent up to age seventy-three, when her health began to fail. Her hobbies really were working, cooking, gardening, canning, caring for others and walking the hollow. She was also a member of



Narrows Branch Old Regular Baptist Church which she loved attending.

Survivors include her three children and five grandchildren. Children include; Deborah (Rodney) McIntosh, Donna (Larry Joe) Thacker and Derek Farley. Grandchildren include; Troy (Alissia) McIntosh, Emily (Travis) Rhodes, Nathaniel and Summer Thacker and Keegan Farley. Also, a special niece, Kimberly (Jason) Smith.

Other than her parents she was preceded in death by eight brothers and one sister. Brothers include; Michael Steven Keene, Jacob Keene, David Daniel Keene, Joseph Elijah Keene, Teddy Frank Keene, Glen Roger Keene, Delbert Wesley Keene, Willie Reaford Keene, and sister, Eula Jean Farley. Surviving siblings; James Ray Keene, Bill Jack (Debbie) Keene; sisters include; Corrine Keene, Mollie (Ike) Stepp, Susie Metcalf and Elenor (Tommy) Preece.

We children can't thank God enough for blessing us with some of the absolute best parent on earth. Mom was such a special mother that spoke and did tough love when needed, always spoke truth to us and also made birthdays and holidays the most special days for all involved family or not. She loved and cared for All.

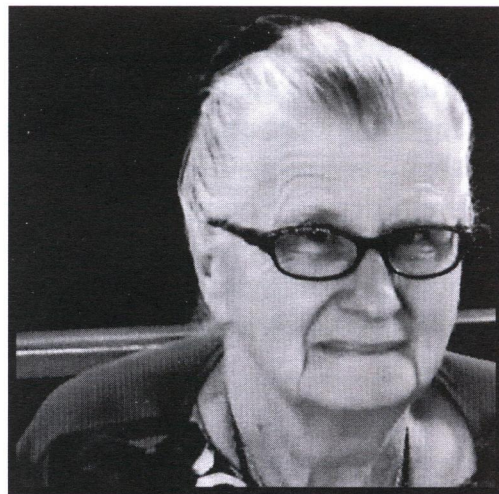
## NORMA JEAN YOUNG FIELDS

It's with a heavy heart we attempt to write the obituary of my mommy, Sister Norma Jean Young Fields, age 83 of Brushy Road. Mommy passed away from this earthly life on Saturday, February 5, 2022, at my home on Billy Lowe Branch. She was born on October 26, 1938, the daughter of James E. and Dolly Rose Young.

Other than her parents she was preceded in death by her husband of nearly fifty-two years Bobby Marshall Fields, and three brothers; Charles Walter Young, John L. Young and Lay Thomas Young.

She is survived by her three sons; Gerald Wayne (Shae) Fields of Varney, Kentucky; Joey Edward (Jamalyn) Fields of Inez Kentucky; and Cory Ryan Fields of Ohio and one daughter, Lisa Ann (Johnny) Thacker of Pikeville, Kentucky. Three siblings, a twin brother, Eugene Young of Dublin, Virginia, Kelly Young of Pikeville, Kentucky and one sister, Mary Outlaw of Arnold, Missouri, as well as eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren, and her special granddaughter, Katie.

Mom was a homemaker and worked many years as a cook at Johns Creek Elementary. She loved "Her Kids" as she called them at the school and was known by everyone as, Granny. Most importantly she was a Christian and a faithful member of the Apple Orchard Old Regular Baptist Church for almost twenty-one years. Anytime you saw mommy at church or anywhere she was always smiling and ready to give you a hug. To all her grandchildren and great grandchildren, friends and neighbors, if you want to see Mamaw again, get right with the Lord so we can all meet again. Mommy will be forever missed and loved by all her family and friends.



Written by her daughter and favorite son-in-law, Lisa and Johnny Thacker

## MAXINE FOUCH HARMON

If it be God's will and with his help and guidance, I will try to write the obituary of my beloved aunt and Sister in Christ. Aunt Maxine Fouch Harmon was born on April 1, 1940, in Chauncey, West Virginia. She was the daughter of the late Elder John Fouch and Sister Verdilla Fouch. She was also preceded in death by three brothers; James Fouch, Brother Arvel Fouch, John Calvin Fouch, one sister; Sister Gearldine Fouch Hensley and one grandson; Jackson Gage Adkins. Sister Maxine leaves behind her husband of fifty-six years, Tom Harmon of Chapmanville, West Virginia, one brother, Jerry Fouch also of Chapmanville, West Virginia, she also leaves two daughters; Fonda (Jackie) Adkins of Big Creek, West Virginia, Valerie Lyare of Chapmanville. Also, her grandchildren whom she loved very deeply, Hunter and Isaac Adkins of Big Creek, Josi and Halie Meadows of Chapmanville.



Sister Maxine joined the Tabitha Old Regular Baptist Church on December 6, 1981, and loved going to church and being with her family. She always talked about how precious all the little children were and how much she enjoyed being with them. Aunt Maxine will be greatly missed by all of her family including a large host of nephews and nieces, great nephews and nieces and great great nephews and nieces. Aunt Maxine was a sweet, loving woman who will be missed by all who knew her. I have a great hope that she is resting now awaiting the return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

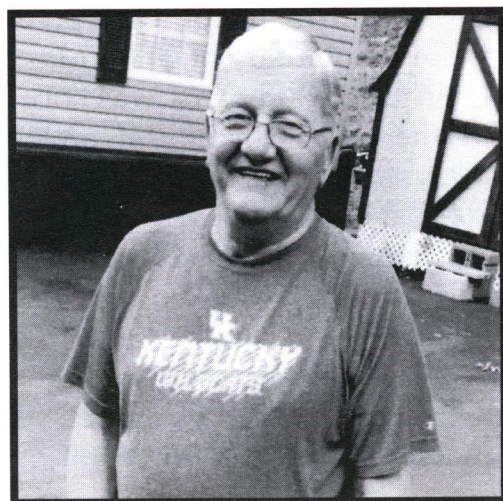
Written by her loving nephew and Brother in Christ,  
Avery Hensley

## MICHAEL JOHNSON

With the help of the Lord, I will attempt to write the obituary of my precious dad, Michael Johnson, age 66, of Varney, Kentucky, passed away Wednesday, September 22, 2021 at the Pikeville Medical Center.

Dad was born on February 14, 1955, to the late Richard and Elsie Johnson. Along with his parents he was preceded in death by one son, Michael Douglas Johnson, three brothers; Gordon Johnson, Bruce Johnson, and Terry Johnson, and four sisters; Connie Johnson, Lilly Johnson, Ellie Johnson and Twanie Johnson.

Along with his wife Cleo, he is survived by one daughter, Michelle (Mack) Newsome, one adopted son, Roger (JoAnn) Johnson, two grandchildren, Mackinsey





and Madison Newsome, and a host of loving family and friends.

In 1974, he married the love of his life, my mom, Cleo. They were very happily married for forty-seven years. Throughout his life he worked very hard to provide a good life for his family. Anyone who knew dad knew that he loved to talk to people. He was very funny and always cracking jokes. Most everyone knew that a conversation with Dad would most likely end with a good laugh. He was known for his humor, his kindness, and his singing.

On October 31, 2010, he gave his life to the Lord. He and mom were baptized together. He was a faithful member, a Deacon, and clerk at Pilgrims Home Old Regular Baptist Church. Known for his singing, he spent a lot of his time at home worshipping the Lord in song. The rest of his time was devoted to serving others and loving his family. I was always amazed that he was such a sentimental person having grown up without his mother. Throughout the years my girls and mom and I have so many letters that he has written to us telling us how much he loved and cared for us. Those letters have always been and will always be cherished. Ever since he gave his life to the Lord, he also left notes about how much the Lord loved his children at various places where he had traveled, knowing that someone would find it and receive a blessing.

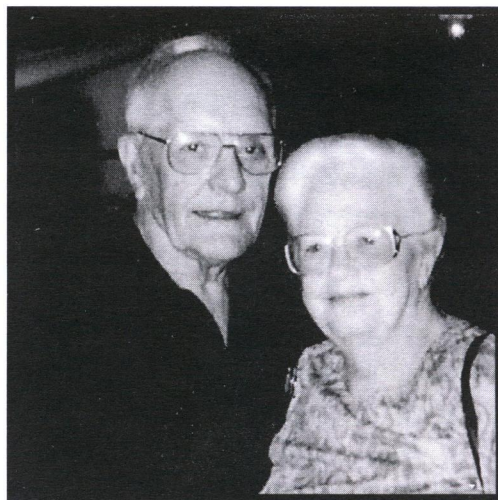
Having grown up as an only child, I felt especially close to my dad. His love for my mom was an example of what a husband should be. His love for me and my husband was an example of what a dad should be; and his love for my daughters was an example of what a proud grandpa and best friend should be. His never ending love will always be felt and deeply missed.

We are terribly heartbroken but know that dad is exactly where he has always wanted to be, and without any more pain or sorrow. Our loss is truly Heaven's gain. In the words of his loving granddaughters, he was a light in every room.

Written by his loving daughter, Michelle

## **CARSON MAYNARD HAY ANNA LEE BAISDEN HAY**

With many fond and precious memories, I will write the obituary of Uncle Maynard and Aunt Anna Lee. Uncle Maynard was born on October 12, 1921, to the late William Carson "Willie" and Brookie (Maynard) Hay and passed away on January 12, 2003, at the age of 81. Aunt Anna Lee was born on April 26, 1924, to the late Sol and Abbigail Baisden and passed away on February 12, 2002, eleven months before Uncle Maynard died, at the age of 77. They were married on August 30, 1939, he was seventeen and she was fifteen years old. They were married for sixty-two years.



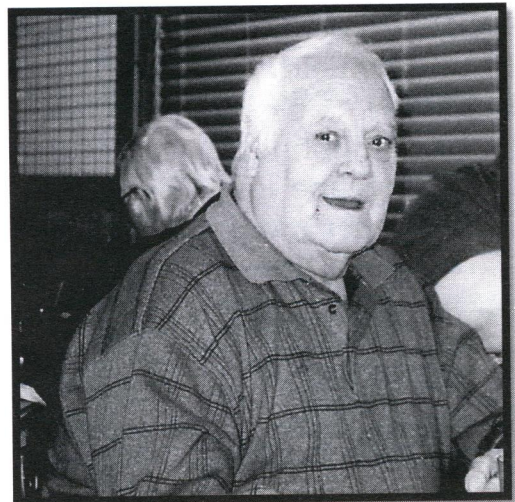
They were preceded in death by both sets of parents, four infant children and one grandson. They were survived by seven children; four daughters; Della Simpkins, Ruth Hopkins, Sharon Southers, and Sylvia Kirk, and three sons; Maynard L. Hay, Frank C. Hay and John J. Hay. They were also survived by eighteen grandchildren and several great-grandchildren. Uncle Maynard was also survived by three sisters; Virginia Gillman, Martha Anglin, and Louise Peaden, and two brothers; Ethan Hay and Edwin Hay, as well as several nieces, nephews and cousins. Aunt Anna Lee was survived by one sister; Della Absent and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Uncle Maynard worked as a coal miner for many years, retiring from the Number Twenty-seven mine. Aunt Anna Lee was a housewife. They were both members of the Rebecca Old Regular Baptist Church for many years. He was an ordained minister and served as clerk of the church.

Written by their nephew,  
Tiger Hay

## RAYMOND LACKEY

It is with much sadness and a broken heart that I attempt to write the obituary of my precious daddy. Raymond Lackey, age 88, of Laurel Creek, left his earthly home for a heavenly home on September 12, 2021, at Logan Regional Medical Center. He was born at Kirk, West Virginia on February 25, 1933, to the late William and Betty Sartin Lackey. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, Norma Lackey, daughters Naomi Tomblin and infant daughter, Jean Lackey; sons, Raymond Lackey Jr. and infant son Robert Lackey, son-in-law, Henry Hartley Jr. Sisters; Florence May, Ethel Mullins, Lily Mae White and Faye White. Brothers, Clyde Lackey and Bill Lackey.



He is survived by his son George Lackey (Karen Maye), daughter, Anna Hartley, granddaughters, Felicia (Chris) Walls and Amelia (Joe) Clancy, great grandsons, Devon {Kendra} Walls, Zachary (Kira Mullins) Walls, son-in-law, Willis Tomblin, brother Lonnie Lackey, brother-in-law, Noah Whit, sister-in-law, Mary Lackey, and two nephews who he depended on and loved dearly, Richard Lackey and Eugene Newsome. He is also survived by a host of nieces and nephews whom he loved and was affectionately known as Uncle Buck.

Raymond was baptized on the fourth Saturday in October 1979, at Bethany Old Regular Baptist Church, where he took membership and was a faithful member. He also loved to visit other churches especially, Freedom United Baptist Church and Laurel Creek, when his health permitted. He was a humble man who loved God, his family, and his neighbors. When he was able, he loved to be in the mountains. He enjoyed gardening and always had a beautiful garden.

2 Timothy 3:7-8 says I have fought a good fight. I have finished my course. I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them that love his appearing. Services were held at Freedom United Baptist Church with services at 7 p.m., with Elder Eddie Hatfield and the funeral at the Lackey Cemetery at 1:00 p.m., with Arthur May and Albert Cable ministers of Bethany Church officiating.

Written by his daughter, Anna Ruth Hartley

## ANGELINE LOWE

Angeline (Taylor) Lowe went home to be with the Lord on November 21, 2021. She was born May 16, 1937, to the late Clint and Jettie (Sesco) Taylor. She leaves behind her husband of sixty-five years, Gordy Lowe and two daughters; Annetta (Mike) Horn and Nanetta (Robert) Coleman. She also leaves behind her three grandchildren; Mark (Kim) Birchfield, Amanda (Jeff) Lambert, and John (Kennedy) Coleman. One great grandson, Benjamin Birchfield.



Angeline loved her family and friends. She cared for her mom and dad until their death, and also cared for other family and friends anytime she was needed. I think everyone in the neighborhood has a fond memory of her. She was a homemaker and also held various jobs during her life. She enjoyed her daily walks, until her health no longer permitted them, she also enjoyed sewing and quilting until her eyesight began to fail. She loved her golf cart rides and was often seen on the roads of Brushy as she took a ride. Her biggest joy in life were her grandchildren and great grandson, she was so proud of each of them.

Our mom gave her heart to the Lord and was baptized on July 28, 2018, by Elders Danny Runyon and Duane Smith. She was a member of the Big Branch Old Regular Baptists Church and loved her brothers and sisters in the Lord so much.

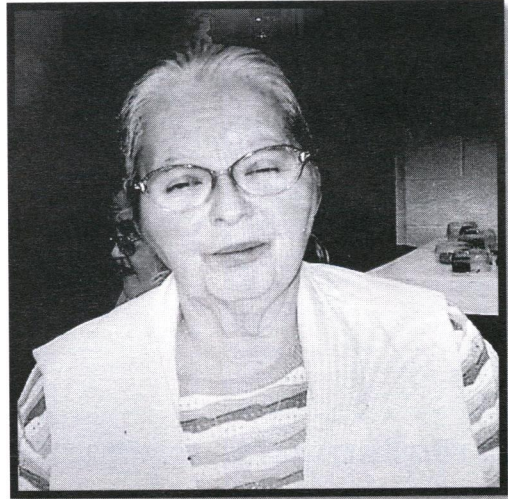
She had spoken of going home all afternoon the evening she passed. What a comfort it is to know she is now resting in her eternal home.

Written by her daughter Nan Coleman

## PATSY MAYNARD

It is with a sad heart that I write the obituary of my friend and Sister in Christ. Patsy was born on December 19, 1951, at Williamson, West Virginia to the late Dwight Maynard Sr. and Ernestine Maynard. Besides her parents, Patsy was preceded in death by her maternal grandparents, Leonard and Elkie Maynard, her paternal grandparents, R.D. and Fannie Maynard, uncle Raymond Maynard, aunts, Lou Lowe and Patricia Phillips, and her cousin, Kenneth Lowe.

Patsy was a homemaker, a member of the Turkey Creek Old Regular Baptist Church and enjoyed camping and fishing. Patsy is survived by her two brothers, Dwight Maynard Jr., of Belfry, Kentucky and Charles Maynard of Belfry, Kentucky, two nephews, Kevin Maynard, and Justin (Melanie) Maynard, four great nieces, Kaylee Maynard, Jenna Maynard, Lacie Maynard, and Rylie Maynard. Patsy also leaves a host of loving family and friends. Patsy is surely missed at the Turkey Creek Church. Sleep on Sister Patsy, we will meet again.



Written by her Sister in Christ, Sister Bertha Jean Reed

## RUBY MAYNARD

With the help of the Lord, I will try to write the obituary of my beloved wife, Ruby Allene Maynard. Ruby passed from this earthly life on June 2, 2022, at her home after a long illness. She was baptized on February 4, 1998, by Brother Billy Williamson and Brother Paul Maynard and was a member of the Apple Orchard Old Regular Baptist Church.

Ruby and Paul met and were married on July 25, 1964, and to this union she had three children; Michael O'Brian Maynard, his wife Pam, James William Maynard, his wife Denita, Patricia Meadows her husband Timothy. She had five grandchildren; Dakota Paul, Austin Jackson, Jared and Braxton and Alexis Paige Meadows Goble.

She was the daughter of the late Orison Byrd and Hazel Lowe, who preceded her in death. She is survived by her husband, Paul Maynard of Brushy Road, Pikeville, Kentucky, her children Michael, James, Patricia and also her grandchildren. She also is survived by one brother, Orison Byrd Lowe Jr., of Michigan, sisters; Ruth Leona Hoggs of Brunswick Ohio,



Alfreda Sammons of Brushy Road, Pikeville, Kentucky, Alice Faye Lowe of Brushy Road, Pikeville, Kentucky, and Mary Thompson of Prestonsburg, Kentucky. She also has three brothers, who preceded her in death and one sister, Darrell Lowe, Donnie Lowe, and Johnny James, and Sister Sharon Young.

She is sadly missed by her family and friends. But our loss is Heaven's gain, sleep on mother for a little while and we will meet again and never will have to part anymore.

With a heart full of love,  
Brother Paul Maynard

## ARNOLD MULLINS

Brother Arnold was born at Sidney, Kentucky, in October 1936 to the parents of Doc and Trulie (Maynard) Mullins, who preceded him in death. He attend high school at Belfry, Kentucky, in the mid 1950s. He joined the Army and served in Japan. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife Karol (Crigger) Mullins, his sister, Leonna Gannon and Brother Lester Mullins. He is survived by his son, Craig (Libby) Mullins of Marysville, Ohio and two grandsons, Jacob and James Mullins many nieces, nephews and other relatives. After being discharged from the Army, he moved to Ohio and went to work in Columbus and later in life moved to Marysville, Ohio, where he retired. During his career he worked at plastic companies and retired from Honda motors as assistant manager of the plastic department. Brother Arnold enjoyed rebuilding classic cars and he rebuilt several.



Brother Arnold gave his life to God and joined the Little Angel Old Regular Baptist Church where he was a faithful member. He loved the home place on Dix Fork at Sidney, Kentucky, and he moved back and put a mobile home where the old home place stood. He brought his letter from the Little Angel Church and placed it at the Dix Fork Old Regular Baptist Church. He was a faithful member and strong in his belief of the old regular baptist way. He always came to church early and he loved the singing and preaching so well. He always went somewhere to church every Saturday and Sunday.

I believe that Brother Arnold is at rest now in the paradise of God just waiting for God to declare that time shall be no more and "for the Lord himself shall descend from Heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God and the dead in Christ shall rise first", 1 Thessalonians 4:16. He is very much missed by the family, church brothers, sisters and friends.

Written by family and Elder Edward Lee Smith

## CALISTA MURPHY

Calista M. (Williamson) Murphy, born October 3, 1934, went home to be with the Lord on Wednesday, December 29, 2021, at Pikeville Medical Center, being 87 years old. Calista was born in Pike County, Kentucky, the daughter of the late Emzy and Alice Williamson.

In addition to her parents, Calista was also preceded in death by her husband of sixty years, John Murphy; one grandson, Ray Mullins; one sister, Beatrice Johnson; and six brothers, Curtis, Jim, Dike, Virgil, Tommy and Gary Joe Williamson.

Calista is survived by two sons, Freddie Murphy (Mary Lou), of Virgie Kentucky and Michael Murphy (Gloria), of Virgie, Kentucky; three daughters, Joyce Damron (Jackie), of Church Hill Tennessee; Brenda Sue Chapman (Rusty), of Church Hill Tennessee; and Barbara Skeens (Ronnie), of Hazard Kentucky; one sister, Ora Robinette, of Belfry, Kentucky; one brother, Wendell Williamson, of Columbus, Ohio; seven grandchildren, Lora Hall, Kathy Chapman Allen, Fredrick Murphy, Michael Murphy, Jared Hamilton, Dustin Hamilton and Elizabeth Chapman. Twelve great-grandchildren, Cody, Taylor, Kelsie, Katie, Jonathon, Cassandra, Carry, Ezra, Cambria, Caiden, Levi and Lennon; two step great grandchildren, Kelly and Rider; and one special friend and caregiver of both, John and Calista, Cam Colley; and a host of loving family and friends.

Calista was baptized June 12, 1954, and later became a member of the Pilgrims Home Old Regular Baptist church on Brushy where she loved to attend church services. Calista had a good life in the Lord our Savior. She loved and gave love to all, especially her family, church and friends. Calista's hugs and love will be missed by all who knew her!



## NORMA SUE FRALEY NICHOLS

Norma Sue Fraley Nichols was born March 6, 1941, in Hatfield, Kentucky, the daughter of George and Myrtle Fraley. In addition to her parents, my dear sister, Sue was preceded in death by two brothers; Wallace Eugene and Curtis H. She is survived by four sisters; Anna Lois Fraley Deskins, Virginia Doris Fraley, Katherine Fraley Hull, and Lorraine Fraley Bennett. She is also survived by five brothers; Irvin Fraley, Thomas D. Fraley, Willie Lee Fraley, Richard Fraley and myself George H. Fraley. She was born in the middle of eleven children. She grew up in Hatfield and attended school there. On April 3, 1965, she married Estil Nichols, and they



were completely devoted to each other. They moved to Columbus Ohio for Estil's work. She and Estil were parents to two sons, Eric and Shae. She supported her sons in their activities at Brookside schools, including baseball and wrestling. Later they moved to Loraine County, where Estil worked for Ford Motor Company, first at the Lorain plant and later at the Avon Lake plant. Sue supported him in his work and his ministry as an Old Regular Baptist minister.

Sue enjoyed her life as wife, mother, and homemaker, making her home a welcoming place for family and friends. On earth, she enjoyed gardening, and putting up all the produce that came from the garden. She excelled at quilting and sewing, and was an avid collector of Longaberger baskets, pottery, and dishes. She was a kind, loving person, deeply appreciated, cared for, and loved by her family. Her family and friends have many wonderful memories of her life and the love she showed to each one she came in contact with. Her life was affected by psoriasis, cancer and a heart attack, which limited her quality of life, but throughout all these afflictions she maintained her faith and belief in Jesus Christ. She was a member of the Little White Stone Old Regular Baptist Church in Michigan.

Her family wrote, our beautiful beloved sister Sue, who is and was so dearly loved by us all. Thank you, Lord, for letting her be one of our siblings. Our lives were richly blessed having her in them. You stepped up to be our stand-in mom when we lost our beautiful beloved mommy so soon and we were devastated as we are now losing you. You have a heart of gold, so loving and kind. You loved living life even though you have suffered so much at times in that life, your faith never wavered, you lived by God's commandments that were instilled in us all by daddy and mommy. I believe you are resting in Jesus's arms where we all hope to be one day, so our circle won't be broken. You rest easy for you aren't suffering now and wait for the rest of us to come join you and we will all be a family again in He a v e n with the Lord. We Lois, Doris, Irvin, Thomas, Willie, Katherine, Lorraine, George H., and Richard won't be orphans anymore. If we walk with the Lord as our daddy and mommy did and keep to His commandments throughout our lives.

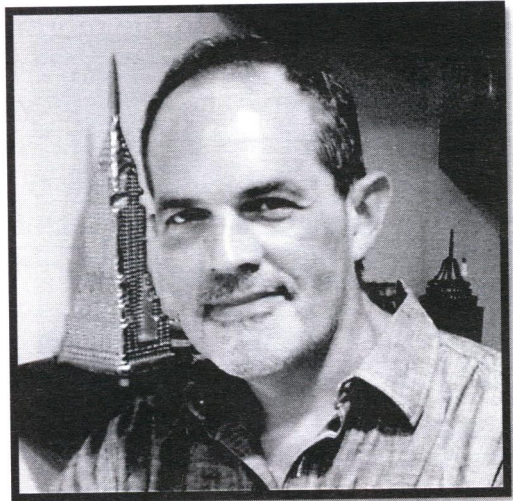
George H. wrote my dear sister, Sue, is sadly missed, but fondly remembered for her spirit and the life she lived. I feel she is in Heaven and has received her reward and will suffer no more.

May God bless and keep us all in the palm of His hand and may we and all our families be together eternally in Heaven. Written by your loving, heartbroken sister, Lorraine, with the hope one day my light will shine as brightly as yours. Rest easy, sweet sister, loving wife, and mother. You did a good job as he had done for years Estil was there at home to help care for her in her afflictions, and though Sue was a determined fighter, she passed from this world into Heaven on Friday morning, November 5, 2021, while resting in her husbands' arms.

Written by her family,  
Elder Estil Nichols, George H. Fraley, Doris Fraley and Lorraine Fraley Bennett

## PHILLIP RITZ

Phillip Douglas Ritz, age 56, of Varney, Kentucky, went home to be with the Lord on June 15, 2022, with his family by his side. Phillip was born in Louisville, Kentucky on November 12, 1965. Phillip is survived by his mom and dad, Virgie and George Robinette of Varney, Kentucky. Three brothers; Steve (Lisa) Ritz, Robbie (Charlene) Ritz, Jamie (Edwina) Ritz, and his 104 year old Grandmother, Mae Robinette. Five nephews; Ryan, Brayden, Cody, Ashton James, and Donnie Jr. Five nieces; Ashley, Brittany, Megan, Mia and Miley. Three aunts; Deane New, Ada Roberson, and Margaret Evans, two uncles: Roy (Susie) Harrison and David (Anna) Harrison. Along with the entire Robinette family with special cousins, Timmy and Junior Lowe.



Phillip was preceded in death by Sammie Ritz and his grandparents, Cleston (Gredis) Robinson and Willard Robinette.

Brother Phillip was baptized on June 11, 2022, and became a member of the Pilgrims Home Old Regular Baptist Church. It was a beautiful sunny Saturday evening with a whole host of family, friends, brothers and sisters in Christ gathered around the water. You could feel the love flowing through the crowd as we sang praises unto the Lord and that's what he told us he wanted, his friends and family to see him giving God praise. As he came up out of the water sitting there with his head bowed, face in his hands, he was asked are you okay, he removed his hands from his face to reveal the prettiest smile and said, beautiful. With that one word he described so much of what the Lord does for someone's soul after they give their heart to him. It cannot be expressed with words, but there was something about that smile and the way he said it that told you just how great God's love is. Now our brother is resting in that land that God has prepared. Where the sun will always be shining and the flowers will always be blooming. As most of you know Brother Phillip loved beautiful flowers.

Virgie said, she has a lifetime of memories, that it would be impossible to put them down on paper. This family has so many precious memories of a son, brother, uncle, grandson and nephew. Memories are a gift from God that death cannot destroy. Some will bring a smile to our faces and some will bring a tear to our eyes. Robbie had mentioned how he so much enjoyed the many Sunday mornings that him, Charlene and Brayden would stop and pick Phillip up and go to their mom's for breakfast. I am sure that Jamie and Ryan will always remember going and looking for the right hole of water the day Brother Phillip said he wanted to be baptized. Steve being the older brother probably has so many memories of them growing up. George being such a wonderful dad to Phillip has no doubt many precious memories.

Brother Phillip will be buried in a little garden just down the road that we call Apple Orchard Cemetery, waiting on that glorious resurrection morning. As Job 14: 13-14 said: "Oh that thou would hide me in the grave, that thou wouldst keep me secret, until thy wrath be past, that thou wouldst appoint me a set time, and remember me. If a man die, shall he live again? All the days of my appointed time will I wait,



till my change come.

Matthew 20:11, for the Kingdom of Heaven is like unto a man that is a householder, which went out early in the morning to hire laborers into his vineyard and agreed with them for a penny a day, and at the third, sixth, ninth, and the eleventh hour, and when they come to receive their hire they all received a penny. So Robbie I have to believe that penny that rolled and stopped at your foot on the cemetery was God's way of letting you and your family know that Brother Phillip got his penny, a reward in Heaven.

Weeping may endure for a night but joy is coming in the morning so we will not say goodbye, but rather we will say, until we meet you in the air to everly be with the Lord.

Written by your unworthy Brother in Christ,  
Elder Duane Smith and his wife Linda Smith

## LUCHIE ROBINSON

Where do I start and what do I say about a woman everyone knew and thought of as a mother. Mom was born on May 10, 1930, and left to be with our father in Heaven on September 24, 2021. Our dad, Ira Robinson always told us "he walked our mom up Meathouse on Groundhogs day in 1946, their love lasted fifty-one years, until dad was called home but her love never stopped. She often told us she had seen daddy and wanted to go to him. They were blessed to raise nine children. Barbara Sue (died in an accident), Gary Lee and Brenda, Larry Ray and Pearl, Clarence Eugene and Thelma, Lonnie Paul and Dottie, Brenda Gail and Clayton Davis, Billy Joe and Tracy, Cletis Dean and Crystal, Jimmy O'Neil and Sue, and a total of forty-one loving grandchildren.

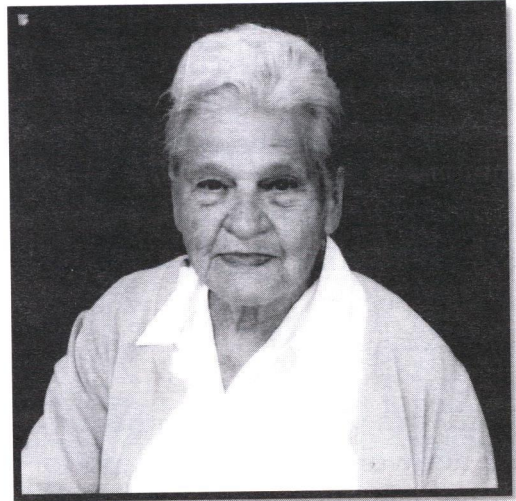


Mom was baptized in July 1969, and became a faithful member of the Leannah Old Regular Baptist Church until her death making her a child of God for fifty-two years. Most of the people in the community and around the churches knew her as the dumpling lady, she was always fixing chicken and dumplings for churches and various events. Mom never turned any one away from her table and she fed anyone that would come and eat with her and loved it. She loved being a mom and Granny.

Proverbs 31:25-28, "*strength and honor are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in the time to come. she opens her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness she looketh well to the ways of her household and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up and call her blessed her husband also and he praiseth her.*"

## RUTH SMITH

We rejoice that our sweet Mommy is in Heaven with the Lord Jesus and her many loved ones. We know she is happy, but our hearts are broken as we miss the love and fun we shared. Mom was born on November 22, 1917, and was blessed to live 104 years at her earthly home on Dix Fork and on December 12, 2021, Jesus called her to her Eternal Home. Mom loved the Lord and her church family and was a faithful, humble member of the Dix Fork Old Regular Baptist Church for many years. She was a great homemaker and cook, loved gardening, walking, and being outside. In her early sixties she started walking an hour each day. She was four months shy of being one hundred when she broke her hip but recovered and still walked with a walker until she had a mini stroke six months before she passed. We are so thankful for the last four years she stayed with us in Cincinnati. She was loving, kind, funny, never complained, and rested in God's peace.



She was preceded in death by many of her loving family, her parents; Harmon and Mary (Brown) Crigger, siblings; Jeanette (Dona) Smith, Marie (Charlie) Johnson, Grayson (Minnie) Crigger, nephews; David Crigger and Roger Clay Smith, nieces; Lozena Mounts and Delores Blackburn, and her beloved son-in-law Larry Bickett. She also was preceded in death by her loving husband Lacy Smith. They celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary on November 3, 1989. She wore the nice dress Daddy bought her for their anniversary to his funeral as he was called home suddenly one week later. Several years before Daddy died he began studying his Bible. He had not yet joined the church, but believed in Jesus Christ. As he prayed and read the Bible the Lord began changing him, as he became very humble. The Lord knew his heart.

Mom is survived by their two daughters; Etta Bickett and Iva (Tom) Rusk. She loved her son-in-laws as her sons and they loved "Mom Ruthie". She was blessed with a wonderful grandson and family; Scott and Christi Bickett, and three great grand-daughters, Lacey, Rachel, and Emily. They have a special place in their hearts for Grandma Ruth, and she loved them right back. She also leaves a loving extended family, nieces; Trish (Mike)

Casey and Charlene (Dale) Stanton, nephew Edward (Joy) Smith. Mom liked to say she had only two nephews and both were Old Regular Baptist preachers, several great nieces and nephews and their children. She was close to her extended family and that included her many wonderful friends and neighbors.

After Daddy died, Mommy stayed in her little home on Dix Fork until she was ninety-nine. She stayed busy and loved to work outdoors. Before starting difficult chores, she would pray "Lord I know I cannot do this by myself but know that I can with your help" and He answered. Mommy enjoyed cooking for church, her brownies and custard pies were delicious. She looked forward to Sunday to go to church, but after Daddy died she had to depend on others. As you know, she never wanted to be a

"bother" so a heartfelt thanks to all of you who volunteered rides, made sure she got in and out of church safely, looked out for her, and fixed her a delicious plate of her favorite foods, and not to forget the love and hugs!

Mom's life and her prayers were simple, and her faith was steadfast. Even as a little child she called on the Lord to help her find the cow before dark, then she would hear that cowbell, for help finding eggs laid in the hill which she was allowed to trade for candy at Floyd's store, then she would see a hen and follow it up the hill to the nest. She enjoyed that good taste of candy, and still did at one hundred-four. She shared many sweet stories with us and left us many pleasant memories. Mom had a loving heart and she was concerned about those who were unsaved or suffering. She prayed but believed the Lord also expected her to do what she could with the time and money he had given her. She was very generous with both and expected nothing in return, and the good Lord blessed her for one hundred-four years with amazingly good health and mind. We thank the Lord for a wonderful mother who loved us dearly and raised us according to biblical truths by her words and deeds, and for the promise we will see her sweet smile again. As one of her sweet sisters just wrote that Mom reminded her of the old hymn, "Sister thou was mild and lovely, gentle as a summer breeze, pleasant as the air of evening, as it flows among the trees, that was our precious Mommy.

Written and deeply missed by her loving daughters and family

## MILDRED STANLEY

On Tuesday night, June 21, 2022, with family by her side, Mildred's faith became sight, as she went home to be with the Lord. Mildred Stanley, born August 11, 1932, at Narrows Branch, Kentucky, was the daughter of the late Hi Stollings and Bernie Thacker Stollings. Having ten brothers and sisters, Mildred was blessed with a close-knit and loving family. She was preceded in death by all three of her brothers; Frennie Stollings, Hershel Stollings, and Irvin Stollings, and two of her sisters; Ruth Magdaline Hensley and Pearl Smith.



Mildred leaves behind her beloved sisters Adith Young of Hardy, Kentucky, Doris Wellman of Belfry, Kentucky, Jewel Scott of Richmond, Kentucky, Eva Gale Mollett of Belfry, Kentucky, and Alane (Michael) Hunt of Tazewell, Virginia. She loved spending time with her sisters, reliving old memories and laughing together. One of her greatest joys was going to church with her sisters.

Twenty-nine years ago, Mildred gave her heart to God when she joined the Narrows Branch Old Regular Baptist Church in Hardy, Kentucky. Mildred and her loving husband, Kelly Stanley, who preceded her in death, were baptized on the same day at each other's side, which is how they lived and loved. Together they served the Lord faithfully at their church.

Mildred also leaves behind a host of loving family and friends including nephews;

Junior (Denise) Young, Keith (Sherry) Young, and Darrell Wellman, and nieces; Patricia (Larry) Turner, Jennifer (Wayne) Turner, Sherry (Chuck) Horner, and Shirl (Steve) Roell. Mildred cherished her family and found great comfort and joy living next door to her nephew Junior in her later years. Mildred was always delighted to be called Mimi by Junior's grandson Clayton. She would grin and laugh with pride and joy as she told stories of Clayton's visits.

Mildred was the historian of the family collecting and archiving our family's history, photos, and records. She never forgot a date. Mildred was who you called if you needed to know something about the family.

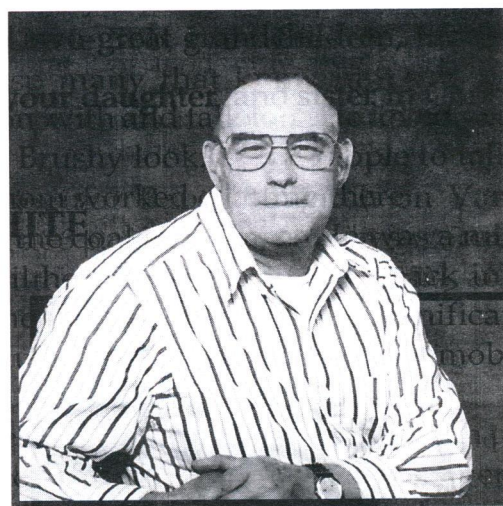
In her final moments, we sat by her bed reminiscing about Mildred, her love, her laughter, her strong spirit, her unbelievable work ethic, and the big ways she lived life. We looked at many of the old family photos she's collected through the years and shared stories we recalled from Mildred. As we cried and remembered happy times together, we realized it was exactly what Mildred would have wanted. We were and will continue to treasure her legacy of family, history, laughter, love, and faith.

Our beloved Mildred, your joyous spirit will be deeply missed but we take comfort knowing you are resting with our Lord and Savior until we meet again.

Your loving niece, Sherry Horner

## JOSEPH VANCE

With much sadness for those of us left behind and great rejoicing for our husband and daddy, Joseph Vance went home to be with the Lord on August 9, 2021. Daddy was born December 25, 1938, the son of the late Walter L. Vance and Georgia (May) Vance. More importantly, he was born again at the age of thirty-five. Daddy was a member of the Old Regular Baptist Church of Samaria for forty-seven years, where he loved all his church brothers and sisters dearly. He was a graceful, humble man. Joe was a family man. He married Wanda (Dillon) Vance on May 13, 1961. Together they had seven children; Tim, Carol, James, Nora, Larry, Suzy, and Sharon, and were blessed with fifteen grandchildren and twenty-five great grandchildren.



Daddy worked at the Department Of Natural Resources where he retired in 2000. Daddy loved to fish, hunt and work in his garden. Daddy's greatest love was the Lord, his family, and church. This was never more shown than in his death. Daddy was on oxygen and knew within minutes after removal, he would die. Because of his love for Jesus, he was at peace, so much that he touched the hearts of doctors and nurses who cared for him. He showed all of us an example of what peace through Christ should

be. He showed family and friends his love by waiting to say goodbye to each one and tell them that he loved them. With his sons by his side, they removed the oxygen and he prayed until his last breath. Like Daddy, I would hope we can spend our last breath talking to our Lord and Savior.

Written by his Loving Family

## PAUL VANCE

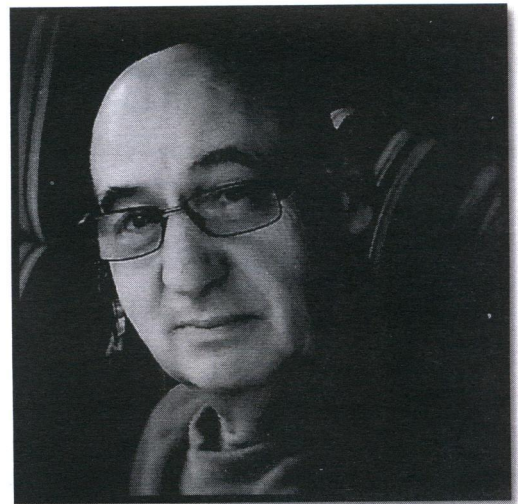
Paul Vance was born on October 14, 1947. After a sixteen month battle with cancer, he departed this earth on August 14, 2017. Paul was born as tenth of fourteen children to Leslie and Georgia (May) Vance. Of the fourteen siblings were his brothers; Kenneth, Clayton, Joseph, Bill, Gary, and Phillip (Ellis) and his sisters Pearl, Jacqueline, Betty, Margie, Phyllis, Kay, and Bonnie.

He married Judy Lynn Mullins on August 11, 1967. Together they had one son, Brian Vance. Then went on to help raise their grandchildren, Mariae and Alyssa. His great grandchildren are Maeson Marcum, Dalton Marcum, Saylee Kitts, Christopher Coviello, Greyson Curry, and Amelia Moore.

Paul served in the U.S. Army from 1967 to 1969. He was a carpenter and ran his building construction business for thirty-five years. Paul was a member of the Old Regular Baptist for forty-six years and was an ordained Elder for thirty-three years. He served as moderator of Samaria, Rebecca, and assistant moderate at Buck Creek churches.

I could write a book about all the good deeds he did, but he would be the first to tell you that he could do nothing without the help of God. I remember the Lord blessing him to preach many times from 1 Corinthians 15: *"that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die: and that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain: but God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body."* This is his hope that he is now waiting on the coming of the Lord to raise his body in the likeness of the Lord. Then he will be satisfied.

Written by his wife of fifty years, Sister Judy Lynn Vance



## JAMES CARL VANHOOSE

With the help of the Lord, I will write the obituary of my dad. James Carl Vanhooose, age 93, of Chattaroy, West Virginia. He left this world on September 27, 2021. He was the son of Irvin and Lula (Francis) Vanhooose. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brothers; Thomas, Robert, and Theodore Vanhooose. Dad was married to his wife Ruth for seventy-four years and they had three children; Jim, Lula, and Ronnie. He was a carpenter by trade and a longtime and faithful member of the Mary Elizabeth Old Regular Baptist Church. He was a member for sixty-five years and was baptized by Elder Sheryl Fraley and Elder Irland Harrison. Dad loved to go to church and hear the singing and preaching. He also loved to be around his brothers and sisters. He loved his twelve grandchildren. He also had twenty-one great grandchildren, and five great great grandchildren. Dad was so special to us all.



The rocking chair is empty now, but he is waiting for the resurrection of the soul and body to come together when God says, "Go get my children." Dad loved the song. "Just One Rose Will Do." I believe that God is the rose, the lily of the valley, He is my all and all. Rest on Dad.

Written by your daughter, and sister in Christ.

## JAMES HARVEY WHITE

James Harvey White, was born on April 24, 1948, and died on November 21, 2021. Harvey was the son of the late Frankie White and Nancy White Hensley. Harvey was preceded in death, other than his parents, by his baby sister Bessie Louise White, and wife, Pauline White. Harvey graduated from Lenore High School and was a war Veteran in the U.S. Army. He worked eight years for McGinnis Coal Company and then worked for the Mingo County Board Of Education for twenty years.



The Lord saved Harvey's soul and he gave his heart to the Lord the second weekend in April 1998. The Elders stopped the Union Communion and took Harvey out and baptized him so he could be part of the Communion. Harvey joined The Little Rosie Old Regular Baptist Church down on Chattaroy for twenty-three years. Harvey loved his church and his natural family.

He left behind his wife, Angela White, daughter, Kimberly White (Danny) Allen, and granddaughter, Destiny Teeters, and a host of family and friends. Harvey always fixed the mutton for the Sardis Association every year. He will be missed by many and forever in our hearts. If dad were here today he would say come to the Little Rosie Church down on Chattaroy on the second Saturday and Sunday also on the third Saturday night, we start singing at 4:00 p.m., if you can't be with us pray for us.

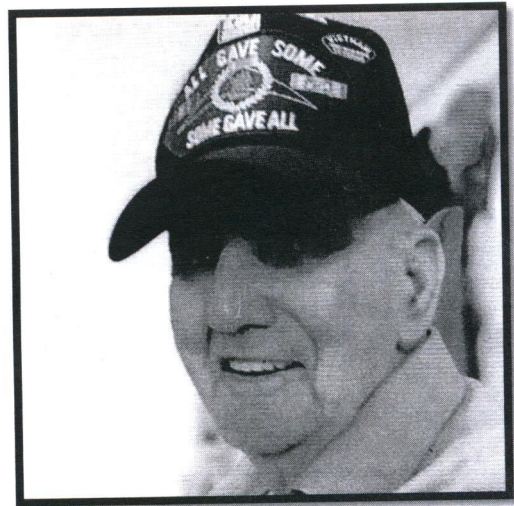
Written by Kimberly Allen

## DONALD RAY WILLIAMSON

Donald Ray Williamson born October 4, 1935, passed on August 9, 2022. The Lord allowed him 86 years on this earth.

As I began to write this, I was reminded that the material things in life is not always for the best. My dad lived a simple life. He loved the outdoors and hunting, he passed that on to me at a young age. Some of my best memories of dad were when we would be hunting or working his sawmill, or raising a garden. Dad loved to plow a horse or mule more than anyone I ever knew, one of the best memories for me. Dad loved to talk on the bible and no matter what we were doing if we stopped to rest, in just a minute he would be quoting scripture to me and telling me his understanding of them. Dad taught me a lot growing up as I look back on my life, under his guidance.

Matthew 11:28, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest". The Lord gave my dad rest. Loved and missed, but most of all I'm thankful for the way you raised me.

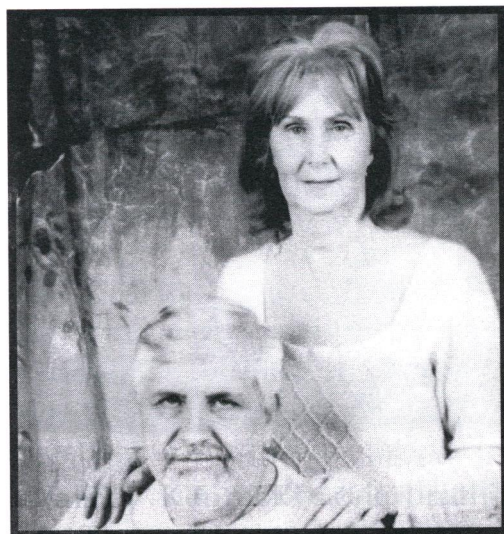


Written by his son,  
Elder Bruce Williamson

# Obituaries-FRIENDS OF THE SARDIS CHURCHES

## LARRY BLACKBURN

It's with a broken but joyful heart I will attempt to write the obituary of my loving dad, Larry Ray Blackburn. Dad was born August 24, 1950, and passed from this earthy life on November 17, 2021. Dad was the son of the late Charlie Blackburn and Pearl Marie (Lockard) Blackburn. He is also preceded in death by one brother, David Blackburn and one sister, Shelby Jean Thomas, special brother-in-law, Goble Thomas and nephew, Frankie Thomas. Survivors include his stepmother Louise Blackburn, three brothers; Dallas Blackburn, Sam Blackburn, Ben Blackburn, five sisters; Gearaldine Hall, Margaret Hamilton, Cordelia Blackburn Charla Quinn, and Patricia Patches Atkinson.



Dad married our mother on August 14, 1974. He so loved our mom and would do anything for her. Their marriage gave them two sons, Michael (Christine) Blackburn of Kimper, Kentucky, Steven (Wendy) Blackburn of Kimper, Kentucky and one daughter Cindy (Chris) Tibbs of Varney, Kentucky. They were blessed to have five grandchildren; Tyler Tibbs, Hannah Tibbs, Lilly Blackburn, Elijah Blackburn, Michael (Kendra) Ray and two great grandchildren, McKinley Ray and Caden Ray.

Dad never saw anyone he couldn't start a conversation with and talk to. He loved people and would spend a lot of time just riding up and down Brushy looking for people to talk to. If he wasn't doing that he was at the restaurant where mom worked chatting there.

Dad wore many hats but they all were involved in the coal industry. He was a miner, coal truck driver, mechanic and enjoyed working until he suffered a horrible back injury that would force him to quit and he was never the same. Dad's life declined significantly though it took its time in doing so. As it would eventually lead to him losing his mobility and become bed fast which he couldn't stand.

As Dad drew closer to the end of his life he struggled so much and was in so much pain. He hated the fact that we had to help him pretty much do everything but he would never fell to say he appreciated us kids so much and how much he loved us for having to help him. I truly believe that he is resting now and all his pains are gone. As he would lay in his bed and the pain would be so unbearable I can still hear him praying and his favorite thing to quote was, Psalms 23:4 "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me." I believe he was comforted when his walk through that valley came, and I'm thankful to know that death is just a sweet exchange from this life to eternity for a believer in Christ. So for now till we get to see you again rest easy dad and know that you may be gone from this earthly life you are never gone from our thoughts we all love and miss your smiling face.

Written with love your son, Steven Blackburn

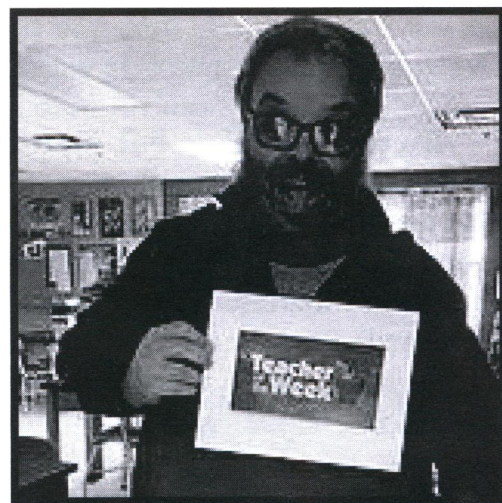


## BRIAN FARLEY

Brian Thomas Farley, age 51, of Warfield, Kentucky passed away Wednesday, January 5, 2022, at Forest Hills, Kentucky. Brian was born May 1, 1970, in Williamson, Kentucky, the son of Mary Ruth Owens Farley and the late Harold Thomas Farley. He was also preceded in death by his grandparents Lawrence and Nola Farley and John and Lillie Owens.

Brian was an Eighth grade social studies teacher at Martin County Middle School, and he was a graduate of Belfry High School, Morehead State University and Eastern Kentucky University. He was a member of the Belfry First Baptist Church. Brian loved funny books, he loved to read, and he really loved his cats.

Other survivors include his wife Mary Ann Farley of Warfield, Kentucky, his stepdaughter Alyssa Suzanne Dyer of Lexington, Kentucky and his many friends, colleagues, and students whom he loved very much. He also leaves behind a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends, also by his mother Mary Ruth Farley.



Written by, Mary Ruth Farley

## JOHNDA MCKINLEY LOWE

Johnda McKinley Lowe, the first child of five born to Johnnie James and Phyllis (Robinette) Lowe on October 2, 1960, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital and left with the angels on January 2, 2022, at St Joseph Hospital, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

He was preceded in death by his father, Johnnie James Lowe and by his sister, Rhonda Lowe. Also preceding him in death were his grandparents Byrd and Hazel Lowe and Willard Robinette. Johnda is survived by his mother, Phyllis, his sister, Kimberly (Joseph) Montague of Saint Johns, Michigan and two brothers Timothy and Johnnie James, Jr. of Williamson, Georgia. Also surviving is his grandmother, Mae Robinette who is 104 years old, and two very special nieces Emma (Eric) Waack of Romulus, Michigan and Anna Montague of Mount Pleasant, Michigan.

Johnda was a people person, he just liked people! Always willing to lend a helping hand, you might have found him doing anything from changing a lightbulb to refinishing floors. He worked long hours and enjoyed his work and fellow employees often leaving home at 3 a.m. to get his crews out to clean snow covered roads before morning rush hour. But most important of all, he loved his family.

Written by his family

## BOBBY WILLIAMSON

Bobby Lee Williamson, of Varney Kentucky, passed away October 7, 2021, at Pikeville Medical Center. Bobby was born July 25, 1944, to Jonah Ester and Stella Ray Williamson, who preceded him in death. Bobby was also preceded in death by his daughter-in-law, Sherry Williamson, by two brothers, Billy Joe (Susie) and Archie Daniel Williamson, and two sisters, Fayette (Louie) Muncy and Sharlene Cline.

Bobby is survived by his loving wife of fifty-five years, Peggy Williamson, one son, Michael Williamson of Varney Kentucky, a grandson, Jason (Nicole), two great grandchildren, Kaylee and Jase Kidd, all of Canada Kentucky, four sisters; Anna Sue (Larry) Robinette of Waterford Michigan, Elouise (Bill) Bordwine, Stella B.

(Clayton) Robinette, Sheila K. (Danny) Runyon all of Varney Kentucky, one brother, Johnny Ester Williamson of Orlando, Florida, special friends, Thomas Robinette and Lester Stewart of Varney Kentucky, and a host of nieces, nephews, extended family, and friends.

Bobby was of the baptist faith. He was a U.S. Army veteran. He spent years working for Pepsi Cola before opening his own trucking business that he operated until his retirement. He was a pillar of the Brushy community for decades, impacting so many lives on the creek. Whether you called him Bobby, Uncle Bob, Wild Turkey, Daddy, or Papaw, he had a special way of blessing the lives of so many that knew him. We will rejoice that he is singing with the angels, cherish our precious memories, and miss him greatly because we loved him dearly.

Services were held at the Pilgrim Home Old Regular Baptist Church on Varney Kentucky, with visitation Saturday October 9, starting at 6 p.m., funeral services were held on Sunday October 10, at 11 a.m., with Duane Smith officiating, with burial at the Williamson Family Cemetery.



## SHERRY GOBLE WILLIAMSON

Sherry Goble Williamson departed from this world unexpectedly on July 8, 2020. She was born to her parents the late Adrian and Reba Goble on September 20, 1969. She was raised on Toms Creek in Floyd County with her six brothers and sisters. She married her devoted and loving husband Michael Williamson, on November 4, 1989, and they started to build their life together on Brushy Creek in Varney, Kentucky.

Besides her spouse she leaves behind her son, Jason (Nicole) Kidd and her beloved grandchildren, Kaylee, and Jase. Besides her spouse, children and grandchildren, Sherry is survived by her in-laws, Bobby and Peggy Williamson, her sisters, Barb (Ralph) Slone, Norma (Earl) Hall, Wanda (Dennis) Osborne, brothers, Junior (Kim) Goble, Ronnie (Arlene) Goble, her sister in law, Anna Goble, and a host of family and friends. In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by one brother, David Goble and her niece who she thought of as a sister, Sandy Goble

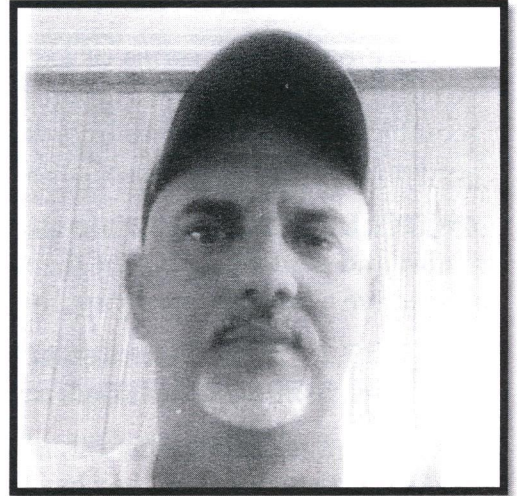
Anyone who met Sherry could quickly see how much she loved being both Mom and Mimi. She found great happiness in bringing her children and grandchildren joy and always found special ways to do so. Sherry worked as a physical therapy tech for thirty years. She was hard working and excellent at what she did. Her husband Michael and she shared a love for the outdoors and especially riding their side by sides together. Through her work and her love for the outdoors she was able to meet and touch so many lives and make friendships with numerous individuals that she would come to think of as family. For her many special friends, it would be impossible to name you all, but you know she loved and enjoyed life so much and you were all a huge part of the reason why Sherry had a smile that could brighten the darkest of rooms, and a contagious love for live that touched so many who love her dearly and will miss her greatly.



## RONALD LEE WILLIAMSON

Ronald Lee Williamson, born October 28, 1970, passed away November 17, 2021. Ronald worked as a coal miner, until he was disabled from a rock fall. He had three children who were his whole life. When I think of my brother I think of charity. Ronald was one who would help anyone at any time he was needed. He was the most free hearted person I ever knew, always putting others first.

Thinking of my brother I'm reminded of 1 Corinthians 13:3, "*And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.*" When I think of my brother I surely think of charity, and what better way to be remembered than that of charity. Loved and missed.



Written by his brother,  
Elder Bruce Williamson

## CONSTITUTION OF THE SARDIS SSOCIATION

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, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and Assistant Clerk before the Association rises, 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 Savior 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 Savior, 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 baptized by immersion of a legal administrator of the Gospel and ordained coming 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.** We believe that a sanctioned marriage of God is between a man and a woman only. Also, we believe in receiving members into our fellowship that follow the natural dating relationship that leads to holy matrimony between a man and a woman only: thereby, preserving the family unit of father, mother and children. Ephesians 5:22,23 and 28, St. Mark 10:6,7,8 and Romans 1:26 and 27.

**ARTICLE 16.** 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 reprovved by the Association as they think proper.

**CHURCH DELEGATES  
TO THE  
SARDIS ASSOCIATION 2022**

**MT. PLEASANT:** Daniel Stanley, Ron Gannon, Bruce Williamson  
**APPLE ORCHARD:** Gerald Fields, Mitchell Scalf, Johnny Thacker  
**BENT BRANCH:** Michael Lowe, Harold Collins, Billy Meade  
**BIG BRANCH:** Chuck Lowe, Gary Adams, Brad Tibbs  
**MARY ELIZABETH:** David Staten, Eddie Walters, David Marcum  
**BETHANY:** Arthur May, David May, Albert Cable  
**PILGRIMS HOME:** Shane Reed, Andrew Walters, Stoney Blackburn  
**SALEM:** Bobby Lee Scott, Ferrell Sesco, Ernest Sesco  
**SIDNEY:** Butler Fletcher, Thurman Jude, Richie Hale  
**DIX FORK:** Wayne Blackburn, Danny Ray Stanley, Thurman Stacey  
**NARROWS BRANCH:** Mickie Thacker, Ivan Neil Thornsby, Bobby Scott, Jr.  
**LEANNAH:** Larry Robinson  
**BUCK CREEK:** Vadis Blackburn, Todd Dials, Marion Duncan  
**TABITHA:** Rex Napier, Alex Hensley, Avery Hensley  
**LITTLE ROSIE:** Alonzo White, Timothy Robinson, Danny Allen  
**TURKEY CREEK:** Talbert McCoy Jr., Ferrell Thomas, Ron Hamilton  
**SAMARIA:** Randall Lackey, Chester Lackey, Bernard Aldridge  
**ROSA:** Freddie Cline and Frank Cline  
**LITTLE VIRGIE:** Paul Maynard, Dwight Maynard, Alvin Thornbury  
**PILGRIMS REST:** Clyde James, Ervin Thacker and Duane Smith  
**ELIZABETH:** Randall Lowe  
**LITTLE TAVIE:** Jim Cochran and Urias Hall Jr  
**ANTIOCH:** Arthur Mathis, Arthur Mathis Jr., James Matthis  
**BRIDE OF CHRIST:** Sam Frye and Leonard Napier  
**REBECCA:** Frank Edwin Hay, Johnny Ray White, Ellis Vance



## ORDAINED MINISTERS

Name and Telephone	Church Membership	Address
Blackburn, Stony (606)353-4522	Pilgrims Home	2598 Dix Fork Road, Sidney, KY 41564
Cable, Albert (681)735-3222	Bethany	24 Toms Branch, Lenore, WV 25676
Church, Bill (606)353-6480	Pilgrims Home	569 Walters Fork Road, Hatfield, KY 41514
Cline, Freddy (304)664-9293	Rosa	204 Pickering Fork, Baisden, WV 25608
Cochran, Chester (304)675-5162	Little Tavia	Rt 2 Box 646, Pt. Pleasant, WV 25550
Dials, Thomas J. (606)395-6572	Buck Creek	59 Jacobs Lane, Warfield, KY 41267
Dials, Todd J. (606)298-0960	Buck Creek	168 Creekwood Estates, Inez, KY 41224
Edwards, Charles (740)364-0636	Dix Fork	144 Pierson Blvd., Newark, OH 43055
Frye, Sam (304)429-2181	Bride of Christ	668 Lewis Subdivision Rd, Huntington, WV 25704
Gannon, Ron (606)237-6275	Dix Fork	2632 Forrest Hills Rd., Forrest Hills, KY 41527
Hall, Urias, Jr. (740)710-9080	Little Tavia	216 Florence Avenue, Jackson, OH 45640
Hamilton, Hobart (304)475-4225	Turkey Creek	270 Riffe Branch Road, Delbarton, WV 25670
Hay, Frank Edwin (606)686-1339	Rebecca	501 Highway 3399, Louisa, KY 41230
Jude, Dewey (606)395-5402	Elizabeth	610 Frog Pond Road, Inez, KY 41224
Jude, Matthew (606)375-7514	Rebecca	50 Jude Lane, Germantown, KY 41044
Lackey, Randall Lee (304)542-2283	Samaria	246 Hickory Lane, Williamson, WV 25661
Lowe, Gabe D. (606)395-6355	Elizabeth	8773 Meathouse Road, Pilgrim, KY 41250
Lowe, Michael D. (606)253-1992	Bent Branch	169 Scott Fork, Pikeville, KY 41501
Lowe, Randall L. (606)631-3734	Elizabeth	13739 Brushy Road, Pikeville, KY 41501
Mathis, Arthur (304)272-5972	Antioch	1915 Craig Road, Wayne, WV 25570
May, Arthur (304)393-4118	Bethany	115 May Road, Breedon, WV 25666
May, David (304)393-9109	Bethany	200 Silk Branch, Kermit, WV 25674
Maynard, Paul (606)631-5835	Apple Orchard	12941 Brushy Rd., Pikeville, KY 41501
Napier, Leonard (304)486-5119	Little Tavia	431 Rocklick Branch Rd., Prichard, WV 25555
Napier, Rex (304)595-5438	Tabitha	1417 1st Avenue, Box 462, East Bank, WV 25067
Robinson, Billy J. (859)207-8868	Leannah	41 Red Bird Dr, Louisa, KY 41230
Robinson, Timothy (304)235-9767	Little Rosie	85 View Avenue, Williamson, WV 25661

Sesco, Harold (606)353-0161	Pilgrims Home	Box 130, Sidney, KY 41564
Smith, Duane (606)631-3423	Pilgrims Home	80 John Young Branch, Varney, KY 41571
Smith, Edward L. (606)834-9958	Dix Fork	2911 Camellia Drive, Flatwoods, KY 41139
Stanley, Greg (606)437-7978	Bent Branch	4233 Millers Creek, Pikeville, KY 41501
Staton, Richard (606)237-1217	Pilgrims Home	3668 Long Branch Road, Belfry, KY 41514
Thornsby, Ivan Neal (304)475-3908	Dix Fork	399 Academy Drive, Delbarton, WV 25670
Walters, Andrew (606)637-1620	Pilgrims Home	4981 Brushy Road, Varney, KY 41571
Walters, Lacy (606)353-7468	Mt. Pleasant	3600 Dix Fork Rd., Sidney, KY 41564
White, John Wayne (304)762-2926	Rebecca	RR 1 Box 447, Lesage, WV 25537
Williamson, Bruce (606)637-9184	Dix Fork	37 Marie Street, Kimper, KY 41539
Williamson, Dale (606)794-4403	Pilgrims Home	1764 F. Hubbard Rd, London, KY 40741
Williamson, Eric (606)631-9926	Pilgrims Home	1079 Callahan Branch, Kimper, KY 41239
Young, Gary (606)631-3959	Pilgrims Home	1344 Brushy Road, Varney, KY 41571

#### LIBERATED BRETHREN

Cochran, Jim (304)674-5177	Little Tavie	21705 Torrence Chapel, Cornelius, NC 28031
Marcum, David (606)369-5115	Mary Elizabeth	9240 N. Big Creek Rd, Hatfield, KY 41514

**SARDIS ASSOCIATION  
OFFICERS AND ADDRESSES**

Elder Thomas J. Dials (606)395-6572	Moderator	59 Jacobs Lane, Warfield, KY 41267
Elder Richard Staton (606)237-1217	Assistant Moderator	3668 Long Branch Rd., Belfry, KY 41514
Elder Michael D. Lowe (606)253-1992	Clerk	169 Scott Fork, Pikeville, KY 41501
Brother Alvin Thornbury (276)469-1370	Assistant Clerk	26335 Pewter Lane, Abingdon, VA 24211
Elder Todd J. Dials (606)298-0360	Assistant Clerk	168 Creekwood Estates, Inez, KY 41224

**TRUSTEES OF THE SARDIS ASSOCIATION**

Brother John Henry Elkins  
Elder Michael Lowe  
Elder Paul Maynard  
Elder Ivan Neil Thornsbury

CHURCH	ADDRESS	PHONE	CLERK and ADDRESS
MT. PLEASANT	17321 East Big Creek Road, Sidney, KY 41564	(606)353-9507	Daniel Stanley, 78 Brown Branch Road, Sidney, KY 41564
APPLE ORCHARD	10770 Brushy Road, Pikeville, KY 41501	(606)631-9314	Johnny L. Thacker, 356 Billy Lowe Branch, Pikeville, KY 41501
BENT BRANCH	87 East Helena Ave., Pikeville, KY 40501	(606)253-1992	Michael Lowe, 169 Scott Fork, Pikeville, KY 41501
BIG BRANCH	16784 Brushy Road, Pikeville, KY 41501	(606)424-1984	Chuck Lowe, 13987 Brushy Road, Pikeville, KY 41501
MARY ELIZABETH	Highway 468, Hatfield, KY 41514	(606)353-9320	Eddie D. Walters, 56 Davidson Hill, Belfry, KY 41514
BETHANY	654 Laurel Creek, Lenore, WV 25676	(304)475-3889	John Canterbury, 18 Milton Bryant Lane, Lenore, WV 25676
PILGRIMS HOME	3331 Brushy Road, Varney, KY 41571	(606)424-7941	Shane Reed, 139 Knob Fork Rd, Pikeville, KY 41501
SALEM	30 Goody Road, Goody, KY 41514	(606)237-4723	Ernest SESCO, 289 Sukey Fork Road, Belfry, KY 41514
SIDNEY	288 North Wolf Creek Rd, Pilgrim, KY 41250	(606)298-0960	Todd J. Dials, 168 Creekwood Estate, Inez, KY 41224
DIX FORK	2484 Dix Fork Road, Sidney, KY 41564	(606)353-9507	Daniel Stanley, 78 Brown Br. Rd., Sidney, KY 41564
NARROWS BRANCH	1699 Narrows Branch Road, Hardy, KY 41531	(606)353-9747	Bobby Scott, Jr., 148 Josh Hollow Rd, Hardy, KY 41531
LEANNAH	9016 Meathouse Road, Pilgrim, KY 41250	(606)395-5296	Cletis Robinson, 9526 Meathouse Rd, Pilgrim, KY 41250
BUCK CREEK	68 Gordon Hollow, Beauty, KY 41203	(606)298-0960	Todd J. Dials, 168 Creekwood Estate, Inez, KY 41224
TABITHA	218 Wonderland Road, Verdunville, WV 25689	(937)764-0429	Avery Hensley, 1720 Zion Lane, Hillsboro, OH 45133
LITTLE ROSIE	2791 Buffalo Creek Rd., Williamson, WV 25661	(304)236-3200	Danny Allen, 1275 Dans Branch Rd, Williamson, WV 25661
TURKEY CREEK	1348 Turkey Creek Rd, Turkey Creek, KY 41514	(734)482-3148	Ron Hamilton, 7332 McKean Road, Ypsilanti, MI 48197
SAMARIA	3646 Dingess Road, Dingess, WV 25671	(606)534-7487	Larry May, 481 Little Laurel Creek, Louisa, KY 41230
ROSA	Baisden Fork, Baisden, WV 25608	(304)664-9333	Charles Paynter, 1055 Gilbert Creek Road, Baisden, WV 25608
LITTLE VIRGIE	50 Long Fork Road, Kimper, KY 41539	(276)469-1370	Alvin Thornbury, 26335 Pewter Lane, Abingdon, VA 24211
PILGRIMS REST	5051 Brushy Road, Varney, KY 41571	(606)631-9085	Clifton Robinette, 553 John Young Br, Varney, KY 41571
ELIZABETH	8068 South Highway 3, Louisa, KY 41230	(606)631-3734	Randall L. Lowe, 13739 Brushy Rd., Pikeville, KY 41501
LITTLE TAVIE	Rt 2 Box 646, Pt. Pleasant, WV 25550	(304)674-5177	Jim Cochran, 21705 Torrence Chapel, Cornelius, NC 28301
ANTIOCH	1869 Craig Road, Wayne, WV 25570	(304)272-5972	Arthur Mathis Jr., 719 Lynn Oak Dr., Lavalette, WV 25535
BRIDE OF CHRIST	5064 Rt Fork Camp Creek, Lavalette, WV 25701	(304)272-5972	Arthur Mathis, 1915 Craig Road, Wayne, WV 25570
REBECCA	450 Day Star Rod, Delbarton, WV 25670	(304)972-1767	Johnny Ray White, RR1 Box 447, Lesage, WV 25537

## STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCH	START TIME SAT/SUN	MODERATOR	ASSISTANT MODERATOR	MINUTES REQUESTED	CONTRIBUTIONS	RECEIVED BY BAPTISM	RECEIVED BY LETTER	RECEIVED BY RESTORATION	RECEIVED BY ECOMMENDATION	DISMISSED BY LETTER	DECEASED	EXCLUDED	TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	MEETING TIME	UNION AND COMMUNION
Mt. Pleasant	11:00/11:00	Ron Gannon	Bruce Williamson	50	125								6	2	July
Apple Orchard	11:00/11:00	Gary Young	Duane Smith	75	150						2		14	1	June
Bent Branch	10:00/10:00	Dale Williamson	Duane Smith	100	250	1					3		27	3	August
Big Branch	11:00/11:00	Richard Staton	Andy Walters	100	225	1					1		24	3	July
Mary Elizabeth	11:00/11:00	Ron Gannon	Ivan N. Thornsby	60	200	1					1		20	3	July
Bethany	11:00/11:00	David May	Albert Cable	50	150						1	2	26	4	August
Pilgrims Home	10:00/10:00	Duane Smith	Andrew Walters	150	350	3				1	6		68	4	August
Salem	11:00/11:00	Eric Williamson	Harold SESCO	75	190								45	1	May
Sidney	2:00/10:30	Thomas J. Dials	Todd Dials	70	200			1		1	1		18	4	June
Dix Fork	11:00/11:00	Edward L. Smith	Charles Edwards	100	325						2	2	19	1	July
Narrows Branch	11:00/11:00	Ivan N. Thornsby	Larry Thacker	50	100						3		9	4	July
Leannah	10:30/10:30	Billy J. Robinson	Paul Maynard	50	100						1		22	2	July
Buck Creek	10:30/10:30	Thomas J. Dials	Albert Cable	75	160								12	3	June
Tabitha	2:30/10:30	Rex Napier	Albert Cable	40	120						1		6	1	August
Little Rosie	11:00/11:00	Tim Robinson	Freddy Cline	40	100					1	1		6	2	April
Turkey Creek	11:00/11:00	Hobart Hamilton	Richard Staton	100	250	3					2	1	38	2	May
Samaria	11:00/11:00	Randall Lackey	Vacant	30	100						1		17	1	July
Rosa	10:30/10:30	Hobart Hamilton	Gary Young	60	300						2		12	3	August
Little Virgie	11:00/11:00	Richard Staton	Paul Maynard	50	150								7	4	June
Pilgrims Rest	10:30/10:30	Gary Young	Duane Smith	40	100								11	2	June
Elizabeth	10:30/10:30	Thomas J. Dials	Todd Dials	40	150						1		6	1	June
Little Tavie	10:30/10:30	Chester Cochran	Vacant	75	300						1		8	2	July
Antioch	6:30/10:00	Leonard Napier	Sam Frye	60	120	1			1				9	4	August
Bride of Christ	6:30/10:30	Sam Frye	Leonard Napier	40	80								4	3	July
Rebecca	11:00/11:00	John Wayne White	Frank Edwin Hay	50	150								24	2	October
		TOTALS		1,630	\$4,445	10	0	1	1	3	30	5	458		

# October 2022 - September 2023

## October 2022

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## November 2022

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

## December 2022

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## January 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## February 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

## March 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## April 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

## May 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## June 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

## July 2023


S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					


## August 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## September 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

 Indicates Odd Sunday

 Indicates 2023 Association Meeting

There will be Church service on the Thursday Evening (September 7, 2023) before the Sardis Association begins on Friday. Services will be at the Association building beginning at 6:00 p.m.