

***Minutes***  
**OF THE**  
**One Hundred Eighth**  
**Annual Session**  
**OF THE**  
**Mates Creek**  
**REGULAR PRIMITIVE BAPTIST**  
**Association**  
**OF JESUS CHRIST**  
**HELD WITH**  
**Pond Creek Church**  
**BELFRY, PIKE COUNTY, KENTUCKY**  
**SEPTEMBER 2, 3, 4,**

❧ 1960 ❧

Next session convenes with the Raccoon Church, Raccoon, Pike County, Kentucky, to begin Friday before the first Sunday in September 1961 at 10 A.M. Elder J. H. Blackburn is to preach the introductory sermon and Elder Teddy R. Ball is to be his alternate.

**OFFICERS**

**ELDER W. H. THACKER - Moderator, McAndrews, Ky.**  
**BROTHER STEARL HATFIELD - Clerk, McCarr, Ky.**  
**BROTHER J. E. HATFIELD - Ass't. Clerk, McCarr, Ky.**



PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE MATES CREEK DISTRICT PRIMITIVE BAPTIST  
ASSOCIATION HELD WITH THE POND CREEK CHURCH  
FRIDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 2, 1960

The Association was called to order by the Moderator. Prayer by Elder J. H. Blackburn.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder Dan Adkins, Text: 1st Corinthians 15:22: For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

Ministers left on the stand for Friday.

1. Elder Clayton Simpsin
2. Elder Otis Wilder
3. Elder Sam Newsom
4. Elder W. T. Cook

Delegates assembled in the Pond Creek Church House and were called to order by the moderator. Prayer by Elder Floyd Hall of the Rock Spring Association. Called for Church Letters and read the one from Pond Creek Church. Moved that we except the letters and have names of Delegates enrolled in the Minutes.

Election of Officers: The Association then elected Elder W. H. Thacker, Moderator; Brother Stearl Hatfield, Clerk; Brother J. E. Hatfield, Assistant Clerk.

PROCEEDINGS OF BUSINESS

1. Newly constituted Churches called for, none responded.
2. Moved and seconded the Abstracts of Principles, rules of Decorum and Constitution be printed in the Minutes.
3. Delegates appointed, last year, to visit sister Associations, reported and those unable to fill their appointments were excused.
4. Correspondence from sister Associations received and seated as follows.

Washington Association: Elders M. M. Edwards, E. S. Stevens, Hadley Edwards, and Lester Barker.

Mt. Zion Association: Elder A. L. Neely.

Union Association: Elder David Roberts and Sam Newsom

Fishers River Association: Elder H. B. Thomas and Brother Lester Hawks.

Rock Spring Association: Elders Floyd Hall and Charley Littleton.



New Liberty Association: Elder J. M. Whaling.

St. Clair's Bottom Association: Brethren Vernie Heath and Quinten Dancy.

5. Visiting Brethren received and seated as follows:

Washington Association: Brother Robert Bostic.

Mt. Zion Association: Brethren Paul Homing, E. J. Sturgill, Harry Sturgill, Frank Layne and Henry Lilly.

Union Association: Brethren Booten Hamilton, Carson McCoy and Elder Andy Wright.

Fishers River Association: Brother H. J. Hill.

Mt. Enon Association: Elders Homer Little, Robert Smith, W. T. Cook and Brother Bill Crawford.

Powells Valley Association: Brethren John Jackson and Robert Jackson.

6. The Moderator is to make all temporary arrangements.

7. A Delegate from each Church together with all the Delegates from the Pond Creek Church was appointed to arrange for the preaching at the stand.

They reported for Saturday.

- (1) Elder Don Lilly of the Mt. Zion Association
- (2) Elder J. M. Whaling of the New Liberty Association
- (3) Elder Floyd Hall of the Rock Spring Association
- (4) Elder Homer Little of the Mt. Enon Association
- (5) Elder M. M. Edwards of the Washington Association
- (6) Elder E. S. Stevens of the Washington Association

8. A committee to choose Delegates to visit sister Associations was appointed as follows:

Elders, Dan Adkins, M. C. Slone and Brother C. C. Dotson reported the following.

Washington Association: Elders W. H. Thacker and Joe Thacker.

Mt. Zion Association: Elders Dan Adkins and Fonso Justice.

Union Association: Elders M. C. Slone and Monroe Justice

Powells Valley Association: Elders Opa Thacker and M. C. Slone

Fishers River Association: Elders Fonso Justice and Guy Campbell

St. Clair's Bottom Association: Elders Teddy R. Ball and H. J. Blackburn

Rock Spring Association: Elders Opa Thacker and Joe Slone Jr.

Senter Association: Elders Teddy R. Ball and Kit Ratliff

New Liberty Association: Elders Frank Wheeler and John I. Smith



9. Moved and seconded that this Association send Minutes to the following Associations: Washington, Mt. Zion, Union, Fishers River, Senter, Rock Spring, New Liberty, St. Clairs Bottom, Roaring River, and Powells Valley

10. A committee on Arrangements was appointed as follows. Brethren Willie Hatfield, Daniel Roberts and Brandley Warrix.

11. A committee on finance was appointed as follows: Elders Monroe Justice, Fonso Justice and Frank Wheeler.

12. Moved and seconded that the Association be adjourned until 9 o'clock Saturday Morning, September 3, 1960.

#### SATURDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 3, 1960

The Association met pursuant to adjournment and was called to order by the Moderator. Prayer by Elder Hadley Edwards of the Washington Association,

1. Roll called and absentees marked.

2. Committee on arrangements reported the following:

Committee met in session in the Pond Creek Church House and after studying the bill of items for Saturday agreed that the Association should proceed with its work in the usual manner.

After due consideration, we, the Committee ask the Association to admonish all its churches against seating or preaching members from an independent church.

3. Moved and seconded that the work of the committee be accepted and the committee be discharged.

4. Finance Committee reported \$ 214.41 and was discharged.

5. Committee on preaching for Sunday reported as follows:

- (1) To open Elder Lester Barker of the Washington Association
- (2) Elder Hadley Edwards of the Washington Association
- (3) Elder A. L. Neely of the Mt. Zion Association
- (4) Elder W. T. Cook of the Mt. Enon Association

6. Called on Union Meeting appointees to report, reports accepted and those unable to fill their appointments were excused.

#### UNION MEETING AND THEIR APPOINTEES

Louisa Church: Meets Friday before the second Saturday in August 1961. Elders Joe Thacker, Dan Adkins, Frank Wheeler, Sam Justice, Fonso Justice, and Opa Thacker to attend.

Pond Creek Church: Meets Friday before the second Saturday in June 1961. Elders W. H. Thacker, Teddy R. Ball, Frank Wheeler, Dan



Adkins, Joe Thacker, J. H. Blackburn and Fonso Justice to attend.

Big Creek Church: Meets Friday before the third Saturday in August 1961. Elders Joe Slone, Jr., W. H. Thacker, Frank Wheeler, Teddy R. Ball and Fonso Justice to attend.

Raccoon Church: Meets Friday before the fourth Saturday in July 1961. Elders John I. Smith, Joe Slone, Jr., Frank Wheeler, J. H. Blackburn and Fonso Justice to attend.

Sulphur Spring Church: Meets Friday before the first Saturday in August 1961. Elders Eli Estep, Dan Adkins, and Kit Ratliff to attend.

Peter Creek Church: Meets Friday before the fourth Saturday in June 1961. Elders J. H. Blackburn, Dan Adkins, Frank Wheeler and Teddy R. Ball to attend.

Little Hope Church: Meets Friday before the first Saturday in July 1961. Elders W. H. Thacker, J. H. Fuller, John I. Smith, Joe Slone, Jr., G. W. Hunt and Joe Thacker to attend.

Joppa Church: Meets the first Saturday in June 1961. Elders Frank Wheeler, Dan Adkins, Kit Ratliff and Joe Thacker to attend.

Grapevine Church: Meets the third Saturday in July 1961. Elders Fonso Justice, J. H. Blackburn, Dan Adkins, Joe Thacker and Frank Wheeler to attend.

Samaria Church: Meets Friday before the third Saturday in June 1961. Elders Dan Adkins, Frank Wheeler, Fonso Justice, Monroe Justice, W. H. Thacker, J. H. Blackburn and Teddy R. Ball to attend.

Little Union Church: Meets Friday before the first Saturday in May 1961. Elders Teddy R. Ball, Monroe Justice, John Fuller, Ostill Smith and John I. Smith to attend.

John's Creek Church: Meets Friday before the second Saturday in July 1961. Elders J. H. Blackburn, Fonso Justice, Teddy R. Ball, Dan Adkins, Ostill Smith, and John I. Smith to attend.

Calvary Church: Meets Friday before the first Saturday in June 1961. Elders Eli Estep, Dan Adkins, Frank Wheeler, Teddy R. Ball, J. H. Blackburn, Fonso Justice, Kit Ratliff, Joe Slone, Jr., and Joe Thacker to attend.

New Friendship Church: Meets the fourth Saturday in July 1961. Elders Dan Adkins, Joe Thacker and Teddy R. Ball to attend.

7. Circular Letter called for, read, received and to be printed in the Minutes, and that Elder R. P. Justice is to prepare the next one.

8. Agreed that we have 1650 Minutes printed and annex our Constitution, Articles of Faith, Rules of Decorum, and the obituaries of Sisters Ettie Newsom Roberts and Bitha Smith. Brethren A. J. Black-



burn, Joe Conn, Ben Varney, John Williamson, Lewis Elswick and Irvin Thacker, Brother Wayne Scott and his wife, Sister Rosa Scott.

9. Agreed the brother clerk superintend the printing and distribution of the minutes and the rest of the funds be left in his hands.

10. Moved and seconded that we pay \$20.00 for moving the Association seats to Raccoon Church.

11. The finance was disposed of as follows:

Balance left on hand from last year - - - - -	\$226.74	
Amount received from the churches - - - - -	214.41	
Donated at the stand - - - - -	115.70	
Total cash on hand		\$556.85

Amount paid out

1959 Minutes - - - - -	\$150.00	
Hauling Seats - - - - -	20.00	
Donated to Grapevine Church - - - - -	50.00	
Paid to the Moderator - - - - -	15.00	
Paid to the Clerk - - - - -	10.00	
Given to the Correspondence - - - - -	92.00	
Total Paid out		\$337.00
Balance left on hand		\$219.85

12. Agreed that our next Association be held with the Raccoon Church at Raccoon, Pike County, Kentucky and to begin Friday before the first Sunday in September 1961, and that Elder J. H. Blackburn is to preach the Introductory Sermon and that Elder Teddy R. Ball be his alternate.

Minutes read and approved, closed by prayer by Elder Lester Barker. Then adjourned until the time of our next Association.

Signed by:

ELDER W. H. THACKER, Moderator  
BROTHER STEARL HATFIELD, Clerk  
BROTHER J. E. HATFIELD, Asst. Clerk

SUNDAY MORNING SEPTEMBER 4, 1960

Singing and prayer by Elder Lester Barker of the Washington Association.

1. Elder Hadley Edwards of the Washington Association, text: 1st Corinthians 2:10: But God hath revealed them unto us by his



Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

2. Elder A. L. Neely of the Mt. Zion Association, no special text.

3. Elder W. T. Cook of the Mt. Enon Association, text: Isaiah 40:6: The voice said Cry. And he said, What shall I Cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field.

The Moderator gave thanks to the people of the community and to God for his loving kindness and many blessings bestowed upon us during our Association, closed out amid much singing, praising, and rejoicing.

May God bless our People (Old Baptist everywhere) that they may live in love and peace. And above all stand for the true Doctrine taught in the Bible and preached by our Forefathers. This is my humble Prayer, I hope.

#### THE CLERK

#### EVENING MEETINGS

Friday Evening — Brother Henry Varney's Home: Elders A. L. Neely and Don Lilly

Sister Mary Smith's Home: Elders M. M. Edwards, Opa Thacker and Teddy R. Ball

Brother Ballard Ball's Home: Elders John I. Smith, Lonnie Warrix Joe Slone, Jr. and Mat Slone.

Saturday Evening — Big Creek Church House: Elders M. M. Edwards, Don Lilly and H. B. Thomas.

Samaria Church House: Elders A. L. Neely, Lester Barker, Hadley Edwards and W. T. Cook

Sister Pricy Scott's Home: Elders Sam Justice, E. S. Stevens, J. H. Blackburn.

TO:

THE MATES CREEK ASSOCIATION MEETING, to be held with the OLD POND CREEK CHURCH, Pike County, Ky., beginning the first Friday in September 1960, and by appointment at the last meeting of the Association.

#### A CIRCULAR LETTER

Subject: ELECTION

I will endeavor to write a few lines on the subject of ELECTION. From Ephesians 1: 3,4, I quote, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ; according as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be Holy and without



blame before Him in love." Most certainly this proves God's ELECTION of His chosen people before the world was ever formed. And in Isaiah: 43, 21: "This people have I formed for myself; they shall show forth my praise."

And who can doubt the following: "For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto Himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth . . ." . . . The Lord did not let His love upon you, nor choose you because ye were more in number than any people, for ye were the fewest of all people - . Instead, "But because the Lord loved you, and because He would keep the oath which He had sworn unto your fathers", Deuteronomy 7: 6,7,8.

The Old Baptist believed in ELECTION. All that have been, or shall ever be saved, have been chosen of God before the world began. There are three in the God-head. These three are one. All their works agree. So we can see the unity of the Trinity. There was an agreement, or a covenant, made between the three, back before the world was and ordered in all things and sure.

All who were and are embraced in that covenant, all whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life by the hand of God the Father, will some day live in that Eternal Home, And that number is so definite that it cannot be diminished, nor can even one be added to that number. We must not call God to question about this and say that He is unjust, for He does all things well. Did He not love Jacob and hate Esau? Why? Was it because of some good that Jacob had done and, because of some evil that Esau had done? No. In Romans 9: 11. Paul answers this for us: "For the children not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to ELECTION might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth."

Now some will say, and do say, that this is not for the Gentiles but but for the Jews only. Well, Paul says in Romans 9: 22, 23, 24: "And that He might make known the riches of His Glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had afore prepared unto glory, even us, whom He hath called, not of the Jews only, but also the Gentiles."

As further proof of ELECTION let us consider how and in what manner one is saved. In Eph. 2: 7, we find that "For by Grace are ye saved through Faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the Gift of God; not of works, lest any man should boast".

All the ELECT, being loved of God with an everlasting love, are redeemed, quickened and saved, not of themselves, nor by their own works, lest any should boast, but only and wholly by God, of His free



Grace and Mercy through Jesus Christ, who is made unto us wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, redemption and, all in all, so that he that rejoiceth might rejoice through the Lord.

All true Old Baptists believe Three onenesses of God, namely: (1) His self-existence and sovereignty, (2) the total depravity of the natural man, (3) the eternal, personal and unconditional ELECTION of all the members of the body of Christ, (4) the specially and definite atonement, (5) the necessity of a spiritual birth in order to worship God in spirit and in truth, (6) the sovereign and efficacious operation of Divine Grace upon all the vessels of mercy, and (7) the baptism of believers by immersion.

Most certainly that is what the Bible teaches. And if I know my heart that is exactly what I believe. It seems to me that all Old Baptists should believe it. It is what we believe in the Mates Creek Association. The Armenian preachers who take their doctrine from the teachings of Dutch Protestant theologians, and who denied the doctrine of predestination, will say they "were not ELECTED in eternity . . . but after they believe." that word "not" was what the Devil put in the sentence when talking to Mother Eve. And his preachers use "not" quite often to try to prove the opposite to the teachings of God's Word.

Paul knew that this doctrine of ELECTION was the truth, for in Thess. 1:4, he said: "Knowing, brethren beloved, your ELECTION of God." Of course we did not choose Him. He chose us! And just as Paul knew this truth, so also do we. And because of this, we therefore teach the doctrine of God our Saviour, while others teach the doctrine of the Devil. When they say that His children were not ELECTED until after they believe, it agrees with what the Devil said to Mother Eve, that ". . . thou shalt not surely die."

I repeat that the Primitive Baptists believed that God's children were and are the ones ELECTED. "For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, the just shall live by faith." Romans 1:17.

Written in love for the truth's sake, and in hope of eternal life.

Andrew Herald

201 W-H Ave.

Williamson, W. Va.



## NAME AND ADDRESS OF MINISTERS

W. H. Thacker, McAndrews, Ky.

M. C. Slone Fishtrap, Ky.

Teddy R. Ball, McCarr, Ky.

Phone GA 7-9886

Noah Smith, Coleman, Ky.

Joe Thacker, Canada, Ky.

John Fuller, Canada, Ky.

W. H. Praiter, Hardy, Ky.

Lonnie Warrix, Fishtrap, Ky.

W. N. Smith, Kimper, Ky.

J. H. Blackburn, Redjacket, W. Va.

Joe Slone, Jr., Fishtrap, Ky.

Kit Ratliff, Pillis, Ky.

Dan Adkins, Huddy, Ky.

Phone El 3-4963

Frank Wheeler, Stone, Ky.

Phone El 3-4910

George Hunt, Hardy, Ky.

Fonso Justice, Stone, Ky.

Phone El 3-3911

James Earl McIntosh, Hardy, Ky.

Green Coleman, Millard, Ky.

Monroe Justice, Canada, Ky.

Phone El 3-7679

Ostill Smith, Canada, Ky.

V. V. Justice, Fishtrap, Ky.

Guy Campbell, R. 2, Pikeville, Ky.

Phone GE 7-4686

Eli Estep, Phelps, Ky.

Phone GI 6-3688

Eldon Thacker, Philis, Ky.

Opa Thacker, Cincinnati, Ohio

John I. Smith, Belfry, Ky.

## LICENTIATES

Willard Dotson, Redjacket, W. Va.

Clark Owens, Pinsonfork, Ky.

## CHURCH AND DELEGATES

Louisa: Elders W. H. Thacker, Green Coleman, Brethren Jeff Thacker, Flem Justice, Abner L. Justice, Johnie Slone and Bradley Warrix.

Pond Creek: Elders Frank Wheeler and George Hunt, Brethren Ransom Scott, Bob Dotson, Grant Blackburn, Willard Blackburn, Andy Blackburn, C. C. Dotson and F. C. Runyon.

Big Creek: Elders Joe Thacker, John I. Smith and Opa Thacker, Brethren Luther Smith, M. B. Blackburn, Daniel Roberts and Joe Stanley.

Raccoon: Elders Fonso Justice and Monroe Justice, Brethren Lawrence Morris, Joe Morris, Robert Collins Roosevelt Coleman, and Milton Coleman.

Sulphur Spring: Elders J. H. Blackburn, Brethren Ira Simpkins, J. B. May and Arthur May.

Peter Creek: Elder Eli Estep, Brethren Philip Dotson, Richard Smith and Roland Dotson.



Little Hope: Brethren Arthur Blackburn, Ballard Ball, Lee Stiltner and Dewey Dotson.

Joppa: Elder Dan Adkins, Brethren Adron Varney, Estill Varney and Henry Blevins.

Grapevine: Elder Eldon Thacker, Brethren Sam Love, Landon Webb, Arville Justice, and Stewart Justice.

Samaria: Elder Teddy R. Ball, Brethren Willie Hatfield, Bradley Hager, John Coleman, Stearl Hatfield, J. E. Hatfield, Andrew Hearld and Jim Varney.

Little Union: Brethren Lonzie Blair, Earnest Blair, Oliver Blair, Jim Henry Fuller, Ford Stiltner and Henry Blair.

Johns Creek: Brethren Harvey Coleman, William I. Smith, Johnie Stiltner, William Coleman and Noah Smith.

Calvary: Elders Kit Ratliff and Glen Vipperman, Brethren Sid Varney, Rosco Varney and Andrew Hunt.

New Friendship: Elders R. P. Justice, G. W. Justice, and S. B. Justice, Brother Robie Lewis.

CHURCH NAME, ADDRESS OF MODERATOR COMMUNION MEETING

Louisa — Elder W. H. Thacker, McAndrews, Ky. . . . .	July 2nd Saturday
Pond Creek — Elder Teddy R. Ball, McCarr, Ky. . . . .	June 2nd Saturday
Big Creek — Elder Joe Thacker, Canada, Ky. . . . .	June 3rd Saturday
Raccoon — Elder Fonso Justice, Stone, Ky. . . . .	June 4th Saturday
Sulphur Spring — Elder J. H. Blackburn, Redjacket, W. Va. . . . .	July 1st Sat.
Peter Creek — Elder Teddy R. Ball, McCarr, Ky. . . . .	June 4th Saturday
Little Hope — Elder W. H. Thacker, McAndrews, Ky. . . . .	July 1st Saturday
Joppa — Elder Dan Adkins, Huddy, Ky. . . . .	June 1st Saturday
Grapevine — Elder J. H. Blackburn, Redjacket, W. Va. . . . .	July 3rd Sat.
Samaria — Elder Teddy R. Ball, McCarr, Ky. . . . .	June 3rd Saturday
Johns Creek — Elder J. H. Blackburn, W. Va. . . . .	July 2nd Saturday
Calvary — Elder Teddy R. Ball, McCarr, Ky. . . . .	June 1st Saturday
Little Union — Elder Teddy R. Ball, McCarr, Ky. . . . .	May 1st Saturday
New Friendship — Elder S. B. Justice, Paintsville, Ky. . . . .	July 4th Sat.



# DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES

Louisa — Bradley Warrix, Fishtrap, Ky. . . . .	150
Pond Creek — F. C. Runyon, Belfry, Ky. . . . .	175
Big Creek — M. B. Blackburn, Canada, Ky. . . . .	140
Raccoon — Lawrence Morris, Raccoon, Ky. . . . .	125
Peter Creek — Roland Dotson, Stone, Ky. . . . .	125
Sulphur Spring — J. B. May, Kelsey, Va. . . . .	75
Little Hope — Dewey Dotson, Pinsonfork, Ky. . . . .	75
Joppa — Estill Varney, Nolan, W. Va. . . . .	35
Grapevine — Stewart Justice, Fishtrap, Ky. . . . .	75
Samaria — J. E. Hatfield, McCarr, Ky. . . . .	140
Johns Creek — Noan Smith, Jr., Kimper, Ky. . . . .	100
Little Union — Della Blair, Feds Creek, Ky. . . . .	75
Calvary — Rosco Varney, Meta, Ky. . . . .	50
New Friendship — R. P. Justice, Route 5, Kouisa, Ky. . . . .	35

## DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES TO CORRESPONDING ASSOCIATIONS

Washington — Leland Street, Stacy, Va. . . . .	25
Mt. Zion — J. R. Lilly, Box 136, Hinton, W. Va. . . . .	25
Union — J. M. Holbrook, Shelby Gap, Ky. . . . .	25
Fishers River — Curtis Harbour, Rt. 2, Dobsin, N. C. . . . .	25
Senter — Earl W. Severt, West Jefferson, N. C. . . . .	25
Rock Spring — Isac Caudell, Jr., Box 172, Moerhead, Ky. . . . .	25
New Liberty — Thomas D. Robertson, 802 Kanawha Blvd., Charleston, W. Va. . . . .	25
St. Clair's Bottom — H. M. Blevins, Jr., Chilliowie, Va. . . . .	25
Roaring River — John D. Hall, 278 South St., Elkin, N. C. . . . .	25
Powells Valley — Clarence Hensley, Pineville, Ky. . . . .	25
To the Clerk — Stearl Hatfield, McCarr, Ky. . . . .	25
	1650



## ETTIE NEWSOM ROBERTS



It is with a sad and broken heart that I try to write an obituary of my dear and loving wife, one who was so dear to me.

She was born December 10, 1891, daughter of Harrison and Victoria Newsom. Deceased this life March 4, 1960, making her stay on early sixty-eight years, two months, and twenty-six days.

She joined the Old Regular Primitive Baptist Church of Jesus Christ June 28, 1952, and baptized by Elders Dan

Adkins and Mat Slone. She took fellowship with the Big Creek Church.

She had been sick for several years but she filled her seat in the good old church when she really was not able to attend. But her seat in the church and at home is vacant now, never to be filled any more.

We were married August 17, 1909, at Virgie, Kentucky, and lived together many years in love and pleasure. We celebrated our Golden wedding anniversary in August, 1959.

She is survived by eight children, although two preceded her in death. Those surviving include: Mrs. Maudie Green, Mrs. Melphie Smith, and Miss Lalar Ann Roberts all of Sidney, Kentucky, Mrs. Margie Maggard of Borderland, West Virginia, Mrs. Mellie Slater of Chattaroy, West Virginia, Millard of Springport, Michigan, Millis of Citra, Florida, Merlin of Ocala, Florida.

In addition to her children she is survived by twenty-three grandchildren, twelve great-grandchildren and the following brothers and sisters: Floyd Newsom of Penny, Kentucky, John Newsom of Zebulon, Kentucky, Mrs. Rachel Bartley and Mrs. Elizabeth Newsom both of Penny, Kentucky, Mrs. Arminia Little and Mrs. Hulda Little both of Virgie, Kentucky.

I just can not say enough about my dear wife. She was always a good woman and a christian for several years. I have a hope of seeing her again when Jesus comes. Oh how lonesome I am without her, but the good Lord took her from me against my will and not my will but his be done.

Written by:

Her broken-hearted husband,  
Daniel Roberts



## BITHA SMITH



It is with a sad and lonely heart that I try to write the obituary of my dear aunt, Bitha Smith, she was born September 7, 1882 making her stay here on earth seventy-seven years, ten months and eighteen days. She was married to Harrison Smith May 9, 1908 who preceded her in death. To this Union was born no children. She leaves three children she raised, Mary Charles of Coleman, Ky., Maggie Smith of Coleman, Ky. Delphie Smith of Ohio and

five sisters and one brother and a host of relatives and friends to mourn her loss. She passed this life July 25, 1960. She was a strong believer in salvation by the Grace of God and a faithful member of Peter Creek Church always filling her seat as long as she was able. We feel that our loss is her eternal gain.

Written by:

LOKIE FULLER

## A. J. BLACKBURN



It's with a sad heart I try to write the obituary of my dear dad, Elder A. J. Blackburn.

He was born December 20, 1878 and deceased this life October 12, 1959 making his stay on earth eighty years and nine months.

He united with Primitive Baptist August 1st Saturday 1902. He was called to ministry the fifth Saturday in October 1927 and later was ordained to the full function of the gospel.

He was married to Syrenia May June 15, 1889. To this union were born six children. He was a faithful member until death. He leaves to mourn his loss a widow, six children, several grandchildren, a brother and a sister and a host of friends.

We feel our loss is his eternal gain.

Written by a son,

J. H. BLACKBURN



## JOE CONN



It is with a sad and aching heart that I write the obituary of our dear Dad, Joe Conn.

He was born September 1877, the son of Sylvester Conn and Chairty Spears Conn. He was married to Mary Dotson Conn, and to this union was born eleven children. He deceased this life January 11, 1960 making his stay on earth 82 years and 4 months. Dad joined the Church several years ago, and was a faithful member to the church and a good father until death. He leaves to mourn his loss a widow, 9 children, 40 grandchildren, 2 brothers and a host of friends. We feel our loss is his eternal gain. I want to say . . .

A precious one from us is gone  
A voice we loved is still  
A place is vacant in our home  
Which never can be filled.

Written by a daughter,

MARGIE REYNOLDS

## IRVIN THACKER

Irvin Thacker was born June 3, 1910, departed this life Oct. 16, 1959 making his stay on earth 49 years, 4 months and 13 days, He was the son of Willie and Kathrine (Blackburn) Thacker. He was married to Golda Smith. To this union were born seven children, six girls and one boy, namely Mrs. Pyhlis Smith of Canada, Ky., Mrs. Jacqueline Jude of Matewan, W. Va., Mrs. Christine Perry and Miss Brenda Joyce Thacker both of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Janet June, Betty Ann and Dennis Glen all at home. He also is survived by four grandchildren and the following brothers and sisters; John Silas of Frankfort, Ky., Willie Lester of Detroit, Michigan, Mrs. Ida Church of Canada, Ky., Mrs. Ruth Edmiston of Carlisle, Ind., Mrs. Marie Powell of Baltimore, Md. and Mrs. Mary Kathaline Bank, Albert, and Opa of Cincinnati, Ohio and Everette of Lebanon, Ohio and Wilson Eugene of San Diego, Calif.

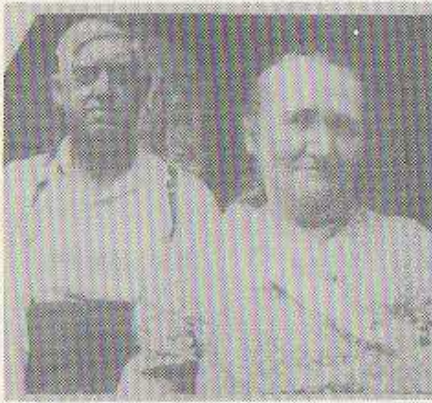
He was loved by all who knew him. When he went to Church you could see the tears flowing from his brow which is a manifestation that the Lord had done a work in his heart. His wife has lost a loving husband, his children have lost a loving Father and his parents have lost a kind and losing son but we feel assured that our loss is his eternal gain.

Written by his cousin,

MORDECAI BLACKBURN



## BROTHER WAYNE SCOTT and SISTER ROSIE SCOTT



It is with much sadness and heart-ache that I will try to write an obituary of my dear mother and father.

Mother was the daughter of the late Andy and Nell Hensley. She was born June 28th, 1884 departed her life December 9, 1959.

Father was the son of Epp and Jane Scott he was born July 6, 1883 departed his life September 6, 1951.

To this union were born 9 children 7 boys and 2 girls, 36 grandchildren, and 11 great grandchildren.

A host of relatives and friends are left to mourn their loss.

Mother joined the Primitive Baptist Church September 22, 1940 and was baptized by Elder Teddy R. Ball and Elder Parris Coleman. She lived a faithful member until death.

Father joined the Primitive Baptist Church May 16, 1943 and was baptized by Elder Teddy R. Ball. He always tried to fill his seat at church time and lived a faithful member until death.

I believe with all my heart that they are together in Heaven and I pray to God that someday I will meet them again. I know they can't come to me, but I can go to them. No tongue can tell how I miss mother and father and how much I love them.

Written by son,

TONY SCOTT  
McCarr, Ky.

## LEWIS ELSWICK



Bro. Lewis Elswick was born Mar. 13, 1872, departed this life April 6, 1959, making his stay on earth 87 years and 24 days.

He was first married to Polly Ann Staton. To this union were born nine children, two sons and two daughters preceded him in death. Surviving are Harold of Canada, Ky., Charely, Mrs. P. T. Varney, and Mrs. R. F. Cisco all of Roadfork, Ky., and Mrs. N. E. Stanley of Hardy, Ky. Twenty four grandchildren and thirtyseven great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife in 1907. He then married Elizabeth Varney. he lived with her until her death.

Then he married Eliza Charles, who survives.

He united with the Primitive Baptist Church at Big Creek June 22, 1947 and was baptized by Elder John Fuller. He was ordained as Deacon of the Church Nov. 22, 1949 and served in this capacity until his death.

Written by his son and brother in the Lord.

HAROLD ELSWICK and M. B. BLACKBURN



## BEN VARNEY



Ben Varney who deceased this life August 30, 1960. He was the son of the late A. J. Varney and Phobe Trout Varney.

He was married to Maudie (Mullins) Varney the daughter of the late Floyd Mullins and the late Mary Bentley Mullins. To this union were born 13 children six preceeding him in death.

He is survived by the wife Maudie Mullins Varney. The surviving children include: Ralph Varney of Detroit, Mich.

Mrs. James Hall, Jr. of Louisa, Ky., Mrs. Edward Tingler of Cleveland, Ohio, Rev. Lincoln Varney of Detroit, Michigan, Rev. Bobby Varney of Pinsonfork, Ky., James W. Varney of Franklin, Ky., Jonah Varney of Cleveland, Ohio, Other survivors include his mother Phobe Trout Varney, 3 brothers Estil Varney, Huddy, Ky., Willard Varney, Belfry, Ky., and Tom Varney, Stone, Ky., 4 sisters Dora Lee Blevins, Stone, Ky., Sarah Ann Greer, Huddy, Ky., Nancy Varney and Jenny Varney both of Belfry, Ky. and 31 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren.

He had been a member of the Primitive Baptist Church for 9 years and a member of Local 5728 of United Mine Workers of America.

He was born January 1st, 1894 at Stone, Ky. making his stay on earth 66 years, 8 months. He was a devoted husband and father and we feel that God has a place of peace and happiness that he will enjoy when Christ shall come in the fulness of His Glory.

BY HIS FAMILY



## JOHN WILLIAMSON



Brother John Williamson was born August 27, 1900. Departed this life August 18, 1959, making his stay on this earth 58 years, 11 months, and 22 days. He was the son of James Williamson and Rebecca Smith Williamson.

John was married to the former Dora Varney Williamson who survived. To the union were born 9 children. One preceded him in death. John was a good father and was loved by his many friends.

He loved the church for many years before he ask for a home with them. He joined the church a few weeks before the Good Lord called him away and was baptized by Elders Joe Thacker and Dan Adkins, making his homewith the Big Creek Church. Brother John still lives in memory of the Church and his loving wife and children. We feel sure that our loss was his eternal gain and in the resurrection morning we will meet again.

Written by:

ELDER JOE THACKER

## CONSTITUTION

1. This Association shall be calld Mates Creek District Primitive Baptist Association.
2. The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our union and duly sent to represent them in the Association, who shall be members whom they judge best qualified for that purpose, and producing letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, shall be entitled to seats.
3. In the letters from the different churches shall be expressed their membership in full fellowship, those baptised, received by letter, dismissed by letter, excluded and deceased since the last Association.
4. The members thus chosen and convened shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage nor shall they have any clerical powers over the churches, nor shall they infringe on any of the internal rights of any church in this union.
5. The Association when convened, shall be governed by a regular and proper decorum.
6. The Association shall have a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.
7. Newly constituted churches may be admitted into the union who shall petition by letter and messenger, and (if found upon examination to be orthodox and orderly). shall be received by the Association, and



manifested by the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

8. Every church in the union shall be entitled to a representation in the Association.

9. Every query presented by any church to the Association, being first debated in their own church, shall be taken up by the Association.

10. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it shall be withdrawn by the member who made it.

11. The Association shall endeavor to furnish the churches with Minutes of the Association, the best way and method for effecting that purpose shall be at the discretion of future Associations.

12. We think it absolutely necessary that we should have an Association fund for defraying the expenses of the same, for the raising and supporting of which we think it the duty of each church in the union to contribute such sums voluntarily as they think proper, and send it by the hands of their messengers to the Association, and those monies thus contributed by the churches and received by the Association shall be deposited in the hands of the Treasurer, who shall be accountable to the Association for all monies received by him, and pay out of the same according to the Association.

13. There shall be an Association book kept, wherein the proceedings of every Association shall be regularly recorded by the Secretary chosen for that purpose, who shall receive compensation for his trouble.

14. The Minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if need be, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association arises.

15. Amendments to this plan or form of government may be made at any time by majority of the union when they deem it necessary.

16. The Association shall have power: (1) To provide for the general union of the churches. (2) To preserve inviolably a chain of communication among the churches. (3) To give the churches necessary advice in matters of church difficulty. (4) To inquire into the cause why the churches fail to represent themselves at any time in the Association. (5) To appropriate those monies by the churches contributed for an Association fund to any purpose they may think proper. (6) To appoint any member or members by and with their consent to transact any business they may see necessary. (7) The Association shall have power to withdraw from any church in this union which shall violate the rules of this Association, or deviate from the orthodox principles of religion. (8) To admit any orderly minister of our faith and order to a seat in the Association. (9) The Association shall have power to adjourn themselves to any time or place they may think most convenient to the churches of the Association.

### ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe in one true and living God, who is the Creator, upholder, and righteous disposer of all things; and that He is self-existent, independent, omnipotent and eternal.

2. We believe that Jesus existed in His mediatorial Person as the head and life of His body, the church, from everlasting.

3. We believe the doctrine of eternal, personal and unconditional election; that the elect, or church, is and was and shall forever remain His body and fulness, and their spiritual life is hid with Christ in God.

4. We believe in the doctrine of total depravity of human nature



and that recovery from that condition is wholly and exclusively by the sovereign, free and unmerited grace of God.

5. We believe the atonement made by Christ was full and complete and exclusively for the elect, or heirs of promise.

6. We believe the doctrine of God's predestination in every sense as the Bible teaches it.

7. We believe that all the elect vessels of mercy, chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world, shall be called, regenerated and sanctified by the regenerating power of God's grace, and shall ultimately enjoy heaven and immortal glory.

8. We believe that there will be a resurrection of the bodies, both of the just and the unjust, and the happiness of the righteous shall be eternal and the punishment of the wicked shall be everlasting.

9. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the subjects, and the true mode of baptism is immersion, foot-washing an example.

10. We believe the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as translated under the reign of King James, are a revelation from God, inspired by the Holy Ghost, and that the New Testament is the standard of faith and the only authorized rule of practice to the church of God under gospel dispensation. We therefore consider ourselves solemnly bound by our allegiance to the King of Zion to reject, disclaim and disfellowship all modern and ancient religious institutions or societies of which we have neither precept nor example in the New Testament.

#### **RULES OF DECORUM**

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

2. A Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

3. Only one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator when he is about to speak.

4. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted by any except the Moderator until he is done speaking.

5. He shall strictly adhere to the subject and in no wise reflect on the person who spoke before so as to make remarks on his slips, failings and imperfections, but fairly state the case and matter as nearly as he can as to convey his ideas.

6. No person shall rise and speak more than three times on one subject without liberty obtained from the Association.

7. No person shall abruptly break off or absent himself from the Association without liberty obtained from it.

8. No member of the Association shall have liberty of laughing during the sitting of the Association, nor whispering in time of public speech.

9. No member of the Association shall address another in any other term or appellation but the title of "Brother."

10. The Moderator shall not interrupt any member in a speech or prohibit him from speaking until he gives his light on the subject, except they break the Rules of Decorum.

11. Names of the several members of the Association shall be enrolled by the Clerk and called over as many times as the Association may require.

12. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speech as another member, provided the chair be filled, and he shall have no vote except the Association be equally divided. In that event he shall give the casting vote.

13. Any member who shall wilfully or knowingly break any of these rules shall be reproved by the Association as they think proper.



Note:

To go to our Association in 1961 you will go to Zebulon, Kentucky, Zebulon is six miles from Pikeville on the Pikeville-Williamson Highway, leave the Highway at Zebulon and go up Coon Creek to the Raccoon Post Office, the Association will be there close.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	CLERK AND ADDRESSES	Rec'd by Baptism	Rec'd by Letter	Rec'd by Relation	Restored	Dis'd by Letter	Excluded	Deceased	Membership	Sat. of Meeting	Contribution	Year of Association
Louisa	Bradley Warrix, Fishtrap, Ky.	3				2	2	2	84	2	\$ 20.00	1965
Pond Creek	Fairchild Runyon, Belfry Ky.	2					3	2	122	2	25.00	1970
Big Creek	M. B. Blackburn, Canada, Ky.	3						1	57	3	21.00	1968
Raccoon	Lawrence Morris, Raccoon, Ky.	4					1		54	4	20.00	1961
Sulphur Spring	J. B. May, Kelsa, Va.	5			1	1	1	3	40	4	10.00	
Peter Creek	Roland Dotson, Stone, Ky.				2			1	89	4	17.25	1962
Little Hope	Dewey Dotson, Pinsonfork, Ky.				1				42	1	15.75	1969
Joppa	Estel Varney, Nolan, W. Va.								12	1	5.00	
Grapevine	Steward Justice, Fishtrap, Ky.	2						1	34	3	10.00	1963
Samaria	J. E. Hatfield, MacArt, Ky.	4				3	4	1	141	3	25.00	1964
Little Union	Della Blair, Fed Creek, Ky.							1	22	1	10.00	
John Creek	Noah Smith, Coleman, Ky.	3			2				59	2	18.25	1967
Calvary	Roscoe Varney, Meta, Ky.	3	1						12	1	7.16	1966
New Friendship	R. P. Justice, Rt. 5, Louisa, Ky.						1		22	4	10.00	
		29	1		6	6	12	12	790		\$214.41	



