

Minutes
OF THE
One Hundred Eleventh
Annual Session
OF THE
Mates Creek Regular
PRIMITIVE BAPTIST
Association

HELD WITH
Dry Fork Church

VANSANT, BUCCANNAN COUNTY, VIRGINIA
AUGUST 30 and 31 AND SEPTEMBER 1

1963

**Next session convenes with the Grapevine Church at
Phillis, Pike County, Kentucky, Friday before the
first Sunday in September, 1963, at 10:00 a.m. Elder
Frank Wheeler is to preach the Introductory Sermon
and Elder Teddy R. Ball is to be his alternate.**

OFFICERS

W. H. THACKER - Moderator
DAN ADKINS - Asst. Moderator
STEARL HATFIELD - Clerk
J. E. HATFIELD - Asst. Clerk

McAndrews, Ky.
Huddy, Ky.
McCarr, Ky.
McCarr, Ky.

Proceedings

OF THE MATES CREEK REGULAR PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION OF JESUS CHRIST HELD WITH THE DRY FORK CHURCH

FRIDAY MORNING—August 30, 1963

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, Prayer by Elder Frank Wheeler.

The Introductory was preached by Elder Kit Ratliff. Text: ISAIAH 43:11 - I, even, I, am the Lord; and beside me there is no savior.

Ministers appointed to the Stand for Friday

1. Elder Charlie Littleton of the Rock Spring Association
2. Elder Ray Rotenizer of the United Primitive Baptist Association of Va.
3. Elder Luther Bradley of the Rock Spring Association
4. Elder C. E. Darity of the Echeconee Association

Messengers assembled in the Dry Fork Church House and was called to order by the Moderator. Prayer by Elder Dewey Roten.

Called for the letters from all the Churches.

Moved and seconded that we have the letter from the Dry Fork Church read.

Moved and seconded that we receive all the letters and seat the Messengers and have their names enrolled in the Minutes.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Association then elected Elder W. H. Thacker Moderator, Elder Dan Adkins, assistant Moderator, Brother Stearl Hatfield, Clerk, Secretary and Treasurer, Brother J. E. Hatfield, assistant clerk.

Newly Constituted Churches called for, none reported.

Moved and seconded that we have the abstract of principles, rules of decorum, and constitution printed in the Minutes.

Messengers appointed last year to visit sister Associations reported and those unable to fill their appointments were excused.

Correspondence from sister Associations received and seated as follows:

Mt. Zion Association: Elders: A. L. Neely and Don Lilly.

Rockspring Association: Elders Charlie Littleton and Luther Bradley.

United Primitive Baptist of Virginia: Elders S. S. Walker, Ray Rotenizer and Allen Easter.

Union Association: Elders Lee Craiger and Jonah Stidham.

Visiting Brethren and Sisters received as follows:

Senter Association: Elders Dewey Roten, Tom Severts and Jim Walters.

Powell Valley Association, Brethren Robert Jackson, Johnny Jackson, William Slusher and Sisters Martha Slusher and Marjorie Jackson.

United Primitive Baptist Association of Virginia: Sister Ollie Walker.

Echeconnee Association: Elder C. E. Darity.

Rock Spring Association: Brother Arch Littleton and Wife and Elder Floyd Hall.

Mt. Zion Association: Elder J. R. Lilly and Elder F. C. Keadle and Wife.

By move and second that the Moderator make all temporary appointments.

A messenger from each Church together with all the messengers from the Dry Fork Church was appointed to arrange for the preaching at the Stand.

They reported for Saturday.

For the Introductory - Elder S. S. Walker.

To Preach: 1st, Elder Charlie Littleton; 2nd, Elder Allen Easter; 3rd, Elder Dewey Roten; 4th, Elder C. E. Darity.

Committee on arrangements was appointed as follows: Brethren Bradley Warrix, Frank Wheeler and Roland Dotson.

Committee on finances was appointed as follows: Brethren Monroe Justice, Frank Wheeler and Opa Thacker.

Messengers who agreed to visit Sister Associations are as follows:

Rock Spring Association, Elders Kit Ratliff, J. H. Blackburn and Sam Justice. Brethren Johnny Stiltner and Kinner Bevins.

Mt. Zion Association, Elders Frank Wheeler, Dan Adkins and Teddy R. Ball.

Powell Valley Association, Elders Opa Thacker, Don Hatfield and Frank Wheeler.

Senter Association, Elders J. H. Blackburn, Frank Wheeler and Teddy R. Ball, Brother Johnny Stiltner.

Burning Spring Association, Elders Teddy R. Ball and J. H. Blackburn.

United Primitive Baptist Association of Virginia, Elders J. H. Blackburn, Frank Wheeler and Teddy R. Ball.

Union Association, Elders Teddy R. Ball, W. H. Thacker and Frank Wheeler. Brother Roby Lewis.

Moved and seconded that the Association be adjourned until 9 o'clock Saturday morning.

SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST 31, 1963

The Association met pursuant to adjournment and was called to order by the Moderator. Prayer by Elder A. L. Neely of the Mt. Zion Association.

Roll called and absentees marked.

Committees on arrangements reported the following:

The Committee met in the Dry Fork Church House and was called to order by the Moderator.
to the association next year.

1. Committee advise that the Association appoint a committee to visit the Raccoon and Little Hope Churches and to offer any help they can toward settling their differences and to report

2. Committee advise the association that we have printed in our minutes that we welcome any and all orderly and peace loving Primitive Baptist.

3. Committee examined the work for Saturday and agreed the association carry on its work in the usual manner.

Moved and seconded the committee's work be accepted and that they be discharged.

Moved and seconded that we send a committee to the Raccoon and Little Hope Churches as the committee on arrangements advised. Appointed for Raccoon Church was the following: Brethren W.H. Thacker, Teddy R. Ball, Frank Wheeler, Bob Dotson and Stearl Hatfield, and that they should go on Saturday of their September meeting.

For Little Hope Church the following brethren: Teddy R. Ball, Dan Adkins and Bob Dotson and that they should go on Saturday of their September Meeting.

By move and second that we should add to our Constitution item 17 to read: We welcome any and all Orderly and Peace Loving Primitive Baptist to visit with us.

Finance committee reported \$234.00 and was discharged.

Committee on Preaching for Sunday reported the following:
For the Introductory, Elder Floyd Hall.

1st, Elder Don Lilly, 2nd, Elder A. L. Neely, 3rd, Elder Luther Bradley.

Called on Union Meeting appointees to report.

Union Meetings and their appointees are as follows:

Louisa Church, meets Friday before the second Saturday in August, 1964. Elders: Dan Adkins, W. H. Thacker, Frank Wheeler, Teddy R. Ball, Kit Ratliff and Sam Justice to attend.

Pond Creek Church, meets Friday before the second Saturday in June, 1964. Elders: Teddy R. Ball, Frank Wheeler, J. H. Blackburn and Dan Adkins to attend.

Big Creek Church, meets Friday before the third Saturday in August, 1964. Elders W. H. Thacker, Frank Wheeler, Kit Ratliff, Sam Justice and Dan Adkins and Guy Cambell to attend.

Raccoon Church meets Friday before the fourth Saturday in July, 1964, Elders W. H. Thacker, Dan Adkins, Kit Ratliff, Guy Cambell, Opa Tucker and Joe Thacker to attend.

Sulpher Spring Church, meets Friday before the first Saturday in August, 1964. Elders Kit Ratliff, Eli Estep, Dan Adkins, Frank Wheeler and J. H. Blackburn to attend.

Peter Creek Church, meets Friday before the fourth Saturday in June, 1964. Elders Teddy R. Ball, J. H. Blackburn, Frank Wheeler and W. H. Thacker to attend.

Little Hope Church, meets Friday before the first Saturday in July, 1964. Elders W. H. Thacker, Frank Wheeler, Dan Adkins, Teddy R. Ball, Joe Thacker and Kit Ratliff to attend.

Joppa Church, meets the first Saturday in June, 1964. Elders Dan Adkins, Frank Wheeler, Kit Ratliff and Joe Thacker to attend.

Grapevine Church meets Friday before the third Saturday in July, 1964. Elders Dan Adkins, Frank Wheeler, J. H. Blackburn, Guy Cambell and Kit Ratliff to attend.

Samaria Church meets Friday before the third Saturday in June, 1964. Elders Teddy R. Ball, Frank Wheeler, Dan Adkins, Sam Justice and J. H. Blackburn and W. H. Thacker to attend.

Little Union Church meets Friday before the first Saturday in May, 1964. Elders J. H. Blackburn, Teddy R. Ball, Kit Ratliff, John Fuller and Frank Wheeler to attend.

John's Creek Church meets Friday before the second Saturday in July, 1964. Elders J. H. Blackburn, Eli Estep, Frank Wheeler, Teddy R. Ball, Dan Adkins and Elonzie Blair to attend.

Calvary Church meets Friday before the first Saturday in June, 1964. Elders Teddy R. Ball, Opa Tucker, Fonso Justice, Kit Ratliff, John I. Smith and Eli Estep to attend.

Dry Fork Church meets Friday before the second Saturday in May, 1964. Elders Dan Adkins, Eli Estep, Teddy R. Ball, John

Fuller, J. H. Blackburn, John Looney and Elonzie Blair to attend.

New Friendship Church meets the Fourth Saturday in July 1964. Elders Frank Wheeler, Dan Adkins and Joe Thacker to attend.

Circular Letter called for, read, received and to be printed in the Minutes, and that Elder J. H. Blackburn prepare the next one

Agreed that we have 1250 Minutes printed and annex our Constitution, Rules of Decorum and Articles of Faith and the Obituaries of the following: Sisters Oma Smith, Catherine Thacker, Bertha Hackney Dotson, Dolly Blair and Lizzie Collins; Brethren Ellison Goff, Basil Deel, Green McCoy, John Mounts Milton Coleman, James Blackburn, Andrew J. Blackburn, William Henry Blair and Dell Williams, and the Memorial Page of the Pond Creek and Samaria Churches.

Agreed that the brother Clerk superintend the printing and distribution of the Minutes and that all funds left after paying for the Minutes and paying for moving of the seats be left in his hand until our next association.

The finance was disposed of as follows:

Balance left on hand from last year	\$276.65
Amount received from the Churches	234.00
Donations	49.50

Total Cash on hand	\$560.15
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Cash paid out:

Paid for Minutes	\$214.80
Paid for moving seats	20.00
Give Moderator	15.00
Give the Clerk	10.00
Give Correspondence	56.00
Total Cash paid out	\$315.80

Balance Cash left on hand	\$244.35
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Agreed that our next Association be held with the Grapevine Church at Phillis, Pike County, Kentucky, and to begin at 10 o'clock a.m., Friday before the first Sunday in September 1964, and that Elder Frank Wheeler is to preach the Introductory Sermon and that Elder Teddy R. Ball be his alternate.

Minutes read and approved, closed by prayer by Elder Teddy R. Ball, then adjourned until the time of our next Association.

Signed by:
ELDER W. H. THACKER, Moderator
ELDER DAN ADKINS, Asst. Moderator
BROTHER STEARL HATFIELD, Clerk
BROTHER J. E. HATFIELD, Asst. Clerk

SUNDAY MORNING, September 1, 1963

Singing and prayer by Elder Floyd Hall of the Rock Spring Association.

1. Elder Don Lilly of the Mt. Zion Association. Text: Titus 1:1. Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, etc.

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

3. Elder Luther Bradley of the Rock Spring Association. Text: Romans 5:17: For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which received abundance of Grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one Jesus Christ.

And after singing and much rejoicing the Association was closed out by our Moderator.

On behalf of the membership of the Association I wish to thank each and everyone that contributed in any way. I am sure that those that was blessed to enjoy the wonderful Preaching was paid many times over.

The Clerk

Evening Meetings:

Saturday Evening at the Dry Fork Church House. Elders Opa Thacker, Floyd Hall, F. C. Keadle, J. H. Blackburn and Teddy R. Ball.

Saturday Evening at Feds Creek Church House. Elders Jonah Stidham, Lee Craiger, Don Lilly, A. L. Neely.

Saturday Evening at Brother Joe H. Looney's home. Elders Opa Thacker and W. H. Thacker.

CIRCULAR LETTER

A few thoughts on Salvation by Grace, by Frank Wheeler
To the members and messengers of Mates Creek Association;

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6-23)

Because of the disobedience of Adam all died, and become enemies to God. Man in his fallen state is in total depravity. He cannot bring himself out of this fallen state no more than

he could have given himself life when he was cold in clay. After God had formed him out of the dust of the ground, the first chapter of Genesis teaches us the absolute dependence of man upon the great eternal, all wise, and all powerful God, for life and salvation.

The power of the most high God must move in his dark and disordered heart, and give him a new heart and a new spirit. The indwelling Spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ then enables him to obey from the heart, and bear fruit. (Gal. 4-6) Some thirty, some sixty and some a hundred-fold, and this fruit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance. (Gal. 5-22, 23)

These fruits of the spirit are not the cause of his being born again, but show that he is. He is no longer depending upon his own works for salvation. Being born again he believes in Christ, and the finished work of God through Christ; and believing he ceases from his own works.

Being married to Christ, and alive unto God, he is dead to the law. He serves in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter, and brings forth fruits of righteousness. He is delivered from the Power of Darkness; translated into the Kingdom of Christ.

The all giving and all sufficient Grace of the electing and justifying Father; the dying, redeeming Son, and the quickening, justifying Spirit shall abide with him through all his days, trials, and changes on earth. In the end, when beauty shall spring from the hidden clay, conform him entirely to the likeness of his Redeemer; dispell the last shadow of darkness and sorrow, translating him into the glories of an eternal Sabbath. There God shall wipe all tears from his eyes, and banish forever the evils of the earth, temptation, sin, sorrow, and death. He shall enjoy beauties, splendors, and joys never imagined on earth; and abide forever in the land of life and love, with all of those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life. There as Kings and Priests to God and His Father we shall reign forever and ever.

May God help us to live in peace and love; forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before. Ever looking to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith.

An unworthy brother,
Frank Wheeler

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF MINISTERS

W. H. Thacker, McAndrews,
Ky.

Teddy R. Ball, McCarr, Ky.
Phone 427-9886

Joe Thacker, Canada, Ky.

John Fuller, Canada, Ky.

W. H. Prater, Hardy, Ky.

Lonnie Warrix, Fishtrap, Ky.

W. N. Smith, Kimper, Ky.

J. H. Blackburn, Kimper, Ky.

Kit Ratliff, Kimper, Ky.

Phone 437-4815

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 3-7911

James E. McIntosh, Hardy, Ky.

Green Coleman, Millard, Ky.

Monroe Justice, Canada, Ky.

Phone EL 3-7679

V. V. Justice, Fishtrap, Ky.

Guy Campbell, Rt. 2, Pikeville,
Ky.

Eli Estep, Phelps, Ky.

Eldon Thacker, Phillis, Ky.

Opa Thacker, Cincinnati, Ohio

John I. Smith, Belfry, Ky.

R. P. Justice, Rt. 5, Louisa, Ky.

S. B. Justice, Paintsville, Ky.

Lonzie Blair, Steele, Ky.

John Looney, Grundy, Va.

Glen Vipperman, Kimper, Ky.

LICENTIATES

Homer Blackburn, Kelsa, Va.

Willard Dotson, Redjacket,

W. Va.

Clark Owens, Pinsonfork, Ky.

Don Hatfield, Toler, Ky.

Shorty Vandyke, Vanzandt, Va.

Paris Ramey, McCarr, Ky.

Church	Name, Address of Moderator	Communion Meeting
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Louisa—	Elder W. H. Thacker, McAndrews, Ky.,	July, 2nd Sat.
Pond Creek—	Elder Teddy R. Ball, McCarr, Ky.	June, 2nd Sat.
Big Creek—	Elder Joe Thacker, Canada, Ky.	June, 3rd Sat.
Raccoon—	Eld Dan Adkins, Huddy, Ky.	June, 4th Sat.
Sulphur Spring—	Eld. J. H. Blackburn, Kimper, Ky.	July, 1st Sat.
Peter Creek—	Elder Teddy R. Ball, McCarr, Ky.	June, 4th Sat.
Little Hope—	Eld. W. H. Thacker, McAndrews, Ky.	July, 1st Sat.
Joppa—	Elder Dan Adkins, Huddy, Ky.	June, 1st Sat.
Grapevine, Eld.	J. H. Blackburn, Kimper, Ky.,	July, 3rd Sat
Samaria—	Elder Teddy R. Ball, McCarr, Ky.	June 3rd Sat.
Johns Creek—	Elder J. H. Blackburn, Kimper, Ky.,	July, 2nd Sat.
Calvary—	Elder Teddy R. Ball, McCarr, Ky.	June, 1st Sat.
Little Union—	Elder Teddy R. Ball, McCarr, Ky.	May, 1st Sat.
New Friendship—	Eld. S. B. Justice, Paintsville, Ky.,	July 4th Sat
Dry Fork—	Elder Teddy R. Ball, McCarr, Ky.	May, 2nd Sat.

CHURCH AND MESSENGERS

Louisa—Elder W. H. Thacker, Brethren Abner L. Justice, Johnny Slone and Bradley Warrix.

Pond Creek—Elder Frank Wheeler, Brethren Ransom Scott, Andy Blackburn, C. C. Dotson, F. C. Runyon and Bob Dotson.

Big Creek—Elders Opa Thacker and Joe Thacker, Brethren Daniel Roberts, Daniel May, Luther Smith, Ireland Coleman and M. B. Blackburn.

Raccoon—Elders Fonso Justice, Dan Adkins and Monroe Justice, Brethren Morgan Coleman, George Coleman, George McCoy and Roosevelt Coleman.

Sulphur Spring—Elder J. H. Blackburn, Brethren Walter May, Junior Blackburn, George May, Edd May and J. B. May.

Peter Creek—Elder Eli Estep, Brethren Philip Dotson, Elliott Casey and Roland Dotson.

Little Hope—Brethren A. H. Blackburn, Will Runyon, Roy Ball, Lee Stiltner and Dewey Dotson.

Joppa—Sisters Ermie Varney and Virgie Stepp.

Grape Vine—Brethren Arvell Justice, Sam Lowe, Kinner Bevins.

Samaria—Elder Teddy R. Ball, Brethren Don Hatfield, Willie Hatfield, Stearl Hatfield, Richard Hatfield, Tilden Chapman and J. E. Hatfield.

Little Union—Elder Lonzie Blair, Brethren Edward Blair, Finis Slone, Oscar Blair, Earnest Blair, Curtis Deel.

Johns Creek—Brethren William I. Smith, Harvie Coleman, Taylor Coleman, Wilburn Coleman, Johnnie Stiltner and Arson Thornburry.

Calvary—Elders Kit Raliff and Glen Vipperman, Brother Roscoe Varney.

Dry Fork—Elder John Looney, Brethren Harrison Street, Ralph Street, Garland Childers, Joe H. Looney, Sam Barton and Shorty Vandyke.

New Friendship—Elder S. P. Justice, Brethren I. D. Preston and Robie Lewis.

DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES

Louisa—Bradley Warrix, Fishtrap, Ky.	75
Pond Creek—Bob Dotson, Hardy, Ky.	140
Big Creek—M. B. Blackburn, Canada, Ky.	100
Raccoon—Lawrence Morris, Raccoon, Ky.	100
Peter Creek—Roland Dotson, Stone, Ky.	100
Sulphur Spring—J. B. May, Kelsa, Ky.	50
Little Hope—Lee Stiltner, McAndrews, Ky.	50
Joppa—Ermia Varney, Hatfield, Ky.	25

Grape Vine—Stewart Justice, Fishtrap, Ky.	50
Samaria—J. E. Hatfield, McCarr, Ky.	125
Johns Creek—Noah Smith Jr., Coleman, Ky.	50
Little Union—Earnest Blair, Feds Creek, Ky.	40
Calvary—Roscoe Varney, Meta, Ky.	50
New Friendship—R. P. Justice, Rt. 5, Louisa, Ky.	25
Dry Fork—Garland Childers, Vansant, Va.	50
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	1030

MINUTES TO CORRESPONDING ASSOCIATIONS

Mt. Zion Association—J. R. Lilly, Box 136, Hinton, W. Va.	25
Senter—Earl W. Severt, West Jefferson, N. C.	25
Rock Spring—Elder Luther Bradley, 117 Blair Ave, Morehead, Ky.	25
Powell Valley—Charles Hensley, Pineville, Ky.	25
Mountain—Lon M. Reeves, Sparta, N. C.	25
United P. B. of Virginia—Elder Allen Easter, Hillsville, Va.	25
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	150
To the Clerk—Stearl Hatfield, McCarr, Ky.	70
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Total	1250

LOCATION OF ASSOCIATIONS FOR 1964

The Mates Creek Association will be held with the Grapevine Church at Phillis, Pike County, Kentucky. This is on the Pikeville, Ky.-Grundy, Virginia Highway.

Rock Spring Association will be held with the Little Perry Church in Rowan County, Kentucky and will begin Friday before the fourth Saturday in August, 1964.

United Primitive Baptist Association will be held with the Reed Island Church in Pulaski County, Virginia, and will begin Friday before the second Sunday in June.

Senter Association will be held with the Old Senter Church near West Jefferson, N. C., and will begin Friday before the third Sunday in August, 1963.

OBITUARIES

In Memoriam

The Churches listed below mourn together with the families for the loved ones who have deceased since our last association. We know by faith that they have ceased from their labors and are now at rest. Theirs is peace and silent sleep while we must travel on. We therefore resolve that their names and church homes be recorded in the minutes of this session in

sacred memory. May it be the Father's will to grant us grace to grieve not as those who have no hope, but be reconciled and bow in humble submission to His divine will.

Deceased

Pond Creek—Bros. Amos Runyon, Harrison Farley and Charlie Elswick. Sister Matilda May.

Samaria Church—Sisters Oma Smith, Doan Hogg, Victoria Chapman.

John Mounts

Brother John Mounts joined the Peter Creek Primitive Baptist Church Oct. 28, 1956, and was baptized by Elders Teddy R. Ball and Anderson Casey. He departed this life Thursday, May 23, 1963

He is sadly missed by the church and his many friends.

James Blackburn

It is with much sadness I try to write an obituary of My Dear Brother in Flesh and also a Brother in Christ. James Blackburn, born Aug. 8, 1895, deceased this life Aug. 2, 1963, making his stay on earth 67 years, 11 months and 2 days.

He was a son of Mrs. Polly Varney Blackburn, who also is deceased. And I feel that he has gone to sleep with Mother to await the Resurrection Morning. He was a member of the Primitive Baptist Church at Peter Creek. He united with the Church in May, 1961, and was baptized by the Elders Teddy Ball and Johnny Blackburn.

And I feel that the Church has lost a faithful member. He didn't get to go to Church like he wanted to because of his sickness. He leaves all of his friends and relatives to mourn his loss. But I feel and believe that he is resting from all his toils and labor awaiting the Resurrection of the body to go home and live forever.

Written by Sisters Virginia and Lena Blackburn.

Green McCoy

Obituary of Brother Green McCoy of Jamboree, Kentucky, about 81 years old. Deceased May 9, 1963. He was a member of the Primitive Baptist Church for several years.

He is sadly missed by the church, his family and his friends.

Written by Elder Eli Estep, Jamboree, Ky.

A. J. Andrew Blackburn

Born, 1886, deceased this life, 1963, making his stay on this earth 77 years. He was a member of Grapevine Primitive Baptist Church. He leaves to mourn his loss his wife, Perlle Blackburn, 7 girls and 4 boys.

The church has lost a good faithful member. The wife has lost a good husband and the children have lost a loving father. But we feel our loss is God's eternal gain.

Written by Elder J. H. Blackburn and Kenner Bevins
William H. Blair



The son of Danial and Dollie Blair was born Dec. 21, 1912. Deceased, Aug. 25, 1963, making his stay on Earth 50 years, 8 mos., 4 days. He leaves to mourn his loss 1 brother, 1 sister, and a host of friends and relatives. He joined the Primitive Baptist Church and was baptized June 7, 1959 by Elders Teddy R. Ball and John Fuller, in which profession he lived faithful as far as we know until death and we feel our loss is his eternal gain.

Dell Williamson



It is with much sadness that I try to write the obituary of my dear husband, Dell Williamson.

He was 77 years old. He was a member of the Primitive Baptist Church for many years. He is sadly missed by his wife and step-daughter and many friends. He had six children dead and five to mourn his loss.

We feel that our loss is his eternal gain.

Written by his wife, Maudia Williamson and Leo Coleman.

Catherine Thacker

Catherine Thacker was born August 20, 1892; departed this life July 27, 1963, making her stay on Earth 70 years, 11 months and 7 days. She was united in marriage to Willie Thacker, Aug. 11, 1909. To this union were born 14 children, 7 boys and 7 girls.



She is survived by her husband 6 sons, 4 daughters, 30 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, 3 brothers and two sisters to mourn her loss.

She united with the Primitive Baptist Church at Big Creek the third Saturday in Aug., 1936, and was baptized by Elders W. M. Stanley and W. H. Thacker. She lived a faithful member until death, always filling her seat when able. She was dearly loved by all who knew her, and we feel assured that our loss is her eternal gain.

Written by her nephew, Mordecai Blackburn.

Basil Deel

Basil Deal of Vansant, Va., was born Jan. 31, 1892, deceased Dec. 11, 1962, at the age of 70 years. He was married to Crissie Edwards Deel who preceded him in death, Dec. 29 1955. To this union was born five children, Virgie Vandyke, Edna Shortridge, Dewey Deel, Fern Scott and Kathleen Matney. He is survived by 19 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.



He joined the Dry Fork Primitive Baptist Church and was baptized July 30, 1961.

Written by Edna Shortridge.

Milton Coleman



It is with a sad and broken heart that we try to write the obituary of our father, Milton Coleman, who departed this life, March 10, 1963, making his stay on this earth 72 years, 11 months. He was the son of Aberaham Coleman and Litha Adkins Coleman.

Later he was married to Rosina Slone Coleman, who departed him in death July 6, 1937. To this union were born ten children. Four preceded him in death. Those surviving are Morgan Coleman, King Coleman, Homer Coleman and Marvin Coleman. Dad united with the church the second Sa'urday in September 1917 and lived a faithful member until death. He was a deacon of the Primitive Baptist Church for about forty years.

We feel our loss is an eternal gain.

Written by his sons, Morgan, Homer and Johnnie.

Dolly Blair



Dolly Blair was a member of the Primitive Baptist Church called Little Union. She was united with the Church July 7, 1959, and departed this life July 12, 1963. She was a faithful member until death. She loved her church and I know that God has blessed her for it.

She leaves 3 children and a host of friends to mourn her loss. We hope our loss is her gain.

Written by Elder Lonzie Blair.

Bertha Dotson



Bertha Hackney Dotson, the daughter of Albert and Ida Hackney, was born April 28, 1913, making her stay on Earth 49 years, 6 months, 17 days. She was married to Ralph Dotson 17 years. He was the son of Shurmar and Margie Dotson. To this union no children were born. She raised one child, Donnie Hackney. Bertha united with the Primitive Baptist Church on October 28, 1956, and was a faithful member until death. Always filled her seat in the church house. She was baptized by Elder Teddy Ball and Elder Johnnie Blackburn.

She leaves a dear husband and Donnie, 4 sisters, 5 brothers and Daddy. A great host of friends and relatives to mourn their loss. The church has lost a good member and we have lost a good sister. But we feel sure our loss is her eternal gain.

Written by her sister, Mrs. Haze Mae Smith, who misses her so much. She deceased Nov. 14, 1962.

Oma Smith



She was a member of the Samaria Church for about seventy years.

Deceased July 23, 1963. Age 97 years.

Lizzie Collins



She was a member of the Louise Church for many years.

Ellison Goff

It is with much sadness and love in our hearts that we write the obituary of Ellison Goff, who was born October 2, 1884 - deceased February 28, 1963. Making his stay on earth 79 years, 4 months and 26 days. He was the son of the late Martin and Rebecca Goff. He was married to Rebecca Slone. To this union were born seven children.

His wife and two daughters, Zettie and Fern, preceded him in death. He leaves two sons, Curtis and Cecil and three daughters, Mrs. Bertha Kendrick, Mrs. Alta May, and Mrs. Oma Justice, all of Raccoon, Kentucky, to mourn their loss, but we feel that their loss is Ellison Goff's eternal gain.

We feel that he is badly missed by the Raccoon Church and all who knew him for he attended our Church as often as any of our members. May God bless us all while we join in saying sleep on til we mee again.

Written by Elder Monroe Justice



CONSTITUTION

1. This Association shall be called 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.

17. We welcome any and all orderly and peace loving Primitive Baptist to visit with us.

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 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.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	CLERKS AND ADDRESSES	Rec'd by Baptism	Rec'd. by Letter	Rec'd by Relation	Restored to Fel.	Dis'd. by Letter	Excluded	Deceased	Tot. Membership	Sat. of Meeting	Contributions	Year of Asso.
Louisa	Bradley Warrix, Fishtrap, Ky.	2	—	—	1	1	2	2	67	2	\$ 20.00	1966
Pond Creek	Bob Dotson, Hardy, Ky.	12	—	—	—	—	—	4	141	2	25.00	1971
Big Creek	M. B. Blackburn, Canada, Ky.	—	—	—	—	3	—	2	58	3	20.00	1969
Raccoon	Roosevelt Coleman, Raccoon, Ky.	2	—	—	—	—	2	2	43	4	15.00	1972
Sulphur Spring	J. B. May, Kelsa, Va.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	52	1	10.00	—
Peter Creek	Roland Dotson, Stone, Ky.	6	—	1	2	—	—	5	90	4	17.75	1974
Little Hope	Dewey Dotson, Pinsonfork, Ky.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	34	1	10.00	1970
Joppa	Ernia Varney, Noland, W. Va.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	1	5.00	—
Grape Vine	Stewart Justice, Fishtrap, Ky.	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	33	3	15.00	1964
Samaria	J. E. Hatfield, McCarr, Ky.	6	—	—	1	—	5	2	145	3	25.00	1965
Little Union	Ernest Blair, Fed Creek, Ky.	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	26	1	15.00	—
John Creek	Noah Smith, Coleman, Ky.	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	49	2	15.00	1968
Calvary	Roscoe Varney, Meta, Ky.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	1	12.25	1967
New Friendship	R. P. Justice, Rt. 5, Louisa, Ky.	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	17	4	10.00	—
Dry Fork	Garland Childers, Vansant, Va.	6	—	—	—	—	—	1	24	2	15.00	1974
	Totals	36	1	4	4	4	12	23	798		\$230.00	

