

MINUTES
Of The
One Hundred Fifty-Sixth
Annual Session
Of The
ORIGINAL MATES CREEK
DISTRICT REGULAR PRIMITIVE
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
Organized in 1849

HELD WITH
FEDS CREEK PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH
Steele , Kentucky
September 5th, 6th, and 7th, 2008

Next session convenes with the Johns Creek Primitive Baptist Church located at 2253 Long Fork Road, Kimper, Pike County, Kentucky 41539, starting 10:00 a.m. Friday before the first Sunday in September 2009.

Directions to Johns Creek Primitive Baptist Church:
From Pikeville, Kentucky, U.S. 119 North 8 miles to Phelps/Kimper exit. At bottom of exit ramp, turn left on KY-194, go approx. 8 miles to Jct. KY-632; go straight on KY-632 4 miles to County Route-1758 (Long Fork Road); turn right on Long Fork Road, go 2.3 miles to church house on right. From Williamson, West Virginia, take U.S. 119 South to Phelps/Kimper exit, follow directions above.

OFFICERS:

Moderator Elder Randal Thornsberry
P.O. Box 154, Huddy, KY 41535 Ph: 606-353-9234
Assistant Moderator..... Elder David A. Thacker
2865 Stratton Fork Rd, Canada, KY 41519 Ph: 606-353-9887
Clerk..... Deacon Leslie D. Hatfield
8380 State Hwy. 1056, McCarr, KY 41544-8302 Ph: 606-427-7305
Assistant Clerk Deacon Lonnie Simpkins
HC 81, Box 40BC, Matewan, WV 25678 Ph: 304-426-8279

PROCEEDINGS

Of the One Hundred Fifty-Sixth Annual Session of the Original Mates Creek District Regular Primitive Baptist Association, held with the Feds Creek Primitive Baptist Church, Steele, Pike County, Kentucky.

FRIDAY MORNING, September 5, 2008

The Association was called to order by the Moderator. Prayer by Elder Jeff Dotson.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder Shawn Dotson. Text: "He shall save His people from their sins". Brother Shawn was well blessed to preach the eternal security of God's people by His foreknowledge and predestination, having saved them all at one time, in one place, with one price, freeing them from the curse of sin through the atoning blood of Jesus Christ.

Called for the letters from all churches. The letter from Feds Creek Church was read. Moved and seconded that we accept the letters and have the names of messengers enrolled in the minutes. Moved and seconded that Elder David Lee Jacobs serve as Moderator pro-tem for the election of officers. Moved and seconded that Elder Raymond Stanley and Deacon John Holyfield serve as Clerks pro-tem for the election of officers.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: The Association elected the following to serve for the coming year:

<u>ELDER RANDAL THORNSBURY</u>	<u>MODERATOR</u>
<u>ELDER DAVID A. THACKER</u>	<u>ASST. MODERATOR</u>
<u>DEACON LESLIE HATFIELD</u>	<u>CLERK</u>
<u>DEACON LONNIE SIMPKINS</u>	<u>ASST. CLERK</u>

Newly constituted churches called for: None

Moved and seconded that we have our 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 fulfill their appointments were excused.

Correspondence from Sister Associations received and seated as follows:

SAND LICK-VA: Elder Don Stacy, Elder Lawrence Jackson, Elder Noah Edwards, Elder Garnell Gilbert, Elder Arnold Childress, Elder Josh Viers, Elder Hoey Lester, Elder Buford Deel, Deacon Wayne Fleming, Deacon Fayne Viers, Deacon Jerry Stanley.

BURNING SPRINGS: Elder Elder Jerry Brown, Elder Wayne Hensley, Elder Rick Howard, Elder Jerry Howard, Deacon Boyd Keeton, Jr., Elder Doyle Keaton, Brother Roby Gullett, Brother Lowell Keaton, Brother Donnie Lykins, Brother Bill Salyers.

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT: Elder Eddie Lyle, Elder William E. Stephens.

LITTLE YADKIN RIVER: Elder Vance Jones, Elder Rodney Marshall, Brother Larry Sisk.

MT. ZION: Elder Tommy Pack, Deacon Raymond Wimmer, Brother Jimmy Clark.

WASHINGTON: Elder Danny Smith, Elder George Ben Combs, Elder Joe Edwards, Elder Darrell Davis, Elder Ked Stacy, Deacon Guy Fletcher, Deacon Clarence Childers.

UNION: Elder Roy Adams, Elder Dallas Adams, Jr., Elder Trillis Adams, Deacon Tommy Adams, Deacon Garry Adams.

FISHER'S RIVER: Elder Avery Branch, Elder Joey Jenkins.

PINEY GROVE: Elder Clarence Bowman, Deacon Osley Joyce.

SAND LICK OF KENTUCKY: Elder David Gambill, Elder Riley Grigsby, Deacon Troy Gullett.

Welcomed visitors from other Associations and various churches:

SAND LICK-VA: Deacon Clyde Colley, Deacon Jearl Sutherland, Chad Barton, Algrine Stacy, Bernard Owens, Carroll Edwards, Darrell O'Quinn, Roy D. Stanley, Jerry M. Stanley, Mae O'Quinn, Pat Viers, Lou Ellen Fleming, Freeman Edwards, Mae V. Wofford, Carra Sutherland, Garnet Duty, Macella Duty, Stella Colley.

BURNING SPRINGS: Deacon Paul Gullett, Darrell Nickell, A.B. Goge, Dollie Arnett, Betty Brown, Mary Sue Finch, Gloria Prater, Lisa Keeton, Alice Keeton, William E. Stephens.

LITTLE YADKIN RIVER: Sister Hulda Jones, Loedia Sisk.

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT: Ruth Stephens.

UNION: Bonnie Hampton, Jean Adams.

FISHER'S RIVER: None.

MT. ZION: None.

WASHINGTON: Deloris Stacy, Elsie Combs, Joy Combs, Marcia Davis.

PINEY GROVE: JoAnn Bowman.

SAND LICK OF KENTUCKY: Theda F. Salyer.

ROARING RIVER ASSOCIATION: None.

Moved and seconded that the Moderator make all temporary appointments. Elder Raymond Stanley, the Deacons from Feds Creek Church, Deacon John Holyfield, and Brother Otis Thacker, were appointed to arrange for the preaching. They reported the following:

- A. Friday afternoon at Feds Creek Church: Don Stacy, George Ben Combs, David Gambill.
- B. Friday night at Old Pond Church: Vance Jones, Paris Blackburn, Bill Stephens.
- C. Friday night at Peter Creek Church: Avery Branch, Mike Smith, J.C. Hager.
- D. Saturday morning at Feds Creek Church: Donovan Finch, Joey Jenkins, Garnell Gilbert, Vance Jones.
- E. Saturday afternoon at Feds Creek Church: Eddie Lyle, Arnold Childress.
- F. Saturday night at Big Creek Church: David Edwards, Richard Kirby, Paris Blackburn, Rodney Marshall, Randall Thornsberry.
- G. Saturday night at Samaria Church: Raymond Stanley, James T. Dotson, J.C. Hager, Michael Smith.

Committee on Arrangements was appointed as follows:

Ireland Adkins, Earl Scott, Bill Slone, Monroe Justice, Randy Kender, Ronald Moore, Raymond Stanley, Leon Adkins, Paul Varney, Ricky Blair, Carl Coleman, Wallace Vipperman, Vester Runyons, Arnold Hicks, Richard Justice, John Holyfield, James T. Dotson, Larry Slone.

Messengers who agreed to visit Sister Associations as correspondence are as follows:

SAND LICK-Virginia: Ronald Moore, Larry Slone, Estle Hackney, J.C. Hager, James Clyde Ball, Noah Slone, Timothy Slone, Paul Goff, Roger Deel, Barry Thacker.

UNION: John Jacobs, Onis Smith, Paul Goff, Noah Slone, Timothy Slone, Wade Smith.

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT: James Clyde Ball, Brian Moore.

BURNING SPRINGS: James T. Dotson, Paris Blackburn, Paul Goff, Noah Slone, Timothy Slone.

LITTLE YADKIN RIVER: Tom Chapman, Brian Moore, Wade Smith, James Clyde Ball, Barry Thacker, Paul Goff, Noah Slone, Timothy Slone, Monroe Justice.

MT. ZION: James Clyde Ball, Jeff Dotson, Shawn Dotson, Wendell Dotson, Lonnie Simpkins.

FISHER'S RIVER: Randal Thornsberry, David A. Thacker.

WASHINGTON: Wade Smith, James Clyde Ball, Brian Moore, Noah Slone, Timothy Slone, Paul Goff, Ronald Moore, Roger Deel, Tom Chapman, John Jacobs.

PINEY GROVE: Randal Thornsberry, John Jacobs, David A. Thacker, Tom Chapman.

SAND LICK OF KENTUCKY: Timothy Smith, Paul Goff, Larry Chapman, Noah Slone, Timothy Slone, Robbie Worrix, Barry Thacker, James Clyde Ball.

Moved and seconded that the Association be adjourned until 10:00 a.m. Saturday morning.

Saturday morning September 6, 2008 at Feds Creek Church house.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment and was called to order by the Moderator. Prayer by Elder David Coleman, Jr. Roll called and absents marked. Committee on Arrangements reported the following:

The Committee met at Feds Creek Church house, and was called to order by the Moderator.

#1. Recommend that we omit the reading of the letters from all the churches before the committee, except the letter from Old Pond Church. Old Pond requested discussion of appointment of all four messengers from each church to the committee on arrangements. Recommended that no change be made to the constitution of the committee on arrangements.

#2. Recommend that Big Creek Church host the Annual Meeting for 2009.

#3. Recommended that Johns Creek Church host the Association for 2009.

#4. Called for the circular letter written by Elder Jimmy Lee Smith. The letter was read and recommended for approval by the full body of messengers on Saturday morning.

#5. Recommended that the clerk have discretion to set aside as such as Seven Hundred Dollars for visiting ministers.

#6. Recommend that we carry on our work on Saturday in the usual manner.

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

Moved and seconded that our Annual Meeting be held with Big Creek Church, beginning Friday before the last Saturday in March, 2009.

Committee on preaching reported the following for Sunday:

Song and prayer by Elder Trillis Adams.

1.) Elder Rodney Marshall

2.) Elder Richard Kirby

3.) Elder Jim O'Quinn

4.) Elder David A. Thacker

Dismiss with song and prayer.

Moved and Seconded that the preaching committee be discharged after services on Sunday.

Called on Union Meetings appointees to report. They reported and those unable to fulfill their appointments were excused. Union meetings and their appointees for 2009 are as follows:

LOUISA: 16 Rocky Way, Pikeville, KY 41501

Meets Friday before the second Saturday in August, 2009.

Lundy Coleman, Paris Blackburn, Noah Slone, Paul Dean Justice, David A. Thacker, Ernest Blair, Jimmy Lee Smith, Elmer Thacker, David May, Randal Thornsby, David Jacobs, John Jacobs, Monroe Justice, Barry Thacker, Brian Moore, Raymond Stanley, Garnell Gilbert, J.C. Hager, Trillis Adams, Corbin Hampton, David Coleman, Jr., Shawn Dotson, Jeff Dotson, Onis Smith.

NOTE: A Memorial Day meeting will be held at Annie Young Cemetery, East Shelbyana, KY on May 25, 2009.

OLD POND: 167 Church House Hollow, Belfry, KY 41514.

Meets Friday before the second Saturday in June, 2009. Paris Blackburn, David A. Thacker, Randal Thornsby, John Jacobs, Michael Smith, Raymond Stanley, Frank Ball, Jeff Dotson, Shawn Dotson, Elmer Thacker, Onis Smith, Jimmy Lee Smith, Steve Kender, Larry Slone, Ernie Stump, Kenneth Chapman, Estle Hackney, David May, Walter Sullivan,

Michael Elswick, Arnold Childress, Noah Slone, Frank Baldrige. All orderly Primitive Baptist elders are welcome.

NOTE: A Memorial Meeting will be held the second Saturday and Sunday in May, 2009.

BIG CREEK: 394 Meathouse Fork Road, Canada, KY 41519.

Meets Friday before the third Saturday in August 2009.

Ernest Blair, Elmer Brown, Paris Blackburn, David Coleman, Jr., Kenneth Chapman, J.C. Hager, David Lee Jacobs, Monroe Justice, Brian Moore, Greg Moore, Larry Slone, Noah Slone, Jimmy Lee Smith, Michael Smith, Raymond Stanley, Barry Thacker, Robert Worrix, and all orderly Primitive Baptist Elders of the same faith and order.

NOTE: A Memorial Meeting for all deceased members will be held the 3rd Sunday in July, 2009.

RACCOON: 5174 Raccoon Road, Pikeville, KY 41501.

Meets Friday before the fourth Saturday in July, 2009.

Raymond Stanley, Barry Thacker, Estle Hackney, Noah Slone, Robert Worrix, Elmer Brown, Ernest Blair, Michael Elswick, Michael Smith, Randal Thornsby, Garnell Gilbert, Brian Moore, John Jacobs, David A. Thacker, David Lee Jacobs, Robbie Worrix.

NOTE: A Memorial Meeting will be held the 4th weekend in October, 2009.

PETER CREEK: 24 Smith Fork Road, Phelps, KY 41553.

Meets Friday before the fourth Saturday in June, 2009. Paris Blackburn, Shawn Dotson, Randal Thornsby, Elmer Thacker, Steve Kender, Michael Smith, Paul Varney, Jimmy Lee Smith, Jeff Dotson, Brian Moore, Micheal Elswick, James Clyde Ball. We also welcome all orderly Primitive Baptist Elders.

SULPHUR SPRINGS: 4092 Paw Paw Road, Hurley, VA 24620.

Meets Friday before the first Saturday in August, 2009.

Larry Slone, Estle Hackney, John Jacobs, Elmer Thacker, Ernest Blair, Paul Varney, Jeff Dotson, Randal Thornsby, David A. Thacker, Shawn Dotson, J.C. Hager, Paul Dean Justice, Noah Slone, David Jacobs, Raymond Stanley, Robbie Worrix, Jimmy Lee Smith, Steve Kender, Robert Worrix, Argel Kendrick, and all orderly Primitive Baptists are welcome.

LITTLE HOPE: 76 Left Fork Ball Fork Road, Pinsonfork, KY 41555.

Meets Friday before the first Saturday in July, 2009. Larry Slone, Estle Hackney, Walter Sullivan, Kenneth Chapman, Paris Blackburn, David Jacobs, John Jacobs, Robbie Worrix, Noah Slone, Paul Varney, David A. Thacker, Jimmy Lee Smith, Randal Thornsberry, Jeff Dotson, Shawn Dotson, Michael Smith, Michael Elswick, J.C. Hager, Steve Kender, and all orderly Primitive Baptists are invited to attend.

NOTE: A memorial meeting will be held the first weekend in August, 2009.

GRAPEVINE: 17519 Grapevine Road, Phyllis, KY 41554.

Meets Friday before the third Saturday in May, 2009. Elmer Thacker, David Coleman, Jr., Paul Varney, Elmer Brown, John Jacobs, Monroe Justice, Jimmy Lee Smith, J.C. Hager, Greg Moore, Dallas Adams, Jr., David Jacobs, Estle Hackney, Paul Dean Justice, Raymond Stanley, Brian Moore, Randal Thornsberry, David A. Thacker, Larry Slone, Trillis Adams, Michael Smith, Jeff Dotson, Shawn Dotson, Garnell Gilbert, Noah Edwards.

NOTE: A Memorial Meeting for deceased members will be held on May 31, 2009.

SAMARIA: 1722 Left Fork Blackberry Road, Ransom, KY 41558.

Meets Friday before the third Saturday in June, 2009. Michael Smith, Paul Varney, Jeff Dotson, Shawn Dotson, Larry Slone, Raymond Stanley, Walter Sullivan, Kenneth Chapman, J.C. Hager, Paris Blackburn, Jimmy Lee Smith, Randal Thornsberry, Noah Slone, Estle Hackney, Arthur May, James T. Dotson, James Clyde Ball, Jim O'Quinn, Don Stacy, Michael Elswick.

FEDS CREEK: Meets the first Saturday in May, 2009. We the Feds Creek Primitive Baptist Church of Jesus Christ cordially invite all ordained ministers and brothers and sisters of our faith and order to come be with us the first Saturday and Sunday in May at our communion and Memorial service of our deceased.

JOHNS CREEK: 2253 Long Fork Road, Kimper, KY 41539.

Meets Friday before the second Saturday in April, 2009. Paul Varney, Noah Slone, Steve Kender, Raymond Stanley, Robert Worrix, Michael Smith, Jimmy Lee Smith, Onis Smith, David Coleman, Jr., Paris Blackburn, Elmer Thacker, Kenneth Chapman, David May, Michael Elswick, David A. Thacker, John Jacobs, Randal Thornsberry, David Jacobs, Jeff Dotson, Shawn Dotson, Barry Thacker, Larry Slone, Brian Moore.

CALVARY: 631 Varney Branch Road, Kimper, KY 41539.

Meets Friday before the first Saturday in June, 2009. J.C. Hager, Shawn Dotson, Michael Smith, Robert Worrix, Paul Varney, David Coleman, Jr., John Jacobs, Ernest Blair, Noah Slone, Randal Thornsberry, Elmer Thacker, Onis Smith, Michael Elswick, Kenneth Chapman, Raymond Stanley, Greg Moore, Paris Blackburn, Walter Sullivan, Jeff Dotson, Steve Kender, Jimmy Lee Smith, Brian Moore and all orderly Primitive Baptists are welcome.

DRY FORK: 2782 Dry Fork Road, Vansant, VA 24656.

Meets Friday before the second Saturday in May, 2009. Noah Slone, Raymond Stanley, Paul Varney, Ernest Blair, Brian Moore, Robbie Worrix, Jimmy Lee Smith, Randal Thornsberry, David A. Thacker, J.C. Hager, Jeff Dotson, Michael Smith, Larry Slone, Frank Viers, Arnold Childress, Ked Stacy, Garnell Gilbert, Donald Stacy, Jim Duty, Jim O'Quinn, Shawn Dotson, Estle Hackney, Elmer Brown, and all orderly Primitive Baptist Ministers are welcome.

NOTE: Memorial service for all deceased members will be held on the second Sunday in July on Baldwin Mountain at the cemetery.

FRIENDSHIP: Bob's Branch, Thelma, KY 41260.

Meets the fourth Saturday in August, 2009. John Jacobs Greg Moore, Randal Thornsberry, Noah Slone, David A. Thacker, Walter Sullivan, Onis Smith, Paris Blackburn, R.T. Thacker, Barry Thacker, Raymond Stanley, Shawn Dotson, Jeff Dotson, Estle Hackney, Ricky Worrix, Robbie Worrix, and all orderly Primitive Baptists are invited to attend.

COLUMBUS: 599 Hilock Avenue, Columbus, OH 43207.

Meets Friday before the fourth Saturday in April, 2009. Robert Worrix, Randal Thornsberry, David Coleman, Jr., Noah Slone, John Jacobs, David A. Thacker, Onis Smith, David Jacobs, David May, Carmen Gillum, Robbie Worrix, J.C. Hager, Ernest Blair, Raymond Stanley, Greg Moore, Hesker Gillum, Elmer Thacker, Joshua Viers, Garnell Gilbert, Curt Heath, James T. Dotson, Todd Thacker, Michael Elswick, James Clyde Ball, Steve Kender, Ricky Worrix, Brian Moore, Gary Thacker. All other Mates Creek elders, brothers and sisters are invited to attend.

NOTE: A memorial Mmeeting will be held on Saturday, September 19, 2009, at the home of Arthur Coleman: 32991

Hagerty Rd. McArthur, OH 45651.

Our Annual Meeting will be held October 2, 3, and 4, 2009.

DEERFIELD: 4474 Center Road, Linden, MI 48451.

Meets 4:00 p.m. on fourth Saturday in June, and second Saturday in October 2009. Michael Elswick, Jim Duty, John Jacobs, Greg Moore, Noah Slone, David A. Thacker, Onis Smith, David May, Shawn Dotson, Robbie Worrix, Victor Quick, Jeff Dotson, Raymond Stanley, Paris Blackburn, James T. Dotson, Bob Mayhorn, Billy Cook, Randal Thornsby, Michael Smith, Estle Hackney, Larry Slone, Kenneth Chapman, Ricky Worrix, Johnathan Cook, Arnold Childress, Robert Thacker, Brian Moore. All orderly Primitive Baptist elders are invited.

NOTE: Memorial service to be held the second Saturday in October, 2009.

PLEASANT HILL: 615 Oakland, Urbana, OH 43078.

Meets at 4:00 p.m. the third Saturday in April, 2009. Michael Smith, Larry Slone, Shawn Dotson, David May, J.C. Hager, David Jacobs, Hesker Gillim, Carmen Gillum, Noah Slone, Lundy Coleman, Paris Blackburn, Estle Hackney, Raymond Stanley, Barry Thacker.

NOTE: A Memorial Service will be held the third Saturday and Sunday of October, 2009, beginning at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday.

NEW HOPE: 527 Pinsonfork Road, Pinsonfork, KY 41555.

Meets Friday before the fourth Saturday in May, 2009. John Jacobs, David Jacobs, Paris Blackburn, Onis Smith, Randal Thornsby, David A. Thacker, Elmer Thacker, Raymond Stanley, Michael Smith, Shawn Dotson, Jeff Dotson, Noah Slone, Paul Varney, Barry Thacker, Estle Hackney, Brian Moore, Arthur May. All orderly Primitive Baptists come and be with us.

Circular letter called for, read, received and to be printed in the minutes, and that Ricky Worrix is to prepare the next one.

Agreed that we have 1950 minutes printed, and annex our Constitution, Rules of Decorum, and Articles of Faith, and the obituaries of the following:

BROTHERS: Druey Mounts, Bobby S. Rowe, Sr., Dale Coleman, Hassell Ball, Harrison Smith, Virgil Williamson, Walter May, Edgar Ramey, Luther Ramey, Roger Dotson, Clayton Edwards.

SISTERS: Opal Sullivan, Mae McCowans, Bertha Easter Compton, Pearlie Maynard May, Ocie Coleman, Rachel Elswick, Jean West Thacker, Katherine H. Scott, Billie Joyce (Casey) Farley, Darlene Trout Muncy, Mary Ruby Coleman, Inez Winchester.

Agreed that the Brother Clerk superintend the printing and distribution of the Minutes and that all funds left after paying for the Minutes and other expenses of the Association be left in his care until the next Association.

The finances were dispensed as follows:

BALANCE LEFT ON HAND from last year.....\$6394.74

Amount received from the churches this year1767.50

Amount received for obituaries this year 260.00

Donations received this year 159.00

TOTAL CASH ON HAND \$8,581.24

CASH PAID OUT since last Association:

Paid for the 2007 Minutes\$2024.24

Gave Moderator 50.00

Gave Assistant Moderator..... 50.00

Gave Clerk 50.00

Gave Assistant Clerk 50.00

Gave Samaria Church to reimburse
for portable toilets..... 185.00

Paid for postage..... 23.98

Gave cash to visiting ministers 500.00

Paid for Supplies- directional signs 24.34

TOTAL CASH PAID OUT -\$2,957.56

BALANCE LEFT ON HAND September 6, 2008 \$5,623.68

RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:

Checkbook balance:\$3547.18

Cash and Checks to On Hand to Deposit:..... 2076.50

TOTAL FUNDS \$5623.68

Agreed that our next Association be held with the Johns Creek Primitive Baptist Church at Kimper, Pike County, Kentucky, to begin at 10:00 a.m. Friday before the first Sunday in September, 2009. Elder Jeff Dotson was appointed to preach the Introductory Sermon. Elder Paul Varney is to be his alternate. Minutes read, approved. Closed with prayer by Elder Raymond Stanley, then adjourned until the time of our next Association

Signed by Elder Randal Thornsby, Moderator
 Elder David A. Thacker, Asst. Moderator
 Deacon Leslie D. Hatfield, Clerk
 Deacon Lonnie Simpkins, Asst. Clerk

The Association gives thanks to God, and extends our love and appreciation to the brothers and sisters of Feds Creek Church for their hard work and love in their hosting of the Association.

SUNDAY MORNING September 7, 2008

INTRODUCTION: Elder Trillis Adams introduced the service with song and prayer.

1. Rodney Marshall
2. Richard Kirby
3. Jim O'Quinn
4. David A. Thacker

Dismissed with song and prayer.

CIRCULAR LETTER

By: Jimmy Lee Smith

Dear Brethren: It has fell my lot to write the circular letter for the 156th annual session of the mates Creek Association. I have prayed to be enabled by God to write unto the church, a letter that is edifying to God and to the church.

I hope this finds us in love and peace with each other. I have wondered a year what subject should I choose to write unto you: the Love of God bears most on my mind, for God is Love, (I John 4:8).

I know that by God's grace and mercy He called me out of the world. He gave me a new tongue to speak with. The things of the world that I loved, He killed me dead to, (praise God!), by His love and kindness and grace: nothing that I had done to deserve this.

Love is the greatest power of with any human being has knowledge. (John 4:7) Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God, and everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. (I John 4:8). He that loveth not, knoweth not God, for God is love.

In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because God sent His only begotten Son into the world that we might live through Him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation, meaning the removal of guilt by atonement, for our sins. We love Him because He first loved us. One of the greatest chapters in the Bible that deals with love to a great degree is the thirteenth chapter I Corinthians, 4:8. I yet get down in doubt sometimes and the valley seems deep. But through the years God has let me know that by His love and grace, if He be for me, who needs to be against me.

Let us go to the scriptural examples and see how strong love is again. The 8th chapter of Romans beginning with the 28th verse:

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love

God, to them who are the called according to His purpose." I believe this is to His people that He has called by His grace and love.

:29 "For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His son, that He might be the first born among many brethren."

:30 "Moreover, who He did predestinate, them He also called: and whom He called, them He also justified: and whom He justified, them He also glorified."

:31 "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?"

The scriptures in other places tell us that we are justified through His shed blood and by grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

In Ephesians 1:3 it says "Blessed be the God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ"; 1:4 "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"; 1:5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself according to the good pleasure of His will". 1:6 "To the praise of the glory of His grace, where He hath made us accepted in His beloved" 1:7 "In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins according to the riches of His grace".

Chapter 2:4-5 "But God, who is rich in mercy for His great love wherewith He loved us. Even when we were dead in sins He hath quickened us together with Christ, and by grace are ye saved."

I know that I need to close, but I have one more thing on my mind that I want to write to you about. I hope by God's grace this finds us still in the old paths and ways.

Jeremiah 6:16 says "Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls."

I find that man has tried to change the old paths and ways for many years. If they be the good ways, why change? If ye find rest for your souls, why would you want to change?

Everything God does is good and very good. He has never let man go wrong in anything. All the mistakes are in the man and he is the one that has sinned. Everything that's of God will stand and that of man will come to naught.

We have some today that call themselves Primitive Baptists who are not walking in the old paths and good ways. The God that calls an elder to preach the gospel doesn't need it to be taught by man or schools. He is still the same God that taught the brethren of old to preach Jesus, and He will teach the brethren of today, for God changes not.

Paul said in Galations 1:12 "For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ." (Praise God!)

God said to open your mouth wide, and He would fill it. God will fill your mouth with the truth of the gospel and it will accomplish that which it is sent to do.

Revelation 1:8 says "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end."

I hope this finds us in peace and love. I pray for you all, that God's grace and mercy be with you, and that your health will be good.

Your brother in hope

Elder Jimmy Lee Smith

MESSENGERS REPRESENTING THE SISTER CHURCHES

LOUISA: Ireland Adkins, Keene "Bud" Slone, Kenneth Slone, James Nichols.

Alternate: Rodney Worrix

OLD POND: Cecil Hatfield, Walter Rutherford, Earl Scott, Michael Scott.

Alternate: Elder Michael Elswick

BIG CREEK: Wade Smith, Lawrence Elswick, Bill Slone, Hursell Stevens.

Alternate: Elder John Jacobs

RACCOON: Monroe Justice, Otis Thacker, Joe Slone .

Alternate: Herman Coleman

PETER CREEK: Daris Kender, Randy Kender, Floyd Coleman, Randy Smith.

Alternate: Steve Kender

SULPHUR SPRING: Brian Moore, Ronald Moore, Author May, Estle Hackney

Alternate: Larry Mounts

LITTLE HOPE: Mitchell Blackburn, Raymond Stanley, J.B. Ball, Frank Ball.

Alternate: David Hackney

GRAPEVINE: Donald Justice, Leon Adkins, Paul Goff, Noah Slone.

Alternate: Argle Kendrick

SAMARIA: Berlin Dotson, Ernie Justice, Shawn Dotson, Paul Varney.

Alternate: Wendell Dotson

FEDS CREEK: Ernest Blair, Ricky Blair, Monroe Justice, Robert Worrix.

Alternate: None

JOHNS CREEK: James Clyde Ball, Larry Coleman, Junior Newton, Carl Coleman.

Alternate: Edd Hunt

CALVARY: Barry Thacker, Steve Bryant, Wallace Vipperman, Larry Chapman.

Alternate: J. Paul Chapman

DRY FORK: Harold Cline, Roger Deel, Vester Runyons, Darrin Compton.

Alternate: Estle Hackney

FRIENDSHIP: Arnold Hicks, Troy Wheeler, David May, Martin Childers.

Alternate: None

COLUMBUS: Lundy Coleman, Paris Blackburn, Arthur Coleman.

Alternate: Richard Justice

DEERFIELD: Harold Blackburn, John Holyfield, Danny May, Martin Ball.

Alternate: Daniel Jacobs

PLEASANT HILL: Greg Moore, Ballard Bryant.

Alternate: James T. Dotson

NEW HOPE: William Dotson, James Hackney, Kenneth Chapman, Larry Slone.

Alternate: Walter Sullivan

VISITING ELDERS

Jerry Brown 3 Muddy Branch Road, West Liberty, KY 41472
Roy L. Adams 110 Dallas Drive, Eolia, KY 40826
Dallas Adams, Jr. 968 Sergeant Rd,
Whitesburg, KY 41858-7841
Vance Jones 3460 Highway 268 East,
Pilot Mountain, NC 27041
David A. Edwards 179 Upchurch Lane, Lambsburg, VA 24351
Arnold F. Childress 15242 Peaceful Valley Rd.,
Abingdon, VA 24210-8114
Garnell Gilbert 6431 Hurricane Creek Road,
Vansant, VA 24656
George Ben Combs P.O. Box 1089, Lebanon, VA 24266
Trillis Adams 11 Angler Road, Eolia, KY 40826
Buford Deel 413 Contractors Ln, Haysi, VA 24256
Eddie G. Lyle 1521 Elliot Rd, West Jefferson, NC 28694
Donovan Finch HC-62, Box 795, Salyersville, KY 41465
Noah K. Edwards 7744 Scott Roberson Rd., Wise, VA 24293
Joshua Viers 22343, Greenspring Road,
Abingdon, VA 24210
Joe Edwards 659 Newberry Ridge, Clintwood, VA 24228
Riley Grigsby 50 Orchard Lane, Ary, KY 41712
David Gambill 344 Williams Branch Rd., Hazard, KY 41701
Rodney Marshall 1140 Old Orchard Road, Westfield, NC 27053
Danny Smith 141 Valley Crest Drive, Mt. Carmel, TN 37645
Avery Branch 202 Poplar Springs Rd., Elkin, NC 28621
Joey Jenkins 626 W. Mt, Herman Church Rd.
Elkin, NC 28261
Clarence H. Bowman 2086 Greensboro Street,
Lexington, NC 27295
Ked Stacy P.O. Box 65, Wolfard, VA 24658
Darrell Davis 140 Wampler Road, Bristol, TN 37620
William E. Stephens 11-W Obrecht Road, Sykesville, MD 21784
Hoey Lester P.O. Box 1744, Clintwood, VA 24228
Lawrence Jackson P.O. Box 226, Vansant, VA 24656
Don Stacy 27068 Rich Valley Road, Abingdon, VA 24218

CHURCH

Louisa
 Old Pond
 Big Creek
 Raccoon
 Peter Creek
 Sulphur Spring
 Little Hope
 Grapevine
 Samaria
 Feds Creek

Johns Creek
 Calvary
 Dry Fork
 Friendship
 Columbus
 Deerfield
 Pleasant Hill

New Hope

MODERATOR

Robert B. Worrix
 Michael Elswick
 Randal Thornsberry
 Paul Dean Justice
 Jimmy Lee Smith
 Brian Moore
 Raymond Stanley
 Noah Slone
 Michael Smith
 Robert B. Worrix
 Monroe Justice
 Paul Varney
 David A. Thacker
 Shawn Dotson
 Michael Elswick
 Lundy Coleman
 J.C. Hager
 Greg Moore
 James T. Dotson
 Kenneth Chapman

COMMUNION

Aug., 2nd Saturday
 June, 2nd Saturday
 Aug., 3rd Saturday
 July, 4th Saturday
 June, 4th Saturday
 Aug., 1st Saturday
 July, 1st Saturday
 May, 3rd Saturday
 June, 3rd Saturday
 May, 1st Saturday

 April, 2nd Saturday
 June, 1st Saturday
 May, 2nd Saturday
 Aug., 4th Saturday
 April, 4th Saturday
 June, 4th Saturday
 April, 3rd Saturday

 May, 4th Saturday

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF MINISTERS

Opa Thacker 2405 St. Rt. 131, Goshen, OH 45122
 513-625-7705
 Michael Smith 38 Cool Lane, Sidney, KY 41564
 606-353-7757
 Lundy Coleman 14230 Havens Corner Rd,
 Pataskala, OH 43062
 740-927-4603
 Elmer Brown Rt. 1, Box 476, Vansant, VA 24656
 276-597-8404
 Robert Worrix 1087 Burning Fork Rd., Pikeville, KY 41501
 606-432-1752
 Paul Dean Justice 4656 Raccoon Rd., Pikeville, KY 41557
 606-437-6937
 Elmer Thacker 948 Coeburn Hollow Rd., Huddy, KY 41535
 606-353-7106
 David Coleman 2497 Lower Pompey Rd., Shelbiana, KY 41562
 606-437-6829
 John Jacobs 16 Thornsberry Lane, Canada, KY 41519
 606-353-0622

Arthur May	P.O. Box 308, Hurley, VA 24620 276-566-7589
Paul Varney	95 Prater Drive, Pikeville, KY 41501 606-432-9942
R.T. Thacker	103 Stephens Road, Wellington, KY 40387 606-768-3894
Paris Blackburn	13290 Trenton Rd., Galena, OH 43021 740-965-1484
Ernest Blair	405 Laurel Fork Rd., Steele, KY 41566 606-835-4815
Walter Sullivan	P.O. Box 47, Pinsonfork, KY 41555 606-353-4753
Jimmy Lee Smith	Phelps, KY 41553 606-456-7827
J.C. Hager	7138 Brittwood Ln., Flint, MI 48507 810-232-4173
Noah Slone	842 Red Creek Rd., Pikeville, KY 41501 606-437-7551
David B. May	2155 Stratton Fork Rd., Canada, KY 41519 606-353-8045
Stirl Eddie Harris	4345 Long Branch Rd., Turkey Creek, KY 41514 606-237-4879
Greg Moore	8881 Canoe Dr., Galloway, OH 43119 614-870-6307
Onis Smith	2664 Meathouse Rd., Canada, KY 41519 606-353-9373
Randal Thornsberry	P.O. Box 154, Huddy, KY 41535 606-353-9234
David A. Thacker	2865 Stratton Fork Rd., Canada, KY 41519 606-353-9887
Michael Elswick	106 Stanley Lane, Canada, KY 41519 606-353-4207
Luther Minnix	2265 Murray Rd., Danville, MI 48819 517-623-6449
Lonnie Worrix	57749 U.S. Hwy. 50, McArthur, OH 45651 740-596-2539
Allen Coleman	Raccoon, KY 41557 606-432-6184
David Jacobs	4620 Pineridge Dr., Stow, OH 44224 330-929-7533

Monroe Justice	P.O. Box 74, Canada, KY 41519 606-353-7326
Richard Tucker	127 Raccoon Road, Raccoon, KY 41557 606-432-0245
Kenneth Chapman	P.O. Box 52 Pinsonfork, KY 41555 606-353-9292
Frank J. Ball	569 Ball Fork Rd., Pinsonfork, KY 41555 606-353-7542
James T. Dotson	9400 Crawl Rd., DeGraff, OH 43318 937-585-2955
Argle Kendrick	P.O. Box 3334, Pikeville, KY 41502 606-437-0602
Estle Hackney	325 Flannery Br. Rd., Mouthcard, KY 41548 606-835-0129
Raymond Stanley	2507 Road Fork Rd., Sidney, KY 41564 606-353-0810
Steve Kender	86 Cow Branch Rd., Phelps, KY 41553 606-456-0947
Junior Barton	2839 Grace Ave., Dayton, OH 45420 937-259-0944
Robbie Worrix	1111 Burning Fork Rd., Pikeville, KY 41501 606-437-6084
Todd Thacker	456 Pine Fk. Rd., Shelbiana, KY 41562 606-437-5320
Jeff Dotson	2275 Left Fk. Blackberry Rd., Ransom, KY 41558 606-427-9066
Shawn Dotson	2253 Left Fk. Blackberry Rd., Ransom, KY 41558 606-427-7274
Brian Moore	4777 Dismal River Rd. Oakwood, VA 24631 276-935-4360
Barry Thacker	747 Hurricane Rd., Kimper, KY 41539 606-631-9176
M Chalmer Bentey	4005 Brook Drive, Nicholasville, KY 40306
Ricky Worrix	201 Left Penhook Rd., Harold, KY 41635 606-478-5337
Larry Slone	P.O. Box 218, Hardy, KY 41531 606-353-7121
James Clyde Ball	P.O. Box 2586, Abingdon, VA 24212 276-628-6983

Rufford Howell 2892 Lowell Dr., Columbus, OH 43224
614-276-4730
Gary Thacker 404 Pine Fork Rd., Shelbiana, KY 41501
606-432-1663

Licentiates:
Rodney Worrix 230 Clay Lane, Richmond, KY 40475
859-619-1549

DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES TO CHURCHES

LOUISA	Rick Worrix, Assistant Clerk 201 Left Penhook Road Harold, KY 41635	80
OLD POND	Shelby Jean Hill, Clerk P.O. Box 001, Forest Hills, KY 41527	100
BIG CREEK	Wade Smith, Clerk 2003 Pigeon Roost Road Canada, KY 41519-8312.....	150
RACCOON	Jeff Belcher, Clerk 451 Pine Fork, Shelbiana, KY 41562	125
PETER CREEK	Randall D. Smith, Clerk 412 Staggerweed Fork Phelps, KY 41553.....	100
SULPHUR SPRINGS	Ronald Moore, Clerk 4527 Dismal River Rd. Oakwood, VA 24631-8751	50
LITTLE HOPE	Frank J. Ball, Clerk 569 Ball Fork Road Pinsonfork, KY 41555.....	60
GRAPEVINE	Timothy Slone, Clerk 1509 Biggs Branch Pikeville, KY 41501	60
SAMARIA	Leslie D. Hatfield, Clerk 8380 State Hwy. 1056 McCarr, KY 41544-8302.....	175
FEDS CREEK	Ernest Blair, Clerk 405 Laurel Fork Road Steele, KY 41566.....	60
JOHNS CREEK	Carl Coleman, Jr., Clerk 3243 Long Fork Road Kimper, KY 41539	85

CALVARY	Barry Thacker, Clerk 747 Hurricane Creek Road Kimper, KY 41539.....	75
DRY FORK	Ruth Maynard, Clerk Route 3, Box 198, Grundy, VA 24614	75
FRIENDSHIP	Martin Childers, Clerk Thelma, KY 41260.....	25
COLUMBUS	Sandra Harris, Clerk 14250 Haven's Corner Road Pataskala, OH 43062	75
DEERFIELD	Barbara Holyfield, Clerk 3033 Woodlawn St. Walled Lake, MI 48390	100
PLEASANT HILL	Durinda Barton, Clerk 2839 Grace Ave. Dayton, OH 45420	45
NEW HOPE	William Dotson, Clerk 95 Ball Fork Rd., Pinsonfork, KY 41555	40
		1470

DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES TO CORRESPONDENCE

MT. ZION	Deacon Randolph Miller, Clerk Rt. 1, Box 58, Union, WV 24983	25
UNION	Deacon Jimmy Webb, Clerk 47 Chevy Drive Jenkins, KY 41537	25
BURNING SPRINGS	Elder Jerry Brown, Moderator 11479 Highway 172 West Liberty, KY 41472.....	25
SAND LICK- VA	Deacon Johnny Viers, Clerk 286 Pleasure Drive Haysi, VA 24256.....	25
LITTLE YADKIN RIVER	Elder Rodney Marshall, Clerk 1140 Old Orchard Road Westfield, NC 27053.....	25
ST. CLAIRS DISTRICT	Deacon Blaine Owens 21 Diane's Way Bristol, VA 2420-2500	25
MOUNTAIN	Roy L. Truitt, Clerk 102 Gentry Street, Galax, VA 24333	25

FISHER'S RIVER	Elder Avery Branch, Clerk 202 Poplar Springs Rd. Elkin, NC 28621	25
WASHINGTON	Elder Darrell Davis, Clerk 140 Wampler Road Bristol, TN 37620.....	25
PINEY GROVE	Deacon Osley Joyce, Clerk 1491 K-Fork Road Madison, NC 27025	25
SAND LICK- KY	Victor Jones, Clerk 575 Bethel Church Road Hardshell, KY 41348	25
		275

DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES TO INDIVIDUALS

Moderator	Elder Randal Thornsby P.O. Box 154, Huddy, KY 41535	25
Asst. Moderator	Elder David A. Thacker 2864 Stratton Fork Road Canada, KY 41519	25
Clerk	Deacon Leslie Hatfield 8380 State Hwy. 1056 McCarr, KY 41544-8302	105
Asst. Clerk	Deacon Lonnie Simpkins HC 81 Box 40-BC, Matewan, WV 25678.....	12
	Vernon Napier 8519 Old Stage Road Waynesville, OH 45068	12
	Elder Arthur May P.O. Box 308 Hurley, VA 24620	25
	Mark Green P.O. Box 334 Booneville, AR 72927	

TOTAL MINUTES TO DISTRIBUTE 1950

OBITUARIES

DRUEY MOUNTS

March 16, 1935-November 20, 2007



With so much sadness in my heart and loving memories with God's help I will write the obituary of my dear father-in-law, husband, father and grandfather.

Druey Mounts passed away November 20, 2007, making his stay on this earth 72 years, 8 months, and 4 days. Born in Pike County, Ky., he was the son of the late Melvin and Vida Belcher Mounts. He was a resident of Buchanan County most of his life and attended Sulphur Springs Primitive Baptist Church. He was a devoted husband, loving father, grandfather, and great grandfather. He worked for many years for R & D Coal Company as a Superintendent in the coal mines for many years until his retirement.

Druey leaves behind to mourn his passing his wife of 42 years, Elsia Spencer Jackson Mounts; one daughter, Rebecca and husband Jeffery Allen of Home Creek; two sons, Larry and wife Lisa Mounts, and Randy Lee and wife Louise Jackson both of Hurley, Va. Two sisters, Phyllis O'Quinn, Wilmington, DE and Vinie Jean Dotson, Pike County, Ky. Also, 7 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

Druey was a friend to everyone that knew him. He loved his family and spending time with them. He was always willing to do whatever he could to help anyone that was in need. Druey, many years ago, helped rebuild Sulphur Spring church after the 1977 flood. He worked long and hard in life, never to complain. Druey loved spending time with his grandchildren, and loved collecting NASCAR's. We will all miss him; the house isn't the same anymore; there is one empty space at the table; a voice and a laugh that isn't there anymore, however, with the grace of God, our memories will remain with us forever.

Druey is sadly missed and someday I hope that we all can meet again on that homecoming day in the sky. All our loved

ones will meet; what a wonderful day that will be. I know that our loss is heaven's gain, but sometimes the loss is so painful, but we look to God to help us to ease the pain.

God saw you were tired and a cure was not to be, so he put His arms around you and whispered, "Come with me." With tearful eyes we watched you suffer and fade away. Although we loved you dearly, we could not make you stay. A golden heart stopped beating; hard working hands to rest/ God broke our hearts to prove to us it was your time to go and rest. We know you didn't want to leave but when God called, you had to answer. I know that you are well now with no pain or suffering, sitting on the right hand of Jesus, looking down.

Sadly missed by all who knew him, especially his children, grandchildren.

Written By Daughter-in-law Sister Lisa Mounts & Family

BOBBY SANFORD ROWE, SR.



Bobby Sanford Rowe, Sr., age 58, of Ivy Fork Road, Pikeville, Ky. was born February 23, 1949 and died January 2, 2008 at the Louisville Jewish Hospital from liver failure.

He was the son of the late Wilson Rowe and Jessie Gaynell Rowe Ford. Bobby was a U.S. Army veteran of the Vietnam War, a graduate of the University of Tennessee and completed one year medical school. He was a former construction worker and a substitute teacher. He was a member of the Raccoon Primitive Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by one son, Bobby Rowe, Jr.; two brothers: Larry Rowe and Jimmy Rowe; two sisters: Emogene Highbaugh and Louise Rowe.

He is survived by his wife, Jackie Kendrick Rowe; one daughter, Amanda Rowe Shafer, her husband, Sam Shafer; one granddaughter, Ava Shafer. He is survived by three brothers: G.G. Rowe, Ollie Rowe, and Danny Rowe; two sisters: Doris Ann Nunn and Sue Rowe.

Bobby was a wonderful husband, dad, grandfather, and brother. He had many friends and touched many lives with his kindness. He was always willing to share with family and friends in time of need.

Bobby always met everyone with a happy smile and handshake, even when he was not feeling good. He was so thankful to have so many family members and friends to visit him during the times he was in the hospital. He never failed to give God the praise for all his blessings. Bobby enjoyed being with people and telling them how much he enjoyed their visits.

Bobby's spirit has gone back to the Lord from which it came. I am looking forward to seeing him again in a place where there will be no more pain or sorrow and he will be free from his liver problems.

I miss Bobby very much and will always love him. I thank God for letting him be a part of my life. His memory will live in my heart forever.

Written by his wife, Jackie Kendrick Rowe

DALE COLEMAN

01-29-1965 08-25-2008



It is with a sad and broken heart that I try to write the obituary of my beloved son, Dale Coleman. Dale was born January 29, 1965, and left this life, August 25, 2008, making his stay on earth 43 years, 6 months, 27 days. He had lived in Elkhart County, Indiana for the past 20 years.

Dale was born to Joyce A. and James J. Coleman of Raccoon, Kentucky. His dad preceded him in death. He was also preceded in death by two brothers, James Dewayne and an infant twin who died at birth. Dale was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents Rufus and Jettie Goff of Raccoon, Ky., and by his paternal grandparents George H. and Ida Coleman of Lower Pompey, Ky.

Dale leaves to mourn, his mother, Joyce Coleman of Racoon, Ky. His wife, Sharonald, two sons, Joshua Dale and Bryton Dale of Coleman, Indiana. Two stepsons, Wesley and Matthew Weisser both of Indiana. Two brothers, Ronald (Lana) Coleman of Nashville, Tenn. And Donald Eugene (Gloria) Coleman of Mt. Juliet, Tenn. One niece, Amanda Coleman, two nephews, Jason and Jeremy Shell of Tenn. A host of aunts, uncles, and cousins.

We will miss Dale, but by the Grace of GOD, we will be together to live forever with our Lord and Saviour JESUS CHRIST.

GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

Written by his mother, Joyce Coleman

HASSELL BALL



In memory I hold of my dear brother in blood and Christ I sadly will try and put something in place for him that he would like to say, and that is the faith that he had in the Lord and he knew that the only way he would enter into the Kingdom of Heaven would be through the grace of the all mighty God Himself.

Brother Hassell was a member and deacon of Samaria Primitive Baptist Church. He fought a long hard battle with cancer. I remember hearing him say "Lord if I am to suffer let me suffer while I am here on earth." And I believe I knew what he meant, that when it was time for the Lord to call him home that he would rejoice in that heavenly home that the Lord has prepared for us and believe that his spirit is resting in the arms of Jesus along with many loved ones who have gone on before him.

Hassell Ball, 74, of Pinsonfork, Ky. Passed away Thursday, Nov. 1, 2007 at Hospice House in Huntington, W. Va. He was born March 21, 1933 at Pinsonfork, Ky., son of the late Martin and Dicy Wolford Ball. In addition to his parents, Mr. Ball was also preceded in death by one brother, Berlin Ball; two sisters,

Sophia D'Amico and Robena Epling.

He was a retired nurses' aide from Appalachian Regional Hospital. He was also a U.S. Army veteran, having served during the Kirean Conflict. He was a loving and devoted husband and father to his wife of 53 years, Mary Helen Stoots Ball and their two sons, Michale (Sheila) Ball of Cincinnati, Ohio and James (Michelle) Ball of Walled Lake, Mich. Other survivors include two brothers, Claude Ball of Pinsonfork, Ky. and Martin (Ann) Ball, Jr., of Howell, Mich; htree sisters, Josephine Mounts of Pinsonfork, Ky., Betty Williamson of Huddy, Ky., and Roberta (Tom) Sparks of Mesa, Ariz.

Also surviving are four grandchildren, Chris (Dawn) Ball, Steve (Krista) Ball, Becky (Steven) Riles, all of Cincinnati, Ohio and Patti Ball of Walled Lake, Mich. Also included are six great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces and nephews.

Written by Martin Bally, Jr. (Buddo)

HARRISON SMITH



I write the obituary with a sad and broken heart of my beloved husband, my best friend, my love, Elder Harrison Smith.

Harrison was born in Pike County, Kentucky on September 13, 1942. and departed his life when God called him home on Tuesday, September 25, 2007. Elder Harrison Smith was a retired Coal Miner and also an elder and a member of the Johns Creek Primitive Baptist Church of Kimper, Ky.

Harrison had a dearly beloved dad, the late William Ira Smith, and a precious mom, Bessie Coleman Smith.

He was preceded in death by 2 brothers and two sisters and has one brother and two sisters of now living.

Elder Harrison and Virginia Ann (Casey) Smith were married in 1965. We had three children. One son preceded in death was so precious, Kermit Smith, to our heart. And we have two other precious children living: Daughter: Ellena Lynn Smith and one son: Keith Edward Smith.

Harrison, I will always love ya. Of all the years we lived together, still time was just short. My heart still is broken and to lose someone like ya, we all know ya would not want us to mourn, but times we can't help it. We hope to meet ya in heaven.

Written by your wife with love, Virginia Smith

VIRGIL WILLIAMSON

Virgil Williamson, 86 years of age, passed away on Thursday, July 31, 2008, at the Williamson Memorial Hospital, Williamson, WV. He was a custodian for the Blackberry Elementary School and the University of Ohio in Columbus, Ohio. He was a member of the Samaria Primitive Baptist Church, where he was baptized on September 16, 2001.

Virgil was born on August 17, 1921, at Ransom, Kentucky, the son of Thomas and Maudie Coleman Williamson. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Magdalene Williamson, and a brother, Clinton Williamson. He is survived by two double first cousins, Rosa W. Wolfe of McAndrews, Kentucky, and Charles Williamson of Belfry, Kentucky, and numerous family members and friends.

Funeral services were held on Sunday, August 3, 2008, at the Samaria Primitive Baptist Church with Mike Smith, Jeff Dotson, and Shawn Dotson officiating. Members of the church served as pallbearers. Interment followed at the Williamson Family Cemetery at Ransom, Kentucky.

Submitted by: Rosa W. Wolfe, Charles Williamson

WALTER MAY



Walter O. May, 87, of Freeburn, died Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2008, at Cabell-Huntington Hospital, Huntington, W. Va.

He was born at Pinsonfork, Jan. 24, 1920, a son of the late Jeff and Nancy Ball May.

He was a retired coal miner and truck driver, a World War II Army veteran, and a member and deacon of the Primitive Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Letha Whitt May; two sons, James "Pit Stop" May and Teddy Smith; and several brothers and sisters.

He is survived by his wife, Martha May; two sons, Bud May of Owensville and Jimmy Smith of Phelps; three daughters, Nina Gail Varney of Canada, Jan Fannin of Phelps, Lonetta Hunt of Zebulon; two brothers, Bud May and Harold May, both of Canada; four sisters, Gertrude Blackburn, Jeanette May and Ruth Blackburn, all of Pinsonfork, Pricy Stanley of Canada; 14 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, and several great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 5, in the R.E. Rogers Funeral Home Chapel with elders of the Primitive Baptist Church officiating. Burial will follow in the May Cemetery, Ball Fork, Pinsonfork. Arrangements are under direction of R.E. Rogers.

EDGAR RAMEY



Edgar Ramey, 87, of Huddy, Ky., passed away Sunday, June 22, 2008 at his residence.

Born April 14, 1921 in Pike County, he was the son of the late Grover Cleveland, Sr. and Ocatvia Hunt Ramey.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by brothers Estil Ramey, Raymond Ramey, Paul Ramey and Luther Ramey who passed away four days after Edgar.

Edgar was a retired coal miner, a U.S. Army veteran of World War II and a member of Old Pond Primitive Baptist Church.

He is survived by a brother G.C. "Squire" (Carlotta) Ramey of Turkey Creek, Ky., and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were conducted at 11 a.m. Wednesday, June 25, 2008 at R.E. Rogers Funeral Home of Belfry, Ky. With Elder Mike Smith and Elder Raymond Stanley officiating. Burial followed at the Mountain View Memory Garden of Huddy, Ky. D.A.V. rites were performed by Chapter No. 141.

Cecil Hatfield, Kevin Varney, Edger Stanley, Jason Neade, Matthew Plummer, Ed Dotson and Earl Scott served as pallbearers.

Edgar is sadly missed by family and friends who love him.

Submitted by family and friends

LUTHER RAMEY

Luther Edsel Ramey, 85, of McAndrews, Ky., passed away Thursday, June 26, 2008 at his residence.

Born March 11, 1923 at McAndrews Ky., he was a son of the late G.C. and Octavia Hunt Ramey.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by five brothers, Estil, Raymond, Paul, Woodrow and Edgar Ramey.

He was a truck driver for Sanitary Bottling Co., a member of the Old Pond Primitive Baptist Church and a U.S. Army veteran.

He is survived by wife Mary Frances Stiltner Ramey of McAndrews, Ky., son Steven (Libby) Ramey of Stone, Ky., daughter Donna (Roger) Thornsby of Fayetteville, N.C.,

brother G.C. "Squire" (Carlotta) Ramey of Turkey Creek, Ky., two grand children and three great grandchildren.

Funeral Services were conducted at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, June 29, 2008 at R.E. Rogers Funeral Home of Belfry, Ky. With Elder Mike Smith officiating. Burial followed in the Mountain View Memory Gardens of Huddy, Ky.

Family and friends served a pallbearers.

Submitted by family and friends

ROGER "FRED" DOTSON

Roger was born on November 11, 1948 to Susie and the late Bud Dotson.

November 8, 2007, the Lord gave Roger his victory over cancer and received him home.

He was married to Joyce Hurley on June 26, 1971. They were blessed with three children, Ruby Maria, Roger Darian and Joey Douglas.

Roger united with the Johns Creek Primitive Baptist Church in March, 1995. He served as deacon

and trustee of the church.

Roger was a proud coalminer for twenty years. No one was a stranger to him and he wasn't a stranger to anyone. Everyone who met him knew what a "character" he was.

Roger's tricks and his outlandish tales were known as "fredding people." He could "fred" with the best of them-but couldn't stand for any "fredding" him.

As he journeyed through cancer, his faith in the Lord became stronger each day. Before he began his treatment for cancer, Roger asked the Lord for his healing. He said the Lord told him. "in My time and My way." Throughout cancer the Lord freely gave His love, mercy and blessings. Our Savior fulfilled his promise to Roger on Thursday, Nov. 8, 2007 @ 6:01 p.m. As we held his hand, the Lord gave him His healing and victory. He passed from death of this world into eternal life. He ran with Jesus into Heaven praising our God. Thank you God!



Roger's father Bud preceded him in death. He is survived by his beloved mother, Susie Dotson, his wife of 36 1/2 years, Joyce Ann, his children, Roger Darian, Joey Dotson, Ruby (Jimmy) Ratliff.

His grandchildren, who were the light of his life, Kaley, Madison and Emilee Ratliff, Justin and Brooklyn Dotson.

Brothers: Darryl (Linda), Gary (Patsy), David, Darnell (Janet), Bud, Jr. (Sherry), Jeff (Libby), Shawn (Lori).

Sisters: Nina (Roger) Birchfield, Glenn (Larry) Whitt, Annette (Billy) Chafin, Angie (Brian) Sturm.

He is also survived by a host of nieces and nephews and friends.

Stories will be told, tears and laughter will be shared. The influence Roger had on us and his memories will live on in our hearts for generations to come.

Through Christ our Savior, we will see him again.

Eulogy for CLAYTON EDWARDS

Written by Diann Owens



At the request of this heart-broken family, with God's help and with a sad heart, I will attempt to write this eulogy for Clayton Edwards of Warren, Michigan. Clayton was the son of Noah and Ella (Fuller) Edwards. Born July 16, 1922, in Dickenson County, Virginia, he fell asleep on February 16, 2008, making his journey in this weary land 85 years and seven months.

Clayton was a veteran of World War II, proudly serving his country in the United States Army. In 1946, Clayton married his first wife, Juanita Winston and from this union, three beautiful children were born, two sons: Gary Dennis (Denny) Edwards, and Joel Craig (Joey) Edwards; and one daughter: Vicki Lynn (Edwards) Wade. These children were the apple of his eye. He adored them and took great pride in being the best Dad he could be to them; always putting their needs first and foremost above his own.

After many years of being on his own, Clayton met Merle Edwards in Detroit, a lovely widow from the same beautiful hills of Virginia where they were both raised. From the very start, they had much in common. On July 23, 1978, they were united in marriage and were blessed to walk and travel side-by-side for almost thirty years, enjoying most of the years in Warren, Michigan. After they both retired from their jobs, they headed south for their winters in Palmetto, Florida.

Survivors in addition to his beloved wife, Merle, are two precious children: his eldest son, Denny (and wife Donna) Edwards of Madison Heights, Michigan; daughter, Vicki (and husband, Steve) Wade of Junction City, Kentucky; one step-daughter, Patricia (and husband Jerry), Hallmark of Grand Rapids, Michigan; two step-sons: Larry (and wife, Priscilla) Edwards of Westland, Michigan, and Keith (and wife, Cindy) Edwards of Oakland Park, Florida; three grandchildren: Kevin Thomas Wade, Joel Dennis (and wife, Amy) Wade, and Sarah Jeanette (Wade) (and husband, Brad) Coomer; four great-grandchildren: Emma, Landon, Kyra, and Tyler Wade; five step-grandchildren: Robin and Kristin Hallmark, Benjamin and Bartley Edwards, and Lori (Edwards) Adams; one step-great-grandson: Chase Edwards; plus many nieces, nephews, cousins, Sisters and Brothers-in-Christ, and friends far and near that loved him oh so dearly.

Preceding Clayton in death, in addition to his parents were his youngest son, Joey Edwards; two brothers, Ersel and Clifford Edwards; five half-brothers: Freddie, Trigg, Dorcy, Rodney, and Zola Edwards; and five half-sisters: Maude Edwards, Exie (Edwards) Crane, Clara (Edwards) Fuller, Opal (Edwards) Henning, and Hazel Owens Sutherland.

Clayton was a firm believer of "Old Baptist" doctrine. Loving our old-time preaching and singing dearly, he joined Pontiac Primitive Baptist Church in August, 1971 and was baptized by Elders Bob Mayhorn and Otis Buell. He was blessed to attend many churches of his faith throughout Florida, Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, and Tennessee as long as he was able, especially the Primitive Baptist Churches in Michigan: Good Shepherd in Livonia, Little Zion in Dearborn, and Deerfield in Deerfield Township near Fenton.

During a precious healthier season in their lives after retirement, Clayton and Elders Howard and Tommy Edwards and

Estel Owens would get together every Friday morning at the mall to take a walk and then talk about scriptures together as they had their morning coffee. Unmindful of their surroundings, they greeted each other with a loving handshake and a warm embrace, proud to be an "old Baptist," proud to be seen anywhere, anytime showing for the love they believed to be a gift that God Himself had placed within their hearts for one another and for His people. As you know, we don't always have to be in church to feel God's presence. He is everywhere and no place absent. Sure, it must have pleased God on those days to look down upon those dear Brothers-in-Christ as they sat together discussing the many wonders and mercies of our Heavenly Father. God is so worthy of praise and these men knew it. Great was their joy to be sharing that knowledge with one another and anyone passing by that stopped to listen.

Clayton touched the hearts of many throughout his lifetime, not just with warmth, kindness and compassion, but with his humor and zest for life. He loved mountain music and old-time hymns. He looked forward every year to going to the Edwards Reunion in Michigan and Virginia to meet with relatives and reminisce.

Clayton and Merle were always active at their local health clubs, conscientiously making every effort to keep physically fit. Here too, Denny shared many happy hours with his precious Dad, his closest friend. After Clayton's retirement, Denny had purchased a health club membership for his Dad. Clayton's response was "Son, you just wasted your money, I won't use it." But once he started going, he enjoyed it so much that he was at the health club every morning at 8:00 AM, six days a week for over twenty years. He made many friends both young and old and was admired for his abilities to do intense workouts. Here, he was nicknamed after the Indian "Cochise" because of the bandana he wore around his head and his flashy workout attire. He was respected by all for the man he was.

Whether we walked with Clayton on his journey through life as family or through friendship, I think each one of us can say from the depths of our heart it has been a wonderful blessing that we will always cherish. There is a storehouse of precious memories within each of us that we all hold dear. Even though loved ones must leave us, in the storehouse of our hearts they live on in each sweet memory.

To the family, the words from a beautiful old hymn come to mind: "Grace, grace, wonderful grace that comes from the Father above. May Jesus, our Savior, forever, I pray, hold you fast in the arms of His love."

OPAL SULLIVAN



With a very sad and broken heart, I'll try to write the obituary of my precious mother-in-law.

We all called her "Granny." She was like a mother to us all. She was loving and kindhearted to everyone. Granny loved to cook for her family and her friends. Anyone was always welcome at her home and table. She always wanted everyone there to eat with her.

Granny was born Nov. 8, 1922 at Kimper, Ky. She was the daughter of the late Pharoah Leedy and Jane Varney Ball. She passed away the 12th day of Jan., 2008, making her stay on this earth 85 years, 2 months and 4 days.

She was preceded in death by sisters Gayzola Varney, and Irene Fields. Also, brothers Clinton and K.P. Leedy.

Granny was a homemaker, loving wife and mother. She is survived by her loving husband of 65 years, Elder Walter Sullivan and 7 children. Sons: Bobby Sullivan, Walter, Jr. and wife Vicki, Frank and wife Connie. Daughters: Phyllis and William Dotson, Jane and John Bowersmith, Brenda and Konnie Chapman and Janet Sullivan. 10 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. Also, 4 sisters: Kathleen, Christine, Magaline and Lorraine, 3 brothers: Franklin, Truman and Robert and a host of family and friends. Granny will be forever missed, but she'll never be forgotten. She loved the Lord deeply and believed in the Resurrection of these, our bodies. Sleep on Granny; we'll meet in the morning when Jesus come for us.

Written by Elder Kennie Chapman

MAE RATLIFF McCOWAN

April 17, 1925-April 2, 2008



Our hearts are broken, and so very sad to have to write this obituary for our mother, Mae McCowan.

She was 82 years old, and was born and raised at Little Prater, but spend all her married life on Dry Fork, being a loving wife to daddy-Wesley McCowan, who went home to be with our Lord on March 19, 1987, and being the best "Mommy" anyone could ever ask for.

Mommy has left behind two daughters: Brenda Sue McGlothlin and husband Lee, and Mary Young and husband Larry, and one son: Leonard Wayne McCowan and wife Marsha, and four grandsons: Andrew Lee McGlothlin, Christopher Wayne McCowan and wife Tasha, Brandon James McCowan, and Joshua Edward McCowan, and two great-granddaughters: Kadence and Kayleigh McCowan. She also leaves behind one brother: Tollie (But) Ratliff, and two sisters: Lennie Quinley and Eunice Colman, and lots of nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents: William and Wincey Body Ratliff, one brother: Tommy Ratliff, and five sisters: Ida Matney, Margie Nickles, Gay Owens, Onie Bowman, and Rosie Ratliff.

"Mommy was a bouquet of flowers to us. She was always ready to "make things better" for us, and she was always there for us.

Her love of the Lord was like a lighthouse for us, and everyone who knew her, and she loved the Church-especially Dry Fork. But most of all, she loved the Lord. She grew up in a Baptist Church, and remained there all her life, being baptized in 1976. She was so loving, and she showed that love at home, at church and everywhere she went.

She always put everyone else before herself. God really blessed us when he gave us Mommy for our mother, and I think she was a blessing to the people who knew and loved her,

and she never, ever met a stranger. She always said that when she hugged you, she wanted to hug you so that you would know she loved you-and she did just that, and always had a smile.

God's love was like sunshine in her face, and she always brought sunshine. So, Mommy, words can never say how much you're missed here below. There's never one day that you're not on my mind. Everywhere I look, I see you. I see your flower pots, and garden gloves and straw hat, the things you painted, and bought to make your house a home. Your bed, dishes, clothes, and everything inside and outside reminds me of you.

You have left a treasure chest of precious, wonderful memories. And I know that my tears will continue to flow from missing you so very much, but I know those beautiful angels that you saw flying around over your bed, carried you home to Jesus, because you told us there were angels flying all around you and you were leaving here because you could see Jesus!

So I know where you are Mommy, and someday we will be together in paradise. Just wait for me! You'll always be in my heart, and never, ever be forgotten."

Written by daughter, Brenda McGlothlin

We love you, Mommy!

Lee, Brenda, Andrew, Mary, Larry, Wayne, Marsha,
Chris, Tasha, B.J., Josh, Kadence and Kayleigh

BERTHA EASTER COMPTON



It is once again we bow our heads in humble submission, to the will of our Heavenly Father, who has called from our midst, another beloved Sister in Christ.

Sister Bertha Easter Compton, the daughter of the late Floyd Morgan Owens and Allafair Q'quinn Owens was born April 12, 1925 and departed this walk of life on February 8, 2008 at Appalachian Regional Hospital in Hazard, Ky., being 82 years, 9 months and 3 days.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Grady Compton, a daughter, Karen Compton, a son, Gary Lee Owens, a granddaughter, Gardella, four sisters: Nancy Deel, Lydia Owens, Pearl Viers,

and Effie Compton. Six brothers: Rene Owens, John Owens, Jess Owens, Rufus Owens, Arvil Owens, and Earn Owens.

Survivors include two sons: Glen and (Donna) Compton of Athens, Tenn., Daren and (Crystal) Compton of Hindman, Ky., Two daughters: Shirley (Carl) Wilson of Gryary, Michigan, Lisa Compton of Hays, Va. One sister: Virtie Del of North East, Maryland. 9 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren, and several great-great grandchildren.

Sister Easter was a native of Buchanan County, but due to ill health , for the past years, she had resided with her son Daren in Hindman, Ky. She was a home maker and a member of Dry Fork Primitive Baptist Church for over 40 years. Sister Easter was blessed to have a host of relatives and friends who loved and enjoyed meeting her with that certain smile and impression of love that went with her wherever she was. She was ever kept, meek, humble, and faithful by that power of wisdom which God so freely gave her before she was born into this world. She was always present to fill her seat at church as long as her health would permit. She never swayed from this gift of love. She was ever kept in the faith no matter how low she felt or how sick she became. She was constantly looking to the good Lord for her strength to go on. In our hearts and minds, she stood out as a shining example of God's good ness and grace. Right now you children and family feel a void, an emptiness that is impossible to explain, but may you remember the lovely life that you have spent together. And cherish all the precious memories of mother as long as you live.

Somehow may the good Lord cause you to rejoice, Though death came at an unwanted hour, just remember that God was there in the stillness of the hour to cradle her to his bosom, while her spirit soared to the great beyond, there to sing around the throne of God, until he calls for the redeemed of his blood, to take them home where no sickness, sorrow, pain, nor death does not dwell.

May the grace of our Almighty God abide and comfort this loving family is our prayer.

Written by the request of the family by Bobbie Viers

PERLIE MAYNARD MAY



With the help of our Dear Jesus Christ we will make the attempt to write the obituary of our Dear Loving Mother; whom with the most beautiful smile on March 17, 2008 went home to be with her Lord Jesus. Mom's stay in this life was 84 years 11 months. We live in hope that one day we can see the beauty that mom saw the morning God took her home. Mom was ready to go and God knew she was tired and her suffering was great so he granted her with to go home to be with him.

Mom was born in Pike County Ky., April 15, 1923 to Harvey and Fanny Pauley Maynard whom preceded her in death. Mom was the wife of Deacon Daniel May who also preceded her in death. She was a member of the Big Creek Primitive Church and attended as long as she was able. Mom was a homemaker and raised ten children; 2 preceded her in death; one son, John Thomas May; one daughter Fay Smith. She leaves behind eight children : Danny L. May of Dearborn Hgts, Mi.; Burgess R. May of Pikeville, Ky.; Ellen Williamson of Mission Viejo, Calif., Virginia Blackburn of Sevierville, Tn.; Linda Caudell of Jeremiah, Ky.; one sister Bertha Doss of Virginia Beach, Va. Twenty-five grandchildren, many great and great-great grandchildren and a host of friends and relatives all of whom she loved very much. Mom, we know in our hearts you are at rest in Christ. Our hope is that one glorious day we can leave this world with that beautiful smile you had in the March morning when God called you home to be with him. Your suffering is over; your fight has been won; you left our hearts at peace knowing never again would you have to suffer. We miss you so much, but would not want you to suffer in this world again.

Written by the children

RACHEL FULLER ELSWICK

It is with much love and respect that we write this obituary of our mother, Rachel Fuller Elswick.

She was born Sept. 25, 1922 and she passed away August 15, 207. Mom's faith was always in the Lord, so on Mother's Day in 1995 she was baptized at the same church where her father was an Elder, the Big Creek Regular Primitive Baptist Church. Mom was preceded in death by her parents, Elder John (Poppy) Fuller and Annie Rowe Fuller, several sisters and brothers, 2 daughters, Mary Elizabeth Elswick and Judith Baker, one son-in-law, and several grandsons.

She is survived by her husband of 65 years, Lawrence, son, Jr. (Helena) Elswick, daughters Connie (Mike) Chapman, Patsy (Tom) Blackburn, and Madonna Williamson; 10 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and 1 sister, Ruth Blackburn, and 1 brother Zack Fuller, and a host of nieces and nephews.

She was a loving wife and companion, and she was a wonderful mother, not only to her children but also to all of those that knew her. Her kitchen was always open and her biscuits were known county-wide. You could always find a meal and you never left her table hungry. Mom always had a smile for you. Her love could be seen by that sparkling twinkle in her blue eyes and without saying a word you knew that you were loved. Mom is deeply loved and greatly missed. Although Mom has passed away, some of our favorite memories is seeing her sitting on her front porch swing, waving at everyone that went by. She loved spring, she loved her hummingbirds, and she loved her flowers. So we know in our hearts that if flowers grow in Heaven, then our Mother is a rose.

*If roses grow in Heaven,
Lord please pick a bunch for me,
And place them in my mother's arms,
And tell her their from me.
Tell her that I love her,
And when she turns to smile,
Place a kiss upon her cheek,
And hold her for a while.
Because remembering her is easy,
I do it everyday,
But there's an ache within my heart,
That will never go away.*

*obituary lovingly written by daughters Patsy Blackburn
and Madonna Williamson

RACHEL FULLER ELSWICK



Rachel Fuller Elswick, wife of Lawrence Elswick of Canada, KY, passed away August 15, 2007. She was born September 25, 1922 to the late John and Annie Fuller.

She is survived by 1 son, Lawrence Jr. (Helena) Elswick, and 3 daughters: Connie (Mike) Chapman, Patsy (Tom Blackburn, Madonna Williamson, all of Canada; 1 sister, Ruth Blackburn, Steele, KY, and 1 brother Zack Fuller of Whitehall, Ohio. She also leaves behind 11 grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces and nephews, family and friends. She

is also preceded in death by 2 daughters; Judith Baker, Mary Elswick, and 1 grandson, Scott Baker, and on son-in-law, Sidney Williamson, and several brothers and sisters.

Mom always had a twinkle in her blue eyes and when you were a guest in her home, you knew you would never leave without a smile on our face, a good cup of coffee, and a full stomach. That's what mom was known for; her special biscuits, her stove full of left-overs, and her smile. So, for all of this and more, she will be greatly missed.

By daughters, Patsy Blackburn and Madonna Williamson

JEAN WEST THACKER



With a heart left saddened beyond words, I will attempt to write the obituary of my dear twin sister, Jean West Thacker. Words cannot define what a wonderful person that God called from our midst.

Jean was born April 14, 1937 and passed on to be with the Lord on March 5, 2008. She was the daughter of Benton and Lola Thornsby West. Her husband, Ed Thacker was the love her life and they enjoyed 50 years of married life.

Besides Ed, she leaves behind

two children, James Russel Thacker and Wanda June Gatin; 4 grandchildren: James Landon and Ashley Thacker and Mandi Jean and Mallory Gatlin; 3 sisters: Joyce West Thacker, Jewel Alberter and June West Williamson (her twin); two brothers: Thomas Benton and Ronny Lee West.

Jean and Ed considered our children, Nicky Delmer, Johnny Jeanne, and Kelly as their own as we did theirs. We have many happy memories of raising our children together, sharing each others joys and troubles.

She truly loved the Lord and it was evident in the way she lived her life.

She was mostly confined to her home for the last 3 or 4 years. She enjoyed the little things in life. She found great pleasure in her little room upstairs where she sat by her window and looked out upon her landscaped hill and watch the many birds and squirrels feeding in the birdfeeders and birds nesting in the many birdhouses that she had built.

She was a kindhearted, compassionate person who loved everyone.

Throughout her confinement, she reveled in the joy of the Lord and spoke often of her many blessings.

We all miss her so very much and the void left in our hearts we will fill with the fond and loving memories of the past. Our loss is great, but we find comfort in knowing that her suffering is over and she is rejoicing in her new home.

Written by her twin sister, June Williamson

OCIE COLEMAN



Ocie Coleman, age 99, of Ransom, Ky., passed away June 26, 2008 at the Appalachian Regional Hospital in South Williamson, Ky.

Born February 25, 1909 at Ransom, she was the daughter of the late Andy and Viola Wolford Dotson.

In addition to her parents, she was also preceded in death by her husband, Butler Coleman, who passed away in 1955, and children: Cecil, Joe, Mary, Andy "Peanut", Eunice, Don and Minnie.

Ocie was a homemaker and a member of the Samaria Primitive Baptist Church. Survivors include 4

sons: Gary Coleman & Jim Coleman of Ransom, Ky.; Butler (Bee) Coleman of Taylor, MI & Jack Coleman of Omstead, MI; 4 daughters: Bonnie Madden of Dearborn Heights MI; Brenda Gail Bilitier of Harold, Ky.; Racine Bolen of Ransom, Ky., and Emily Phillips of Williamson, W. Va. Also surviving are 30 grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren, and a host of family and friends.

Mom will be missed dearly by her family and friends. She was both Mother and Father to her children for many years. She was a wonderful Mother. She was the "Best", and we all love you Mom, and miss you.

Written by her daughter, Bonnie Madden

KATHERINE LANGLEY HATFIELD SCOTT



Katherine Langley Hatfield Scott, 90, of McCarr, Kentucky, went home to Heaven, Thursday, October 4, 2007 at the Appalachian Regional Hospital in South Williamson.

Born November 6, 1916, at McCarr, Kentucky, she was the daughter of the late William Jefferson and Polly Margaret Runyon Hatfield.

She spent her life caring for her husband, children, family and feeding anyone who came near. Her apple pies, stack cake and tea were a favorite with all.

On October 19, 1986, she joined the Samaria Primitive Baptist Church of Ransom, Kentucky. She was baptized on November 16, 1986 with her husband, Dovil.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband, of 63 years, Dovil Scott; brothers: Estil, Clye, Robert, Guy, Bill, Earl and Anderson; sisters: Jeanette, LeEttie, Melda, and Ethel.

Dovil and Katherine were married on March 25, 1936 and raised 3 children; a son, Larry Anthony Scott and wife Margie, of Tallahassee, Florida; two daughters: Greta Jo Helms and husband Ken, of Munford, Tennessee; and Sheryle Leigh Sullivan and husband Bill, of McCarr, Kentucky.

Also surviving: faithful nephew, Leslie Hatfield and wife Glenna, McCarr, KY; five grandchildren: Larry Anthony Scott, Jr. and wife Simone; Michele Leigh Spoon and husband Chad; Michael Thomas Scott, James Kenneth Helms and Brianna Leigh Sullivan; four great-grandchildren: Chad Lee Spoon, Jr., Jordan Spoon, Mikayla Spoon and Skylar Scott; Sisters-in-law: Opal Hatfield and Theresa Hager, many loving nieces and nephews and a host of friends, all of whom will miss her dearly.

Officiating the funeral services were Elders Mike Smith, and nephew, Paris Blackburn; with Pastor Ron Page singing. Pallbearers were grandsons and nephews. Burial was in the Scott Cemetery of Mudlick, Hardy, Kentucky. We celebrated her life with a dinner at her home following the burial.

BILLIE JOYCE (CASEY) FARLEY



Billie Joyce (Casey) Farley, age 80 years of Huber Heights, Ohio, entered Glory Land on Monday, December 31, 2007.

There to greet her is her husband of 61 years, Bill W. Farley; also her parents, Ralph and Katie Casey; brother: Jack Casey and parents-in-law, Willie J. and Vicy Farley. Billie was born in Ransom, Kentucky on April 3, 1927. She and Bill moved to Dayton, Ohio in 1953.

Mourning her passing while rejoicing at their parents' reunion are their children, Ron and wife Kathy Lynn Farley, daughter Kathy Ellen Farley and daughter Judy and husband David Saylor. Grieving for the precious woman they call "Mimi" are their six grandchildren: Todd, Chad (& fiancé Megan) and Abby (& fiancé Rob) Farley and Katie, Erin and Caleb Saylor. Billie also leaves two loving sisters and brother-in-law, Joann and Vernon Napier of Waynesville, Ohio and Janice Eldridge of Silver Springs, Florida and three dear sisters-in-law, Vonice Henderson of Cincinnati, Ohio and June and Helen Catron both of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Billie is remembered fondly by her many nieces and nephews, friends and brothers and sisters in the Lord. Billie was a dedicated member of Miami Primitive Baptist Church and was devoted to her Lord Jesus. Se attended Pikeville College in Pikeville, Kentucky and taught third grade during W.W. II. Billie felt being a wife and mother was her career and she soared to the top of the field. She was secretary, seamstress, teacher, hostess, nurse, counselor and volunteer extraordinaire...and the most patient, loving woman her family has ever been blessed to know. She loved Jesus, her family, books, music, flowers and sharing the aforementioned with others. She was also very involved with and embraced by the Deaf Community through her daughter, Kathy. In memory of this very special person, take time to tell your family that you love them, hug them a little tighter and appreciate all that God has given.

Services held at Miami Primitive Baptist Church in Dayton, Ohio. Officiated by: Elder Paris Blackburn, Elder Tennison Dotson and Elder Hesker Gillum.

The Day God Called You Home

Author: Unknown

*God looked around his Garden and found an empty place.
He then looked down upon His earth and saw your loving face.
He put his arms round you and lifted you to rest,
His Garden must be beautiful, he always takes the best.
He knew that you were suffering; he knew you were in pain.
And knew that you would never get well o earth again.
He saw your path was difficult; he closed your tired eyes,
He whispered to you "Peace be Thine" and gave you wings to fly.
When we saw you sleeping so calm and free of pain,
We would not with you back to earth to suffer once again.
You've left us precious memories; your love will be our guide,
You live on through your children; you're always by our side.
It broke our hearts to lose you, but you did not go alone,
For part of us went with you on the day God called you home.*

Submitted by Joann Napier

DARLENE TROUT MUNCY

February 1, 1961 - July 25, 2008



It is with a sad heart that I will try to write the obituary of a dear friend, mother, and grandmother. I have been asked by the family to write this obituary, and I feel honored that they have asked, so with the help of God I will do my very best.

I knew Darlene for only a few years, and I saw her suffer with her illness. We prayed to God to heal her, but that wasn't his plan. I feel that he was with her all the way, even to the end, holding her hand. Darlene loved her children and grandchildren. She would always tell us about them every time we visited and always had a smile no matter how bad she felt.

Darlene was a resident of Pike County, Kentucky, and the daughter of the late John Jr. Trout and Louise Ann Anderson Trout. She was preceded in death by two sisters, Phyllis Varney Trout and Sarah Salmons Trout, and one brother, Ralph Trout.

She was survived by her husband Jerry Milton Muncy, two sons, John (Tina) Muncy and Roscoe Muncy. One daughter, Rachel (Russell) Burton. One brother, Curtis Glenn (Donna) Trout. Three sisters, Janet (Roscoe) McCoy, Shelby (Allen) Lewis, and Wanda (Wayne) Sparks. Four grandchildren: Cody Lee and Elisa Burton, Brandy and Felicity Muncy.

Darlene is also survived by a host of loved ones, neighbors and friends. Her loving memory will be forever cherished in the hearts and minds of all who knew and loved her. Her family will never forget her and will always miss her as there is a very special piece of their family missing now and they will never be able to let go of the love they still have in their hearts for her. There are not enough words to describe how empty her family feels without her. **YOU WILL BE MISSED GREATLY!**

Written for the family by Sister Lisa Mounts

MARY RUBY COLEMAN



It is with a sad heart that I try to write the obituary of my dear mother, Mary Ruby Coleman. She was born June 10, 1933. She was called home to be with Jesus on June 3, 2008 making her stay here 74 years. She was preceded in death by one daughter Dolly Marie and one grandson, Charles Andrew. She was the daughter of the late Taylor and Dorothy Coleman. She is survived by her husband Arnold Coleman of Elyria, Ohio. She leaves behind 6 children; 2 sons: Andrew of Tenn., Edward of Ohio. 4 daughters, Edith,

Ruby and Karen all of Ohio and Marie of Ky. 3 brothers and 3 sisters all of Ohio. She had 10 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. She leaves a host of relatives and friends that loved her dearly.

Mom was sick for 5 years. She suffered so. She loved her family so much and it was hard for her to leave them.

She's gone now and I miss her so much, but I know she's resting. Her heart was just to frail for her to keep fighting. Her work here is done now. Mom, you will be forever in my heart; I love you so.

Written by her daughter, Marie Stevens

INEZ WINCHESTER

Inez Winchester, age 89, of Belfry, Ky. Formerly of Newtown, W.V., departed this life on Tuesday, April 22, 2008 at Belfry, Ky.

She was born August 18, 1918 in Pike County, Ky., a daughter of the late Ferrell Thacker and Ethel Stiltner.

In addition to her parents, Inez is preceded in death by two sisters, Loretta Ritter and Gay Agatha Thacker; one brother, Don Thacker, and one nephew Billy Ferrell Cisco.

In addition to being a loving wife, sister, friend and neighbor, Inez was a homemaker and a member of the Old Pond Primitive Baptist Church at Belfry, Ky.

She leaves to honor her loving memory and mourn her passing husband Willard Winchester of Belfry, Ky. And a sister Lacy Cisco of Newtown, WV.

Honoring services were conducted Friday, April 25, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. at Chambers Funeral Services Chapel with Elder Mike Smith officiating. Burial followed in the Cisco Family Cemetery at Newtown, WV. Family and friends served as pallbearers.

Submitted by loving friends

CONSTITUTION

1. This Association shall be called the Original 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 baptized, 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, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and Assistant Clerk, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the messengers present, and that by secret ballot.

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 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 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 in the doctrine of eternal, personal and unconditional election; that the elect, or church, is and was and shall forever remain His body and fullness, 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 as 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. The Association shall have a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and Assistant Clerk, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the messengers present, and that by secret ballot.
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 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 give his light on the subject, except they break the Rules of Decorum.

11. Names of 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 willfully or knowingly break any of these rules shall be reprovved by the Association as they think proper.

ORDINATION OF AN ELDER OR DEACON

(Work of the Presbytery)

- 1st Organized by choosing Moderator and Clerk.
- 2nd Select one to question candidate.
- 3rd Select one to make prayer.
- 4th Select one to give charge.
- 5th Call for candidate from spokesman for church.
- 6th Examine candidate. Any one of the Presbytery has right to ask questions if he desires.
- 7th If candidate is found satisfactory, then proceed with prayer and laying on of hands.
- 8th Charge is now delivered.
- 9th Candidate is now returned to the spokesman for the church as an ordained Elder or Deacon.
- 10th Minutes of proceeding read, and approved.
- 11th Adjourn.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF THE ORIGINAL MATES CREEK DISTRICT REGULAR PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION													2008
CHURCHES	MODERATOR	CLERKS	Year Established	RECEIVED BY BAPTISM	RECEIVED BY LETTER	RECEIVED BY RELATION	RESTORED	DISMISSED BY LETTER	EXCLUDED	DECEASED	TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	SATURDAY OF MEETING	Contributions of each Church
Louisa	Robert B. Worrix, Jr.	Bradley Worrix, Jr.	1825	0	0	0	0	0	-1	-1	67	2nd	\$80.00
Old Pond	Michael Elswick	Shelby Jean Hill	1843	0	0	0	0	0	0	-3	48	2nd	\$125.00
Big Creek	Randal Thornsby	Wade Smith	1857	0	0	0	0	-1	-2	-2	62	3rd	\$150.00
Raccoon	Paul Dean Justice	Jeff Belcher	1820	1	0	0	0	0	0	-1	72	4th	\$125.00
Peter Creek	Jimmy Lee Smith	Randall Smith	1869	2	0	0	0	0	-1	-2	77	4th	\$125.00
Sulphur Springs	Brian Moore	Ronald Moore	1863	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29	1st	\$65.00
Little Hope	Raymond Stanley	Frank Ball	1893	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	38	1st	\$60.00
Grapevine	Noah Slone	Timothy A. Slone	1889	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	29	3rd	\$60.00
Samaria	Michael Smith	Leslie D. Hatfield	1890	3	0	0	0	0	-1	-5	181	3rd	\$175.00
Feds Creek	Robert B. Worrix Monroe Justice	Ernest Blair	1894	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	1st	\$100.00
Johns Creek	Paul Varney	Carl Coleman	1936	2	0	0	1	-1	0	-1	26	2nd	\$100.00
Calvary	David A. Thacker	Barry Thacker	1951	5	0	0	2	0	-1	-1	37	1st	\$100.00
Dry Fork	Shawn Dotson	Ruth Maynard	1962	1	1	0	0	0	0	-1	45	2nd	\$112.50
Friendship	Michael Elswick	Martin Childers	1925	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	19	4th	\$25.00
Columbus	Lundy Coleman	Sandra Harris	1967	1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	75	4th	\$100.00
Deerfield	J.C. Hager	Barbara Holyfield	1971	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	63	4th	\$150.00
Pleasant Hill	Greg Moore James T. Dotson	Durinda Barton	1972	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	36	1st	\$75.00
New Hope	Kenneth Chapman	William Dotson	1991	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	15	4th	\$40.00
18				15	3	0	4	-2	-8	-18	928		\$1,767.50

NIGHT, ODD SUNDAY AND OTHER MEETINGS

LOUISA: Odd Sunday.

OLD POND: First Wednesday night, Fourth Sunday night, Odd Sunday, New Year's Eve night.

BIG CREEK: First Saturday night.

RACCOON: None

PETER CREEK: None

SULPHUR SPRINGS: Odd Saturday night at 6:30 p.m.

LITTLE HOPE: Third Sunday night at 6:00 p.m.

GRAPEVINE: Fifth Sunday.

SAMARIA: First Sunday night.

FEDS CREEK: None

JOHNS CREEK: None.

CALVARY: None

DRY FORK: Fifth Sunday, New Year's Eve night.

FRIENDSHIP: None.

COLUMBUS: None.

DEERFIELD: None.

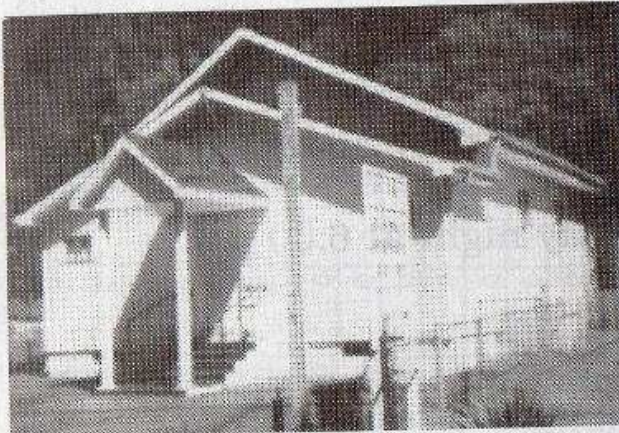
PLEASANT HILL: None.

NEW HOPE: None.



**FEDS CREEK
CHURCH HOUSE
1900 Feds Creek Rd.
Feds Creek, KY**

**SITE OF 2008
ASSOCIATION**



**BIG CREEK
CHURCH HOUSE
394 Meathouse Fork Rd.
Canada, Ky 41519**

**SITE OF 2009
ANNUAL MEETING**

Directions to Big Creek Church House: From Pikeville, KY, take U.S. 119 North toward Williamson, WV; Take Sidney exit, go straight on KY Route 2230, to Meathouse Fork Road; right on Meathouse Fork Road, go .4 miles to church house on the left. From Williamson, WV, take U.S. 119 South to Sidney exit; at bottom of exit ramp, turn left on KY Route 2230, follow directions above.



**JOHNS CREEK
CHURCH HOUSE
2253 Long Fork Road
Kimper, KY 41539**

**SITE OF 2009
ASSOCIATION**

Directions to Johns Creek Primitive Baptist Church: From Pikeville, Kentucky, U.S. 119 North 8 miles to Phelps/Kimper exit. At bottom of exit ramp, turn left on KY-194, go approx. 8 miles to Jct. KY-632; go straight on KY-632 4 miles to County Route-1758 (Long Fork Road); turn right on Long Fork Road, go 2.3 miles to church house on right. From Williamson, West Virginia, take U.S. 119 South to Phelps/Kimper exit, follow directions above.

