

The One Hundred Seventy Second Annual Session

October 09-10, 2020



Concord Missionary Baptist Church

HUNTINGDON, TENNESSEE

Southwestern District

Missionary Baptist

Association

www.swdmba.org

2020 MINUTES
OF THE
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY SECOND
ANNUAL SESSION
SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT
MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
HELD WITH
CONCORD
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
HUNTINGDON, TENNESSEE
OCTOBER 09-10, 2020
THE NEXT MEETING

to be held with New Hope Missionary Baptist Church in Carroll County, Tennessee, beginning on Friday before the second Sunday in October 2021, at 10:00 a.m.

2021 SERMONS

Introductory Sermon -----	Eld. Steve Sablan
Alternate -----	Eld. Lynn Stapleton
Doctrinal Sermon -----	Eld. Andrew Stokes
Alternate -----	Eld. Scott Carter

Concord Missionary Baptist Church History

Concord Missionary Baptist Church was organized on March 15, 1846. The following charter members were presented with full fellowship letters from Hopewell Church of Henderson County, Tennessee: John P. Weathers, Abraham M. Harper, David Cary, Ambrose Brown, Nancy Weathers, Mary Harper, Nancy Cary, Frances Weathers, A.M. Ridings, J.E. Cary, Priscilla Harper and Yack (a slave belonging to J.P. Weathers). Hopewell extended an arm and organized them into a church of the same faith and order by a presbytery consisting of John C. Martin, Pendleton W. Stark and Samuel T. Clark. Elder Pendleton W. Stark was elected as the first pastor.

Word of mouth passed down has it that the original church house was located across the road from the present church building where the Concord Cemetery is now located. It was made of logs and heated by an open fireplace. There is no record of what happened to the original building because the minutes are missing between 1870 and 1878. The minutes indicate that a new building was built sometime between January 1879 and September 1880 at a cost of \$475.28. It was to be used for “public worship and public free school.” This building was used until 1943 when it was torn down and a new one built on the old log foundation. The Church added Sunday School rooms to this building in 1971. A porch was added onto the front in 1972. Restrooms were added in 1977. The Fellowship Hall was completed in 1985. This church building burned on May 24, 1994. It was totally destroyed leaving only the Fellowship Hall which was not attached to the main building. Church services were held in the Fellowship Hall while a new church building was under construction. Through many donations of money and hours of work from members, friends and fellow churches, the building was replaced. We dedicated the new building to the service of the Lord on July 2, 1995.

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Order of Business






FRIDAY, OCTOBER 08, 2021

- Call Association to Order
- Appoint Committee on Divine/Hospitality Service
- Appoint Finance Committee
- Appoint Topics Committee for 2022 Session
- Appoint Obituary Recorder
- Reading Of the Rules of Decorum
- Call For Reception of Church Letters
- Call for Petitioning Church Letters
- Roll Call of Messengers
- Elect Moderator, Clerk, and Assistants
- Select Host Church for 2022 Session
- Select Brethren to Preach 2022 Annual Sermons
- Love Offering for Associational Missionary
- Introductory Sermon - 11:00 A.M.
- Call for Correspondence
- Call for Report on *How To Reach Out To A Lost World & Also Rebound From This Covid Virus*-Bro. Lynn Stapleton, Bro. Trey Crews
- Call for Report on *Sabbath-Breakers*- Bro. Andrew Stokes, Bro. Scott Carter, Bro. Clint Ezell, Alternate

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 09, 2021

- Roll Call of Messengers
- Call for report of Finance Committee
- Call for report of Obituary Recorder
- Call for report of Historical Committee
- Call for Report of the Topics Committee
- Report from Missionaries
- Doctrinal Sermon—11:00 A.M.
- Call for Report on *Revelers (verbal abuse, slander)*-Bro. David Leslie, Bro. Chris Wallace, Bro. Jeff Simmons, Alternate
- Call for Report on *Jealously (especially between Brethren-in the Kingdom of God)*-Bro. Randy Thompson, Bro. Truman Hedges, Bro. Arzell Douglas, Alternate
- Call for New Business
- Reading of the *Vote of Thanks*
- Song and parting hand

Elected Officers for 2020-2021

Moderator		<p>Bro. Ray Smith</p> <p>19950 East Main Street Huntingdon, TN 38344 (731) 986-4717</p>	Huntingdon Church
Assistant Moderator		<p>Eld. Andrew Stokes</p> <p>310 Westport Road Huntingdon, TN 38344 (731) 986-3738 andrewstokes@att.net</p>	Bible Grove Church
Clerk		<p>Eld. Scott Carter</p> <p>400 Chickasaw Drive Huntingdon, TN 38344 (731) 415-1688 cell clerk@swdmba.org</p>	Shiloh Church
Assistant Clerk		<p>Eld. Trey Crews</p> <p>45 Hwy 22 North Yuma, TN 38390 (731) 415-4745</p>	Huntingdon Church
Associational Missionary		<p>Eld. Dennis Lunsford</p> <p>19990 Hwy 22 North Wildersville, TN 38388 (731) 968-2842</p>	New Cross Roads Church

Friday October 09, 2020

We met together at Concord Missionary Baptist Church for the 172nd Annual Session of the Southwestern District Missionary Baptist Association. He then called on Bro. Josh Parker, Concord Church, to open us in prayer. The congregation sang, "Love Lifted Me" lead by Bro. Bobby Derryberry, Concord Church, with Sis. Kim Carter, Shiloh Church, playing the piano. The temporary moderator welcomed everyone and called the session together and read from Joshua 1:8-9.

Committee on Divine Service and Hospitality:

The moderator asked Bro. Josh Parker, pastor of Concord Church, to introduce this committee. He asked the deacons to stand and be recognized. The following deacons were introduced: Bros. Dennis Stokes and Bobby Derryberry.

The Moderator made the following appointments:

Finance Committee:

Bro. Larry Pritchard - Shiloh Church
Bro. Jason Howard - Oak Grove Church
Bro. Dennis Stokes - Concord Church

2021 Topic Committee:

Bro. Bryan Oakes (Chairman) - Pleasant Ridge
Bro. Randy Thompson - Cross Roads
Bro. Steve Sablan - Oak Grove

Obituary Recorder:

Bro. Andrew Stokes - Bible Grove Church

Moderator called on the clerk to read *Rules of Decorum*
Call for church letters was made and a call was made for petitioning churches; none came.

Roll call with 28 messengers

Motion and second was made to seat these messengers; **motion carried.**

The association then moved in to the election process.

Bro. Ray Smith, Huntingdon Church, was nominated as Moderator. **Motion and second** was made that nominations cease and elect by acclamation; **motion carried.**

Bro. Ray Smith assumed the role as the permanent moderator.

Bro. Andrew Stokes, Bible Grove Church, was nominated as Assistant Moderator, and being the only one nominated, a **motion and second** was made to elect by acclamation; **motion carried.**

Bro. Scott Carter, Shiloh Church, was nominated as Clerk, and being the only one nominated, a **motion and second** was made to elect by acclamation; **motion carried.**

Bro. Trey Crews, Huntingdon Church, was nominated as Assistant Clerk, and being the only one nominated, a **motion and second** was made to elect by acclamation; **motion carried.**

Four churches requested the Association to meet with them for the 2021 session. A **motion and second** was made to select New Hope Missionary Baptist Church in Carroll County as the host site; **motion carried.**

Bro. Steve Sablan, Oak Grove Church, was nominated to preach the Introductory Sermon, and being the only one nominated, a **motion and second** was made to elect by acclamation; **motion carried.**

Bro. Lynn Stapleton, Huntingdon Church, was nominated to be the alternate for the Introductory Sermon, and being the only one nominated, a **motion and second** was made to elect by acclamation; **motion carried.**

Bro. Andrew Stokes, Bible Grove Church, was nominated to preach the Doctrinal Sermon and being the only one nominated a **motion and second** was made to elect by acclamation; **motion carried.**

Bro. Scott Carter, Shiloh Church, was nominated to be the alternate for the Doctrinal Sermon, and being the only one nominated, a **motion and second** was made to elect by acclamation; **motion carried.**

The clerk read the correspondence and a **motion and second** was made to add the received correspondence in the minutes this year; **motion carried.**

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, a **motion and second** was made to omit the afternoon sessions on Friday and Saturday, and that the messengers be given a copy of the topics to be approved on Saturday; **motion carried.**

There were no visitors present to be recognized.

The **Historical Committee** reported that works continues on the website and bound copies is still an option.

Missions report was given by Bro. Scott Carter. He reported that Covid-19 has impacted the work going on in Jamaica. He also told about the work being done on the building in Craighead, Jamaica. He also reported on the Bible Study that is continuing at the University of Tennessee at Martin. He asked for any contacts of students there so he could reach out to them and encourage them to come.

Bro. Lynn Stapleton told that the folks in Africa had experienced a pretty serious outbreak of Covid, but the people are continuing on.

The congregation stood and sang “I Know I’m Saved” before turning the service over to Bro. Phillip Gullede.

Introductory Sermon

Bro. Phillip recalled being a messenger representing New Franks Chapel and attending this association in 1978 and 1979 and which was held at New Bethel Church and Independent Church (now Huntingdon Missionary).

He said for about 38 years, he did not attend the association but was thankful to attend as a messenger from New Hope in 2018. He recalled a message from Bro. Jack Hopper that was preached that let him know he was lost and that he needed to call on Jesus. It was at that time he believed with all his heart.



He read from I Timothy 4:12 and reminded us how Paul gave Timothy some encouraging words to apply to us today. Paul told him to let no man despise his youth. If there is ever a time to take a stand, it is now. The scripture warns us that the day is coming where evil will be called good and good will be called evil. We once could think these things were far off, but they are right here, and if we are not careful, they will be in the church house. He told the story about waking up this morning and reading his Bible while drinking his coffee.

While sitting there, he saw a bag of cookies. That bag of cookies had come from his grandkids while visiting with them earlier in the week. The grandkids told him to take some cookies because his wife always tells them to take something with them when they leave their house.

He was telling this because that is what we do spiritually. When we come to the house of God, we need to take something with us. We need to take something out to the world. Today he wanted to look at some men in the scripture that lived righteousness in an unrighteous world. Paul told young Timothy to be thou an example. Living righteousness is not always easy to do. The easy thing to do is to go right along with the world and blend in. We should be a light in dark times and be looking different than the rest of the world. In Jude verse 3, it tells us about a common salvation. But Jude said it was needful for them to contend for the faith and beware of ungodly men. In I Timothy 4:1, we are warned that people will depart from the truth. These are people that knew the true gospel yet left from it. You have to have something before you can depart from it. Churches are changing, but they must stay with the Bible and genuine way. We need to be careful with our children because that is where it all starts. In Proverbs, some scripture tells us a generation will come where they will not have any respect for their parents.

There is a generation that will live for the world and not for the Lord, which could very well be the times we are seeing.

The word of God is meant to encourage us and for us to draw strength from. He reminded us how Noah warned for 120 years while people were making fun of him and not believing anything he preached to them. Could you imagine preaching about something you have never seen? Genesis 18:17-19 God will command his children to keep the way of the Lord. That commandment still stands true today. Deuteronomy 6:5-8, 12 we are told love the Lord with all our might. We should remember that we are drinking from wells that we did not make, and we should not forget where our blessings come from. God is not only a God of love, but he is also

a God of wrath. To remain faithful to God, we must abstain from all appearances of evil and be doers of the word and not just hearers. We must know as Peter knew that flesh and blood did not reveal it, but God did. We need to call on Jesus as we contend for the faith.

After a few closing scripture and remarks, he turned the service back over to the moderator.

Bro. Smith was appreciative of the message.

Motion and second was made to adjourn until Saturday morning at 10:00 a.m.; **motion carried.** The moderator then called on Bro. Arzell Douglas, Cross Roads Church, to dismiss the Friday session.

Saturday, October 10, 2020

Bro. Ray Smith welcomed all that weathered the rain and came to Concord Church for the Saturday portion of the 172nd annual session of the Southwestern District Missionary Baptist Association. He called on Bro. Lynn Stapleton, Huntingdon Church, to open us in prayer. The moderator told how in 1944 he was saved in the old Concord Church and how that peace was still with him today. He read from 1 John 5:11-15 and emphasized how we can know we are saved.

He called the association to order and asked for a song, and the congregation sang "I Feel Like Traveling On," lead by Bro. Myron Kirk, Cross Roads Church, with Sis. Kim Carter, Shiloh Church, playing the piano.

Roll call was made with 29 messengers to be seated for the Saturday session. **A motion and second** were made to seat these messengers; **motion carried.**

The moderator called for the **Finance Report.** The report was read, and a **motion and second** was made to accept the report; **motion carried.**

Report of Obituary Recorder 2020

The surest thing about life is that it will surely find its end.

The Psalmist asks the question, "What man is he that liveth, and shall not see death? Shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave?" (*Psalm 89:48 KJV*)

We receive the answer to the question in Hebrews 9:27 "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:" (KJV)

Although the reality of death is dreadful, there is hope and joy from a risen Savior.

The Psalmist knew of this hope and wrote, "For thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling." (*Psalm 116:8 KJV*)

Because of Christ we who have that blessed assurance need not fear death. Many of God's saints throughout the Bible tell us of their desire to depart the sorrows of this world in favor of the next.

Paul told the church at Philippi how he felt about death, "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." (*Philippians 1:21 KJV*)

He also expressed well how we that rest in hope can give thought to our own mortality, "For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven: If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked. For

we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life." (2 Corinthians 5:2-4 KJV)

With this knowledge, we can celebrate death and rejoice for those who have gone on to their reward. Our hearts are heavy for we miss the joy they brought and the presence of their love. However, we needn't sorrow long. Through the mercy of God and the Blood of Christ, we shall see them again someday.

1 Corinthians 15:55-57 O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? **56** The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. **57** But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (KJV)

Remember also:

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." (Psalm 116:15 KJV)
Those that returned home this last year are: (42 total deaths including four deacons)

Humbly submitted,
Andrew Stokes

Topics committee gave the topics for 2021; **motion and second** was made to adopt; **motion carried.**

A motion and second was made to include the four topics in the minutes; **motion carried.**

The Association Missionary, Bro. Dennis Lunsford was elected to the office beginning January 1, 2021. **Motion and second** was made to elect him; **motion carried.**

No new business was brought up.

The clerk read the vote of thanks. **A motion and second** were made to approve; The time had come for the doctrinal sermon. The moderator asked for a song, and we stood and sang "I'll Fly Away" and "My God Is Real."

Doctrinal Sermon

Bro. Ray Smith introduced the one to bring the doctrinal sermon, Bro. Ryne Bivens. Bro. Bivens told of the privilege to be in the Lord's house. He asked for the prayers of the people. Through these trying times, we are grateful that God is always with us. He told about how he and Bro. Marcus Rickman had a topic at the association last year, and Bro. Marcus nominated him for this sermon. Little did he know that would be the last time he would see him.

Through Jesus, we have the victory in Christ. Bro. Ryne told how he was thankful for the scriptures. God wrote his word through men. In the Old Testament, they had to wait on God to speak to one of the prophets. The Bible is one of the most popular books purchased, and it is also one of the most misused. He titled his message "The Ultimate Source" and read from II Timothy 3: 14 – 17. In verse 14, we are reminded "continue thou." He told about the Spanish flu that hit in 1918 and caused great tribulation to God's people. During these dark



times, people are losing faith. God sends us a lot in the darkness that reminds us that we are a victorious people. The word of God is not meant to lay around but is intended to open up and apply it to our lives. When we open the word, it shows our love and devotion to the Lord. If we are going to have hope and peace, we must open the word. We call ourselves Christians, so we must be Christ-like. Jesus teaches us that if we love him, we will keep his commandments. He told us the importance of getting into God's word and making it our supreme rule.

Many people are showing up to church but not getting the full benefit. As God's children, we must give God a reasonable service. We are often afraid to preach good works, but our works are essential. Each morning we are presented to live the day for the Lord, or we can live it for the world. How much better are our days when we allow the Lord to be a part of it. He read from Romans 8:16. If people would read these scriptures and allow the Lord to speak to us, it would remind us that we are the children of God. God does not shape and mold us outside the word of God. The spirit testifies of these that belong to the son. The word of God is pointing to Christ himself. How many times have we said we love Christ but never open his word? But Paul told Timothy to continue doing so. In II Timothy 3: 15, he read and asked us how many were raised being taught the scriptures? Sometimes we get in the word and get lost in what is going on. Oh, what people are missing not getting into the word and losing sight of the world. Verse 11 teaches us God inspires all scripture. What if we did not have the Old Testament? Israel shows us a picture of the deliverance of our soul. Can any of us relate to neglecting the word of God? As soon as the Israelites got out of bondage, they rejoiced in the deliverance of God. He read verse 16 and reminded us we are to study the Holy Bible we read from our maker. What would our lives be like without the word of God? God's words are profitable. Bro. Bivens told how his generation did not abide by the word of God. If we get away from the word, we are getting away from our doctrines of God. Are we living in a famine for the word of God? It is possible that we are not listening, but it is also possible cause we are not speaking it. He closed by reading Luke 4:1-12 and told how Jesus was led into the wilderness. There is an example to us what to do when the devil comes. These scriptures were not written for God but men.


After a few closing remarks, he turned the service back over to the moderator.

Bro. Ray Smith thanked Bro. Bivens for his message.

Bro. Dennis Stokes thanked the association for understanding the church's request to limit our time here these last two days. He wanted to let the messengers know Concord Church was willing to do whatever the messengers wanted but thanked everyone for considering the church's request.

A **motion and second** was made to adjourn until October 8, 2021, at 10:00 AM at New Hope Missionary Baptist Church; **motion carried**. The congregation closed by singing "Victory In Jesus" after a few closing testimonies. We were dismissed in prayer Bro. Trey Crews, Huntingdon Church.


Bro. Ray Smith, Moderator


Bro. Scott Carter, Clerk

Vote of Thanks

The Southwestern District Missionary Baptist Association, its officers, and the messengers of this association wish to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to Concord Church in Carroll County for serving as host for this session. With so much uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, you were willing to open your doors and allow us to meet with you. Our fellowship is always needed, but this year seemed to be extra special. We last met with you in 2013, and it was a pleasure for us to meet with you once again and enjoy sweet fellowship one with another.

We thank God for Bro. Phillip Gullidge and his message on “Contend for the Faith” from I Timothy 4 and for Bro. Ryne Bivens and his sermon “The Ultimate Source.” We were once again blessed with ministers being lead of the Spirit.

I once again give thanks to the Topic Committee for their selecting the topics and the ones to prepare them. May we use this information for the spiritual growth of us all. Thank you for selecting topics that are food to our souls and that make us stronger in the army of the Lord. We are looking forward to hearing the topics next year.

I thank God for those who serve as the Finance Committee, and the Obituary Recorder, and a special thanks to Bro. Trey Crews for serving as the assistant clerk. These brethren make the work of the Clerk much easier.

May our Moderator and Assistant Moderator receive many blessings from God for their efforts to serve this association.

Our appreciation is offered to the members and friends of Concord Missionary Baptist Church for your hospitality. Again, we see evidence of Christ’s love for us being shown through the efforts of the Church.

As plans are underway for next year’s sessions, may we all pray God’s will be done with us all, as individual church members, as individual churches and as a united group of churches.

Please begin to pray for New Hope Missionary Baptist Church as she prepares to host the Association next year.

I anxiously await, if it be God’s will, the next session and look forward to meeting with all of you as we gather together at New Hope Missionary Baptist Church for the 173rd annual session on October 08-09, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. ready to receive another blessing from the Lord.

Under His wings,
Scott Carter, Clerk

To the Southwestern District Association of Missionary Baptist Churches, a report on:

The Necessity of Marriage Counseling!

Marriage counseling has always had an invaluable benefit. Two individual souls committing to spend the rest of their lives together is a momentous and holy occasion. It is certainly worth taking a moment to pause before taking that leap. That couple should examine the reasons they desire to be joined. They should honestly evaluate their expectations for their shared future. Most importantly, they should examine God's expectations for their commitment. His Word is always the greatest guide. There are more than enough scriptures to enlighten and challenge any couple willing to seek the Lord's wisdom. A marriage based on God's Word has the surest foundation and the greatest chance of weathering any storm.

In light of the influences of modern culture, we believe the necessity of marriage counseling is incredibly evident. Marriages continue to break up at alarming rates. There is an infectious spread of LGBTQ indoctrination. And, there is an assault by this current generation on whether marriage is even necessary. These negative influences make this subject extremely important and relevant for our time.

Currently in the United States there are 2400 divorces every day. We have all heard for years the divorce rate is more than 50% in this country. The good news is that number has decreased to approximately 45%. First marriages end in divorce at a rate of 42-45%. Second marriages end at a rate of 60%. And, 73% of third marriages also end in divorce. A shocking 25% of all divorces are referred to as gray divorces. That is the rate of divorce among 54 to 64 year old adults. It goes without saying; something needs to be done to correct this epidemic of failed marriages.

In the United States each state has marriage laws and requirements in place and those laws are being updated and modified frequently. Some years ago, the state of Tennessee began requesting, not requiring, premarital counseling. For the sum of \$99.50 (varying by county) couples can obtain a marriage license and get married in the State of Tennessee. By consenting to four to six hours of premarital counseling they can save \$60.00 of that cost. Not an earth shaking sum to be sure. Interestingly, applications for marriage licenses dropped when this action was taken, possibly indicating more couples are simply choosing not to get married.

The upside of Tennessee's new policy however, is that more ministers are taking the issue of pre-marital counseling more seriously. And, they have a financial incentive to encourage couples to participate.

There is an urban legend that tells of a parent taking a child out into the middle of a lake and casting them into the water with the challenge to "Sink or Swim." Brethren, no one does that. However, that is effectively what has been done when it comes to marriage. For years couples have come to the church or ministry with a request to get married and they were ceremoniously married and left to "Sink or Swim."

Growing up in a successful home with a loving father and mother is truly a bless-

ing, but a happy home life is no guarantee of future success for the children. Children experiencing a happy home life are a lot like being the passengers in a car. Children don't learn to drive an automobile that way. They do not pay attention to the directions. Many critical issues of life are left to chance and children do not learn what they need to learn by osmosis.

We are commanded in Proverbs 22:6 to "train up a child in the way he should go". We believe we must ask ourselves how well are we doing with that commandment? Jesus said in John 16:33, "In the world ye shall have tribulation." We, like Israel are painfully and laboriously making our way through a wilderness of sin where secular influences and evils of every kind abound. One or two hours of church cannot possibly counteract these powerful forces nor prepare anyone for life in this wilderness.

Marriage counseling should be regular instructions in church for the married and the unmarried. As difficult as this may sound, sex education should also be regular instructions in church. Every Christian parent should realize their children will receive this instruction somewhere. More often than not they will receive it in the wrong places.

Pastors especially and Sunday school teachers should follow Paul's instructions in 2 Tim 2:15 to "study to show thyself approved of God". We should all be prepared, self educated and willing to counsel with married couples in crisis and with other couples about to enter into a marriage relationship. No matter what the state requirements are, as ministers of the Gospel and servants of the most High God we should recognize the responsibility and the incredible opportunity marriage counseling presents. In marriage counseling, there is a wonderful opportunity to witness to the young and old and teach them about the necessity of Christ and salvation. There is the added opportunity to tell them about the benefits of a Christ centered life and fellowship in the church.

Marriage counseling also provides the perfect occasion to engage young couples in discipleship training.

There are numerous resources that may be easily obtained in book form or online. Pastoral counseling courses are also available. As ministers, we should all be willing to share any useful tools we have collected through the years to assist one another in fulfilling our calling and providing this much needed service to our churches, friends and families.

In closing, this subject harkens back to an oft repeated topic of this grand old Association and other Associations as well. Christian Education has never been more needed than now. Our dear Savior's great commission to the church included teaching every believer all things Christ commanded. An enormous task, but our God gives grace upon grace for every need.

Sincerely submitted, Bro. Lynn Stapleton Bro. Andrew Stokes

The Importance of Studying Through Bible Study and Sunday School

Is Bible study important? That question can be answered like the question is eating important? Obviously it is, the concern would be what do we consume. We understand the importance of eating foods that help us grow to enable us to accomplish our daily goals. As infants born into this world, we had someone feed us because we were unable to feed ourselves. I Peter 1:2 says, “As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that you may grow thereby.”

Bible study is important because we love the Word and want to grow. Psalm 119:97 says, “O how I love thy law! It is my meditation all the day.” As believers, we ought to love God’s Word! It should be food for us that we need every day of our lives. One of the reasons that we love it is that it helps us to grow and feel healthy.

What we learn is what we teach. In Matthew 28:19, Jesus instructs us to “teach all nations.” To teach means to be a disciple and to make disciples. To the Greeks, this word typically described someone who was learning a trade like building ships, or masonry work. In philosophy, it describes a person who had a relationship with the teacher.

Remember a time when you were a disciple (one learning)? One of the greatest examples of this is seen in the account of Elisha, and how he was a disciple of Elijah. Elisha had an appointment for a double portion, but first he must offer himself as a servant to Elijah before he could perform these miracles (I Kings 19:19-21). Without becoming a servant, he would have remained a farmer. Three times Elijah asked Elisha to stay behind, each time was swiftly refused to leave his side. Elisha began to work with Elijah until the time had come for Elijah to leave and the mantle would be to Elisha (II Kings 2).

Currently, some have found themselves in a position of Elisha. They were taught by a Godly person, now that Godly person is not with them. As overwhelming as that can seem, we have God's presence (the mantle) with us.

Bible Study is a way of teaching God’s purpose in salvation and our lives. It is the prayer of this committee that churches use the Bible as a basis for study during Sunday School and during mid-week services. Remember, we are not just teaching anything, we are teaching absolute truths that will lead a sinner to Christ and edify the Kingdom of God.

These teachings are presented in a curriculum by spiritually mature teachers. The teacher should be someone reputable and that can lead by example as well as in a lesson. Along with the Bible, many churches use literature that is aimed at certain age groups. Do we use a specific literature because it is cheaper? What about one that has nice puzzles? With an abundance of literature available, we must never underestimate the necessity to offer literature that is sound.

Last and certainly not least, the ultimate task that Sunday school strives to meet is to help its students answer God's Call to Christian living. Living a Christian life does not come automatically. It comes through prayer, study, worship, and learning together. In John 8:31–32, Jesus says it to His Jewish followers this way, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." Abiding in Jesus's word is a poetic way of reminding us to be a students that is continually learning.

We firmly believe that one of the keys to growing a Sunday School class is vibrant fellowship. Spontaneous and intentional fellowship are an essential function for all Sunday School classes in the assimilation of prospects into the life of Sunday School and the church. Read the topic from 1946.

We, your committee on Sunday Schools submit the following: We believe every church should have Sunday School and should teach the Bible or sound literature based on the teachings of the Bible. We believe Sunday School officers and teachers should be members of Baptist Churches. We believe we should encourage people to attend Sunday School. We believe parents should attend Sunday School with their children. With juvenile delinquency at the highest peak in the history of this country, we believe a large percentage of crime could be prevented and should won for Christ, if we as Christian parents, would use our Christian influence to promote Sunday School work.

Committee: ELWOOD
CARVER, C.F. CARTER

In closing, it is one thing to make disciples and another to be one. In order to do this, we must note Matthew 28:20 "...lo, I am with you

always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” Remember that God is with us! God loved us enough to send Emmanuel. God is not in a far away place where he cannot be accessed, he is right here with us to guide us, strengthen us, and to feed us.

Respectfully Submitted,
Scott Carter
Larry Pritchard

Fasting For A Christian

In the Biblical sense, fasting is the act of going without food for a certain period of time for a spiritual purpose. In the Old Testament scriptures Jews were recorded as often fasting. There was one fast per year required by the law in Leviticus 16:31, The Day of Atonement. Fasting is also recorded throughout the New Testament as well. Jesus Himself began His personal ministry by fasting for forty days and forty nights in the wilderness, Matthew 4:1 As we see fasting observed all throughout the scriptures, both in the Old and New Testaments alike, the question presents itself. Does Jesus expect or require us to fast? Is fasting relevant for today’s Christians?

Jesus addresses fasting in his sermon on the mount. Matthew 6:16-18 says “Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you. They have their reward. But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face; That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly.” Since Jesus said “when ye fast” and not “if ye fast” it would seem that He had the expectation that they should fast. However, this passage of scripture makes it abundantly clear that someone who is fasting should go out of their way to make this as a private act toward God. Instruction is given to anoint our head and wash our face to keep other people from even knowing that fasting is taking place. If we are fasting, God should be the only one who knows about it.

Another passage of scripture in which Jesus addresses fasting is Matthew 9: 14-17. Then came to him the disciples of John, saying, why do we and the Pharisees fast oft, but thy disciples fast not? And Jesus said unto them, 14: Can the children of the bride-chamber mourn, as long as the bridegroom is with them? But the days will come, when the bride-groom shall be taken from them, and then shall

they fast. 16: No man putteth a piece of new cloth unto an old garment, for that which is put in to fill it up taketh from the garment, and the rent is made worse. 17: Neither do men put new wine into old bottles: else the bottles break, and the wine runneth out, and the bottles perish: but they put new wine into new bottles, and both are preserved.” Jesus' disciples were being criticized for not fasting. He explains that they are not fasting because He was still with them. However, there would come a time when He was not with them and then, they would fast. In verse 17, Jesus gets to the heart of the issue by stating to the Pharisees and the disciples of John this, you don't put new wine in an old bottle because you know it can't take the pressure, it will break. He is explaining to them that with His coming into the world, something NEW has come! His disciples will fast, but it will be a different new fasting, a new covenant was to come that would do away with the old covenant.

Throughout the books of the New Testament, there is no given commandment to fast, but it is certainly mentioned that fasting is something we should do. Although, there is no church ordinance, Jesus did fast while he was here in the flesh. So while fasting is not essential to salvation, it is not a commandment or ordinance to the church, there are instances that with the right frame of heart and mind, fasting can be beneficial to the life of a Christian.

In Acts 13: 1-3, the early church was fasting in a demonstration to God of their need, longing and desire for God's blessing upon the missionary journey of Barnabas and Saul (Paul). God in turn, saw their sincerity and heard their prayers and the missionary journey of Barnabas and Paul was one of the most important advancements of the gospel throughout time. Paul speaks of fasting himself in 2 Corinthians 6:5 and states that he fasted often in 2 Corinthians 11:27.

David and his men mourned and fasted when they heard of the death of Saul in 2 Samuel 1:12. Nehemiah fasted when he heard of the condition of Jerusalem in Nehemiah 1:4. Fasting can be practiced as an outward expression of sincere and genuine repentance in the Old Testament. The people of Nineveh fasted when their sins were brought to their attention in Jonah 3:5 and King David fasted when the Lord struck his and Bathsheba's child with illness in 2 Samuel 12:16.

Physical food and nourishment is a blessing and gift from

God. However, our hunger for Christ should outweigh the desires of physical hunger. Fasting used as an outward expression toward God of an inward longing and hunger for Christ's presence or as a form of dedicating one's mindset solely to focus on the Lord for a period of time or to express the utmost level of repentance is a hunger that will surely be met and honored by God through faith. Fasting is an observance of how much we need, desire, and hunger for the presence of God. In John 6: 35 Jesus said, "I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst." In Matthew 5:6, He says, "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled."

While it is not a commandment to fast, it can be very beneficial for a Christian to express the sincerity of their heart to God, to express a longing and hunger for His presence, and to set aside a time of dedication to solely focus on the Lord and His will for our lives. Carried out in the right frame of heart and mind, with the right attitude and focus, and for the audience of only GOD the FATHER and JESUS the SON with the HOLY SPIRIT, the HOLY TRINITY, we believe that a time of fasting can be a time for GOD's children to be filled with His Spirit.

Submitted by:
Elder Joshua Parker
Brother Dennis Stokes
Concord Missionary Baptist Church

Does the Sabbath begin on Friday night, or Saturday Night?

This topic was requested because of an effort by others to persuade our younger generations that Saturday is the actual day we are to worship God, and not on Sunday. This is obviously a divided subject and looking only at what is recorded in the Bible, the Saturday Sabbaths have more written support than those of Sunday. However, we as Sunday worshippers have much more than just the Bible to reveal insights into the will of our Father and the desire of His Son, through the Holy Spirit. This will be an extremely condensed version of the actual research and presentation.

We have provided the scriptures found in the New Testament that indicated that the early Church met on the first day of the week and we often try to use these to defend our position of a Sunday worship instead of a Saturday worship. Maybe it was the erroneous decree by Constantine when he declared Sunday as the Sabbath, therefore the time of worship, but the early Church existed 300 years prior to Constantine's declaration; and the Bible is specific that worship was occurring on the first day of the week.

Notable references are made to Acts 20: 7 and I Corinthians 16:2 and we all know that Jesus Christ arose the first day of the week according to all the resurrection accounts. And to complicate matters even more, in Acts 2:46 the disciple's broke bread daily, and verse 47, and the Lord added to the Church daily, such as should be saved.

Yet, at the same time we also find that the members of the early Church were also keeping the Sabbath. Again, notably the women who followed Jesus kept the Sabbath on the seventh day (Luke 23:56). Paul kept the seventh-day Sabbath while carrying the gospel to the Gentiles (Acts 16:13, 17:2, 18:4).

Jesus, the example for all Christians, kept the Sabbath by consistently worshiping in the synagogue on Sabbath (Mark 6:2; Luke 4:16). No where in the Bible does Jesus command that a different day should be kept or did He seek to cancel even the smallest of the God's commandments (Matthew 5:17-19)

Thus in my opinion, the Saturday Sabbath is still in full effect today, as much as when it was established by God; however, I do believe that as Christian's we are to worship on the first day of the week, so now perhaps I will be able to explain why.

We need to go back to the Sabbath, I am sure we all remember that we are to keep it Holy, as it is one of the 10 Commandments. Here are a few other things we need to bring to remembrance for the purposes of

this report.

The day was Blessed by God in Genesis 2:3 Only rule was to not work and keep it Holy

In Exodus 16: 26, the Children were not to collect manna on day 7, there was enough on day 6 for both days. God's children were told to not even leave their tent.

Leviticus 23: 2-4 The sabbath and the Feast of the Lord where to include Holy Convocation (meaning Holy Assembly).

Note: that as time passed God added new changes to the Sabbath, but the one aspect that did not change was the requirement to actively restrain from any activity, even the gathering of food and that man's thoughts should be Holy and upon God.

Now the 3 purposes of the Sabbath Observance.

To commemorate God's creation of the universe, on the seventh day of which God rested from (or ceased) his work;

To commemorate the Israelites' redemption from slavery in Egypt;

As a "taste" of Olam Haba (the Messianic Age). This one is the most relevant to our discussion, as Olam Haba refers to the coming of the Messiah (The Messianic age), the end days according to Jewish eschatology. The promise of the coming Savior.

The Sabbath as it relates to the Jewish people, covers from the beginning of time to the end of time. The Olam Haba belief means "The world to come". The end and it would be heralded in by coming of the Messiah. If you were a Pharisee, not a Sadducee, this would be the time of the resurrection. Additionally, this "End of Days" does not mean death rather a continuance into an afterlife.

The Sabbath's third remembrance would have ended at the death burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ, but the Sabbath observance would not have ended.

And in our future, according to Isaiah 66:22 & 23. It will continue into New Heaven and the New Earth.

And remember Malachi 3:6 "I am the Lord, I change not" and Hebrews 13: 8 Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

Although there is no evidence to support that the observance of the Saturday Sabbath was moved to Sunday, there is some elusive evidence to demonstrate why I believe we should worship on Sunday but, not as the Sabbath.

Looking back at the Sabbath, we see recorded in the Bible, specifically of Christ' impact on the Sabbath's observance. In Mark 2:23-26 and Luke 13: 1-16; we find clarifications of the sabbath, on 2 sepa-

rate occasions Christ explained the true meaning of the prohibition regarding work on the Sabbath, clearly changing the concept that not all work was being forbidden to allow those for the good of mankind. Healing the woman on the sabbath and plucking corn for the disciples to eat on the sabbath, according to the law, it was forbidden. According to Christ it was a part of being Holy.

We also can find in Mark 2: 31 that Christ had God's full authority to even add to the 10 commandments and did so... Love thy neighbor as thyself. And in Matthew 5, He more perfectly defined what the law intended.

So, if God has granted Christ full authority, provided He changed none of God's immutable laws, then who are we to say that Jesus did not create a new day of remembrance?

Since we have no Biblical declarations, then it would have to be something that can only be learned by the Holy Spirit and if so, it would need to be foreshadowed by Old Testament legal tradition to provide the type and shadow of a new day to come, and have been prophesied.

Regarding the Holy Spirit, we all know that He was sent to reprove the world of sin, and provide comfort and instruction to the Children of God, including becoming the seal around the soul of God's new children to prevent any corruption of the soul, after salvation.

I think it is not necessary to go into all the pertinent scriptures regarding the Holy Spirit but let me remind of a few to keep our thoughts in an organized manner.

John 14:26 "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

1 Corinthians 2:10-11 "These are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. For who knows a person's thoughts except for their own spirit within them? In the same way, no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God"

John 16: 13-15 **13** Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. **14** He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew *it* unto you. **15** All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew *it* unto you.

Under the New Testament, all of our practices of worship have altered from the physical worship of the tabernacle to the spiritual worship within our souls. The knowledge we gain comes from study but

now also from meditation and prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to reveal the truths to us directly, a mediator is not required, the tabernacle is not required.

I think Jesus setup a whole new day of recognition; one not only of worship, but a feast for his adopted brothers and sisters.

To establish the possibility that with the advent of Jesus Christ, that he also added a new special remembrance we will first look at Psalms 118 as a prophetic scripture.

22 The stone *which* the builders refused is become the head *stone* of the corner.

23 This is the LORD'S doing; it *is* marvellous in our eyes.

24 This *is* the day *which* the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

First, I included the 22nd verse to prove David was talking about Jesus Christ, then in verse 23, David says, this is the Lord's doing. Meaning the Lord's actions. And that those actions were marvelous, which by definition is miraculous, creates wonderment. Now the 24th verse. This is the day which the Lord hath made. We **will** rejoice and be glad in it.

This clearly states that Jesus Christ has done something marvelous and it has resulted in a day being made or recognized. (a reason for something to celebrate and be remembered.), then David's statement also uses a future tense verb, we **will**... rejoice. And be glad in it, which means on that day of remembrance. Consider that David was still looking for this day of remembrance to be made, but he also knew, he personally would be able to rejoice when this new day occurred.

After this study, I view this passage as prophecy or foretelling of a new day of remembrance, one that honors Jesus Christ for what he did for us. To me, Christ' actions were worthy of all glory, but also even more worthy to add another day of remembrance in our weekly lives. Apparently, God enjoyed creating special days to celebrate events in the lives of his Children. Look at how many he made under the old law, but none in the New Testament, or did he make one for our Savior, Jesus Christ?

Read from the 5th chapter of Revelation about Jesus and the glory he was worthy of receiving, then who are we to say that He should not have his own day of the week in addition to God's Sabbath? Having "the Lord's Day is not taking away from God at all but adding even more glory to what God has done for us because of His love toward His creation.

But we still need a type and foreshadow from the Old Testament to be able to show the precedent for a new day of celebration, a joyous day as David describes it.

Let's return to Leviticus 23 just after God's commands regarding the Sabbath, we find the Feast of the First Fruits and how it might relate to the event we call Pentecost. Pentecost means 50 and is derived from the Feast of First Fruits Leviticus 23 10-17. The Feast of First Fruits was to occur on the day after the Sabbath in the appropriate season. We find that there was an offering that was to be made, and on the day after the sabbath, the priest would perform his function that God might accept the sacrifice of the First Fruit. I am sure since all of you are aware that Jesus Christ was the first fruit of our salvation, perhaps you are seeing a little foreshadowing occurring.

I Corinthians 15: 23 But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

"First fruits" is a two-fold reference indicating that Jesus was the first to be resurrected of many who will be resurrected in the future, but it is also a reference to the Old Testament requirement that the first of any harvested crops were to be brought to the Lord as an offering. Jesus was in fact that offering. The Feast of the First Fruits. Now let's consider for a moment, on the Sabbath, under pain of death. (stoning) you were not do any work; you were not even allowed to gather food. And now, we may have the celebration of the Feast of the First Fruits. Christ prepares the feast for us. It is spiritual nourishment, and when we are in harmony, it is joy unspeakable and full of glory.

Going back in time to Jesus, we find it relevant that the Feast of the First Fruits occurred on the day after the Sabbath of the Passover week. It can be presumed that on the day of Jesus Christ resurrection, that God accepted the sacrifice of the first fruit according to the law. And in harmony with the law, according to 15th verse of Leviticus 23, we find that they were to count from the morrow after the sabbath, 50 days and make a new meat offering to the Lord, with fire. Pentecost occurred 50-days after the Sabbath that Jesus was in the grave and in conjunction with the special Sabbath pertaining to the seven sabbaths before the fire offering.

Remember the description in Acts? 3rd verse, appeared unto them clove tongues like as fire, and it sat upon each of them. Per chance could this be alluding that our lives at salvation are to become living sacrifices to Jesus after the baptism of the Holy Ghost? Incidentally, Pentecost was also called Whitsunday, and marks the beginning of the Church's mission to the world.

So we potentially have established prophecy, and now we have been able to connect the dots to a foreshadowing of a new special day by the Feast of First Fruits, but nowhere did Jesus say a word about it, except possibly in Revelations 1:10... "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day." This is the only time in the entire Bible that there was a day called the Lord's Day.

Now we even have a fitting name.

To examine how this day parallels Jesus, just look at the miracles of Christ feeding the people, there are several recorded in the New Testament. All of the words used by Jesus, was to feed my sheep. It seems that Christ really enjoyed satisfying the carnal need for sustenance. So, the Feast of the First Fruits is a very fitting foreshadow of a day that was marked by his resurrection, and then again by the descent of the Holy Ghost, then our weekly spiritual feast provided by Jesus through the Holy Spirit.

God created the Sabbath to remember the day of rest for his creation of the world, to remind the Children of Israel of his deliverance from Egyptian bondage, and finally to remind the Jewish people of Olam Haba (the Messianic Age). We find that one of these three things had been fulfilled by the death, burial and resurrection of Christ.

This innocent but willing sacrifice in God's eyes was sufficient pay to price for all sin, thus worthy to create a special day to be celebrated daily but God apparently felt a weekly celebration sufficient.

I believe that we are intended to celebrate the Lord's Day in accordance with the Jewish law foreshadow, the prophecy of David, and the endorsement of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, which is in conjunction with the day that Jesus arose, and God accepted his sacri-

fice. A Holy remembrance of the most crucial day in all of human history and a celebration of the life that he brought for all of mankind. This now begs the question, why He did not record this Lord's Day anywhere during his ministry, or lead his apostles to share this wonderful celebration in their letters or writings?

It is obvious that someone told them to celebrate on Sunday and not Saturday. It was recorded as the Lord's Day more commonly in the in about 150-200 AD in Church writings, but never in the Bible.

Ephesians 1: 17-21 **17** That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: **18** The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, **19** And what *is* the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, **20** Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set *him* at his own right hand in the heavenly *places*, **21** Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:

Hebrews 13: verses 9 and 10. **9** Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For *it is* a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein. **10** We have an altar, whereof they have no right to eat which serve the tabernacle.

We are not to be subverted with these ideas that are not of Christ. Repeat verse 9, For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace, and not with meats. This is clearly a distinction between spiritual and carnal. And then in verse 10, as born-again children, we indeed have an altar... It is a spiritual altar, and it is not one that non-believers have any right to partake, until they are called, even If they serve the tabernacle. Meaning even though they believe they are serving God, they have no birth right to partake in this great mystery of the Lord's Day. As the adopted children of God, we are in a very elite and exclusive station.

Only the adopted children of God, to whom the Holy Spirit has revealed all truths, really can know. It was not meant for everyone to

understand, it was meant for the children of God only, because we are a peculiar people, we are in this world, but not of this world. The royal priesthood is a very exclusive organization, and the Church is an even more sacred segment within that priesthood.

One must be called (and all are) to be a partaker of this special feast. But only when someone is made worthy can they be fed at this feast. Those that are accepted are always led to where Jesus wants them to serve and all are given a duty. And the other commandment of a child of God after honoring the first command to join a Church, is the privilege of participating in the special remembrance of the last supper and when? On the Lord's Day.

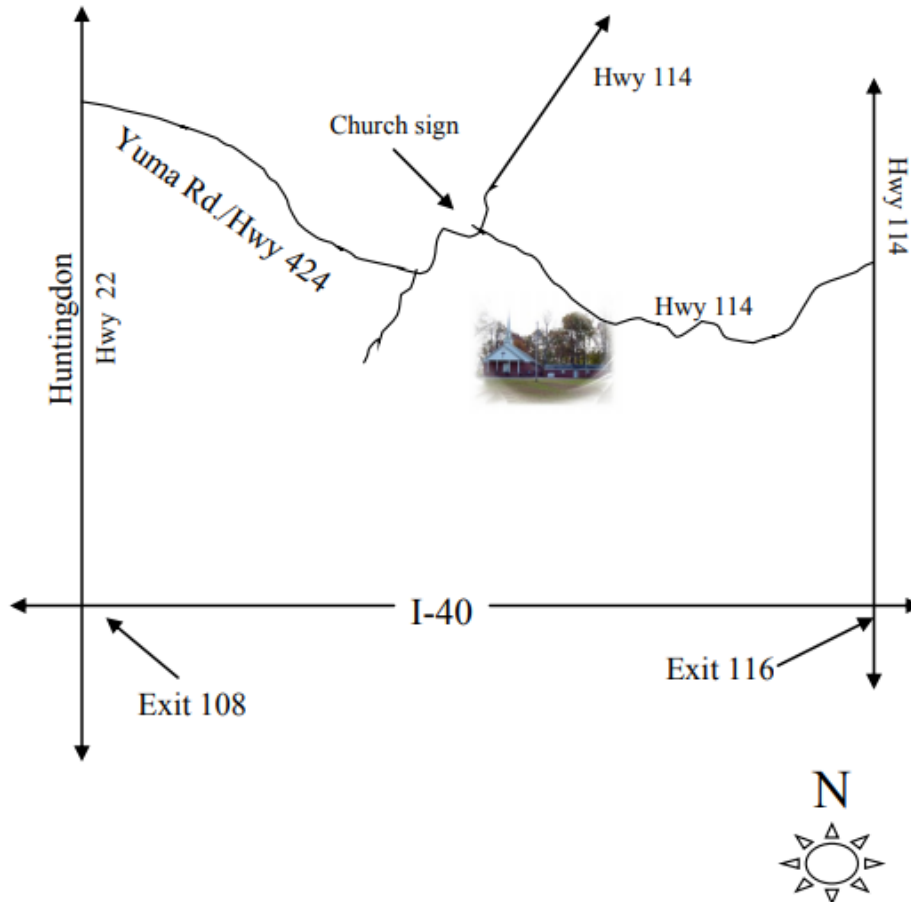
As was said in Ecclesiastes, Let us here the conclusion of the whole matter.

The first day of the week, on the Lord's Day, we worship by feasting on the Words of life and celebrating the works of Jesus Christ; because by his selfless act of love, that we are able to be born again, re-created into a child of God; separated and made a peculiar people in this world, and indeed, no longer of this world.

This spiritual feast, through the connectivity of the Holy Spirit, is like a payment in advance, for the completion of our services, we have been asked to render in the Lord's vineyard, during the next 5 days, then we are to rest in our Father's arms on Saturday, the sabbath. Thus, the full week God created in the beginning, begins with Jesus Christ and ends with God's rest. Just like this age of time that we have lived in since Jesus walked the earth, which will end at our resurrection to be with the Lord forever.

Prepared and Submitted by Kenny Medlin

Directions to the 2021 Session



- ⇒ From Hwy 22 in Clarksburg, turn east onto Hwy 424
- ⇒ Go 3.8 miles eastward, continue traveling down 424, the road comes to a “T”, turn left (which is staying on 424)
- ⇒ After making the left turn, travel .8 miles and make a right onto Hwy 114 S (church sign located here)
- ⇒ The church is located 1.2 miles on the right on Hwy 114 S

Messengers for the 172nd Annual Session

Bethel:

Friday– Represented by letter
Saturday– Represented by letter

Bible Grove:

Friday– Andrew Stokes
Saturday– Andrew Stokes

Center Point:

Friday– Jenny Moon
Saturday– Jenny Moon

Clarksburg:

Friday– Represented by letter
Saturday– Represented by letter

Concord:

Friday–Joshua Parker, Dennis Stokes, Alvin Boyd
Saturday– Joshua Parker, Dennis Stokes, Alvin Boyd

Cross Roads:

Friday– Randy Thompson, Myron Kirk, Jimmy Hicks
Saturday– Randy Thompson, Myron Kirk, Jim Dungan

Huntingdon:

Friday– Trey Crews, Lynn Stapleton
Saturday– Trey Crews, Lynn Stapleton

Landmark (formerly Old Paths):

Friday– Kenny Medlin
Saturday– Kenny Medlin

Marlsboro:

Friday– Represented by letter
Saturday– Represented by letter

Mixie:

Friday– Represented by letter
Saturday– Represented by letter

New Cross Roads:

Friday– Dennis Lunsford
Saturday– Dennis Lunsford

New Hope:

Friday– Phillip Gullede, Scott Gallimore, Michael Montgomery
Saturday– Phillip Gullede, Scott Gallimore, Michael Montgomery

New Spring Hill:

Friday– Represented by letter
Saturday– Represented by letter

Oak Grove :

Friday–Steve Sablan, Jimmy Wallace, Glenn Lewis
Saturday–Steve Sablan, Jimmy Wallace, Glenn Lewis

Pleasant Grove:

Friday– Will Kirby, Cindy Kirby
Saturday– Will Kirby, Cindy Kirby, Ryne Bivens

Pleasant Hill:

Friday– Edward Ellis, Janell Ellis
Saturday– Edward Ellis, Janell Ellis

Pleasant Ridge:

Friday– Represented by letter
Saturday– Represented by letter

Rushing Creek:

Friday– Represented by letter
Saturday– Represented by letter

Shiloh:

Friday- Scott Carter, Kim Carter, Larry Pritchard
Saturday- Scott Carter, Kim Carter, Larry Pritchard

Westport:

Friday– Brenda Leslie, Jerry Dodd, Jerry Howell
Saturday– Brenda Leslie, Jerry Dodd, Jerry Howell

Financial Statement
2020 Minute Fund

BALANCE OCTOBER 12, 2019	\$ 4,043.56
EXPENDITURES:	
First Bank (lock box)	\$ 60.00
Peterson Printing (minutes)	\$ 950.00
O’Neil Enterprise (CD’s)	\$ 178.76
CONTRIBUTIONS:	
Minute Fund 2020	\$ 1,606.00
BALANCE OCTOBER 10, 2020	\$ 4,460.80
Clerk Contributions	\$ 1,400.00

Submitted by:

Larry Pritchard-Shiloh Church
Dennis Stokes-Concord Church
Jason Howard-Oak Grove Church

Correspondence

Wiseman Baptist Association

October 8, 2020

To the churches of the Southwestern District Missionary Baptist Association:

We trust you have received many blessings from the Lord this past year.

We were greatly blessed by the Lord during our one-hundred-twenty-eighth annual session, which was held at Three Springs Baptist Church in Bowling Green, KY. During the session, our churches reported an increase in the past year of 38 members, with 24 of those by baptism. Unfortunately, we had a loss of 18 members due to death, leaving our total associational membership for the year at 1,911.

We would like to extend a warm invitation to you to join us for our one-hundred-twenty-ninth annual session, which will be a one-day meeting, beginning at 10:00 AM on Friday, October 23, 2020.

Due to this unprecedented year we are in with the COVID-19 pandemic, we have changed from our normal plans. With need to practice proper social distancing, and in keeping with CDC guidelines, the association will be held outdoors this year at Key Park in Lafayette, TN.

Please make plans to attend.

In Christ's Love,

Charles Patterson, Clerk
524 Jim Chitwood Lane
Lafayette, TN 37083
(615) 238-4424
Email: charlesp111@nctc.com

Siloam Missionary Baptist Association

September 29, 2020

Southwestern District Missionary Baptist Association
Brother Ray Smith

Greetings:

We would like to begin by thanking the Lord for His many blessings He has bestowed on each of us since the last time we corresponded. We are always thrilled to hear of the lost being saved and additions to the Lord's churches.

The churches of the Siloam Association met the Friday and Saturday before the first Sunday in October, 2019 at Harvest Missionary Baptist Church for its sixty-seventh annual session. Grace Missionary Baptist Church and Old Path Missionary Baptist Church also worked with Harvest to host the Siloam Association. The Spirit of the Lord truly met with us and provided spirit filled sermons and wonderful topics that we pray will be helpful and encouraging to all in the days to come. We must also thank the Lord for all that were saved and those who joined the churches that make up the Siloam Association.

Due to the health issues facing our area along with the rest of the nation, the Siloam Association has chosen not to convene in 2020. We invite you to come and fellowship with the Siloam Association as we meet at Fairview Memorial Missionary Baptist Church in Bowling Green Kentucky for the sixty-eighth session on October 1st & 2nd, 2021 beginning at 10a.m. Elder Michael Reid is scheduled to preach the introductory sermon Friday morning and Elder Don Curtis is scheduled to preach the memorial sermon Friday night. Elder Kenneth Summers is scheduled to preach the doctrinal sermon Saturday morning. We also invite everyone to check out the Siloam Association website www.siloamassociation.com as we have uploaded Associational minutes back to 2002 and audio content beginning with 2015 session.

We pray that the Lord will continue to bless all of His churches and that His Word will go out to the lost people of this world and many will be saved.

Your Brother in Christ,
Elder Roger Carter, Clerk
Siloam Missionary Baptist Association
1434 Alvaton Greenhill Road
Bowling Green, KY 42103
(270)799-6610
carterroger@hotmail.com

BIG BEAR CREEK MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Keith L. Hood – Clerk
12051 Highway 278
Double Springs, AL 35553
(256)318-0589

July 12, 2020

Southwestern District Missionary Baptist Association:

We trust everything is going well with you and your lost are being saved. We also trust God is continuing to bless you.

This past October, we convened for the One Hundred Eighty-Fourth Annual Session with Flat Creek Missionary Baptist Church. We had 15 churches reporting an increase of 30 with 12 of those being by baptism. We had a decrease of 37 with a total membership of 1,107. We still need to see many souls saved for the Lord.

We are truly thankful for the visitors that were able to be with us. We invite each one to join us for the 185th Annual Session to be held with Mt. Nebo Missionary Baptist Church in Franklin County, Alabama. The church is located east of Russellville, Alabama, on Highway 48. This session will be held October 10, 11, 12, and 13, 2020. The service Saturday morning will begin at 11:00 a.m.

In Christ's love,



Keith L. Hood, Clerk

Johnny Hood - Moderator
11630 County Road 7
Moulton, AL 35650

Billy Myrick - Vice Moderator
202 W. Douglas Street
Sheffield, AL 35660

Licensed Ministers

Beecham, Brian, Bible Grove-----731-614-3287
 5555 Darden-Christian Chapel Road, Darden, TN 38328
Joyner, John, New Cross Roads-----731-986-9764
 127 5th Avenue, Huntingdon, TN 38344

Ordained Ministers

Ambrose, Harvey, Landmark-----
Bivens, Ryne, Pleasant Grove-----731-549-0373
 2879 Holladay Road, Holladay, TN 38341
Butler, Michael, Pleasant Hill -----731-733-1583
 17565 Hwy 70, Huntingdon, TN 38344
Carter, Scott D., Shiloh -----731-415-1688
 400 Chickasaw Drive, Huntingdon, TN 38344
Chandler, Rufus, Huntingdon -----731-986-4227
 393 Skyline Drive, Huntingdon, TN 38344
Crews, Trey, Huntingdon-----731-415-4745
 45 Hwy 22 N, Yuma, TN 38390
Dodd, Jerry, Westport-----731-987-2698
 1600 Griggs Chapel Road, Cedar Grove, TN 38321
Douglas, Arzell, Cross Roads-----731-584-8027
 587 Crossroads Church Road, Camden, TN 38320
Ezell, Clint, Bethel-----731-845-6421
 111 Oak Drive, Huntingdon, TN 38344
Floyd, Matthew, Mixie-----731-418-1888
 135 Green Valley Road, Huntingdon, TN 38344
Gulledge, Phillip, New Hope -----731-616-1823
 2391 Prospect Road, Holladay, TN 38341
Hedges, Truman, Cross Roads-----731-584-7875
 620 Jacqueline Circle, Camden, TN 38320
Hilliard, Billy Joe, Center Point-----731-586-4671
 360 Ellis Road, Buena Vista, TN 38318
Hilliard, Michael, Center Point-----731-418-1753
 125 Holcomb Street, Hollow Rock, TN 38342
Hopper, Jack, Center Point -----731-586-7902
 100 Hemlock Street, Bruceton, TN 38317
Leslie, David, Oak Grove-----731-845-3859
 1118 Crazy Doe Road, Lexington, TN 38351
Lunsford, Dennis, New Cross Roads-----731-968-2842
 19990 Hwy. 22 N, Wildersville, TN 38388

McDaniel, Tracy, New Cross Roads-----731-636-1503
 630 Stafford Store Road, Greenfield, TN 38230
Oakes, Bryan, Pleasant Ridge -----731-986-2347
 955 Old 22 Lane, Huntingdon, TN 38344
Owen, Wendell, Marlsboro-----
 2050 Big Sandy River Road, Camden, TN 38320
Paige, Khristopher, Pleasant Ridge
 234-236 Laltoo Trace, Penal, Trinidad West Indies
Parker, Joshua, Concord -----731-614-0379
 P.O. Box 232, Reagan, TN 38368
Rahn, Allan, Bethel -----618-638-4607
 2785 North Avenue, Metropolis, IL 62960
Sablan, Steve, Oak Grove-----270-320-7137
 278 Bellemeade Drive, Lexington, TN 38351
Seville, Ralph, Landmark -----
 California
Simmons, Jeff, Clarksburg -----731-845-4710
 129 Windy Ridge Lane, Lexington, TN 38351
Stapleton, Lynn, Huntingdon-----731-986-2413
 106 Oak Drive, Huntingdon, TN 38344
Stewart, Ron, Landmark -----615-394-0314
 1327 Cedar Drive, Camden, TN 38320
Stokes, Andrew, Bible Grove -----731-986-3738
 310 Westport Road, Huntingdon, TN 38344
Thompson, James Randy, Cross Roads-----731-441-1729
 211 Arnold Drive, Camden, TN 38320
Todd, Jimmy, New Spring Hill-----731-415-5135
 2325 Tate School Road, Huntingdon, TN 38344
Wallace, Chris, Huntingdon-----731-614-0662
 19830 Hwy 104 S, Lexington, TN 38351

Church Directory

- BETHEL**- 65 Bethel Church Road, Huntingdon, TN 38344
P.O. Box 1012, Huntingdon, TN 38344
PASTOR-Clint Ezell-----731-845-6421
111 Oak Drive, Huntingdon, TN 38344
CLERK-Jeff Carter-----731-986-5496
c/o Bethel Church P.O. Box 1012, Huntingdon, TN 38344
- BIBLE GROVE (Est. 1877)**
5365 Bible Grove Road, Lexington, TN 38351
PASTOR- Andrew Stokes -----731-986-3738
310 Westport Road, Huntingdon, TN 38344
CLERK-Johnny Sanders -----731-845-3838
290 Westover Road, Huron, TN 38345
- CENTER POINT**- 2225 Rowland Mill Road, Buena Vista, TN 38318
PASTOR- Wesley Grooms -----731-358-1892
930 Moore Creek Road, Bruceton, TN 38317
CLERK-Jenny Moon-----731-415-3172
108 Enterprise Street, Bruceton, TN 38317
- CLARKSBURG**-12281 Hwy 424, Clarksburg, TN 38324
PASTOR-Jeff Simmons -----731-845-4710
129 Windy Ridge Lane, Lexington, TN 38351
CLERK-Janice Boyd-----731-571-5230
220 Miller Road, Huntingdon, TN 38344
- CONCORD (Est. 1846)**- 3275 Westport Road, Huntingdon, TN 38344
PASTOR- Joshua Parker-----731-614-0379
P.O. Box 232, Reagan, TN 38368
CLERK-Dennis Stokes -----731-343-3649
850 Hawkins Creek Road, Huntingdon, TN 38344
- CROSS ROADS (Est. 1849)**- -----731-584-7665
55 Crossroads Church Road, Camden, TN 38320
PASTOR- Randy Thompson -----731-441-1729
211 Arnold Drive, Camden, TN 38320
CLERK-Todd Kee-----731-441-0885
3895 Divider and Natchez Trace Road, Camden, TN 38320

HUNTINGDON-----731-986-4192
11110 Lexington Street, Huntingdon, TN 38344
PASTOR-Lynn Stapleton -----731-986-2413
106 Oak Drive, Huntingdon, TN 38344
CLERK-Ray Smith-----731-986-4717
19950 East Main St., Huntingdon, TN 38344

LANDMARK - formerly OLD PATHS (Est. 1994)
10540 Collierville Road, Collierville, TN 38017
PASTOR- Ron Stewart-----615-394-0314
1327 Cedar Drive, Camden, TN 38320
CLERK- Joyce Medlin-----901-486-2923
1230 Cherry Road, Eads, TN 38028

MARLSBORO- 25165 State Route 114 N, Hollow Rock, TN 38342
PASTOR-Wendell Owen-----
2050 Big Sandy River Road, Camden, TN 38320
CLERK-

MIXIE- (Est. 1945) 25860 Hwy 77, Hollow Rock, TN 38342
PASTOR- Matthew Floyd -----731-418-1888
135 Green Valley Road, Huntingdon TN 38344
CLERK-Amanda Holland-----
565 Chapel Hill Road, Huntingdon, TN 38344

NEW CROSS ROADS- (Est. 1903)
2110 Long Rock Church Road, Huntingdon, TN 38344
P.O. Box 268, Huntingdon, TN 38344
PASTOR-Tracy McDaniel -----731-636-1503
630 Stafford Store Road, Greenfield, TN 38230
CLERK-Frank Gregg -----731-694-9315
c/o New Cross Roads Church P.O. Box 268, Huntingdon, TN 38344

NEW HOPE (Est. 1870)- 5315 Hwy 114, Westport, TN 38387
PASTOR-Phillip Gullede -----731-616-1823
2391 Prospect Road, Holladay, TN 38341
CLERK-Wilma Seagraves -----731-418-0756
P.O. Box 186, Huntingdon, TN 38344

NEW SPRING HILL-
145 Springhill Church Road, Huntingdon, TN 38344
PASTOR-Lathan McLean-----731-586-4404
308 Taylor Street, Bruceton, TN 38317
CLERK-Laura Hutcherson-----731-986-4557
6820 Smyrna Road, Westport, TN 38387

OAK GROVE- 105 Oak Grove Church Road, Lexington, TN 38351
 PASTOR-Steve Sablan----- 270-320-7137
 278 Bellemeade Drive, Lexington, TN 38351
 CLERK-Jimmy Wallace ----- 731-602-2467, 731-967-9794
 20465 Hwy. 104 S, Lexington, TN 38351

PLEASANT GROVE-
 Pleasant Grove Church Road, Wildersville, TN 38388
 PASTOR-
 CLERK-Ernest Wood ----- 731-845-5464
 375 Pleasant Grove Church Road, Wildersville, TN 38388

PLEASANT HILL-
 1675 Pleasant Hill Church Road, Camden, TN 38320
 PASTOR- Michael Butler----- 731-733-1583
 17565 Hwy 70, Huntingdon, TN 38344
 CLERK-Brenda Self----- 731-441-3798
 450 Blackberry Road, Camden, TN 38320

PLEASANT RIDGE (Est. 1856)
 5745 Hwy 70 W, Camden, TN 38320
 PASTOR- Bryan Oakes----- 731-986-2347
 955 Old 22 Lane, Huntingdon, TN 38344
 CLERK-Mary Oakes ----- 731-986-2347
 955 Old 22 Lane, Huntingdon, TN 38344

RUSHING CREEK-
 4005 Rushing Creek Church Road, Camden, TN 38320
 PASTOR- Tony Boyd ----- 731-243-2693
 65 West College Street. Henry , TN 38231
 CLERK-Carol Ann Broadway ----- 731-584-8567
 4175 Reynoldsburg Road, Camden, TN 38320

SHILOH- 15 Shiloh Church Road, Holladay, TN 38341
 PASTOR- Scott Carter ----- 731-415-1688
 400 Chickasaw Drive, Huntingdon, TN 38344
 CLERK-Larry Pritchard ----- 731-845-5444
 730 Pritchard Road, Wildersville, TN 38388

WESTPORT (EST 1896)- 7080 Westport Road, Westport, TN 38387
 PASTOR- David Leslie ----- 731-845-3859
 1118 Crazy Doe Road, Lexington, TN 38351
 CLERK-Linda Williams ----- 731-986-5782
 335 Westport Road, Huntingdon, TN 38344

Church E-mail Addresses

Bethel	Jeff Carter	jeffd@charter.net
Bible Grove	Johnny Sanders	jsandersriver@gmail.com
Bible Grove	Judy Sanders	sanders.judy58@email.com
Center Point	Jenny Moon	garykcc@click1.net
Clarksburg	Roger Lindsey	customtoolinc@bellsouth.net
Clarksburg	Janice Boyd	nieceboyd@yahoo.com
Concord	Dennis Stokes	dennisleestokes@gmail.com
Concord	Josh Parker	japarker36@icloud.com
Cross Roads	Todd Kee	tkee@bentoncountycable.net
Cross Roads	Randy Thompson	jamesrthompson5@gmail.com
Cross Roads	Kay Kee	kay@bentoncountycable.net
Huntingdon	Harold Webb	haroldwebb54@gmail.com
Huntingdon	Ray Smith	raysmith72@hotmail.com
Huntingdon	Lynn Stapleton	lynstap@hmbc.org
Landmark	Joyce Medlin	joycedmedlin1945@gmail.com
Landmark	Ron Stewart	stewartron566@gmail.com
Mixie	Amanda Holland	amandaleeholland@gmail.com
New Cross Rds	Frank Gregg	fgregg9686@charter.net
New Cross Rds	Dennis Lunsford	oldgospleship@yahoo.com
New Hope	Scott Gallimore	seg672002@yahoo.com
New Hope	Michael Montgomery	the-montgomerys@hotmail.com
New Hope	Phillip Gullede	gulledephillip@gmail.com
New Hope	Wilma Segraves	waseagraves@gmail.com
New Hope	Bryan Barnes	bryfbarn@hotmail.com
New Hope	Jacob Gullede	gulledejacob@yahoo.com
New Spring Hill	Laura Hutcherson	ldh6543@aol.com
Oak Grove	Jimmy Wallace	jimmy.wallace@ymail.com
Pleasant Grove	Tim Lashlee	volzman53@msn.com
Pleasant Grove	Ernest Wood	woodsmaytag@gmail.com
Pleasant Hill	Brenda Self	brendaeself54@gmail.com
Pleasant Ridge	Bryan Oakes	broboakes@yahoo.com
Pleasant Ridge	Mary Oakes	oakes_mary@yahoo.com
Pleasant Ridge	Vernon Higdon	vernselectric@gmail.com
Rushing's Creek	Tony Boyd	tnbinsurance@hotmail.com
Rushing's Creek	Bruce Seaton	bseaton2006@bellsouth.net
Shiloh	Chance Carlton	chancecarlton_cced@yahoo.com
Shiloh	Larry Pritchard	larryrp@tds.net
Westport	Linda Williams	lindafcwilliams@outlook.com

2021 Summer Revival Schedule

Church	Start Date	Revival Helper	Sunday Starting Time	Monday – Friday Starting Time
Landmark				
Marlsboro				
Pleasant Hill	06/06/21		6:00 PM	10:30 AM; 7:00 PM
New Hope	06/13/21		7:00 PM	10:30 AM; 7:00 PM
Shiloh	06/20/21		7:30 PM	10:30 AM; 7:30 PM
Huntingdon	06/27/21	Kenneth Massey	7:00 PM	10:30 AM; 7:00 PM
Pleasant Ridge	06/27/21		6:00 PM	7:00 PM
New Cross Roads	06/27/21		6:00 PM	10:30 AM; 7:00 PM
Westport	07/04/21		7:00 PM	7:00 PM
Mixie	07/11/21		5:30 PM	7:00 PM
Center Point	07/11/21		6:00 PM	7:00 PM
Concord	07/11/21		7:00 PM	10:30 AM; 7:00 PM
Pleasant Grove	07/11/21		7:00 PM	7:00 PM
Cross Roads	07/11/21	Lynn Stapleton	6:00 PM	10:30 AM; 7:00 PM
Bethel	07/18/21		6:00 PM	10:30 AM; 7:00 PM
Bible Grove	07/18/21		7:00 PM	7:00 PM
Oak Grove	07/25/21		6:00 PM	10:30 AM; 7:00 PM
Clarksburg	07/25/21		7:00 PM	7:00 PM
New Spring Hill	07/25/21		6:00 PM	7:00 PM
Rushing Creek	9/12 to 9/15		6:00 PM	7:00 PM

Historical Table

Before 1846, this was part of the Western District Association. The Western District Association was organized in 1822 and is one of the oldest Associations in the state. From this, we go back into North Carolina and West Virginia where they were colonies under England. It was in these colonies that the Baptist patriot, Patrick Henry, defended the Baptist preachers before the colonial officers who were appointed by England, and it was here in these colonies that we find Thomas Jefferson who wrote the Declaration of Independence, making inquiry about the Government of Baptist Churches and Associations that he might get a model after which to assist in forming the Government of the United States. The oldest Baptist Association in the United States is the Philadelphia Association which has done more for Missions than perhaps any other.

<u>DATE AND CHURCH HELD WITH</u>	<u>MODERATOR</u> ----- <u>CLERK</u>
1846-Mt. Comfort, Carroll County-----	E. Autry -----J. P. Arnold
1847- Mt. Pisgah, Henderson County-----	E. Autry -----J. P. Arnold
1848-Ramble Creek, Benton County -----	E. Autry -----B. W. Foster
1849-Pleasant Hill, Benton County -----	E. Autry -----B. W. Foster
1850-Hopewell, Henderson County-----	E. Autry -----J. P. Arnold
1851-New Prospect, Decatur County -----	E. Autry -----J. P. Arnold
1852-Beaver Dam, Benton County-----	E. Autry -----J. P. Arnold
1853-Union, Benton County -----	E. Autry -----J. P. Arnold
1854-Bible Union, Carroll County -----	E. Autry -----J. P. Arnold
1855-Concord, Carroll County-----	M. S. Corbett-----J. P. Arnold
1856-Pleasant Grove, Henderson County -----	E. Autry -----J. P. Arnold
1857-Mt. Comfort, Carroll County-----	M. S. Corbett-----J. P. Arnold
1858-Union, Benton County -----	J. P. Arnold-----W. C. McAuley
1859-Holly Springs, Henderson County -----	J. P. Arnold-----B. W. Foster
1860-Ramble Creek, Benton County -----	J. P. Arnold-----J. P. Doherty
1861-New Prospect, Decatur County -----	J. P. Arnold-----Geo. Hollowell
1862-1864-----	No Association during Civil War
1865-Union, Benton County -----	J. P. Arnold-----W. C. McAuley
1866-Salem, Decatur County-----	J. P. Arnold-----B. W. Foster
1867-Mt. Comfort, Carroll County-----	W. Pugh-----Geo. Hollowell
1868-Ephesus, Carroll County -----	J. P. Arnold-----Geo. Hollowell
1869-Concord, Carroll County-----	J. P. Arnold-----Geo. Hollowell
1870-Chalk Hill, Benton County -----	J. P. Arnold-----G. C. Thomas
1871-New Prospect -----	J. P. Arnold-----G. C. Thomas
1872-Mt. Nebo, Carroll County -----	J. P. Arnold-----Geo. Hollowell
1873-Marlsboro, Carroll County -----	Geo. Hollowell-----G. C. Thomas
1874-New Hope, Carroll County-----	J. H. Park -----G. C. Thomas
1875-Tom's Creek, Perry County-----	J. W. Brewer -----J. F. Rogers
1876-Rushing Creek, Benton County-----	J. Richardson-----J. F. Rogers
1877-Oak Grove, Carroll County-----	J. P. Arnold-----J. F. Rogers
1878-New Prospect -----	J. P. Arnold-----J. F. Rogers
1879-Bethel, Carroll County -----	J. C. Park-----J. F. Rogers
1880-Wildersville, Henderson County -----	J. C. Park-----J. H. Thomas
1881-Ramble Creek-----	J. P. Arnold-----D. J. Allen
1882-Cross Roads, Benton County-----	J. C. Park-----D. J. Allen
1883-Prospect, Carroll County-----	J. C. Park-----D. J. Allen

1884-Sardis Ridge, Decatur County ----- Geo. Hollowell-----D. J. Allen
1885-Concord, Carroll County----- Geo. Hollowell-----C. H. Rogers
1886-Trace Creek, Humphreys County ----- J. C. Park-----D. J. Allen
1887-Liberty, Carroll County ----- J. C. Park-----D. J. Allen
1888-Unity, Benton County ----- J. C. Park-----D. J. Allen
1889-Holly Springs ----- J. F. Rogers-----D. J. Allen
1890-Mt. Nebo, Carroll County ----- J. C. Park-----D. J. Allen
1891-Rushing Creek, Benton County----- E. M. Joyner-----D. J. Allen
1892-New Hope, Carroll County ----- E. M. Joyner-----D. J. Allen
1893-Chalk Level, Benton County----- E. M. Joyner-----D. J. Allen
1894-Mt. Comfort----- E. M. Joyner-----C. H. Rogers
1895-Flatwoods, Benton County ----- E. M. Joyner-----D. J. Allen
1896-Marlsboro, Carroll County ----- E. M. Joyner-----D. J. Allen
1897-Bethel, Carroll County ----- E. M. Joyner-----D. J. Allen
1898-Shiloh, Carroll County ----- N. L. Joyner -----D. J. Allen
1899-Pleasant Hill, Benton County ----- W. S. Roney-----C. H. Rogers
1900-Salem, Decatur County----- W. S. Roney-----C. H. Rogers
1901-Chalk Hill, Benton County ----- N. L. Joyner -----C. H. Rogers
1902-Cross Roads, Benton County----- E. Z. Newsom-----C. H. Rogers
1903-New Prospect, Decatur County ----- E. M. Joyner-----C. H. Rogers
1904-Ephesus, Carroll County ----- E. M. Joyner-----C. H. Rogers
1905-Pleasant Grove----- E. M. Joyner-----C. H. Rogers
1906-Ramble Creek----- T. M. Boyd -----C. H. Rogers
1907-Oak Grove, Carroll County----- T. M. Boyd -----C. H. Rogers
1908-Concord, Carroll County----- T. M. Boyd -----C. H. Rogers
1909-Pleasant Ridge ----- T. M. Boyd -----C. H. Rogers
1910-Perryville, Decatur County ----- T. M. Boyd -----C. H. Rogers
1911-Unity, Benton County ----- T. M. Boyd -----D. H. Franks
1912-Chalk Level, Benton County----- Joe N. Joyner-----D. H. Franks
1913-Holly Springs ----- J. G. Cooper -----D. H. Franks
1914-Mt. Nebo----- J. G. Cooper -----D. H. Franks
1915-Liberty, Carroll County ----- S. W. Joyner-----D. H. Franks
1916-Tom's Creek, Perry County----- J. N. Joyner -----D. H. Franks
1917-Westport, Carroll County ----- T. M. Boyd -----Geo. S. Price
1918-Mt. Pisgah, Carroll County ----- T. M. Boyd -----L. E. Mincey
1919-Cross Roads, Benton County----- J. N. Joyner -----L. E. Mincey
1920-Mt. Comfort, Carroll County----- J. N. Joyner -----C. E. Butler
1921-Ephesus, Carroll County ----- J. N. Joyner -----C. E. Butler
1922-Eva, Benton County ----- J. N. Joyner -----A. H. Franks
1923-Prospect, Carroll County----- J. N. Joyner -----A. H. Franks
1924-Flatwoods, Benton County ----- J. N. Joyner -----A. H. Franks
1925-Bunches Chapel ----- J. N. Joyner -----A. H. Franks
1926-Oak Grove----- J. N. Joyner -----C. V. Cooper
1927-Pleasant Hill----- J. N. Joyner -----C. V. Cooper
1928-Shiloh, Carroll County ----- T. M. Boyd -----C. V. Cooper
1929-Bruceton, Carroll County ----- T. M. Boyd -----C. V. Cooper
1930-New Prospect, Decatur County ----- J. N. Joyner -----W. S. Brinkley
1931-New Hope, Carroll County ----- S. W. Joyner -----W. S. Brinkley
1932-New Liberty, Carroll County----- S. W. Joyner -----W. S. Brinkley
1933-Westport, Carroll County ----- S. W. Joyner -----W. S. Brinkley
1934-Ephesus, Carroll County ----- S. W. Joyner -----W. S. Brinkley
1935-Mt. Comfort, Carroll County----- E. H. Martin -----W. S. Brinkley

1936-Marlsboro, Carroll County ----- S. W. Joyner-----W. S. Brinkley
 1937-Cedar Hill, Decatur County ----- S. W. Joyner-----W. S. Brinkley
 1938-Concord, Carroll County----- S. W. Joyner-----W. S. Brinkley
 1939-Yuma, Carroll County----- S. W. Joyner-----W. S. Brinkley
 1940-Caledonia, Henry County----- S. W. Joyner-----W. S. Brinkley
 1941-Oak Grove, Carroll County----- W. H. Hopper -----W. S. Brinkley
 1942-New Cross Roads, Carroll County ----- W. H. Hopper -----W. S. Brinkley
 1943-New Bethel, Henry County----- W. H. Hopper -----W. S. Brinkley
 1944-Westport, Carroll County----- W. H. Hopper -----W. S. Brinkley
 1945-Marlsboro, Carroll County ----- S. W. Joyner-----W. S. Brinkley
 1946-Mt. Comfort, Carroll County----- E. F. Prince -----W. S. Brinkley
 1947-Pleasant Grove, Henderson County ----- E. F. Prince -----W. S. Brinkley
 1948-Old Union, Benton County ----- E. F. Prince -----W. S. Brinkley
 1949-Cross Roads, Benton County----- E. F. Prince -----T. L. Campbell
 1950-Bible Grove, Henderson County ----- C. F. Carter -----T. L. Campbell
 1951-Republican Grove ----- C. F. Carter -----T. L. Campbell
 1952-Pleasant Hill, Benton County ----- C. F. Carter -----T. L. Campbell
 1953-Ephesus, Carroll County ----- John Hedges -----T. L. Campbell
 1954-Mixie, Carroll County ----- John Hedges -----Ray Smith
 1955-Concord, Carroll County----- John Hedges -----Ray Smith
 1956-Tom's Creek, Perry County----- T. L. Campbell-----Ray Smith
 1957-Independent, Carroll County ----- T. L. Campbell-----Ray Smith
 1958-Bethel, Carroll County ----- T. L. Campbell-----Ray Smith
 1959-Oak Grove, Carroll County----- T. L. Campbell-----Ray Smith
 1960-New Bethel, Henry County----- T. L. Campbell-----Ray Smith
 1961-Center Point, Carroll County----- T. L. Campbell-----Ray Smith
 1962-Caledonia, Henry County----- T. L. Campbell-----Ray Smith
 1963-Old Union, Benton County ----- T. L. Campbell-----Ray Smith
 1964-New Bethel, Henry County----- T. L. Campbell-----Ray Smith
 1965-Rushing Creek, Benton County----- T. L. Campbell-----Ray Smith
 1966-Westport, Carroll County ----- T. L. Campbell-----Ray Smith
 1967-New Prospect, Decatur County ----- T. L. Campbell-----Ray Smith
 1968-Ephesus, Carroll County ----- C. F. Carter -----Ray Smith
 1969-Concord, Carroll County----- C. F. Carter -----Ray Smith
 1970-New Frank's Chapel, Decatur County --- C. F. Carter -----Ray Smith
 1971-Landmark, Shelby County----- C. F. Carter -----Ray Smith
 1972-Yuma, Carroll County----- C. F. Carter -----Ray Smith
 1973-Pleasant Ridge, Benton County----- C. F. Carter -----Ray Smith
 1974-New Cross Roads, Carroll County ----- C. F. Carter -----Ray Smith
 1975-Cross Roads, Benton County----- C. F. Carter -----Ray Smith
 1976-Second Baptist, Lexington----- C. F. Carter -----Ray Smith
 1977-Bible Grove, Chesterfield----- M. Rayburn-----Ray Smith
 1978-New Bethel, Henry County----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith
 1979-Independent, Carroll County ----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith
 1980-Bethel, Carroll County ----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith
 1981-Landmark, Shelby County----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith
 1982-Pleasant Hill, Benton County ----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith
 1983-New Prospect, Decatur County ----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith
 1984-Concord, Carroll County----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith
 1985-Oak Grove, Henderson County ----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith
 1986-New Liberty, Carroll County----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith
 1987-Westport, Carroll County ----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith

1988-Center Point, Carroll County----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith
 1989-Mixie, Carroll County ----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith
 1990-New Cross Roads, Carroll County ----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith
 1991-Bible Grove, Henderson County ----- Harold Carver-----Lee Carter
 1992-Independent, Carroll County ----- Harold Carver-----Lee Carter
 1993-Marlsboro, Carroll County ----- Harold Carver-----Lee Carter
 1994-Clarksburg, Carroll County----- Harold Carver-----Lee Carter
 1995-Cross Roads, Benton County----- Harold Carver-----Lee Carter
 1996-Landmark, Shelby County----- Harold Carver-----Lee Carter
 1997-New Hope, Carroll County ----- Harold Carver-----Lee Carter
 1998-Shiloh, Carroll County ----- Harold Carver-----Lee Carter
 1999-Concord, Carroll County----- Harold Carver-----Lee Carter
 2000-Bethel, Carroll County ----- Ray Smith -----Lee Carter
 2001-Old Paths, Shelby County ----- A. G. Hayes -----Lee Carter
 2002-Oak Grove, Henderson County ----- A.G. Hayes -----Scott Carter
 2003-New Cross Roads, Carroll County ----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2004-Center Point, Carroll County----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2005-Bible Grove, Henderson County ----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2006- Huntingdon, Carroll County----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2007-Clarksburg, Carroll County----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2008-Oak Grove, Carroll County----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2009- Cross Roads, Benton County ----- Johnny Wall -----Scott Carter
 2010- New Hope, Carroll County----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2011- Westport, Carroll County----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2012-Oak Grove, Henderson County ----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2013-Concord, Carroll County----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2014-Bible Grove, Henderson County ----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2015-Huntingdon, Carroll County----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2016-Pleasant Ridge, Benton County----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2017-Pleasant Hill, Benton County ----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2018-Cross Roads, Benton County----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2019-Oak Grove, Henderson County ----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2020-Concord, Carroll County----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter

Rules of Decorum

- ARTICLE 1. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.
- ARTICLE 2. The Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by members present providing nothing be so construed as to prohibit newly constituted churches petitioning for admission from voting.
- ARTICLE 3. The Moderator shall be considered the judge of order, but any messenger not satisfied with his decision may appeal, provided the appeal is made the same day, but at no subsequent term.
- ARTICLE 4. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as other members, so as not to vote, unless his vote be necessary to decide the question. If he arises to speak he shall call another brother to take the chair.
- ARTICLE 5. All questions brought before the Association shall be introduced by motion, and if seconded, shall be opened to discussion, unless withdrawn by the mover or his second. When a subject has been taken up and a reasonable time allowed for discussion, the Moderator shall take the question by yeas and nays and if a call is made it shall be decided by the members rising.
- ARTICLE 6. Any member wishing to speak shall arise and address the Moderator. Only one member shall be allowed to speak at the same time, who shall not be interrupted while speaking, unless he departs from the subject or makes personal reflection.
- ARTICLE 7. No person shall speak more than once on any subject until all who wish to speak have an opportunity, nor more than twice upon any subject without permission.
- ARTICLE 8. Every subject introduced for discussion shall be first decided before another shall be offered, unless it be laid over by motion with the consent of the mover and the Association.
- ARTICLE 9. The Association shall in all cases be governed by a majority vote of the members present, except in the reception of the churches; then a unanimous vote shall be required.
- ARTICLE 10. The names of the members shall be called whenever the Association shall direct, and the absentees marked.

Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission from the Moderator.

ARTICLE 11. The appellation of "brethren" shall be used by the members in addressing each other.

ARTICLE 12. Any member violating these rules shall be subject to reproof by the Moderator, but only on the day the breach shall have been made.

ARTICLE 13. Amendments or alterations may be made to these rules when a majority deems it necessary.

ARTICLE 14. It shall be the duty of the Association to appoint a finance committee to keep up with the moneys during the association, to make their report when called upon and to turn the moneys received over to the Clerk.

Church Covenant

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior, and on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we do now in the presence of God, angels and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this Church, in knowledge, holiness and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the Church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the Gospel through all nations.

We also engage to maintain family and secret devotion; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger; to abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating drink as a beverage, and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Savior.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation and mindful of the rules of our Savior, to secure it without delay.

We moreover engage that, when we remove from this place, we will as soon as possible unite with some other church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's word.

Constitution

- ARTICLE I. The Association shall be called *Southwestern District Missionary Baptist Association*, known as an advisory council.
- ARTICLE II. It shall be composed of such persons as have been duly elected by such church as may belong to this union to represent them in body.
- ARTICLE III. The messengers representing the different churches shall at the opening of the Association present their letters of correspondence which shall state their appointment as messengers, together with the number of members in fellowship, the number baptized, received by letter, dismissed by letter, excommunicated, restored and dead during the year.
- ARTICLE IV. Every church belonging to this body shall be entitled to three messengers.
- ARTICLE V. Churches of this union failing to represent themselves at one Association will be expected to state reasons for their failure at the next Association, and if any church fails for two consecutive meetings, the Association shall send a committee to inquire into their state.
- ARTICLE VI. New churches may be admitted into this union by signifying their wish by messenger and letter, provided they be deemed orthodox, and are willing to walk in fellowship with us.
- ARTICLE VII. The Association shall have a Moderator and Clerk, who shall be chosen at each annual meeting, as soon as the letters from the different churches are read and their member's names enrolled, provided, also that all newly constituted churches petitioning for union with us shall have full right to vote for Moderator and Clerk, and nothing shall be construed as to prohibit them from voting.
- ARTICLE VIII. This Association shall have no power to adopt rules that shall at any time infringe upon the independence and rights of the churches. It shall however be at liberty to advise churches belonging to it, or it may

separate from churches as are known to walk disorderly.

- ARTICLE IX. The Association shall have a fund for its expenses, and the churches shall be at liberty to send up such contributions as they may think proper.
- ARTICLE X. Any church of this union having a difficulty that she cannot settle may call for help from her sister churches, or may present the case to this body for advice. Such cases must be presented in the letters of correspondence, stating the reason why it had not or could not be decided by the church.
- ARTICLE XI. When churches of this union have members supposed to possess ministerial gifts, they may call from two or more churches for the aid of their ordained ministers and deacons to examine the individuals and, if thought advisable, to ordain such member or members to preach the gospel which shall be reported at the next association and entered upon the Minutes.
- ARTICLE XII. The minutes of this Association will be read, corrected, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the session rise. And no Association shall adjourn, unless in extraordinary cases, until it has finished all its business.
- ARTICLE XIII. The Clerk shall read the Rules of Decorum on the first day of each Association meeting.

Articles of Faith

I. We believe that the Scripture of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God; and the only rule of faith and practice. (Proverbs 30:5-6; 2 Samuel 23:2; John 5:38-39; John 12:47-48; Romans 1:16; Romans 3:4; Galatians 1:8-9; Philippians 3:16; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; 1 Peter 1:10-12; 1 Peter 4:11; 2 Peter 1:21; 1 John 4:1; Revelation 22:18-19)

II. We believe that the Scriptures teach that there is but one living and true God; and there are three persons in this one God - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; and this Triune God is the only object of religious worship and adoration, and that all worship paid anything less in the name of God is idolatry and abomination in His sight. (Exodus 15:11; Exodus 20:3; Psalms 83:18; Psalms 147:5; Isaiah 6:3; Jeremiah 2:12-13; Jeremiah 10:10; Matthew 10:37; Matthew 28:19; Mark 12:30; John 4:24; John 5:17; John 10:30; John 14:23-28; John 15:26; John 17:5, 10; Acts 5:3-4; Romans 1:20; 1 Corinthians 2:10-11; 1 Corinthians 12:4-6; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Ephesians 2:18; Philippians 2:5-6; Hebrews 3:4; 1 Peter 1:15-16; 1 John 5:7; Revelation 1:4-5; Revelation 4:6-8; Revelation 4:11)

III. We believe that God created man good and happy; that he sinned and fell from that condition; that by the fall he lost his original righteousness and became sinful and depraved; and as a natural consequence, that his posterity by ordinary generations are involved in all the consequences of his fall. (Genesis 1:27, 31; Genesis 2:16; Genesis 3:6-24; Genesis 6:5-6; Genesis 6:12; Psalms 51:5; Ecclesiastes 7:29; Isaiah 53:6; Jeremiah 4:22; Ezekiel 18:19-20; Matthew 20:15; John 3:6; Acts 15:26; Romans 1:18-32; Romans 2:1-16; Romans 3:10-19; Romans 5:12-19; Romans 8:7; Galatians 3:10; Galatians 3:22; Ephesians 2:1-3; Titus 3:3)

IV. We believe that man, by nature, has no power to recover himself from his lost and ruined condition and, unless God Himself had provided a way of Salvation, would have been ruined and miserable forever, because all have sinned. (Psalms 45; Psalms 89:19; Isaiah 42:21; Isaiah 53:4-5; Matthew 18:11-14; Matthew 20:28; John 1:1-14; John 3:16-18; Acts 15:11; Romans 3:10-26; Romans 4:25; Romans 5:12, 19; 1 Corinthians 3:5-7; 1 Corinthians 15:1-3; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Galatians 3:22; Galatians 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:5-9; Philippians 2:6-8; Colossians 2:9; Colossians 3:1-4; Hebrews 1:3,8; Hebrews 2:9,14,18; Hebrews 4:14; Hebrews 7:25-26; Hebrews 9:13-15; Hebrews 12:24; 1 John 2:3; 1 John 4:5-10)

V. We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly by grace, through the mediatorial office of the Son of God, who took upon Himself our nature, yet without sin, honored law by His personal obedience and made atonement for our sins by His Death; being risen from the dead, is now enthroned in heaven, and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with Divine perfection, in every way qualified to be a suitable, compassionate and all-sufficient Savior. (Proverbs 1:24; Isaiah 55:1; Matthew 11:20; Matthew 23:37; Mark 1:15; Luke 14:17; Luke 19:27; John 3:19; John 5:40; Acts 13:46; Romans 1:15-17; Romans 5:19; Romans 9:32; Romans 16:26; 2 Thessalonians 1:8; Hebrews 2:9-10; Hebrews 5:1-10; Hebrews 6:16-20; Hebrews 7:11-28; Revelation 22:17)

VI. We believe that fallen man has nothing, and can do nothing, of himself, to recommend him to the favorable notice of the Divine Being, and that all his hopes of pardon, justification, redemption, and sanctification are derived alone from the merits of Christ. (Isaiah 64:4-8; Daniel 9:18-19; Zechariah 3:1-5; John 3:36; John 14:6; Acts 4:12; Acts 10:42-43; 1 Corinthians 3:11; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; 1 John 5:11-12; Revelation 20:15)

VII. We believe that Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, is the only Mediator between God and man; that He first became our surety and in the fullness of time our sacrifice, and that the efficacious plea He makes before the throne in our behalf is built upon His own all-adorning sacrifice. (Psalms 45:6; Psalms 89:19; Isaiah 53:4-5; Romans 3:21-26; Romans 8:34; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Galatians 4:4-5; Philippians 2:6-8; Colossians 3:1-4; 1 Timothy 2:3-6; Hebrews 1:3, 8; Hebrews 2:9; Hebrews 2:14; Hebrews 2:18; Hebrews 4:14; Hebrews 7:25-26; Hebrews 9:13-28; Hebrews 12:24; 1 John 2:1-3; 1 John 4:10)

VIII. We believe the Holy Spirit - the third person in the Trinity - is the great agent in convincing man of his lost and condemned condition, and in making the Gospel plain and acceptable. (Psalms 34:18; Luke 15:7; John 6:44; John 6:65; John 14:16-18; John 14:25-26; John 15:26-27; John 16:7-14; Acts 3:19; Acts 8:22; Acts 9:4-5; Acts 16:14; Romans 8:16; 2 Corinthians 7:10; 1 John 2:20)

IX. We believe that all who are sanctified by the Spirit are freely justified by the righteousness of Christ, which comes to all that believe. (Proverbs 4:18; Matthew 26:41; Luke 9:23; Luke 11:35; John 3:6; Acts 13:38-39; Romans 8:5-15; 1 Corinthians 6:11; 2 Corinthians 3:18; 2 Corinthians 7:1; 1 Corinthians 13:5-9; Galatians 2:16; Ephesians 1:3-14; Ephesians 4:11-12,30; Ephesians 6:18; Philippians 1:9-11; Philippians 2:12-13; Philippians 3:12-16; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24; Hebrews 6:11; 1 Peter 1:5-8; 1 Peter 2:2; 1 Peter 3:18; 1 John 2:24-29)

X. We believe that all who are called to be saints through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth shall never finally be lost. (2 Kings 6:16; Job 17:9; Psalms 16:10-11; Psalms 91:11-12; Psalms 121:3; Psalms 125:1; Jeremiah 32:40; Matthew 6:30-33; Matthew 13:20-21; John 4:14; John 6:66-69; John 8:31; John 13:18; Romans 8:28,35-39; 2 Corinthians 1:21-22; Ephesians 1:13-14; Ephesians 4:30; Philippians 1:6; Philippians 2:12-13; 2 Timothy 1:12; Hebrews 1:14; Hebrews 13:5; 1 Peter 1:3-5; 1 John 2:19,27-28; 1 John 3:9; 1 John 4:4; 1 John 5:18; Jude 24-25)

XI. We believe that Christian churches are to be formed of believers in Christ who give evidence of a change of heart, and have been properly baptized. (Matthew 3:7-17; Matthew 18:15-20; Matthew 28:18-20; John 14:15,21; John 15:12; Acts 2:37-38,41-42,47; Acts 8:1,36-38; Acts 10:44-48; Acts 14:23; Acts 15:22; Acts 16:30-33; Acts 19:1-7; Romans 16:17-20; 1 Corinthians 1:1-3; 1 Corinthians 4:11,17; 1 Corinthians 5:6,12-13; 1 Corinthians 11:2,23-26; 1 Corinthians 12:14; 1 Corinthians 14:12; 2 Corinthians 2:7; 2 Corinthians 8:5; Galatians 6:2; Ephesians 4:7; Philippians 1:1,27; 1 Thessalonians 4:2; 2 Thessalonians 3:6; 1 John 4:21; 2 John 6; 3 John 9)

XII. We believe that the government of the church is not left in the hands of any one man, or number of men, distinct from the body, but that it is left with the whole church. (Matthew 16:16-19; Matthew 18:15-20; Acts 14:23; Acts 15:22; Romans 16:17-20; 1 Corinthians 1:10-13; 1 Corinthians 5:6, 12-13; 1 Corinthians 11:2, 23; 1 Corinthians 12:14; 1 Corinthians 14:12; 1 Corinthians 14:26-33; 2 Corinthians 8:5; Galatians 6:2; Philippians 1:27; 2 Thessalonians 3:6; 1 Timothy 5:21)

XIII. We believe that the first day of the week, called the Lord's Day, is sanctified or set apart for the public worship of God, and that it is the duty of Christians to abstain from all unnecessary visiting, trifling conversation, and labor, except so much as is devoted to works of necessity and mercy. (Genesis 2:3; Exodus 20:8; Exodus 35:2-3; Leviticus 19:30; Psalms 26:8; Psalms 118:24; Isaiah 56:2-8; Isaiah 58:13-14; Matthew 28:1; Mark 2:27-28; John 20:19-20; Acts 11:26; Acts 13:44; Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2; Hebrews 4:3-11; Hebrews 10:24-25; Revelation 1:10)

XIV. We believe that God has appointed the preaching of the Gospel for the edification of His church and the advancement of His kingdom; that it is the duty of church members to contribute to the support of the ministry as God in His providence may give them ability. (2 Kings 5:11, 13; Jonah 3:4-5; Psalms 94:11-13; Mark 16:15; Acts 8:31; Acts 11:29-30; Romans 10:13-17; Romans 12:13; Romans 15:25-27; 1 Corinthians 1:17-18, 21; 1 Corinthians 9:9-14; 2 Corinthians 8:13-15; 2 Corinthians 9:6-8; Ephesians 1:13; 1 Timothy 5:17-18; Titus 1:2-3; 1 Peter 1:25; 1 John 3:17)

XV. We believe that God calls men, by His Spirit, to preach the Gospel, and that it is the duty of the individual thus called to study to show himself approved unto God a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (1 Samuel 3:4, 10; Acts 13:2-3; Acts 16:10; Acts 20:27; Romans 1:1; 1 Corinthians 1:17; 1 Corinthians 1:23-29; 2 Corinthians 4:1-7; 2 Corinthians 6:3-4; Galatians 1:10-12; 1 Thessalonians 2:3-4; 1 Timothy 4:6; 1 Timothy 4:12-16; 2 Timothy 2:15; Hebrews 6:1-2; Hebrews 13:17; 1 Peter 2:9-10; 1 Peter 5:1-3; 2 Peter 1:10)

XVI. We believe that Jesus Christ has appointed two positive institutions or ordinances to be observed in His church - baptism and the Lord's Supper; that baptism is immersion in water, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and believers only are capable of rightfully receiving the ordinances, that baptism precedes the Lord's Supper and none but ordained ministers have any right to administer them. (Matthew 3:5-6; Matthew 26:26-29; Matthew 28:16-20; Mark 3:13-14; Mark 14:22-25; Mark 16:16; Luke 22:14-20; John 3:22-23; John 4:1-3; John 6:26-71; Acts 2:38,41-42; Acts 6:6; Acts 8:12,36-39; Acts 10:47-48; Acts 14:21-23; Acts 16:32-34; Acts 18:8,24-28; Romans 6:4; 1 Corinthians 5:1-8; 1 Corinthians 10:3-32; 1 Corinthians 11:17-32; Galatians 3:26-28; Colossians 2:12; Titus 1:5; 1 Peter 3:20-21)

XVII. We believe that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust; that the just will rise to everlasting life and the unjust to everlasting shame and contempt. (Job 19:25-27; Ecclesiastes 3:17; Daniel 12:1-2; Malachi 3:18; Matthew 13:41-43; Matthew 13:49-50; Matthew 24:30-31; Matthew 24:35-44; Matthew 25:31-33; Matthew 25:46; Luke 14:13-14; John 5:28-29; Acts

24:15; 1 Corinthians 15:19; 2 Corinthians 5:10; 2 Peter 2:9; 2 Peter 3:11-12; Revelation 1:7; Revelation 20:11-12)

XVIII. We believe that the Gospel with all its obligations, privileges, and blessings, has been committed to the church of whom it is especially enjoined to make known to every creature, while a risen and ascended Savior pledges His presence to the end of the world. (Proverbs 1:24; Isaiah 55:6-7; Matthew 11:20-24; Matthew 23:37; Matthew 24:14; Mark 1:15; Mark 13:9-11; Mark 16:15; Luke 19:27; John 3:19; John 5:39-40; Acts 13:46; Romans 1:15-17; Romans 9:32-33; 2 Thessalonians 1:8-12; 2 Timothy 1:7-10; Revelation 14:6-7).

Missions Supported

*addresses available upon request to clerk

Rick Jones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bethel • Clarksburg • Concord 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shiloh • New Cross Rds • Oak Grove
Eugene Brown (<i>Words of Hope</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bible Grove • Cross Roads • New Hope • Oak Grove 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pleasant Hill • Rushing's Creek • Shiloh • Huntingdon
Belize Mission - Monte Shoulders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross Roads 	
Ministeral Alliance, Camden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross Roads • Pleasant Ridge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pleasant Hill
Ministeral Alliance, Huntingdon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huntingdon 	
Back to the Bible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bethel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pleasant Hill
Eric Hammett (<i>Mexico</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Center Point 	
Tony Boyd, Radio Ministry WRJB Camden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross Roads 	
Todd Marks (<i>Peru</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Center Point 	
Khrys Paige (<i>Trinidad</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bible Grove • New Hope 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shiloh • Pleasant Ridge
8 Days of Hope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Spring Hill 	
Nueva Missionary Baptist Church (<i>Guatemala</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oak Grove 	
Second Harvest Food Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huntingdon 	
UT Martin Bible Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huntingdon 	
Pre Born	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Spring Hill 	
Samaritan's Purse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huntingdon • Cross Roads 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Spring Hill
Kenya African Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross Roads • Oak Grove 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huntingdon • Shiloh
Jamaica Mission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bethel • New Hope • Shiloh 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross Roads • Huntingdon • Concord
Don Curtis, Wells of Salvation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oak Grove 	
Harvey Ambrose (<i>Alaksa</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landmark 	
F.U.E.L School Lunch Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross Roads 	
Place of Hope Ministries c/o Mike Cope		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huntingdon
Hope Center Ministries McEwen Sponsorship Fund		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huntingdon
Gregory McClerkin-Hope for Sudan:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Spring Hill

**In Memory of Our Sainted Dead-42
Deacon-4**

Bethel

Sis. Betty Meggs	12/20/19
Sis. Shirley Crider	05/17/20
Bro. Ronnie Carter	08/23/20
Bro. Jimmy Allen (Deacon)	09/21/20

Bible Grove

Bro. Bruce Wayne Woods	09/11/19
Bro. Joe Herman Maness	03/17/20
Bro. Jim Towater	05/06/20
Bro. Randell Woods	06/01/20
Bro. Tony Earl Wood	07/28/20
Sis. Dorothy Wood Maness	08/29/20
Sis. Dallas Faye McCay Rushing	09/04/20

Center Point

Bro. Ricky Joe Hilliard (Deacon)	01/22/20
Bro. David Higdon	03/09/20
Sis. Earnestine Higdon	05/05/20
Sis. Sharon Noles	07/09/20

Clarksburg

Sis. Mary Frances Hart	07/15/20
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Concord

Sis. Velma Sue Prince	08/08/20
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Cross Roads

Bro. Bill Jordan	10/20/19
Bro. Phillip (Ted) Rayburn	04/09/20
Bro. Ken Kalas	04/14/20
Bro. Greg Hicks	07/31/20
Sis. Kelly Pierpoint	08/13/20

Huntingdon

Sis. Jackie Williams	11/01/19
Bro. R.C. Wilson	11/18/19
Sis. Marguerite Kirksey	03/16/20
Bro. David Taylor	08/18/20
Sis. Gina Collins	08/30/20

New Hope

Bro. Jimmy Umstead	02/27/20
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Oak Grove

Bro. Larry Hayes	12/05/19
Bro. Goy Williams (Deacon)	12/24/19
Sis. Louise Small	01/15/20

Pleasant Grove

Bro. Marcus Rickman	10/13/19
Sis. Becky Hays	11/19/19
Bro. Max Bradfield (Deacon)	12/20/19

Pleasant Hill

Bro. William Hamilton Hargrove	07/29/20
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Pleasant Ridge

Sis. Jacqueline "Jackie" Annette Coleman	10/23/19
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Rushing's Creek

Sis. Reba Berry	01/12/20
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Shiloh

Bro. David Prater	01/21/20
Bro. Edward Hammett	02/14/20

Westport

Sis. Sue Helen Cary Gaskins	10/27/19
Bro. Bill Brandon	04/19/20
Bro. Billy Ray Byrum	07/03/20

Sunday School Statistical Table

Church	Superintendent	Teachers & Officers	Enrollment	Expenditures
Bethel		7	46	\$16,869.56
Bible Grove	Chase Milam	18		
Center Point	Daniel Cooley	5	38	
Clarksburg	Tommy Altom	17	30	\$2,619.00
Concord	Alvin Boyd	14	50	\$4,561.00
Cross Roads	Jim Dungan	17	85	\$1,492.00
Huntingdon	Ray Smith	21	130	\$873.50
Landmark	Keith Brewer			
Marlsboro				
Mixie				
New Cross Roads		7		
New Hope	Jacob Gullede	7	22	\$673.25
New Spring Hill			14	
Oak Grove	Ernie Gibson	15	97	
Pleasant Grove	Ryan Maness			
Pleasant Hill	Pete Hargrove	6	21	\$432.00
Pleasant Ridge	Anthony French	10	28	\$1,771.38
Rushing's Creek				
Shiloh	Joe Cary	6		\$941.00
Westport	Jerry Dodd	10	38	
TOTALS		160	599	\$30,232.69

Statistical Table 2020

Church	Lord's Supper	Foot Washing	Baptisms	Additions by Letter	Restorations	Total Additions	Deaths	Losses by Letter	Exclusion	Total Losses	Membership
Bethel	1	0	1	2	0	3	4	2	2	8	151
Bible Grove	1	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	7	
Center Point	0	0	11	1	0	12	4	0	0	4	114
Clarksburg	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	129
Concord	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	3	141
Cross Roads	1	0	3	0	0	3	5	4	1	10	185
Huntingdon	1	0	2	6	0	8	5	3	0	8	336
Landmark	1										51
Marlsboro						0				0	
Mixie						0				0	
New Cross Rds.	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	76
New Hope	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	84
New Spring Hill	1	0				0				0	14
Oak Grove	1	0	3	4	0	7	3	1	0	4	162
Pleasant Grove	1	0	2	1	0	3	3	0	0	3	
Pleasant Hill	0	0	1	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	116
Pleasant Ridge	1	1	0	2	0	2	1	0	0	1	84
Rushing Creek	0	0	3	3	0	6	1	0	0	1	
Shiloh	1	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	0	2	43
Westport	0	0	2	*2	0	4	3	0	0	3	61
TOTALS	13	2	29	25	0	54	41	13	3	57	1,747

***By Statement**

Financial Table 2020

Church	Minute Fund	Clerk Fund	Expenditures	Ministireal Help	Mission Support	Grand Total
Bethel	\$160	\$50	\$56,543.64	\$2,122.00	\$7,995.00	\$66,660.64
Bible Grove	\$120	\$75				\$0.00
Center Point	\$50	\$50	\$4,389.24	\$350.00	\$1,060.30	\$5,799.54
Clarksburg	\$80	\$50	\$8,104.00	\$33,900.00	\$6,214.00	\$48,218.00
Concord	\$100	\$50	\$2,852.00	\$1,703.00	\$1,373.00	\$5,928.00
Cross Roads	\$240	\$50	\$121,269.00	\$1,788.00	\$11,763.00	\$134,820.00
Huntingdon	\$200	\$200	\$251,385.12	\$13,325.00	\$33,635.58	\$298,345.70
Landmark	\$75	\$75				\$0.00
Marlsboro	\$0	\$0				\$0.00
Mixie	\$40	\$25				\$0.00
New Cross Rds.	\$100	\$25				\$0.00
New Hope	\$48	\$50	\$8,647.89	\$2,300.00	\$8,753.97	\$19,701.86
New Spring Hill	\$28	\$20			\$200.00	\$200.00
Oak Grove	\$140	\$50				\$0.00
Pleasant Grove	\$125	\$125				\$0.00
Pleasant Hill	\$100	\$25	\$14,509.00	\$1,500.00	\$800.00	\$16,809.00
Pleasant Ridge	\$50	\$200	\$8,282.84	\$1,000.00	\$1,844.00	\$11,126.84
Rushing Creek	\$0	\$0	\$25,324.34	\$1,300.00	\$1,985.10	\$28,609.44
Shiloh	\$80	\$50	\$7,398.00	\$750.00	\$6,600.00	\$14,748.00
Westport	\$60	\$40				\$0.00
TOTALS	\$1,796	\$1,210	\$508,705.07	\$60,038.00	\$82,223.95	\$650,967.02