Ist BAPTIST CHURCH

CENTENNIAL HISTORY



1968

1868

VERSAILLES, MISSOURI



A Message Irom The Pastor

Our past history is filled with many noble achievements and unbelievable victories, our present building is an example. It was built when only a few had the faith to start it. And many sacrificed to see it completed.

Much has been done, yet much remains to be done. With unswerving faith and dedication to God, we can make even greater advancements in the future.

As you read this book I hope it will bless your heart as it did mine. I hope it will inspire you to have the courage that our forefathers had 100 years ago. I hope this will be a reminder to support the church in its many activities as well as its scheduled services. We do pray God's blessing on you as "we labor together with Him."

Prayerfully yours,

Bob Stokes, Pastor

HISTORY OF VERSAILLES

In 1868, when this church was organized, Versailles had a population of around 350 people, without any railroad, but a stage coach, called the Hack, ran between here and Tipton carrying passengers and the mail.

Tipton had been the nearest railroad point since 1858 when the great Pacific Railroad Company extended their line from St. Louis to Tipton making Tipton a terminal and the farthest west a railroad had been built by this company.

- There were just four brick buildings in town, the Court House (erected in 1844), also a small, one story building, located on a part of the ground, now occupied by Versailles Appliance, the small building that stood so many years where B. K. Cleaners building is now located and a small jail erected in 1865.
- The county was sparsely settled, much of the fine prairie section north east of Versailles was untilled and unfenced.
- Many of the people had suffered financial reverses during the Civil War and some families had had their sons and husbands and fathers killed in the war. Those who had fought with the Confederate army had been disfranchised; so times were very hard and very difficult.
- To add to the problems of the people, roving marauders, called bush whackers, often visited homes and farms and took valuables and stock as they pleased and to try to resist them meant death.
- Almost every family in town kept a cow and people walking home from town or church meetings at night were bothered by the cows loafing on the few wood sidewalks or in the dirty and messy streets. So they carried lanterns.
- The Court House yard was surrounded by a fence with hitchposts where horses and teams were hitched and as the streets were just dirt ones, you can understand how dirty, messy and foul smelling these dirt roads were on sunny days and then when it rained they were almost impassable.
 - Some of the stores in Versailles in 1868:
 - From ads in Morgan County Banner
 - James A. Spurlock Located north west corner public square.
 - Peoples Store Owned by Reed, Gibbs and Willson. Handled staple and fancy dry goods, groceries, hardware, queensware, wooden ware, books and shoes, hats and caps, lumber, shingles, lathes, shirting, cloaking, flannels, alpacas, mohairs.
 - Shoe and Bootmaker Jacob Leaher Shop on south side of public square.
 - Rains and White Wagon, carriage and plow makers, also repairing done on order.
 - Cooper Shop North of Methodist Church owned by E. A. Stolp.
- Black Smith Business E. Lindly Block south of public square.
 - C. Friedly Tailor Shop in front room of Harness Shop on north side of square.
 - Stoves, tinware and all kinds of job work Louis Walter.
 - Grocery Store A. J. Thompson Located in the new building at the south west corner of public square.
 - John H. Stover Attorney at Law. May be consulted in English and German languages. Brown and Jackson - Attorney at Law.

Thomas Conoway - respectfully informs the citizens of Versailles and vicinity that he has permanently located himself in Versailles and where all may be supplied with the very best meats the market affords. His stand is on the public square, north of the Court

House, where he will supply his customers as follows:

Monday Morning - Mutton Tuesday Morning - Beef Thursday Morning - Beef Saturday Morning - Mutton and Pork

He will at all times supply his patrons with such other meats as they may desire and that he may be able to procure such as bacon, fish, game and poultry.

Godfrey Weber - Owner of St. Martins Nursery located between Versailles and Tipton. Offers all kinds of trees, grapes, gooseberries, strawberries as well as shrubs and plants for sale.

Two businesses of 1868 still in business in Versailles.

The cabinet shop and furniture store of Wm. Kidwell has been discontinued years ago altho some of this furniture is still in the vicinity, but the Funeral Service part of the business is still located in Versailles.

Martin Hotel - Where the Tipton Stages (called the hacks) arrived and departed.

Table supplied with the best the market affords. Meals 25ϕ - beds 25ϕ . Ample accomodation for man and beast.

Samuel Martin - Prop.

Ad in Morgan County Banner

PLAGUES AND DROUGHTS

In 1875, a large union meeting was held at the Court House on the third day of June as Gov. Harden had set aside this day as a day for humble and devout prayer and to otherwise observe the day for fasting and prayer to seek divine intervention in halting of the grass hopper or Rocky mountain locust invasion.

Rains came and helped to save the crops that year.

During the drought of 1901, people met in the churches and prayed for rain.

During the severe drought of 1934, Bro. B. F. Kennedy announced that there would be a prayer meeting praying for rain. Our church building was filled and people stood in the aisles and outside as this meeting lasted from 7:30 to 10:00 P.M.

Rains came in time to save the cattle and people raised late gardens.

Our church has gone thru the panic of 1873, the depression of 1891 and the big depression of 1929 and the early 1930's.

We were in World War I at the time of our 50th Anniversary.

World War II at the time of our 75th Anniversary.

Viet Nam at this time of our 100th Anniversary.

Please pray for peace.

Our church has been closed three times on account of critical contagious diseases.

- 1. Cholera Minutes of September 1873 No meetings in September or October on account of sickness in town. (Cholera)
- Spanish Influenza Minutes of October 15, 1918 All public meetings and services in the churches were suspended in the city of Versailles on and after said October 15, 1918, until further notice by Board of Health of the City of Versailles on account of Spanish Influenza.

The Ban was raised December 27, 1918 by order of the Board of Health and this church resumed regular services Sunday, January 5, 1919.

3. Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis) epidemic in the summer of 1946 closed our meetings for several Sundays.

CHARTER MEMBERS AND THEIR PICTURES

On a cold Sunday afternoon, January 13th, 1868, sixteen people, three men and thirteen women, who had been members of Baptist churches where they had previously lived, met in the Methodist church building. This was an old structure that stood about where the present Methodist church now stands. They met for the purpose of organizing The First Baptist Church of Versailles.

Only one of this group, Miss Alice Lawler, had belonged to The Freedom Church.

Meeting with these 16 people was a council composed of Rev. J. B. Box, moderator; Rev. Wm. M. Robinson, Clerk; Rev. Isaiah V. Johnson, Rev. J. W. Williams and Rev. J. E. Sims.

Mrs. J. E. Sims was also present at this meeting.

The church was organized with the following sixteen charter members:



Carrie P. Coleman (Clark)



Dr. Joseph R. Yates



Mary E. Yates



Josephine P. Coleman (Withers)



Ellen Threikeld Yates



Mrs. Elizabeth Wigs Yates



COL. A. W. ANTHONY



MRS. LUCY E. JOBE (TODD)

CHARTER MEMBERS

Colonel A. W. Anthony Norman Gray and his wife, Mary L. Gray Dr. Joseph Richard Yates and his wife, Ellen Threlkeld Yates Mrs. Elizabeth Wigs Yates Miss Mary E. Yates Mrs. Catherine Hubbard Mrs. Catherine Bradbury

Jane Day Carrie P. Coleman Josephine V. Coleman Mrs. Lucy E. Jobe Alice Lawler Mary Neff Mrs. Elizabeth Tipton

A word as to these constituent members.

Col. A. W. Anthony was a lawyer and was a well known and influential citizen of Morgan County for many years. He represented this county in the House of Representatives as clerk from 1856 until 1861 and served under General Price in the Civil War.

He was Morgan County's representative in 1876.

He was one of our first deacons and served from 1868 until 1890 as clerk. Also a trustee.

He was a great uncle of Mrs. P. J. McDonough to whom we are indebted for his picture.

He moved to Neosho and died in 1893.

Norman Gray and his wife, Mary L. Gray were fine people, noted for their zeal as Baptists.

They were born in Virginia and did not have any children. She died in 1879 and he died in 1893.

Dr. Joseph Richard Yates was a young physician, who moved to Versailles in 1867.

His wife's name was Ellen Threlkeld Yates.

His mother's name was Mrs. Elizabeth Wigs Yates. She was a widow.

His sister's name was Mary E. Yates.

Dr. Yates, his wife and family, his mother and sister, moved from Versailles October, 1869, and resided in Eldorado Springs, Missouri for a few years and later moved to Joplin, Missouri where he was a very active member of the First Baptist Church until his death in 1904.

He was our first Sunday School Superintendent and one of our first two deacons.

His granddaughter, Miss Mary Hendrix of Decatur, Illinois furnished the four pictures of the Yates family.

Grandchildren of Dr. Joseph Richard Yates and wife, Ellen Yates, and great grandchildren of Mrs. Elizabeth Yates:

Mrs. C. H. Henshaw	Mrs. A. L. Bindbentel
J. C. Hendrix	Wm. Hendrix
H. R. Wallace	Jack Hendrix
Mrs. O. P. Matthews	Mary Tommie Hendrix

Mrs. Lucy E. Jobe, (afterwards Todd) was the mother of the late Warren Todd and grandmother of Wm. Todd of California, Missouri, and of Mrs. Forrest Backer of Fulton, Missouri, to whom we are indebted for her picture.

She was one of Versailles dress makers and also a tailor of men's clothing.

She lived in Versailles until her death in 1910.

Alice Lawler married John Sims, Jr. and became the grandmother of Dr. Barry and Lois Holloway, also Warren and Herbert Cooper.

Catherine Bradbury was the wife of Tom Bradbury, a merchant in Versailles.

Mr. Bradbury was a great uncle of the late Edna Abell Gering.

Mrs. Mary Neff was the aunt and Mrs. Elizabeth Tipton, the grandmother of the late Edna Abell Gering.

Mrs. Catherine Patterson Hubbard was the wife of Dr. Wm. T. Hubbard and belonged to our church from 1868 until 1878.

She was born in Kentucky in 1829 and died in 1900.

She was the grandmother of Douglas Hubbard, Mrs. Mara Keevil, Mrs. Chas. D. Osborne, Mrs. Harry Heck and Mrs. Norman N. Scott.

Carrie P. Coleman married Geo. P. Clark in 1873 and their home was where George Huffman now lives on East Williamson Street.

From the day of the organization of our church until her death in 1908, she was one of the most faithful and active members of our church.

She taught a mixed Sunday School class of boys and girls. Some of her pupils are here today at this celebration.

She held monthly meetings of the Children's Mission Circle and taught the children about the personnel and also the needs of the mission fields and furnished each child a "mite box" for mission offerings.

She organized and was president of The Ladies Aid Society for years, also president of woman's Missionary Society, treasurer of Lamine and Associational W.M.S. officer.

She was solicitor, week after week, month after month and year after year for funds to pay the preachers, other church expenses and improvements and money for mission gifts.

V. Josephine Coleman, sister of Carrie Coleman Clark, married a Mr. Withers and moved to Texas, where she lived until her husband's death. She then returned to Versailles and lived here until her death.

We are indebted to their great niece, Mrs. Bryan Howard Koetting for their pictures.

Mrs. Koetting gave the communion chairs as a memorial to Mr. & Mrs. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Withers and to her aunt and husband Dr. and Mrs. J. T. Beale.

Minutes of meeting of January 13, 1868.

The Articles of Faith and The Covenant were adopted by the sixteen members of The First Baptist Church in Versailles, Missouri, at the organization there of on the 13th day of January, A.D., 1868, as the only true gospel teachings of faith and practice as delivered by our Saviour and the inspired writings of the Holy Bible.

COVENANT OF 1868

As we trust we have been brought by divine grace to embrace the Lord Jesus Christ, and by the influence of his spirit to give ourselves up to him, so we do now solemnly covenant with each other that God enabling us we will walk to gether in brotherly love; that we will exercise a Christian care and watchfulness over each other and faithfully warn, rebuke and admonish one another as the case shall require; that we will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, nor omit the great duty of prayer, both for ourselves and for others; that we will participate in each other's joys, and endeavor with tenderness and sympathy, to bear each other's burdens and sorrows; that we will earnestly endeavor to bring up such as may be under our care in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; that we will seek divine aid to enable us to walk circumspectly and watchfully in the world; denying ungodliness and every worldly lust; that we will strive together for the support of a faithful evangelical ministry among us; that we will endeavor, by example and effort, to win souls to Christ; and through life amidst evil report and good report seek to live to the Glory of Him who hath called us out of Darkness into His Marvelous Light.

The sixteen members called Rev. J. B. Box, moderator of the council as their first pastor.

He was a native Missourian and a pioneer preacher who served the church in 1868-9 and again in 1872.

January 31, 1868 -

A building committee consisting of Dr. Joseph Yates, A. W. Anthony, W. H. Bradbury, and Hon. J. P. Ross was appointed and instructed to prepare an appeal to the Baptist Churches in the state to assist our church in erecting a House of Worship.

The committee was also instructed to ascertain where and upon what terms a suitable lot could be procured for this purpose.

On motion this same committee was further instructed to make some arrangements to secure a House for regular weekly prayer meeting and for Sunday School exercises.

On motion it was resolved that this church meet every Tuesday evening for prayer service and every Sabbath at 3 O'clock for Sunday School exercises at the place secured for that purpose by the building committee.

The regular stated meetings of this church were appointed for the 3rd Saturday in each month at the hour of Eleven O'clock A.M.

On motion thanks were extended to the Methodist Church for the use of their church edifice, granted us on the 13th of January and also to their Pastor, Rev. Sicitoff, for Christian kinship and courtesy during said occupancy of said church, and that copy of resolution of thanks ordered to be furnished him.

October 12, 1868 -

Rev. Wm. Smith, Pastor of the Methodist church invited our church to occupy their church building for purposes of worship, Sunday School and prayer meeting. Accepted, Saturday, November 14th, 1868.

Saturday, December 12, 1868 -

It was ordered that the sum of \$1.50 per month be raised to pay sexton for making fires and lighting church for regular monthly and weekly meetings of the church and for Sunday School.

Saturday, January 9, 1869 -

On motion of Dr. Joseph R. Yates the committee on building heretofore appointed was discharged and a new committee was appointed consisting of Dr. Joseph R. Yates, A. W. Anthony, John J. Tipton, Thos. Bradbury and Landon Hughes.

Said committee was instructed to procure a suitable lot to erect a church edifice upon as soon as practicable.

On motion it was resolved that said building committee be instructed to correspond immediately with the proper officers of the "American Baptist Home Mission Society" to ascertain if the sum of \$1,000. can be obtained from this society to assist in building a church edifice for this the 1st Baptist Church of Versailles, Missouri.

If such loan could be obtained from this Society - a mortgage be given Society on lot and edifice erected thereon.

January 25, 1869 -

Carrie and Josephine Coleman purchased a log school house from Prof. Rhodes and offered this building for use of our church where we could hold Sunday school, prayer meeting and preaching.

The Sunday school time was now changed from 3 O'clock P.M. to 9 O'clock A.M. and Dr. Joseph R. Yates was re-elected Sunday school superintendent.

February 13, 1869 -

At this business meeting - the members learned that their application for a loan of \$1,000. from the American Baptist Home Mission Society had been refused as the Society reported it did not have any funds on hand at that time.

In April of 1869, our church received permission from the County Court, John H. Papen, presiding judge, to hold services in the Court House until we could build a building. We held our meetings in the Court House from May 16, 1869, until the old auditorium was ready for occupancy in 1879.

June 1869 -

On motion the building committee was instructed to collect the subscriptions or pledges on the church edifice and when \$1,000. was collected to let contract for building same.

September 18, 1869 -

Fifty dollars was reported in Central Baptist (later Word and Way) as being appropriated by the General or State Association to this church to help support a pastor.

May 31, 1874 -

Informal understanding that we proceed to build a church edifice.

June 15, 1874 -

Monday night -- More talk about raising money to build a church building and J. V. Allee, J. B. Handlin, J. L. Keown and J. M. Duff appointed to report, plan and style of building tomorrow night.

Tuesday evening, June 16, 1874 -

The committee appointed to report on plan and style of building gave the following report: We suggest the building of a frame house 32 x 44 ft. and 16 ft. high. One door in front and one in rear, five windows each side 3 ft. 5 in. wide by 9 ft. 9 in. high and recommend the location of this building on lot donated by Hon. Jas. P. Ross - to wit - Lot 12, Scottens addition to Versailles, fronting on east side of Fisher street.

Recorded in Book 29 - Page 250. Lot donated by Hon. James Ross, besides he made a liberal cash subscription donation.

D. P. Taylor and wife paid \$100. cash toward the church building.

We estimate the cost of said building at about \$1500. -- more or less, owing to finish. Cash collected for building -- \$780.

Building Committee: W. M. Bowlin, J. B. Handlin, and A. W. Anthony.

In 1878 - 79, \$1055.50 had been collected toward the building.

Saturday Evening, July 19, 1879 -

Church met in new church building called to order by Pastor, Rev. Horn.

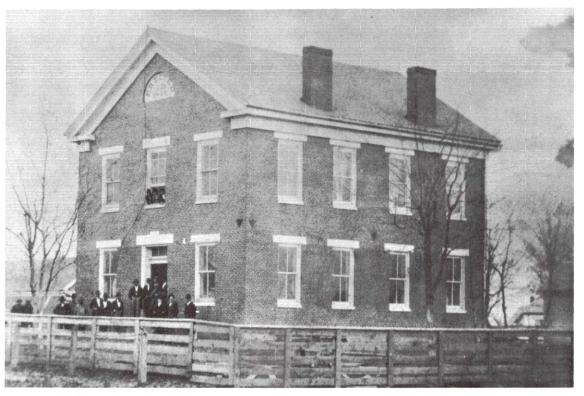
This was the first meeting held in new building -- which was not completed - lathed but not plastered, no flues, no pulpit nor seats and the assembly sat on planks.

The cost of structure was between \$1,800 and \$2,000.

A note made by Colonel Anthony the church clerk says -- "We are in debt around \$300. Prospect gloomy enough, but will come out alright."

Rev. Manley J. Breaker preached the Dedication Sermon, 1881.

Buildings in which we have met besides the Old Methodist Church building and the one room log school house building, belonging to the Coleman sisters.



Morgan County Court House - Versailles, Missouri, built in 1844 and destroyed by fire at the time of the big Versailles fire, March 13, 1887. Our church met here from May 16, 1869 until July 19, 1879.



Our first church building, built during 1877 to 1879. First meeting held in this building July 19, 1879. Dedicated in 1881 with Rev. Manley J. Breaker preaching the Dedication sermon. Our last meeting in this building June 27, 1948.



Tweedie Building Our church home from July 5, 1948 until April 2, 1950.



Our present church building built 1948 - 1950. Dedication held April 2, 1950.

The Christian Church of Versailles, organized in 1886, held meetings once a month in the Baptist Church building until they built their present church building.

They held a 6 weeks protracted revival meeting in the Baptist Church building in 1888.

This meeting was conducted by Rev. Anderson and Rev. Melvis and in 1889, Rev. Edmund Wilkes held a 6 weeks revival in our church building.

The Episcopal Church of Versailles was organized in the Baptist Church building in 1888 and this denomination met on the first Sunday afternoon at 2:00 P.M. of each month in our church building.

Judge Beverley R. Richardson, a lawyer of Versailles, who lived in a large house where Scrivners Funeral Home is now located, was the Senior Warden of this organization.

In 1890, an organization known as The Church of God, was permitted to meet once a month in our church when it was not being used.

On July 9, 1891, a group of Presbyterians met in the Baptist Church and organized The First Presbyterian Church of Versailles.

The late Mae Crewson Petty, mother of Mrs. Rufus Harms, played the organ at this meeting. She was only nine years of age at this time.

NAMES OF PASTORS

J. B. Box
Robert H. Harris
J. B. Box
J. K. Godbey
W. H. Kim
B. F. Taylor
Daniel Horn
W. H. Giboney
J. S. Price
S. M. Victor
Without Pastor
Dr. John Letts
L. N. Berry
E. M. Lumpkin 1890
T. W. Tate
E. T. Shelton
W. C. Driver
D. C. Peters

Edward James
Without Pastor 1902
C. N. White 1903 - 08
A. R. Foster 1909 - 11
H. S. Thornhill 1912 - 16
G. E. Barham
G. N. Neafus
J. C. Cook
F. C. Richards 1922 - 26
H. S. Thornhill
B. F. Kennedy 1929 - 36
L. G. Christian
R. H. Nolte 1942 - 43
Willard Bright
Dr. Alexander Best 1948 - 53
Lloyd Johnson 1953 - 59
Charles Sexton 1959-66
Bob Stokes 1966

We do not have any descendants of the Charter Members belonging to our church member ship now, but Mrs. Wm. Arnold is the daughter and Robert Arnold the grandson of one of our former pastors, Rev. B. F. Kennedy. 1929-1936.

Mrs. Sam Morris and Joe Byler are the great grandchildren and J. D. Byler and Sammy Byler are the great, great grandchildren of Rev. Robert H. Harris who was our pastor in 1870 - 1871.



ROBERT H. HARRIS



T. W. TATE



DR. JOHN LETTS



E. T. SHELTON



E. M. LUMPKIN





REV. D. C. PETERS & FAMILY

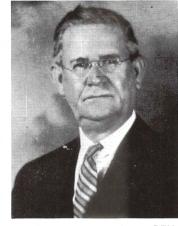




REV. H. S. THORNHILL & WIFE



REV. G. E. BARHAM & FAMILY





REV. J. C. COOK & FAMILY



REV. B. F. KENNEDY



REV. CHAS. SEXTON





EDWARD JAMES



C. N. WHITE



A. R. FOSTER



F. C. RICHARDS



G. N. NEAFUS



WILLARD BRIGHT



DR. ALEXANDER BEST & FAMILY



DR. LESLIE CHRISTIAN & FAMILY



REV. & MRS. R. H. NOLTE



REV. & MRS. LLOYD JOHNSON

REV. BOB STOKES & FAMILY

16

THE EARLY DAY BAPTIST PREACHER

Let us not forget to give credit to the Baptist preachers of the early day for they blazed the path for the brighter and better day of religious worship.

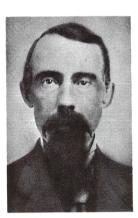
They preached many times without means and without pay.

They left their homes and their crops to see that the Master's banner was held up over a people too poor in money and numbers to hold it up for themselves.

Churches were planted by these fathers and are now being watered by their sons and daughters. Men and women walked miles to hear a preacher and preaching was often held in homes of the people and in bush arbors.

CHURCH CLERKS

Earl Amos	
A. F. Moon	. 1939 - 1939
Lee T. Sims	.1941-1942
Lucy Williams Ball	. 1942 - 1944
Roy Berkstresser	.1944 - 1948
Paul Bonine	
Florence Meyer	. 1951 - 1952
Leo Murphy	1056 1050
Mrs. Joe Pace	1950 - 1959 959 - Present
Natin yn numans	LICOUNT



A. W. ANTHONY



SAMUEL DANIELS



EARL AMOS



PAUL BONINE



SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

Dr. Joseph R. Yates	1868 - 1869
Prof. S. S. Simpson	1877
A. B. Wheeler	1890 - 1891
P. H. Padgett	1892
Rev. W. C. Driver	1893
Prof. J. S. Carlisle	1894 - 1895

Samuel Daniels	
Royce Moser	
Edgar Carpenter	
Lee T. Sims	
Norman Akin	
Roy Berkstresser 1967 - Present time	



DR. JOSEPH R. YATES



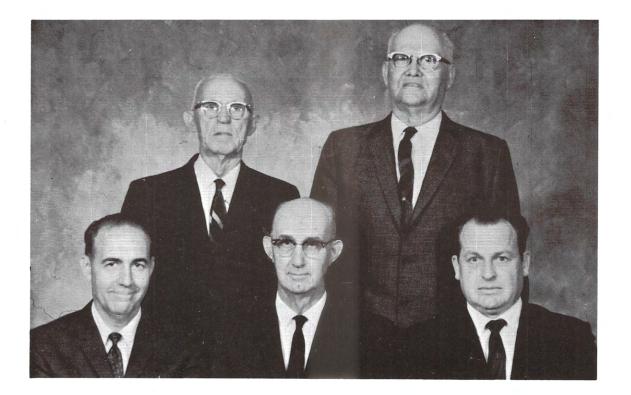
P. H. PADGETT



PROF. J. S. CARLISLE



SAMUEL DANIELS



DEACONS

Our first Deacons were Dr. Joseph R. Yates and Colonel A. W. Anthony, who were or dained February 1869. W. W. Ralston and Landon Huges were ordained February 19, 1870. P. D. Adair and W. J. Tucker were set aside as Deacons July 8, 1882. D. B. Martin became a Deacon on August 8, 1891. P. H. Padgett was added as ordained Deacon from Oak Grove Church in 1894 and served until his death in 1912. James Enloe and Minam Sterns were ordained February 5, 1896. Prof. J. S. Carlisle and Samuel Daniels were ordained May 29, 1896.

Since the minutes of the years from 1896 to 1910 have been lost, we do not know who were the added Deacons during this period. In 1910 we had added James Clark, E. O. Adams and Paul Spurlock, and with Samuel Daniels and P. H. Padgett, comprised our Deacon Board. In 1914, John B. Hulett was added as a Deacon, coming as an ordained Deacon from the Oak Grove Church.

J. S. Boyce, C. M. Parks, Royce Moser and Will Schaper were elected Deacons in 1916 and were ordained December 27, 1925. Ora J. Akin was recognized as Deacon in 1926.

Guy Weaver was recognized as a Deacon from Pattonburg, Mo., Church in 1923. L. L. Barber, M. D. Marriott, C. Parsons were ordained December 27, 1925. N. P. Baker was elected Deacon November 29, 1925 and was ordained December 27, 1925. C. G. Sanford was recognized as Deacon April 13, 1932, being ordained Deacon from Freedom Baptist Church. A. F. Moon was ordained Deacon May 15, 1932. Lee Sims and Harold Gorham were ordained Deacons in June 1940. Chas. Thoss was recognized as an ordained Deacon. Wm. Osborne was recognized as an ordained Deacon from Odessa Baptist Church in October, 1941. Estill DeVinna was recognized as an ordained Deacon from Freedom Church, January, 1943. E. C. Lauderdale and William Arnold, Jr. were elected Deacons in January, 1943.

Shelton Ball and Benton Ball were recognized as ordained Deacons, coming from the Freedom Baptist Church, October 4, 1944.

Roy Berkstresser and Wm. Arnold, Jr. were ordained February 4, 1945. Council consisted of 32 Deacons and Preachers.

Marvin Welpman and Robert Stockton were ordained April, 1950 during the Dedication week of our new church.

Jack Wood and Norman Akin were ordained Sunday Afternoon April 13, 1958, with a council of 45 Deacons and Preachers.

Lee Maxwell and Wm. Arnold, Jr. were recognized as Deacons in 1967 at the time Ted Burkhart and Irvin Gerlt were ordained as Deacons.

PRESENT DEACON BOARD

Irvin Gerlt, Chairman

Shelton Ball, Benton Ball, Wm. Arnold, Jr., A. F. Moon, Norman Akin, Roy Berkstresser, Marvin Welpman, Jack Wood, Lee Maxwell, Royce Moser, Lee Sims.



Col. A. W. Anthony 1869



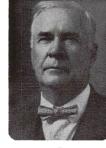
Dr. Joseph R. Yates 1869



Philip Adair 1882



W. J. Schaper



J. S. Boyce





C. G. Sanford





Guy Weaver

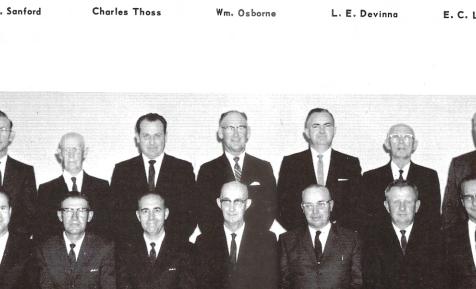


Nick P. Baker





E. C. Lauderdale



DEACONS 1967

THE B. T. U. PRESIDENTS

Formerly called Young People's Society and later Baptist Young People's Union.

÷ • • •		
Mrs. J. T. Beale	1902	
Mrs. Mary Oliver		
John Hammock		
Fae Long		
Rev. H. S. Thornhill	1912 - 1915	
C. M. Parks		
Royce Moser		
Claude Carter		
L. L. Barber		
Maxie Marriott		
C. A. Dinwiddie		
Annie Lewis Daniels		
Payton	1927	
Elmo Purvis		
Lucy Williams Ball		
-		

Mrs. Oren Dinwiddie	1937
Bernice Berry	1938
(Dr. Bernice Suffert)	
Mrs. Wm. Arnold, Jr	1943
Mrs. Wm. Osborne	
Wm. Osborne	1945 - 1946
Mrs. Roy Shore	1947 - 1949
Lee T. Sims	1949 - 1950
Mrs. Benton Ball	1950
Mrs. Mary Ash	1951 - 1953
Lee T. Sims	
Jack Wood	1956 - 1957
Edgar Carpenter	1958
Frank Rowe	
James Hutchison 1966 - F	Present time







Fae Long



C. M. Carter

60

Annie Lewis Payton



Frank Rowe



WOMEN'S WORK IN OUR CHURCH

At the time or rather the period of the organization of our church, January 13, 1868, there was great opposition to women having any part in the business affairs of the church and while they were permitted to attend business and all church meetings, they were not allowed to speak at any of these meetings as 1st Corinthians 14, verses 34 and 35 were literally interpreted and enforced.

As late as 1883, when Dora Sims (Steele) a young woman 19 years of age, tried to organize a missionary Society at Freedom church at the close of a Sunday morning service, all the men, except her uncle Wm. Sims, got up and marched out of the church building.

Since our church was organized by 13 women and only three men, women have played a very important role in the church's history and were permitted to take part in the business meetings and affairs of the church and often spoke about the subject closest to their hearts Missions.

The minutes of our business meeting of January 13, 1892, record that a motion was made, seconded and passed that we adopt the rules laid down in the manual of J. Newton Brown --- having amended article 3 of section 3 of said rules to read 5 members instead of 7 members. Also in article 4, section 3, to strike out the words (Nine males) and say five members to constitute a quorum.

In 1868 - Mrs. Geo. P. Clark was elected president of The Baptist Ladies Aid Society, which was an Aid and Missionary Society combined. They met, studied, prayed and gave to missions, even though some had husbands opposed to mission giving.

These women met and sewed for the poor and needy of the church and community using out-grown and discarded garments, as rummage sales were unknown in that day.

They washed the clothing, pressed it and even dyed some of the articles and remade them to fit the children so they could attend Sunday school and day school adequately dressed. Gloves, stockings and home made toys and dolls were put on the church Christmas tree for the children.

They helped in homes of sickness and sorrow and many a time when the Death Angel had visited a home, they solicited money (if the family was poor) to buy the material to make garments to clothe the dead.

Money was also raised to help with funeral expenses for the needy for the relief work of the town of Versailles was carried on mostly by the women of the churches.

Our church had a standing committee on benevolence to collect or make money and use it for the benefit of those in need.

The women also realized that the doors of the church must be kept open financially and they dedicated their efforts and talents of cooking, sewing and working toward this cause.

They served dinners, ice cream suppers, had elocutionary contests and musical programs, sold cook books, flower plants, held teas, antique shows, had plays, using not only the talent from our church but from the town and bazaars.

They pieced and quilted quilts, holding a quilting bee in the home or homes where the quilts, after they had been pieced and set together, were set up in frames in a spare room and the six best quilters would meet weekly and spend a day quilting until the orders were filled.

Other women kept piecing quilts, others set them together after they were pieced, others tore and tacked carpet rags and rolled them into large balls to be woven into small rugs and runners and others wove and crocheted the rugs. Some embroidered pillow cases and shams, doilies and other linens, crocheted laces for trimming linens, made fancy and utility aprons and embroidered babies dresses and slips.

The chicken, turkey, ham and occasionally O'possum dinners were outstanding social affairs and not only our church members but most of the members of other churches in the town and towns people attended these dinners and the Baptists attended other churches dinners when they had them carrying out the motto for which Versailles has been known, "We help one another."

Some of our members sewed for the Versailles women and turned their earnings in to the church treasury.

From the minutes of August 10, 1882, money made from the supper served at the church (\$84.) was used to purchase a pulpit and carpet for the rostrum and aisles. (Pulpit to cost \$58. and to have these in the church by the next meeting.)

LADIES AID SOCIETY



Mrs. Geo. P. Clark



Mrs. J. D. Allen



Mrs. C. M. Parks



Mrs. P. D. Adair



Mrs. Nancy Muir



Mrs. Henry Moser



Mrs. William Dolestein



Mrs. Geo. Morrow





Mrs. John Shore



Mrs. J. E. Price



Mrs. John Allen

LADIES AID SOCIETY

Carrie P. Coleman (Mrs. Geo. P. Clark) President of Women's Work from 1868 -1906

Mrs. J. D. Allen 1900-1912.

Mrs. Jennie Bailey 1912-1914.

Mrs. J. D. Allen 1914-1917.

Mrs. C. M. Parks 1917-1918.

Mrs. Henry Moser was Secretary of the Ladies Aid from 1906 to 1918.

When Mrs. J. D. Allen was President, the women published and sold The 20th Century Cook Book. A copy of which is on display today.

FROM FILES OF VERSAILLES LEADER, FEBRUARY 28, 1895

The ladies of the Missionary Society of the Baptist church desire to say to the public that they will do plain sewing at reasonable prices. Proceeds to be used for church and missionary purposes. Give us a chance to do your sewing, if you hire it done.

See Mrs. Mary Oliver, President or any member of the society.

In 1904, Mrs. Geo. P. Clark, who was president of our W. M. U., reported the society gave \$52.00 to missions and purchased pews for our church at a cost of \$410.00.

MISSION GIVING

In February 1891 (Feb. 19) \$13.95 was sent to G. L. Black, Financial Secretary of Wm. Jewell College for Ministerial Education toward the expenses of Everett Gill, a needy ministerial student.

\$23.10 - Sent to Home Mission Board, Southern Baptist Convention.

\$34.15 - Sent to Foreign Mission Board, Southern Baptist Convention.

At this date (1891) the salary of Bro. E. M. Lumpkin was \$25.00 monthly for services twice each month.

W. M. S. PRESIDENTS

Mrs. Mary Oliver	Mrs. Shores Williams 1936 - 1938
Mrs. J. T. Beale 1898-1900	Mrs. Will Krog 1938 - 1940
Mrs. D. C. Hardy 1900 - 1902	Mrs. Royce Moser 1940 - 1942
Mrs. J. T. Beale 1902 - 1904	Mrs. Harold Gorham 1942
Mrs. Geo. P. Clark 1904 - 1906	Mrs. Shores Williams 1943
Mrs. J. D. Allen 1906 -1907	Mrs. Lee T. Sims 1944
Mrs. Jennie Bailey 1907 - 1908	Mrs. Williard Bright 1944 - 1947
Mrs. J. T. Beale 1908 - 1915	Mrs. Royce Moser 1948 - 1950
Mrs. Will Schaper 1915 - 1918	Mrs. Edgar Carpenter 1950 - 1952
Mrs. Orville Stigall 1918-1919	Mrs. Shelton Ball 1953
Mrs. Fred Nichols 1919 - 1921	Mrs. Jack Wood 1954
Mrs. Royce Moser 1921 - 1923	Mrs. Dallas White 1955
Mrs. Paul Spurlock 1923 - 1924	Mrs. Roy Bolton 1956
Mrs. James Muir 1924 - 1925	Mrs. Roy Berkstresser 1957
Mrs. William Otten	Mrs. Roy Edwards 1958 - 1959
Mrs. Arthur Dromgold 1926 - 1928	Mrs. George Peek 1960 - 1961
Mrs. Fred Nichols 1928-1931	Mrs. Wm. Arnold, Jr 1963 - 1963
Mrs. Robert Ellis 1931	Mrs. Ivy Campbell 1964 - 1965
Mrs. George Raines 1932	Mrs. Wm. Arnold, Jr 1966 - Present
Mrs. C. H. Long 1933 - 1935	

MISSION EFFORTS

May, 1887

Mrs. George P. Clark, leader of the Children's Mission Circle, gave a donation of \$4.00 from this circle for missions.

October, 1888

Since the Lamine Association adopted Bro. Everett Gill, a ministerial student of Wm. Jewell College by 20 individuals and churches, sending Bro. G. L. Black of Liberty, Missouri Treasure \$5.00 each year for 4 successive years. Mrs. George P. Clark paid \$5.00 per year for 4 successive years and our church also paid \$5.00 per year for 4 years.

In 1892, when the Lamine Association met in Versailles, the women had a "Woman's Missionary Associational Board" and Mrs. Geo. P. Clark was elected Treasurer.

Since that time the W.M.S. of the Versailles church has furnished a large number of officers for the Associational W.M.S.

The following women have served as presidents.

Mrs. Fred Nichols 1921	
Mrs. Royce Moser	
Mrs. R. H. Nolte	
Mrs. Alexander Best 1950	
Mrs. Royce Moser	

February 9, 1889

Dr. L. N. Berry was granted a month's leave of absence to assist Bro. Morrow in Mission - ary work in the Indian territory.

September 12, 1891

Church instructed to pledge \$10.00 toward District Missions for year of 1892.

June 13, 1891

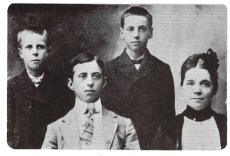
Church raised \$167.75 toward pastor's salary. \$150.00 to be paid toward Bro. Tate's salary of \$175.00 for year and Bro. A. C. Eubank stood good for the other \$25.00.

\$16.75 of money raised to be paid to former pastor Bro. E. M. Lumpkin toward the debt on his salary.

February 14, 1892

Bro. E. T. Shelton chosen as pastor at a salary of \$10.00 per month for preaching once a month.

Rev. Everett Gill made an appeal in 1916 for our church to support a foreign missionary and as the church did not feel financially able to undertake this task, two of our members supported the missionary for a year.



Mrs. Mark Oliver & sons



Mrs. John T. Beale



Mrs. Jennie Bailey



Mrs. Will Schaper



Mrs. Bertie Stigall (McDaniel)



Mrs. Paul Spurlock



Mrs. James Muir



Mrs. William Otten



Mrs. Arthur Dromgold



Mrs. Robert Ellis



Mrs. C. H. Long



Mrs. Shores Williams



Mrs. Will Krog



Mrs. Harold Gorham



W. M. S. PRESIDENTS

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY WORKERS



Mrs. J. S. Boyce



Mrs. Nellie Barbour



Mrs. Cora Williams





Mrs. William Arnold, Sr. Mrs. Aubrey Williams



Mrs. E. C. Lauderdale



Mrs. C. M. Carter



Mrs. C. G. Sanford



Loyce Allen



Mrs. Will Berry



Otto Lutz



James Goddard



Annie Sumner

EARLY TRUSTEES



John T. Washburn 1869



Henry Moser



A. G. Baker



James Goddard



John Shore





70TH ANNIVERSARY CHOIR

ORGANISTS & PIANISTS

Rosa Enlow (1891) Sister Davidson (1892) Ella Hardy Morrison Bonnie Hardy Mrs. Ed Hulett Mrs. Joseph Cook Mrs. C. A. Dinwiddie

Mrs. J. T. Beale Mrs. Bess Hardy Daniels Mrs. Neva Moser Barber Mrs. Geo. Koetting Hazel Goddard Catron Mrs. Ina Moore Moellman Mrs. Shores Williams Helen Leona Bolton Ruth Ellen Dean

CHOIR LEADERS

Guy Weaver Bert Francis Maxine Newkirk Haynes Mrs. Joe Pace Carol DeVinna Vinson Mrs. Glenn Houseworth Mrs. Edna Bowers Maurice LaRue Nancy Spurlock Woods

Mrs. Robert Stockton Mrs. Lloyd Haworth LeRoy Bacon



BERT FRANCIS Choir Leader



JOHN HENDRIX Youth Choir Leader



BOB WOODS Youth Choir Leader

ORGANISTS AND PIANISTS



Mrs. Ella Hardy Morrison



Bonnie Hardy



Mrs. Ed Hulett



Mrs. Gladys Koetting



Ina Moore Moellman



Hazel Goddard Catron



Maxine Newkirk Haynes



Ruth Ellen Dean







Nancy Spurlock Woods

One of our living pianists, Ella Hardy Morrison, began playing the organ in 1890 when the Rev. E. M. Lumpkin was pastor. At that time she could only play three hymns, "Nearer, My God to Thee", "Work for the Night is Coming" and "Jesus, Lover of my Soul".



CHOIR GROUP 1967

TREASURERS

W. M. Bowlin	Royce Moser
J. W. Tucker	Harold Gorham 1931 -1932
Mary Hannay	Edgar Carpenter 1932 - 1938
Mary O'Brien	Fred Nichols 1938 -1939
Mrs. Geo. P. Clark 1889 -1894	William Otten
(Carrie Coleman)	Edgar Carpenter
George P. Clark 1894 -1896	Mrs. Wm. Arnold, Jr 1954 -1956
Paul Spurlock	Mrs. Maurice
J. S. Boyce 1916 -1918	LaRue, Jr 1956 - Present time

As the minutes of our church from 1896 to 1910 have been lost, we do not know who served as treasurers during those years.

FINANCIAL SECRETARIES

James P. Muir 1933 -1944		
Lucy Williams (Ball) 1944 - 1949	Ralph Hodges	1953

* Mr. N. H. Newkirk was Financial Secretary of the church and also of the Building Fund.



JAMES P. MUIR



MARY HANNAY AND GROUP (Mary - left in top row)



TREASURER GROUP

BROTHERHOOD

From the time of our organization there has been a group of loyal men who have worked together for the best and highest interests of this church.

In the report of the letter sent by our church to the secretary of the Lamine Association in 1933 -- it stated that a Brotherhood Organization was being organized but this organization did not function but for a few meetings and was reorganized in 1940 and has been very active since that date.

The following men have served as presidents:

C. G. Sanford
Harold Gorham
William Osborne 1943 -1947
Robert Stockton 1947
N. H. Newkirk 1948
Quincy Garrison
C. B. Williams 1950 -1951
Clarence Davis
Edgar Carpenter 1953

Benton Ball 1954
Jack Wood
Marvin Welpman 1956
Quincy Garrison 1957
Everett White
Napoleon Newkirk 1960 - 1962
Ted Burkhart
Lee Maxwell 1965 to present time



There has been a Royal Ambassador organization in our church for over 20 years. Among the early leaders were Mrs. Wm. Arnold, Sr., and Mrs. Royce Moser. Frank Rowe served as R.A. Director and Leader for the past 15 years. Rev. Chas. Sexton served as Jr. R. A. Leader for 6 years.

WORLD WAR I

When the first group of 39 Morgan County boys left in September 1917, for training at Camp Funston, Kansas, 3,000 people of Versailles and Morgan County held a big basket dinner on the Court House walks following a program, which consisted of numbers by the High School Band, choral groups and a solo. Brief patriotic addresses were given, followed by a prayer by our pastor, Rev. G. E. Barham. James Dudley, a member of our church, prepared 150 gallons of coffee and the Boy Scouts served it.



L. L. Barber



Ed Stringer



Robert Toler



Ed Dolstein



Henry Baker



Clarence Boyce



Arthur Koetting



William Otten



Loyd Allen



Raymond Head Cecil Parsons

WORLD WAR II

Edward Arnold John A. Baker Roy E. Bolton Daniel M. Burke Norman E. Devine Dorsey Schaper Joe E. Williams John M. Williams Wm. M. Williams Bill Dolstein Ralph C. Elley M. E. Fortster Frederick Nichols, Jr. Bill Padgett Roy M. Shore Henry Pankey

THOSE IN ACTIVE SERVICE 1968



LARRY AKIN



JAMES COLVIN



RICHARD BOLTON



ALLEN MORRIS



TERRY PHILLIPS



CARL KELSO



LOREN R. HOUSEWORTH



FAMILY MISSIONS

Today the Woman's Missionary Society has an enrollment of 50 members and sponsors the various auxiliaries associated with its work with an enrollment of 85.

During World War II days when we were on limited gas rations for our cars we set aside the 3rd Wednesday night of each month for the meetings of the Woman's Missionary Society, all its auxiliaries, Royal Ambassadors and Brotherhood.

We called this night Family Mission Night and this arrangement proved so satisfactory that it is still continued.

We are proud that seven girls from the Girls Auxiliary Organizations have become Queen Regents.



FAMILY MISSION NIGHT



1953 G. A. CORONATION



QUEEN REGENTS 1954: LELA OSBORNE (PETERSON) CAROL DeVINNA (VINSON)

G. A. CORONATION PICTURES



1955: CAROLYN JOYCE HOUSEWORTH (SILVEY) ERNESTINE SHORE (HARDIN)



QUEEN REGENTS

Carol DeVinna (Vinson)	1954
Lela Osborne (Peterson)	1954
Ernestine Shore (Hardin)	
Carolyn Joyce Houseworth (Silvey)	1955
Diana Fields (Paxson)	
Roberta LaRue	
Cynthia Hitchcock	1967

G. A. CORONATION PICTURES







1966: DIANA FIELDS (PAXSON)

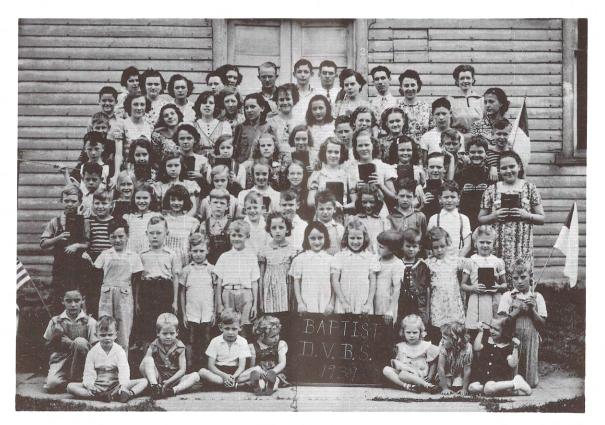


1967: ROBERTA LORUE: CYNTHIA HITCHCOCK

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

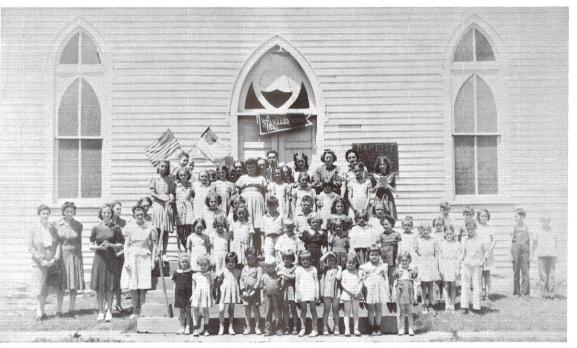


OUR FIRST VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 1937



1939 SCHOOL

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



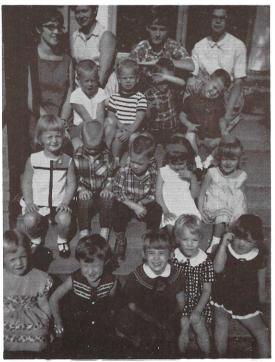
1941 SCHOOL



1942 SCHOOL



1967 NURSERY



1967 NURSERY

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL





BEGINNERS

BEGINNERS



PRIMARY



WORKERS



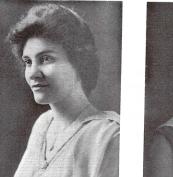
JUNIOR I



JUNIOR II

SEMI - CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Sunday, February 24, 1918



RUSSIE STRINGER (MOSER)



NEVA MOSER (BARBER)



MRS. C. M. PARKS



MRS. O. STIGALL (McDANIEL)

We, who were officers of our church at the time of our Semi -Centennial Celebration Feb. 24, 1918, and are the only surviving officers of that celebration, dedicate this page to the loving memory of the other members of the Church Directory of 1918.

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth; Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them." Rev. 14:13.

1868 - 1918 CHURCH DIRECTORY

BOARD OF DEACONS

P. H. Padgett, Samuel Daniels, Paul Spurlock, J. B. Hulett, C. M. Parks, J. S. Boyce, W. J. Schaper, Royce Moser.

Russie Stringer (Moser)
Royce Moser
Mrs. Ed Hulett
Neva Moser (Barber) Choir Leader

TRUSTEES

G. E. Barham

A. G. Baker

Paul Carter

Samuel Daniels Superintendent Sunday School C. M. Parks Assistant Superintendent Sunday School Mrs. G. E. Barham Superintendent Junior Department Russie Stringer Superintendent Primary Department

Mrs. Orville Stigall (McDaniel)	. President Missionary Society
Mrs. C. M. Parks	President Ladies Aid Society
Royce Moser	President B.Y.P.U.

The Semi-Centennial celebration of the Versailles Baptist Church was fittingly observed Sunday, February 24th, 1918.

Rev. Edward James, of Holden, a former pastor preached a fine sermon at 11:00 A.M. followed by a basket dinner.

A very large crowd was in attendance at the services and at the dinner.

The formal celebration was held at 2:30 O'clock in the afternoon.

Samuel Daniels, clerk of the church for over 20 years read a brief historical sketch of the church he had prepared and then introduced the following speakers.

Rev. J. E. Sims, the only person then living who was present at the organization of this church being present and called upon spoke in part as follows:

"I remember well every constituent member of this church. I am well acquainted with the history of this church. I have filled this pulpit often in years past though was never pastor of the church. I have known all the pastors who have labored here during the past fifty years. I remember when this building was erected and contributed to its building."

Rev. Edward James, of Holden, the only ex-pastor present, spoke briefly of the past record of the church and of the time when he served as pastor and indulged the hope that the future might be bright and glorious.

OTHER SPEAKERS AT THE AFTERNOON SERVICE OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY, FEBRUARY 24, 1918.

- 1. Rev. C. H. Harrell, pastor of the Westminister Presbyterian Church of Versailles.
- 2. Rev. W. H. Comer, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church south of Versailles.
- 3. Dr. Peter G. Woods, representative of the Christian Church of Versailles.
- 4. Rev. J. E. Sims, Guest Speaker.



Rev. J. E. Sims



Rev. W. H. Comer



Rev. C. H. Harrell



Dr. Peter G. Woods

60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED FEBRUARY 22, TO FEBRUARY 26, 1928

A. G. Baker, a devoted and faithful member of this church, who served as Sunday School teacher of young men and was a trustee for many years, was in charge of this celebration. Rev. H. S. Thornhill was pastor.

The late Mrs. John McClanahan, mother of Mrs. P. J. McDonough, was guest of honor at this 60th Anniversary as she was at that time our oldest living member, having been the first person to join the church after its organization January, 1868.

Speakers were Rev. C. C. Cunningham, Rev. L. R. Lamb, Mrs. T. J. Deakins, Rev. W. B. McGraw.



Rev. H. S. Thornhill and Wife

Dr. S. M. Brown, founder and editor of the Word and Way was the guest speaker on February 26th at both the morning and evening services.



Dr. S. M. Brown



Mrs. John McCalanahan



A. G. Baker



SUNDAY SCHOOL 1909 OR 1910

JANUARY 16, 1938 – 70TH ANNIVERSARY

JANGART 16, 1750 - 70111 ARRIVERSART
Leslie G. Christian Pastor
MORNING
Sunday School, Royce Moser, Superintendent 9:45
General Assembly, Hymn No. 207
Our Heritage, Pastor
The Church History, Miss Annie Lewis Daniels
Basket Dinner in Basement 12:00
AFTERNOON
Singing of Old Church Hymns 1:00
History of Women's Work, Mrs. Fred Nichols 1:15 Introduction of W.M.U. President and Leaders of Auxiliaries "Oh! It Is Wonderful", Choir
Talks by Former Pastors 1:45
Greetings from Pastors or Representatives of the Other Churches 2:15 of Versailles "I Will Not Forget Thee", Mixed Quartet
Sermon, Rev. B. F. Davidson 2:45
EVENING
Baptist Training Unions 6:30
Worship Service
History of Training Service, Mrs. Jennie Bailey "Peace! Be Still", Choir

Prayer of Consecration, Pastor Hymn No. 208, "Blest Be the Tie".

75TH ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM 1868 – 1943

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VERSAILLES

MORNING SESSION

Royce Moser, Supt. Sunday School in all departments - 9:45

- "On Jordan's Stormy Bank" Hymn No. 249 10:30 Invocation Devotional The Pastor, R. H. Nolte Reading of the Old Covenant of 1868 Edgar Carpenter
- Royce Moser History of the Sunday School 10:45 Anthem, "Lift Up Your Heads" (Lorenz) Choir (Offering taken during anthem) Recognition of church leaders

Dr. T. W. Medearis Anniversary Sermon - 11:00



R. H. Nolte

Making of pledges for the Building Fund11:45Dr. MedearisBenediction and Prayer of Thanksgiving - 12:00

BASKET DINNER AT THE NOON HOUR

AFTERNOON SESSION

Song Service 1:30 Hymn No. 161 ''Amazing Grace'' Hymn No. 360 ''When They Ring the Golden Bells''
Wm. Osborne
"Beulah Land"
Mrs. S. P. Williams Union - 2:05
Lee T. Sims
Address

NIGHT SESSION

Training Union in all departments (Visitors Welcome) 6:30

- Mrs. Evelyn Arnold History of the Training Union 7:45 E. C. Lauderdale History of the Brotherhood Male Quartette Special Music Announcements Offering



Dr. T. W. Medearis

The 80th Anniversary and last services to be held in the old church auditorium was on Sunday, June 27, 1948.

This was a significant day in the history of the church for immediately following that day, the work of razing the old buildings and construction of the new church plant began.

It was both a joyful and also a sad day for our members and former members.

At the services we thought of the many sermons, songs and prayers that had been offered to God since that first meeting held in 1879.

Also of all the varied activities of the church; of the revival meetings held and of how many penitent sinners had found their Saviour's forgiveness; been baptized and had become members of our church and other churches; of the weddings that had been solemnized and also of those sad days when funeral services had been held for our beloved dead.

The old church auditorium erected in 1877 - 1879 and the educational building erected in 1929, had served well and had made their contribution to the history and progress of the church for many years.

The time had arrived when we were compelled to build in order to meet our present and future needs.

Our building program was undertaken not merely for the sake of building, but in behalf of souls for whom Christ died and for the promotion of the cause of Christ to the ends of the earth.

This building program was the most unanimous project ever undertaken by our church, as there were less than 10 members opposing this great undertaking.

After much time spent in prayer, we accepted the challenge of I Chronicles 28:10 "Take heed now for the Lord hath chosen thee to build a house for the sanctuary, be strong and do it."

At the Homecoming and 80th Anniversary program, Rev. R. H. Nolte brought the morning sermon and his son, Edgar Lee Nolte sang a beautiful solo.

We had our basket dinner at the Tweedie building at 1:00 P.M. and came back to the afternoon service at the old church building at 2:30 P.M.

Special music was rendered by the Nolte family and Rev. Willard L. Bright brought the Blue Star Service.

There was a male quartet, dedicated to the memory of loved ones in glory, followed by a sermon by Rev. Leslie Christian.

The evening sermon was brought by Dr. Best and many of the old songs were sung.

Many tears were in the eyes of the members as they left the old building for the last time that night.

95th ANNIVERSARY January 13, 1963

Our 95th Anniversary was observed January 13, 1963, a very cold day with temperature below zero. Rev. Chas. Sexton was our Pastor.

Realizing that our Centennial Celebration would be observed in 5 years, this was a small celebration.

At the afternoon service, the following historical reports were given:

SPEAKERS AT CENTENNIAL

History of Brotherhood	Mr. N. H. Newkirk
History of Church Treasurer	. Mrs. Maurice LaRue
History of Church Clerk	Miss Kathryn Rumans
Special Music	
History of Deacons	Mr. Roy Berkstresser
History of W. M. U	. Mrs. William Arnold
History of Training Union	Mr. Leon Marriott
History of Sunday School	Mr. Norman Akin

IMPROVEMENTS

Minutes of December 18, 1912.

As more room was needed for Sunday School expansion, it was moved and seconded that the moderator, Rev. H. S. Thornhill, appoint a committee of five to take charge of the work of erecting an addition to the church building and to install a baptistry.

The following men were appointed to serve on this committee:

P. H. Padgett, A. G. Baker, Paul Spurlock, James Goddard and Samuel Daniels.

An addition, 13 ft. by 40 ft. with 12 ft. ceiling was erected and ready for occupancy about April 1, 1913, with the total expense of building being \$836.39. At the business meeting of March 25, 1914, this committee reported a debt of \$65.50 was still due on this building.

August 20, 1919, the Charley Mason property, joining the church on the west was purchased for \$4,000. and the house on this property was used as a parsonage until the house was sold and moved off the ground when we got ready to build our church building in July 1948.

The W.M.S. gave \$500. toward the purchase of this Mason property.

Our next parsonage was the house now owned by Mary Young Brown, which was purchased after the old parsonage was removed from the church ground in 1948.

In 1956 we erected the present brick parsonage at a cost of around \$20,000.

Attempts made toward building a new church building:

November 21, 1917

Plans were adopted to build a new church building of brick and concrete, large enough and with all the modern conveniences necessary to accomodate this congregation now and for years to come in all its departments of activity, provided the necessary funds can be raised to erect such a structure.

The sum of \$10,000. must be secured before any building could be started.

Ten thousand was subscribed at that meeting, but a dissension arose in our church and on December 19th, 1917, it was voted to indefinitely postpone the building of a new church and that all the pledges made for this building be cancelled.

March 26, 1919

The question of building a new church building was discussed and motion was made and seconded and passed that we build a new building. We purchased the ground where the Morgan County jail is now located, as we felt we did not have enough ground at our present location.

Most of the \$10,000. required to be subscribed before we would start building, had been underwritten.

July 9, 1919

We learned we could purchase the Mason property, joining the church property on the west, for \$4,000.

By buying this property we felt like we would not only have a home for a pastor and family but that it would add sufficient and suitable ground for our new church building.

We purchased this property and the erection of a new church building had to be postponed.

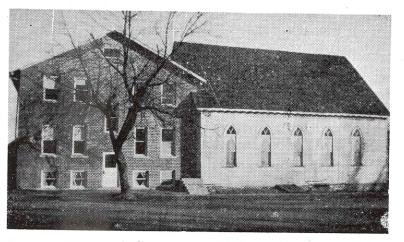
March 4, 1925

The matter of building a new church building was discussed and another meeting was held April 8, 1925, but the hope for a new building did not materialize.

In 1929, when Rev. B. F. Kennedy was pastor, a two story brick educational building, 36×50 ft., was erected at the cost of \$5,000. as most all of the labor was donated.

This building was dedicated June, 1930, with Dr. Edgar Godbold, Executive Secretary of Missouri Baptist Convention bringing the morning message and he also preached the Dedication Service in the afternoon.

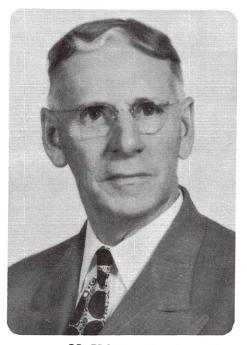
A Sunday School Training School was held the week prior to the dedication.



Auditorium Erected in 1877 Educational Building, 1929



REV. B. F. KENNEDY



DR. EDGAR GODBOLD

BUILDING OUR NEW CHURCH

We had \$23,000. in our building fund at the time we started our new building. This fund was started at the time of our 70th Anniversary, when Rev. Leslie Christian was our pastor and Rev. Nolte kept it before us during his pastorate and at the 75th Anniversary, fifteen minutes were given at the morning service for making pledges for the building fund.

Rev. Willard Bright kept the fund going by suggesting we buy war bonds and donate them to this fund and much of this \$23,000. was raised by this method.

We owe much to these three men who thru depression days and war material restrictions days, encouraged us to have a building fund ready when restrictions were lifted.

We were fortunate that by the time the materials for building could be obtained Dr. Alexander Best was our pastor and inspired us to under take our building program.

BUILDING PERSONNEL

Alexander Best . . . Pastor Robin A. Walker . . Architect Building Fund Treasurers Mrs. Maurice LaRue, Jr. Sam Morris

PLANS COMMITTEE

Royce Moser . . . Chairman N. H. Newkirk . . . Secretary A. F. Moon Clarence Davis Edgar Carpenter Quincy Garrison Lee T. Sims



Our church was not built by the large gifts of a few members, but by the gifts of 98% of our membership.

We were most fortunate at the time of the building of our new church that the Tweedie Shoe Company offered us the use of the basement of their large factory building and furnished water, heat and lights free.

This was a generous contribution and much appreciated for we had to have a place to meet and the financial saving helped in our building program.

We met in this Tweedie building from July 4, 1948, until April 2, 1950.

Today the value of our church property (including pastor's home) is \$220,000, and we do not have any indebtedness.

DEDICATION SERVICES

SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 1950

Alexander Best Th. D. Pastor Sunday School, 9:30 A.M. Royce Moser, Superintendent		
MORNING WORSHIP		
Prelude Doxology Invocation Choir Response Hymn No. 1 Hymn No. 1 Worship in No. 240 Worship in Tithes and Offerings Announcements and Recognition of Visitors Meditation and Prayer Special by Choir		
Message		
NOON – BASKET DINNER		
Training Union, 6:30 P.M Lucy Williams, Director		
EVENING WORSHIP		
Prelude Hymn No. 4		
Hymn No. 254		
Youth Choir "As Long as Children Pray" Message Rev. L. G. Christian Invitation Hymn No. 78 "I Am Praying for You" Benediction		
DEDICATION SERVICE		
Prelude Hymn No. 406		
Hymn No. 2		
Scripture Trio		
Statements of Appreciation Choir "I Come to Thee" Message Dr. H. H. McGinty		

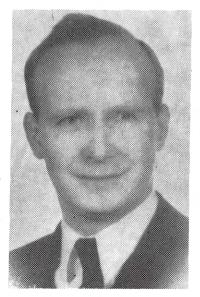
ACT OF DEDICATION

- PASTOR: In humble gratitude to God who placed within the hearts of His people the purpose to build this house for the glory of God, and who has given Divine guidance in its erection -
- PEOPLE: We dedicate this building.
- PASTOR: To the teaching of the Word of God and the preaching of the Gospel of Christ -
- PEOPLE: We dedicate this building.
- PASTOR: That here we may be humbled by the sense of human failure and here we may be encouraged by the assurance of Divine mercy -
- PEOPLE: We dedicate this building.
- PASTOR: That the penitent may find pardon, and the mourner may find comfort, that the perplexed may find guidance, and the weak may find strength . . . that all who enter here may find God -
- PEOPLE: We dedicate this building.

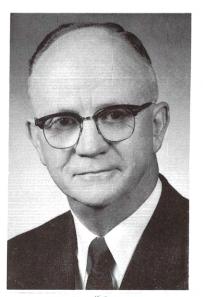
"Sometime, somewhere, somehow, each day . . . I'll turn aside and stop, and pray . . . that God will make this Church the way . . . of righteousness to men."

SPEAKERS FOR DEDICATION WEEK - 7:30 P.M.

Monday - Rev. R. H. Nolte; Tuesday - Dr. T. W. Medearis; Wednesday - M. F. Morales; Thursday - Dr. J. F. Heaton; Friday - Rev. Wayne Rosecrans.



DR. ALEXANDER BEST



DR. H. H. McGINTY



OUR USHERS

August 25, 1868

On motion it was ordered that a letter be prepared from this church to the Concord Association, organized in 1823, requesting membership of this church with said Association and that letter be read to the church at the next business meeting.

September 12, 1868

Messengers appointed to represent the church in Concord Association were Dr. Joseph Yates, Landon Hughes, Thomas Bradbury with A. W. Anthony alternate.

Saturday, September 11, 1870

Rev. Harris preached a sermon Saturday night and then church met for business meeting and messengers, consisting of Wm. G. Ralston, D. P. Taylor, John Washburn, and W. M. Bowlin were appointed to Concord Associational Meeting, September 15, 1870 with Mt. Carmel Church.

September 29, 1872

After Sunday night services by the pastor, Rev. J. B. Box, business meeting was held and A. W. Anthony, W. M. Bowlin and S. Olmstead were appointed as delegates to attend meeting of Central Church at Freedom Church on the 21st of October, 1872 for the purpose of organizing a new association.

The Lamine Association was organized that day. We became a member.

Our church voted on February 7, 1934 to withdraw from the Lamine Association and apply for admission to unite with Miller County Association.

We were accepted by the Miller County Association and remained with them 3 years.

In 1938 we asked for membership again in the Lamine Association and were accepted.

Our Superintendent of missions at this time is The Rev. Charles Whaley.

N. H. Newkirk is Treasurer of the Lamine Association.



Rev. Jehu Robinson and Wife

THE FIRST TIME WE ENTERTAINED THE LAMINE ASSOCIATION

August 13, 1892

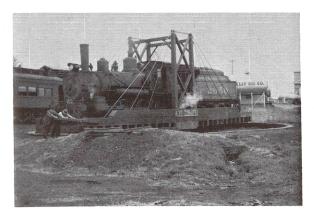
On motion it was ordered that the moderator appoint a committee on reception of the delegates coming to the Association which met October 5th, 1892 with our church. Brethren D. B. Marten and P. D. Padgett were appointed, whose duty it was to meet any and all parties at the train (Missouri Pacific) who may attend the Association.

Mrs. George Clark and Mrs. Phil Demph and Sister Mary DeVinna constituted a committee to provide homes for all who may attend.

We have entertained Lamine Association at their yearly meetings the following years:

October 5, 1892	September 17, 1940
October 9, 1907	September 14, 1950
August 27, 1918	September 13, 1956
September 22, 1931	September 12, 1963

One of our members, Samuel Daniels, was moderator of the Association 16 years. Dr. John Letts was moderator in 1886 - 1887 during his pastorate at our church. Rev. C. N. White was moderator in 1907 and 1908 while a pastor of our church. Rev. E. T. Shelton was the missionary of the Lamine Association twelve years.



MISSOURI PACIFIC

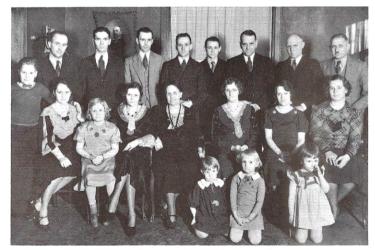


D. C. HARDY FAMILY

TWO OF OUR PAST PASTOR'S FAMILIES



J. C. COOK FAMILY GROUP



MRS. C. N. WHITE AND FAMILY GROUP 1934



COL. JOE COOK



DR. EARL HARDING

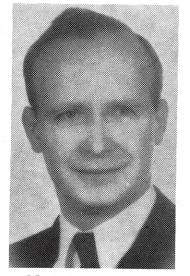
CENTENNIAL SPEAKERS APRIL 5th, 6th and 7th, 1968



REV. CHARLES A. WHALEY



DR. LESLIE CHRISTIAN



DR. ALEXANDER BEST



REV. R. H. NOLTE



REV. WILLARD BRIGHT

"Compiled by Mrs. Royce Moser"



-

*MRS. NORA ADAMS



NORMAN AKIN FAMILY



*MRS. ONA AKIN



*TED AKIN FAMILY



MARY ASH (Deceased)

MRS. SYLVIA AYRES



RUTH ANN ALLEN

LeROY BACON FAMILY











MR. & MRS. SHELTON BALL R. BERKSTRESSER FAMILY

*DARREL BIAS



MR. & MRS. BENTON BALL

JOHN BISHOP FAMILY







MR. & MRS. C. E. BOWERS



DON BOWLINE FAMILY



LOREN BOWLINE FAMILY





*MRS. ROSE BOLTON ROY BOLTON FAMILY







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*J. D. BYLER



MR. & MRS. HARLEY BRADSHAW



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MARVIN COLLINS FAMILY



*MRS. JAMES COLVIN



MRS. MARIE CORNETT



MRS. TOM COTTON



ARLEY COX FAMILY



JEANNE COX



DAN DAULTON FAMILY



MR. CLARENCE DAVIS



*MRS. CLARENCE DAVIS (Deceased) *MR. WILL DAVIS (Deceased)





*MRS. WILL DAVIS (Deceased)





ETHEL & JOE DAVIS



MR. CHARLEY DENNY



MRS. L. E. DeVINNA





ROLAND DORNES



MRS. IRONA EDWARDS & PAT CARROL





MRS. EARL DRAFFEN



MR. & MRS. DONALD DRAKE



ALEINE DUNNAWAY FAMILY



DURWARD ELDER FAMILY







JACK ENSMINGER FAMILY







MRS. J. C. FINLEY





MRS. CORA FRIEDLY



MRS. MARTHA FRIEDLY



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JUDY GODDARD



MR. & MRS. QUINCY GARRISON



*WILLIAM GODDARD (Deceased)





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GLEN HOUSEWORTH FAMILY



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MR. & MRS. EARL HOUCHEN









MR. & MRS. LEO HUTCHISON JOHN JACKSON







*JOHNNY JAMES



*HARRY JEFFRIES (Deceased) MRS. LULA JEFFRIES





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*LILLIE MOORE



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MR. & MRS. NEPOLEAN NEWKIRK

MRS. JOHN OSBORNE & BARBARA



*LLOYD NICHOLS (Deceased)



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MRS. MARION SILVEY



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MR. & MRS. LONNIE

WILLIAMS



MR. & MRS. DALLAS WHITE



SUSAN & DAVID WILLIAMS



MRS. MAMIE WHITTLE

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NEW MEMBERS _ . --_ --. _ ---_ ۰. -_ -

We are grateful for the privilege given us to prepare this directory. We will welcome inquiries from your friends from other churches, locally, and throughout the nation concerning preparation of a directory.

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