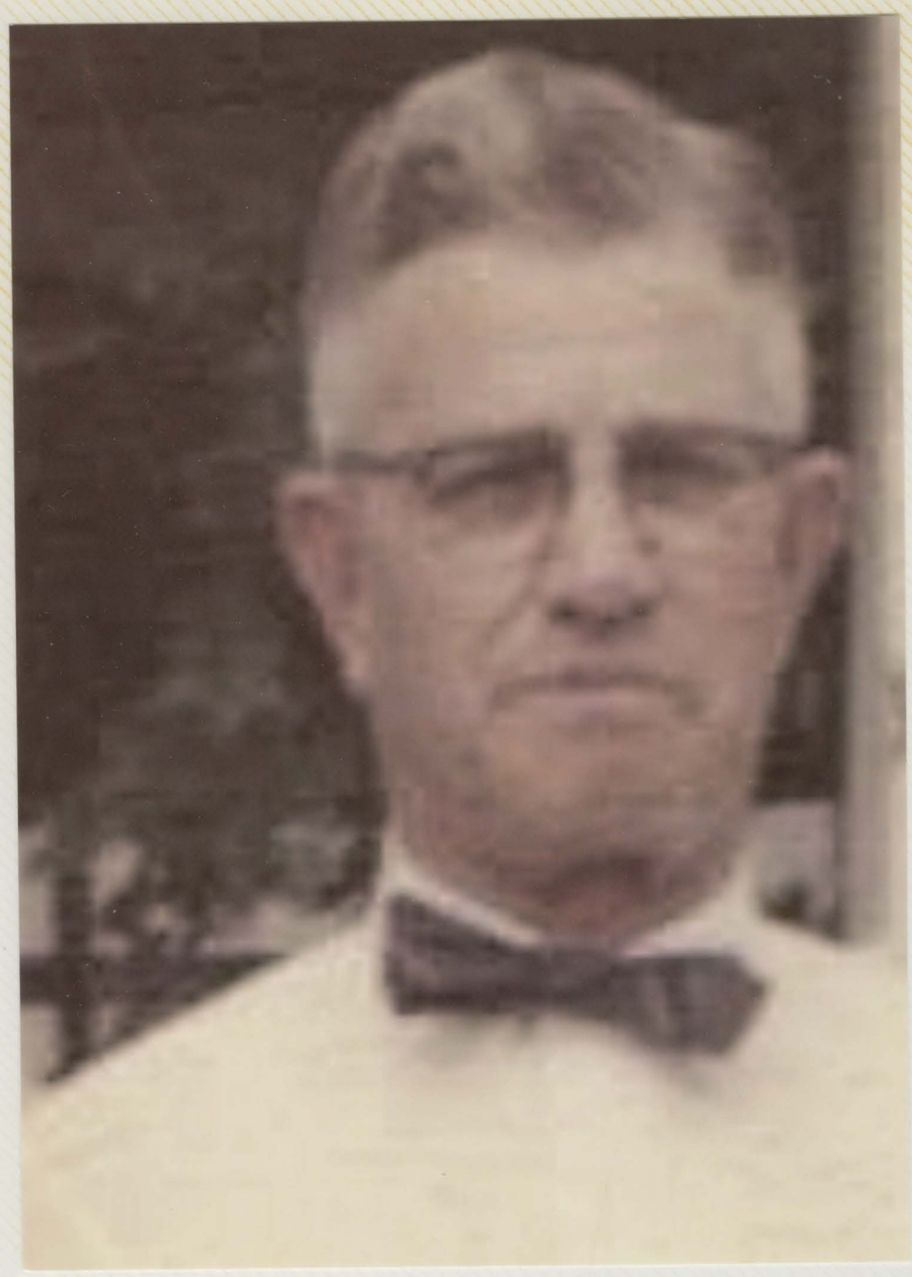


Rev. Charlie Simmons Felt the need for a church in the Red Brush community. Being a mail carrier he spread the word



Charlie Simmons Family
L-R Thelma, Ben, Inez,
Wendell, Charlie,
Pierce, Wife Bessie,
Aubrey



Huler and Cora
Blue



L - R
Martha Wilson
Lizzie McCraw
Cora Blue

THE CASE OF JUDGE MANTON

The highest judicial officer of the United States, except the members of the Supreme Court, was convicted in a Federal Court a few days ago and sentenced to two years in prison and a $10,000 fine on the charge of conspiring to "sell justice."

There is something both shocking and cheering in the conviction of Martin T. Manton, chief judge of the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals.

It is shocking in any case that a judge of any degree should be accused and convicted of taking money to influence his decisions; it is peculiarly shocking in the case of Judge Manton, who had won great renown as a jurist in the twenty-two years of his service on the Federal bench, to which he was the youngest man ever appointed when named to that post by President Woodrow Wilson.

It is cheering to discover that the hand of justice is not stayed in America because of the high standing and reputation of the man accused of crime.

There was no reason why Judge Manton should have taken money from litigants; no reason, that is, but greed. He had an honorable position, which he held for life, at a salary several times the earnings of ordinary citizens. He could have retired at seventy on full pay for the rest of his life. He was respected by those who knew him, as man and as a judge. Yet he let his desire for money overcome all the scruples which an honorable man, and especially an honorable judge, holds above money or position or power.

Sunday School Lesson

By Rev. Charles E. Dunn



JEROBOAM: A MAN WITH A GREAT OPPOR-

*** AT THE *** CHURCHES

First PRESBYTERIAN Church

Jas. B. Ficklen, III, pastor

Sunday

9:45—Church school.

11:00—Morning worship.

Sermon subject: "The Life Everlasting."

7:00—Young People's League. Topic, "Where To, Youth?" Leader, Burton Badgett. Adult Adviser, Mrs. Dalmer Lewis.

Monday through Friday, Vacation Church school, 9 to 11 A. M.

Wednesday — 7:30 — Prayer meeting. 8:15—Choir practice.

White Plains Baptist Church

Rev. J. F. Sellars, pastor

Sunday school at 9:45 A. M.

Woodrow Jones, Supt.

Foy Livengood, Asst. Supt.

Preaching service at 11 A. M.

Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7:30. Public is cordially invited to attend these services.

Central METHODIST CHURCH

Walter J. Miller, pastor

Church school at 9:45 A. M. Robert M. Smith, superintendent.

Morning worship at 11 o'clock. Sermon subject, "The Man Who Was Absent."

Intermediate and young people's meetings at 7 o'clock.

There will be no evening church service.

FRIENDS CHURCH

S. B. Hinshaw, Pastor

Sunday school at 9:45 A. M.

Morning worship at 11 o'clock. Subject of the message, "Great-Heartedness."

Young people's meeting, 7 P. M.

New Blue's Grove Church Organized

At an all-day meeting of Surry Baptists last Sunday, the organization of the new Blue's Grove Baptist church near Dobson, was carried out, with Rev. D. D. Hodges, of Beulah, being elected as its pastor. Rev. Hodges is also pastor of other Surry churches, including the Antioch Baptist church on the Mount Airy-Lowgap highway.

The all-day program was presented on the site of the new church, which will be located in a grove on the land of S. H. Blue near the Surry county home, with Sunday School being held at 10 o'clock in the morning, followed by a sermon at 11 o'clock by Rev. G. A. Tucker, of Pilot Mountain. A. V. West, of Mount Airy, moderator of the Surry Baptist Association, delivered an address at 11:30 o'clock.

The afternoon session featured several musical selections, with choirs and quartets from the Calvary and Holly Springs churches participating, before the organization of the church, under th direction of A. V. West, of Mount Airy, took place at 2:15 o'clock. Included on the list of speakers during the afternoon were Rev. A. S. Hale, pastor of the First Baptist church of Mount Airy, and Rev. Eph Whisenhunt, of Elkin.

Western Actor To Appear At Grand

Ray Corrigan, known as "Tuscon" and featured in the "Three Mesquiteers" as the leading star of western pictures, will make a

Longing For The Shade



Local Correspondents

ARARAT

PILOT MOUNTAIN

Misses Patricia Hiatt and Vir-

The Hollow, Va.





McKinley McCraw (in tree)
Charles Newman

Charles Newman McKinley McCraw

Charles Newman owned a saw mill and he & McKinley sawed the timber for church beginning -

(Ref: Page 5 in HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION)



Picture taken the day before Mr. Rufus Haymore passed away. He bent over to hook a chain around a log. His son, Ray - age 12 at the time, was holding the mule. His dad stood up and then passed away. He was working on the church at the time.

Mr. George Badgett was working with him when he died.

(per Mrs. Nelle Badgett Deignan)

DEDICATION PROGRAM

Blue's Grove Baptist Church

Sunday, May 26, 1940.

Congregational Song.

Devotional by Pastor.

Special Music by Beulah Glee Club,
Directed by Prof. M. G. Stanley.

11:00 to 12:00—Address by F. T. Lewellyn.
Special Music by Beulah Glee Club.

12:00 to 12:30—Remarks by A. V. West.

12:30 to 1:30—Lunch.

1:30 to 2:30—Special Music by Beulah Glee Club and
Dedication Sermon by Rev. R. C. Lanier.

2:30 to 3:00—Laying of Cornerstone.
A. V. West in Charge.



Uncle Bill Parks with birthday box

Unidentified child



Uncle Bill Parks

Aunt Alice Parks



Claude Badgett
Nelle Badgett
Ollie Badgett
George Badgett

1939 per NELLE





Walter Draughn
Buddy Haymore
McKinley McCraw
Lester Dollyhgih
Wes Nichols
Bill Parks
Dan Riggs
Martha Nichols
Nannie Riggs
Nannie Branch
Lizzie McCraw
Cora Blue
Cora Haymore
Lula Haymore
Betty Draughn
Robert Nichols (Child)





L - R
Margie, Pansy, Bessie,
Pauline

BRE BLUE RIDGE ENTERPRISES, INC.
GENERAL CONTRACTORS
P. O. Box 1228 / 1120 West Lebanon Street / Mount Airy, North Carolina 27030
Telephone (919) 789-2134

PROPOSAL / CONTRACT

July 12, 1988

Blue Grove Baptist Church
Red Brush Road
Mt. Airy, NC

Attention: Mr. Ellis Haymore

Dear Mr. Haymore:

We are pleased to submit the following proposal for construction of a new sanctuary for Blue Grove Baptist Church as described below and per the plans, sheets No. 1 through 8. Work included is as follows:

1. General
   A) Permits
   B) Builders Risk insurance
   C) Plans to be furnished by owner
2. Sitework
   A) Removal of asphalt and trees as required
   B) Grading as required
   C) Walks, asphalt paving, septic tank and landscaping by owner
3. Concrete
   A) Floor slabs, porch slabs and footings to be as specified by plans
   B) Termite treatment per N.C. code
4. Masonry
   A) Brick and block as specified by plans
   B) Brick color to be selected by owner
5. Carpentry
   A) Framing and trusses as specified by plans
   B) All eaves to have 16" overhang with gutters and downspouts. Eaves to be wood as indicated on plans or aluminum / vinyl at owner's option
   C) Front columns to be 10" fluted wood
   D) Sanctuary, rear entrance and classrooms to receive wainscot and chair rail
   E) Contractor to furnish and install wood frames for stained glass windows. Metal frames and all glass to be furnished by owner
6. Roofing & Insulation
   A) Shingles to be fiberglass type, 215# with one layer of asphalt felt. Shingle color to be selected by owner
   B) Insulation as specified by plans

STAPLES

7. Doors
   A) As specified by door schedule
   B) Door hardware as required for normal use
   C) Folding doors at rear to be vinyl, sound attenuated type partitions

8. Finishes
   A) All wall and ceiling finishes to be 1/2" painted gypsum board with wainscot as specified above. Visual screen at pulpit to receive same paneling as wainscot
   B) Carpeting and sheet vinyl allowance to be $5000.00
   C) Door finish to be selected by owner

9. Miscellaneous
   A) Baptistery to be by Whidden & Associates, Model No. 1-RE, white, with heater
   B) Steeple to be by Whidden & Associates, Model No. V
   C) Toilet partitions and accessories as required and specified by plans

10. Mechanicals
   A) Plumbing as specified by plans. Septic tank and water source to building by owner
   B) Heating and air conditioning - Two 4 ton heat pumps with one consolidated, computerized thermostat

11. Electrical
   A) Electrical as specified by plans to include a 200 amp service
   B) Fixture allowance to be $5000.00

We propose to complete the said work described above for the sum of one hundred thirty five thousand six hundred and No/100 dollars ($135,600.00

Monthly payments to be 90% of work completed and materials stored on site. Final payment to be made upon completion and acceptance / occupancy of said work. All work to have a one year warranty period.

Thank you for this opportunity to be of service and we look forward to a successful endeavor with you and yours.

Sincerely yours,

Blue Ridge Enterprises, Inc.

Randel Stanley, Vice President

Accepted By Randall Bryant

Date July 12, 1988

Completion to be no later than Jan. 31, 1989

About 1952



Around 1952





Picture of Old Original Church
L to R
Gertrude Draughn Hodges
Neal Joyce (probably)
Fletcher Branch (probably)
Child not identified
Harley Atkins
Child not identified
Elmer Whitaker (probably)
Archie Draughn



L to R
Cora BLue
Nannie Riggs
Betty Draughn
Jeanette Dollyhigh
~~Woman and~~ Child unidentified
Woman unidentified

Ref: Page 7 in "Hour Firm A Foundation"

LUCY HAYMORE



Betty Draughn Sunday School Class - Teacher

Front Row L to R

Janice Atkinson McKinney
Annie Atkinson
Lizzie McCraw
Cora Blue
Anna Branch
Fannie Simmons

~~Mid 1940's~~
Early 1950's

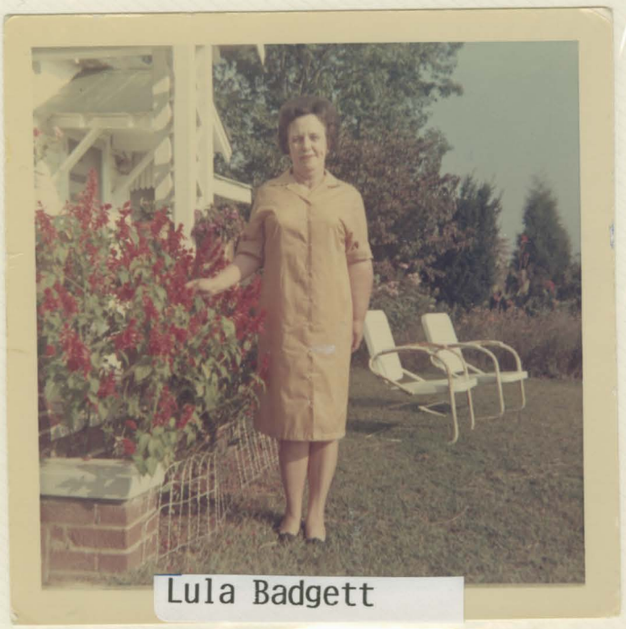
Second Row L to R

Child Unidentified
Woman Unidentified
Nannie Riggs
Cora Haymore
Woman Unidentified
Martha Nichols

Back Row L to R

Man Unidentified
Floyd Badgett
McKinley McCraw
Dan Riggs





Lula Badgett



Mrs. Cora
Haymore



Lula Badgett
Sunday S.Class





Can you find yourself
on this picture?



Young People's Sunday School Class
(Around 1952)

Row 1 L - R

Mildred Badgett Johnson
Bessie Marsh Draughn
Georgia Johnson Lundy
Polly McCreary Nations
Patty Johnson Stafford
Betty Jo Watson Alexander

Row 2 L - R

Eugene Johnson
James Dollyhigh
Unidentified
Margie Dollyhigh Whitaker
Unidentified
Unidentified
Unidentified

Others unidentified



Martha Nichols' Sunday School Class

Patsy Johnson Amburn
Stella Johnson Hawks
Edith Johnson Owen
Roger Haymore
~~Larry~~ White, R.G.
Linda Johnson Martin
Nancy White
Linda Haymore Sheets

Robert Nichols
Billy Johnson

- Others in picture not recognized -



Sunday School Class Lula Badgett Teacher
Back Row Left to Right: Mary Frances Branch, Will McCraw, Odell Hutchins, Calvin Riggs
Middle Row Left to Right: Betty Jean Dollyhigh, Susan Nichols, JoAnn Johnson, Barbara Freeman, Billy White, Larry White
Front Row Left to Right: Delmer McCraw, Billy Whitaker, Bertha Jewel Whitaker, Mildred Freeman, Lillian Riggs



Silas and Lema Smith
Pastor + Wife





Silas Smith
Lacy Dollyhigh
Pearl Mosley

Blues Grove Baptist Church
Mid 1950's





Lacy Dollyhigh and wife
Janette Blue Dollyhigh

Back L - R

Janette Blue Dollyhigh, Mother
Pauline D. Beasley Daughter
Bessie D. Marshall Daughter
Lacy Dollyhigh Father

Front L - R

Pansy D. Wood Daughter
Margie D. Whitaker Daughter





Lacy and Jeanette Dollyhigh and grandchildren - Garnett, Terry, and Dale Beasley(ready for church)



JUL 74

Lacy Dollyhigh

Mrs. Betty Draughn



Retiring S.S. Superintendent Lacy Dollyhigh and wife Jeanette



Mr. George Reynolds Pastor

Miss Elsie Reynolds (George's sister)





Baptizing

Left to Right: Randy Mitchell, Roy Mitchell

Conrad Draughn, Mike Hutchins, Treva Nichols,

Nancy Riggs ~~Did not recognize~~, Jane Whitaker, Debbie Bodenhamer,

Pam Bryant

1960's



Notice the older model cars and unpaved parking lot



"Young Peaples Class"

7-1-51



Front Row L-R
Kneeling

Paul McCraw
James Dally Tigh
Jay Whitaker
Richard Hutchens

Standing L-R front row

Pauline McCraw Nichols
Mattie Sue Freeman
Patty Johnson Stafford
Larena Whitaker Simmons
Georgia Johnson Lundy

Second Row L to R

Marian "Cubby" Simmons Hatcher
Evelyn Simmons Dark
Larene Hutchens Hudson
Gladys Branch Collins
Marie Riggs Wrenn

Back Row L to R

Kelly Hutchins
Clayton Johnson
Archie Draughn - Teacher

Caldwell Dark
Unknown (possibly Ernest Nichols)

Intermediate Class Picnic



5-3-53

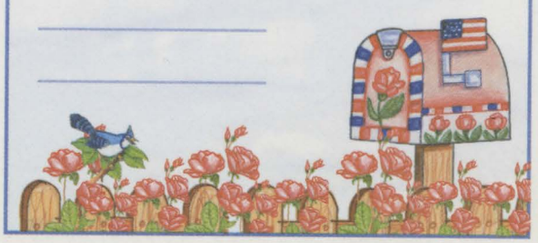
Intermediate Sunday School Class May 3, 1953

Front Row L - R

Larry White, Susan Nichols, Unknown girl, Betty Jean Dollyhigh, Unknown Girl, Wanda Mitchell, Barbara Freeman, Odell Hutchins

Back Row L - R

Joe Frank Badgett, Grady Mitchell, Mickey Badgett, Will McCraw, JoAnn Johnson, Carol Nester





4-5-53

A Special Note...

4-5-53

Back L - R

Will McCraw, Susan Nichols Lee, Pauline McCraw Nichols, Odell Hutchins

Front L - R

Delmer McCraw, Barbara Freeman, JoAnn Johnson Bryant, Billy Whitaker



8-24-52.

Homecoming August 24, 1952
McKinley McCraw, Wes Nichols (In white hat), Will McCraw, Joe Frank Nations
Others not identified



10-18-53

Blues Grove Baptist Church

Homecoming 10-18-53

Annie Atkinson

Ollie Badgett

Unknown

Unknown

Skipper Atkinson

Mrs. Nancy Riggs (In chair)

"Intermediate S. S. Class"



5-3-53

Intermediate Sunday School
5-3-53 Mountain Park

Front L - R
Unknown Girl, Barbara Freeman, JoAnn Johnson,
Betty Jean Lynch

Middle L - R
Grady Mitchell, Mickey Badgett, Will McCraw,
Susan Nichols

Back L - R
Wanda Mitchell, Larry White, Odell Hutchins,
Joe Frank Badgett

120-1917



Hessie Atkinson (sitting)
Lizzie McCraw
Wade Nichols
Susan Nichols
Donna Nichols
McKinley McCraw
Wes Nichols
Martha Nichols
Ernest Nichols



6-27-54

Homecoming June 27, 1954
Note the hats and tables
"Oh for simpler times"



5-15-55

Homecoming at Blues Grove Baptist Church
May 15, 1955

Joe Frank Badgett, Paul McCraw, Dan Riggs,
Iva Jean Lewis Cave, Marie Riggs Wren,
Unknown Lady, Lucille Eads, Susan Nichols Lee,
Will McCraw, Delmer McCraw, Joe Frank Nations

- Note the tables -

The Mount Airy News

Friday, March 30, 1979

Blues Grove Missionary Baptist begun in 1939

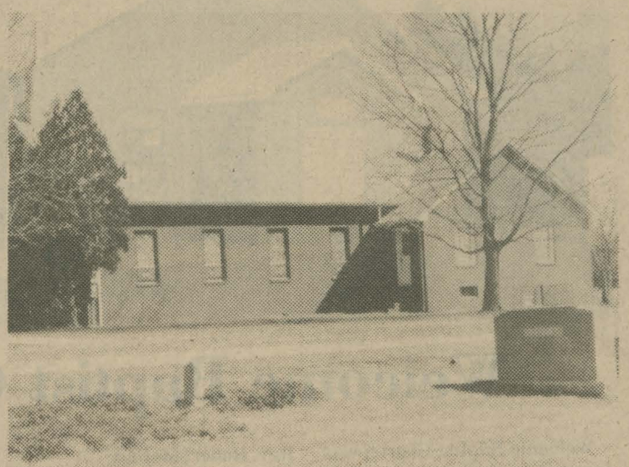
The Blues Grove Missionary Baptist Church was organized on July 2, 1939 with 21 charter members. Church services were held in a grove until a building was erected on land donated by Mr. S.H. Blue.

The original one room structure has been added to, remodeled and bricked.

Blues Grove now has a membership of 185.

Rev. D.D. Hodges was the first minister of the church. Other pastors have been Rev. Sam Jones, Rev. Silas Smith, Rev. George Reynolds, Rev. Grover Tilley and Rev. Orville Bledsoe.

Rev. Roy Estes is the present minister.



Blues Grove Missionary Baptist Church



Blues Grove Sunday School class with Mrs. Walter Draughn

STAPLES


50TH YEAR HOMECOMING
SUNDAY JUNE 25
ADULT BIBLE CLASS
JUNE 19-23 7:00



March 19, 1987

Wes Nichols (Age 80)

Martha Nichols

Alice Nichols Branch



Sam & Celia McCreary



McKinley and Lizzie McCraw



Jeanette Dollyhigh



Mr. Lacy Dollyhigh
Sunday School Superintendent

Mrs. Betty Draughn
Adult Class Sunday School Teacher

Church Honors Mrs. Draughn, Mr. Dollyhigh

Blue's Grove Baptist Church honored two of its charter members Sunday during the 11 o'clock morning worship hour.

They were Mrs. Walter Draughn, Route 7, Mount Airy, who retired as the adult Sunday School teacher after serving 34 years, and Lacy Dollyhigh, also of Route 7, Mount Airy, who retired as Sunday School superintendent after serving 32 years. Mrs. Dollyhigh was asked to come forward and share the honor with her husband.

On behalf of members of the church, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Nichols presented each with an engraved silver tea service.

The Rev. Orville Bledsoe, pastor of the church, presented Mr. Dollyhigh with an engraved plaque from the deacons.

The immediate families of both members were present for the occasion.

Mrs. Draughn's children are Frank Draughn and Archie Draughn of Route 7, Mount Airy; Mrs. Bill Hodges, Dobson; Mrs. Chester Simpson, Mount Airy; and Mrs. Ben Martin, High Point.

Mr. Dollyhigh's children are Mrs. Tycho Wood, Mount Airy; Mrs. Wayne Whitaker, Dobson; and Mrs. Henry Marshall and Mrs. Hassell Beasley, White Plains.

Several of Mr. Dollyhigh's brothers and sisters were also present. They include Mrs. Conse Eads, Mrs. Elzavan Atkins, Mrs. Sam McCreary and Brady Dollyhigh of Mount Airy and Jess Dollyhigh, Fieldale, Va.

1942 - Lacy

July - 1974



BLUES GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
GROUNDBREAKING SERVICE
JULY 31, 1988

HYMN: Congregation

PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Randall Bryant

OFFERING

SERVICE CONTINUES OUTSIDE

HYMN: "Onward Christian Soldiers"

SERMON

SERVICE OF GROUNDBREAKING

DEDICATION OF SITE LEAD BY: Reverend Tony Holder

PASTOR: Beloved in the Lord, we rejoice that God put it into the hearts of His people to break this ground to the Glory of His name. We now set it apart for the building of a worship center for Blues Grove Baptist Church. Let us, therefore, as we are assembled, solemnly dedicate this site to its proper and sacred use.

To the glory of God, the Father, Who has called us by His grace;
To the honor of His Son, Who loved us and gave Himself for us;
To the praise of the Holy Spirit, Who illuminates and sanctifies us;

PEOPLE: We break this ground.

PASTOR: For the worship of God in prayer and praise; for the preaching of the everlasting gospel for the baptism of beleivers; for the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

PEOPLE: We break this ground.

PASTOR: For the comfort of all who mourn; for strength to those who are tempted; for light for those who seek the way;

PEOPLE: We break this ground.

PASTOR: For the hallowing of family life, for teaching and guiding the young; for the preaching ministry.

PEOPLE: We break this ground.

PASTOR: For the conversion of sinners; for the promotion of righteousness; for the extension of the Kingdom of God;

PEOPLE: We break this ground.

PASTOR: In the unity of the faith; in the bond of Christian fellowship; in love and good will to all;

PEOPLE: We break this ground.

PASTOR: In gratitude for the labors of all who love and serve this church; in loving remembrance of those who have finished their course; in the hope of blessed immorality through Jesus Christ our Lord;

PEOPLE: We break this ground.

STAPLES

ALL: We now, the people of this congregation of Blues Grove Baptist Church, compassed about with a great cloud of witnessess, grateful for our heritage aware of the sacrifice of our fathers in the faith, confessing that apart from us their work cannot be made perfect, do dedicate ourselves anew to the worship and service of Almighty God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

ACT OF GROUNDBREAKING

The following people will break the ground as representatives of the congregation, acknowledging our indebtness to those who have preceded us, and accepting the challenge to commit ourselves to the worship and service of our Lord.

Charter members who are still members of Blues Grove Baptist Church:

Frank Draughn
Archie Draughn
Sadie Draughn Martin
Thelma Eads Smith
Lorene Eads Kidd
Pearl Mosley

Gray Nichols - Chairman of Deacons

Buddy Haymore - Chairman of Building Committee

Edith Owen - Director of WMU

Jyl Nichols - Director of Youth

Paul King - Sunday School Director

HYMN: "Blest Be The Tie..."

There will be a covered dish dinner following prayer in honor of the building committee:

Buddy Haymore	Betty Nichols	Eugene Johnson
Betty Branch	Paul King	Edith Owen
Leo Wilson	Dot Riggs	Randall Bryant - Moderator

PRAYER

"I HAVE WONDERED"

I have wondered many times
Just how things might have been
If I had lived when Jesus lived
And walked this earth with men
Would I have been among the few
Who bowed their lowly knee
Or would I be among the mob
That nailed Him to the tree

When I saw Him heal the sick
And raise men from the dead
Would I beleive the things I saw
And what the Master said
When He said, "Your soul I'll save
Through God's amazing grace."
Would I have asked to be set free
Or laughed out in His face

The answer to these questions
I guess must surely be
In how I treat a man of God
Who tries to talk with me
If I reject someone who speaks
To me in Jesus' name
Then I suppose I would have treated
Christ the Lord the same

Billy Nations

WINSTON-SALEM JOURNAL Sunday, December 25, 1988

With Ellis Haymore's Help, Baptist Church Continues to Grow

By Paul Collins
JOURNAL SURRY COUNTY BUREAU

DOBSON

About 50 years ago, when Ellis W. "Buddy" Haymore was a teen-ager, he worked with other people in his community to build the Blues Grove Baptist Church north of Dobson.

In the past few months, Haymore, now 66, has helped oversee construction of a new sanctuary at the church. He is the head of the church's building program.

The congregation hopes to hold its first service in the 36-by-82-foot brick building on New Year's Day.

A 20-by-20-foot brick connector attaches the new sanctuary to the old one, Haymore said. The old building, he said, will probably be used as a fellowship hall and community building.

The Rev. Tony M. Holder, the pastor, said that the six Sunday school rooms in the old building will continue to be used for that purpose. The new sanctuary has space for two Sunday school classes.

HOLDER ESTIMATED THE cost of the project at up to $155,000.

Haymore said that most of the money came from the church building fund and that the rest was borrowed. He said that the first church was dedicated on Easter 1939.

People in the community donated labor and the materials to build the church. "I drove a few nails and helped them drag some logs for the lumber," he said.

The new sanctuary was not built by church members but by Blue Ridge Enterprises of Mount Airy. Haymore, who is a semi-retired carpenter, helped oversee the project.

The first church was built on about an acre of land donated by the Blues family. Before it was built, people held services in a clearing in the woods, Haymore said.

The church is on Redbrush Road about three miles from Dobson.



JOURNAL PHOTO BY PAUL COLLINS

Blues Grove Baptist Church's new sanctuary (left) sits beside the old one, which is now about 50 years old.

STAPLES®



50th Anniversary Service
June 25, 1989

Opening Hymn: "Praise Him, Praise Him"	67
Opening Prayer	Rev. Holder
Welcome	Rev. Holder
Announcements	
Offretory	
Hymns	Blue's Grove Choir
Responsive Reading: "Upon This Rock"	585
Special Musical Offering	
A History of Blue's Grove Baptist Church	
	Frankie Ann Nichols Wade Nichols
Recognition of Charter Members and Ministers Called from Blue's Grove	
Hymn: "Amazing Grace"	165
Prayer	
Introduction of Speaker	Rev. Holder
Sermon	Rev. Ernest Nichols
Hymn: "Just As I Am"	187
Benediction	

Adjournment for Homecoming Lunch on Church Grounds

Blue's Grove Baptist Church
Founded July 2nd, 1939

Charter Members

Rufus Haymore
Sanford Eads
Ura Eads
Thelma Eads Smith*
Lorene Eads Kidd*
Walter Draughn
Bettie Draughn
Frank Draughn*
Archie Draughn*
Sadie Draughn Martin*
Irene Draughn Simpson
Lacy Dollyhigh
Janette Dollyhigh*
W. E. Park
Roy Simmons
Fannie Simmons
Evelyn Simmons Dark
Harvey Mosley
Pearl Mosley*
Fannie Joyce
Vertie Wilson

** Currently Members*

Pastors

Rev. Delmer D. Hodges	1939-1943
Rev. Sam Jones	1943-1947
Rev. D. D. Hodges	1947-1949
Rev. Silas Smith	1949-1953
Rev. George Reynolds	1953-1956
Rev. D. D. Hodges	1956-1961
Rev. Grover Tilley	1961-1963
Rev. Orville Bledsoe	1963-1974
Rev. Roy Estes	1975-1981
Rev. Tony Holder	1981-Present

Board of Deacons

Delmer McCraw	*Chairman*
Ellis Haymore	
Archie Draughn	
Eugene Johnson	
Gray Nichols	
Ray Riggs	
Brady Johnson	

Trustees

Eugene Johnson	
Archie Draughn	
Patty Stafford	

Clerk	Dorothy P. Riggs
Treasurer	Leo Wilson
Moderator	Randall Bryant

Choir Director	Donald Badgett
Organist	Kristi Nichols
Pianist	Susanne Nichols

Blue's Grove Baptist Church

50th Anniversary Service June 25, 1989

Rev. Tony Holder, Pastor
Rev. Ricky Atkins, Assistant Pastor

Red Brush Road
Surry County, North Carolina

The Mount Airy News Friday, July 7, 1989-3B

RELIGION



CHURCH HISTORY — Frankie Nichols and son, Wade Nichols of Cambridge, Mass., display their year-long endeavor, a history of Blue's Grove Baptist Church. The history, "How Firm A Foundation," includes church records, photographs and so forth from the time the church was founded in 1939. The presentation was a highlight of the church's recent 50th anniversary service.

Church To Mark Anniversary

Blue's Grove Baptist Church will observe the 50th anniversary of its organization Sunday when its annual homecoming is held.

Records show that the church was organized July 2, 1939. The Rev. D.D. Hodges was elected the first pastor. The well-known minister later served as pastor on two other occasions.

There were 21 charter members of the church, 8 of whom are yet members. Several of the original 21 members have moved to other communities, transferring their church membership as well.

Deacons who were elected at the church's first business meeting were Rufus Haymore, W.E. Parks and Sanford Eads. Haymore died about 30 days later, while helping move the lumber to build the church. Dixie Watson was elected as a deacon to replace him in January of 1940.

Roy Simmons was the first clerk of the church, which has had 8 pastors during its half-century. The Rev. Tony Holder has been pastor since 1981. The Rev. Ricky Atkins, assistant pastor, was ordained in March.

The church built a new sanctuary last year and the first service was held in the new building the first day of this year.

All former members and others are welcome to attend the anniversary celebration. A carry-in dinner will be held after the morning service.

Blue's Grove Baptists Celebrate 50 Years



Charter members (from left) Evelyn Simmons Dark, Pearl Edes Mosley, Thelma Eades Smith, Frank Draughn, Sadie Draughn Martin, Archie Draughn and (seated) Alverta Wilson helped mark the Red Brush Road church's anniversary and were recognized during 50th anniversary services Sunday.



Mrs. Alfred Vernon (foreground) and some 300 others gathered for the church's homecoming lunch.

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WARNER Press

"CHRISTIAN ART"®
MADE IN USA



SAVIOUR...

Christ was ***born*** to deliver His people;
He ***lived*** to unlock Heaven's door;
He ***died*** to redeem His creation;
He ***lives***, King of Kings, evermore.

B. J. Hoff

STAPLES

BLUES GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

DECEMBER 15,1996
7:00 PM
DIRECTORS: MARY KING & JYL NICHOLS

Poems:

Ben Goad	*Welcome*
Jessie Davis	*Happy Birthday Jesus*
Allison Parsons	*An Honor*
Jody Davis	*We Love Him*
Dixie Draughn	*I'll Try It*
Brandy Draughn	*That First Christmas Day*
Jacob Draughn	*I Love The Baby Jesus*
Timothy Pruitt	*Merry Christmas*

Play I
What Would You Give Baby Jesus

Teacher	*Susan Parsons*
Narrarator	*Sherry Pruitt*
Angel	*Kristi Nichols*

Sunday School Children:

Jennifer	*Britta Bodenhamer*
Tara	*Beth Johnson*
Kristen	*Aysha Bodenhamer*
Steven	*Issaac Draughn*
Peter	*Jamie Davis*
Roland	*Justin Branch*

Play II
Beneath The Guiding Star

Bobby Bodenhamer - Charles Henderson - Wealthy Christian man who is practical and easy going.

Carolyn Bodenhamer - Liz Henderson - His wife who is planning the family dinner for Christmas.

Jan Davis - Katie - The Henderson's maid , but treated as part of the family.

Cindy Stanley - Carol - Charles & Liz's daughter.

Roland McCraw - Tim - Carol's husband studying to be a preacher.

Paul King - George Wise - Lives at mission, works for Henderson's doing odd jobs.

Conrad Draughn - Bernie Wise - Cousin of (not to bright) George.

Edith Vernon - Hazel Brown - Parents of Liz
Bobby Watson - Herman Brown - always fighting.

Donna Draughn - Sue - Uppity sister of Liz, to busy to give much time to her son.

Justin Nichols - William - Sue's son.
Dot Riggs - Aunt Grace - Liz's aunt, a sweet Christian lady.

Nativity Scene:
Paul & Edith Owen - Joseph & Mary
Shepherds - Mike King, Wesley Nichols, Jeff Goad
Wise Men - Roland McCraw, Ray Riggs, Mike Parsons
Angels - Kristi Nichols, Susan Parsons, Sherry Pruitt, Jessie Davis, Allison Parsons, Britta Bodenhamer

Pastor's Message of the Week:

What's In Store For the World Next?

Genesis Chapter 1 - *And God said, Let the water under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear; and it was so. And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called He Seas; and God saw that it was good.*

When God created the earth and beheld it, He said it was good. It continued to be good until sin came into the world. God took another look at His creation and Genesis Chapter six tells us what He saw. And God saw the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually, and it repented the Lord that He had made man on the earth, and it grieved Him at His heart. And the Lord said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping things and the fowls of the air; for it repented Me that I have made them."

The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. We see quite a change in what God first created and what He's about to destroy. It's all because of sin.

After God destroyed the old world, He was merciful and allowed man to begin over. We've seen quite a few changes since that new beginning. The question on a lot of people's minds today is, "What's happening to the world?" We must realize that the same things that happened before the flood, are happening today. Sin has crept into our world. Jesus said, "As it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be before the coming of the Son of Man." We know from what we are told in Genesis, in that time there was wickedness and violence. One reason for this is that we've left God out of our homes, in a lot of cases out of our churches, and expelled Him from our schools. All of this has promoted Satanism in our world. The Bible tells us things are going to wax worse in this world. Jesus said there would be wars and rumors of wars, nation against nation. Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth.

Paul says in Timothy that in the last days perilous times shall come. When we see and hear what's going on today, we can't help but believe they are here.

What's in store for the world next? According to II Peter, this world is being kept in store, reserved unto fire. He goes on

Pastor's Bio

Family: Wife, Janice; Son and Daughter-in-Law, Ronald & Cindy
Time at Present Church: Approximately 4 ½ years
Other Churches: Reed Island Springs, Pleasant Grove, Mt. Hebron
Place of Birth: Carroll County
When Called to the Ministry: In 1978
Biggest Issue Facing Christians Today: The lack of concern that Christians have today.

STAPLES



Pastor Roland McCraw

to say that this earth and the works that are therein shall be destroyed. Peter said, "Nevertheless, we according to His promise look for new heavens and new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness."

John said I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away. So we know this world is going to end and there's going to be a new place for people to dwell where there is righteousness. We can never expect this world to be perfect and without sin, but God is preparing a place where His people can dwell with Him and there will be no sin there and nothing to defile that place. The only way to get there is through and by the blood of Jesus Christ.

Christmas at the Smiths

AVERY®
POLY-VU

Edith Owen took the picture

Church Picnic 2002

Edith Vernon
Bonnie Wilson
Christy Cuthrell
Keeley Cuthrell
Laylar Smith
Jo Anne Bryant
Carolyn Bodenhamer
Jean Badgett
Kay Simpson
Orita Riggs
Pam Parker
Carrie Parker
Rosa Branch
Becky Johnson
Heather Smith
Patty Stygard
Aysha Bodenhamer
Shannon Davis
Britta Bodenhamer
Jody Davis
JoAnne Simpson
Kelly Shelton
Shannon Wilson
Paul Riggs
Joyce Parker
Lucille Marion

Ann McCraw
Scott Smith
Shirley Smith
Jennifer Smith
Heather Smith
Roy Smith
Harvey Stayyard
Betty Nichols
Jamie Davis
Betty Sue Johnson
Bobby Bodenhamer
Randall Bryant
Mary King
Glen Davis
Paul King
Destiny King
Alfred Vernon
Jerry Burcham
B. G. Wilson
Paul Owen
Terry Shelton
Richard Marion
Tom Parker
James Nichols
Will McCraw
Don Badgett
Von Atkinson
Robert Nichols

Pauline Beasley surprised at 80th birthday celebration

Pauline D. Beasley, center, celebrated her 80th birthday on April 22 at Blue's Grove Baptist Church. Her children surprised her with a celebration which was attended by approximately 70 friends and family. She is pictured with her sons and their families, Garnett, Jan, Carla and Lori Beasley, Chuck, Debbie and Drew Beasley, Dale, Joanie and Nolan Beasley.





The church minister Billy Nations and wife, Polly, extend congratulations to the honoree, center.



Cecil and Faye Beasley enjoy the family celebration.



Bessie Marshall McMillion, sister of the honoree, attended the party with her husband, Cecil McMillion and her son, Harry Marshall.



Pauline's sister, Pansy Wood, was there with her husband, Tycho.

Blues Grove Baptist Church helps Paul Gentry celebrate 81st birthday



Paul Gentry was pleased to be honored on is 81st birthday.

Paul Gentry, a well-known man in Surry County, celebrated his 81st birthday on Feb. 26. When Blues Grove Baptist Church pastor, Sammy Lawson, and wife, Amanda, heard about his upcoming birthday they, along with the church members, went to work organizing a covered-dish luncheon in his honor.

The honoree was presented a birthday cake and many useful gifts.

Susan Burcham, a church member, said he can be seen just about any time, walking along the highways with his Bible under his arm. "He loves to visit churches around the county. He is a friend of many people in this area. Most people who see him walking the highways will stop and pick him up and take him wherever he's going to church on that particular day," said Burcham who added, "He is a kind and humble man who truly loves the Lord."

Church members wished him many more healthy years as he "travels for the Lord."



Amanda Lawson helps Paul open his gifts.



Baby Darin Hodges attends his first Sunday at Church. He is the son of Chad and Becky Hodges. Lucille and Richard Marion look on.



Melissa and Matthew Ramey chat with Larry Ramey and Danny McCraw in the church fellowship hall.



Conrad and Donna Draughn enjoy their lunch with Donald Marion.



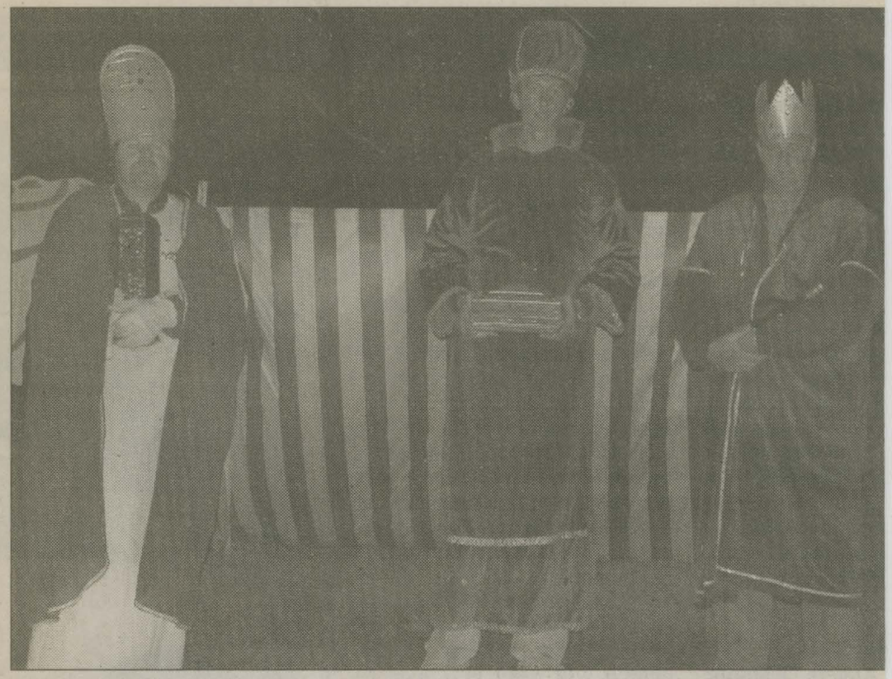
Enjoying the birthday celebration are Roy Smith, Shirley Smith, Merel Branch, Alice Mitchell, Wanda Dobbins and Polly Nations.

STAPLES®



Joel Frady/The Mount Airy News

Paul King of Mount Airy, left, and Jimmy Stone of Dobson portray the Road to Calvary during Blue's Grove Baptist Church's drive-thru nativity last weekend.



Joel Frady/The M

Chuck Puckett, left, Jeremy Simms and Glenn Davis portray the Three Wi scene from Blue's Grove Baptist Church's drive-thru nativity last weeke portrayal covers the period from before Christ's birth through his ascensi been put on for the last nine years by the church.

Blue's Grove celebrates holiday with drive-thru nativ

By JOEL FRADY
Staff Writer

MOUNT AIRY — Blue's Grove Baptist Church held its ninth annual drive-thru nativity Friday and Saturday. More than 35 people participated in the nativity, despite the near-freezing temperatures and some rain. The nativity featured 12 separate stops, each one creating a scene from the story of Jesus.

"It's a great opportunity to be a witness to the neighborhood and the community," said Pastor Sammy Lawson. "It's a true fellowship for our church, too. It's an opportunity to eat together and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas."

Mary King, a Mount Airy resident who has coordinated the event every year since it began, got the inspiration to put on the drive-thru nativity after seeing a similar one.

"We went through and saw Salem (Baptist's) nine years ago, came back and had ours two weeks later," King said, noting that the event is "just a lot of fun (and) good fellowship."

She said that it takes two or three full days of work to set nativity up.

"It used to take longer," she said, "but we've got all the costumes made now. It's getting easier every year.

"Nobody really complains (about the work)," she continued. "When you see the cars come through with the smiles and the grins, it's all worth it."

Vehicles came from around the area to see the nativity, touring the story of Jesus from the angel's appearance to Mary to the actual nativity — the event's fifth stop —but continued past the traditional stories told at Christmas. Later stops illustrated the crucifixion and the ascension, scenes more commonly associated with Easter.

Cast members rotated throughout the event so that others could warm up inside the church, and the mood was happy despite the cold and the rain.

"I enjoy it all," said Sheila Ramey of Beulah, "especially the little animals and the part where Jesus was on the cross. (That) made it more special, because that's the main thing."

"We've got a good group of people here, and everyone's willing to participate," said Mount Airy Nichols. "We c without all the h church ... it's a lo it's a lot of blessin



lount Airy News
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Joel Frady/The Mount Airy News

Danny McCraw of Mount Airy portrays Jesus after the Ascension at Blue Grove Baptist Church's drive-thru nativity last weekend.

CHURCH & HOME

Blue's Grove Church members dress for Old-Fashioned Day



Members of Blue's Grove Baptist Church celebrated Old-Fashioned Day at their church. Dressed in appropriate attire are the minister, Sammy Lawson, and his wife, Amanda.



Paul and Mary King arrive in clothing of days gone by.



Susan Burcham and her mother, Rosa Branch, wore bonnets, shawl and an apron.



Mason Nichols shows off his Sunday hat.



Destin Martin was dressed in her finery.



James and Jyl Nichols with their grandson, Mason.

STAPLES



Conrad and Donna Draughn were there with their sons, Isaac and Jacob.



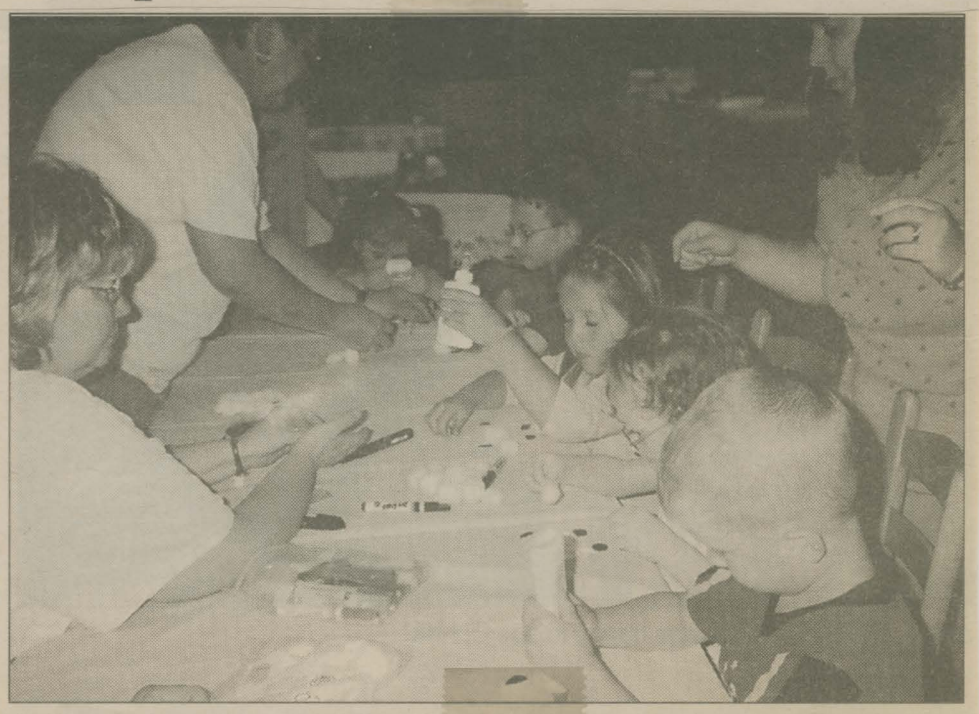
Randall and Jo Anne Bryant on the church grounds.

Connie Draughn Dresses for Blue's Grove Old-Fashioned Day
Page 13



LEARNING AND GROWING

Blues Grove Baptist Church holds vacation Bible school

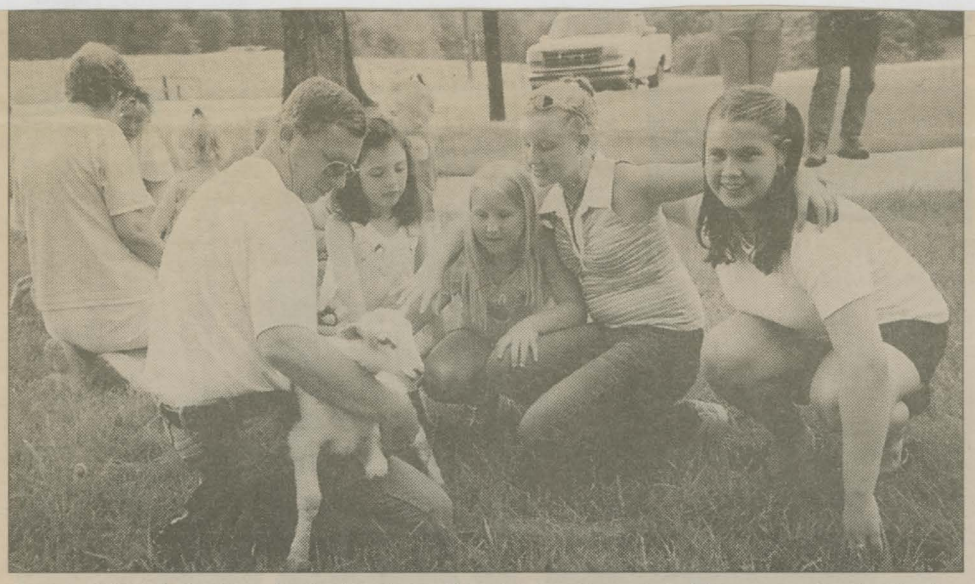


Jyl Nichols, Von Atkinson and Jan McKinney help the children make a lamb.

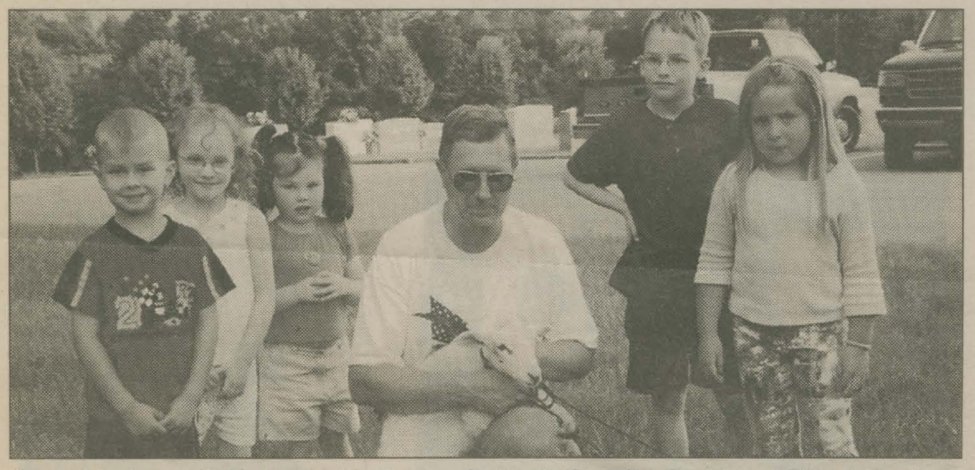


Sherry Pruitt and Joyce Parker are shown with 3- to 6-year-old children at Blues Grove Baptist Church Vacation Bible School. In the double decker bus are Timothy Pruitt, left, Jared Marion, Emily Pruitt and Keeley Cuthrell.

STAPLES

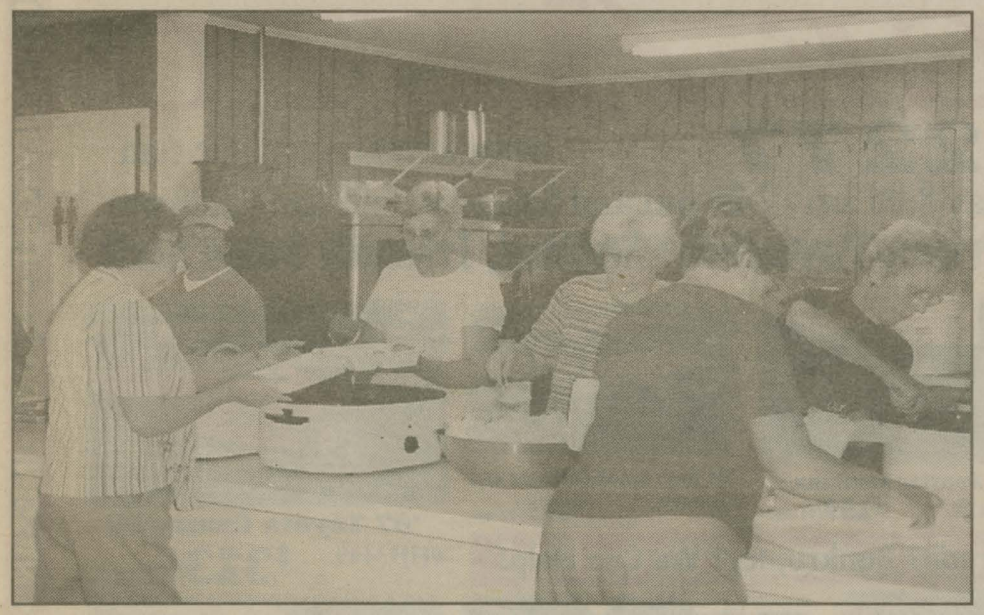


James Nichols holds a baby lamb for the children to touch. They are Jessie Davis, left, Alexus Hardy, Stephanie Hardy and Marissa Hull.



Jared Marion, left, Emily Pruitt, Keeley Cuthrell, Timothy Pruitt and Tiffani Hardy line up to see the lamb.

Ladies from Union Hill Friends and Blues Grove feed seniors



Ladies from Union Hill Friends and Blues Grove Baptist Church combine efforts once a month to feed between 300 to 400 senior citizens and shut-ins.



Ann McCraw, Ruby Creed and Patty Stafford fill plates for delivery.



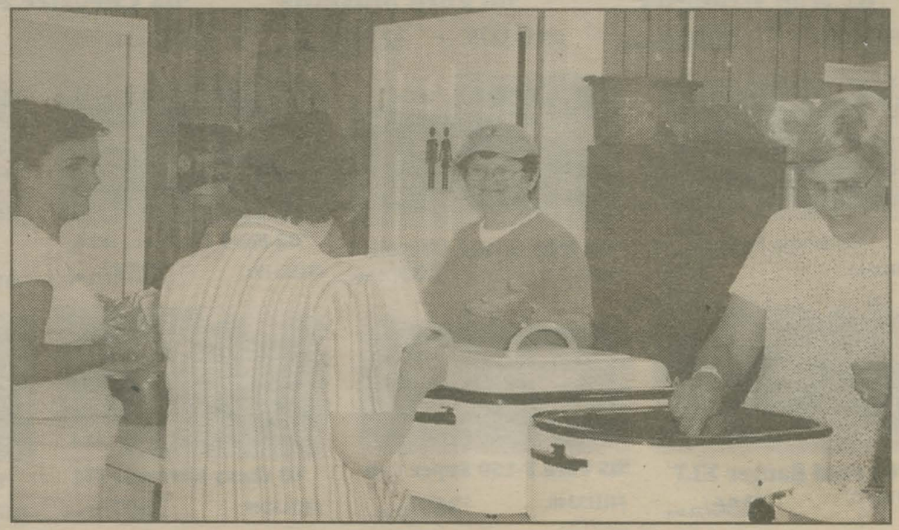
Judy Clifton, Louneil Moseley, Lettie Hiatt and Jerry Burcham enjoy working on the project.



Ronald Thomas, Sheryl Jackson and Joy Tickle bag food for delivery.

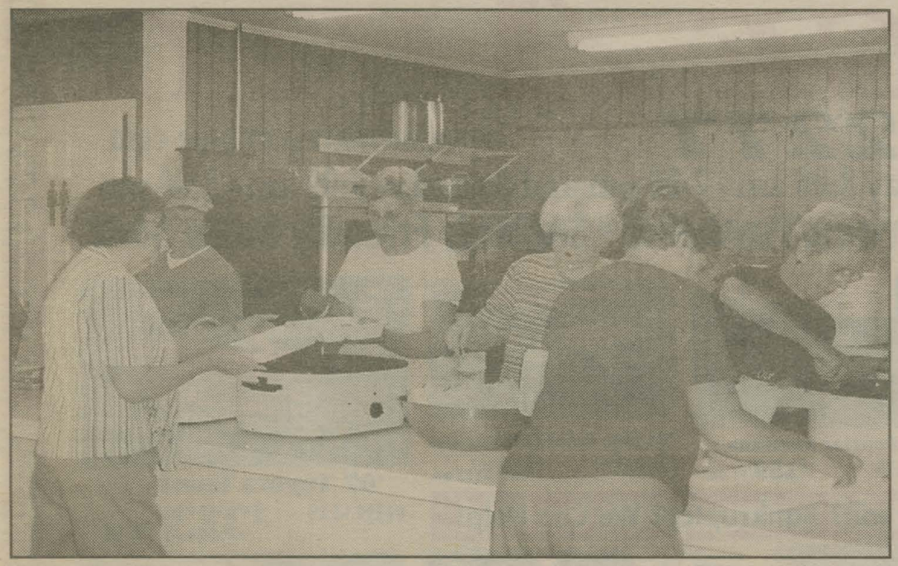


Billy and Polly Nations get food ready for their delivery route.



A member of the class said that working together to serve God through serving others, they receive more blessings than they give.

Ladies from Union Hill Friends and Blues Grove feed seniors



Ladies from Union Hill Friends and Blues Grove Baptist Church combine efforts once a month to feed between 300 to 400 senior citizens and shut-ins.



Ann McCraw, Ruby Creed and Patty Stafford fill plates for delivery.

Blues Grove Baptist Church Members Visit Holy Land, U.S.A.

Forty-one members of Blues Grove Baptist Church enjoyed a recent trip to Holy Land, U.S.A., in Bedford, Va. The group had a two-hour tour with a picnic lunch.

Those making the trip were:Tom and Pam Parker, Carrie Parker, Alisha Parker, Jerry and Susan Burcham, Randal and JoAnn Bryant, B.G. and Bonnie Wilson, Paul and Mary King, Ray and JoAnn Simpson, Roy and Shirley Smith, Scott and Jennifer Smith, Heather Smith, Taylor Smith, Rosa Branch, David Pruitt, Jan Davis, Jody Davis, Jessie Davis, Janie Goad, Ben Goad, Becky Johnson, Sherri Johnson, Jon McKinney, Von Atkinson, Richard and Lucille Marion, Peggy Atkins, Margie Whitaker, Robin Houston, Sherri Holder, Jyl Nichols, Billy and Polly Nations and Arlene Dalton.





Susan and Jerry Burcham (left) Rosa Branch and Arlene Dalton.



made the trip. To the right are



Shown at the entrance are (left to right) Randal and JoAnn Bryant and B.G. and Bonnie Wilson.

Marking 57 years



Miss Connie and some of the members from present class.

Blues Grove Baptist Church Celebrates "Miss Connie" Day

On Sunday, April 13, Connie Draughn was honored for having taught Sunday School for 57 years. She was given a plaque and presented with 57 red roses. Special poems were read, the choir sang her favorite songs and several people related memories from over the years. A covered dish lunch followed the service.



Pastor Sammy Lawson present Miss Connie with plaque as her grandsons look on.



Lunch and conversation enjoyed by Pauline Beasley, the honoree, and Mearl Branch.



Miss Connie makes her speech of thanks and relates her memories.



Miss Connie presented fifty-seven roses by Edith Owen and Delmer McCraw observe.





Baptizing 1980

Roy Ester, Pastor
Ernest Nichols

James Nichols
Jyl Nichols
Robert Nichols
Betty Nichols

Pepper Owen
Karen Bodenhamer
Other person not recognized






































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Faithful Servants
Sunday School Class

March 10, 2013
Teacher: Billy Nations

Row 1 L - R

Peggy Dollyhigh
Jean Lynch
Elizabeth Ramey

Row 2 L - R

Mearl Branch
Pauline Beasley
Peggy Atkins
Billy Nations

Row 3 L - R

Will McCraw
Ann McCraw
Paul Gentry

Row 4

Bruce Nations
Doris Smith (Not seen)



May 1989
Older Sanctuary



Valentine Spaghetti Supper on Saturday Feb 10, 2007 with proceeds going to Relay for Life



2007 Luau
Old Fellowship Hall
(proceeds to Cancer Society)



Faithful Servants Christmas Supper

Will McCraw, Ann McCraw, Dink Shumate, Billy Nations-Teacher,

Eugene Johnson, Peggy Atkins, Hassell Beasley, Pauline Beasley, Joyce Parker, Margie Whitaker, Rosa Branch




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8-18-91



8-18-91

October 29, 2000

Ordination Service

for

Tom Parker



First Baptist church
Dobson, North Carolina
Dr. Van Lankford, Pastor

The Presentation of the Ordinand

The ministry to which you are being ordained is a sacred office which you can fulfill only in humbledependence upon God, in sincerity of purpose and holiness of life. Therefore, in the presence of God and this congregation, it is necessary that you should answer, in all sincerity of heart, the questions I now ask of you. *(Ordinand responds after each question.)*

Do you believe in one God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; and do you confess anew the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord?

I do.

Do you believe in your heart that you are truly called of God into this holy ministry, and do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament as the supreme guide for faith and life?

I do.

Are zeal for the glory of God, love to the Lord Jesus Christ, and a desire to proclaim God's reconciling love to all persons, so far as you know your own heart, your true motives and inducements to enter the Christian ministry?

They are.

Do you promise to preach the Word of God, to maintain the worship of the church, to fulfill the pastoral office, to seek the unity and peace of the church, and to do all
this in a spirit of love and community toward all the followers of the Lord?

I do.

Do you engage in the strength of the Lord Jesus Christ to live a godly life, to discharge the duties of the ministry faithfully, diligently, and cheerfully, and in all things to seek the advancement of Christ's kindgom?

I do.

God, our heavenly Father, who has called you to this holy calling, enlighten you by His Spirit, strengthen you by His hand, and so direct you in your ministry that you walk in the same faithfully and fruitfully to the praise of His holy name.

Prelude

Call to Worship — 1 Peter 4:10-11

Greeting — Dr. Van Lankford

Invocation

Congregational Hymn #571 "Let Others See Jesus In You"

Solo "Thank You" — Mr. Ross Scott

Report of the Ordination Council — Dr. Jack Long

Scripture — Mark 6:30-34

Solo "To God Be the Glory" — Mrs. Pam Parker

Ordination Message "A Tough Hide and a Tender Heart"
Dr. Van Lankford

The Presentation of the Ordinand

The Prayer of Ordination

The Laying On of Hands

Special Presentation

Benediction


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12 8'02

PAGE TWO

Pictures and pages from the past ...



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Riders get off the first church bus ever run in Surry County in 1943. Arriving at White Plains Baptist Church are, left to right, Polly McCreary (Nations), Ila Mae Brintle (Creed) and Rufus Key. The bus driver, not pictured, was the late Archie Haley, who was also the church's Sunday school superintendent at that time.

Harvey Atkins remembers the first time he saw it. "I had just got home from the war and met it coming down the road," recalls Atkins, a veteran of World War II.

"It" was a church bus, the first of its kind in this area and perhaps the first one in the country. On the side, printed in large letters, were the words "White Plains Baptist Church"

Atkins said he didn't attend church at that time, but his father Paul, brother Chester, and sisters Pansy, Stella, and Faye rode the bus regularly. Atkins and his wife Rachel began riding the bus later, after they joined the church.

Some families still did not have transportation of their own in the 1940s, and many welcomed a free ride to church. When the church added more buses, Atkins said he and his wife decided to work a route of their won. Under their ministry, many people were brought to church over the years.

The Atkins sisters recently talked about riding that first church bus. "It was cold in the winter," said Pansy Atkins Allen. "And there was no heat on the bus, but we didn't think that much about it back then."

She and sisters Fay (Edwards) and Stella (Marion) would walk "about two miles" to meet the bus. The unpaved road they walked turned into Surry County red mud after a rain. "We didn't have overshoes, so we just wore our regular shoes and scraped the mud off as best as we could," said one of the sisters.

The late pastor of White Plains Baptist Church, Dr. Carl T. Lackey, once said he believed that first local church bus may have also been the first one in the whole country. He added that he had not heard of a church bus before that. But even before the bus was started, he and his wife, the late Jewel Lackey, would pick up riders in their car and take them to church on Sundays.

Although not as many people rely on others to get to church these days, the church still offers free transportation to anyone who wants to ride one of its buses. Those interested can call the church at 786-6310 for more information.



April 14, 2008
New Fellowship Hall
Delmer, Judy, Polly



September 18, 2008
Church Library



June 7, 2009
L-R Meg Adams, Hannah Beasley,
Maggie Taylor, Christy Shore,
Rhonda McCraw, Austin Bottoms,

Mason Taylor, Logan McCraw,
Tyler Kennedy, Josh Horton





L - R Roy Estes
Jean Badgett
Lena Riggs
Susan Hodges
Lizzie Johnson
Grady Johnson
Archie Draughn
Connie Draughn
JoAnn Simpson
Frankie Nichols
Grey Nichols
Lula Haymore
Buddy Haymore
Nancy Marion
Judy McCraw

Front - Sitting L - R
Mike McCraw
Doug Badgett
Ray Bryant
Pepper Owen
Donna N. Bryant
Julie Marion
Janie McCraw
Becky McCraw
Kristi Nichols
Beverly Badgett
Treva Nichols
Unidentified

Kneeling L - R
Ray Riggs
Unidentified
David Pruitt
David Nichols
Jean Simpson
Kathy White
Bobby Bodenhamer
Dale Marion
Mark Johnson

STAPLES

AVERY®
POLY-VU



"Faithful Servants" Sunday School Class
Billy Nations - Teacher

Ray Simpson, Joann Simpson, Rosa Branch,
Betty Branch
Peggy Atkins
Margie D. Whitaker, Pauline Beasley, Hassell
Beasley
Will McCraw, Ann McCraw, Betty Sue Johnson,
Eugene Johnson
Joyce Parker, Paul Gentry

The F

Established 1880 Mc

Shoeboxes being collected this week

By WENDY BYERLY WOOD
Staff Writer

MOUNT AIRY — Christmas is less than 50 days away, and it is already time to hand in those shoeboxes for the annual Operation Christmas Child project, coordinated by the Samaritan's Purse.

This year, Blues Grove Baptist Church decided to challenge another area church to a friendly competition to see which church could bring in the most shoeboxes, which are sent to needy children around the world. Fancy Gap Baptist Church was the church Blues Grove challenged, and the congregation took the challenge.

"We started the project in March," said Amanda Lawson, wife of Blues Grove Baptist Pastor, the Rev. Sammy Lawson. "After Christmas, Sammy and I said we needed to find a church to challenge to get shoeboxes in, so we asked Dwight (Sechrist, pastor at Fancy Gap), and the church said yes."

Whichever church collected the least amount of shoeboxes agreed to cook the winning church a hot dog supper.

But Lawson said there really is no loser. "Everybody wins, because the children get the gifts and we get the fellowship."

In addition to providing needed items like combs, toothbrushes and toothpaste, tissues and more, shoeboxes also include items like coloring books and crayons, stuffed animals and hairbows. Once the boxes are collected at Bannertown Baptist Church this week, through Nov. 20, they are taken to either Boone or Charlotte, where they are checked and a booklet with the Christmas story in the child's language is added to each box.

"For children who don't get anything, that box is all they get," Lawson said. "And it may have an effect on them for the rest of their lives. One little girl got a copy of the New Testament and took Christ as her savior, and, to us, that is a big deal."

At Blues Grove, 704 shoeboxes were collected by the challenge deadline, and more continue to trickle in. At Fancy Gap, the church collected 235 shoeboxes. So the two churches will provide more than 739 shoeboxes this year for Opera-

See SHOEBOXES, page 2



Wendy Byerly Wood/The Mount Airy News

Polly Nations, right, Billy Nations and Jan Davis, second from left, wait in line to hand Jessie Davis Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes to be stacked for delivery.



COMING UP:

Collections are this week for shoeboxes.

Monday

SHOEBOXES: Carry gifts, message

Continued from page 1

tion Christmas Child.

"Our youth did a lot of these boxes. They really stepped up," Lawson said. "Billy and Polly (Nations) led the whole operation and encouraged others to do them, and they wrapped all of the boxes and went and collected boxes."

She said Pauline Beasley, who is a homebound widow, did 40 boxes for the church's collection. "She loved every bit of it."

"We've been in the Christmas spirit all year since we started in March," said Jan Davis, who helped her daughter, Jessie, and the other youth with their collections. "(Jessie's) been a big help when we've gone shopping."

Several area businesses contributed to the shoeboxes, and Billy Nations said a lot of people contributed money to help make the boxes and pay for the $7 per box shipping fee.

"We would go shopping and set stuff out on tables, and the youth would grab boxes and go at it just like they were shopping," Lawson said.

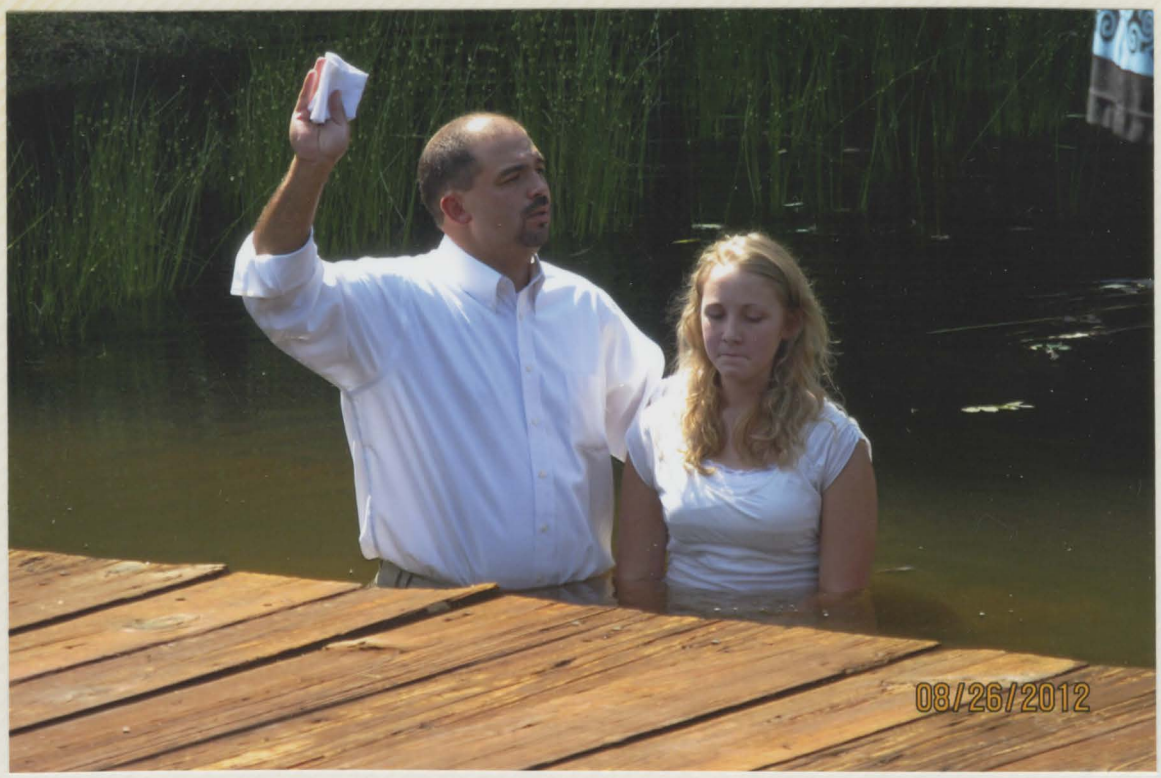
"Considering how much we put in for Christmas for our own families, you can do a box for $20, and that's not much," she said.

Blues Grove and Fancy Gap church members will gather this week and pray around all of the boxes, "so they will be used for God's will," Lawson said.

Anyone who wants to fix a box and donate it can drop it off at Bannertown Baptist Church this week.

Once Blues Grove's shoeboxes have been delivered, the church will turn its focus on needy families in this area. "Usually we sponsor at least one family, and sometimes two or three families. We buy their Christmas for them," said Davis.

You can reach Wendy Byerly Wood at wbyerly-wood@mtairynews.com.


08/26/2012


08/26/2012


08/26/2012





March 10, 2013

Faithful Servants
Blues Grove Baptist Church
Teacher-Billy Nations

L-R
(1)
Peggy Dollyhigh
Jean Lynch
Elizabeth Ramey
(2)
Mearl Branch
Pauline Beasley
Peggy Atkins
Billy Nations
(3)
Will McCraw
Ann McCraw
Paul Gentry
(4)
Doris Smith
Bruce Nations





50th Wedding Anniversary 2009
Billy & Polly Nations





Rhonda McCraw's
baptism 6-7-2009
Sammy Lawson, Rhonda,
Mike

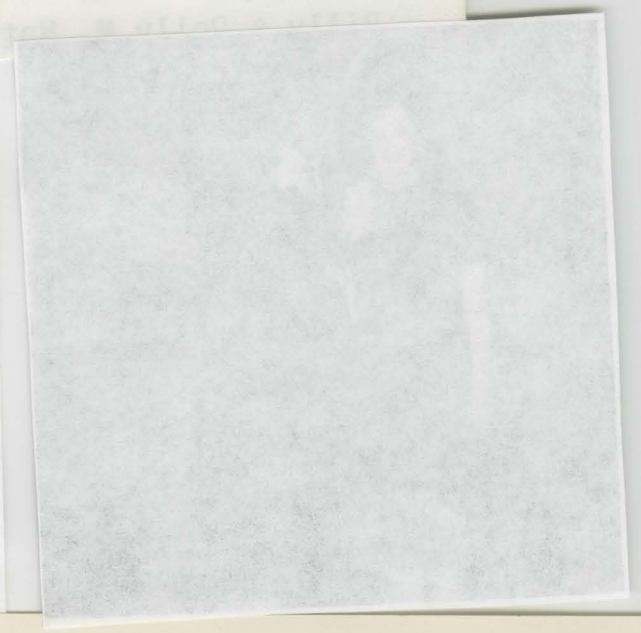



THE LONGER YOU
KEEP YOUR TEMPER
THE MORE IT
WILL IMPROVE.









IN MEMORY OF

MR. WILLIAM LAMONT NATIONS

"Billy"

September 8, 1934 — August 10, 2013

78 Years 11 Months 2 Days

SERVICE

Tuesday

August 13, 2013 11:00 AM

Blues Grove Baptist Church

CLERGY

Rev. Sammy Lawson — Brother Don Collins
Rev. Roland McCraw — Rev. Tony Holder

INTERMENT

Blues Grove Baptist Church Cemetery

PALLBEARERS

Matt Adams — Matthew Ramey
Dale Shinault — David Pruitt
Danny McCraw — Mike McCraw
Paul Owen — Dale Marion

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Delmer McCraw — Wilford McCraw
Paul McCraw — Maurice Ferguson
Blaine Ferguson — Randall Bryant
Conrad Draughn — Jonathan Nations

SURVIVORS

WIFE OF 54 YEARS

Polly D. McCreary Nations — of the home

SISTER

Marjorie N. Duncan — Winston Salem, NC

BROTHERS AND SISTERS-IN-LAW

J.R. and Fannie Nations — Dobson, NC
Grady M. and Judy Nations — Burlington, CO
Joe F. and Mary Ida Nations — Mount Airy, NC
Bruce W. and Judy Nations — Mount Airy, NC

NUMEROUS NIECES AND NEPHEWS

FRIENDS BEYOND MEASURE

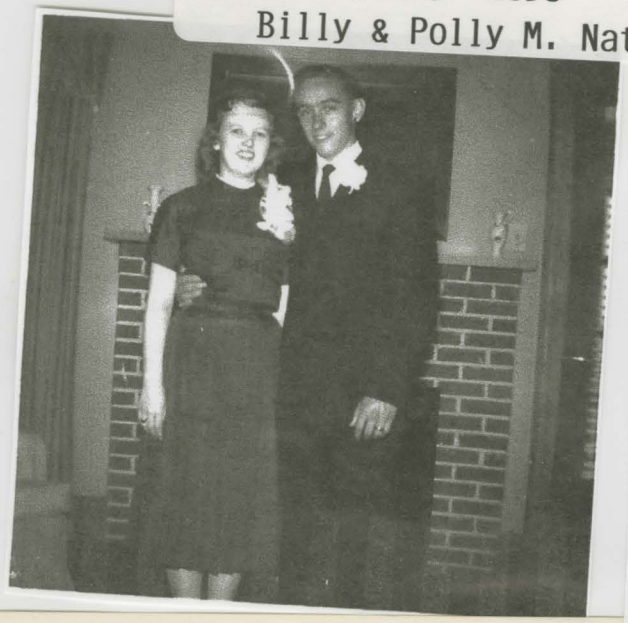
Mr. Nations was preceded in death by his parents, John Robert Nations, Sr. and Lenora Wright Nations; and a sister, Bertha N. Cox.

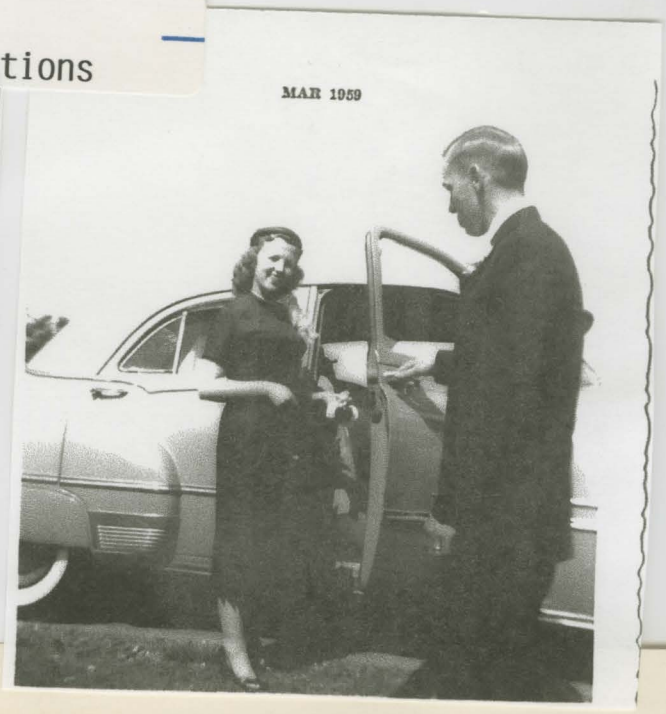
The family would like to express their appreciation to the special caregivers, Frances and Lisa Casstevens, Pansy Allen, Delmer and Judy McCraw and the staff of the Woltz Hospice Home for the wonderful care Mr. Nations was given during his illness.

Memorials may be made to Blues Grove Baptist Church, c/o Donna Draughn, 3069 Red Brush Rd., Mt Airy, NC 27030 Mountain Valley Hospice and Palliative Care, 401 Technology Ln, Suite 200, Mt. Airy, NC 27030 or the Joan and Howard Woltz Hospice Home, 945 Zephyr Rd., Dobson, NC 27017

STAPLES

Wedding Day 1959
Billy & Polly M. Nations





Tell The World I've Moved

Some times our dwelling place down here
Just seems to be too small.
Or else it needs so much repair
We just can't do it all.
We fix it up and paint the walls
To make it look like new.
But still we know the time may come
When we just have to move.
This house of clay my soul lives in
Sometimes seems much too small,
To hold the blessings God bestows
Within it's earthly walls.
And now it's needing more repairs
Each day it's something new.
I guess that's just the warning signs
That soon I'll have to move.
I have a home not made by man,
That He's gone to prepare.
A home that's built by Jesus' hands,
Will never need repair.
When it's ready and I've gone
To live beyond the blue.
Don't speak of me as tho I'm dead,
Just tell the world I've moved.
Some day my soul will leave this house,
And take it's homeward flight.
So when friends and loved ones gather round
To say their last goodbyes,
Don't weep as those who have no hope.
I'm better off than you.
The house you see is empty now,
The one who lived there's moved!

Written by: Billy Nations

Moody Funeral Service

MOUNT AIRY, NORTH CAROLINA
DOBSON, NORTH CAROLINA
STUART, VIRGINIA

Moody

Funeral Service

"We Strive For A Quality Of Service
That Will Give You Service Of Quality"



January 17, 2014

Tony Bullin
Betty Jean Bullin
Dallas Pruitt
Delmer McCraw
Judy McCraw
Rachel Marion
Donald Marion
Carolyn Newman
Larry Newman
Edith Owen
Jerry Burcham
Paul Owen
Carol Pruitt (sitting)



The Mount Airy News
Surry Scene
...on's ...eekly ...n ...89 ...n of ...ry News
PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE PAID
Mount Airy, NC
Permit No. 23
JULY 24, 2014



Pictured here, 60 years ago, in the front row from left, are Sadie Martin, Irene Simpson and Gertrude Hodge; in the back row from left are: Archie Draughn, Bette Draughn, mother, Walter Draughn, father, and Frank Draughn.



"Old Fashion Day"
October 5, 2014

Our Pastor,
Travis Sechrist



"Old Fashion Day"
October 5, 2014

Blues Grove Choir



"Old Fashion Day"
October 5, 2014

SS Superintendent
Matt Adams



"Old Fashion Day"
October 5, 2014

Donna Draughn and Kids
Church



"Old Fashion Day"
October 5, 2014

Judy Nations & Kids
Choir



"By GOD'S Grace"
Singers
10-5-2014



"Old Fashion Day"
October 5, 2014
Rev. Travis Sechrist



"Old Fashion Day"
October 5, 2014
Sandra, Judy, Delmer
& top of Logan's head



Dawn Tickle
10-5-2014



October 5, 2014

James, Jyl, Mason &
Callie Nichols



Rocky Atkins

10-5-2014



"Old Fashion Day"
Paul Gentry
October 5, 2014

October 5, 2014

Callie & Mason Nichols











"Old Fashion Day"
October 5, 2014
Kids Hayride

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside still waters. He restoreth my soul; He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake; Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me; Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; Thou anointest my head with oil, my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord, forever.

- Psalm 23

Services In Care Of

Reins Sturdivant Funeral Home and Monument Company

North Wilkesboro, NC



In Memory Of

Paul Gentry

February 25, 1925 ~ September 22, 2016

Messenger

30MIPL Printed in U.S.A.

Obituary

Mr. Paul Gentry, age 91 of Elkin passed away Thursday, September 22, 2016 at Pruitt Healthcare in Elkin.

Funeral services will be held 2:00 PM Sunday, September 25, 2016 at Reins-Sturdivant Chapel with Rev. Steve Dagenhart and Rev. Travis Sechrest officiating. Burial will be in Roaring Gap Baptist Church Cemetery in Thurmond. There will be a receiving for Paul from 6:00 until 8:00 PM Saturday evening at Reins-Sturdivant Funeral Home.

Mr. Gentry was born February 25, 1925 in Wilkes County. He was a member of Blues Grove Baptist Church in Dobson. Paul was well loved in Wilkes and surrounding counties. He visited most of the churches in the area, either for revival or funeral services. No one has walked more miles or received more rides than Paul Gentry.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Donor's Choice.

Online condolences may be made to www.reinssturdivant.com.

In Memory Of

Paul Gentry

Date of Birth

February 25, 1925

Entered Into Rest

September 22, 2016

Funeral Services

2:00 p.m., September 25, 2016

Reins-Sturdivant Chapel

North Wilkesboro, NC

Officiating

Rev. Steve Dagenhart
Rev. Travis Sechrest

Interment

Roaring Gap Baptist Church Cemetery

Thurmond, NC

Return to Current Obituaries

In Memoriam



SHARE

Services Provided By
Moody Funeral Services

William L. Nations
September 08, 1934 - August 10, 2013

Obituary
Memory Wall
Service Info
Photos / Videos

**Mr. William L. "Billy" Nations, 78, of Mount Airy, passed away Saturday, August 10, 2013, at the Joan and Howard Woltz Hospice Home in Dobson, surrounded by his loving family and friends. He was born September 8, 1934, in Surry County, to the late John Robert Nations, Sr. and Lenora Wright Nations. Billy bravely served in the United States Army from January 1957 until being honorably discharged in January 1959. He retired from Westinghouse after 23 years. Mr. Nations was a faithful member of Blues Grove Baptist Church since July 1953, where he taught the Senior Adult Sunday School Class for over 40 years, always lovingly referring to the class members as "my children." Mr. Nations is survived by his devoted wife of 54 years, Polly McCreary Nations of the home; a sister, Marjorie N. Duncan of Winston-Salem; four brothers and sisters-in-law, J.R. and Fannie Nations of Dobson, Grady M. and Judy Nations of Burlington, CO, and Joe F. and Mary Ida Nations and Bruce W. and Judy Nations, all of Mount Airy; numerous nieces and nephews; and friends beyond measure. In additions to his parents, Mr. *Nations was preceded in death by a sister, Bertha N. Cox. The funeral service will be held Tuesday,* August 13, 2013, at 11:00 AM at Blues Grove Baptist Church, with the Rev. Sammy Lawson, Brother

You won't have to fear the dark water
If Jesus is holding your hand

Though the waters rage high and the river is wide
Jesus will cross it with you
When you enter the stream the water will seem
To roll back and let you pass through

For some the crossing seems easy
For other it's painful and long
But you know when you reach the last river
You won't have to cross it alone

by William L. "Billy" Nations






God is Love.


10/17/2013





Photo 1: Mr. Robert Nations, Assistant Pastor

Photo 2: Tom Parker (R)

Photo 3: Sammy Lawson, pastor

Photo 4: Travis Sechrist, pastor

Photo 5: Rev. Roland McCraw 4-23-97

Photo 6: Ricky Thomas, Interim 8-26-12