

*Minutes*  
of the  
*Fifty-third Annual Session*  
of the  
*Sardis Association of*  
*Regular Baptist*

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

IN SESSION ASSEMBLED WITH  
PILGRIM HOME CHURCH  
Varney, Pike County, Kentucky

September 7, 8, 9, 1945

## PROCEEDINGS

of the

FIFTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION OF THE  
SARDIS ASSOCIATION OF REGULAR BAPTIST  
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

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*In session assembled with the Pilgrim Home Church, September 7, 8 and 9th, at the place where arrangements were made for the preaching. The services were introduced by Elder Asa Evans, followed by the introductory sermon delivered by Elder Ester Hopkins, from Text: 14th Chapter of First Corinthians and 40th verse as follows: "Let All Things Be Done decently and in Order;" then the delegates assembled at the School House and after a short talk by Elder Jonah Bevins, and prayer by Elder F. A. Hopkins, the Association proceeded as follows:*

1. Called for the letters from the several Churches and received the letters and seated the delegates.
2. The association then organized by electing Elder H. Maynard, as Moderator, and Elder Ester Hopkins, as assistant Moderator; Elder W. C. Hay, Clerk, and Brother Troy T. Francis, assistant Clerk.
3. At the request of the Moderator, the rules of decorum were read by the Clerk.
4. Called for newly organized Churches and received one by the name Samaria, at the hands of Elder W. H. May, and Brothers Leslie Vance and Hayden Hannah.
5. Called for letters from Sister Associations and received as follows: New Salem, by the hands of Elders

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failures excused, and they all were admonished to be more faithful this coming year.

8. Appointed same committee to arrange for preaching Saturday night and Sunday. First Saturday night, Elders Lewis Smith; second, James Adkins. Sunday, first, Elders Gilbert Miller; second, Tack Hall; third, W. C. Hay; fourth, closing remarks by Elder Hi Maynard.

9. Letter to Sister Associations read and delegates appointed as follows:

New Salem—To be held with the Joppa Church, Milvin, Floyd County, Ky., on main highway up left Beaver Creek, beginning on Friday before the fourth Saturday in September, 1945. Elders Hi Maynard, Basil Robinett, H. C. Maynard, Emmett Case, Jonah Bevins, and Brothers Donnie Lowe, Charles Scott and George Fraley. Letter in the hands of Elder H. C. Maynard.

Philadelphia—To be held with the Mt. Olive Church, Malonton, Greenup County, Ky., to begin on Friday before the third Saturday in September, 1945. Elders Lewis Smith, Hi Maynard, Ken Varney and Brother Maynard Hay. Letter in the hands of Elder Lewis Smith.

Union—To be held with the Little Martha Church, Buckhannon County, Virginia, to begin on Friday before the third Saturday in September, 1945. Elders Ester Hopkins, Emmett Case, Basil Robinett and Willis Blackburn. Letter in the hands of Elder Ester Hopkins.

Mud River—To be held with the Mt. Zion Church, Lake, Logan County, W. Va., to begin on Friday before the fourth Sunday in August, 1946. Elders W. C. Hay, Hi Maynard, W. A. Hurley, Lewis Smith, Emmett Case, Eldon Maynard and J. L. Nichols; Brothers Maynard Hay, Jesse Farley, W. H. Young, John Evans, Taulby Williamson, Rolland Maynard, Harvey Lowe and Mosco Gilman. Letter in the hands of Elder W. C. Hay.

10. Ordered that we print obituaries presented to the Brother Clerk, at the close of the Association, or within ten days afterward.

11. Ordered that the Treasurer pay the expense of

one (1) car for the delegates to visit Sister Associations, paying for the gas and oil.

12. Ordered that we advise ministers of our Association not to marry people into adultery where either man or woman has a living wife or husband.

13. Shall we receive into our fellowship men having more than one wife, or women having more than one husband?

*Answer*—We advise the Churches not to receive into their fellowship any such, except those who have put away their companions for the cause of fornication and such cases to have the Gospel or Church evidence of same.

14. Ordered that the Beech Grove Church be dropped from our Association.

15. Ordered that article five (5) of our constitution be amended so as to include assistant Moderator, and assistant Clerk.

16. Ordered that our next Association be held with the Big Branch Church, Thomas, Pike County, Ky., near the mouth of Brushey fork of John's Creek, to begin on Friday before the second Saturday in September, 1946.

17. By vote it is ordered that Elder Asa Evans preach the introductory sermon, and that Elder Harrison be his alternate.

18. Ordered that we tender our thanks to the Pilgrim Home Church and the community at large for the hospitality shown us during the sitting of the Association. May God's blessings follow you daily.

19. Ordered that the minutes be read and signed by the Moderators and Clerks.

20. On motion, we adjourn to the time and place above mentioned.

(Signed)

ELDER HI MAYNARD, *Moderator.*

ELDER ESTER HOPKINS, *Asst. Moderator.*

ELDER W. C. HAY, *Clerk.*

BROTHER TROY T. FRANCIS, *Asst. Clerk.*

**Upon Request the Following Churches Have  
Union Meetings**

**May**

SALEM—First Saturday and Sunday. Elders Hi Maynard, Asa Evens and W. C. Hay, with Moderator attending.

TURKEY CREEK—Second Saturday and Sunday. Elders Bill Jude, Harrison Bevins, Ester Hopkins and W. C. Hay, with Moderator attending.

**June**

ENON—First Saturday and Sunday. Elders J. C. Thornsbery, Emmett Case, with Moderator attending.

APPLE ORCHARD—First Saturday and Sunday. Elders Willie White, H. C. Maynard and Ester Hopkins, with Moderator attending.

LEANAH—Second Saturday and Sunday. Elders Willis Blackburn, Jonah Bevins and Ester Hopkins, with Moderator attending, and by request of Sister Mannin Blackburn before she died that her funeral would be attended at this, our union meeting time.

SIDNEY—Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Elders Orville, Ester Hopkins, Harrison Bevins and Wallace Maynard, with Moderator attending.

**July**

DIX FORK—First Saturday and Sunday. Elders J. H. Hensley, Hi Maynard, Grover Carey, Willie White and Milton Thacker, with Moderator attending.

MT. PLEASANT—Second Saturday and Sundays. Elders Willie White, Milton Thacker, W. C. Hay and J. G. Thornsbery, with Moderator attending, with Communion Sunday afternoon.

SAMARIA—Second Saturday and Sunday. Elders Willie White, Grover Carey, H. C. Maynard and J. G. Thornsbery, with Moderator attending.

MARY ELIZABETH—Third Saturday and Sunday. Elders Wallace Maynard, W. C. Hay and Bill Jude, with Moderator attending.

BIG BRANCH—Third Saturday and Sunday. Elders Ester Hopkins, Asa Evans, Emmett Case and James Green, with Moderator attending.

NARROWS BRANCH—To begin on Friday before the fourth Saturday. Elders J. G. Thornsby, Willis Blackburn and Emmett Case, with Moderator attending.

### August

LITTLE DOVE—First Saturday and Sunday. Elders Ester Hopkins, Harrison Bevins and Wallace Maynard, with Moderator attending.

TABITHA—First Saturday and Sunday. Elders Grover Carey, J. H. Hensley, Willie White and W. C. Hay, with Moderator attending.

REBECCA—Second Saturday and Sunday. Elders Willis Blackburn, Emmett Case and Harrison Bevins, with Moderator attending.

ELK FORK—Third Saturday and Sunday. Elders Willie White, H. C. Maynard and J. C. Thornsby, with Moderator attending.

BENT BRANCH—Third and Sunday. Elders W. C. Hay, Willis Blackburn and James Green, with Moderator attending, and Communion Sunday afternoon.

PILGRIM HOME—Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Elders Grover Carey, Harrison Bevins, Tack Hall and W. C. Hay, with Moderator attending. Communion Sunday afternoon.

SARDIS—Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Elders Lewis Marcum, J. R. Evans and Ester Hopkins, with Moderator attending.

BETHANY—To begin on Friday before the fourth Saturday. Elders H. C. Maynard, J. G. Thornsby, E. S. Coleman, W. H. May and Willie White, with Moderator attending.

## SUNDAY SERVICE

September 9, 1945

Met with a large, orderly congregation, at the Church House. Service was introduced by Elder Gilbert Miller, of the Mud River Association; song, "How Happy Are They Who Their Saviour Obey." Elder Willis Blackburn led us in prayer.

1. Elder Tack Hall, of New Salem Association, filled the stand, used for a text 1st Corinthians, 15th Chapter and 51st verse, "Behold I shew you a mystery, we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed." Brother Hall dwelt on the resurrection of the dead. We were all made to rejoice with him.

2. Elder W. C. Hay was called to the stand, preached from 2nd Timothy, 4th Chapter and the 2nd verse, which also reads as follows: "Preach the word, be instant in season, out of season, reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine." Brother Hay was wonderfully blessed to preach Jesus to be the way, the truth, and the life, admonishing the congregation to follow the word—(Jesus.)

3. Our Moderator Elder Hi Maynard, was called to the stand to conclude the service, which he did very briefly, advising us to give more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip.

This session of the Sardis Association will long be remembered as one of much love and union among the brethren. May the Lord of Heaven guide and protect us until we meet in another lovely session of our Association.

Thus ended the 53rd annual session of the Sardis Association. Farewell.

Your Assistant Clerk.

## MEMORIALS

Memorial to be held with the Mt Pleasant Church, second Saturday and Sunday in October, 1946. Ministers requested Elders J. G. Thornsby, Grover Carey, H. C. Maynard and Jonah Bevins.

Memorial of Elder Heenan and others will be held with the Apple Orchard Church the first Saturday and Sunday in August, 1946. A memorial on the J. M. Lowe Cemetery will be held on the first Sunday in July, 1946; also a memorial will be held on the Flem Maynard Cemetery, on the head of Big Branch, the first Sunday in September, 1946.

Memorial of all the deceased members of the Enon Church will be held the first Saturday and Sunday in August, 1946. All ministers invited.

Memorial of all the deceased members of the Bent Branch church will be held the third Saturday and Sunday in August, 1946. All ministers invited.

Memorial of all the deceased members of the Rebecca Church will be held the second Saturday and Sunday in August, 1946.

Memorial of J. M. Taylor and others will be held the third Sunday in July, 1946. Memorial of Harrison McCoy and others will be held the third Sunday in August, 1946. Ministers requested: Elders J. M. Justice, Emmett Case, J. R. Coleman and E. S. Coleman. These two memorials will be held with the Big Branch Church.

Memorial of Russell P. McCoy and others will be held on the Ratcliff Cemetery the third Sunday in May, 1946. At the same time the funeral of Jim Ratcliff will be attended, too. Ministers requested to attend this memorial and funeral: Elders J. L. Nichols, Eldon Maynard, Emmett Case and J. M. Justice.

Memorial of Elder Wallace Jackson and others to be held with the Mary Elizabeth Church the third Saturday



and Sunday in September, 1946. All ministers invited; also memorial of Elder J. W. Smith and others will be held the third Saturday and Sunday in August, 1946, on the Fraley Cemetery.

Memorial at Elder John Canterbury's home place will be held the last Sunday in September, 1946; also memorial of all the deceased members of the Bethany Church will be held at Tom's Branch on the Sunday following the fourth Saturday in August, 1946, at Brother John Mayhon's home place.

Memorial of all the deceased members of the Elk Fork Church will be held the third Saturday and Sunday in May, 1946. All ministers invited.

Memorial of all the deceased members of the Pilgrim Home Church will be held the fourth Saturday and Sunday in October, 1946. All ministers invited to attend.

Memorial of all the deceased members of the Salem Church will be held the first Saturday and Sunday in October, 1946. All ministers invited.

Memorial of all the deceased members of the Sidney Church will be held the fourth Saturday and Sunday in August, 1946; also memorial of Nathan Jude and others will be held on the Point, near Dave Jude's home, the fourth Sunday in July, 1946. All ministers invited.

Memorial of all the deceased members of the Dix Fork Church will be held the first Saturday and Sunday in August, 1946. Ministers requested: Elders Jonah Bevins, Ester Hopkins and Lewis Smith.

Memorial of Elder J. S. Muncy and other deceased members of the Narrow's Branch Church will be held the fourth Saturday and Sunday in May, 1946. Ministers requested: Elders Milton Thacker, Grover Carey, W. C. Hay and Willie White.

Memorial of Brother Lee Robinson and others will be held with the Leanah Church the second Saturday and Sunday in July, 1946; also a memorial will be held on the Lowe Cemetery, in the head of Big Branch, the second Sunday in August, 1946. All ministers invited.

Memorial of all the deceased members of the Little Dove Church will be held the first Saturday and Sunday in June, 1946. All ministers invited.

Memorial of all the deceased members of the Turkey Creek Church will be held the second Saturday and Sunday in October, 1946. Ministers requested: Elders Emmett Case, Wallace Maynard and Grover Carey.

Memorial will be held at the Hannah Cemetery the second Sunday in August, 1946. All ministers invited.

Memorial of Elder W. H. Bowling and others will be held on the right Fork of Brushey Creek the first Saturday and Sunday in September, 1946.

Memorial at the Hannah Cemetery will be held the third Saturday and Sunday in August, 1946; also the memorial on the Stergill Cemetery will be held the fourth Saturday and Sunday in August, 1946.

## OBITUARIES

### Sarah Jane Meadows

It is by request of the family that I try to write the obituary of Sister Sarrah Jane Meadows. She was born January 2nd, 1886, the daughter of Tom and Jane Jordan. She was married to James Meadows, and to this union was born fourteen children. Five preceded her in death.

Sister Jane was afflicted with a lingering illness, but bore her affliction with much patience. The children will always remember the loving care of mother and may Brother James never forget the loving companion and sweet wife she was to him.

Sister Meadows confessed a hope in Christ and was Baptized into the fellowship of the regular Baptist Church

of Jesus Christ by the hands of Elder Bill Rife, in the year of 1925.

Now, children, you can meet mother where death will part you no more, but you must seek Jesus, as she did, to be your personal Saviour. I know you realize our Lord does not save sinners, but says, "come unto me all ye that labor and are heavily laden and I will give you rest." He has made the way possible for us. Will you obey the call and, when your summons comes, you can unite with mother and all the Saints of God. If we don't bear the Cross we cannot wear the Crown. So may the God of all Grace bless every one of you to be a joy and comfort to your daddy in his lonesome hours.

Since our Mother has gone and left us,  
O'er death's sea we, too, must go.  
Let us all begin now Praying,  
Mother wants us, too, you know.

—Written by her Son-in-law,  
Raymond Hatfield.

#### **Sophia Robinette**

It is be request that I will try by the help of the Lord, to write the obituary of my Sister in the flesh, and in the Lord, to-wit: Sister Sophia Robinette. She was born June 22nd, 1892; departed this life December 13th, 1944. She was the daughter of T. J. and Mary Francisco Francis; was married to Bill Robinette, Jr., May 4th, 1912, and to this union was born six children. One preceded her in death. She leaves three sons; Auxior, Billie and Emmett Ferrell; two daughters: Mary Maxie Young and Bertha May Young, besides the Church and host of friends and relatives to mourn her passing.

Sister Sophia joined the Regular Baptist the fourth Sunday in August, 1919, and was baptized into the fel-

lowship of the Pilgrim Home Church by the hands of Elder Jonah Bevins.

She was afflicted for the past ten years and was not able to leave her bed, but every time it was convenient she called for the brothers and sisters to come to her home to preach and pray with her. She seemed to get so much comfort from their gathering in her home. I have visited her many times and she was never willing for me to leave until we sang some of the good songs of her choice. She never seemed to think of her sufferings, but a smile would brighten up her face when anyone entered her door. I've often wondered how she could bear her affliction with so much patience, without ever complaining. I believe that sister has written her own obituary by the life she lived in her community. She fought a good fight, she has kept the faith, and I truly believe she will wear the Crown that is laid up in Heaven for all who love and serve the Lord.

Now, Brother Bill, Sophia is gone to return no more, the children she loved so well is left in your care; will you pray and counsel them as she would have you to? Her prayers are over, teach them where Mother is gone and just how they can see her again and enjoy the happiness that she is now enjoying. Children be kind to your Daddy in his lonesome days, comfort him all you can by being good, obedient children. Your Mother is gone, but don't forget her life let her teachings live on and on, so farewell.

—Written by her brother,  
Troy T. Francis.

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**Rebecca Smith**

It is by request of the family that I will try to write the obituary of Sister Rebecca Smith. She was the daughter of Henderson and Mary Jude, born August 18th, 1876, died June 28th, 1945, being 69 years old at death.

She was married to Jim Smith, date unknown to me. To this union was born six children; Henry, Floyd and Walter Smith; Mrs. Steve Robinette, Mrs. Grayson Robinette and Mrs. Will Price; three brother: Dave, Gabe and Nathan Jude.

Sister Smith joined the Regular Baptist Church in the year of 1927, and was baptized into the fellowship of the Pilgrim Home Church, and, I believe, she lived a true Christian life until death called her away. Besides her children and brothers she leaves the membership of the Pilgrim Home Church and a host of friends and relatives to mourn her passing. Children, Mother is gone to the Great Beyond, and if you want to meet her again and make Heaven your home, you must seek Jesus as Mother did. Repent, believe and be baptized and you shall be saved, otherwise you have no promise.

—Written by Elon Francis.

#### **Alvin Bowlin**

It is with much sadness that I write this obituary of my Father, Alvin Bowlin. He was born April 6th, 1897, departed this life August 30th, 1945, being 48 years and 4 months old at death. He was married to Truly Maynard April 4th, 1923, and to this union was born seven children; five girls and two boys. One girl preceded him in death. He leaves his companion and six children: Cloa, Osie, Maggie, Mattie, Vertie, Thomas Lee and Dallas Gene, with a host of friends and relatives to mourn his loss.

Daddy joined the Regular Baptist Church the first Sunday in September, 1941, was baptized by Elder Grover Carey, and took fellowship with the Pilgrim Home Church and was a faithful member as long as his health permitted him to attend. He was afflicted with a lingering illness, but never complained of his suffering. He seemed

to bear it all with patience, giving counsel to us children, teaching us the way of righteousness. Our home is so lonesome without him and we realize if we ever live with Daddy again in peace, we, too, must accept the way of the Cross as he did.

—Written by his daughter Maggie Bowlin.

Now Daddy's gone and left us,  
His advise I hear no more,  
But I'm sure with all my heart  
He is resting on that bright shore.  
Although his chair is vacant now,  
I miss him so each day,  
But I hope within my heart  
I'll meet him again some day.

#### **Minnie J. McCoy**

It is by request that I will write an obituary of who I believe to be a sainted Mother—Sister Minnie J. McCoy, who was born April 9th, 1869, and deceased this life October 12 1944, age 75 years, 7 months and 2 days.

Sister McCoy joined the Church and took fellowship with the Big Branch Church some several years ago. She had quite a lot of trouble and tribulations to bear while in this life, but she seemed to bear them all with patience. Now I want to say to her two sons, Walker and Landon, and to her many friends that I believe Sister McCoy wrote her own obituary by the life that she lived here in her community. As the Bible says, "every tree is known by its fruit," in other words, every true Christian is known by the life they live, and Sister McCoy's life in her neighborhood has shown she bore the fruits of a child of God. Now she has crossed the Great Divide, and God will give her a body liken unto the body of our Lord, and in the Day of Redemption He will raise that body from the

grave and ransom it like unto the Glorious Body of Christ, and she will be given a Crown of Glory for her stewardship in this world, and you, her children, and friends, if you ever have the joy of living with Sister McCoy when this life is over you will have to accept Jesus as your personal Saviour. "Knock and it shall be opened, seek and you shall find, ask and it shall be given," if you ask in faith, believeing, farewell.

—Written by one in hope,  
J. L. Nichols.

### Flem Maynard

It is by request of the family that I will try, by the help of God, to write a short obituary of one of our beloved Brothers, name—Flem Maynard. He was born June 15th, 1870, and departed this life July 17th, 1945, age 75 years, 2 months and 2 days.

He professed a hope in Christ 13 years ago, and placed his membership with the Big Branch Church, and lived a faithful Christian life until the Death Angel called him from our midst. Brother Flem was afflicted for many years, but he endured his affliction with much patience. He would often talk about being sick. He told me many times he knew he was not going to live long and say, "I am ready to go at God's call for I know I have a home in Heaven, and I will see my Redeemer one of these days," and, Brethren Children and friends, I have reason to believe his testimony is true, and I have a hope that I will meet Brother Maynard again, where he will not be afflicted, where we will not have to part no more. The Big Branch Church has lost a faithful member, the children a precious Father, but his life should be a guilding light for us. We feel that our loss is his eternal gain. Now, Children, let me as one that is interested in the welfare of your souls, plead with you to start out today to get in

touch with Jesus. Father left you all in sin except one. Strive to get in possession of that same faith that we feel in our hearts has saved father and mother. It will save you and your children, too, if you will give your hearts to God. I know the home is lonesome and his seat will never be filled; only by the help of God you'll meet him. If you'll try your hearts will be thrilled.

—Written by one in hope of eternal life,  
J. L. Nichols.

#### **Minnie (Williamson) Young**

It is by request of the children that I will attempt to write the obituary of who I believe to be a sainted Mother, to-wit: Sister Minnie (Williamson) Young. She was born January 15th, 1878, deceased this life December 25th, 1944, age 66 years, 11 months and 10 days. She was the daughter of John B. and Nancy (Keese) Williamson, was married to A. J. (Butler) Young April 25th, 1896, and to this union was born ten children; four children and her husband preceded her in death. Six are still living to mourn the loss of a loving mother, namely: James Taulbert, Willie H. and Hi Young; daughters Belle, Pollyann and Stella; fourteen grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren; one brother, Caudill Williamson, and two sisters, Mrs. Jarrad Smith and Mrs. George Maynard, with a host of friends and relatives to mourn her passing.

She joined the Regular Baptist Church the second Sunday in July, 1904, was baptized by the hands of Elder W. H. Bowling, and for several years had her membership with the Pilgrim Home Church, being received by letter from the Apple Orchard Church. I, the writer, have known Sister Minnie since my childhood; she was always the same every time I met her, always giving good counsel to us young girls and boys when we were around her home.



She was afflicted for many years, was not permitted to fill her seat in the Church, but on every occasion possible she would call for the Brethren to come into her home and ask them to preach, sing and pray with and for her and her children. Her heart and her joy was in the Church. I've often heard her pray and shout the praises of God. She was not afraid of death because her hope was sufficient that when she passed from this life she would enter into the joys of the Lord, and redeem that Crown that is laid up in Glory for all who love and serve the Lord. She has fought a good fight, she has finished her course, and, I believe, if I am fortunate enough to enter into Heaven, that I will meet Sister Minnie there, and, children, you that have not met God in pardon and remission of your sins, if you are to have the joy of seeing your mother again you must humble yourselves as beggars in the sight of God, although if you find favor in Him you will be rich in mercy. I know you have been taught by Mother just the steps to take to obtain the happiness that she now possesses, and to Belle and Willie H., who have confessed a hope in Christ, pray on, keep your prayers ascending the high hills of Heaven in behalf of the other children. Mother has prayed her last prayer for them, counsel them at every opportunity as mother would have you do, don't let the family ties be broken, love each other and try to comfort yourselves with the testimony your mother left with you. Let her teaching live forever and now may the God of all Grace dwell with you in your lonesome hours.

—Written as requested by Mrs. Troy Francis.

#### **Mattie (Maynard) Anderson**

Sister Mattie (Maynard) Anderson, wife of Basil Anderson, and the daughter of Willis and Alice (Blackburn) Maynard. She was born January 31st, 1903, at Meta, Ky. She was united in marriage to Basil Anderson in 1920, and to this union was born four children, a

son, Basil, Jr., having preceded her in death. Surviving, besides the husband, are three sons: James Hershel, Russell and Paris Claude; all the community of South Williamson, the parents, six sisters: Mrs. Zella Hughes, Goody, Ky.; Mrs. Elon Rutherford, Canada, Ky.; Mrs. Tootsie Charles, South Williamson; Mrs. Tilda Sykes, Freeburn, Ky.; Mrs. Myrtle Haskew Williamson, and Mrs. Alice May Vancouver, of Washington; five brothers: James Maynard, Williamson, W. Va.; William Maynard, Goody, Ky.; Willis Maynard, U. S. Army, stationed in South Carolina; Irvine Maynard, serving in the South Pacific, and Henry Maynard, Loraine, Ohio.

Sister Mattie, on confession of faith in Jesus Christ, January 7th, 1940, was baptized by the hands of Elder B. H. Bevins, and took fellowship with the Salem Church of Jesus Christ of Regular Baptist. She was a faithful member until death, as long as she was able to attend, and after she took sick her heart and mind was in Christ and the Church. Sister Mattie was an earnest and sympathetic, lovable member, always abounding in the acts of kindness, and her hospitality towards the brethren and sisters of the Church; always interested in the welfare of others. The Church will never forget her affection and sisterly love which was her divine knowledge that she had passed from death unto Life, because she loved the brethren, he that loveth not his Brother abideth in death; hereby perceive ye the love of God because he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the Brethren (1st John, 3rd Chapter, 14 and 16 verses.) These Scriptures appear to every child of God, the love of God towards us and our duty one towards another. "Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us that we should be called the sons of God, therefore, the world knoweth us not, because it knew Him not." Beloved, now are we the Sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that when He shall appear we shall be like him, for we shall see Him as He is. These scriptures were Sister Mattie's hope, which hope is the anchor of the soul, and with it and in her suffering

she would call for the Brethren and Sisters to come to her bedside and sing, and pray with and for her

Sister Mattie would have stayed with Basil and the Children but the Lord giveth and the Lord taketh, and blessed be the name of the Lord for He will restore again that He took away. It was appointed unto man once to die, after this the Judgment. This temporal death comes to all, rich and poor, bond and free, but thanks be to God who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. When God raised Christ from the dead, and assured by His eternal promise that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust, in which I believe Sister Mattie will be numbered of the just. Them that sleep in Christ for the dead in Christ shall rise first. Basil, you and the children can meet Sister Mattie through repentance towards God and faith in Jesus Christ. Sisters Prayers has been many for you and the children. You only can cause those prayers to be a reality for you and the children when you all will come to the truth and accept Christ as your personal Saviour, as Sister Mattie did, then you can understand why she so humbly offered up these prayers for you and the children, so I tried to fulfill her last request by writing this obituary. May God bless you and the children.

Your humble servant,  
—Elder Jonah Bevins.

#### **Tempy Williamson**

It is with sadness and grief that it has now become my sad duty to attempt to write an obituary of my mother, Tempy Williamson, whom God called away from us April 24th, 1945.

She was the daughter of a pioneer family of Pike County, Ky. Was born March 7th, 1855; age 90 years, 1 month and 17 days old at death.

Mother was twice married, first to William Young. To this union was born two children, her husband and one child preceded her in death. She was later married to my father, Elder Mont Williamson, and to this union was born nine children. Our father and two of the children preceded her in death. She leaves eight children, namely: Mary Thompson, Taulby Williamson, Mintie Lawson, Landon Williamson, Rebecca Preece, Belle Francis, Elon Francis and Charity Lee; one brother, M. H. Francis; forty-one grandchildren, forty-one great-grandchildren, besides a host of friends and relatives to mourn her loss. But we feel that our loss is truly mother's gain. She professed a hope in Christ some fifty years ago, and was a member of the Pilgrim Home Church of Regular Baptist. To her profession she lived a true and faithful life, always filling her seat in the Church, if her health permitted her to go—to love my mother was to know her. Her doors were ever open to one and all and she was willing to go at every call, day or night, to minister her help to the sick and needy. The Pilgrim Home Church has lost a faithful member, the community a good neighbor, and us children, most of all, have lost a good mother, the most loving and faithful friend we will ever know. Our loss seems great, but our mother and our father's life is not dead. Their teachings and good counsel will live on. Oh, brothers and sisters, let's try by the help of our God to leave the same teachings and counsel with our children when our life is done in this world! We could not bequeath to them more riches than the faith that was once delivered to the Saints. I feel that I will see mother again on the day of Redemption. Her soul is enjoying the peace and rest of the Saints of God. I believe her spirit has reunited with our father, is resting in the Paradise of God, until the day of Redemption when God will give her a Celestial body liken unto the body of Jesus. So, children, let us do as mother would have us do—live righteously, obediently, love each other as a family should. Mother had no reason to doubt the future happiness of her children, so we all hope that we possess the same faith that saved her soul from sin. Let's try to keep the family

circle unbroken and some day we will all be reunited together around the Throne of God, where we will not have to give up mother, and where death will not part us any more from our loved ones. So, farewell, live faithful, fall not by the way side, as some do, just strive to keep the straight and narrow path that leads to life eternal.

—Written by her daughter, Elon Francis.

Mother, dear, we'll not forget you,  
Your counsel here we'll miss;  
Sleep on, enjoy your happiness  
Until we join you in that bliss.  
We look for you in the Pilgrim Home Church,  
We look for you in Brother's home;  
We fail to find you anywhere,  
Then we know you have gone home.

### Lyda Howard

It is by request of her son that I try to write the obituary of Sister Lyda Howard. She was born March 27th, 1871. Age 74 years, 1 month and 11 days old. She was the daughter of Jason and Nannie Fields; was married to Robert Howell about the year 1889, and to this union was born seven children; two of the children and her husband preceded her in death. She leaves five children; Mrs. Betty Marcum, Mrs. Virgie Moore, Boyd, Tan and Lacy Howell; forty-two grandchildren, twenty great-grandchildren to mourn her loss, but we hope our loss is her eternal gain.

Sister Lyda joined the old Regular Baptist Church about thirty-five years ago, and was baptized by the hands of Elder Sherman Jude, and placed her membership with the Leanah Church and lived a faithful member as long as she was able to go.

Sister Lyda was missed at our church, especially at our union meeting this year. It was God's will to call her away on May 8th, 1945. I want to say to her children if you ever expect to see mother again you will have to repent, believe and be baptized, and live the life that mother lived. God called her from us to rest with all the Saints and await the Great Day of Redemption. On that day I have a hope that I will see Sister Lyda again.

—Written by a sister in hope,  
Stella Maynard.

### **Junia Deskins**

It is by request of the family and with much sadness of heart that I try to write an obituary of Sister Junia Deskins. She was born December 1st, 1903; age at time of departure 41 years, 8 months and 28 days.

She joined the Church of Regular Baptist and was baptized October 22nd, 1939, by the hands of Elders L. G. Lowe and Ernest Runyon, and took fellowship with the Mary Elizabeth Church. Sister Junia was the daughter of Haden and Dora Rice Spradlin, both of whom preceded her in death. She leaves to mourn her loss a loving husband, Jeff Deskins, and six children: Major L. Deskins, Elva Deskins, Cecil C. Deskins, Clarence G. Deskins, Loranzie D. Deskins and George Franklin Deskins; one grandchild, Dorothy Lee Deskins, and brothers and sisters as follows: Ethel MacFarland, Buchanan, Ky.; George Alley, Mrs. Vertrees Arthur, Mrs. Alka Kelly and Mrs. Cara Kelly, all of Ashland, Ky., and Mrs. Martha Stewart, of Columbus, Ohio; her step-father, John E. Alley, of Ashland, Ky.; Grandfather George Rice, of Johnson County, Ky.; aunts: Elva Rice Conley and Flora Rice Salyers, of Johnson County, Ky.; brothers: Smith Rice, of Columbus, Ohio, and Ellis Rice, of Johnson County, Ky.

Sister Junia bore the fruits of a Christian mother—she would visit the sick and minister unto them and never seem to tire in doing this. Children, remember Mother; she is gone but her teaching lives on and on. She can no more come to you but through your obedience to God, and by the Grace of God you can go to her and there forever to be, as I truly believe, around the Meditorial Throne of God. Brother Jeff I can truly sympathize with you. Your road is rugged, but trust in God, be good to mother's children, keep them together as long as you can, teach them the way in which they should go, and pray that in the sweet bye and bye the circle will be unbroken. Brothers and Sisters of the Mary Elizabeth Church, we have lost a faithful member, but we trust that our loss is her Eternal Gain, and some glad day we will meet in Heaven to sing God's praise for ever and ever. To all who mourn the loss of Sister Junia, weep not for her but rather weep for yourselves and your children.

—Written by a humble servant in hope of  
eternal life, George Fraley.

## CONSTITUTION

From a long series of experiences, we, the churches of Jesus Christ being regularly baptized upon our profession of faith in Jesus Christ, are convinced of the necessity of a combination of churches in order to perpetuate a union and communion among us and preserve, maintain and keep the rules and orders of an association according to the following form of government:

ARTICLE I. The association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches and duly sent to represent them in this association, who shall be members whom they shall think best qualified for the purpose. And, producing letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, shall be entitled to seats.

ARTICLE II. In the letters from the different churches, shall be expressed their number in full fellowship, their baptized, received by letters, restored, dismissed, excommunicated and dead since the last association.

ARTICLE III. The members thus chosen and convened shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor shall they infringe upon the internal rights of any church in the union.

ARTICLE IV. The association, when convened, shall be governed and ruled by a regular and proper decorum.

ARTICLE V. The association shall have a Moderator and Assistant Moderator, a Clerk and Assistant Clerk, also a Treasurer, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

ARTICLE VI. New churches may be admitted into our union that shall petition by letter and delegates, and if found upon examination to be orthodox and orderly, shall be received by the association and manifested by the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

ARTICLE VII. Every church in the union shall be entitled to a representative in the association.



ARTICLE VIII. Every query presented by any church to the association being first debated by their own church, shall be taken up by the association.

ARTICLE IX. Every motion made and seconded shall be taken up by the association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

ARTICLE X. The association shall endeavor to furnish the churches with the minutes of the association.

ARTICLE XI. The churches shall send money by the delegates of each church for printing the minutes of the association.

ARTICLE XII. There shall be a record book kept wherein the proceedings of every association shall be regularly recorded by the secretary appointed for that purpose.

ARTICLE XIII. The minutes of the association shall be read and corrected, if need be, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the association rises.

ARTICLE XIV. Amendments to this plan or form of government may be made at any time, by a majority of the union, when they deem necessary.

ARTICLE XV: All matters coming before the association shall be decided by the will of the majority.

ARTICLE XVI. The association shall have power:

1. To provide for the general union of the churches.
2. To preserve inviolably a chain of communication among the churches.
3. To give the churches all necessary advice in matters of difficulty.
4. To inquire into the cause when the churches fail at any time to present themselves in the association.
5. To appoint any member by and with their consent to transact any business which they think necessary.

6. The association shall have power to withdraw from any church in this union which shall violate the rules of the association or deviate from the orthodox principles of religion.
7. To admit any orderly minister of our order to a seat with us in the association.
8. The association shall have power to adjourn themselves to any future time or place they may think most convenient to the churches of the union. That no minister shall be ordained unless forwarded by the church, and it shall require two or more ordained ministers to compose a presbytery for that purpose.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH

ARTICLE I. We believe the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of Heaven by institution, that it has God for its Author; salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its mother; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us and, therefore, is and shall remain to the end of the world the true center of Christian union and the supreme standard by which all human conduct and opinions shall be tried.

ARTICLE II. That there is one and only one true and living God, whose name is Jehovah, the maker and the supreme ruler of Heaven and earth, inexpressible, glorious in holiness, worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love, revealed under the personal relation of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct, but harmonious, offices in the great work of redemption.

ARTICLE III. That man was created in a state of holiness under the law of his maker, but by voluntary transgression, fell from that holy and happy state, in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint, but by choice, being by nature utterly devoid of that holiness, required by the law of God, wholly given to the gratification of the world, to Satan, and their ever sinful passions, and, therefore, are under just condemnation to eternal ruin without defense or excuse.

ARTICLE IV. That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, the meditorial offer of the son of God, who took upon Him our nature yet, without sin honored the law by his personal obedience and made atonement for our sins by his death, being risen from the dead, he is entered into Heaven and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfection, is in every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and an all sufficient Saviour.

ARTICLE V. That the great gospel blessing which Christ in his fullness bestowed in such as believe in him, is justified and that justification consists in the pardon of his sins and the promise of eternal life on principles of righteousness, that it is bestowed, not in condition of any works of righteousness we have done, but through his own righteousness.

ARTICLE VI. That the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the gospel, and that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial and obedient faith.

ARTICLE VII. That in order to be saved, we must be regenerated or born again, that regeneration consists in giving holy disposition to the mind and is effected in a manner above our comprehension or calculation by the power of the Holy Spirit so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel, and its proper evidence is found in the holy fruit which we bring forth to the Glory of God.

ARTICLE VIII. That such only are real believers as endure to the end, that their preserving attachment to Christ is the ground work which distinguish them from superficial professors, that a special providence watches over their welfare and they are kept by the power of God, through faith unto salvation.

ARTICLE IX. That a visible Church of Christ is a congregation of Baptized believers associated by a covenant of faith in the Gospel, observing the ordinances of Christ's government by His law and exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges in them by his work, that its only proper officers are bishops or pastors and deacons, whose qualification claims and duties are described in the Epistles of Timothy and Titus.

ARTICLE X. That Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, to a solemn and beautiful emblem of our faith in a crucified and risen Saviour, with its purifying power that is presented to the privilege of a Church unto the Lord's Supper in which the members of the church, by the use of bread and wine, are to commemor-

ate together the dying love of Christ, preceded always by a solemn and self examination.

ARTICLE XI. We also believe that feet washing is a duty enjoined upon us to show our love for one another.

ARTICLE XII. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust. Also that the happiness of the saints, and the punishment of the wicked are eternal.

## RULES OF DECORUM

ARTICLE I. The association to be opened and closed by prayer.

ARTICLE II. The Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

ARTICLE III. Only one member shall speak at a time and he shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator when he is about to make a speech.

ARTICLE IV. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in his speech, except by the Moderator, until he is done speaking, and shall strictly adhere to the subject, and in no wise reflect upon the person who spoke before, nor make remarks or mishaps, failures or imperfections, but shall verily state the cause and matter as nearly as he can, so as to convey his light and idea.

ARTICLE V. No person shall rise and speak more than three times on one subject without consent of the association.

ARTICLE VI. No person shall abruptly break off or absent himself from the association without liberty obtained therefrom.

ARTICLE VII. No member of the association shall have the liberty of laughing during the sittings nor whispering in the time of public speech.

ARTICLE VIII. No member of this association shall address another by any other term or appellation other than that of brother.

ARTICLE IX. The Moderator shall not interrupt a member nor prohibit him from speaking until he gives his light upon the subject, except when he breaks the rules of decorum.

ARTICLE X. The names of several members of the association shall be enrolled by the Clerk and called over so often as the Moderator requires.

ARTICLE XI. The Moderator shall have the same privilege of speech as another members; provided the chair be filled, but shall have no vote unless the association be equally divided.

ARTICLE XII. Any member who shall wilfully and knowingly break any of the rules shall be reprov'd by the association as it may think proper.

ARTICLE XIII. The delegation to be seated in this association shall be limited to three members from each church.

ARTICLE XIV. No person shall speak more than five (5) minutes at the same time without liberty obtained from the association.

**Names and Addresses of  
ORDAINED MINISTERS**

Tommy Adair.....R. F. D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.  
 Jonah Bevins.....Box 1534, Williamson, W. Va.  
 Harrison Bevins.....Box 655, Williamson, W. Va.  
 Dike Blackburn.....Moree, Ky.  
 J. H. Brown.....Canada, Ky.  
 Willis Blackburn.....Goody, Ky.  
 E. S. Coleman.....Hardy, Ky.  
 Grover Carey.....R. F. D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.  
 P. H. S. Curry.....R. F. D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.  
 Emmett Case.....Varney, Ky.  
 Asa Evans.....R. F. D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.  
 J. R. Evans.....R. F. D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.  
 E. F. Fields.....Moree, Ky.  
 S. B. Fraley.....Hatfield, Ky.  
 John Fouch.....Chauncey, W. Va.  
 Ester Hopkins.....Williamson, W. Va.  
 W. C. Hay.....R. F. D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.  
 W. A. Hurley.....Verdunville, W. Va.  
 J. H. Hensley.....Chauncey, W. Va.  
 Bill Jude.....Pilgrim, Ky.  
 L. G. Lowe.....Williamson, W. Va.  
 Hi Maynard.....R. F. D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.  
 H. C. Maynard.....Stone, Ky.  
 M. J. Mounts.....R. F. D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.  
 Wallace Maynard.....R. F. D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.  
 B. F. Maynard.....Holden, W. Va.  
 Eldon Maynard.....Heenan, Ky.  
 W. H. May.....Kirk, W. Va.  
 Lewis Marcum.....Turkey Creek, Ky.  
 J. L. Nichols.....Thomas, Ky.  
 Shadle Pauley.....Beauty, Ky.  
 James Queen.....Harts, W. Va.  
 Orville Runyon.....Chattaroy, W. Va.  
 Basil Robinett.....Varney, Ky.



W. T. Rife ..... R. F. D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.  
 C. L. Swanson ..... Boomer, N. C.  
 Lewis Smith ..... Hardy, Ky.  
 A. A. Shephard ..... R. F. D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.  
 Jonah Smith ..... Turkey Creek, Ky.  
 J. E. Taylor ..... Heenan, Ky.  
 J. G. Thornsby ..... Canada, Ky.  
 Willie White ..... Lenore, W. Va.  
 Ken Varney ..... Turkey Creek, Ky.

**Licensed Minister**

George Hinkle ..... Hardy, Ky.

**Names and Adresses of**

**CLERKS**

Mt. Pleasant ..... Harold Edmonds ..... Canada, Ky.  
 Apple Orchard ..... Eldon Maynard ..... Heenan, Ky.  
 Enon ..... Ethel Varney ..... McCarr, Ky.  
 Rebecca ..... F. M. Preece ..... R. F. D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.  
 Bent Branch ..... Forest Bevins ..... Meta, Ky.  
 Sardis ..... Tommy Adair ..... R. F. D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.  
 Big Branch ..... J. L. Nichols ..... Thomas, Ky.  
 Mary Elizabeth ..... Lacy Lowe ..... Hatfield, Ky.  
 Bethany ..... Willard Blair ..... Lenore, W. Va.  
 Elk Fork ..... Matilda C. Curry, R.F.D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.  
 Pilgrim Home ..... Troy T. Francis ..... Box 52, Williamson, W. Va.  
 Salem ..... A. M. Varney ..... Road Fork, Ky.  
 Sidney ..... Stella Maynard ..... Three Forks, Ky.  
 Dix Fork ..... J. G. Thornsby ..... Canada, Ky.  
 Narrow's Branch ..... Willie Stanley ..... Hardy, Ky.  
 Leannah ..... J. L. Nichols ..... Thomas, Ky.  
 Buck Creek ..... Shadle Pauley ..... Beauty, Ky.  
 Tabitha ..... Comfort Gillman, R.F.D.1, Williamson, W. Va.  
 Little Dove ..... J. S. Dempsey ..... R. F. D. 1, Williamson, W. Va.  
 Little Rosa ..... Orville Runyon ..... Chattaroy, W. Va.  
 Turkey Creek ..... Willie H. Young ..... Turkey Creek, Ky.  
 Samaria ..... Lesla Vance ..... Kirk, W. Va.

## STATISTICAL REPORT

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Churches and Delegates	Received by Baptism	Received by Letter	Received by Restoration	Received by Recommendation	Dismissed by Letter	Died	Excluded	Total Membership	Church Time	Church Contribution
Mt. Pleasant: Frank Collins, T. J. Smith.....	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	34	2	\$10.00
Apple Orchard: Willie Nichols, Stanford May- nard, J. M. Lowe.....	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	42	1	4.00
Enon: J. B. Anderson, W. C. Hay, Logan Spencer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	1	8.70
Rebecca: Sam Gilman, Moseo Gilman, Maynard Hay .....	3	2	1	0	0	0	2	62	2	15.00
Bent Branch: Forest Bevins, Lee Blackburn, John Lyons .....	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	51	3	10.00
Sardis: Jesse Farley, John Evans, N. R. Evans.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	100	4	12.00
Bib Branch: J. L. Nichols, Harvey Lowe, Ernest Lowe .....	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	29	3	4.00
Mary Elizabeth: T. D. Lowe, George Fraley, Leonard Stanley .....	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	31	3	6.00
Bethany: Jesse Canterbury, Thomas Runyon, John Mayhone .....	23	0	0	1	3	4	5	41	4	10.00

Elk Fork: Grover Carey, John Ward, Will Runyon .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	74	3	10.00
Pilgrim Home: Basil Robinett, Emmett Case, Willis Blackburn .....	0	0	0	0	0	6	2	119	4	15.00
Salem: B. H. Bevins, Jonah Bevins, Ester Hopkins .....	16	1	0	0	0	2	0	134	1	15.00
Sidney: Bascom Maynard, Bill Maynard, R. Fletcher .....	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	4	5.25
Dix Fork: J. G. Thornsbury, H. C. Maynard, Marvin Stanley .....	6	0	0	0	0	1	0	55	1	15.00
Narrows Branch: Lewis Smith, George Stanley, Willie Stanley .....	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	42	4	15.00
Leanah: Dike Blackburn, Samuel Robinson .....	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	23	2	3.00
Buck Creek: (No Delegates or Letter) Tabitha: Comfort Gilman, John Fouch, C. Meadows .....	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	44	1	10.40
Little Dove: J. S. Dempsey, Ira Davis, Ellis Davis .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	45	1	11.60
Little Rosa: (No Delegates or Letter) Turkey Creek: Jeff Staton, Ken Varney, Julius Burgett .....	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	45	2	10.00
Samaria: Leslie Vance, W. H. May, Haden Hannah .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	2	5.00
<b>TOTALS.....</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1113</b>		<b>\$194.95</b>