## A 130 YEAR HISTORY OF

## PLEASANT RIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH

1875 - 2005



By
The History Committee



Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, in 1921



Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, as completed in 1957

# PLEASANT RIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH

## 130 YEARS OF SERVICE TO GOD

 $\mathbf{BY}$ 

#### THE PLEASANT RIDGE HISTORY COMMITTEE

THIS BOOK IS LOVINGLY DEDICATED TO

## JUDSON AND DIXIE LEATH JONES

May 2005

### Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church 1474 Hueytown Road Hueytown, Alabama 35023

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Great credit must go to the tireless efforts of the History Committee who researched records and library sources, researched the internet, conducted personal interviews, contributed from their personal memories and family resources and investigated anecdotes and stories. Additionally, church records have been heavily relied upon. A diligent effort has been made to give credit to every informational source and we ask your forgiveness where our efforts failed. Members of this committee and other important committees and contributors have been listed on previous pages. A special word of thanks to Mrs. Ruth Brimner Dawson Davidson, special researcher and contributor, for her tireless efforts. An additional word of thanks to Dr. David Hayes who wrote most of the narrative and assisted in arranging photographs. Current and past ministerial staff members and office staff members have been very helpful and wonderfully supportive. We especially thank those who have shared photographs and rare documents.

A special word of thanks to my husband, Floyd Syx, for his great patience, encouragement and understanding over the last year. Many of you know of my personal health problems during the process of preparing this work, and without his help, I surely would have failed.

To all who helped in any way in the writing of this history, please know that your efforts are for the Glory of Christ! We can now read of our progress as a City, a Denomination and as a Church Family from humble beginnings to our present day prominence as one of the greatest Baptist Churches in our area. We can all be proud of the outstanding work and contributions of our Church Family, made in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ! To Him be all the praise and glory, now and forever! For every member of the Committee, respectfully and humbly,

Helen Dabbs Syx, History Committee Chairman



Dr. Rick Patrick, Pastor

God bless you for joining us as we celebrate one hundred and thirty marvelous years of gospel ministry. This historic occasion provides us with an incredible opportunity to reflect upon God's manifold blessings and abundant mercies through the years. Generation after generation has taken up the challenge of performing kingdom work in this place, proclaiming the gospel, loving one another, ministering to a hurting world and letting our lights shine for the glory of God.

If this ridge could only talk, imagine the stories it would tell. It would tell of the many hundreds of souls that have come to faith in Christ on this hallowed ground. It would tell of thousands of lives that have been changed forever because of the witness of our Christian fellowship. It would tell of young brides and grooms who kissed at the altar the day they were married, listened years later as their children ran laughing through these hallways, and cried a few decades later as their grandchildren entered the sweet waters of baptism. It would tell of the many souls who have been called to the ministry and to the mission field because of the Great Commission emphasis that defines Pleasant Ridge.

This ridge would speak of a glorious day in the spring of 1875, twenty-six years before the founding of U. S. Steel and eighty-five years before the incorporation of Hueytown, when thirty-four charter members of Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church launched a legacy. It is a legacy that continues today, for just as we received a sense of duty from the pioneers of yesterday, we must also pass on this charge to the children of tomorrow.

Only God knows what the future will bring. But it seems only fitting that the legacy of Pleasant Ridge as a "Caring People, Sharing Christ" should continue upon this earth until our Lord's return. By God's grace and power, we will continue to shine His light until Jesus comes and calls us to our heavenly home, overlooking golden streets and crystal rivers, as we move to a land with a ridge more pleasant than any this earth has to offer.

#### **Introduction: The Early History of Southern Baptists in the United States**

In the history of the founding and development of the thirteen American colonies, there was a constant struggle for the separation of church and government, and for the unrestricted exercise of religious freedom. Early leaders in this struggle included Roger Williams and John Clarke (1630s to the 1660s). (1) Yet, over 100 years later, the Church of England was still the established church and exercised great control over the American Colonies. Religious considerations entered into the founding and development of every American Colony from New Hampshire to Georgia. Practically every one of the early settlers was a member of some church and the great majority was Protestant. Among the many early denominations, Baptists were the most active, especially in view of their limited numbers. The primary reason for this strong Baptist influence was the member's fervent religious convictions. The issues leading to the American Revolution were becoming serious by the mid to late 1700s. Baptist groups in Virginia united to bring their significant influence to bear, enlisting the sympathy and support of several leaders in Virginia political life, including Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, Patrick Henry and many less famous men. Through the political leadership of these men, the influence of the Church of England in the thirteen colonies was abolished by the Revolutionary War against England which brought American independence. (2)

When the new Federal Constitution was submitted to the thirteen colonies, Patrick Henry led Virginia Baptists in opposition to its adoption because it contained no verbiage assuring religious freedom. James Madison, known as "The Father of the Constitution", convinced those opposed on these grounds to adopt the Constitution as written, and then amend it. The new Constitution was adopted and a Virginian, George Washington, was chosen the Republic's first President. One of his first acts as president was to request that Madison prepare such amendments to the Constitution as necessary. The first amendment he prepared fulfilled a promise made to Virginia Baptists, guaranteeing religious freedom, free speech and freedom of the press. (3) Over the next 30 years, the young nation grew stronger as vast areas to the west began to develop. England looked greedily toward the colonies and in 1812, during the presidency of James Madison; the young nation was again at war with the British. Following this war, there was war in the Caribbean, war with Mexico over the Texas Territory, then the Civil War. Though the 19<sup>th</sup> Century was plagued by various wars and with growing pains as the new nation spread westward toward the Pacific, there was an explosion of growth in America not before seen in the history of mankind! The industrial revolution, born of the vision and genius of the world's first free society, burst forth! Our wonderful "One nation, under God, with liberty and justice for all", led the world in every area of human endeavor.

#### Baptists Organize, Forming the Southern Baptist Convention

In America, baptized believers did not call themselves "Baptists" or "Baptist Churches" until well after the middle of the 1700s. It was in May of 1845, in Augusta, Georgia, that the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) was organized. According to incomplete records from that time, there were 236 delegates registered from 165 churches representing nine associations present, including representatives from the Alabama Baptist Convention. Records from that first year reflect that a total of 4,126 congregations joined the new SBC, with a total membership of over 350,000, having over 23,000 baptisms. (4) By 1900, there were over 195,000 congregations with over 1,600,000 members, with over 80,000 baptisms. By 1950, there were almost 28,000 congregations with over 7,000,000 members and 375,000 baptisms. (5) In 2003, there were more than 43,000 churches with over 16,000,000 members and 377,357 baptisms. Additionally, there were 5,114 mission churches in 2003. Truly, Southern Baptists have grown and become one of America's most effective evangelistic denominations.

Among the first acts of the new SBC in 1845 was to form both a Foreign Missions Board and a Home Missions Board. (6) During the 1890 SBC in Fort Worth, Texas, a committee was formed to study the organization of a Sunday School Board. At the 1891 Convention, in Birmingham, Alabama, that committee recommended that a Sunday School Board be formed and located in Nashville, Tennessee. This Board has been called the SBC's mightiest implementing force for the propagation of the gospel throughout the world. (7) In 1916, the SBC organized the Relief and Annuity Board, and in 1927, the Executive Committee was formed and located in Nashville, Tennessee. It had the responsibility for administration of all convention activities, which, by this time were many. (8)

The leaders involved in the founding of the SBC were keenly aware of the need for seminary-trained ministers. It was in the fall of 1859 that the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary was opened in Greenville, South Carolina, with a student body of 26 and a faculty of four. Principally due to the ravages of the Civil War, the SBC, at its meeting in 1877, agreed to move the seminary to its present location in Louisville, Kentucky. The second SBC Seminary, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, was organized at Baylor University in Waco, Texas, in 1908. It was moved to Fort Worth, Texas in 1910. The New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary opened in New Orleans, Louisiana, in September of 1918 as The Baptist Bible Institute. The name change was approved at the 1946 SBC, and the current site was opened and dedicated in 1953. By 1947, the three aforementioned seminaries were so crowded that the Committee on Theological Education was formed to study the need for more educational institutions. At the 1950 SBC in Chicago, Illinois, the committee gave a report recommending the development of two new seminaries, one in the west at Berkley, California; the other in the east at Wake Forest, North Carolina. This same committee later recommended that a third new

seminary be established in Kansas City, Missouri. Work on a new campus for Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, overlooking San Francisco Bay, was begun in 1954. During this time, Wake Forest College was moving from its century-old campus in Wake Forest, North Carolina, to its new campus in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. The SBC authorized purchasing the old campus site for \$1.6 million, and the site was given a new name, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. On May 29, 1957, during the SBC in Chicago, Illinois, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary was formed and located in Kansas City, Missouri, bringing the total number of Southern Baptist Theological Seminaries to six. (9) (10)

A Missionary Society of Women was organized in 1813 in Richmond, Virginia, for the purpose of raising funds for home and foreign missions. While none of these societies were represented at the first SBC in 1845, the constitution did provide for representation from mission societies that sent funds supporting missions. At the 1868 SBC in Baltimore, Maryland, the first meeting of Southern Baptist women was held to hear a report on mission work in China. Twenty years later, at the 1888 SBC in Richmond, Virginia, the convention voted to organize the Women's Missionary Union (WMU). Primarily because of strong pre-organizational leadership by women in Baltimore, it was natural for this city to be chosen as the first WMU Headquarters. On February 19, 1920, a committee of five was appointed to look into moving the headquarters to a more central location that would allow all sections of the SBC territory to be more accessible. In 1921, it was decided to move to Birmingham, Alabama, to space rented in the Jefferson County Bank Building, later known as the Comer Building. In January, 1951, the WMU purchased a building on the corner of 20th Street and 6th Avenue. (11) Today, the WMU offices are located in beautiful facilities off Highway 280 South at 100 Missionary Ridge. This group has been marvelously blessed by God, stimulating ever increasing gifts to mission efforts both at home and abroad. Generations of girls have learned about missions and evangelism through WMU organizations such as the Sunbeam Bands, first organized in 1886 for girls under nine years of age. Girls aged nine to 16 continued to be involved in learning about missions and world evangelism in the Girl's Auxiliary, a WMU fostered organization which, by the early 1950s, had become the largest denominational evangelical organization for girls in the world. (12) (13) (14)

Prior to 1908, there were numerous mission organizations for boys aged nine to 17. In 1908, in response to the need for an overall organization to bind these groups together, the WMU voted to promote the Order of Royal Ambassadors (RAs). This program included emphasis on athletics, hobby activities and camping, but the primary emphasis was on missions. Men became involved as chapter leaders, and in 1939, the WMU asked for more cooperation from brotherhood groups. The response of the men was very strong, and at the 1953 meeting of the SBC, a WMU proposal that the RAs be

transferred to the Baptist Brotherhood Commission was adopted. By that time, there were over 175,000 boys involved in almost 14,000 RA chapters in Southern Baptist Churches. (15)

Financial support of both home and foreign missions has been the primary focus of the WMU since its origin. Immediately after its organization in 1888, a discussion between Foreign Missions Board Secretary Henry Tupper and Miss Annie Armstrong addressed the possibility of an offering to send at least one missionary to relieve Miss Lottie Moon, who had been in China without furlough for 11 years. With great faith, \$72.82 was invested in letters and an offering of \$2,833.49 was received. Named the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering in 1918, this offering, originally for China, now supports all Southern Baptist mission fields. The Week of Prayer, observed the first week of December every year since 1926, allows congregations to focus on foreign missions and to seek God's leadership in their personal giving. (16) By May of 2004, the total amount given to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering by all SBC congregations was \$136,204,648, an 18.4% increase over the previous year and the largest amount in the 115 years of Baptist giving. (17)

In 1934, an annual offering sponsored by the WMU in support of home missions was named the Annie Armstrong Offering for Home Missions. In 2004, SBC congregations gave a record offering of \$53,845,989 to this very important effort. (18)

Over the years since its organization, the WMU has always been sensitive to the needs of all SBC ministries, providing gifts of time, energy, talent and money wherever needed. Today's WMU lists members in 48 states and continues to do their part and more in fulfilling the Great Commission of Jesus! (19)

It was during the 1925 SBC in Memphis, Tennessee, that what is now called the Cooperative Program was set in motion. Through this program, every board and agency receives financial support and has its own ministry and evangelistic charge. The Cooperative Program allows every congregation and every congregation member to take part, through their financial support, in every missions and evangelism effort of the convention. Funds are contributed by SBC congregations to the Cooperative Program throughout the year and all funds are fairly and equitably divided among all boards and agencies of the SBC through the central distributing office in Nashville, Tennessee, for the spread of the Gospel of Christ at home and around the world. In 2004, the churches of the SBC gave a total of \$501,199,698 to the Cooperative Program. Most agree that this program is the greatest forward step ever taken by Southern Baptists in disbursing funds for its mission causes. (20) (21)

#### THE EARLY HISTORY OF BAPTISTS IN ALABAMA

The history of Alabama Baptists prior to the organization of the Alabama Baptist Convention (ABC) closely parallels the story of the settlement of the area. It was on October 28, 1823, that the Baptist State Convention of Alabama was organized at Salem Church near Greensboro, Alabama. By this date, missionary societies had been formed in many of the Baptist churches in the villages of the area. Fifteen delegates from these various societies came together, organized the Convention and elected Reverend Charles Crow, Pastor of the Siloam Baptist Church of Marion, Alabama, as its first president. The Convention was originally incorporated by a special act of the Alabama Legislature on February 22, 1887. The ABC operates today under a charter granted by the Alabama Legislature on February 14, 1923. (22)

That first year, six local associations, representing 128 congregations and over 5,000 members joined the state convention. The convention membership continued to grow as the new state grew. When the SBC was organized in May of 1845, the Board of the ABC was present as a charter member. Alabama Baptists helped lead the congregations of the SBC in all areas, including missions, education, ministry education, Sunday school development, publication, orphan care and numerous other benevolent efforts. (23) Major ministry efforts include the establishment and development of Howard College, now Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama; Judson College in Marion, Alabama; and the University of Mobile in Mobile, Alabama. Samford University has become one of the finest universities in the southeastern United States, featuring the Beeson School of Divinity, the Ida Moffett School of Nursing and the Cumberland School of Law. Judson College remains one of the few all women's colleges in the nation, featuring a liberal arts curriculum that prepares women for both careers and further education in virtually any chosen field. The University of Mobile, the newest Alabama Baptist educational institution, was founded in 1961, and offers more than 44 areas of study in the College of Arts and Sciences and in the Schools of Business, Christian Studies, Education, Leadership Development and Nursing. (24)

The Alabama Baptist Newspaper edited by Dr. Bob Terry, a former Interim Pastor of PRBC, is provided weekly to every Alabama Baptist congregation member desiring it. The mission of the paper is to provide information, inspiration, interpretation and involvement for Alabama Baptists.

In the late 1800s, a Southern Baptist preacher affectionately known as Father Stewart had a keen desire to help widows and orphans in need. In 1891, his desire became reality with the establishment of the Louise Short Baptist Widows and Orphans Home in Evergreen, Alabama. In 1923, the home was moved to a new campus in Troy, Alabama. From that one facility has grown the state's most diverse children's and family care agency with a network of homes providing a broad array of services to

children, youth, mothers and families in need. God continues to remold and reshape the Children's Homes and Family Ministries to meet the rapidly changing needs of children, youth and their families statewide. As a result, personalized and comprehensive services ensure that the ministry is equipped to help more individuals and families, in more ways and in more places than ever before. Under God's direction, this ministry plans and sets goals to ensure wise stewardship. As an entity under the Alabama Baptist Convention with administrative offices in Birmingham, it is through this ministry's partnerships with Alabama churches, Baptist associations, community groups and individuals that plans and goals are established and accomplished. The purpose of the Alabama Baptist Children's Homes and Family Ministries has been and will remain to protect, nurture and restore children and families through Christ-centered services. (25)

The ABC provides local associations and local churches leadership and resources in virtually every program needed, including finance, missions, evangelism, Sunday school, church training, WMU, Brotherhood, administration, social services and many other areas. From humble beginnings in 1823, the ABC and churches in our state have grown tremendously. By 1900, there were 80 local associations representing 1,769 congregations with more than 129,000 members. In 2004, there were 3,287 local congregations with more than 1,122,733 members. Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church (PRBC) has been a member congregation of both the SBC and the ABC by choice since its beginning. In the eyes of the world, the SBC may be the most illogical of all Christian groups. Neither the SBC nor the ABC has authority over any of its congregations. The Conventions issue no demands and congregations cannot be compelled to carry out any Convention proposal. The convention's mission work is financed through the Cooperative Program, but participation by congregations is voluntary, not compulsory. Each congregation maintains its autonomy! The illogical force that binds all SBC and ABC congregations is love, and love may never be logical! It is because of Christ's love for us and our love for Him that we love one another and seek to bring the lost to Him for salvation! Blest be the tie that binds! And, till Jesus comes, the work goes on!

#### **A BRIEF HISTORY OF HUEYTOWN**

Our nation's first settlers established themselves at Plymouth Rock, and then moved south to what today is Virginia. As immigration to "the new world" increased, many sought the bounty of this great new land and the freedom it offered. Settlers began moving south into areas today known as Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia, and westward into Kentucky and Tennessee. Our area became known as The Mississippi Territory and its primary inhabitants were various Indian tribes. It was after the war of 1812, about 1815, that the Federal Government allowed movement of settlers into

what became known as the State of Alabama in 1819. (26) (27) These early settlers had a strong desire to realize the promise of vast areas of land literally available for the taking. Eastern coastal areas had become crowded and good farmland was rapidly disappearing. They were searching for rich farmland with plentiful timber, wild game, year-round supplies of water and long growing seasons. Those arriving early, often known as squatters, would find plenty of space for their homesteads in the wilderness of Alabama which offered land with virgin forests and abundant waterways. Alabama had a good system of navigable rivers and these early immigrants first settled along the Tennessee River in the north and along the Tombigbee River in the west. Later, settlers swarmed into the area between the Black Warrior and the Cahaba Rivers, and into the valleys of the Coosa and Alabama Rivers. (28) The east-central and southeastern portions of Alabama toward the Georgia line were sparsely settled because of the presence of Creek Indian Tribes until they ceded their lands to the United States in a treaty, signed March 24, 1832. (29) After the land was surveyed, the Federal Government would establish dates for land sales. These squatters had first choice to buy the land they had settled if they could prove they had lived there for a time and could show improvements they had made. (30) (31) (32)

It is important to remember that there were no major roads or trade routes. The early settlers had to travel paths the Indians and wild animals had established for their travel. These trails were sometimes wide enough to walk or maybe ride a horse or mule on, but none were wide enough for the heavy freight wagons most settlers used for transporting all their worldly goods, often pulled by teams of mules or oxen. It was necessary to carry with them all their clothes, furniture, tools, food (for family and livestock), fuel, seed....everything necessary to survive on their own while they started crops and established their new homesteads. Because of this, it was necessary for them to widen the paths, making roads wide enough for their wagons (most covered) to pass through. Most often, they traveled in groups for both protection and to assist each other when problems arose. (33)

Among these early settlers were Baptists, many laymen and some preachers. Whenever 10 or 12 of them settled in a community, they often met together and organized a church. The area we now call Hueytown did not have an abundant, year-round supply of water and was not rich farmland. For these reasons, there is very little evidence that Indians inhabited our area, however there were Indian settlements along Valley Creek, near Dolonah (near Watermark Shopping Center) where a large spring, later known as Prince Spring, was located. There is evidence that Indians conducted hunting expeditions in what is now Hueytown. (34)

Among the first settlers in this general area was John Jones who settled in an area known as Jonesville, later Old Jonesboro (shown on maps dating back to 1822). Joseph Huey traveled to our area from Waxhaw County, South Carolina, in 1819, traveling down Valley Creek to an area of rich

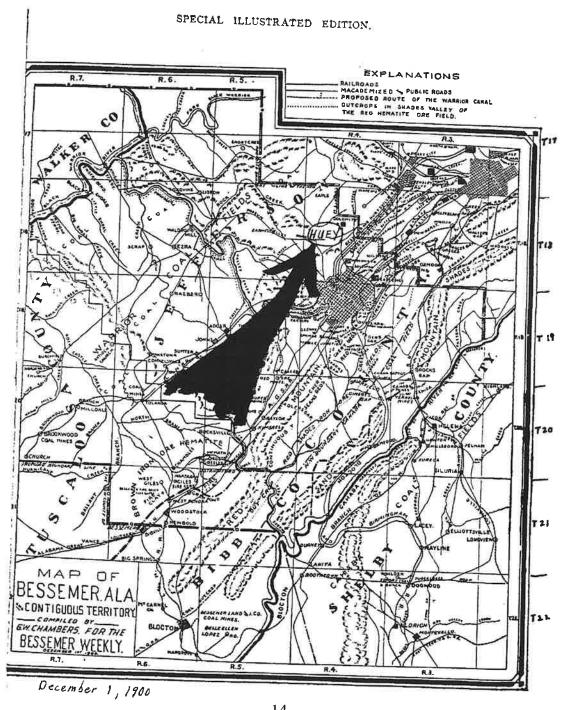
bottomland where Valley Creek and Rock Creek join (just off today's Taylor's Ferry Road). Joseph Huey was a veteran of the Revolutionary War and was familiar with the difficulties of wilderness travel. He and his family (including a son, Samuel T. Huey) homesteaded a farm and their original location is near where Rock Creek Baptist Church, organized in 1820, stands today. (35) Other settlers, including John Crooks and Calvin Waldrop, soon joined him and the settlement grew to be known as Toadvine. However, spring flooding from both Valley Creek and Rock Creek proved to be a major problem, often destroying what had been wrought by much hard work throughout the rest of the year. Twin brothers Jessie Van and Samuel H. (Sol) Huey told their Father, Sam T. Huey, that they were moving to higher ground and invited him to come with them. Calvin Waldrop had acquired about 600 acres along the Locust Fork of Warrior River in 1836, later selling a home he had built on part of the property to Jasper Vines in 1866. See a photo of the cabin, which still stands today, below. (36)



By the early 1830s, Mortimer Jordan had gained ownership of much of the property in Township 18, Range 4 West that today is Hueytown. He purchased thousands of acres from homesteaders Abner McGee and Octavus Spencer in 1825. With the aid of dozens of slaves, Jordan developed one of the finest plantations in the state, raising livestock, cotton, corn and wheat. In 1842, John Crooks (Husband of Nancy Ashton Crooks and Father of Mary Crooks, both of whom were later charter members of PRBC) and Calvin Waldrop bought land from Mortimer Jordan in this area for \$4.00 an acre. After the Civil War ended, Jordan lost all of his slaves and could not operate the massive plantation. The next year, his health failed, he died and was buried (along with his two wives and children) in the cemetery at Bethlehem Methodist Church on the corner of Warrior River Road and Tin Mill Road. (37)

His plantation was sold at auction in 1866. The auction was held at about the time the Hueys had decided to move from their homestead at Rock Creek. Samuel H. (Sol) Huey purchased 1100 acres, Jessie Van purchased 760 acres and their Father (Sam T. Huey) purchased 11 acres on the north end of the plantation, all for \$4.41 an acre. This land ran along what is now known as Allison-Bonnett Memorial Drive. (38) (39)

Old maps from 1845 and the 1870s showed the community name "Huey" at what is known today as Rock Creek. Maps of 1900 and 1908 showed "Huey" as being relocated to the approximate location of where Sonics Drive-In is located today. A map from that time is shown below. (40) (41)



S. H. Woodward purchased the remainder of the Jordan Plantation at the auction in 1866. This purchase amounted to several thousand acres, upon which Woodward and his two sons built Woodward Iron Company. Woodward had noted from surveys that there were massive deposits of coal, iron ore and limestone in the area, all necessary ingredients for making iron and steel. He subsequently opened two coal mines at Dolomite and the community became very prosperous with the mines and growing steel industry, led by Woodward Iron Company. Bessemer, Ensley and Birmingham became thriving cities in the 1880s, with improved roads, utilities and jobs that paid impressive hourly wages. (42)

During this time, Calvin Waldrop purchased a large section of land near the present location of Gilmore-Vines Stadium. Waldrop had an intense interest in public affairs in early Jefferson County and the records of the old County Commissioner's Court record many of his activities in the public interest. Sam Huey later served as a member of the Jefferson County Commission and served as a Deputy Probate Judge for a time. One of his granddaughters, Miss Mary Alice Huey, was PRBC's first foreign missionary, serving in China for many years. Another of his granddaughters, Mrs. Mae Huey Dabbs, was a county school teacher for many years. (43)

The Vines Family made significant contributions to the area's early development. William B. Vines served as a member of the Jefferson County Revenue Board. His daughter, Miss Cecil Vines, taught at Hueytown Elementary School for almost 50 years. Mr. Bascom Vines served as Chief Deputy Sheriff under his father-in-law, Thomas J. Batson. Later, Charles Vines served for many years as Principal of Hueytown High School and his brother, Melvin, was a classroom teacher and football coach at the same school for decades. Other descendants of these early families became bankers, physicians, businessmen, politicians, law enforcement officers and school teachers and all were very influential in the development of government, schools and churches in our early community. (44)

The Hueytown area as we know it today was first called Pleasant Ridge. Many of the families who first settled in the Toadvine, Rock Creek and Mudd Creek areas moved to Pleasant Ridge. Other important family names included: Franklin, Thompson, Vines, Dabbs, Lacey, Knight, Salter, Smith, Roberts, Parsons, House, Stoves, Hammonds, Skates, Foust, Moyer, Rogers, McDonald and Robertson. As industrial jobs became available, families were less dependant on farming for their livelihood. Mercantile stores began to develop and residents had the opportunity to purchase necessities. Some of the early stores included: Thompson's Grocery, Lee's Store at Lee's Junction and E. J. Ray's Store (in front of where the Hueytown Public Library stands today). This store was sold to Jack Knight and later operated by Rick Knight, Sr. Later still, a facility at this location was operated as a chain food store known as "Food Town" by Rick Knight, Jr. This building now serves as the Hueytown Public Library.

Mr. Oscar Huey ran a store where Movie Gallery now stands, and Mr. Bill McDonald had a blacksmith shop between Vail Avenue and Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church. (45)

In 1866, the Robertson Family purchased land from the Jordan Estate and subsequently became one of the leading families of the community. From this family came such people as Manoah Robertson, F. M. Robertson, Martha, Mary and Melissa Robertson, all of whom were charter members of the Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church. It was a member of this family who sold four acres of land to the trustees of that early church family for \$1.00 an acre to be used for a church and school building. (46) That first church was known as the Trigg's Spring Church and the building was located on the hill just behind the present church location on part of what is now the Pleasant Ridge Cemetery. Elice Robertson, brother of Manoah, was listed on the 1870 Census of Jefferson as a school teacher. He was married to Nancy Melissa Huey on May 18, 1871, who is named as a Charter Member of Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church. Elice Robertson died on October 22, 1874, and is buried in the earliest marked grave in Pleasant Ridge Cemetery, making the cemetery older than the church. The church was founded in 1875 and 23 of the 34 original charter members came from five families living in the area at the time, including the Robertsons, the Crooks, the Waldrops, the Hueys and the Knights. Rev. E. B. Waldrop was called as the new congregation's first Pastor, serving until 1887 and again from 1892-1894, for a total of 16 years. One of the first teachers at the school, known as The Highland Academy (the area's only school for the past 30 years), was Rev. M. M. Wood, who also served as church pastor for a time in 1901. In 1906, Jefferson County built the first county school in the Pleasant Ridge (the community name at the time) area across the road from the church, facing Dabbs Avenue. That location today serves as part of the PRBC parking lot. Professor W. R. Copeland was the school's first Principal, also serving as a teacher for many years. Though a Methodist, he also taught Sunday school at the Pleasant Ridge. In 1922, he made the following statement about our church.

"Not least among the desirable conditions found here is a fine religious atmosphere led by one large, thriving church. Here is illustrated the advantage of one church well supported, rather than two or three struggling for existence. This church houses a live Sunday School in which all departments are cared for. When completed, this church building will have twenty-six rooms and a large auditorium, thirteen of which, including the auditorium, have already been finished. All institutions belonging to a modern Baptist congregation are maintained here, including the Baptist Young Peoples Union, the Women's Missionary Union, etc. "(47)

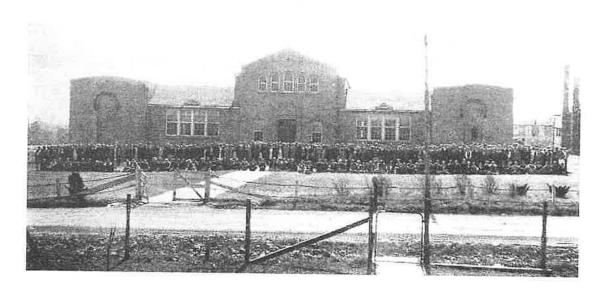
He later became Assistant Superintendent of Education for Jefferson County. That first building served the community until 1935 when the building burned down and a new school building was constructed. A photograph of that first school building is shown below. (48)



The second elementary school building, constructed facing and sitting well back off Hueytown Road, served the elementary students of Hueytown until it burned in 1949. While a new school building was being constructed at the present site just off Forest Road, classes were conducted in the new north wing of Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church. A photo of that second school building is shown below.



In 1873, a United States Post Office was established in our area. As early as 1893, there was a very determined effort on the part of citizens to have the western area separated from Jefferson County and establish a new county. The State Legislature finally solved this problem in 1915 by establishing the "Bessemer Cut-off". The Jefferson County Revenue Department put this official name on the communities in the newly defined area, which included Hueytown, Pleasant Grove, Concord, Oak Grove and Rock Creek. During that time, John Marvin Huey, a Confederate Army Captain and grandson of Joseph Huey who had moved to the area from Waxhaw County in South Carolina in 1819, died in September, 1915. Up until this time, our area had been known first as Pleasant Ridge, then as Huey. State and County officials, desiring to recognize an outstanding citizen of the area, officially changed the name of our village from "Huey" to "Hueytown" in honor of Captain John Marvin Huey, in 1915, and the Jefferson County Revenue Department published a map in 1916, showing that official name. At the time of his death, he was an active member of Ruhama Baptist Church, and he was buried in Ruhama Cemetery, now known as East Lake Cemetery. (49)



Hueytown continued to grow as a small town. About 1920, Mr. David J. Huey sold land to the Jefferson County Board of Education for the purpose of building Hueytown High School. In 1921, the new school opened with 120 students with Mr. Harley F. Gilmore serving as principal, a position he held until his retirement in 1958. Teachers at the time included W. C. Parsons, R. E. Deese, Cora Waldrop, Elizabeth Loftin and W. T. Patton. Myrtle Thompson joined the faculty in 1922. A photograph of Mr. Gilmore appears on the following page. (50) (51)



Mr. Harley F. Gilmore, Principal of Hueytown High School, 1921-1958

During the 1920s, the Hueytown Crest area began to develop. Mr. M. G. Robertson sold land for the development of Woodmont, an area just off Kenilworth Road and Vineland Park began to develop. In the 1940s, Woodward Iron Company decided to develop an industrial city. They divided a large area of land on the west side of Brooklane Drive (also known as Lover's Lane) into blocks which was to be residential. The east side was to be industrial. They named the development Industrial City. Also, during the 1940s, the Bessemer Coal, Iron and Land Company developed a residential community that is now called Bessemer Gardens.

As Hueytown continued to grow, citizens voted on April 29, 1960, to incorporate and become the City of Hueytown, with a population of 5,500. During the new City's first election, Majors Nordan was elected mayor and five city councilmen were elected. Over the years, our City has grown to a population of approximately 18,500, with over 90 employees. There are approximately 1600 business licenses issued annually and there are more than 30 churches within our city limits. A thriving Chamber of Commerce organizes and coordinates business activities and deals with issues of concern to area businesses. There is a strong network of professional, service, cultural and civic club organizations. The city has a beautiful municipal complex which houses all governmental offices, the police department and the fire department. The Hueytown Public Library is located in the old Food Town building. A beautiful park network fosters an outstanding athletic and recreational program for all citizens. Four members of Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church have served as mayor of our great city over the years, including the Honorables J. P. Campbell, Lee Wade Jackson, Lillian Putnam Howard and Gerald Hicks. Numerous other members of our congregation have served on the city council, including Charles "Chuck" Banks, Arline Blackwell, Ken Burns, Phifer Crane, Myrtle Durrett, William "Benny" Edwards, Robert Gober, Gerald Hicks, and Lillian Putnam Howard. Many others have served on various city boards and committees. (52)

#### ORIGINS, PLEASANT RIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH

According to spoken history and a deed recorded in the Jefferson County Courthouse in Birmingham, Alabama, there was a log building located at the top of the hill in the present day Pleasant Ridge Cemetery that served as a school house for Highland Academy and a meeting house for a small congregation known as Trigg's Spring Church. A large fresh-water spring, first called Trigg's Spring, was located nearby and flowed down the hill on the west side of the cemetery. Beginning in 1873, Reverend Elisha B. Waldrop, Pastor of the Rock Creek Baptist Church, stopped by this location on Sunday afternoons and preached to a small group of assembled believers under a cluster of big oak trees beside the little log school house. Some remember that the building was only used in inclement weather, the congregation preferring to meet outside under the oak trees. The site of that school house is now a part of Pleasant Ridge Cemetery. That small congregation was committed to having a Baptist church of its own. On August 15, 1874, the small congregation chose four men from its midst as trustees, including Brothers J. G. Huey, Manoah Robertson, B. B. Waldrop and R. E. Huey. They negotiated the purchase of four acres of land at the present location of Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church and Pleasant Ridge Cemetery from Henry Robertson for one dollar an acre, as recorded in Deed Book 23, pages 197-198. The following pages show a copy of the deed and a copy of the plat as recorded in official documents. (54) (55)

Jefferson County, Alabama Deed Record Volume 23, Pages 197-198 February 11, 1875

State of Alabama 
Know all men by these presents that we H. B. Robertson and F. M. Robertson and our wives, N. E. Robertson, wife of H. B. Robertson and A. A. Robertson, wife of F. M. Robertson for and in consideration of the sum of Two hundred and Eighty six dollars in hand to us paid by J. M. Knight the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged do hereby grant, bargain, sell and convey unto the said J. M. Knight all of the following described tract of land to wit:

The SW ¼ of the SW ¼ Sec. 29 Township 18 Range 4 containing forty acres sold by F. M. Robertson and A. A. Robertson, also the SE ¼ of the NW ¼ less four acres deeded to Triggs Spring Church Sec. 30, T 18 R 4W from last named block sold by H. B. and N. E. Robertson. To have and to hold the said J. M. Knight his heirs and assigns forever the title of which we will ever warrant and defend.

Witness our hand and seal this 11 day of February 1875.

H. B. Robertson SEAL F. M. Robertson SEAL

her

N. E. X Robertson SEAL Mark

her

A. A. X Robertson SEAL Mark

Witness AHP McClain

State of Alabama}
Jefferson County}

I, W. B. Vines an acting justice of the Peace in and for said county hereby certify that H. B. Robertson

F. M. Robertson, N. E. Robertson and A. A. Robertson whose names are signed To the foregoing conveyance and who is known to me, acknowledged Before me that they signed the same voluntarily after being informed of the Contents of the same and for the purpose therein expressed on the day The same said date.

Given under my hand this the 11 day of February 1875.

W. B. Vines Justice of the Peace

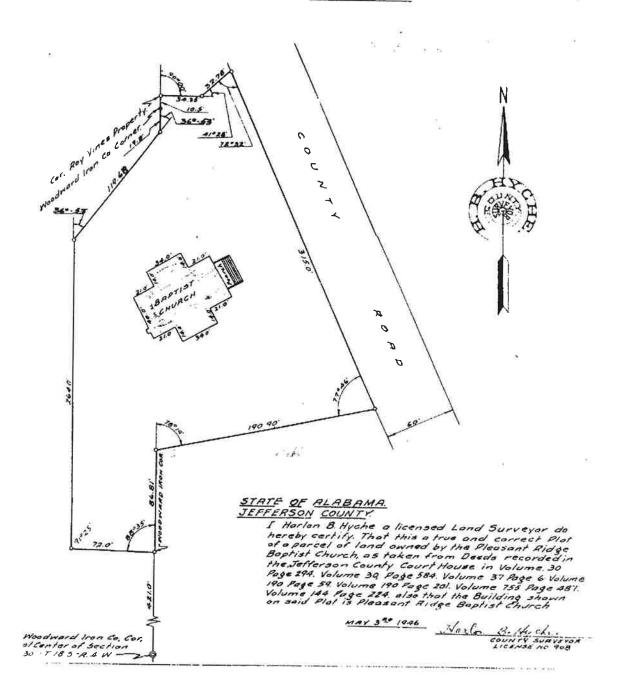
Filed for record in my office on the 29th day of March 1875.

Jno. C. Morrow Judge of Probate

And this deed was on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April 1875 duly recorded in Deed Book Vol. 23 Pages 197 & 198.

Jno. C. Morrow Judge of Probate

#### PLEASANT RIDGE CHURCH PROPERTY



So it was that, on Friday, May 21, 1875, the congregation assembled and organized what came to be the Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church. Reverend T. M. Bailey, a state employee at that time, preached to the congregation and led at this organizational service. Among other words of encouragement was a charge to be workers, not drones, taking an example from the honey bee hive. Records of church history since that organizational day 130 years ago prove that the congregation has faithfully carried out that charge. Also present for that organizational service was Reverend A. J. Waldrop and his son, Reverend

Elisha B. Waldrop. After these members of the clergy approved the new congregation's Articles of Faith, the right hand of Christian fellowship was extended to thirty-four (34) members of the newly organized church, most of whom transferred their membership from the Rock Creek Baptist Church. Following is a list of that group of Charter Brothers and Sisters. (55)

<u>Brothers</u>	Sisters
B. B. Waldrop	Sarah C. Franklin
F. A. Waldrop	Nancy Crooks
F. M. Robertson	A. Robertson
J. M. Knight	Mary Crooks
J. B. Glenn	Nancy McClinton
Alexander Glenn	Frances A. Knight
Elice Glenn	Sally Glenn
Manoah Robertson	Martha Robertson
Willis Brazeale	Mary Robertson
S. T. Huey	Nancy Huey
S. H. Huey	Melissa Robertson
J. V. Huey	Nancy Waldrop
R. E. Huey	Catherine Huey
R. F. Waldrop	Nellie Waldrop
W. O. M. Franklin	Susan Edge
	Sarah Dabbs
	Elizabeth Waldrop
	Jane Huey
	Mary J. Dabbs (56) (57)

(A list of known descendants of these Charter Members is located in the Appendix)

The congregation then went into conference and called the Reverend Elisha B. Waldrop as its first pastor. Election of church officers followed, and Brothers S. T. Huey, J. B. Glenn and J. M. Knight were elected to serve as deacons. Brother S. H. Huey was elected to serve as church clerk and the Saturday before the first Sunday of each month was chosen as meeting day. This was necessary because Reverend Waldrop served several other congregations as pastor. (58)

The small log school house building beside which services were held prior to formal organization of the church congregation was built several years before any regular services were held in the community. Most of the members of the new church had been members of the Rock Creek Baptist Church. When the congregation began thinking of organizing a new church, they also began thinking of a suitable building and got busy building one. S. H. Huey kept books for the construction of the new building and he spent over fifty (50) days working on the structure. Records show that Manoah Robertson worked about the same number of days and that B. B. Waldrop worked just a few days more. That first church building was constructed of twelve inch (12") heart pine boards which were hauled to the location, then dressed on both sides with a hand plane and kiln dried. The building was said to be neat both inside and out, with a beautiful pulpit. One factor that motivated everyone to work hard on the project was that this new building was also to be used as a school building for Highland Academy. This little church building on the ridge was used for twenty-two (22) years, after which it was abandoned for a new and more imposing structure built down nearer the road. This third building, constructed in 1897 during the Pastorate of Reverend W. J. Ray, was a larger frame structure built of dressed weather boarding and featured sharp peaked, frosted windows. (59)



The "Little White Church", at the edge of the cemetery, built in 1897 (60)

It served the church family well for 23 years until Reverend Doctor J. A. Hendrix (Interim Pastor from Howard College who served from 1920 to sometime in 1922) led a reluctant congregation during his tenure as pastor to begin a building program that would produce a new and modern building. Construction was begun on the same location in 1921 after the building completed in 1897 was torn down. This decision was very hard on the congregation because Dr. Hendrix left Pleasant Ridge for Chicago in 1922, leaving the church without a pastor and without a completed church building. (61) World War I was underway in Europe, and after almost two years without a Pastor in 1922 and most of 1923, Reverend W. F. Price was called as pastor in late 1923, staying about one year until November of 1924. He was followed by Rev. J. Luther Gaines who served for two years from 1925 to sometime in 1926, then by Rev. A. C. Swindall who served only four (4) months, from April to July of 1927. The new building was finally brought to completion after many trials and considerable difficulty. It was constructed of wood and brick, with 2 inch by 12 inch girders and ceiling joists placed on 8 inch centers....a very strudy building! Seating capacity was 400, making it the largest sanctuary in the area at the time. This building's sanctuary met the needs of the congregation until a modern new sanctuary was completed in 1957. A photograph of that fine old building is shown below. (62)



Until this time, many pastors lived elsewhere, traveling to Hueytown to serve our congregation. In 1927, a decision was made to build our first pastorium. H. G. Ray and his daughter, Mrs. Paul Wildes, donated land for this purpose and Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church built its first pastorium in 1928, a structure valued in those pre-great depression days at \$4,000. A photograph of that first home follows. (63)



Reverend Foster Mills was called as our twentieth Pastor in November of 1927, just two years before the stock market crash of 1929 and the beginning of the "great depression", serving for seven years (7) until January 1, 1935. In 1935, our congregation called Reverend J. Verner Springer as pastor. He served through the remainder of the depression years, leaving in 1940.

Pleasant Ridge had three (3) pastors during the years of World War II, including Reverend Eddie S. Lieberman who served from 1941 through 1943. A Christian Jew, Reverend Lieberman attended Mars Hill College, Baylor University, the University of Tennessee and the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He served churches as pastor in both Alabama and South Carolina before entering full-time evangelism. In his book entitled *The Whirlwinds of Life*, Reverend Lieberman discusses the problems of life's suffering and how to use them to grow as a Christian. (64)



Reverend Eddie Lieberman

Reverend John Oakes, a divinity student at Howard College, served as Interim Pastor through 1944. Many men from our congregation served with honor in all branches of the military service in what has since been called "The Great War".

On April 15, 1945, First Lieutenant William Joel Southall, a member of our congregation, was killed in action while piloting a B-29 Bomber aircraft over Kawasaki, Japan. To the best of our knowledge, Lt. Southall was the only member of our congregation killed in action during World War II. A photograph of Lt. Southall appears below. (65)



SECOND LIEUTENANT WILLIAM JOEL SOUTHALL, JR. RECEIVED WINGS: DECEMBER 10, 1942

Three members of our congregation, Judge Walter Bridges, Mr. Hamilton Stone and Mr. Charles Dabbs, were captured by the Nazis and were held as prisoners of war for months. By May 8, 1945, the war in Europe had ended following D-Day and the Allied Invasion of Europe with Germany's surrender, and this date is now celebrated as Victory in Europe Day (V.E. Day). By August 15, 1945, the war in the Pacific had ended with Japan's surrender and this date is now celebrated as Victory over Japan Day (V.J. Day). (66)

In October of 1944, Reverend A. Judson Jones, a graduate of Howard College in Birmingham, Alabama, was called as pastor and began serving in December of that year. The time of great sacrifice, beginning with the Wall Street Stock Market crash of 1929 and lasting through the end of World War II, finally was approaching an end. Men and women in all branches of the military services, including our three prisoners of war, returned home and the change from a war-time economy to a consumer-based economy began.

Reverend A. Judson Jones began his ministry at PRBC on December 3, 1944. Born in Hackneyville, Alabama, on February 28, 1913, he graduated from Howard College with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1936. He then enrolled and graduated in 1940 from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, with a Master of Theology Degree. In 1949, Brother Jones led our



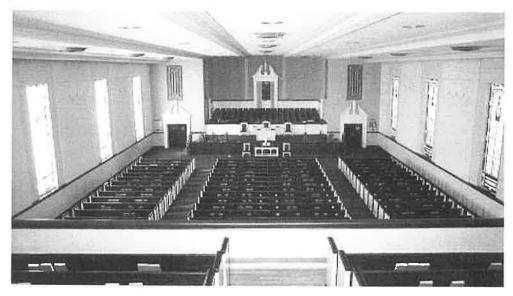
Reverend A. Judson Jones

congregation in the first phase of a three-phase building program that would see major changes over the next two decades. Construction on what today is known as the North Wing was begun. This first phase building was identified as an educational building and would be an entirely fire-proof structure with three floors and almost 19,000 square feet of classroom and office floor space, featuring modern plumbing and central heat and air conditioning. The building committee included J. R. Christian, Leonard Huey and C. L. Hammonds. The designing architect for the building was Leonard Huey and he used consultants from the Sunday School Board in Nashville, Tennessee. The E. C. Coston Construction Company, Inc., was the general contractor for the project and the \$250,000 building costs were all paid off in 1953. A photograph of that building follows on the next page.



On March 3, 1949, the Hueytown Elementary School building located across the street from the church, facing Hueytown Road, burned down. The second and third floors of the new building were used to house the school until a new school building could be built.

The Korean War (Conflict) began on June 25, 1950, when Communist-ruled North Korea invaded South Korea, resulting in many members of our congregation again answering the call to bear arms. A truce was signed on July 27, 1953, and the fighting ended. By the end of 1953, the congregation had outgrown the 400 seat sanctuary and a building committee was appointed to investigate the feasibility of constructing a new sanctuary. The building committee consisted of C. L. Hammonds, H. G. Jenkins and John C. Lang. On May 12, 1954, Architect Martin J. Lide was hired to develop plans for a new sanctuary and chapel for a fee of \$12,000. In 1955, plans for a new sanctuary and chapel were approved and the E. C. Coston Construction Company, Inc. was chosen as the general contractor for the project at a cost not to exceed the contract bid of \$344,925. The sanctuary would contain 9,900 square feet of floor space and the chapel 1,494 square feet. Additional classroom space would total 1,200 square feet. There was a major set-back that occurred in the spring of 1956, when high winds toppled the erected steel frame of the sanctuary. Fortunately, the structure fell early one Monday morning before workers were on the scene and there were no injuries. It was necessary to re-order the steel, and the result was a significant time delay in completing the project. The sanctuary was completed in 1957, and a dedication service followed.



A view of our new sanctuary from the balcony

Brother Jones was a personal friend of Charles O. Finley, a Hueytown native who attended worship services at our church as a boy. Mr. Finley was a very successful insurance business man and became owner of the Kansas City Athletics in 1960, a major league professional baseball team. This team later moved from Kansas City, Missouri, to Oakland, California, and became known as the Oakland Athletics. After receiving a letter from Brother Jones, outlining our great need of furnishings for our new sanctuary, Charles Finley provided a significant gift, sufficient to purchase all furniture and furnishings for both the sanctuary and chapel. A commemorative plaque was placed in the sanctuary foyer celebrating his generosity to our church family. Many others gave significant gifts to complete the sanctuary. A list of those donors and their gifts is located in the appendix.

By 1957, there was Viet Cong activity against South Vietnam, and in early 1961, President Kennedy had placed about 750 military advisors there. In November of 1963, when President Kennedy was assassinated, our troop strength in Vietnam had risen to over 16,000. Our troop strength there escalated until, in February of 1969, our troops numbered more than 543,000. From that time, our military presence slowly declined until a cease-fire agreement was signed by the United States, North and South Vietnam and the Viet Cong in January of 1973. During the 16 years of United States involvement in that war, many from our congregation served on active duty under hostile fire, several being wounded. (68)

By 1966, the pastorium built in 1928 was aged and in poor repair. On November 14, 1966, the construction of a new pastorium was begun on Laird Avenue. The general contractor for the construction was Lee Roberts and the construction cost was \$35,000. When Brother Jones retired in

1978, permanent ownership of the home was transferred to Brother and Mrs. Jones. A photograph of the pastorium follows.



During these years, our congregation continued to grow. By early 1969, the demand for additional office space for a growing ministerial staff was great. Growth in Sunday school was hampered because of the lack of adequate classroom space. On July 9, 1969, church trustees Frank Knight, Grady Sexton and C. L. Hammonds retained the Christian, Fuller and Blake Architectural Firm to develop plans for the South Wing. Property fronting Church Street had been purchased through Samsal and Godwin Properties on November 4, 1964, at a cost of \$35,000.

The following year, the E. C. Coston Construction Company, Inc. completed construction of a beautiful 27,985 square foot structure. Major features of the new structure included a large office suite, a large fellowship hall, a modern kitchen, a spacious library and abundant space for a nursery and for the preschool through sixth grade departments. With the completion of the South Wing, the final stage of a long-range building program begun in 1949 was complete.



The south wing of Pleasant Ridge, completed in 1970

Brother Jones effectively led our congregation through these building programs and retired on February 28, 1978, after 33 years of highly effective ministry here at Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church. During his tenure, there were over 3,442 additions to PRBC either by professions of faith or transfer of letter. Under Bro. Jones' leadership, our church became the spiritual lighthouse of the area with an ever increasing sphere of Christian influence. Following his retirement, Bro. Jones was elected Pastor Emeritus and served in that capacity until his death on April 7, 2003. His beloved Dixie remains an active member of our congregation as of this writing. Below is a photograph of Brother and Mrs. Jones as it appeared in our last church directory, published in 2002.



Brother A. Judson and Dixie Jones

On March 5, 1978, Dr. Billy L. Harris, a Professor of Religion and Philosophy at Samford University, was called to serve as Interim Pastor. With degrees from Howard College, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Florida State University, Dr. Harris was an excellent and highly sought-after professor at Samford.



Dr. Billy L. Harris

During the nine years preceding his call to Pleasant Ridge, he served churches as Interim Pastor ranging in size from 125 to 2400 members. During this same time, he conducted over 100 revivals in churches all over the southeastern United States. He and his wife, Phoebe, quickly endeared themselves to our congregation and on September 24, 1978, he accepted our call as pastor. Our congregation continued to grow, reaching a high attendance mark for a Sunday worship service of over 1,100.

In April of 1980, our congregation voted to purchase the property across Hueytown Road from the church formerly used as a Winn Dixie grocery store at a cost of \$210,000, to be developed into a multi-purpose activities building. By this time, the North Wing was in need of renovation. A steering committee for this project was elected by the congregation, including George Scherer as Committee Director, James Fleming, Ken Burns, Wayne Sexton, Oscar Densmore, Benny Edwards, Helen Syx and Joe Counts. After much study, a fund raising program named "Growing In Faith Together" (GIFT) was adopted. The architectural firm of Knight and Associates was chosen to develop plans for the project which would include renovation and an addition to the Winn Dixie building, renovation of the North Wing and the construction and resurfacing of parking lots. The E. C. Coston Construction Company, Inc. was chosen as general contractor and the project would produce 25,679 square feet of new floor space. The new multi-purpose activities building was named the Christian Family Life Center (CFLC) and featured a snack area, a gymnasium with an overhead walking track, a game room, a craft room, two racquet ball courts, a weight room with equipment, a kitchen, a patio and a beautifully appointed fireside room. The fireside room was completely renovated in 2003, adding chandeliers and sconce lighting, fine furniture, hardwood flooring and a new suspended ceiling. This renovation was accomplished through memorial gifts from the estate of Mrs. Melba Shinn, and through gifts given in memory of Brother A. Judson Jones and in honor of Mrs. Dixie Jones.

In the fall of 1986, Dr. Billy L. Harris resigned as Pastor. Dr. Tom Cleveland, Dean of Students at Samford University, was called as Interim Pastor. Today, Dr. Cleveland serves as chaplain at Brookwood Medical Center.

Dr. Tom Cleveland

A Pastor Search Committee was formed and on May 3, 1987, Reverend J. Paul Hunter accepted our call as Pastor. Reverend Hunter held degrees from Mississippi College and from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and was working toward a doctorate at Fuller Theological Seminary. He had previously served as pastor of churches in Oklahoma, Mississippi and Alabama, most recently at First Baptist Church of Satsuma, Alabama.



Reverend J. Paul Hunter

It was during Rev. Hunter's ministry at PRBC, on May 17, 1992, that our congregation dedicated the A. Judson Jones Intercessory Prayer Room. Located in the area of the previous office complex on the first floor of the north connecting wing, the prayer room was a ministry concept very dear to our late Pastor Emeritus' heart. The "Watchman Prayer Ministry" was also begun under the leadership of Rev. Hunter at the suggestion of one of our members, Mr. Guy Davis. This ministry provided an opportunity for many in our fellowship to participate by setting aside a specific time for personal prayer. Rev. Hunter also led our congregation in a fund raising campaign, entitled "401 Dream", designed to help us become a debt-free congregation. Rev. Hunter served as pastor of PRBC for 12 1/2 years.



Bro. A. Judson Jones at prayer in the Intercessory Prayer Room

In November of 1999, Rev. Hunter resigned as pastor and Dr. Bob Terry, editor of The Alabama Baptist Newspaper since 1995, was called as interim pastor. Dr. Terry holds degrees from Mississippi College, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and Southwest Baptist University.



Dr. Bob Terry

Under Dr. Terry's leadership, a Pastor Search Committee was selected by the congregation and a wide-ranging search for a new pastor was begun. Dr. Rick Patrick, a Texan, accepted the call to serve as pastor of Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church in August of 2000. He holds degrees from three Texas institutions, including University of Texas at Austin, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth and Dallas Theological Seminary in Austin. Prior to his ministry here, he served as pastor of three churches in Texas. Dr. Patrick has proved to be a very able pastor, leading our congregation to appoint a Long-Range Facility Planning Committee, chaired by Mr. Floyd Syx, charged with the responsibility of identifying areas of our facilities in need of repair or renovation. Through this effort, dozens of specific items were identified and the committee worked to assign each item a priority. After extensive study, items identified as immediate needs were assigned a priority designation as Phase 1 needs. Items still important but of less urgency were designated as Phase 2 needs. All still less urgent needs were identified as items for later consideration. Dr. Patrick led our congregation to appoint a committee, chaired by Mr. Jim Lawler, to investigate various methods for raising the necessary funds needed for renovation and improvements. This committee recommended the adoption of a program entitled "Reach For Tomorrow" (RFT) through which significant funds were raised toward the cost of the Phase 1 renovation and improvement of church facilities.



Dr. Rick Patrick, Pastor

## Woman's Missionary Union History 1888 "WMU" 2005 Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church

(Note: This information compiled for the 100 anniversary of WMU in May of 1988)

This is the story of Women's Missionary Union at work. Every organization must have a beginning and the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union was begun in 1888 when a group of consecrated, world mission-minded women met for the purpose of organizing women so they might have a part in spreading the gospel to the whole world.

The first women's organization in Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church of Hueytown, Alabama was the Ladies' Aid Society which was organized with Miss Mollie Bennett as president. We have no idea just when this occurred as no records of the work have been found.

Using her own good memory, and that of fellow workers, in 1938 Mrs. Ned Parsons put the first of our records on paper. This is a resume of things done by those wonderful ladies.

Pleasant Ridge has always been a missions related church. Way back in 1903, Pastor A. F. Loftin appointed a committee of little girls to raise money for the Orphans' Home.

In 1907 Pleasant Ridge, along with other churches of the Bessemer Baptist Association, were received into the Birmingham Association. The WMU had three delegates to the meeting and Miss Alice Huey was presiding. She was very pleased to announce that our church had sent \$82.78 for the mission offering.

Miss Alice was responsible for organizing the first Sunbeam Band at Pleasant Ridge, but we had no other young people's organizations.

In later years, the Ladies' Aid was superseded by the Woman's Missionary Society. In August of 1924, the Society was reorganized and it has functioned continuously ever since. At that time, instead of having Mission Action as we do today, they used the term "Personal Service". In the minutes of that year, the Service Chairman made a report of 12 sick calls, 3 new members, and 2 auto rides". It was not until reading the 1926 records that this became clear. Up until this time the WMS had functioned as one unit but it was now decided to divide into four circles and new committees were elected and one of these was "Transportation" taking the place of "Auto Rides" in the minutes.

That same year a GA was organized with Mrs. Web Huey and Mrs. John (Nellie) Dabbs as leaders. The pastor agreed to organize a RA group as soon as possible with himself in charge.

The work began to spread. In 1924, the secretary had recorded WMS as having a membership of 16. By 1925 there were 20 on roll. The next year saw a big difference as the women had begun to make waves. The circles had elected officers and they must have had an excellent enlistment chairman. At the beginning of the year Circle #1 reported 16 members on roll, Circle #2 had 13, Circle #3 had 18, and Circle #4 reported 15 making a total of 62. By the end of the year total membership had reached 74. WMS was growing by leaps and bounds.

In the early years, Home and Foreign Missions as we know them, were not the main concern. Helping the church and others in the community took preference. This is just a sketch of activity found in the early records.

In 1925 the inside of the church was finished and painted. WMS paid \$524.70 toward this expense. In 1926 the heating plant was installed with the WMS paying \$75.00 on this. In 1927 pews and light fixtures were added and WMS helped with this. A total of \$829.81 was paid by WMS on local expenses of the church for that year. In 1929 the pastor's home was built and for the next seven years, most of the money raised by the ladies was applied to this debt. Total expenses paid on the Pastorium was \$1,058.63 to local expenses of the church. \$1009.30 was paid to the Cooperative Program, and \$644.39 paid to other benevolences.

To raise this money, the ladies sold chicken suppers, oyster suppers, made and sold quilts, sold dinners at the plants and the church, ice cream on Memorial Day and presented plays at the school house. Credit must be given to the faithful husbands who could always be counted on to buy the dinners, some even paying with "green money" with no change expected.

Typical dinner: Baked chicken, dressing, gravy, peas, mashed potatoes, and slaw. All served on a plate for 35 cents, cake, pie, and coffee extra. (probably 5 cents)

More recent records of our WMU are recorded from the year 1946 until the last entry of 1974. We have indeed been fortunate to have such dedicated women down through the history of Pleasant Ridge. The following is a resume of activities during these years.

Sponsored Bro. Pucirella of Ensley in his work among the Catholics of Italian decent. He was put into the budget for \$12 a month. This was the last six years. Gave regularly to the Ensley Goodwill Center, to the Retired Ministers and Widows fund, to Interracial Fund, plus sending a black boy or girl to summer camp until Camp Fletcher closed. The Jimmy Hale Mission in Birmingham was a regular on the list. In the early days, we helped the Baptist Hospital at West End. Mrs. Moffet, the superintendent at that time, sent an invitation to all area churches to participate in a linen shower for the hospital, Pleasant Ridge gave 6 sheets, 3 drawsheets, 6 pillow cases, 2 spreads, 6 dresser scarfs, and 6 pairs of curtains. (And the invitation was mailed with a 2 cent stamp!)

Gave to the GA Hall at Shocco, plus paid for four girls to go to GA camp there.

Made choir robes, and one year gave \$25 to the Industrial City Mission which later became an independent church.

Supported Indian work in New Mexico and North Dakota. Paid for a *(water)* well and paid for Nursery equipment at the Indian Center at Farrington N. M. *(recorded as N. W. changed to M)* At Fort Yates, North Dakota, children were using a chicken house for a Sunday School class and there was very little way of heating it. We sent them 50 woolen caps and 50 pairs of woolen mittens to help out.

We have sponsored student nurses, sent boxes each month to the ministry for the blind, helped numerous ministerial students, ministed to Ketona Home, and in later years, the Self and Brooklane Nursing Homes. The list goes on and on and we are very privileged to have been of help, and hope to continue to help any way any place the need appears.

One of the most pleasant things we have done was the Open House on April 16, 1966 for Bro. and Mrs. Judson Jones after they moved into the new pastorium at 110 Laird Avenue.

#### Presidents: (as known)

Mrs. A. C. Owens and Mrs. B. B. Waldrop	(date of service not known)
Mrs. Mason McKinney	1924-1928
Mrs. R. E. Plyler	1928- until death
Mrs. Charlie Smith	1928-1930
Mrs. H. G. Ray	1930-1932
Mrs. Foster Mills	1932
Mrs. H. S. Thompson	1934-1936
Mrs. Wade Jackson	1936
Mrs. Eula Hopkins	1936-1939
Mrs. Arnold Burgin	1939
Mrs. Paul Wildes	1940-1942
Mrs. Harvey Posey	1942-1944
Mrs. C. M. Bradley	1944
Mrs. Asa Nunnelly	1944
Mrs. Lloyd Shaffer	1945-1947
Mrs. Pope Anthony	1947-1949
Mrs. H. D. Ray	1949-1951

Mrs. J. O. Harris	1951-1954
Mrs. Walter Salter	1954-1955
Mrs. J. O. Harris	1955-1957
Mrs. Paul Wildes	1957-1959
Mrs. Joe Whithead	1959
Mrs. Paul Wildes	1960-1961
Mrs. Tom Brown	1961-1964
Mrs. J. O. Finlayson	1964-1965
Mrs. W. C. Willingham	1965-1967

#### Directors elected for the first time in 1968:

Mrs. Opal Leach - Director	1968-1970
Mrs. Nellie Dabbs, President	
Mrs. W. C. Willingham – Assistant Director	1969-1970
Mrs. Edna Earle Moore – Director	1970-1973
Mrs. Paul Wildes – President	
Mrs. Nellie Dabbs – Assistant President	
Mrs. Opal Leach – Assistant Director	1972-1973
Mrs. W. C. Willingham – President	
Mrs. Homer Waldrop – Director	1974-1976
Mrs. W. C. Willingham - President	
Mrs. Paul Wildes - Assistant Director	
(end of record)	

Secretaries serving during this time: Mrs. Oscar Finley was elected secretary and treasurer. She resigned in November and Mrs. Lucien Parsons was elected to replace her. Mrs. Parsons served through 1929. Records were some years between 1929 and 1946 but as they were not signed the secretary is unknown. In 1946 Mrs. Harvey Posey was elected to this post and served one year. In 1947, Mrs. Maida Knight was elected but resigned in September of that year. Mrs. Nell Nunnelly was then elected to serve unfinished term. She must have been excellent! She was re-elected for next year and served the next five years.

Mrs. Sara Finlayson was elected in 1952 and if Mrs. Nunnelly was excellent, Mrs. Finlayson was superlative! She lasted until 1964! She traded her job for that of president and Mrs. Willingham was elected secretary. Neither liked her new job, so next year traded places and Sara kept her secretary job until she went to work in 1967. Jane Brown replaced her for one year and then Byrd Ethridge was elected and served until last recording on 1974, September.

A few of our visiting Missionaries:

John and Norma Herndon

Mr. & Mrs. Ray Crowder

Martha Sanderson

Mary Ellen Yancy

Hattie Gardner

Shelby and Frances Smith

Lolete Dotson

Martha Hagood

**Edith Nunnelly** 

Mrs. Isbell Isaacs

In early 1935, our church adopted the budget plan and allotted funds to WMU, giving a better opportunity to do more phases of the work.

A typical budget:

Orphanage

\$67.75

Birmingham Bapt. Hosp.

103.64

Ruby Anniversary Appointment 200.00

Howard/Judson Colleges

25.00

Lottie Moon Offering

47.78

**State Missions** 

36.78

Other Gifts

66.50

Kathleen Mallory Hosp.

5.00

**Associational Missions** 

29.00

Just a few highlights! (some BRAGS!)

A certificate for Advanced Society work 1952-1953 was presented to Mrs. J. O. Harris, president, at State Convention in Mobile; in 1956 awarded certificate for Advanced Society Honor Recognition in 1963-1964.

At State Convention at Hunter Street Church, our WMU was recognized as having achieved a Distinguished Recognition for year 1966-1969 and also 1971.

Time To Go!

Opal Leach had a wonderful idea. It was hard to get even 2 or 3 women to go to Ridgecrest. It was too expensive, it was such a long drive and travel wasn't all that easy. So Opal presented her idea. She invited all WMU members of the Bessemer Association to get together and pool our resources for a chartered bus. For about 1/3 of the regular fare, we could all go together. Opal did all the work of getting bus, reservations from the ladies, seeing that we got everywhere we were supposed to be and on time!

It was so successful that we did it for shorter trips. For example:

For 7/8 years bus to Ridgecrest.

A few trips to Shocco before church purchased a bus, then we used it.

State Convention in Huntsville, Dothan, Mobile, Montgomery.

District meetings and extra trips to Citronell and Sheffield.

And the glorious trip to Greensboro on November 14, 1972 to the Sesquicentennial of the Alabama Baptist State Convention.

Thanks a million, Opal.

#### **Youth Organizations**

Pleasant Ridge has been blessed in having dedicated, patient, and loving women filling places of leadership in our various youth organizations.

The first Sunbeam Band was organized by Alice Huey and later on Kathleen Fairburn followed her footsteps in leading our youngest members.

Latha Harris was GA leader and many a young mother today wishes there was a Latha Harris to lead her own daughter through the Coronation Services. It was always a beautiful experience.

Mary Roberts was leader of YWAs. She really had a way with the young ladies, having luncheons and evening meetings to change the tempo, always looking for new and interesting ways to present missions to them.

In 1970 all church organizations together realigned age levels and were renamed. We now have Missions Friends, Girls' Auxiliary, Acteens and Baptist Young Women. But by whatever name they

happen to go by, many a young girl has had her life changed by the teachings of the leaders of these organizations. Mary Swedenburg and Karen Hanks York are but two of them.

#### CREDITS:

Compiling/Writing Marguerite Willingham

Typing Jane Brown

Printing Judy Irvin, Jane Brown

The preceding history was distributed at the WMU one-hundredth anniversary, May 1988.

#### Continuing History of Woman's Missionary Union

Following Mrs. Homer Waldrop as director was Peggy Cowen. After her tenure, Carolyn Waldrop was director. These were years of change as National WMU reorganized the structure of the organization, but our groups continued to be active, supporting the missionaries, encouraging gifts to the missions offerings, and doing all manner of mission projects as they arose.

Latha Nixon was director for a period of 10 years from 1986 to 1996, which were extremely productive ones. Sarah Howton served as her assistant. Our Women on Mission had 10 active groups, which met monthly in addition to the General Meeting once a month. During Latha's tenure Acteen Activators were instituted—under the capable leadership of Jackie Ammons. The first trip was to Gulfport, MS in 1991. Acteens were Amelia Love, Ashleigh Irvin, Alison Stone, Beth White and Leslie Stoves. Leaders were Jackie Ammons, Mary Hicks, Diane Decker and Mary Stringfellow. The second trip was to Spartanburg, SC in 1992. The same Acteens and leaders went along with Melodie King, Carin Glover, Krista Poole, Maggie Decker, and Ginger McLellan. Others who participated in these trips were Nikki Swanson, Christy Ross, Tara McLellan, Tina Davidson, Tiffany Davidson, Beth Tyndale, Leslie Tyndale, Christina Abney, Michelle Sadler, Summer Williams, Nancy Williams, and Ginnie Sue Hess. Nancy Williams was a great asset in the annual yard sale and hard work needed to raise funds to go on the trips. Trips were continued annually until 2003. The Acteens worked in Washington, DC, Memphis, TN, Buford, GA, Johnson City, TN, Clarksdale, MS, Charleston, SC, and three trips to Townsend, TN. Tiffany Davidson was chosen an Acteen Panelist for the state of Alabama in 2002.

Acteens were also active in attending every NAC (National Acteens Convention). They went to Memphis, San Antonio, Kansas City, Birmingham, and Nashville.

In May,1988, several women went on two vans to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of WMU in Richmond, VA. Some of those attending were Mary Hicks, Cora Burge, Sarah Howton, Gloria Creel, Mary Stringfellow, Latha Nixon, and special guest, Nancy Norton, missionary to Japan. It was a fabulous and stirring program concluding with the largest commissioning of missionaries to that date. Two weeks later, our WMU hosted a wonderful celebration of the same anniversary. Missionaries present included, Mary Helen Yancey, Don and Sandra Mason, Tommy and Peggy Bridges. Lunch was held in the CFLC following the service and music and missionary speakers rounded out the afternoon.

Susie Dell Wildes was recognized as the oldest WMU member present. Susie Dell died the following November. In her honor her family instituted the Susie Dell Wildes Memorial Scholarship for Missions to be administered by the WMU. Peggy Cowen chaired the committee, which did some hard work hammering out the guidelines.

The first scholarship was presented in 1989 to Paula Jones, a young mother of 3. She is now a Methodist minister. Scott Austin received the scholarship in 1990 and 91. Robin Hess received the scholarship in 1992. Other recipients were Allen Byram, Donny Barger, Brian Harper, Tiffany Davidson.

Wanda Barnhill was an extremely effective director in the 90's. She was instrumental in expanding a ministry begun by a men's class in the impoverished community of Sayre. From this grew our present Jesus' Pantry ministry which feeds people monthly.

In 2001 ten women went on the first MissionFest trip to Stone Mountain, GA. They helped a church put down flooring, sorted clothes for the clothes closet, visited shut-ins and held a block party in a community of Bosnians. In 2002, five women went to Tchula, MS. In 2003 eight women went to New Orleans, LA to work in a shelter and do street ministry. In 2004, 13 women went to Prestonsburg KY to work with the Haven of Rest Ministries and Heavenly Treasures Thrift Store.

#### Participants:

Linda Akin KY

Jackie Ammons SM,NO,KY

Jane Brown SM,MS,KY

Katherine Cole KY

Shelia Davidson SM,KY

Ann Davis MS,NO

Diane Decker SM

Polly Dickinson SM,MS,KY

Frances Eddings KY

Vera Graves SM

Charlotte Harmon MS,NO,KY

Jane Parsons KY

Janice Poole KY

Mary Jo Ritchey SM,MS,NO,KY

Pat Robertson SM,NO

Mary Stringfellow SM,NO,KY

Linda Thomas KY

Nancy Williams SM

Naomi Humber has served as director since 2002 with the able assistance of Libby Haisten and Maxine Winslett. Jane Bellew served as Churchwide Ministry Coordinator. Our WMU has been active in many projects, including our annual baby shower for Sav-A- Life, supporting Jesus Pantry, ministry at Self Nursing Home each Wednesday, and Christmas gifts for the Mollette family of Kentucky who lost everything in a flood last year. The largest Lottie Moon Offering ever collected in Pleasant Ridge was in the year 2000 with over \$30,000 given.

In the year 2005, our WMU is still active and strong. Our women lead in a Missions Moment each Wednesday night at prayer meeting encouraging support and prayer for missions. Mission Friends and Girls In Action meet on Sunday night. There are six groups of Women On Mission – Mary Swedenburg (retired Japan), Monte and Linda Mills (South Africa), Donny and Jennifer Barger (Mexico), Jim and Laura Collins (Mexico), Charlie and Robin Janney (Mexico), and Self Nursing Home which meets monthly and a general meeting each second Monday morning.



In 1981 Charles Williams, the man who started The Carpenter's For Christ ministry, spoke to a group of Baptist Men at the Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church in Hueytown Alabama. He said men could 1) have fun and 2) serve the Lord by participating in construction mission projects. The Baptist Men of Pleasant Ridge decided then and there that God willing we would form a construction mission team and go out to serve the Lord and have fun in 1982. And we did. Twenty nine men from Pleasant Ridge Baptist church went to Jones Oklahoma and spent a week helping them remodel and expand their church facilities. Our team went out two years under the Carpenter's For Christ logo. Then in 1984 we decided to rename our team to The Master's Craftsmen. Wayne Sexton designed a new logo just for our team. We have continued this ministry through the years. As of the end of 2004 we have participated in 25 construction mission projects. We have had a total of 194 different men participate in at least one mission project. For the most part these men have never done construction work. They are just men willing to use what talents they do have and give a week of their lives to the Lord for this type mission work. We have teachers, steel workers, insurance salesmen, office workers, judges, policemen, mailmen, and we let teenagers go also. In the early years our team was made up of men & boys who were all members of the Pleasant Ridge Baptist church. In recent years, through the addition of relatives, friends and co-workers, The Master's Craftsmen team usually has men from 7 or 8 different churches. We have helped construct churches in 12 different states. Our team prefers to be the first one on a job and do the framing work. Most of our projects have involved framing work to help sister churches in pioneer areas expand their facilities or build new facilities to better serve the Lord . We go through the North American Mission Board to get our assignments each year. We work from daylight to dark while working on these buildings but we do stop at least three times a day and a member of the team gives a devotional. On the last night of the trip all the men get together for a sharing time. Each man shares what the trip has meant to him and the way God has blessed him. We all draw closer to the Lord through these sharing times. We have a very special fellowship with each other, with our fellow brothers & sisters in Christ in the church we are helping and with God.

Our team's history has been preserved in books that are created each year after we return from the mission trip. A complete set of THE CRAFTSMEN'S CHRONICLE detailing each mission trip is maintained in the church library. Our bible verse is:

#### 1st Corinthians 3:9 " For we are to be laborers together with God".

Laboring together with God has provided untold blessings since this ministry began in 1982. The churches we have helped tell us how grateful they are and how our team has blessed them. But we always have to confess that we get many more blessings than we give. Through participating in this mission ministry we truly experience "the abundant life "God promises His faithful servants. We pray the Lord will let us continue to serve Him in this way.

The craftsmen goal is clear and his prayer is fervent, To hear the Master say, "Well done my faithful servant"



# Men On Mission

- 1982 29 men (Carpenters for Christ) went 800 miles to Jones, Oklahoma to help remodel the Midway Baptist Church. (Pastor George Kidd)
  - A whole bunch (?) of Pleasant Ridge Baptist Men went to Conyers, Georgia (whenever they had time) to help our ex-youth director, Gary Strickland, build a church.
- 1983 26 men (Carpenters for Christ) went 350 miles to Evansville, Indiana to build a 3200 sq. ft. Associational building for the Southwestern Indiana Southern Baptist Association. (Coordinator - Charlie Mitchell)
- 29 men (now The Master's Craftsmen) went 590 miles to Leach, Oklahoma to help rebuild a 1100 sq. ft. addition to the First Baptist Church of Leach, Ok, (Pastor Utah Humphrey)
- 1985 31 of The Master's Craftsmen went 585 miles to Columbus, Ohio to help rebuild the Sharon Woods Baptist Church which had been destroyed by fire. (Pastor J.C. Burt)
  - When there wasn't enough work to do at Sharon Woods, 20 of the men went to Chillicothe, Ohio to help build a 5000 sq. ft. addition to the Chillicothe Baptist Church. (Pastor John Burris)
- 1986 31 of The Master's Craftsmen went 835 miles to Wamego, Kansas to help build the 6000 sq. ft. (Two-story) Trinity Baptist Church. (Pastor Tony Mattia)
- 1987 39 of The Master's Craftsmen went 590 miles back to Leach, OK to help build a 2400 sq. ft sanctuary for the First Baptist Church of Leach, OK. (Pastor Utah Humphrey)
- 1988 37 of The Master's Craftsmen went 175 miles to Marietta, Georgia to help build the 8000 sq. ft. (Two-story) East Cobb Baptist Church. (Pastor Albert Cox)
  - 9 of The Master's Craftsmen went 600 miles to Okmulgee Oklahoma to help build the Southside Baptist Church (Pastor Ron Crews)
- 1989 35 of The Master's Craftsmen went 820 miles to Monroe, Michigan to help build the 7200 sq. ft. Raisinville Baptist Church. (Pastor George Fountain)
- 1990 34 of The Master's Craftsmen went 860 miles to Monroeville, PA to help build the 8100 sq. ft. Monroeville Baptist Church. (Pastor Don Moore)
- 1991 33 of The Master's Craftsmen went 100 miles to Shocco Springs, near Talledega, AL to work on several buildings at the RA Camp. (Supervisor Noxie Taylor)



#### Men on Mission (Continued)

- 1992 39 of The Master's Craftsmen went 450 miles to Goose Creek, SC to help build the Crowfield Baptist Church. (Pastor David Coleman)
- 36 of The Master's Craftsmen went 750 miles to Amherst, Ohio to build a 6500 sq. ft. addition to the Good Shepherd Baptist Church. (Pastor Wendell Smith)
- 1994 39 of The Master's Craftsmen went 160 miles to Franklin, TN to help build the 5500 sq. ft. Oak Valley Baptist Church. (Pastor Jim Gallery)
- 1995 35 of The Master's Craftsmen went 640 miles to Jefferson City, MO to help build a 4400 sq. ft. addition to the Immanuel Baptist Church. (Pastor George Scantlan)
- 1996 32 of The Master's Craftsmen went 150 miles to Calhoun, GA to help build the 12,000 sq. ft. Trinity Baptist Church. (Pastor Ronnie McBrayer)
- 1997 41 of The Master's Craftsmen went 520 miles to Batesville, IN to help build the 14,000 sq. ft. Batesville Baptist Church. (Pastor Ron Lightfoot)
- 1998 44 of The Master's Craftsmen went various distances (from 175 to 500 miles) to McDonough, Georgia to help build the 6500 sq. ft. Kelleytown Community Church. (Pastor Chip Gordon)
- 1999 44 of The Master's Craftsmen went various distances (from 150 to 648 miles) to Ft. Wayne, Indiana to help build the new 5700 sq. ft. sanctuary for the Calvary Baptist Church. (Pastor Mike Harris)
- 2000 CC Trip to Dallas, GA cancelled due to site not ready.
- 2001 37 of The Master's Craftsmen went 160 miles to Acworth, GA to help build the new two-story, 9000 sq. ft. addition to the Northwest Baptist Church. (Pastor Doug Burrier)
- 2002 32 of The Master's Craftsmen went 560 miles to Conway, MO to help build a new 11,000 sq. ft. sanctuary and expanded fellowship hall for the First Baptist Church. (Pastor Steven Strauch)
- 2003 29 of The Master's Craftsmen went 433 miles to Opdyke, Illinois to help build the new two-story 12,200 sq. ft. Opdyke Missionary Baptist Church. (Pastor Jeff Harrell)
- 2004 36 of The Master's Craftsmen went 444 miles to Mt. Vernon, Illinois to help build the new 11,000 sq. ft. West Side Missionary Baptist Church. (Pastor Larry Jones)



## The Craftsmen's Chronicle

### The Master's Craftsmen - 1982-2004 Honor Roll (# of Trips)

I, Jimmy Abney	(4)	62. Dale Kendrick	(2)
2. Brad Abney	(5)	63. Kent Kendrick	(7)
3. John Ammons	(5)	64. Ken Kirkley	(1)
4. Chuck Banks	(8)	65. Keith Kirkley	(1)
5. Ralph Banks	(1)	66. Terry Koss	(2)
6. Jim Barnhill	(12)	67. Bill Koss	(2)
7. Charlie Binkley	(2)	68. Barry Koss	(6)
8. Walter Bridges	(13)	69. Kenny Koss	(1)
9. Wayne Broome	(1)	70. Mike Lagle	(4)
10. Justin Broome	(1)	71. Joey Lagle	(4)
11. Joe Brown	(3)	72. Lloyd Langford	(1)
12. Bill Browning	(1)	73. Doug Lantrip	(1)
13. John Burks	(4)	74. David Lashley	(1)
14. Ken Burns	(2)	75. Jim Lawler	(6)
15 Ric Callahan	(2)	76. Mike Lawler	(5)
16. Mark Campbell	(I)	77. Ed Lawley	(3)
17. Bobby Carroll	(1)	78. Ron Lightfoot	(1)
18. Mike Cash	(2)	79. Bob Love	(1)
19. Brad Clay	(1)	80. Neil Lowrey	(2)
20. Johnsthan Cochran	(1)	81. Andrew Martin	(1)
21 Doug Cole	(21)	82. Bill McCall	(5)
22. Scott Cole	(4)	83. David McDonald	(4)
23. Eric Comer	(1)	84, Andrew McDonald	(3)
24. Jim Cooper	(4)	85. Mark McKay	(9)
25. Dennis Crawley	(1)	86. Chris McKay	(2)
26. Michael Crawley	(1)	87. C.L. Mcadows	(14)
27. Frank Dabbs	(1)	88. Maxie Nixon	(3)
28. Jeremy Dabbs	(1)	89. Danny Orton	(3)
29. Guy Davis	(8)	90. Randy Parsley	(1)
30. Tim Davis	(3)	91. Jim Parsons	(1)
	(1)	92. Stephen Patneaude	(1)
31. Scott Douglas	(2)	93. Rick Patrick	(2)
32. Jerry Earnest	(2)	94. George Pennington	(1)
33. Chuck Echols		95. Phil Phillips	(3)
34. Marvin Eddings	(1)	96. Sonny Phillips	(2)
35. Benny Edwards	(3)	97. John Pitts	(1)
36. John Farr	(1)	98. Morris Poole	(22)
37. John Finwall	(l)	99. Sammy Poole	(7)
38. Lewis Fortner	(1)	100. Kenneth Poole	(4)
39. John Fowler	(1)	101. Claude Posey	(1)
40. Joe Garlotte	(2)	102. Joe Preston	(2)
41. Lloyd Gilbreath	(2)		(4)
42. Ray Glover	(5)	103. Ron Ranson	
43. Chris Green	(1)	104. Ricky Ranson	(2)
44. Joseph Green	(2)	105. Fred Rater	(1)
45. Michael Green	(2)	106. Dusty Rater	(1)
46. Brent Griffith	(4)	107. Elmer Ratliff	(1)
47. Brett Hall	(2)	108. John Reach	(1)
48. Taylor Hanks	(1)	109. Stan Reach	(4)
49. Joel Henneke	(1)	110. Perry Redmond	(12)
50. Alan Hess	(1)	111. Paul Redmond	(12)
51. Stephen Hess	(2)	112. Luke Redmond	(1)
52. Adam Hobson	(1)	113. Robby Roberson	(1)
<ol><li>J. Paul Hunter</li></ol>	(5)	114. Doug Rogers	(1)
54. Billy Hutchings	(5)	115. James Rogers	(6)
55. Walter Wade Jackson	(2)	116. Don Roybal	(1)
56. Garrett Jenkins	(1)	117. Bill Sadberry	(2)
57. Jack Johnson	(10)	118. Jim Sadler	(23)
58. Landon Johnson	(1)	119. Fred Salter	(10)
59. Gene Jones	(6)	120. Wayne Sexton	(2)
60. U.D. Kendrick	(11)	121. Max Scroggins	(2)
61. Butch Kendrick	(7)	122 Carter Shelton	(7)

(# or mps)	
123. Bill Simpson	(6)
124. Jerry Smith	(4)
125. Phil Smith	(1)
126. Vie Smith	(1)
127. Richard Statharn	(1)
128. Randy Stone	(17)
129. C.D. Stoves	(6)
130. Dave Stringfellow	(22)
131. Brian Stringfellow	(5)
132. Brad Stringfellow	(10)
133. Matt Stringfellow	(7)
134. Dave Swanson	(1)
135. Gabe Szeneszi	(1)
136. Floyd Syx	(23)
137. Randy Syx	(1)
138. Johnny Syx	(7)
139. Phil Tate	(11)
140. Mike Tate	(2)
141. Charlie Thompson	(3)
142. Jeff Neil Traywick	(5)
143. Chuck Tubbs	(2)
144. Bud Turner	(1)
145. Bert Underwood	(2)
146. Ted Vafeas	(1)
147. Jacob Vail	(3)
148. Jim Wade	(1)
149. Larry Wallace	(9)
150. Richard Wallace	(1)
151. Keith Wallace	(2)
152. Mike Wallace	(6)
153. Troy Watts	(7)
154. Conrad Wellbaurn	(10)
155. Greg Whited	(5)
156. Darwin Whitlow	(2)
157. Henry Wiley	(3)
158. Chris Willis	(1)
159. Keith Witt	(3)
160. George Womble	(3)
161. Charles Wood	(15)
162. Edward Wood	(1)
163. Leroy Wyatt	(1)
164. Carl Zellner	(4)
165. Jim Zezulka	(6)
166. Daniel Zezulka	(4)

## In Loving Memory

167. Hugh Bonham	(3)
168. Al Burgess	(2)
169. Harry Burton	(2)
170. Charlie Callahan	(1)
171. Herman Connell	(9)
172. Frank Dark	(3)
173. Milton Douglas	(1)
174. Bill Glasgow	(8)
175. Herman Glover	(2)
176. Frank Goodwin	(1)
177. Jack Hanson	(4)
178. Roy Koss	(15)
179. Olen Lane	(13)
180. Ray Mathews	(1)
181. Roy McLellan	(1)
182. Jack Mitchell	(2)
183. W. E. Moore	(1)
184. John Norris	(8)
185. Roy Owen	(14)
186. Ted Patterson	(1)
187. George Preston	(1)
188. George Scherer	(3)
189. Odis Short	(7)
190. Jeff Traywick	(8)
191. Ray Trimm	(1)
192. Bill Wallace	(3)
193. Bud Wood	(1)
194. Bill Wright	(1)
_	

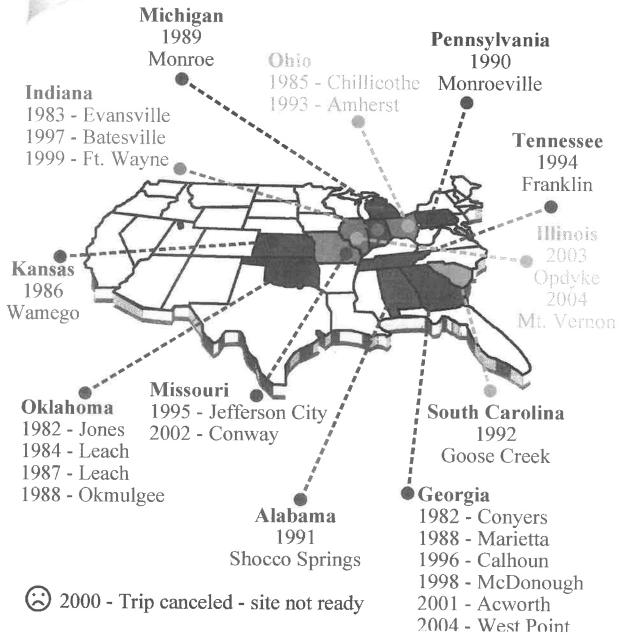
#### 2004 Special West Point, GA trip

- 1. John Ammons
- 2. Gary Draper 3. Ray Glover
- 4. Jared Hall
- 5. Dave Swanson
- 6. Floyd Syx
- 7. Gary Williams

#### 2004 Ladies **Auxilary**

- 1. Cheryl Abney
- 2. Christina Abney
  3. Charlene Hobson
- 4. Marilyn Sadler





### The Craftsmen's Chronicle



The name, The Master's Craftsmen, and the design for our patch were created by Wayne Sexton in 1983 to be used by the members of Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church in Hueytown, Alabama as they went out on short-term construction missions projects coordinated by the Home Missions Board (now the North American Mission Board or NAMB) of the Southern Baptist Convention. (Friends and relatives who have gone with the group also become one of The Master's Craftsmen.) Wayne designed the patch so that each and every part is significant in explaining who we are and whose we are. The emblem itself is round having no end, illustrating that there is no end to the love that the Lord has for us. "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels or demons, neither the present, not the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation is able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Rom. 8:33-39 NIV

We go to serve THE Master ... There is only one true God and He is the one who calls us to the mission field.

"Neither be ye called masters; for one is your master, even Christ." Matthew 23:10

Don't forget the apostrophe ('s)! We belong to The Master. Jesus died for us, so that we might live.

"Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own. For ye are bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit which are God's" 1st Corinthians 6:19-20

Note the cross is at the center of both words which shows our desire for our lives to be centered on the cross. Jesus loved us so much He died on the cross for our sin, and for this reason we want to serve Him.

"For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God." 1st Corinthians 1:18

FISMEN The word 'Craftsmen' is in red to show we are covered by the precious blood of Christ. Our sins are washed away and we are free ... free to serve Him. The 'T' in craftsmen is in black - signifying we want to live our lives in the shadow of



"And He took the cup, and gave it to them, saying, drink ye all of it: for this is my blood of the new testament which is shed for many for the remission of sins." Matthew 26:27-28

#### **Christian Family Life Center**

The Christian Family Life Center (CFLC) has been in operation since the early 1980's. The CFLC was converted from a Winn Dixie store to its present state. There have been many programs and activities over the years. The facility basically remains the same as originally designed, with a few modifications. The control center counter has moved to the front of the building, the weight room that used to be in between the racquetball courts now has a separate cardio-weight room for all of the exercise equipment, and one of the racquetball courts is being used for the "Jesus Pantry." The patio has tables and chairs to be used for Sunday School socials, graduations, birthdays, and VBS. Two major things that have been done at the CFLC is new tile flooring replacing the original carpet. The other is the refurbishing of the Fireside Room. The Fireside Room has a new floor, ceiling, new lighting, gas logs, and furniture.

The mission statement of the CFLC is that the CFLC is designed as a tool of ministry to help meet church recreational needs and as an extension of outreach to the community.

The facility and the programs/activities related to it are designed for the purpose of reaching persons for Jesus Christ. Last year over 43,000 came through its doors. Some of the programs and activities that have been implemented at the CFLC in the past four years are:

Low Impact Exercise

Step Aerobics

Video Aerobics

Woggers (walkers/joggers)

Weight Watchers

Men's /Women's Volleyball league

Basketball League

Pickin' N Grinin'

CPR Class

Movie Nights

Golf Tournaments

**Identity Theft Seminar** 

Save-A-Life Walk

Hobby Club

"Freedom Picnic"

Christian Yoga

Fit-N-Flex

Cardio-weight training

Quilting

Girl Scout Troop 552

Health Fair

Creative memories

Craft-A Month

Men's Bible Study

**Wood Crafts** 

**Hearing Seminar** 

**Table Tennis Tournaments** 

Elite Repeat (Children's Clothing)

**Tutoring** 

Through activities we will strive to provide an atmosphere of:

Worship – a personal encounter with God

Witness - proclamation of God's love, work and handiwork to others

Education – instructing and meeting needs

Application – using Christian principles in all aspects of life

It is our prayer that our church family will be enriched and strengthened as they study, pray, and play together here. We believe that Jesus came to bring abundant life and that His concern is for the total person. Luke 2: 40 tells us that Jesus grew spiritually, emotionally, physically, and socially. The programs provided through the CFLC are to help us become more well-rounded individuals as we grow in wisdom and stature of God.

Dave Swanson, Director of Activities

#### Journey in Christ

Our youth drama team, Journey In Christ was formed in September 2001. In May of 2001, Lisa Griffith watched a drama performed by another church youth group at Springfest in Hueytown. They performed a human video (which is a dramatic interpretation of a song) to "Shout To The Lord". It brought tears to her eyes and the Holy Spirit impressed upon her to start a youth drama team at Pleasant Ridge. When she shared this with other youth leaders, they were ready and willing to help. God led them to drama workshops to learn how to perform human videos.

Journey in Christ has 4 goals:

- (1) Glorify and worship God
- (2) Minister to others
- (3) To grow spiritually
- (4) To grow closer together as a youth group

They have chosen Isaiah 26:8 as their verse "O Lord how we love to do your will! Our hearts' desire is to glorify your name". The group started with 15 youth including Tiffany Davidson, Jessica Otwell, Luke Redmond, Ginny Shelton, Jenny Gable, Kim Kirby, Meagan Langford, Christina Abney, Anna Ross, Kate Ross, Daniel Zezulka, Sarah Ard, Chris Willis, Hope Miller, and Danielle Coston. The leaders were Cheryl Abney, Denise Kirby, Donnie Tate and Lisa Griffith.

The first drama presented was "Can't Live A Day" by Avalon on November 18, 2001. Currently there are about 32 members who participate. God has enlarged our territory of ministry by allowing us to

perform for others. The group has performed in Smyrna, Georgia, Gulf Shores, Panama City Beach, Relay for Life, Save-a-Life Banquet, Springfest, Women's Conference, and many churches. The members are in awe at how far God has brought them. They have learned so much along the way, especially concerning God's Faithfulness. Some of the drama members are making up human videos for our group to perform. The youth on our drama team work very hard and take it very seriously. PRBC is proud of them and their willingness to share the talents that God has given them. TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

The members who are active in March 2005: Christina Abney, Lindsey Broome, Taylor Keefer, Kim Kirby, Courtney Kirby, Meagan Langford, Krista Lashley, Morgan McNeely, Emily Morris, Alison Meyers, Courtney Reed, Christy Ross, Amy Stanford, Kristin Easterling, Lauren Zezulka, Lori Bush, Austin Amerson, Drew Bailey, Justin Broome, Jamie Deadwyler, Taylor Hanks, Adam Hobson, Brandon Kirkland, Brett Kirkland, Shane Lashley, Mark Purser, Kevin Purser, Daniel Zezulka, Andrew Morris, Allen Lawrence, Jon Robbins, and Thomas Dickinson. The Leaders are Cheryl Abney, Denise Kirby, Donnie Tate, Karen McNeely and Lisa Griffith.

By: Lisa Griffith

#### Hands Up! Puppet Ministry

Hands Up! Puppet Ministry was started at Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church in February of 2004. This ministry began with one college student, Jeremy Sandefur, five high school students, Christina Abney, Meagan Langford, Kim Kirby, Taylor Hanks, Samantha Staggs, and one adult, Cheryl Abney. The only thing that these people had in common was that they were willing to seek God's will and do his work through this new ministry opportunity. In order to get this ministry off the ground, a group from Vineville North Baptist Church in Macon, Georgia came to teach us how to execute this vital ministry. Throughout the past year, we have grown from six members to twenty members and have been out in our community ministering to God's children of different ages. We have been blessed with the opportunities to share God's word in Mobile, Children's Hospital, Hueytown Library, Chili Willie's, Cottage Hill Baptist Church, Rock Mountain Lakes Baptist Church, and here at Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church. We have been extremely blessed with opportunities to share God's message through this ministry. We pride ourselves on being a ministry that is constantly seeking to fulfill God's will by bringing people of all ages together to worship Christ.

"I Want Men Everywhere To Lift Up Holy Hands..." 1 Timothy 2:8

By: Jeremy Sandefur

#### The First International Mission Trip for PRBC – July 2004

#### To: Aguascalientes, (Hot Water) Mexico

#### Southern Baptist Host Missionaries were Robin, Charlie, Kaci and Drew Janney

In the spring of 2003 the Bessemer Baptist Association Missionary Residence, that is located in our Hueytown community, became home to the Janney family for about six months. That same summer Charlie, Robin, Kaci and Drew transferred their church letters to PRBC.

As our church family began to love and to know the Janneys we began to feel that God was leading some of us to the mission field for a short term mission trip. Following God's leadership, by January 2004 Cheryl Abney, Christina Abney, Jackie Ammons, Michael Fritschi, Lloyd Langford, Rick Patrick, Helen Syx, Alyson Walker and Nancy Williams made a commitment to become a part of this International Mission team.

Once we knew where we were going and what we would be doing, we began to raise money for the trip and for the expense of the kids' clubs. PRBC members began making donations, not only money but items we would need to do the crafts and candy for rewards. The fellowship hall became an ongoing International Mission work station. Members, young and old, came to help prepare the crafts and the candy for the trip South of the Border. By supplying these necessary items, the entire church family became a part of the mission trip to Aguascalientes.

It was decided that the team would fly to Aguascalientes, Mexico on July 2, 2004 and return to Hueytown on July 8. While there we would be working with the Janneys, doing Kids' Clubs with the local children. There would be two Clubs each day and we would canvas the area in advance, to let the children know when and where to gather for the event.

After many prayers and much preparation July 2, 2004 came rather quickly. Our team left the Birmingham Airport early Thursday morning headed for the mission field. By lunch time we were in our hotel and already being briefed by Charlie, Robin and Kaci. That afternoon we departed by bus for an inter-city club. We went from house to house handing out flyers to tell the children about the Club that would be held on the city streets. We did Clubs in large and small villages, in local homes, in a public park, and at an apartment complex. Sometimes we would have five children and at other times hundreds. The children were free to come and go at will during the activity time.

During the Kid's Club we would sing songs, perform puppet shows, play games, make crafts, and tell a Bible story. Michael would share the Bible story because he was the only team member who spoke the Spanish language. Robin and Kaci would help teach the children songs in Spanish.

The Janneys were wonderful hosts! They opened not only their homes to us but their hearts as well. They are truly sharing God's love and are discipling many adults and children there in Mexico.

When we left on Thursday morning to return home, we were all tired because we had worked long hard hours each day. We did not see thousands of people saved but, we have faith that God will grow many of those seeds that were planted with those dear Mexican children.

Once again, we wish to thank you, the family of Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, for allowing us this opportunity to go and serve Him through International Missions. Please continue to pray for the Janneys as they share the name of Jesus with the adults and children there in the city, Aguascalientes, Mexico.

### Our Missionaries...

Mary Alice Huey	China	1907 - 1946
Pat Creel Hart Terry	Venezuela	1978 - 1989
Ken and Christine Works Mauldin	Guyana	1991 - 2001
Don Mason (Sandra)	Zambia, Africa	1967 – 1977
James Swedenburg (Joyce)	Korea & Taiwan	1969 - 1980
Mary Swedenburg	Japan	1969 - 2004
Tommy Bridges (Peggy)	South Brazil	1978 - 1986
Karen Hanks York (Larry)	Equatorial, Brazil	1982 - 1994
Laura Bailey Harper (Brian)	No. Africa, Gibraltar, London	1994 - 2004
Charlie and Robin Janney	Mexico	1997 – present



Mary Alice Huey



Mary Swedenburg

#### Jesus' Pantry

The Jesus' Pantry Food Program was in existence for many years prior to the name "Jesus' Pantry" being attached. In the late 1980's, Harry Burton, the teacher of our Sunday school class, encouraged the members to get involved in helping the needy and hungry population in and around Hueytown. He suggested that we each donate a little money on the first Sunday of each month. The money was used to purchase food, clothes and assist the needy in any area. At that time there was one particular family that had required our help for several weeks. This family consisted of a father, mother and two small children who lived in a small trailer in a Hueytown trailer park. The father had lost his job and the family had no means of support and were being evicted from the park due to non-payment of rent. Prior to this our class had delivered food and clothes to this family on several occasions and we were aware of their desperate situation.

A few days after their eviction from the trailer park, we learned that the father had moved the trailer to a location in Shelby County where they could park rent free. About a week later, we received a phone call from the man telling us that his trailer had burned and they had lost nearly everything. He said that for the last two nights the family had slept under the bed of their pick-up truck. Arrangements were made with a small motel in Shelby County for the family to stay there for a few days until they could find a trailer to rent. The father called a few days later and told us he had found a job with a man who owned an old trailer and would let them live in it until they were able to pay rent. Since the trailer was almost bare, Harry Burton, Ben Howard and a couple of class members located and delivered to these folks: mattresses, a sofa, cooking utensils, linens, groceries, a little money and other small things needed for survival. About six weeks later we found the family doing as well as could be expected, and both father and mother had joined a local Church of God and were living a Christian life.

Another instance that played a major role in the formal establishment of The Jesus' Pantry Food Program involved a family consisting of a father, mother and three small children, ages five, three and two. The mother was pregnant with her fourth child and they lived in a one room shack and cooked outside in an old black pot. Apparently, the mother could not face bringing another child into the poverty they were experiencing; therefore, she committed suicide in her fourth month of pregnancy. The grandmother on the father's side was given custody of the children. Our class heard about this situation and immediately visited the grandmother and children. The grandmother was living in an old, old house which was cold because the wind came in around the doors and windows. She had put a small pine tree up for Christmas and it was decorated with a few silver balls. Her income was very little and we realized she needed help to care for these children. In addition to providing groceries once a month, the class voted to give her \$75.00 monthly to help take care of everyday expenses. This went on for

about three years and the grandmother and children looked upon us as an extended family. Those children can only be described as precious and so polite and courteous. A few weeks later, the father gained custody of the children and moved them out of state. We continued to stay in touch with the grandmother and helped her get a nice trailer to live in. Several of our class members, led by Walter Wade Jackson did all the electrical wiring in the trailer, free of charge of course, and helped the grandmother adequately furnish the trailer. The children are now grown, the oldest two have college degrees and the youngest is a junior in college. The two older children received scholarships and are now employed and assisting the younger child financially. It's also good to know that all three children are Christians and very active in church activities.

In the early 1990's, a television reporter from a Birmingham TV station interviewed Mrs. Pat Chafin who was employed at the Sayre post office. Mrs. Chafin spoke of the poverty, drug dealers and to some degree child abuse that existed in the camp. She told of asking a little boy what he wanted for Christmas and he replied that he would like to have a sheet of plastic. She then asked him why he wanted the plastic. He said that he needed it so that he and his sister could stay dry when it rained. Mrs. Chafin also told of the many children who were not attending school regularly and many who went to bed at night hungry. She also spoke about many children that would not get a present for Christmas which was two weeks away.

The day after the TV reporter aired his interview with Mrs. Chafin, my wife and I drove the 25 miles to the Sayre mining camp. We were shocked at the condition of the shanties that lined every street in the camp. Some houses had no electricity, no water, holes in the doors, windows, roofs appeared ready to fall in and were propped with long boards. As we drove through the camp, we noticed a line of people outside the post office. Every few seconds, a family would walk out of the post office with a large paper sack in their hands. Finally, the last family walked out with her sack and she had a small child in her arms and four more children by her side. We asked about what was going on in the post office and she said that the Birmingham Jaycees had a sack of fruit and candy for each family in the camp.

We noticed that this young mother's shoes had obvious holes and none of the children had shoes or socks. It was about 35 degrees that morning. I asked the mother if the children had shoes and sweaters, or jackets and she said they had these things but they were in Chicago and were, hopefully, being shipped to her. We asked where she lived and she pointed out one of the shanties. We asked if we could come in to see if we could help her in some way. We went in to an almost empty four rooms. She had a small apartment size electric stove, but, the oven didn't work, so they had no heat in the house. The small refrigerator was almost empty, as was the pantry.

My wife and I drove back to Hueytown where we called several class members and told them about the conditions we found at the camp. Within two hours, we had a large kerosene stove with ten gallons of kerosene, several pairs of children's shoes, several sweaters and jackets, and many other things that were needed. Ben Howard and I bought groceries and delivered all these things to the family and Ben set up the stove and showed the lady how to operate it. Soon afterwards the room was warm as toast and the children were filling their little stomachs.

When Ben and I got back to our truck, there were several small children waiting on us and asked if we had any more food because they were hungry. They were four to six year old children. They were shabbily dressed and hungry. We asked where they lived and they pointed out one of the worse shacks out there. We told the largest child there, maybe a six year old, that we would be back in a couple hours and would bring some food. Ben and I collected more money and bought more food and went back to the camp. This second house was also without food, other than the fruit the Jaycees had given them. We soon learned that most families in the camp were without food and other necessities needed to survive. The following Sunday, this situation was discussed in our Sunday school class. Marvin Eddings was our teacher and class leader at this time (our prior teacher had passed away and was residing in his heavenly home) and encouraged us to become more active in helping the camp families.

We, therefore, began taking a couple of boxes of food to the camp every few days.

Each time we went, we found additional families hungry and cold. We followed this schedule for probably two years when Guy Davis and Jim Barnhill came up with what turned out to be a great idea. Jimmy Creel had mentioned earlier that if we could get organized, there was a possibility that we could get food much cheaper at the United Way Food Source. Jim and Guy, and maybe other class members, were included in the group that visited The United Way Food Source office and explained our situation. They suggested that we contact our church leaders to get their approval for us to store food on church properties.

Guy and Jim, along with Jim's wife, Wanda, worked out all the details and in October of 1997, we were in the food business. The Barnhill's suggested we name our organization, "Jesus' Pantry" and within a few days we had a bank account under that name. A few of us donated a little money to get started and soon we were buying and storing food in the basement of our Christian Family Life Center.

In order to be eligible to purchase food from The United Way Food Bank, we had to adhere to their rules and regulations. Basically, recipients had to have family income below the poverty level. We circulated this information to the residents of the camp and told them we would be coming out there once a month and would provide free food for all who would qualify. The first month, fifty plus families qualified and received free food. This has been going continuously since November 1997.

At first we had maybe 15-20 church members working in this program. Presently, there are more than 50 seniors working in this operation. As the camp population bettered their financial conditions, their income rose above the poverty level and they could no longer get this food. As the number of recipients decreased in the camp, the contributions to The Jesus' Pantry Fund increased. We could, therefore, purchase more food and expand our food coverage to include more communities in West Jefferson County. We normally take food to Sayre on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month, and we are now providing food to qualified families in Bessemer, Adger, Concord and the Hueytown area. The 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month is devoted to the distribution of food to these families.

The Jesus' Pantry warehouse is now open on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. On that day approximately 200-225 families pick up free food. Since October 1997, approximately 775,047 pounds (387 tons) of food have been purchased and distributed to needy families. This food has fed more that 36,000 individuals during the past seven years. This figure does not include hundreds that received food during the late 1980s' and prior to October 1997.

Funding for the Jesus' Pantry Food Program is provided by monthly contributions from individual members, as well as several Sunday school classes from Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church. In addition, monthly contributions are received from North Highlands Baptist Church, Dawson Memorial Baptist and Bethel Baptist located in Pleasant Grove. Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church provides our storage space in the basement of the Christian Family Life Center and also provides heat in winter and cool air in summer months. Approximately 50 senior members of PRBC provide the work force to administer The Jesus' Pantry Food Program. Six to ten Bethel Baptist ladies assist each month in the preparation of filling boxes to be distributed the next day. These seniors are dedicated to our food program and are always ready to do anything to help.

There are many that have volunteered their time and talents to bring the "Jesus' Pantry" from a thought here at Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church to a program that is helping to feed and to touch the multitude that's mentioned in the article. To name a few who go and give the second mile month after month in the Jesus' Pantry Food Program: there is James Salter, who works diligently to get these records in a computer program after working, preparing and distributing the food; Jack Earl who is always there to help keep the manpower part going smoothly; and Charles Turner who drives a borrowed truck to pick up the food from the United Way and then goes to Sayre to help place it in the hands of so many underprivileged families.

To all of you who give so much, we thank God for His continued blessings with so many regular volunteers. Volunteers are required, if His love is shared in this ministry of food to those families who otherwise would go to bed hungry without it.

In closing, during the past 15 years, the Harry Burton Sunday school class, under the dedicated leadership of these three men, Harry Burton, Marvin Eddings and Guy Davis, has helped provide Easter and Christmas presents to over 700 underprivileged children. These men have done a fantastic job in encouraging us to try to do something for someone each day of our lives. The Jesus' Pantry Food Program came into being officially, in the fall of 1997, but it started way back in the 80's.

You can be sure, if you investigate fully, Jesus' Pantry began over 2000 years ago when Jesus said "....

Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, you have done it unto me."

Matthew 25:40b - KJV

Please forgive me for failing to include all of God's willing servants by name that volunteer on a regular basis.

If a project of this nature is something that you would love to serve Him by volunteering, please call the PRBC office or Maurice Allen for more information.

Maurice Allen

### Major events over the years

When one pauses and reflects back over the years, there are significant events that stand out in our history as landmark achievements for the Pleasant Ridge Congregation. It was in April of 1935 that we endorsed a unified budget plan for the church. In September of 1936, we adopted a rotating service plan for all ordained deacons. In 1947, the Pleasant Ridge Cemetery Association was formed. The cemetery first came into being in 1874, and the first person interred there was Mr. Dick Robertson, owner of the land before it was purchased by our church. Members of the association include Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, Vineland Park Baptist Church and Hueytown First United Methodist Church.

When the Hueytown Elementary School building burned in March of 1949, our congregation stepped forward to fill the need for school facilities, offering the second and third floor of our newly-built North Wing until a new elementary school building could be constructed.

In 1967, we published our first Church Pictorial Directory. We began a new family night supper ministry in our new South Wing fellowship hall in March of 1973. Our first personnel committee was formed in October of 1973. Until this time, the church owned no mass transportation vehicles. In July of 1974, we purchased our first church bus, a brand new air-conditioned Blue Bird.

On May 25, 1975, Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church began its second hundred years of ministry. On that Sunday, Scott Hicks, Alan Murphree and Robin Cheatwood became the first souls baptized in

the second century of our service to the Lord! In August of 1976, the beautiful pipe organ in the sanctuary was purchased at a cost of \$60,000. Our Church Organist at the time was Mrs. G. C. "Sammie" Hicks, and she resigned that position after 35 years of service in October of 1979. Mrs. Zelpha Simmons became our first church parliamentarian in December of 1977 and our first Committee on Committees was formed in June of 1979.

Our church voted to purchase the Winn Dixie property in 1981 for the sum of \$210,000. The A. Judson Jones Prayer Room was opened and dedicated in 1992, and our new multi-purpose activities building, known as the Christian Family Life Center, opened and was dedicated on March 12, 1984. A group of men in our church, now known as The Master's Craftsmen, made their first mission trip in June of 1982 to Jones, Oklahoma, for the purpose of helping to erect a new church building. Our first church computer system was purchased in September of 1987 at a cost of \$24,000.

In the spring of 1991, our church congregation participated in an area-wide celebration of the end of "Desert Storm", the first allied invasion of Iraq. In honor of all men and women from our congregation and from our area serving in that war and in all wars past, the City of Hueytown sponsored "A Patriot's Day Celebration". Our Fellowship Hall was used for a luncheon and our CFLC for a reception for all veterans and invited dignitaries on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. This event was the highlight of the year!

It was on October 14, 1998 that our church licensed our first female, Mrs. Carin Glover Hill, to the gospel ministry. Helen Syx, Pastor's Secretary and Church Financial Secretary for 43 years, retired on August 2, 1998. Our military veterans purchased and installed a lighted flagpole between the North Wing and the sanctuary on May 16, 2001. In July of that same year, a Military Veterans Memorial Name Plaque was placed on the wall outside the office complex in the South Wing. A book listing all veterans in our congregation, past and present, accompanies the plaque.

2003 saw several new initiatives, including our first church-wide Leadership Summits, the implementing of a Mom's Day Out program and the sponsoring of our first Girl Scout Troop. Two new 15 passenger mini-buses were purchased in July for a total cost of \$79,514, and a new electronic reader board sign was installed in front of the sanctuary on Hueytown Road.

In 2004, a new children's playground was constructed, a new Carillon Bell/Chimes System was installed and the Fireside Room in the CFLC was refurbished in memory of Melba Shinn and Bro. Judson Jones, and in honor of Dixie Jones. Ever missions minded, our congregation sponsored its First International Mission Trip to Aguacalientes, Mexico.



The new playground located behind the South Wing

### **History of Pleasant Ridge Cemetery**

Formally known as Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church Cemetery until about 1947

In the beginnings of this cemetery, as with all growing communities there was a need in the Hueytown community for a "Community Cemetery," which almost always, they were located near or in a church yard. This allowed anyone in that community, if they desired, could be buried there. This cemetery provided that until, it was decided that in order to have perpetual care, an association was in order. By forming an association then the by-laws were written and the rest is history.

Speaking of history, in a regular business meeting on February 12, 1947 a called business meeting of PRBC was scheduled for February 26, 1947 for the specific purpose to discuss the following: "sell the four (4) acres involving the cemetery property to the cemetery committee for the total sum of \$4.00" specifically stating in the minutes that "it remain a community cemetery."

November 6<sup>th</sup>, 1946 - The first Cemetery Committee members from PRBC were :

Mr. J. R. Christian

Mr. Frank Knight

Mr. W. J. Southall

Cemetery came into being in 1874. The first person buried here is Mr. Dick Robertson, owner of this property before PRBC purchased it. Today there are three sections in use, sections A, B, C. Section D is almost ready for burials. This section D will only allow flush with the ground type grave markers, which will allow maintenance to be less of a problem and expense, such as the grass cutting.

Today, there are three churches that are members of the Pleasant Ridge Cemetery Association. They are: Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, Vineland Park Baptist Church and Hueytown First United Methodist Church, which, according to the current by-laws allow usage.

If you need more information about guidelines for the cemetery you may contact the Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church office or the chairman of the Cemetery Committee, Mr. Billy Roberts.

A printed copy of the Current By Laws of the Pleasant Ridge Cemetery is available in the Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church office or you can request one from anyone of the Cemetery Committee members.

## Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church Library—By Mary Roberts

The PRBC Library was begun in the early 1950s by Wilma Crawford and Sybil Lang. It was first located near the church office on the first floor of the connecting wing north of the sanctuary. In 1968, Mary Knight Roberts was elected Church Librarian and she continues to serve in that capacity today. The library was relocated to its present site on the second floor of the South Wing when the South Wing was built in 1972.

Library hours are 8-10 A.M. on Sunday and 5:45-7:45 P.M. on Wednesday. At this time, the library consists of a collection of over 7,500 books and historical materials. Information about missionaries from our church is on display. In the book collection are many books that have been given in honor and memory of many church members.



Librarian Mary Roberts with her husband, Billy and Mr. John Lang



Our Library accommodates both children and adults comfortably

#### Renovation of Christian Family Life Center – 2003

During the renovation of 2003 the painted floors through out were covered with tile which has greatly improved the overall appearance of the Family Life Center.

The Fireside room was completely renovated at this time as well. Chandeliers and sconce lighting were added as well as fine furniture, hardwood flooring and replacement of the suspended ceiling with a more attractive tile and design.

Other gifts such as: the mirror over fireplace and mantel and decorative items were given by Jean Whitlow, tapestry, vases on the mantel and a Beethoven bust given by Jane and Ray Bellew, handmade tassels and two crystal vases given by Mary Jackson, gas logs, including two plant stands given by John and Dale Fowler, a mantel clock given by Helen and Floyd Syx, fireplace set given by Ann Dabbs Roberts, Bombay chest and cut glass crystal item by Doris Fancher, a silver service given by Gerry Qwens, an oriental decorative box given by Marilyn Sadler, bronze candle holders and several items for the bookcase given by Carolyn Waldrop. Joe Counts gave crystal items for the china cabinet and to really set the tone for this room the decorating committee headed by Joe Counts designed and made beautiful drapes for each of the long windows.

The Decorating Refurbishing Committee were: Carolyn Waldrop, Jane Bellew, Doris Fancher, Patricia Wiley, Jean Whitlow and Joe Counts.

This Fireside Room renovation was accomplished through memorial gifts from the estate of Mrs. Melba Shinn and also gifts in memory of A. Judson Jones and in honor of Mrs. Dixie Leath Jones.

#### Historical Marker denoting the Charter Members

More than a century has slipped away now - actually it has been one hundred and thirty years since this historic moment took place that we pay homage to today. Where thirty four of our forefathers" stood under an oak tree somewhere out back of the church in an area which now houses the remains of so many of our loved ones, the Pleasant Ridge Cemetery. Under the leadership of God's Holy Spirit they felt the need to organize a Baptist church in this community. That actual date (which can be found in the archives of history) was May 21, 1875. In that group of believers there were 15 Brethren and 19 Sisters that history has recorded to have been there. Their faith was strong enough for them to take a stand and go on record as "Charter Members" organizing the Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church. Thanks be unto God for their actions because, we are still enjoying fruits from their labor today.

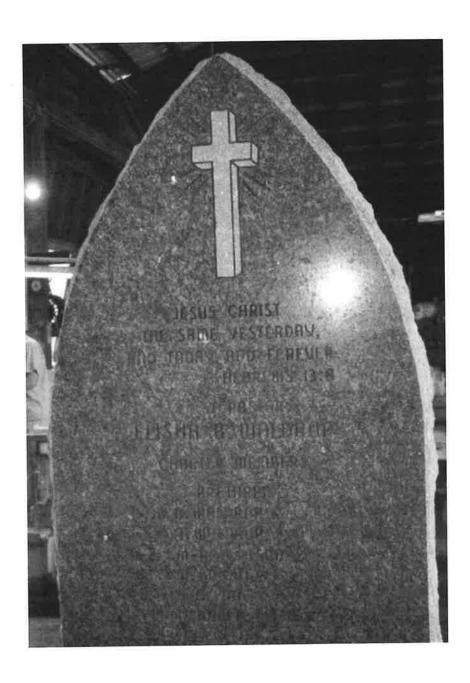
Now, we want to express our gratitude to a beloved family of Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church – The Johnny and Zelpha Simmons family. Through the settlement of their estate, their son John made funds available, specifying that some of those funds be set aside for this historical marker and any remaining funds to go to the expenses of this 130 year celebration day. When you look at the back side of the base of this monument, you will find their names etched there.

Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church will always be grateful to this family for this remembrance donation, as we observe this historical marker for many years to come.

The marker has been cut from Red Deer Brown Granite. Its eternal place of honor is located on the North Side of the Sanctuary near the flag pole, the prayer room sidewalk and parking lot, and it is lighted at night. It can be easily observed as we go to and from our church activities. It also can be seen as you travel Hueytown Road so that the whole community can observe this historical monument with us.

The Red Deer Brown Granite, which is highly polished, has a support base size of approximately 4 foot in width. The vertical portion is one foot ten inches wide and a height of six foot six inches. The top is shaped in the Gothic design. The Cross is etched in the granite and also etched in stone are the thirty four charter members' names (whose names can be found in another place in this historical document) and the organization date of May 21, 1875, as recorded in the archives. A favorite Bible verse of A. Judson Jones is also inscribed over the north-side entrance door to the front foyer: Heb. 13:8 "Jesus Christ the same yesterday and today and forever" is also included. Etched also is the name "First Pastor - Elisha B. Waldrop.

The Historical Committee of PRBC also saw fit to have a foot marker type stone engraved, signifying Elisha B. Waldrop as first pastor of Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, May 21, 1875, which will be placed at his gravesite at the East Lake cemetery, formally known as Ruhama Cemetery, soon after our celebration is completed.



# **Employees of Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, past and present:**

#### Pastors...

Elisha Byers Waldrop	May 1875 – Feb. 1888
W. S. Culpepper	Feb. 1888 – Sept. 1888
B. F. Giles	Sept. 1888 – Nov. 1889
William David Hubbard	Nov. 1889 – Aug. 1890
O. J. Waldrop	Aug. 1890 – Oct. 1891
Elisha Byers Waldrop	Oct. 1891 – Nov. 1895
J. M. Huey	Nov. 1895 -Sept. 1897
W. J. Ray	Sept. 1897 – Sept. 1898
J. C. Gilmer	Oct. 1898 – Sept. 1899
M. M. Wood	Dec. 1899 – Dec. 1901
Tom D. Ray	Jan. 1902 – Sept. 1903
A. F. Loftin	Sept. 1903 – Nov. 1904
A. E. Burns	Nov. 1904 - 1907
W. S. Brown	1907 – July 1909
A. C. Swindall	July 1909 – June 1920
J. A. Hendricks - Interim	June 1920 -1922
W. F. Price	1923 – Nov. 1924
J. Luther Gaines	Jan 1925 -1926
A. C. Swindall	April 1927 – July 1927
Foster Mills	Nov. 1927 – Jan. 1935
J. V. Springer	April 1935 – April 1940
Eddie Lieberman	Nov. 8, 1941 – Nov. 8, 1943
John Oaks - Interim	Jan 2, 1944 – Dec. 1, 1944
Judson Jones	Dec. 1, 1944 – Feb. 28, 1978
Judson Jones - Pastor Emeritus	March 1, 1979 - 2004
Billy L. Harris - Interim	March 5, 1978
Billy L. Harris	Sept. 24, 1978 – Nov. 30, 1986
Tom Cleveland - Interim	Dec. 3, 1986 - 1987
Ja Paul Hunter	May 3, 1987- Nov. 1999
Bob Terry - Interim	Dec. 15, 1999 –Sept. 17, 2000
Rick Patrick	Sept. 17, 2000 - Present
org of Education	

## Ministers of Education...

Horace Gordon	7/27/1960	
Charles McCain	10/16/1966	Associate Pastor
Dewey Mayfield	7/5/1967	Associate Pastor
E. D. Helton	5/20/1970	Associate Pastor
Peggy Merritt	6/29/1979	
Kip Faught	3/20/2002	Adult Education
ers of Music		

## Ministers of Music...

Simon Smith	1926
Clay Herring	9/2/1953
Charles Hayes	6/4/1958
Roger Oldham	12/21/1958
Horace Gordon	7/27/1960

Charles Woods	11/27/1966
Ronnie Shuff	5/13/1970
James E. Herring	3/7/1971
John Thomas	10/17/1971
Steve Skinner	9/26/1979
Ken Kirkley	11/12/1981
Alan Hess	5/1/1986
Stephen Hopkins	9/10/2001
Jonathan Riddle	9/8/2002
Charles Hulgan	Interim
Norman Williams	Interim
Ray Glover	Interim

#### Musicians...

~1	D' '	
( 'hiirah	Pianists	
	THAILDSIA	
CIIGIOII	Y TOUTTO AD	ь.

Macy Hammonds Lucille Howze Linda Sexton Janice Poole Julia Cooper Fred Cook Janice Hulgan Jo Patterson \* David Bailey

# Church Organists...

Sammie Hicks Juanita Robertson Joe Gallion Patty Kirkley \* Linda Gurosky Jesmon Scherer

Pat Ingle

Barbara Zezulka Judy Irvin Elizabeth Boles Jonathan Riddle

Meagan Langford

## \* first paid musicians

## Ministers to Pre-School and Children...

Sharon Wilson	6/1/1984
Joan Posey	3/10/1985
Carla Callahan	3/22/1981
Renee Pate	8/15/1996
Alyson Walker	1/2/2002

## Activities Director...

Dave Swanson 6/18/2001

### Youth workers and Youth Ministers...

11/2/1960
12/31/1969
6/1/1969
6/8/1966
6/1/1972

Mike Sutton	9/22/1972
Ray Glover	6/6/1973
Gary Strickland	5/1/1974
Buster Salter	6/4/1975
Charles Gipson	10/6/1976
Wayne Sexton	12/8/1976
Randy Godfrey	5/4/1977
Howard Woodard	
Alan Meacham	5/31/1978
Louie "Bud" Turner	6/15/1979
Tommy Wilson	10/1/1983
Claude Posey	3/10/1985
Ric Callahan	1/1/1989
Lance Swearengin	5/22/1996
Brad Cardwell	9/23/1996
Michael Wallace	9/17/1997
Jimbo Tillman	1998
Scott Ogle	10//1999
Timothy Marsh	6/5/2000
Justin Jones	9/11/2000
Kip Faught	3/24/2002

## Secretaries...

Lucille Mitchell	1/ 1/1945	Pastor/Financial
Helen D. Syx	12/5/1955	Pastor/Financial
Lorelei Scherer (Swearengin)	9//1966	
Jane Brown	5/1/1967	
Jo Patterson	10/17/1979	
Doris Bousack (Ethridge)	4/15/1982	
Judy Irvin	10/1/1982 & 10	/1/1987
Janice Koss	1/1/1982	
Karen Orton	10//1984	
Jeanie Jones	12//1984	
Tina Revis (Kicker)	6/1/1984	
Laura Dabbs	6/1/1990	
Cheryl Abney	8/2/1993	Pastor/Financial
Cecilia Reed	4/1/1995	
Paula Morrison (Collins)	8//1995	
Shirley Cork	1/2/1996	
Leigh Robertson	9/1/1998	Pastor/Financial
Beth Norris	12/4/2000	
Jill Hickey	12/18/2000	Pastor/Financial
Karen Patrick	2/27/2003	
Selisa Koss	6/30/2003	

Church Hostess... Edna Earl Moore 4/1/1973 Gail Thomas 9/15/1976 Betty LaFoy 6/1/1977

## Superintendent of Buildings...

J. W. Carden	7/10/1957	
Leonard "Buddy" Waldrop	9/18/1969	
Buford Moore	7/1/1980	
George E. Scherer, Sr.	5/1/1980	Interim
Morris Poole	6/15/1982	
Max Scroggins	1988	
John Fowler	1990	
Leland Ingle	2/1/1991	
Woody Waldrop	1993	
Guy Davis	1998	
Phillip Tate	1/17/2000	

# <u>Long term Housekeeping Staff...</u> Henry Turman

Marie Turman Freddie Ware Joel Jackson Jeff Traywick Robbie Kuykendall

Parliamentarian...
Mrs. Zelpha Simmons 1977 - 2002 David Bailey 2002 - present

# The following were Ordained and/or Licensed to the Gospel Ministry

# Ordained...

Fred Jordan	9/24/1947
Houston Haynes	11/5/1944
David M. Barrentine	9/8/1948
Dalton Christian	7/5/1950
Jimmy Marsh	9/3/1953
Don Jackson	11/10/1954
Clay Herring	1/26/1955
Ruben K. Gunnells	8/12/1956
Rex McCrary	5/6/1956
Charles Hayes	7/10/1957
Morris Jackson	5/31/1959
Don Mason	2/27/1963
Tommy Bridges	7/15/1965
Keith Lindsey	4/9/1975
Robert Walker	9/20/1981
Ronald Bailey	9/20/1981
Ric Callahan	1/26/1992
Billy Hobson	1/17/1993

# Licensed...

Donald Davidson	1/6/1954
John L. Morris, Jr.	12/18/1955
Henry T. Syx, Jr.	11/28/1954
Harold Galbreath	11/28/1954
Horace Gordon	
Don Graves	2/8/1961
Phil Land	7/15/1965
Gary Strickland	
Mike Sutton	
Buster Salter	9/22/1974
Louie (Bud) Turner	12/12/1979
Bif Patterson	3/16/1983
Tim Davis	8/22/1993
Michael Crawley	7/13/1994
Keith Wallace	9/18/1994
Carin Glover (Hill)	10/14/1998
Scott Ogle	10//1999
Timothy Marsh	
Stephen Hopkins	9/10/2001
Jonathan Riddle	4/7/2002
Alyson Walker	11/13/2002

# **Deacons of PRBC**

	~.	**D '	T 1
Abney	Jimmy	** Davis	John
* Alexander	Dean	** Davis	T. V.
Amerson	David	Deadwyler	James
Ammons	John	Decker	Tommy
**Atchison	B. F.	** Densmore	Oscar
** Austin	Elvin	** Dickey	J. S.
Bailey	David	Earnest	Jerry
Banks	Charles	** Easterling	R.B.
** Barnett	M	Eddings	Marvin
Barnhill	Jim	Edwards	Benny
** Barrentine	Carlos	Evans	T. J.
** Bartlett	Frank	** Ezekiel	Robert
** Bentley	B. E.	** Fallon	V. S.
** Beverly	Ernest	Farr	John
Black	Michael	* Fields	Dorman
** Boman	G. R.	Fleming	James
** Bonham	Hugh	* Fowler	John
Bradley	John	** Franklin	W. O. M.
Broome	Wayne	** Fricks	T. M.
Brown	Joseph	Fritschi	Michael
** Burks	Jim	Gamble	Bobby
Burks	John	* Gentry	Virgil
Burns	Ken	* ** Getts	Paul
** Burton	Harry	** Gibson	Fred
** Calfee	E. O.	Gilbreath	Lloyd
** Campbell	Albert E.	** Gill	E. C.
** Carden	J. W.	Gilliland	Robert
Carlton	L. L.	** Gilmore	E. H.
Cash	James	** Gilmore	H. F.
* Cherry	Mort N.	** Glasgow	Bill
** Christian	J. R.	** Glenn	J. B.
Cole	Doug	Glover	Ray
** Connell	Herman	* Gober	Robert
** Cook	Ben	** Godfrey	John
** Cook	Ewell	Gordon	Horace
* Cooper	Jim	* Griffin	Elbert
Cooper	Ronald	Griffith	Brent
Counts	Joe	** Griffith	R. J.
* Cowen	Prude, Jr.	** Gunnells	R. K.
** Crawford	J. T.	Gurosky	Mike
Creel	Jimmy	Hagood	Terry
Creel	Royce	** Hammond	•
** Cunningha	•	Harris	Billy
**Dabbs	Ollie	** Harris	James O.
** Dark	Frank	** Harton	N. A.
	Guy	Hastings	M. W.
Davis	Ouy	TIMPMITED	ATE: TT:

Hayes	David	McCoy	Donner
* ** Hayes	Howard	McCoy	Denny Earl
Headley	Thomas	* McCoy	G. B.
** Henderson		** McKinney	
Hickey	James	McLellan	Robert
** Hicks	Travis	** McLellan	
** Hill	Eddie	** McWhorter	
** Howze	Jim	Meadows	Clinton
Hubbard	James	Medders	W. T.
** Hudson	O. H.	Miller	W. 1. Dean
** Huey	Carl	** Mitchell	Jack
** Huey	Claude	** Moore	J. F.
** Huey	Hiram	** Moore	J. F. J. W.
** Huey	Sol T.	** Morris	
Huey	Vann	Morris	John L. Sr. John L. Jr.
Hulgan	Charles	** Moyer	
** Hulgan	Hoyt	-	Joe
** Jackson	Lee Wade	Murphree	Dwain
* Jackson	Walter Wade	Myers	Allen
Jarrell	G. C.	Myrick	Wayne
Jenkins	Garrett	Neal	Steven
** Jenkins	H. G.	* ** Nesmith	
Jones	Gene	* ** Nethery  ** Nixon	Ed
** Jones	Sam E.		D. M.
* Junkins	Harold (Bud)	Nunnelly	Keith
Justice	Charles		Kent
	Herb		Danny
** Kellum	Clyde, Jr.		John
	Paul		Lucien
Kendricks	Wayne	** Parsons	W. R.
	R. E.		Johnny
_	Herb		Norman
** Kirby	L. T.		Ted
-			Grady
			Grover
	J. Marion		Sonny
•			B. A.
			B. L.
			J. B.
			William
-			Don
•	_		Morris
-			Sam
			Earl
_			John
			E. R.
			Ron
~	Ed		E. J.
	TT	•	H. G.
Michilde	W. E.	Raygan	Bobby

		<b>G</b>	D
Reach	Stan	Swanson	Dave
Redmond	Paul	Tate	Phillip
* Redmond	Perry	Thomas	Jay
Roberts	Sid	** Thomas	W. L.
** Robertson	T.	** Thompson	P. A.
Rodgers	Rick	** Trimm	Ray
Roper	Earl	** Tucker	J. M.
Rotenberry	Bill	Vann	Bill
Sadler	Jim	** Vann	Norman
Salter	Billy	** Van Dyke	Paul
Salter	Fred	** Vines	Benton
** Salter	Herbert	** Vines	Charles
** Salter	W. J.	** Vines	Edwin
** Scales	J. J.	Vines	Larry
** Scherer	George E., Sr.	Wade	Raymond
Scroggins	Max	** Waldrop	B. B.
Sellers	Steve	** Waldrop	Cass
** Sexton	H. Grady	Wallace	Keith
** Sexton	Lawis	Wallace	Larry
Sexton	Wayne	Walker	Robert
** Shaffer	Lloyd	Wellbaum	Conrad
** Shinn	E. O.	* Wesley	Ken
** Short	C. O.	Wheelis	Dwight
** Shuff	Clyde L.	** White	W.R.
**Simmons	J. W.	Whitlow	Glennis
* Simpson	Bill	** Wildes	Paul
**Smith	Billy	Williams	Garry
** Smith	Charles	Williams	Norman
** Smith	Н. В.	Willis	Mickey
Smith	Jerry	** Willoughb	y Walter
** Smith	Leon	** Winslett	T. E.
** Smith	Sam	** Wintter	James
** Smith	S. J.	Wood	Charles
** Smitherma		** Wood	J. O.
** Southall	W. J.	** Wright	Bill
** Spangler	н. н.	** Wright	Floyd
* ** Stanley	Cleon	Wyatt	Leroy
** Stone	Jack		,
Stoves	Stuart		
Stringfellow	Dave		
Sumflemow	Duve		

<sup>\*</sup> In 1999 & 2003 due to age and or health reasons these men chose to become Deacon Emeritus \*\* Deceased

# Known current members of Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, who are descendent of <u>Charter Members...</u>

## Mary Jane Lee Dabbs - Charter Member

Mary Jo Travis Ritchie

Herb Ritchie

Sam Travis

Carol Travis Willis

Christopher Willis

Casey Willis

Helen Dabbs Syx

Randy Syx

Ann Dabbs Roberts

Sue Dabbs Turner

Alan Turner

Charles Richard Dabbs

Jeff Dabbs

Connie Dabbs

Chris Dabbs

Nancy Dabbs Glover

Gerald Ray Dabbs

Jeremy Dabbs

Bill Hoster

Jack Dabbs

Kay Dabbs Moyer

Floyd Syx

Calvin Syx, Jr. (Bud)

Carolyn Frame

Ricky Frame

Connie Frame Lantrip

Krystal Lantrip

Lou Anna Dabbs Counts

Jo Anna Counts

Freddie Dickinson

Nellie Dabbs Matlock

**Prude Points** 

# James Marion and Frances Ann McClain Knight - Charter Members

Jewel Knight Bishop

Virginia Knight Barnwell

Jimmy Barnwell

**Doris Knight Roberts** 

Kenneth Cooper

Misty Cooper Ison

Keith Cooper

Scott Cooper

Michael Cooper

Joel Knight
Cathy Knight

Woody Knight

Gloria Knight Gober

Mary Knight Roberts

#### Manoah Robertson - Charter Member

Charlie Lou Robertson Jayne

Charles Mike Robertson

## Sam T. and Jesse V. Huey - Charter Member

Carol Smith Gill

# Catherine Lacy Huey - Charter Member

W. Cbo Waldrop

**Billy Roberts** 

Sarah Jean Salter Jennings

Sarah Helen Jennings Bearden

**Emily Jennings Douglas** 

Alex Waldrop

Mary Lou Jennings

Bebe Salter George

Carol Salter Spangenberg

Robin Salter Misso

Bobbie Jean Roberson Coston

**Bill Coston** 

**David Coston** 

Danielle Coston

Ralph Coston

Jesse Coston

Julie Coston

Connie Coston Jinks Gibbons

Casey Jinks

Jacob Jinks

Jeremy Jinks

**Bob Coston** 

Crystal Coston

Sam Coston

Sharon Huey Ray

Andrew Ray

Barry Huey

Rodney Huey

Marsha Huey

Hugh Lee Huey Sexton

Tera Sexton Hansen

Wayne Sexton

Jeff Sexton

D. L. Huey, Jr.

Floyd Huey
Timothy Huey
Jennifer Huey Veasey
Marion Huey Gober
Mary Ruth Huey Harris

## **Special Gifts**

#### Furnishings...

Auditorium and Chapel Furniture – was given by Mr. Charles O. Finley 1957 – Chicago, Illinois - Plaque placed in foyer. Mr. Charles O. Finley later owned the Kansas City A's and Oakland A's - professional baseball team.

A quote from Mr. Finley that is on the plaque: "IT IS A REAL PLEASURE TO BE OF HELP TO THE PLEASANT RIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH WHERE AS A CHILD I ATTENDED WORSHIP"

Baptistery leaded Stained Glass scene of the River Jordan – "In Loving Memory of Hewitt S. & E. Melissa Thompson & Henry Park Durrett by Mrs. Myrtle Thompson Durrett" – plaque placed

Hammond Organ - Mrs. Myrtle Durrett - plaque placed - organ replaced

Planters in the Auditorium – Coston Construction Company – covered over during a previous remodeling of the platform

Electrical equipment for the original Hammond Organ - Mr. Clyde L. Shuff - organ replaced

First Chimes: "In Memory of Our Brother First Lieutenant William Joel Southall, Killed in Action April 15, 1945" – plaque placed

In 1992 the prayer room was refurbished throughout and included new furnishing, and was dedicated as the A. Judson Jones prayer room. At this time a security locking system was put in place so that you could have access to the prayer room 24/7.

BRG Carillon Bell/Chimes System installed 2004 – Eudora and Clinton Meadows in memory of their son Clinton, Jr. – plaque placed in foyer

Leaded & Stained Glass window in the Chapel given by Louise V. Salter in memory of Hebert Salter

To all, who through tithes and offerings have made this House of Worship a reality

## Other Gifts...

Fifteen (15) Passenger Dodge Van – Tera Scales Huey

Prayer Room:

Leaded Stained Glass Window - In Loving Memory of Gerald Travis Hicks by Mary E. Hicks

# The Ten (10) Leaded & Stained Glass Windows in the Sanctuary

On April 27, 1959, our pastor, Rev. A. Judson Jones signed a contract with Furman Leaded & Stained Glass Co. to remove the original frosted window panes and replace them with beautiful leaded & stained glass at a cost of \$4000. Near the crown of each leaded & stained glass window there is a Historical Scriptural "Emblem" in the design, which has specific meaning for that window.

Cast Bronze Memorial Plaques have been placed on each window sill - inscribed as follows: (Fourteen of these plates were purchased from Furman Glass Co. at a cost of \$17.92 /each)

Following is a quote from a brochure published for the Dedication of these windows.

"We dedicate the beautiful windows to the memory of those who have labored here and have now entered into their heavenly rest, and also to those who labor with us still and whose faithful lives inspire us on to earnest service"

## \*Entrance Right - North Side of Sanctuary - east to west\*

- #1 Ida Robertson Plyler (By Mrs. John (Berniece) Dabbs)
  The Lamp resting on The Book is a symbol of the Word of God as a Lamp unto our feet.
- # 2 Lucien L. Parsons & Nettie Huey Parsons
  Callaway Lee Dabbs & Mary Huey Dabbs (By their children)
  The Crucifixion The Cross, The Vinegar Sponge, The Spear, Implements of the Crucifixion.
- #3 Mary Alice Huey, Missionary to China 1907 1949
  (By the Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church)
  "The Open Bible and the Sword." "The Word of the Lord is the Sword of the Spirit."
- # 4 Dedicated to Mr. & Mrs. D. Murry Huey
  Mr. & Mrs. H. Nelson Huey
  (By the children of Mr. and Mrs. D. Murry Huey)
  A Shock of Wheat always signifies the Body of Christ Broken in Redemption
- #5 Bela Ernest Bentley (By Mrs. B. E. Bentley)
  The Trumpet Wreathed in Olive Branches Announces the Coming of Christ's Kingdom.

# \*Entrance Left - South Side of Sanctuary - east to west\*

- # 1 Waldrop (By the children)
  The End Of Time The Sickle of the Reaper, the Wings of Eternity
  and the Hour Glass.
- #2 Joseph H. & Lorena A. Moyer give by David R. Moyer Family Mr. & Mrs. Marion (DUB) C. Dabbs (By the Family)

The Dove returning to Noah's Ark with Olive Branch – Proof that the Flood had subsided. Greek Cross in background

- #3 J. Tol & Rose Robertson given by Ada Mr. & Mrs. Horace G. Ray (By the children) The Cross with Anchor and Bible superimposed upon each other. "Faith, Hope, and Charity"
- # 4 Mr. & Mrs. Allen C. Owen given by Roy, Fred & Malcolm "The Cross and The Crown"
- #5 Newborn B. & Virgie I. Salter given by family
  The Harp or Lyre was national musical instrument of Hebrews.
  First instrument used in public worship. (Ps. 33:2)

(The following note of thanks copied from the dedication brochure)

We wish to express our gratitude to Mrs. (Myrtle Thompson) H. P. Durrett, who worked with the artist in designing the windows and also made contacts with those who gave.

We thank the people, who have given a window in memory or dedication of a loved one whose life still lives to bless.

We also wish to thank F. (Frank) E. Bartlett, and H. G. (Grady) Sexton, who installed the Memorial plaques.

# Gifts to PRBC through Estate Planning

This page is to record those that have, through love for this grand old church, designated property or money to Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, through estate planning.

Should you or your family be interested in similar type estate planning, please talk with your legal advisory person about this matter.

#### Estate of...

Myra Morrow - property
Pauline Ray McFarland - money
Melba Shinn - money
John & Zelpha Simmons - money
Bernice Wilkinson – money

## **Scholarships**

This page is to record those that have set aside funds to support an ongoing educational scholarship program through PRBC, in honor of or in memory of loved ones. These scholarship funds are invested with The Alabama Baptist Foundation in Montgomery, Alabama unless otherwise noted.

These scholarships remain open so that they can receive contributions to allow for growth. Please call the Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church office for correct procedure to contribute to these funds, 205-491-3771.

The selection of the recipient and the administration of these scholarships are supervised by the PRBC "Scholarship Committee," based on the guidelines set forth by the originators.

Should you or your family be interested in a similar type scholarship program, please call the PRBC office at 205-491-3771 or the Alabama Baptist Foundation in Montgomery, for assistance in this matter.

#### Scholarship in the name of...

#### Clarissa Smith Wintter – Memorial Scholarship

Scholarship have been awarded annually since 1989: James Kelley, Rebecca Wright, Julie Glasgow, Jesslyn Cagle, Brian Akin, Rebecca Burks, Krista Poole, Cindy Lynn Harris, Jeremy Dabbs, Matthew Alan Kirksey, Tina Davidson, Justin Griffith, Julie Coston, Cody Griffith, Erin Redmond, Jessica Otwell, Kimberly Kirby.

#### Susie Dell Ray Wildes – Memorial Missions Scholarship

Scholarship has been awarded annually since 1989 except for 1995, 97 & 98: Paula Jones, Scott Austin, Scott Austin, Robyn Hess, Brian Harper, Donald Barger, David Parks, David Parks, Melody Maxwell, Grace Cook, Tiffany Davidson, Tiffany Davidson.

#### A. Judson Jones – Memorial Scholarship

Scholarship has been awarded annually since 1996: Michael Lynn Crawley, Michael John Wallace, Timothy G. Davis, Michael Lynn Crawley, Michael Lynn Crawley, Carin Glover, Carin Glover, Jonathan Riddle, Jeremy Sandefur.

#### Billie Barkley

Marietta Phillips (\*)

Elizabeth Jones (\*)

(\*) not invested with The Alabama Baptist Foundation

## The PRBC Facilities / Buildings

#1. The first building was a school and a log church. Indenture of H. B. Robertson and wife to T. B. Huey, R. E. Huey, B. B. Waldrop and Monah Robertson, Trustees, August 15, 1874. The land from road including cemetery was first part consisting of 4 acres.

Some people say this was used for church only in bad weather. The rest of the time they met under the large oaks.

- #2. The little white church with two doors in the front and located in the edge of the cemetery. This building was used until it had to be propped with poles, c. a. 1987. Notice the two doors in one end. The men entered the one on the left and the ladies used the other door. The men sat facing the ladies at the front of the church.
- #3. The next building was nearer the road. The windows were frosted and some say it had high peaked windows.
- #4. About 1921-22 Dr. Hendricks talked the church into tearing #3 down and build a more imposing building on the same spot. This one was built of brick and wood. The 2 x 12 girders and ceiling joist were on 8 inch centers, a very sturdy building. It seated approximately 400.
- #5. In 1949 an educational building started the present building cycle, three floors and completely fire proof. This was the first of three unit modern plant.

(above information taken from the book compiled by Mr. James O. Harris for our centennial celebration 1875-1975 – pages 144 and following)

#### NORTH WING

Building Committee J. R. Christian Leonard Huey C. L. Hammonds

#### Architect

Leonard Huey 2/12/45 Consultants from Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tennessee

#### Contractor

E. C. Coston

#### Cost

\$250,000

Square Footage, approximate 19,845

#### Major Features

Nursery, Beginners and Primary Departments

Note: March 3, 1949 the Jefferson County - Hueytown Elementary School, located across the street from the church burned. The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors of the north wing, that were unfinished at the time, were used to house the school temporarily, along with the main church building.

#### **SANCTUARY**

The church secured the services of J. Martin Lide architect for the purpose of drawing plans for the new sanctuary, May 12, 1954. Architect fee approximately \$12,000.

#### **Building Committee**

C. L. Hammonds

H. G. Jenkins

John C. Lang

#### Contractor

E. C. Coston

#### Cost

At cost plus 6% with total cost not to exceed contract bid of \$344,925.

#### Square Footage, approximate

9,900 Sanctuary and class rooms near chapel

1,200 Second floor near Baptistery

1,494 Chapel

#### **PASTORIUM on Laird Avenue**

Begun Nov. 14, 1966

#### Cost

\$35,000

#### Contractor

Lee A. Roberts

#### Disposition

At the retirement of Brother A. Judson Jones the church worked out an agreement so that the ownership of this Pastorium was transferred to A. Judson and Dixie Jones.

#### **SOUTH WING**

#### Architect

Christian, Fuller and Blake July 9, 1969 to draw blueprints for the south wing.

#### **Property Acquisition**

Samsall and Godwin properties, Nov. 4, 1964 \$35,000

#### Cost

\$675,000

# Square Footage, approximate

27,985

Major Features
Office Suite
Large Fellowship Hall
Modern Kitchen
Nursery and Preschool through six grade departments

Trustees
Frank Knight
Grady Sexton

C. L. Hammonds

With completion of the South Wing, this was the final stage of a long range building program which was begun in 1949. Rev. A. Judson Jones effectively led the church through these building programs and retired after thirty-three years of active ministry here at Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church.

## **Christian Family Life Center**

April 1980 the church voted to purchase the Winn Dixie property, located across Hueytown Road from the church, for future use of a multi purpose activities building at a cost of \$210,000. Plans also included the renovation of the first educational building (North Wing).

Steering Committee Members presented a fund raising program called "GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER". Committee members were: George Scherer director, James Fleming canvas director, Ken Burns special gifts director, Wayne Sexton promotion director, Oscar Densmore fellowship director, Benny Edwards banquet director, Helen Syx secretary, Joe Counts follow-up director.

Cost

\$1,700,000.

Architect

Knight and Associates

Contractor

E. C. Coston

Square Footage, approximate 25,679

Major Features

Snack Area, Gym with overhead Walking Track, Game Room, Craft Room, two Racquet Ball Courts, Cardio Vascular Weight Room with equipment, Kitchen, Patio, a beautifully appointed Fire Side Room.

#### **Organizational Meetings**

Copied from the minutes: First Meeting of Retired Persons for Prayer and Bible Study February 8<sup>th</sup>, 1967, 10:30 A. M. Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church - *Hueytown, Alabama* 

On February 8, 1967 a group of Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church members met in the dining room of the Church (located in the basement of the old sanctuary that was demolished soon thereafter) to form a prayer group for retired persons.

Prayer Fellowship Hour was suggested by our Pastor, the Rev. A. Judson Jones, as a name for the newly formed group. (The name of the group was later changed to the A. Judson Jones Prayer Fellowship, in honor of our former pastor and dear friend who passed away on April 7, 2003.

The meeting day was changed to Tuesday at 11 A. M. and the meal is usually a covered dish affair with the church hostess serving freshly fried chicken.)

While this group is for the purpose of giving retired persons a chance to have Bible study and prayer meetings during daylight hours, there are no restrictions for membership. Anyone who wishes to join the group is welcome in our services.

Steve M. Christian, serving as leader for the initial meeting, opened the service with a prayer. He read one of his favorite chapters, the third chapter of Ecclesiastes and discussed the reason for his faith in its words. A free discussion period followed.

In order that our Prayer Fellowship Hour would become a functional part of our church work and be carried on regularly, a business session was held.

- 1. Steve M. Christian was elected leader (J. M. Tucker nominated J. W. Carden second)
- 2. Mr. J. M. Tucker, associate leader (J. B. Pitts nominated Edward Kiser second)
- 3. Pauline Christian Secretary
- 4. Rev. Judson Jones and Mr. Charles Woods will serve as Counselors. Mr. Woods expressed his willingness to help with music.

A tentative plan for the meetings was suggested by the leader. As time goes on, other plans may be added in order to strengthen our service. As we stand now, we hope to have one person volunteer to lead the service two weeks from this date.

It was noted that we meet each Wednesday at 11:00 A. M. Registration is requested at each meeting. Twenty members registered today. Mr. Ollie Dabbs gave the closing prayer following the lunch hour.

(Signed) Pauline Christian, Secy.

Leader #1 – Mr. Steve M. Christian – Leader #2 – Mr. Edward Kiser – Leader #3 Wade Jackson

#### Registration – February 8, 1967

L. Wade Jackson

J. B. Pitts

**Edward Kiser** 

Mrs. Edward Kiser (Ora)

Mrs. R. K. Gunnells (Leuua)

J. W. Carden

J. M. Tucker

Mrs. J. M. Tucker (Belle)

Rev. Judson Jones

Mrs. Judson Jones (Dixie)

Chas. R. Woods

Mrs. J. B. Pitts (Elaine)

Mrs. M. O. Dabbs (Mary Lou)

Mrs. Ida B. (Belle) Bentley

Pauline Christian

Steve M. Christian

R. K. Gunnells

R. H. Haistings

M. O. Dabbs (Ollie)

Howard Hayes (Dr)

The second meeting of the Prayer Fellowship Hour was called to order by the leader, Mr. Steve Christian at 11:00 A. M. February 15, 1967. The minutes of the organizational meeting of February 8<sup>th</sup> were read by the Secretary. Mrs. Wade (*Lillian*) Jackson was elected pianist for the group as music will be a part of the worship program. Mr. Charles Woods led two songs which the group sang in a worshipful voice – clear and strong. Mr. Edward Kiser was in charge of the service and explained his topic. He brought in some childhood experiences which emphasized the parental leadership of that day. He gave praise to a Christian mother for her guidance. After the closing prayer by Mr. J. B. Pitts, a lunch time followed. Twenty-nine attended today's meeting.

(signed) Pauline Christian, Secy.

## 2005 Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church Membership Roll

BROOME, Mrs. Lori BEARD, Mr. Vadus ARNETT, Mrs. Jeanette Α BROOME, Mr. Wayne BEARDEN, Mr. Ross ARNETT, Miss Niki ABBOTT, Janet BROWN, Mr. Adam BEARDEN, Mrs. Sara Helen ARNOLD, Mr. Bill ABERNATHY, Mr. Doug BEASLEY, Mr. Rick BROWN, Mr. Charles ABERNATHY, Mr. Keith ARORA, Mrs. Tara BROWN, Mr. James BEASLEY, Mrs. Tonja ABERNATHY, Mr. Richard ASHLEY, Mrs. Gail BROWN, Mrs. Jane BEDFORD, Mrs. Tracy ASHLEY, Ms. Sharon ABNEY, Mr. Brad BROWN, Mr. Jerome BELL, Mrs. Sandra ASHLEY, Mr. W. E. ABNEY, Mrs. Cheryl BROWN, John BELLEW, Mrs. Jane ATKINS, Kimberly ABNEY, Miss Christina BROWN, Mr. Joseph BELLEW, Mr. Ray AUSTIN, Ms. Mindy ABNEY, Mr., Jimmy BROWN, Ms. Karen BENEFIELD, Mrs. Melissa ADAMS, Mrs. Holly AUSTIN, Mr. Richard David BROWN, Mr. Kevin BENTLEY, Mr. Kirt AVERY, Mrs. Gwenda ADDY, Mr. Hunter BROWN, Mrs. Leigh BENTLEY, Miss Lauren AWTREY, Mr. Tommy ADDY, Mr. Kenny BROWN, Mr. Mark BERRY, Miss Anne ADDY, Mrs. Melanie BROWN, Matt BEVERLY, Mrs. Lucille В AKIN, Mr. Brian BROWN, Mr. Mike BIDDIE, Mrs. Joyce BAILEY, Mr. David AKIN, Mr. Jim BISHOP, Mrs. Jewel BROWN, Mrs. Nelda BAILEY, Drew AKIN, Miss Leslee BROWN, Mr. Ramsay BLACK, Mrs. Richard BAILEY, Mr. George AKIN, Mrs. Linda BROWN, Mrs. Rebekah BLACKSTOCK, Mr. Michael BAILEY, Ms. Janice ALEXANDER, Mr. Dean BROWN, Mrs. Sherry BLACKWELL, Mrs. Arline BAILEY, Mr. Mark ALEXANDER, Miss Jennifer BROWN, Tyler BLACKWELL, Mr. Kevin BAILEY, Mrs. Tammy ALLEN, Mrs. Betty BROWN, Mr. Wayne BOAZ, Mrs. Rhonda BAILEY, Tyler ALLEN, Mr. Maurice BRYAN, Mrs. Michele BOLDEN, Mr. Rodger ALLMAN, Allison BAINBRIDGE, Mr. Blake BUCKNER, Mrs. Wendy BAINBRIDGE, Miss Kim BOLDEN, Mrs. Rose ALL MAN, Mr. John BOLES, Mr. David BUMGARDNER, Mrs. Bessie BAISDEN, Mr. Dan ALLMAN, Mrs. Peggy BUNN, Mrs. Debbie BOLES, Mrs. Elizabeth BAISDEN, Jason ALLMAN, Quinn BUNN, Mr. Gary BOLES Jr., Mr. Hugh BAKER, Regina ALLUMS, Mr. Stephen BUNN, Mr. Harold BOLTON, Mrs. Annette BALLARD, Mrs. Vi Mae AMASON, Beth BUNN, Mrs. Marie BONHAM, Mrs. Julia BARKLEY, Mr. George AMASON, Mrs. Marcia BONNETT, Mrs. Bobbie BUNN, Mr. Tim AMERSON, Mr. Austin BARNETT, Mrs. Betsy BOOTH, Mrs. Norma BURCHFIELD, Mrs. Linda BARNETT, Mrs. Cora AMERSON, Blake BURCHFIELD, Mr. Michael BOYD, Mr. John BARNETT, Mr. Walter AMERSON, Mrs. Cami BURCHFIELD, Ms. Randi BOYLE, Mrs. Kamie BARNHILL, Miss Elaina AMERSON, Mrs. Cheryl BURGESS, Mrs. Marty BARNHILL, Mr. Jim BRACKNELL, Mr. Bobby AMERSON, Mr. David BURGESS, Mr. Sam BRACKNELL, Mr. Brent BARNHILL, Mr. Jimmy AMERSON, Katherine BURGETT, Mrs. Donna BRACKNELL, Mrs. Sandra BARNHILL, Mrs. Laura AMERSON, Mr. Parnell BRADFORD, Mrs. Kathy BURKS, Mrs. Anne BARNHILL, Mrs. Marla ANDERSON, Deborah BURKS, Mr. Glenn BRADLEY, Mr. Trip ANDREWS, Mr. Mike BARNHILL, Miss Mindy BURKS, Mr. Keith BARNHILL, Mrs. Wanda BRASFIELD, Mrs. Peggy ANDRUS, Mr. Frank BURKS, Monica BRASFIELD, Mr. Scott BARNWELL, Mr. Jimmy ANDRUS, Mrs. Lillie BURKS, Mrs. Pat BRASHER, Blake BARNWELL, Mrs. Virginia ANDRUS, Vince BURLESON, Mrs. Beth BRASHER, Miss Nancy BARR, Mrs. Brenda ARD, Mrs. Margaret BURNETT, Mrs. Doris BRAZEEL, Mrs. Ann BARRENTINE, Mr. Chris ARD, Mr. Michael BURNS, Mrs. Faith BARRENTINE, Mr. John BRIDGES, Miss Nancy ARD, Miss Sarah BURNS, Mr. Ken BRIDGES, Mrs. Ruth BARRENTINE, Mrs. Melissa ARGENT, Mr. Robert BURNS, Mr. Ronald BARRENTINE, Mr. Ray BRIDGES, Mr. Walter ARLEDGE, Mrs. Doris BURNS, Mr. Steve BARRENTINE, Miss Savannah BRITNELL, Mrs. Cheryl ARLEDGE, Mr. William BURRIDGE, Mr. George BRITTON, Mrs. Doris BARRON, Mrs. Aletha ARMSTRONG, Mr. Brian BURTON, Mrs. Hilda BROCK, Mrs. Bonnie BARTOLI, Mrs. Leigh ARMSTRONG, Mrs. DeAnna BURTON, Mrs. Jeanette BRODEUR, Miss Kara BASDEN, Mr. Chris ARMSTRONG, Mrs. Melissa BURTTRAM, Mr. Matt BRODEUR, Kristin BASS, Mr. Jeff ARMSTRONG, Mr. Scott BUSBY, Mrs. Kathy BROOME, Justin BATES, Mr. Doug ARMSTRONG, Mr. Stephen BUSH, Miss Lori BROOME, Lindsey

BEAN, Mrs. Wendy

ARNETT, Mrs. Jane

BUTLER, Mr. Jeff CHAMBERS, Mr. Jamey COOPER, Scott CROWE, Mrs. Farrell BUTLER, Mr. Jeff, Jr. CHANDLER, Mr. Rick COPELAND, Mrs. Tommie CROWE, Mrs. Joan BUTLER, Mrs. Sandy CHASTEEN, Mr. Michael COPPEDGE, Mrs. Genette CROWE, Mr. Larry BUTT, Mrs. Angie CHATHAM, Mr. Mike COPPEDGE, Mr. Jack CROWE, Madison BUTT, Mr. Arthur CHERRY, Mr. Mort CORBETT, Mrs. Pat CROWE, Ms. Melanie BUTT, Mr. Garry CHERRY, Mrs. Velma CORGILL, Ms. Melanie CRUMP, Mrs. Eva BUTTRAM, Mr. Bobby CHESSER, Mrs. Jennifer COSTON, Miss Arny CRUMPTON, Mr. Robert BUTTS, Mr. Chris CHESSER, Joshua COSTON, Mr. Bill CUMMINGS, Dustin BUTTS, Mr. Robert CHESSER, Mr. Nathan COSTON, Mr. Bob CUMMINGS, Mrs. Janet BUTTS, Mrs. Tommie CHIARAMONTE, Mr. Chad COSTON, Mrs. Bobbie CUMMINGS, Mrs. Linda BYARS, Mr. Caleb CHRISTIAN, Mr. Frank COSTON, Crystal CUMMINGS, Michael BYARS, Miss Hannah CHRISTY, Mrs. Mildred COSTON, Miss Danielle CUMMINGS, Shannon BYARS, Mr. Philip CLARK, Jerome COSTON, Mr. David CUNNINGHAM, Mr. Berney BYARS, Ms. Theresa CLAY, Brad COSTON, Mr. Jack CUNNINGHAM, Mrs. Shirley BYRAM, Mrs. Elizabeth CLAYTON, Mrs. Connie COSTON, Jesse BYRAM, Mr. Ronnie CLEMENTS, Jason COSTON, Mrs. Joan D BYRD, Mr. Murray CLEMENTS, Mrs. Joann COSTON, Miss Julie DABBS, Mrs. Barbara CLEMENTS, Mr. Ken COSTON, Mrs. Pamela DABBS, Mrs. Betty Jo С CLEMONS, Christian COSTON, Mr. Ralph DABBS, Mrs. Bonnie CAGLE, Mrs. Iva CLEMONS, Mrs. Jane COSTON, Sam DABBS, Ms. Brenda CAGLE, Mr. James CLEMONS, Mr. Ross COTTEN, Mrs. Christy DABBS, Mr. Chris CAGLE, Ms. Jesslynn CLEVENGER, Mr. Jerry COTTINGHAM, Mr. David DABBS, Connie CALDWELL, Mr. Don CLEVENGER, Mr. Joe COTTINGHAM, Mr. Meade DABBS, Dr. Jack CAMPBELL, Mrs. Angela COBERN, Mr. George COUCH, Mrs. Kathy DABBS, Mr. Jeff CAMPBELL, Mr. Billy COBERN, JR., Mr. George COUNTS, Mrs. Irene DABBS, Mr. Jeremy CAMPBELL, Mr. Brandon COCHRAN, Mrs. Phoebe COUNTS, Miss JoAnna DABBS, Mr. Jerry CAMPBELL, Mrs. Donnie COLE, Mrs. Kaye COUNTS, Mr. Joe DABBS, Joel CAMPBELL, Mr. J. P. COLEMAN, Miss Heather COUNTS Jr., Mr. Joe DABBS, Mr. Richard CAMPBELL, Mrs. Janice COLEMAN, Mrs. Judy COUNTS, Mrs. Lou Anna DABBS, Mrs. Sandra CAMPBELL, Mrs. Mary CONNELL, Mr. Bruce COVIN. Jeff DATES, Mrs. Karin CANNON, Miss Jennifer CONNELL, Erin COWART, Mrs. Lois DAVIDSON, Mrs. Ruth CANNON, Mr. John CONNELL, Ricky COWART, Mrs. Nell DAVIDSON, Mrs. Shelia CANNON, Miss Lindsey CONNELL, Ryan COWEN, Mrs. Peggy DAVIDSON, Miss Tiffany CANNON, Mrs. Paula CONWILL, Mrs. Amy COWEN Jr., Mr. Prude DAVIS, Mrs. Ann CANNON, Mr. Terry CONWILL, Mr. Bryan COWEN, Mr. Tommy DAVIS, Mr. Brian CAREY, Mrs. Melonie CONWILL, Mr. Hubert COX. Brent DAVIS, Mrs. Debbie CAREY, Mr. Todd CONWILL, Mrs. Sharon COX, Mr. Greg DAVIS, Mrs. Gladys CARRELL, Melanie COOK, Ms. Amy Nell COX, Mrs. Jan DAVIS, Mr. Guy CARRIGAN, Mr. Tim COOK, Mr. Ben COX, Mr. W. A. DAVIS, Miss Haley CARRINGTON, Mrs. Florence COOK, Mrs. Cathie CRANE, Mr. Phifer DAVIS, Mr. Michael CARROLL, Mrs. Patricia COOK, Mrs. Dean CRANE, Mrs. Roxanne DAVIS, Mr. Paul CARROLL, Mr. Rodney COOK, Mr. Marty CRAWFORD, Mr. Tommy DAVIS, Mrs. Rena CASH, Mrs. Ruby COOLEY, Jill CRAWLEY, Mr. Dennis DAVIS, Mr. Terry CASHATT, Mr. Bill COOLEY, Shane CRAWLEY, Mrs. Susan DEADWYLER, Mrs. Beverly CASHATT, Ms. Leslie COOLEY, Susan CREEL, Mrs. Gloria DEADWYLER, Mr. James CATER, Ms. Lou Anne COOPER, Mrs. Carol CREEL, Mr. Jimmy DEADWYLER, Jamey CATO, Miss Brittany COOPER, Delana CREEL, Mrs. Lula DEAN, Mrs. Rhonda CATO, Miss Cierra COOPER, Mrs. Elaine CREWS, Mrs. Ania DEASON, Jack CATO, Ms. Robin COOPER, Mr. James CRIST, Mrs. Colleen DECKER, Dustin CERICE, Mrs. Emma COOPER, Mrs. Julia CRIST, Justin DEES, Miss Cynthia CHADWICK, Chris COOPER, Mr. Keith CROCKER, Mr. David DEES, Mrs. Myra CHAMBERS, Mrs. Amy COOPER, Mr. Kenneth CROW, Jon David DELONEY, Mr. Gene CHAMBERS, Mr. Brad COOPER, Michael CROWE, Mrs. Doris DICKEY, Mrs. Brenda

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GUTHRIE, Mr. Kenneth HARLESS Jr., Mr. Larry HICKS, Mrs. Kay HOWARD, Mrs. Lillian GUTHRIE, Mrs. Ruby HARLESS, Mrs. Sid HICKS, Mrs. Mary HOWARD, Mrs. Lois GUYTON, Miss Ashley HARMON, Mr. Bob HICKS, Mrs. Peggy HOWARD, Miss Susan GUYTON, Mrs. Diane HARMON, Mrs. Charlotte HICKS, Mr. Scott HOWTON, Mr. Sam GUYTON, Mr. Justin HARPER, Mrs. Denise HICKS, Steve HOWTON, Mrs. Sarah GUYTON, Mr. Randy HARPER, Karen HIGGINBOTHAM, Terri HUBBARD, Mr. Jimbo GUYTON, Mr. William HARPER, Mr. Robert HILL, Mrs. Bobbie HUDDLESTON, Mrs. Mary GWIN, Mr. Freddie HARRELL, Ms. Pamala HILL, Mrs. Jean HUDDLESTON, Mr. Ronald GWIN, Keith HARRELL, Mr. Sean HILL, Mrs. Judy HUDDLESTON, Mr. William GWIN, Mrs. Peggy HARRIS, Mr. B. J. HILL, Mr. Kenneth HUEY, Mr. Barry HARRIS, Mrs. Barbara HITCHCOCK, Mrs. Franki HUEY, Mrs. Brenda Н HARRIS, Mr. Billy HOBBS, Mrs. Judy HUEY Jr., Mr. D. L. HADDER, Miss Amy HARRIS, Cindy HOBSON, Mr. Adam HUEY, Mrs. Faye HAGOOD, Mrs. Betty HARRIS, Mrs. Dot HOBSON, Mrs. Charlene HUEY, Mr. Floyd HAGOOD, Mr. Blair HARRIS, Mrs. Hilda HOBSON, Miss Hope HUEY, Mr. John HAGOOD, Mr. Daryl HARRIS, Mr. Jim HOBSON, Mr. Tommy HUEY, Mrs. Katherine HARRIS, Mr. Larry HAGOOD, Mrs. Janet HODGES, Miss Emily HUEY, Mrs. Kathy HAGOOD, Mr. Larry HARRIS, Mrs. Pat HODGES, Mrs. La Manda HUEY, Mrs. Margaret HAGOOD, Mr. Terry HARRIS, Sandy HODGES, Miss Leigh Ann HUEY, Mrs. Marsha HAISTEN, Mr. Bob HARRIS, Mr. Thurston HODGES, Mr. Robert HUEY, Mr. Rodney HAISTEN, Mrs. Elizabeth HARRISON, Mr. Butch HOGAN, Mrs. Martha HUEY, Mrs. Ruth HALE, Miss Anna HARTLEY, Mrs. Myrtle HOGAN, Mr. Zachary HUEY, Timothy HALE, Miss April HASSELL, Mrs. Ann HOGUE, April HULGAN, Mr. Charles HALE, Miss Ashton HASSELL, Mr. David HOLCOMBE, Mitch HULGAN, Mrs. Janice HALE, Mrs. Jana HASSELL, Kim HOLCOMBE, Mrs. Renee HULGAN, Mrs. Mary HALE, Mr. Tim HASSELL, Shannon HOLLAND, Amy HULGAN, Mr. Tim HAMBY, Mrs. Doris HASTINGS, Mr. M. W. HOLLAND, Kevin HUMBER, Mrs. Naomi HAMBY, Mr. Norm HASTINGS, Mrs. Rena HOLLIS, Jackie HUTCHINSON, Mrs. Vera HAMES, Mrs. Linda HATFIELD, Mrs. Summer HOLMES, Miss Ashley HYDE, Mrs. Jeanne HAMM, Mrs. Brandy HAUSER, Mrs. Janet HOLMES, Miss Kacie HYDRICK, Mr. Bob HAMM, Miss Savannah HAWKINS, Mrs. Bettye HOLMES, Leigh Ann HYDRICK, Mrs. Leatrice HAMMONDS, Mrs. Carolyn HAWKINS, Mrs. Judy HOLMES, Mrs. Lisa HANKS, Mrs. Aggie HAWKINS, Mr. Richard HOLMES, Mr. Mickey HANKS, Mr. J. B. HAYES Dr David HOLMES, Mrs. Olive INGLE, Chris HANKS, Mr. Jerry HAYES, Mrs. Elvie HOLMES, Mrs. Ralph INGLE, Mrs. Erline HAYES, Mrs. Jessica HANKS, Mr. Taylor HOLMES, Mrs. Valerie INGLE, Mr. Leland HANN, Sara HAYES, Shawn HOLMES, Mr. Warren INGLE, Mr. Mark HANNAH, Mr. Gary HAYLES, Mrs. Elvie HOLMES, Mr. Wayne INGLE, Mrs. Pat HANNAH, Mr. Larry HAYLES, Mr. Richard HONEYCUTT, Mrs. Jean INGLE, Tim HANNAH, Mrs. Linda HEADLEY, Mrs. Kathy HOOD, Mrs. Nancy INGRAM, Mr. Mike HANNAH, Mr. M. L. HEADLEY, Mr. Thomas HOOKS, Mrs. Barbara INGRAM, Zach HANSEN, Ms. Tera HELMS, Mrs. Annie HOOPER, Mrs. Donna IRVIN, Mr. Don HARBIN, Mrs. Mildred HENDERSON, Mr. Jimmy HOOPS, Mr. James IRVIN, Mrs. Judy HARBIN, Mr. Zeblin HENDERSON, Mrs. Nina HORNSBY, Mr. Mac IRVIN, Mr. Paul HARBISON, Caroline HENDERSON, Mrs. Terry Lee HOSEY, Mrs. Dianne ISBELL, Mr. Billy HARBISON, Olivia HENSON, Brandi HOSEY, Jason ISON, Mrs. Misty HARBUCK, Mrs. Marjorie HENSON, Miss Hollye HOSTER, Mr. Bill IVEY, Mrs. Sue HARDIN, Mr. Bill HERREN, Mrs. Kathy HOWARD, Mr. Ben IZQUIERDO, Lisa HARDIN, Mrs. Cindi HICKEY, Mr. James HOWARD, Ms. Bonita HARDIN, Corev HICKEY, Mrs. Jill HOWARD, Dr. Gary HARE, Miss Kristin HICKEY, Shannon HOWARD, Mr. Gary JACKSON, Mrs. Elizabeth HARLESS, Mrs. Kim HICKS, Mr. Gerald HOWARD, Jason JACKSON, Mrs. Mary HARLESS, Mr. Larry HICKS, Mr. Jerry HOWARD, Jessica JACKSON, Miss Tricia

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SELLERS, Mr. Steve	SMITH, Mr. Marc	STOVES, Mrs. Helen	THOMPSON, Mrs. Cathy
SEWELL, Tammi	SMITH, Mary Nell	STOVES, Mr. Joel	THOMPSON, Charlie
SEXTON, Mrs. Hugh Lee	SMITH, Miss Mica	STOVES, Mr. Joel D.	THOMPSON, Mrs. Cindy
SEXTON, Mr. Jeff	SMITH, Mrs. Pat	STOVES, Mrs. Patsy	THOMPSON, John
SEXTON, Mrs. Linda	SMITH, Mr. Philip	STOVES, Robert	THOMPSON, Luke
SEXTON, Mrs. Mary	SMITH, Shandra	STRICKLAND, Derrick	THOMPSON, Phyllis
SEXTON, Mr. Wayne	SMITH, Tyler	STRICKLAND, Josh	THOMPSON, Mr. Robert
SHAW, Martha	SMITH, Virginia	STRICKLAND, Mrs. Priscilla	THORNBERRY, Mr. George
SHELTON, Alaina	SMITHERMAN, Mrs. Bess	STRICKLAND, Renee	THORNBERRY, Mr. Roy
SHELTON, Ginny	SMITHERMAN, Mr. Bobby	STRICKLAND, Mr. Robert	THRASHER, Mrs. Cathy
SHELTON, Melissa	SMITHERMAN, Mr. Jeff	STRINGFELLOW, Mr. Brad	TIBBS, Mrs. Mary Jo
SHELTON, Mrs. Nancy	SMITHERMAN, Mrs. Maudine	STRINGFELLOW, Mr. Dave	TINDLE, Mrs. Patsy
SHELTON, Mr. Terry	SMITHERMAN, Vicki	STRINGFELLOW, Mrs. Mary	TORTORICI, Mrs. Laurie
SHIELDS, Mr. Tom	SNIDER, Mr. Edward	STRINGFELLOW, Mrs. Misty	TOWNSEND, Alison
SHIPMAN, Larry	SNIDER, Ms. Jena	STUART, Mr. Bob	TRAMMELL, Drew
SHIPMAN, Sandy	SOUTH, Mrs. Eva	STUART, Mrs. Elizabeth	TRAVIS, Mrs. Frances
SHIPP, Mrs. Carolyn	SOUTHALL, Mr. Keith	STUART, Mrs. Gayle	TRAVIS, Mr. Sam
SHIPP, Mr. Ted	SOUTHALL, Mrs. Linda	STUCKEY, Randi	TRAYWICK, Mr. Jeff Neil
SHIRLEY, Mrs. Susan	SOUTHALL, Mr. Morris	SUTHERLAND, Mrs. Marie	TRAYWICK, Mrs. Joy
SHOOK, Keith	SOUTHALL, Mr. Thomas	SUTHERLAND, Mr. Scott	TREVOR, Mr. Richard
SHORT, Mr. Ben	SOUTHALL, Mr. Tommy	SWANSON, Mrs. Ann	TRIGG, Leah
SHORT, Mrs. Lynn	SPANGENBERG, Carol	SWANSON, Mr. Dave	TRIGG, Linda
SHORT, Mr. Scott	STACY, Chris	SWANSON, Nikki	TRIMM, Lanna
SHORT, Mrs. Sherri	STACY, Jennifer	SYKES, Mr. Gene	TRIMM, Ryan
SIMMONS, Mr. Jimmy	STAGGS, Bobby	SYKES, Mrs. Kay	TRUELOVE, Mr. Paul
SIMPSON, Miss Betsy	STAGGS, Miss Christin	SYX, Mr. Calvin, Jr.	TUBBS, Mr. Charles
SIMPSON, Mr. Bill	STAGGS, Kyle	SYX, Mr. Floyd	TUBBS, Mrs. Evelyn
SIMPSON, Mrs. Brittnye	STAGGS, Nancy	SYX, Mrs. Helen	TUBBS, Mr. William
SIMPSON, Mrs. Mildred	STAGGS, Namey	SYX, Mr. Randy	TUCKER, Rhonda
SIMPSON, Trudy	STAGGS, Samantha	STA, IMI. IXINDY	TUECH, Jeff
	STAGGS, Samanula STAMPS, Brady	T	TUECH, Laurie
SIMS, Mrs. Ann	STAMPS, Brady STANBERRY, Eric	TALLEY, Bonnie	TURNER, Mr. Alan
SIMS, Mr. Mike		TALLEY, Bonnie TALLEY, Brandi	TURNER, Mr. Charles
SLIGH, Andrew	STANBERRY, Julie	IALLET, DIGITUI	TOTAILE, WIL CHarles

WILLIS, Mr. Christopher WESLEY, Mrs. Anne WALDEN, Steven TURNER, Mr. Ray WILLIS, Mrs. Laura WALDROP, Alex WESLEY, Mr. Kenneth TURNER, Mr. Robert WESLEY, Mr. Kenneth, Jr. WILLIS, Mr. Mickey WALDROP, Brandon TURNER, Mrs. Sherryl WALDROP, Carl WESSON, Mrs. Evelyn WILLIS, Mr. Samuel TURNER, Mrs. Sue WILLIS, Ms. Sarah WESSON, Mr. Roger WALDROP, Mrs. Carolyn TUTTLE, Mrs. Jan WILLOUGHBY Jr., Mr. Harry WEST, Mr. Robert WALDROP, Mr. Charles TYLER, David WILLOUGHBY, Mrs. Violet WALDROP, Mr. Clarence WHEELES, Mr. Dwight WHEELES, Mrs. Shirley WILLS, Mr. Cory WALDROP, Mary Ü WHISENHUNT, Mrs. Carolyn WILSON, Mrs. Elizabeth ULMER, Mrs. Faye WALDROP, Mr. Rex WHISENHUNT, Mr. George WILSON, Mr. Josh USCHMANN, Cindy WALDROP, Mr. Van WHITE, Mr. Brian WILSON, Mrs. Linda WALDROP, Mr. W. Cbo WILSON, Mrs. Sandra WALDROP, Mrs. Willie Mae WHITE, Mr. George V WHITE, Mrs. Susan WINN, Mrs. Carla WALKER, Miss Alyson VAIL, Brad WINN, Mr. Trey WALKER, Mr. Brian WHITLEY, Miss Fallon VAIL, Jessica WHITLOW, Mr. Chase WINSLETT, Miss Ashley VALENTINO, Mrs. Stacy WALKER, Mr. Daniel WINSLETT, Mr. Chris VAN BENSCHOTEN, Ruth WALKER, Ms. Helen WHITLOW, Mr. Darwin WINSLETT, Mrs. Maxine WALKER, Mr. Justin WHITLOW, Mr. Glennis VANN, Lacie WHITLOW, Mrs. Jean WINSLETT, Mrs. Misty WALKER, Mrs. Shalee VANN, Mrs. Peggy WINSLETT, Mr. Shane WHITLOW, Mrs. Tammy VARDEN, Mrs. Barbara WALKER, Mrs. Stacy WHITSON, Mrs. Sally WINTER, Mr. John WAI KER, Mr. William VARDEN, Mr. Roger WINTER, Mrs. Teresa WIBLE, Mrs. Angela WALLACE, Ms. Lee Ann VARNON, Holly WOOD, Mr. Charles WALLACE, Mrs. Mildred WIBLE, Mr. Nicholas VEASEY, Mrs. Jennifer WOOD, Mrs. Jessie Mae WIBLE, Mr. Ronald WALLACE, Ms. Suzanne VERNON, Bettie WOOD, Mrs. Mary WILDER, Ms. Becky VERNON, Mrs. Robin WALLS, Mrs. Kathy WALLS, Mrs. Rose Marie WILDER, Mrs. Nancy WOODHAM, Mr. Tony VINES, Miss Amy WILEY, Mr. Henry WOODHAM, Mr. Woody WALTON, Mrs. Kathy VINES, Mr. Billy WORLEY, Mr. Canty WALTON, Mr. William WILEY, Mrs. Patricia VINES, Mrs. Brenda WORLEY, Mrs. Geri WILKINSON III, Mr. John VINES, Mr. Buddy WARD, Mrs. Ann WRIGHT, Mrs. Betty WII KINSON, Mr. Steven VINES, Chelsea WARE, Mrs. Diane WILLIAMS, Mrs. Ann. WRIGHT, Mrs. Carolyn VINES, Mrs. Delphine WARREN, Mr. Bill WRIGHT, Casey WILLIAMS, Mr. Blake VINES, Mr. Denny WARREN, Mrs. Nancy WASHINGTON, Mrs. Donna WILLIAMS, Mrs. Bobbie WRIGHT, Mr. Charles VINES, Mr. Forney WRIGHT, Mrs. Margie Poole WILLIAMS, Miss Carla WATERS, Judy VINES, Mrs. H. Betty WRIGHT, Mr. Roy VINES, Hannah WATERS, Rachel WILLIAMS, Mr. Dalton WYATT, Mrs. Betty WATKINS, Mrs. Eileen WILLIAMS, Ms. Dawn VINES, Mrs. Janice WYATT, Mr. Leroy WILLIAMS, Mr. Garland VINES, Mr. Larry WATKINS, Mr. Grady WYATT, Mr. Randy WILLIAMS, Mr. Garry WATKINS, Miss Kristy VINES, Mr. Loyace WATKINS, Michael WILLIAMS, Mr. John VINES, Lynn WILLIAMS, Ms. Libby VINES, Mrs. Maria WATKINS, Mrs. Muriel YEAGER, Mr. Robert WATSON, Bobbie WILLIAMS, Mr. Mike VINES, Mr. Marlin YOCOM, Mrs. Carol WILLIAMS, Mrs. Nancy VINES, Mr. Powell WATSON, Mrs. Deborah YOCOM, Mr. James WATSON, Mr. Patrick WILLIAMS, Mrs. Nora VINES, Mrs. Ruth YORK, Mrs. Ginger WILLIAMS, Mr. Norman WATSON, Mrs. Rhonda YORK, Mr. Greg WATTS Ms. Amy WILLIAMS, Mrs. Rebecca W WILLIAMS, Mrs. Sarah YOUNG, Mrs. Lula WEBB, Mrs. Clara WADE, Mr. C. E. WILLIAMS, Mr. Whitney WADE, Mrs. Norma WELCH, Mr. John WILLINGHAM, Ms. Amber Z WADE, Mr. Raymond WELCH, Mrs. Rhonda WILLINGHAM Mr David ZAGAMI, Mrs. Kay WADE, Ms. Tracy WELLBAUM, Mr. Conrad WILLINGHAM, Mrs. Marguerite ZEZULKA, Mrs. Barbara WELLBAUM, Mrs. Susie WADE, Velma ZEZULKA, Mr. Daniel WILLIS, Mrs. Amy WELLS, Mrs, Fidelia WALDEN, Garv WILLIS, Mrs. Beverly ZEZULKA, Mr. James WELLS, Mrs. Melissa WALDEN, Gary, Jr. WILLIS, Mrs. Carol ZEZULKA, Miss Lauren WALDEN, Karen WELLS, Mr., Steve ZOMORODIAN, Robyn WILLIS, Mr. Casey

WELLS, Mrs. Wendy

WALDEN, Mrs. Lynn

These Veterans are registered on the "Wall of Honor" at Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, as having honorably served in the United States Military with their branch of service and the date served. For more detailed information about these Veterans please visit the "Wall of Honor" and review their page which is recorded in the catalog.

#### \* denotes Deceased as of April 6, 2005

Allen, Clyde Maurice	1045 1046 No.	4EH B 1189	4040 4044 44 =
Alexander, Dean S.	1945-1946 Navy	* Fuller, David Thompson, Jr.	
Akin, James A.	1944-1945 Army	Gentry, William Edward, Jr.	1941-1945 Army
* Amason, James Wayne	1966-1969 Army	* Getts, Paul Julian	1942-1945 Army
-	1970-2001 Air Force	Gilbreth, Lloyd Orton	1944-1946 Army
Ammons, John Franklin	1963-1967 Air Force	* Gill, Oliver Randolph	1963-1969 Army
* Arnett, Randy Thomas	1977-1983 Army	* Glasgow, William J. (Bill)	1966-1970 Air Force
* Barnwell, James Lloyd	1944-1946 Navy	Glover, Ray Allen	1971-1973 Army
Barnwell, Jimmy Ray	1980-1992 Air Force	Gober, Robert Charles	1945-1946 Navy
Barnhill, James G., Jr.	1943-1948 Army	* Godfrey, John Howard	1944-1946 Navy
* Beverly, Earnest Franklin	1943-1946 Army	* Goodwin, I. Frank	1942-1948 Marine Corps
* Boles, Hugh Blair	1942-1946 Navy	Griffin, James Elbert	1943-1946 Army
* Bonham, Hugh Morris	1943-1945 Navy	* Griffith, Henry Jefferson	1941-1945 Army
Bracknell, Brent Jason	1988-1992 Air Force	Hagood, Larry W.	1965-2004 Army
* Bridges, Thomas Leon	1944-1945 Navy	Haisten, Lloyd Andrew	1943-1946 Army
Bridges, Walter G.	1943-1945 Army	Hardin, William B. , Jr.	1968-1971 Navy
Brown, Joseph Edward	1967-1970 Navy	Harris, Larry S.	1966-1969 Air Force
* Brown, Thomas Clay	1951-1956 Army	Hayes, A. David	1963-1969 Air Force
Bunn, Harold Wesley	1943-1946 Air Force	* Hayes, Edward H.	1942-1945 Army
Burks, Jim Clay	1971-1975 Air Force	Headley, Thomas Daniel	1968-1971 Marine Corps
* Burks, Jim Polk	1945-1945 Army	Hill, Kenneth Ray	1966-1969 Navy
* Burnett, John A.	1942-1945 Army	* Hill, Reuben Edward (Eddie	) 1958-1964 Air Force
Burns, Kenneth Edward, Sr.	1954-1957 Marine Corps	* Holmes, William Ray	1943-1966 Air Force
* Byram, Edward Middleton	1943-1945 Navy	* Hosey, Gary Floyd	1970-1971 Army
Cannon, John T.	1944-1946 Army	* Howard, George Leland	WWII Air Force
Campbell, Joel Price	1942-1945 Army	* Huey, Benny C.	1945-1947 Army
Cherry, Mortimer Nelson	1943-1946 Marine Corps	* Hulgan, Sidney Hoyt	1953-1961 Army
Childre, Hamp C.	1943-1945 Navy	* Hydrick, Chatman	1917-1919 Army
Clemons, Donald Ross	1954-1956 Army	* Hydrick, Jack Chatman	WWII Navy
* Cochran, Robert Ellis	1943-1946 Navy	Hydrick, Robert (Bob) Thoma	2
Cole, Douglas Alexander	1968-1971 Air Force		1950-1952 Air Force
* Coleman, William Earnest	1943-1946 Navy	Hydrick, Robert Vaughn	1973-1980 Air Force
* Cook, Barney Benson	1941-1945 Army	Jackson, Walter Wade	1943-1946 Navy
* Cook, Clarence Alexander,J		* Jannett, Thomas Cottongim,	
* Cook, Ewell Martin	1951-1952 Air Force	Jenkins, Billy Garrett	1943-1945 Navy
* Coston, William Eugene	1944-1946 Navy	Jenkins, Garrett Blane	1969-1975 Army
Counts, Joe Charles	1953-1955 Army	* Johnson, Robert Armstrong	
Cowen, Prude T. Jr.	1945-1946 Army	Johnson, Robert Wayne	1967-1977 Army
* Crabtree, James Curtis, Jr.	1953-1955 Air Force	Johnson, Marlin L.	1960-1962 Army
Creel, James Arthur	1943-1946 Navy	Jones, Judson Leath	1969-1971 Army
* Crowe, Harold Lloyd	1948-1949 Navy	Jones, Lowell Stanley	1966-1969 Navy
	1951-1952 Marine Corps	Jones, William Earl	1943-1946 Army
* Crowe, William Lawrence, S		Junkins, Harold Lloyd	1944-1946 Navy
* Dabbs, Fred Roscoe, Jr.	1943-1946 Army	* Junkins, Tilford LeGrande	1944-1946 Navy 1943-1972 Air Force
* Dabbs, Gurley L. (Dutch)	WWII Navy	* Knight, Rick, Jr.	1943-1945 Navy
Dabbs, Robert Edward	1965-1989 Army	* Knight, Woodroe Wilson	
Dates, Karin Marie	1986- Air Force	* Koss, Roy Mitchell	•
Dates, Travis Bryan	1986-1990 Air Force	Koss, William (Bill) Emmett	1943-1945 Army
* Davis, Floyd, Jr.	1943-1946 Army		1969-1971 Army
Davis, Guy Leon	1950-1953 Navy	* Lane, Olen Avery	1943-1945 Navy
* Davis, Thomas Villard (TV)		* Lang, John Clyde	1942-1945 Navy
* Dawson, James Hoyt	1943-1959 Naavy	Lawley, Edgar (Ed) M.	1958-1961 Air Force
Dickinson, Bruce A.	1940-1946 Navy	Lawrence, James Hershel	1942-1945 Air Force
* Douglas, Milton	1940-1940 Navy 1942-1945 Army	* Lee, Buford	1943-1945 Army
* Dugger, Hugh M., Jr.	1950-1969 Air Force	Lee, David Buford	1969-1992 Army
Eddings, Marvin Lewis		Love, Robert Dudley	1943-1945 Army
Fairburn, Sandra Jean	1953-1957 Air Force	* Lindberg, Ralph Eric, Sr.	1943-1945
* Fairburn, Thomas William,	1965-1995 Air Force	* Masters, Arkley Coe	1943-1945 Air Force
Fairburn, Thomas William III	JI. 1744-1743 AFRIY	McClendon, Bezzie Mae	1945-1953 Navy
		McCoy, George Buell	1943-1943 Navy
Fleming, James Earnest, Sr.	1952-1954 Army	McCoy, Gerry Franklin	1970-1990 Air Force
Finlayson, Wayne Steen	1967-1972 Navy	McFerrin, Fred Harold	1951-1953 Army
Foster, Stephen D.	1961-1988 Air Force	McLellan, Robert, Morton	1969-1972 Air Force
Fowler, John Newman	1050 1057 4		
* Evansa Coocaaa Dahaari	1950-1956 Army	* McLellan, Roy Eugene	1945-1946 Navy
* Frame, Geeorge Robert * Fromhold, Alvin F.	1950-1956 Army 1952-1961 Air Guard 1942-1946 Army	* McLellan, Roy Eugene Moore, Bura Manson * Moore, James Floyd	1945-1946 Navy 1942-1946 Army 1944-1946 Army

* Moore, Winfred Earnest	1941-1945 Army	* Southall, Armistice Enrico	1941-1945 Navy
Morris, John Lawton, Jr.	1956-1957 Navy	Southall, Morris Gustave	1943-1945 Air Force
* Nesmith, Cecil Clarence	1944-1946 Army	Southall, Thomas Eathen	1961-1963 Army
* Nethery, Edward Thomas	1942-1945 Seabees	* Southall, William Joel, Jr.	1941 Air Force
	1947-1950 Air Guard	Killed In Action WWII – raid	
Nichols, Willard (Pete)	1943-1946 Navy	Stamps, John H.	1951-1971 Air Force
* Nicholson, William Carl	1945-1946 Army	* Steen, William Truman	1941-1947 Navy
* Nix, O. M.	1944-1946 Army	* Stewart, Earl	1940-1945 Navy
* Norris, John Leonard	1943-1967 Air Force	Stone, Hamilton Bernard	1942-1945 Army
* Owen, Roy D.	-1941 Navy	Stoves, C. D.	1945-1945 Army
* Owens, Charles Ross, Jr.	1944-1945 Air Force	Stringfellow, Davey E.	1969-1971 Army
* Owens, J. W.	1944-1946 Army	Swanson, David Burton	N/A Air Force
Pass, Norman Cleon	1945-1946 Navy	Sullivan, Jetty Helen	1962-1968 Air Force
* Parsons, Samuel Polk	1941- Air Force	Syx, Floyd Eugene	1952-1954 Marine Corps
Pate, Thomas H.	1946-1947 Air Force	* Syx, Henry Terrell, Sr.	1943-1945 Navy
Peters, Willard F.	1941-1945 Army	* Teague, Hubert Eugene	1942-1945 Marine Corps
* Poarch, Edward McClure	1942-1945 Air Force	Thompson, Robert Harris	1941-1945 Navy
Poole, Morris Lee	1942-1945 Navy	Travis, James Samuel, Jr.	1943-1946 Navy
Poole, Samuel Morris	1971-1975 Air Force	* Traywick, Jefferson Newton	1943-1947 Navy
,	1983-1990 Air Force	Tubbs, William Clifton, Jr.	1942-1946 Seabees
Powell, Jeffery W.	1984-1988 Air Force	Turner, Charles L.	1952-1987 Air Force
Priestley, John Anthony, Jr.	1945-1954 Navy	* Ulmer, William Hewell	WWII Marine Corps
Reach, Stanley Gene, Sr.	1954-1956 Army	* Vann, Norman Weaver	1942-1945 Navy
Redmond, Perry Henry, Sr.	1945-1946 Army	Vines, Marlin M.	1942-1945 Air Force
Revis, Erwin D.	1959-1963 Air Force	* Wade, Howard Charles	1952-1954 Army
Richards, LaVaughn (Pete)	1953-1962 Air Force	Wade, Raymond E.	1954-1956 Army
* Roberts, Charles Jesse	1927-1946 Navy	* Waldrop, Himmie (Jug)	WWII Navy
* Roberts, Luther Eugene	1949-1953 Navy	Waldrop, Robert Carl	1950-1954 Navy
* Robertson, M. C.	WWII Navy	* Waldrop, Robert Chester	1956-1961 Army
* Robertson, George Neal, Sr.	•	Waldrop, W. Cbo	1943-1946 Navy
Salter, Fred Jackson	1953-1955 Army	Walker, Robert William	1957-1959 Navy
* Salter, Herman V.	1940-1942 Army	Wesley, Kenneth Forest, Sr.	1943-1946 Marine Corps
Salter, James Lawrence	1959-1963 Navy	Whitlow, Glennis Howell	1949-1953 Army
* Salter, Robert Carl	1944-1945 Navy	* Wildes, Paul J.	1916-1920 Army
Sadler, James Louie	1953-1957 Air Force	Wildes, Paul Ray	1943-1945 Air Force
* Scherer, George Elmus	1943-1945 Seabees &	, ,	1951-1952 Air Force
Benefet, George Zimas	Navy	Wiley, Henry Cleon	1942-1945 Army
* Schrader, William Leroy	1945-1946 Army	* Williams, J. C.	1946-1947 Army
* Scoggins, Loyd Mack	1942-1945 Army	Williams, Norman Wyatt	1952-1960 Army
Scroggins, Max L.	1945-1947 Air Force	* Winslett, William Jack, Sr.	1944-1946 Navy
* Seale, Norman Harold	1942-1946 Air Force	* Wood, James Olin	1941-1945 Navy
* Sexton, Joseph Benjamin, Jr		Woods, James Clifton	1945-1946 Navy
* Sexton, Joseph Benjamin, 31	1942-1946 Navy		•
* Shinn, Eurby O.	1942-1945 Air Force		
* Short, Clyde Odis	1958-1960 Army		
Simpson, Beverly R (Bill)	1943-1945 Navy		
Simpson, Deverty K (Dill)	17-15 17-15 1141 5		

Please continue to update the information and also add Veterans that are not recorded here. To update or add, please furnish detailed information about the veteran, <u>in writing</u>, and send to the PRBC office, to the attention of: Responsible for the Veterans' "Wall of Honor."

## **EPILOGUE**

A compilation of the history of Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church has now been written. As we read back over the pages, we can be proud of all our church has accomplished in its 130 years of existence. From humble beginnings, the church's main concern has been to serve God by serving our community and the family of God. Our doors remain open to anyone who seeks help and spiritual guidance. The many ministries of our church welcome all to participate.

For many years Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church was the only church in Hueytown. Although there are now many churches of many denominations available in our area, we remain a pillar of Christian witness in our community. Our church is built on the solid rock, Jesus our Savior, and will continue serving until He comes again!

There are many people who have played significant roles in the history of Hueytown and of PRBC who are not mentioned in these pages. With 130 years of service behind us, and thousands of members during all those decades, it is impossible to spotlight all of the activities and people who justly deserve recognition. We have tried to touch on the most important events, portraying the development of our church to the best of our ability. Relatively few of our members are elected to positions of leadership, but hundreds work quietly in the background and are always available when called upon in times of need. These wonderful people are the backbone of our church. All who have served, in any capacity, are extremely important and the church could not function without them. It has taken all of us, working together over the years, to make PRBC what it is today! There are still many needs within our church, and there is a place of service for every member of our congregation.

God has blessed our church in so many ways, and our church has, in turn, been a blessing to our community! We all look forward to the future, knowing that the Holy Spirit will continue to work through our ministers and members to serve God. May God continue to bless Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church!

The Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church History Committee

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