

Lillington Baptist Church

"The Praying Church"

210 West Lofton Street

Lillington, NC 27546

www.lillingtonbc.org

910-893-9151



1870 - 2020

Jubilee of Faith





Our Great History

It is the greatest celebration of the history of Lillington Baptist Church to acknowledge our great work and endeavor as we join the work of Christ and see the lost saved. The history of mankind testifies to the reality of sin. Sin takes you farther than you want to go, keeps you longer than you want to stay, and costs you more than you want to pay. **The wages of sin is death**; it separates us from God and eternal salvation. God has provided in the sacrificial work of Jesus the forgiveness of sin and the hope of a new life. We hope that you, in so reading, will come to know Jesus as your Lord and Savior as you reflect on His faithfulness. **Pray** unto God, believing in Christ and asking for forgiveness. The first step in faith is to believe. Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, the forgiveness of sin, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Belief in Christ is the key to life. The power and hope for living is in the resurrection. In Christ may you walk the way of redeemed **holiness** into the eternal presence of God. Amen.

How to Receive Christ.

1. **Recognize God’s Plan – Peace and life.**

God loves you and wants you to experience His peace and life.

The Bible says... “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life” John 3:16

2. **Realize your Problem – Separation from God.**

People choose to disobey God and go their own way. This results in separation from the Holiness of God.

The Bible says... “For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.” Rom 3:23

3. **Respond to God’s Remedy – The Cross.**



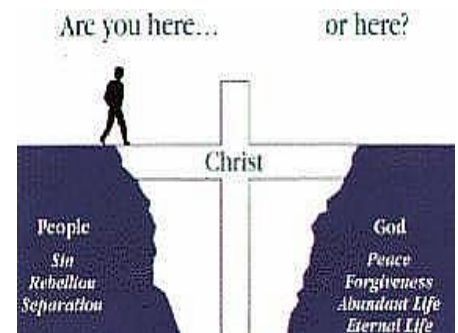
God sent His Son to bridge the gap. Christ did this by paying the penalty for our sins when He died on the cross and rose from the dead.

The Bible says... “But God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Rom 5:8

4. **Receive Christ – As Lord and Savior.**

You cross the bridge into God’s family when you prayerfully ask Christ to come into your life.

The Bible says... “But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God.” John 1:12



How to Receive Christ.

1. **Admit your spiritual need. (I am a sinner.)**
2. **Be willing to turn from your sins (repent)**
3. **Believe that Jesus Christ died for you on the cross and rose from the grave.**
4. **Pray and invite Jesus Christ to come into your life and for the Holy Spirit to take residence in your life. (Receive Him as your Lord and Savior!)**

Prayer of Commitment.

Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. I turn from my sins and invite You to come into my heart and life. I want to trust and follow You as my Lord and Savior. In your Holy Name, Amen.

ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT

Lillington Baptist Church has long been recognized as a principal institution and treasured place of worship in the community where it derived its name. The church was founded, and the town was incorporated during the same pioneering era in North Carolina. Both started out on a small scale, only to achieve astounding success in subsequent years. Today, the town is enjoying phenomenal growth in housing, commercial activity, and municipal services. The church has reached great heights as a place of prayer, fellowship, spiritual growth, and missions.

Lillington Baptist has its roots in Reaves Chapel Church, a member of the Sandy Creek Baptist Association, in Chatham County near Siler City. Marriage and dreams of economic prosperity played major roles in encouraging several members of that congregation to relocate to the small hamlet on the Cape Fear River that would become known as Lillington. The members were all related to the family of John (1813-1885) and Emeline (1814-1885) Marsh.

The migration of the Marsh-related family started a year before Harnett was excised from Cumberland County and many years before the town of Lillington was incorporated. The first of the family to move to the prospective town was Elizabeth Ann Marsh (1854), who married Andrew Jackson Kivett, a native from what would become Harnett County. Two additional sisters soon joined her with their husbands, one local and one from Chatham County. A brother came even later with their parents, John and Emeline. The family move was completed by 1869.

Members of the Marsh clan, including husbands, were devout church attendees; however, their new place of residence presented a major barrier in their efforts to participate in organized worship. They were Baptists, and no Baptist churches existed in the town. They could not attend the nearest church because of transportation issues and the unpredictability of the flood stages of the Cape Fear River. Consequently, they were forced to adopt an alternate plan - home church.

The private services for the Marshes represented a temporary means to help supply their need for spiritual nourishment. Soon the group sensed the need to magnify and extend God's work, so they took a bold step to help provide worship opportunities for many in town who longed for a full-time gathering place to pray, learn, and praise the Lord. In 1869, the nine members of the Marsh clan employed a pastor, the Reverend James G. Markham, to minister to them with an eye toward future expansion.

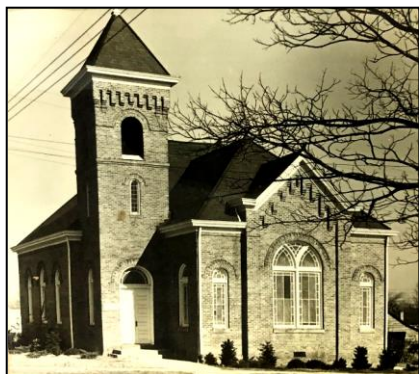
On October 2, 1870, the nine members of the group announced the formation of a church, *the future Lillington Baptist Church*. The Reverend James Markham was retained as pastor at a salary of ninety dollars per year. The original worship services were held at 101 West Front Street, likely the home of the Kivetts. The nine charter members of Lillington Baptist Church were as follows: John and Emeline Brooks Marsh, Andrew and Elizabeth Marsh Kivett, Dr. James and Susan Marsh Rogers, Benjamin and Adelaide Marsh Shaw, and William Franklin Marsh. Note: All but William Marsh are interred in the Lillington Baptist Church Cemetery on West Front Street. William Marsh and his wife, Jeanette Atkins, are interred at the Summerville Presbyterian Church Cemetery outside of Lillington.

In the days following the founding of the church, preaching was held monthly on Saturday and Sunday, with the service on Saturday utilized as a time for conference. Since they usually had little business, the conference meetings were changed to four times a year. Andrew Kivett, one of the founders, kept detailed minutes of the meetings as well as summaries of the preacher's texts and sermons, scripture passages used, hymns sung, and comments on sermon quality. All church members were required to attend services or provide an excuse by letter or by testimony of another member. Every member was urged to vote yea or nay on each measure or motion before the church.

Rev. James Markham, the original pastor, served the church for six consecutive years and an additional year at a later date. He possessed the qualities of a preacher/teacher as outlined in the New Testament. He labored in that dual capacity for all congregants until teaching functions were altered after 1877. Both growth in numbers and interest dictated a change in direction.

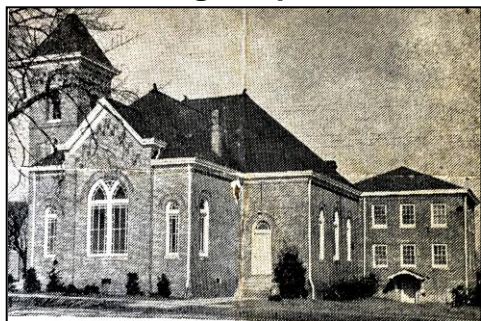
The church leadership then moved to underscore the importance of dedicated biblical instruction by securing a mature and able person as a teacher. The teacher selected was William Brunt. Brunt's salary was paid through the contributions of seven godly men. His instruction covered both Bible interpretation and application. Brunt's work along with his successor, Rev. Churchill, provided the church with the first quasi-organized class sessions. Topics of discussion were centered around biblical stories and events as well as morality issues. Due to limited access to published training materials, session activities generally followed the practice of pulpit lecturing. The line between sermons and group instruction was likely difficult to distinguish, as the presentations were repeated orally.

The Reverend D. McLeod followed Rev. Churchill as the next pastor. Rev. H.W. Norris then assumed the leadership at a salary of \$150 per year. Rev. J. M. Holleman was pastor for a total of ten years, spanning two time periods. His ministry started in 1892. When Rev. L.L. Hudson became pastor, plans for a new building were undertaken (September 29, 1912). A decision on the location was considered on April 20, 1913. A controversy between newcomers and old members erupted about whether to use the current location or move to a different one. The newcomers prevailed, and a motion to move was ordered.



The present church building was completed in February of 1914, at a cost of \$9,000. It was dedicated in April of 1914. The first pastor at the new location was Dr. J.J. Taylor, a missionary from Brazil on furlough. He was followed by the Reverends C.J. Thompson, J.S. Farmer, Sidney Edgerton, and Rev. Beach. While serving as the pastor of Lillington Baptist, Rev. Sidney Edgerton died on April 1, 1923, at the age of 35.

After serving as pastor from 1925-1926, Rev. Arthur S. Gillespie became a missionary to



China. He was succeeded by the Reverends Blalock, Leonidas L. Johnson (*Thora J. Womble's father*), S.L. Morgan, and Charles Howard. A major addition (see picture) was added during Rev. Charles Howard's leadership. It was planned and completed free of debt during severe depression years.

Looked this way in 1945.

History of Lillington Baptist Church (1870 – 2020)



Rev. Charles Howard was followed by the Reverends, W. A. Weston, and Sam F. Hudson. During Rev. Sam Hudson's pastorate, a house was purchased from John Sutton and renovated. It became the first parsonage and Rev. Sam Hudson was

the first pastor to live there. The next church addition was built during Rev. Sam Hudson's pastorate. He served over eleven years, and the church grew and progressed under his leadership. *Note: This parsonage was later purchased by Bill and Kathy Sutter, becoming their home. They moved it to its present location on the corner of 11th and McNeill Streets.*

The Reverend Theodore (Ted) W. Williams became pastor in June of 1951. At this time, church members voted to remodel the sanctuary. This major undertaking signified the continued growth and spirit of outreach generated by the church. A service of consecration was conducted on March 15, 1953, by Rev. Dr. M. A. Huggins, General Secretary of the North Carolina Baptist Convention. Sunday School attendance on that day was 245.



The dedication service included the stained-glass scene in the baptistery, *The Jordan Landscape*. This gift was made possible by the Ernest A. Simmons Memorial Class to honor all those who served our country. *The Jordan Landscape* rendering was designed and manufactured by the famous Franz Mayer-Stained Glass Company of Munich, Germany. It was shipped from Germany and assembled piece by piece

(each was leaded) on site. The other 14 stained glass windows and new pews were dedicated at this time as well.



The Reverend Lucian C. Pinnix became pastor in October of 1953. During his ministry, the Lillington Baptist Mission was organized in 1958. The mission church building was constructed in 1959 at a cost of \$10,000. The donation of materials and labor by many significantly lowered the cost of the facility. John Early Womble served as chairman for this project.

The mission, known today as Fellowship Baptist Church, was officially recognized as a church on April 1, 1969.



The 1960's represented a period of growth in membership and facilities while under the leadership of Rev. Donald Bowen (1960). A new parsonage, at a cost of \$28,000, was added during the first year of his pastorate. A 16,000 square feet educational building was added in 1966, at a cost of \$210,000 (present day value would be \$2,000,000).

Serving on the building committee were Billy Sexton - Chairman, Frank Murray - Vice Chairman, Mildred Johnson - Secretary, Ruth Aubrey, Hooper Bethune, Dorothy Dean, Walter Johnson, Lee Milton, Lincoln Neal, B. C. O'Quinn, Stacy Starling, and Ralston Smith.

The Reverend G. Barry Landrum became pastor in 1967 and served until the spring of 1970, at which time Rev. Scott Turner came as interim pastor. He was followed by Rev. James Pardue. The ministry of Rev. Boyce Brooks began in April of 1977. He originally came as interim, but agreed to serve a limited, full-time term. While serving, he accepted an assignment for a seven-month mission effort in Caracas, Venezuela, from late September of 1978 until May 31, 1979. In his absence, the pulpit was filled by Rev. Donald Myers of Wake Forest and Dennis Bazemore, assistant to the pastor. It was during Rev. Brooks' pastorate that the church first began to ordain women as deacons. Upon Rev. Brooks' retirement in August of 1980, Rev. Dr. Jerry Wallace served as interim until 1981, when Rev. Jeff Roberts was called.

During the over thirteen years of ministry led by Rev. Jeff Roberts, mission teams and ministry partnerships were created. Mission teams served in Pennsylvania, New York, and West Virginia. Financial support enabled many volunteers to assist with the construction of a church facility in Glenville, West Virginia. Lillington Baptist was one of three sponsoring churches for the Anderson Creek Community Mission.

Rev. Dr. Michael Cogdill served as interim pastor upon the retirement of Rev. Jeff Roberts in 1994, until Rev. Mark Morris was called in 1995.

The Reverend Mark Morris continued the mission emphasis as he led the church in hosting children from Belarus who suffered as a result of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster in the USSR. Mission teams from Lillington Baptist traveled to South Africa six times to construct church buildings and provide medical services, including Dr. Kenneth Talley's eye care ministries. In 2002, a team traveled to Honduras to build church pews, to lead Bible classes for children, and to distribute eyeglasses.

Rev. Dr. Dennis Bazemore returned to Lillington Baptist to serve as interim for over two years after the departure of Rev. Mark Morris in 2005. Called in 2007, Rev. Kenneth Smith pastored the church for six years. Soon after his departure, Rev. Dr. John Rogers was led to the interim position in which he ministered for over two years. In July of 2016, Rev. Daniel Selman, the current pastor, was called. His ministry emphases have been community outreach, spiritual growth, discipleship, and missions.

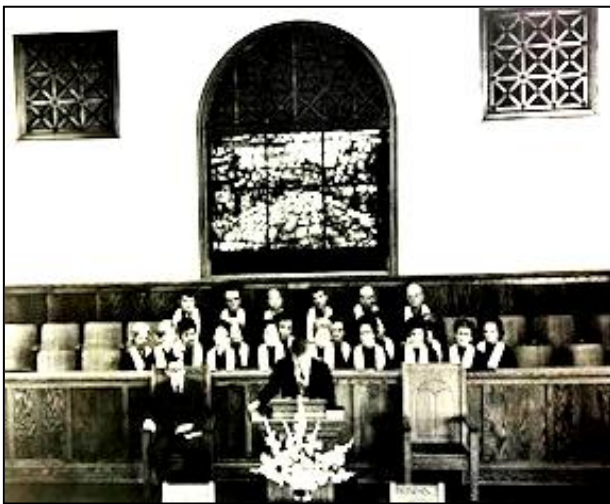
Historically, the Lillington Baptist family of faith has been involved in missions in our community, the state, the nation, and the world. Teams have been comprised of church youth, Baptist Men/Baptist on Missions, and partnerships with churches as well as those with Little River Baptist Association groups. Faithful servants have shared the Gospel of Jesus in South Africa, Armenia, Jamaica, Honduras, Cuba, India, Ukraine, Paraguay, China, Lebanon, Myanmar, Canada, Ecuador, Guatemala, Bosnia, and India.

Today: Members of Lillington Baptist genuinely love and care for one another. We are warmer through fellowship, deeper through discipleship, stronger through worship, broader through ministry, and larger through evangelism. Each one plays a role in shaping the lives of the youngest to the oldest for a lifelong walk-in faith. Lillington Baptist is a Jesus church, a gathering of His followers bound by a common faith and passion to see Lillington and the world come to know Jesus Christ as their eternal Savior. Lillington is our home, but the world is our heart.

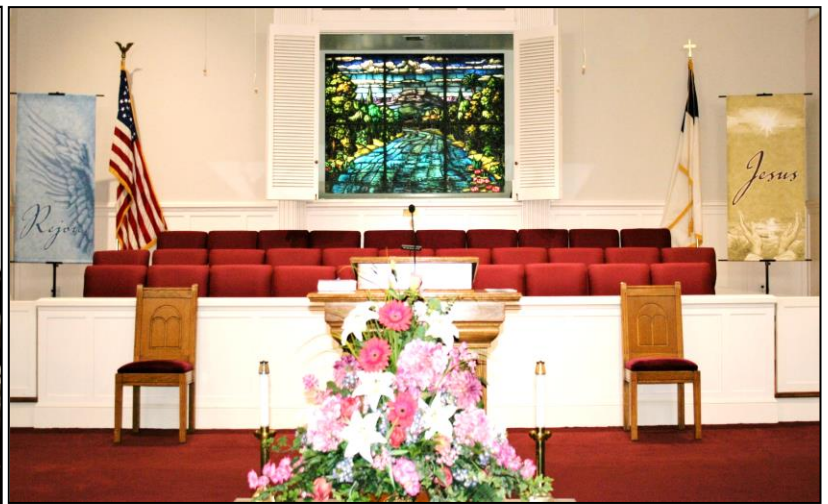
Our Rally Cry – **“Connect, Grow, and Serve!”** Our hope is that everyone at Lillington Baptist Church will gather for meaningful opportunities to share life together. Our Bible studies are places where larger gatherings are made small by allowing individuals to gather and connect with real people. These groups are vital to our journey at Lillington Baptist Church. The study groups are purposely designed so that everyone can have a place to belong and be nurtured, but most importantly, a place to be encouraged in their journey with Jesus. Being a part of a Bible study group is an opportunity for people of all ages to meet with others, build community relations, and develop lasting friendships and bonds as we learn from God’s Word.

Our Mission: “. . . helping people find God, grow in their faith, discover their purpose, and serve faithfully.” We continue to do this through our vision.

Our Vision: “Lillington Baptist Church seeks to be a visible community of Christ-like relationships, bringing the love, grace, and hope of Christ to Lillington and the world.” The church, our people, have always expressed their love for our Lord Jesus Christ by being visible to our community with Christ-like relationships and sharing the love, grace, and hope of Christ to Lillington and all mankind.



1970 (100 Yrs.)



2020 (150 Yrs.)



Bell: from Bell Tower in 1948 (page 5)



Drawn by Ruby Long 1971

Stained Glass Windows (15) (March 15, 1953 Consecration Service)



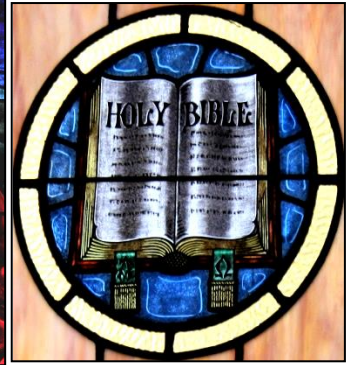
The Jordan Landscape – In the Baptistry
Ernest Simmons Class



Cross & the Crown
William R. Johnson



Christ in Gethsemane
Rev. Sam Hudson



Open Bible
Joseph Redfern



Cross on the Rock



Christ at the Door
Marjorie Spence, Missionary to Chile



Dove



Hand of Fellowship



Hand of Fellowship
John & Harry Garrell



Anchor



Good Shepherd
W. Buren Johnson, Missionary to China



Lamp on the Bible



Lamb



Come unto Me
Cleta W. Rives & G.W. Warren



Christ the Lord is my light.



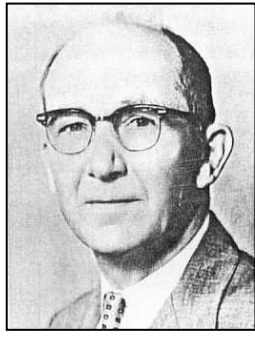
John Robert Baggett, Sr.
Allene Reeter Baggett
Year 1996
1996 Front Entrance

History of Lillington Baptist Church (1870 – 2020)

Pictures of Pastors



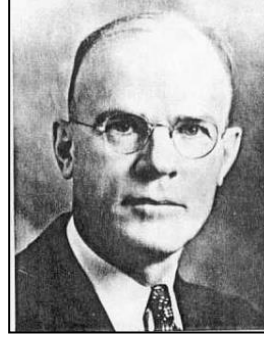
Sidney A. Edgerton 1923



Charles Howard 1934 - 1937



W. A. Weston 1938 - 1939



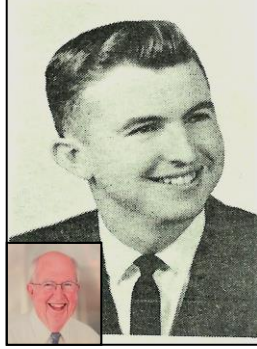
Sam Hudson 1940 - 1951



Ted Williams 1951 - 1953



L. C. Pinnix
1953 - 1959



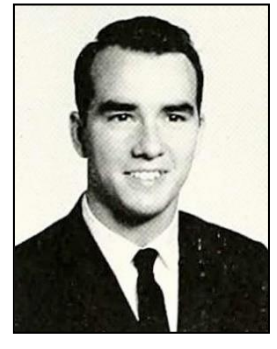
Donald Bowen
1960 - 1966



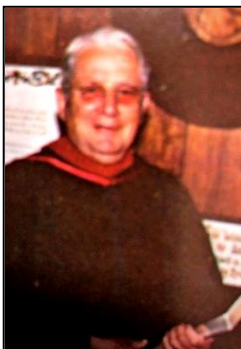
Barry Landrum
1967 - 1970



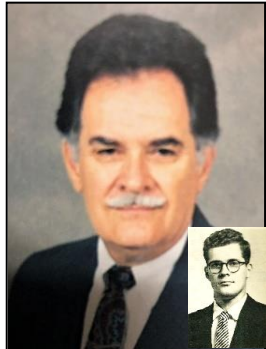
James Pardue
1971 - 1972



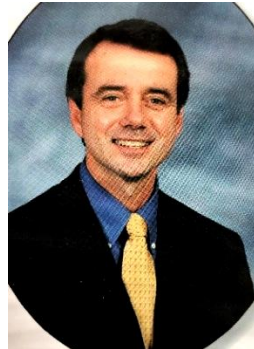
Emmanuel Pegram
1972 - 1976



Boyce Brooks 1977 - 1980



Jeff G. Robert 1981 - 1994



Mark Morris 1995 - 2005



Ken Smith 2007 - 2013



Daniel Selman 2016 -

Interim Pastors over the Last Forty-Two Years



Rev. Donald Myers
1978-1979



Rev. Dr. Jerry Wallace
1980-1981



Rev. Dr. Michael Cogdill
1994-1995



Rev. Dr. Dennis Bazemore
2005-2007



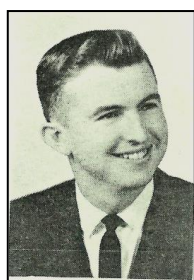
Rev. Dr. John Rogers
2014-2016

Pastors of Lillington Baptist Church 1870 - 2020

The Reverend

James G.	Markham	1870	1877	Ted W.	Williams	06-01-1951	08-01-1953
Elder W.	Brunt	1877	1883	Lucian C.	Pinnix	10-01-1953	12-31-1959
	Churchill	1883		Donald	Bowen	08-01-1960	08-31-1967
D.	McLeod			G. Barry	Landrum	12-31-1967	03-31-1970
H. W.	Norris		1891	Scott	Turner (I)	04-01-1970	10-01-1970
J. M.	Holleman	1892		James	Pardue	10-08-1970	07-15-1972
B.	Townsend	1902		Emmanuel	Pegram	11-19-1972	06-27-1976
L. L.	Hudson	1912		J. Boyce	Brooks	04-01-1977	09-30-1978
Dr. J. J.	Taylor	1914		Donald G.	Myers (I)	10-01-1978	05-31-1979
C. J.	Thomason			J. Boyce	Brooks	06-01-1979	08-31-1980
J. S.	Farmer			Dr. Jerry	Wallace (I)	09-01-1980	03-15-1981
Sidney A.	Edgerton		1923	Jeff	Roberts	03-16-1981	10-01-1994
	Beach	1924	1925	Dr. Michael	Cogdill (I)	11-01-1994	09-30-1995
A. S.	Gillespie	1925	1926	Mark	Morris	10-01-1995	08-14-2005
	Blalock	1926	1927	Dr. Dennis	Bazemore (I)	09-01-2005	09-30-2007
Leonidas L.	Johnson	1928		Ken	Smith	10-02-2007	10-01-2013
S. L.	Morgan			Dr. John	Rogers (I)	01-01-2014	06-30-2016
Dr. Charles	Howard	1934	1937	Daniel	Selman	07-01-2016	
W. A.	Weston	1938	1939				
Sam F.	Hudson	1-1-1940	4-01-1951				

Words from Former Pastors - Interims or Their Families



Three Bowens came to Lillington in the summer of 1960 and left in the summer of 1967 -- all six of us. Lillington proved to be one of the fond memories in the hearts and minds of the entire Bowen family and we still look forward to those rare occasions when we pass through Lillington on visits that way. We pray for God's continued blessings upon all who make up the LBC family by keeping the light burning in that corner of Harnett County. Blessings from the entire Bowen family upon one and all. Rev. Donald Bowen -- Pastor 1960 – 1966.



From Judie Pardue, wife of Rev. Jim Pardue: I cannot believe it has been almost 50 years since your pulpit search committee came to hear my husband, Jim, preach at First Baptist, Charlotte, NC. He was fresh off the boat from pastoring a mostly military church in West Germany and you all took a big chance on calling this Louisiana preacher. It was soon after our arrival when the church's 100th anniversary was celebrated. You so graciously welcomed us and our three children. Our daughter, Amy, started school there, and now she serves churches in the state through her leadership of the North Carolina

WMU.

Although our time there was too short, when we count our oldest and dearest friends, almost all of them we met during our time there. Although Jim at age 79 went on to glory in 2013, he joins me in congratulating you in being a consistent, faithful beacon for Christ through your witness of 150 years in central North Carolina. I think Jim would love to leave with the church the following scripture. (next page)

Ephesians 3:16-20 NIV: ¹⁶ I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸ may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. ²⁰ Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us. Blessings, Judie Pardue Rev. Jim Pardue – Pastor 1970 - 1972



Rev. Charles Myers, the son of Rev. Donald Myers, shared this note from Novie Milton relating to his parents' work at LBC: "Rev. Donald and Edna Myers, you have enriched our lives by coming our way. I am confident our church is closer in love and spirit. Mr. Myers, you meant so much to Lee. He enjoyed working with you at the church--enjoyed keeping your cup of water full. Ha! I enjoyed you in the choir. Your alto voice sounded clear and pretty. Thank you both for being a part of us for a while and thank you for your loyal service. We loved having you in our home. Bless you both; you will be in our prayers. Love you, *Novie and Lee Milton*" Rev. Donald G. Myers – Interim Pastor 1978 – 1979



"I am grateful and honored to have served as Interim Pastor of the Lillington Baptist Church. I was privileged to meet so many new friends and blessed to have continued their friendship for almost 40 years. The church opened their big hearts to embrace and love me and my family. I thank God for every remembrance of you."

Rev. Dr. Jerry Wallace – Interim Pastor 1980 – 1981



Thank you for the opportunity for Beanie and me to share in this blessed backward glance at the rich history of Lillington Baptist Church. We both are filled with gratitude to this wonderful congregation of God's people for the faith you exhibited when choosing us to be your "Pastoral Family" in the spring of 1981. I had just finished seminary the year before, and our family was being blessed by the wonderful Youngsville Baptist Church and community when you decided to take the chance that we might "fit" your congregation. We are remembering.

Those 13 years we shared had to have left some tracks to be either smoothed over or followed by the leaders that came after us. We are remembering how you blessed our children as they adjusted to a new school culture, church, and community. Thank you for helping us to raise our children in your love and grace. We are remembering.

During our time together we discovered that the congregation was ready to do more than the support of missions but were ready to be a part of doing missions. Looking around, we all found plenty to do in "our own backyard" and in other states – West Virginia and New York. We are remembering.

We close with nods of appreciation and love to the various staff members which we enjoyed and continue to follow with love, pride, and gratitude. So many endeavors that we enjoyed as a church family could not have happened without the committed skills and spirits of these good people. May the Lord bless you and keep you; may the Lord make His face to shine upon you, may the Lord be gracious unto you and give you His peace. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Rev. Jeff Roberts - Pastor 1981 – 1994

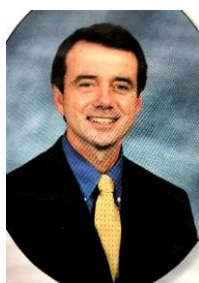


I was privileged to serve the congregation of Lillington Baptist Church as Interim Pastor during 1994-1995. These were wonderful days in my ministry, and the friendships developed during this period have lasted until the present day. I continue to love Lillington Baptist, and to be proud of the ministry of this significant church in Harnett County.

Two things stand out to me as I reflect on this church. One is their love for the Word of God, the Bible. The members of this church have always had a great love for God's Word, and they have exhibited this love through the years. And I would add – the laity in this church love the Bible as much as the ministers!

A second strong memory for me is the love for missions this church has exhibited through the years. Missions is in the DNA of this church, and countless are God's children that have been blessed by this commitment. May God's richest blessings always be upon this good church and its people. Congratulations on this Special Anniversary!

Rev. Dr. Michael Cogdill – Interim Pastor 1994 – 1995



Our family moved to Lillington in the fall of 1995, and the church family and staff helped make our transition an easy one as our children settled into school and Beechye continued her teaching career. Our family has many wonderful memories of our time as a part of this church family. One of our most memorable experiences was the opportunity that several families, ours included, had to welcome children from Belarus into our homes for a succession of summers. The church family went above and beyond in offering support and love to these precious children, and we pray that those efforts will have eternal significance. So many in the church family and those who served as a part of our church staff were a tremendous blessing to us. I thank you for the privilege of serving as your pastor. May God richly bless you as you celebrate this monumental milestone in the life of the church. In Christ, Rev. Mark Morris – Pastor 1995 – 2005



I returned to Lillington in 2003 to begin work at Campbell University, and at that time Linda and I rejoined Lillington Baptist Church. The church was a major reason we elected to live in Lillington when I took the position at Campbell. On October 1, 2005, the church called me to be the interim pastor. I was serving as the interim pastor for a church in Fayetteville, but I felt deep in my heart that this was an important opportunity for Linda and me to return to Lillington Baptist Church and give back to them in this role as the interim pastor, as they had given so much to me in the five years, I served the church while attending seminary. This was a time of providing leadership as the church worked through the leaving of a pastor and preparing to call another pastor. The church had experienced lots of change in the 23 years we had been away, yet there were still many members who were a part of the church when we were previously on staff. We spent two years in this interim ministry, and it was a wonderful experience of renewing friendships, creating new friendships, and following the will of God in preparation for calling a new pastor.

Rev. Dr. Dennis Bazemore - Interim Pastor 2005 – 2007; (Assistant to the Pastor 1977 – 1982)



The first church Joyce and I joined as a couple was Lillington Baptist Church in 1967, while I was a student at Campbell, and she was teaching in Dunn. We learned what it was to be the church as we found places to serve, grew in the Lord, and discovered the love and grace of God among a wonderful people.

We were invited back 42 years later to serve as the Transitional Interim for two and a half years. As I invested myself as a Transitional Pastor, Joyce invested herself in the life of the congregation. Together we walked, served, and worshiped with people whose heart for the Lord was big, whose love for others was full of grace, and whose heart for missions was expansive. Our hearts were reconnected with people who helped shape us, and now we had the opportunity to pour back into the congregation who had given us so much. We are ever so grateful for the continued and faithful ministry of Lillington Baptist Church through these past 150 years. We believe your future is as sure and great as are the promises of God. *1 Peter 2:9 (NIV) - But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.* The Rev. Dr. John Rogers - Interim Pastor 2014- 2016

<p>SIDNEY A. EDGERTONB. A., Phi. Wilson County, North Carolina.</p> <p><i>One who would circumvent the devil.</i></p> <p>Age 24; weight 123; height 5 feet 8 inches.</p> <p>The great Osler, speaking from a medical point of view, says a man is as old as his arteries. Speaking with reference to a man's mental development he is as old as his experiences make him. If the age of the subject of this sketch were estimated in this way he is easily the oldest man of the class, having progressed well on towards the elderly stage. Since early boyhood he has been dashing around this ball of a world collecting a vast fund of cosmopolitan experiences and his college course has been only a brief episode in his life. Slight in build and alert in mind, he has entered heartily into his course as a ministerial student and in the various religious activities of the students.</p> <p>Bethinking himself in his Senior year that it is not good for man to live alone he rushed home during the Christmas recess and married a wife, and returned with the vast satisfaction coming from "un fait accompli."</p> <p>After graduating he will enter upon a pastorate and quote from the original Greek to the unlettered rustics. It goes without saying that he will make a profound impression and will receive unnumbered calls to other fields which he will in all probability accept as he is of a restless disposition.</p> <p>Vice President Y. M. C. A., '11; Student Senate, '11-12; Senior Speaker, '11-12; Married December 26, 1911.</p>	
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Rev. Sidney A. Edgerton married Virginia Elizabeth Kivett on December 26, 1911. He died on April 1, 1923, at the age of 35 from a Cerebral Abscess as the result of a sinus infection. He is buried in The Buies Creek Cemetery and was survived by his wife, Virginia, and their two young sons, Charles Taylor Edgerton, and Herndon Edgerton. He was pastor of Lillington Baptist when he died in 1923. Rev. Edgerton had a special insight and wisdom when it came to equipping others for Bible Study and organizing the LBC Sunday School. His leadership was key to the early success of the LBC Sunday School.

Ministry of Music at Lillington Baptist Church

Worship through music has always had an integral place in services at Lillington Baptist Church. Over the years, various persons have embraced the role of music director/minister to lead music/ensembles that bring glory to God. Some of those serving prior to Bill and Kathy Sutter and Phil Morrow are Margaret Hightower (Thompson), Howard Wilson, Dr. Coleman Markham (*great grandson of our first pastor*), Gary Taylor, Harold Smith, Fred McAfee, Ruth Brown, and Louise Pinnix.

Phil Morrow, called in 1983, served until 1986. With him came his musically talented wife, Susan. Phil led and supervised the music and education programs and instigated the purchase of handbells. Phil and Susan discovered our present-day ministers of music, Bill and Kathy Sutter. They joined together to create The Heritage Valley 4 singing group who blessed and entertained us.

In 1987, Bill and Kathy began as co-ministers of music. Together they lead music in worship as well as the Chancel and Christmas Choirs, Children's Choirs, and Praise Ringers. Bill and their son, Matthew, oversee and carry out the elements of sound/video/technology. We have been blessed with the musical offerings from the following organists and pianists: Doris Cameron Esslinger, Linda Bazemore, Shirley Shelburne, Tracy Latta, Mary French, and Ruby Mae Long, who served faithfully at the organ for over 60 years.

To God be the glory for the things He has done and will continue to do! *Kathy Sutter, Minister of Music*

Choir members 2008



R1: Kathy Sutter - director, Joyce Oliver, Faye Jernigan, Donna Smith, Nell Neal, Faye Smith, Ruby Mae Long - organist.

R2: Shirley Shelburne - pianist, Janet Boone, Kathryn Talley, Novie Milton, Teresa Atkins, Cindy McPhail, Tonya Sharp.

R3: Bill Sutter, Donald Thomas, Danny Cameron, Ken Talley, Willis Martin, Tim Howard.

Choir Members for 2020 are as follows: Teresa Atkins, Janet Boone, Diane Claypool, Donna Fowler, Paul Fowler, Faye Jernigan, Elaine Martin, Willis Martin, Cindy McPhail, Joyce Oliver, Karen Patterson, Tonya Sharp, Donna Smith, Faye Smith, Bill Sutter, Kathy Sutter - director, Donald Thomas, Brenda Walden, Freddy West, and Susan West.



The Handbell Choir was formed in 1983 by Phil Morrow and was later named The Praise Ringers under the direction of Bill Sutter (1987). While membership makeup has changed over the years, the joy in ringing and the dedication for practicing and performing has not.

A 2008 picture shows: Cindy McPhail, Kathryn Talley, Laura Lee Wooten Byrd, Tonya Sharp, Carole Wooten, Dianne Hatley, Kathy Sutter, Teresa Atkins, Janet Boone, Bill Sutter - director, and Donald Thomas.

Praise Ringers for 2020 are as follows: Teresa Atkins, Janet Boone, Diane Claypool, Kelly Holly, Betty Lee, Gail McKinney, Cindy McPhail, Tonya Sharp, Shirley Shelburne, Bill Sutter - director, Kathy Sutter, and Matthew Sutter.

The Heritage Valley 4 (Fall 1985)

Bill & Kathy Sutter, Susan & Phil Morrow



While serving at LBC, the Morrrows met the Sutters who lived in the same apartment complex, which was the source for their group's name. Their friendship was instrumental in leading the Sutters to join our church family and to eventually become the ministers of music.

Early Sunday School

Bible Study in the form of Sunday School began in 1914. With the completion of a new physical building, Sunday School classes were formed. The young but growing Sunday School Board (1891) of the Southern Baptist Convention became a valuable resource in providing leadership training and quality curriculum materials to assist in developing educational programs.

Efficient use of the new facility allowed multiple groups to meet simultaneously. Curtains were utilized to partition sections in the sanctuary for group meetings. The present vestibule was used as a classroom. Even the choir loft became a makeshift meeting area.

With dedicated, spirit-led teachers and first-rate Bible study literature, the Sunday School program at Lillington Baptist Church grew spiritually. Sunday School members became participants in their classes as well as in other areas of service within the church. Sunday School members went to church and church members went to Sunday School. Sundays were a day of worship for families and friends.

An excerpt from The Harnett County News dated July 6, 1922, states: *LBC wins Sunday School contest over the Lillington Methodist and Presbyterian churches. The attendance for the last Sunday in April 1922 – Methodist 51, Baptist 50, Presbyterian 46. The attendance for the last Sunday in June 1922 - Methodist 110, Baptist 140, Presbyterian 121. These Lillington churches increased their total S. S. attendance by 224 within two months.* By 1924, seven permanent classes had been organized at Lillington Baptist.

Some members of an early 1920's men's adult class included: John Robert Baggett - businessman; Venable Baggett - realtor; Mack Ballard - painter; Dr. J.W. Halford - medical doctor; W.F. Hockaday - police chief; J.G. Layton - merchant and land owner; Frank Stewart - garage owner and fire chief; W.T. Simmons - cotton gin employee; M.C. Wilder - mail carrier; J.B. Tugwell - drug store owner; Charlie Loving - furniture/hardware merchant; B.D. Bunn - educator; W.M. Bryan - merchant and grocer; Joseph A. Redfern - justice of the peace, B.P. Gentry - School superintendent; Allen Marsh Shaw - building contractor; J.C. Bullock - farmer; G.R. Holland - farmer; and John Early (*J.E.*) Womble - merchant and farmer.

Though effective, the early Sunday School classes gave little attention to coordinating efforts between the different classes. Pastor Sidney A. Egerton saw a need for more openness and better management among the groups which led to a reorganization of the Sunday School structure. Upon the church's approval of the reorganization, the church selected three men from the adult Bible class to lead: B.D. Bunn - superintendent, M.C. Wilder - assistant superintendent, and J.E. Womble - secretary. The new organization was ratified on January 4, 1925.

MINISTRIES

Bible Study

In the early 1950's, those seven Sunday School classes flourished into 17. During the same time frame, Sunday School enrollment escalated from 119 to 220. By the end of the 50's, Sunday School enrollment topped 394.

Much of this growth could be attributed to dedicated teachers such as Henry H. Hamilton, Mrs. Emma M. Shaw, Dr. Alvin W. Peede, Mrs. R.F. Hall, John Blackman, Billy Sexton, Mrs. Ruth Aubrey, Miss Adelaide Shaw, Mrs. Daphne Crews, Mrs. Margaret Gourley, Tommy Thomas, Mrs. Mack Ballard, Miss Mamie Haighwood, Miss Rachel Weaver, Mrs. Dorothy Dean, Mrs. Hazel Womble, Miss Margaret Shaw, Mrs. Roy Grimes, and Anne Phelps.

Growth continued in the 1960's at Lillington Baptist as well as the Lillington Baptist Mission, organized in 1958. The highest Sunday School attendance found was on April 2, 1967, when the enrollment was LBC 433, Mission 86, for a total of 519. The attendance that Sunday was LBC 295, Mission 63, for a total of 358. The total included LBC members working at the mission.

Since then our focus has continued to remain on the teaching, reaching, and ministering to others in the name of Christ. Strong biblical doctrine and Christian principles have been led and taught by dedicated persons such as Lincoln Neal, Roger Johnson, Sue Arnold, Gerald Arnold, Louise Murray, Jo Bethune, Mamie Ammons, John Aaron Senter, Nina Bethune, Dorothy Barham, Sara Womble, Jim Cameron, Lynn Crenshaw, Lamar Simmons, Max Peterson, Jerry Jackson, Pauline Johnson, Frances Farrell, Mildred Cameron, Mable Johnson, Hugh Jernigan, Lincoln Faulk, Wayne Hardee, Manfred Hardee, Earl Esslinger, Tony Buzzard, Betty Lee, Joe Boone, Alice Davis, Betty Gwen Goodwin, Wallace Tew, Teresa Atkins, Carroll Marsalis, Neil McPhail, Tim Goodwin, Cindy Milton, Amanda Salmon, Robert Ennis, and Barry Knox.

Christian doctrines begin in the Nursery and Preschool classes for children. Dedicated teachers continue to serve by providing a loving environment where the children will be able to cultivate a personal relationship with Jesus. With each generation, leaders have stepped up to shape and teach our leaders of tomorrow.

Programs are added and changed as needed to help in the social and spiritual development of young, growing children. The Kids Zone was created in 2016 as a special place for children to grow in their own unique environment as they discover how to have a dynamic relationship with Jesus. It also serves as a sanctuary for Children's Church where children can experience worship in a fun and powerful way.

Lillington Baptist has been blessed with spirit-led student ministers that have led in helping the youth develop a focus on Jesus and Christian principles. Youth gather for worship, Bible study and social time during the week and on Sundays.

Through the years, the needs of Singles, College and College/Career adults have always been a special concern. Our prayer is that as a result of their Spirit-led studies, their faith would increase, and they would be better equipped to impact an ever-changing world with the Gospel.

In 2020, during the stay-at-home-order due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Bible study continued through Zoom video conferencing. Classes remained connected, visually seeing one another, praying together, and studying the Bible.

Adult Sunday School Classes and S.S. Teachers

College/Career SS Class: Teacher Amanda Salmon. In August of 2017, Amanda was led by the Holy Spirit to create a Bible Study that would reach the young college and career members. They are striving to be led of the Holy Spirit in studying topics that increase their faith and help them have an impact on an ever-changing world.

Koinonia Fellowship – Teachers Tim and Betty Gwen Goodwin

The Holy Spirit moves in a mighty way to touch the lives of all those in this class. It is a great opportunity for parents/couples and singles as they journey through life.

Friends in Faith Sunday School Class – Teacher Dorothy Barham

The Friends in Faith Class began in 1994 under the leadership of Dorothy Barham for the purpose of reaching adults who were in the church but not involved in a Bible Study Class. It is a Co-Ed class for adults of any age. Dorothy Barham has been the teacher since its inception.

Betty Lee's Covenant Class – Teacher Betty Lee

Mabel Johnson was the Sunday School teacher for the Covenant Class, a multiage class for women, from 1995 – 2000, with Betty Lee serving as the assistant. To honor Mable Johnson and her dedication to the class, it was renamed the Mable Johnson Covenant Class. In 2000, Betty Lee became the teacher and currently serves with Teresa Atkins as assistant. The class was renamed the Betty Lee Covenant class in 2019.

Truby Powell Class - Teacher Neil McPhail



The Berean Class was renamed the Truby Powell Class in 1982 in memory of Truby Powell, a long-time member of LBC. Class members built the Truby Powell Picnic Shelter, equipped with picnic tables (circa 1990-1991) and dedicated it in 1992, another remembrance. Twice yearly, they honor widows/widowers with a meal and time of fellowship. Members are active participants in Baptist Men and Baptist on Missions, domestic and international mission trips, and disaster relief.

Sara Womble Bible Class – Teacher Cindy Milton

An early teacher of this class was Mamie Ammons when it was known as The Friendship Class. Pauline Johnson, the next teacher, taught from 1972 until 1984. During her tenure, the name was changed to the Pauline Johnson Sunday School Class. Following Pauline Johnson was Sara Womble, a self-taught Bible scholar, who for over 60 years taught the Word of God, and for over 20 of those years taught this class. Thus, the name was changed to the Sara Womble Bible Class in her honor. Sara taught until her death at the age of 90 on December 7, 2018. Cindy Milton began teaching this class on January 13, 2019. This is currently the oldest women's class.

Simmons Bible Class – Teacher Robert Ennis (10/07/2018 – 10/09/2020)



The Simmons Class was established on July 6, 1947, in memory of Lt. Ernest Simmons, a pilot who died on April 29, 1943 in North Africa while serving his country. The first teacher was Dr. Alvin W. Peede who taught nearly 39 years from 1947 until 1986. In 2005, the class was renamed from the Ernest A. Simmons Memorial Class to the Simmons Bible Class to include Ernest's brother Lamar, a long-time dedicated teacher of the class. Other teachers over the last 30 years have been Joe Boone, Carroll Marsalis, Grover Smith, Ralph Martin, and Robert Ennis (*who died on Oct. 09, 2020 while the teacher*). The stained-glass baptistery scene in the sanctuary, The Jordan Landscape, was made possible by the Simmons family, friends, and the Simmons Bible Class. Other contributions by this class are the Wall of Remembrance, the Simmons' Newsletters, the booklet "A Tribute to the Simmons Brothers," the Simmons Bible Class History, and the book "A Cloud of Unsung Witnesses" by long-time teacher, Carroll Marsalis. This is currently the oldest men's class.

Other 2020 Sunday School teachers are: Nursery - Sabrina Milton, Early Pre-School - Wendy Thomas and Betty Raynor, Pre-School, and Kindergarten - Christy and Keith Matthews and Donna Taylor, Grades 1-5 - Sheila Sudia, Crystal Patterson, Melody Butler, and Lori Holmes, Youth teachers - Kate Bradley, LaDonna Selman, and Derek Vaughn. S.S. Director - Barry Knox.

T.E.L Sunday School Class and Hamilton Men's Class

Mamie Ammons, Nina Bethune, Gladys Latta, and Jo Bethune were long-time teachers of the T.E.L. class. Declining membership led the T.E.L. Class and the Hamilton Men's Class to combine. Billy Sexton was the Hamilton Class teacher at that time. The combined class was taught by Betty Gwen Goodwin, Alice Davis, and Michal Carroll until its disbanding.

Lillington Baptist - Ministry Team 2020



**Pastor
Daniel Selman**

**Student Minister
Kate H. Bradley**

**Music Minister
Kathy Sutter**

**Music Minister
Bill Sutter**



The Church 2020



Lillington Baptist Church entered a unique season of American history in the spring of 2020. Under a stay-at-home order by the state, meeting face-to-face as a church was prohibited to aid in preventing the spread of the Covid-19 virus.

As the pandemic swept through our world, the LBC leadership and Deacon ministry responded rapidly to minister to the church and community. The church quickly adapted to using social media - Facebook for worship services/conferencing and Zoom for Sunday School/church meetings. During this crisis, church members embraced the mission of the Gospel by reaching out to care for the spiritual, emotional, and personal needs of one another and the community. LBC opened worship services for attendance in the sanctuary on June 7, 2020 with Covid-19 precautions.

Blessings and Hope – Pastor Daniel

Deacons 2020 - 2021

Kenny Atkins	Betty Lee	Jason Sharp
Donald Barstow	Neil McPhail - Chair	Barry Taylor
Mike Brown	Freddie Milton - V. Chair	Donnie Thomas
Jeffery Carroll	Jon Patterson	Freddy West - Sec./Tr.
Bodie Currin	Darrell Salmon	Steve Worrell

Church Council 2020 - 2021

Pastor	- Daniel Selman	Woman Missionary	- Cindy Milton
Bible Study Director	- Barry Knox	Music Ministers	- Kathy & Bill Sutter
Baptist Men	- Steve Worrell	Chairman of Deacons	- Neil McPhail
Student Minister	- Kate H. Bradley	Children's Ministry Leader	- Amanda Salmon
Fellowship Hall	- Steve Worrell & Erwin Sikes		

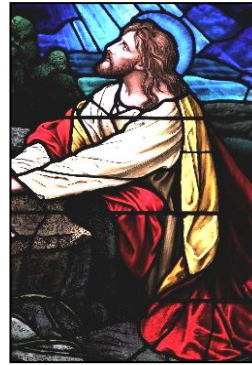
CHURCH COVENANT

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour, and on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. We do now, in the presence of God, angels, and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ. We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church, in knowledge, holiness, and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations. We also engage to maintain family and secret devotions; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; in our engagements, and exemplary in our department; to avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger; to abstain from the same and use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage, and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Saviour. We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the rules of our Saviour to secure it without delay. We moreover engage that when we remove from this place we will, as soon as possible, unite with some other church, where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.

Ministry of Prayer and Encouragement



The Prayer Room of the Praying Church 3/2013



Praying in the Garden



Flagpole: In Memory of Lydia John Senter Langdon and son, John Gabriel Langdon 2017

Gateway to Heaven – Jesus, Eternal Life, and Love’s Reunion, the light at the end of the tunnel.



Sin takes you farther than you want to go, keeps you longer than you want to stay, and costs you more than you want to pay. Avoid the judgment of God, get rid of sin, take the hand of Jesus Christ, and come out of the darkness into the light of His saving grace! **Pray** unto God, believing in Christ and asking for forgiveness. The first step in faith is to believe. Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, the forgiveness of sin, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Belief in Christ is the key to life. God loves, God gives and if we believe we receive! The power and hope for living is in the resurrection. In Christ may you walk the way of redeemed holiness into the eternal presence of God. The clock of eternity is ticking, and the midnight hour is fast approaching. Jesus is preparing to return, and we must make ourselves and others ready. *Amen*

PRAYER GARDEN DEDICATION – November 22, 2020



Prayer Garden Dedication
 Lord’s Supper Observance
 November 22, 2020
 11:00 AM
 A Jubilee of Faith

Invocation
 Rev. Daniel Selman

Garden Dedication
 Neil McPhail

When We Gather
 Bill and Kathy Sutter

Celebrating Our Legacy
 Rev. Jeff Roberts

Family Of Faith
 Bill and Kathy Sutter

Observance of the Lord’s Supper

Blest Be the Tie That Binds/Doxology
 Bill and Kathy Sutter and Congregation

Praying for Our Future
 Dr. John Rogers

Prayer
 Julie Currin and Asher Selman

Benediction
 Rev. Daniel Selman

Special Recognitions
 Rev. Daniel Selman



Neil McPhail led in the dedication of the Prayer Garden on November 22, 2020 the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Rev. Roberts focused on the past legacy of the church while Rev. Dr. Rogers shared the prayer for the future. Bill & Kathy Sutter sang “The Family of Faith”; the prayer was by Julie Currin and Asher Selman. The Pastor, Rev. Daniel Selman had the Invocation and the Benediction.

Prayer Garden Dedication - Neil McPhail (Nov. 22, 2020)



“A garden is like a river. It flows, it is always moving, and it is never the same. It never reaches anywhere other than this moment.” (Monty Don) So, as we look at this garden of prayer, let us sense the power of prayer, the importance of prayer, the need for prayer.

Looking up, we see the One who taught us to pray with the Lord’s Prayer, His image is set praying in the Garden of Gethsemane. Our church has opened the hearts of believers throughout our history to pray to our ‘*Father Who art in Heaven.*’ This prayer garden aligns itself with our heart-felt need for prayer and meditation if we will come to our Savior in times of praise and in times of sorrow.



Let us look at the design and meaning of the garden. The **GARDEN WALK** is a meandering path, guiding each of us in our unique journey through life. Each time we take the walk it will be different moment yet secured in the faithful, never changing love of our Savior.

The **DRY STREAM** is to provide us with thoughts of peace and comfort in our times of adversity, as it represents Jesus, the living water, always flowing ready to quench our thirst if we just ask.

THE PATIO graced by morning light and the setting sun; a reminder of where we stand in the passage of time representing our life. Let it be to each of us, an inviting quiet place, providing an area to allow conversation with our Savior, our family, friends, and others we bring to Him.



THE CROSS, in the center will remind us of the salvation, grace and mercy each of us are given through the sacrifice, death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

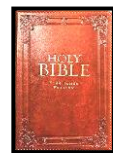


The garden faces the **STAINED-GLASS WINDOW** that depicts Jesus praying in the garden. This resonates in us that He prayed three times before He reaches a sense of peace. May we also linger in prayer with our feelings and express them to God.



The **ANGEL STATUETTE** depicts the ‘heavenly hosts’, the angels ministering to Jesus and praising Him. In the olive garden (*Mount of Olives*) the angel’s appearance gave Him strength. The ministry of angels can be found throughout the life of Christ, from His birth, to His ascension into heaven.

THE TEAK GARDEN BENCHES are placed to surround the cross; allowing us to gather together for a time of personal reflection, a time of sharing and a place to rest.



A copy of **THE BIBLE**, God’s Holy Word, is sealed in a waterproof case buried under the cross to remind us as believers that we can always approach our faith by standing/kneeling on the trusted promises of God’s Word. The Bible is opened on the 23rd Psalm passage.

The **TREES, SHRUBS AND PLANTS** in and surrounding the garden area will serve as a reminder of Garden of Eden (the beginning garden), where we became a part of God’s creation as He made us in His own image and of the Garden of Gethsemane (the garden where Jesus prayed to His heavenly Father), offering each of us eternal life, through belief and faith in Him, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Now, with these impressions in mind, the garden at the beginning in creation and the garden where Jesus prayed for His own sense of peace; we let this place, this space to also be a reminder of who came before us and what is yet to be done as a community of believers called Lillington Baptist Church. We dedicate this prayer garden on this 150th year (Oct. 02,1870 – Oct. 02, 2020) on this day, November 22, 2020 as a continued opportunity for people to encounter the grace and mercy of Jesus Christ.

History of Lillington Baptist Church (1870 – 2020)

John Early Womble - Memorial Prayer by Rev. Dr. Charles Howard (LBC Pastor 1934 – 1937) December 10, 1978



We bless Thy Name, O God, for this glorious day of joyous and eternal victory. We thank Thee for this tremendous gathering assembled to praise Thy Name for the unspeakable gift of another good and great citizen of Thy Heavenly Kingdom, and to do honor to his memory. How fitting that we meet on the Lord's Day, the day he remembered and kept holy for more than eighty years! And how suitable this place which, since the year 1913, he marked as sacred, and a fellowship which, through all these years, he endowed with his love and service, his generous gifts of his substance with his very self! He dearly loved to hear the congregation sing: "I love Thy Church, O God; her walls before Thee stand, dear as the apple of Thine eye and graven on Thy hand." O Lord let his descendants love and serve Thy Church as he did.

Father in Heaven, we do not come before Thee today to weep, to mourn, to despair. We come before Thy throne to wipe away our tears, to see Thy face, to worship Thy Holy Name, to meditate on Thy great salvation, to reaffirm our steadfast faith that Thou art with us here now and will be with us forever. We believe that we are never more truly Thy Community than when we worship in the passing of one, we love so dearly. We come to rejoice, to praise, to give thanks, to CELEBRATE. **Yes, Lord, WE CELEBRATE! We celebrate**, in Thy Name, the eighty-eight long, fruitful years of Early Womble!

We celebrate as we praise Thee for a good man who, "never turned his back, but marched breast forward...with stout heart, true faith and ready hands...who lived above the fog in public duty and private thinking." An honest man who would not lie or cheat or deceive, one who clearly perceived the meaning of life and of death and of eternity, always majoring on life's best values.

We celebrate his life of compassionate sharing, as he fed the hungry, cared for the sick strengthened the weak, cheered the hopeless, counseled the distraught, so richly meriting Thy plaudit: "Inasmuch as ye did it unto the least of these..."

We celebrate the consistent practice of his religion in the business world, rejoicing in the prosperity of his colleagues, always ready to advise, help and encourage.

We celebrate, O Jesus, his constant, vibrant, seeking witness to Thy saving grace, his unfailing, compassionate use of every soul-winning opportunity. We praise Thy Name for his **printed testimony**, ending with his fervently sincere plea that the reader comes to Jesus. Let no descendant ever be without a copy of this gem. O Holy Spirit lead everyone to read it frequently and take it to heart always.

We celebrate his daily walk with Thee, O Christ. Aware that brilliant minds geared to wicked hearts threaten to betray our generation, that sharpness and cleverness devoid of goodness are tearing our nation apart, we celebrate Thy gift to us of one more man who loved your mercy, practiced your justice, loved your truth, espoused your righteousness, and like Enoch of old, walked with You till You took him home. Truly, earth has gained by one man more, and this is Heaven's gain, too.

We celebrate that day in 1913 when you brought to these banks of the Cape Fear a young farmer and his bride who would vibrantly invest their toils and tears, their sweat and sacrifice, their love and devotion, and their bodies, minds, and souls in building our churches, schools and homes, our Town, and our County, and in building men and women who have gone from Lillington to bless the world. We bless your Name for Early Womble's tremendous share in the forward march of religion, education, business, and government. We magnify Thy Name for his stalwart championship of honesty, morality, and Christian ideals. Do it again, Lord! Please, Lord, do it again!! Give us another like him—and another and another and another – till all our people shall know his Lord and be made available and expendable in His service.

We celebrate the sixty-one golden years Early and Lola Wilburn Womble had together and the increase of their family from two souls in 1910 to ninety-one in 1978, with all eighty-nine of their descendants living to this day, save one son-in-law. We celebrate the Heavenly Coronation of Lola in 1971. Our hearts quiver with ecstasy as we contemplate their Reunion in the land that is fairer than day. Let the mantle of their noble parentage fall this moment, I pray Thee, on Mary Gladys, Max, Lillian, Carl, Robert, Virgil, Virginia, James, Ray, and their families. Let Thy power shield them, Thy grace sustains them, Thy goodness enfolds them, Thy Truth preserve them and present them one day faultless at Thy right hand an unbroken household - all 91 of them—not one missing face, not one vacant chair, **when the roll is called UP Yonder**.

"Buy your needs, forget your wants, love the Lord, and Work" -- John Early (J.E.) Womble Jan. 24, 1890 – Dec. 08, 1978.

MINISTRIES: ON MISSION EMPHASIS

The leaders of Lillington Baptist have always had a heart for missions, and the loving and caring church body are always striving to reach the world for Christ. When Rev. Donald Bowen became pastor in August of 1960, he continued this focus on missions, especially giving to the Cooperative Program. At the highest point, LBC was giving 28% of the church's budget to this effort. Another more recent leader, Jim Pardue, followed in the same path. He had served three years in Germany and was very mission minded. Rev. Jeff Roberts accelerated the mission work, and it continues today.

Baptist Men's Ministry

LBC has a strong Baptist Men's group that is involved in many church ministries. One ministry is concerned with supporting young boys in a Royal Ambassador program (RAs). This program is a mission organization for boys in grades 1-6 that helps them develop a biblical worldview with an emphasis on learning about and doing missions. The Baptist men of the church are also actively involved in many practical ministries such as the Handy Man, Operation Inasmuch, and Disaster Relief. The men have responded locally to building ramps, removing trees, cutting firewood, and pumping flood water. During the Covid-19 pandemic, they assisted the elderly and those with disabilities and focused on the spiritual needs of the family of faith in a very caring manner.

Woman's Missionary Union (WMU)

The WMU at LBC had its beginning prior to 1907 when it was one of the groups that began the Little River Associational WMU. The purpose of WMU has always been to teach about missions, support missions through prayer and giving financially, and to get involved in doing missions. LBC as a strong, mission-minded church has always had strong, dedicated women who have encouraged us to go forth in service on the mission fields, both domestically and internationally.

In order to teach children and to lead them to be involved in missions, groups were started for the different ages of children, beginning in the 1900's. The names of these organizations are now called Mission Friends (preschool), GA's (Girls in Action), and Acteens. Our church is blessed to have each of these groups where our children and youth are taught and trained to be involved in missions and to have a mission's lifestyle. We are excited about the ministry that Lillington Baptist has in continuing to teach and train future leaders as they catch the vision of a world that needs to know our Savior, Jesus Christ.

MINISTRIES: ON MISSION EMPHASIS

The Quilt Ministry

The Quilt Ministry started out as a Stitch Group near the end of 2010, meeting in the Fellowship Hall. They made dolls for emergency workers to comfort children in their care. By the beginning of 2011, it had evolved into a Prayer Quilt Ministry led by Helen Craft and met in her home. Eventually, the church made a large room available. Sewing machines, fabrics and supplies were donated or bought with funds from a Quilt Ministry Fund established by Lana and Bob Hawthorne.



Kathy & Bill Sutter
2012 (25 Yrs.)

As of 2020, over 200 Prayer Quilts have been prayerfully presented to church members or their close relations who were either ill or homebound. Members over 90 years of age have also received prayer quilts, as well as several others for celebrations of their service to the church or to the

military. The quilt at the left was given in 2012 to celebrate Bill and Kathy Sutter's 25 years (now 33 yrs.) of music ministry. The quilt to the right was given to Timothy Jernigan in 2017. Concerned Christians pray for the recipient of each quilt as they knot the quilt's thread loops in prayer.

Crocheting/Knitting Ministry

The Crocheting and Knitting group were created as an outreach ministry in 2014. Meeting at various locations provides opportunities to teach crocheting/knitting, to encourage one another creatively and spiritually, to fellowship, to create gifts to share with others, and to minister to others by works, presence, and actions.

Adopt-A-School Ministry

The Adopt-A-School Team was formed at LBC in 2014 with the purpose of offering support and encouragement to the staff and students at Lillington-Shawtown Elementary School. This connection provides a way to reach out to the school community and to share God's love. Church members have generously provided essential items for the school's health room, treated staff to morning biscuits on special occasions, and prepared each year around 35 "Back to School" backpacks filled with school supplies. The ministry has provided encouragement to the staff with prayers, cards, and small favors around holidays throughout the year.

MINISTRIES: ON MISSION EMPHASIS

Preschool Ministry

The Preschool is a ministry of Lillington Baptist Church and, as such, has the overall purpose of providing strong academic and spiritual programs for our three and four-year-old students. Teachers make the spiritual development of children an integral part of the academic program—teaching them love for God, self, and others as well as respect and appreciation for and enjoyment of God’s creation. The ministry strives to nurture children in areas of physical, intellectual, emotional, social, and spiritual development guided by Christian principles. The staff desires to provide opportunities for growth and development through exploration and experiences with various learning materials and activities that are stimulating and age appropriate. There are 27 young children regularly involved in this ministry.

Missions Trips

Nearly 50 years ago, six of our youth took a very memorable mission trip with Linda and Dennis Bazemore. In July of 1978, they were part of the first service of the only Southern Baptist Church at that time in the towns of Perry and Warsaw, New York. Vacation Bible School was held by the LBC group Monday through Fridays in the Warsaw Village Park. At other times, the group led services in the Village Park at Silver Springs, NY. The Youth Mission Team traveled 1,826 miles in nine days, teaching Vacation Bible School, leading outdoor worship services, performing two puppet and drama presentations, and recruiting people to attend everything in which they were involved. Those attending were Dennis and Linda Bazemore, Lisa Womble, Carl Jernigan, Kevin Talley, Joy Barham, David Avrette, and Mary Lynn Hightower. In 1978, records show that LBC was financially supporting the Calvary Baptist Chapel of Perry, New York.



Mission trips to New York, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania began in the 1980’s. Members participating in one or more of these trips were Hugh Jernigan, Bonnie Ballard, Jeffery Carroll, Rev. Jeff, Beanie, and Paul Roberts, Earl, Doris, and Lindsey Esslinger, Jim Cameron, Dr. Kenneth and Kathryn Talley, Roy Harvell, Dorothy Barham, Clint Knox, Kristy Ann Hamilton, Bill and Kathy Sutter, Alice Davis, Tony and Tonya Buzzard, Gloria Latta, Ronnie and Emily Stanley, Gladys Latta, Eddie Burroughs, Eddie Cameron, John Hardee, Matthew Carroll, Catherine and Rebecca Sexton, Dan Denning, Cheryl Taylor, Kathy Thomas, Faye and George Lewis, Tyrone Lucas, Jeff Lucas, David Milton, Wanda Royal (youth minister), Jennifer Patterson, Catherine Currin, Shannon Roberts, Christie Cameron, Joey and Dawn Guy, Krystle Tew, Tim Goodwin, Jill Crenshaw, Joyce Oliver, Kathy Dickens, Michael Wicker, and Willie Cameron.

MINISTRIES: ON MISSION EMPHASIS

Annual mission trips occurred during the summers of 1993 – 1997 to Chateaugay, New York (seven miles from the Canadian Border) in partnership with the New York Baptist Association. The teams ranged in size from 9 to 25 and in ages from early teens to senior adults. Two trips were made in 1994 and 1996 to Shiloh Baptist Church in Malone, New York. Mission Teams also went one year to Lake Placid, New York. From 1993 to 1994, LBC was a mission's partner with Faith Baptist Church near Chateaugay, New York.

Encouragement and ministry support were focused primarily upon two churches and communities within the New York Association. Ministries varied year to year according to need and included multiple Vacation Bible Schools in store fronts and public parks. One such year, the team prepared meals for 100 children and adults per night prior to feeding them spiritually. Other projects included painting and repairing a parsonage, counseling, assistance with a city-wide crusade, visiting a prison, and assisting in worship services. Several professions of faith were a part of the harvest of this multi-year relationship.



1993



Disaster Relief

Disaster relief volunteers (men and women) help share the love and hope found in Jesus Christ by meeting the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of those impacted by various disasters. Numerous projects have been undertaken by mission teams from LBC. Lillington Baptist has been quick to respond to various disastrous events. One of the recent times was the 1984 tornado that created major damages to the Red Springs, Snow Hill and Salemburg areas. The first response group of more than 25 people from the Lillington Community went to assist in the cleanup and repairs in the Snow Hill area of Greene County. A couple of weeks later, a second large group went to the Salemburg area for assistance with cleanup efforts from the same storm. After Hurricane Hugo in 1989, Frank Murray, Howard Avrette and others went to Sumter, SC to assist in the cleanup. Howard used his newly acquired line truck from Duke Energy to remove debris and trees from many houses. In one such experience they were able to rescue a lady who had been trapped in her home by fallen trees. She stated after her rescue, that her prayers had been answered. Mission groups have also been to Seven Springs as well as many other places to restore homes after a disastrous flood.

MINISTRIES: ON MISSION EMPHASIS

A Mission Group from Lillington Baptist went to Gulfport, Mississippi in December of 2005 following hurricane Katrina. The name of the trip was, "Tidings of Comfort and Joy." The group shared items such as blankets, pillows, stuffed animals, hygiene bags, shoes, small household items, and New Testaments for new Fema trailer occupants. Under the direction of the On-Site Baptist Men, families were visited during the day and Christmas dinners and give-away parties were held in the evenings.

A Mission Team from Lillington Baptist joined with men from Roseboro First Baptist to remodel



a youth area of a church and update a restroom during a ministry trip to the West Virginia Coalfields in 2015. The second picture is from Hurricane Joaquin of the

same year that resulted in record rainfall over portions of South Carolina. LBC again responded with a Disaster Relief team that assisted with mudouts.

An "On Mission" team partnered with a group from Fair Bluff Baptist Church to do repair



work in Lumberton, NC, due to extensive damage in the town from Hurricane Matthew in 2016. Another "On Mission" team from LBC consisting of Jerry Yarbrough, Steve Worrell, Darrell Salmon, and

Sherman Currin went to Big Pine Key, Key West, Florida. They joined with others to gut a home that was flooded as a result of Hurricane Irma in 2017. In 2018, an "On Mission" team from Lillington Baptist did relief work in Lillington and Bunnlevel after Hurricane Florence. Numerous men and women from LBC worked to pump flood water from homes, clean debris in and around homes, and assisted with mudouts.



On August 12, 2020 Steve Worrell, Darrell Salmon, Freddie Milton, Neil McPhail, Barry Knox, and Jeffrey Carroll joined Samaritan's Purse to assist with cleanup

in Bertie County after a tornado destroyed nine mobile homes. Their removal of fallen trees/limbs assisted in providing access for the moving in of temporary residences for those who lost their homes.

Other "On Mission" domestic trips have been made to Mississippi, Charleston, SC, Baltimore, Maryland, Rochester, New York, Vancouver and Ontario, Canada, Kentucky, Ohio, Hawaii, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Alaska.

The Dorothy Barham Cottage



Dorothy Barham, a long-time member of Lillington Baptist Church and its first ordained woman deacon, had a cottage at Camp Mundo Vista named in her honor, “The Dorothy Barham Cottage.” On September 15, 2017, this cottage was dedicated in recognition of Dorothy’s WMU leadership and her service and commitment to her church and to domestic and international missions.

(Camp Mundo Vista: A Christian Retreat Center established in 1969 by NC WMU)

Before this dedication was possible, the Lillington Baptist Men joined with Camp Munda Vista to repurpose this cabin at the camp. This building was originally used as a bath house, so in order to convert it to a one-bedroom place of lodging, a great deal of work needed to be done. The LBC Baptist men excavated and waterproofed a portion of the exterior, installed a new roof, a kitchenette, put in new flooring, and painted the cottage. The group also, did plumbing, electric, and sheetrock work and installed a through-the-wall AC/Heat unit. The building was furnished with a bed, chair, refrigerator, microwave, washer, and dryer. The funding for this project was provided by love offerings from members of Lillington Baptist Church. This is another example of Lillington Baptist “On Mission” efforts.

On Missions – International

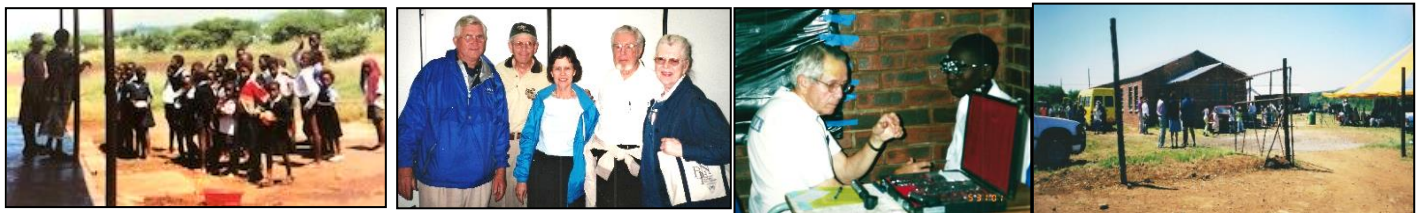
In 1989, members of Lillington Baptist Church began participating in many “On Mission” international trips to the countries of South Africa, Armenia, Jamaica, Honduras, Cuba, India, Ukraine, Paraguay, China, Lebanon, Myanmar, Canada, Ecuador, Mexico, and Guatemala.

Lebanon: The team helped the missionary plan a large evangelistic meeting, organized food packages for the poor, and met with the religious and political leaders, utilizing these opportunities to share their faith.

Ukraine: The team held Bible camps for the children and taught the women.

MINISTRIES: ON MISSION INTERNATIONAL

South Africa: Trips to South Africa started in 1998, when the NC Baptists began a partnership there, and continued until 2006. Team members held Vacation Bible School in remote areas where there were no churches, painted, worked on church buildings, shared testimonies with many groups, and helped in the ministry that was started for abandoned babies. Dr. Kenneth Talley, an optometrist, provided eye care to those needing glasses. With each eye examination, patients were given a New Testament in their native language. Approximately 800 people were seen, and previously collected glasses were given on each trip. While Dr. Talley was treating patients, others on the team assisted and shared the gospel with those present. A total of six trips were made to South Africa by various Lillington Baptist church members, some making more than one trip. These included Dr. Kenneth Talley, Kathryn Talley, Frank Shelburne, Dorothy Barham, Alice Davis, Lucy Thomas, and Charlene Phillips.



Myanmar



Transportation to a church on the lake in Myanmar. Helping the missionary teach the Buddhist women and holding retreats.



China



China: working with children and college students

Jamaica: Trips to Jamaica were made in 2009 and 2013 to the St. Elizabeth Parish Mission. Those who participated were Rev. Ken and April Smith, Eric and Meghan Lee, Jason and Tonya Sharp, Rae, Emily, and Jonathan Jernigan, Tim and Jenny Goodwin, Mechele and Ibbey Arnette, Darrell, Amanda, Marshall, and Dylan Salmon, Jessica Sanker, and Efrem Byrd. The team efforts were focused on revival and community evangelism, Vacation Bible School, reading glasses ministry, and church construction.

MINISTRIES: On Missions – International

Armenia: Under the leadership of Alice Davis, 17 trips to Armenia were made by one or more members of LBC. Their purpose was to build churches, teach women at the seminary, and conduct Bible studies. Other activities held were Vacation Bible School for children, youth, and adults, and church training for men and women. Dr. Kenneth Talley traveled on three of these trips, providing eye care services like those he did in South Africa. Others who participated include Dorothy Barham and Kathryn Talley. Alice Davis stayed with the associational teams from the Little River Baptist Association (LRBA) and taught women at the seminary. Dorothy Barham was involved with women's ministries. LRBA led in the building of five churches, of which LBC contributed funds and effort to four. LBC gave a special offering to help build the Vanadzor Church, which is in the northern region of Armenia. This is the largest church built under the umbrella of the LRBA. There are still many people living in tin-type-camps in the valley below that are being served by this church. In the winter, they can come into the church to get warm.



Armenia 2011



Armenia 2013



Armenia, Vanadzor Church Dedicated 2015



Cuba Mission Project: In February of 2019, Rev. Daniel Selman was involved in the Cuba Mission Project. Partnering with the NC Baptists, pastors traveled to Cuba to learn about the growing church movement and its multiplication there. The Baptist pastors partnered with the local church to preach the gospel, minister to local needs, and encourage the local pastor and his congregation.

MINISTRIES: On Missions – International

Honduras: Lillington Baptist currently has an ongoing ministry to Honduras with many going to help in building and performing medical services to various groups as work and witness teams. Seven trips have been made there: the first in July of 2002, and most recently in April of 2019. In May of 2003, the team finished the kitchen at First Baptist in Catacamas and interior dormitory walls at the children’s camp, provided evangelistic outreach, conducted worship services, and administered eye care services. On three of these trips, Dr. Kenneth Talley provided exams and glasses as needed. Others who have participated in ministry to Honduras are Frank Shelburne, Harry Arnette, Dorothy Barham, Alice Davis, Carla Starling, Jeffery Carroll, Sherman Currin, Tim Goodwin, Neil McPhail, Hayley McPhail Walston, David Patterson, Jonathan Patterson, Darrell, Amanda, and Dylan Salmon, and Steve Worrell.

Note: The 2020 trip to Honduras was postponed due to the Covid-19 virus pandemic.



Neil McPhail – Pharmacist on Medical Missions

Neil McPhail, a pharmacist, began traveling in 2017 with International Christian Resources / Campbell University Medical School and the Association of Baptists for World Evangelism. While working with a medical team, he provided medical services by filling prescriptions and praying for and witnessing to persons attending the clinics. He has made trips to Ecuador (2017, 2018), Guatemala (2017), Paraguay (2018, 2019, 2020), Uganda (2019), Moldova (2019), and India (2019).



Ecuador



Guatemala



*Paraguay needs Christ's hope.
*The gospel needs to be effectively shared
*Pray that we can reach more Paraguayans to Christ.

Paraguay



The Eternal Bus
Our traveling vehicle to each of the clinics daily.

Paraguay: The Eternal Bus



India



MINISTRIES: On Missions – International

Brian McPhail is the son of Neil and Cindy McPhail. His mission opportunities began while he was attending college. Upon graduation, he was led to mission opportunities in China (2005 - 2007). After marrying Kelly and both completing additional studies, they returned to Beijing, China (August of 2013 – July of 2016) to teach college level English classes.

Rachel Denning is the daughter of Dan and Laura Ann Denning and the granddaughter of W.K. (Billy) and Eloise Sexton. Lillington Baptist Church provided a foundation for her faith, and together with other communities of influence, encouraged her to be obedient to His call. She now lives and serves internationally full time.

Operation Christmas Child – Ministry Focused



The Operation Christmas Child Ministry is a tangible way to show God’s love and to share the



Good News of Jesus with a shoebox gift. This ministry has reached over 168 million children in as many as 134 countries. Lillington Baptist Church first became involved in 2010 when the early leaders, Paula Bodenheimer and Barbara Ambrose, encouraged members to pack 100 shoeboxes. In 2014, Susan Worrell took over leadership.

Interest in packing shoeboxes began soaring in 2015 when 10 - 12 women of the church met to strategize ways in which to improve awareness of and interest in shoeboxes. This resulted in the beginning of monthly emphasis/year-long collections, “The Red Wagon,” and packing parties. For both 2015 and 2016, over 400 shoeboxes were collected at LBC. A passion for shoeboxes and the children who receive them had been born. In 2019, LBC collected 707



shoeboxes (area totals – 3,669). Every year since 2010, volunteers from LBC have been involved in the shoebox preparation process for international distribution. In 2019, 23 volunteers traveled to Boone, NC, to help in this process. The shoebox ministry of 2020 was not to be deterred by Covid-19. With God’s blessing and guidance LBC packed

613 shoeboxes and continued their involvement in the shoeboxes’ preparation process for international distribution. The Lillington area’s 2020 Shoeboxes went to the following countries: Honduras, Mali, Madagascar, and Burundi. In this ministry, all members of the church have an opportunity to be involved in international missions.

History of Lillington Baptist Church (1870 – 2020)

LBC Wedding Pictures, Etc.



Rev. Sam Hudson -



Dorothy & Wille Dean 8/24/1948



Tommy & Sue Pipkin Thomas 06/15/1949



Rev. Jeff Roberts Family - 1981



Bobby & Shirley Cameron Wicker 9/28/1956
Pastor L. C. Pinnix



Alex & Joy Dawson 6/18/1967
Pastor Donald Bowen



Gloria Matthews & Jerry Yarbrough 12/22/1968
Pastor Barry Landrum



Sandra Murray & Sherman Currin 05/31/1969
Pastor Barry Landrum



Dan & Laura Denning
Pastor James Pardue 08/01/1971



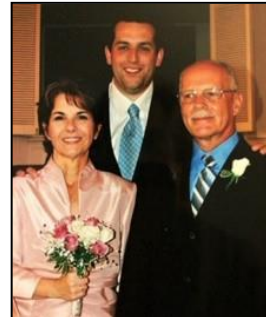
Rusty & Brenda Boone Furtick
Pastor Jeff Roberts 08/12/1990



Steve & Sandra Boone Wester
Pastor Jeff Roberts 12/05/1992



Jason & Tonya Sharp
Int. Pastor Dennis Bazemore 06/24/2006



Wendy & Donald Thomas
Pastor K. Smith 06/22/2008



Of the Current Membership: Most Years as a member of LBC

Billy Ray Matthews – July 6, 1941 (over 79 yrs.)

Mary Lou Byrd Matthews – February 9, 1947 (over 74 yrs.)

Married: February 2, 1947 (over 74 yrs.)

As of Feb. 2021, this married couple has more than 153 years of LBC membership.



The Jubilee of Faith - Song

Family of Faith

**Lord we gather as your people to lift a humble prayer unto You.
That as your people come, we will join as one in worship.**

**Many members - one body, Many hearts - one hope, one faith in You.
Though we may disagree, teach our eyes to see that we are one in the family of faith.**

The family of faith joined by the miracle of grace.

By the Spirit you give, O teach us to live as one in the family of faith.

**We are brothers, we are sisters all, Children of the one Creator of all.
So, as we live and grow, help us always know that we are one in the family of faith,**

The family of faith joined by the miracle of grace.

By the Spirit you give, O teach us to live as one in the family of faith.

We will walk in faith -- Come and lead us on, Lord.

**We will follow the King to Your Kingdom of glory and power.
And as we live our days, we will sing Your praise as the family of faith,**

The family of faith joined by the miracle of grace.

By the Spirit you give, O teach us to live as one in the family of faith.

We are one in the family of faith.

(LBC commissioned Pepper Choplin to compose this anthem for LBC's 125th anniversary on October 2, 1995.)

History of Lillington Baptist Church (1870 – 2020)

Celebrating Our Legacy (Nov. 22, 2020)

The Rev. Jeff Roberts *(Reflecting on 150 years of Christian Service)*



A time of reflection and celebration of the Lillington Baptist Church's legacy was shared by former Pastor the Rev. Jeff Roberts.

During our time together we discovered that the congregation was ready to do more than the support of missions but were ready to be a part of doing missions. Lillington Baptist began to understand they could physically become involved. Soon many mission teams and ministry partnerships were created. Mission things began to be popular and doable in the local church setting. Travel was more accessible, and the world became more reachable. More and more people became involved in programs such as: Feed the Hungry, Doctors without Borders, Samaritans Purse, Cooperative Fellowship, Baptist Men, Mountain State 200, New York Partnership, and many others.

Mission teams served in many states helping in the time of disasters as well as proclaiming the gospel. Financial support enabled many volunteers to assist with the construction of a church facility in Glenville, West Virginia as well as assisting in many other projects. Lillington Baptist was a partner in establishing the mission on Ray Road, now called the Beaver Dam Church.

The Lillington Baptist family of faith has been involved in missions in our community, the state, the nation, and the world. Teams have been comprised of church youth, Baptist Men / Baptist on Missions, and partnerships with churches as well as those with Little River Baptist Association groups. Faithful servants have shared the Gospel of Jesus domestically as well international.

The Daily Record:

Church celebrates 150th birthday in a year it won't forget

By **ELIOT DUKE**
Record staff writer

LILLINGTON — Nine people came together at a small home on West Front Street 150 years ago and created what eventually grew into a community staple.

Long before Lillington and Harnett County even existed, members of the Marsh family relocated to the Cape Fear River area looking to start a new future. Once the family all moved to what is now Lillington, they found their new surroundings lacked a key ingredient — a place to worship. With no Baptist churches in town, the Marsh's set out to remedy that fact, not just for them but others in the community who wanted a central location to gather, pray and learn.

On Oct. 2, 1870, the group formed the future Lillington Baptist Church inside a family home at 101 W. Front

See 150th, Page 12A

DAILY RECORD PHOTO/ELIOT DUKE

Light filters in through the stained glass windows at Lillington Baptist Church. The church is celebrating its 150th birthday.

DAILY RECORD PHOTO/ELIOT DUKE

Lillington Commissioner Neil McPhail, left, talks to Lillington Baptist Church Pastor Daniel Selman outside the church. The fenced-off area behind them will host a community garden in the future.

The Jubilee of Faith – Song “The Family of Faith”



The music was led by the Music Directors Bill and Kathy Sutter. They sung “We are one in the Family of Faith”. This anthem was commissioned and composed by Pepper Choplin for LBC's anniversary on October 2, 1995. This also was the focus song for the 150th anniversary celebration that occurred on November 22, 2020 the Sunday before Thanksgivings.

Praying for our Future (Nov. 22, 2020)

The Rev. Dr. John Rogers *(The challenge for the future)*

The prayer for the church's future was shared by a former member and the most recent interim pastor the Rev. Dr. John Rogers.



We joyfully celebrate with you the life and legacy of Lillington Baptist Church - one hundred-fifty years of witness, ministry, fellowship, benevolence, missions – touching thousands of people during the years. Fifty years ago, Joyce and I were a young couple. We joined LBC just two weeks after we were married. LBC taught us not only to follow Jesus but also the meaning of Christian fellowship and ministry. I had just graduated from Campbell and was entering Southeastern Baptist Seminary when you celebrated your 100th Anniversary. Now fifty years later we are here celebrating your 150th Anniversary.

What a lovely spot you have created here for people to come and pray. The stained-glass window of Jesus praying in a garden scene makes this even more special. Today, we count it a privilege and an honor to share this moment with you in dedicating this lovely spot as a prayer garden. I have experienced that prayers of commitment made in a garden can lead to discovering God's steps in one's life.

But let me ask you, "*What makes a prayer garden a prayer garden?*" It is certainly not calling this beautiful spot a prayer garden. What makes a prayer garden a prayer garden - is when God's people go and pray in the garden.

How you use this spot now can help determine the kind of legacy you will pass on to those who follow you. One hundred fifty years have passed since Lillington Baptist Church began. Now, you are the stewards of this rich legacy. What kind of legacy will you pass on to those who come after you? The very key and foundation to that legacy will be determined by your prayers.

If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)

Several weeks ago, I reflected on this verse: If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray --- I paused and said, *Lord, your people do this well, we are humble enough to always pray.* But the three words that came next had the force of a brick hitting me beside the head. *If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face.*

Those three got my attention. It was like the Holy Spirit was asking: *John, are you truly seeking my face when you pray?* I sat there, stunned at the question. *Am I seeking the face of God when I pray?* What about you? *When you pray, are you seeking God's face?*

The thought came, *am I seeking His hand, focusing on what I want God to do for me? What about you? Are you seeking God's face when you pray, or must you honestly say you are seeking His hand - what you want Him to do for you?* For a week or more, I kept exploring the meaning of what it means to seek God's face when I pray. One morning the Holy Spirit prompted me to look when Isaiah went into the temple to pray the year King Uzziah died. As Isaiah was praying, he experienced the magnificent, wonderful glory of God breaking in and around him. It was an awe-inspiring experience. Do you recall the first thing Isaiah said after that experience? It was not wow, what an experience. I cannot wait to tell people about it. No. He had two responses.

The First: **Woe to me! I am ruined. For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty. As Isaiah was caught up in that moment of spiritual glory, seeing the face of God, he saw himself as he was. His first words were the acknowledgments of sin in his life. I thought, *If I am truly seeking God's face, wouldn't I, at least occasionally, have times like Isaiah – and recognize and confess my sinfulness and repent?* When was the last time you admitted and confessed a shortcoming, a sin to God?**

I then asked another question, *Lord, how important is the confession of sin to our spiritual walk?* Immediately, the great promise about what God does when we confess our sin came to mind.

1 John 1:9 (NIV) - *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.* Wow! With such a great promise, why wouldn't we rush to confess any sin? We know already God's wish is to forgive and restore us. He is more ready to forgive and restore than we are to confess.

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. 1 John 1:8 (NIV) If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives. 1 John 1:10 (NIV)

Are we blindly living in such a way we never think that we sin? That we fall short of God's desire for us? When was the last time you sought God's forgiveness through confessing a sin you have committed? Could one of the reasons we are not experiencing the healing of our land is because we are seeking God's hand instead of His face? Would not looking into the radiance of His face help us see our sin? Wouldn't His forgiving love to make us whole lead us to confess and repent our sins?

Since then, I have been praying what the psalmist prayed in Psalm 139: 23-24: Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. ²⁴ See if there is any offensive way in me and lead me in the way everlasting.

Following Isaiah's confession of sin and receiving God's forgiveness, his next statement came upon hearing a voice from God. Isaiah 6:8 (ESV) - ⁸ And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And Isaiah responded: "Here I am! Send me."

This past week I began to see in the passage of scripture a natural progression of what happens when a person seeks God's face. It goes like this:

- When we seek God's face, we will be in awe of His majesty and glory.
- This will create a desire in us to want to be transformed into his likeness.
- As this happens, we will readily recognize our sin, confess, and repent.
- Then we will rise and say, *Lord, Here I am. Send me.*

My friends, that is a key to creating a good legacy, a God-centered legacy for Lillington Baptist Church.

I have a specific challenge for you. Between now and the first of the year, over the next six weeks, make a special effort to come, sit down in this prayer garden, look up at the stained-glass window at Jesus praying and seek the face of God as you pray. As you look at His glorious face, allow Him to reveal areas in your life where you are missing the mark of being the person you know He wants you to be. Share with God that weakness, that sin, and receive his forgiveness. And in your time of prayer, ask God this question: *Lord, what do You want to do through me to help accomplish Your will for our church?"* You may not get an immediate answer, but when you leave, but keep asking this question daily in your prayer time. God will answer. And when you hear His response, I pray you will be like Isaiah and say Here am I, Lord, send me.

If each of you will do this, you will be building a rich, God-honoring legacy of the witness and ministry to pass on to those who will follow you.

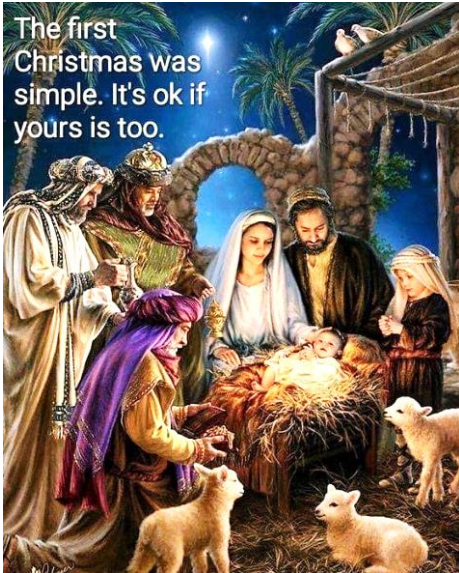
Prayer: By Julie Currin and Asher Selman; Invocation, Benediction and Special Recognitions by the Rev. Daniel Selman, the Pastor of Lillington Baptist Church.



I heard the voice of the Lord, saying to His Church, *whom shall I send, and who will go?* Then we said, Lord, *here we are, send us.* Use us to spread Your news of love, encouragement, and Your saving grace to those who know You not. We will go and trust You. Endow us with wisdom to discern Your voice and the courage to complete the journey. Pour out thy Holy Spirit upon each of us as we answer the Great Commission to go and to share Your love. May we walk the way of redeemed holiness into your eternal presence.

Lillington Baptist – Christmas 2020

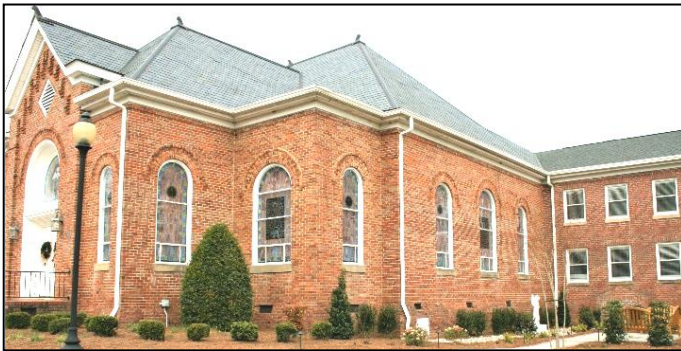
(Live Nativity and Outdoor Concert - Dec. 20, 2020)



Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. *Immanuel meaning "God is with us".*

Lillington Baptist – Christmas 2020

(Dec. 20, 2020)



Wishing you the Spirit of Christmas, which is **peace**, the blessing of Christmas, which is **Hope**, from the heart of Christmas which is **Christ!**

May **Joy** be your gift at Christmas, and may **Faith, Hope** and **Love** be your treasures in the New Year.

“Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ!”

Merry Christmas in Christ



The 150th Anniversary Celebration

October 02, 1870 – October 02, 2020

A Jubilee of Faith

Leviticus 25:8 - 13 marks the time of Jubilee in the Hebrew calendar. In the year of Jubilee, the people of God are not to plant or reap any harvest. Instead, they should live off the increase of the field. That is, they should live out of the abundance that has provided in the past as a substance for the future. We have a lot to be thankful for at Lillington Baptist Church, as we now mark our third season of Jubilee. Our past, and even our present, has proven God's wondrous supply and work. We take this time now to remember and reflect, because the abundance God has provided for us is wonderful!

Our church anniversary is a time for thanksgiving as we think of God's unending love and kindness which He has shown to us. We look to our past and learn from the road behind us while also trusting God for the present. We are not a people who "rest on our laurels"; instead, we press on for the cause of the gospel in our community and among the generations yet to come. We must be relevant, vibrant, and healthy. In order to do that, we should abound in the following practices:

- 1. Pray for one another: A praying church is a powerful church.**
- 2. Encourage one another: We could do so by words, simple acts of love, or empathizing with one another.**
- 3. Support: We share our resources, skill, talents, and lives to open doors for the Gospel ministry around us.**
- 4. Sharing the Story: Just as we share the things the Lord has blessed us with, we also share our greatest treasure. We take the Gospel to those who have lost their way and need to hear it proclaimed.**
- 5. Serve: We serve one another with love.**

In this way we show to the world that we are truly His disciples. May God help us to be that kind of church even as we continue to be His living "stones" and "epistles" in this world.

Pastor Daniel

The Year 2020 in Review

We are Strongest When We are On Our Knees

It may be cliché, but it is true. We are strongest when we are on our knees. As we struggle to find life in dark places, we can find a beacon of life as we seek Christ in prayer. When we are on our knees seeking Christ, we surrender to our heavenly Father and find hope and life. As we seek Christ, we strive to listen carefully to His words and pattern our church and lives after His ways, finding purpose.

Purposes We Have Found

1. **Stay Connected to a Vibrant Faith**
2. **Minister to the Needs of Our Congregation**
3. **Bring Mercy and Hope to Our Community**

A Year for the History Books

The year 2020 was one for the history books. As a church, we faced the pandemic of Covid-19 where we found ourselves responding to a health crisis that made worship, instruction, and fellowship gatherings difficult. We engaged the challenges of the times with love and prayer as our community and nation struggled with the lack of Christian focus. In spite of the difficulties and obstacles, we experienced the steadfast grace and faithfulness of God. We also discovered new and innovative ways to praise and glorify the Lord by capitalizing on technology and increased small group participation. During the year, our faithful congregation accepted the challenge of remaining committed to serving the pressing needs of the church and the Lillington community. We witnessed many of our dedicated leaders emerge to greater heights to minister to church families—new and old—as well as to others encountering economic, medical, and spiritual frustration and need. Lillington Baptist Church proved once again that it is a caring place dedicated to spreading the gospel through love and service.

As we look forward to the future, we can testify that God is with us and that He has a plan. He is faithful to His plan, while we remain faithful to Him. While we continue to expand upon what we learned this season, may we remain committed to His church, His work, and His Son, Jesus Christ. As we do, we will find a vibrant congregation, desperately dependent upon God, and thriving no matter the circumstances. *Pastor Daniel Selman*

The 150th Anniversary - Jubilee of Faith

1870 – 2020

The Church of God does not seek to write its history in glowing events, but in the lives of those who make up its membership and constituency. Lillington Baptist has served and is still serving a real need in the life of the community. It has brought solace and comfort to bereaved hearts. It has laid its hands on the hearts of boys and girls and guided their lives to mature manhood and womanhood, sending them out into the great-unknown realms of eternity secure in Christ. Its membership today is made up of strong, stalwart Christian men and women.

Thus, Lillington Baptist Church has stood through the years as a city on a hill and as a lighted candle on a candlestick. Its light has gone forth not only into the community surrounding it, but far out into the world to brighten the lives of many people. Only eternity will be able to reveal the results of the labors of those faithful souls who have wrought, toiled, and worshiped within its sacred walls. May the next 150 years of LBC history be filled with as much good as the previous 150 years, which have passed forever into eternity.

In celebrating this 150th anniversary, we not only honor those present, but also remember with affection and gratitude all the lives of those who have now gone to join the Church invisible, whose love and presence we have lost but for a while. They are a part of our fellowship at this 150th Anniversary. We honor all of those who in the past have aided in the building of this Church, and we entrust it to those who will carry it into the future.

Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness! ~ Psalm 115:1



“This, Do in Remembrance of Me.”



The Jubilee of Faith and Belief Continues!



The 1870 - 2020 history of the Lillington Baptist Church is 45 pages long. In the 45 pages are 16,364 words, 177 pictures and over 270 names of servants of Christ. Listed below are some of the people that have contributed to this church-wide project and certainly this does not include everyone. *Compiled by Joe Boone*

Lisa Womble	Adcock	Earl & Doris	Esslinger
Dorothy	Barham	Bob & Lana	Hawthorne
Erwin	Barham	Nancy	Holland
Dennis & Linda	Bazemore	Ruby Jo	Long
Chip & Paula	Bodenheimer	Carroll & Jo	Marsalis
Joe & Janet	Boone	Elaine	Martin
Donald	Bowen	Billy Ray & Mary Lou	Matthews
Mike & Francis	Brown	Neil & Cindy	McPhail
Patricia	Brown	Brian & Kelly	McPhail
Pepper	Choplin	Freddie & Cindy	Milton
Mike	Codgill	Lee & Novie	Milton
Sherman & Sandra	Currin	Mark	Morris
Collett & Alice	Davis	Phil & Susan	Morrow
Alex & Joyce	Dawson	Charles	Myers
Dan & Laura Ann	Denning	Judie	Pardue
Rachel	Denning	David & Andrea	Patterson

Jeff & Beanie	Roberts
John & Joyce	Rogers
Darrell & Amanda	Salmon
Daniel & LaDonna	Selman
Jason & Tonya	Sharpe
Adelaide	Shaw
Emma	Shaw
Bill & Kathy	Sutter
Kenneth & Kathryn	Talley
Donald & Wendy	Thomas
Jerry	Wallace
Billy & Glenda	West
Michael	Wicker
Shirley	Wicker
Ray & Sara	Womble Family
Ray	Womble Jr.
Steve & Susan	Worrell
Jerry & Gloria	Yarbrough