

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**One Hundred Forty-Second Annual Session**  
of the  
**SENER DISTRICT**  
**PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

**Held With**  
**SENER CHURCH**  
**Ashe County, North Carolina**

**SEPTEMBER 8, 9, 10, 1995**

The next session will convene with Roans Creek Church, located between Laurel Springs, NC and Jefferson, NC about seven miles from Jefferson on left side of the road.

**SEPTEMBER 6, 7, 8, 1996**

**OFFICERS**

**ELDER JAMES McNEILL**.....**MODERATOR**  
5862 U.S. 221 N., Crumpler, NC 28617, Phone: (910) 982-3802

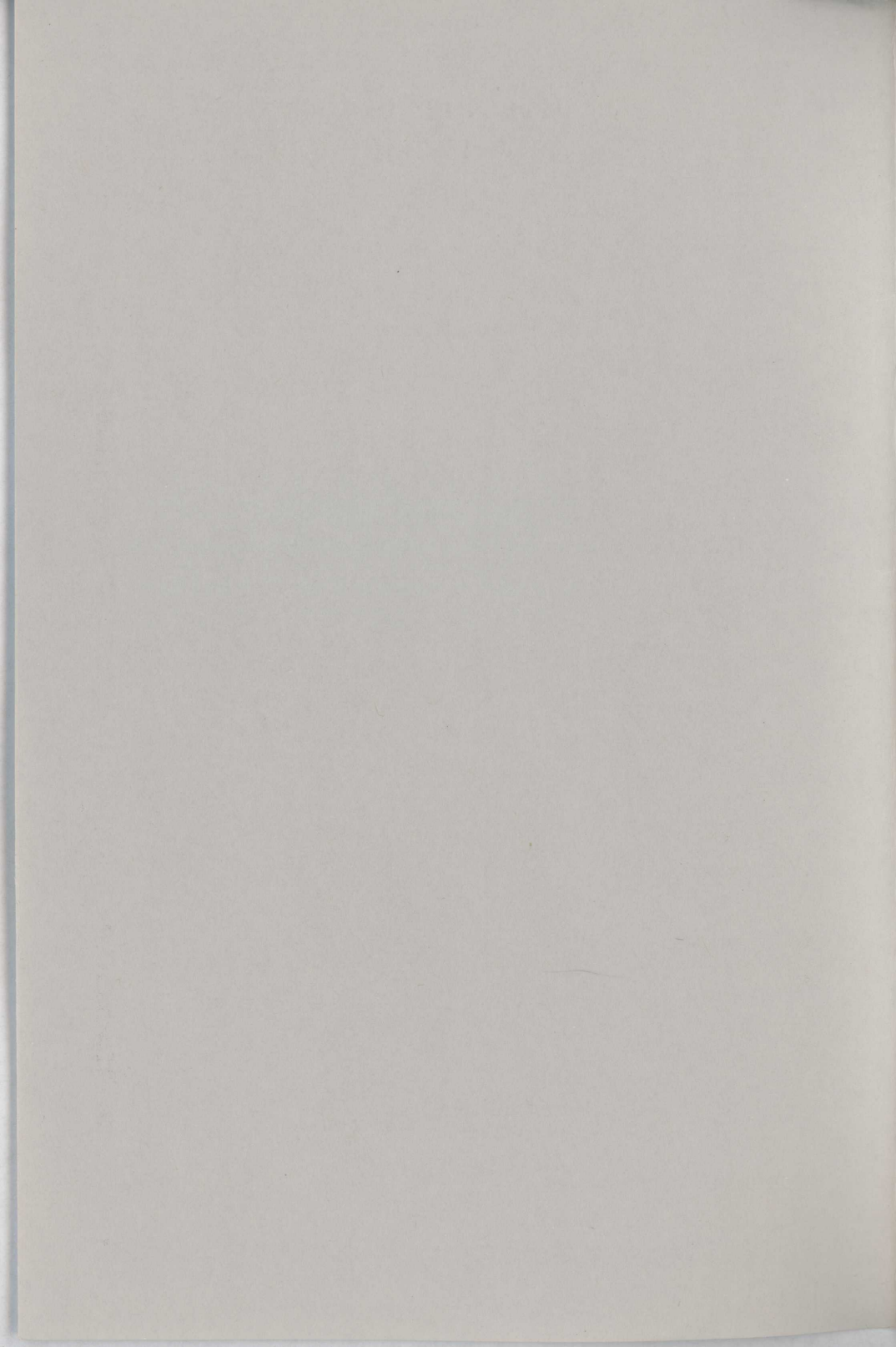
**ELDER FLOYD SOUTH**.....**ASST. MODERATOR**  
278 South Ave., West Jefferson, NC 28694, Phone: (910) 246-7456

**BROTHER BOBBY H. ABSHER**.....**CLERK**  
183 Old Ridge Road, Crumpler, NC 28617, Phone (910) 982-2163

**BROTHER DON WALTERS**.....**ASST. CLERK**  
775 Boggs Road, West Jefferson, NC 28694, Phone (910) 877-4723

**PRIMITIVE BAPTIST**  
**COLLECTION**

Southern Baptist Historical  
Library & Archives



# Proceedings of the Senter District Primitive Baptist Association

The Association met pursuant to adjournment of last year and was called to order with song and prayer by Elder Floyd South, Senter Association.

The introductory sermon was delivered by Elder Dan Parker, Afton Road Primitive Baptist Church, Danville, Va.

The Association was opened with prayer by Elder Milton Gunter, North View Church, Danbury, N.C.

## ON MOTION:

1. Letters from the churches were read and correspondents were seated.
2. The Association appointed Elder James McNeill as Moderator; Elder Floyd South as Assistant Moderator; Brother Bobby Absher as Clerk; and Brother Don Walters as Assistant Clerk.
3. Called for petitionary letters.
4. Called for transient and visiting brethren and sisters from sister associations and churches. The following were seated and given the right hand of fellowship:

### **Mountain Association of North Carolina and Virginia:**

Brother Roy and Sister Shirley Truitt  
Brother Thomas and Sister Leta Farmer  
Brother Greene Ward  
Brother Arvel and Sister Eva Newberry  
Brother Raymond and Sister Nonnie Nicholas  
Brother Page Wagoner  
Sister Glenna Brown  
Sister Dorothy Brown  
Elder Terry V. Wilson



**St. Clair Bottom Association of North Carolina and  
Virginia:**

Elder Eddie G. Lyle  
Brother Vernon Lyle  
Sister Ethel Lyle  
Sister Beulah Lyle

**Bear Creek Association of North Carolina:**

Elder L. Richard Cox  
Elder E. W. Hooven, Jr.

**Reorganized Silver Creek Association:**

Elder Gene F. Watson

**Original Mt. Liberty Association:**

Elder Bob Fields

***INDEPENDENT CHURCHES:***

**Northview Primitive Baptist Church, Danbury, NC**

Elder Milton Gunter  
Sister Betty Gunter

**Walnut Cove Primitive Baptist Church, Walnut Cove, NC**

Brother Paul V. Lemons  
Brother Raymond J. Bibey

**Mt. Lebanon Primitive Baptist Church, Woodlawn, Va.**

Elder Edward Bowman  
Sister Maylease Mabe

**Pine Grove Primitive Baptist Church, Hillsville, Va.**

Brother Waltrude Slusher  
Sister Emma Jean Slusher

**Pilgrim's Rest Primitive Baptist Church, Valle Crucis, NC**  
Elder John R. Jackson

**Afton Road Primitive Baptist Church, Danville, Va**  
Elder Dan Parker

**Meadow Fork Primitive Baptist Church, Laurel Springs,  
NC**

Elder Samuel Whittington  
Sister Janet Whittington

**Community Primitive Baptist Church, Stuart, Va.**  
Brother O'Bain Hylton

5. The moderator is to make all temporary appointments in this session.

**A. COMMITTEE ON FINANCE:**

Brother George Severt  
Brother Willard Hartzog  
Brother Paul Miller  
Brother Kenny McNeill

**B. COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS:**

Brother Larry Davis  
Brother Clyde Johnson  
Brother Donnie Cox  
Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and Asst. Clerk

**C. COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY:**

Brother Bobby Absher  
Brother Paul Miller  
Brother Don Walters  
Brother Ray Roten  
Elder Floyd South

6. That the committee on arrangements meet after service for conference.
7. To adjourn the Association until 10:00 A.M. on Saturday.
8. Closed with prayer by Elder E. W. Hooven.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1995**

The Association met as scheduled and was called to order with song and prayer by Elder Edward Bowman.

**ON MOTION:**

1. The roll call was omitted.
2. The Constitution and Rules of Decorum were omitted but printed in the minutes.
3. The next Association is to be held starting at 10:00 A.M., on Friday, before the second Sunday in September, 1996 at Roans Creek Church.
4. Night meetings will be held Friday and Saturday nights, at Roans Creek Church.
5. The clerk was appointed to oversee the printing of 350 copies of the minutes and distribution of the same.
6. Minutes are to be mailed to all visitors.
7. The clerk was appointed as treasurer to hold all funds for printing and postage of minutes.
8. The obituaries are to be printed in the minutes.
9. The finance committee reported as follows:

**YEAR - 1995**

**Reported from Churches:**

Beaver Creek.....	\$90.00
Big Helton.....	20.00
Horse Creek .....	10.00



North Fork.....	50.00
Riverview .....	185.00
Roans Creek.....	100.00
Senter .....	372.00

Total .....	\$827.00
-------------	----------

Received from Donations Friday & Saturday.....520.00

Balance in Savings --- \$543.00

Expenditures:

To the Moderator .....	20.00
To the Assistant Moderator.....	20.00
To the Clerk .....	60.00
To the Assistant Clerk.....	20.00
Paid to visiting Elders.....	845.00
Designated for printing and postage of minutes....	360.00

10. Minutes read and approved.

11. That the Association adjourn through song and prayer by Elder John Jackson.

Elder James McNeill, Moderator

Elder Floyd South, Assistant Moderator

Brother Bobby Absher, Clerk

Brother Don Walters, Assistant Clerk

**VISITING ELDERS**

Elder Edward Bowman

5771 Joy Ranch Road, Woodlawn, Va. 24381

Elder L. Richard Cox

20 Wilbrook Drive, Thomasville, NC 27360

Elder Bob Fields

7536 Mendota Road, Mendota, Va 24270

Elder Milton Gunter

3010 Anglin Mill Road, Stoneville, NC 27048

Elder E. W. Hooven, Jr.

1320 Woodbrook Drive, Kernersville, NC 27284

Elder John R. Jackson

Route 2, Box 872, Boone, NC 28607

Elder Eddie G. Lyle

1521 Elliot Road, West Jefferson, NC 28694

Elder Dan Parker

Route 7, Box 906, Danville, VA 24540

Elder Gene F. Watson

540 Legion Road, Lenoir, NC 28645

Elder Samuel Whittington

856 Arbor Grove Church Road, Miller's Creek, NC 28651

Elder Terry V. Wilson

109 King Arthur Court, Galax, NC 24333

## ORDER OF PREACHING

### Friday Morning:

Brother Floyd South (introduced with prayer)

Elder Dan Parker (introductory sermon)

Elder Milton Gunter (opened business with prayer)

### Friday Afternoon:

Brother Bobby Absher (introduced with prayer)

Elder Milton Gunter

Elder L. Richard Cox

Elder Eddie Lyle (closed with prayer)

### Friday Night:

Elder Eddie Lyle (introduced with prayer)

Elder Terry Wilson

Elder E. W. Hooven

Elder Floyd South (closed with prayer)



**Saturday Morning:**

Elder John Jackson (opened with prayer)  
Elder Sammy Whittington  
Elder Ed Bowman  
Brother Bobby Absher (closed with prayer)

**Saturday Afternoon:**

Elder Floyd South (opened with prayer)  
Elder Gene Watson  
Elder C. O. Yates (closed with prayer)

**Saturday Night:**

Elder C. O. Yates (opened with prayer)  
Elder John Jackson  
Elder Floyd South (closed with prayer)

**Sunday Morning:**

Elder John Jackson (introduced with prayer)  
Elder James McNeill  
Elder C. O. Yates (closed with prayer)

***ANNUAL MEETING***

The Senter Primitive Baptist Church will hold a week's meeting starting the second Sunday night of April and running through Friday night - April 14-19, 1996.

## ***IN MEMORIAM***



### ***MARY VIOLA BARE***

***DECEMBER 5, 1911 - SEPTEMBER 10, 1994***

Viola M. Bare was born in Ashe County on December 5, 1911. She was the daughter of Walter Columbus and Jennie Vannoy Miller. She was married December 21, 1930 to Claude E. Bare who preceded her in death on July 14, 1985.

Sister Viola united with Riverview Primitive Baptist Church on August 18, 1963 and there remained a faithful member until she departed this life September 10, 1994.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 P.M. Monday, September 12 at the Riverview Primitive Baptist Church with Elder James McNeill, Elder John Jackson and Elder Calvin Yates officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

She is survived by four children, Howard Bare of Rome Georgia; Louise Hartzog of West Jefferson, NC; Nina Bare of West Jefferson, NC; Neal Bare of Deep Gap, NC; eight grandchildren, seven great grandchildren, one sister and two brothers.

Sister Viola was a firm believer in the Sovereign God of all grace, with all power both in heaven and in earth.

She is greatly missed and will long be remembered as a loving mother and grandmother, a dear sister and a precious friend.

## **ORDAINED ELDERS AND THEIR ADDRESSES**

- Elder C.O. Yates**                      2415 Lower Nettle Knob Road  
West Jefferson, NC 28694  
Telephone (910) 877-4991
- Elder Floyd South**                      278 South Avenue  
West Jefferson, NC 28694  
Telephone: (910) 246-7456
- Elder Steve Douglas**                      5700 Garvey Bridge Road  
Crumpler, NC 28617  
Telephone: (910) 982-2958
- Elder James D. McNeill**                      5862 U. S. 221 North  
Crumpler, NC 28617  
Telephone: (910) 982-3802
- Elder John Jackson**                      Route 2, Box 872  
Boone, NC 28607

## **CHURCHES AND PASTORS**

- Beaver Creek**                      Elder James McNeill
- Big Helton**                      Elder Steve Douglas
- Horse Creek**                      Elder Steve Douglas
- North Fork**                      Elder John Jackson
- Riverview**                      Elders C. O. Yates, James McNeill



**Roans Creek**

Elder Floyd South

**Senter**

Elder James McNeill

**DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES TO CHURCHES  
AND NUMBER OF MINUTES;  
CLERKS AND THEIR ADDRESSES**

<b>Beaver Creek:</b> Don Walters 775 Boggs Road, West Jefferson, NC 28694	20
<b>Big Helton</b> Elmer Ham 2214 Deep Ford Road Lansing, NC 28643	15
<b>Horse Creek</b> Elder Steve Douglas 5700 Garvey Bridge Road, Crumpler, NC 28617	15
<b>North Fork</b> Tony McNeill 211 Beau Drive, West Jefferson, NC 28694	20
<b>Riverview</b> Dan Miller 270 Joe Lyalls Road, West Jefferson, NC 28694	30
<b>Roans Creek</b> Elder Floyd South 278 South South Avenue, West Jefferson, NC 28694	35
<b>Senter</b> Bobby Absher 183 Old Ridge Road, Crumpler, NC 28617	45

**DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES  
TO SISTER ASSOCIATIONS**

<b>Ebenezer:</b> <i>Aubrey E. Utz</i> Madison, VA 22727 .....	20
<b>Mountain:</b> <i>Roy Truitt</i> 102 Gentry Street, Galax, VA 24333 .....	20

<b>Bear Creek:</b> <i>Allen Copple</i>	
Route 4, Asheboro, NC 27203 .....	20
<b>Silver Creek:</b> <i>Elder Gene Watson</i>	
145 Friendly Park, Lenoir, NC 28645 .....	20
<b>North Carolina Collection:</b> <i>The Library</i>	
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27514 .....	2
<b>The Primitive Baptist Library:</b> <i>Elon College</i>	
Rt. 2, Elon College, NC 27244.....	2
<b>The American Baptist Historical Society</b>	
1106 South Goodman St., Rochester, NY 14620.....	2
<b>Wake Forest University:</b> <i>The Z. Smith Reynolds Library</i>	
Box 7777, Reynolds Station, Winston-Salem, NC 27109...	2
<b>The Christian Baptist Library</b>	
PO Box 68, Atwood, TN 38220 .....	2
<b>Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Association:</b>	
Rt. 1, Box 14, Bluefield, WV 24701 .....	20
<b>The Primitive Baptist Library:</b>	
416 Main Street, Carthage, IL 62321 .....	2
<b>St. Clair's Bottom Association:</b> <i>Blaine Owens</i>	
103 Jefferson Drive, Bristol, VA 24201 .....	20

## COMMUNION MEETINGS

We wish to extend to all our churches and to the peace-loving Baptists of our faith and order an invitation to commune with us at the following churches and dates:

- Beaver Creek:** 4th Sunday in May
- Sender:** 2nd Sunday in June
- Riverview:** 3rd Sunday in June
- Horse Creek:** 4th Sunday in June
- North Fork:** 2nd Sunday in July
- Big Helton:** 3rd Sunday in July
- Roans Creek:** 4th Sunday in July

## RULES OF DECORUM

1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.
2. A Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrage of the member present.
3. Only one person shall speak at a time, who shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator when he is about to make his speech.
4. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in his speech by anyone except the Moderator till he is done speaking.
5. He shall strictly adhere to the subject, and in no way reflect on the person who spoke before, so as to make remarks on his slips, failings or imperfections, but shall fairly state the matter as nearly as he can so as to convey his light or ideas.
6. No person shall abruptly break off or absent himself from the Association without liberty obtained from it.
7. No person shall rise and speak more than three times on one subject without liberty obtained from the Association.
8. No member of the Association shall have liberty of laughing during the sitting of the same, nor' whispering in the time of public speech.
9. No member of the Association shall address another in any other appellation than the title of brother.
10. The Moderator shall not interrupt any member or prohibit him from speaking till he gives his light on the subject except he breaks the Rules of Decorum.
11. The names of the several members of the Association shall be enrolled by the clerk and called over as often as the Association requires.



12. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privileges of speech as any other member, provided the chair be filled, and he shall not vote unless the Association be equally divided.

13. That any member who shall willingly and knowingly break any of these rules shall be reprovved by the Association as they shall think proper.

14. The pastor of the host church shall act as moderator until a moderator can be elected.

15. Delegates of the host church to select the elder to preach the introductory sermon.

## CONSTITUTION

The churches from Mountain Association, Cranberry, Senter, South Fork, Silas Creek, and Big Helton and also the Three Forks Association, Beaver Creek, Bear Creek, North Fork and Horse Creek, having been dismissed from the Mountain and Three Forks Associations, at their annual meetings in A.C. 1853, to form a new Association, met by the respective delegates in a convention, with the Senter Church, October 21, 1853, formed and adopted the present Constitution of the Senter Association.

1. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our union and duly sent to represent them in the Association.

2. Who, in producing letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, shall be entitled to their seats. Each church shall be entitled to three delegates. In their letters are to be expressed their number in full fellowship, those baptized, received by letters, excluded and dead since last Association.

3. The Association will continue seating all orderly, peace-loving Primitive Baptists as visitors.

4. The members thus chosen and convened shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor shall they have any clerical power over the churches, nor shall they have any internal right over any church in the union.

5. The Association shall be governed and ruled by a regular decorum.

6. The Association shall have a Moderator and Clerk, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

7. New churches or any regular Baptist Church of Jesus Christ of our faith and order, being legally dismissed by letter from any sister Association, upon application by letter and delegates, shall be admitted into our union.

8. Every church in the union shall be entitled to representation in the Association.

9. Every query, first being debated in the church and then presented to the Association, shall be read and debated and answered unless it be withdrawn by the member who presents it.

10. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

11. The Association shall endeavor to furnish the churches with the minutes of the proceedings, the best method for accomplishing this purpose shall be at the discretion of the future Association.

12. We think it necessary to have an Association fund to defray the expenses of the same and it is the duty of each church in the union to contribute such sums as they think proper to the Association, and those monies shall be deposited in the hands of a treasurer who shall be accountable to the Association for the same.



13. There shall be an Association book wherein the proceedings of the Association shall be recorded by a secretary appointed by the Association, who shall receive a yearly compensation for his trouble.

14. The minutes of the Association shall be read, corrected, if need be, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association rises.

15. Amendments to their plan or form of government may be made at any time by a majority of the Association, when they deem it necessary, by giving the churches twelve months notice.

16. The Association shall have power to provide for the general union of churches, to endeavor to preserve a chain of communion among the churches, to give the church the necessary advice in matters of difficulty.

17. To inquire into the cause, if any church fails to represent themselves at any time in the Association.

18. To appropriate those monies contributed by the churches to any purpose they may think proper.

19. The Association shall have power to withdraw from any church in the union which shall violate the rules of this Convention deviate from the orthodox principles of the gospel.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe in one true and living God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost and these three are One.

2. We believe that scriptures of the Old and New Testament as translated in the 1611 King James version of the Holy Bible is the written word of God and the only rule of faith and practice.



3. We believe in the doctrine of election by grace.
4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin and in Man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature by his own free will or ability.
5. We believe that sinners are called, converted, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit, and that All who are thus regenerated and born again by the Spirit of God shall never fall finally away.
6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ.
7. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ and that true believers are the only subjects of those ordinances and we believe the only true mode of baptism is by immersion.
8. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment and the joys of the righteous and that the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.
9. We believe that no minister has the right to administer the ordinances of the gospel except such as are regularly called, and come under the imposition of hands by the presbytery.

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

**Beaver Creek** - Second Sunday morning, 11:00 AM, and fourth Sunday, 2:00 PM A brick building located about three miles from West Jefferson, NC. Take Hwy. 221 south about one mile to Hwy. 163 about two miles. The church is on the left side of the highway.

**Big Helton** - Second and third Sundays, 11:00 A.M. A white wood church building about one mile west of Sturgills, NC. Take Hwy. 194 from Lansing, NC to Sturgills, NC. Turn left. The church is about one mile on the left side of the highway.

**Horse Creek** - First and fourth Sundays, 11:00 AM, following respective Saturdays. A white wood frame building about four miles northwest of Lansing, NC. take Hwy. 194 from West Jefferson, turn left on 1324; follow 1324 to Joe Hampton Road; follow to end of pavement; turn left to church.

**North Fork** - Second and fourth Sundays, 10:30 A.M. Take Hwy. 88 West from Warrensville. Approximately 1 1/2 miles turn right on Staggs Creek Road. Continue on Staggs Creek Road approximately 1 mile. Church is at the intersection of Staggs Creek Road and Glenn Miller Road.

**Riverview** - From the intersection of 221 and 163 near West Jefferson go south on 221 approximately .3 mile. Turn left on Nettle Knob Road, go three miles to the Lower Nettle Knob Road. Go 3.5 miles to the Phillips Gap Road, turn right about 1 mile. the brick church is on the left of the road.

**Roans Creek** - Sunday, following fourth Saturday of each month, 11:00 A.M. A brick church building located between Jefferson, NC and Laurel Springs, NC. Take Hwy. 88 out of Jefferson, NC about seven miles. The church is on the left side of the road.

**Senter** - First Sunday night, 7:00 PM. second Saturday night, 7:00 PM, and Sunday following, 2:00 PM. A brick church building located between Jefferson, NC and Sparta, NC. Take Hwy. 221 out of Jefferson, NC, about eight miles. Located on Nathans' Creek School Road.







