HISTORY OF
FORSYTH COUNTY, GEORGIA

VOLUME II

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FEB 04 1991
Dallas, Texas
BY

GARLAND C. BAGLEY
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EASLEY, SC
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I enjoyed going back to Haw Creek Church more than any place I have ever been. I visited up there this past summer. The new modern brick church that was built two years ago is resplendent with blue memorial windows. It was the annual singing which has gone on for more than sixty years. How many singings I have attended at Haw Creek, I don't know. This was a homecoming for me. Back in my young days, we enjoyed going to all day singings in a wagon. We thought we were traveling Glory Road. We had dinner on the ground. People were happy to drive many many miles. Now we go in cars to the community where we were reared and our loved ones lie buried. They spread dinner now on a long table under the oaks and what a dinner. After dinner, the church filled rapidly; people came and went, and singing never stopped. It has been said that preaching ends at the grave, but singing goes on through eternity.

We have come a long way in this life, but are we any better? (I wonder). We're better educated, more enlightened. Do we live obedient to God so we can have the fellowship with Him? Jesus our lawyer. He pleads all our cases, He hasn't lost one yet.

The angels are lighting God's little candles for me.

Ada Vaughan Major
Cordele, Georgia
September, 1952, age 75

— From Forsyth County News, February 14, 1963

CONSTITUTION OF HAW CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

June 12, 1841

State of Georgia Forsyth County
June 12, 1841

We the following Brethren Baptist Ministers viz: A. Webb, Silas King, L. J. Hudson and Job Rainwater having attended at Brother R. Phillips in compliance with a request in order to examine into the expediency and aid in the constitution of a Baptist church in this settlement formed ourselves into a

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presbytery calling into our aid Deacons J. Ledbetter, R. Foster, J. Barker, A. Phillips, and A. Hembree and after organizing ourselves into a presbytery and making Brother A. Webb our speaker and Bro. A. Bates our Clerk, proceed by calling for their consitution and abstracts of Principles, both which they presented, and having examined both to our satisfaction, proceeded to constitute them by the name of Haw Creek Baptist Church of Christ. Bro. A. Webb pronounced them a church possessing all the ecclesiastical powers as such. Bro. Silas King made the constitutional prayer, Rev. L. J. Hudson gave the charge and Rev. Job Rainwater the right hand of fellowship.

Anthony Bates, Clerk

Ministers:  
Rev. A. Webb  Rev. L. J. Hudson  Rev. Silas King  
Rev. Job Rainwater

Deacons:  
J. Ledbetter  A. Phillips  Ransom Foster  
A. Hembree  J. Barker

CHARTER MEMBERS

William Blackstock  Hannah Blackstock  Alsey Wright  
William Vaughan  Asa Vaughan  Willis Vaughan  
Clinton Vaughan  Louisa Russell  Healin Phillips  
Delilah Phillips  Richard Phillips  Hannah Vaughan  
Delilah Vaughan  Perthane Phillips

On Feb. 8, 1851 the membership considered the proposition of moving the church site from its location across the road from the cemetery to the forks of the road north of Thomas Brannon’s home on land lot 516-2-1 (this is just west of Dave’s Creek Baptist church at the intersection of Old Atlanta Rd. and Brannon Rd.) and appointed Wm. Blackstock, Young P. Pool, Richard W. Blackstock, and James C. Blackstock a committee to procure the land, to draft the house, arrange the plan on which it should be built and to take a subscription for a building fund and superintend the building.
MEMBERSHIP LIST OF HAW CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

About 1860 to 1865 - Males

Phillips, Richard
Phillips, Lewis B.
Nicholson, Joseph N. C.
Major, James
Deaton, John
Major, Richard M.
Major, James T.
Williams, Charles

Herrin, Edwin R.
Weaver, John L.
Major, Daniel P.
Prutt, Elias
Blackstock, John L.
Pirkle, Albet
Mosley, Emry C.
Major, E. M.

Strickland, E. L.
Phillips, L. B.
Hays, James
Stapp, John
Hays, Edward Sr.
Daniel, Edward
Fields, Wm. Sr.

MEMBERSHIP LIST OF HAW CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

About 1860 to 1865 - Females

--- Phillips, Delilah
Major, Clarinda
Nicholson, Sarah J.
Nicholson, Rachel
Deaton, Martha
Pirkle, Elizabeth
Major, Mary A. A.
Major, Malicia M.
Major, Marcella
Phillips, Helena
Green, Charity
McGinnis, Mary
--- Rainwater, Laodicea
Weaver, Katharine
Williams, Mary Ann
Bagby, Manirva
Otwell, Amanda
Major, Martha C.
Pruitt, Margaret
Major, Martha H.
Payne, Mary
Major, Helen N.

Martin, Orpha W.
Payne, Mary
Ensey, Nancy J.
Payne, Elizabeth
Payne, Sarah
Blackstock, N. E.
Deaton, Martha
Major, Mary A. A.
McGinnis, Mary
Chater, Mary
Rollins, Lucinda
Brown, Georgiann
Rollins, Catherine
Phillips, Ophelia
Reade, Miney
Pirkle, Sarie
Nalley, Hattie
Echols, Hannah Jane
Kemp, Loney
Samples, Alles
Green, Lithoney

Green, Marietha
Whitt, Sinthey
Prutt, Ader
Samples, S. E.
Payne, Sarah
Carr, Mary
Thornton, S. R.
Thornton, Withia
Thornton, Mahala E.
Shadburn, Mary
Kemp, Susan A.
Masburn, Alice P.
Samples, Mary E.
Whidby, Sarah O.
Pirkle, Mary J.
Fowler, Louisa M.
Major, Nancy
Bagby, Nancy S.
Bagby, Nancy Jr.
Bagby, Caroline
Deaton, Martha
McGinnis, Mary

FEMALE MEMBERSHIP LIST OF HAW CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

1868-1870

--- Major, Clarinda
Phillips, Helena
Green, Charity
Major, Martha C.
Major, Marcella
Williams, Mary Ann
Major, Martha K.
Payne, Mary
Major, Helen N.
Martin, Orpha W.
Payne, Mary
Payne, Elizabeth
Payne, Sarah
Deaton, Martha J.
McGinnis, Mary
Carr, Mary A.
Phillips, C. J.
Green, Sarah Ann
Pirkle, M. L.

Phillips, N. E.
Pirkle, Sarah
Edmondson, Mary
Bonds, Delilah A.
Edmondson, Leach C.
Phillips, Eveline
Phillips, N. C.
White, S. C.
Edmondson, M. C.
Pirkle, Abi
Pirkle, S. A.
Honeycut, Mary
Major, F. N.
Stephens, Lucinda O.
Pirkle, C. C.
Vaughan, Harriett
Vaughan, L. J.
McGinnis, Sarah
Moulder, M. L.

Deaton, L. E.
(now Bolten)
Phillips, Rosalee
(now Edmondson)
Rider, Carry
Major, Elizabeth H.
Gaimony, Mary L.
Samples, Henrietta
Sexton, Mat
Pirkle, Riller
Vaughan, Theodosia E.
Green, Mazoury E.
Payne, M. L.
Pirkle, Harriett E.
Deaton, Augusta
Major, Luiller M.
(now Kemp)
Page, C. J.
Strickland, E. L.
Pirkley, Anney L.
to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Ought not Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into his glory? And beginning at Moses and all the prophets he expounded unto them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

Rev. W. R. Cantrell most ably alternated. Earnest and weighty was his word. He did the association good, for we found three books essential to missions, viz: the Bible, hymn book, and pocket book. Also received in collection $6.36 for which we thanked the people and especially our white friends for their 10 and 25 cent pieces.

SHADY GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
(Shake Rag)

Information Furnished By: Ray Burton, Clerk, Duluth, Ga.

Shady Grove Baptist Church was constituted May 27, 1838 on land lot 472-1-1 and the church has built 3 church buildings, and the present building (1975) was dedicated August 1967.

The charter members consisted of 3 men and 3 women as follows:

Joseph Stewart
James Wagnon
Stephen Terry

Nancy S. Cox
Mary Stewart
Caroline Stewart

The first members received by the church were:

William Terry (letter)  Elizabeth Wagnon (experience)
Martha McGinnis (experience)

The next to join the church were:

Margaret McGinnis  Casandra Owens
Barbary McGinnis  Elizabeth Martin
Anna Anderson  Nancy Wade

James Wagnon was the first clerk and it is believed that since no record of a presbytery being formed for the establishment of the church was recorded in the first minutes, that the
church had no regular pastor until December, 1840 when Reverend Drewery Hutchins was chosen. Reverend Richard Phillips was chosen next on January, 1843. In July, 1843, Reverend Phillips asked to be released as pastor and the church elected Reverend Drewery Hutchins again to be pastor.

In December, 1841, the Georgia Legislature incorporated Shady Grove Baptist Church with the following trustees: George Welms, Stephen McGinnis, James Little, William Langley and Ransom Tedder.

Land for the church was furnished by William McGinnis in the amount of 4 acres starting at a tree near the spring on school house branch on lot 472-1-1 and recorded in Deed Book “H”, page 68.

On the 4th Sunday in July, 1843, an interesting resolution was written at the union meeting of the First District of the Hightower Baptist Association. The minutes read:

“On motion the subject in reference to the great influence about to be exerted by the Roman Catholics over our civil as well as religious privileges was taken up.

“On motion the moderator appointed a committee to draft a suitable resolution in reference to the influence of Roman Catholicism. Reverends D. Hutchins, F. M. Hawkins and Joab Rainwater was appointed and wrote the following resolution:

“Inasmuch as we have viewed with painful emotions to the moral and religious institutions of the rising generation and the growing numbers of the Roman Catholics which are flocking to our free and happy land;
Resolved therefore that we as Christians and citizens recommend to our association the propriety and necessity of getting up Sabbath school in all our churches and neighborhoods and the reading of the scriptures in all our families, and that we urge our ministers to be more industrious and more particular in imparting the necessary instructions on these points.”

In July, 1843, Thomas Roberts was ordained a deacon by the following Presbytery: Reverend Alfred Webb, Reverend

The church met and held services at Henry Bagley’s house in September, 1844, after he moved up near where Sharon Church is located. In March, 1846, a motion was made by Brother Williams that Shady Grove Church move to a new meeting place near the home of Henry Bagley (Later where Sharon Church was organized). The question was lost on a vote.

In May, 1846, the following asked for and received letters of dismissal: Thomas Rogers and wife, N. F. Bagley and wife, William F. Hayes and wife, Elizabeth and Martha Hayes, Adeline, Eveline, Gilla Ann and Hamour Bagley, Anna Williams, E. B. Echols, Sharpleigh Echols and wife, William Key and Joseph H. Williams and wife. (Most of the above united to form a new church near Henry Bagley’s house on land lot no. 925-2-1 that was organized and named Sharon).

Elder Drewery Hutchins was a member of Shady Grove Church and was granted a letter of dismissal October, 1846. (Reverend Hutchins also helped to start Salem Baptist Church, Forsyth County).

In November, 1850, a committee was appointed to sell a part of the church land.

In March, 1851, arrangements were made to purchase 25 seats for the church at 50 cents each.

In November, 1847, John Anderson asked permission to build a blacksmith shop and establish a coal yard on the church lot.

In April, 1859, Brother Rice B. Green was ordained a deacon by Reverend A. P. Burgess and Reverend Davis.

On October 1, 1862, a petition was sent to Pastor, Elder A. Webb to select a presbytery to examine Brother J. N. Tribble and to ordain him if found worthy. The presbytery consisted of Elder J. W. Hutchins, W. W. A. Findley, and J. W. Bailey, deacon, and after examination, ordained him. This was attested to by G. W. Smith, Clerk, Concord Church.

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the Roswell Association. We have examined most of the Annual Minutes of the Hightower Association from the year 1910 through 1947 and also many of the Roswell Association Minutes from the year 1947 through 1961. We will present some of the interesting information gathered from these two sources:

In these records we find that Union Hill was host to the Annual Meeting of the Hightower Association on four occasions and host to the Roswell Association one time before 1961. We find the following information:

**HIGHTOWER ASSOCIATION MEETINGS**

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<th>MODERATOR</th>
<th>CLERK</th>
<th>INT. SER.</th>
<th>TEXT</th>
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<tr>
<td>1860</td>
<td>Alfred Webb</td>
<td>F. M. Hawkins</td>
<td>T. Burress</td>
<td>I Tim. 11:15</td>
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<td>1881</td>
<td>F. M. Hawkins</td>
<td>A. L. Logan</td>
<td>W. J. Hyde</td>
<td>John 17:26</td>
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<td>1909</td>
<td>J. R. Stone</td>
<td>D. W. DeVore</td>
<td>E. A. Cochran</td>
<td>Eph. 4:24</td>
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<td>1925</td>
<td>G. C. Light</td>
<td>C. H. Jennings</td>
<td>J. R. Stone</td>
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**ROSWELL ASSOCIATION MEETING**

1952  B. W. Seymour  W. H. Earley  L. B. Sauls

**IN MEMORY OF OUR BELOVED DEAD**

**UNION HILL CHURCH FROM THE HIGHTOWER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION MINUTES**

1928 - 1947

1928  Sister Martha E. Hyde  Bro. H. H. Bagwell
      Sister S. E. Duram
1929  Bro. T. Shirley
      Bro. Horace Buice
      Bro. Durham
1930  Bro. W. R. Wade
      Bro. Emory Bagwell
1931  Mrs. Arlinda Strickland
      Miss Dora Morris
      Mr. P. D. Moss
1932  Mr. Earley Nalley
      Mrs. Dora Shirley
      Mrs. Mattie Martin
1933  Mrs. Mary Hurt
      Mrs. Armanda Pruitt
      Mrs. Mary Jane Pruitt
      Mrs. Louvena McBrayer
1934  Mr. J. M. Hudson

1935  Mr. H. P. Gilstrap
      Mr. G. W. Gazaway
      Mr. Cleo Dougherty
      Mr. Charley Morris
      Mrs. Ila Parks
1936  Mrs. Alta Chester
      Mrs. Rachel Rainwater
1938  Mr. L. H. Strickland
      Mr. J. P. Shirley
      Mrs. Effie Stone
1940  Mr. T. J. Morris
      Mrs. P. D. Dodd
      Miss Ruth Burgess
1942  Mr. L. H. Burgess (Rev.)
1946  Mr. Victor Samples
      Mr. W. F. Burgess
      Mr. Henry Webb
IN MEMORY OF OUR BELOVED DEAD
UNION HILL BAPTIST CHURCH FROM THE
ROSWELL ASSOCIATION MINUTES
1949 - 1961

1949 Mr. D. P. Samples
1950 Mr. Ben R. Bagwell
    Mr. J. R. Shirley
    Mrs. Mamie Kilgore
    Mr. Linda James
1952 Mr. James F. Bagwell
    Mrs. Mary M. Gazaway
    Mrs. Nancy P. Shirley
    Mr. Robert (Bobby) James
    Mrs. Annie Boling
1953 Mr. C. N. Paris
    Mrs. Maude Bennett
1954 Mr. Lifferd Reid
    Mrs. Mattie Hudson
1955 Mr. Gus Rainwater

1956 Mr. Clarence Rainwater
    Mr. Robert Reid
    Mrs. Lillie Martin
    Mr. T. J. Morris
1957 Mr. Roy Terry
    Mr. Earnest Kilgore
    Mrs. Jennie Belle Shirley
    Mr. Clyde Samples
1958 Mrs. Johnnie Powell
    Mr. Carl Strickland
    Mr. Linton Rainwater
1959 Mr. Paul Durham
    Mr. W. M. McGinnis
1960 Mr. Wright Shirley (Deacon)
1961 Mrs. Idean Baker

WARSAW METHODIST CHURCH

Established in Forsyth County
Cut Off To Milton in 1857 and Into Fulton in 1932

According to the best information available, Warsaw campground was established in the early 1800's by a group of Moravians. The campground was located on what is now "Foxdale

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