History of the Ashfield

Ashfield
1963

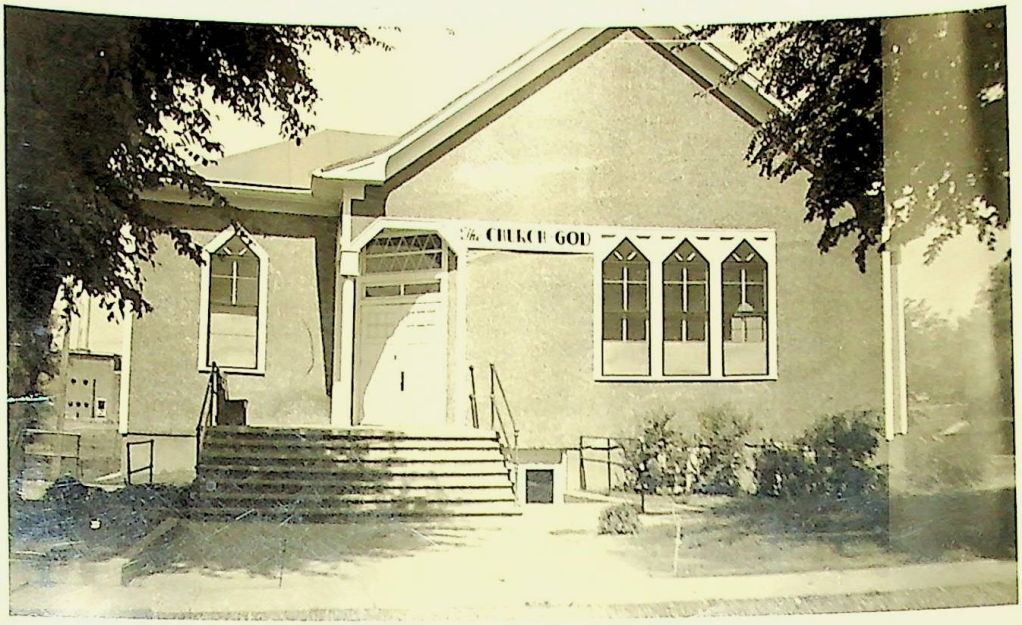
SS/Middlers

HARMON

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died, my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood. See from His head, His hands, His feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down; did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown? Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

Peterhout

Amazing Love


CHURCH GOD

88-CH
HIS-BR
H-25

HISTORY OF THE CHURCH OF GOD

BRISTOW, OKLA.

1895 --- 1955 ···· 19--

YOU WILL FIND MANY MISTAKES BUT PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF THIS AND MAYBE WE CAN MAKE CORRECTIONS.

IF YOUR PICTURE IS NOT HERE, WE ARE STILL COLLECTING PICTURES, TESTIMONIES OR EXPERIENCES, THESE WILL BE APPRECIATED.

IT HAS BEEN IMPOSSIBLE TO CONTACT EACH ONE AND ASK FOR THIS MATERIAL. PLEASE LOOK OVER MISTAKES AND FAILURE OF RECOGNIZING EVERYONE, BUT WE STILL WANT ALL INFORMATION, AND PICTURES - OLD AND NEW, OLD AND YOUNG. THIS SURELY TAKES YOU IN.

Mrs. Lessie Strong.

Down Memory Lane -:-

Strolling Down Memory Lane in Bristow in April, 1915, from the files of the Bristow Record.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. McIntosh received by express from Billings, Washington recently one dozen jars of home packed salmon. The fish were sent by Mrs. Edith Monday, a daughter.

* * *

The new church being built by the Church of God on ~~Cedar~~ Walnut street near the corner of Fourth, is almost finished and will soon be ready to hold services in. It is a neat and commodious building and is amply able to accommodate the membership and many others. The building is a frame structure and will add much to the appearance of that part of town.

* * *

Mrs. W. J. Wylie and three children of Oklahoma City have come to Bristow to make it their home, and to be nearer Mr. Wylie's place of business. Mr. Wylie is one of the field superintendents for the B. B. Jones interests at Drumright.

* * *

W. O. Beall, an attorney of Muskogee, has located in Bristow for the practice of law. He will act as a special counsel for Joe Abraham and will also practice law in the courts of the county. He has office rooms in the Abraham Building, over the Bristow National Bank.

* * *

J. S. Carman and wife left Wednesday for an extended trip to the east. They will first visit in St. Louis for a week and will go from there to Steubenville, Ohio, where they will perhaps stay a month visiting relatives and old friends. Mr. Carman says this will be their annual summer outing.

* * *

R. M. McRill returned from Oklahoma City last Thursday morning after attending the annual meeting of the Oklahoma Retail Jewelers Association. Mr. McRill reported an excellent time and a good attendance at the annual meet.

Rosa Young

Rosa (Ferrill) Young was born November 21, 1864 near Doniphan, Ripley County, Missouri. She was married Sept. 6, 1883 to John W. Young, a young farmer. At the age of 14 while attending what was then known as a protracted meeting of the Campbellite (Christian) Church, she was converted and being a very conscienteous person she lived a very devoted Christian life. In the spring of 1893 two 18 year old boys, B.A. Stansbury and Ostis Wilson came to that part of the country preaching the doctrine of the True Church of God, both she and her husband gladly accepted the gospel known as the Last Reformation. In all the following years she has lived a consistant life. I have known her to walk miles to attend a prayer meeting in rain, mud, snow or sleet, but she must be there. While never holding any responsible place as an officer or teacher, she has alway[illegible] been

in her place for every service and in her Sunday School Class until age kept her from going. She visited many sick and discouraged and was a faithful worker in the Missionary Society. She has quilted many quilts and after she was in her 85th. year she pieced and quilted two quilts for the missionary group.

In 1906 she with her family moved from Missouri and located two miles north of Bristow, Indian Territory. Having come from a good sized congregation of saints, it was quite a test to come to the wilds of a new country where there were no established congregation. The first Sunday, with her brother W.D. Ferrill, and Mrs. Ferrill, they attended their first service. In the afternoon about 4 miles west of Bristow, which was held in the home of Bro. and Sr. T. E. Newell, with Bro. and Sr. D.A. Machlin, Bro. and Sr. Dunlap, and son Carl, Sister Butterfield, Sadie Hamons, Mr. and Mrs. W.D. Ferrill, Mrs. Young, Dollie and Tennie Young. On Christmas day of that year, a preaching service with a basket dinner was held in the home of E.H. Shipman, the blind preacher of Oklahoma, which was attended by all the Church of God people in the Bristow vicinity. Some present were the families of the Shipmans, Machlins, Ferrills, Youngs, Utzs, Newells, Dunlap, Rippitoe, Postons, and what a wonderful time we had. The next summer a Bro. and Sr. Ed Jones who lived down near Okemah, raised chickens and a garden and advertised in the Gospel Trumpet a Camp Meeting was to be held. Bro. Newells family and the Young family attended that meeting. Bro. Jones had built a large brush arbor in a lovely grove and while they only had a small two room house, all the cooking for every one was done in their home. There were about 50 persons attending that meeting. Bro. W.H. Smith and Bro. W.A.Moore were the evangelists and Sr. Jones had plenty of fryers to supply the camp and also vegetables from their garden. The Jones' later moved to Bristow and helped in the work.

There was a little log school house 4 miles west of Bristow, near

the home of Bro. Machlin and Sunday School was started in this School House and finally Bro. Machlin and Bro. Newell succeeded in getting a preacher for a revival and that was the starting point of a Church of God being established in Bristow. The preacher that was obtained was Bro. C.S. Forbes of Chandler.

Dollie Young
Rosa Young's daughter.
Faithful worker- died 1910

Nancy Niswonger

Sr. Niswonger was also saved in the rural Camp Meeting near Arnett, Okla on J.D. Ferrills farm in 1906. She never has much to say but is always faithful.

Chas. G. Niswonger

Bro. Niswonger met the Church of God people early in the 1900's near Doniphan, Missouri and was saved when a young man 17 years of age, in a union meeting.

Then in 1906 at Arnett, Okla. Camp Meeting he fully surrendered his life to God and was been faithful thru his life.

Departed this life Jan. 5, 1934 at Bristow.

Etta and Charley Moore

Mr. & Mrs. C.H. Moore - the first Church of God people to come to Bristow.

In the year of 1894, Mr. and Mrs. Abe Moore and their son Charles and his wife migrated from Ripley County, near Doniphan, Missouri and settled about four miles west of Bristow, Indian Territory on Indian land leased from the U.S. Government.

They missed the good meetings and the gatherings of their friends back home, and though the neighbors were scarce and quite a distance between houses, the Moore's saw the need of a Sunday School and Church services, so they met together with one or two other families in the home of Charles Jackson. Bro. Chas. Moore was the teacher of the adults and his wife, Etta taught the children. Some months went by and they got in touch with Bro. G.W. Brake from Perkins and he came and helped them to organize their Sunday School and also started having Prayer Meetings in the homes. At one of those prayer meetings two others were saved, Bro. & Sr. D.A. Machlan. Soon the people of the community began asking for another minister to come and preach to them, so in June 1896, Bro. Grant Teeters of Pryor Creek came and held a meeting in an old log school house. Bro. W.H. Smith of Tulsa came and helped in this meeting which lasted several weeks.

A few years later Bro. W.H. Smith and Bro. Emory Shipman, both of Tulsa, would come and hold meetings either in the log school house or under a brush arbor. Some of the other ministers that would come and help

them with this work was Bro. C.S. Forbes, Bro. Jim Murphy, Bro. Lightfoot and a number of others.

The work continued to grow and at last some one of those good ministers would come and preach to us - sometimes staying five or six weeks at a time and always preaching from two to four hours. People would drive as many as ten miles to hear them after plowing in the field all day.

It was in one of these services - in 1907- that Bro. Fred Gregory was saved and soon felt his call to the ministry and from this time on he took charge of the work and carried it on.

Ed and Myrtle Utz

I want to leave for history a few notes, just as I recall them about my experiences and knowledge of the start and growth of the Bristow and surrounding community Church of God church. I moved to seven miles North West of Bristow in the winter of 1900, at that time there was no Church of God church building in this part of Oklahoma. The saints would meet in the homes of each other on Sunday and worship. I was not saved at that time but was acquainted with the present movement and truth as we know it now. We had just moved from South East Missouri where my brother-in-law, Bro. Charley Scates was a Church of God preacher. He and Bro. A.B. Stansberry and some other of the older preachers would hold meetings in the "Old Sankey Hall" and other school houses in that community. This was as far back as about 1890.

It was about the year 1901 that we farm folk of the community about five miles Norhtwest of Bristow went togehter and built a one-room log school house, known as the Machlin School. I

was a member of its first school board and Tommy Henshaw of Bristow was the first teacher. Bro. Dave Machlin was the leading citizen of the community and a Church of God man. This Machlin school was used for our meetings and Sunday-School . Among the people that attended regularly were the families of Dave Machlin, Nate Butterfield, Charley Moore, Shadd Newell, Jim Winkleblacks, Dick Mayes and Ed Utz. I was saved about this time in a meeting held by Bro. Forbes from Chandler, Okla. The first camp-meeting held in the Bristow community was about half a mile Southwest of the Dave Machlin home at a nice spring of water and at the edge of a grove of trees. The men of the community built a large brush arbor for the services, and one for the dinning hall, another for the cooks. The food was donated by we farmers and the cooking was done by the women of the farm homes. The food was free to all and was of the best. All kinds of fresh gruit, vegetables, freshly kill-beef and lots of fried chickens and all that goes with it. Some of the leading preachers at this camp-meeting was the late Bro. Will Smith, Johnnie Harris, Ed Scriviner, J.D. Ferrill and Bro. Emory Shipman. The first Camp Meeting held in the town of Bristow was on the corner of West 9th. and Main St. now called Schrader corner. An old store building where the City Hall now stands was used for a cooking and dinning hall. The first meeting place for the first Bristow Church was the up-stair hall in an old tin building owned by Bob Brewer on the corner of N.W. Eighth and Main where the Safeway Store now stands.

I was saved about 1903 and since that time God's work has had first place in my life. I was called and placed as a helper in the starting and building of the new Church and School buildings around Bristow. I and my family has had a part in the changes and growth of the Bristow Church from that time until the present. I was there when the church started in the farm homes, to the one-room school house, to the "44"

Community and then to Bristow. I have attended meetings when the work started at the "44" school house, Pinehill, Sunrise, Lovett, Ironpost, Hector Beaver, Henry Dunham, Depew, Shamrock, Spring Creek, Valentine, and many other farm districts around the town of Bristow.

I have attended most of the State Camp-meetings the Church has ever held in Oklahoma and every revival held near enough for me to attend, for the past fifty-five years. I was present and remember well when some of the ministers were saved such as: Bro. Dave Ladd, Bro. Henry Dunham, Bro. M.B. Boucher, Bro. Lewis Foster, Bro. Longfellow, and many others of along time ago.

By Ed Utz

Ed Utz - 1951

A church is not measured in greatness by the beauty of its architecture or the ability of its ministry, but by the people who love truly and serve faithfully that for which it stands.

—John Bunyan

Sr. Weaver

Row 1: 1 Modiste Carr,
2 Cecil Carr,
3 Ida Ladd, 4 Lodema Ferrell, Primary Class - 1916
5 Beulah Mizell, 6 Lela Jones, Emma (UTZ) Buford - Teacher
7 Lois Jones, 8 Boucher
9 Doris Mizell

THE CHURCH AT THE "44"
SCHOOL HOUSE IN 1912

YOUNG PEOPLE'S
GROUP IN 1915.
BRO. A.H.HAMMOND
IS AT THE LEFT
WITH THE BIBLE.

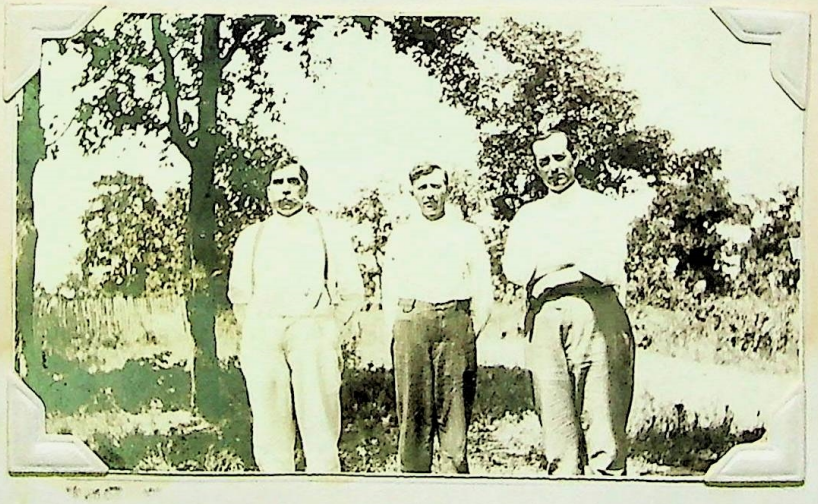
MRS. HATTIE DRAKE AND FAMILY IN 1909

MRS. DRAKE WAS LEADER OF THE GROUP BEFORE A CHURCH WAS BUILT IN BRISTOW, HAVING THE CHURCH SERVICES IN THE HOMES. SHE ATTENDED A TABERNACLE MEETING ON THE MACHLAN FARM, A FEW MILES WEST OF BRISTOW. THE MINISTERS THAT SHE REMEMBERED BEING THERE WERE BRO. FORBES; JOHNIE HARRIS; BRO. W.H. SMITH; BRO. SHIPMAN; BRO. J.D. FERRILL; A NUMBER OF FAMILIES ATTENDED THESE SERVICES AFTER SHE MOVED TO BRISTOW FROM CUSHING. NAMING SOME OF FAMILIES ARE - MACHLANS, NEWELLS, YOUNGS, CRUZANS, UTZ, ED & POLLY SCRIVINERS, BURT AND MINNIE SCRIVINER, GREGORYS. BRO. EGAN CAME BEFORE SHE LEFT FOR CALIFORNIA. HE WAS A MINISTER AND SHE LEFT HIM IN CHARGE.

BRO. J. M. MURPHY,
BRO. THADEUS NEWELL

WERE MINISTERS WHO LIVED IN AND NEAR BRISTOW 1910-1912

BRO. & SR. FORBES
WHO CAME TO BRISTOW FROM CHANDLER ONCE EACH MONTH. THIS WAS IN 1910 - 1912.



BRO. E.H. SHIPMAN
WAS ONE OF THE FIRST MINISTERS TO COME INTO THE BRISTOW VICINITY TO CONDUCT MEETINGS. 1895 -'96
THE OTHER TWO MINISTERS ARE : BRO. GLENNON AND BRO. BOUCHER. THIS PICTURE WAS TAKEN IN 1912.

In 1914 Bro. and Sr. Snyder moved to the place adjoining "44" school house. Bro. Boucher with a number of others had been saved in a meeting held by Bro. Forbes. A Sunday School was organized and M.W. Snyder was elected Sunday School Supt. In those early days there was no regular pastor but the different brethren would preach and carry on the services. Bro. and Sr. Snyder were the parents of Sr. C.C. Mansfield and Br. & Sr. Mansfield came for a visit with them, and was asked to conduct a revival. This meeting was very fruitful, as I remember about 30 were saved and some of that number have become leaders of the work in Oklahoma. Many will remember the large baptizing on the Hector Beaver farm when the ice had to be broken on a cold wintry day.

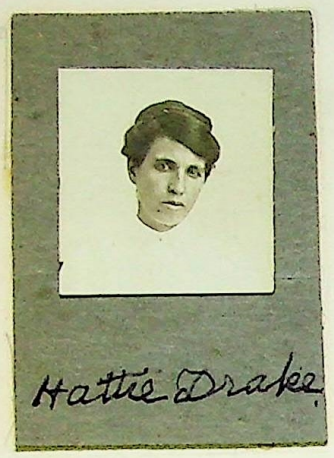
Bro. Niswonger and family, Bro. Lou Bethel and family, Bro. Broucher and family, the Moores, Machlins, and others too numerous to mention, drove to each service in farm wagons and hacks, as there were no automobiles in the country at that time. Each year after that Bro. and Sr. Mansfield would return for a revival, and I believe he held 11 in all. At that time ther was no congregation in Bristow so brush arbor and tent meetings were held. Some persecution was felt because of the truth in those days, and one time a man threatened Bro. Mansfield if his daughter came to the meeting and got saved. Seh did and many, many others, but the whipping never took place. The tent was usually filled and I remember one revival all who attended, who were not already saved, got saved except one man who came with Bro. Machlin and he was a Syrian and couldnt understand English. At this meeting Bro. D.F. Cooley came and helped in the latter part and did the day preaching. In those days we had day services.

By - Bro. Mansfield ~~Murphy~~

Roxie's Wedding

MR.& MRS. HENRY MINTER
(Hattie Drake)

THE A.E. DRAKE FAMILY AND MERTIE WALKER, MRS. DRAKE'S SISTER. Mrs. WALKER DIED IN 1913 AFTER GOING TO CALIF.



HATTIE DRAKE

The children's names are: BESSIE,MARY,VIRGIL, & ORVILLE

BRO. & SR. EAGAN who took charge of the work when HATTIE DRAKE left.

BAPTIZING IN "The Good 'Ole Days" 1910

A group that brought their lunch and ate after the baptizing was over. This was the custom as it took so long to drive to the river, and then by the time it was over, everyone was hungry.

YOUNG PEOPLES GROUP ABOUT 1910

Back row: BOB BONHAM: INEZ GREGORY: EARL NEWELL: HERMAN UTZ
Middle row: LESSIE NISWONGER: ROXIE NISWONGER: EMMA UTZ: JESSIE Ferrill
Front row: ADA FERRILL: CHARITY YOUNG: DOVIE GREGORY

THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE CHURCH 1912

Emma Utz

Back row:
DOVIE GREGORY: CLARENCE MYERS: WILLIAM CROSSLAND: ADA FERRILL: HERMAN UTZ: &
ROXIE NISWONGER

Front row:
LESSIE NISWONGER: A.D. NISWONGER: INEZ GREGORY: JESSIE FERRILL: & EARL NEWELL

"MY EXPERIENCE"

I first gave my heart to the Lord when I was about ten years old at a children's meeting. I was so happy. I would go to my Secret place of prayer and lead in prayer at family alter. I would always go to Sunday School and church. I lived a Christian life tell I was in my teens. I went away to Newton Kansas to school. There is when I drifted from the Lord but he always talked to me for I knew my parents were praying. My parents moved to Okla. from Mo. up near Olive Okla. I was married now and had my oldest son so we came down to visit the winter of 1911 and Jan. 1912. Father had Sunday school in an school house in Olive.Okla. They started a revival. It was free Will Baptists. This Evangelist Brother, Mcfetors sure preached the word and the alter was filled every night. People would cry out to God for mercy and come out shouting victory. I never forgot the text that he used the night I went to the alter. It was from the 20the chapter of Rev. the 12th, 13th, 14th, and 15th verses. I saw myself lost but Jesus came in and gave me that sweet peace. Then we went back to Kansas. My brother-in-law was a Methodist Minister. He baptised me and I was soon a member of that church. The best I knew. I studied my Bible and the church there at Oxford, Kansas was real spiritual. We came back down here in 1920. We went to the Methodist church until our youngest son was healed. That was how I came in touch with the Church of God. I saw it, the church, and was teaching the one church. We went to the Sunday school at the Methodist then went to the Church of God for church. The first sermon I heard on Santification I went to the alter for the experience. I have lived and worked for the Lord every since. I have met with many a persecution but the Lord brought me through it all so I am still rejoicing in the Lord.

Lymgh Lyman

Brother and Sr. Ladd have always been an inspiration to the Church here in Bristow, They have always helped in any way that they could, and when not needed here, they visited small congregations around and helped them.

David M. Ladd,
301 South Walnut St°,
Bristow, Oklahoma.

Birthday 13 aug 1872

This is the story of my part in the Church work of the Church of God of Bristow, Oklahoma.

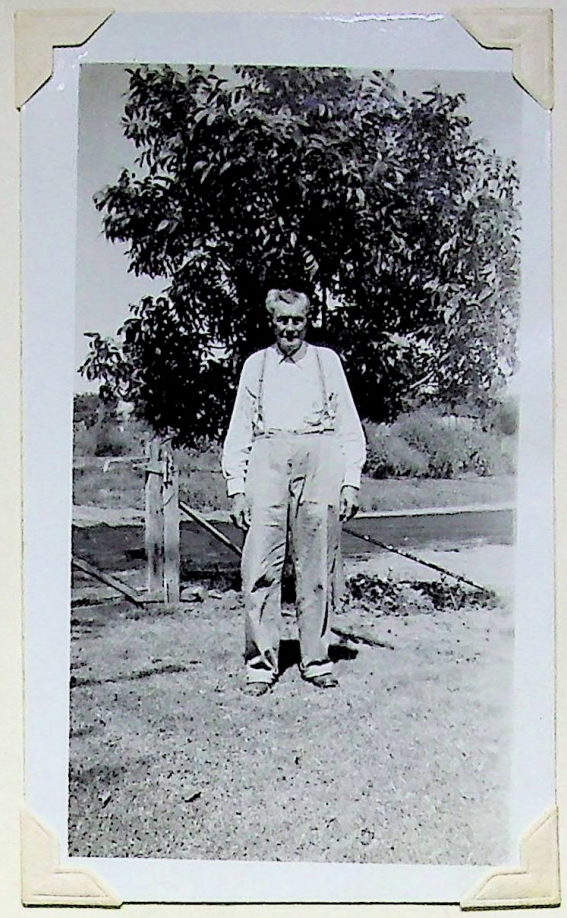
"I was saved on the night of August 10th, 1912 at 44 School House. Was baptized on August 13th, 1912. Was elected Sunday School Superintendent and served three years. In the year of 1915 the Church at Bristow and 44 decided to build a Church House in Bristow. We raised a cotton crop on my place and with the proceeds we bought two lots to build the Church House. In the Spring of 1916 we had raised enough money to buy the material, so we started to work, and with the help of all we soon had the Church built, free of debt, and only the pews to be bought. We Trustees went to the Bank and gave our note for the money, but in less than a year that debt was wiped out.

I have filled various places in the Church up to 1931. I was ordained a Minister of the Church of God on January 27th, 1918. My work mostly has been in the rural districts, but at present age has crept in on me until I cannot drive a car after night so I have to give up that work. In years past I was registered as a Part time Pastor Evangelist. My work has been successful for the Lord. I will not take space to speak of them. I have never lost the vision of the Church of God. I have always financed my own work with but very little outside help.

Dated at Bristow, Oklahoma,
April 4th, 1949.

D M Ladd

Brother and Sister Dunham were saved in 1912 at the Dunham School House. It wasn't long until Bro. Dunham started preaching in the Rural Districts and leading others to God. He is still faithful and often has the lesson for Prayer Meeting.



Bro. Dunham

Bro. and Sr. Dunham

Bro. and Sr. Rake

Mrs. Eula Sears
Taught the baby class for about
18 years

L. M. & Delia Bethel
Converted in 1910 at the "44"
School House

Ella Strickland
Sr. Strickland was a wonderful worker in the Missionary Society. Besides all the other things she did, she made dozens of pot-holders for the society.

Rev. & Mrs. F.W.Hopkins - 1912

Bro. Bonham & Bro. Mitchell

Mr. & Mrs. Yearta

Jessie & Willie Mizell

Bro. and Sr. Mizell came to Bristow from South-east Missouri. Sr. Mizell was a teacher and worked diligently in the Missionary Society.

Bro. Seney is the teacher of the Men's Bible Class. Sr. Seney is a real worker in the Missionary Society. They have been here since 1912.

Will & Rena Seney

W. D. and Mrs. Ferrill
1951

Bro. and Sr. Ferrill came to Bristow in 1910. They are now living between Sand Springs and Tulsa. Bro. Ferrill was known to many as "Bro. Do-Right"

Agnes Goodman

It happened 43 years ago this summer-1953- at a Camp Meeting at Pine Hill that I gave my heart to God.

I've shut the door on yesterday, it's sorrows and mistakes. I've locked within it's gloomy walls the past failures and heart aches and now I throw away the key. To seek another way and furnish it with hope and smiles.

I've shut the door on yesterday and the tomorrow holds no fears for me since I found the Way.

Mrs. Agnes Goodman.

Minnie L. Jones

In 1932 I was elected President of Missionary and served two terms. Then in 1940 was elected Sec.-treas. and Sr. Capps as pres. and I served 4 yrs. Later Gladys Sellers was pres. and when moved Emma Buford replaced her. In all, I was Sec.-Treas. for 8 yrs. These were pleasant years and I enjoyed doing my mission for Christ. These are some of the things our Group did and how we carried on our work. We made and sold doughnuts. We went to work at 4 o'clock in the morning on special days, and had hot doughnuts in cafes for breakfast, as war came on, our supplies couldn't be bought so we had to quit making doughnuts. We did quilting, pieces and quilted quilts, some were sold others were given to the needy, also made aprons, tea-towels, pot lifters, pillow cases, lunch cloths, and many different pieces of clothing. Served dinners at sales, and some years had a stand at the County Fair. We served dinners in homes where death occured, helped needy families sometimes by giving them cash donations, other times food & clothing.

We sent regularly to our State Treasurer, to Foreign Missions, We always gave to Christ Okla. Day. Also gave regularly to the church building fund, sent articles each year to Anderson, also gave articles to our State Camp Meeting. Always remembered our good pastor and his wife at Christmas time. My report for my last years term was cash taken in-$766.90- with Sr. Lyman selling $114.60 of this amt. We gave $50.00 for Christ Okla. Day - Building fund $110.05 - My health grew bad and I was not able to carry on my work as Sec.-Treas. so new officers were elected in 1948 - but I feel we have done a great work for our Lord.

Minnie L. Jones

Ineg Weaver (Gregory) Class

C H Moore taking a group of Children and Young people to Church

C H Moore and Bro Griffith

A group of women who met in the country at Sr. May Boyd's home for Missionary meeting about the year 1912.

Aunt Polly Scrivner is at extreme right. She is a pioneer of the Bristow congregation.

Back row:
Elizabeth Ferrill
Polly Hopkins
Tennie Carr
Rosa Young
Minnie Snyder
Minnie Mizell
Mamie Foster
Front row:
Jessie Mizell
Grandma Foster
Edith Snyder
Hulda Ladd
Nancy Niswonger

Missionary Group- 1916

The Dollar and the Penny.

The Dollar Said To The Penny one Day. you are just a little mite.
and you dont amount to very much. you couldent buy any thing.
I dont see why they every made you anyway.
me i go places and do things. i am in all the night clubs.
I go to the showes. and all the big races. i buy big Cars.
and am well thought of. but you live in shacks.
and are just throwed around. and people dont care very
much for you.
well i am just a penny. but i do some good things.
i pay the old people pensions. and take care of the depent Children.
i go leaping off to sunday school. every sunday morning.
with all the nice little boys and girls.
there we sing and pray and preach.
i go all around the house..and meet all the other Brothere
and sisters. we have a great time. while you are hid some place.
you may go a lot of places. but you are not seen in church
very much. you couldent buy any thing unless i went along
and payed your taxes. i haft to keep the policman off
you while you parked your Car.
The Penny.

By.Roy Estes

Mae and Roy Estes

Sr. Estes is a Junior teacher in Sunday School and also Vice-president for Missionary in 1951.

"The beginning of the Church of God movement was marked by its pioneer spirit which pushed men out into un-evangelized sections with the truth."

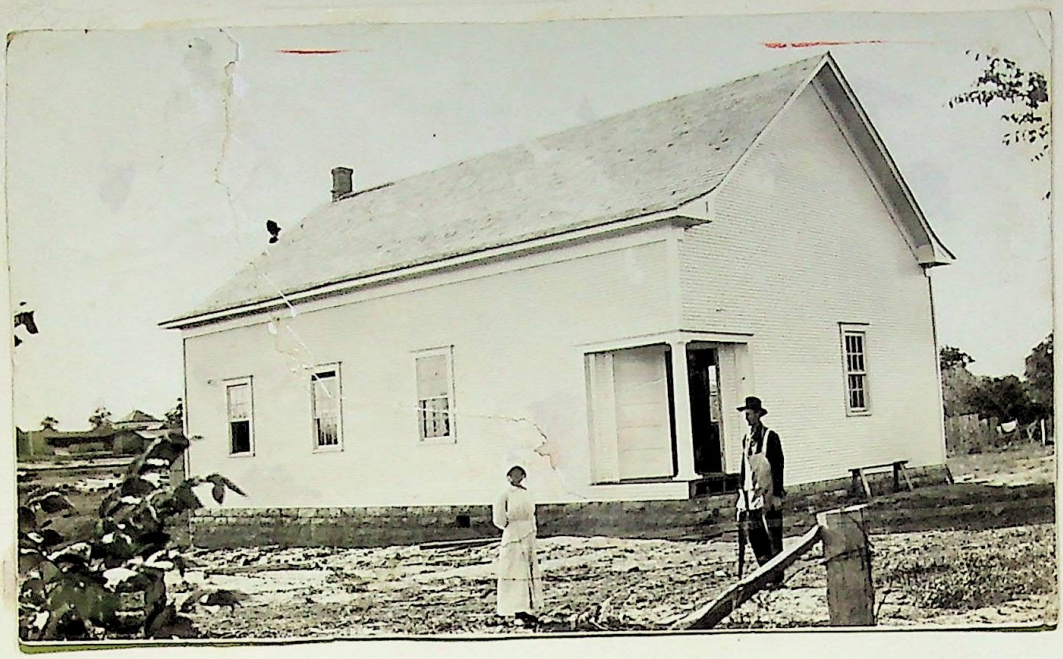
It was in such effort the first evangelists came into the vicinity of Bristow, Oklahoma in the year 1895 - 96. The first meeting was conducted in a log school house by the Rev. Grant Teeter and Rev. Emory Shipman. This meeting was about four miles north of Bristow. Other early ministers were Bros. G. W. Brake, W. H. Smith, C. S. Forbes, and others.

In 1910 a meeting was conducted by Bro. C. S. Forbes of Chandler, Oklahoma at the "44" school house four miles north east of Bristow where several were saved and a good work was started.

At this time, 1910, Bro. F. G. Gregory was preaching and holding Sunday School in his home at 5th. and Maple Street in Bristow. Later a hall was rented on Main Street where Bro. Forbes came once a month to preach. We held regular services.

In 1915 the Church, both in town and in the country, decided we needed a house of worship and it was decided to build in Bristow. A cotton crop was the project to raise money, both congregations working together. Bro. D. M. Ladd donated the use of his land. Two lots were purchased on Walnut Street, between 3rd. and 4th. Streets and a church was soon completed, free of debt, with Bro. F. G. Gregory the first pastor. The following men were the board members: M.B. Boucher; W.R. Dunlap; C.H.Moore; Henry Boyd; and A.G.Hartwig.

OUR FIRST CHURCH BUILDING - 1915 - BRISTOW, OKLAHOMA



Bro. Chas G. Niswonger was the carpenter

WHEN WE LOOK BACK TO THE BEGINNING OF THE CHURCH IN BRISTOW, OKLAHOMA WE DO NOT DO THIS IN ORDER TO PAY HOMAGE TO A FINISHED ACHIEVEMENT.

THE CHURCH MUST CONTINUALLY BE A MISSIONARY CHURCH OR IT WILL DIE.

Bro. & Sr. A. G. Hartwig
October 9, 1955

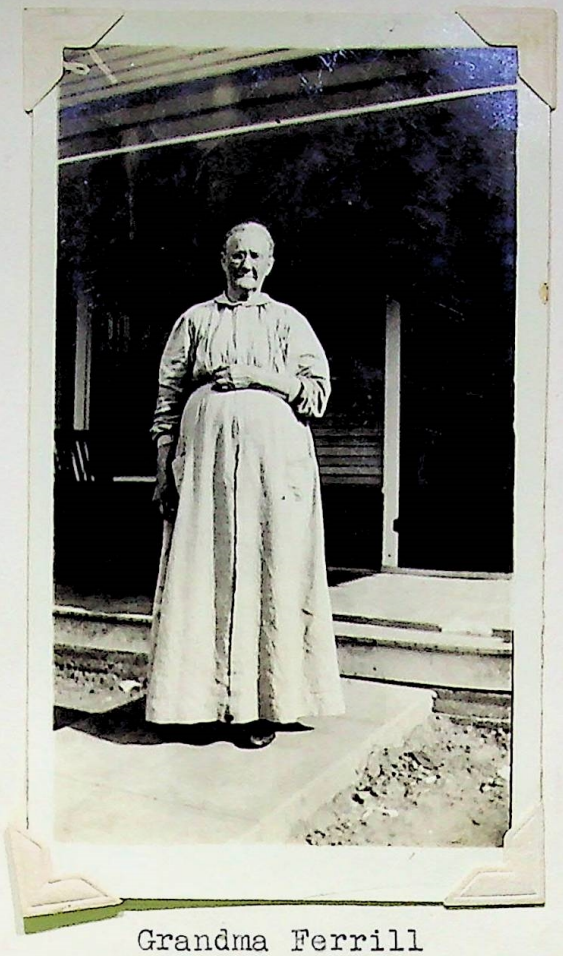
I was a member of the Church of God universal but I discerned the Body of Christ on a Sunday morning in a tent meeting on north Main Street in the summer of 1914, while Bro. Forbes preached on the Church. When in memory I go back to my association with the congregation at Bristow, I am made to exclaim with the Psalmist, "Behold, how good and how pleasant (it is) has been for (Bristow) brethren to dwell together in unity." It has always been and still is an inspiration when I ponder over the blessed and hallowed moments, yes hours we have spent together in Christ. Only eternity will reveal what the departed and you remaining of the early church have meant in my life. I shall never forget the early cottage meetings and the precious times together in the old decrepit Woodman of the World Hall that shook and trimbled in the storm while our soul's trembled with the power of God that was present. "The joys unspeakable and full of glory," that we felt when we assembled in our first church building a part of which you still occupy. In closing I feel like saying that it is wonderful to reminisce on the past but I want to say also that the Dear Lord is nearer and dearer and sweeter to me now than any time in my life.-A.G.Hartwig

I shall always remember and love the good people of the Church of God at Bristow, Oklahoma. It was at Bristow that God first spoke peace to my soul. And the wonderful experiences of the presence of God that we enjoyed in the meetings there, means more to me than anything else in the world. Even before Mr. Hartwig and I were married, night after night we used to sit on a big log just outside the tent where Bro. Will Smith was holding services on North Main street. It was there that we got our first introduction to the Church of God. We watched and listened to those happy saints of God and it so impressed me that I have never gotten away from it, nor will I ever, by the help of the Lord. Praise His Name. Dear Bro. Will Smith, Bro. Gregory, Bro. Boucher and others were real Father's in the Lord to us. We thank God for the privilege of learning under such good men of God. May you who are carrying on today be the blessing that those of the past have been to us.

Your sister in the Lord,

Mrs. A. G. Hartwig

1024 South Arapahoe St.
Los Angeles 6, Calif.



Grandma Ferrill

Grandma Ferrill started the first Missionary Society in Bristow about 1916, after she had gone to Oklahoma City and visited the Capitol Hill Congregation when Sr. Lena Mattheson was pastor. Sr. Mattheson was meeting with her group of ladies and quilting and that was the way our Missionary Society was started. The next leader was Sr. Lola Wilson, about 1918, and the next one was Sr. Longfellow.

It has been a growing work and at present has a well organized group of consecrated workers.

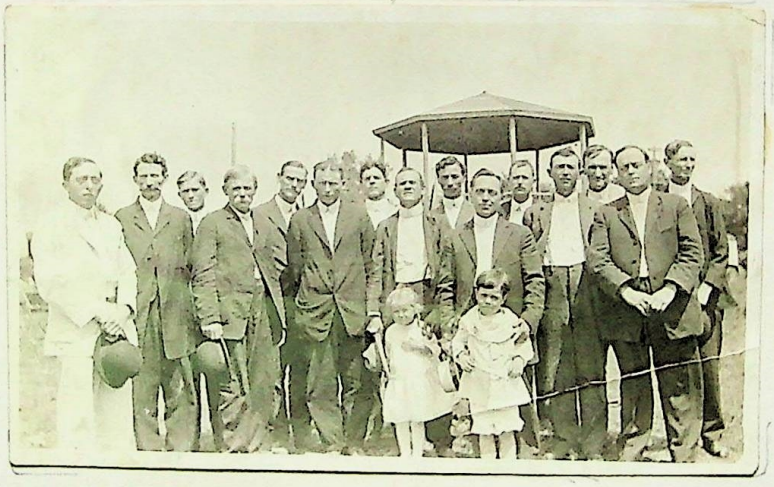
Lula Wilson
Pres. 1918

Sr. Wilson was the second Missionary leader and they quilted and made bonnets for sale. She left Bristow and moved to Beggs, Okla. She moved back to Bristow in 1949 and taught the Ladies Bible Class.

Sr. Capps was the Missionary President for about six years. She has been the teacher of the Ladies Bible Class and has filled other places in the church. One very important part is the taking dinners to bereaved families. She calls different ones, then gathers the food together and calls on the family.

Jettie Capps Pres 1940

THE FIRST CHURCH BUILT 1915-1916



GROUP OF MINISTERS AND WORKERS 1915
AT CAMP MEETING AT BRISTOW, OKLA.

Reading from left to right:

OLIVER STANBERRY
J.E. FORREST
A.H. HAMMOND
W.R. DUNLAP
W.H. SMITH
J.W. BETHEL
E.W. BROWN
W.H. MOORE
OTIS WILSON
A.B. STANBERRY
D.M. LADD
J.S. GLENNON
MENDENHALL
F.G. GREGORY
C.G. NISWONGER

DOES THIS BRING BACK MEMORIES ? Bro. ED UTZ and family going to church - gather up all the neighbors on the way.

GRANDMA DETRICH
(Ed Utz's mother)
MYRTLE UTZ

A GROUP EATING AT CAMP MEETING IN 1912.

First pastor
Bro. & Sr. Gregory - 1915 - 1917

BRO. GREGORY WAS BORN FEBRUARY 11, 1874. HE CAME TO BRISTOW FROM PADEN, OKLAHOMA, AND WAS CHOSEN OUR FIRST PASTOR.-1916.
HE WAS A PASTOR WITH A SHEPHERD'S HEART, HE COULD FEEL THE NEEDS OF HIS FLOCK; OFTEN STARTING OUT EARLY IN THE MORNING, WALKING SEVERAL MILES BECAUSE HE FELT THEY NEEDED HELP.
HE WAS TOLERANT, AND SELF-SACRIFICING. HE HAD TO WORK TO SUPPORT HIS FAMILY BUT THE LORD'S WORK ALWAYS CAME FIRST.
THE CHURCH COULDN'T PAY HIM, ONLY HAD FREE WILL OFFERINGS, - WHICH WAS LITTLE.

Sr. Leona Gregory
Dec. 1951

Second Pastor

Bro. and Sr. J.S.Glennon
Pastor 1917 - 1919

Brother Glennon was reared a Catholic, and after his marriage he came in contact with the Church of God, through his father-in-law, Bro. Froggett, who was a minister of the Church of God.

Church of God Cares for Its Old Folks

The Church is learning better
To appreciate its old,
Who have labored long to help them
To reach the heavenly fold.

Some day when all is over,
His blessings then we'll share;
For all who bore the burden
With their dollars and their prayer.

To all our dear old people
Who have firmly stood for right;
We'll do our best to help them
To keep their courage bright.

W. H. SMITH
421 East 8th Ave., Bristow, Okla.

Third Pastor

Bro. and Sr. W.H.Smith
Pastor 1919 - 1922

Bro. W. H. Smith was born August 30, 1866 near Elk Falls, Kansas, and came to Oklahoma in 1889. In 1906 he entered the ministry of the Church of God. In 1919 he moved to Bristow to be the pastor of the church.

He lived in Bristow after retiring from active work and was always in co-operation with all the pastors. He was an encouragement to all. He went to his reward at Bristow, January 8, 1947.

April 1939

Sr. Sadie Miller presenting the cake to Bro. and Sr. Smith who were celebrating their GOLDEN WEDDING - April 1939.

Bro. & Sr. Colson
Pioneer ministers, who have been near Bristow in pastoral and evangelistic meetings, and were care-takers at the Camp Ground 1950-51.

Fourth Pastor

Bro. & Sr. Boucher

Pastor 1922 - 24

Bro. M.B.Boucher was born in 1880 in Barry County Missouri. He was saved in 1910 near Bristow under the ministry of Bros. C.S.Forbes and F.G.Gregory at the "44" School house.

After leaving Bristow he was pastor at San Antonio, Texas for 16 years and then at Houston, Texas for 5½ years. He then moved to Brownsville Texas where he built a new church and served as pastor. Bro. Boucher passed away at his home in Brownsville in 1954.

4th Pastor - Bro. M.B. Boucher - 1922 1924

Sr. Boucher and Sr. ladd - 1955 -

Fifth Pastor

Bro. & Sr. J.D.Harmon
1924 - 1930

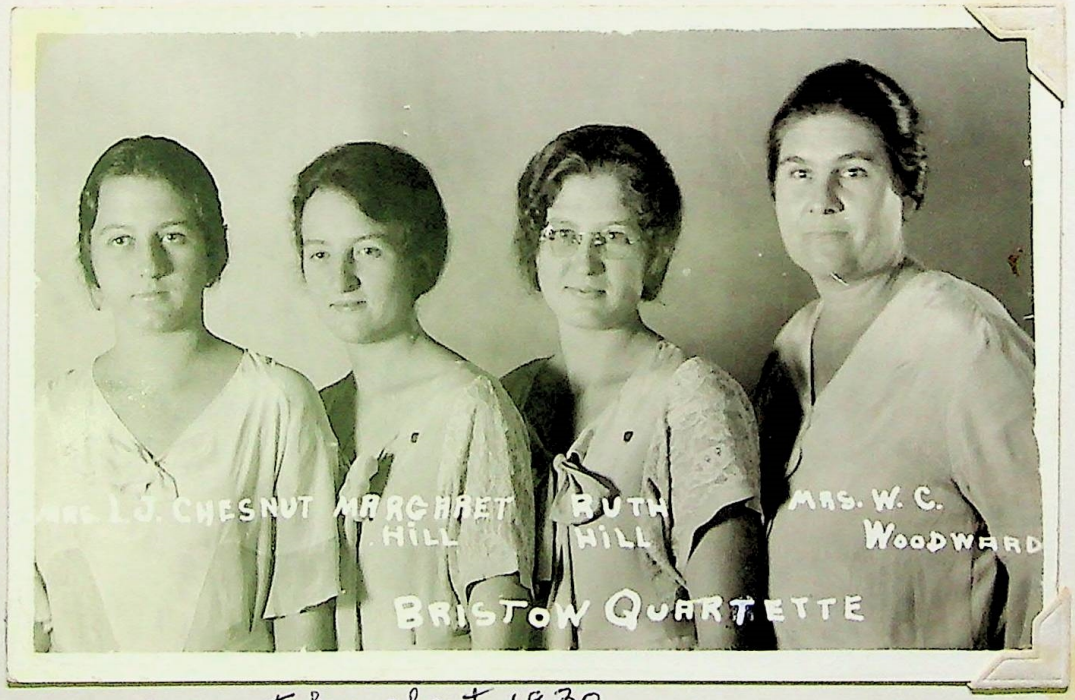
They came to Bristow to pastor the church in 1924 and served five and one-half years.

Sr. Harmon was Missionary President while they were pastors in Bristow. One project they had was sending a large box to our missionaries in Africa, containing quilts, sheets, pillow cases, bandages, etc. .

Sr. Harmon was the first State President of the Women's Missionary Society.

5th Pastor - Bro. J.D. Harmon 1924 1930

Bro. Harmon and his class of boys while pastor



Picture taken about 1930

The Story of Bro. J.D.Harmon

I was born on a farm at Erie, in McDonald County Missouri, in December 1877. Here amid the foothills of the Ozarks, with eight brothers and three sisters, I spent the early years of my life. I completed the public school offered to children of the rural districts of my school days.

My parents, John and Laura Harmon accepted the doctrine and obtained the experience of Holiness under the labors of Sr. C.A.Sunderland, and ever after that our home became the staying place of Holiness preachers. As a boy I remember most of them, some I wished would leave and never come back while others I wished would stay forever, and since God has called me to preach I have always tried to conduct myself in other peoples homes in such a way that I would be welcomed back. I have driven many miles in a two-horse wagon or hack, hauling Holiness preachers around over those Missouri hills but as I look back over it all now I enjoyed it all. After my parents were sanctified, our home was a very religious one. My mother was a very strict Sabbitarian until she cooked and served a whole sheep one Sunday, and I convinced her she worked harder on Sunday than any other day of the week. My parents believed the Bible was written to be obeyed and they were very strict with their childern, but I thank God for that.

In 1895 my father sold the remainder of his farm and moved his family to the Indian Territory, about half way between Chickasha and Pauls Valley on the Washita River.

I met and married a fine girl in 1903 and together we started in to build a home. We were working and striving hard to make things go, and they were going very well when one day I received a letter from my mother stating that they would come to our place en-route to attend the second camp meeting ever held in Oklahoma City, and they wanted

us to go with them. We talked it over and decided to go, but I had to make preparation for someone to care for my live-stock and I had to hurry and get my feed out and while I was gathering some corn for the hogs, the Lord begin to talk to my heart. It was heavy. It was full. I just leaned against the wagon wheel and cried like my heart would break. I did not know why I cried, I did not pray, but I became more anxious to get to that meeting. We finally arrived and about a dozen or two were also there. The first night the preacher ask if anyone wanted to make a prayer request and I arose and told them to pray for me. I do not remember what the preacher said during the meeting, but I do know that as soon as the alter call was made, I was the first one to the prayer bench and God gloriously saved my soul and also my wife was there praying thru. That was twenty-eight years ago and as soon as I got home I went to making my wrongs right. The devil reasoned with me on the first one but I was determined and God so wonderfully blessed my soul that the devil was surely defeated in his plan for all the rest. I was anxious to get to every one I had wronged. The first morning we were home my wife and I set up our family alter, and it has been up ever since. We also started prayer meeting in our home and began to send for ministers to come and hold meetings for us. Soon there were quite a few saints scattered over the community. God began to lay it on my heart to preach to the folk of our community and at school houses around the country. I never had to leave home to find a place to preach. Finally I felt that God wanted mg for full time Preaching. I wanted to obey God, but I had several good milk cows and some good horses and thought perhaps it would pay for me to keep them and have some one just move onto my farm and work on shares, but God's book says that s soldier for God ought not to entangle with these things, so Good undertook to expedite things for me- and He did. My cows were in a pasture where an old dipping vat was left and one day while I was fixing their

watering place they got in this old vat and drank that arsnic water and all of them died in one day. God knew I could not do a good job preaching and looking after a farm too, so we were convinced that God wanted us to do his bidding so we sold everything we had, household goods and all and started out by faith in the evangelistic field. Most of our early preaching was in new places and rural districts. God always supplied our needs. One time we were wanted in a place but the people wrote that they were not able to pay our railroad fare. We replied that we were coming and would pay our own fare, we did and had a great meeting. One old man, whom we were told was an infidel, attended a part of the meeting and gave me $25.00.

We have reared two children and neither of them ever tasted medicine or was under a doctor's care until after they were married.

We were pastor at Ripley two years, almost six years in Bristow, and later to Oklahoma City. When our children were ready for High School we prayed for God to give us a pastorate so we could be with our children during this time. God heard and answered our prayers. After our daughter was married, we went out into the evangelistic field again, later going to Okmulgee Beggs, where we built a new church house and a new parsonage. While there my health wasn't too good and God said "Move on." So we moved to Beggs where lived and worked.

I also pastored the church in Ardmore for a while, after leaving Oklahoma City.

Brother Harmon departed this life August 22, 1949 at Bristow.

Bro. & Sr. L.L.Porter & Bro. & Sr. Harmon

Bro. + Sr. Harman

Willie (Bond) Harmon was born in Cooke County, Texas, near Gainsville. My parents moving to the Indian Territory in a covered wagon with 4 other families when I was only 6 years old. Well do I remember when we crossed Red River, the water was up to the wagon beds. Camping at nights was a delight to we children after traveling all day. Helping gather wood to make fires to cook our meals. We were about a month making the trip, stopping at Alex, Indian Territory for our first home, we lived in a half-log dug-out one night after raining very hard, my father rising early and stepped out of bed in water a foot deep, so that all had to be bailed out before anything else could be done. Many and varied things happened in those Frontier Days. Walking to school two and three miles we would see wolves and prairie chickens across the hills. We moved to many different localities. My father was always interested in our education and going to Sunday School and church, helped to erect school houses here and there. Can recall many spelling matches on Friday afternoons when other schools would meet to see who had the best spellers. Those were the good old days of learning, reading, writing and arithmetic. My father was Sunday School Supt. and was giving a prize to the one who could repeat the most scriptures by memory in a certain period of time and the whole school , even my father, tried for this prize. I met my Captor winning over the whole school, even my father. It was one Sunday evening at milking time that my father called me to help with the chores, when J.D.Harmon said,"Now is my time." I will go talk with him, when he said Mr. Bond, your daughter and I have decided to get married and want your consent. So the date was set, December 23, 1903. When leaving his roof tree, said he had lost the best mule on the place. Many and varied were the happenings. We finally bought a farm and built a two room house and had the priveledge of living there ten

years, a son and daughter born to bless our lives. But the greatest blessing was when we went to Oklahoma City in a covered wagon driving three days to a camp meeting and sleeping in our wagon ten days and was born again at the first service at Wheeler Park and was baptized in the North Canadian River. That was the beginning of a new life, we started our family alter, and later our prayer meetings at our home and also our neighbors homes and Sunday School at our school house. Had ministers to come and hold meetings. Twelve or fifteen were soon saved and then Bro. Harmon begin to shepherd them. The results there was two ministers, one now a pastor in California with others of us that are still active in Gospel work, still glad to be busy every day learning better to serve my Master to try and live, share and be a blessing and example to every one is my daily prayer.

Mrs. J. D. Harmon

Written this 23rd. day of September 1955

Bro. J. D. Harman Sunday School Class
1924

Bristow Church of God - approx. Between 1924 to 1930

I Know Something Good about You

Wouldn't this old world be better
If the folks we meet would say,
I know something good about you,
And treat us just that way?

Wouldn't it be fine and dandy
If each handclasp warm and true
Carried with it this assurance
I know something good about you?

Wouldn't life be lots more happy
If the good that's in us all
Were the only thing about us
That folk bother to recall?

Wouldn't life be lots more happy,
If we praised the good we see?
For there's such a lot of goodness
In the worst of you and me.

Wouldn't it be nice to practice
That fine way of thinking, too?
You know something good about me,
I know something good about you.

—*Anon.*

Picture either under
Row 1: ,
Row 2: ,
Row 3: ,
Row 4; Irene Sullivan, ,

Bethel,
Hill,
,

, Bro. Hammers,
Fuller

6th Pastor - Bro. S.J. Lane - 1930 1934

Sixth Pastor

Bro. S. J. Lane

Sr. S. J. Lane

1930 - 1934

Bro. and Sr. Lane came to Bristow in October 1930. They soon departmentalized our Sunday School, appointing Superintendents and teachers for each age group. Sr. Lane has had years of experience in religious education and evangelism of children.

During the war she was sent to Granada, Colorado to work among the Japanese people who were in a re-location camp. This was real missionary work which she enjoyed.

Bro. Lane is doing evangelistic work at the present time 1949 and 1950. He has also written articles for the Gospel Trumpet.

Seventh Pastor
1934 - 1938

Nona, Bro. J.F. Lawson, Sr. Lawson, Emil, Herman,
Bonnie and Mildred

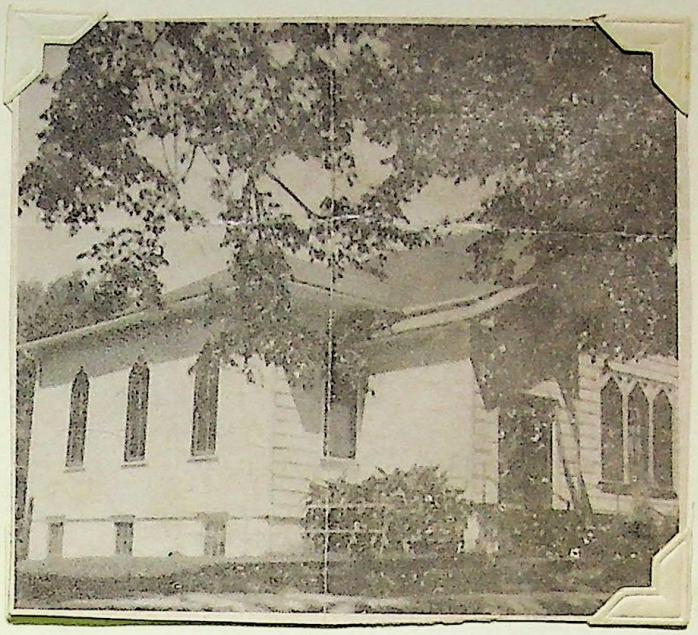
Teachers
&
Officers
while
Bro. Lawson
was here

Front row: Dovie Hutson, Lessie Strong, Wilma Cunningham, W.W.Steincamp-S.S.Supt., Tennie Carr-asst. supt., Ruth Price, Sr. Slawson & Goldie Snyder

Back row: Forrest Boyd, Bro. Lawson, Forrest Sullivan, Bro. Price, Walter Williams, Claud White, Ozro Mizell, Vernice Price, Carrol Lyman, Nova Boyd, Ruth Steincamp, Inez Weaver, Jettie Capps, Glattice Bramley, Florence White & [illegible] Mizell

Eighth Pastor

Bro. & Sr. J.W. Pierce
Oct. 1938 - 53



The church as it looked when
Bro. Pierce came in 1938

Church under re-modeling
construction -1950

Bro. & Sr. Pierce and Bobby
In front of the parsonage

Our church parsonage was built by the church in 1948. Bobby was choir director for Sunday School before he left for the Air Force and after going to Mississippi, he and Bill Phoenix sang in the church there.

Everyone enjoys Bobby's solos and more than ever while he was home in August 1951 before going over-seas for Japan.

1949

The Church before its re-modeling

Bro. & Sr. Pierce
1950

Sunday School Teacher & Officers soon after Bro. Pierce came in 1938

Front row: Jessie Mizell; Jettie Capps; Delores Webber; Agnes Thompson;
Lessie Strong; Wilma Taylor; Ruth Steincamp; Goldie Snyder.
Second row: Sr. Slawson; Ruth Price; Nova Boyd;
Third row; Inez Weaver; Ella Stout; Glattice Bramley; Carrol Lyman;
Tennie Carr; Sr. Pierce
Fourth row: Della Williams; Ola Chapman; Florence White; Wilma Cunningham;
W.W.Steincamp-S.S.Supt.; Earl Price; Sr. Price; Ruth Hankins
Fifth row: Bro. Pierce; Walter Williams; Forrest Sullivan; Claud White;
Vernice Price; Harley Kaiser

Bro. Pierce - 1941

500 Attend Church God Homecoming Celebration Here

Approximately 500 persons attended the Church of God homecoming celebration held here last week, honoring Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Pierce. He has completed 12 years as minister of the Bristow church.

Sunday school attendance was set at 403. A basket dinner was spread at noon. The afternoon program centered around short talks from pastors from surrounding towns and special music. Former members of the Bristow congregation now in the ministry were introduced.

Feature of the day was the presentation of a special cake to Rev. and Mrs. Pierce. The cake, made by Mrs. L. A. Shelton, was topped with a miniature church. Shaped as a large Bible, the cake was iced with some scripture.

1950

Wilma Taylor
Ruth Mizell
Ruth (Hall) Price
Iris

Bro. and Sr. Pierce

Brother and Sr. Pierce came to the Bristow Congregation from Yale, Oklahoma in October 1938. With them came their three sons Jimmy, Bobby and Darrell Ray.

We soon learned we had a pastor with a Shepherd's heart and that he leads. He seeks to handle every situation just as the "Good Shepherd" would.

He realizes his great responsibility to God's people.

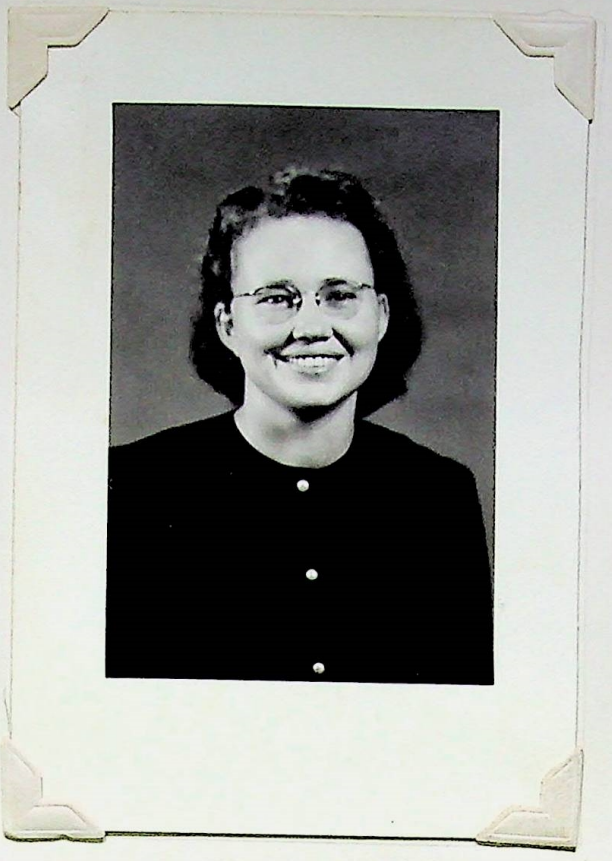
He is deeply spiritual, careful and watchful in his living. He isn't boastful of his position, but feels himself a servant of the people, looking for opportunities to bless and assist all who need him, shows love, patience, humility, long suffering, forgiveness, tolerance, intelligence poise and wisdom.

Besides being a pastor of this congregation, he is on many committees and boards of the State.

Cpl. Bobby Pierce

This picture of Bob was taken while on his visit home just before going over to Japan. His Solos will be greatly missed by the church as everyone enjoyed them so much.

Associate Pastor



Doris Upchurch

Sr. Upchurch came to Bristow from Holdenville to be the associate pastor in 1948. She had wonderful succes in directing the Young People and had a large group working in the church when she resigned here and soon took her pastorate back at Holdenville - 100% calling her back. Their gain is our loss.

We have had her back for several Revivals.

Betty McGuire, "1951"
Joyce Weaver
Geraldine Winn

Wilma Taylor
Betty Sullivan
Norma Dowdy

Board Members:
Cecil Carr, Jarrest Sullivan,
Walter Williams,
Bill Steincamp

Teachers and
Workers:
Beulah Pierce,
Wilma Taylor,
Jinnie Carr,
Sarah Belle Curry,
Ruth Steincamp

Mother's Day, 1947
Bro. Pierce, Pastor

Dallah Sears

Sr. Sears, Missionary president 1948-49 also sec.-treas. at the same time. 1951 was Sec. of the District Missionary Society. During her year of office we sent $338.05 to our State Sec. to receive for the first time our Standard of Excellence and bought our first Life Certificate

Mrs. J. M. Longfellow
Missionary President 1919

Ruth Price
Miss. Pres. 1934- 1938

Elzie Carlton-teacher
Jr. dept. also worker
in children's work.
Miss. Membership chairman
in 1950

Lena Phoenix 1950
A good singer and always faithful
and can be depended on to do all
she can.

Callie Wilson
Faithful many years and ret-
urning to Bristow after having
lived in Prague for a long time.
Her AMENS and Shouts are apprec-
iated. She is quite well known
as Sr. Happy Wilson

Tressa (Moore) McQuain -1950

Wilma and Lloyd Taylor
Ministers of Music

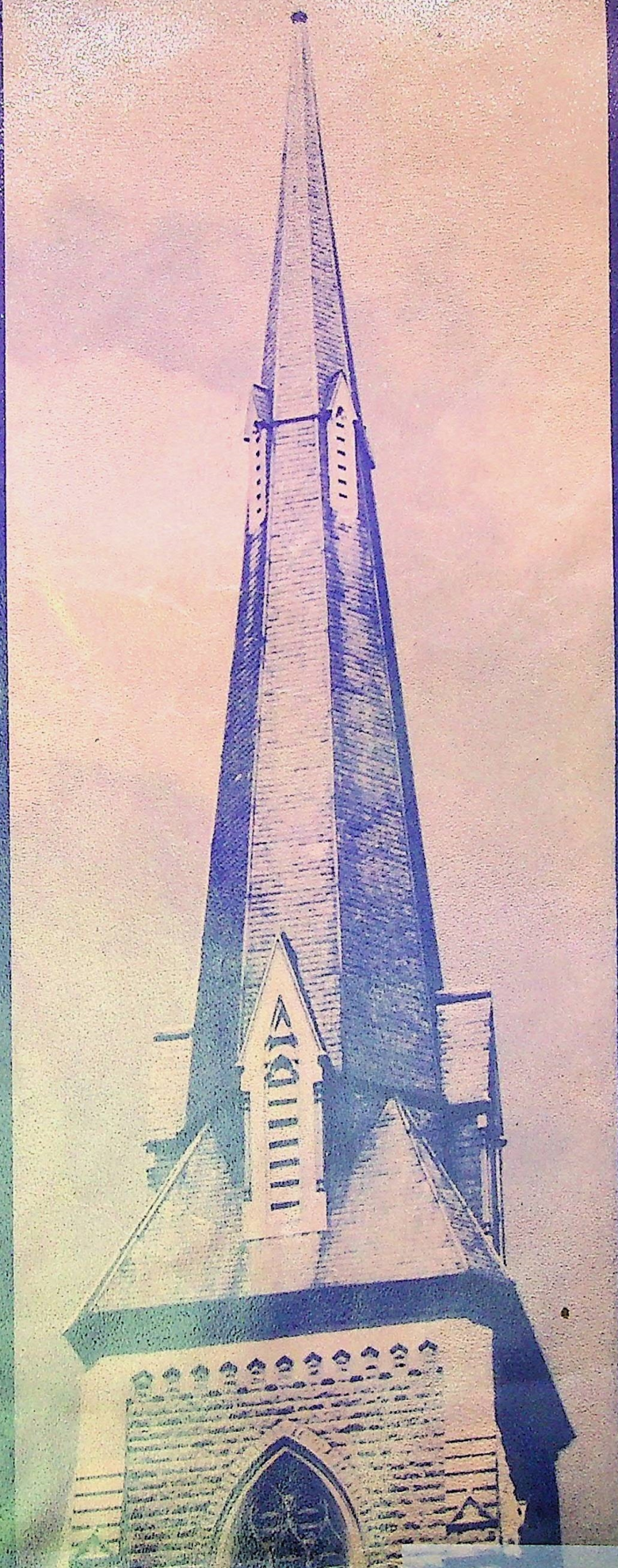
Now in 1965 Wilma is still Minister of Music
Composing several songs being sung by her Choir

Inez (Gregory) Weaver
Born 12-25-1893
Died 2-13-1959
Leader - Teacher - counselor

See inside back for description and more pictures

THE GOSPEL TRUMPET

A Weekly Journal of Vital Christianity



May 24, 1941

Vol. 61—No

Harold L. Phillips

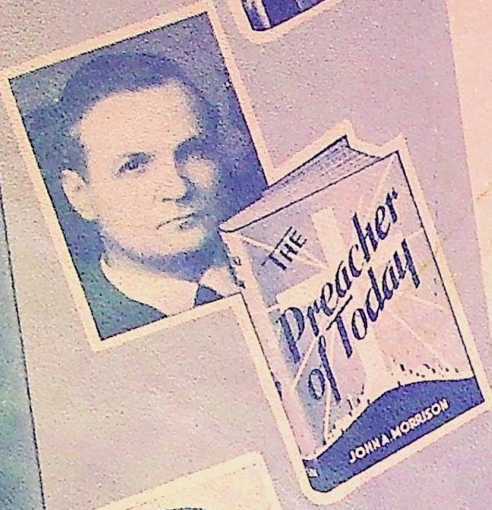
They Stimulate Christian

The Way of Prayer

By Charles Ewing Brown

The Way of Prayer is a nontechnical discussion of prayer, a subject vital to the spiritual well-being of all Christian people. It is written in the "shoptalk" style of a fellow workman giving helpful suggestions on points where other workmen have faltered.

The Way of Prayer will stimulate and awaken interest in prayer that will drive the reader to a more satisfactory prayer experience. It will encourage busy people to find rest, inspiration, and power in the heavenly calm of prayer.



A Call to Prayer

By Vivian Ahrendt

Here is your guidebook for the culture of the devotional life. Here is your personal call from the rush of the present world into the realm of quiet meditation, self-examination, and prayer.

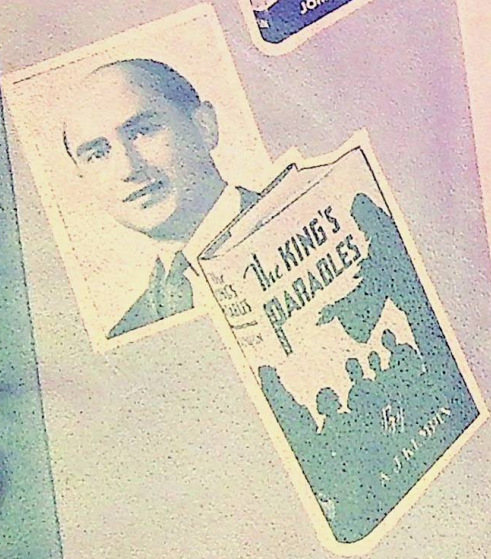
Any person who desires spiritual food will find such chapters as "The Master's Touch," "Persevering Prayer," and "Faith on the Increase" an abundant source of supply.

The Preacher of Today

By John A. Morrison

The Preacher of Today is a plain, practical message which will arouse hope, faith, and confidence in the hearts of young ministers. Yet it is more than a book for ministers.

Laymen will know their minister better after they have read *The Preacher of Today*. It gives insight and understanding of the minister and his problems not obtainable otherwise.



The King's Parables

By A. J. Kempin

Every minister, every Sunday-school teacher, every Christian—in fact, every reader of the New Testament will benefit by reading these clear, simple explanations of the Lord's parables.

Many years of quiet study, reflection, and prayer form the background for this helpful book. The kingdom of God as pictured in the New Testament will become more real to all who read *The King's Parables*.

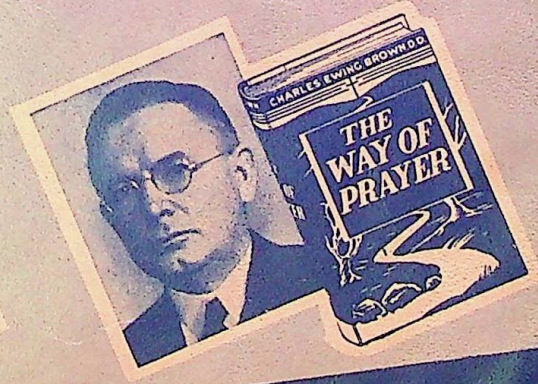
The New Testament Church

By H. M. Riggle

For many years the author has been a prominent minister and leader in the Church of God. His wide experience as pastor, evangelist, and student of church doctrines all combine to qualify him for the writing of this book.

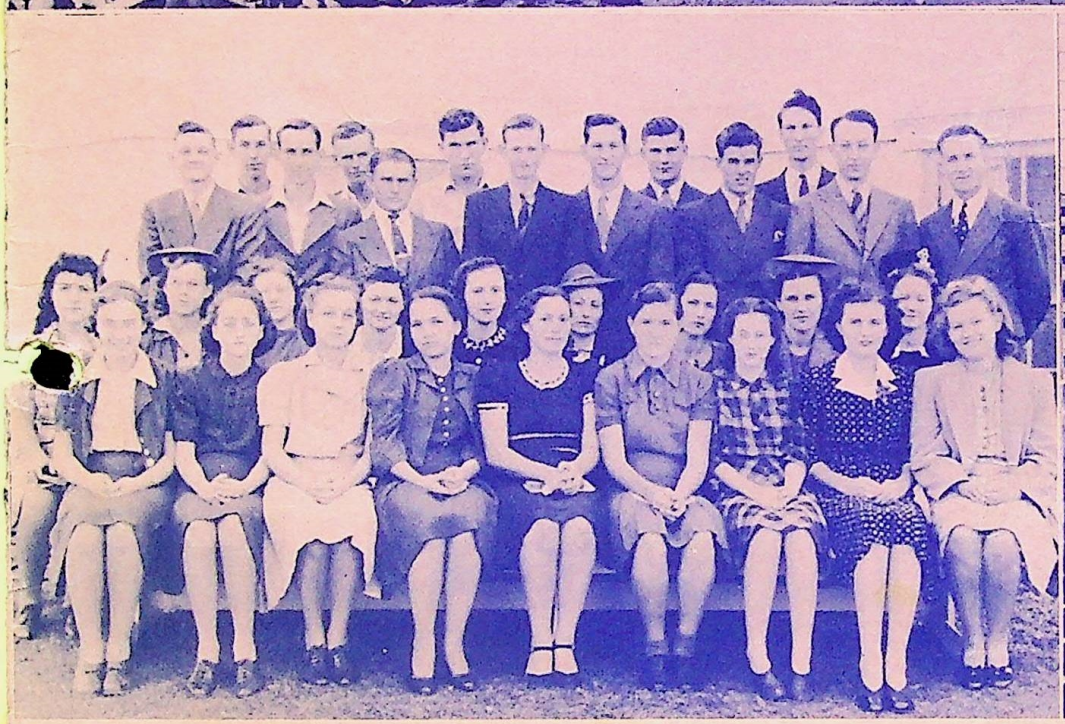
The New Testament Church sets forth correct doctrinal teachings as well as many practical suggestions for the work of the local church.

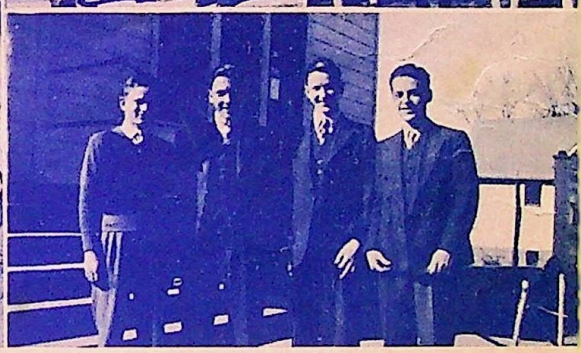
Books at $1.00 each, Order Today



Anderson, Indiana — GOSPEL TRUMPET COMPANY — Sacramento, Ca

1941





VIEWS OF BRISTOW, OKLA., CHURCH OF GOD

INSIDE FRONT

Top Row: The picture running across the top of the inside front and inside back cover shows the Bristow, Okla., congregation in front of the church building. Second Row: View of the church building. The pastor and his wife, J. W. and Mrs. Pierce, are shown in the insets. The second picture shows the choir. Third Row: Teachers and officers of the Sunday school; the young people's group.

INSIDE BACK

Second Row: Senior Sunday-school class, which is taught by Brother Pierce; the ladies' quartet; the girls' quartet; and below the boys' quartet.

1949 Camp Meeting Bristow Camp Grounds

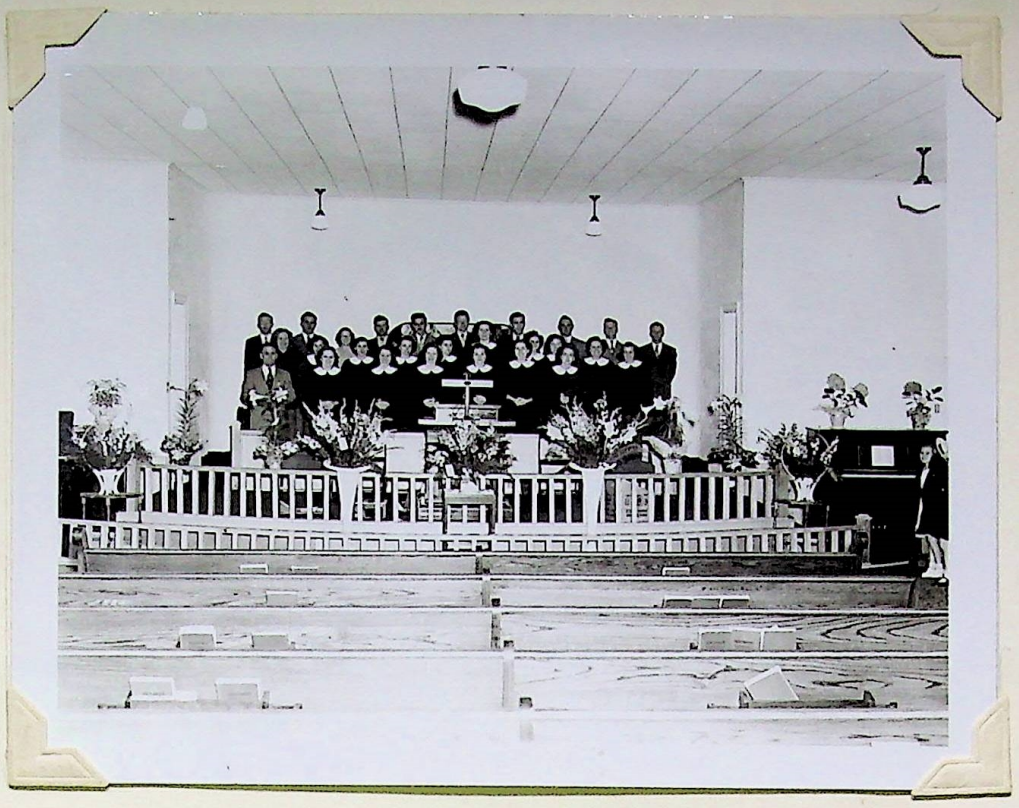
Oct. 1950 – Remodeled the church
Lloyd Taylor, Mayor Abraham, Dale Calhoun, Bill Steincamp, Rev. J. W. Pierce, O.F. (Forrest) Sullivan, Walter Williams, Rev. Ozro Mizell, Rev. A. A. Kinyon

1950

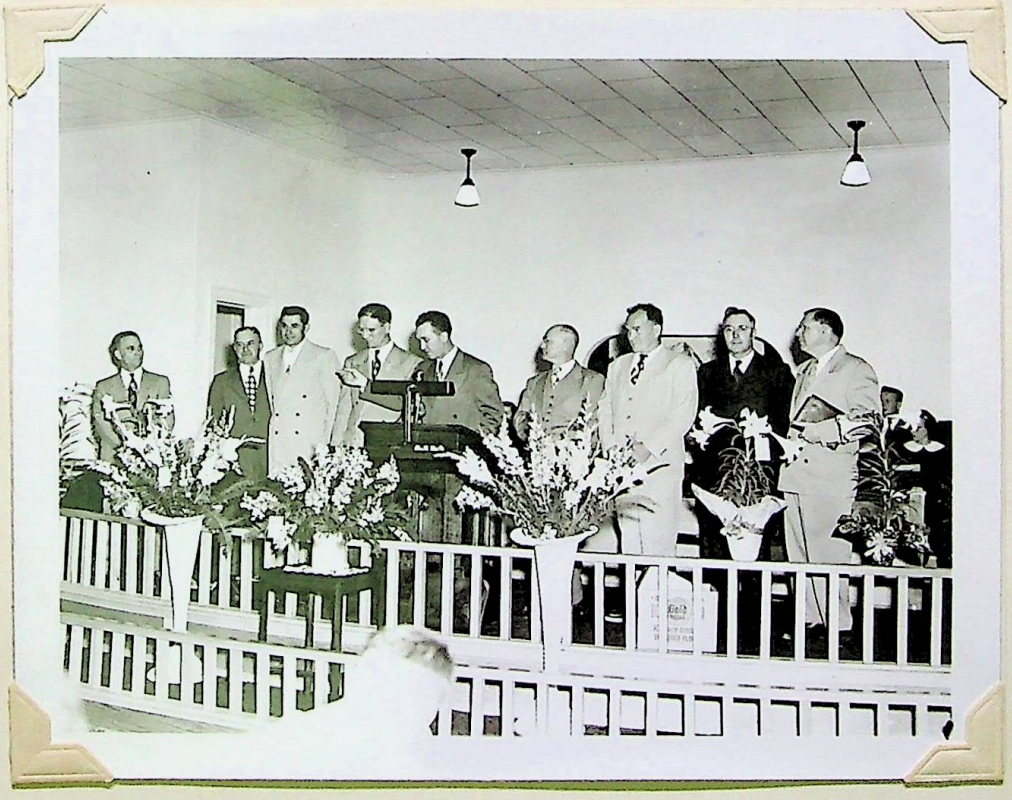
Row 1: Lloyd Taylor, Wilma Taylor, Audane Williams, Eva Lou Steincamp, Norma (Sullivan) Dowdy, Evelyn (Hill) Odom, Pauline (Hill) Thompson, Mae Calhoun, Aline Hill

Row 2: Ruth Steincamp, Joan Calhoun, Patti Sanford, Etna Lou Pierce, Eva Lea Hancock, Joyce Weaver, Geraldine Winn, Louise Morton

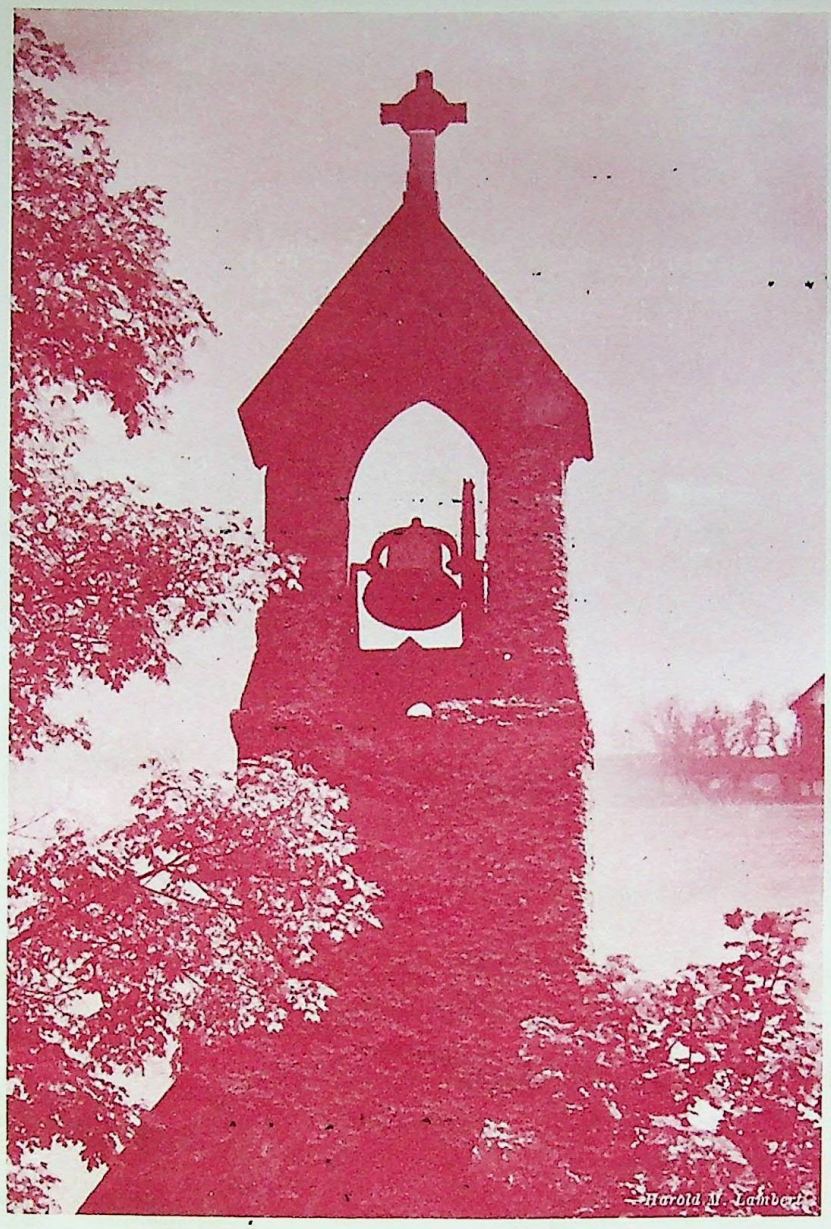
Row 3: Joe Buford, Bob Pierce, Helen Sullivan, John Dowdy, Jimmy Pierce, Carl Trimble, Jack , Harold Sullivan, Kenneth Gable, Bill Phoenix



Choir Members-1950- under director Lloyd Taylor and organist was Wilma Taylor.



Board Members, Visiting Ministers, & Mayor - 1950.
Taken at the Dedication Service October 29, 1950.
Lloyd Taylor,Mr. Abraham(mayor) Dale Calhoun,W.W.Steincamp,Bro. Pierce Forrest Sullivan, Walter Williams, Ozro Mizell, Bro. A.A.Kinion



Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Church of God
3rd and Walnut
****
J.W. Pierce ---------- pastor
Oct. 29, 1950

HOME COMING DAY
****

M O R N I N G W O R S H I P

Sunday School---------- 9:45

Morning Worship---------- 10:50

Music in Charge of Sr. Woodward

Offertory and Prayer------ Pastor

Sermon-------- Mrs. Majorie Logsdon

Benediction

Basker dinner in Basement

Afternoon Service at 2:0 clock

Hymn----------

Prayer ---------- Bro. W.H. Dunham
Sermonette------- Bro. Will Colson
Special Song------ Bro, and Sr. Green
Sermonette ------- Bro. D.M. Ladd
Special Song----- Bro. and Sr. Taylor
Sermonette ------- Bro. Riley Phillippe

Evening Worship
Sermon by Bro. J.W.Pierce

" Our Crown Of Rejoicing,"

"The Pastor Speaks"

I wish it were possible for me to tell in words just what the Church of God in Bristow has meant to me.

But since I do not have words to do that, permit me to say that.. You are among the most wonderful people in the world.

The way you have stood by your pastor and his family in ALL things has TRULY been outstanding. Let me say thank you one and all with all my heart. and may God richly bless you in all things and I know that He will if you are faithful to him.

I need your prayers that God will guide me in His great work. I know that I am weak within my own strength. but God is ABLE to help those who are weak that look unto Him.

As we look into a new year may we ask God to guide us all so that we be able to do his will in all things . God wants to help us all. So let us pray for one another.

Bro. Pierce
****

A nice crowd was present to hear Sr. Patterson last Tues, night. I am sure that all enjoyed her fine message and the pictures. I wish the she could have been with a week.

****

Grandpa Leverett's funeral will be held Monday at 2:30 at Sullivan-Bates funeral Home. Your pastor will officiate.
****

Why Should We Weep?

Why should we weep for those who die,
They fall—their dust returns to dust;
Their souls shall live eternally
Within the mansions of the just.

They die to live—they sink to rise,
They leave this wretched mortal shore;
But brighter suns and bluer skies
Shall smile on them for evermore.

Why should we sorrow for the dead?
Our life on earth is but a span;
They tread the path that all must tread,
They die the common death of man.

The soul, the eternal soul, must reign
In worlds devoid of pain and strife;
Then why should mortal man complain
Of Death, which leads to happier life.

—ALFRED LORD TENNYSON

In Memory of

William Woody Steincamp

BORN

September 22, 1904

DATE OF DEATH

April 13, 1966

SERVICES FROM

Church of God
2:00 p.m. Friday, April 15, 1966

CLERGYMAN OFFICIATING

Rev. Arthur Hansen
Bristow, Oklahoma

INTERMENT

Bristow Cemetery
Bristow, Oklahoma

DIRECTED BY

Dunaway Funeral Home

W. W. & Ruth Steincamp

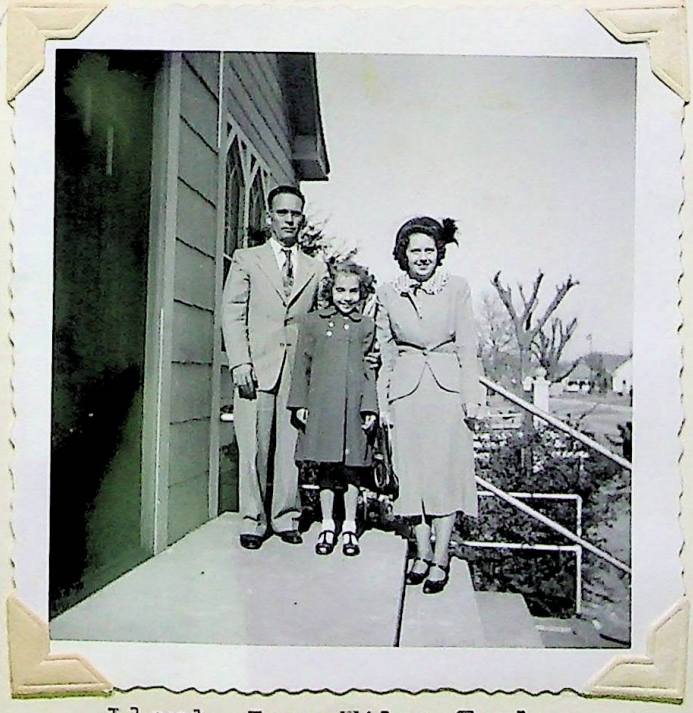
Bro. Steincamp has been the General Superintendent of the Sunday School since 1937.
Ruth is Supt. of the Junior Department.
Their faithfulness has been an encouragement to all. Sr. Steincamp is Superintendent of the Vacation Bible School each year.

Bill - Ruth - Lynda - Eva Lou Steincamp - 1942

Irene & Forrest Sullivan

Bro. Sullivan is secretary and treasurer of the church, also a teacher and one who the city as well as the church holds in high esteem. Sr. Sullivan has been a teacher and leader of Young People for several years and is loved by all.

Bro. Taylor has been the choir director and Sr. Taylor the pianist since 1937.
They have served the church untiringly and faithfully during all these years.
Wilma directs all the special music for the church, also has directed most of the plays.



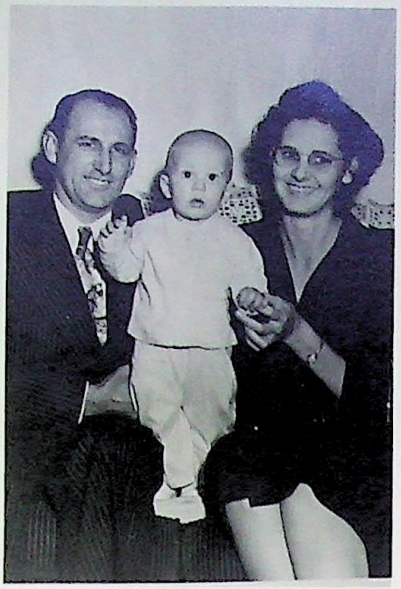
Lloyd, Joy, Wilma Taylor

Billy Joe McQuain
Another Christian boy from the Bristow Congregation who left with the "45th." for Japan 1951

Delia Bethel Faithful worker in the Womans Missionary Society

Billy Joe Phoenix, 1951 serving in the Air Force This picture was taken while on furlough just before sailing, overseas. He directed singing some, and also brought good sermonette when the Young People were left to fill the pulpit one Sunday when Bro. Pierce was absent.

Bill Phoenix

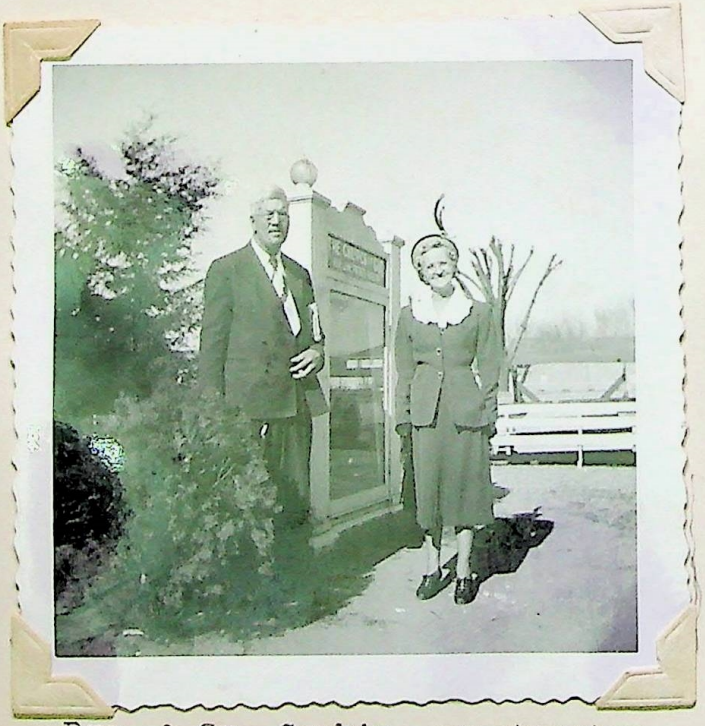


Aubrey-Vernon-Sara Bell Curry

Bro. Curry is Sunday School Asst. Supt. in 1952. Has worked with the Junior-Hi group.
Sr. Curry is teacher in the Junior Department. She also works in the Missionary Society.

Bertha Sellers

Teacher and Missionary Worker.



Bro. & Sr. Corbin- constructor
Remodeled the church bluiding 1950.

Junior Department - 1950

Ruth Steincamp - supt.
Elza Carlton, - teacher
Mae Estes- teacher
Opal Bell - teacher
Sara Bell Curry-teacher

Row 2: Edna Lou Pierce, Jim Pierce, Howard Hanks, Doyle Odum, Carl Grimble, John Dowdy,

Row 1: H.C. Adams, Pauline Thompson, Gertrude Hanks, Evelyn Odum, Barbara Gobble, Geraldine Murphy, Joepe Adams, Norma Dowdy

Young Peoples Class
1950

Intermediate Girls

Mrs. Ruth White Supt. - 1950

Row 3: Janice Tallent,

Row 2: Williams, Elrod
Geraldine Wynn,

Row 1:
Janie Smith, Martha Sullivan, Linda Steincamp, Carolyn Masters, Eva Lou Steincamp

Church of God Men's
Brotherhood Banquet
State of Oklahoma

in the early 1950's
Bristow Men 2nd table
from left on right side of table

Church of God Senior
Youth Camp of OK
(Heart of the Hills
1953 (July)

Ninth Pastor

1953 - 1958

Bro. & Sr. C. C. Funk

Larry - Bobby - Kathy

Bro. and Sr. Funk came to Bristow the latter part of September, 1953

Bro. and Sr. Funk came to us in September, 1953 from Oregon.

Both Bro. and Sr. Funk are graduates of Pacific Bible College.

With them came their three children, Larry, Bobby and Kathy.

Since coming here God has blessed their home with another daughter, Cliff Ann, born October 15, 1955. She is the first child born to our pastors in the Bristow Church

CHURCH OF GOD

FOURTH and WALNUT PHONE 64

CLIFFORD C. FUNK, Pastor

412 West Seventh Phone 506

You can never say no one cares for your soul
—for someone gave you this card.

Youth Birthday Party for Martha Sullivan

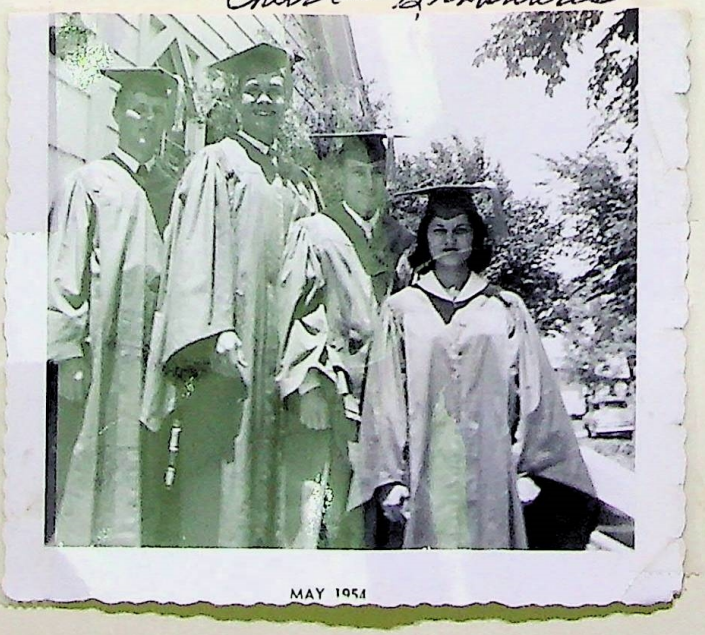
Jan 1, 1954

Row 1: Bobby Alsup, Janice Smith, ~~audrey Hollibaugh~~, Martha Sullivan, Margie Wohl, Phyllis McQuain, Gracie Franks, Fred Ladd

Row 2: Clarence E. Reeves, Joyce Weaver, Kennard Irvine, William Dickson

Church Graduates

May 1954

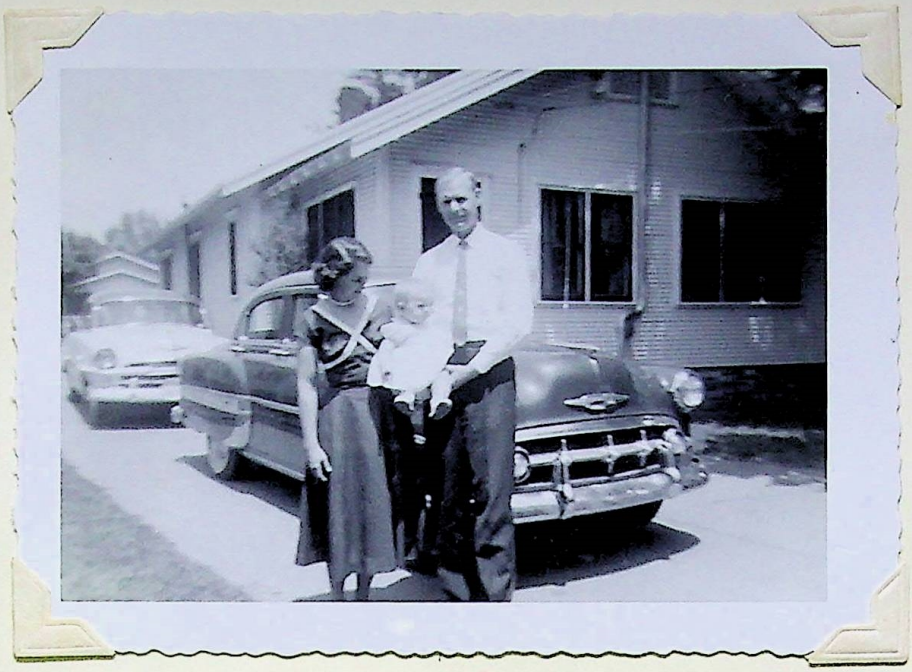


Singing Group

Mark Wohl, Ed & Bob Allensworth, Monta Jean Baker

Bristow Church remodeled - 1954

Associate Pastor



Willetta - Omer
Carol
October 1954-'55

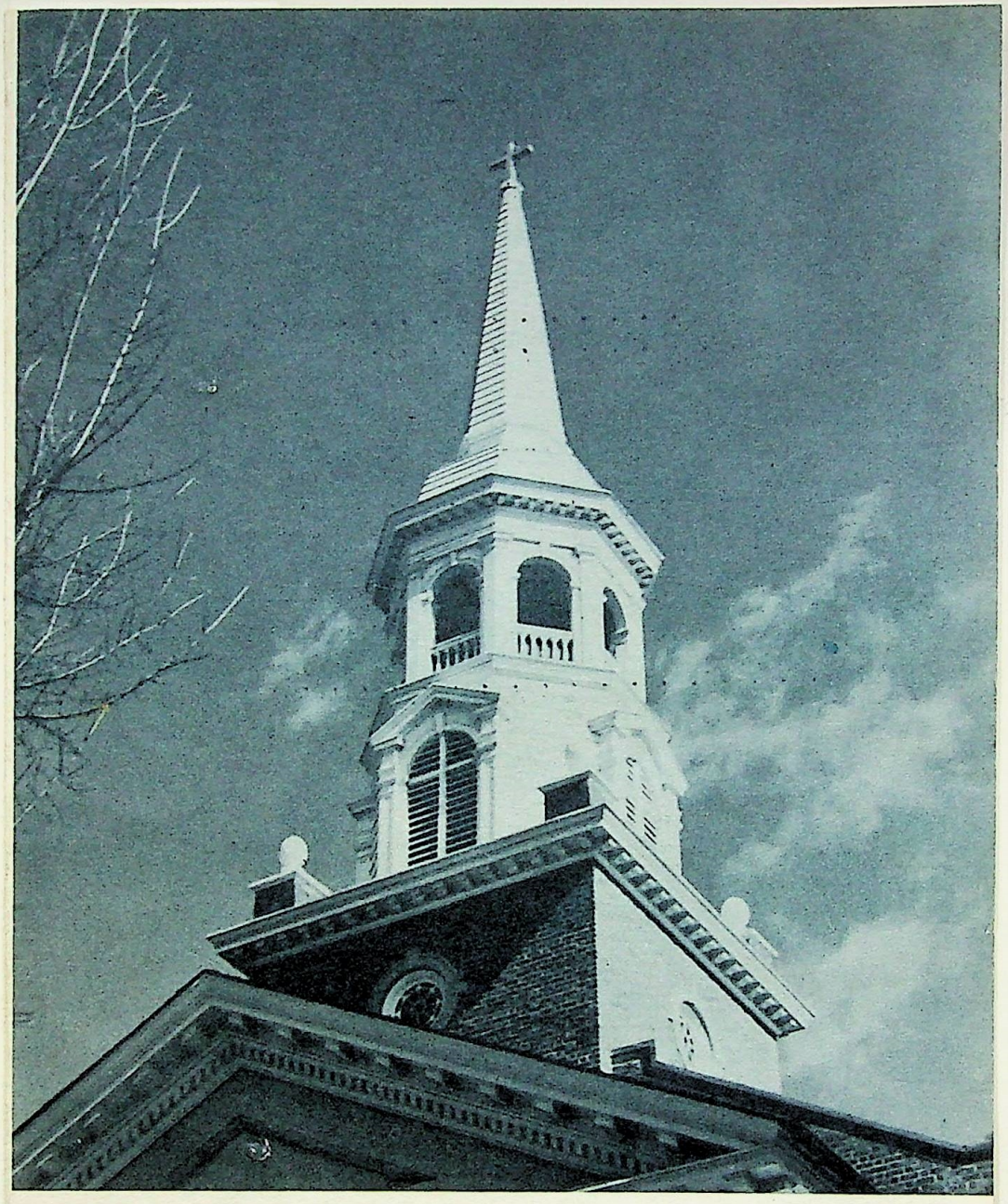
Bro. and Sr. Blevins came to Bristow from Anderson, Indiana. Besides being the associate pastor, Bro. Blevins has been the Youth Leader and worked with the boys of the church in their soft-ball league.

Bro. and Sr. Blevins both taught in the Daily Vacation Bible School.

Bro. Blevins was teacher of a class in Sunday School and Sr. Blevins worked with the "Home Makers Club" and we also called on her any time we wanted any art work done, anything from drawing the church to drawing pictures of the babies.

Sr. Blevins is Bro. Fleenor's daughter and at present they are our missionaries to Egypt.

October 30, 1955 We Celebrated
our fiftieth Anniversary with a Home coming
See Program here. 1895 to 1955



Watchtower of Faith

October 30, 1955 We Celebrated our fiftieth Anniversary with a Home Coming
See Program here. 1895 to 1955

THE CHURCH OF GOD
Bistow, Oklahoma
October 30, 1955

Clifford C. Funk . . . . . Pastor
Omer Blevins . . . . . Associate Pastor

HOME COMING & ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY

Prelude . . . . . Mrs. Lloyd Taylor
Hymn Number 9
Hymn Number 26
Stewardship Thought
The Offering
Ladies Quartet
Welcome . . . . . Pastor
Announcements
Hymn Number 370
Pastoral Prayer
Special
Sermon . . . . . Bro. Lawrence J. Chesnut
Closing Song
Benediction and "Blessing of Food"
Postlude

Today
Everyone is urged to stay for dinner.
Afternoon service to begin Promptly at 2:30 P.M.
Bro. J.W. Pierce, speaker
Reminiscing with Ruth Steincamp- 6:30 P.M.
The Gospel Hour- 7:30 P.M. Closing Service of Our Home Coming and Anniversary Service- Sister Logsdon will be speaker.

Today Cont'd
Remember there will be a Special Love Offering for Bro. and Sis. Blevins at the close of the evening service!!!

This Week

October 31- Nov. 3 - Teacher's Training Course to be held at the Methodist Church- 7:30 each evening.
Mid-West Minister's Meeting- October 31- Nov. 3.

Coming Events

Bro. and Sis. Skaggs, Missionaries to Egypt, to be here Tuesday November 8th.
November 21- "Martin Luther" film to be shown.
City Wide Thanksgiving Service- Nov. 23. Rev. A.S. Day to be the speaker.
State Youth Convention- Nov. 24,25- 10th and Shartel Church of God, Oklahoma City. Bro. E.E. Wolfram to be the Speaker.

In deep appreciation for those yet active and faithful to God's Church throughout the past 30 years or more.
"Surly goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever."- Ps. 23:6

Bro. Ed Utz	Bro. & Sis. Bob Mizell
Sis. Etla Moore	Bro. Willie Mizell
Bro. W.H. Dunham	Bro. & Sis. H.S. Carr
Bro. & Sis. Oscar Capps	Sis. Inez Weaver
Sis. Joe Buford	Bro. & Sis. Alex Myers
Bro. & Sis. W.M. Rake	Sis. John Marcum

(Continued on the back)

A Big Day for the Church when the new Organ was delivered Wilma Taylor Organist.

"Golden Age" Banquet
Bro Hathcoat Speaker

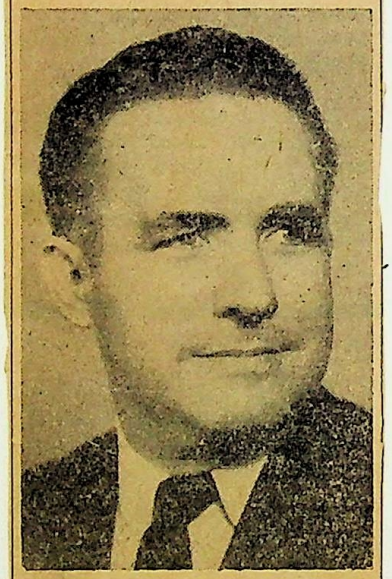
August 1958

Rev. C. C. Funk Church of God Pastor Resigns

Has Accepted Pastorate Of Dallas Church

The Reverend Clifford C. Funk of the Church of God resigned as pastor of the local church this week to accept the pastorate of The Church of God in Dallas, Tex. His resignation becomes effective on August 1st or sooner if a pastor accepts a call to the local church.

Reverend Funk brings to a close four years of work with the local church. The pastor,



Reverend C. C. Funk

his wife, Alta, his two sons, Bobby 11, and Larry 13; his two daughters, Cathy 7, and baby Cliff Anne, will leave this week for a trip to Michigan and Indiana.

Reverend Funk plans to attend The Church of God's international convocation at Anderson, Ind., this coming week. From there they will go to Plymouth, Mich., to spend some time with his parents.

In his absence the Reverend Wilbert Goodman of Tulsa will give the morning worship service on Sunday, June 16. On Sun-

(Continued on Back Page)

Rev. C. C. Funk

(Continued from Page One)

day, June 23, the pulpit will be filled by the Reverend J. L. Hatchel of Belfountain, O., who comes on invitation of the local pulpit committee.

The pastor gave this statement for publication to the News:

"We have accepted the call to pastor The Church of God in Dallas, Tex. The work of our church in Dallas and the state of Texas presents a great challenge. We are lookin forward to our work there with great anticipation.

We have enjoyed our four years in Bristow. The church here is one of the finest in our entire movement. We can never hope to pastor a better group of people.

"We also appreciate the warm friendly atmosphere of the entire city. I am sure as we move to the 'Large Dallas" we will think of Bristow many times.

"We wish to thank all of our friends for your kindness to us

Rev. and Mrs. Funk
and family.

A Dream Comes True.

For years the Bristow Church had wished for a Work among the Negro people.

Bro. Funk secured Bro and Sis Crockett to start a work - Together they got Bro Harrison to hold a Brush Arbor meeting about where the negro Church on East 7th is located. in the picture left to right Bro Crockett, Bro & Sis Harrison Sis Crockett

Back — Bro & Sis Funk.

Bro. and Sis Roy Alvis Lived in Bristow and useful Workers in the Church Now live in Phoenix Ariz

Mary Bro and Sis Alvis and Glen

FIRST CHURCH OF GOD
Financial Report 1957

EXPENSE

Rev. Funk--Salary and Anderson expenses	$ 2911.63	
Rev. Hatchel--Salary, trip to ministers meeting, utilities, etc.	2195.55	
Youth Director	1440.00	
Caretaker (church)	400.00	
Sunday School and church supplies (lit.)	1282.00	
Church and parsonage maintenance and repair. Insurance	2785.84	
Utilities (church)	742.77	
Guest speakers and three revivals	686.57	
Moving expense (Rev. Hatchel)	563.58	
Advertising (revivals)	67.47	
World Service giving	1024.38	
Christian Brotherhood Hour	260.00	
State of Oklahoma Church Extension	764.66	
Bank Note	751.90	
Flowers	203.07	
Church entertainment (Christmas treats, Golden Age Banquet, etc.)	247.09	
Parsonage payments	489.00	
Gift to Depew	2000.00	
TOTAL EXPENSE		$19,083.03

INCOME

Balance on hand Jan 1, 1957	535.38	
Income for year through tithes and weekly offerings	15333.93	
Bank loan for basement repair, parsonage repair and Depew gift	2800.00	
Used from Building Fund for church repair	624.22	
TOTAL INCOME		19,293.53

Balance on hand January 1, 1958 $ 210.50

(Building Fund balance Jan 1, 1958---$322.09)

Tenth Pastors Bro and Sis J. L. Hatchel
1958 - '59

Bro and Sis J. L. Hatchell

Oklahoma Pastor and Wife, Both Former Flint Students, Home for Vacation

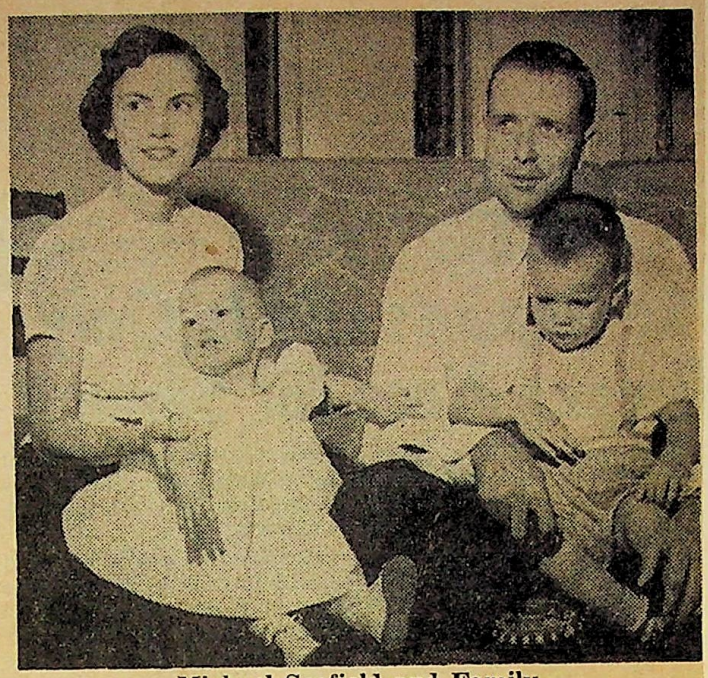
Michael Scofield, who for four years sang in the West Court Street Church of God choir, and now is associate pastor of the church at Bristow, Okla., is home with his family on a brief vacation. Mr. Scofield is a graduate of Central High School, Junior College and two-year student at Anderson (Ind.) College. His wife Betty is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John May, 3106 W. Court St., and also a Central graduate.

Mr. Scofield last year served Dupont Street Church of God as minister of music. He has sung also with traveling choirs and with the Christian Brotherhood Hour program on radio.

At Bristow, his duties include conducting the choir and youth activities. Mrs. Scofield, a pianist, assists him in his musical work. The children are 28 months and 9 months old.

Mr. Scofield's parents are Sethney Scofield and Mrs. Marjorie Scofield.

He will preach and sing in the evening service of his home church Sunday night, and on Monday the family will leave for Bristow.



Michael Scofield and Family

Pastor J. L. Hatchel

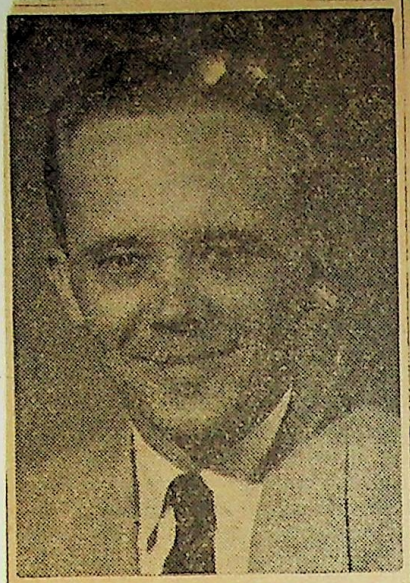
Resignation Told By Mike Scofield

Mike Scofield, who has been music and youth director at the Church of God for the past seven months, announced his resignation this week, effective October 1.

The Reverend J. L. Hatchel reported Mr. Scofield said he had enjoyed his work in Bristow and hated to leave.

The family will return to their home in Flint, Michigan, where he plans to return to school to further prepare for his career in church work. Mr. and Mrs. Scofield will leave Bristow October 2.

1958-1958



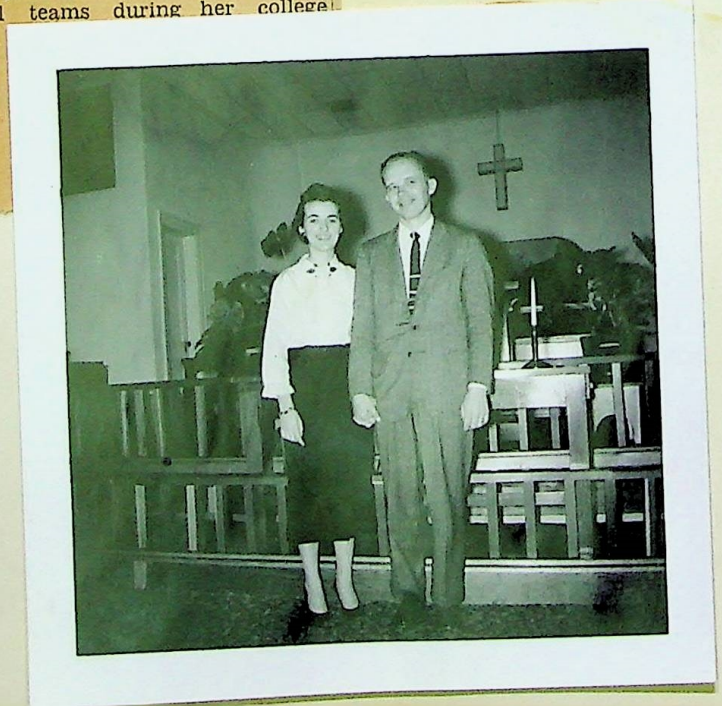
Rev. James Holm

Associate Pastor Joins Local Church

The Reverend James Holm will join the Church of God February 1 as the associate pastor and will arrive in time to help with the youth revival to be conducted through February 8 by the church.

The pastor and his wife, Patricia Ann, are from Anderson, Indiana, both having attended Anderson college. Mr. Holm majored in applied Theology. His minor was in the Bible. He was at one time employed on the Omaha World. His home is in Bayard, Nebraska, where he graduated from high school.

Mrs. Holm, the former Patricia Ann Knox, is a native of Hamilton, Ohio. She also attended Anderson college, majoring in religious education. She was a singer with the quartet there, working with gospel teams during her college years.



Church Of God Slates Revival Youth Will Help

Rev. Jerry Hendricks

A youth revival will be held in the Church of God, Fourth and Walnut from February 1 through February 8, according to the Reverend J. L. Hatchel.

The Reverend Jerry Hendricks will be evangelist for the services. Mr. Hendricks of Tulsa, who attended Anderson college four years, has served the Church of God at large as an evangelist, since leaving college.

The Reverend James Holm, who is joining the church as associate pastor, will be in charge of the music. Mr. Holm, who comes to Bristow from Anderson, Indiana, will be in charge of the youth program of the church as well as the music.

Services will be held each night at 7:30 with special music scheduled for each night. Tuesday night, February 3, the Anderson College quartet will be at the church to present special music.

Pastor Attending Anderson Meeting

Budget For Year To Be Determined

Participating at Anderson, Indiana, this week in the 70th annual International Convention of the Church of God is the Reverend J. L. Hatchel, pastor of the Church of God, Fourth and Walnut, Bristow. As a member of the General Ministerial Assembly, Mr. Hatchell is helping determine the church's budget for the 1958-59 year, elect officers and transact other business in this anniversary year.

Over 20,000 persons from across America and several foreign countries are in Anderson for what is considered the largest religious conference in America. The theme is "Spiritual Adequacy in a Scientific Age."

Founded in 1880, the Church of God is known as one of the nation's most evangelistic groups. Over the past decade an average of one new congregation has been established every week.

With over 2,200 local congregations numbering more than 115,000 members in the United States, the church also maintains mission work in 34 foreign countries. Besides Anderson college, the church sponsors a Bible college at Portland, Ore

International headquarters are maintained at Anderson.

Conference Held By Church Workers

A workers' conference was held at the Church of God last week when all church workers met to plan the program for the year, the Reverend J. L. Hatchel, announced.

Fifty-three workers attended the conference and planned the fall program. James Neighbors served as chairman for the meeting.

Rally Day was scheduled for October 13 and plans were discussed for a fall revival. Chairman Neighbors, who is also Sunday School superintendent, reported on the various needs in the Sunday School departments, including teachers and associate teachers.

Attending the conference were teachers, class sponsors, board members, ushers and others.

Annual Meeting Held Wednesday

Jan 1959

Church Of God Names Officers

New officers and committees were named Wednesday night at the Church of God when the annual business meeting was held.

Elected to the board of trustees for three year terms were Ed Bell and A. V. Curry. James Neighbors, Mrs. Lessie Strong and Mrs. Sylvia Hatchel were named to the board of religious education and will serve one year terms.

Howard Hanks was named head usher and Ted Wohl is assistant head usher.

New ordinances committee members are Mrs. M. J. Baker, Mrs. J. W. McQuain and Mrs. Hobart Carleton. Members of the transportation committee are Roy Pantry, chairman, M. J. Baker and A. V. Curry, members.

Members of the committee on arrangements for the needs of bereaved families are Mrs. Joe Buford, Mrs. Elmer McNann and Mrs. James Manuel. Flower committee members are Mrs. Raymond Baker and the Reverend J. L. Hatchel.

A proposed building program was discussed. If the church, sometime in the future, should accept the building program, it would include a new sanctuary, Mr. Hatchel said.

Bristow Church Host For State Assembly Meet

Approximately 125 ministers registered for the Oklahoma Ministerial Assembly of the Church of God, held at the Bristow church of God Monday through Thursday noon, the Reverend J. L. Hatchel reported.

The church meetings drew capacity crowds each night. Guest speaker was the Reverend Willard Wilcox of Ashland, Ky. Music director was Ronald Patty of Oklahoma City.

New state assembly officers were elected during the meeting. They are Leon C. Atwell, Oklahoma City, reelected chairman; J. L. Hatchel, Bristow, vice-chairman, and Dwight Dye, Pryor, secretary-treasurer.

Those elected to serve on the camp grounds committee were Arthur Hanson of Dewey, C. O. Mull of Tulsa and Ross Atkins of Vinita.

Those elected to serve on the business committee were Mr. Hatchel, Bristow, chairman; E. C. Arthur, Shawnee; A. A. Kinion, Sand Springs; H. C. Hathcoat, Sapulpa; S. D. Snelling, Pryor; J. W. Pierce, Seminole, and, W. Thomas Lee Tulsa.

Aug. 1957 - 1958

Church Of God Pastor Resigns

J. L. Hatchel To Pryor Post

The Reverend J. T Hatchel, pastor of the Church of God, announced his resignation at the morning and evening worship services at the church last Sunday.

Mr. Hatchel announced he has accepted the pastorate of the Pryor Church of God, one he formerly held.

The pastor came to Bristow in August of 1957 from Bellfontaine, Ohio, going to Ohio from Pryor

He has been active in the Bristow Ministerial Alliance since his residence in the city, and at the time of his resignation was president He is also a member of the Bristow Lions club.

Mr. Hatchel and his family will move to Pryor in the near future and his first service will be Easter Sunday. In the meantime, until the church calls another pastor, the Reverend James Holm, associate pastor, will serve.

A daughter, Sue, will not be moving with the family to their new home. She is attending college at Anderson, Indiana.

A Farewell Party was given Bro + Sis Hatchel and giving gifts

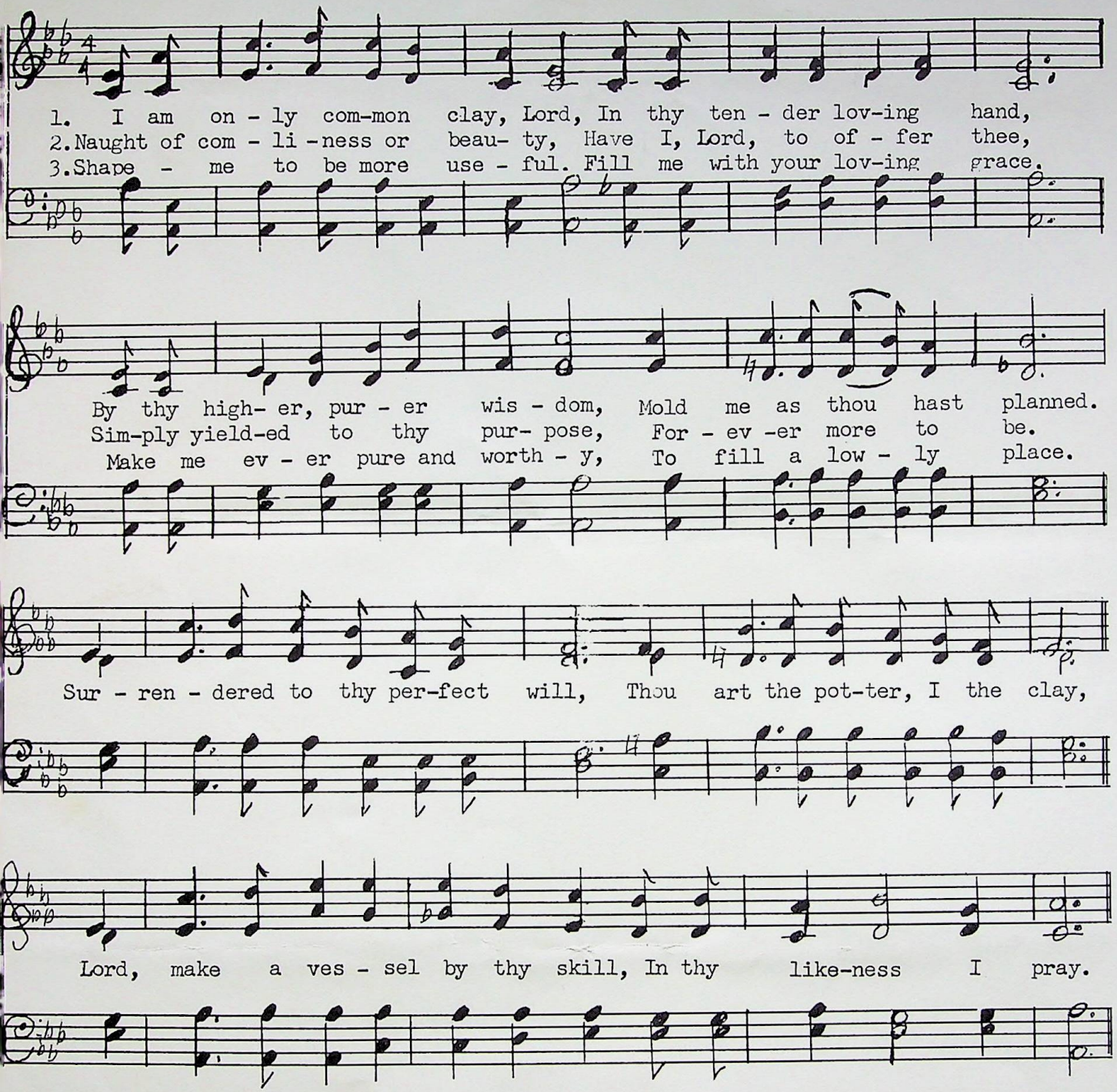
Charles and Brenda Hatchel

Bro Hatchel at the Party

SURRENDERED

HERMAN L. UTZ

Wade B. Jakeway



Eleventh Pastors 1959 — 1964

Bro, and Sis. T. Watson Daniel

associate Pastor David Williams

REVIVAL

★ YOU ARE INVITED ★

ATTEND THE SERVICES AT

FIRST CHURCH OF GOD

Fourth & Walnut

Bristow, Oklahoma

BE PRESENT NIGHTLY

OCTOBER 27, 1963

Through

November 3, 1963

★ SERVICES NIGHTLY 7:30 O'CLOCK
SUNDAYS 10:50 A.M. — 7:00 P.M. ★

REVIVAL LEADERS

Rev. John Dowdy

- Duets, Solos
- Quartets

Special Music • • •

Inspired Preaching • • •

A Welcome To All

Rev. W. Thomas Lee

Special Music • • •

Inspired Preaching • • •

A Welcome To All

Rev. Kenneth Gable

- Choir Music Nightly
- Instrumental Music

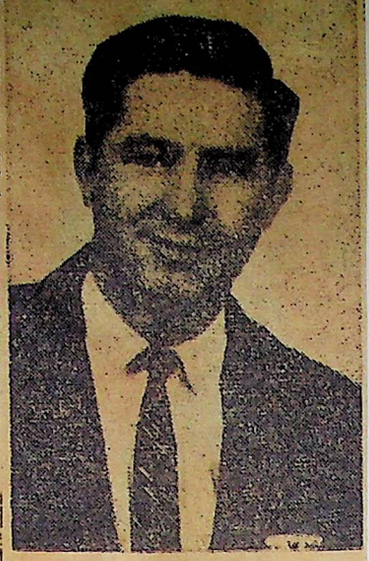
These young men are former Bristow residents now pastoring Church of God Congregations in Oklahoma.

T. WATSON DANIEL, Pastor — **DAVID C. WILLIAMS, Associate**

WILMA TAYLOR, Music Director

We invite you to be present at our Revival. Accept the Invitation, Won't You?

David Williams
Associate Pastor with
Bro. T. Watson Daniel as Pastor
1959 – 1964



Rev. David Williams

National Youth Week Observance Begins At Church

Associate Pastor Announces Topics Special Activity

National Youth Week observance begins Sunday, January 31, at the Church of God, Fourth and Walnut, with a youth-sponsored revival. It will continue until February 7, according to the Reverend T. Watson Daniel.

The associate pastor, the Reverend David C. Williams, will be the evangelist for the spries of services.

Mr. Williams sermon topics will be: January 31, morning—"Why Don't You Get Saved?" and evening, "Food for the Fed Up"; February 1, " The Price of a Christian"; February 2, "You'd Be A Christian—If."

February 3, "When You're Up Against It"; February 4, "The Day God Came"; February 5, "You're a Christian—So What?"; February 7, morning, "The Sinner's Prayer", and evening, "What Does It Mean To Be Holy?"

Services will begin at 7 p. m. each night with no service scheduled for Saturday, February 6.

As a special feature of the weeks activities, the church is sponsoring a western roundup dinner for the church youth to be held at 6 p. m. February 6 in the church fellowship hall.

Many of the church youth will serve as ushers, special singers, instrumentalists and leaders in different parts of the services during the week.

A team day has been planned for the closing day of youth week with certain portions of the service being presented by a mother-son or father-daughter team.

Youth week is observed annually by the Churches of God congregations throughout the nation, the pastor announced.
by the hurches of God congregations

Rev. T. Watson Daniel

Local Minister Will Leave For New Pastorate

T. Watson Daniel Accepts Position In Mississippi

Rev. T. Watson Daniel, announced Sunday to the Bristow Church of God his resignation effective January 26, 1964. Reverend and Mrs. Daniel will be moving from Bristow on January 28, to Meridian, Mississippi where he will be the pastor of the Jones Chapel Church of God there.

Reverend Daniel came to Bristow approximately 5 years ago from a pastorate in the Paragould, Arkansas, Church of God. Since coming to Bristow he has been active in the Bristow Ministeral Alliance serving for a time as chairman of that organization. He also has served on several committee's of the Ministerial Alliance for the promotion of church affairs in our city.

Reverend Daniel, a native of Alabama, was ordained to the ministry in the church of God in 1946 and since that time has held pastorates in Mississippi, Alabama, Arkansas and Oklahoma. He has served in the ministry for 18 years.

While pastoring in Oklahoma, Reverend Daniel, has held several offices of the Oklahoma Ministerial Assembly of Church of God ministers. He served a time as Vice Chairman of that group and also has served for several years on the committee for Church Extension in Oklahoma. He has also served on the steering committee of the Mid-West Ministers meeting of the Church of God meeting annually in Kansas City, Missouri.

Reverend Daniel stated, "It has been a real pleasure to work in Bristow. I have found the people of Bristow to be some of the finest I have ever met. The people of my congregation have also been kind and considerate of me in these years. So Bristow will always be rated high in my memory of places I am glad I passed through."

Bro + Sis Nesmith

New Pastor Will Begin On Sunday At Church Of God

Rev. S. W. Nesmith Comes Here From West Plains, Mo.

Rev. and Mrs. S. W. Nesmith, the new pastors of the Church of God, Fourth and Walnut Streets, will move to Bristow this week. Rev. Nesmith will deliver his first sermon to the local congregation, Sunday morning, May 24, at the regular worship hour.

Rev. Nesmith and family come to Bristow from West Plains,

Rev. S. W. Nesmith

Missouri, where Rev. Nesmith had served as pastor of the Langston Street Church of God. Ray, the eighteen year old son plans to become a minister also, and frequently serves as youth speaker. Ray was state president of the DECA organization in Missouri and recently attended the national convention in Chicago. He will attend OSU this year as a Freshman.

A former police captain and municipal juvenile councilor, Rev. Nesmith has served as both pastor and evangelist. He is a native of Texas. In West Plains, Rev. Nesmith was active in civic and community interests.

The new pastor succeeds Rev. T. Watson Daniel, who left Bristow last January to assume a new pastorate at Meridian, Miss.

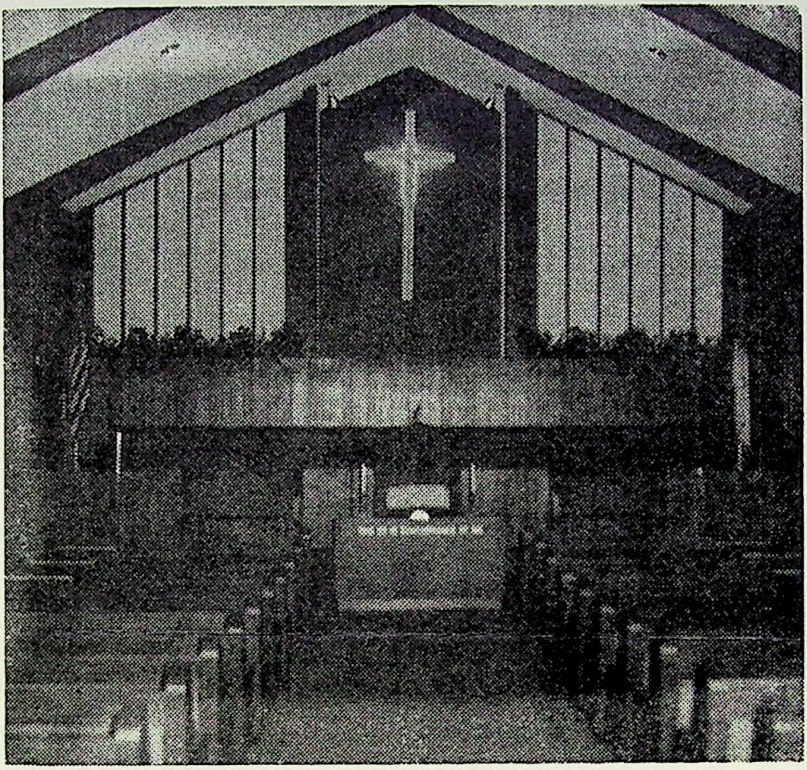
Bro. & Sr. Arthur Hanson
1964 - 1967

Bro. & Sr. Hanson

1972

Board of The Church of God

Raymond Baker
Bro. C. C. Funk, Pastor
Everett Morton
Raymond Yoder
Aubrey Curry



DEDICATION SERVICES

OF THE
NEW BUILDING

THE FIRST CHURCH OF GOD

BRISTOW, OKLAHOMA

CLIFFORD C. FUNK, Pastor

MARCH 12, 1972

ORGAN PRELUDE — Mrs. Freddie Hall

CALL TO WORSHIP

O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker. For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. Psalm 95:6

And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it. Psalm 92:1

THE INVOCATION — Rev. H. C. Adams

HYMN 11 — "Come, O Thou God of Grace"

RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

HYMN 416 — "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord"

WORSHIP THRU GIVING

The offering received will be used to buy new hymnals for the church.

SPECIAL — Mrs. Donna Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Baker

SERMON — Rev. J. L. Hatchel

SOLO — Mr. Bob Pierce

THE ACT OF DEDICATION

SANCTUARY CHOIR — "Inside These Walls"

PRAYER OF DEDICATION — Rev. R. R. Phillippe

SANCTUARY CHOIR — "The King Is Coming"
Bob Pierce and Terry Wyatt

*BENEDICTION — Rev. Kenneth Gable

OPEN HOUSE

"GIFTS TO CHURCH"

BIBLE STAND — Mr. and Mrs. Vic Hodge
HOLMAN BIBLE — Mr. and Mrs. Herod Smith
CHAIRS FOR CHILDREN'S DEPT. — By the Children's Dept.
CHAIRS FOR YOUNG ADULT CLASS — By the Young Adult Class
TWO BALDWIN PIANOS — Members and Friends
CHOIR ROBES — Mrs. Ruth Steincamp

The Missionary Ladies and Members of the Church who made and sold Peanut Brittle gave the following Gifts . . .

1. Refrigerator
2. Kitchen stove and hood
3. Sewing Machine
4. Kitchen and bean dinner equipment
5. Leslie Organ Speaker
6. 100 Cup Coffee Maker
7. Steam Iron
8. Contributed $1,100 to Building Fund
9. Contributed $25 to Piano Fund
10. Linen Chest for Missionary Room

"IN MEMORIAM"

ORGAN CHIMES — Mr. Bill Steincamp
By Mrs. Bill Steincamp and girls

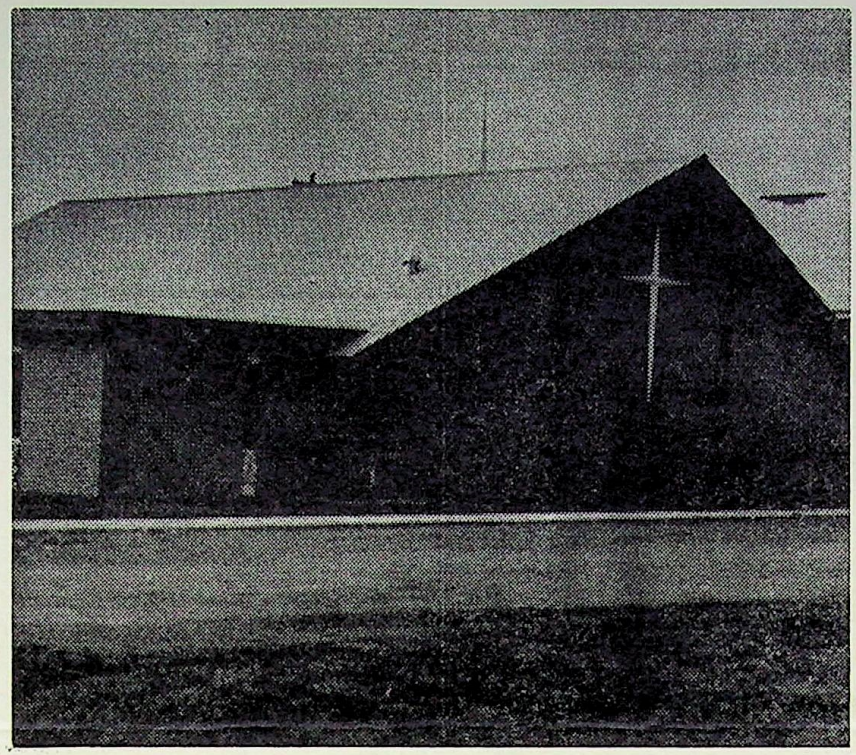
TOWER FOR CHIMES — Rev. and Mrs. J. D. Harmon
By Members and friends

DESK REGISTER — Mrs. Stella Rainwater
Mrs. Agnes Thompson
Mrs. J. D. Harmon
In honor of Mrs. Callie Kerr
By Mr. and Mrs. Don Sellers

PASTOR'S OFFICE FURNITURE — Mr. and Mrs. Bob Mizell
Desk and Chair — By their children

CLOCK FOR PASTOR'S OFFICE — Mr. J. A. Reinhart
By the Reinhart Family

CROSS IN SANCTUARY — Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Pierce
By the Pierce boys



"OUR PASTORS"

1st pastor	Rev. Fred Gregory	1915-1917
2nd pastor	Rev. J. S. Glennon	1917-1919
3rd pastor	Rev. W. H. Smith	1919-1922
4th pastor	Rev. M. B. Boucher	1922-1924
5th pastor	Rev. J. D. Harmon	1924-1930
6th pastor	Rev. S. J. Lane	1930-1934
7th pastor	Rev. J. F. Lawson	1934-1938
8th pastor	Rev. J. W. Pierce	1938-1953
9th pastor	Rev. C. C. Funk	1953-1957
10th pastor	Rev. J. L. Hatchel	1957-1958
11th pastor	Rev. T. Watson Daniel	1959-1964
12th pastor	Rev. S. W. Nesmith	1964-
13th pastor	Rev. Arthur Hanson	1964-
14th pastor	Rev. C. C. Funk	1967-

THE ACT OF DEDICATION

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE: On behalf of the building committee, I speak to you, the trustees of the church. Foreasmuch as devoted members of this congregation have set their hand to the building of a church for the worship of Almighty God, and being graciously prospered by him to finish the work, our task is now completed. We offer this church to you, asking that you proceed with the dedication.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES: As chairman of the board of trustees and on behalf of the official bodies of this church, whose people have through the years desired to build this house, and who, through faith, vision, and sacrifice have brought it to completion, under the hand of God, I gratefully accept this place of worship with a prayer that all who come within these walls may be blessed of God. I turn to you, our pastor, and request that you lead us in its dedication.

PASTOR: Since God in his wisdom has led us in the building of this church and in his mercy has brought us to its completion, let us now proceed to set it apart to its sacred use: to the praise and honor of his Holy Name.

CHOIR: "Threefold Amen"

PASTOR: And now to thy glory, O God, the everlasting Father, to thy honor, Jesus Chris', our Lord, to thy praise, thou Holy Spirit.

PEOPLE: We dedicate this church.

PASTOR: For the adoration of thy name in praise and prayer, for the observance of the ordinances, for the preaching of the gospel of Christ.

PEOPLE: We dedicate this church.

PASTOR: For the girding of home and family, for the nurture and guidance of children, for the commitment of youth to the service of Christ.

PEOPLE: We dedicate this church.

PASTOR: For the comfort of those who mourn, for light to the perplexed, for the salvation of the lost.

PEOPLE: We dedicate this church.

PASTOR: For strength to the tempted, for courage to the fearful, for the satisfying of all human hopes.

PEOPLE: We dedicate this church.

CHOIR: "Threefold Amen."

PASTOR: Here may the faithful find assurance and the careless heed thy voice.

PEOPLE: Here may the doubter find the faith, and the fretful know thy peace.

PASTOR: Here may the weary find their rest, and the strong a worthier strength in thee.

PEOPLE: Here may youth find a morning valor, and the aged light at eventide.

PASTOR: Here may children be led to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Here may marriage vows lead on to enduring love and dedicated homes. Here may the sorrows of death be assured by the hope of the risen Saviour.

PEOPLE: That Christ may be all, and all in all.

CHOIR: "Threefold Amen"

PASTOR: With angels and archanges, and all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name, which alone is excellent and worthy to be praised.

CHOIR: "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain, and hath redeemed us to God by His blood, to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing . . . Blessing and honour, glory and power be unto Him, that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, for ever and ever."

Amen

FIRST CHURCH OF GOD

Fourth and Walnut Streets

Bristow, Oklahoma

Sunday, May 9, 1971

"MOTHER'S DAY"

ORGAN PRELUDE — Mrs. Freddie Hall

HYMN 86 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

THE INVOCATION

HYMN 458 — Faith of Our Mothers

SPECIAL HONOR TO MOTHER

TRIO — Come Holy Spirit

WORSHIP THRU PRAYER

MESSAGE — Pastor

WORSHIP THRU GIVING

PROCESSIONAL — Onward, Christian Soldiers

SPECIAL REPORT
Everett Morton, Director of Building Fund Campaign

RESPONSIVE READING

PRAYER

GROUND BREAKING
- Brief History
- Old Timers
- Board of Trustees
- Building Committee
- Missionary Ladies

CHOIR — How Great Thou Art

BENEDICTION

* * * *

TO-DAY
7:00 PM Special Mother-in-law Service
Come and pay tribute to your mother-in-law.

THIS WEEK

Monday	10:00 AM	Program Committee for camp meeting will meet here.
	7:00 PM	Boy Scouts
Wed.	7:00 PM	Prayer & Praise
Thur.	12:00	Missionary Luncheon
Fri.		Fish fry sponsored by the Higher Heights Class..... 11:00-2:00 PM 5:00-7:30 "

Adults------$1.00
Children---- .50
Proceeds going to building fund . . . .

(Coming events on back page)

COMING EVENTS

May 20 Men's Brotherhood

June 7-11 Vacation Bible School

June 14-20 International Convocation
Anderson, Indiana

June 30 "Lost and Found" trio from Anderson College

Youth Camp Dates
July 4-9 Junior Camp
July 11-16 Senior Camp
Camp Lutherhoma - Tahlequah, Oklahoma
Anyone wishing to be a sponsor see Brother Funk.

August 29 - September 5
Home Coming Week

* * * *

I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to the church for their prayers, the beautiful flowers and cards I received while I was in the hospital. Also, a special thanks to Ruth Steincamp.

Arley & Margaret Bethel

No. B5271

"CHRISTIAN ART" ®
W U. S. A.

BRISTOW

All church beginnings are from a strong desire of Christian people wanting to worship God with other Christians. So, this is the beginning of the First Church of God in Bristow, Oklahoma.

In 1895, Brother Grant Teter and Brother Emory Shipman conducted a revival meeting in a log school house about four miles northwest of Bristow. A number of people were converted and continued to worship in the homes. Occasionally, a preacher would come to preach on Saturday night and then the meeting would be held in the school house. Later, Brother G. W. Brake and Brother C. C. Forbes came to hold a revival in the "44" school house which was located about four miles northeast of town.

About this time, Brother F. G. Gregory was preaching in his home at Fifth and Maple Streets.

In 1915, it was decided to build a permanent place of worship. Two lots were purchased on Walnut Street between Third and Fourth Streets. With Brother C. G. Niswonger as carpenter, the building was soon completed debt free.

Brother F. G. Gregory was the first pastor and served until 1917 when Brother J. S. Glennon came. In 1919, Brother W. H. Smith came and served two years. Then Brother M. B. Boucher came to be the fourth pastor and served until Brother J. D. Harmon came in January, 1924.

While Brother Harmon was here, balconies were added in the church for the enlarged congregation. Brother S. J. Lane held a revival here in 1930 and stayed on as pastor. He remained until 1934 when Brother J. F. Lawson came and pastored until Brother J. W. Pierce was called from Yale, Oklahoma.

Again the church needed to be enlarged, so the basement, as well as the auditorium was enlarged and dedicated in October, 1950. Each October, as long as Brother Pierce lived, we had "Homecoming" with many friends coming back to visit and relive the "good 'ole days." During this time, Brother and Sister Pierce were here, Doris Upchurch was called as our associate pastor and youth leader.

In 1953, Brother C. C. Funk was called and stayed until August, 1957. Brother Hatchel was called and served one year when Brother T. Watson Daniel came. During Brother Daniel's stay, David Williams was called to be the associate pastor. They served until 1964 when S. W. Nesmith was called and served a short time. Brother Arthur Hansen was called and stayed until 1967.

In July, 1967, Brother C. C. Funk was called again to be our pastor. During his stay we built a new $125,000 church building just south of the old building.

In July, 1973, Brother D. C. Stafford was called to be our pastor. In 1975 Rod Stafford (son of D. C. Stafford) was called by the church to serve as youth minister. We have built a new three bedroom parsonage, debt free, and have now built a new Activities Building, which is also used each Sunday for our Children's Church and also for Children's Sunday School. In this building we also have a large room for the Women of the Church of God for their missionary work each week. We also have a large, well equipped kitchen and a beautiful library. This building is used every day of the week, but each time it is used it is well supervised and the activities are begun with a devotion.

In thinking over the past and who came from here as outstanding leaders, only God can be the judge of that. Of course we like to claim a few that come to mind. We think of Brother Charlie Stephens that has been our pastor and is now working in the church in Cushing, Oklahoma.

Brother Lawrence Chestnut and his wife, Jessie Mae (Hill).

Brother Arvel Snyder and his wife Margaret (Hill).

Lola (Hartwig) Thompson that played the piano for her husband, Herbert Thompson.

Rita Jo (Hankins) Yerden, the wife of Paul Yerden. They are very active in the Christian Brotherhood Hour. And to name a few more:

Kenneth Gable, Thomas Lee, Riley Phillippi, John Dowdy, Claude White, Everett Bullard, H. C. Adams, Bob Pierce, Bob Southard. We are sure we have left some out but forgive and let the Lord bless you good.

The Following Pages are

Ministers and Workers who have gone out

from the Bristow Congregation

Bill & Edythe Woodward

BRO. AND SISTER W. C. WOODWARD.

Bro. and Sr. Woodward were our song director's during Bro. Harmon's and Bro. Lane's pastorates. Their singing is a thrill and a blessing to all. They also help in the singing during our Camp Meetings and have held singing schools here and many other places. They now live in Tulsa but we still claim them.

Bro. and Sr. Woodward are Singing Evangelists.

Broadcasting Best Wishes to you For a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

1949

Rev. and Mrs. Lawrence J. Chesnut
Sammy Joe and Danny Lawrence

Bro. and Sr. Chestnut were saved at Bristow and are now pastors in Oklahoma City, Capitol Hill Church.

Besides his regular pastoral work, he conducts a daily Radio broadcast on station KLPR and has done this for several years.

We thank God for our good, Godly ministers.

Arvil & Margaret Snyder

Brother and Sr. Snyder were both saved at Bristow, and are now pastor in Richmond, California -1949.

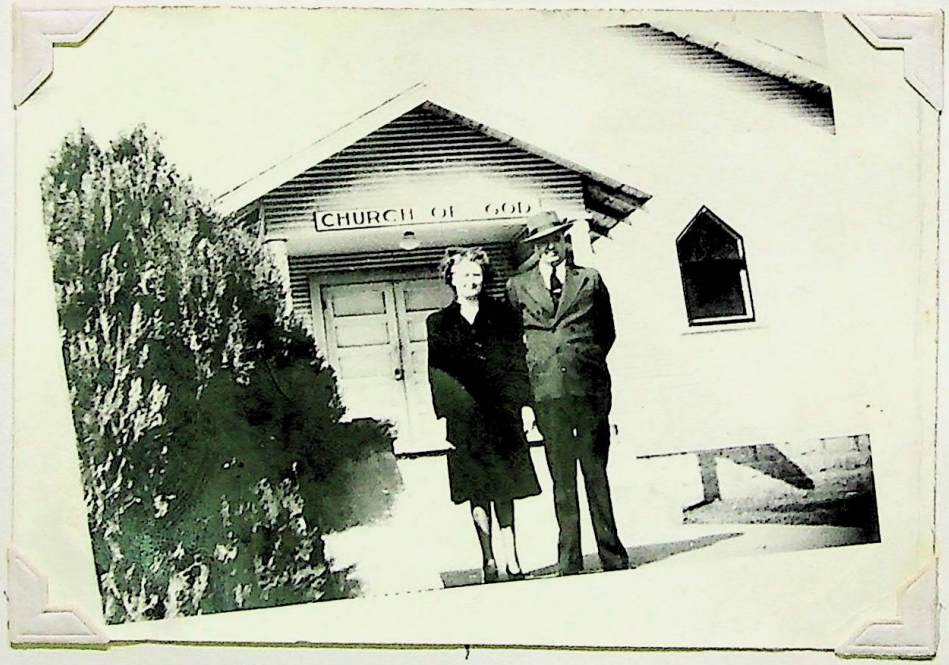
Vernice and Ruth Price

Bro. & Sr. Price were saved in Bristow, now - 1950 - are living in Oklahoma City helping in the Capitol Hill Church of God, helping Bro. Chestnut on his radio program.

They were both teachers in the Junior Department here and at the time they left, Sr. Price was the Superintendent of the department.

Bro. and Sr. Bullard

Bro. and Sr. Bullard were saved in Bristow. They worked here in the church for several years and when he felt his call to the ministry, he went to Cenedict, North Dakota and have been there for some time. 1949.



Florence and Claud White

Bro. and Sr. White were saved in Bristow while Bro. Lane was pastor. They worked here for several years, both teaching and Bro. White preaching here in the congregation some and in rural

Went to Drumright, then to Melton, Oregon, Elk City and later to Melton, Oregon again, where he is now pastor.

This picture was taken about 1930-the one below in 1950

Edythe Woodward

Margaret (Hill) Snyder

Ruth (Hill) Price

Jessie Mae (Hill) Chesnut

Jessie & Charley Stephens

Bro. and Sr. Stephens moved to Bristow from Ripley. They lived here for several years, worked as a teachers, and he helped in the Rural Work. They moved to Enid where he was a successful pastor and are now at Midwest City, Okla.

1955

Bro. Thomas Lee was pastor at Alluwe, Okla. and later was called to the Tulsa, 5th. & Madison Church where he is now pastor.
He is a good, God called preacher but he is best and first known for his wonderful piano playing. He, and his wife Mary sing together and everyone loves to hear them. Mary also plays the piano and organ.

Thomas Lee

Howard E. Baker

Rev. J.W. Pierce was conducting a revival for the Church. This was March, 1942, shortly after my 16th. birthday and on the last Sunday night of the service, I gave my heart to God. Shortly after that I moved to Shawnee and with my mother and younger sister we moved to California. After my 18th. birthday I was inducted into the Army Air Force. I spent most of my service in Madison, Wis. While there I met some Christiam buddies who loved God such as I did. We then started a weekly prayer meeting in one of the pose chapels. At first we had only four or five, but very shortly, as the news spread our number increased to about 25, including 4 officers. While associating and working with these fine men, I grew closer to God, and my heart was set to burning with zeal for Christ and lost souls.

At the end of the war I was about to be discharged and I was made to realize that I must make certain decisions as to what I was going to do in life. I began to pray earnestly for God to lead me and as I found myself in a separation center, and this was my last night in the service, and after eating my last Army meal, I went to my bunk and opened my Bible and read I Tim. I:12 "And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry." My, how peace flooded my soul. Shortly after that I came to the Pacific Bible College, to better prepare myself for God's work. While here He has blessed me with a good companion to help me in His work. We will soon be finished with our schooling and where God leads, I will go.

Howard E. Baker 1950

Kenneth and Barbara Gable and Family Pastors in Calif.

Group of teachers 1964

Front row, Betty Sullivan, Lucille Brown, Florence Daily
Second row, Elsie Carlton, standing behind her Sara Curry, Madge Taylor
Virginia Baker, Deaton Brown, Ola Chapman, Doyle Odum, Gertie Hanks, Ann Wohl
Opal Bell, James Neighbors, Lessie Strong took the picture

Sincere Greetings From
William A. and Lillian W. Bixler

We were privileged to have Bro. and Sr. Bixler live among us for some time. He is a poet, artist, and teacher, whom we learned to love dearly. They now live in Rogers, Ark.

Fiftieth Anniversary

1900--1950

Sincere Greetings From
William A. and Lillian W. Bixler

We were privileged to have Bro. and Sr. Bixler live among us for some time. He is a poet, artist, and teacher, whom we learned to love dearly. They now live in Rogers, Ark.

1900 *1950*

Mr. and Mrs. William Allen Bixler
Fiftieth Anniversary
August the Fifteenth
Nineteen Hundred and Fifty
three and one-half miles northwest of
Clifty, Arkansas

Mail Address: Rt. 5, Rogers, Arkansas

Inez Weaver

Sr. Weaver is still living in Bristow, where she is always busy. She has been the Asst. Supt., teacher in several departments, missionary leader, Spiritual Life Director in our Missionary Group, and a wonderful Prayer Meeting Leader. She is Bro. Gregory's daughter and she, with one of her daughters, Joyce, still live in Bristow.

Lessie Strong

Sr. Strong came to Bristow with her parents, Bro. and Sr. Niswonger from Arnett, Okla. in 1910. She was converted at the age of 14, and has been a faithful worker in the church thru the years She has been the Beginner Dept. Supt. and teacher since 1930.

Beginner's Department - 1950 -

Sr. Strong - teacher
Mrs. Marjorie Hill - Sec. & helper
Mrs. O.C. Chapman - teacher- was absent

Picture
Taken in
1964

Lessie
(Riseworger) Strong Born 2-26-1892
Jennie (Young) Carr Born 2-26-1893

Nursery Class - 1949- '50

Mrs. Modiste Winn is the teacher for this department.

Mrs. Strong is the Supt. of the department.

Mrs. O. C. Chapman the teacher.

Mrs. Hill is the Sec. for the department.

Beginner Class - 1950

First Grade Primaries - 1950
Mrs. Melton

Sr. Melton has been a first grade teacher in the primary department for several years, and is the first teacher present on Sunday morning.

Second Grade Primaries - 1950
Harold Sullivan

These boys didn't want to give Harold up as a teacher so he was promoted with the class until their last year in the Junior department. During this year Harold left Bristow to enroll in the Pacific Bible College.

Third Grade Primaries - 1950
Ellen Lee - teacher

DECISION

Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward; How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will? Heb.2; 1-4

People are constantly making decisions. There has never been a time in the history of mankind when we have been confronted with so many things in which we must make a decision as the time in which we are now living. I wonder if we realize the importance of choosing the right course and the seriousness of the outcome. Some decisions are made in haste, without much consideration, others, perhaps have been delayed longer than necessary. Never-the-less the result of making decisions has often meant the difference between;---

1. Success or failure
2. Health or sickness
3. Peace or strife
4. Wealth or poverty
5. Honor or disgrace
6. Victory or defeat
7. Physical life or physical death
8. Spiritual life or spiritual death
9. Eternal life or eternal destruction

Whether we wish to or not, often times we come face to face with issues which involve such things as these. Then realizing this, how very careful we should be in making decisions. God has given us the privilege of making our own choices and decisions.

It is an honor for us, as mere human beings, that God created us with a mind capable of deciding for ourselves.

There are three things we must consider when making decisions, which are of vital importance to us if we reap the good things in this list we have mentioned. These three things are;--

1. Making the right decision
2. The time we make our decision
3. The steadfastness of our decision

There are some decisions which are of greater importance than others. All these we have mentioned are important, yet some of them are much more important that others. For instance the one which has to do with our wealth instead of being poverty stricken. That is an important one and we should strive to provide a comfortable living for our families, but even more important than this, is the one where we would have honor instead of disgrace. Not so much honor among men, but honor with God. If we have honor with God, we won't have to worry about honor with men.

Then we might consider the one which deals with our physical life rather than physical death. In choosing a vocation, many people decide upon something dangerous, which brings death at an early age. Or perhaps in selecting companions, friends or associates, sometimes people make the wrong choices which lead them to sinful habits which destroy their body. We all value our lives highly and we feel that our life is our most valuable possession. It is well and good that we do value our lives and seek to protect and preserve them. But still, more important than this is our soul,-- Our Spiritual Life. The one great decision then, that we ever are priviledged to make, is the one to Follow Christ. To become His child.

The bible teaches us that we must seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto us. In other words, if we decide for Christ, He has promised to

help us in all our decisions, from that time forward. With our hand in His, He can lead us and guide us and we have nothing to fear. In the 14th. Chapter of John and the latter part of the 27th. verse, Christ said,"Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." That promise means a lot to me. In the days in which we are living, when so many issues are before us, it is very confusing. Sometimes we wonder what decision to make. But if we are walking hand and hand with God, then we have nothing to fear if we will but ask of Him and put our trust in Him. So many times we try to decide things ourselves and leave God out of it. That is where we make our mistake. God is interested not only in the big things we may be deciding, but the small things as well. We are partners with Him.

Next, is the Time in which we make our decisions. I might say that the opportune time to make a decision is the very moment we are convinced which one is right. In the professional world time is the determining factor as to whether one is a success or a failure. It takes years and years to accomplish the things which promotes a business or a profession of any kind. The students graduating from High School are now given so many days of lectures before school is out each year. These lectures are given by people who have been successful in their respective fields. They try to have as many vocations represented as are available, so as to help the young student graduating to select the field in which he is the most suited. Suppose one of these students selected something that he wished to become and then did nothing about it. He decided he would become a mechanic, yet he made no preparation to begin his career. You might ask him what his plans were and always he would say the same thing, but he kept putting off making any preparation .

Most anyone who has been taught there is a God, and there is a

Savior, have acknowledged that they should become a Christian, they have decided that is the right thing to do, yet, they put it off. They fail to make use of valuable time in which they can build a deep spiritual life.

I think of the rich young ruler. We are very familiar with this story of how he came to Jesus and ask Him what good thing he might do to inherit eternal life. Here was a man that seemingly had everything. He was young and that certainly was desirable. He was rich, and had everything in the temperal realm he could ever wish for. And he was a ruler, he had honor, popularity, and he had authority. He was a good moral man. These are a lot of good and pleasant things to be true about any person, yet there was something about him that made him realize that he was unqualified for eternal life. So when he ask Jesus what he might do to inherit eternal life and He told him to sell all his possessions and give them to the poor and the bible says he turned away sorrowfully. No doubt, he thought he would study it over and make his decision later. But the very fact that he failed to decide to obey them, was proof that he decided against it. We have no record in the bible of him making any other decision.

Then there was Peter and Andrew who were fishing and Jesus walked by and saw them and bade them follow Him and that He would make them to become fishers of men. There was something about Him, even tho they knew Him not, that caused them to make their decision to obey.Him.

Then there is the story of the prodigal son who had squandered his inheritance in the wrong way and finally led to his degridation of feeding swine. Then when he came to his senses, saw himself as he was, realized there was a way out. He acted then and was gloriously restored to his father and home. When we decide what

is the right thing for us to do, then is the time to do something about it.

Then third is the steadfastness of our decision. This is so important that we remain steadfast regardless of what comes. The person who is always changing his mind doesn't get very far. He is unsettled, unstable, undependable and cannot be trusted. We should be unchangeable, unless, however we see we are wrong about something. It is quite possible to be conscientious and be wrong. When we see we are wrong then the thing to do is submit and go forward, still steadfast.

There was Judas, one of Christ's chosen desciples, one who with the others laid hands on the sick and prayed the prayer of faith and they were healed. Who was able through his faith in God to cast out devils and who followed and did the work of the other desciples. Yet, he made one wrong decision, he failed to remain steadfast, he yielded to temptation and became so despondent that he took his own life thus sealing his eternal destiny.

Then there was John Mark, whom we have all studied about. He also started out in the work of the Lord. Started with others on a missionary journey, but he let discouragement or something, hinder him and he turned back. It hurt the work of the Lord when he did this. It also hurts the work of the Lord when we fail Christ, when we fail to remain steadfast.

Much is said about Jod and his patience, and Job did exercise more patience than any other character whom we read about in the bible. But even Job's patience was prompted by a steadfast decision to follow Christ regardless of anything else. Job knew in whom he had believed, did believe and would continue to believe. Remember it was this steadfast hope and faith in God that brought him victory. It wasn't the sufferings, the trials or the temptations, but it was his faithfulness through them that brought victory. That

is the way it is with us, as long as we live we will have crosses to carry, but as long as we are steadfast we can be victorious.

Remember when you were saved? You made the right decision, you came to Christ at the right time, and when you saw your need and His spirit called to you, and you yielded your life to Him, you began a new life. Of course you had trials to meet. Perhaps one of the first ones was the temptation to douvt your expierence. You had to be steadfast in this by reviewing again your obedience to the call of God when you went to the alter. You did all you knew to do, you met bible conditions and you loved God, loved His people, therefore you had no reason to doubt, but just remain steadfast.

Another temptation, no doubt you had to meet was discouragement. You became discouraged, and wasn't able to pray a beatiful prayer like some other christian you knew, or maybe because you couldn't testify as well as you thought you should. Remember when we became a christian, we entered into a school of learning and we cannot learn it all in a day, a week, or month, or even a year, but we are all in a school for God. We are gradually growing in grace and as we study God's word and apply ourselves, and pray much and attend worship services.

When God called Peter and Andrew to him, they were more ignorant concerning the gospel that any of us have been when Christ called us. When Christ called them He did not say "Come follow me and <u>be</u> fishers of men" He said "Come follow me and I will <u>make</u> you to <u>become</u> fishers of men". That is what we all are striving for each day to become more spiritual, to become more Christlike, and to become stronger and better christians. We are not to measure our lives by someone else's life, even tho they may be ever so spiritual-- we are to measure our lives to God's word. So may we be encouraged rather than to be discouraged. As long as we resist evil, study

God's word, pray much and are faithful to service, we can continue with a steadfast hope. We can say, as did Paul in Romans 8:38-39 For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, now things present, now things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This lesson was given by Wilma Taylor
Wednesday night February 7, 1951.

Reading from left to right:
Dovie Cordell-pres.
Inez Weaver
Jettie Capps
Ella Strickland
Callie Hill
Tennie Carr
Front row:
Sr. Day
Rosa Young
Lena Phoenix

Ada Wilder, Catherine Smith, Lydia Buford, Cooks for Missionary.

Group of Missionary Ladies 1950

Jessie Mizell, Ella Strickland, Irene Sullivan, Mae Estes, vice-pres. Lydia Buford, Mrs. Scott, Estella McNann, Bertie Patton, Elzie Carlton, Membership chairman, Emma Buford, President, Lessie Strong,

Missionary education and historian and Mrs. Rosa Scott.

Gladys Sellers-Miss. Pres. 1945-46

Emma Buford-Miss. Pres. 1946-47
Also president 1950-

Lennie Gay Sec.-treas.

Ruben and Nora Schweiger

We were blessed indeed, to have Bro. and Sr. Schweiger, with their children, Ruben Don, Willa Rae and Kathleen worship with us during their stay in Oklahoma. They are our missionaries in British East Africa and are doing a wonderful work with the natives there.

Jettie Capps
Has served as miss. pres, teacher and many other ways.

Oscar Capps
Church usher

Tennie & Stanley Carr

Bro. and Sr. Carr have worked in the church in various ways. He has been a board member, usher and served on committees. Sr. Carr was asst.-supt. for several years, also teacher of the Womens Bible Class, and many, many other ways, they have been a blessing to hte Church.

Neal and Jessie Chapman

Sr. Chapman was the pianist for the church for about 18 years. Bro. Chapman was an usher.

Lula Wilson

Bob and Minnie Mizell

Dewey and Ruth White

I was saved at Valentine, south of Bristow November 1930 under Bro. Johnson's preaching. Bro. Dave Ladd was the pastor at Valentine at that time. He was a wonderful man and I owe much to him and his good wife. Bro. and Sr. C.H. Stephens then took the work there. Through his preaching, I was sanctified and received the light on the true Church. Oh, how I loved them. They were my spiritual mother and father. I was baptized in the spring of 1931. I worked in the church at Valentine until November 1946. We then came to Bristow and set in class until August 1947 and I begin to work in the Intermediate Department and with God's help and the help of the teachers we have accomplished much. I have enjoyed every minute of it. God has done so much for me and I love him and His Bride more than life. May I always be found working for Him.

Mrs. Ruth White

Leona Gregory

Although we have a picture in the first of the book of Sr. Gregory, our first pastor's wife, not too much was said about her but to have been with her for a few minutes, you could readily see why Bro. Gregory had the faith in God that he had. With a wife like her, one couldn't help but be true to God. She had the faith of Moses, the patience of Job, and one thing that I must say of her that one can't always say of preachers wives, you could tell her something in confidence, and it was truly confidential. She would tell you that she would talk to God about it, and she would do just that.

Sr. Gregory passed away November 1954.

FIRST CHURCH OF GOD

BRISTOW, OKLA.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

JANUARY 17, 1962

J Watson David, Pastor
David C Williams, Associate

MUSIC DEPARTMENT AND YOUTH REPORTS

MISSIONARY SOCIETY – MENS BROTHERHOOD

BOARD of CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

FINANCIAL REPORT 1961

PROPOSED BUDGET 1962

PASTORS VIEW

YOUTH OF THE CHURCH
Reported by David Williams

The youth program of the church is designed to encourage young people to attend church and become active in the church. This is the goal of the youth leaders. In the past year we have encouraged youth to take part in the special youth week program to take advantage of the Youth Fellowship hour on Sunday evenings, and also to take part in the social activities planned for them, such as skating parties, once a month socials, Sunday school class parties and so on.

The yearly Youth camp is also a high-light for the youth. Many (about 30) of the Bristow youth attended the Youth camp at Tahlequah, Oklahoma held in July.

It is not always an easy task to keep youth attending and active in the church. Those who have helped in this program in 1961 are: Youth Department Sunday School teachers, Madge Taylor, James Neighbors, Edith McAllister, Betty Sullivan and Sarah Belle Curry. Also Roy Pantry assisted as well as the Associate Pastor.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT OF THE CHURCH
Reported by Wilma Taylor, Director of Music

The Music Department of the church is responsible for providing the special music for all of the services of the church as well as for revivals, church funerals and church weddings. Also the choir and its program come under the direction of the Music Dept.

The choir in the past year has had several projects. They presented an Easter Cantata for our church as well as presenting it for the Sapulpa Church of God and the Bristow Gospel Tabernacle. They presented a sacred concert of gospel music for the local church and one for the Fort Smith, Arkansas Church of God. The choir was responsible for the special music of the Christmas program as well as for the State Ministers meeting that was held in our church. Some of the choir members took part in the music program of the Community Thanksgiving program.

In the past year the choir purchased new choir robes with the choir members themselves paying one half of the cost and the other half to be raised by special projects. The total cost of the new robes was $579.90.

The Music Department has a very important function in the church and a special thank you goes to all who have helped in this part of the church program.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT AND YOUTH REPORTS
MISSIONARY SOCIETY - MENS BROTHERHOOD
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FINANCIAL REPORT 1961
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PASTORS VIEW

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY
Reported by Florence Daily

President, Leona Newell — Vice President, Priscilla Brown
Secretary, Treasurer, Florence Daily

We raised for special Missionary projects for the church a total of $2,204.03. Some of this was used in our local community, some sent to special projects of the State, and some sent to the National Missionary Offices.

This money was raised by operating the fair stand, holding bazzars and rumage sales, selling donuts, bean dinners, cook books, and by quilting 19 quilts.

Some of the activities of the year were: preparing and serving 12 funeral dinners; sending cards of cheer to 67 persons; giving gifts at Christmas to 13 shut-in's; sending gift boxes to the Indian Missions at Christmas; sending over 200 articles to State Campmeeting for resale; gifts to members during their illness; bought one Memorial and one Life Membership, have helped pay on the new Choir robes; served 36 dinners to shut-in's; purchased a fan for the nursery; purchased extra dishes for the church kitchen and sponsored the building of new cabnets in the church kitchen.

The Women's Missionary Group of our church meets each Thursday for their devotion and work day.

MEN'S BROTHERHOOD
Reported by Bill Daily

During the year of 1961 the Men met in the church basement on the second Tuesday of each month for a time of fellowship and sometimes feasting. They had several projects through out the year. Activities were varied in the different catagories of works; such as, buying doors, hanging doors, painting of doors, steps, and floors, replacing broken window glass, purchasing a new water fountain for the church and giving some assistance to needy persons. Also this year the Men sponsored the Pee Wee Baseball team which again was coached by Roscoe Pilant.

The meetings consisted of films, colored slides, and speakers, plus business meetings and food and fellowship. Our food ran all the way from snacks to real hones to goodness meals of 4, 5, & 6 courses.

The total income of the Men's Brotherhood in 1961 was $348.38. The expenses for the projects mentioned above were $321.24 leaving a balance on hand of $27.14. The men who served the Men's Brotherhood as officers were Bill Daily, President, Dewayne Tallent, Vice President, and Roy Pantry, Secretary, Treasurer.

MISSIONARY SOCIETY — MENS BROTHERHOOD
BOARD of CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
Financial Report 1961
Proposed Budget 1962
PASTORS VIEW

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
Reported by James Neighbors, Chairman

The purpose of the Board of Christian Education is to study, plan, promote and improve Christian education in the local church. The following is a summary of the Boards actions in 1961.

A. WORKERS CONFERENCES-- Teachers and workers conference was held each month during 1961 with an average of 86% of workers present at each meeting.

B. VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL-- The Vacation Bible School was held May 31 to June 9, 1961 with David Williams as director. The average daily attendance was 79 children.

C. SUNDAY SCHOOL GOALS-- Some of the goals to strive for during the year were: An average attendance of 258 and an enrollment of 332 by October 1962; maintain a constant visitation program; have every Sunday absentee follow-up; strive to win persons to Christ through the Sunday school; encourage Sunday school pupils to remain for church services; improve the over all Sunday school program; make our teaching more effective; and to deepen the understanding and appreciation of all for the Bible and to strive for greater spiritual growth for all.

Even though many of the goals of the Board were not achieved during 1961, we feel a great deal of progress was made in many areas.

D. HOME CLASS-- A home Sunday school class was continued for shut-in's. Sister Harmon was supervisor and teacher.

E. TRAINING COURSE-- The Board sponsored a study course for Sunday school workers in September. Brother Leroy Oesch, of Tulsa, led the course titled, "Spiritual Enrichment Nights".

F. U.C.S.A.-- Our church entered into the second year of the United Church School Advance program. This is a national program for Sunday school advance.

G. AVERAGE SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE-- The average attendance for the past Sunday school year (October 1960 to October 1961) was 231.

H. BYLAWS-A set of bylaws were adopted unaminously by the Board of Christian Education. These were approved by the teachers and workers of the Sunday school.

I. BIBLES-- The Board authorized the purchase of Bibles to be given to the graduating Seniors of the High School.

J. SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION-- The Board backed the attendance of our Sunday School teachers at the State Sunday School Convention in March, 1961.

Serving on the Board of Christian Education during 1961 were:

James Neighbors, Chairman
Ruth Steincamp
Betty Sullivan
Brother Daniel
Madge Taylor, Secretary
Lessie Strong
David Williams

BOARD of CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
FINANCIAL REPORT 1961
PROPOSED BUDGET 1962
PASTORS VIEW

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE BRISTOW CHURCH OF GOD

January 1, 1961 to December 31, 1961

BALANCE ON HAND, January 1, 1961		$ 1,201.08
INCOME FROM TITHES AND OFFERINGS		
January	$ 2,116.24	
February	1,539.62	
March	1,374.43	
April	1,865.17	
May	1,539.11	
June	1,840.63	
July	1,823.31	
August	1,700.84	
September	1,502.51	
October	1,823.52	
November	1,344.04	
December	2,076.08	
TOTAL INCOME FOR 1961		20,545.50
TOTAL INCOME AND BALANCE ON HAND		$21,746.58
Less Expenses of 1961 (listed below)		-21,069.55
Balance on hand, December 31, 1961		$ 677.03
Plus loans owed to the church		
By the Choir		132.82
By the Men's Brotherhood		83.50
TOTAL CASH ASSETS OF THE CHURCH		$ 893.35

BREAKDOWN OF 1961 EXPENSES:

Pastor salary	$ 4,770.00
Associate Pastor salary	3,180.00
Pastor parsonage allowance	530.00
Associate parsonage allowance	795.00
Pastor expense to Anderson, etc.	175.00
Phone and utilities of the church	601.84
Custodian salaries	1,070.00
World Service giving	2,158.59
State Extension giving	1,171.99
Maintainence and insurance	995.51
Building fund transfer to savings	1,200.00
Church literature	1,186.35
Expense of mailings and mimeograph	467.74
Pensions	493.32
Revivals and special services	235.00
Parsonage payments	486.00
Christmas treats	89.03
Christmas Bonus for Pastors	40.00
Ken Gable love offering	200.00
Choir robes (loan to choir)	579.90
Water fountain (loan to Men Bro.)	183.50
Youth Camp fees (pd. by youth)	323.00
Miscellaneous	137.78
TOTAL EXPENSES	$21,069.55

TOTAL IN BUILDING FUND, December 31, 1961 is $3,780.35

This report submitted by the church treasurer.

Financial Report 1961
Proposed Budget 1962
Pastors View

PROPOSED SPENDING BUDGET OF 1962

First Church of God
Fourth and Walnut
Bristow, Oklahoma

THAT THE GOSPEL MAY BE PREACHED TO US:

Pastor Salary	$ 4,680.00
Associate Pastor Salary	3,120.00
Pastor Parsonage allowance	520.00
Associate Pastor Parsonage allowance	780.00
Anderson Camp Meeting, Mid-West Minister allowance	300.00
Pensions allowance	493.00

THAT OTHERS MAY HEAR THE GOSPEL:

World Service Missions giving	2,350.00
State Church Extension giving	1,200.00
Revivals and special services	300.00

THAT WE MAY TEACH AND CARE FOR OTHERS:

Church Literature, Sunday School Quarterly etc.	1,000.00
Special Benevolence fund	200.00

THAT WE MIGHT PROMOTE OUR CHURCH:

Church bulletins, supplies for mailing and mimeo.	550.00
Annual Christmas Treats	100.00

FOR OUR FUTURE BUILDING:

Amount transfered to Building Fund Savings	1,200.00

TO KEEP OUR CHURCH OPERATING:

Janitors Services	1,040.00
Janitors supplies	150.00
Phone and utilities of the church building	620.00
Repairs, maintainence and insurance	800.00
Parsonage payments	492.00

MISCELLANEOUS SPENDING:

This is the spending in small amounts for things not listed above.	200.00

THE TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 1962 IS $20,095.00

Proposed Budget 1962
Pastors View

THE PASTOR'S VIEW

Reported by T. Watson Daniel, and David Williams

The year of 1961 has proved to be a good one for the Church of God in Bristow. Many steps were taken to make our church and its program a better one to serve God better and more faithfully. These steps that were taken were made possible by many of you who have been faithful to the church in your giving of time, tallents, and money. Without your co-operation the church could never do anything of much worth.

Some of the things that have taken place in 1961 are as follows:

1. The paving of the road and parking area in the front of the church building.

2. Some building improvements, painting, repairs, etc.

3. Addition to church equipment such as the water fountain (thanks to the Men's Brotherhood) and the new choir robes (thanks to the choir members).

4. The continuation of the second year of printing the CHURCH VIEWS a mid week news sheet of the church.

5. Improvements in our Sunday school program as well as our preaching program.

6. More people using the offering envelope system of financial giving to the church.

7. Better church records, making it possible to give you a better record of your giving and of the budget spending during 1961.

8. The setting and raising of a $19,794 dollar budget. The best this church has ever done to date.

9. And increase of attendance for Sunday School, church services and Prayer Meeting. This is some indication of spiritual growth.

These are some of the main areas of improvement in our church during 1961. Of course we trust there has been great spiritual growth in the life of each of you, but we have no true way of knowing this, to include it in this report however.

You know of course that your Pastor's have been on hand to minister to the congregation during times of sorrow, sickness and death. If the need arises in your life when Minister is needed just phone him. This is part of his reason for being here, as well as to minister to you in times of joy, such as weddings.

We trust that each of you will strive to do your best for God and the church in 1962 by faithfully supporting the church with your financial support, as well as your time and tallents. The church can only be as effective as we will let it be, by ourselves being a part in it. Let each of us work together for the Glory of God and the up building of His kingdom.

Sincerely,

T. Watson Daniel, Pastor

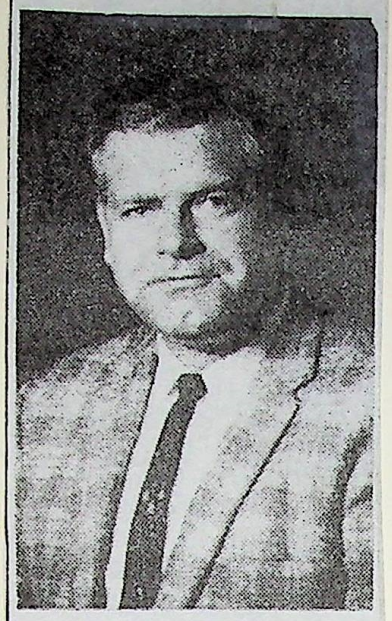
David C. Williams, Associate Pastor

PASTORS VIEW

Elva Melton and Agnes Thompson teachers
of Primary Class 1949 Front row Teddy Winn
Richard Strong; Robert Strong, ? , agnes Thompson
2nd Row: Linda Steincamp.

Beginners Class 1954
Paulene Reinhart - Ola Chapman - Lessie Strong

1962



John J. Dowdy

Dowdy Receives Theology Degree

John J. Dowdy, former Bristow resident, recently received a bachelor's degree in theology at the Gulf Coast Bible College at Houston, Texas.

Dowdy carried a double major in Bible and music, and a double minor in theology and Christian education. While a student at Houston, Dowdy was a member of the student council, the Student Ministerial Fellowship, institiutions chairman, choir officer, Missionary staff member, and Christian Service Committee member.

Dowdy's wife, the former Norma Sullivan of Bristow, attended the Gulf Coast Bible College during the past year taking courses in music, Bible and Christian Education.

Attending the graduation ceremony were Mrs. O. F. Sullivan, Fort Worth, Tex., Mrs. Peggy Sparkman and sons, Danny and Mike, Lawton; and Frank and Bob Dowdy, and Mrs. Bunny Baker of Bristow.

Tidings 1966 – June-July Issue

John Dowdy

GBC Honors Alumnus

Following his graduation in 1962, alumnus John Dowdy accepted the pastorate at Waynoka, Oklahoma. At that time the town was plagued with an economic situation which was forcing families to move elsewhere. In spite of this adverse situation, the Waynoka church has had a very significant growth under Rev. Dowdy's leader ship.

John, as he was called during his college days, has been a loyal supporter of the college. He has done a most significant piece of work as President of the Oklahoma Chapter of the GBC Alumni Association and a GBC Trustee from Oklahoma. He is the FIRST ALUMNUS of Gulf-Coast Bible College to be elected to the Board of Trustees of the college. His recent suggestion that Oklahoma pay the expenses of her Trustee to the annual Board of Trustees meeting was adopted by the Oklahoma Assembly.

In addition to the above, our honoree is President of the Northwest District of the Church of God in Oklahoma. He also has responsibilities with the Youth, Christian Education, and is Secretary-Treasurer of the Waynoka Ministerial Alliance. His wife shares honors with him in that she is President of the Oklahoma Association of Minister's Wives of the Church of God.

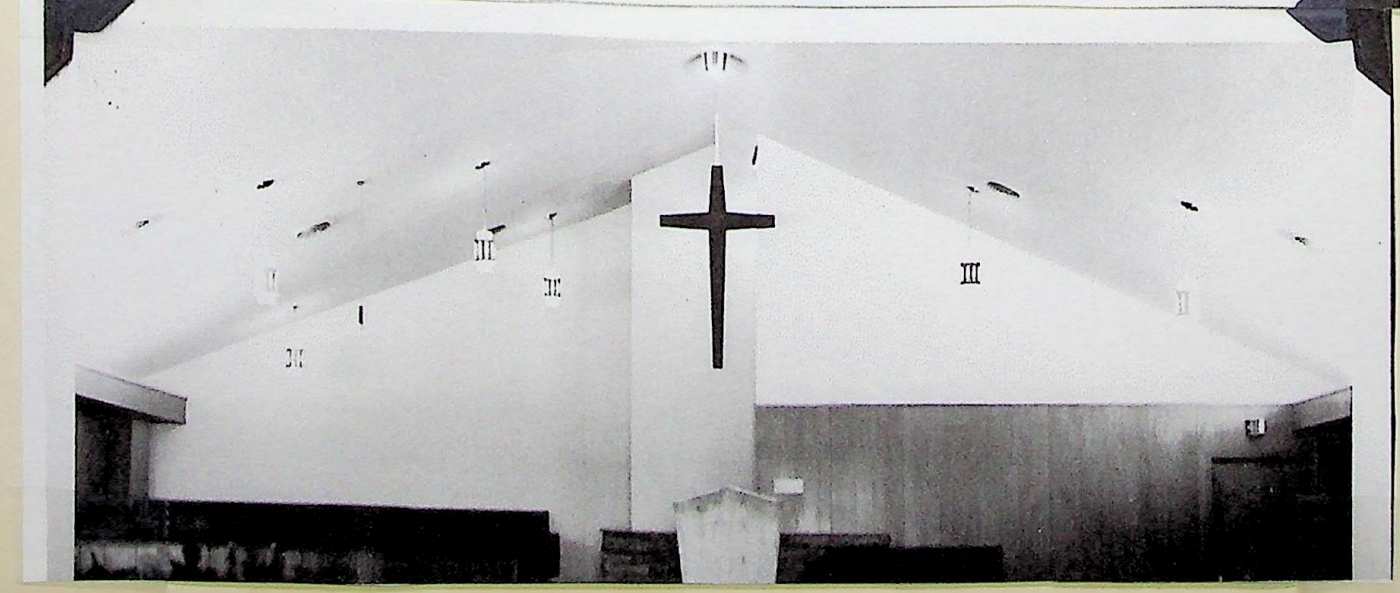
The growth of the Waynoka Church has made a building program necessary. The church is now in the early stages of this important effort.

Everett I. Carver
GBC Alumni Coordinator

196D
196J

John Dowdy

Pastored & Built new Church in Waynoka, OK

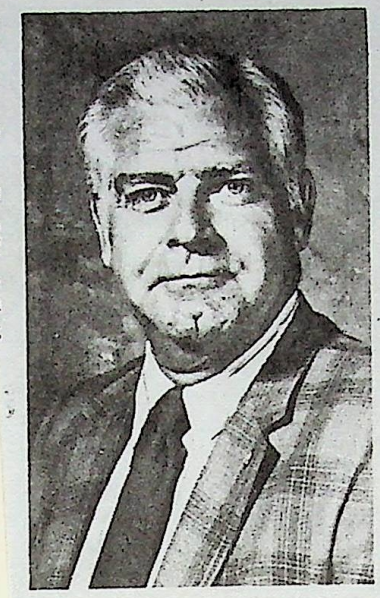


First Church of God Names Youth Minister

John Dowdy, a Bristow High chool teacher, joins the staff of ıe First Church of God, Fourth nd Walnut, as youth minister.

Dowdy officially took over the ffice Sunday.

He attended Gulf Coast Bible ollege, Houston, Tex., eceiving his bachelor of heology degree in 1962. ollowing graduation, from BC he pastored the First Church of God, Waynoka, for five years.



John Dowdy

Dowdy received his BA in religion from Bethany Nazarene College in Oklahoma City and his masters in education from Central State University in Edmond.

He is married to the former Norma Sullivan and Mrs. Dowdy is presently employed at McAdams Pipe & Supply Company. They have two married sons, Alan and Mark, both of Oklahoma City and two grandchildren.

Pastor D.C. Stafford said he feels the addition to the church staff will "greatly add to the outreach of the church in the community of Bristow especially among the youth as well as the over all church outreach.

"It is a privilege, to have Dowdy as a co-worker in this area of church work," Stafford said.

1974-1975

Reverend & Rhonda Creasong
2001 - 2004

NEW PASTORS . . . New pastor at the Bristow First Church of God, Rev. Johnny Creasong, and his wife, Rhonda, will be installed at 2:30 p.m., August 12 at the church at 320 S. Walnut. Rev. Creasong will be installed as senior pastor. Rev. Luke Knoll will be installed as youth minister.