MANUAL

OF THE

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.

FOR 1840.

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D AT THE OFFICE OF THE RELIGIOUS HERALD.

1840.



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BRIEF HISTORY.

THE First Baptist Church, Richmond, was constituted in the year 1780, not long previous to the surrender of the British army under Lord Cornwallis. In the military operations attending this decisive blow, which secured the blessings of libertv and independence to so many millions, the inhabitants of Richmond took a deep interest, and many of them were vigorous actors in this hallowed contest. While some were thus engaged in securing the civil liberties of their fellow-citizens, others were yet more gloriously employed in founding a church of the living God, at a period when there was no religious society in Richmond but that still desecrated by alliance with the State. This little band scarcely exceeded, at the time of its constitution, the apostolic number; it consisted of only fourteen members. They were united together under the pastoral care of Elder Joshua Morris, a member of Boar Swamp, from the neighborhood of which he removed to Richmond to undertake the charge of this infant church. The congregation assembled in a building (long since removed) situated at the Northeast angle formed by the junction of Pary street with Second Street. Elder Morris continued his labors during several years, but subsequently removed to Kentucky.

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In 1788, Elder John Courtney took charge of the church; and his ministry appears to have been very much blessed. Could the writer have obtained the requisite documents, it would have been very pleasing to trace the gradual progress of the church; but in this he has only been able to succeed partially. About 20 years after Elder Courtney had become pastor, we find from a record preserved in Semple's History, that the number of members had increased to 560. At this time, also, there were several of the hrethren licensed preachers. In the year 1810, Elder John Brice was associated with Elder Courtney; upon his resignation in 1820, Elder Andrew Broaddus sustained for a few months the same relation to the church; after which Elder Brice resumed his'co-pastorate. Upon his finally removing in 1822, Elder Henry Keeling was chosen co-pastor, and continued to discharge the duties of that office till after the decease of Elder Courtney. It was on the 18th of December, 1824, that this venerable servant of Jesus found, that while to him to live had been Christ, yet to die was gain. He had faithfully served the church for thirty-six years. though bodily infirmities much diminished the frequency of his public labors, and for the two last years entirely suspended them.

In June, 1820, about five years previous to the decease of Elder Courtney, 17 members were dismissed for the purpose of forming a second Baptist church, which, from this small beginning, has gradually increased, till it numbers 510 members; a result which tends greatly to promote the prosperity of the denomination, and which calls for devocation.

thankfulness to the Author of all good.

In the month of January, 1825, Elder Keeling resigned, and in March Elder John Kerr accepted

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the vacant charge. In the years 1826—7, the church was favored with a gracious revival, which resulted in the addition of above 200 members; and in 1831, during a series of protracted meetings, the labors of Elder Kerr, assisted by Elders Baptist and Fife, were blessed to an extent still more remarkable; in a period of less than 12 months, more than 500 members were added, 217 of whom were white per-

In the years 1831—2, a painful state of things existed, chiefly resulting from the infusion of the sentiments of Mr. A. Campbell, who, not having yet avowed the most obnoxious of his errors, had unhappily been afforded the opportunity of gradually disseminating them, by his frequently occupying the pulpit during his residence in Richmond as one of the delegates in the Convention for remodelling the Constitution of the State. The result was, the separation of above 70 members, who formed themselves into a society upon the principles they had been led to adopt, but whom the church determined

At the termination of the year 1832, Elder Kerr resigned his pastoral charge; but early in the year following, at the urgent desire of the church, partially resumed it, till they should succeed in obtaining another pastor. In May 1833, Elder I. T. Hinton accepted that appointment. During the following winter, a protracted meeting, held in conjunc-

not to fellowship.

tion with the Second church, during which, brethren Hyter, Fife, Jeter and Coleman, labored abundantly, was attended with the Divine blessing, and a considerable addition to both churches.

In the Spring of 1835, Elder Hinton resigned his charge and removed to Illinois. In January following, Elder J. B. Jeter became the pastor of the

church. A good degree of harmony has continued to prevail among the brethren. Gradual, but not large accessions, have been made to the white members; and numerous additions to the colored.

The church, having procured an eligible and commanding site on H street, a few squares above their present location, are engaged in erecting a spacious and commodious house of worship. The church commenced this enterprize mainly to furnish greater opportunity for the religious instruction and worship of colored people, by relinquishing the old house to their exclusive use.

In all the benevolent plans, for extending the kingdom of Christ, by the circulation of Bibles, Tracts, and the maintenance of Missionaries, &c., the

church are united and liberal.

In reviewing the past, there is much cause for gratitude; and in contemplating the future, for encouragement. Let every member faithfully perform his duty, and the church may confidently expect continued and increased prosperity. THAT THE MEMBERS MAY BE REMINDED OF THEIR DU-TIES, LET THEM FREQUENTLY AND CAREFULLY READ THE FOLLOWING

HINTS

RESPECTING THE DUTIES OF MEMBERS.

T.

TO THE CHURCH.

1. To cultivate personal piety, by daily stu dy of the Scriptures, devout meditation, and secret p rayer; without which, all other duties will either be n eglected, or, if discharged at all, it will be in a manner affording little happiness to the individual, or benefit to the church. Prov. iv. 23; John v. 39; Joshua i. 8; Ps. i. 2; Matt. vi. 6; Ps. li. 10—13.

2. Not to forsake the assembling themselves together at all the meetings which the church may appoint whether for preaching, prayer, or discipline. Heb. x. 25; Eph. vi. 18; Acts i. 14; Rom. xi i. 12;

Col. iv. 2.

3. To be particularly careful to be present at the administration of the Lord's Supper. Luke xxi i. 19;

1 Cor. xi. 24-26.

4. Diligently to improve all opportunities for obtaining religious knowledge, Heb. v. 14; Ho sea iv. 2; 2 Pet. i. 5, and iii. 18.

5. Firmly to sustain the authority of the church

in the exercise of discipline. Matt. xviii. 17.

6. To contribute cheerfully to the necessary expenses of the church in the support of the ministry, and the relief of the poor. 1 Cor. ix. 13, 14; 1 Tim. v. 18; Gal. vi. 6; 1 Cor. xvi. 1, 2; 1 Jo hn iii. 17.

7. To make every sacrifice needful to promote the spirituality, purity, peace and increase of the church. Psalm cxxii. 6; James iii. 17; 1 Thess. v. 13.

TI

TO EACH OTHER.

1. To love each other not in word only, but in

deed and in truth. 1 John iii. 18.

2. In case of personal offence, to follow, without the slightest deviation, the course directed by our Sa-

viour, in Matt. xviii. 15-17.

3. It may be justly inferred that a similar course is desirable with respect to rumors prejudicial to the character of any individual member. Prov. xxii. I, and xviii. 8.

4. To abstain from going to law with a member.

1 Cor. vi. 1-7.

5. To marry only in the Lord. 2 Cor. vi. 14; and

1 Cor. vii. 39.

- 6. To embrace every suitable opportunity, especially when going to or coming from the assembly of the saints, to manifest affection by the method usually practised amongst friends; fulfilling the spirit and intention of the command in Rom. xvi. 16, and I Peter v. 14.
 - 7. To visit the sick and afflicted. James i. 27.

8. Faithfully to exhort, warn, and encourage each other. Heb. iii. 13; 1 Thess. v. 14; Heb. x. 25.

9. To pray both for and with each other, and especially for the pastor. Eph. vi. 18; James v. 16; Col. iv. 3; 2 Thess. ii. 1; Heb. xiii. 18.

III.

TO THE FAMILY.

1. Family prayer ought to be constantly maintained by every member who is the head of a fa-

mily. Jeremiah x. 25; Job i. 5.

2. The members of the family should be habituated to attend when the truth is faithfully preached, that they may be led thereby "to keep the way of the Lord." Gen. xviii. 19.

3. Children should be suitably instructed in the facts, doctrines, precepts, promises and prophecies, contained in the word of God. 2 Tim. iii. 15; Prov.

xix. 2; Eph. vi. 4.

4. To converse with their children on the goodness of God, their own sinfulness, and the only way of salvation; and to take every pains to show them that religion is reasonable, and will make them happy. Deut. vi. 7; Ps. lxxi. 24, and cv. 2.

5. To pray not only for but with their children. With young children especially this duty may be most pleasingly and hopefully discharged by mo-

thers. Eph. vi. 4.

6. Kindly but firmly to restrain children from improper books, bad companions, and evil habits; warned by the example of Eli. 1 Sam. iii. 13;

Prov. xxix. 15; Ps. cxliv. 11, 12.

7. Not only to give servants that which is just, and treat them with kindness, but to feel a deep interest in their spiritual welfare; to take care that they have opportunity to attend the house of God, that they are present at family worship, and are instructed in the truths of the gospel. Col. iv. 1; Eph. vi. 9; Gen. xviii. 19.

8. The religious observance of the Lord's day, not only by attendance on divine worship, but by

avoiding all worldly conversation, and encouraging that of a contrary character, is of the utmost importance. Gen. ii. 2, 3; Exod. xx. 9—11; Isa. lviii.

13, 14; Acts xx. 7; Rev. i. 10.

9. Above all, to be most careful continually to set both children and servants a pattern of virtue, in truth, temperance, meekness, integrity, benevolence, spirituality and zeal. Phil. iv. 8; 2 Peter i. 5—8.

10. Children are to be obedient to their parents in the Lord. Exod. xx. 12; Eph. vi. 1—3; Col. iii. 20.

11. Servants are to discharge their duties faithfully, heartily, respectfully, as unto the Lord. Eph. vi. 5-8; Col. iii. 22-25; 1 Pet. ii. 18.

IV

TO THE WORLD.

1. Personal effort for the conversion of those to whom we are related, or with whom we are acquainted. James v. 20; Rom. ix. 1—3, and x. 1.

Carefully to watch for and judiciously to improve every suitable opportunity to speak a word in season—when engaged in the transactions of civil life, or when thrown by journeying or other circumstances, into promiscuous company. Psalm cxlv. 11. 12.

- 3. To maintain strict integrity in all pecuniary transactions, and unimpeachable veracity and purity in conversation; to exhibit a readiness to relieve the temporal wants of the unconverted; to be courteous to all, and yet never to be so pliable as to be led into sinful compliances. Levit. xix. 35, 36; Prov. xi. 1; Col. iii. 9; Eph. v. 4; Gal. vi. 10; Peter iii. 8; Prov. i. 10.
- 4. To lend as effective aid as possible to the extension, both at home and in foreign lands, of the

preaching of the gospel, the distribution of the Bible, and of interesting and instructive books and tracts; the instruction of the young in Sabbath-schools, ministerial education, and associations tending to promote mental and moral improvement: thus to be truly fellow-workers together with God in the regeneration of the world. Rom. x. 15; Psalm xix. 7; Dan. xii. 4; Isaiah xxxiii. 6; Tit. ii. 14; iv. Gal. 18: 2 Cor. vi. 1.

5. To make the conversion of the world an object of daily, fervent prayer. Luke xi. 2; Psalm

Ixxii. 15.

OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH.

PASTOR.

J. B. JETER.

Deacons,

A. THOMAS, JAMES SIZER, RICHARD REINS, PETER WINSTON.

Clerks.

CHRISTOPHER WALTHALL. A. P. Fox.

Treasurer of the Pastor's fund-Jas. Thomas, Jr.

do. Charitable fund-JAS. SIZER.

do. Incidental Expenses-S. M. DANDRIDGE.

Sabbath School.

C. WALTHALL-Superintendent. WM. H. DABNEY-Secretary. WM. C. BURDICK-Librarian.

MALE TEACHERS. P. L. Ligon, A. P. Fox, Ro. H. Bosher,
A. S. Maddox,
W. J. Parnell,

Miss Sarah Wortham,

"Sylvia Libby,

"Jane Hatcher, Phil. Vermilra.

FEMALE TEACHERS. Jas. Thomas, Jr. Miss A. E. Dupuy, " Mary Ann Burke, " Lucy C. Eubank, W. H. Redwood, Mrs. E. B. Bosher,

4 " Ellen Grant.

REGISTER OF MEMBERS.

FIRST DISTRICT.

ALL WEST OF THE CREEK AND NORTH OF H STREET.

Males. Brock, Robert K. Crump, Watson V Coffing, John G. Dandridge, S. M. Davis, William Dabney, William W. Edwards, Richard Griffin, Fleming Glenn, Peter Goff. Littleton Gardner, Thomas H. Luck, Lewis H. Meredith, William H. Meenly, John Parrish, Royal Parnell, Willis J. Read, Robert Sizer, James Snider, Philip Saunders, David J. Taylor, Lewis B. Thomas, James, jr. Tyler, Reuben B. Tyree, William Thomas, Archibald Vermilra, Philip Williams, Jesse Winston, Peter

Females. Bingham, Mrs. Elizabeth Bullard, Mrs. Elizabeth Coleman, Mrs. Mary Christian, Mrs. Catharine Coffing, Mrs. Mary A. Clarke, Miss Ann M. Coleman, Miss Emeline Cornet, Mrs. Ann Carter, Mrs. Elizabeth Crump, Mrs. Cordelia Carter, Mrs. Jane Dabney, Mrs. Martha Dandridge, Mrs. J. F. Dabney. Mrs. Martha (wife Wm. W. Dabney) Edwards, Mrs. Sally Foster, Mrs. Matilda Gatewood, Miss Eliza Gardner, Mrs. Sarah Hawkins, Mrs. Mary Y. Harding, Mrs. Polly Jude, Miss Mary Jones. Mrs. Elizabeth King, Mrs. Martha Kimbrough, Mrs. S. King, Miss Martha S. Luck, Mrs. Mariah Monroe, Miss Mary

Females. Meenly. Mrs. Julia A. Meredith, Mrs. Adeline Mauzey, Miss Polly Montell, Mrs. Lucy Mann, Miss Judith Orrell, Mrs. M. A. D. Phelps, Mrs. Elizabeth Powell, Mrs. Ann Parrish, Miss Laverna + Parrish, Mrs. Eliz'b V. Parnell, Mrs. Mary Powell, Mrs. Letitia Pledge, Mrs. Christian Ragland, Miss Martha Ravens, Mrs. Cath. Sizer, Mrs. Nancy Schofield, Mrs. Cath. Snider, Mrs. Mary Ann

Females. Snider, Mrs. Sarah A. Saunders, Mrs. Mariah Sizer, Mrs. Ann M. Talley, Mrs. Nancy A. Turner, Mrs. Emily J. Travers, Mrs. Sarah Thomas, Mrs. Cath. E. Talman, Mrs. Sarah Tyler, Mrs. Elizabeth Taylor, Mrs. Rebecca Tippins, Mrs. Charlotte Underwood, Miss Cla'r Velmilra Mrs. Martha Williams, Miss Rebecca Walker, Mrs. Letitia Winston, Mrs. Eliza A. Wright, Mrs. Susan Williams, Mrs. Phœbe

SECOND DISTRICT.

ALL WEST OF THE CREEK, AND SOUTH OF H STREET.

Males. Atkinson, Geo. W. Allen, Walter P. Apperson Jas. L. Butler, Frederick Bosher, Robert H. Bass, Colin Burdick, William C. Carter, James M. Clayton, Erasmus II. Christian, Robert A. Franklin, John C. Fox, A. P. Grantland, John B. V Gathright, Anthony, Hillyard, John H. Hudgins, Peyton Hill, Robert Jeter, Jeremiah B. Maddox, sr., William Maddox, W. H. Maddox, A. S. Mosby, Edward L. A. Mosby, William H. Morris, jr., Thomas S. Napier, Thomas Pulliam, Robert J. Redwood, William H. Wortham, R. C. Walthall, C. Woody, Henry

Females. Allison, Miss Mary Bosher, Mrs. E. B. Bailey, Mrs. Sarah Bland, Mrs. Martha Butler, Mrs. Nancy Courtney, Mrs. Patsey Courtney, Miss Lucy Cox. Miss Ann Eliza Crouch, Miss Mary Crenshaw, Mrs. Winifred Carter, Mrs. Julia Ann Clayton, Mrs. Ann Dickerson, Miss Fanny Dickerson, Miss Eliza'b Eubank, Miss Catherine Eubank, Miss Lucy C. Eubank, Mrs. Patsey Evans, Mrs. Susan Franklin, Mrs. Eveline Frayser, Mrs. Harr't L. Ferguson, Mrs. Judith Grantland, Mrs. Ann C. Hix, Mrs. Mary Hayley, Mrs. -Hill Mrs. Fanny T. Jeter, Mrs. Sarah A. Kuhn, Miss Sophia Lumsden, Mrs. Agnes Lacy, Mrs. Mary Maddox, Mrs. Jane

Females. May, Mrs. Elizabeth Miller, Mrs. Martha McCarthy, Mrs. Julia A. Matthews, Mrs. Ann Myers, Mrs. Lucy Ann Mosby, Mrs. Sarah W. Pulliam, Mrs. Frances A. Ratcliffe, Miss Virginia Roganni, Mrs. Sarah Sneed, Mrs. Martha Sneed, Mrs. Judith

Females, Shennaugh, Miss Jane Squiggins, Mrs. Jane Thomas, Mrs. Rhoda Throgmorton, Mrs. Ann. Taylor, Miss Sarah Jane Winningnone, Mrs. ES. Perginson, Mrs. Margaret Williams, Miss Mary E. Walthall, Mrs. Sarah A. West, Miss Lucy Jane : Wheat, Mrs. Edna E. Wortham, Mrs. Mary Warthan, Mrs. Alice

THIRD DISTRICT.

ALL BELOW THE CREEK.

Males. Almeyer, Matthias Bray, Geo. C. Bradley, Ed. N. Belvin, John A. Crow, Nathaniel Q. Crow, William Fielding Burke, Mrs. Mary Crow, Nathaniel J. Dabney, Edward N. Francis, William . Hardgrove, Samuel Hardgrove, Thomas Hobson, Julius A. Joseph, Robert Johnson, Thomas Knauff, John C. Lindsey, J. J. Ligon, Pascal L. Rust, Youel S. Starke, Thomas J. Smith, John D. Wheely Thomas.

Females. Adams, Mrs. Elizabeth Allen, Mrs. Patsey Barker, Mrs. Eliza Brown, Miss Elizabeth Burch, Mrs. Ann Burke, Miss Nancy Burke, Miss Mary Ann Belvin, Mrs. M. A. Baker, Mrs. Amelia Jane Bohannan, Mrs. Eliza'b Bethell, Mrs. A. E. Burgess, Mrs. Sarah Block, Mrs. Susanna Bray, Mrs. Catherine E. Crow, Miss Ellenor Clarke, Miss Frances Crow, Miss Elizabeth Crow, Mrs. Priscilla Childress, Mrs. Elizabeth Dupuy, Mrs. Margaret Dupuy, Miss Amelia E. Dupuy, Miss Adelaide Dillon, Mrs. Sally Durham, Mrs. Sarah Ellison, Mrs. Martha Ann Enslow, Mrs. Mary Ann Elmore, Mrs. Elizabeth Elmore, Miss Sarah Franklin, Mrs. Mary Francis, Mrs. Martha

Females. Freeman, Mrs. Mary Fordum, Mrs. Mary Franklin, Miss Theod'a Franklin, Mrs. Ann Goode, Mrs. Nancy Goode, Miss Adeline Grant, Miss Ellen Hart, Mrs. Marv Hardgrove, Mrs. Eliz. M. Pearce, Mrs. Patience Hardgrove, Mrs. M. W. Hatcher, Miss Jane Hobson, Mrs. Mary A. Johnson, Mrs. Ellen Jones, Mrs. Kitty Johnson, Mrs. Lucy Jones, - Mary Jones, - Elizabeth Knauff, Mrs. Susan Kendrick, Mrs. Frances Longest, Miss Frances Ligon, Mrs. Mary Ann Libby, Miss Sylvia Ligon, Mrs. Mahala Mays, Mrs. Judith, Mahone, Miss Eliza Matthews, Miss Mariah

Females. McDugal, Miss Elizabeth McGraw, Miss Martha McManners, Mrs. —— Martin, Mrs. Catherine Matthews, Miss Eliza McCoull, Miss Julia L. Mitchell, Mrs. Eliza Ann Munden, Mrs. Elizabeth Pearce, Miss Susan Parsons, Mrs. Mary Ann Pollard, Mrs. Sarah Prosser, Mrs. Sarah Ramsay, Mrs. Sarah Robinson, Miss Ann Supple, Mrs. Patsev Starke, Mrs. Susan L. Smith, Mrs. Mariah C. Stolp, Mrs. Elizabeth Timberlake, Miss Aram, Taylor, Mrs. Rebecca Thompson, Mrs. Sarah Watkins, Miss Sarah Wheely, Miss Mary Wheely, Miss Mahala

FOURTH DISTRICT.

ALL BEYOND THE LIMITS OF THE CORPORATION.

Males. Childrey, Stephen Crawford, H. John Carter, Henry L. Carter, William A. Davenport, Rev. Robert Bowes, Mrs. Mary Freeman, Nathaniel Fox, Thomas P. Griffin, Edward Huband, John Hill, Wilson B. Hooper, Geo. J. Mosby, John Michaels, James Meredith, Samuel Nash, Robert M. Prosser, James Quarles, Robert F. Quarles, Benjamin Quarles, John F. Reins, Richard Ryland, Rev. Robert Scott, William Stanard, John C. Saunders, James Tyler, Richard Fountain Gardner, Mrs. Nancy Taylor, Henry Walker, Lorenzo D.

Allen, Mrs. Lucy Ann Britton, Mrs. Martha Banks, Mrs. Nancy Britton, Mrs. Sally Bailey, Mrs. Frances Bourne, Miss Mary Ann Brooks, Mrs. Nancy Boyd, Mrs. Mariah! Cox, Mrs. A. E. Carter, Miss Mary Carter, Mrs. Ann Carter, Mrs. Caroline M. Carter, Mrs. Lydia Childrey, Mrs. Susan Edwards, Mrs. Sophia Franklin, Mrs. -Franklin, Mrs. Julia Ann Freeman, Mrs. Susannah Farrar, Miss Margaret Ferguson, Mrs. Mary T. Freeman, Miss Juliet A. Freeman, Miss Mariah L. Grant, Mrs. Frances Hooper, Mrs. Mary Ann Hooper, Miss Araminta Kuhn, Mrs. Martha Lord, Miss Elizabeth Murray, Mrs. Polly Mosby, Mrs. Eliza

Females.

Females. Norvell, Mrs. Nancy Philips, Miss Elizabeth Purse, Miss Barbara Prosser, Mrs. Mariah Porter, Miss Mahala Porter, Miss Amanda Quarles, Mrs. Sarah Quarles, Miss Lucy F. Quarles, Miss Hannah F. Vest, Mrs. Nancy Quarles, Miss Elizabeth Redford, Mrs. Ann Reins, Mrs. Jane Ryland, Mrs. Josephine Syme, Miss Clarissa Seagur, Mrs. Frances Stanard, Mrs. Sarah T. Stanard, Miss Lavinia Shoemaker, Mrs. Indiana Walker, (Cannon) Mrs.

Females. Shuck, Mrs. Henrietta Sneed, Mrs. Ann L. Tibbs, Mrs. Mariah E. Turpin, Mrs. Susan Taliaferro, Mrs. Marv Taliaferro, Miss Ann Turpin, Mrs. Mildred Tyler, Mrs. Edna Williams, Mrs. Nancy Williams, Miss Susan Williams, Miss Polly Watkins, Mrs. Harriet A. Wilkinson, Miss Louisa Ware, Miss Ann Worsham, Miss Malinda Williams, Miss Ellen

TOTAL NUMBER OF MEMBERS.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Frist District,	28	64	92
Second District,	30	54	84
Third District,	21	83	104
Fourth District,	27	66	93
	106	267	373*
Colored members, about			1700

^{*} If the names of any members have been omitted, they are requested to give the Pastor or Clerk information of the omission.

MEETINGS.

WEEKLY SERMONS.

Lord's day, 11 o'clock, A. M., and at night. Lord's day afternoon (for the colored people.) Thursday night, Lecture.

PRAYER MEETINGS are varied to suit the convenience of the members.

MONTHLY MEETINGS.

First Lord's day—Collection in the morning for incidental expenses.

Second Lord's day, Lord's Supper in the afternoon, and collection for the poor members.

First Monday night—Concert of prayer for Missions, held alternately with the First and Third churches.

Second Monday night—Concert of prayer for Sunday Schools, held alternately with the three Baptist churches.

Fourth Monday night -Regular church meeting.