

# Lima Baptist Church

**Established 1855**

Travelers Rest, SC 29690

Compiled by:  
Inez Roddy – Acteens Leader  
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Dedicated To:

ACTEENS

LIMA BAPTIST CHURCH

Kimberly Coggins  
Joy Edwards  
Courtney Hagood

And All The Saints Who Have Gone Home Before Us

November 8, 1998



Kimberly Coggins



Joy Edwards



Courtney Hagood



Inez Roddy



Don and Lavonda Owen



## Preface

Lima Baptist Church has been perched high on a hilltop in northern Greenville County since 1855.

It is the symbolic “little country church” sung about in many Gospel songs.

For travelers driving up or down highways 11 or 25, Lima Baptist Church simply is a “pretty little country church on a hill.”

But for countless people in northern Greenville County, Lima Baptist Church represents so much more. It has been the tool God has used to change numerous lives forever. No one will ever know for certain how many people have come to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior as a result of the ministry and outreach of Lima Baptist Church.

Lima Baptist Church is not just a building. It is the people who have attended the church for nearly 143 years. Many members have come and gone; others have gone on to be with our Lord in Heaven. Their legacy remains through the present membership of Lima Baptist Church who is still sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ across northern Greenville County.

I can speak as one who was reared in Lima Baptist Church and later moved away. It is the only church I knew of for about 20 years. And though it has been another 20 years since I left, part of who I am today is because of the people who shaped my life at Lima Baptist Church. It is the place I surrendered my life to Jesus Christ. Lima Baptist will always be a part of my heritage—a part of my roots, just as it has been and will be for numerous others.

Lives become entwined at Lima. When one family experienced a death or tragedy, other families feel the pain and come to minister. No one will ever know how many meals Lima members have provided over the years during a family’s time of grief and sorrow over the loss of a loved one.

As is common with most any Southern Baptist church, Lima Baptist has had its struggles over the years—its share of “ups and downs”. Yet, by the grace of God, the church has endured, refusing to shut its doors and lose its place as a beacon of light in the community.

Sitting high atop that hill in northern Greenville County, Lima Baptist Church indeed is a beacon of light to a lost world. May it continue to shine until the Lord returns!

Lonnie Wilkey, Editor  
Baptist and Reflector



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In Memory:

Miss Louise Allen	1914 - 1992
Mr. Bill Bayne	1923 - 1987
Mrs. Elaise Bayne	1919 - 1998
Mr. Grady Bayne	1910 - 1993
Mrs. Bessie Bramlett	1885 – 1977
Mr. Will Bramlett	1879 - 1957
Mr. Houston “Rooter” Coggins	1925 – 1994
Mr. Arthur E. Cox, Sr.	1899 – 1971
Mrs. Billie Cox.	1900 – 1985
Mrs. Polly Hood Dunn	1896 - 1983
Mr. Joe Edwards	1918 – 1987
Mr. Stewart Gaffney	1890 – 1982
Mrs. Cynthia Gaffney	1894 – 1971
Mr. Ernest Goodwin	1895 - 1968
Mrs. Jane Goodwin	1899 – 1984
Mr. George Gutshall	1914 – 1985
Mr. Henry Hagood	1924 – 1993
Mrs. Lizzie Hagood	1896 – 1979
Mrs. Annie Holt	1905 – 1993
Mr. Bruce R. Holt	1899 – 1980
Miss Sallie Hood	1884 – 1967
Mrs. Annie Mae Laws	1915 – 1988
Mr. Ed McDowell	1917 – 1998
Mr. Bruce Nease	1919 – 1998
Mrs. Leila “Mom” Wilkey	1913 – 1978

In Honor:

Mrs. Jewel Bayne	???? - present
Mrs. Litha Coggins	1929 – present
Mrs. Louise Edwards	1925 – present
Mrs. Mildred Gutshall	1921 – present
Mrs. Ruby Hagood	1926 – present
Mr. Sammy Laws	1918 – present
Mrs. Janie McDowell	1909 – present
Mrs. Beatrice Nease	1922 – present
Mr. Howard Wilkey	1914 – present



Louise Allen



Bill and Jewell Bayne



Elaise and Grady Bayne



Bessie Bramlett



Will Bramlett



Litha and Rooter Coggins



Arthur and Billie Cox



Polly Hood Dunn



Joe and Louise Edwards



Stewart and Cynthia Gaffney



Ernest Goodwin



Lizzie Hagood  
Jane Goodwin



Mildred and George  
Gutshall



Henry Hagood



Ruby Hagood



Annie Mae and Bruce  
Holt



Sallie Hood



Sammie and Annie Mae  
Laws



Ed and Janie McDowell



Bruce and Beatrice Nease



Leila and Howard Wilkey

## From Past To Present

As far back as we have been able to discover Lima Baptist Church was organized in 1855. We do not know how many members or who they were since the first records were lost in a fire when a deacon's home burned. According to the memory of W.C. Goodwin, the church first met in a log schoolhouse located just below the road beyond the cemetery.

A church building was erected in the early years fastened together with wooden pins instead of nails. "This building stood the test of the elements with some few repairs, which shows it was built on a good foundation. A firm foundation is necessary for life in time and eternity. We can afford to build life on the Bible, Christ, and church community."<sup>1</sup>

The Greenville Association minutes revealed that Rev. J.M. Runyan was pastor from 1863 through 1864. The fourth associational meeting of the Greenville Association was held at Lima on September 30, 1864. Rev. A.L. Ballard preached the first message from Psalms 29:1. The North Greenville Association was later formed at Gowensville Baptist Church in May 1887. At this meeting they voted to set aside one half hour each day of the sessions to pray for our country. This was the years following the Civil War and our country was in a deplorable condition. Lima Baptist Church is still a member of this association. Our current records date back to 1887 where we find that the church was reorganized under the North Greenville Association and a church covenant was adopted, and registering only those that were willing to abide by the covenant. One hundred and twenty men and women came forth. Later on in September 1887, J.H. Goodwin gave two acres of land to the church excluding the two fenced in family burial sites. Deacon W.C. Goodwin signed the deed as trustee of the church. In October 1879, a revival was held which resulted in 79 coming for baptism. One of who was a 79-year-old man. Many of the former deacons, clerks, and other leaders slept in the adjoining cemetery during this time.

During the early years, 1880s through the 1890s, they were very strict in discipline. Church records show where charges of non-attendance, drunkenness, operating a distillery, failure to support the cause with their gifts, and immorality were brought against members. These charges were very serious and a committee was elected to see these members. If the charges were proven against these members, they were dismissed from the church. In one incident, charges of drunkenness, swearing and circulating false witness were brought against a member. He admitted to intoxication and swearing, but denied the charge of false witness against a brethren. He was dismissed from the fellowship. The church would also have a roll call of the membership on a specified day, and any members not present would be dismissed from the fellowship for non-attendance if they could not provide a good reason for not being present. The roll call listed men first then women.

During these early years, pastors were elected to serve for one-year terms and this practice continued until 1944. Other positions were also elected such as clerk, treasurer, and the delegates that were to attend the North Greenville Association Union Meeting. The ordination of deacons was a very important service. Pastors and deacons from other churches would participate in the laying on of hands.

During the 1880's, worship services were held on Saturday and Sunday at 11 O'clock A.M. and usually once a month. In 1895, the services were changed to 3 O'clock P.M. Also during this time, new members were baptized at the North Saluda River, which continued until the late 1950's and protracted meetings (revivals) lasted a couple of weeks.

On June 6 1887, an offering of \$47.96 was collected to pay the pastor's yearly salary. Later in August of that same year, the church voted to pay the pastor a yearly salary of \$50.00. Our records show that the first mission offering of \$2.76 was taken on April 5, 1890 and was sent to Dr. H.A. Tupper of Richmond, Virginia. Mission offerings continued thereafter.

In 1902, supplies were taken to North Greenville High School, now North Greenville College. In 1906 there were 83 members on roll and during this year the church was painted for \$30.00. Foreign and home mission offerings were still being donated with some going to an orphanage. Since services were still on Saturday and Sunday monthly, the business meeting was held on Saturday. W.C. Goodwin was serving as church clerk. Later on October 9, 1909, Robert G. Lee was called as pastor. He was a student at Furman University and he would catch the train, "Swamp Rabbit Special" on Saturday heading for the mountains. Someone would pick him up at the station and take him to the church. He would preach on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning once a month for a \$50.00 per year salary. Saturday nights he would stay in "the prophet's room" at the Hagood / Goodwin house. In the book, "Payday Everyday" later written by Dr. Robert G. Lee, he relates a story of the time his tuition of \$84.00 at Furman University was due and he was flat broke. He got down on his knees and talked to God and asked him for help and it was not a "polly-wants-a-cracker" kind of prayer. Well, later that Saturday night before the tuition was due on Monday, Mrs. Goodwin stopped him on his way to "the prophet's room" and handed him twenty five-dollar gold pieces. He laughed and cried at the same time. When he finally made his way to "the prophet's room", he got down on his knees thanking God for His Goodness through this little widow. Once when R.G. Lee had been pastor for about one year, some of the members wanted to raise his salary \$75 per year. The motion was brought before the church. Brother Burrell Cox, now buried in our cemetery, rose from his seat and said, "Brethren and sisters, I love our young preacher as much as any of you'uns, but we-uns can't afford to bite off more than we can chew or swallow or digest, an' as fur as I'm concerned, we're already payin' fur as much as we're gittin. <sup>2</sup>" R.G. Lee agreed and was not disappointed and served until October 1911. Dr. R.G. Lee visited the church many times. The original wooden pulpit stand from Lima is in the chapel at Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis Tennessee. The pulpit chair, an eight foot wooden bench with a wooden back, is in the Lee Momento House also located in Memphis Tennessee.

In 1915, World War I was going on and this excerpt from our records show the care and compassion of the 80 church members. "Today the world is in turmoil, our country is in war, and we might do well to emulate the example of our forefathers and set aside some time for special prayer for the welfare of our country."<sup>3</sup>

In February 1923, the church decided to have two Sunday services instead of one Saturday and one Sunday service. At this time Sunday School was organized. Later in 1929, the church began giving money to the Unified Program that we know

today as the Cooperative Program. In 1935, our WMU was organized with 20 members and in 1937, electric lights replaced the gas and kerosene lamps. In 1941, the first budget of \$96.07 was adopted under the pastorate of Rev. R.D. Gregg. In 1942, the church voted to pay the janitor \$12.00.

Seeing the need for Sunday School rooms and the advancement of God's work, ground was broken on January 18, 1949 for a new church under the leadership of Rev. Burlson. This is our present building. The previous building was turned ninety degrees facing Highway 11. The auditorium was started first and during the next two years, the basement and Sunday School rooms were added. In March 1950, Rev. Homer K. Albright became pastor and "was a great help in forwarding Christ's Kingdom".<sup>4</sup> The RA's and GA's were organized and new Sunday School rooms were added. The Brotherhood designated \$2.50 a week to operate the station wagon. During this time, the church had a library and Mrs. Polly Hood was the librarian and Mrs. Janie McDowell was the reporter. The painting "Christ in Gethsemane" was donated to the church and it hung behind the pulpit for many years. This painting is now located downstairs.

Dr. R.G. Lee preached homecoming in 1951 and donated \$100.00 to help finish the new church building along with other members donating for a total of \$500.00. In 1953, an oil heating system was purchased with the help of W.H. "Bill" Bayne, which replaced the old potbelly stove that heated the auditorium. The church celebrated it's centennial in 1955 under the leadership of Rev. Milton Parker. During the 1950's the church purchased its first parsonage. 1.91 acres of land were purchased from Mary Hagood Brown on Highway 11 for \$4750.00 including the house. Deacons B.R. Holt, Bill Bayne, and Ed McDowell signed as trustees for the church. This land is now the site of our recreation building.

The church voted in 1960 to build a choir loft behind the pulpit. New furniture for the auditorium was purchased in 1961 and the old furniture was sold to buy a new piano. The piano it replaced remains at the recreation building today. The recreation building was completed in 1960. Also, the Adult Sunday School class presented the organ to the church as a gift in July, 1964.

When the new Scenic Highway 11 was being built, the old parsonage located on the land that the new highway would run was torn down. New land was purchased and the church built our current parsonage, which was finished in 1970. In 1974, the church received a trust from the Elzie Cox Estate. This trust was established as the Cox Cemetery Fund. A public announcement system was installed in 1977; the pews were padded in 1978, to the relief of many, and the parking lot was paved in 1979.

The 1980's under the leadership of Rev. Claude Neely were a time of renewing. The church entered yet another building program where an addition to the church building allowed for two new Sunday School rooms downstairs, and a baptistery and a new choir loft upstairs. There was vinyl siding and a heat pump installed also. Many members gave from the heart for this endeavor. On January 5, 1986, the church elected it's first paid music director. Our church has always been a giving church to missions and in August 1984, we were able to send \$1000 to Rev. Homer Albright to help build a mission church in West Virginia. The 1985 Annie Armstrong Mission Offering was also sent there for use in the home mission field. In 1986, the church was formally incorporated.

On November 4, 1990, a special dedication service was held naming the Louise Allen nursery in honor of fifty-five plus years of service there. In 1991, the church built a wheelchair ramp, which was dedicated in honor of Rev. and Mrs. Charles Maney. Some remodeling was completed to the parsonage in 1993, which consisted of a dishwasher, wall papering, and many other things. New Baptist hymnals were purchased in 1995. On April 6, 1997 a Van Fund was established by the Youth Organization. The Youth worked very hard and was able to raise the first \$16,000 in a one year timeframe.

Many stories have been told concerning the dedication of the Christian men and women who have served throughout the years. Many have sacrificed to carry on the ministry of the church and we have been the training grounds for many preachers such as Dr. R.G. Lee, who later became an outstanding Southern Baptist preacher and author, Rev. S.L. Watson, who became a foreign missionary in Brazil, Rev. Homer Albright, who served with the Home Mission Board in West Virginia and started many churches and missions in that state. Lima has also had two members become millionaires. Elzie Cox of Seattle Washington, sold his land where the World's Fair was located. At his death, Lima received the Cox Cemetery Trust Fund. The second is Fred Cox, son of Arthur Cox. He moved to Oklahoma and his land was purchased from him to build the Oral Roberts University.

Lima's music program has developed over the years. Miss Sallie Hood played the old pump organ for many years, then the old piano located now at the recreation building. Through the years, sometimes we had a pianist, but there was time when we had to sing accapella. Over the years we have had many song leaders ranging from pastors such as Rev. Kenneth McDonnald, to church members such as Frank Hagood, Randy Coggins, and Louise Edwards. In the 1960's, we even had the Lima Baptist quartet which consisted of Opi Mitchell, Ruby Hagood, Ernest Goodwin and Ed Baily. Shirley Coggins lead the youth choir for many years and now many of those youth and their children are members of the adult excellent choir we have now under the direction of Opi Owen, pianist, Don Owen and organist, Inez Hagood Roddy. We also have a quintet called the LBQ's which consists of Phylis Wooten, Shirley Coggins, Opi Owen, Ray Chapman, and Don Owen.

Lima has always been interested in the youth and young people of the church. We have had tremendous Vacation Bible Schools from the 1950's to now. Many miles have been traveled to Santa Land, Gatlinburg and many other trips over the years. One thing can be said that we have always had outstanding youth that are willing to work for Christ. Lima may be small in number but she is large in dedication and giving. Lima has served this community through the ages by the grace of God and the blessings of member's sacrifices. May we continue in Christian love to be the "light on the hill" in the future and in the present under the leadership of God's present man, Rev. Randall Parnell.

*Footnotes:*

1. *Records 1915, Lima Baptist Church*
2. *R.G. Lee, Payday Everyday, p.24-27*
3. *Records 1915, Lima Baptist Church*
4. *Records 1950, Lima Baptist Church*



## PASTORS

<u>Beginning Date</u>	<u>Ending Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
1863	1864	Rev. J.M. Runion
4/1883	?	Rev. T.E. Hudson
?	9/19/1887	Rev. James A. Dill
11/1887	12/1889	Rev. T.E. Hudson
1/1890	11/1890	Rev. P.J.M. Osbourne
1/1891	12/1891	Rev. S.T. Dill
1/1892	12/1896	Rev. W.L. Anderson
1/1897	7/1898	Rev. O.C. Barton
7/1898	12/1898	Rev. Jesse Bailey
1/1899	12/1901	Rev. E.S. Mullinax
1/1902	12/1902	Rev. L.T. Weldon
1/1903	12/1903	Rev. M.H. Chapman
1/1904	12/1906	Rev. H.A. Taylor
1/1907	12/1907	Rev. A.E. Howard
1/1908	10/1909	Rev. S.L. Watson
11/1909	12/1911	Rev. R.G. Lee
1/1912	12/1912	Rev. M.H. Chapman
1/1913	12/1914	Rev. L.A. Simpson
1/1915	12/1915	Rev. Luther Raines
1/1916	12/1916	Rev. T.H. Garrett
1/1917	9/1918	Rev. H. Milton Hodges
10/1918	8/1919	Rev. E.M. Snow
8/1919	12/1920	Rev. S.W. Jolly
8/1921	10/1922	Rev. R.C. Black
11/1922	2/1926	Rev. J.E. Pasco
2/1926	1/1927	Rev. W.P. Hall
5/1927	9/1928	Rev. Fred V. Johnson
10/1928	12/1932	Rev. C.R. Abercrombie
2/1933	11/1934	Rev. D.A. Martin
3/1935	10/1935	Rev. G.D. Greer
1/1936	12/1936	Rev. Roy Gregg
5/1937	10/1940	Rev. S.F. McAuley
11/1940	12/1943	Rev. R.D. Gregg
1/1944	2/1945	Rev. Marvin C. Hembree
3/1945	12/1946	Rev. J.H. Mitchell
1/1947	10/1947	Rev. Wallace Wilson
1/1948	11/1948	Rev. M.A. Hutto
12/1948	2/1950	Rev. H.W. Burleson
2/1950	12/1952	Rev. H.K. Albright
1/1953	11/1954	Rev. R.W. Erickson
6/1954	9/1955	Rev. Milton D. Parker
9/1955	6/1957	Rev. Alvin O'Shields

7/1957	11/1959	Rev. S. Ben Seegers
12/1959	5/1960	Rev. Frank Carter
5/1960	3/1963	Rev. Kenneth McDonald
4/1963	8/1965	Rev. Furman McClain
9/1965	2/1966	Rev. Henry Mitchell (Interim)
3/1966	11/1966	Rev. W.W. Brown
1/1967	3/1967	Rev. S.W. Jolly (Interim)
3/1967	4/1968	Rev. Curtis Baker
5/1968	4/1972	Rev. Henry Mitchell
5/1972	9/1972	Rev. Paul Sayer (Interim)
9/1972	7/1975	Rev. Claude McIntosh
7/1975	7/1983	Rev. Claude Neely
7/1983	12/1984	Rev. Jim Johnson
12/1984	6/1985	Rev. Curtis Baker (Interim)
6/1985	1/1989	Rev. Perry K. Brindley III
2/1989	7/1989	Rev. Sethie Hester (Interim)
8/1989	9/1991	Rev. Charles Maney
10/1991	8/1992	Rev. Sethie Hester (Interim)
8/1992	10/1993	Rev. Ronald Jackson
11/1993	8/1994	Jeff Wood (Interim)
8/1994	10/1994	Rev. Sethie Hester (Interim)
10/1994	6/2005	Rev. G. Randall Parnell
7/2005		Rev. Claude McIntosh (Interim)



Dr. R.G. Lee



Rev. H.K. Albright



Rev. and Mrs. Erickson



Rev. and Mrs. Parker



Rev. and Mrs. O'Shields



Rev. and Mrs. Seegers



Rev. Frank Carter



Rev. and Mrs. McDonald



Rev. McClain and Family



Rev. and Mrs. Baker



Rev. and Mrs. McIntosh



Rev. and Mrs. Neely



Rev. and Mrs. Johnson



Rev. Brindley and Family



Rev. and Mrs. Hester



Rev. and Mrs. Maney



Rev. and Mrs. Jackson



Rev. and Mrs. Parnell

### **Rules of 1896 & 1915**

1. That this church expects her members to attend her meetings, and not forsake the assembling of themselves together, and not to neglect attendance upon twice successive Saturday meetings without being able to be dealt with by the church in conference.
2. That we expect our members to bear their proportionate share, according to ability of the burdens of the church in support of the gospel, charity, and in all legitimate expenses of the church.
3. That we expect all of our members to lead exemplary Christian lives.
4. That we expect them to abstain from the manufacture, sale, and use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage.

**Resolutions of 1893**  
**Adopted by Lima Baptist Church**  
**Compiled by Rev. W.L. Anderson**

Resolved that a Christian Church should be the uncompromising friend of all virtue and the determined enemy of vice that public morality and social purity should find no open and earnest advocate and defender. We believe that Christian morality claims a much higher standard than the morality of worldly society around them. We believe that church members should be ready to every good word and work.

1st-Resolved that this church expects her members to attend her meetings and not to forsake the assembling of themselves together as the manner of some is. Any member failing to attend three succeeding Saturday Meetings will be required to satisfy the Church for his or her non-attendance.

2nd-Resolved that we expect our members to bear their proportionate share, according to ability of the burdens of the Church in support of the gospel in charity, and in all legitimate expenses of the church.

3rd-Resolved that we expect all our members to lead exemplary Christian lives, that we expect them to abstain from the manufacture, sale , and use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage.

4th-Resolved that we emphatically discountenance and condemn the practice of frequenting theatres and other place of public amusements that are inconsistent with a Christian profession, as detrimental to personal piety, and precious in the influence of its example on others.

5th-Resolved that the members of this Church are earnestly requested not to provide for or take part in or by any means encourage dancing or card playing in all consistent ways to discountenance the same as a hindrance to personal godliness in their associations and tendencies, and an offense to brethren whom we should not willingly grieve.

W.D. Southern, Church Clerk

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM CHURCH MINUTES

- Aug. 1883           Members met and adopted a church covenant.
- Jul. 3, 1887         Rev. Dale baptized at the river.
- Oct. 1887           Delegates met and discussed the purpose of the new association different from the Greenville Association.
- Sept. 17, 1887     Two acres of land were given to Lima Baptist Church by J.H. Goodwin, excluding the two fenced areas which are family burial sites. Brother W. C. Goodwin, Trustee for the church, signed the deed.
- Dec. 3, 1887        A committee was elected to investigate charges of disorderly conduct against two members.
- Mar. 31, 1888       The church elected delegates to the Union Meeting which was to be held at Lima. Services were held on Saturday and Sunday mornings.
- Sept. 2, 1888       Rev. Anderson ordained 3 deacons and elected delegates to the Greenville Association and also the Union Meeting at Tyger Baptist Church.
- July 6, 1889        The church liberated Brother James A. Heatherly to exercise his gift as a gospel minister.
- Jan. 4, 1890        A collection was voted on to be taken the first Sunday of every month for missions.
- Apr. 5, 1890        \$2.76 collection was taken for missions and sent to Dr. H.A. Tupper, Richmond, Va.  
\*\*First mission offering.
- May 4, 1890         The church voted to take regular offerings in May and June for the Ministerial Education Fund.
- July 5, 1890        The church had a roll call of members. The church re-appropriated money for above fund, and voted to use the money in treasury to purchase lamps for the church.

- July 6, 1890            Jesse Cox and Stokes Burrell were baptized at the river. A collection was taken for State Missions and given to Dr. T.M. Bailey, Sec. of State Missions Board.
- Sept. 6, 1890            Charges of drunkenness and circulating false reports were brought against a member.
- Oct. 4, 1890            The church member whom the charges above were brought against said the charges of drunkenness and swearing were true, but that charge of false reports he made against Bro. W.C. Goodwin was false.
- Dec. 4, 1890            The above member was excluded from the church.
- Feb. 28, 1891            The church voted to take up a collection each Sabbath, and the money is to be placed in the treasury.
- \*During the 1890's and early 1900's a treasurer and a church clerk were elected. The pastor was voted on each year.
- Mar. 5, 1892            An offering was taken to help a S.C. ministerial student at Furman University.
- June 6, 1892            Old pews and benches were sold to a colored church-Golden Grove-for \$25.00. A committee was elected to purchase new pews.
- July 2, 1892            \$1.50 was spent to purchase a cloth for the Communion table.
- Aug. 7, 1892            \$1.10 was collected for the association.
- Nov. 6, 1892            \$.25 was collected for the treasury. Bro. W. Rufus Allen was baptized at the river, and then they repaired to the church.
- Dec. 3, 1892            Church voted to buy glass and putty to replace the broken lights in the windows and to buy a report book for the treasurer. The balance in the treasury was given to Tigerville High School.
- Mar. 2, 1893            \$.53 was taken in collection.
- May 6, 1893            Money taken from treasury to purchase wine for communion. Offering taken was \$.70.
- June 3, 1893            Collection taken was \$.95.
- Aug. 12, 1893            The church adopted a church resolution.



(See Resolution 1893)

- Sept. 3, 1893 Rev. R.L. Anderson baptized Willy Wood and Arthur Cox near the bridge.
- May 5, 1894 A charge was preferred against a member for violation of Internal Revenue Laws (selling whiskey) and was later excluded from the church. A charge of drunkenness was made against another member who was excluded from the church, but was later restored to the fellowship in Jan. 1895.
- June 2, 1894 The regular collection was to be used to purchase literature for Sunday School.
- July 1, 1894 Collection taken was \$.71.
- Aug. 12, 1894 \$1.00 was taken out of the treasury to pay for the minutes of proceedings of North Greenville Association.
- Nov. 4, 1894 \$5.00 was pledged for the endowment fund of Tigerville High School. Collection taken was \$.60.
- Dec., 1, 1894 Delegates Clarence Hagood, Larkin Trammell, and W.D. Southerlin were elected for the Union meeting (previously N.G.A). Collection taken was \$.97.
- Jan. 1, 1895 Church member was excluded from the church after failing to give the church satisfaction after a charge of intoxication was brought against him.
- May 4, 1895 The preaching hour was changed from 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. on Sunday.
- Nov. 2, 1895 Two members made a voluntary acknowledgment of wrongdoing of drinking too much whiskey and were taken back into the fellowship. Another member had charges of drinking brought against him.
- Dec. 1, 1895 \$.50 was sent to the Association to help with indebtedness. \$1.00 was sent to State Missions.
- Apr. 5, 1896 A committee of hospitality of G.E. Runion, H.P. Goodwin, W.R. Allen, Wm. Bridwell and Burrel Cox were elected. Saturday services were changed from 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.  
\* The hospitality committee in later years was done away with, since the church felt it was no longer needed.

- Apr. 6, 1896 A Sunday School was organized which met for only a short time.
- June 4, 1896 A committee of Burrel Cox, W. Rufus Allen, and H.P. Goodwin were appointed to look after any brethren or sisters on the church roll violating any rules of the church and report back.
- June 6, 1896 The church authorized funds for Sunday School literature. \$2.00 was given to the Union Meeting for foreign missions. H.P. Goodwin and Burrel Cox were chosen as deacons. North Fork, North Saluda, and Cross Plains Churches were invited to the Ordination.
- Oct. 22, 1896 Presbytery ordained G.E. Runion for the ministry.
- Oct. 31, 1896 \$24.20 was contributed to the pastor's salary for 1896 by pledges.
- Dec. 1896 Church offices of church clerk and treasurer were filled for the next year.
- Dec. 5, 1896 Charges of intoxication were brought against three members and charges of non-attendance were brought against seven members by the committee and were to be notified of these charges. A woman was excluded from the church on charges of adultery.
- Jan. 23, 1897 Seven of the above members were excluded from the church. \$.15 collection was taken.
- June 6, 1897 Money that was collected for an organ was deposited in a Savings Bank. \$47.96 was collected for the pastor's salary for 1897.
- Aug. 21, 1897 The church approved a yearly pastor's salary of \$50.00.
- Sept. 4, 1897 On instructions from the Union, a roll of male members, who do not drink was made and signed by them. This roll was sent to the Union.
- Nov. 6, 1897 The church roof was covered.
- Mar. 5, 1898 The church excluded a member for operating a distillery.
- May 4, 1898 \$.45 was collected for the orphanage.
- 1898 76 members were on the church roll. W.B. Hood was a member at this time.
- Apr. 6, 1901 A Sunday School was organized again, and teachers were elected.

- Sept. 29, 1901 Ollie Goodwin, Sadie Goodwin, Sallie Hood, Walter Goodwin, John B. Hood, Charlie Bramlett, and Barney Bridwell were baptized in the river by pastor, E.L. Mullinax.
- Jan. 4, 1902 W.B. Turner was appointed to see what he could get up for the dormitory at N.G. High School (now N.G.C.)
- Feb. 2, 1902 Supplies were taken up for North Greenville High School.
- Mar. 31, 1906 The church voted to paint the church.
- 1906 83 members on the church roll.
- Aug. 5, 1906 The cost of painting the church was \$30.00.
- June 1, 1907 \$10.00 was donated to Home Missions and State Missions each.
- Dec. 21, 1907 The church changed the preaching days from the 1st to the 3rd Saturday and Sunday.
- Feb. 15, 1908 The church voted to cover the church with galvanized shingles at the cost of about \$150.00.
- Apr. 18, 1908 \$10.00 was donated for Foreign and State Missions each. \$6.00 was donated to Home Missions, and \$3.00 to the orphanage.
- Apr. 17, 1909 \$10.00 was donated for Foreign Missions and \$6.00 for Home Missions.
- Oct. 9, 1909 R.G. Lee was called as pastor.
- Sept. 3, 1911 Bro. E.O. Goodwin, A.E. Cox, and W.C. Goodwin were appointed to revise the church roll.
- Oct. 2, 1915 A.E. Cox, E.O. Goodwin, W.M. Turner were elected as delegates to the Union Meeting (NGA).
- \*W.C. Goodwin was church clerk during these years. Pastors were still voted on each year. Preaching was on Saturday and Sunday with business meetings held on Saturday.
- Nov. 7, 1915 The church voted to let the collection on Sunday along with the money in the treasury go to State Missions.

- Dec. 4, 1915 At the next meeting, a call of the roll would be made.
- 1915 80 members were on roll-29 men, 40-women, 21 non-resident.  
\*On the church roll the men were listed first in a section, then the women, then the non-resident. Miss Sallie Hood, Mr. & Mrs. Will Bramlett, W.B. Hood, and Mrs. Berry were on this roll.
- Jan. 1, 1916 After roll call, members who had moved away were sent a letter asking them to call for their letter. On Mar. 16, 1916, all of these members were dropped from the church roll.
- June 1, 1917 The church voted to have preaching services the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month.
- June 30, 1917 A.E. Cox and Ernest Goodwin reported on W.C. Bramlett and C.O. Goodwin to be ordained as deacons.
- Aug. 5, 1917 W.C. Bramlett and C.O. Goodwin were ordained as deacons. Laying on Hands was done by Brothers Burrel Cox, A.E. Cox, J.E. Cox (Brevard Church), M.M. McCall (Little River Church), T.E. Edwards (North Fork Church), and Wm. Turner (Cross Plains).
- Mar. 2, 1918 A charge of drinking and two charges of absenteeism were brought against three members, who were voted out of the church. A committee was elected to go see them, and later they were taken back into the fellowship.
- July 6, 1918 The men worked on the church road. Mrs. Bessie Bramlett was on the church roll in 1918.
- Nov. 30, 1919 Lima joined the 75 Million Campaign for the next 5 years and \$1,705 was pledged.
- Nov. 20, 1921 The church voted to have communion 3 times a year. Mrs. Polly Hood joined the church.
- 1922 Miss Janie Cox (Goodwin) and Miss Lizzie Cox (Hagood) were members.
- Apr. 16, 1922 \$2.40 collection was taken for the visiting preacher.
- Sept. 17, 1922 The ordinance of baptism was administered to R.D. Ward and Carl Cox (later a Church of God preacher).
- Feb. 18, 1923 The church decided to have 2 Sunday services instead of one Saturday and one Sunday service.

- Apr. 15, 1923 Sunday School was organized again. The treasury paid some on the pastor's salary.
- May 20, 1923 A lovely vase was presented to the church by Mrs. Jessie Kelley.
- Oct. 18, 1923 The church decided to collect a monthly offering.
- Nov. 21, 1923 \$1.68 collection was taken.
- Feb. 3, 1924 \$1.04 collection was taken.
- Oct. 5, 1924 W.C. Bramlett and E.H. Trammell were appointed to see a member for violating church rules.
- Oct. 19, 1924 The church voted to have a workday the next Saturday for the orphanage and a collection was to be taken for them.
- June 2, 1925 Carl Trammell and Ernest F. Bayne were elected as deacons. Rev. Roscoe, Rev. Hester, J.A. Cox, A.E. Cox, W.C. Bramlett and Ben Trammell performed the Laying on of Hands on Aug. 2, 1925.
- July 19, 1925 The first associational letter was filled out.
- Aug. 2, 1925 \$36.50 was sent to the Association for missions.
- Aug. 6, 1925 \$21.91 in the treasury was voted to go to the Pastor's salary. Mrs. Kamie Cox and Miss Myrtle Allen were baptized at the river.
- Dec. 19, 1925 No services held due to the rain. Also happened on Jan. 1,3, and 26, 1916.
- June 20, 1926 The church voted to build church steps and smooth out the yard.
- Aug. 8, 1926 \$6.50 was in the Mission Fund. \$1.00 was designated for the minutes and clerk each.
- Sept. 5, 1926 Mary Trammell was baptized at Lima Bridge along with candidates from Cox Chapel.
- Aug. 6, 1927 \$17.00 was in the Mission Fund.
- Aug. 21, 1927 A baptizing was held at the river.
- Oct 20, 1927 23 members voted on the pastor for the coming year.

- Mar. 1929                    The church voted to change preaching from the 1st Sunday morning and 3rd Sunday evening to the 2nd Sunday morning and 4th Sunday evening.
- May 26, 1929                The church was painted.
- Aug. 28, 1929              Delegates W.C. and Bessie Bramlett, J.A. Cox and Mrs. L.S. Boswell attended the Sunday School Convention at Tyger Church.
- Nov. 24, 1929              The church voted to give all monthly offering up to date to the Unified Program.
- Jan. 26, 1930              Bro. J.A. Cox made a statement for Bro. Carl Cox in regards to a prohibition case.
- Apr. 12, 1930              The deacons decided to raise \$50 for the Unified Program.
- June 22, 1930              \$8.65 was in the treasury.
- July 26, 1930              The church secured an organist for the revival.
- Sept. 27, 1930             Monthly offering was \$5.58 was voted to go to the Unified Program.
- Nov. 23, 1930             An offering was taken for the orphanage.
- Sept. 27, 1931             Monthly offering of \$5.85 was voted to go to the Unified Program. A committee was elected to canvas the members. They were as follows: W.C. Bramlett, Chm.; A.E. Cox, Deacons; Mrs. Bessie Bramlett-W.M.U.; Frank Cox-B.Y.P.U.; C.O. Goodwin-Brotherhood.
- Dec. 28, 1931             Church voted to take an offering each service for the pastor's salary.
- July 24, 1932              Rev. Carl Abercrombie was to preach the revival.
- Oct. 23, 1932              The church voted to help pound the orphanage.
- Apr. 23, 1933              The church voted to have Dr. R.G. Lee come and bring his quartet.
- May 28, 1933              The church gave \$1.00 to E.B. Crain to help with the expenses of the assembly.
- Jan. 1934                    Mrs. Polly Hood was elected treasurer.
- Sept. 23, 1934             W.C. Bramlett was elected Sunday School Superintendent.



- Dec. 1949 Regular weekly services was started again.  
The Burlson's presented a Christmas program.
- 1950 The church had 114 members-55 males, 59 females.
- May 30, 1950 The church voted to have monthly reports.  
\$25.00 was designated for revival expenses, \$2.50 each week for the station wagon. The VBS came under the Sunday School.
- July 5, 1950 The Young Married Class pledged to finish one room for a nursery.
- Sept. 13, 1950 The church bought 3 oil heaters for the Sunday School rooms, and voted to raise the pastor's salary to \$15.00 per week from \$7.50.
- Oct. 4, 1950 The church elected Janie McDowell as reporter and Polly Hood as librarian. \$40.00 was given to the Cooperative Program for the year. At this time the church had a library.
- \*Minutes for 1950-59 are missing.
- July 28, 1957 The church raised the pastor's salary (Rev. Ben Seegers) to \$20.00 a week.
- Dec. 4, 1957 1.91 acres were purchased from Mary Hagood Brown on Hwy 11 for \$4,750.00 including a parsonage and land. B.R. Holt, Bill Bayne, and Ed McDowell signed as trustees for the church since they were the deacons.
- Oct. 1959 The church started a cemetery fund. A heating system was to be purchased for the pastorium. The church was to investigate the possibility of starting a Training Union.
- Nov. 29, 1959 A special offering was taken for the departing pastor-Rev. Ben Seegers-amounting to \$50.00. He returned the \$50.00 back to the church as a love offering to the Building Fund.
- Dec. 13, 1959 The pastor's salary was raised to \$60.00 per week.
- May 16, 1960 The church voted to have screens installed on the windows of the church.
- Oct. 2, 1960 The church voted to build a choir loft in the back of the church.
- Dec. 11, 1960 The church voted to drill a well at the parsonage.



- Jan. 15, 1961      The church voted to purchase new furniture for the upstairs-16 pews, 16 chairs, and a new pulpit. The cost was \$2,400.25 and pledges were made of \$1,230.00.
- Apr. 23, 1961      The old church furniture was sold to Bethany Baptist Church for \$300.00. Deacons Ed McDowell and Bruce Holt suggested this money be used to purchase a new piano. The church approved this and Ophelia Holt (Owen) and Mrs. Cecile Bryant were elected to help select a piano. Rev. Kenneth McDonald and Tom Reid donated the first payment on the piano.
- Aug. 6, 1961      A special offering of \$206.60 was received for the new piano.
- Jan. 14, 1962      A total of \$933.50 was pledged to pay for new pews.
- Apr. 1, 1962      The church put lights in the recreation building.
- Apr. 18, 1962      The church paid the balance due on the pews with contributions from Harry Cox, \$60; Ernest Bryant, \$50; David Brown, \$75; Tom Reid, \$60; Henry Hagood, \$60; Ernest Goodwin, \$50; Shirley Coggins, \$50; Annie Mae Laws, \$35; Mrs. Coggins, \$25; Mrs. Kelly, \$10; Mrs. Reid, \$50; John Singleton, \$50; Ed McDowell, \$50; Bob Child, \$50; J.C. Holt, \$28.50; Bruce Holt, \$25; Bruce Nease, \$60; Arthur Cox, \$50; Rev. McDonald, \$60; Ruby Hagood, \$35; Total \$933.50.
- May 20, 1962      Dedication services were held for the new church furniture.
- Sept. 2, 1962      The church voted to look into adding 4 Sunday School rooms, and to add water and restrooms to the church. At this time an outhouse was the restroom facilities.
- Jan. 20, 1963      The church took up a special offering for Tigerville Baptist Church which was destroyed by fire.
- Aug. 7, 1963      The church voted to pay \$30.00 for a mimeograph machine.
- Sept. 5, 1963      After a suggestion from A.E. Cox, Sr., the church voted that the church be locked to protect it from vandalism. A light was to be placed between the pastorium and the recreation building.
- Oct., 1963      Bill Bayne and all of the deacons asked that all church members be in prayer concerning integration in regards to our church. The church voted to buy 12 new chairs @ \$3.50 each for the recreation building.

- Mar. 4, 1964            The church voted to serve one meal to any member of the church who passes away. \$5.00 was sent in support of the N.G.A. revival.
- July 6, 1964            Mr. Bill Bayne presented to the church an organ as a gift from the Adult Sunday School Class. The pastor's salary was raised to \$70.00 per week. Rev. Furman McClain was pastor.
- Mar. 5, 1965            Mr. Arthur Cox suggested a visitation committee be organized.
- May 13, 1965            A building fund was started to cover major repairs of the church. Ernest Goodwin and B.W. Hancock were elected on this committee.
- June 5, 1965            The church voted to drill a well on the church property. Pledges were made amounting to \$670.00. Bruce Holt suggested that individuals buy footage at \$4.00 ft. Bill Bayne pledged to buy the pump and install it.
- June 5, 1966            The church voted to make a new S.S. room from two other rooms.
- July 10, 1966            The choir donated 22 choir robes to the church. The church elected a committee to search for a choir leader and pianist. A choir leader was later found in Nov. for \$20.00 a week, but was never voted on since the pastor resigned during that month.
- Oct. 1966                Church banks were placed in the homes of members for the building fund. According to records found in a diary of Bill Bayne, the following members had banks: Rev. Brown, Bill Bayne, Janie McDowell, George Gutshall, A.E. Cox, Ricky Singleton, B.W. Hancock, Judy Brown, Louise and Joe Edwards, Dennis Simpson, Mrs. Gaynell Coleman, Miss Sybil Hartin, Mrs. Jane Greene, Mr. Howard Wilkey, Grady Bayne, Gene Reid, Mrs. Kelly, Mrs. Polly Hood Dunn, Mrs. Tom Reid, Kenneth Bayne.
- Mar. 26, 1967            Rev. Curtis Baker was called as pastor.
- June 1967                The church voted to send 10% of the pastor's salary to the Annuity Board.
- Sept. 6, 1967            The mortgage for the church was paid was paid off. B.W. Hancock suggested the \$50.00 we had paid on the mortgage payment be put into the building fund. This was approved.
- Oct. 4, 1967            The pastor's salary was raised to \$100.00 a week. Rev. Curtis Baker was pastor.

- Jan. 10, 1968      The building fund was \$924.10. The church voted to enclose the instruments and the rostrum be extended across the front of the church.
- May 12, 1968      Miss Sallie Hood left \$100.00 in her will to the church. She served many years, first as the organist on the old pump organ, then as pianist on the piano, which is now in the recreation building now. This money was later placed in the building fund.
- May 26, 1968      Rev. Henry Mitchell was called as pastor.
- June 2, 1968      Fifty new Baptist hymnals were purchased.
- July 3, 1968      Fifty more hymnals were purchased.
- Aug. 7, 1968      Two fans were purchased for the church.
- Nov. 3, 1968      The Adult S.S. Class presented a slide projector and screen to the church. The church elected a committee to find a music director.
- Dec. 1968      \$185.00 was given to the building fund in memory of Ernest Goodwin.
- Jan. 5, 1969      A heating system was put in the recreation building for \$50.00.
- Mar. 13, 1969      The highway was taking the parsonage and some land for the new Highway 11. They had offered \$7,300 for this, or \$500 and the highway move the house back. The church elected Henry Hagood and David Brown to get a land appraisal before anything else was done.
- Mar. 16, 1969      The church purchased a new refrigerator for the parsonage and presented it to Rev. Henry and Opi Mitchell as a gift.
- Apr. 27, 1969      The highway offered \$9000 for the house and land. The church voted to ask for \$12,000 since we would have to rent a house.
- May 25, 1969      The church accepted \$9000 for the house and land with the highway giving back the timber on the property.
- June 6, 1969      The church voted to build a new pastorium. A planning committee of Rev. Mitchell, Beatrice Nease, and Henry Hagood were elected. The church voted to take a special offering the first Sunday of each month for the building fund.

- July 13, 1969 Ed McDowell paid \$100 for the old pastorium and was to tear it down.
- Aug. 17, 1969 Plans were presented to the church by the planning committee for a new pastorium with 6 rooms, 1 ½ baths, 3 bedrooms at an estimated cost of \$16,000 to \$17,500. Bruce Holt had drawn up the plans.
- Sept. 7, 1969 The church approved the house plans for a 6 room house with 1,600 sq. ft. The church voted to have six deacons during this time, since so much was going on.
- Sept. 21, 1969 Bruce Holt, Omer Lyday, Henry Hagood, and Bill Bayne were elected to serve on the building committee for the new pastorium.
- Nov. 9, 1969 The church voted to give to the N.G.A. and Cooperative Program 2% instead of 1% of tithes.
- Nov. 16, 1969 The church voted to purchase a lot to build a new pastorium from Mary and David Brown for \$750.00. Trustees of Lima were the deacons: Bruce Holt, A.E. Cox, Sr., Edward Coggins, George Gutshall, Omer Lyday, Howard Wilkey who signed the deed.
- During 1970 our new parsonage was finished.
- May 3, 1970 The church voted to borrow \$5000 to complete the parsonage. Any pledges would be deducted from this amount.
- May 16, 1970 The following pledges were made on the parsonage:  
Carpet and installation-Henry Hagood; Septic tank and paint-Bootsie Coggins; Light fixtures and receptacles-Bruce Holt; \$400-Rev. Henry and Opi Mitchell; \$100, Bruce Nease; \$25-Omer Lyday; \$10-G.A.'s; \$10-Intermediate S.S. Class.
- Nov. 1, 1970 Locks were purchased to lock the church for the first time due to insurance.
- Nov. 7, 1971 Bruce Holt and Henry Hagood had fixed the yard furnishing the tractor, labor, seed, and fertilizer. The church would take a special offering to cover \$70 for the cement.
- Apr. 2, 1971 The Brotherhood and R.A.'s painted the basement of the church. Other repairs had to be delayed due to the bad financial situation.
- Nov. 5, 1972 \$35.00 was given to the youth program.

- Dec. 24, 1972 Henry Hagood and Bootsie Coggins were elected as trustees for the Ellis B. Cox Cemetery Fund. Mr. Cox had left in trust monies for Lima, Cox Chapel, and Cleveland in his will. Only the interest can be used.
- June 1973 The auditorium was painted.
- Oct. 14, 1973 The church voted to set up a separate checking account for the dividends from the cemetery fund. \$169.45 was the dividends.
- Aug. 1, 1974 A building fund was set up with a special offering to be taken every 3rd Sunday. The first project was to paint the outside of the church. \$470.00 was pledged.
- Feb. 3, 1974 We received \$2000 more for the Cox Cemetery Fund.
- Feb. 2, 1975 The church placed the old church portrait downstairs.
- Oct. 5, 1975 The church voted to take the offering of the last Sunday of each month to pay off the parsonage debt.
- Jan. 4, 1976 The church voted if the treasury had a balance above \$500 each month, that an extra house payment of \$50 be made each month.
- May 2, 1976 The church voted to insulate the overhead of the church.
- Sept. 5, 1976 A burial fee of \$35.00 will be charged for non-members. The church gave \$250 for the new N.G.A. building, which paid our obligation for 5 years.
- Oct. 3, 1976 The church voted to set aside every 4th Sunday offering for the building fund.
- Mar. 6., 1977 A new oil tank was installed at the church.
- May 1, 1977 Two lawn mowers were purchased for the church for \$100 each. Awnings were installed at the recreation building.
- Aug. 8, 1977 A new P.A. system was installed in the church. Philip Rathbone installed it free of charge. Wooden blackboards were installed in the S.S. rooms.
- Sept. 4, 1977 Custodian's salary was raised to \$15 a week.
- Sept. 11, 1977 Rev. Curtis Baker preached homecoming.

Nov. 6, 1977	\$690.00 was approved for a new roof at the recreation building.
Dec. 4, 1977	\$900.00 was received from the estate of Bess Bramlett.
Feb. 5, 1978	The church approved to purchase new basement furniture: 80 chairs, 26 preschool chairs, and 4 tables for \$1,043.44.
May 7, 1978	A new P.A. system was purchased to replace the one that was stolen.
May 21, 1978	The church padded the pews for \$820.00
Aug. 6, 1978	The church voted to carpet the auditorium for \$1,794.82.
Aug. 20, 1978	The trim work on the church was painted for \$320.00. A water cooler was installed.
Sept. 3, 1978	The nursery was paneled.
Jan. 7, 1979	A storm door was purchased for the basement.
Apr. 4, 1979	New awning was purchased to the side door.
Feb. 11, 1979	\$657.41 was given in a special offering for Praylo Bayne since his trailer was destroyed by fire.
Sept. 16, 1979	The parking lot was paved for \$5,895.00
Jan. 6, 1980	We received \$200.00 from the estate of Dr. R.G. Lee.
Apr. 6, 1980	The church purchased 10 more hymnals and plastic covers for all our hymnals.
June 1, 1980	A new roof was put on the church for \$1,200.00 Three lawn mowers were stolen from the parsonage.
Aug. 3, 1980	Four fans were purchased for downstairs.
Aug. 2, 1981	The church voted to look into building a baptistery. \$25,041.48 is in the building fund.
Nov. 11, 1981	The deacons were to look into a new AC/heating system for the entire church. David and Mary Brown will give enough land needed for the baptistery and driveway. A survey of the property will be made to locate the property lines.

- Dec. 20, 1981 Preston Baker was the contractor chosen to build the two new S.S. rooms and the baptistery at a cost of \$21,250.00.
- Jan. 3, 1982 Wallace Hawkins gave \$2000.00 on the new AC/ heating pump and insulation. \*Wallace Hawkins also later donated the paneling and other materials to redo the Sunday School rooms and the hallway downstairs.
- Jan. 24, 1982 The church approved vinyl siding for the church-\$3,950.00; painting installed-\$750.00; heat pump-\$5,250.00=Total \$9,950.00.
- Feb. 7, 1982 The Holt family donated \$920.00 to purchase the painting for the baptistery in memory of Bruce Holt.
- Apr. 11, 1982 Dedication services were held for the new addition to the church under the leadership of Rev. Claude Neely. This included a baptistery, 2 Sunday School rooms, paneling for downstairs, vinyl siding, and a new heat pump system for the church.

#### Dedications

The new addition-Rev. and Mrs. Claude Neely

Painting for the baptistery-In memory of Mr. B.R. Holt by his children

Organ and Piano enclosure-In memory of A.E.Cox, Sr., and Sarah Singleton by Ricky Singleton

Baptismal Pool-In honor of Reba Hawkins by her husband, Wallace Hawkins

- May 1982 A new sound system was installed.
- Sept. 1982 Eight additional pews were purchased for the auditorium at a cost of \$810.00.
- Aug. 1982 Grover Capps sloped the bank and filled in dirt at the back of the church at a cost of \$1,200.00.
- Sept., 1982 Rev. Homer K. Albright was speaker at homecoming.
- June 3, 1983 The parsonage ceiling was insulated. A new refrigerator and stove were purchased for \$1,000.00.

- Aug. 7, 1983 A love offering of \$500.00 was given to Rev. and Mrs. Claude Neely.
- Dec. 4, 1983 A Neely Fund was established of \$50.00.
- Mar. 4, 1984 A benevolence fund was established for church members for \$200.00 to help out in times of need.
- May 6, 1984 The church purchased two filing cabinets.
- June 3, 1984 A lightning protection system was installed for \$775.00.
- July 1, 1984 The church helped send David Deurling to Ecuador on a mission trip.
- Aug. 19, 1984 The church sent \$1,000.00 to Rev. Homer Albright to help build a church in West Virginia.
- Sept. 9, 1984 Rev. Curtis Baker preached homecoming.
- Feb. 17, 1985 The church voted to pay a music director \$50.00 a week.
- Mar. 3, 1985 The church voted to change the budget from 4% to 2% for the N.G.A. and Cooperative Program. The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering was sent to Rev. Homer Albright in West Virginia to use in the home mission field.
- Sept. 9, 1985 Rev. Perry K. Brindley preached homecoming.
- Dec. 15, 1985 A Christmas gift of \$200.00 was given to the pastor and his family.
- Jan. 5, 1986 The church voted to have one or two junior deacons to observe. The church elected Opi Mitchell as the first paid music director for \$35.00 a week.
- Apr. 13, 1986 Proceedings to incorporate the church was started.
- July 20, 1986 The church voted to put on a new roof at the parsonage due to storm damage.
- Sept. 14, 1986 Rev. Leon Johnson preached homecoming.
- Oct. 5, 1986 The church purchased a Minolta EP270 copier for \$1,100.00.



- Dec. 3, 1986            Legal Notice was filed for the incorporation of the church. The church voted on new tile and carpet for the parsonage at a cost of \$2,036.00.
- Dec. 28, 1986        The church voted to restore the master bathroom in the parsonage for \$925.00.
- June 7, 1987         The church voted to put a deck on the parsonage for \$1,300.00.
- Aug 2, 1987          The church voted to purchase a used 22,000 BTU air conditioner for the recreation building.
- Jan. 3, 1988         The church gave \$100.00 to the Glassy Mtn. Fire Department.
- June 5, 1988         The church voted to put in a new heat pump for the parsonage.
- Sept. 4, 1988        The music director's salary was raised to \$50.00 a week.
- Sept. 11, 1988      Rev. Alvin O'Shields preached homecoming.
- Nov. 6 , 1988        The church voted to install a new water tank at the recreation building. The Brotherhood painted it also.
- Jan. 8, 1989         The new water tank and AC unit has been installed at the building. Bruce Nease for the building donated a gas furnace.
- July 7, 1989         A new vacuum cleaner was purchased for downstairs at the church.
- Sept. 9, 1990        Rev. Kenneth McDonald preached homecoming.
- Oct. 7, 1990         The church voted to name the nursery-Louise Allen Nursery-in honor of her 55+ years of service in that area.
- Nov. 4, 1990         A special dedication service was held naming the Louise Allen Nursery and a plaque was placed in the nursery in her honor.
- Feb. 3, 1991         The church voted to build a wheelchair ramp outside the church at an estimated cost of \$1,000.00. This was tabled until the Greenville County Bldg. Codes could be checked.
- July 14, 1991        Fluorescent lights were voted on to be installed in the S.S. rooms.
- August 4, 1991      The church voted on an 8' X 5' X 15 1/2' wheel-chair ramp at the cost of \$2,500.00. Bootsie and Shirley Coggins, Kermit and Jerri Owen, Franklin Edwards, Jewel Bayne, Opi Owen, and Betty Jo

- Lindsey donated \$1,130.00. Louise Edwards donated the angle iron.
- Sept. 1, 1991 The custodian salary was raised to \$50.00 a week.
- Sept. 9, 1991 Rev. Perry Brindley preached homecoming.
- May 3, 1992 The wheelchair ramp was completed.
- Oct. 4, 1992 The church voted to replace the carpet outside the church and parsonage at a cost of \$347.00.
- Mar. 7, 1993 The church voted to reimburse our pastor, Rev. Ron Jackson, for a new dishwasher, disposal, bathroom fixtures, and wallpaper he put in the parsonage at a cost of \$1,023.77.
- June 6, 1993 Franklin Edwards and Melvin Wilson were elected to serve with Tracy Roddy on the cemetery committee. Fees will be updated for non-members.
- Sept. 19, 1993 The cemetery committee is in the process of laying off plots with metal markers.
- June 5, 1994 After a survey, the cemetery committee suggested that non-church members be asked to pay a \$100.00 burial fee, since the cemetery is for our church members only and that we are not selling lots. The church approved the above.
- May 7, 1995 The church voted for new wiring for the sound system at a cost of \$300.00.
- May 21, 1995 The church voted to purchase 160 new Baptist hymnals at an estimated cost of \$1,400.00.
- June 4, 1995 The church voted to replace the boxing and gutters at the parsonage for \$2,016.80.
- Aug. 6, 1995 The church voted to use money in the building fund to purchase a new AC unit for the church.
- Sept. 1995 Rev. Jim Johnson preached homecoming,
- Apr. 6, 1996 Easter Sunday attendance was 105 for the morning worship service.

- Aug. 4, 1996 The church voted to take a love offering for the next two Sundays for Byron and Dale Capps to help on Brandon's heart surgery in Charleston.
- Sept. 8, 1996 Rev. Sethie Hester preached homecoming with 101 in attendance.
- Oct. 13, 1996 Pastor Appreciation Day was observed for Rev. Randall Parnell, and was given a love offering of \$500.00 by the church.
- Feb. 2, 1997 Special thanks to Larry Newton for putting ceramic tile in the restrooms at the recreation building, and also for fixing the front door entrance.
- Apr. 6, 1997 After a suggestion by the deacons, the church voted to establish a van fund.
- June 1, 1997 The youth has raised \$2,195.00 for the van fund.
- July 6, 1997 Pledges were taken for the van fund as follows:  
Bootsie and Shirley Coggins-\$2,000.00; Judy and Ray Chapman-\$500.00; Don and Lavonda Owen-\$500.00.
- Aug. 3, 1997 The Constitution Revision Committee presented copies of the Revised Constitution to be voted on in two weeks.
- Sept. 7, 1997 The church approved the revised Constitution.
- Sept. 17, 1997 Rev. Sethie Hester preached homecoming with 120 in attendance.
- Oct. 5, 1997 The church voted to purchase a new Sharp copier for \$1,081.50.
- Apr. 5, 1998 The church voted to roll over the van fund CD (\$12,082.39) for another year. When the van fund reaches \$16,000.00 a committee will be elected.
- June 14, 1998 The church voted to have the church gutters replaced with 3 downspouts for \$570.00, and to have improvements made to the recreation building over the next few months which includes a new roof, new doors, new vinyl boxing, and new gutters estimated at cost of \$1,500.00.
- Aug. 2, 1998 A van fund committee was elected consisting of Don and Lavonda Owen, Courtney Hagood, Ricky Singleton, Shirley Coggins, and Rev. Randall Parnell to start looking into a van.
- Aug., 1998 Bootsie Coggins painted the church railing, steps, and brickwork.

- Sept. 6, 1998      The new church budget was approved with the organist and pianist as salaried positions.
- Sept. 13, 1998     Rev. Ron Jackson preached homecoming.
- Oct. 24, 1998      Lima held its first annual Woman-Less beauty pageant.
- Oct. 25, 1998      The church honored Rev. Randall Parnell and family with a pounding for his four year anniversary as our pastor.

## PRECIOUS MEMORIES

In the 50 years that I've been at Lima, we've had good times and bad times. The one thing that stands out in my mind was when my husband, Bruce, made a profession of faith on July 31, 1960. Up until then, he seldom ever went to church. Pastor Kenneth McDonald was the preacher. Bruce was baptized August 21, 1960, at Cleveland First Baptist. After that he attended church regularly. Also, I remember when hardly anyone went to church up here and Henry Mitchell, the Pastor, would take his salary and put it right back in the church offering. Sometimes, members would pay the \$50.00 a month payment on the parsonage.

- **Beatrice Nease** -

Happy Memories! During our ministry at Lima, we felt like one big happy family. Neighbors reaching out to help one another. Loads of wood would be brought to the parsonage by thoughtful members to keep the home fires going. Food, both fruits and vegetables brought by farmers in the community to keep our family healthy and happy. Visitation was a pleasure, because even the children were involved and concerned for one another. During the Vacation Bible School weeks, we had a delightful time teaching the Bible, learning to do crafts, playing new and interesting games, laughing and singing. It was the best of times – we drew close to one another.

All the suppers and dinners we shared at the “building” on Highway 11: we can still taste the cakes baked by the ladies of our church.

One day, some folks drove up to the parsonage. Bertie went to the door and asked how she could help them. They replied that they just came to buy some “moonshine”. Well, Bertie told them that she believed they had the wrong place! They left speedily when she told them they had come to Lima Baptist Church parsonage. Other memories include a “bat” getting into the auditorium during the worship hour. If someone had arrived at that time not knowing what was really going on, they would have thought we were having a free-for-all!

Lima is our first love and we will never forget all the ones who came to our rescue during trying times. A lot of members have since gone to heaven that helped us and those who are still here, we thank you!

- **Wm. Furman & Bertie McClain** -

- **Ministered 1963 – 1965** -

One Sunday morning when I was a little boy, I was asked to sing a song that I had been practicing. The preacher said that since I had done such a good job to please sing another one. Well, I didn't have a clue of what I should sing, so I just started singing “Are You Sleeping Brother John?” Well, I think everyone got a big kick out of it, If you know what I mean.

- **Frank Hagood** -

On Wednesday night July 9, 1975 was when I went into Lima Baptist Church for the first time. It was a very small church and the pews were not padded. Also, there was no baptistery pool. The only carpet was running down the middle aisle and across the front. There were very few people there. Claude McIntosh had resigned and this was his last day there.

- **Deborah Edwards** –

I remember in 1959-1960. Pastor Ben Seegers and his wife Robbie were here. I remember going to my first “Sunbeams” and on a Saturday we met in the corner of the church where the steps are now. A curtain partitioned it from the rest of the church.

- **Franklin Edwards** –

I remember preaching on a Sunday morning when Mr. Arthur Cox got up out of his seat and came forward – coming up on the platform. I thought I had said something that made him angry. I kept on preaching as he lifted his hand toward my head. He didn't say a word, but knocked a wasp off my coat, stomped it and went back to his seat.

I remember baptizing Ophelia Holt in the river. I had never baptized anyone before. I held her down stream and the water rushed up her nose and almost pulled her out of my arms. From then on, I knew to face down stream, but baptize with the candidate's back upstream.

I remember getting to church early, going into the church before anyone got there. Several times as I came into the building, I would hear a noise and it would be Mr. Will Bramlett who had been asleep lying down on the front pew as he got up to greet me.

I remember Mrs. Janie McDowell inviting Jo Ellen and me to have a meal at her house many times. At that time I was on a diet. She would prepare some wonderful food to accommodate my stomach problem. Her cooking helped me get better.

After being called as pastor of Lima, I met Rev. Milton Parker in the elevator at Greenville General Hospital. Someone got on the elevator that I knew, so I introduced Rev. Parker as the pastor of Lima. Rev. Parker said, “no, you're the pastor.” I said, “oh yes, I forgot.”

One Sunday morning I preached a sermon about the goodness of God. I told the people that God could make beans taste like steak. I said my old Chevrolet, which had over 100,000 miles on it, ran like a new car as I drove to church this morning. After church I started home and a few miles from the church, my car broke down and I had to walk several miles to get back to the Furman University Campus and later have my car pulled back to Greenville for repairs. I never bragged on that car again.

I remember going home with Mr. and Mrs. Will Bramlett many Sundays after church. We were amazed how quickly she could prepare a delicious meal on the wood stove. After dinner we would sit on the front porch in rocking chairs until it was time to go back to the church for the evening service. I remember Mr. Bramlett called Dale who was about 5 months old, the little fat senator.

I also remember many good meals at the homes of the Hagood's, Martin's, Cox's, Holt's, McDowell's, Miss Sallie and Polly Hood's and many others. These were precious days.

I also remember being called as pastor and they told me the salary would be \$20 a week and I would have to preach three times a week – two on Sunday and on Wednesday night. This was about 50 miles round trip from the Furman Campus. After I started preaching, I learned that the church was not financially able to give anything to the Cooperative Program. I suggested that they take \$1 a week from my salary and give to the Cooperative Program and this would be \$52 a year. The church reluctantly voted to do this. Later the church began to contribute some to all mission causes.

I remember how happy and thrilled we were to have the privilege of being your pastor. We will always thank God for the opportunity of beginning my ministry at Lima. The church will always be in our hearts.

- **Rev. Alvin B. O'Shields –**
- **Rev. and Mrs. O'Shields Ministered 1955 – 1957 –**

While serving as a Deacon with Franklin Edwards and Fred Maden, the three of us were given the privilege by Rev. Claude Neely to dedicate the new addition to the church in 1982. This addition included two new Sunday School rooms downstairs and a baptistery and choir area upstairs. I will never forget this event because when it came my turn to speak, I could only whisper. You see, the three of us had burned cleared brush during a snowstorm one night. As a result, I ended up with a severe cold and was very disappointed I could not share fully with the church my joy of having been involved in the planning and building of the new addition. In the eight years Rev. Neely was our Pastor, the church was able to make over \$100,000 in improvements to the church property and never went in debt.

- **Edward "Bootsie" Coggins -**

I remember in 1956 when I first started coming to church at Lima. On Wednesday nights, me, my Daddy and the Preacher and his wife were the only people that came. I joined the church when I was 18 and moved my letter from Cox Chapel. Later I remember the dedication service that was held for the parsonage and another for the new baptistery and Sunday school rooms. The dedication service for the new baptistery and Sunday school rooms was very special. Preston Baker, the contractor, also attended that morning. When everything was paid for, we burnt the mortgage.

- **Shirley Coggins -**

Growing up at Lima, I never realized how fortunate I was, but now that I've grown up, I look back and reflect on moments and remember. I remember once we had a baptizing at the river and I sneaked a kitten in with me. It got scared and jumped in the river. I immediately followed and so did my daddy. It was quite an entertaining day. I also remember that every Sunday morning regardless of rain or shine, my mother would always take me out of the church because I refused to behave. I would scream all the way out, "I be nice, I be nice"; knowing good and well that I wouldn't.

When I got a few years older, I would go from pew to pew until I found Louise Edwards. She always had gum or butterscotch candy. I always made my rounds on Sunday morning to the back pew where there was always Henry Hagood, Papa Sam, Bruce Nease, and Mr. Gaffney. They were generous with their quarters and candy. They were always looking out for precious Lu Lu and Tinkerbelle, my nicknames that will follow me to the grave. Was I spoiled or what?

I considered myself lucky to have both sets of Grandparents going to the same church. I had them all wrapped around my little finger. My Grandmother Annie Mae Laws always made sure that I had a new dress, Easter frock, for Easter Sunday. She had me spoiled and to this day I still think I have to have a new dress every Easter. My Grandmother Annie Mae Holt had on many occasions talked one out of quite a few spankings. I would also sit on her lap during church and play with her ear-bobs and other jewelry.

I got saved in Vacation Bible School, how wonderful it felt, but I didn't know what the next step was. Rev. Henry Mitchell talked to me and explained about going up during the invitation and asking to join the church and to be baptized. Two weeks later I was baptized by Preacher Neely.

I remember when I started playing the piano. Inez had a lot of patience with me. She would practice with me and lower songs so that I could play them. I would get so nervous playing during church, that I would memorize my songs. The first one was, "We'll Work Till Jesus Comes." I played it over and over. I'm thankful for the congregation's patience with me. I know they got tired of it but they kept on singing it. Sooner or later, I would be replaced by Don Owen who is now my husband, who can really play the piano. I have always believed that things happen for a reason and I'm so thankful that Don came to Lima.

I am thankful for being a part of a church like Lima. We have always been one big family. I am also thankful for my Christian parents, grandparents, and other family members for the impact they had on my life. Loved ones have gone to be with the Lord and others have strayed away, but they will never be forgotten.

- **Lavonda Owen** -

I remember when I was a little boy and my family along with Lynn Wilkey's family would ride in her station wagon to church. She had us packed tighter than any can of sardines. We would sing songs all the way to church and back home again. One Sunday morning, I was asked to play the piano. I was so scared but I played it anyway. When I was finished, I ran crying to my Mother. As Louise Edwards always said, "You had to pick him up and set him on the piano bench." That was my first experience at



being a church musician, and to this day, 26 years later, I still get butterflies in my stomach. I wouldn't trade it for the world.

I remember Vacation Bible School in 1975, when I asked Jesus into my heart and to save me. Preacher McIntosh was pastor and when he had the invitation, several other youngsters and I walked forward. Bootsie Coggins, now my father-in-law, took me to the side and helped me with the sinner's prayer. Do you see God working here? Later Preacher McIntosh baptized me in the pool at Cox Chapel. Later on in life, I strayed from the Lord and church. While in college, a lot of things happened in my life that I am no where near proud of, but God took my situation and molded me into a person that had to trust in him. It was at that point in my life that I really knew that God is real. After college, I returned home to South Carolina. It was about four weeks later, that I decided I was going to go back to Lima and see what was happening. At this time, I had just begun playing piano for The Tidesmen, a Southern Gospel group out of Travelers Rest. As soon as I walked in the doors at Lima, Inez Roddy walked up to me and asked me if I still played the piano. She invited me to the piano and I haven't left since.

One of the best and most precious memories for me at Lima is when I fell in love with Lavonda. We were in a Christmas play together. In the play, she was my wife. It was so hot on stage that we were all sweating. Lavonda had on this heavy fur type robe and began to pass-out during one of the scene changes. I was standing right behind her, and when I realized that she was passing out and about to hit the concrete floor, I caught her in my arms and carried her outside for some fresh air. It was at that moment when I had her in my arms, I knew that one-day she would be my wife.

- **Don J. Owen** –

It was a wonderful year for us in 1967. I guess the work that we done with the youth was best and stands out most of all. So many gave their hearts to God, and the way the parents and the other folk welcomed us in their homes. These children never grow up, they prepared us for more work. With Love, Dalco Baker.

- **Mrs. Curtis Baker** –

- **Rev. & Mrs. Curtis Baker ministered 1967 and 1984** –

VBS was my favorite thing while growing up at Lima Baptist. We would meet at the church, register the children, then we would have a parade. A pick-up truck would usually lead with older kids holding the flags, the younger kids rode in cars. We would place homemade signs on the vehicles with the dates and time. My most "unusual" experience was to ride with Mr. Will Bramlett. Needless to say I sure didn't want anyone to see me in that "older" car. I remember "Aunt Janie" McDowell making a washtub of lemonade and Henry Hagood bringing a truck load of watermelons for the picnic. We really enjoyed the crafts and bible stories. I remember my mother taking all the kids to the park and would play ball with us then we would have a picnic. I remember heating the church with a wood stove and not having air-conditioning. I remember one Sunday night, the preacher was preaching and we had the doors opened because it was hot. A bat came into the church and was flying around the

pastor's head. Uncle Bill Bayne got a broom and was standing behind the preacher swinging the broom at the bat. As you can guess, no one got anything out of the service that night. I remember being baptized in the Lima river near now the Riverside race track. Talking about cold water, that river was COLD! We would sing "Shall We Gather At The River." Mrs. Polly Hood and Mrs. Annie Holt made costumes for the G.A.s to wear in a play. The costumes were made of crepe paper. I thought they were beautiful. We also had a G.A. banquet where the girls wore long dresses. When Homer Albright was pastor, his daughter and I were best friends. I would stay with her a lot and would go with them to pick up kids for church services. I remember riding in his station wagon on Hush Hole road. The Adult Sunday School class would have parties and of course the kids got to go. I think the kids had as much fun as the adults did. We used to have a church bus. My brother, Kenneth, drove it. During revival services, a meal was prepared Monday through Friday for the preachers at someone's house before each service. It was fun to have them come to your house for supper. As we grew older, married and had kids of our own, we tried to bring them up as our parents did us: studying God's word, helping others, and treating others, as we would have them treat us. We would take trips to Santa Land, and now the kids we took are taking their kids. As God keeps blessing us, we will keep doing His will in our lives and in Lima Baptist Church.

- **Judy Chapman** -

When I first visited the church, I went to a Christmas play at the recreation building. The building was heated by a potbelly stove and I thought to myself, "I like this. It feels so cozy."

- **Ray Chapman** -

Although I am not that old, I still have many memories of this little white church on the hill. I have memories of family and friends. I am talking about real Christian friends. I remember Mrs. Lyday leading me to Christ and Preacher Neely's reassuring hand to come up front. I remember the acceptance of everyone. I remember, as a young person, the trips to Table Rock. I also remember and appreciate the gatherings at Bootsie and Shirley's home. I remember Christmas plays, Easter egg hunts and other gatherings. I appreciate the fun and fellowship that we all shared together and still share today.

- **Larry Wilkey** -

#### *A Strange Experience*

We have always kind of looked out for any strange cars going up to the church both before and after we got the parsonage when it was empty, because it was so out of the way, people used it for a meeting place, lover's lane and so forth.

One morning about 10 O'clock, I noticed this old model beat up truck with a tail pie hanging down, go up to the church. It was gone a long time (This was just weeks before our sound system was stolen)., so I told Henry about the truck going up and I

was going to see what was going on. I got in the car and drove up. There in the cemetery was this nice looking, clean cut young man, just standing there looking. I drove by and got his tag number. He threw up his hand at me and I did the same. I came on back to the house and after a long time, he still hadn't come down. So, I went up to the shed and told Frank to come and go back up with me. Frank went up the down lane and I went up the other. Frank met him coming down. We looked to see if anything had been bothered and I noticed an envelope in the door. It contained a beautifully printed note and \$500. He told how much he admired the church, and that he was a sinner and wanted us to pray for him and to accept the money as his tithes. We didn't have a pastor living in the parsonage at that time, so I called Bootsie at work and told him what had happened. The church decided not to try to find out who he was, since he hadn't left a name on his note, but the Lord knows who he was.

- **Ruby Hagood** -

Mrs. Polly Hood (Dunn) was Franklin and Frances' Beginner Sunday School teacher. I gave each 10 cents for their Sunday School offering. After church on our way home, I noticed Frances still had her dime. I asked her, "Where did you get that money?" Frances said, "You gave it to me, Mama." I told her that was the Lord's money and she said, "Mama, the Lord wasn't even there."

I was VBS director when Angie Roddy was about seven months old. I had brought her some banana pudding since some nights she had not eaten before coming to VBS. I was holding her and feeding her the pudding. Apparently, I was not feeding her fast enough because she reached out and bit my finger so I got injured at VBS.

- **Louise Edwards** -

Lima was my first pastorate and I was only 20 years old. I have had some great feelings of appreciation to those leaders who trusted this young preacher and gave me my "start" in the ministry. Thinking on that, I pulled together some of my experiences as your pastor from a file that I had kept.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Bramlett took us home for Sunday dinner most every Sunday and it was always amazing how Mrs. Bramlett could fire-up that wood stove and have a delicious meal within an hour. Mr. Bramlett loved to sing, "When I can read my title clear to mansions in the skies, I'll bid farewell to every fear and wipe my weeping eyes."

My first baptism was in the river down near the old bridge. I baptized a young blind girl who trusted Christ in our first Vacation Bible School at Lima.

- **Rev. Milton D. and Lena Parker** -

- **Rev. and Mrs. Milton D. Parker Ministered 1954 – 1955** -

Lima Baptist Church, Our first love. You embraced our family with open and loving arms. It was a joy to go to church. The kind of joy one feels in his heart for falling in love the first time.

The young people went into the "shut-ins" homes and sang Christmas carols with compassion and tenderness, and went away filled with thanksgiving in their hearts.

There was always something in which to look forward each day. In the summer, the young and old would help Henry and Ruby Hagood gather in the crops. We especially looked forward to pay day, hayrides, going to Hendersonville, and trips to Asheville for Biltmore ice cream.

Each family gathered a “pounding” to help our family during lean times.

The holidays at church were wonderful- the church plays, birthdays, anniversaries, and Easter cantatas, weddings and funerals – we youngsters knew we would get something good to eat.

When someone in our community hurt, we all hurt. It was at Lima that we learned to really trust in the good Lord, live by faith, and love our fellow man. Thank you, Lima Baptist, for the best chapter in our lives!

- **Patricia McClain Cox** -

I remember as a young girl being in GA's. One Sunday, we had a special recognition service for the GA's followed by a banquet. Each girl wore a white dress with the GA emblem on it. I was very excited because I got a new white dress, which my Uncle Bill Bayne bought for me. We didn't get new dresses very often.

- **Betty Jo Lindsey** -

Without a doubt the most precious memories of our ministry at Lima Baptist was the time we spent with many of the families as we walked together through difficult circumstances. However, the time spent preparing for my first Sunrise Easter Service in the mountains will never be forgotten. Each morning for a full week, I sat on the front steps of the church talking with our Lord and timing the rising of the sun as it rose above the beautiful mountains. Each day was more precious than the day before. Then on Sunday morning when the church body moved outside to close out the Sunrise Service the timing was perfect and the experience beautiful. The warmth from the rays of the sun warmed our bodies and it's light covered us just as the blood of our Christ covered our sin. I will never forget that experience and I'll never forget the people at Lima Baptist.

- **Rev. Ron Jackson** -

- **Ron and Mae Jackson ministered from 1992 – 1993** -

Will Bramlett was a deacon and leader in this church for many years. He felt that God was leading Lima to build a new church, but no matter what is needed there is always opposition. This was the case here. One or two people didn't want a new church. The morning after the opposition had joined another church, Will Bramlett had a team of mules breaking ground for a new church.

- **Ruby Hagood** -

Greetings from the Brindley family. What a joy it is to reflect on God's wonderful blessings He has bestowed upon us. When our family thinks of Lima Baptist, we are overwhelmed by the blessing of God while we served among you.

I remember how young Della and I were when we arrived to serve as your pastor. The membership received us lovingly and played a vital role in assisting a young pastor grow in wisdom. We will never forget your acts of kindness such as cutting wood every winter for our woodstove, repairing our old washing machine, the new carpet, air conditioning, tile, a deck on the parsonage and much more. A young pastor needs encouragement, room to grow and room to make mistakes. You provided loving acceptance of me even when I made mistakes.

Our children were very young and you adopted them as your own. We will never forget Ricky riding his "big wheel" off the top of that hill down into the front yard of the parsonage, now he is almost 16, and drives a black pickup truck. Shannon was a month old when we arrived on the church field and many of you ladies helped my young wife with her. Now she is growing up into a beautiful young lady approaching 14 and those mean old boys are calling the house and "I don't like it!!" My wife is still as kind and caring as always, although she grows in beauty everyday. I am the most blessed man with a wonderful Christian wife.

Finally, let me say that your congregation ministered to our family every day in many ways that might seem small to other, but very large to us. Lima Baptist Church will always be special to us and our almost four years there were very wonderful years.

- **Rev. Perry K. Brindley, III** -
- **Perry and Della ministered 1985 – 1989** -

Lima Baptist Church is one of a kind because the people in it care for each other, and if you ever need anything they will be there to help. Lima Baptist Church is a place filled with love and friendliness and a place where God shines his light. If it wasn't for Lima and its people there is no telling where I would be today.

- **Lance Roddy** –

The Howard Wilkey family first moved to Greenville Co. in 1956, following a heavy construction job. They quickly learned to love the family they rented from, the Bruce Holt family. In time Mr. Holt sold land to Howard Wilkey. When they settled in they looked around for a church and at the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Holt came to Lima.

Howard and Leila had four children, Ruth, Bill, Ruth, and Jerry, who would all become part of the church family, and in time marry and bring their families into the church. After her marriage to Mr. Tommy Taylor, Ruby moved to North Carolina. Bill joined the U.S.A.F. Before the family moved to S.C. and while stationed in Florida, married Lynn Wilkey.

I first came to Lima Church as a visitor in 1960. Our family grew to number five as we traveled from place to place in the Air Force. We visited at Lima every time we were home. In 1976, we came home to stay, and already had a church we felt at home in.

One of the first things to impress me about Lima, was the opportunities for service it offers young people and new Christians. It has been a stepping stone for countless new beginnings. Preachers, teachers, deacons, and many other servants of the Lord have stood before their first audiences within it's walls, myself included. I received my first opportunity to teach at Lima. Many parents over the years have entrusted their children to the care of the members for a trip to Santaland or some other amusement park.

Lima's tradition of reaching out to the community was going on in 1956, when it reached out to the first Wilkeys in Greenville Co., and continues on in 1998. The Wilkeys have worked and worshiped for four generations at Lima. We are looking to the future with great generations.

- **Lynn Wilkey** -

Lima Baptist Church means more to me than just a place of worship. It also means friends.

I remember one of the Acteens trips to Charleston Southern, Inez told us to look out because it had been raining so we wouldn't fall. Well about that time I fell into a big mud puddle. I had to walk around for the rest of the day with wet, muddy jeans. I also remember two special youth trips we went on. One was to Connie Maxwell Children's Home and the other one was Carowinds. The reason why these trips were so special is that my mother was able to go with us.

I know when I have a problem I can talk to my friends at church. I can always talk to my friends, Courtney and Kimberly, more because they are my age.

- **Joy Edwards** -

Lima Baptist Church has been my church home for as long as I have lived. My dad grew up in this church, and I guess he planned on me growing up here too. If I think really hard, I could probably think of a ton of memories. I've made lots of friends here at Lima, some who mean the world to me like Kimberly Coggins and Joy Edwards. One of my really close and dear friends is my cousin, Kimberly Coggins.. We've had rough times, just like anyone else, but we've stuck through them. I just hope that ten years from now we will still be the best of friends.

I was attending VBS at Lima, when I was saved. A few Sundays later, Kimberly and I were baptized by Rev. Sethie Hester. I will always remember Rev. Hester, and his wife, and I will always remember Rev. Perry Brindley and his family.

I know Lima Baptist has been through some rough and tough times, but the people here love and care about each other and we always seem to pull together.

I will always love this church and the people in it, and Lima Baptist Church will always be in my heart.

- **Courtney Hagood** -

I don't know really where to begin. I've been going here ever since I was born. I have a lot of memories-some good and some bad. I always loved the trips to Santa's

Land with Inez Roddy, later on, the Acteens trips to Columbia and different places. Through the years she and others have watched me, Courtney, and Joy grow up. I will always remember being baptized. Myself, Courtney, Renae, and Jennifer were all baptized on the same Sunday. That was the most precious experience of my life. I'm very happy I could share it with one of my best friends who is also my cousin.

Rev. Sethie Hester baptized us one Sunday morning after VBS. I think he was one of the pastors I was closest too. He used to give me peppermint candy every Sunday morning. I really looked up to him, not because of the candy, but because of his sweet disposition.

- **Kimberly Coggins** -

I remember in the late 50' and 60's the sweet Christian fellowship and the many meals we shared with the church family. Many Sunday dinners were shared with Janie, The Hagood's, and the Gutshall's which produced life long friendships.

- **Jewel Bayne** -

I remember my baptism in the North Saluda River by Rev. Home Albright on July 2, 1950. Cletus Bayne, and my mother-Fannie Bayne- were baptized with me. The most outstanding memory is that Rev. Albright dipped me twice, and I was terrified of water anyway. He smiled and told me he wanted me to be cleansed.

- **Janie McDowell** -

As a very young girl growing up in this church, I remember attending Sunbeams, then G.A.'s. We had G.A banquets. The VBS was always fun and exciting. My dad, Bill Bayne, was my S.S. teacher at one time. Even though he was my dad, he was a good teacher. I also remember the Sunday afternoon trips in the station wagon to Walgreen's for banana splits with the other church families.

- **Rebecca Bayne Bowns** -

I have many fond memories of this church. Every time I go into the Sunday School Office, and see the chair at the desk, I think of two dear ladies who had a desire to be in God's house. Mrs. Billie Cox (Ricky Singleton's grandmother) was not able to walk up the steps at church because of failing health, but she wanted to be in church. Some of the men of the church would bring out the chair, and Mrs. Cox would sit in it. A couple of the men would carry her up the front steps before service, and bring her down after preaching. Miss Louise Allen had cancer and was not able to walk up the steps. The men did the same for her, as we had done for Mrs. Cox earlier. I thank God for the example these two ladies showed by wanting to be in God's house to hear God's word.

- **Tracy Roddy** -

“For the young people to be involved and to know the history of their church is getting to be a thing of the past in a lot of churches today. You are all to be commended for what you are doing. I will be praying for you all and best wishes to the church family.”

- **Jim Johnson -**
- **Jim and Vivian Johnson ministered 1983 – 1984 -**

I have many pleasant memories of my service at Lima Baptist Church. I could name many of you who caused me to rejoice in the Service of our Lord. Some of you have challenged me with your commitment and dedication to Christ and your church. Oh, I think about all those sweet children that made me happy because they enjoyed my little piece of candy, which has won for me many little friends. You are a great people, and keep on serving the Lord.

- **Rev. Sethie Hester –**
- **Rev. and Mrs. Hester ministered in 1989, 1992 and 1994 –**

Being the pastor of Lima Baptist for almost three years in the 1970's holds for me many fond memories. I think the most outstanding of these is the memory of starting out in the work in the ministry. Being the pastor there was a good experience for Ann, the children, and me. As I look back on these years, I can see the value of the things I learned in that setting. A good start there has contributed greatly to my continuing in the ministry for these many years.

Ann learned much about being a pastor's wife while there and the children learned from the experience of being the “preacher's kids.”

The relationship Ann, our children and I had with folks at Lima has been a good and positive memory for us through the years. We thank God that He allowed us to work with the church family there. That experience has left with us such good memories.

- **Rev. Claude McIntosh –**
- **Rev. and Mrs. McIntosh ministered 1972 – 1975 –**

I have so many memories of Lima Baptist Church. Here are just a few:

Singing in the youth choir. I will never forget my “solo”—saying “where” when the choir sang “I have the joy, joy, joy, joy, down in my heart...”

Sitting on the back pew with Randy Coggins, Mr. Gaffney, Henry Hagood, And Bruce Nease.

Going to Shirley Coggins' house after church on Sunday night and eating corn bread fritters and onions.

Going out with Randy Coggins and Dale McJunkin to find “just the right” Christmas tree for our Christmas programs.

Acting in our annual Christmas plays. That's the real reason Bootsie Coggins doesn't have much hair left.



The many families in the church who “adopted” me as one of them, particularly the Hagoods, Holts, Coggins, and Neases.

Accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior while sitting in the sanctuary on Sunday night. Franklin Edwards actually led me to the lord, but it was “Mom” who had prepared me for that moment.

- **Lonnie Wilkey** –

Since I have only been a member for a short time, my fondest memory was when Rev. Randall Parnell baptized me. It will always be one of the greatest experiences of my life.

- **Shirley Kirby** –

As a young girl growing up at Lima, I remember the many meals and homecomings we had. I will never forget Janie McDowell's ambrosia (fruit salad). I can taste it now. I also remember Mrs. Janie's (Jane Goodwin) hats she wore to church on Sunday mornings because she was always really dressed up.

- **Stella Jo Anastos Grubbs**

My earliest memories of Lima are that of a potbellied stove at the front of the church, benches that tended to put a hurt on your backside if you moved just right, and an old upright piano sitting to the left of a small altar. The preacher, a young man still in college; his wife, pregnant with her first child; a small gathering of folks from the neighborhood – probably no more than twenty at the most.

Miss Sallie Hood was the church pianist. She was getting on in years and her hands were stiff and drawn from arthritis. It really hurt her at times to play, but she was faithful to her position. After we started attending Lima, with her prompting and help, I began to play for church services. I'm here to tell you, the music program was in bad shape! Until I learned to play more hymns, we sang the same three or four over and over. Another remembrance was Vacation Bible School. It was during V.B.S. that I accepted Christ as my Savior. This was followed by baptism in the icy cold water of the North Saluda. And if the water wasn't cold enough, Preacher O'Shields tried to drown me. Another thing about V.B.S. was that occasionally, Uncle Will Bramlett would give us a ride home in his “A” Model.

Do any of you remember the bathtubs of lemonade that was served at every gathering? I don't think I've ever tasted better.

At one time, prisoners were used to clean the cemetery. I remember as a child tagging along to help serve lunch. That was the only charge for the cleanup. Miss Billie Cox always made chicken-pot-pie, and Mrs. Lizzie Hagood always had apple (plate) pies. They sure were good. When Ben and Robbie Seegers were at Lima, Robbie formed YWA's for young girls ages 13 – 18. Jewel Bayne became our YWA leader. What fun we had going to YWA retreats and meetings. Since we had very little in entertainment, we really threw ourselves into YWA. Rev. Kenneth McDonald and his wife came and brought changes to our church. We formed an adult choir and performed our first cantata. We ordered choir robes to wear for the cantata on Friday

before the cantata was to be performed on Sunday. The robes still were not in, but on Saturday morning a call came in from the Baptist Bookstore that they were in. Work on the fellowship building was started, but funds were tight. We decided to sell dinners to earn income for materials. Annie Holt and Janie McDowell outdid themselves cooking for these dinners. Everybody jumped in to sell tickets. Shirley, Ruby Wilkey and I worked like crazy delivering dinners. It was a lot of hard work but we had a good time doing it.

When Henry Mitchell became Pastor at Lima, things were still tough in a lot of ways, but the Lord always saw us through them. When it was beginning to seem as if we had been forgotten, our needs were always supplied through some church member.

So many of the people were so good to us – Mr. and Mrs. Hancock, Joe and Louise Edwards, Bill and Jewel Bayne, Uncle Ernest Goodwin, Bruce and Bea Nease, Ruby and Henry Hagood. It is impossible to name them all but these really stand out in my mind.

When I had the youth choir, we used to practice on Monday nights. After practice I would load all the kids up in our Volkswagon bus and take them to Turpins for ice cream. Sometimes I would have as many as twenty kids packed in that bus. They didn't mind being crowded, they just enjoyed having a place to go.

Lonnie Wilkey always wanted to sing. But bless his heart, as a youngster he couldn't carry a tune in a bucket. I hope he has improved by now. I finally found Lonnie a special part in one of the choruses the youth choir sang: "I have the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart" and I would point to Lonnie and he would say, "where." It made his day and mine as well because it made him happy.

So much has transpired over the years, preachers and their families have come and gone, people have joined our fellowship and moved on, but our church remains atop the hill shining forth as a beacon for all that pass by.

- **Opi Owen** -

One of my fondest memories was being baptized by Rev. Randall Parnell at Lima. This was very special to me because my daughter, Kim Sizemore, and I were baptized together.

- **Sharon Newton** –

*\*Sharon Newton and Kim Sizemore were the first mother and daughter to be baptized together in our baptismal pool at Lima. Janie McDowell and her mother, Fannie Bayne, were the first mother and daughter to be baptized together at the bridge at North Saluda River that we have a record on file.*

I don't know her last name but she was the most likely to be first to be at the church. If you turned off Highway 11 onto the church road, she followed you. When you got out of your car, she was usually sitting on the steps to greet you. She lived at

Henry and Ruby Hagood's house. Her first name was Lucy – the dog! Lucy gave us something to think about: be faithful, be on time, and love people.

Then there was the time we decided to work on the church. Every night men showed up to work and the ladies showed up with food. We sent the pews off to be refinished, so with an empty room, we rented floor sanders and refinished the floors. I suppose even today one may find some "waves" in the floor. I think there are still a few that remember and laugh.

After Robbie and I got married, the folks decided we should have a house. David Brown made available a home. It was located next to the area that was to become the recreational building. That too had its moments when we set out to build it.

I remember the days while I was the "Preacher." The days stand out because the people loved the church and each other. I can go on for hours, but it boils down to Love, Caring, and Dependability. Even Lucy, the dog, seemed to catch the spirit. With that combination, the church will continue into the next century stronger than ever.

- **Rev. Ben Seegers** –

- **Rev. and Mrs. Ben Seegers Ministered 1957 – 1959** -

In reference to Dr. R.G. Lee, I remember his return visits to my Grandma's (Lizzie Hagood) house. When he would come to visit the church he would always stop. My Grandma said the reason I am alive today is because he prayed over me when I was only a few weeks old. I was premature and very small. He had stopped by and she asked him to have prayer with her and her new small granddaughter. I never realized as a young girl how well known he was. To me he was one of my Grandmother's preacher friends.

When Rev. Kenneth McDonald was pastor, he was one who always liked to have a good time with the young people. We were having homemade vanilla ice cream at a church wide birthday party for my brother. Franklin Edwards was about six years old. Preacher Mac put a white napkin in the bottom of an ice cream cone finished filling it with ice cream and gave it to Franklin. All eyes were upon him. Franklin ate half of the napkin before he realized it wasn't ice cream.

My bulldog, Lucy, came to church for every service. Those were the days with no air conditioning or fans. Lucy would lay at the backdoor every service until it was time to go home. One Sunday, our pastor, Rev. Ben Seegers, was giving the invitation. Lucy came down the aisle and gave her paw to the pastor. Ben was always playing with Lucy. Needless to say the spirit of the invitation was broken.

Bill Bayne was the young people's Sunday School teacher. He had a class of teenage girls, and the patience of Job. One Sunday morning he brought all of us girls a long stem red rose each. His thoughtfulness really meant a lot to each of us.

I remember when growing up "Uncle" Will Bramlett and "Uncle" Arthur Cox could preach a sermon in some of their prayers. They kindled a different fire than that in the potbelly stove. It was dedicated Christians like these that influenced my life through the example they lived.

- **Inez Roddy** -

I will always remember the good times while we were at Lima.

- **Mrs. Delores McDonald –**
- **Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth McDonald Ministered 1960 – 1963 –**

A funny thing happened to me on the way to church... Well actually, this incident happened to me at the church. I remember one summer evening during V.B.S. 1996, I was sitting in the church office signing the certificates for the V.B.S. commencement and one of the children came running into the office screaming, "Preacher, there's a big snake in the church parking lot!" Well, being the snake expert that I am (haha), I had to go and check this out, -- besides – I surely didn't want any of the children to get bitten. When I got around to the parking lot, I was amazed at why such a fuss was being made. It was only a little ole snake, and surely he couldn't cause anyone harm, or at least that is what I thought. I decided that the best thing to do was to just walk over and pick the snake up and gently put him down in the woods. Oh boy, was that a mistake! I approached the snake, with everyone watching, and I pinned him down and proceeded to pick him up. Well, that is when the fun began! You see, as soon as I reached out for him, **HE BIT ME!** When I drew back my hand, I noticed two small puncture marks and they were bleeding. I believe it was about this time that I seemed to recall a passage of scripture...

***Luke 10:19 Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.***

... or, wait a minute, maybe it was this verse I remembered ...

***Mat. 4:7 Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.***

Well, anyway, I was too embarrassed to admit that it hurt and I surely wasn't going to let this little old snake get the best of me, so, I reached down again and this time I picked him up securely. It was at this point, I pondered as to what to do with the snake. I could not let him go because I now desperately needed to know what kind of snake he was. Incidentally, it was at this time, that for some reason, I wondered if my life insurance was paid up! I decided to take the snake home and positively identify him. Needless to say, most of the folks at church that night thought I was crazy. Of course, they did ask me what my favorite kinds of flowers were, and I knew that wasn't a good sign. I put the snake in a jar and carried him home. I did not go to the hospital that night because I did not feel physically sick, of course, *mentally sick is another story.* The next day I took him to the Zoo and had him positively identified by a Herpetologist (a real reptile expert). I found out that he was only a harmless black rat snake and that he would make an ideal pet. I took him back home and put him in an aquarium and placed him in the pastoral study. He remained there for the next year. For some strange reason, no one came to visit me at the pastor's study for a whole year. I wonder why?

So that is how I got the title –**A Snake-Handling Preacher**

I have truly been blessed by the Lord to be given the privilege to serve at Lima.

- **Rev. Randall Parnell -**
- **Rev. Randall and Debbie Parnell ministered 1994 – present –**

**Oldies But Goldies**



Bayne Family 1951



Ruby and Jewel 1951



1962 S.S. Class



Ruth Wilkey



Bessie Bramlett 1957



Beginner S.S. 1957



Easter Egg Hunt



1949 Men



Bill Bayne's Baptism



Attending Baptism



Church 1949



YWA's 1953



GA's 1949



Henry Cox 1949



Mr & Mrs A.E. Cox 1959



1951 Men



Inez and Pearl 1951



Janie at Homecoming 1956



Old Parsonage



Janie McDowell 1949



1949 Church Members



1951 Church Members



VBS 1956



Youngsters with Rev. Albright 1949



Guess ???



Acteens Service 1986



Is it really that good?



Lance and Ricky



## Lima Baptist Church and Property



### Plays, Fall Festivals, and VBS





Lima Baptist Church: From Past To Present



### Special Services and Gatherings



Lima Baptist Church: From Past To Present



Lima Baptist Church: From Past To Present



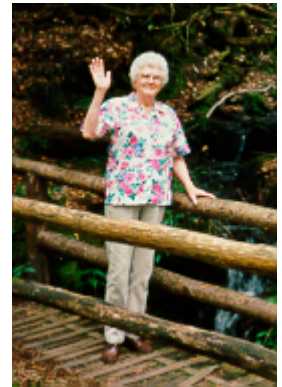
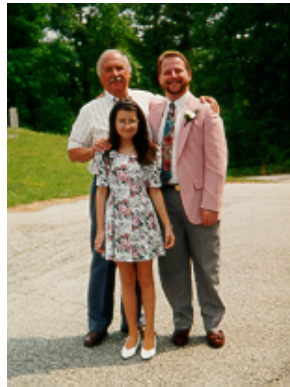
### Preachers in Snapshots







### Snapshots In Time

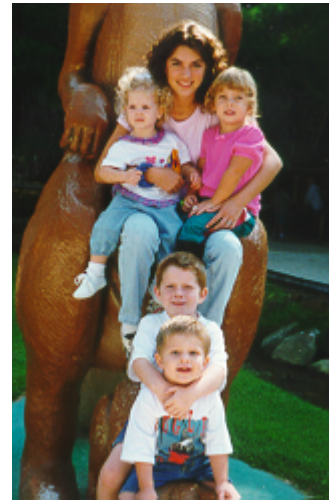




### Practical Jokes



## Youth and Children Organizations









**The Finale Featuring the Woman-Less Pageant**  
One of the Funniest Van Fund Projects Yet









## BUDGETS

Church Year	Amount in \$
1974	8,152
1975	8,527
1976	6,402
1977	8,575
1978	9,234
1979	13,189
1980	15,499
1981	17,460
1982	Missing
1983	22,910
1984	25,884
1985	27,286
1986	29,732
1987	30,100
1988	31,158
1989	33,654
1990	34,366
1991	33,466
1992	35,830
1993	36,230
1994	36,970
1995	35,400
1996	39,070
1997	41,200
1998	40,350
1999	43,300

## VAN FUND

Established April 6, 1997

Eight months into the project, we had a balance of \$8800. Balance as of October 1998 is \$16,608. The Youth Organization has had dinners and yard sales to raise the money. Also, there was a total of \$3000 pledged by church members.

### CHURCH PROPERTY VALUE

Year	Parsonage in \$	Total Properties in \$
1955	--	12,000
1958	6,500	24,500
1959	6,500	24,500
1961	6,500	24,500
1962	--	--
1963	8,000	25,000
1964	8,000	27,000
1965	8,000	28,011
1966	8,000	30,000
1967	9,000	35,000
1968	9,000	35,000
1969	--	26,000
1970	20,000	41,500
1971	20,000	41,500
1972	20,000	41,500
1973	20,000	41,500
1974	20,000	41,500
1975	20,000	60,000
1976	20,000	60,000
1977	20,000	60,000
1978	30,000	80,000
1979	35,000	90,000
1980-82 missing		
1983	46,000	170,000
1984	55,000	--
1985	55,000	150,000
1986	55,000	205,000
1987	55,000	205,000
1988	55,000	205,000
1989	60,000	205,000
1990	60,000	205,000
1991	60,000	205,000
1992	60,000	210,000
1993	60,000	210,000
1994	60,000	210,000
1995	60,000	210,000
1996	60,000	210,000
1997	60,000	210,000
1998*	81,689	212,180

\*Information taken from the associational letter and or Insurance Policy