

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF TULIA OUR HISTORY - HIS STORY

On July 1, 1891, a handful of Baptists met in the home of Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Butts to organize a Baptist church in Tulia. The new church was named "The First Baptist Church of Christ of Tulia." Rev. T. H. Stamps, who helped in organizing the church, was chosen as the first pastor. S. E. Butts was selected as church clerk and W. G. Conner and Charles Hale were the first deacons. These early pioneers wrote their own Church Covenant and Articles of Faith, which are still followed today. During the remaining years of the nineteenth century, the church had six different pastors: J. H. Younger, T. H. Stamps for a second term, R. C. Wright, J. T. Burnett, T. A. Moore, J. D. Cook, J. J. Horn, J. T. Burnett for a second term, and R. C. Wright for a second term. All were required to do secular work to provide for their families. In 1899, the church began paying the pastor a salary of \$100 per year. May 4, 1902, it was raised to \$150 a year and then in December 1905, they were paid \$400 per year.

The first six years, Baptist church services were held each third Saturday and Sunday in the district school building. This facility was shared with the Methodists and Presbyterians. In spite of all the unfavorable circumstances, the membership grew to 59 by 1895. After the Methodists built their church, they invited the Baptists to hold their services in their building. This arrangement continued until Baptists built their first building in 1906.

During those early years the church had several practices which seem strange and foreign to us today. An example was found in the listing of church members dated August 15, 1895. It lists all of the "sisters" names on one sheet and all of the "brothers" names on another sheet. The minutes indicate that when the congregation gathered to worship, the "sisters" would sit on one side and the "brothers" on the other. It was also clearly understood that a woman was not to speak out in a public gathering of worship.

As early as 1896, a "Ladies Aid Society" was formed and their first project was the raising of money for the new building. Due to the need for a parsonage, the president of the "Ladies Aid Society" in a business conference on September 28, 1900, offered the money for the use of constructing a parsonage. The gift was accepted, but not without objections. The objection was not over the gift, but over the fact that a woman had spoken in a business conference. One deacon expressed his displeasure that a woman had spoken and the husband of the president of the "Ladies Aid Society" stood to publically apologize for his wife. They raised money through projects such as quilt sales, food sales, bazaars, and ice cream suppers. To make ice cream in those days, ice had to be purchased in Canyon, and hauled to Tulia by wagon, which took more than a day to accomplish.

Women's Missionary Union was organized in 1888 with 10 states including Texas. It is autonomous (self governing) with no authority from the Southern Baptist Convention. The first Christmas offering of \$2000 was sent to missionaries in China. In 1912, the "Ladies Aid Society" was changed to "Women's Missionary Union". The magazine was called "Our Mission Field" that had monthly programs for all ages, and was changed in

1914 to "Royal Service". The emblem was changed in 1923 to Open Bible, Flaming Torch, and words "Laborers Together With God". Mrs. W. J. Cox, president of WMU was asked to address the Southern Baptist Convention in 1929, the first woman to do so. The headquarters building was built by a gift of \$100,000 in honor of Kathleen Mallory for her service of 36 years in Birmingham, Alabama. The WMU promotes The Cooperative Program, Lottie Moon (Christmas offering), Annie Armstrong (Home Mission), and in Texas, Mary Hill Davis. WMU was organized at the First Baptist Church in 1896.

If a member was suspected of dancing, cursing, drinking, gambling, or performing any immoral act, a committee from the church would visit that member. If the charged member appeared before the church, apologized and promised to change, their name remained on the church roll; but if the charged member refused, their name was removed from the church roll. Members who joined other denominations were excluded from the fellowship of the church by charge of "heresy." These practices were abandoned during the first decade of the twentieth century. Today, as in early years, members still care about the needs and welfare of fellow members.

In 1891, four messengers from the church helped organize the Llanos Estacado Baptist Association, which took place in the Hale County courthouse in Plainview. On July 14, 1900, the Llanos Estacado Association, (a Comanche Indian name) reorganized and became known as the Staked Plains Baptist Association. In August of 1901, the church petitioned for membership into the Staked Plains Baptist Association.

By 1902, the congregation dreamed of their own building. However, it was not until December of 1906 that a new Baptist Church building was completed. At that time, the membership numbered slightly over 100. T. W. Tomlinson served as clerk of the church from 1898 to 1924 and he donated two lots and W. E. Jowell gave two lots. The rest of the land was bought by the church according to the deeds. The First Baptist Church building was erected in 1906 when J. W. Foster was pastor. The wooden structure was built on the southeast corner of Crosby and Broadway. July 1, 1908, the church was struck by lightning and burned with an outstanding debt of \$2,500. T. W. Tomlinson kept the church records at his home and that is the reason we have the early history of our church today. Again the Methodists and Presbyterians opened their doors to the Baptist congregation so they would have a place to worship. A second building, erected in 1909, was made of rose-colored brick, had copper accents and pictures of Jesus and Mary set in stained glass windows. This building had the distinction of being the only brick church building in this entire area. The pastor at this time was Charles R. Lee. J. B. Holt and J. S. Allen had preceded him in the pastoral office, but served only a few months each. It was dedicated on May 3, 1914, after becoming debt free. "Your building committee is happy to make the following report to the church today, before this beautiful building is formally dedicated to the sole worship of the True and Living God. We have had five years of almost unprecedented droughts that have drained the country of all surplus money. But with unfaltering faith in God, and confidence in the brethren and sisters, we let the contract for this house to cost \$15,000.00, which has been paid as follows:



Cash on hand, May 1, 1909	\$ 98.00
Paid by Ladies' Aid	1,100.00
Other sources	<u>21,575.91</u>
Total received	22,773.91
Paid on church and parsonage	<u>22,743.05</u>
Balance on hand	\$ 30.86

We appreciate the assistance of those who have helped bear the burden during these trying years. Today, we dedicate this building, and our lives to the service of our Lord and King. Respectfully submitted: W. B. Hale, J. L. Cantrell, W. A. Donaldson, T. W. Tomlinson, S. F. Flores, J. C. LaPrade, Committee."

From the beginning, the members of First Baptist Church, Tulia have been mission-minded. As early as 1896, the members committed all the offering received on the first Sunday of each month to Buckner's Orphans Home. In 1910, First Baptist members led in organizing Sunday Schools in the Kaffir and Childress community schoolhouses which became community churches. The Sunday School has had a leading role in the progress of the church. As early as 1910, there was an enrollment of 227 with an average attendance of 141. J. J. Sigler was one of the early superintendents. James T. Hale was superintendent for more than twenty years

The decade of the twenties saw many changes in the church. The name was changed from the "First Baptist Church of Christ" to the "First Baptist Church of Tulia." It was determined that a "cow" would no longer be provided for the pastor, so she was sold. The church building was connected to the city water system, and the windmill and water tank were sold. In 1924, the first telephone was installed in the pastor's study. The parsonage and church building were connected to the city sewage system. Broadway Street, in front of the building, was curbed and laid with brick in 1926. The heating system was changed from coal to natural gas and electric ceiling fans were installed in the auditorium.

In 1928, the church membership adopted Mr. and Mr. B. W. Orrick as missionaries to Uruguay with an agreement to pay one-half their salary. The first Vacation Bible School was started in the summer of 1928, which was called "Daily Bible Vacation School." Work was also begun among people from Mexico when Mrs. Edna Tracy started a Mexican Sunday School class in the church building.

With the decade of the thirties came the "Dust Bowl Days" and the "Great Depression." The minutes showed growth in both membership and finances. Some remodeling was done to provide additional Sunday School rooms and new pianos were purchased for Sunday School departments throughout the church. In 1939, while Dr. W. H. Clark was pastor, the building was enlarged and redone and the first organ was installed. The painting for the baptistery was enlarged and donated by Mrs. Dewey Seay. The painting still hangs in the chapel.



The forties found the nation involved in World War II. Much of the ministry of First Baptist Church was focused on extending love, support, and sympathy to the people in the military service and their families. Prayer services and flag dedication services were held in their honor. During 1944 and 1945, the Sunday School experienced remarkable growth, and in 1945 average attendance was 309 as compared with 267 in 1944. The superintendent at that time was Howard Pogue, a consecrated young man who meant much to the church. The education building was begun under the leadership of H. E. East and completed under Pastor E. G. Sewell. In 1948, a new education building was built just north of the original building. It was dedicated to Jennie Lynch Flores, the first wife of S. F. Flores. This building was used for the church staff offices, the library, and for classrooms.

The fifties began with the church experiencing a great revival. Over one hundred people were baptized. The fourth building project was completed in 1951 under W. Neil Record, pastor. The Library at First Baptist Church was dedicated on September 16, 1951. The Ruth class was the first sponsor. Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Dawson, Sr. equipped the room with a desk and shelving. After the first books were given, the library became a line item in the budget. The first librarian was Mrs. I. H. Turney. She indicated that in 1969, there were 600 books. The library in 2011 has over 5000 books and about 300 DVDs and VHS. The ministry of the Library is important to the church.

A note burning service was held May 20, 1956. It was also during this time, extra educational space was provided—three ready-built houses, the First Christian Church property, and the Miller house. A bell tower was built to connect the new building with the original building. On January 19, 1958, Mr. S. F. Flores presented a check in the amount of \$15,000 to cover all indebtedness of the church. Other projects included the building of a Mexican Mission beginning in July, 1953, and sponsoring of Calvary Baptist Church in October, 1953. Another First Church mission project was Knollwood Baptist Church of Rapid City, South Dakota. Tulia Church underwrote a \$15,000 debt on a new building for this church.

During the years since organizing, the Church has grown in every part of her work. The Ladies Aid Society has grown into a full-blown WMU, sponsoring girls' auxiliaries — Sunbeams, GA's, and YWA's. The brotherhood has been active sponsoring the RA's.

In 1961, the church bought Henry Miller's house located across the alley, west of the sanctuary which was sold and moved. The Mexican Mission was first occupied on August 1, 1965. In 1965, under the leadership of Rev. C. Nelson Rue, the church entered another building and remodeling program costing some \$375,000. At the beginning of the 75<sup>th</sup> church year (1966), membership mounted to over 1800, which made more room necessary. For a designated day in November, Pastor Rue challenged his membership to give \$75,000 to the building fund - \$1,000 for each of the 75 years. Pledges brought \$90,000. On July 7, 1966, a dedication service was held for the remodeled sanctuary. As part of this building program, the original rose-brick church building was torn down. The



stained glass windows were installed in the Jennie Lynch Flores building. The cornerstone was moved to the southeast corner of the building.

Although the church has long been mission-minded, the seventies saw a more direct involvement of the people in missions. In 1970, the Rev. Frank Pollard led the church in making a commitment to be involved in a Japan crusade. In July of that year, a team of twenty church members went to Japan. On June 14, 1970, the Rev. Gerald Tidwell became pastor. He led the church to become involved in establishing new mission churches in Oregon and Washington. He resigned on April 15, 1974, to devote full time to this ministry called "Frontiers for Baptist Men." The Rev. Charles Davenport came to the church on September 22, 1974. The pulpit committee at that time included: Jim Hill, Barnie Latham, Evelyn Lee, Larry Nelson, and Boyd Vaughn. In 1975, the renovation of the vestibule and front entrance, and complete remodeling of the Jennie Lynch Flores building provided new office space for the staff. The installation of a 58 foot steeple atop a 42 foot tower was given in memory of Howard Pogue by his wife Lenora. In November of 1975, the church purchased a 29 rank Wicks pipe organ which was installed in 1976.

Continuing to involve our members in missions, in 1978, the church began conducting medical-dental clinics twice a year along the Rio Grande River near Presidio, Texas for nine years using the medical talents of Drs. Fred Richards, L. S. Foreman, along with Drs. Neil Bryson and Roy McCasland. In the seventies, the church also conducted mission work among the Navajo and Zuni Indians in New Mexico. In 1976, the mission trip was to Magdalena with J. C. Farrand as the youth director who took our "First Folk" singing group to help with a revival in Socorro. During 1978, we underwrote a loan for \$50,000 for a new church in Denton County. We helped a local black congregation, the Jackson Chapel, with funds of \$1,121. In 1981, the Rev. Davenport made a trip to Brazil which began a decade of involvement in numerous mission projects in the Recife area. At least ten separate trips were made during the eighties. About 125 of our members went on various trips to Brazil. Garey and Polly Scott made trips to Brazil and that is why they became missionaries. A donation from our church for a girl's school in Brazil bought them an organ and pianos in the amount of \$3,000.

July 1, 1981, our church celebrated our 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We enjoyed dinner on the lawn followed by a program featuring Mrs. Louise Day, who spoke of the early history of the church. We had a youth led revival and 17 were added to our church. Our faceted glass window was installed over the Baptistry.

Good Shepherd Outreach began with "How Does Your Closet Grow?" A family had been driving since early morning heading for Houston, hoping the father can find a new job. The children were hungry and the parents wouldn't mind a meal either. The stores in Tulia had been closed for 3 ½ hours. The father called the pastor, Charles Davenport at First Baptist Church. Several months earlier, Acteens - Kristi Davenport, Marli George, Jan Walker, Loni Dulin, Janie Arnold, and Brucella Aldridge had stored a food bank in a church closet. Because of their project, Charles Davenport was able to go to the church and get food for the tired, hungry family. The food bank began in 1983 and has grown into the Good Shepherd Christian Outreach, Inc. and is sponsored by Tulia's churches.



The Center is operated by a board consisting of the pastor and one lay member of each church. It still helps people of Tulia with food, clothing, and vouchers for gas and lodging. It is a nonprofit organization and volunteers must take training before being able to help. Good Shepherd opened on November 1, 1983 to begin service to the town of Tulia. (from Accent Publications and Minutes of Meetings) In 1984, our youth were involved in inner city missions in Houston and an adult team participated in a Partnership Missions trip to Mexico. Our carillon bells were purchased. Dub Amburn began a county jail ministry. Charles Davenport and Kim Broadstreet were involved in the prison ministry.

Our first mini bus was purchased in 1983. A mission trip to Zuni, New Mexico, to conduct a vacation bible school was made on that mini bus. In 1986, a mission team participated in the Australian Partnership Crusade and the youth went to Possum Kingdom to conduct resort missions. We bought our van and sold our Mexican Mission property to the Mexican Assembly of God. We sent \$5,000 to Brazil to help build 2 new missions. We donated some of our extra pews to a church in Kiowa, Kansas in 1987. Renovations to property in San Horo, Brazil, occurred in 1988 with the purchase of property of \$4,000 and \$2,500 to complete the renovation. Glass canopies over our south and east entrances were made in 1988 and a wheel chair ramp was installed into the sanctuary. The First Baptist Church of Tulia realized the need for a prayer room. The first Ad Hoc Intercessory Prayer Committee met March 9, 1989, making the following decisions: prayer room, hours, phone, lock on front door, advertising, permanent committee, cost, and training. Target date was May 1, 1989. On March 22, 1989, a draft was drawn for recommendation to the Deacons and it was passed on April 19, 1989. It began an Intercessory Prayer Ministry with 49 people. Many church members came to the prayer room for one hour each week to pray for specific prayer requests. Under the leadership of Charles Davenport, those on the Ad Hoc Committee were: Doris Amburn, Daphne Hale, Doris Fleming, Lucy Hutto, and Betty Ellerd. (list incomplete). The first committee formed was Alvin Fleming, Chairman, Viola White, Julius Stevens, Daphne Hale, Nancy Vaughn, and Bob Bartram. Also in 1989, a new church sign was installed in place of the old marquee.

The nineties found our church involved in numerous ministries. One ministry, called "The Sunshine Girls" was started when the Faith Sunday School Class, with Valoise Davenport as its teacher, visited the local nursing home and set the hair and manicured the fingernails of the residents. The church also ministers through the work of our bereavement committee, which provides a meal for church families who suffer the loss of a loved one.

A Senior Adult Program was organized in 1991 and continued for several years. They met and voted on the following programs: 1. Bible study - learning - met each month 2. Silvertones Choir - Silvertones sang at church and out of town meetings 3. Annuity - helping retired Pastors and wives - voted to take part in "Adopt an Annuitant" which meant that if each senior adult gave \$1.00 each month, they could reach their goal. Hallie Record, the wife of a former pastor was selected to be the first recipient to receive \$50.00



per month and by 1993, they were able to add 2 more. This is still part of the budget in 2011. 4. Making crafts – creativity and sharing 5. Fitness and 6. Fun Bunch – fellowship.

In the fifteen years with Charles as pastor, we have ordained and licensed young men into the ministry and helped between 75 and 85 men and women with scholarships to Baptist colleges and universities. In 1999, our church gave \$1,467.50 to Kosovo in relief to Baptist Men. In 2000, Charles and Valoise took 280 pairs of shoes to orphans in China through gifts from First Baptist.

Greg Northcutt (1996-2011) came to our church as a single man, but in a few weeks he brought his bride, Camille, to our church. They now have two children and have followed God's call to Plainview, Texas. We would like to honor him and his family by remembering some of the things God and he did for our youth. The first year, he took our youth to Hobbs, New Mexico on a mission trip and to Amarillo to help Habitat for Humanity. He and Cynthia Archer took the youth to Juarez, Mexico. Trips were also made to Branson, Missouri, South Padre Island (2 times), Pensacola, Florida, Arlington, Texas, El Paso, Texas and to Comanche, Texas to put on roofs and painting inside and out for the elderly. He helped with fundraisers such as luncheons, dinner theaters (3 times) including casseroles and desserts sold at silent auctions, pancake breakfast, lasagna lunch with slave auction, Krispy Crème donut cards, youth winterized yards, praise band CD, and Sonic Cards. The congregation had to buy \$10 insurance to keep the pink flamingoes out of their yards. (2 times) The youth helped put up and take down Christmas lights. They also helped with the soup and salad luncheon.

Camps attended by the youth under Greg's leadership were Student Life Camp and Fort Lewis College, both in Durango, Colorado; Golden Camp in Divide, Colorado; Bonita Park in Capitan, Colorado, Ascend Quaker Ridge Camp in Woodland, Colorado (2 times). Other places were in Kemmerer, Wyoming; Albany, Oregon; and Chapanal Baptist Assembly in Wichita Falls, Texas.

Other ministries in which Greg was involved were See you at the Poles for 14 years, beginning in 1997. In 2005, adults were asked to meet across the street from the students and then the adults met at the Gazebo downtown. In 1998 Discipleship now was formed and they met in Greg's home and in other member's homes.

Greg drove the bus to several meetings and on the mission trip to El Paso. He preached when our pastors were out of town. There were times that the sidewalks needed to be cleared of ice and snow and when we had the hail storm, Greg was right there. He mowed the lawn when needed. Greg helped with many of the Church's picnics and taught Bible studies, one of which was called vision. They discussed values, strengths, and ways we can live out our calling as a church. We commend you Greg for meeting with our youth Sunday mornings, Sunday nights and Wednesday nights all year long. We thank you for being our computer and technology person and using Wayland students, including Kevin Burrow, to help with the youth. We thank you for your leadership in our church and love of our youth. You and your family will be missed. (Baptist Standard and newsletters)



The Samaritan's Purse Christmas Child Shoe Box project was a Franklin Graham ministry which sends Christmas boxes to children in third world countries. For many children, this is the only Christmas present that they receive. First Baptist Church of Tulia joined this cause in 2000. It began under the direction of Daphne Hale, who directed it as long as her health allowed. This project started out small, the first year only 74 boxes were sent. By 2010, the number had grown to 365 boxes. Members are asked to buy supplies for a shoe box and fill it with school supplies and personal items, and possibly a small toy. Or, if they would rather, members can make a monetary donation to help "sponsor" a box and someone else will do the shopping for them. The important thing is that as many children as possible receive one.

October 28, 2000, Dr. Childress and his wife Dorothy gave the former J. Gee Building to start a new mission called City Church to meet the needs of our town's low income children. Volunteers meet each Tuesday during the school year as the children are picked up by bus, served a meal, go to Bible Study, and return home by the bus. The building was remodeled by Bob Gleason, Gene King, and Pinky Ellerd so that New Fellowship Baptist Church could move from Silvertown, this too became a mission of our church. The church was pastored by Matthew Veals. He and his wife, Gloria, and the church members set a good example in our community by reaching out to the people and encouraging them to walk with God. The Veals also help with City Church.

The Exodus Prison Ministry of First Baptist Church began in 2001 with the support of Lubbock Exodus and the Plainview prison. This is a Bible Study for inmates and upon completion of 35 Bible lessons, they are presented a New International Rainbow Bible with their name on the front cover. Since the ministry began, 705 Bibles have been given to inmates and about 750 inmates have taken this Bible study. Sixteen volunteers serve faithfully and prayerfully putting around 1800 hours a year. They are Barbara Cabe, David Cabe, Jack Ewing, Mina Ewing, Jo Cowan, Alta Fox, Betty Ellerd, Edna Francies, John Francies, Virginia Gleason, Carol Hatcher, Darlene Riley, Jean Rowell, Sheila Via, Dennis White, and Melba White. They work well together and always welcome new volunteers. (from church minutes) Some comments made by the prisoners were: "You all have to be committed to the work you are doing! You all have to have God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit guide you and be with you, too. But most of all, you have a lot of patience and love to do what you are doing—that is helping people by giving the lessons so that they will help and get us closer to God and help us understand the Bible more." "Thank you so much for your love and the birthday card you sent me. It brought tears to my eyes and joy to my heart. I pray that God's blessing be upon you and your ministry." "Thank you all so much for being there when I needed you, for not giving up on me, and for caring. God bless you all." "I've enjoyed doing this Bible study. I've learned enough to share with others who have a lesser understanding. I feel that I can answer some of their questions, although I'm still learning myself, and with the help of the Exodus Prison Ministry, I know my desire to know God will be a blessed one."

November 2003, a new Sunday School curriculum was started for children at First Baptist enrolled in kindergarten through sixth grade using a rotation system focusing on the same Bible story for several weeks. The video room, located upstairs in the education



building, has been remodeled as classrooms were torn out to make room for theater seating and a screen. Ralph Ellerd did the carpentry work, installed the seats, built a screen and stage, and laid the carpet. Greg Northcutt and the youth painted the walls and Mikeal and Blaine Barnes donated their time. Adult 3 Sunday School made curtains and added the refreshment area and volunteered their time in making the theater possible.

In October of 2005, after thirty one years of service, Charles Davenport retired. Through his administrative and leadership abilities, he had restored our church to an economic stability. These have been busy and productive years as he encouraged us to expand our ministries not only to our own community, but to ministries which reach around the world.

James Hassell became pastor on August 29, 2006. During James' tenure, there was a mission trip to El Paso and then to Kosovo under the leadership of Rick Shaw of Wayland. Those attending besides James were Debbie Barnes, Sherella Lewis, Glenda Gibson, Sandra Butcher, and Walter Wright. James helped to see the building of wheelchair ramps in the sanctuary. He was also instrumental in making sure every family in Tulia received a dozen homemade cookies to help open doors and spread the gospel. The cookies were delivered by church members. He also started "Sunday Serve" to help those with repair jobs and taking food to the members who are "homebound". James resigned on September 24, 2010.

Tulia had one of the outstanding Training Unions of the Plains. Average attendance for two years had been 115. The Brotherhood also played an important role in the church, and the men were greatly blessed through its organized efforts. Other organizations deserve more consideration than was possible to give. Incomplete records made it impossible to tell the whole story. It is interesting to hear of the work done by the WMU in those early days. That was before the emphasis on stewardship, and much money had been raised through quiltings, bake sales, etc. Today this organization leads in teaching missions to the women and young people. No longer does the church look to the women for finances, but the church does recognize its obligation to that early society.



PIONEER OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHRIST

J. H. Stamps  
R. C. Wright  
Mr. and Mrs. Ratliff  
Mrs. Butts  
Jack Butts  
R. A. Kaylor  
Mrs. N. A. Cooper  
Miss Minnie Cooper  
G. N. Caylor  
J. M. Kinbrough (moderator)  
Bro. Younger (was pastor August 1892)  
Bro. Long (granted letter Oct. 1901)  
Mary Long Garrett  
Delia Long  
Lucy Conner (Mrs. W. G. Conner)  
Bro. William Stillwell  
Mrs. Fannie Jennings  
Sister Nancy Bagley  
M. V. Henson  
H. Burleson  
Bro. Charlie Haile (Joined Sept. 15, 1894)  
Sister Fannie Dunbar (Joined May 1895)  
Sister Tomlinson (Joined May 19, 1895)  
Bro. Jet Bradley  
Mrs. J. N. Bradley  
Dorah Bradley  
Minnie Bradley  
Wheeler Bradley  
Hayes Bradley (Letter Aug. 1895)  
Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Counts  
Amanda Counts (Letter Jan. 1896)  
T. W. Tomlinson (May 1896)  
Bro. James Turman (July 1896)  
Dr. H. D. Barnes  
Mrs. Stella Stringer (Nov. 1897)  
Bro. J. J. Stamps  
Mrs. Dollie Stamps  
(List Incomplete)