

FAIRVIEW FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Fairview Freewill Baptist Church was organized in August 1949, by a council made up of Rev. F.C. Calhoun, Rev. L.A. (Les) Lilly, and Brother Caudill Meadows.

First officers as follows: Rev. L.A. Lilly, pastor; Mrs. Ruby Meadows, clerk; Mrs. June Clark, Treasurer; 1st Deacon, Burkey Meadows; 2nd Deacon, Brother Joe Harvey; 3rd Deacon, Brother Chester Jewel.

Charter Members: Brother Irskin Clark; Brother Kenneth Lilly; Brother Lonnie Meadows; Brother Ludy Meadows; Brother Chester Jewel; Brother Burkey Meadows; Brother Clarence Fink; Brother Milton McBride; Brother Joseph Harvey; Brother Clifton Harvey; Sister Ora Lilly; Sister Delores Ann Meadows; Sister Ruby Meadows; Sister Florence Harvey; Sister Ellen Marie Matherly; and Sister June Clark. Rev. Lemuel Martin was voted assistant pastor, trustees were Brother Charles Fink, Brother Clifton Harvey, and Brother Irskin Clark.

On September 24, 1950 an all day service was held in the new church, to dedicate the church. A short sermon was delivered by new assistant pastor Okey Cox. Dedication by Brother D.W. French of Crab Orchard, W.V.

A three week revival was held by Brother Cleve Young, around September 5, 1950.

Business meeting was held October 16, 1953, contract read and received for new church building, due to the fact that the W.V. Turnpike went in and caused the old church to be sold to the turnpike and moved to current location.

June 14, 1950 Brother Okey Cox asked to be sent to Conference to be licensed to preach. Brother L.A. (Les) Lilly pastored the church until April 15, 1960, at which time Brother Yule Tilley was installed and died while pastoring. On October 22, 1960 Brother Milburn Jewel was then voted in and served until April 17, 1968, when Brother Leonard Craighead was elected pastor.

The Church belongs to the Beckley Conference of Free Will Baptist, the West Virginia State Association of Free Will Baptist, and the National Association of Free Will Baptist.