

OLD STATE ROAD FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Old State Road Free Will Baptist Church was organized on November 13, 1949, in Beeson, W.V.

Before any church was built, services were held in the cattle shed at Roger West's home in September, 1949. Approximately thirty (30) people made their confessions to the Lord and were baptized on September 19 of that year.

A revival was held by Brother Yule Tilley in the basement of Brother Willie Tedder's home. Subsequently, a meeting was held at 3:00p.m., November 13, 1949, in the same location for the purpose of organizing two separate churches: The Beeson Chapel Free Will Baptist Church and the Old State Road Free Will Baptist Church.

The chairmen of this meeting were: Brother W.C. Combs, Brother T.W. Hampton, and Brother Yule Tilley.

Brother Yule Tilley was elected as pastor. Brother Willie Tedder and Brother Bernard Shrewsbury was to server as deacons.

Some of those who were instrumental in starting the church were: Bernard Shrewsbury; Pansy Shrewsbury; Willie Tedder; Lassie Tedder; Edna Cline; Lowell Cline; Tilden Cline; Emory Karmas; and Lois Karmas.

Charter members of the Church were: Bernard Shrewsbury; Pansy Shrewsbury; Willie Tedder; Lassie Tedder; Annie Peyton; Tilden Cline; Edna Cline, Lowell Cline; Emory Karmas; Lois Karmas; and Margaret Tedder.

A school building was donated by Uncle James A. McQuail, owner and founder of the Turkey Gap Coal Company, to be used for church services.

The basement of Brother Willie Tedder's home was used until the construction of the Old State Road Church was completed.

The Old State Road Free Will Baptist Church was finished and dedicated on the 3rd. Sunday in July, in 1954. Brother Yule Tilley preached the dedication service.

The first revival held in the church was by Brother Eldon Pauley

The Church is located in Mercer County, on at Nubbins Ridge Rd., Beeson, W.V. 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.

Ministers who have pastored the Old State Road Free Will Baptist Church are as follows:

Rev. Yule Tilley
Rev. L.L. Martin
Rev. Lenard Craighead
Rev. Roger West
Rev. Bernard Shrewsbury
Rev. Darrell Woods
Rev. Eddie Harold
Rev. Vernon Hubbard
Rev. Gaylord Shrewsbury
Rev. Arnie McKiney
Rev. Oattie Tyler
Rev. Grant Prince

Some of the Deacons of the Church are as follows:

Lowell Cline
Emory Karmas
Clinton Polk
Arnold Shrewsbury
Robert Lusk

Attached you will find: a picture of the congregation of the church, in 1951; a picture of the present church building.

NOTE: This information was given to the Historical Committee of the West Virginia State Association of Free Will Baptist, sometime in, or around 2014-2015, by Clerk Irene Lusk.



Congregation - 1951



Present Church Building