

## **PRINCE OF PEACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH**

Given as an arm from the Rock of Ages United Baptist Church. The Prince of Peace Church was organized on March 30, 1959 in the Bethlehem Association of United Baptist. Beginning with 35 members the Church began a building fund with an \$800.00 gift from the Rock of Ages Church.

The first pastor of the church was Rev. John Garrido, who served until 1961. Wilma Fouch became the first church clerk along with Raymond Wilson as deacon and John Lovins, Rosco Fouch, and Glen Asbury as the Trustees, and Bob Egan as the Financial Secretary/Treasurer.

The church began holding services in the basement of Herold and Romine Lucas' home on Burlington Road. Without the use of a piano or choir leader, and only song books, the church began the journey which was to lead to the Prince of Peace Church Free Will Baptist Church.

The church purchased a 40-ft. lot at 4637 Piedmont Road, which was at the time, little more than marshland. The marshland was filled, the foundation laid, and thus began the construction in the spring of 1959. The work was done by men of the church - as has been the practice for most of the additions

Through the years, four adjoining lots were purchased, three of which were used for parking and the other for the church's auxiliary building.

In August 1966, the church removed its membership from the Bethlehem Association of United Baptists. The church united with the Boyd County, Kentucky Conference of Free Will Baptists in May 1968. Then, in June 1984, joined the Brotherhood Conference of Free Will Baptist, in West Virginia.

Prince of Peace FWB Church has gone through many growth periods, such as:

- \* 8 Sunday School rooms added in 1960
- \* Front Addition (nursery & foyer) in 1973
- \* East Addition (2 Sunday School rooms) in 1976

- \* West Addition (extended Sanctuary) in 1977
- \* West Addition (3 Sunday School rooms) in 1979
- \* New Fellowship Hall in 1982
- \* Sanctuary remodeling in 1990
- \* Sanctuary & front foyer remodeling in 2003-2005

Men who have served as pastor include:

- \* John Garrido                      March 1959 - 1961
- \* John Hockenberry                June 1961-February 1985
- \* Ron Scott                            June 1985-January 1989
- \* Daniel Copley                     April 1989-May 1991
- \* Phillip Warren                     August 1991-Present

Through the years Prince of Peace Free Will Baptist Church has strived to reach out to those in need of spiritual help. All of this was and is possible only through the blessing of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It is to Him that we give all praise and glory forever.

Charter members of the Church were:

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|-----------------|------------------|
| John E. Garrido | Glen V. Asbury   |
| Charles Egan    | Helen Asbury     |
| Raymond Wilson  | Glen R. Asbury   |
| Romine Lucas    | Bobby Joe Wilson |
| Ruth Adkins     | Jenanne Wilson   |
| Walter Adkins   | Harold H. Lucas  |
| Bessie Eales    | Bill Wilson      |
| John Lovins     | Sally Lovins     |
| Barbara Garrido | Larry Lovins     |
| Loretta Lycans  | Jack Lovins      |
| Ota Wilson      | Deloris Obrine   |
| Thelma Fouch    | Herman Adkins    |
| Rilda Egan      | Verla Adkins     |
| Wilma Fouch     | Bobby Joe Fouch  |
| Don Fouch       | Larry Dale Fouch |
| Bill Fouch      | Mary Adkins      |
| Virginia Asbury | Arnold Topping   |
|                 | Ann Topping      |

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

Attached you will find: a picture of the early church (1959-1960); a picture of the present church (2009).



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***NOTE:** This information was given to the Historical Committee of the West Virginia State Association of Free Will Baptist, sometime in, or around June 2009 (as found in the 50th year anniversary).*  
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