

## **GRACE FELLOWSHIP FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH**

A group of Christians numbering 28, met at the home of Harry and Emma Ray December 5th, 2000 for prayer, and too seek God's guidance for the Love of our Lord Jesus Christ, in establishing a church.

Brother Tom Blake lead the meeting. He told the group, that this will take careful planning. He gave an incite on what to expect, also the general area and location he would like to begin this work.

JR Steam and Nick Prezzi were elected Treasure. A name for the Church will be selected December 10th, 2000.

Out of this meeting a new church was born.

Grace Fellowship was organized on May 20th, 2001.

- Brother Harry Ray opened with prayer, asking God's Blessings on a new beginning.
- Pastor Tom Blake called the church to order.
- Brother JR Stearns presented the Charter Member List.
- Brother Larry Clark presented the By-Laws.
- Brother Phil Huff presented the Church Covenant.
- Pastor Tom Blake was officially elected as church pastor.
- Nominating Committee elected were:
  - a) Green Seabolt
  - b) Harry Ray
  - c) Tony Fults
  - d) Jeff Copenhaver
- Motion to Dismiss.
- Brother Green Seabolt dismissed in prayer.

## **Charter Members of Grace Fellow:**

Naomi Barrow	Angie Ingle
Tom Blake	Laurie Ingle
Tammy Blake	Linda Ingle
Jill Blake	Sydney Miller
Mandy Blake	Betty Nicholas
Ron Branch	Eddie Nicholas
Holly Branch	Jack Price
Betty Clark	Jason Price
Larry Clark	Kay Price
Diane Clark	Tabitha Price
Francis Clatterbuck (associate)	Lucy Quesenberry
Jeff Copenhaver	Nancy Rutherford
Tonia Copenhaver	Harry Ray
Jesse Cruz	Emma Ray
Marie Davis	Green Seabolt
Tony Fults	Judy Seabolt
Jerry Hartman	John Seabolt
Katie Hartman	Amanda Sterns
Shelly Hicks	Jessie Sterns
Danny Hogbin	Linda Sterns
Philip Huff	Lloyd Sterns
Treresa Huff	Nick Prezzi
Matthew Huff	Donna Prezzi
Charity Huff	Marie Williams
Rebecca Huff	Kerren Wright
	Logan Wright

June 24, 2001

- Marie Williams elected Clerk
- JR Stearns & Nick Prezzi elected Treasurer
- Ron (Butch) Branch elected Sunday School Superintendent
- Jeff Copenhaver elected to Advisory Board

June 5, 2001

- Grace Fellowship petitioned the Greenbrier Valley Conference of Free Will Baptist to be accepted into their Conference.

July 22, 2001

- Business Meeting held
- Church voted to Join Greenbrier Valley Conference

August 5, 2011

- Church sent a letter to the Greenbrier Valley Conference informing them that they had unanimously voted to become a member of the Greenbrier Valley Conference.

October 6, 2002

- Property was purchased in Berkeley County

November 3, 2002

- The Church held it's first meeting in their new Church.

May 17, 2005

- Grace Fellowship petitioned the Eastern Panhandle Conference of Free Will Baptist to be accepted into their Conference.

June 26, 2005

- Pastor Tom Blake resigned as pastor, giving his 30 day notice.

July 24, 2005

- Grace Fellowship elected Jimmy Williams as their new pastor.

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

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**NOTE:** *Information supplied to the Historical Committee of the West Virginia State Association of Free Will Baptist, came from the Clerk of the Church - Marie Williams. She sent a lot more information; However, I have condensed it down to show the most pertinent information.*

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Many events have occurred since I received the above information in 2005; Therefore, I (*Rickie Holstein*) have added the following information . . .

- In 2013 Grace Fellowship built a new church, beside the old one, which they will use for Sunday School Rooms.
- November 2, 2013, they held the dedication service for the new Church.