

HARMONY FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Harmony Free Will Baptist Church had its humble beginning in 1932, when fourteen Christians from churches surrounding the Lick Creek area of Wayne County came together and organized the Lick Creek Baptist Church. Services started at the Lick Creek Elementary School, which was a one room school. The church would meet once a month. The church outgrew the school in a few years, and property on Lick Creek was donated to the church by Kirk and Vicie Ross. The congregation constructed a one room block church in the 1940's. The church remained on Lick Creek until 1968 when the Army Corps of Engineers bought the land to build the East Lynn Lake.

In 1968 a brick church was constructed in the Newtown Addition of Wayne. Because of structural problems, the building was torn down and a new building was built at the Newtown location in 1986. This building had a sanctuary, classrooms, and restrooms.

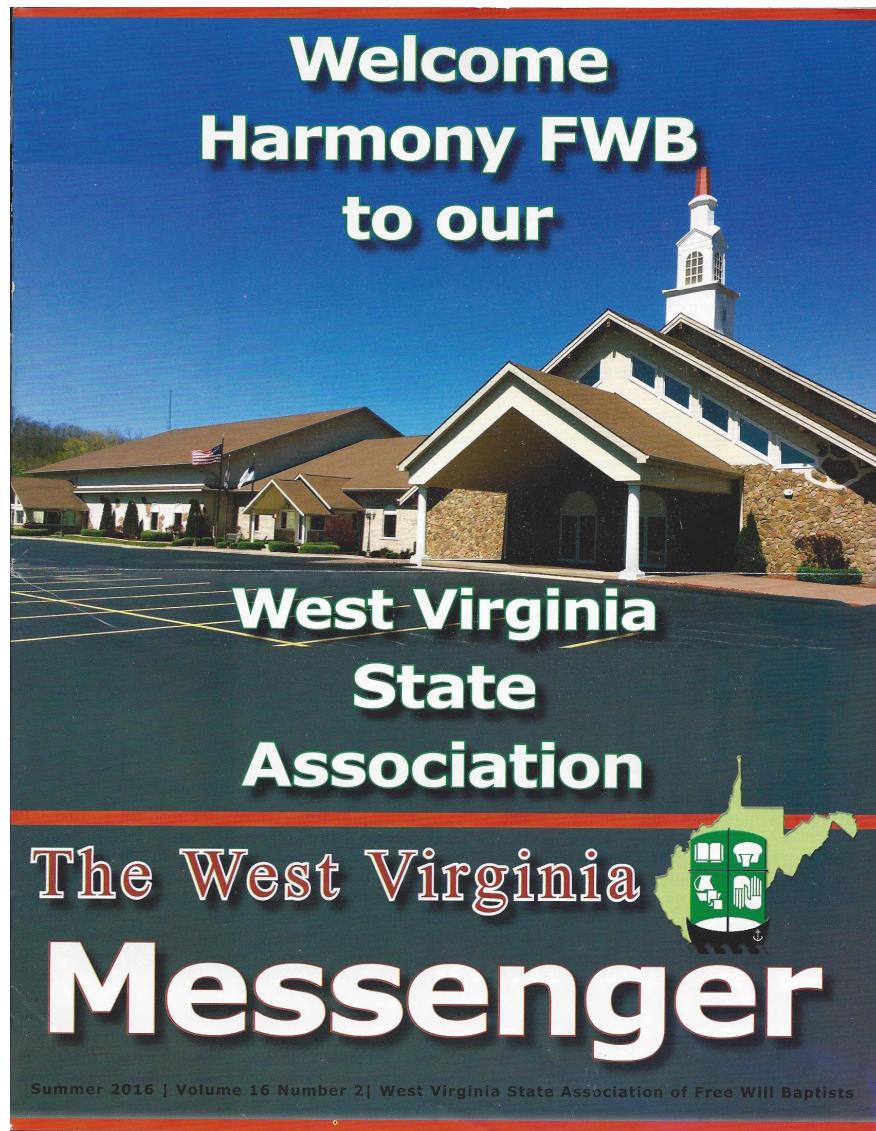
In the 1990's the church outgrew the facility and the decision was made to relocate to the present location. In 1999 the church purchased the property north on Wayne, at 7045 Route 152. In the spring business meeting on 2011, the church voted to change its name to Harmony Free Will Baptist Church. The new facilities were completed by June 2011, after several years of construction, and the church moved into the present location.

In a business meeting in December, 2015 the church voted to join the Brotherhood Conference of Free Will Baptist. At the April, 2016 conference a delegation from the church requested membership into the Brotherhood Conference, and was accepted into fellowship with them.

The church presently has 143 members, and has an average Sunday morning attendance of 218. The church has classes of all ages from nursery to adults. The church is presently served by three deacons, four ministers, nine Sunday School teachers, church clerk, and their pastor Michael Dillion. Michael Dillion has served as their pastor since 1986.

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 present church as it appeared on the cover of The Messenger.



***NOTE:** This information was gathered from the Summer 2016 addition of The West Virginia Messenger (the State paper of W.V. Free Will Baptist). The article was written by Rev. Carl Lilly, W.V. State Promotional Director.*
