

SLAUGHTER'S CREEK FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH HISTORY

The Slaughter's Creek Free Hill Baptist Church got its start as far back as the early 1880's with cottage prayer meetings held in different homes. Slaughter's Creek FWB Church joined the Quarterly Meeting in 1884. This was the first documented record of the Slaughter's Creek Church.

Around 1922 they were allowed to have church services in the Slaughter's Creek School. The board of education renewed the lease until the early 1950's.

At this time, a church was built about 2 1/2 miles up Slaughter's Creek on coal company property. This church building was used until 1960, when the P.A. Denny Coal Co. asked the congregation to move from that property.

On November 12, 1960, the membership voted to buy a lot at Little Creek. Members of the church and community joined together to build the church. When the basement was finished, the congregation began to hold their meetings there while they continued to build the main auditorium.

On July 12, 1961, the membership voted to rename the church Slaughter's Creek Memorial Free Will Baptist Church. By July, 1966, the church auditorium was completed on top of the basement. At that time, a dedication service was held. From that time to this we have been blessed with dedicated and talented members, an active Ladies Aide, and a supportive community.

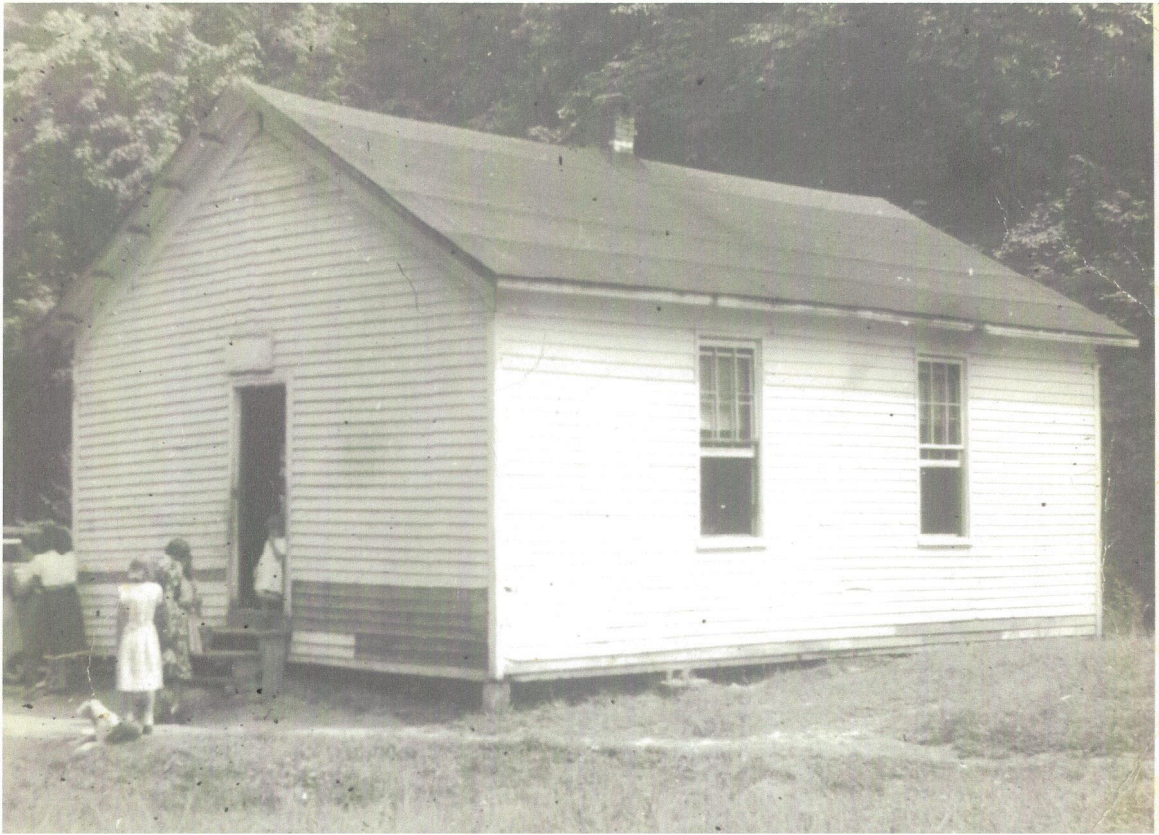
Church History

Over a hundred years ago, a small group of people decided to begin to have prayer meetings in their homes. As the congregation grew and became more organized, the need for a name to make the church official became necessary. In honor of one of the founding fathers who owned a lot of property on the hollow by the name of Slaughters, the church was given the name Slaughters Creek Church. In 1884 when they joined the Kanawha County Conference they became the Slaughters Creek Free Will Baptist Church.

Eventually they outgrew the homes of the congregation. So, A. Colonel Scott wrote a letter to the board of education asking permission to hold meetings in the one room school house on Slaughters Creek one Sunday a month. Thus they officially became a church.

Slaughters Creek Memorial Free Will Baptist Church has always followed God's leadership; therefore He has always blessed us when there has been a financial need. We are, and have always been a small church in a rural working class area. God has continually performed financial miracles for our church. From the leasing of the old schoolhouse for meetings in February of 1922 to the purchasing of our beautiful baby grand piano in March of this year of 1998, God has taken care of his people. Some of the stories are as follows/

When the church was told we had to move out of Slaughters Creek, God provided a way. A piece of property was for sale up a neighboring hollow called Little Creek. The property was a small parcel of land, but was big enough to build the church on. On the 5th day of August 1962 Bill Estep, Clarence Miller and Euel McGraw (the board of trustees at that time) signed papers and bought the property (a \$500.00 value) for \$10.00. Lot #9 at Little Creek officially became the new church grounds for Slaughters Creek FWB. Church was held in the basement after it was built until the auditorium was completed. Parcel #8 was leased for church parking. Nitchell Thompson donated the use of his carport for the all day service dinners. The church continued to be blessed by God.





Aug 51

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## OUR ANCESTORS WERE ...

### PASTORS

William Lewis Peters - 1922-1927

Willis Comer - 1927-1935

McKinley Trail - 1935, no known record 1935-1948

Howard Scott - dates unknown

Leo Howerton - dates unknown

Charles Arnold - 1942-1943

Cecil Curry - 1946-1947

W.E. O'Conner - 1948-1949

Grover Jarrett - 1949-1952

Deward Jarrell - 1952-1954

Sharp Estep - sometime in the 50s

Stanley Barker - 1959, 1966-1968, 1973-1974

Clarence Turley - 1960-1966

Forest Cooper - July 13, 1969-February 14, 1970

Lee Turley - February 1970-July 8, 1973

Charles Ferguson - January 5, 1975-April 1977

John R. Hudson - April 3, 1977-present day

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### DEACONS

John McGraw

Fred Williams

Van Dickens

Bill Estep

Clarence Miller

Fuel McGraw

James Hudson

Henry Oakes

Henry Stone

Frank Adkins

Paul Curry

Dave Hansford

Simeon Estep (he went to be with the Lord before he received his papers.)

**OUR ANCESTORS WERE ...**

**SUNDA Y SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS**

John McGraw  
Roscoe Hunt-12 years  
William Martin "Bill" Estep- many years  
Paul Curry-many years-present day

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**TREASURERS**

Burton Webb  
Bill Estep  
Clarence Miller  
Euel McGraw  
Kaye Bradley  
Margaret Estep

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**SONG LEADERS**

John McGraw  
Lillian Williams  
Henry "Bearcat" Stone  
Ruby Thompson  
Linda Elkins

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**PIANISTS**

Bernice Massey  
Barbara Curry  
Virginia Hansford  
Tammy "Curry" Payne

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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 1998.*  
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