

SPRAGUE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Sprague Free Will Baptist Church was organized in 1950 from The Community Church which met in a former school house and Community Building (where the Beckley City Park is now located). Rev. Robert H. Doan was instrumental in organizing the church. The Church continued to hold services there until 1953.

In 1953 the New River Coal Company donated land to build our Church. The basement was completed and used until the sanctuary was started. The sanctuary was started in 1956 and completed in 1957.

In 1973 the church was remodeled inside. In 1974 the church purchased the house and lot above the church. In 1976 a project was started to erect an activities building on the lot. This was completed in March 1977.

Rev. Jim Stanley was instrumental in organizing Sprague Christian Academy.

Several projects have been completed since 1986. We have replaced the windows and doors in the sanctuary. A new P.A. system has been installed.

In May 1987 we lost the School building to fire. Which we rebuilt as a Fellowship Hall and classes for our Youth meetings.

In 1988 and 1989 air conditioner was installed. New wood ceilings and lights were installed in the sanctuary. We are presently remodeling the Activities Building.

We would like to thank all of those who worked so faithfully and those who gave financially.

The present address of the Sprague Free Will Baptist Church is, 810 Ewart Ave., Beckley, W.V. 25801

The Church is a member of the Beckley Conference of Free Will Baptist.

Charter members of the Church were:

Deceased . . . Clarence & Virgie Pittman; Ernest & Marie Brown; Maude Brown; Ruby Albert; Essie Albert; Marry McGrady; Ora Mejias; Van & Ludille Bays; George & Magie Cline; Freda Black; Lillian Carter; Glen Carter; Durward & Rose Smith; Hazel Scott;

Cordell & Ethel Way; Melda Martin; John Newman;
Silas & Leota Laws; Virginia Lucas; Don & Ruby
Cochran; Paul & Fula Hess

Still Living . . . Jack & Joyce Laws; Fred & Susan Lovell;
Sherman Lovell; Carol Bolen; Jouce Sanders; Cynthia
Hatcher; Dave & Carol Runyon; Dorothy Crews; Mary
Billings; Karen Lovell

Former Pastors:

Rev. R.H. Doan	1950
Rev. Virgil Cook	1950
Rev. Royce French	1950-1952
Rev. T.W. Hampton	1952-1957
Rev. G.E. Pauley	1957
Rev. Yule Tilley	1957-1958
Rev. Robert Sanger	1958-1959
Rev. T.W. Hampton	1959-1960
Rev. C.M. Littlejohn	1960-1967
Rev. W.R. Gauldin	1967-1970
Rev. Willis Graham	1970
Rev. Pat Ruble	1970-1972
Rev. Jim Stanley	1972-1984
Rev. Gary Smith	1985
Rev. Fred Lovell	1986 to present