The History of the Mt. Byrd Christian Church

By

Rev. Keith Tennant

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THE HISTORY OF THE MT. BYRD CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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In 1804, in Bourbon County, Kentucky, at a place called Cane Ridge, in the eastern portion of the county, there was a great revival that took place. It was a strange phenomenon. At one time there were several preachers all preaching at the same time, and strange "workings" that took place. Out of it all, however, was grown a movement that would become known as the RESTORATION MOVEMENT". Primarily, the churches that would make up this movement would be known as CHRISTIAN CHURCHES, DISCIPLES OF CHRIST or CHURCHES OF CHRIST.

Leaders of the outcome of the Cane Ridge Revival joined forces with similar leaders of religious awakening movements of northern Virginia (later west Virginia) who were interested in being CHRISTIANS ONLY and restoring New Testament Christianity. In 1832 a meeting of these leaders took place in Lexington, Kentucky. That same year, 1832, a Baptist preacher by the name of Isaac Foster moved, with his family into an area located on the Ohio River that would in a short matter of time be renamed Trimble County, Kentucky.

Mr. Foster found some interested persons in his new area who were just as interested in fostering his new found ideas of Christianity and he led them to establish a new work in a new area. On the second Lord's Day of September, 1832, this group met in the home of one David Floyd and a church was established with fourteen charter members. James Lindsey and his wife were former members of the Cane Ridge connection and William Maddox and his wife were Baptists and the rest were by immersion.

This group called themselves "MT. OLIVET. For some time they met in the home of members; eventually they would build a church meeting house. The first such meeting place was located just north of the house where David Floyd lived. (The foundation of this building can yet be seen, and it is located on the Roy Liter Farm. Roy and Eunice Liter now live in the old Floyd house where David Floyd lived at the time that first group was formed. In 1800, David Floyd purchased from his father-in-law, Frederick Burdette, about 300 acres of land on a bluff overlooking the Ohio River. This land at that time was in Gallatin County, now Trimble County, Kentucky about 15 miles below the mouth of the Kentucky River. It is only 3 miles below the town of Milton, Kentucky and directly across the river from Hanover, Indiana. On this farm David Floyd

BUILT A LOG HOUSE IN WHICH HE AND HIS WIFE, CATHY WOULD REAR THEIR CHILDREN. AND IN THIS SAME HOUSE, THE FIRST MEETING OF THE CHURCH IN THIS AREA WAS HELD.

JOHN B. FLOYD, A SON OF DAVID SOLD THE HOUSE AND THE FARM TO A. M. KING, WHO IN TURN SOLD IT TO HERMAN AND GRACE SCHIRMER. THE SCHIRMERS SOLD TO DR. PHILIP NODLER, AND THE LITERS BOUGHT THE HOUSE AND FARM FROM HIM. IT STILL STANDS IN THE SAME SPOT OVERLOOKING THE OHIO RIVER.)(SEE ILLUSTRATION PAGES.)

SOME OF THE FIRST OFFICERS OF THE MT. OLIVET CONGREGATION WERE J. B. FLOYD AND WILLIAM MADDOX AS ELDERS, AND DAVID FLOYD AS DEACON. ISAAC FOSTER WOULD DO THE PREACHING. A LOG STRUCTURE WAS BUILT AS THEIR MEETING HOUSE AND EARLY PREACHERS WERE ISIAH CORNELIUS, SILAS KENDRIC, S. S. FLEMING, JESSE MAVITY AND WILLIAM BROWN. THE MEMBERSHIP INCREASED RAPIDLY AS THIS WAS A TIME OF SPIRITUAL AWAKENING ALL ACROSS AMERICA.

ABOUT THIS TIME ROBERT MOFFETT, ALEX MOFFETT, PORTER FISHER, AND HADEN FISHER MOVED TO THE COMMUNITY FROM WOODFORD COUNTY, KENTUCKY AND BECAME LEADING WORKERS IN THE CHURCH. ROBERT MOFFETT WOULD SOON DECIDE TO DONATE LAND FOR THE PERMANENT MEETING PLACE IN THE COMMUNITY.
THE FOLLOWING IS THE DEED, RECORDED IN MARCH 1841 IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE IN BEDFORD, TRIMBLE COUNTY:

This indenture made and entered into this fifteenth day of March, 1841 between Robert Moffett of the County of Trimble and State of Kentucky of the first part and James Conway, Joseph Broad, Robert L. King, Haden Fisher and Enoch K. McGee, trustees of the Mt. Bird* Meeting House of the county and state aforesaid of the second part. Witnesseth that for and in consideration of the sum of two dollars to him in hand paid by the party of the second part the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged by the party of the first part hath granted, bargained and sold and by these presents do grant, bargain and sell unto the party of the second part the following tract or parcel of land situate lying and being the said county of Trimble and State and on the waters of the Ohio River and bounded as follows to wit: Beginning at a stone 15 feet south of the line between John Goss and Robert Moffett, where the Strother Road now crosses said line thence on N 29 E 20 poles to a stone thence N 83 W 12 poles to a stone thence N 29 W 20 poles to a stone thence N 83 E 12 poles to the beginning and on which Mt. Bird* Meeting House now stands and the party of the first part gives, in trust to the end of time to

the said party of the second part the use and benefit of said meeting house and for the use and benefit of all and every person these collected in a church capacity a free and unrestrained privilege and access to and from a certain spring of water on this situate N 5 W 42 from N west corner of said Mt. Bird Meeting House. Together with all and singular the appurtances thereunto belonging to have and to hold the same unto the party of the second part in trust forever and the said party of the first part doth covenant and agree to and with the party of the second part to warrant and defend the said tract of land free from the claim or claims of all and every person or persons whatsoever claiming or to claim the same and free from the claim or claims of himself and his heirs and assigns forever. In witness whereof the said party of the first part hath here unto set his hand and seal the day and the year first written above. Signed: Robert Moffett

The work defend interlined before signed: Burdett Mayfield, John Moffett

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, TRIMBLE COUNTY

I, William Samuel, Clerk of the county court for the county aforesaid do certify that this deed from Robert Moffett to James Conway, Joseph Broad and Robert I. King, Haden M. Fisher, Enoch K. McGee, trustees of Mount Bird Meeting House was produced to me in my office and proven in full by the oaths of John Moffett and Burdett Mayfield whereas on the foregoing deed together with certificate hath been duly admitted to record in my office. Given under my hand this 28th day of February, 1842. Wm. Samuel, Clerk.

SHORTLY THEREAFTER, FOR THE SAKE OF A BETTER LOCATION, IT WAS DECIDED TO BUILD A NEW PLACE OF WORSHIP AT THE CORNER OF THE STROTHER AND COOPER ROADS. (THE STROTHER ROAD IS NOW PECK PIKE AND THE COOPER ROAD WAS ABANDONED WHEN THE LIBERTY ROAD WAS BUILT.) IT WAS FELT THAT NOW MORE PEOPLE WOULD BE BENEFITTED BY THE BUILDING BEING THERE IN AN AREA WHERE THERE WERE MORE PEOPLE THAN WHERE ORIGINALLY LOCATED. THIS BUILDING WAS BUILT IN 1836-38 AND WAS CALLED "MT. BYRD".

THE STORY IS HANDED DOWN THAT THE REASON FOR THE NAME WAS: THE BUILDING WAS BUILT ON A HIGH SPOT, THUS MOUNT, AND THE MAN'S NAME WHO DID THE SURVEYING OF THE SITE WAS NAMED: BYRD????THIS CANNOT BE SUBSTANTUATED. YOU WILL NOTE THE SPELLING BIRD IN THE ORIGINAL DEED! IT SEEMS FROM THIS POINT ON THE DIFFERENT SPELLING WAS ALWAYS USED: MT. BYRD.

CHARTER MEMBERS HERE WERE: ROBERT MOFFETT, ELIZABETH MOFFETT, SARAH ANN MOFFETT, ALEXANDER MOFFETT, EMILY MOFFETT, JANE MOFFETT, CAROLINE FISHER, ROBERT THOMPSON, POLLY BLAKE, ZACHARIAH TAYLOR. LUCINDA

MOFFETT, CATHARINE STIPES, NANCY MOFFETT, HARRIETT MOFFETT, PORTER FISHER, ANNA F. THOMPSON, ELIZABETH TAYLOR AND SALLY TAYLOR. PORTER FISHER WAS CHOSEN AS THE FIRST ELDER.

THE AREA WAS AS YET NOT SO WELL POPULATED TO REALLY SUPPORT TWO GROWING CONGREGATIONS, SO IT WAS DECIDED BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT TO STRENGTHEN THE CAUSE BY JOINING FORCES. MT. OLIVET FORMED UNION WITH MT. BYRD AND IN ONLY A FEW YEARS THE TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP WAS COMPLETED.

THE DOCUMENT THAT JOINED THE TWO CONGREGATIONS READS:

"We, the churches of Christ at Mount Olive and Mount Bird through our representatives in committy (sic) who met at Mount Olive on this 9th day of November, 1839 do agree to the following arrangements, (To wit) that the members of the two congregations, Mount Bird and Mount Olive record their names on one church book, thereby constituting one congregation. They are to be known as the congregation at Mt. Bird and Mt. Olive; further agree to meet for the purpose of worshipping God, on the 4th Lord's Day in every month at Mount Olive, and on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd at Mount Bird, and they also agree that the houses known as Mount Olive and Mount Bird shall be owned by and belong to the one congregation. And they do further agree that whenever any portion of said one congregation shall become dissatisfied or it shall become necessary for a disunion, then they shall be at liberty to constitute a separate congregation for the purpose of worshipping God either at Mount Olive or Mount Bird. They also agree to unite their strength so far as is consistent with the revealed Word of God in promoting the Kingdom of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Committy (sic) from Mount Bird: Robert I. King. Joseph Brown. Haden Fisher. From Mount Olive: Wm. Maddox. Jeremiah Trout and Jacob Overpeck.

Signed: R. I. King. H. W. Fisher. J. Trout. Jacob Overpeck. Joseph Broad and William Maddox.

AS THE TWO CONGREGATIONS MERGED IT WAS NECESSARY TO BUILD A PERMANENT HOUSE OF WORSHIP. THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENT SHOWS THAT INTENT:

"We, whose names here unto subscribed wishing to erect a Meeting House some where in the neighborhood of Mt. Buird (sic) take this method of saying what we will give when called on (by the committee that shall be appointed) for that purpose.

The above house is for the use of any denomination of worshippers when not in the occupancy of the Christian congregation for whose use and benefit it is built:

Names of Subscribers: Robert Moffett: $200.00. Alex. Moffett: $50.00

Hayden W. Fisher: $25.00. Porter Fisher: $20.00. Joseph Broad: $5.00 John Fresh: $5.00. Wm. ?: $5.00. Rufus King: $5.00. James Conway: $5.00. George M. Stewart: $5.00. John H. Moffett: $5.00. Isaac G. Bowman $5.00. Nelly Young: $10.00. R. I. King: $25.00. Martha M. Dicky: $5.00. Wm. S. McGee: $5.00. John Wise: $5.00. ? Connell, Jr. : $5.00. W. G. ? in work: $5.00. Baxter Mayfield: $5.00. Isaac T. Buchanan: $2.00. David Floyd: $5.00. Isaac Trout: $3.00. George Christman: $5.00. Thomas I. Godman: $?. A. M. King: $5.00. Burdett Mayfield: $5.00. Robt. B. Gray: $3.00. Jno. W. Coleman: $1.00. William Campbell: $3.00. Chas. H. Davidson: $2.00. Jess Coleman: $3.00. ? Ball: $10.00. Nelson Gardner: $2.00. By cash in full: $5.00.

IN 1868 ROBERT MOFFETT GAVE A SECTION OF LAND TO BE USED AS CHURCH PROPERTY. THIS INCLUDED SEVERAL ACRES. THE PRESENT MT. BYRD CHURCH BUILDING (WHAT IS NOW THE MAIN AUDITORIUM) WOULD BE BUILT ON THIS GROUND AND THIS SAME ROBERT MOFFETT WOULD GIVE LAND FOR THE MOFFETT CEMETERY THAT BEARS HIS NAME. IT IS LOCATED ABOUT A MILE FROM THE CHURCH PROPERTY AND OVERLOOKS THE OHIO RIVER. SOME TIME LATER THIS PROPERTY WOULD HOUSE THE MEETING HOUSE, AN EIGHT-ROOM PARSONAGE, OUTBUILDINGS INCLUDING A BARN FOR THE PREACHER'S USE.

THERE IS A STORY TOLD IN THE FOX FAMILY THAT IS INTERESTING AND OUGHT TO BE PASSED ALONG. IT SEEMS MR. JEREMIAH "JERRY" FOX (RAYMOND CHANDLER'S GRANDFATHER) WAS ONE OF THE CARPENTERS WHO WORKED ON THE NEW BUILDING. ONE DAY HE WENT HOME WITH HIS PAY CHECK AFTER WORKING ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BUILDING, LAID HIS CHECK UPON THE MANTLEPIECE OVER A FIREPLACE AND FORGOT ABOUT IT. SOMEONE OPENED AN OUTSIDE DOOR AND A BREEZE SWEPT IT OFF THE MANTLE AND THE DRAFT FROM THE CHIMNEY PULLED IT INTO THE FIRE IN THE GRATE. OF COURSE, IT WAS BURNED UP. WHEN HE REPORTED IT TO WHOMEVER (?) ANOTHER CHECK WAS NOT GIVEN. THIS SAME MR. FOX, THOUGH SEEMINGLY NOT UPSET BY THE SLIGHT, WHEN THE NEW BUILDING WAS COMPLETED CONTINUED TO WORHIP AT MT. BYRD AND HAD A FAVORITE SEAT, THE FRONT PEW. HERE HE SAT AND REGULARLY JOINED IN THE SONG SERVICE LOUDLY AND LUSTILY. EVIDENTLY, ACCORDING TO THE STORY, HE WAS NOT ALWAYS IN TEMPO, OR WAS OFF-KEY; ANYWAY, HE WAS ASKED (AND THE STORY-TELLER AGAIN DOES NOT NAME NAMES) NOT TO SING. HE DISREGARDED THIS REQUEST (BLESS HIS HEART!) AND CONTINUED TO SING JUST AS HE WISHED. (WE NEED PEOPLE LIKE THAT TODAY, WHO WILL NOT HOLD A GRUDGE, AND YET WORSHIP DESPITE WHATEVER IS DONE TO THEM!)

An early preacher and well-known evangelist of the time remarked that the acoustic qualities of this building were some of the finest in the land.

In 1900 the membership of Mt. Byrd and Hunter's Bottom built a building in Milton (down on the river) for the convenience of the membership living there and it was maintained as part of and under the leadership of the elders of the Mt. Byrd Church. In 1914 a new house of worship was built to take the place of the old building rendered unsuitable by the flood of 1913. In 1950 this congregation withdrew from the oversight of Mt. Byrd and is now a separate congregation.

Constant modernization and up-date ("keeping up with the times") is ever the watch-word of Mt. Byrd. In 1904 a modern eight-room parsonage was built on the north side of the meeting house and then was sold in 1954 during the ministry of Bro. Harvey G. Powell, and the present modern parsonage was built. It is located on the south side of the meeting house.

In 1949 class room space was at a premium, and would become a real necessity, since all classes at that time met in the auditorium and this was causing real confusion in teaching classes. A basement was excavated under the main part of the building and this provided space for five classrooms, a furnace room and a hallway.

In 1956, a portico was added to the front of the building and other improvements were made, including installation of storm windows and aluminum siding.

In 1959, beginning in June, the last major building project was begun. This would be an addition to the building on the east side that would provide six classrooms, a minister's study, a baptistry, two preparation rooms, a full basement with two restrooms and a kitchen. At this time there was also a complete redecoration of the auditorium. A new baptistry scene was painted by Mrs. Minnie S. Butler. This is a most restful scene that some have described as being "a foretaste of glory". Earlier the church had commissioned a baptistry scene painted by the locally renown painter Harlan Hubbard. Mr. Hubbard's painting hung in the front of the church for some years, and then was not usable for the baptistry. It now hangs in the rear of the building.

In recent years the parsonage has been re-sided with aluminum siding and also re-roofed, as has the meeting house. In 1986, the church board commissioned a company to a process of "drying out" the basement. When this was done, the classrooms there were re-built, with new walls,

NEW CEILINGS AND THE COMPLETE BASEMENT WAS CARPETED. A REAL IMPROVEMENT!

THE MINSTRY AND THE MEMBERS

ALTHOUGH THERE WERE SEVERAL MINISTERS WHO PREACHED IN THE EARLY DAYS OF THE CHURCH IN TRIMBLE COUNTY, BRO. F. G. ALLEN (B.3-7-1836-D. 1-6-1887) AND HIS WIFE, JENNIE (B. 1837-D.1908) WHO BEGAN HIS MINISTRY IN 1869, JUST AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THE PRESENT MEETING HOUSE WAS THE FIRST IN A LONG LINE OF REGULAR PREACHERS. BRO. ALLEN WAS A NOTED PREACHER OF HIS DAY, AND AS WELL A WELL-READ RELIGIOUS AUTHOR. HE WROTE "THE OLD PATHS PULPIT" FOR SOME YEARS. ARTICLES WRITTEN OF HIM SAY THAT HE HAD AMPLE OPPORTUNITIES OF MOVING ON, BUT DESIRED TO STAY AT MT. BYRD FOR THE REST OF HIS LIFE....WHICH HE DID. HE DIED IN 1887, STILL ACTIVE IN MINISTRY AT MT. BYRD. ANOTHER CHRISTIAN MINISTER, E. J. FENSTERMACHER, WHO TOOK PART AT TIMES ON PROGRAMS AT MT. BYRD MARRIED THE ALLEN'S DAUGHTER, FLORENCE. MR. FENSTERMACHER WAS ONCE A MEMBER OF MT. BYRD AND SERVED AS SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT. BRO. ALLEN AND HIS WIFE NOW REST IN MOFFETT CEMETERY UNDER A SPREADING TREE. A LARGE MONUMENT MARKS THEIR RESTING PLACE.

BRO. ALLEN HAD TUBERCULOSIS AND IN HIS FINAL DAYS, THOUGH NOT ABLE TO WALK TO SERVICES CONTINUED TO GO AND TO PREACH. HE WAS OFTEN CARRIED INTO THE BUILDING ON A STRAIGHT CHAIR FROM WHICH HE PREACHED.

THE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST YEARBOOK OF 1885, STATES THAT IN 1884 W. L. BUCHANAN WAS MINISTER. THERE SEEMS TO BE NO FURTHER RECORD OF HIS MINISTRY.

IN 1885, BRO. A. W. KOKENDOFFER CAME TO MINISTER. THERE ARE NO OTHER RECORDS OF THIS MINISTRY EITHER.

IN 1888 JOHN PAYNE WAS MINISTER. AS YET NO PARSONAGE WAS AVAILABLE, SO HOUSING FOR THE PREACHER AND HIS FAMILY WAS TO BE HAD ELSEWHERE. MRS. BLANCHE RAY GREEN WHO AS A LITTLE GIRL ATTENDED SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CHURCH SERVICES WITH HER PARENTS REMEMBERS THE PAYNES AND THE FACT THAT THEY LIVED IN A HOUSE DOWN THE PECK PIKE, PROBABLY NEAR WHERE THE FORMAN HAMILTONS LIVE NOW. IT WAS ON THE EAST SIDE OF PECK PIKE. NOTHING FURTHER IS REMEMBERED OF BRO. PAYNE EXCEPT THAT HE WAS A "LARGE" MAN.

IN 1909 H. W. STEVENS MINISTERED. FROM THE CHRISTIAN STANDARD OF SEPTEMBER 11, 1909, WE REPRINT THIS ARTICLE:

MT. BYRD REUNION AND MEMORIAL DAY

On a hill which overlooks Madison, Indiana, and the far-famed Hunter's Bottom of the Ohio River, gathers one of the historic churches of the current reformation. Organized in the early days of that revolutionary religious movement that marked the entering in of the nineteenth century. This church has had, as minister and members, some of the host of yeoman Christians, ever true-hearted, whole-hearted, which do so much to put Kentucky in the forefront of a Holy cause.

In the cememtery, with its extended view of the Ohio Valley, surrounded by those whose minister he was for seventeen years, and whose great love and confidence he ever possessed, and by his side the one whose cheer and congeniality during the years of his struggles and successes added much to his powers, lies F. G. Allen. As editor, author, debater, he won undying fame for old Mt. Byrd. Through him the local congregation had name throughout all the church. At the height of his power and influence greater churches solicited his leadership, but he chose to run his allotted days among the tried and love of Mt. Byrd. Their descendants hold him and his in great esteem and deemed it but fitting that the Centennial year be marked by a memorial day's service on August 15, 1909.

Others than F. G. Allen's place gave prestige to the church. Of her own and through her as the mother of churches in Trimble County, some thirty or more men have gone forth for the "sake of the name". In these she gave her interest and pride. She ever gives welcome and large audience to any and all who should visit the old home. They have carried her fame to many states, and have ever honored her by their earnest labors. Some fell upon the field; others, through ill health, have given up the active duties of the ministry. The old church would fain have her sons and grandsons around the home altar. So far and wide she sent her invitation, representatives of the different groups that had entered the ministry were there. Letters of regret, holding tender greetings and well-wishes, came from far-away ones and the incapacitated. Five states--Tennessee, Missouri, Indiana, Ohio and Kentucky------represented by Robert M. Giddens, Chattanooga; J. T. Mahoney, Louisville; E. J. Fenstermacher, Bowling Green, Ky.; Hubert Snyder, Martinsville, Ohio; Wm. Snyder, former minister, Odessa, Mo.; W. H. Milner, Greenwood, Ind.; and A. W. Kokendoffer, Sedalia, Mo., the immediate successor of F. G. Allen had attendance.

The church gave these and many returned former members from other states all the fervor of a real home-coming welcome.

The congregation and brethern of the county had all things ready to make the occasion memorable. The efficient, untiring and genial Bro. Stevens, the present minister, with the assistance of Bros. Snyder and Voiers, elders, had prepared a splendid program. The sisters, all, had a magnificent hospitality to extend to expected and unexpected guests alike. E. J. Fenstermacher preached the opening discourse on Saturday night, his subject being "A PICTURE OF THE EARLY CHURCH". Sunday morning the people came early. A great Bible School gathered. Afterwards came the "Blest Feast of Love Divine", presided over by Bro. Giddens. Oh! The blessedness of that season when fellowship was had in renewed and hallowed association. The reunion sermon of A. W. Kokendoffer sprang out of this as the lily from its bud. "THE BEAUTIFUL GATES" was the theme, and the sermon was remarkable for its tenderness, beauty and teaching. Over five hundred persons enjoyed the bounties of the dinner, which was spread beneath the trees surrounding the old house. The hour was memorable. Friend held converse with friend; the intervening years were bridged by handclasps, inquiry, well-wishes and condolences, as each marked the touch of experience, trial and trust.

The memorial feature occupied the afternoon. Led by Bro. Giddens, as senior, the ministers all paid tribute to the influences upon their lives by F. G. Allen. Then Bros. Giddens and Kokendoffer, the one an old classmate and intimate, the other closely associated with him in his last labors as superintendent of Bible School work of Missouri spoke as only an intimate is privileged to speak of that noble spirit, the man of splendid qualities. John H. Hardin, who had but just passed to his crowning, was one of the first among those who entered the ministry of the old church.

Owing to rain, the pilgrimage to the cemetery, where the community's loved lies sleeping, was not taken. Instead, the congregation regathered and a sermon most fitting and with much fervor was preached by Bro. Mahoney, of the Highlands, Louisville. The night promising to be unfavorable, other services were adjourned.

Thus closed an ever-to-be-remembered feature of our Centennial Year with one of our historic churches. Her future promises to be no less bright than her past has been glorious. She is beginning a new era of activity and influence under her present consecrated minister and her splendid equipped membership. Her growing sons will still carry her old spirit forth, ever crowning her with joy in their attainments. While

at home the geniality and interest in a cause so worthy and holy as that of oneness of Christ's people will cause her years to be years of prosperity and victory.

E. J. Fenstermacher, Bowling Green, Kentucky

IN 1912, HENRY T. MARTIN CAME TO MINISTER. HIS WIFE'S NAME WAS RUBY.

IN 1914, DURING MARTIN'S MINISTRY, MEMBERSHIP BOOKS SHOW THE NAMES OF AUGUSTA JONES (MADDOX), CARRIE JONES (MADDOX), MARY MADDOX (STRASEMEIR), MARY JONES (POWELL), AND BLANCHE RAY (GREEN), ALL STILL ALIVE AND SOME STILL ACTIVE IN THE PRESENT DAY CHURCH. BY ACTUAL COUNT OF THE NAMES ENROLLED IN THE MEMBERSHIP BOOK OF 1914 THERE WERE 340 MEMBERS.

BRO. MARTIN WAS INTERESTED IN KEEPING THE PUBLIC INFORMED ABOUT HAPPENINGS AT MT. BYRD FOR THERE ARE SEVERAL RECORDS OF REVIVALS AND SUCH LIKE THAT HE REPORTED TO THE PUBLICATIONS OF THE DAY. THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES ARE FROM THE CHRISTIAN STANDARD AND THE CHRISTIAN EVANGELIST:

From the **CHRISTIAN EVANGELIST,** September 19, 1912:

One of the best short meetings in the history of Mt. Byrd was closed Friday night. C. O. Woodward, of Campbellsburg, Ky.,did the preaching. His sermons are beautiful, persuasive and powerful, and he preaches the simple Gospel fearlessly. In thirteen days there were added five by letter and statement, one from the United Brethern, two from the Baptists, one from the Presbyterians, two from the Methodists, and 17 confession and baptism, making thirty-five all together. A father, mother and four grown children were among those baptized. One young man made the good confession at the regular service Sunday morning.

H. T. Martin

From the **CHRISTIAN EVANGELIST,** October 2, 1913:

A HISTORIC KENTUCKY CHURCH

Closed September 10, our campaign at the historic old church, Mt. Byrd, Milton, Ky. There were 40 additions in all, about 20 confessions. There was a great interest from the start and taking care of the crowds was a problem throughout the meeting. Mt. Byrd is one of the very best country churches in the brotherhood. Established back in 1839 she is now entering into the last quarter of a century's steady growth. She justly prides herself on sharing much of the front rank talent in our brotherhood. The sainted B.B.(sic) Allen was for years her pastor, and now sleeps near by on the high hill overlooking the Ohio.

Mt. Byrd is proud of her men in the ministry. Forty-one preachers of truth have gone from her membership. Is not the most promising source

of ministrial supply the thrifty country church? Nor have they allowed past success to disarm them. They have full time preaching now. Their present membership is about 350. They have an average attendance in Sunday School of almost 200. A most efficient official board-as manly a bunch of men as they "make 'em", are at work under the trained leadership of H. T. Martin, minister and Ruby Huffman Martin, his good wife. Surely the future is to be the best yet.

I never labored with a better fellow than Brother Martin, nor with a minister who had a stronger hold upon his people. It is to be lamented that this man of God is so rapidly losing his hearing. Let the prayers of a great brotherhood go out for him. A baptistry was installed at the beginning of the meeting and night after night was practiced first principles more than we preached them.

O. G. Jordan had charge of the music and handled this in his masterful way. The writer is at present in a short meeting at Lambert, Miss. Will go from there to Toronto.

Roud Shaw, Evangelist

From the CHRISTIAN STANDARD, October 4, 1913:

A seventeen days' meeting was closed September 10, at Mt. Byrd Christian Church, in Trimble County. Roud Shaw did the preaching and Ora G. Jordan of Plainfield, Ind. had charge of the music. Too much can not be said in praise of these splendid workers. Bro. Shaw is an evangelist of unusal power. R. B. Neal has called him "The Scoville of Kentucky". But already he is in demand in several states. His denunciations of sin are fearless and terrible. With sledge-hammer blows he shatters every sinner's wall of excuses, leaving him in such condition that he feels impelled to seek a place of safety. Bro. Shaw has the reputation of being a winner of men. He is a tireless worker and makes "no" fuss about finances. In our meeting not a word about money was said publically by any one, and yet more than double the usual amount raised for meetings was given during one week of the revival.

O. G. Jordan is a singer of great power. His rich baritone voice is clear and strong, and his interpretation beautiful and impressive. His leadership is good and his terms are reasonable. He is a good clean man, a thorough Christian, a splendid personal worker and one who takes large interest in the success of the meeting. Mrs. Jordan joined him the last two days of his service among us and proved herself his equal

in their work. No church will make a mistake in calling any or all of this splendid team.

There were 40 additions--25 by baptism, 10 by statement, 2 reclaimed and 3 from Baptist Church. Early in the meeting a permanent baptistry was installed in the pulpit and two much-needed doors made in the rear of the building.

Mt. Byrd is a country church seventy-five years old. The house stands in a beautiful grove on a hill almost in view of the Ohio River, and Madison, Indiana. She employs a minister full-time, provides a splendid eight-room parsonage and a good buggy for the preacher, as well as a four-acre lot for him to "farm" on if he desires and for pasturage. The church pays its bills and has as good credit as any institution in the land. The present membership is 353. The official board numbers fifteen members, twelve of whom are shown in the cut. (See Illustration pages for picture.) The church is in no sense dead or dying, but is constantly making and carrying out plans for enlargement and progress, and this little write-up is offered in the hope that it may shed some light on the much-discussed "country-church Problem". One noteworthy feature in Mt. Byrd's history is the fact that no less than forty-one of her members have become preachers of the Gospel.

H. T. Martin, Minister, Milton, Ky.

From the **CHRISTIAN STANDARD** November 13, 1915:

A RURAL CHURCH THAT HAS SOLVED ITS OWN PROBLEMS

Mark Collis

I am at present engaged in a meeting with the Mt. Byrd Church, Trimble County, Kentucky. I held two meetings for the same congregation more than thirty years ago, when that prince of preachers, Frank G. Allen--ministered to it. Its present minister is Henry T. Martin, one of the sweetest-spirited, most consecrated earnest men I have met in many a day. He believes in the old Gospel, and contends for the faith once for all delivered unto the saints. He lives in a comfortable house, with ample garden-ground and pasture, next to the church. This suitable home is provided by the congregation, that their preacher may live in the community. He ministers to his congregation by visiting the sick, admonishing the wayward, comforting the sorrowing and encouraging every good work among them. Those who are not members of his congregation think of him with love and esteem. The people for miles around all know him, and call him "Brother Martin".

Under the present minister's leadership a commodious chapel has been erected at Milton, a mile and a half from the mother church. The

congregations that meet in these two buildings are regarded as one organization, having the same elders and deacons. Bro. Martin labors for both congregations. For several years he was the only preacher in Trimble County, when, as a true evangelist, he watched over the other churches of the county, ministering to them as he had opportunity. Finally he developed in these churches such a spirit of cooperation that he induced them to employ William H. Law, who now shares with Bro. Martin the work of the county. The churches for which Bro. Law preaches are Bedford, Macedonia, Beech Grove and Union Grove. He is winning rapidly a place in the affections of the people whom he serves. He is a faithful preacher, full of enthusiasm and the love of souls, and if he remains in his field, will do in his half of the county what Martin has accomplished in his.

The problem of the rural church can be solved by its providing a comfortable home for a preacher, and then selecting a man who is wise enough to know that a thousand-dollar salary is better there than is eighteen hundred in a city, and that the quiet and leisure and love of a rural community is much more to be desired than the bustle and worry and excitement of an urban work. My few days spent in this splendid community have made me almost long for such a work.

Lexington, Kentucky

In 1916 Bro. R. H. Sims came to minister. With regret we report we have no records of his ministry available. However, in the pictorial section of this history, there is a picture of him.

In 1918 Bro. Will B. Snyder became the minister. There is a wealth of material on him, his family and his work here at Mt. Byrd. Probably this is true for several reasons: He was a local man; from a prominent Trimble County family; he was here for several years, and is of comparative recent times. Several people still remember him quite well.

Bro. William Barney Snyder was born in 1871, a son of William and Delia Snyder. He was married to America Coleman (1872-1944) and died in 1941. Both Mr. and Mrs. Snyder are buried in Moffett Cemetery.

Most speak of Bro. Snyder as a "deep thinker" and a "knowledgeable, dedicated preacher". When he was no longer able to stand to preach, he still continued his work by sitting and preaching. He preached at Mt. Byrd, Milton and Bedford, and often when he had no ride, he walked to his preaching points. He and Mrs. Snyder did not live in the Mt. Byrd parsonage, but maintained their home in Milton, where Mrs. Snyder gave piano lessons to several in the community.

BRO. SNYDER'S OBITUARY APPEARED IN THE CHRISTIAN STANDARD OF JUNE 17TH, 1942:

Snyder, William Barney, Feb. 22, at his home in Milton, Ky. Day before his death, he and his wife returned from spending winter at home of daughter, at Greensburg, Ind. Was born in Hunter's Bottom, Trimble County, Ky., Jan. 10, 1871. Graduated from Hanover College, Hanover, Ind. in 1894. Was married to America B. Coleman, June 23, 1898, who survives him. Began ministry in old home church, Mt. Byrd, in 1906. From 1908 to 1915, ministered to church at Odessa, Mo., and from 1915 to 1919, served church at Sweet Springs returning that year to Mt. Byrd. Then served all churches in county until failing health caused him to give up work. Was constant student of the Bible and man of deep spiritual conviction. Had accumulated library of several thousand volumes, most of which was destroyed in flood of 1937. Is survived, besides his widow, by a daughter (Mrs. John F. Williams) of Greensburg, Ind.; 3 sons (William Oscar, of Frankfort; James C. and George Milton of Louisville); 2 brothers (Milton R. of Milton, and Hubert S. of Wilmington, Ohio.) and 4 grandchildren. Body lay in state in Bedford church building and was removed to Mt. Byrd Church where services were conducted by R. H. Boll, of Louisville, assisted by M. J. Hampton, Jr. of North Madison, Ind. Burial was in Moffett Cemetery overlooking Ohio River Valley.

From the CHRISTIAN STANDARD of February 19, 1936:

MAKER OF MINISTERS:

On Nov. 24, 1935, Ira M. Boswell of Louisville, Ky. officiated at the ordination service of M. J. Hampton, a student at Cincinnati Bible Seminary and a member of the church at Mt. Byrd, Trimble County, Ky. The service was held in the house of worship of this congregation.

This church is one of the oldest in the state, having been organized in 1832. Later, in 1839, two congregations united to form the present organization, which meets in a large building with solid walnut home-made pews.

This church has the distinction of having sent forth thirty-three ministers of the Gospel. The latest, M. J. Hampton, is a member of a family which settled in this territory over one-hundred years ago and which is connected with Mt. Byrd Church. He is a cousin of W. B. Snyder who has served with the church for the past eighteen years, but who has been confined to his home in Milton for the past year. He was, however, able to assist in the ordination service. The father of Miss Daisy June Trout is a member of the Mt. Byrd Church, and although over ninety years

of age, is still active and keenly interested in the Lord's work.

Bro. Snyder is spoken of by some of this generation as being a "disciplinarian" who did not hesitate to correct even from the pulpit those youngsters who misbehaved during the services.

He was a beloved preacher of the Word and because of his great, undying efforts, the work at Mt. Byrd is presently strong. There are among the active membership of the present day church those whom Bro. Snyder immersed into Christ.

Following Bro. Snyder, N. V. Blankenship came to minister. He is remembered with the following story: "On a blustery March day, he decided to make calls on folk in the Burkhardt bottom area...though unknown to any of them, he showed up on their doorsteps, unexpected and unannounced, inviting them to attend services at Mt. Byrd. Having no automobile, he had walked from the parsonage all the way there. When he had completed his calls, one of the men upon whom he had called brought him home in his car." The year was 1936.

In 1938, George Mark Elliott of Cincinnati, Ohio was minister. From all accounts he ministered here while also teaching at Cincinnati Bible Seminary. He is spoken of as "a brilliant speaker", "One who had a dry wit", "He knew the Scriptures". His ministry was not a long one.

Charles and Mary Frances Phipps followed Bro. Elliott and this ministry was also a relatively short one. They are remembered by some of the folk of Mt. Byrd as "singing quite well together." Bro. Phipps, according to one source interviewed, "had very pretty, expressive brown eyes". He played the piano, accompanying his wife, who had a lovely contralto voice. Later they would serve as missionaries to Italy.

1942 saw Bro. Edgar McClain (McLean is also rendered in some texts sought out) as minister. His ministry was a short one and it is noted that he died while here as the result of an automobile accident on St. Rt. 36, on the Carrollton Road.

Bro. A. V. McConnell served next. From Mt. Byrd he would go to a ministry in Corbin, Ky. He was a "good preacher with a sweet wife". She taught Sunday School classes while here. He is remembered as having a "good sense of humor"; he "was tall" and "always looked like a preacher with shiny shoes." Mrs. McConnell stayed somewhat in the background. He was "sincere and often quoted the Bible more than the ordinary preacher in his sermons".

In 1950 Jack Ratliff and his wife, Irene, came to accept the ministry of Mt. Byrd. With good feelings he is spoken of as a man who, "in white shirt often went into the fields when calling on men who were en-

GAGED IN FARMING ACTIVITIES TO HELP THEM WITH THEIR WORK." DURING HIS WORK HERE HE ATTENDED CLASSES AT CBS DURING THE WEEK, PREACHING ON THE WEEK-ENDS. MRS. RATLIFF LIVED "ON THE FIELD" WITH THEIR SMALL CHILDREN. "HE LOVED FOOTBALL". "WAS A GOOD PREACHER"--"AN EXCELLENT SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER WITH A LARGE CLASS IN THE BASEMENT" AND "WAS DEVOTED TO HIS TEACHING" ARE SOME OF THE THINGS SAID OF HIM AND HIS WORK HERE.

BRO. HARVEY G. POWELL AND HIS WIFE, ANN, WERE NEXT ON THE FIELD OF SERVICE. THEY WERE THE FIRST TO LIVE IN THE NEW PARSONAGE. THIS WAS ALSO THEIR FIRST MINISTRY AFTER THEY WERE MARRIED. THEIR TWO SONS WERE BORN HERE. "THEY WERE WELL-LIKED NOT JUST BY THE CHURCH PEOPLE, BUT ALSO BY ALL IN THE COMMUNITY." AFTER PREACHING AT MT. BYRD IN THE MORNING BRO. HARVEY ALSO PREACHED AT MILTON IN THE EVENINGS. "HE AND ANN SANG WELL TOGETHER". BRO. POWELL LEFT SOME OF HIS MINISTRY DOCUMENTED, TOO. THE FOLLOWING APPEARED IN THE CHRISTIAN STANDARD, AUGUST 18, 1951:

MORTGAGE BURNING SERVICE HELD BY CHURCH IN TRIMBLE COUNTY, KY.

Milton, Ky.--On Sunday, July 22, a note-burning service was held in the Mt. Byrd Church here to observe the liquidation of the indebtedness on the oil-heating unit, insulation, and basement classrooms. During the service, Mark Butler, elder, presented an itemized listing of promotional projects during the recent years; Milton Snyder, Jr., treasurer of the building fund, gave an accounting of the finances involved; Kenneth Ogden, Bible-School Superintendent, enumerated the benefits of having separate Bible-School rooms; Walter Webster, elder, spoke concerning the teachers in the school; and Harvey Powell, minister, outlined the future plans of the congregation. Walter Mitchell, elder, read the history of the church which had been compiled from an old manuscript concerning the life of F. G. Allen and other sources.

From the COURIER-JOURNAL MAGAZINE of August 30, 1953:

That old-time religion was good enough for a lot of folks at the Mount Byrd Christian Church, near Milton, on Old-Fashioned Night.

The sanctuary was crowded with old-fashioned worshipers, the walls echoed with the melody of such long-favored hymns as "Revive Us Again", "When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder" and "Love Lifted Me", and the earnest young evangelist preached with "that flame of living fire which shone so bright in days of old".

Mount Byrd, located on top of Milton Hill overlooking the Ohio River, has the largest congregtation of any ryral church in Trimble County.

It is in the heart of a progressive farming community and its members enjoy modern conveniences on their well-kept farms. They come to

church over good highways in late model cars. Television antennaes flanking many rooftops indicate these people keep abreast of late world developments.

But Old-Fashioned Night found them discarding nylon weaves for grandmother's homespun. They dug into trunks for family hand-me-downs and searched attics for shoes and fans that hinted of long-ago days.

Promoting the old-fashioned worship was the Rev. Harvey C. Bream, Jr., full-time evangelist for the Cincinnati Christian Restoration service. A handsome, human dynamo for the Lord, this young man has made his zeal felt in evangelistic meetings in a number of Kentucky and Ohio communities.

Assisting him were the Mount Byrd pastor, the Rev. Harvey G. Powell, song leader Janice Korns of Akron, Ohio, and pianist Jane Shaffer of Fredericktown, Ohio.

Emphasizing the simplicity of yesterday's church-going apparel, the ministers urged all who could find them to wear the calico and muslin of Grandma's day. Others were to come to church in work clothes.-- the women in simple housedressers, the men in overalls and blue shirts. It would put the entire congregation on the same level. No family in the community need stay at home because they didn't have new clothes.

Out from their hiding places came the old kerosene wall lamps, but it was decided that their use would constitute a fire hazard.So the deacons compromised by lighting only one on each side of the large old Bible on the pulpit. The glow from fluorescent fixtures shone down upon the old gray bonnets, the red bandana and Grandpa's galluses.

Looking down on the congregation was Brother John Allen, pastor of Mount Byrd in 1874. From his lofty perch in the heavy, old-fashioned picture frame in the vestibule, Brother Allen no doubt felt nearer the worshipers then he had since the days of their grandparents.
(See pictures on illustration pages.)

FOLLOWING THE POWELLS AND THEIR MINISTRY, RAY AND MARTHA RUSSELL CAME TO SERVE. A DEBT WAS OUTSTANDING ON RECENT REPAIRS TO THE BUILDING AND RAY PROPOSED TO THE CONGREGATION THAT IF THAT DEBT WAS MET, HE PERSONALLY WOULD "HAUL" THE OFFERING IN A WHEELBARROW TO THE FARMER'S BANK IN DOWN-TOWN MILTON. THE OFFERING PROVED TO ERADICATE THE DEBT AND THE NEXT MONDAY MORNING* TRUE TO HIS WORD AND WITH A SHERIFF'S ESCORT, BRO. RAY PUSHED THE MONEY DOWN THE MILTON HILL! EVERYONE "LOVED MARTHA" IS A REMARK THAT IS OFTEN HEARD WHEN THEIR MINISTRY IS SPOKEN OF. SHE DIRECTED THE CHOIR. BRO. RAY IS REMEMBERED AS "BEING GOOD WITH THE KIDS".

* (AFTER THIS WAS WRITTEN, IT WAS LEARNED THAT THIS "BANKING" TOOK PLACE ON A SUNDAY, FOLLOWING THE OFFERING. A BANK OFFICIAL OPENED THE BANK SPECIALLY TO RECEIVE THE WHEEL BARROW-LADEN BRO. RUSSELL.)

REMARKS MOST OFTEN HEARD WHEN PEOPLE WERE INTERVIEWED WERE "RAY WAS ONE OF THE KIDS"..."FRIENDLY-OUT-GOING"..."GOOD HUMORED". THEIR DAUGHTER, TINA RAE WAS BORN WHILE THEY MINISTERD HERE.

THE ELMER SPARROWS (ELMER AND GENEVA) TOOK UP THE TORCH OF MINISTRY WHEN THE RUSSELLS LEFT. BRO. ELMER ALWAYS IS SPOKEN OF AS A "FORCEFUL AND ENERGETIC PREACHER". HE "BEAT THE BUSHES" TO BRING THE FOLK IN TO THE SERVICES. HE WAS A "GOOD CALLER". ONE OF HIS FAVORITE EXPRESSIONS WAS "I'LL MAKE IT SIMPLE, PLAIN AND CLEAR!" WHICH HE DID! HE WAS A FIRM DOCTRINAL PREACHER AND MANY REMEMBER HIS EXPLANATION OF REPENTANCE! HE ACTED IT OUT BY MARCHING ONE WAY AND THEN MAKING AN ABRUPT ABOUT-FACE, THUS SHOWING WHAT REPENTANCE REALLY IS: A TURNING AROUND! MRS. SPARROW WAS A SUPPORTIVE PREACHER'S WIFE, AND IS OFTEN DESCRIBED AS A "PERFECT LADY". ON ONE OCCASION HE HAD A VERY SORE FINGER THAN HE HAD CUT WHILE MOWING GRASS. IT DIDN'T SEEM TO HEAL RIGHT...AND THEN HE HAD A BAPTISMAL SERVICE. RIGHT AFTER, HE SAID "THAT'S ALL IT TOOK, IT'S HEALING PROPERLY NOW!" HE HAD A GREAT PERSISTENCE TO WIN THE LOST, WAS DOMINANT, WITHOUT BEING DOMINEERING, AND LIVED WHAT HE PREACHED. ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION HE SAID, "IT'S BETTER TO SIT BY THE HYPOCRITE IN CHURCH THAN SPEND ETERNITY WITH THEM!"

ANDY AND ROMILDA MCNEES CAME AFTER THE SPARROWS.

ROMILDA WORKED WELL WITH BOTH THE YOUNG PEOPLE AND THE CHOIR. WITH A LARGE FAMILY THEY WORKED WELL WITH THOSE IN BOTH THE CHURCH AND THE COMMUNITY WHO ALSO HAD CHILDREN. ANDY LIKED WORKING WITH WOOD AND THE CHURCH OFFICE STILL CARRIES HIS MARK IN SLIDING DOORS AND BOOKSHELVES. HE WAS ALSO WELL-KNOWN FOR HIS "BAR-BE-QUED CHICKEN" WHICH HE PREPARED OUTSIDE ON PITS HE MADE HIMSELF.

HE WAS A SINCERE PREACHER AND "PREACHED IT LIKE IT IS". ROMILDA PLAYED THE PIANO FOR SERVICES AND SHE LINED UP HER FAMILY IN THE PEWS BEHIND HER SO SHE MIGHT HAVE CONTROL OVER THEM.

WHEN THE MCNEESES LEFT, DON AND ISABEL SMITH ASSUMED THE MINSITRY'S RESPONSIBILTIES. DON WAS CONSIDERED A "GOOD VISITOR" AND A "GOOD SPEAKER". MOST FEEL HE CONDUCTED A SUCCESSFUL MINISTRY. THE COMMUNITY AS WELL AS THE CHURCH THOUGHT WELL OF HIM AND OF ISABEL. HE WAS "SINCERE--A GOOD WORKER AND ENERGETIC." WHEN THERE WAS A DEATH IN THE COMMUNITY DON WAS OFTEN THE FIRST ONE THERE! SOME REMEMBER HIS USE OF THE WORD "FRIEND" USED OFTEN IN HIS SERMONS.

ROBERT AND LAURA EVERHART SERVED THE CHURCH BRIEFLY IN THEIR MINISTRY HERE. LAURA WAS HELPFUL IN OFFICE WORK AND SUPPORTIVE WITH HER SKILLS IN THIS AREA. HE WAS FRIENDLY AND A GOOD TEACHER, SINCERE.HE WAS A TALENTED MAN.

ON THANKSGIVING WEEK IN NOVEMBER, 1982, THE TENNANTS-KEITH AND JEAN BEGAN THEIR MINISTRY WITH MT. BYRD.

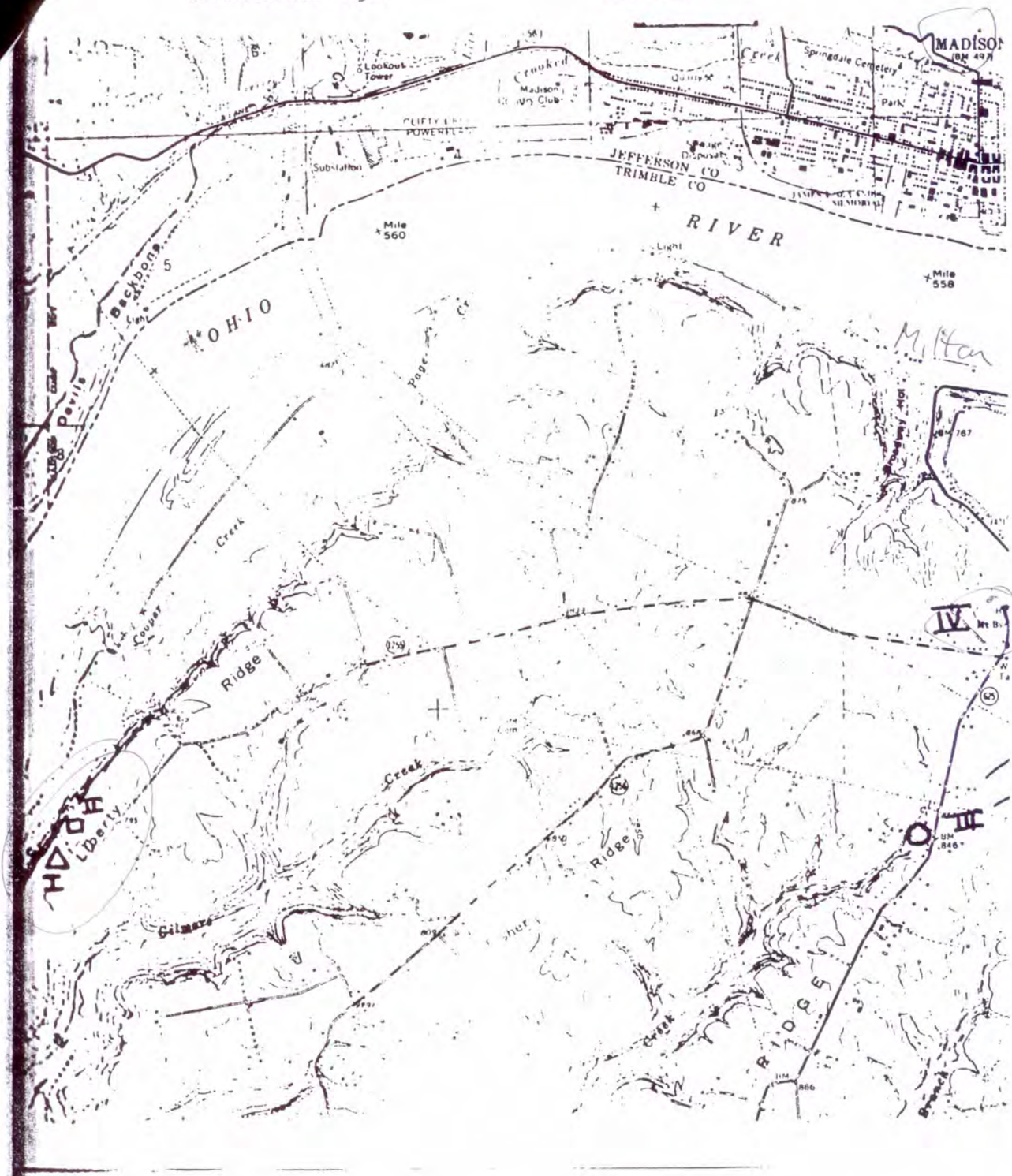
THIS BRINGS US WITH THE MINISTRY TO THE PRESENT. BUT WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT THE MEMBERSHIP, FOR PREACHERS ARE NOT EVERYTHING TO A CONGREGATION!

AS WE'VE NOTED THE CHURCH HAS HAD A VITAL HISTORY, AND TO MENTION THE NAMES OF THOSE PAST AND PRESENT WHO HAVE HELPED IT TO THUS ACHIEVE SUCH WOULD BE A PREPONDEROUS TASK. JUST TO READ THE NAMES ON ROLLS, OF DAYS GONE BY AND TODAY...ONE REALIZES THE GREAT WORK THAT SO MANY HAVE DONE.

SOME OF THOSE OF PAST YEARS WHO WORKED SO HARD HAVE NOT EVEN LEFT THEIR NAMES IN THE WRITTEN RECORDS. OTHERS, THOUGH NOT SO MANY OF THEM HAVE PASSED DOWN THEIR FAMILY NAMES TO THE PRESENT GENERATION. ALL-IN-ALL MT. BYRD'S HISTORY IS A GREAT ONE.

THOSE WHO PRESENTLY MAKE UP THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CHURCH ARE AN INDUSTRIOUS GROUP OF PERSONS, WITH TALENTS THAT ARE FAR TOO MANY TO COUNT! THERE ARE YET THOSE WHO LOVE THE LORD!! AND SERVE HIM FAITHFULLY AND FULLY IN ALL THE SERVICES. AS WE PONDER THE PAST, WE ALSO WONDER ABOUT THE FUTURE. WE CAN DO SO WITH NO FEAR! JUST AS THERE WERE ALWAYS THOSE IN THE PAST WHO HELPED THE WORK TO MOVE FORWARD, SO THERE ARE NOW THOSE GENEROUS SOULS WHO WITH DEDICATION TO THEIR TASKS, AND WITH WILLINGNESS TO CARRY ON--DO SO!

OUR MOTTO CAN WELL BE "HATS OFF TO THE PAST--COATS OFF TO THE FUTURE"!!



△ I David Floyd's House and where the church first met to be formed.

□ II The location of the first Mt. Olivet Meeting House

○ III The location of the second Meeting House.

▨ IV Present Mt. Byrd Meeting House