Northern Kentucky Views Presents:

The History of the May's Lick Baptist Church

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May's Lick Baptist Church
200th Anniversary
1789 - 1989

Mason County - Baptist Churches

The History of The May's Lick Baptist Church

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History of the May's Lick Baptist Church

based on
The Famous Z. T. Cody History--First 100 Years, 1789-1890,
Pastor of the Church from 1887-1890;
History Continued 1890-1964 by Dr. A. D. Odom,
Pastor of the Church 1931-37 and 1953-64; and
History Update 1964-89 for the
Bicentennial Celebration August 19-20, 1989
by Fred Chumbler, Jr.,
Deacon of the Church Since 1962.

Five families embarked from Essex County, New Jersey, in the spring of 1788, searching for a better life in the unsettled wilderness of Kentucky. They had just endured the hardships of the Revolutionary War and were seeking a more tranquil home for their families. These five families were brothers--Abraham, Cornelius, and Isaac Drake--and two brothers-in-law--John Shotwell and David Morris, who were related to them by marriage.

They were encouraged to make the move by the Reverend William Wood, then pastor of the Baptist Church at Washington. He had described to them a land of fertile valleys, green hills, and clear skies.

Sailing down the Ohio River, the group landed at Limestone (now Maysville) and then traveled by land to Washington. After a brief stay there, the settlers purchased a track of 1,400 acres from a Mr. May, eight miles west of Washington. This community became known as May's Lick.

All of these first settlers were Baptists by inclination and six of them were by profession. Before going to the West, they were members of the Baptist Church of Scotch Plains, New Jersey, and then under the pastoral care of the Reverend William Van Horn. The Church at Scotch Plains was constituted in 1747, chiefly of Welsh Baptists.

Before leaving New Jersey, David Morris; Cornelius Drake and Lydia, his wife; and John Shotwell and his mother, Ann Shotwell, and Abigail, his wife, received letters of dismission from their church. John Shotwell and his wife united, during their temporary stay, with the church at Washington. The others did not enter that relationship, but waited and were organized into a Particular Baptist Church at May's Lick, on November 28, 1789. (May I remind you that was the year in which George Washington became president?) Brothers William Wood of Washington, Kentucky, and James Garrard were the officiating ministers on that occasion. Only four members--David Morris; Cornelius and Lydia Drake; and Ann Shotwell--went into the congregation. John Shotwell did not join until 1791. David Morris was the first deacon and he most usually conducted the services in the absence of a minister. He died in 1798.

The Church was doubtless constituted in David Morris's barn, in which they often met for worship. The Church was without a pastor until 1797 when

the Reverend Donald Holmes began his ministry there. The original Church was located where the monument of the Reverend Walter Warder now stands in the May's Lick Cemetery.

Of the ministers who pastored the Church, one of the most prominent was the Reverend Walter Warder. Under his leadership from 1813 to 1836, the Church grew to be the largest and strongest in the state, with an excess of 700 members, 500 of whom came into the Church during "the great revival" of 1828. Soon after Mr. Warder came, the Church joined a missionary society constituted at South Elkhorn Church, and thus began her organized help for the spreading of the gospel among all nations.

In the early 1800's, Alexander Campbell, a member of a Baptist congregation in Bethany, Virginia, visited the May's Lick Church. Though a dynamic speaker and a gifted leader, his interpretation of the Scriptures differed sharply from that of the local Baptists. A period of dissension and misunderstanding during the 1820's culminated in a division. In 1830, the dissenting group, known as "The Reformers" organized "The Church of Jesus Christ at May's Lick"--the present-day May's Lick Christian Church. For several years the two groups conducted separate worship services in the structure which presently houses the May's Lick Baptist Church. In 1842 the Christian Church moved into the commodious building it now occupies. The Baptists paid the newly organized church $900 for their interest in the property that had housed both groups prior to 1842.

Throughout its history the Church has experienced periods of spiritual growth and decline under various pastors. The present building was erected in 1830 and remodeled in 1883. The basement was added in 1933; an addition in the rear was constructed in 1978; and the present nursery was first occupied in 1989.

The present home of Mrs. Ruth Paynter was used as a parsonage for the Church in 1875. It was purchased by the Church in 1892 from Phoebe Ridgely for $1,850. She had bought it in 1856 for $1,500. The present May's Lick Baptist Parsonage was erected in 1921 at a cost of $4,500. Pastor T. U. Fann was the first to occupy the new home.

The Centennial of the May's Lick Baptist Church was observed in 1889, at which time Dr. Zechariah Thornton Cody, then a seminary student, was pastor. For that occasion, Dr. Cody wrote a history of the first one hundred years of the church. At present, only a few copies are known to be in existence. (A copy is included in the archives of the Mason County Museum.) Dr. A. D. Odom, pastor 1931-37 and 1953-64, reproduced a portion of that history in the History of the May's Lick Baptist Church which he wrote in 1964.

The Sesqui-Centennial of the May's Lick Baptist Church was held on Tuesday, November 28, 1939. One of the features of the morning service was the recognition of the oldest and youngest members of the congregation. The oldest member in point of service was Mrs. Louise Stone who had been affiliated with the Church for 67 years; the youngest member was Miss Ruth Herrington, a member for three months. The Reverend Clarence Walker, pastor of the Ashland Avenue

Baptist Church in Lexington, Kentucky, gave the morning message, basing it on the history of the May's Lick Church. The Reverend G. G. Lanter, pastor of the Church, arranged this program for the celebration. He was assisted by Elmer S. West and H. H. Buchanan, members of the Anniversary Committee.

The 175th Anniversary was held on August 9, 1964. Dr. Elmer S. West, Jr., of Annandale, Virginia, recounted the last 75 years of the history of the Church during an afternoon message that climaxed a day of worship, singing, feasting, and renewing friendships and memories. Dr. West recalled that his own decision to enter the ministry had been influenced by Dr. A. D. Odom, the pastor of the Church at the time of this celebration. Hugh Yancey, Sr., chairman of the Board of Deacons and a member of the Church since 1911, was a proud witness to the celebration, as was R. G. Owens, who was almost 95 years old and in ill health. Yet, as a faithful deacon, he made it to the Church for this event. All nine deacons were present. (In addition to Mr. Yancey and Mr. Owens, the deacons serving at that time were: E. A. Stears; H. H. Buchanan; Elmer S. West, Sr.; Carl Vice; Fred Chumbler, Jr.; W. K. Stockdale; and Earl C. Sanders.) The morning message during the worship hour was preached by Dr. Rollins S. Burhans, president of the Kentucky Southern College, Louisville, Kentucky. There were 273 persons served lunch that day.

On Sunday, November 28, 1976, the Church observed the 187th Anniversary with a special program including the cutting of a giant cake. The Reverend Robert Baker, who was a recent pastor of a church in Painesville, Ohio, was the guest minister at both the 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. worship services. Pastor Edward Walls was credited with planning this special event.

The Church has been a faithful supporter of the Bracken Association from the time of its organization in 1798. Since the Church's constitution, ten churches in whole or in part have been organized from its membership. Five of these are active at the present time: Ewing, Lewisburg, May's Lick Second Baptist, Mount Pisgah (Fairview), and Stone Lick.

Mr. Cody concludes his history of the first 100 years with these words:

> "To my mind the place on which we stand is holy ground. It is fragrant with the memory of ten thousand blessings. Here God has for one hundred years met with His people; here He has answered their prayers; here He has comforted their sorrows and fed their joys; here He has given His regenerating spirit; has forgiven their sins, adopted them and from here has taken them home to Glory. Nearly two thousand souls have here felt their burdens roll away; and numbers have made the whole pilgrimage from the city of Destruction to Beulah Land and the City on the Hill. This Church may never see another Centennial. The house may decay and the very ground be furrowed by the plowshares and the memory of it fade from the minds of men, but hundreds are sleeping yonder who will guard its memory till the resurrection morn when Christ shall

come to meet His redeemed. Here they saw the Cross and here they will see the King in His beauty."

Mr. Cody left in August, 1890, to become pastor of the First Baptist Church of Georgetown, Kentucky.

On February 13, 1979, Mary L. Yancey presented an original copy of The History of the May's Lick Baptist Church by Z. T. Cody to the Church in memory of Hugh McIlvain Yancey, Jr., his parents, and grandparents. (Both the paternal and maternal sides of Hugh Yancey, Jr.'s family were members of this Church almost from its beginnings.) Copies of this book to be used for research are located in the Mason County Museum.

In December, 1890, Brother J. D. Simmons was called as pastor at a salary of $800 and the parsonage. He accepted the call, began his labors in January, 1891, and remained until April, 1892. In May of that year, Brother H. H. Hibbs was called and he agreed to begin his work the third Sunday in June. He remained as pastor until 1897. In August, 1898, the Church called Brother J. B. Holly from Middlesboro. In November, the following men were elected deacons: Brothers J. J. Yancey; W. W. Matthews; C. C. Williams; and James Peed. During July, 1901, the Church conveyed to the May's Lick Cemetery Company the May's Lick Graveyard. Brother W. W. Horner accepted the call of the Church at a salary of $700 per year and began his work in March, 1903. During this year, S. M. Roff was elected Treasurer and Miss Addie Yancey was appointed to raise funds for missions. In July of 1903, the Church was insured for $3,000 and the parsonage for $1,000. During May of 1904, the pastor's salary was increased to $900, the largest amount paid a pastor to this time. In April, 1905, Brother Horner resigned.

In September, 1905, a call was extended to Brother J. P. Campbell at a salary of $800 and the parsonage. He accepted the call and began his ministry in November. Within a short while he became ill and died in 1906. Brother B. P. Weaver began his duties in 1907 at a salary of $600 and the parsonage. The meetings of the Bracken Association were important occasions during this period of time. The sessions were for two nights and three days. Because of ill health, Brother Weaver offered his resignation to take effect January, 1908.

On January 1, 1909, Brother C. V. Waugh, of Virginia, accepted the call and remained as pastor until February, 1910. In August, 1910, Brother L. N. Thompson began the pastorate at a salary of $750 and the parsonage. On December 10, 1911, R. B. West and Hugh Yancey were ordained as deacons. Richard T. Owens and Frank Darnall were elected as deacons on November 22, 1914. Brother Thompson resigned effective January 1, 1917.

Brother T. E. Smith of Georgetown, Kentucky, accepted the call to the pastorate of the Church and began work in July, 1917, at a salary of $700 and the parsonage. He resigned in August, 1919.

On June 20, 1920, Brother T. U. Fann became pastor of the Church at a salary of $1,200. In his annual report for that year, the pastor said there

were 112 members, with 78 of these being resident members. The deacons' report given by Mr Hugh Yancey on April 1, 1920, indicated that the Church had subscribed almost $9,000 to outside purposes. This was made possible in large measure because 24 members had pledged to tithe their income. The financial condition of the Church was greatly improved.

On October 20, 1920, the trustees were instructed to sell the back part of the Church lot from the Hawkins' line to within 60 feet of the Church building. They were also instructed to sell the old parsonage. A committee consisting of R. B. West; Elmer S. West; R. T. Owens; and Hugh Yancey was appointed to submit plans for a new parsonage, and that no plan would be considered at a greater cost than $4,500. The building was constructed in 1921 and first occupied by Brother Fann.

In the pastor's report on July 1, 1922, Brother Fann said: "You have built for the pastor the nicest parsonage, probably in the whole Association. You have allowed him to preach at three other places and to conduct three revivals." Electric lights were installed in the church house. There were 30 tithers among the 84 regular contributors. On July 2, Brother Fann tendered his resignation to take place August 1, 1923.

In February, 1924, a call was extended to Brother George H. Moore, who was attending the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, and he accepted. On March 15, 1925, under the leadership of Brother Moore, the Church adopted a unified budget. This meant that one pledge would be made for all church purposes; that each department would surrender its receipts to a common treasury; that a financial secretary would be elected; and a monthly report be made to the Church. In November, 1927, Brother Moore offered his resignation, which was accepted. The Treasurer's report for 1927 indicated that total receipts for the year were $4,644.11.

In 1928, Brother M. Jackson White was extended a call at a salary of $1,500 and the parsonage (same salary as Brother Moore had received). He accepted the call. (Each succeeding pastor had the parsonage provided without rent on his part.)

The Sunday School officers elected for 1929 were: Superintendent, Elmer S. West; Assistant Superintendent, Gilbert Williams; Secretary-Treasurer, R. M. Yancey; Assistant Secretary, Maggie L. McGhee; Pianist, Mary D. Grover; Home Department, Mrs. Joe Pogue; Cradle Roll, Mrs. H. H. Buchanan; Beginners, Mrs. Elmer West; Primary, Mrs. S. E. Stockdale; Junior Girls, Miss Virginia Collins; Junior Boys, H. H. Buchanan; Intermediate Girls, Mrs. Lucy Grover; Young Ladies, Mrs. R. T. Owens; Young Men, C. A. Collins; Philathea, Miss Betty Yancey; Adult Women, Miss Addie Yancey; and Adult Men, Hugh Yancey.

On January 24, 1931, Brother White resigned to enter the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. In August 1931, the Pulpit Committee (Elmer S. West and H. H. Buchanan) submitted the name of the Reverend A. D. Odom, who had just graduated from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville and had served as a summer supply at the First Baptist Church in Ironton, Ohio. A call was extended by the Church and Brother Odom accepted the call to begin in September at a salary of $1,500.

On September 3, 1933, the Committee reported that the basement had been converted to Sunday School rooms at a cost of$1,077.83, under the supervision of C. A. Collins. H. H. Buchanan did the electrical wiring. During 1934, the Great Depression was requiring cuts to be made in the budget, affecting every phase of the Church work. The pastor's salary was cut to $80 per month. During this year, two deacons were nominated: H. H. Buchanan and E. A. Stears. Mr. Stears had been previously ordained by the Lewisburg Baptist Church. On September 15, 1935, the church, by unanimous vote, licensed Brother Archie Allison to preach the gospel. He was ordained on July 31, 1942.

Brother Odom introduced the church bulletins during the fall of 1931 and the first one appeared on December 6 of that year.

On December 4, 1932, thanks were expressed to the following men for building the garage at the parsonage: H. H. Buchanan: E. A. Stears: Jasper Mains; Leonard Mains; and Elmer S. West.

Due to the effect of the years of the Great Depression, many cuts were made in the budget. The financial statement for 1935 showed total receipts of $2,346.75. Brother Odom offered his resignation as pastor on August 29, 1937, to become pastor of the First Baptist Church in Maysville. The Reverend G. G. Lanter accepted the call as pastor in April, 1938. He resigned in June, 1940, and the Church called the Reverend Joseph Woodson who continued the pastorate until he enlisted in the U. S. Army during February, 1943. Brother R. C. Magill accepted the call of the Church to become her pastor in July, 1943, and he left in July, 1945, to become pastor of the First Baptist Church in Tullahoma, Tennessee.

Mrs. George (Elizabeth) Watson was elected financial secretary in April, 1942. She continues to serve faithfully in that position to this date (1989). Carl Vice was elected deacon in October, 1942; was ordained by the Church; and faithfully serves to date (1989).

The Reverend John Kruschwitz was extended a call to the Church in May, 1946, and began his ministry here in July of that year. He remained as pastor until January, 1949, when he accepted a call to the Sand Springs Baptist Church. In February, 1949, a call was extended to the Reverend John Laida and it was accepted. He remained on the field until September, 1951, when he accepted a call to become pastor of a church in Auburn, Kentucky. The Reverend F. M. Bennett of Utica, Kentucky, served the Church as pastor from February to December, 1952, when he resigned to accept work at Savannah, Tennessee. (This was the shortest pastorate in the history of the Church.)

Dr. A. D. Odom accepted the call to begin his second pastorate here on the first Sunday in May, 1953. In August of that year, the Church voted to contribute $10 per resident member per year to aid in the establishment of a planned program of missionary work in the Bracken Association with an associational missionary to implement the program. In July of 1953, Sunday evening drive-in services were inaugurated. This service was started by the use of a public address system with a battery of microphones at the Church entrance. Over 500 persons attended the opening service, with most of the crowd remaining

in their cars. All spaces in front of the Church and on the grounds were taken and overflowed into the adjacent cemetery roads across the highway. These services continued each summer for 11 years. In August, 1954, the Church voted to plant a variety of shrubs on the grounds. Over $700 was raised in special offerings for this purpose. Financial conditions were improving greatly over previous years. Total receipts for 1954 were $6,746.41, while the total for 1955 was $5,582.40; total gifts to missions in the latter year were $1,386. During October, 1956, 40 members of our Church attended one night of the Billy Graham Crusade in Freedom Hall of the State Fairgrounds in Louisville. A chartered Greyhound bus was used for the trip.

The restrooms in the Church were completed during February, 1957. On May 31, 1959, our choir and pastor broadcast the 8:30 a.m. worship service--Church by the Side of the Road--over WLW-T (Cincinnati). The soloists were Dr. George Osborne, Miss Helen Donovan, and Mrs. Charles Allison. The pastor, Dr. A. D. Odom, gave the message. The Conn organ was purchased in 1958 for $1,287. In 1960, an oil furnace was installed at the parsonage.

On August 30, 1964, Dr. Odom announced his retirement from the active ministry. He and Mrs. Odom had purchased a home in St. Matthews, Kentucky, where they would be near their daughter and son-in-law. His resignation was effective on that date. He returned for the revival which was held October 5-11, 1964. Services were conducted by the Reverend August C. Peters, pastor of the Carlisle Baptist Church. Fred Chumbler III, Tommy Prince, and Emma Jo Saunders joined the Church during that revival and were baptized by Dr. Odom On October 12. This was his last duty at the Church prior to his retirement. On November 11, during a regular business meeting, letters were granted to Dr. and Mrs. Odom at the request of the St. Matthews Baptist Church.

On March 14, 1965, the Church voted to call the Reverend Edward Roehl as interim pastor. In August, a call was extended to the Reverend Max Baker to be our pastor. He accepted the call and began the pastorate in September, 1965, and continued for five years, leaving in September, 1970.

The Church auditorium was paneled in March, 1966. New carpet was installed in August, 1967. A special offering was taken on Sunday, August 11, 1968, to assist the members of the Dover Baptist Church, whose building was destroyed by the April tornado.

In January, 1971, a call was extended to Brother Andy McHolan at a salary of $100 per week and the Church agreed to pay his moving bill. He moved into the parsonage and began his tenure in March. He resigned in February, 1972. The Church voted to have Brother Bob Cheek serve on an interim basis until a pastor was called.

A call was extended to Brother Wade Bowlin in May, 1972. He accepted the call to begin his ministry in June and remained as pastor until February, 1976. A new furnace was installed in the parsonage in 1972. In November of that year, the Church voted to set aside in the budget $100 as a Love Offering to be used by the Church as needed. (That fund continues as of this date, replaced as it is used.) In January, 1973, the Church voted to cut from 13% to

ten percent of the budget designated for the Cooperative Program. In February, 1973, the Church voted to purchase a van for starting a bus ministry. In April of that year, it was voted to buy an additional bus. On June 2, 1973, Billy Kachler was ordained as a deacon. Brother Hisel, pastor of the Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, preached the ordination sermon. In July, 1973, the Church voted to table all contributions to the Cooperative Program until the Church decided on the new building plans.

In August, 1973, the Church voted to give five percent of the budget for the support of the Bracken Association Missionary. During September, a report of the land purchase was given to the Church. The purchase price of $4,500 was paid to Mrs. Lida Carpenter for a plot of land at the rear of the Church. In April, 1974, the Church voted to buy nine minutes of radio time each day for five days each week from Maysville station WFTM for an extension of the gospel. In June, 1974, the Church voted to send $30 per month to Phillip Barbour while he is in school at Clear Creek. In August, 1975, the Church agreed to send $30 per month to Lowell Mason while he attends Clear Creek. (These commitments continued until each of them graduated.) Brother Wade Bowlin resigned in February, 1976, but agreed to make the tapes for Gospel Time radio messages until a new pastor was called.

In April, 1976, a call was extended to Brother Ed Walls to become pastor. He accepted the call, beginning his ministry in May, 1976, and he ramained pastor until July, 1978. In July, 1976, the Church voted to install a public address system. In March, 1977, the Church purchased a bulk rate stamp from the May's Lick Post Office so that the pastor could mail a monthly Church News Bulletin. In May of that year, the Church agreed to print a Church Directory of her members. In March, 1978, the Church voted to seek and acquire a loan from the Bank of May's Lick in the amount of $40,000 to construct a 40' x 70' multi-purpose building to the rear of, and adjacent to, the existing structure. The motion carried by a vote of 27 to 0. In April, 1978, the Church voted to begin Junior Church for children aged 4-8 years. At a special meeting on July 9, 1978, Brother Walls informed the Church that he had, on July 5, accepted a call to become pastor of the First Baptist Church in Aston, Pennsylvania, and was resigning as pastor of our Church on July 23. He agreed to supply tapes for Gospel Time until a new pastor was secured.

The Church called Brother David Stephens in August, 1978, and he began his ministry with us in September. The proposed budget for 1980 was increased to $30,000 from $27,000 the previous year. Brother Stephens resigned on March 30, 1980, to accept a position in Williamson, West Virginia. This was to be effective in April.

On June 15, 1980, the Church called Brother Jerry Noel as pastor. He accepted the call and began his ministry with us in July. The Church voted on June 29 to support Johnny Adamson in the amount of $120 per quarter while he was in attendance at Clear Creek. In September, the Church voted to increase Brother Noel's salary from $185 to $250 per week. It had been learned that he had actually taken a salary reduction when he accepted the pastorate of our Church. The budget approved for 1982 was in the amount of $46,000.

An addition to the original structure, consisting of the Fellowship Hall and several classrooms which was dedicated on the first Sunday in June, 1978, is now debt-free. The Church received a 20-year loan from the Bank of May's Lick in the amount of $40,000. Four years later, the debt was retired, and the note was burned on June 6, 1982. The budget approved for 1983 was in the amount of $45,000. Brother Noel resigned as pastor of the Church, effective in August, 1983. He accepted a call extended by the Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Grant County, Kentucky.

Brother David Gonella accepted the call of the Church to become our pastor in November, 1983. He resigned in December, 1984, to become effective in January, 1985. In February, the Church voted to have Brother Ken Forman, Bracken Assocational Missionary, serve as our interim pastor.

Brother Mark Kitts began his ministry with the Church in August, 1985, coming to us on call from the Wooten Baptist Church in Eastern Kentucky. The Church voted to install protective covering over the stained glass windows. A 3M copier was purchased during November, 1985. The proposed budget in the amount of $41,000 was accepted by the Church for 1986. In January, the decision was made to reinstate the policy of presenting a new Bible to each person baptized into the membership of the Church. In June, 1986, a number of recommendations in regard to remodeling and redecorating the auditorium was approved. These included: installing a drop ceiling; replacing light fixtures with six chandeliers, all on a dimmer switch; installing three ceiling fans; painting the paneled walls an antique white; and building a wing-type extension at the front of the sanctuary for the choir on one side of the pulpit and the piano on the other side. The Church designated C. L. Mains and Son to install burgundy carpet, as recommended by the Carpet Committee. It was decided to replace the swinging doors in the vestibule with wooden and glass doors. The Committee was further instructed to purchase new curtains for the baptistry and appropriate covering for the pulpit furniture.

In March, 1987, the Church bought a new Kawai Baby Grand Piano at a cost of $6,800. In July of that year, the Church removed the old oil furnace and installed a new gas one with an airconditioning unit. The Church accepted the proposed budget for 1988 in the amount of $46,000.

In May, 1988, the Church replaced the carpet in the parsonage's dining room, living room, office, stairway, and upstairs hall. In July of that year, the decision was made to build a new nursery. A bid of $12,540 submitted by Donald Jefferson was accepted. Brother Kitts submitted his resignation to be effective the last Sunday in September. He accepted the pastorate of the Block Springs Baptist Church in Blaine, Tennessee.

The May's Lick Bicentennial Committee requested that all churches in town to combine their worship services on Sunday, October 9, 1988, into one service to be held in the town square as a part of the weekend celebration. Our Church agreed to participate and asked Miss Virginia Collins to be its representative on the Committee for arrangement of this service.

During a special business meeting on December 4, 1988, the Church extended a call to Brother David Cheek as our pastor. He accepted the call,

effective January 8, 1989. He came to us from the Red Hill Baptist Church, Chavies, Kentucky. A partial listing of those who serve with him in positions of leadership include:

Deacons - Fred Chumbler, Jr., Carl Vice, Billy Kachler, and Jerry Nash
Sunday School Superintendent - Fred Chumbler, Jr.
Trustees - Mark Kachler and Donald Jefferson
Hospitality Committee Chairperson - Sharon Vice
Church Clerk - June Fultz
Pianist - Shirley Verdin
Financial Secretary - Mrs. George Watson, who has served competently and faithfully in this capacity since 1942.
Many others, too numerous to mention, serve in various capacities on a regular basis. They teach, function effectively on committees, and accept special responsibilities.

Late in 1988, discussion of the Church's observance of the Bicentennial was well under way. Early in 1989, a Bicentennial Committee was appointed (consisting of the pastor, the Reverend David Cheek; the four deacons, Fred Chumbler, Jr., Carl Vice, Billy Kachler, and Jerry Nash; along with Mark Kachler; Mrs. George Watson; and Virginia Collins.) The Committee has relied heavily upon Mark's seasoned experience as a valued member of the committee entrusted with the promotion of Bicentennial activities for the May's Lick Community in 1988. It is he who has been largely responsible for the implementation of many of the plans initiated by the committee on the occasion of the observance of the two hundredth birthday anniversary of our Church, August 19-20, 1989.

In anticipation of such a momentous occasion, the idea was projected by one of the deacons, Billy Kachler, that delegates should visit the mother church in Scotch Plains, New Jersey. On May 18, the pastor, his wife, and youngest son (David, Melissa, and Aaron Cheek); and three deacons and their wives (Jerry and Eunice Nash; Billy and Jewell Kachler; Fred and Anne Chumbler) left the Church on their journey. They traveled to their destination in a rented 35-foot recreational vehicle. After touring the Amish country near Lancaster, Pennsylvania, on May 19; they arrived in the parking lot of the Scotch Plains Baptist Church about 10 a.m. on May 20. Here they were welcomed by the newly called pastor of the church, Dr. James Brix; chairman of the deacons and his wife, James and Ellie Kullman; Midge Parasine; and others who would serve as our hosts and guides while we were there. The day was spent in touring the church, the parsonage, and places of historical interest; namely, The Drake House, the Canon Ball Museum, and other points of interest. That evening, the church members served a delicious potluck meal, followed by a program of songs, prayers, and fellowship. A video of the May's Lick Community Bicentennial Celebration held in October, 1988, was presented, as well as a video depicting scenes of the Scotch Plains community.

After having been graciously housed in the homes of members of their congregation, the group attended Sunday School and worship services on Sunday morning, May 21, in the Scotch Plains Baptist Church. During the service, a time was allotted our pastor, Brother Cheek, to issue a formal invitation to

their members to attend our Bicentennial celebration. He presented the church with a framed print of their daughter church, the May's Lick Baptist.

Following the Sunday morning services, the group received a live chrysanthemum to be planted on our Church grounds and an abundance of food to enjoy during the trip home.

After traveling more than 1,400 miles and arriving in May's Lick at approximately 6 p.m., May 22, the group was no doubt tired, but grateful for a safe journey and the gracious reception they were accorded by the mother church in Scotch Plains. A video presentation of our journey was held on the evening of June 14 in the Church sanctuary. Representatives of two of our daughter churches--May's Lick Second Baptist and Mt. Pisgah Baptist--were present with members of our Church for this program.

The theme being used for our celebration is: "Two Hundred Years Down and Eternity to Go." This theme was submitted by Gregory Wilder, for which he received a Thompson Chain Reference Bible and carrying case. The winning entry was selected from 23 excellent themes submitted during the month of May.

On the evening of August 19, Dr. James Brix, pastor of Scotch Plains Baptist Church, will bring the message. During the Sunday morning worship period, Dr. John W. Kruschwitz, pastor of the May's Lick Baptist Church, 1946-49, and later president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, will deliver the sermon. He now serves as field representative for the Boyce Bible School in Louisville. Other former pastors and former members are expected to attend, along with a group from the Scotch Plains Baptist Church. Special singing, greetings, prayer, praise, fellowship, and good food will be features of this anticipated, joyful celebration.

To you who honor us with your attendance on this auspicious occasion, we are deeply grateful and consider it a privilege to be recipients of the blessing your presence affords.

To you who, for one reason or another, are unable to attend, we are the poorer for your absence and regret we will not have opportunity to renew the fellowship we enjoyed in former years.

The Lord bless thee and keep thee:
The Lord make His face shine upon thee,
and be gracious unto thee:
The Lord lift up His Countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.
Numbers 6:24-26

MAY'S LICK PASTORS--1797-1989

Donald Holmes	1797-1802
Jacob Gregg	1803-1805
Baldwin Clifton	1808-1809
William T. Grinstead	1811-1813
Walter Warder	1813-1836 (the longest pastorate)
Gilbert Mason	1836-1843
S. L. Helm	1843-1850
J. M. Frost	1851-1852
W. W. Gardner	1852-1857
J. W. Bullock	1858-1862
Cleon Keyes	1862-1871
Joseph E. Carter	1872-1873
M. M. Riley	1874-1883
A. M. Vardeman	1884-1887
Zechariah Thornton Cody	1887-1890
J. D. Simmons	1891-1892
H. H. Hibbs	1892-1897
J. B. Holly	1898-1902
W. W. Horner	1903-1905
J. P. Campbell	1905-1906
B. P. Weaver	1907-1908
C. V. Waugh	1909-1910
L. N. Thompson	1910-1917
T. E. Smith	1917-1919
T. U. Fann	1920-1923
G. H. Moore	1924-1927
M. J. White	1928-1931
A. D. Odom	1931-1937
G. G. Lanter	1938-1940
J. F. Woodson	1940-1943
R. C. Magill	1943-1945
J. W. Kruschwitz	1946-1949
J. D. Laida	1949-1951
F. M. Bennett	1952-1952
A. D. Odom	1953-1964
Max Baker	1965-1970
Andy McHolan	1971-1972
Wade Bowlin	1972-1976
Ed Walls	1976-1978
David Stephens	1978-1980
Jerry Noel	1980-1983
David Gonella	1983-1985
Mark Kitts	1985-1988
David Cheek	1989-Present

The Church has had 43 pastors during the 200 years; one of that number, Dr. A. D. Odom, served the Church on two separate occasions.

BOARD OF DEACONS

Fred Chumbler, Jr., Chairman	Ordained 1962 - A. D. Odom
Carl Vice	Ordained 1942 - J. F. Woodson
Billy Kachler	Ordained 1973 - Wade Bowlin
Jerry Nash	Ordained 1987 - Mark Kitts

CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFICERS AND TEACHERS 1988-89

Mrs. June Fultz	Church Clerk
Mrs. Elizabeth Watson	Financial Secretary
Fred Chumbler, Jr.	Sunday School Director
Mrs. Anne C. Chumbler	Sunday School Secretary
Mrs. Shirley Verdin	Pianist

Teachers

Mrs. Violet Mers	Nursery
Mrs. Sharon Vice and Mrs. Sheila Clos	Pre-School
Mrs. Kenny Jolly and Mrs. Gail Kachler	Beginners
Mrs. Jewell Kachler and Mrs. Eunice Nash	Primary
Mrs. Elizabeth Watson	Intermediate
Miss Virginia Collins	Intermediate
Brother David Cheek	Teen-Age boys
Mrs. Teresa Jefferson	Teen-Age Girls
Jerry Nash	Young People
Billy Kachler	Young Adults
Miss Virginia Reed	Adult Women
Fred Chumbler, Jr.	Adult Men
Donald Jefferson, Terry Campbell, Gary Campbell, Eddie Campbell, Eric Stafford	Junior Church Workers
Danny White	Head Usher

Trustees

Donald Jefferson
Mark Kachler