

*History of
the ...*

*Cool Branch
Baptist
Church*

ROUTE NO. 1

BLAIR, SOUTH CAROLINA

History
of the
Cool Branch Baptist Church

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The Constitution For Cool Branch Baptist Church 1844

State of South Carolina, Fairfield District

We the Cool Branch Baptist Church of Christ do profess ourselves to be a number of people assembled together in one place and united by a spiritual act of grace and in covenant with God and each other agreeable to the Holy scriptures fitly framed together in one body, for the purpose of enjoying a continued fellowship with Christ in all gospel ordinances; to our mutual edification and to the glory of God; amen.

We the undernamed persons do profess to believe in God the father, maker of heaven and earth, creator of angels and men and in Jesus Christ his son our saviour; in the Holy Ghost the sanctifier of sinners. Yet one eternal God world without an end; amen.

We do likewise believe in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and that the application of them by the holy ghost is essential to the salvation of our souls from the power and dominion of sin and its direful effects: into which we are fallen through our federal head and our own personal and actual transgression.

We do likewise believe that it is our duty to take the scriptures of the old and new testament as our only and sufficient rule of faith and obedience to the gospel commands.

We do voluntarily give ourselves to the Lord who hath promised to be a God to all such as willingly give themselves to him holding ourselves henceforth not our own: but his; who hath brought us by his own most precious blood.

We do likewise voluntarily give ourselves to each other and do voluntarily receive each other in the lord meaning hereby jointly to excite each other as one body and jointure to act by the rules and bonds of the Gospel; each esteeming himself or herself a member of the same spiritual body in subjection to authority and in no otherwise separable than by consent first obtained or otherwise by such consent being ungodly refused in submission to the lord word.

We profess it to be our duty to assemble as often as convenient especially upon the Lord's day or first day of the week

List of Church Members in the Early History of the Church

NAMES OF FEMALE MEMBERS

Anna Chapman	Sarah Lyles
Anna McCully	Martha Farran
Sarah Degraffenried	Mary Roberts
Nancy Roberts	Francis Crosby
Nancy Mayo	Milly Smith
Nancy Levister	Louiza Chapman
Doscas Mobley	Elizabeth Meador
Mary Chapman	Mary McKeown
Eliza Chapman	Elizar Ann Mclain
Patsy Crosby	Rachel Onley
Jincy Parks	Emaline Crosby
Jane Floyd	Jain Hill
Bershaba Parks	Elizabeth Stevenson
Hannah Buckanan	Elizabeth Levister
Sarah Watson	Jain Hill Sim
Nancy Watson	Margrett Crosby
Nancy Casey	Sophia Mabry
Susan Farran	Mary Henderson
Susan Crosby	Mary Dickerson
Mary Crosby	Frances Mobley
Charlotte Crosby	Isabella Dickerson

NAMES OF MALE MEMBERS

William Levister	Daniel Maberry
William Mobley	William Crosby
William J. Shelton	David Crosby
Barna Buckanan	John Farran
John Coleman	Henry Lestson
Chesley Crosby	Wm. Rollings
Chames Degraffenried	Robert Mobley
William Farran	Wm. M. Hill
John Cordel	John McKerley
Lewis P. Rollings	Jas. M. Dickerson
B. N. Weathers	

The History of Cool Branch Baptist Church

One hundred and twenty years ago in the year 1844, our forefathers saw the need in this community for a place of worship. The first of its organization was under a brush arbor one half mile N.W. of this present site at the first Cool Branch graveyard where both white and colored were buried. This known spot is in front of the old Cool Branch School House on land of the late Jeff D. Boulware.

In the same year, 1844, at one of the meetings a committee was appointed to raise money to build a meeting house. We haven't a record from the beginning of the work, we do have knowledge of the building at the place where the old church building once stood. The building accommodated both white and their slaves.

Rev. B. Buchanan served as supply pastor during the first year of the church 1844.

Rev. L. B. Rollings was called as the first regular pastor in November 1845.

Rev. B. Nolan was elected pastor in March 1846. During his ministry William Crosby and B. H. Withers were elected to serve as the first deacons.

Rev. Guinn served as pastor from 1851 to 1854. While he was pastor church services were still only once a month.

In March 1854, ten years after the organization of the church, the need for a Sunday school appeared. The school was organized in 1870 with Capt. J. F. V. Legg serving as the first Sunday school superintendent.

Rev. Hinton was elected pastor in the year of 1855.

Rev. Jeter was called as pastor in 1856 and served until 1858. In April 1858 Rev. Jeter was joined by Rev. W. M. Hartin and they served alternately until Rev. Hartin was called to Richland County.

William Crosby, signed a deed in 1860 giving the land on which to build a church. A committee of twelve was appointed to attend the erection of a church building.

Rev. G. W. Pickett served as pastor from 1864-69. The church during Rev. Pickett ministry elected a committee to investigate the qualifications of any member requesting permission to preach.

Rev. H. C. Hinton served as pastor from 1870 to 1872.

Rev. W. G. Rollings was called and served as pastor from 1873 to 1874.

Rev. J. D. Mahon was chosen as pastor after the first church building was completed in 1875. The building was erected by our forefathers at a cost of \$733.31. The dedicatorial sermon was preached for the new building on Monday after the fourth Sunday in August 1875. Rev. Mahon served for nine years from 1875-84. B. H. Withers and W. M. Meador were church clerks during his pastorate.

During the next year, T. W. Mellichamp and Belton P. Estes filled in until Rev. Mahon again began his pastorate here. He served for seventeen years and during this time Joe T. Wishert was elected church clerk. At the close of the year 1890, the annual salary of the pastor was \$40.50.

In November 1891, after the resignation of Rev. Mahon, a committee was appointed to meet with Woodward and Beaver Creek to call a pastor for the field. At this time, the Rev. D. A. Swindler was called, and during his pastorate, we made our first move to help support the Baptist Orphanage. Since then this has been in our annual plans. The Rev. Swindler served for four years and in 1896 Rev. B. P. Estes was chosen to serve through 1903.

Rev. E. D. Wells began his pastorate in March 1903. In 1908 W. B. Wright and C. A. Crosby were elected as deacons. The next two deacons, O. M. Wishert and J. D. Boulware, were elected in 1912. Also, during Rev. Well's pastorate, the women of the community became interested in missionary work, and the first

church organ was bought in July 1917. Rev. Wells gave the church nineteen years of faithful service before he resigned in 1922.

Rev. John S. Harris was called and began his ministry in March, 1922 and served until 1927 when he died at McCormick, S. C. We were then supplied by S. F. Robinson of Chester, S. C.

During the next two years, from 1927 until 1929, Rev. A. C. Odom was called to serve. After this time we were again without a regular pastor when Rev. D. H. Owings began his pastorate in July of 1929. He served for six years—ending May, 1935.

Rev. Ned Taylor of Spartanburg served until Christmas of 1935 after which we extended a call to the Rev. George Gurley. He began his pastorate the first Sunday of April 1936, and remained through 1941.

Rev. James F. Moseley came to us in 1941 and gave four years of faithful service after which Rev. Henry Hodgens began his pastorate. Rev. Hodgens was with us for only two years. The last service by Rev. Hodgens was given December 28, 1947.

During January, February, March, April, and the early part of May 1948, men from the Columbia Bible College filled in until the 16th of May when the Rev. D. Y. Bingham came to us.

Rev. A. I. Willis came as pastor the latter part of 1949. In April 1953, of his pastorate, the church made plans to elect a committee for the building fund of our new church. This committee was made up of twelve of our members, both women and men.

Later, when the location of the new building was discussed, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Dickerson and family deeded two acres of land to the deacons and accessors of Cool Branch Baptist Church on which the new building was erected.

The new church was built and completed in the year of 1955, under the leadership of Rev. A. L. Willis. The first worship service held in the new building was the annual home coming August 14, 1955.

Rev. A. L. Willis going into retirement closed his ministry with the church early in 1957.

After the retirement of Rev. A. L. Willis the church saw the need of a full time program. Plans were then made to build a new pastorium. Again the family of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Dickerson gave more land for another new building. The building of the pastorium had its beginning with a penny. In May 1957 a new pastorium was completed and paid for within the first year of its history.

The church while still in a field with Beaver Creek and Blackstone churches invited Rev. R. J. Roberts to preach a trial sermon for the three churches on January 20, 1957. On March 4, 1957 Rev. Roberts was contacted at his home in Jefferson, S. C. and was given an invitation to meet with Cool Branch Church, on Thursday night March 8, 1957. It was during this meeting that a call was extended to Rev. Roberts to come and serve the church as the first full time pastor. Rev. Roberts accepted the call and took up his work on Thursday, April 11, 1957.

The pastorium was at that time under construction. The new pastor and his family lived in the home of Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Dickerson, Leeds, until the pastor's home was completed in May 1957.

In the beginning of full-time work the church was in debt over \$15,000.00 this figure has been reduced to \$5,200.00 as of April 1, 1964. Under the seven years of Rev. Roberts leadership the church program has been enlarged from five to fifteen Sunday school classes, one to eleven organizations, seven to nine active deacons, nine new deacons ordained, a rotating system for deacons, 102 new church members, budget of \$170.00 per-week, a church library and church bulletins.

The church has grown in the one hundred and twenty years of its history from sixty three members to the present membership of two hundred and forty members. A total of thirty five men have been ordained to serve as deacons in the history of the church.

Church Directory

1964

Vacation Bible School Principal	Mrs. Francis Clack
Building Fund Treasurer	Mr. Clyde Wages
Church Treasurer	Mr. W. J. Wood
Recording Secretary	Mrs. Wilson McDaniel
Church Clerk	Mr. Mack Dickerson
Church Reporter	Mrs. Marion Boulware
Church Hostess	Mrs. Sonny Britton
Church Custodian	Mrs. Clarence Boulware
Church Librarian	Mrs. J. E. Hood
Associate Librarian	Mrs. L. D. Wishert
Church Choister	Mr. Ellis Faulkner
Associate Chorister	Mr. Francis Clack
Church Organist	Mrs. Mary Dickerson
Church Pianist	Mrs. Larry James
Associate Church Organist and Pianist	Miss Sara Ella McDaniel

CHURCH USHERS

R. E. Boulware - Chairman
L. D. Stevenson, Asso. Chairman

Blane Boulware	Edd Boulware
Harold Boulware	Tim Griffin
Johnny Houston	Danny Dickerson
Charles Levister	Johnny McDaniel
Joe Griffin	Clarence Wishert, Jr.

DEACONS OF CHURCH

Term Expires 1964	Term Expires 1965	Term Expires 1966
Ellis Faulkner	J. E. Hood	Davis Boulware
Clarence Wishert	Clarence Boulware	Mack Dickerson
M. A. Dickerson	L. D. Wishert	Larry James
Chairman of Deacons	Clarence Wishert	
Associate Chairman	J. E. Hood	
Secretary of Deacons	Ellis Faulkner	
Associate Secretary	Clarence Boulware	

BROTHERHOOD OFFICERS

1964

President	J. J. Davis
Vice President	Clarence Wishert

Christian Witness LeaderDavis Boulware
 Personal Stewardship LeaderJ. E. Hood
 World Mission LeaderClyde Wages
 Song LeaderEllis Faulkner
 Secretary and TreasurerMack Dickerson
Royal Ambassador Committee:
 ChairmanR. E. Boulware
 W. J. Wood - Clarence Boulware
 R. A. LeaderWilson McDaniel

Intermediate R. A.

CounselorLarry James

Junior R. A.

CounselorSonny Britton
 Associate Counselor for All R. A'sBilly Houston

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFICERS AND TEACHERS
1964

General Officers

SuperintendentLeroy Mahaffey
 Associate SuperintendentSonny Britton
 SecretaryWilson McDaniel
 Associate SecretaryFrancis Clack

Adult Department

SuperintendentWilson McDaniel
 Associate SuperintendentJ. E. Hood
 OrganistMrs. Mary Dickerson
 Associate OrganistMrs. Larry James

Adult Teachers

Adult Women Number One Married to 45 ...Mrs. Wilson McDaniel
 Associate TeacherMrs. L. D. Wishert
 Adult Women Number Two 46 to 60Mrs. Lillian McCollum
 Associate TeacherMrs. J. E. Hood
 Adult Women Number Three 60 and UpMrs. Henry Dickerson
 Associate TeacherMrs. Jones Coleman
 Adult Men Number One Married to 45Larry James
 Associate TeacherSonny Bigham
 Adult Men Number Two 46 and UpClarence Wishert
 Associate TeacherJ. E. Hood

Young People Department

SuperintendentMrs. Davis Boulware
 Associate SuperintendentMiss Francis Hill

Teacher Boys and GirlsEllis Faulkner
Associate TeacherMiss Nannie Eubanks
PianistMrs. Larry James

Intermediate Department

SuperintendentMrs. Paul Wagner
Associate SuperintendentMrs. Claude Dickerson
Intermediate Boys TeacherDavis Boulware
Associate TeacherClarence Boulware
Intermediate Girls TeacherMiss Jewel Bigham
Associate TeacherMrs. Harvey Traylor
PianistMiss Sara Ella McDaniel

Junior Department

SuperintendentMrs. John Traylor
Associate SuperintendentMrs. Carlton Boulware
Junior Boys TeacherBilly Houston
Associate TeacherSonny Britton
Junior Girls TeacherMrs. Paul Griffin
Associate TeacherMrs. Leroy Mahaffey
PianistMiss Sara Ella McDaniel

Primary Department

SuperintendentMrs. C. W. Holland
Associate SuperintendentMrs. J. E. Hood
Primary Class Number OneMrs. Sonny Britton
Associate TeacherMrs. J. T. Wishert
Primary Class Number TwoMrs. Francis Clack
Associate TeacherMrs. Ellis Faulkner
Primary Class Number ThreeMrs. Billy Houston
Associate TeacherMrs. G. H. Carter
PianistMrs. R. J. Roberts

Beginner Department

SuperintendentMrs. Clarence Boulware
Associate SuperintendentMiss Mary Wood
Teacher Boys and GirlsMrs. Clarence Wishert
Associate TeacherMrs. Adell Brown

Nursery Department

SuperintendentMrs. Larry James
Associate SuperintendentMrs. Willie Taylor
Teacher Boys and GirlsMrs. R. J. Roberts
Associate TeacherMrs. Leroy Taylor

W. M. U. OFFICERS

President	Mrs. Paul Griffin
Enlistment Vice-President	Mrs. Sonny Britton
Program Vice-President	Mrs. Claude Dickerson
G. A. DIRECTOR	Mrs. J. E. Hood
Intermediate G. A.	Mrs. Lillian McCollum
Associate	Mrs. Leroy Mahaffey
Junior G. A.	Mrs. Clarence Boulware
Associate	Miss Nannie Eubanks
SUNBEAM BAND DIRECTOR	Mrs. Billy Houston
Primary Sunbeams	Mrs. Davis Boulware
Associate	Mrs. Jones Coleman
Beginner Sunbeams	Mrs. Adell Brown
Associate	Mrs. R. J. Roberts
W.M.U. Secretary	Mrs. Wilson McDaniel
W.M.U. Treasurer	Mrs. C. W. Holland
Organist	Mrs. Mary Dickerson

Circle Chairmen:

Goodwill	Mrs. R. J. Roberts
Mary Hassetine	Mrs. L. D. Stevenson
Ella McDaniel	Mrs. Lula Wood
Friendship	Mrs. Lula Mae Wishert

Committee Chairmen:

Mission Study	Mrs. L. D. Wishert
Community Mission	Mrs. Marion Boulware
Prayer	Mrs. Ellis Faulkner
Stewardship	Miss Jewel Bigham
Publication	Mrs. G. H. Carter

OUR PRESENT MEMBERSHIP

Boulware, Marion	Dickerson, Florence
Boulware, Eva	Dickerson, Lizzie D.
Boulware, Katie	Dickerson, Mary B.
Boulware, Davis	Davis, Mattie B.
Boulware, Annie F.	Davis, Jeff
Boulware, Earl	Dickerson, Janie F.
Boulware, Vallaree	Dickerson, Hughey
Boulware, R. E.	Davis, Horace
Boulware, Jim	Davis, Andy
Boulware, Clarence	Dickerson, Marvin
Boulware, Wallace	Dickerson, Claude
Boulware, Carlton	Dickerson, Frances
Bigham, Mabel S.	Dickerson, Clarence
Bigham, Robert	Dickerson, Harold
Boulware, William (Mrs.)	Dickerson, Azalie F.
Boulware, Grover	Dickerson, Paul
Boulware, Donald	Dickerson, Viola
Boulware, Eddie	Dickerson, Evans
Bigham, Ernest S.	Dickerson, Mack
Bigham, Jewel	Davis, Frances
Boulware, Jimmy	Dickerson, Mary C.
Blair, Emily	Dickerson, Mary Grace
Brown, Marion	Dickens, Lounette
Boulware, Odell	Dickerson, Johnnie
Boulware, Martha Ray	Dickerson, Danny
Boulware, Laurie	Dickerson, Peggy
Boulware, Sylvia	Dickerson, Helen
Bostic, Elaine S.	Dickerson, Susie
Britton, Sonny	
Brown, Stevie	Eubanks, Fred
Boulware, Mary M.	Eubanks, Nannie
Boulware, Harold	English, Mamie
Brown, Judy	English, Wallace
Coleman, Edith W.	Feaster, Virgil
Coleman, Sam J.	Feaster, Wallace
Clack, Claudette	Feaster, Estes
Clack, Francis	Feaster, Sarah D.
Carter, Cordelia	Feaster, Florence D.
Carter, G. H.	Faulkner, Annie Mae
	Fee, William

Folk, Mildred S.
Florence, Earl
Faulkner, Sallie Leoula
Feaster, Cleveland
Faulkner, Susie
Faulkner, Anita
Florence, C. D.
Florence, Ada
Faulkner, Ellis
Fuller, Kenneth
Faulkner, Donna
Fee, John
Feaster, Brenton
Faulkner, Mabel D.
Faulkner, Earle
Faulkner, Leonard
Faulkner, J. F.

Griffin, Elizabeth D.
Goings, Henry
Grant, Lula
Griffin, Tim
Griffin, Joe
Griffin, Paul

Hill, Kathleen
Hood, Marie
Hood, James E. (Sr.)
Houston, Ruby W.
Hill, Simmie
Hill, Rosa Lee
Houston, John E.
Houston, Johnny
Holland, Lossie S.
Hill, Frances
Houston, Keith
Hunnicut, Donelia F.

Johnson, Cora
Jeffcoat, Wilma
James, Barbara F.
James, Larry

Kirtpatrick, Edith T.
Keenan, Ida Mae
Keenan, Paul
Keever, Janie B.

Levister, Ellis
Levister, Robert
Levister, I. S.
Levister, Felton
Levister, Woody
Levister, Mary R.
Levister, Mary W.
Levister, Bobby
Levister, Billy
Levister, Ronald
Levister, Donald
Levister, Sally
Levister, Mary Frances
Levister, R. C.
Levister, Rebecca
Levister, Richard
Levister, Robert Leonard
Levister, Geneva
Levister, Charles
Levister, Shirley

McDaniel, Ella C.
McDaniel, Walker
McDaniel, Raymond
McDaniel, Sims
McDaniel, Wilson
McDaniel, Sarah
McDaniel, Johnny
McDaniel, Sarah Ella
McDaniel, Ann
McCollum, Lillian
McCollum, Birt
McCullum, Hugh
McCullum, Howard
McCullum, Mae S.
Miller, Dale
Miller, Gene
McCollum, Joyce
Miller, Jimmy
Mahaffey, Mildred
Mahaffey, L. R.
Miller, Lois
Miller, Jackie

Navy, Walter
Pierce, Nina S.

Rivers, Mildred B.
Robinson, J. L.
Robinson, Jimmy
Roberts, R. J. Rev.
Roberts, Betty
Roberts, Larry

Stevenson, Isabelle
Stevenson, W. H.
Stevenson, Eunice T.
Smith, Lillian D.
Stevenson, Margaret B.
Stevenson, L. D.
Stewart, Pauline
Stevenson, Ernest
Stewart, Olin
Smith, Ira
Stevenson, Roy
Stevenson, David
Stevenson, Jerry
Stewart, Joe
Stevenson, Dale
Stevenson, Elise W.
Smith, Ruth
Stevenson, Joanne
Shugart, Bill

Traylor, Meadow
Taylor, Charlie
Traylor, John
Taylor, Lonnie Mae
Traylor, Ella Mae
Traylor, Harvey
Traylor, Jeannette
Traylor, William
Traylor, Mamie W.
Taylor, James
Taylor, William D.

Taylor, Willie
Taylor, Frances D.
Traylor, Jimmy
Taylor, George E.
Traylor, Brenda
Traylor, Linda
Taylor, J. D.
Tanner, Iris Mae

Wade, Maybelle F.
Wages, Clyde
Wood, Jettie
Wishert, J. T.
Wishert, L. D.
Wishert, Sadie
Wood, Lula
Wood, W. J.
Wishert, Mattie E.
Wishert, Mary E.
Wishert, Albert
Wishert, Mary Y.
Wishert, Clarence
Wilkes, Juanita
Wishert, Lula Mae
Wood, Wilbert
Wages, C. Leroy, Jr.
Wishert, Barbara
Wishert, Joseph
Wishert, Shirley
Wishert, Clarence, Jr.
Wood, Mary
Wagner, Valleree
Wilson, Myrtle
Weir, T. E.
Weir, Etta V.
Weir, Linda

Young, Emma Lou