

# **A HISTORY OF GLENDALE BAPTIST CHURCH**



768 State Hwy 60  
Booneville, AR 72927



## Glendale History The First Fifty Years

A sizeable volume would not hold the many memories that exist in the lives of the families involved in Glendale during their life time. The following is a sample of some of the memories handed down.

After the Civil War a post office was located near Glendale. The postmaster was Catherine Boss who also taught school at the Glendale School which was located on the site of the present Glendale Baptist Church. Rufus Frost was the first teacher and he gave the school the name "Glendale". The school was built in the 1860s on land donated by John and Jane (Traylor) McCaslin. It was a subscription school conducted in a log cabin.



GREAT-GRANDFATHERS of Charley Ray were John McCaslin (left) and John Lamb. McCaslin donated the land for the school and church at Glendale.

During the Civil War many of the older boys carried guns to school for protection from bushwhackers. Finos Basinger and Lizzie Noles were also teachers in later years. Three schools were built during the following years and each one was destroyed by fire.

In the 1870's a small group of Christian people began meeting in each other's homes for church services. As their numbers grew, they began meeting in the school house, a small one room building. A pastor was not appointed until 1883 when Elder William Bunch agreed to serve. At that time regular meetings were held on the first Saturday before the first Sunday of each month. Sunday school was held only during the warm months of the year. The group was named the Union United Baptist Church.

In 1884 the Glendale Church was organized with the following members: Rev. Baker and wife, Henry McCaslin, Dan Dildy, Mrs. Bill Bonds, Mollie Anderson, Jack Adylotte and wife, Billie May and wife, Adline McCaslin, Lizzie Pyles, Ammie

McCaslin, and Van May and wife.

In 1895, since the small house of worship was destroyed by fire in 1894, it was decided to build a church building separate from the school. John McCaslin gave land for the building site. In May 1895 the congregation voted to call the church the Glendale Missionary Baptist Church. Three years later Claude Mills gave about two acres of land for the building site for a parsonage.

In 1896 the church was received into the Concord Baptist Association. Glendale was Southern Baptist prior to that and was associated with the Buckner Association.

In 1903, Glendale ordained J.H. Ray as a Deacon. During this same year, Henry Goss joined Glendale as a Deacon.

In 1905 the church had grown until it was able to call as pastor, Rev. J.W. Comer as pastor at an annual salary of \$105.00. (D.M. Bryant served in 1896 for \$15.00) In 1910 it was decided to check into possibilities of building still another larger building since the membership now totaled 64 regular attending members. The total cost of the new building was determined to be \$406.45. The old building was sold to the highest bidder and the amount paid was applied on the cost of the new one.

In April of 1911 Jim Harp and Marshall Ray were ordained as deacons. Later that year J.T. Cobb joined the church as a deacon.

On Sunday, March 17, 1912, the congregation voted to organize a Sunday school. The following officers were elected to serve: Bro. Will Lassiter, Superintendent, Jim Harp, Assistant Superintendent, Alma Moore, Secretary-Treasurer, Zola Stanley, and Assistant Secretary-Treasurer. George Stanley, Chorister, and Mary Scott, Organist.

A Ladies Aid Society was organized in 1912. A collection of \$2.03 was taken for mission work.

Under the leadership of Rev. J.W. Comer the church went to half time preaching in 1915 and shortly after added a Baptist Young People's Union. Officers elected were, H.G. Thomason, President, Roy Bryant, Vice President, Lena Comer, Secretary-Treasurer.

H.G. Thomason joined the church as deacon, from Florence, Drew Co. AR. He had been ordained in 1899.

The following is a list of pastors who served at Glendale Baptist during the first fifty years:

No record of Pastors	1873-1882	J.C. Comer	1909
Elder William Bunch	1883	J.W. Nobles	1912-1913
Rev. Curtus	1885	H.G. Johnson	1914-1915
Rev. Holland	1886	W.J. Hinsley	1915-1919
Rev. Hill	1887	J.G. Mabrey	1920
Curtis Gibson	1887	W.J. Hinsley	1921
W.I. Goff	approx. 1888-1893	Bro. Hays	1922
R.L. Little	1894-1895		
D.M. Bryant	1896-1903		
J.L. Bynum	1904-1905		
D.M. Bryant	1905		
N. Keller	1906		
D.M. Bryant	1907-1908		
S.W. Williams	1908		



## Changes

Changes were not only taking place in 1872 in the Glendale Community but in the whole United States as well.

Yellowstone National Park, Henihco'oo in Arapaho, was established by Congress and signed into law by President Ulysses G Grant. Native Americans had lived there for at least 11,000 years.

Grant was elected to his second term. He defeated Horace Greely, who consequently died on November 29, and his electoral votes were divided among several candidates. During this time Victoria Woodhull became the first woman nominated for President of the United States, although she was too young to qualify.

Women's Suffrage: In defiance of the law, American suffragist Susan B Anthony voted for the first time. On November 18 she was served an arrest warrant and in her subsequent trial was fined \$100. She never paid the fine.

The Great Boston Fire consumed over 65 acres, most of Boston's downtown. 776 buildings were destroyed, 30 people lost their lives.

The Panic of 1873, which was the beginning of the Great Depression or Long Depression, began.

## The Next Fifty Years

Glendale Baptist continued to grow and prosper. In 1925 the following men were ordained to serve as deacons: R.L. Robinson, Walter Littlefield, N.L. Bryant, Will Means, Jess Nelson, and Walter Bryant.



Because of the growth in 1927 the church voted to build a five room addition. Eleven years later the building was lost to fire. Having no insurance, the church members were not able to rebuild immediately. During this time services were held in the deacon's homes. Later services were held in the Forty-four School Building. However, in 1939 the building was eventually replaced with a one-room wooden structure

capable of seating 400 people.



Dinner, probably 1942



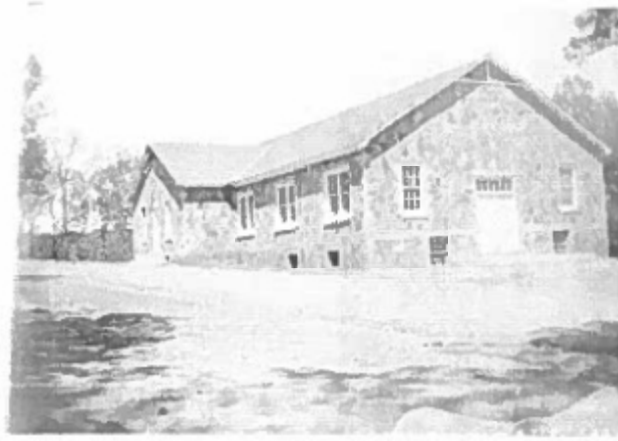
Dinner on the ground, 1941

New pews were purchased in 1949.

In 1949 a more complete church program was initiated. Bro. John Westfall was ordained into the ministry and was called as pastor. He served on a three quarter basis time of preaching. His salary was \$60.00 per month.



In 1952 and 1953 a new sanctuary was attached to the building. The new basement under the sanctuary was used as a church kitchen and dining area for special dinners often given during those years. The entire building was rock veneered by William Wesley Goff.









By 1958 the church had grown and prospered and they were able to call their first full-time pastor, Rev. Ray Kesner.

In 1959 Glendale ordained four deacons: Gordon Guthrie, Glyn Damron, Harry Culps, and Donald Fennell.

In 1960 a Library was begun. Mrs. Kesner served as librarian with Tawana Phillips as assistant. Mrs. Eva Jo Franks served later.

In 1963 the church purchased an organ.

In 1964 the church built a baptistery. A new piano was purchased.



Women's Sunday School Class 1961



In 1966 the church erected an educational building, constructed of concrete blocks and contained eight classrooms and a pastor's study.



In 1968 carpet was installed in the auditorium.

In 1969 central heat and air was installed in the auditorium.

In 1971 a new bedroom and bathroom was added to the pastor's home, as well as installing carpet, and new tile was placed in the kitchen and dining area.

1972 new children's classes were started. Dolores Earp taught the two and three year olds, Freddie Trotter taught the third and fourth grades. Central heat and air were installed in the educational building.

### **The Next Forty Years**

In 1984, a kitchen and dining room were added, and in 1986 a second floor containing seven classrooms and a pastor's study were added to the exiting educational building.



In 1990 the rock veneered building was demolished, making room for a new sanctuary. Construction was begun immediately. During this time split services were held in the fellowship hall of the educational building.

In 1993 Training Union was discontinued for the summer months and was phased out and the evening services became a worship and prayer time.

It was voted on in 1993 to build a Family Life Center.



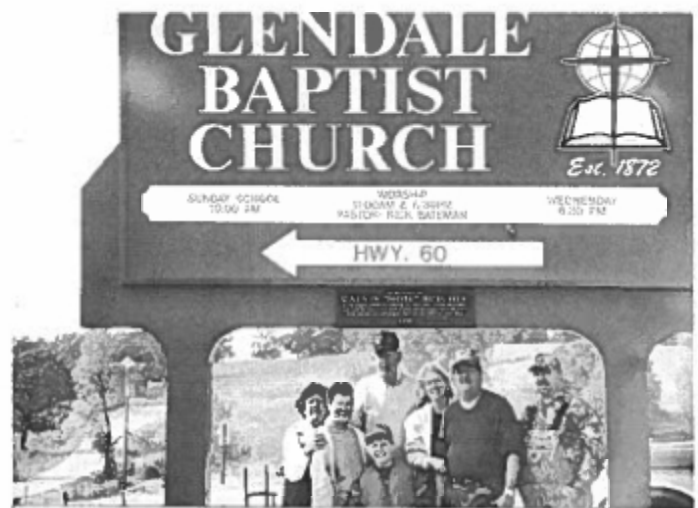


In 1995 a new parsonage was built across the street from the church building. The land for the parsonage was donated by W.C. and A.B. Littlefield.

The new family life center, containing a new kitchen and a gymnasium, was erected in 1995.

Glendale Baptist was incorporated in 1996.

In 1998 a Glendale Church sign was erected on Highway 10.



During the pastorate of Bro. Tim Smith a Wild Game Banquet was held and has continued each year up until the present time. The purpose of the event is to reach more people in the community for Jesus Christ.

A two-story addition of new classrooms and office space was added to the front of the Family Life Center in 2007. The south side of the upstairs portion of the Family Life Center is devoted to the youth and their activities.



A new dining room was added to the west side of the building in 2010.



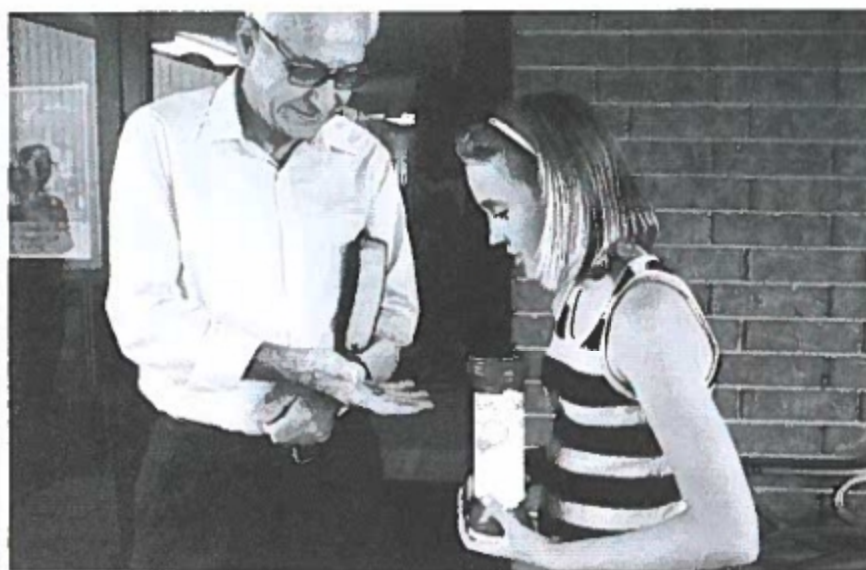
The members of Glendale Baptist Church know that to continue in the work that God has committed to them that they need to invest time and effort in giving the children of the church a good foundation to build on. This has been done through different programs of the church.



For the last several years Ray Patton has worked with the boys in the Royal Ambassadors, giving his time to lead them in different activities, strengthening their Christian growth.



Brenda Patton has been a leader for the girls through the G.A.'s and the Acteens as well as serving as WMU Director, leading the church in giving to the mission programs. Kyla Turley has also helped with the Acteens.



The GA's collected money for a pure water project for missions.





The Awana program was begun in 2002, proving to be very successful in leading young people to Christ. They are developing a good foundation by learning from God's Word and hiding those words in their hearts. Many of the members of Glendale Baptist give of their time on Wednesday night to devote to these children.



Our youth group also meets on Wednesday evenings.



Several people have volunteered to drive the buses to transport both children and youth to our midweek programs.



Our young people have learned to reach out through mission projects to help those in other areas that need their assistance.





Vacation Bible School has always been an important part of the ministry of Glendale Baptist Church.



The doors are always open on Sunday mornings for those of any age to participate in Bible study. Glendale has many teachers who are prepared to present the day's lesson.



**Lots of love in the nursery**



**Preschool and Kindergarten**



**First and Second Grade**



**Third and Fourth Grade**



**Fifth and Sixth Grade**



**Junior and Senior High**





### **Children's Church**

**Adults are involved in Bible Study also.**









### **Youth Band praising God during a student-led worship service**



## **Full Time Pastors**

After eighty-six years in existence, Glendale Baptist Church called its first full-time pastor in 1958.



**Bro. Ray Kesner**  
1958-1961



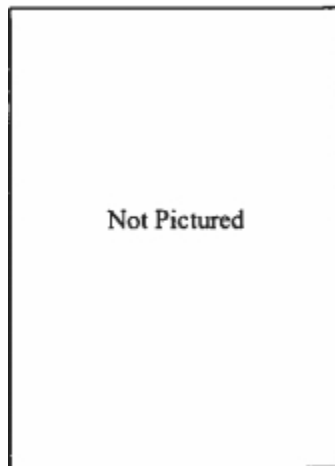
**Bro. Elton Pennington**  
1961-1967



**Bro. Bill Williamson**  
1968-1970



**Bro. Dan Threet**  
1971-1978



**Bro. John Hall**  
1979-1981



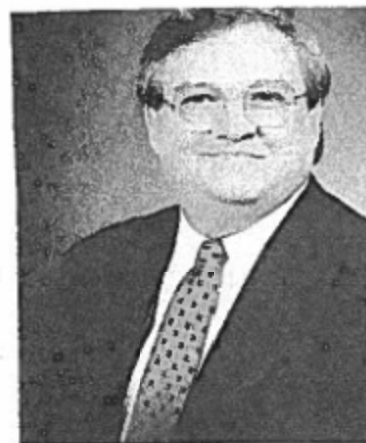
**Bro. Tom Casey**  
1981-1983



**Bro. Ken Barnard**  
1984-1994



**Bro. Mike McClure**  
1994-1996



**Bro. Rick Bateman**  
1996-1999



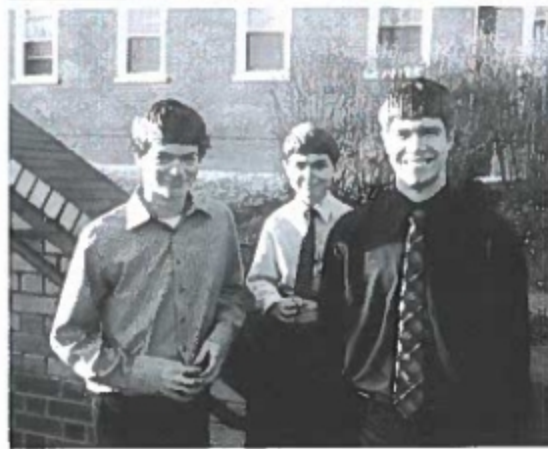
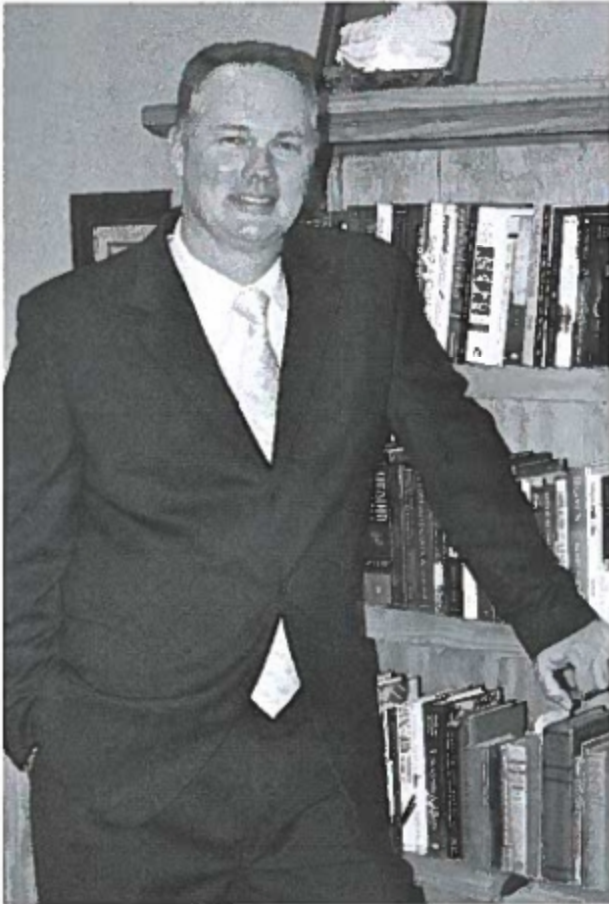
**Dr. Tim Smith**  
1999-2005



**Bro. Jason Holcomb**  
2006-2008

Bro. Jarrell Woodhull is our current pastor. Jarrell, his wife Tiffany, and their three sons, Tanner, Hayden, and Carter, came to the field in December 2008.

We, at Glendale, hope that the Lord will continue to bless his ministry and he might stay on the field for years to come.



A note from the Pastor ...

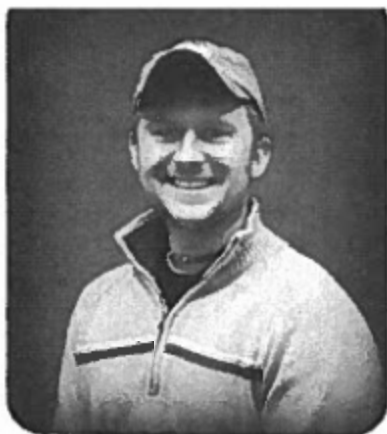
*"Church family and friends,*

*It is my privilege to serve as the Pastor of this special congregation. I am thankful for the opportunity to minister to this church family through preaching God's word, shepherding the flock, and overseeing the staff and ministry programs. It is my heart's desire that our congregation will ultimately look to Jesus Christ as the Chief Shepherd of this church, and that in doing so we will fulfill our ultimate purpose of bringing glory to our God. I pray that the Lord will bless, lead, and use this congregation for many more years.*

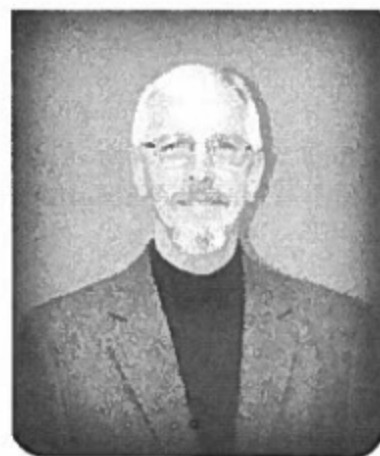
*In Christian love,  
Bro. Jarrell"*



The following men were ordained to the ministry during Bro. Jarrell Woodhull's ministry:



Bro. Jessie Greene, ordained in 2009



Bro. Roger Smithson, ordained in 2009



Bro. Owen Young, ordained in 2010

Glendale is also blessed to have three additional ordained ministers in our current membership. These include Bro. Don Corbitt, Bro. Bob Richardson, and Bro. James Simons. We're thankful for these godly men and their part of our church family as well.

**How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things. *Romans 10:15***

Glendale is also presently blessed with a Children's Minister, Bro. Owen Young and a Youth Minister, Bro. Casey Winstead.



Owen and Ashley



Casey and Katie

**Others who have served in the youth ministry were Greg Qualls, Jessie Greene, Wendall Haugh, Darrell Williamson and Patty Bateman.**



Roger and Sandra

Bro. Roger Smithson serves as Glendale's Music Director, as well as serving in many more capacities in the church.

The approximate members of Glendale Baptist Church in 2012 are 779.

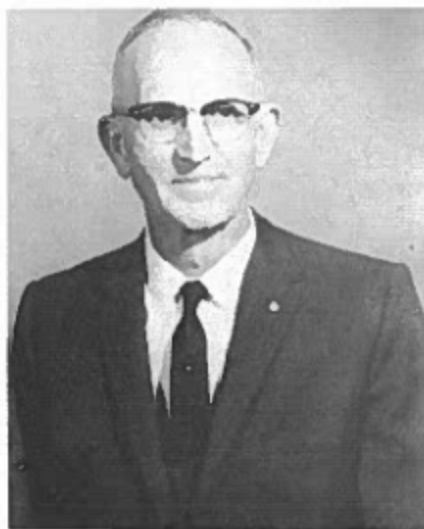
The approximate resident members in 2012 are 559, and still growing.



**Glendale has been blessed with many members through the years who were willing to serve in the music ministry of the church.**



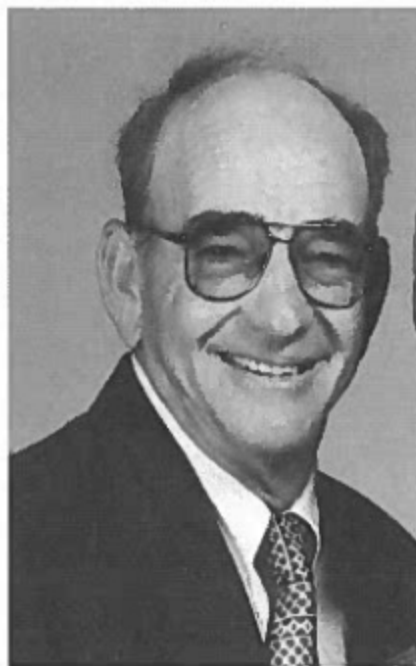
**Jim McCaslin**



**John Hampton**



**Eva Jo Franks**



**Lavaun Thomas**



**Clarence and Beatrice Phillips**



**Jim Wooley**



**Donna Smith**



**Terri Swint**

**Vera Guthrie and Wendall Haugh are not pictured.**

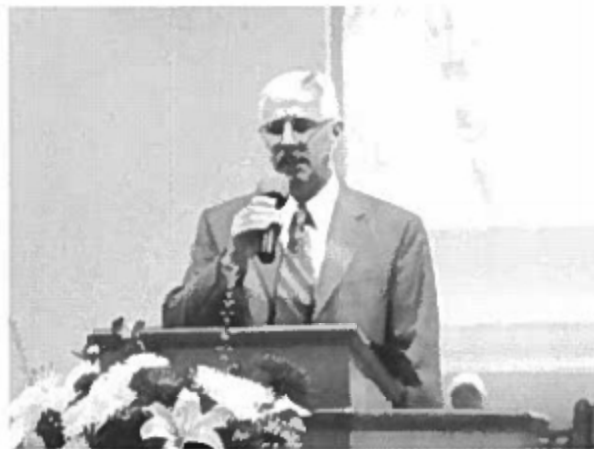
**Serving at present time:**



**Joy Sue Bowden, Organist**



**Lance Brown, Guitarist**



**Roger Smithson, Director**



**Sanctuary Choir**

***"I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy name, O thou Most High.  
Psalm 9:2***

***For they that have used (served in) the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Jesus Christ. I Timothy 3:13***

**The following men have served as deacons from 1903 until the present time:**

Name:	Date ordained:		
J.H. Ray	1903		
Henry Goss	1903	Monte Lairamore	1984
M.S. Rickey	**	Bill Robins	1984
S.J. Bunch	**	Webb Watts	1984
Jim Harp	1911	Danny Goddard	1988
Marshall Ray	1911	John Cobb	**
J.T. Cobb	1911	Benji Pace	1988
H.G. Thomason*	**	Danny Jones	1988
R.L. Robinson	1925	Ray Patton	1993
Walter Littlefield	1925	John McElhany	1993
N.C. Bryant	1925	Gordon Webb	1993
Will Means	1925	David Zirbel	**
Jess Nelson	1925		
Walter Bryant	1925		
T.J. Corbitt	1954		
Glyn Damron	1959		
James Melton	**		
Gordon Guthrie	1959		
Don Fennell	1959		
Harry Culps	1959		
Donald Elmore	1969		
Fred Trotter	1970		

\*ordained in 1899

\*\* ordained by other congregations before transferring to Glendale

**The following men were licensed to the ministry by Glendale in the last few decades:**

Daniel Clark, Bill Wright, Jessie Greene, Roger Smithson, Owen Young

**The following men were recently ordained by Glendale:**

Jessie Greene, Roger Smithson, Owen Young

**Some of the men who were once members of Glendale and have served in the ministry in other churches:**

Neal Guthrie, Shawn Barnard, Brandon Barnard, Wendall Haugh, Jason Nolde



## Record of Pastors

Elder William Bunch	1883	Ray Kesner	1959-1961
Rev. Curtis	1885	Elton Pennington	1961-1967
Rev. Holland	1886	Bill Williamson	1968-1970
Rev. Hill	1887	Dan Threet	1971-1978
Curtis Gibson	1887	John Hall	1979-1981
William I. Goff (approx.)	1888-1893	Tom Casey	1981-1983
R.L. Little	1894-1896	Ken Barnard	1984-1994
D.M. Bryant	1896-1903	Mike McClure	1994-1996
J.L. Bynum	1904-1905	Rick Bateman	1996- 1999
D.M. Bryant	1905	Tim Smith	1999-2005
N. Keller	1906	Jason Holcomb	2006-2008
D.M. Bryant	1907-1908	Jarrell Woodhull	2008 .....
S.W. Williams	1908		
J.W. Comer	1909-1911		
H.G. Johnson	1914-1915		
W.J. Hinsley	1915-1919		
J.G. Mabrey	1920		
W.J. Hinsley	1921		
Bro. Hays	1922-1923		
Bro. Woodson	1923-1924		
H.S. Grayson	1924-1925		
Ed Swain	1925-1926		
J.W. Comer	1926-1927		
H.E. Marsh	1928-1931		
G.H. McNutt	1932-1933		
Milo Bryan	1933-1935		
No Pastor	1936		
J.A. Swanson	1937		
No Pastor	1938		
H.S. Grayson	1939-1942		
Irving Crossland	1943		
R.R. Elmore	1944		
Joe Muse	1945		
Huston Grayson	1946-1948		
John Westfall	1949		
Bro. Culbirth	1950		
A.D. Kent	1951-1958		

**Women who are presently a part of the Glendale paid staff include:**



**Stacy Brown, Secretary**



**Laura Lovelace, Nursery Worker**



**Zelda Sufflé, Custodian**



**Ruth Pace**



**LaDonna Brahler**



**Lisa Shipman**



**Dolores (Selby) Earp**

Several women have served in paid positions at Glendale. Some of these are included in this page.

Not pictured are Cathy Tishner, Karen Huckabee, Patty Bateman, and Delia Turner.

## **Memories of the past....**

### **June (Damron) Culps recalls:**

Before city water the old parsonage had double iron water. A group of our ladies met together and decided to make plastic cats out of plastic drop cloths and pipe cleaners. They made 300 beautiful cats and sold them for \$3.00 each and bought the water filtering system for the old parsonage. The cat making ladies were Clem Damron, Wenona Damron, Altha Damron, June Culps, Velma Earp, Effie Meeks, Retha Pennington and others.

### **Patsy (Earp) Corbitt recalls:**

A favorite memory that I have is attending Bible School at Glendale. Joe Earp and I rode an ole gray mare (Dap) to and from the school. Ole Dap was more than ready to go home when they turned out. I can still remember how good the play dough smelled that Virginia McCaslin made. It was pink. I remember in the old wooden building the men would sit on the North side of the building and the women on the South.

### **Joe Earp recalls:**

When I was a young lad, about seven or eight years old, growing up at Glendale, I had a dog named Youno. He went to church with me sometimes and lay in the doorway at the back of the church. One Sunday as the preacher was preaching, he said "if everyone was a faithful about being here as that dog, we would have a full house". This made me real proud of old Youno.

### **Theda (Meeks) Wilson recalls:**

Theda recalls accepting the Lord in 1941, just before moving from the Camp area to become neighbors to June (Damron) Culps and her family. She was then baptized in the Washburn Narrows as so many people from Glendale. She, her brother Kenneth, June, and the Sharbers, Bonnie, Judas, Sam and Vanita would walk the three miles to Glendale to church. Sometimes her younger sister, Adeline, would want to go but would tire when walking up the hill home and would have to be carried. They would stop along the way and get a drink of cool water from an open well on the May's property.



**Pansy (Earp) Fennell recalls:**

Pansy recalls the time when she was twenty five years old. She stepped out on faith when Bro. Kent had brought the message. When I stepped out something lifted from my heart and I cried all evening with happiness. Reba Gibson said, "Pansy, you caused us to have a Revival at Glendale". My Grandpa Earp and my Daddy spent the evening with us.

**Kay (Damron) Fennell recalls:**

One of my favorite memories is when I was about nine years old, Mrs. Crossland, our pastor's wife, would have seven or eight neighborhood girls, on Saturday afternoons, under a big oak tree in front of the church, and would teach us to memorize Bible verses, sing songs, memorize Bible Books, and to realize that we were sinners and needed a savior. This led to the conviction of the Holy Spirit, and my salvation the following year.

**A Final Note**

Many people have given of their time and means to contribute to the growth and success of Glendale Baptist Church. It is not by intention that some of those have not been named in the preceding pages.

We pray that Glendale Baptist Church will continue in its faithful service to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

*The Pastor would like to thank the 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee for their work on putting together the celebration program and the vast majority of the information found in this book. Thank you!*