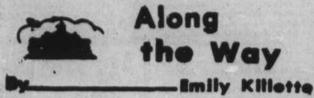
Page 12 The Duplin Times-Progress Sentinel, June 23, 1983



June is the 146th anniversary of the Kenansville Baptist Church, it was established in 1837 as a branch from Beaver Dam Baptist Church in Magnolia, wrote L.A. Beasley in the article "100 Years of the Kenansville Baptist Church" pub-lished in the June 14, 1937 issue of the Duplin Times.

America was founded on the basis of religious and educational freedom for all citizens. Even though Baptist were not the first to establish churches and homes in the Duplin area there are now seven Baptist churches within the county more than 100 years old. Phillip Mulkey was the first Baptist preacher to visit the Duplin area, he was followed by the Rever-end William Goodman who established Bear Marsh Church in 1763. But, the oldest church established in Duplin, now a part of Samp-son County, is Wells Chapel. Wells Chapel originally known as Bulltail was organized by the Rv. John Newton in 1755.

Bear Marsh is the oldest Duplin County church and following the founder William Goodman as pastor were Charles Hines and Francis Oliver. As the Bear Marsh Church grew new congregations began to establish in different parts of Duplin under the direction of the Reverend Silas Cart, Job Thigpen and William Wells. During 1809 eight Baptist congregations were located in Kenansville and included a total membership of 382 people, these churches were: Bear Marsh, Nahunga, Concord, Island Creek, Muddy Creek, Limestone, Prospect

and Burn Coat. From the original Wells Chapel Church came the organization of Concord in 1807. The congregation of Concord later sent-out a delegation in 1835 to form Beaver Dam Baptist Church which is now Magnolia. Two years later, 1837, the congre-gation of Beaver Dam piloted a delegation of eight people who formed the Kenansville Baptist Church. The delega-tion included, Elder Benajah Carroll, Mary E. Carroll, D.C. Moore, James Carroll, Elizabeth Carroll, Stephen Herring and Nancy Herring. During the organization

meeting of the Kenansville Baptist Church in June of 1837 held in the Lodge building, Elders G.W. Hufbuilding, Elders G.W. Huf-ham and Benajah Carroll were elected pastors. The following meeting in Septem-ber of 1837, Stephen Herring and D.C. Moorè were appointed deacons and lames Carroll and D.C. James Carroll and D.C. Moore seleceted as delegates

to the Goshen Association. Pastors of the Kenansville Baptist Church during the first 100 years were: Benajah Carroll and G.W Hufham, 1837-42: Robert McNabb, 1842-49; G.W. Hufham, 1849-50; G.W. Wallace, 1850-59; B.F. Marable, 1859-60; J.D. Hufham, 1860-61; J.N. Stallings, 1861-76; G.S. Best, 1876-77; J.N. Stallings, 1878-79; W.M. Stallings, 1878-79; W.M. Kennedy, 1880-81; J.T. Albritton 1882-83; J.H. Gil-lespie, 1884; T.J. Baker, 1885; R.C. Sandlin, 1886-88; W.E. Crodker, 1890-91; C.F. Hopper, 1891-92; W.L. Bilbro, 1893-98; J.D. Larkins, 1898-1900; W.L. Bilbro, 1901-02; W.N. John-son, 1902-05; C.M. Rock, 1905-07; W.P. Campbell, 1908; J.H. Booth, 1910-12; F.K. Pool, 1912; W.A. Elam, 1916-17; P.A. Hicks, 1917; 1916-17; P.A. Hicks, 1917; D.E. Hill, 1919-20; A.L. Brown, 1921-27; L. Israel, 1928; G.W. Rollins, 1928-30; and R.C. Foster, 1930-37. At the publication of the "100 Years of the Kenansville Baptist Church" in 1937, Joel Whaley, J.A. Gavin, Jr., P.J. Dobson, F.W. McGowen, H.M. West and W.M. Brinson were

serving as deacons and W.B. Murray as treasurer and Mrs. F.W. McGowen as clerk. The seven churches more than 100 years of age in 1937 were, Bear Marsh, Concord, Magnolia, Kenansville, Johnson's, Hallsville and Island Creek. Bear Marsh was organized in 1763. Island Creek was organized by the Reverend Jacob Williams about 1800. Jacob Williams

was the father of Ann Williams who married Dr. Stephen Graham of Kenansville, Limestone Church now known as Hallsville was organized in 1804 by the Reverend Silas Carter. And, Nahunga known today as Johnson's Baptist Church was established in 1807.

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Seventh grade: Richard Brown, Carolyn Wilson-all A. Gigi Ammar, Christy Battle, Karen Becton, Tammie Bland, Melanie Brock, Carlos Caraway, Terrence Graham, Donna Hall, Angela Hill, Curtis Hooks, Edward Jarman, Vickie Knowles, Tammy Newkirk, Truman Raines, Melton Sanders, Dacia Smith. Brandye Williams-B average.

average. Stephen Blanchard, Terry Carroll, William Chestnutt, Carlette Smith, Kim Smith, Wendy Williams-B

Brinson, Darla Brock, Doris Williams, Tonya Newkirk-A

average. Ninth grade: Michael

average. Garry Brinson. Mark Craft, Sharon Dobson, Theyesa Fennell, Robert Graham, Deborah Mathis, Jeffrey Houston, Walter Hatcher, Cathleen Troublefield-B average. Mom, Dad,

' The Original '

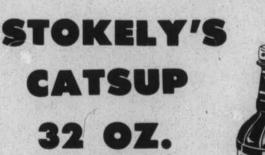
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