

# *A Step Back in Time*

By Bobbie Sue Shelton-Lonas

## GREENWOOD METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The first Methodist Church, known to have been organized in the Eagleville area, was Greenwood Methodist Episcopal Church South. The church, organized in 1871, was located on the corner of Highway 99 and Greenwood Road near the previous site of the One Gallus Fox Camp. The church, a wood frame building also housed a school for the community school children on the lower floor while the upper floor was used for the church. Known teachers for the school were Mrs. Nell Hayes who taught in 1906 and Pattie Hughes, who was only sixteen years old, was the teacher in 1907. In 1914 the school closed and the children transferred to Eagleville School.

The newly organized Greenwood Church was put on the College Grove circuit, or charge as it's often called, with Edward's Grove, Promise and College Grove churches. Over the years Greenwood was transferred to the Franklin Charge and in October 1921, to the Chapel Hill Charge.

A circuit was made up of two or more local churches in early Methodism and sometimes referred to as a "charge". A pastor would be appointed to the charge by his bishop. During the course of a year he was expected to visit each church on the charge at least once a year, and possibly start some new ones. At the end of a year, the pastors met with the bishop at annual conference, where they would often be appointed to new charges. An assignment containing only one church was called a station. In the early days, the traveling preachers responsible for caring for these local churches and stations became known as circuit riders, or sometimes saddlebag preachers. According to old church records, there were 30 (charge) preachers during the duration of the Greenwood Church history, the first being Rev. W. Wind 1871-72, Rev. R. R. Jones 1872-74, Rev. Jordan 1874-75, Rev. Rolin 1875-76, Rev. Petway 1876-77, Rev. Larence 1877-78, Rev. Doss 1878-1881, Rev. Peoples 1881-1883, Rev. Mooney 1883-85, Rev. McFerrin 1885-88, Rev. W. B. Loury 1888-91, R. W. Seay 1891-95, Rev. B. H. Johnson 1895-97, Rev. Robert Chenault 1897-98, G. B. McPeak 1898-1900, Rev. W. V. Jarrett 1900-1901, Rev. Gabard 1901, Rev. J. W. Cullom 1901-05\*, Rev. G. W. Taylor 1905-07, Rev. E. P. Ledbetter 1907-09, Rev. Robert Waite 1909-13, Rev. J. C. Whitson 1913-15, Rev. J. A. Allison 1915-19, Rev. J. R. Reaves 1919-21, Rev. J. R. Simpson 1921-22, Rev. W. L. Jackson 1922-24, Rev. W. A. Stroud 1924-29, Rev. O. H. Lane 1929-30, Rev. N. J. Townsend 1930-31, Rev. G. D. McReynolds from 1931-33.

Known preachers who also preached at Greenwood for their services were: Rev. J. T. Currey, Rev. H. B. Reams, Rev. P. A. Sowell, Rev. G. L. Peale, Rev. J. J. Stowe, Rev. J. W. Collier, Rev. W. L. Jackson, Rev. J. R. Beasley, Rev. H. B. Reams, Rev. H. Seay, and Rev. H. B. Reams.

\*Rev. J. W. "Jeremiah" Cullom, born 1828, one of the most popular circuit preachers assigned to Greenwood. He was appointed to the Franklin District, Wesley Circuit (which included Greenwood) in 1901. Rev. Cullom was pleased to serve this circuit, due to the fact he owned a home in Triune and on Nov. 19, 1901, he moved to this home from the Clarksville area. Rev. Cullom kept a journal of all his travels in his church work and excerpts of this journal 1828 - 1915 was published, "Warm Hearts and Saddlebags." There are several mentions of the Greenwood Church and individuals that lived in the Eagleville area. Following are only a few interesting entries to his journal.

Sunday Night Feb. 15, 1903 A gloomy day but we had good services at Greenwood and Wesley. Drove home by dark. It is raining in floods now - 9 pm. Glad I

am home. Left home on Friday, visited the following: Dr. Mitchell, Jas. Owen, U. J. Owen, Widow Cotton, Thos. Hooper, Pink Elmore, Frank Jackson, M. R. Hughes, Mrs. Lillie Kelly, E. B. Kelly, Dru. Floyd, Oscar Floyd, John Russell, Tom Clary, Jas. Redman, D. H. Hughes, Frank Oglevie, W. A. Bailey, W. Marshall, Wm. Osteen, Frank Harris, Geo. Williams and R. E. Lee.

Sunday June 22, to an immense crowd, preached the funeral of Aunt Katie Dean at Promise—a precious service. The drought continues and is growing serious. Hardly any rain in nearly two months.

Sunday June 29th 1903 the drought is broken. Heavy rain and storm yesterday evening and it rained all night last night, and then again this afternoon. A storm struck Eagleville Saturday evening which completely demolished the Primitive Baptist Church and nearly ruined the Christian Church. Other buildings were injured, and a great deal of timber blown down. Wife and I were near Eagleville, it being Children's Day at Greenwood. Conducted funeral of Bro. Talifario's little girl, Sarah, yesterday afternoon.

Oct. 24, 1904 Our Conference adjourned tonight and I am reappointed to Wesley Circuit (includes Greenwood Church) for the fourth year and the fifty-fourth in the Conference. May I Have guidance from above. Amen.

Sunday Feb. 19 1905 Spent last night with W. F. Oglevie—one of the best places. He snow came down this morning. Talked to 17 people at Greenwood, and hurried through the blizzard to Wesley—Not a soul out. Came back to Bro. Ben Lanier's and found him very dangerously ill. Spent the night and Monday with him. We hope the crisis is past.

Sunday July 2, 1905 Preached at Wesley. When half through the service an angry thundercloud broke us up. I drove through a hard rain to Greenwood. The sun came out and we had a packed house and a good children's day service. Collection \$3.42.

Rev. Cullom died at his son's home in Wilson Arkansas after a brief illness on November 21, 1915. He was brought back to Triune Tennessee for funeral services at the Methodist Church with a huge concourse of more than two thousand people, by actual count, being present to manifest their love for him

The old existing records don't cover the entire history of the church. Hopefully some of the following information may be of interest to you whose ancestor may have attended Greenwood Church.

MARRIAGES	Pastor	Date
W. T. Ogilvie & Bettie Roberts	B H. Johnson	March 24, 1896
Jones Floyd & Emma Elmore	G. B. McPeak	No Date Listed
Thomas Floyd & Mary Thomason	J. D. Smith	July 6th 1898
Arch Taliaferro & Nannie J. Kelley	J. D. Smith	Jan 30, 1901
W. L. Comstock & Anna Floyd	J. C. Cullom	April 6, 1902
R. G. Hay & Anna Elmore	J. C. Cullom	June 4, 1902
T. H. Ogilvie & Alice Haley	M. S. Gabard	Jan 21, 1903
O. C. Floyd & Mary Hay	Marion White	Jan 21, 1903
W. J. Lane & Grace E. Marshall	J. K. Lee	May 24, 1903



The following are members listed in the incomplete Greenwood Church History. Also included were some dates of vows, certificates and baptism I haven't listed. (If anyone is interested in these dates, contact me at 615-274-6282 and I'll look them up for you.)

Allison, Annie	Elmore, Addie	Hatcher, Mary H.	Marshall, Marvin
Allison, Frances	Elmore, Anna	Hatcher, William D.	Marshall, Robert E.
Allison, J. K.	Elmore, Ella	Helton, Otra	McCord, Laura G.
Allison, John	Elmore, Emma D.	Helton, Sam	McPeak, J. H.
Allison, Nannie	Elmore, M. F.	Hooper, Ben F.	Mitchell, Thomas A.
Allison, Sara	Elmore, Nannie	Hooper, George W.	Moore, John
Bailey, A. Y.	Elmore, Nina Leonora	Hooper, James	Moore, Katie
Bailey, James M.	Elmore, William	Hooper, John B.	Mrs. Nannie, J. Taliferro
Bailey, Pearl Ezell	Elmore, L. C.	Hooper, Mary A.	Mrs. J. H. McPeak
Bailey, Pearl W.	Floyd, Albert S.	Hooper, Virginia N.	Ogilvie Ida
Bailey, Sam	Floyd, Delphia	Hughes, David H.	Ogilvie, Bettie
Bailey, Sara E.	Floyd, Evie B.	Hughes, David Henning Jr.	Ogilvie, N. F.
Bailey, William A.	Floyd, J. A.	Hughes, George Harrison	Ogilvie, Thomas H.
Beasley, Beulah	Floyd, J. E.	Hughes, Henri M.	Ogilvie, William F.
Beasley, Bessie	Floyd, Jones	Hughes, Hollie	Osteen, Lillie May
Beasley, James W.	Floyd, Lowry	Hughes, Lucus B.	Owen, James P.
Beasley, Pearl	Floyd, Mary E.	Hughes, Mary Claire	Owen, Laura A.
Beasley, Sarah	Floyd, Minnie	Hughes, Mary L.	Owen, Maude
Beasley, Thomas R.	Floyd, Oscar C.	Hughes, Mat R.	Owen, Samuel Robert
Beasley, Walter	Floyd, Thomas	Hughes, Olga	Owen, William Green
Brittian, Arthur	Ghee, Alma	Hughes, Pattie	Ramsey, Thomas J.
Brittian, Clemmie	Ghee, Bessie	Hughes, Thomas M.	Ray, Joe
Brittian, Mary	Ghee, Edna Pearl	Isom, Garland	Ray, Polly
Clary, Annie May	Ghee, J. A.	Isom, Mollie	Redmon, James
Clary, Ben A.	Ghee, J. M.	Jordan, Thomas B.	Redmon, Susie
Clary, Clarence G.	Ghee, J. W.	Kelley, Jennie Lou	Redmon, Tommie
Clary, Eunice	Ghee, James A.	Kelley, Lillie H.	Redmond, Annie
Clary, Laura F.	Ghee, Lela	Kelley, Monroe	Redmond, Bennie
Clary, Nannie R.	Ghee, Mattie B.	Kelly, Nancy Jane	Sebastian, Zana
Clary, W. T.	Ghee, Ruby	Killough, Edward	D. Sheffield, Charlie
Colvin, Virginia	Ghee, Thelma	Killough, Martin	Stem, Janie
Comstock, William	Ghee, Willie	Lancaster, Adeline	Stem, Marion
Comstock, Albert	Giles, Claude	Lancaster, John	Stem, Mary J.
Comstock, Anna	Giles, Frances	Lancaster, Neely P.	Stem, Myrtle
Comstock, Annie Laura	Giles, James K.	Lancaster, Robert	Stem, Richard
Comstock, Eunice Annie	Giles, Lemma	Lancaster, Sam	Taliaferro, J. A.
Comstock, Floyd	Giles, Paul	Lancaster, Samuel J.	Taliaferro, Kelley
Comstock, Irene	Haley, John	Lee, Annie	Taliaferro, Mary Esther
Comstock, Lillie Mae	Haley, Linus P.	Lee, Edward	Taliaferro Powell
Comstock, Mary	Haley, William C.	Lee, Emmaline	Tucker, Sammie E.
Comstock, William A.	Hardison, Allie Lee	Lee, Guy	Vaughan, William
Comstock, William L.	Hardison, Eunice	Lee, Laura C.	White, Elizabeth
Cooper, Bessie	Hardison, Lillie Mae	Lee, Lucille	White, G. C.
Cooper, Fannie	Harris, Frank	Lee, Marcus O.	White, Lucille
Cooper, Gifford	Harris, Leonard	Lee, Ola F.	White, Mary Frances
Davis, John	Harris, Mary Lizzie	Lee, Robert E.	Wilhoite, Willie
Dies, Bessie	Harris, Monnie	Little, Irene	Williams, H. B.
Dies, Joe Frank	Harris, Otis	Marshall, Gilbert	Williams, Jennie
Dyer, Joe Frank	Harris, Ruby	Marshall, Grace E.	Wilson, Albert M.
Eady, Fannie T.	Hatcher, Annie	Marshall, John William	Wray, Polly
Eady, Narcis	Hatcher, James C.	Marshall, Kansas	

In 1907 a group of members of the Greenwood Church wished to move the church to Eagleville. This was not agreeable with all the church members. Approximately six men and their families left Greenwood and organized the Eagleville Methodist Episcopal Church South. The Greenwood Methodist Episcopal Church South disbanded in 1933.

B. F. Hooper & Cassie Hutchison	R. T. Reed	Sept 1, 1903
W. A. Bailey & Susie Tally	No Pastor listed	Mar 2, 1892
A. Y. Bailey & Pearl Ezell	A. T. Goodloe	Jan 25, 1893
R. E. Lee & Ida Ogilvie	J. Knox Lee	Dec. 27, 1893
Otis Lee & Maggie Hirshbruner	Robert Waite	Dec. 1909
Clarence Clary & Eunice Pope	Robert Waite	June 9, 1912
Will Martin & Eunice Comstock	Robert Waite	June 1, 1913
Albert Comstock & Mary Vaughn	J. A. Allison	Dec 15, 1915
Gifford Cooper & Lea Gillespie	No Pastor or Date listed	
Erik Hardison & Lille Mae Comstock	W. A. Stroud	Dec. 22, 1924
Fred Payne & Virginia Colvin	W. A. Stroud	No Date Listed
Fred Simpson & Frances Giles	G. D. McReynolds	Dec. 27, 1933
Lowry Floyd & Mary F. White	G. D. McRenolds	May 5, 1934

#### INFANT BAPTISM

Annie May, James Henning, John Thomas, Benjamin Robert and Nora, children of James and Mattie Redmon by Rev. R. M. Chenault June 2, 1897

Emmaline, daughter of Robert and Ida Lee, by Rev. R. M. Chenault 26 June 1897

Mattie, Fannie and Deal children of Wm. P and N. S. Eady by Rev. R. M. Chenault June 1897

Mary Claire and William Joseph children of D. H. and Hollie Hughes by Rev. R. W. Searcy Aug. 1894

Murrey McConnico Hughes son of D. H. and Hollie Hughes by Rev. G. B. McPeak April 1899

William Thomas Floyd son of J. A. and Emma Floyd by Rev. W. V. Jarratt Aug 7, 1900

Jennie May Owen daughter of James and Laura Owen by Rev. W. V. Jarratt Aug 11, 1900

Sara Louise Lee, daughter of Robert E. and Ida Lee by Rev. W. V. Jarratt Oct 21, 1903

Walter Alonza son of D. H. and Hollie Hughes by Rev. J. W. Cullom 1902

Alma, Edna and Pauline children of J. W. and Mattie Ghee by Rev. J. R. Simpson July 7, 1922

Thomas, Hugh, Armina, Margarette and Robert, children of W. T. and Eunice Martin by Rev. J. R. Simpson, Oct. 8, 1922

Annie Laura and William children of W. A. and Mary Comstock by Rev. W. L. Jackson Aug 19, 1923