

**68th
Annual Session
of the
Northern New Salem Association
of Old Regular Baptist
of Jesus Christ**



Authorized King James Version

**In Session Assembled with
The Little Rebecca Church
July 31 through August 2, 2026**

**Elder Danny Carty, Moderator
Elder Steve Slone, Assistant Moderator
Elder Wayne Sartin, Clerk
Elder Scott Little-Assistant Clerk**

Northern New Salem Archive Site address:

<http://www.northernnewsalem.com>

2026 Officers of the Northern New Salem



Top: Elders Steve Slone and Scott Little.
Bottom: Elders Dan Carty, Ray Hamilton, and Wayne Sartin.

The 2026 Northern New Salem Association is dedicated to the memory of Elder Don Lawson.

Contents

1	Reprinted Items	2
2	Proceedings	4
2.1	Friday Session	4
2.2	Friday, July 31, 2026	5
2.2.1	Saturday Morning Preaching Appointments	6
2.3	Saturday, August 1, 2026	8
3	Sabbath Morning Services	16
3.1	Thanks from the Clerk	17
4	Letter from the Clerk	18
5	Circular Letter	19
	Articles of Faith	20
	Constitution of the Northern New Salem Association	21
	Rules of Decorum	22
6	Annual Church Tables and Directories	24
6.1	Statistical Table	24
6.2	Delegates	25
6.3	Clerks and Their Addresses	26
6.4	Moderators and Assistant Moderators	27
6.5	Church Addresses	27
6.6	Ordained Ministers	28
7	Union Meetings and Special Memorials	30
7.1	Special Memorial Notices	32
8	Obituaries	33
	Ministers	33
	Members	33
	Friends	43
9	Historical, Constitutional, and Scripture Notes	48
9.1	Associational and Historical References	48
9.2	Scripture References	50

Reprinted Items

Items from 1964, 1965, 1970, 1980, 1982, and 2003 Minutes of the Northern New Salem

- I. **Year 1964 – Item 15:** By move and second the Association agreed to answer the request from several churches touching upon the question of sisters cutting their hair, using make-up, etc. As follows: It is the duty of every moderator of every church to exercise strict disciplinary action toward the violation of established practices. To insist on strict compliance with what sayeth the scripture concerning a woman of righteousness. Mark them that would creep in the assembly just to destroy the peace and salvation of the church.
- II. **Year 1965 – Item 16:** That each church in our union shall hold its own key, and it is to be the sole judge of the members as long as it does not violate the Word of God, the order of the Association or Old Regular Baptist principles.
- III. **Year 1970 – Item 17:** The request from the Little Ruth Church “Asking for advise on how should a minister who has been excluded from preaching with sects and orders contrary to Regular Baptist principles can be received back into the fellowship of a Regular Baptist Church.” We as an advisory council say to all our churches that you may restore such one upon strict examination, BUT not to return to them their credentials until they have been reexamined by legal presbytery.
- IV. **Year 1980 – Item 12:** By a motion and second, the request from the Little Rebecca Church was granted to correct Item #13 of our 1979 minutes to read as follows:

We, the Little Rebecca Church of Old Regular Baptist, of Jesus Christ having met at our regular meeting time being found in full love and fellowship of all members present agreed unanimously to send the following request to the Northern New Salem Association when convened with the Little Ida Church on Friday before the first Saturday in August 1979. “We, the Little Rebecca Church request the Northern New Salem Association to adopt a resolution against members of our churches belong to secret orders such as Masons, Odd Fellows or any other related worldly organization that is an offense to our Sister Association as well as our own brethren”. This question has produced friction far too long in our union and we feel it is contrary to our fundamental Christian beliefs and our church principles as we are not to be a part of a worldly kingdom. And farther that we advise all of our churches having such members to rid themselves of any members that refuse to disassociate themselves from such organizations. (And not preach with any preacher that belongs to a secret organization.)

- V. **Year 1982-Item 13:** Moved and second to grant the requests from Antioch, Family of Love, Little Ruth, and Little Rebecca Churches. Concerning omitting item number 13, page 10, year 1967 of the Northern New Salem Association minutes, and adopt item number 17, page 4 of the 1970 minutes of our mother the New Salem Association, which reads as follows: Not to use any man with two living women, (or whose wife has two living men) to preach in the bounds of the Northern New Salem Association and the Moderators to adhere to this advice. An objection was made to this move. A vote was taken, 42 voted in favor of the motion, 21 against, motion carried, request granted.
- VI. **Year 2003 – Item 15:** A motion was made by Eld. Larry Newsome, second by Eld. Harrison Runyon that we as an adviser and counselor answer the request of the Pleasant View, Eternal Rose and True Vine Churches concerning Item #17 of our 2002 Minutes. The following will replace Item #17:

“We say to our churches to advise their ministers to refrain from taking any part in the services of churches not in correspondence with the Northern New Salem Association. This means preaching or baptizing members into their fellowship. If this is violated the minister will be silenced for a period of time, satisfactory to his home church. Under no circumstance will this be less than twelve (12) months for the first offense, and if this should happen a second time, he would automatically be excluded. Concerning funerals: If a family wants a minister of the Old Regular Baptist faith to participate in a funeral service where another church minister (not of our correspondence) is going to take part or be used in part of the services. This is acceptable as long as the Regular Baptist minister separates the services by song, prayer and dismissal called. See Item #17 of our 1970 Minutes. This advice is to be printed in our Minutes until future action is taken.

Proceedings

of the 68th Annual Session

of the

Northern New Salem Association

of Old Regular Baptist, The Church of Jesus Christ

July 31 through August 2, 2026

Friday Session

Gathering and Welcome

As the delegates of the Northern New Salem Association gathered in the sanctuary of Little Rebecca Church, you could feel the love and see the warm embraces of those pilgrims who had traveled many miles to come together for another year of fellowship.

The songs of Zion filled the sanctuary, warming your heart and feeding your soul. There was something special about being surrounded by people who shared the same faith, the same love for God, and a deep appreciation for the fellowship that has brought generations together.

In those moments, it became clear that this gathering was more than a meeting. It was about family, faith, tradition, and the blessings that come when God's people come together in love and unity. The smiles, handshakes, hugs, prayers, and songs reminded us that no matter how far we may travel or how much time passes, there is something powerful about coming home to fellowship with one another.

What a blessing it is to gather, lift our voices in praise, and continue the traditions of those who came before us. The Northern New Salem Association is more than a name—it is a legacy of faith, fellowship, and love that continues from one generation to the next.

Our Moderator, Elder Ray Hamilton then welcomed everyone to our 68th annual Association.

Opening Exhortation – Elder Glen Slone

Alternate, Elder Glen Slone was called on to introduce the services. Brother Glen was blessed to preach about the importance of being for God is coming back. That love that is in your heart will prepare you and make you ready when God comes to call his children home.¹

Introductory Sermon – Elder Danny Carty

Having been chosen by the delegates at our 2025 session to preach the Introductory Sermon for this year, Elder Danny Carty approached the stand in a humble manner and was soon blessed to preach. Brother Danny preached of how this gathering must be much like Heaven, as God's children assembled and felt the Spirit of God surrounding His people. He preached of a Savior who came to save the lost and heal the sick. He then spoke of Jesus praying in the garden, where His sweat became as great drops of blood. Though He came for this cause and faced the sting of death,

¹Scripture reference S-01, editorially inferred from the clerk's sermon summary. Possible parallels are Matthew 24:42-44, John 14:1-3, and 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17. The preacher's specific text was not recorded; these passages are printed only as editorial parallels.

He willingly died that we might be made free.²³

Preaching Appointments and Assembly for Business

Those who were not delegates were asked to move to the pavilion where the preaching would be conducted. The delegates were advised to remain in the sanctuary of the Little Rebecca Church where the business of the Association would begin. The following Elders were chosen to preach at the place arranged: Elders: (1) Nate Caudill- Philadelphia Association ;(2) Elder Danny Justus- Old Friendship Association; (3) Elder Todd Dials- Sardis Association; (4) Elder Barry Lucas- Union Association; and (5) Elder Theodore Slone- New Salem Association.

After gathering in the house and singing one of Zion's songs, Elder Ralph Cloud – Old Indian Bottom Association was called on to make remarks he led in prayer.

Our beloved Moderator, Elder Ray Hamilton, announced that the 68th Annual Session of the Northern New Salem Association was now ready to assemble to begin the work of the Association.

Friday, July 31, 2026

ITEM 1. The Moderator called for the letters from the churches that compose the Northern New Salem Association to be handed in to the Clerk.

The letter from the Little Rebecca Church was read by the Clerk. A motion was made by Elder Scott Little, second by Brother Raymond Henderson to receive the letters, seat the delegates and refer all queries and requests to the Committee on Arrangements.

No letter was received from either the Lily of the Valley Church or the Mount Olive Church. The matters concerning those churches were referred to the Committee on Arrangements.⁴

ITEM 2. The Northern New Salem Association of Old Regular Baptist faith organized by electing the following officers to serve the next year. The following Brothers were appointed to take the vote:

Elder Chuck Hall- New Salem Association, Elder Gary Blevins-Philadelphia Association, and Elder Richard Staton- Sardis Association.

Officers elected

²Scripture reference S-02, editorially inferred from the clerk's sermon summary. Possible parallels are Luke 19:10, Mark 2:17, and Luke 5:31-32. The preacher's specific citations were not recorded; these passages are printed only as editorial parallels.

³Scripture reference S-03, editorially inferred from the clerk's sermon summary. Possible parallels are Luke 22:39-44, John 12:27, John 10:17-18, and 1 Corinthians 15:55-57. These passages are printed only as editorial parallels, not as texts announced by the preacher.

⁴Historical reference H-10. The 1985 Mud River minute records a church letter being referred to the Committee on the Bill of Arrangements and made an item for the following day. In 2026, no letter was received from either the Lily of the Valley Church or the Mount Olive Church; only the matters concerning those churches were referred. The 1985 minute is cited solely as a procedural analogy for referral followed by Saturday consideration, not as evidence that a letter was received in 2026.

Office	Name
Moderator	Elder Danny Carty
Assistant Moderator	Elder Stephen Slone
Clerk	Elder Wayne Sartin
Assistant Clerk	Elder Scott Little

(a) Noted by the Association concerning our Finance Committee. It was moved and seconded that our Finance Committee be appointed at the same time of the election of officers, the Moderator appointed: Elder Thomas Dials- Sardis Association and Elder Paul D. Moore- Philadelphia Association. Brother Raymond Henderson made a motion, second by Elder Phillip Beverly to receive the report of the committee appointed and discharge them of their duties.

ITEM 3.

Lifetime Honorary Designation

Elder Steven Miller made a move that Elder Ray Hamilton be named Honorary Moderator for life. This was seconded by Elder Mike Fortner.⁵

ITEM 4. By a motion made by Elder Ishmael Hall Jr., second by Elder Adam Moore, the Moderator was authorized to make all temporary appointments.

ITEM 5. Call for the clerks to read the Constitution, Rules of Decorum and Articles of Faith (In compliance with Item 10, Saturday's work 2022 NNSA).⁶

ITEM 6.

Call for Churches Desiring to Join the Union

Called for legally organized churches of our same faith and order desiring to join our union and none responded.⁷

Saturday Morning Preaching Appointments

Saturday morning—Elders (1) Kevin Blevins-Old Indian Bottom Association; (2) Gary Adkins-Philadelphia Association; (3) Preston Lewis-Philadelphia Association; (4) Richard Staton- Sardis Association; (5) Zach Stewart- Philadelphia Association.

⁵Historical and constitutional reference H-01. The 2026 body named Elder Ray Hamilton Honorary Moderator for life. This note records the designation as adopted and does not assign duties, privileges, or authority beyond the motion.

⁶Historical reference H-02. The 2026 source draft cites Item 10 of Saturday's work in the 2022 Northern New Salem minutes as the authority for reading the Constitution, Rules of Decorum, and Articles of Faith. The citation is retained as the clerk's source reference.

⁷Constitutional reference H-03. Article VI provides for admission of a new church by letter and delegates after examination as orthodox and orderly; Article XIV requires a unanimous vote when receiving or dismissing churches and associations.

ITEM 7. Called for transient ministers and members of our same faith and order and the following responded: Elder Ray Hamilton and Elder Larry Dixon.

ITEM 8. A motion was made by Elder Scott Little, second by Brother Andy Counts that we, the Northern New Salem Association, correspond by letter and delegate with the following associations: (a) New Salem; (b) Union (c) Philadelphia; (d) Sardis;(e) Old Friendship; and (f) Old Indian Bottom.

ITEM 9. The Moderator appointed a committee to arrange the agenda for Saturday, consisting of one delegate from each church, together with the officers of the Northern New Salem Association, and the officers and delegates from our corresponding associations. The committee on Arrangements is to meet back at the house at 2:30 pm Friday afternoon.

(a.) Elder Joe Gilliam made a motion, second by Brother Raymond Henderson that we, the Northern New Salem Association, adjourn until 9:00 a.m. Saturday morning, August 1, 2026.

Adjournment and Committee Work

(b.) The committee met pursuant to adjournment Friday afternoon and completed its work on the Bill of Arrangements. The services for the evening were introduced by Elder Zach Stewart, prayer held by Elder Nate Caudill.

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Reconvening and Prayer

In accordance with having met pursuant to adjournment, on this the second day of three of the Northern New Salem Association, the Association delegates and attenders reconvened at the Little Rebecca Church. Prior to services starting for the morning, we learned that Elder Steve Slone's daughter had to be taken to the hospital and therefore he was not going to be there for the day. Moderator, Elder Danny Carty asked those in attendance to utter a prayer for Brother Steve and his family.

Fellowship and Hospitality

As the sanctuary of Little Rebecca Church began to fill, you could feel the love and Spirit of God dwelling among His children. Friends and brethren had traveled from distant states and counties to fellowship, worship, and support this grand old association as we gathered for the 68th Session of the Northern New Salem Association.

Everywhere you looked, there were prayers being uttered, warm handshakes being exchanged, and heartfelt embraces shared between old friends and new. The joy of fellowship was evident throughout the sanctuary, reminding us that although many had traveled from far and wide, we had all come together as one body, united in faith and love.

The labor of the host church was visible in every direction. From the moment you entered the sanctuary, it was evident that much prayer, preparation, sacrifice, and love had gone into making this gathering possible. Their work was not simply seen in what had been prepared but felt in the spirit of hospitality that welcomed every delegate, visitor, friend, and brother.

There was a sacred sweetness in the atmosphere, a feeling that could not simply be described but had to be experienced. The 68th Session of the Northern New Salem Association was truly a gathering of God's people, coming together once again to worship, fellowship, encourage one another, and carry forward a legacy of faith that has blessed generations.

Opening Worship

Services for the morning were introduced by Elder Tommy Dials of the Sardis Association. A song was called for and then a humble prayer was offered by Brother Tommy.

Opening and Orders of the Day

Items 1-3: Roll of delegates, Bill of Arrangements, and approved Circular Letter

ITEM 1. Called the roll of delegates and marked the absentees.

ITEM 2. The Bill of Arrangements was read by the Clerk. A motion was made by Brother Raymond Henderson and seconded by Elder Zach Collins to receive the Bill of Arrangements and discharge the committee.

ITEM 3. The Circular Letter written by Elder Greg Sowards for our 2026 session was read. A motion was made by Elder Larry Newsome and seconded by Elder Joe Gibson to receive the letter and have it printed in our 2026 minutes. Objections were called for and none responded.

Finance and Annual Administration

Items 4-6: Finance Committee, Treasurer's Report as Item 4(a), printing, secretary, and next-session appointments

ITEM 4. The Finance Committee appointed Friday, Item 2(a), consisting of Elder Thomas Dials-Sardis Association and Elder Paul D. Moore- Philadelphia Association, reported as follows:

Finance Committee Report

Line item	Amount
2026 Church contributions	\$3,500.00
2026 money for pictures	\$185.00
Other contributions	\$0.00
Reported total	\$3,685.00

(a) Treasurer's Report

The Moderator called for Treasurer, Elder Wayne Sartin to give his report as follows:

Treasurer's Report - A

Line item	Amount
Balance as of August 1, 2025	\$11,620.90
2025 Church contributions	\$4,125.00
2025 Picture money	\$200.00
Website Contribution	\$170.00
Other contributions	\$0.00

Total money on hand as of August 3, 2025: \$16,115.90

Expenses for 2025

Line item	Amount
Printer's fee	\$1,958.60
Secretary's fee	\$0.00
Postage, UPS Freight	\$733.90
Website cost	\$170.00
Supplies	\$0.00
Other	\$0.00
Reported total	\$2,862.50

Treasurer's Report - Summary

Line item	Amount
Total of A	\$16,115.90
Less Total of B	\$2,862.50
Balance	\$13,253.40
Plus Interest Earned	\$1.20
Balance August 1, 2026	\$13,254.60
Plus money received for 2026	\$3,685.00
Total money on hand August 2, 2026	\$16,939.60

Note: Money sent by Sister Churches of the Northern New Salem Association to Little Rebecca Church in helping host the 2026 session: \$8,175.00.

Brother Andy Counts made a motion, seconded by Brother James Wagner to receive the Treasurer's Report.

ITEM 5. Elder Joe Gibson made a motion and the motion was seconded by Elder Mike Fortner that Elder Wayne Sartin be appointed recording secretary. He is to have 1,180 copies of the current minutes printed and distributed among the churches according to their contributions. The secretary is to receive \$00 for his services. Printer's fee is to appear on the front cover.

ITEM 6. The brothers appointed to take the vote for who is to preach the

Introductory Sermon: Elder Paul D. Moore- Philadelphia Association; Elder Kerry Ratliff- New Salem Association; Brother Edgar Baker Jr. – Old Friendship Association; and who is to write the Circular Letter for 2027: Brother Mark Elkins- Philadelphia Association; Brother Farrell Howard- Philadelphia Association; Elder Darrell Kidd- Philadelphia Association.

It was decided to not have services Saturday evening and allow the sisters, delegates, and members to rest.

Sunday morning: (1) Elder Steve Slone-Northern New Salem Association, (2) Elder Scott Little-Northern New Salem Association, (3) Elder Wayne Sartin- Northern New Salem Association, (4) Elder Danny Carty- Northern New Salem Association, and (5) Elder Ray Hamilton- Northern New Salem Association.

By a vote of the delegates, Elder Billy Miller was chosen to preach the Introductory Sermon, Elder Zach Collins to be his alternate, and Elder Nick Hansen to write the Circular Letter for our 69th Annual Session. Move by Elder Adam Moore and second by Brother Steve Conley to receive the report of the committee, discharge them, and thank them for a job well done.

Correspondence with Sister Associations

Item 7: Meeting information, delegates, and letter bearers for corresponding associations

ITEM 7. In compliance with Item 8 of Friday's work, we the Northern New Salem Association agreed to correspond by letter and delegate with the following associations:

(a). New Salem: When convened with the host churches, to be held at the Association Building, Minnie, Floyd County, KY. Beginning on Friday before the fourth Saturday in September 2026 and continuing the two following days. Delegates to attend: Ishmael Hall Jr., Ray Hamilton, Scott Little,

Wayne Sartin, Danny Carty, Larry Newsome, Doug Slone, Steve Conley, and Eugene Couch. Elder Scott Little is to carry the letter.

(b) Union: When convened with the host churches and cohost churches. To be held at the Association Building, Ashcamp, Pike County, KY. Beginning on Friday before the third Saturday in September 2026 and continuing the two following days. Delegates to attend: Ray Hamilton, Scott Little, Wayne Sartin, Danny Carty, and Larry Newsome. Elder Larry Newsome is to carry the letter.

(c) Philadelphia: When convened with the host church at the Association Building, at 522 5th Ave., Worthington, KY. Beginning on Friday before the second Saturday in August 2026 and continuing the two following days. Delegates to attend: Jimmy King, Matthew Jones, Adam Moore, Scott Little, Ray Hamilton, Danny Carty, Larry Newsome, Eugene Couch, and Mike Fortner. Letter in the hand of Brother Jimmy King.

(d) Sardis: When convened with the host church and cohosting churches at the permanent association building, Varney, KY, beginning on Friday before the second Saturday in September 2026 and the two following days. Delegates to attend: Scott Little, Ray Hamilton, Wayne Sartin, Danny Carty, Larry Newsome, and Mike Fortner. Letter is in the hand of Elder Danny Carty.

(e) Old Friendship: When convened with the host church and co-host churches at the Little Dove Church beginning on Friday before the fourth Saturday in August 2026 and continuing the two following days. Delegates to attend: Adam Moore, Billy Miller, Scott Little, Ray Hamilton, Wayne Sartin, and Danny Carty. Letter in the hand of Elder Scott Little.

(f) Old Indian Bottom: When convened with the host church and co-host Churches at the Association Building at the Mallet Fork Church, Pinetop, KY beginning on Friday before the first Saturday in September 2026 and continuing the two following days. Delegates to attend: Scott Little, Ray Hamilton, Danny Carty, and Patrick Deel. Letter in the hand of Elder Patrick Deel.

Care of Churches, Requests, and Fellowship

Items 8-12: Committee reports, church requests, associational fellowship, and reprinted historical orders

ITEM 8.

Committee Report

Report on the Committee for the Continuance and Perpetuation of Communion, Discernment, and the Care of the Several Churches. Motion made by Brother Raymond Henderson and seconded by Elder Steven Miller.⁸

The full committee report will be available on the Northern New Salem Association website by November 2026.

ITEM 9.

Request to Continue the Committee

Note the request from the Little Angel Church to Continue the Committee for the Continuation and Care of the Several Churches. Motion made by Elder Steven Miller and seconded by Elder Billy Miller. No objection was made.

⁸Historical reference H-04. The 2026 minute records the report and continued work of the Committee for the Continuation and Care of the Several Churches. The full 2026 committee report is scheduled to be available on the Association website by November 2026.

ITEM 10.

Request of Mount Olive Church

Note the request from the Mount Olive Church stating that they no longer wished to correspond with the Northern New Salem Association or Old Regular Baptist in general but instead wish to become an independent church. Elder Wayne Sartin also spoke on the subject. He stated that when he was there the fourth weekend in June of this year, the brothers of the Mt Olive Church had indicated that they wished to have Sunday school and other groups that are not in accordance with the practices of the Northern New Salem Association. Motion made by Elder Zach Collins and seconded by Elder Sean Hicks. No objection noted.⁹

(a) Provision for Members and Ministerial Correspondence

There was then a motion from Elder Scott Little and a second from Elder Adam Moore that there be a means for those members of the Mt. Olive Church who wished to stay in the Old Regular Baptist Family would have a 1-year period, from August 1, 2026 through August 1, 2027, to take up membership with one of our corresponding churches. Also, Elder Justin Hagerman would have to come back through the Northern New Salem Association if he wished to come back to our correspondence at some time. No objection noted.¹⁰

ITEM 11.

Record of the Matter

Requests and Matter Presented

The Northern New Salem Association received requests from four corresponding churches of the Association—Family of Love Church, Little Ida Church, Little Flossie Church, and Little Angel Church—concerning matters involving Elder Scott Hamilton and the Lily of the Valley Church. Each request was accompanied by reports from properly constituted gospel-step committees detailing the efforts that had been made to address and resolve the matter. The matter centered upon Elder Scott Hamilton's participation in a religious ceremony concerning his son at a church that was not in correspondence with the Northern New Salem Association. The body considered the nature and extent of Brother Scott's participation in the ceremony, including any participation involving the laying on of hands, and whether such participation constituted a practice addressed by the Association's established order concerning ministers participating in the religious practices of churches outside the Association's correspondence. The Association also considered the significant differences between the Articles of Faith of the church where the ceremony occurred and those maintained by the Northern New Salem Association, as well as whether Brother Scott's participation represented fellowship with religious practices or Articles of Faith inconsistent with the established faith and order of the Association.

⁹Historical and constitutional reference H-05. Constitution Article III preserves the internal rights of each church; Article XIV governs dismissal of churches and associations; Article XV defines the Association's responsibility for the general union and its correspondence. This note describes the Association's handling of the request and does not purport to govern or dissolve the local church.

¹⁰Constitutional reference H-06. The 2026 minute fixes the one-year period as August 1, 2026 through August 1, 2027, and records that any future return of Elder Justin Hagerman to correspondence would be through the Northern New Salem Association. This note states the adopted provision without adding requirements beyond the minute.

Continuing Concern and Gospel-Step Efforts

The body further considered the concern that Brother Scott was unwilling to accept the consequence imposed as a result of his actions, including being silenced from the ministry for a designated period, and was unwilling to refrain from exercising the ministry during the period in which that consequence was to apply. The four churches and their constituted committees made repeated efforts to bring the matter to a proper resolution through the established gospel steps, including telephone calls, committee visits, personal appeals, and earnest pleas for Brother Scott to accept the consequence associated with his actions. Despite these efforts, the matter remained unresolved. The response of the Lily of the Valley Church was also considered, including the church's failure to hold Brother Scott accountable to the established consequence and its unwillingness to support the process through which the matter could be resolved.

The committee report summarized the Gospel-step progression: Elder Dan Carty first undertook direct labor concerning Elder Scott Hamilton's conduct; when that did not resolve the matter, Little Angel Church appointed a committee on April 25, 2026, and the committees met with the Lily of the Valley Church on May 16, 2026. They sought to establish the facts, present the Articles of Faith and standing order involved, offer counsel and assistance, and obtain acknowledgment, correction, and restoration. When the grievance remained unresolved, it was brought before the Association; the other requesting churches reported similar Gospel-step efforts.¹¹

Matter Referral to the Committee on Arrangements

The Association further noted that no letter was received from either the Lily of the Valley Church or the Mount Olive Church when the letters of the churches were called for. The matters concerning those churches were referred to the Committee on Arrangements for consideration with the requests, committee reports, and other relevant information before the body.¹²

Associational Authority

In considering the matter, the Association recognized the independence and internal authority of each properly constituted local church and expressly acknowledged that it does not possess governmental authority to dissolve a local church, govern its internal membership, or exercise original disciplinary jurisdiction over its members. At the same time, the churches of the Northern New Salem Association have voluntarily entered into correspondence and fellowship under commonly received Articles of Faith and an established order, thereby giving the Association responsibility for determining matters involving the fellowship and correspondence extended among those churches, the recognition of churches and ministers within that correspondence, controversies affecting fellowship, and questions arising under the Association's Articles and established rules and orders. The body therefore determined that, because the matter had been presented by four corresponding churches, involved the relationship between churches in correspondence, implicated the established

¹¹Committee-report reference H-11. The summarized Gospel-step sequence is drawn from the supplied committee report: direct labor by Elder Dan Carty; Little Angel Church's committee action on April 25, 2026; the committee meeting at the Lily of the Valley Church on May 16, 2026; and presentation of the unresolved grievance to the Association. The other requesting churches reported similar Gospel-step efforts.

¹²Historical reference H-10. The 1985 Mud River minute records a church letter being referred to the Committee on the Bill of Arrangements and made an item for the following day. In 2026, no letter was received from either the Lily of the Valley Church or the Mount Olive Church; only the matters concerning those churches were referred. The 1985 minute is cited solely as a procedural analogy for referral followed by Saturday consideration, not as evidence that a letter was received in 2026.

order of the Association, and remained unresolved after repeated efforts through the proper gospel steps, the Association had a proper and legitimate responsibility to determine whether continued correspondence and fellowship with the Lily of the Valley Church remained consistent with the faith and order of the Association.

Record, Finding, and Adopted Resolution

After carefully considering the church letters, written requests, committee reports, responses from Lily of the Valley Church and Elder Scott Hamilton, the efforts made by the four churches, the original action of Elder Hamilton, his subsequent unwillingness to accept the consequence associated with that action, the differences in the Articles of Faith and religious practices involved, and the failure to reach a satisfactory resolution, the body determined that the unresolved matter affected both Elder Hamilton's willingness to submit to the consequence of his original action and Lily of the Valley Church's willingness to support and uphold the established process of the Association. Therefore, a motion was made by Elder Wayne Sartin and seconded by Elder Billy Miller to withdraw the right hand of fellowship from Elder Scott Hamilton and the Lily of the Valley Church. No objection was noted, and the motion was adopted.

Limits of the Action and Provision for Members

This action was understood not as an attempt to govern the internal affairs of Lily of the Valley Church or to dissolve the church, but as an action concerning the fellowship and correspondence extended by the churches of the Northern New Salem Association and the Association's responsibility to preserve its established faith, order, and biblical principles. The body further provided that individual members of Lily of the Valley Church who desire to maintain fellowship may seek reception into one of the corresponding churches of the Association upon proper recommendation, with this provision remaining available for a period of one calendar year starting August 1, 2026 and ending on August 1, 2027 which was the date established by the Association.

Ordained Elders and Concluding Limitation

Regarding elders associated with the Lily of the Valley Church, including Elder Scott Hamilton, any elder desiring to return to fellowship within the Northern New Salem Association must first submit himself to the body of the Association, which shall determine whether a new examination before a legally constituted presbytery is required before his ministerial standing may again be recognized and before he may be received by a church within the Association. The Association's action was therefore directed toward the preservation of fellowship, correspondence, established faith, and associational order, while respecting the independence and internal authority of the local church.

ITEM 12.

Request Concerning Reprinted Standing Orders

Note the requests from the Little Flossie and Family of Love churches requesting that item 15 of our 2003 Northern New Salem Association reprinted be returned to its original wording of our mother the New Salem Association 1940 item 9 and that item 17 of our 1970 minutes be printed in the reprinted items. The moderator allowed an extensive conversation to take place on this topic. Then there was a motion made by Elder Wayne Sartin and seconded by Elder Adam Moore to grant the request. Objection called for and Elder Joe Gibson objected. At this point, there was a vote

taken with 17 for and 28 against accepting these requests. Therefore, the current standing order will remain in our minutes and the requests to change were rejected.¹³

Association Information and Future Work

Item 13: Requested instructional and historical material for the Association website

ITEM 13.

Request for Website Instructional Material

Note the request of the Antioch Church to allow additional information be added to our Northern New Salem website that would be for the upbuilding of the association. This would include items such as how to conduct the ordination of a deacon or minister, how to organize a church, how to dissolve a church, the constitution of the association, the articles of faith, and possibly adding some old songs that would act as a guide to young brethren on how to sing some of the old hymns. The website would continue to be informational only and would not have any means for feedback or comments from the public. Motion made by Elder Dennis Elkins and seconded by Elder Steven Miller.¹⁴

Next Session and Closing Business

Items 14-16: 2027 host, reading of current minutes, and adjournment

ITEM 14.

Next Host Request

The request to host the 2027 association from the Little Angel Church was read. A motion was made by Brother Raymond Henderson seconded by Brother John Cremeans to grant the request of the Little Angel Church the honor of hosting and the House of Prayer to co-host the 2027 setting of this blessed old association.

ITEM 15.

Reading of the Current Minutes

Elder Adam Moore made a motion, seconded by Elder Steven Miller to forego the reading of the current minutes.¹⁵

ITEM 16.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Brother Rodney Slone seconded by Brother Kenny Slone to adjourn to the place and time mentioned in Item 14 of Saturday's work in the current minutes.

¹³Historical reference H-07. The request itself names Item 15 of the 2003 Northern New Salem minutes, Item 9 of the 1940 New Salem Association minutes, and Item 17 of the 1970 Northern New Salem minutes. This note identifies the records named in the motion and does not paraphrase their complete text.

¹⁴Constitutional and publication reference H-08. Because the request includes instructions on ordination, church organization, church dissolution, the Constitution, and the Articles of Faith, each website item should identify its authoritative source, adoption date, revision status, and informational-only character.

¹⁵Procedural reference H-09. Constitution Article XII requires the minutes to be read, corrected if needed, and signed before the Association arises, unless the reading is dispensed with. Standardized Saturday Item 15 records the motion dispensing with the reading.

The 68th Session was closed out by Elder Todd Dials of the Sardis Association. He came and spoke then closed out the association in a humble prayer.

Sabbath Morning Services

Testimony and Expectation

Sabbath morning services at Little Rebecca Church were truly special. It was the final day of the 68th Annual Session of the Northern New Salem Association, and the Lord blessed us to once again see His goodness and mercy.

There was a particularly special testimony from Elder Steve Slone, who reported that God had healed his daughter on Saturday, allowing him to be present with us on this final Sabbath morning. His presence was a blessing to the Association and a testimony of God's faithfulness.

Though the bodies of the delegates and friends were tired after several days of worship, fellowship, and labor, you could still feel the hunger throughout the congregation. There was a deep desire among the people to spend one more day in the presence of the Lord and to be blessed by the glorious gospel. It was as though the entire congregation had gathered with anticipation, believing that the Good Lord would once again come and feed among the lilies.¹⁶

Order of Preaching

The Association had selected the officers who would bring the message on Sabbath morning, and the order of preaching was arranged as follows:

1. Elder Steve Slone welcomed the congregation and led us in a humble prayer. Following his prayer, Elder Slone continued by preaching to the congregation.
2. Elder Scott Little
3. Elder Wayne Sartin
4. Elder Danny Carty
5. Elder Ray Hamilton

Worship and Closing

The God of mercy truly blessed us as we gathered to worship Him in spirit and in truth. The songs of Zion were beautiful, the prayers were heartfelt, and the preaching was strong. Each message seemed to feed the hungry souls who had gathered, and the presence and favor of God could be felt throughout the sanctuary.¹⁷

As the final services of the 68th Annual Session unfolded, there was a deep sense of gratitude for what the Lord had done among His people. From the opening of the Association until its closing Sabbath service, God had continued to bless, guide, and sustain the Northern New Salem Association.

The services were brought to a close by Elder Paul D. Moore of Philadelphia, who led the congregation in a humble and heartfelt closing prayer.

What a fitting way to conclude our 68th Annual Session—a weary but grateful people, gathered

¹⁶Scripture reference S-04, editorially inferred from the phrase 'feed among the lilies.' Possible parallels are Song of Solomon 2:16 and 6:3. These passages are printed only as editorial parallels.

¹⁷Scripture reference S-05, editorially inferred from the phrase 'worship Him in spirit and in truth.' The apparent parallel is John 4:23-24 and is printed only as an editorial parallel.

together one final time, worshiping the Lord in spirit and in truth, thankful for His goodness, His mercy, and His continued favor upon the Northern New Salem Association.

As we departed Little Rebecca Church, our hearts were full and our souls had been richly fed. We were reminded of the words of the Psalmist:

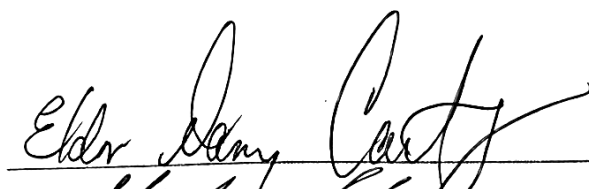
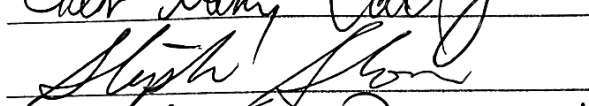
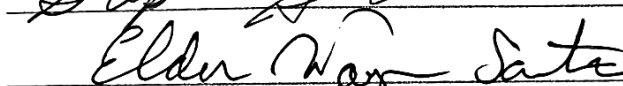
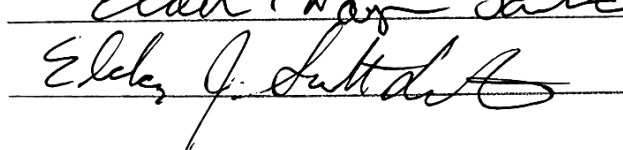
“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!” — Psalm 133:1

What a blessing it was to have gathered together once again in fellowship, worship, and love. Though the 68th Annual Session had come to a close, the joy of those days together and the blessings we received from the Lord would remain with us long after we left the sanctuary.

Thanks from the Clerk

A special word of appreciation must be given to all the members, friends, and families who labored so faithfully to help Little Rebecca Church host the 68th Annual Session of the Northern New Salem Association. A heartfelt and special thank you goes to the Pilgrim’s Home Church, Family of Love Church, Eternal Rose Church, and the Pleasant View Church for their generous help, support, and labor throughout the week. We are also especially thankful for the members of Campers Village, who called Little Rebecca home for the week and added so much to the fellowship and joy of the gathering. The memories made through fellowship, good food, laughter, worship, and working side by side for this grand old association will long be remembered. In the years to come, we will look back with grateful hearts and treasure these precious memories of a week when God’s people came together in love, faith, and service.

Done and Signed by the Order of the Association:

	Elder Danny Carty, Moderator
	Elder Steve Slone, Assistant Moderator
	Elder Wayne Sartin, Clerk
	Elder Scott Little, Assistant Clerk

Letter from the Clerk

A Reflection on Laboring Together

Elder Wayne Sartin, Clerk

Laboring Together in Established Order

How blessed I am to serve this grand old association alongside a group of brethren who are not afraid to uphold the order of the Bible and the established order of the Northern New Salem Association. I am thankful for brothers who are willing to stand upon the wall and cry aloud when they see the enemy approaching. We understand that the enemy is always looking for ways to distract us, divide us, and turn our eyes away from the Master. But if we will continue to labor together, encourage one another, and faithfully defend the way our forefathers labored and sacrificed to preserve, we can trust that our labor will not be in vain. Our Master has promised that those who are faithful over a few things will be made rulers over many.¹⁸

Called Out of the World

The commandments of the Lord are not grievous to His children, but “the way of transgressors is hard.” We should never be ashamed to be called an Old Regular Baptist. We should not despise the fact that our fathers were called out of the world and that, through the grace of God, we are no longer to be of the world. Instead, we ought to rejoice that we have been made free from the bonds of iniquity. Why would we desire to bring back into the old church the very things from which God has called us out?¹⁹

The Old Paths and the Crown of Glory

Let us keep our eyes upon the Master, our feet upon the old paths, and our hearts united in the work. Let us stand together, not for ourselves, but for the faith once delivered unto the saints and for the precious way that has been handed down to us. If we remain faithful and continue to labor in love, the day will come when our earthly labor will be finished and we will receive that crown of glory promised to those who faithfully serve Him.²⁰

“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.”

— 1 Corinthians 15:58²¹

Elder Wayne Sartin

¹⁸Scripture reference S-10. The reflection later expressly quotes 1 Corinthians 15:58. The possible watchman and stewardship parallels are Isaiah 58:1, Ezekiel 33:6-7, and Matthew 25:21; the latter are printed only as editorial parallels.

¹⁹Scripture reference S-11, editorially identified from quoted and paraphrased language in the reflection. Apparent parallels are 1 John 5:3, Proverbs 13:15, John 17:14-16, and Romans 6:18. They are printed as editorial identifications and parallels, not as citations announced by the writer.

²⁰Scripture reference S-12, editorially inferred from the reflection’s language. Apparent parallels are Jeremiah 6:16, Jude 3, and 1 Peter 5:4. They are printed only as editorial parallels, not as citations announced by the writer.

²¹The reflection explicitly identifies 1 Corinthians 15:58; no editorial inference is required.

Circular Letter

Written by Elder Greg Sowards for the 2026 Annual Session

Dear brothers, sisters, and friends of the Northern New Salem Association and all corresponding associations:

I'm trying to write as the Spirit of the great God of Heaven moves upon me and I feel His Spirit. You chose a very weak vessel to compile these words. I know not how to do this. But what I do know is that I love the Lord with all my soul, mind, and strength.

If you look to me to give you advice or guidance, I'm afraid you have come to the wrong source. But I can guide you to One who walked on the water, raised Lazarus from the dead, and conversed with men who were brought back on the mountain. He is the guidance you seek, the One I love with all my heart.²²

Brethren, we are not always going to see things the same way, but if we pray before we speak, pray before we act, remain patient, and wait upon the Lord, we will do well.

He said, "Be slow to anger, slow to speak, and slow to wrath." The tongue is full of deadly poison. He said, "Be ye holy, as I am holy." If you disagree with your brother, do it in love. Work in love. You're not going to draw anyone through anger. He said, "By My love and kindness have I drawn thee."²³

Let us be a light to the world and examples to our brothers, sisters, and children. Let's not tear down, but build up. Brethren, let's look to the Government that sits over us on high—the Great I Am.

Brothers and sisters, I'm honored to have been chosen to write this letter. I hope the great God of Heaven will bless all who are under the sound of my voice. I pray He will bless our children and work in their hearts. Let's look to our Savior and pray without ceasing that He would lead and that we would follow in this association.²⁴

Your very unworthy and humble servant,

Greg Sowards

²²Scripture reference S-07, editorially inferred without changing the Circular Letter's wording. Possible parallels are Mark 12:30, Matthew 14:25, John 11:43–44, and Matthew 17:1–8. These passages are printed only as editorial parallels and are not represented as citations announced by the writer.

²³Scripture reference S-08, editorially inferred without changing the Circular Letter's wording. Possible parallels are James 1:19, James 3:8, 1 Peter 1:16, and Jeremiah 31:3. These passages are printed only as editorial parallels and are not represented as citations announced by the writer.

²⁴Scripture reference S-09, editorially inferred without changing the Circular Letter's wording. Possible parallels are Matthew 5:14–16, Exodus 3:14, Isaiah 9:6–7, and 1 Thessalonians 5:17. These passages are printed only as editorial parallels and are not represented as citations announced by the writer.

ARTICLES of FAITH

ARTICLE 1. We believe in only one true and living God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, and these three are one, equal in power, essence and glory.

Isaiah 45:5, 1st Cor. 8:6, 1st John 5:7

ARTICLE 2. We believe the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments of the Authorized King James version of the Bible are the written words of God, and the only rules of Faith and practice.

2nd Peter 1:21, 2nd Tim. 3:16

ARTICLE 3. We believe in the doctrine of election by grace. “For by grace are ye saved through Faith.”

Acts 15:11, Titus 2:11

ARTICLE 4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin, and of man’s inability to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, therefore a Savior is needed for redemption.

Gen. 3:6, Romans 5:12

ARTICLE 5. We believe that sinners are called to repentance, and believe in the gospel, and regeneration of the soul, sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, and none such shall fall away and be lost.

Prov. 8:4, Matt. 9:13, Mark 2:17, 2nd Tim. 2:9, 1st Peter 1:23

ARTICLE 6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God, only by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ.

2nd Tim. 1:9, Luke 18:13–14, Acts 13:39

ARTICLE 7. We believe that baptism is the ordinance of God’s church on Earth, and the mode is IMMERSION back foremost so as to cover all over.

Matt. 3:13–16, John 1:31–33, Romans 6:4, Eph. 4:5

ARTICLE 8. We believe that the Lord’s Supper is the command of the Savior, and that by the use of unleavened bread and fruit of the vine and feet-washing should be kept up until His second coming, by His believers.

Matt. 26:26–29, Mark 14:22–25, Luke 22:20, John 13:7–8, 1st Tim. 5:9–10

ARTICLE 9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust, and that the joys of the righteous, and the punishment of the wicked shall be eternal.

John 5:28–29, 1st Cor. 15:51–53, Luke 24:46

ARTICLE 10. We believe that no minister has a right to administer the ordinances and commands of the gospel, except such as are regular baptized, and that by immersion by a legal administrator of the gospel, and has come under the hands of a regular chosen presbytery of the church and ordained thereby.

Acts 13:2–3, Romans 1:6, Titus 1:5–9

ARTICLE 11. We believe that it is the duty of all church members to contribute money for defraying all reasonable expenses of the church, never forgetting the poor, according to their several abilities.

Acts 11:29, Romans 15:26, 1st Cor. 16:1–2

ARTICLE 12. We believe that every doctrine that goes to encourage, or indulge people in their sins, or cause them to settle down on anything short of saving faith in Christ for salvation, is erroneous,

and such doctrine will be rejected by us.

Matt. 16:12, Acts 8:16–21, Romans 16:17–18, Eph. 4:14–15, Gal. 1:8–10

ARTICLE 13. We believe that the church of Christ is a congregation of faithful believers in Christ, who have obtained fellowship with the Lord and with one another, and have given themselves to the Lord, and have agreed to keep up a Godly discipline, according to the rules of the gospel.

Acts 2:42, 1st John 1:3

ARTICLE 14. We believe that Jesus Christ is the head of the church, and the government thereof is upon his shoulders.

Isaiah 9:6–7, Ch. 22:21–22, Luke 1:33

ARTICLE 15. We believe that a sanctioned marriage of God is between a man and a woman only. We also believe in receiving members into our fellowship that follow the natural dating relationship that leads to holy matrimony between a man and a woman only; thereby, preserving the family unit of father, mother, and children.

Eph. 5:22, 23, 28, St. Mark 10:6–8, Romans 1:26, 27

ARTICLE 16. None of the articles shall be considered as to hold with particular election and reprobation, so as to make God partial directly, indirectly, or to injure any of the children of men; nor shall any of these articles be altered without legal notice, and free consent.

John 3:16, Heb. 2:9

CONSTITUTION of the **NORTHERN NEW SALEM ASSOCIATION** **ORGANIZED IN 1957**

From a long series of experiences, we, the Old Regular Baptist Church of Jesus Christ, being baptized upon a profession of faith in Christ are convinced of the necessity of a combination of Churches to perpetuate a union and communion among us and to keep the order and rules of an Association according to the following plan of government.

ARTICLE I. The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different Churches in our union and sent to represent them in the Association and, upon their producing Letters from their respective Churches certifying their appointment, they shall be entitled to a seat.

ARTICLE II. In the letters shall be expressed their number in fellowship, those baptized, received by Letter, dismissed, excluded, and deceased since our last Association.

ARTICLE III. The members thus chosen and convened shall have no power to lord anything over God's heritage nor shall they have any clerical power over the Churches, nor shall they infringe on any of the internal rights of any Church in the union.

ARTICLE IV. The Association when convened shall be ruled by a regular and proper decorum.

ARTICLE V. The Association shall have a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, and Assistant Clerk, each chosen separately by a majority vote of the delegates present.

ARTICLE VI. New Churches may be admitted into this union who shall petition by Letter and delegates and, if found upon examination to be orthodox and orderly, shall be received; and every Church in the union shall be entitled to a representative in the Association.

ARTICLE VII. Every query presented by the Church to the Association, being first debated in their own Churches, shall be taken up by the Association.

ARTICLE VIII. Every motion made and seconded shall come under consideration of the Association, except when withdrawn by the one who made it.

ARTICLE IX. The Association shall endeavor to furnish the churches with Minutes of the Association.

ARTICLE X. We think it necessary that we should have an Association fund for defraying expenses of the same. We think it the duty of each Church in the union to contribute such sums as they think proper and send it by their delegates to the Association; and such sums be deposited in the hands of the Treasurer chosen by the Association who shall be accountable for the money paid him by the Association, and paid out according to the Association.

ARTICLE XI. There shall be an Association book kept wherein the proceedings of every Association shall be recorded by a secretary appointed by the Association who shall receive compensation for his services.

ARTICLE XII. The minutes of the Association shall be read, and corrected, if need be, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association arises, unless the same is dispensed with.

ARTICLE XIII. Amendments to this plan or form of government may be made by a majority of the union, if deemed necessary.

ARTICLE XIV. All matters coming before the Association shall be decided by will of a majority of the delegates present, except in receiving and dismissing churches and Associations which shall be by a unanimous vote.

ARTICLE XV. The Association shall have the power for the general union of the Churches.

- 1) To preserve inviolable a chain of communion among the Churches.
- 2) To give Churches all necessary advice in matters of difficulty.
- 3) To inquire into the cause of the Churches failing to represent them at any time in the Association.
- 4) To appropriate money contributed by the Churches for the Association fund to any purpose they may think proper.
- 5) To appoint any members, by their consent, to transact any business which they see necessary.
- 6) They (the Association) shall have power to withdraw from any Church in the union which violates the rules of the Association or deviates from the orthodox principles of religion.
- 7) To admit any orderly Minister of our order to a seat with us.
- 8) The Association shall have the right to adjourn themselves to any future time or place they may think most convenient to the Churches.

RULES of DECORUM

1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.
2. The Association shall have a moderator, an assistant moderator, clerk, and assistant clerk, each chosen separately by a majority vote of the delegates present.

3. Only one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise from his seat and obtain consent from the Moderator when he is about to make his speech.
4. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in his speech by anyone except the Moderator until he is through.
5. He shall strictly adhere to the subject and in no wise reflect on the person who has spoken so as to make remarks on his slips of imperfections but shall fairly state the cause as nearly as he can as to convey his ideas.
6. No person shall abruptly absent himself from the Association without leave of the Association.
7. No person shall speak more than three times on any subject without leave of the Association.
8. No person shall have the liberty of laughing during the sitting of the same nor whisper in time of public speech.
9. No member of the Association shall address another in any other term of appellation than that of "Brother".
10. The Moderator shall not interrupt or prohibit any members from speaking until he gives his light on any subject unless he violates the rules of decorum.
11. The names of the members of the Association shall be enrolled by the Clerk and called as often as the Moderator requires.
12. The Moderator shall have the same right of speech as any other member provided the chair be filled. And he shall have no right to vote unless the Association be equally divided, then he may give the deciding vote.
13. Any member who shall willingly and knowingly violate any of the decorum shall be reprovved by the Association as they think proper.

Annual Church Tables and Directories

Statistical Table

Church	Total Membership	Baptism	Letter	Recommendation	Restored	Dismissed	Excluded	Deceased	Membership	Time	Service	Contribution	Communion	Other
Little Rebecca	39	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	23		3-MO	\$325	July	Odd
Maggie's Home	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18		1-M	\$150	July	
Little Flock	18	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	11		3-MO	\$400	Aug	
Little Ruth	18	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	6		2-M	\$25	June	
Little Edna	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4		4-M	\$100	May	Odd
Little Ida	54	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	22		1-M	\$225	June	All
Little Flossie	32	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	23	4:00 P.M.	1-EO	\$200	June	Odd
Little Pilgrim's Home	13	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	13		2-M	\$50	July	
Pleasant View	59	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	21		1-M	\$250	May	
Little Family	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	2:00 P.M.	2-EO	\$300	July	
Little Angel	37	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	13		4-MO	\$100	Aug	Odd
Antioch	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	8	10:00 A.M.	1-M	\$250	Oct	
Rose of Sharon	27	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	18		2-M	\$400	May	
Little Children's Home	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2:00 P.M.	3-E	\$200	July	
Family of Love	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	2:00 P.M.	4-E	\$50	July	
Little Melrose	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3		1-M	\$200	Jan	
Eternal Rose	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	4:00 P.M.	2-E	\$75	Aug	
Little Ellen	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	4:00 P.M.	3-E	\$100	June	
House of Prayer		0	1	0	0	0	0	0	7		1-M	\$100	June	
Reported church total	453	6	2	0	1	1	3	11	221			\$3,500		

Source title corrected to 2026 by Brother Wayne Sartin. The source column displaying “2011” is published as Total Membership by his direction. Church contributions: \$3,500; pictures: \$185; other: \$0; grand total: \$3,685. Codes: M—Saturday morning; E—Saturday evening; O—Odd Sunday.

Delegates

Church	Delegates
Little Rebecca	Nick Hansen; Shane Beverly; Phillip Beverly
Maggie's Home	Daniel Newsome; Andy Counts; Joe Gilliam
Little Flock	Chance Mullins; Mike Fortner; Greg Sowards
Little Ruth	Jimmy King; Jimmy Deel
Little Edna	Steve Slone; Kenneth Slone; Steve Conley
Little Ida	Steven Miller; Billy Miller; Adam Moore
Little Flossie	Sean Hicks; Zach Collins; Matthew Jones
Little Pilgrim's Home	Eddie Wallen; Ike Spears; Donnie Gibson
Pleasant View	Larry Newsome; Rodney Slone; Dennis Elkins
Little Family	Danny Carty; Earnie Tuttle
Little Angel	Scott Little; Jack Dials
Antioch	Wayne Sartin; Eugene Couch
Rose of Sharon	William B. Holbrook; Otto Collins; Ishmael Hall
Little Children's Home	Harvey Tuttle; James Wagner
Family of Love	Patrick Deel; Larry Williams; Bobby Cordle
Little Melrose	Andy Fields
Eternal Rose	Joe Gibson; Doug Slone; Raymond Henderson
Little Ellen	Rudy Djordjevich; Charles Hagerman; Lowell Mullins
House of Prayer	John Cremeans; Bill Smith

Clerks and Their Addresses

Church	Clerk	Street	City / State / ZIP	Phone
Little Rebecca	Nick Hansen	1430 County Rd 1475	Ashland, OH 44805	(502) 500-4587
Maggie's Home	Joe Gilliam	19323 St. Rd. 160	Vinton, OH 45686	(740) 612-9302
Little Flock	Mike Fortner	2476 Centerpoint Rd	Oak Hill, OH 45656	(614) 296-6658
Little Ruth	Jimmy King	2186 TWP Rd 165	Cardington, OH 43315	(740) 833-5273
Little Edna	Steve Conley	11110 Humm Rd	Berlin Hts., OH 44814	(419) 370-1220
Little Ida	Steve Miller	19363 Buck Ave.	Brownstown Twp., MI 48174	(734) 771-8662
Little Flossie	Matthew Jones	5042 W 500 S	Wabash, IN 46992	(260) 330-9759
Little Pilgrim's Home	Ike Spears	2E 2nd St	North Fairfield, OH 44855	(419) 577-7057
Pleasant View	Steve Conley	11110 Humm Rd	Berlin Hts., OH 44814	(419) 370-1220
Little Family	Gary Sanders	4411 Dana Dr	Franklin, OH 45005	(937) 550-9402
Little Angel	Jack Dials	1451 Pineland Ct.	Columbus, OH 43223	(614) 595-3388
Antioch	Melvin Adams, Jr.	301 Arrow Head Lane	Shepherdsville, KY 40165	(502) 777-2171
Rose of Sharon	William B. Holbrook	13388 Parkway Blvd.	Carleton, MI 48177	(734) 654-6883
Little Children's Home	James D. Wagner	17201 Stone Church Rd	Laurel, IN 47024	(765) 698-2316
Family of Love	Jimmy King	2186 TWP Rd 165	Cardington, OH 43315	(740) 833-5273
Little Melrose	Doug McCarty	6803 Fern Creek Way	Keystone Hts., FL 32666	(352) 473-3424
Eternal Rose	Raymond Henderson	2600 Olivesburg Rd	Mansfield, OH 44903	(419) 522-0405
Little Ellen	Jimmy Sowards	12659 Stoneridge Lane Apt. 104	South Rockwood, MI 48179	(734) 775-7831
House of Prayer	John Cremeans	3579 Kelly Marie Way	Franklin, OH 45005	(719) 306-7930

Moderators and Assistant Moderators

Church	Moderator	Assistant Moderator
Little Rebecca	Danny Carty	Phillip Beverly
Maggie's Home	Donald Mullins	Daniel Newsome
Little Flock	Hank Forgey	Mike Fortner
Little Ruth		Patrick Deel
Little Edna	Stephen Slone	Larry Newsome
Little Ida	Ralph Caudill	Billy Miller
Little Flossie	Sean Hicks	Zach Collins
Little Pilgrim's Home	Eddie Wallen	Phillip Beverly
Pleasant View	Larry Newsome	Dennis Elkins
Little Family	Danny Carty	Bill Smith
Little Angel	Danny Carty	Bill Smith
Antioch	Hillard Newsome	Wayne Sartin
Rose of Sharon	Ray Hamilton	William B. Holbrook, Jr.
Little Children's Home	Harvey Tuttle	
Family of Love	Patrick Deel	
Little Melrose	Doug McCarty	Andy Fields
Eternal Rose	Hargis Tuttle	Joseph Gibson
Little Ellen	Lowell Mullins	Charles Hagerman
House of Prayer	Bill Smith	

Church Addresses

Church	Street / Directions	City / State / ZIP
Little Rebecca	4982 Henry Road, Ph. 419-687-8838	Plymouth, Ohio 44865
Maggie's Home	Benner Road	Hamden-Dundas, Ohio 45634
Little Flock	1900 Borland Rd. Rte 1	Ray, Ohio 45672
Little Ruth	3521 County Rd. 217	Marengo, Ohio 43334
Little Edna	5160 Bond Avenue	Lorain, Ohio 44055
Little Ida	4060 Drennan Street	Ecorse, Michigan 48229
Little Flossie	159 W. Greenwood.Dr.	Kendallville, Indiana 46755
Little Pilgrim's Home	1487 U.S. Rt. 224 East, Ph. 419-524-8514	Greenwich, Ohio 44837
Pleasant View	3589 Beat Road	Litchfield, Ohio 44253
Little Family	4079 Sommersville/Jacksonburg	Middletown, Ohio 45042
Little Angel	5733 Saltzgaber Road, Ph. 614-492-0010	Groveport, Ohio 43125

Church	Street / Directions	City / State / ZIP
Antioch	10817 Barricks Road	Louisville, Kentucky 40229
Rose of Sharon	5665 Carleton-Rockwood Rd. Ph. 313-379-4870	South Rockwood, Michigan 48179
Little Children's Home	18125 Stone Church Rd.	Laurel, Indiana 47024
Family of Love	18061 S.R. 231 (Wyandotte)	Nevada, Ohio 44849
Little Melrose	201 Pearl St.	Melrose, Florida 32666
Eternal Rose	14061 Township Rd. 215	Lakeville, Ohio 44638
Little Ellen	IL 50, W. 115th, Rt. On Lawler, Left 11200 S. Avon	Alsip, Illinois 60803
House of Prayer	1220 Wallaby Drive	Beavercreek, Ohio 45432

Ordained Ministers

Church	Elder, Address, and Telephone
Little Rebecca	Lon Beverly – 1122 Sandusky St., Plymouth, OH 44865 – 419-687-1144 Phillip Beverly – 4076 Bull Head Rd., Willard, OH 44890 – 567-224-2661 Danny Carty – 5346 St. Andrews Dr., Westerville, OH 43082 – 614-949-4889 Glen Slone – 4030 State Rt. 598, Crestline, OH 44825 – 419-564-3582 Nick Hansen – 1430 County Road 1475, Ashland, OH 44805 – 502-500-4587
Maggie's Home	Donald Mullins – 6157 DePue Rd., Hamden, OH 45634 – 740-596-4946 Daniel Newsome – 35010 Buckrun Rd., Langsville, OH 45741 – 740-988-7512 Danny Prater – 61147 Locker Plant Rd., McArthur, OH 45651 – 740-577-4459 Joe Gilliam – 19323 State RT 160, Vinton, OH 45686 – 740-612-9302
Little Flock	Hank Forgey – 1443 Centerville Rd., Thurman, OH 45685 – 740-710-6167 Mike Fortner – 2476 Centerpoint Rd., Oak Hill, OH 45656 – 614-296-6658 Greg Sowards – 12942 St. Rt. 220, Waverly, OH 45690 – 740-289-4771
Little Ruth	None listed
Little Edna	Stephen Slone – 1311 Jobey Tr., Geneva, OH 44041 – 440-574-1740
Little Ida	Ralph Caudill – 1594 Wilson St., Lincoln Park, MI 48146 – 313-381-3710 Billy Miller – 672 Cora St., Wyandotte, MI 48192 – 734-283-0208 Steven Miller – 19363 Buck Ave., Brownstown, MI 48174 – 734-771-8662 Adam Moore – 5375 Barbara Ave., Trenton, MI 48183 – 502-612-3410
Little Flossie	Zachariah Collins – 5313 E. 850 N., Kendallville, IN 46755 – 419-439-2610 Larry Dixon – 1342 Knoll Creek Dr., Kendallville, IN 46755 – 260-347-8082 Sean Hicks – 4114 North Sparta Lake Rd., Ligonier, IN 46767 – 260-221-1965 Harvey Tuttle – 10995 East Rt. 20, Lagrange, IN 46761 – 260-499-7997 Morris Wicker – 5510 E. 1150 N., Wolcottville, IN 46795 – 260-318-2998
Little Pilgrim's Home	Eddie Wallen – 330 Railroad St., Rochester, OH 44090 – 440-647-3539
Pleasant View	Larry Newsome – 2216 Brownhelm Station Rd., Vermilion, OH 44089 – 440-574-9390
Little Family	None listed

Church	Elder, Address, and Telephone
Little Angel	Scott Little – 13409 Appleton Terrace, Pickerington, OH 43147 – 740-804-6615 Bill Smith – 11937 St. Rt. 736, Maryville, OH 43040 – 937-642-4106
Antioch	Hillard Newsome – 10708 Marceitta Ct., Louisville, KY 40291 – 502-424-0411 Wayne Sartin – 1613 South 4th St., Louisville, KY 40208 – 502-645-2690 Terry Hall – 120 High Street Apt. A, Wilmore, KY 40390 – 859-552-5155
Rose of Sharon	Ray Hamilton – 5040 Carleton-Rockwood Rd., S. Rockwood, MI 48179 – 734-250-1416 William B. Holbrook, Jr. – 13388 Parkway Blvd., Carleton, MI 48117 – 734-654-6883 Andy Fields – 7465 Donald St., Keystone Heights, FL 32656 – 517-215-0097 Ishmael Hall – 1327 Heritage Ct., Grass Lake, MI – 606-548-0254
Little Children's Home	None listed
Family of Love	Patrick Deel – 1202 Old Pond Dr., Marion, OH 43302 – 937-209-1865
Little Melrose	Doug McCarty – 6803 Fern Creek Way, Key Stone Hts., FL 32666 – 352-473-3424
Eternal Rose	Joseph Gibson – 1838 Lyons Rd., Willard, OH 44890 – 419-706-2321 Hargis Tuttle – 4494 Butler Rd., Wakeman, OH 44889 – 440-839-5113
Little Ellen	Lowell Mullins – 1165 Oak Ridge Dr., Manteno, IL 60950 – 815-468-1532 Charles Hagerman – 830 Cedar Street, Waterloo, IN 46793 – 260-318-1362
House of Prayer	None listed

Union Meetings and Special Memorials

Church	Union	Ministers Called	Memorial	Ministers Called
Little Melrose	First in November (2026)	Glen Slone; Paul D. Moore; Terry Fuller; James Barney; Richard Lowe; David Means	First in March	Richard Staton; Gary Adkins; Richard Lowe; Terry Fuller; James Barney
House of Prayer	First in April	Seth Stewart; Greg Sowards; Johnny Thornsberry; Preston Lewis	First in October 2026	Danny Carty; Phillip Beverly; Buster Hall; Scott Little
Antioch	First in April	Matthew Jude; Todd Dials; John Lewis; Jeff Lewis; Preston Lewis	First in June	Danny Carty; Scott Little; Ben Little; Steve Slone; Danny Justus; James Stacey; Andrew Ford
Pleasant View	First in April	Mike Fortner; Jeff Dillon; Glen Slone; Joe Gibson; Ishmael Hall	First in June	Phillip Beverly; Ray Hamilton; Stoney Blackburn; Danny Adams; Moderator; Assistant Moderator
Eternal Rose	Second in April	Daniel Newsome; Danny Prater; Joe Gilliam; Phillip Beverly; Steve Slone; Nick Hansen	Second in June	Glen Slone; Dennis Elkins; Larry Newsome; Greg Sowards; Home Brothers
Rose of Sharon	Second in April	Richard Staton; Hobart Hamilton; Stony Blackburn; Ralph Slone Jr.; Mike Fortner; Adam Moore; Charles Blevins; Bill Blevins; Ray Coleman; Zachariah Collins	Second in October 2026	Ray Hamilton; Lowell Mullins; Larry Newsome; Estill Hamilton; Nate Caudill; Danny Carty; Danny Adams
Little Edna	Fourth in April	Eddie Wallen; Wayne Sartin; Hargis Tuttle; Scott Little; Phillip Beverly	Fourth in June	Dennis Elkins; Joe Gibson; Glen Slone; Nick Hansen; Andy Fields; Moderator; Assistant Moderator
Little Flossie	First in May	Jeff Lewis; John Lewis; Ralph Cloud; Kerry Ratliff; Kevin Blevins	First in October 2026	Clyde Lewis; Preston Lewis; Gary Adkins; Gary Blevins; Scott Adkins
Little Ida	First in May	Ishmael Hall; Patrick Deel; Nick Hansen; Danny Carty; Scott Adkins; Darrell Kidd	First in April	Charles Blevins; Zach Collins; Estill Hamilton; Ray Hamilton; William B. Holbrook; Moderator; Assistant Moderator
Maggie's Home	First in May	Joe Gibson; Phillip Beverly; Glen Slone; Hargis Tuttle; Nick Hansen	First in June	Gary Young; Greg Sowards; Hank Forgey; Mike Fortner
Little Ruth	Second in May	Sean Hicks; Matthew Isom; Clyde Lewis; Gary Blevins; Leonard Napier	Second in July	Zach Collins; Jeff Lewis; Kerry Lewis; Larry Dixon
Little Children's Home	Third in May	Clyde Lewis; John Lewis; Buster Hall; Johnny Thornsberry	Third in September 2026	Gary Adkins; Bobby Baker; Zach Collins; Kevin Blevins; Scott Adkins

Church	Union	Ministers Called	Memorial	Ministers Called
Little Ellen	Third in May	Larry Newsome; Ray Hamilton	Third in October 2026	Joe Havlik; Paul Hall; Joe Akers; Ray Coleman
Little Family	Second in June	Jimmy Stewart; Paul Boggs; Kevin Blevins; Harvey Tuttle	Second in October 2026	Jimmy Dale Sanders; Robbie Osborne; Wayne Sartin; Bobby Baker; Hillard Newsome
Little Pilgrim's Home	Second in June	Larry Dixon; Billy Miller; Phillip Beverly; Nick Hansen; Larry Newsome	Second in August	Sean Hicks; Steve Slone; Danny Carty; Zachariah Collins; Steve Miller
Little Rebecca	Third in June	Nate Caudill; Zach Stewart; Zach Collins; Larry Newsome; Greg Sowards	Third in August	Theodore Slone; Ray Hamilton; Joe Gibson; Paul D. Moore; Hargis Tuttle; Deffort Thornsberry
Family of Love	Fourth in June	John Lewis; Billy Miller; Matthew Isom; Phillip Beverly; Barry Lucas	Fourth in October 2026	Darrell Kidd; Paul Boggs; Gary Blevins; Sean Hicks; Kerry Ratliff
Little Flock	Third in July	Nate Caudill; Gary Young; Daniel Newsome; Buster Hall	Third in June	Ray Hamilton; Hobart Hamilton; Gary Blevins; Chuck Hall; Home Brothers
Little Angel	Fourth in July	Richard Staton; Hobart Hamilton; Stephen Miller; Phillip Beverly; Wayne Sartin	Fourth in March	Larry Newsome; Robbie Osborne; Greg Sowards; Phillip Beverly; Nate Caudill

Special Memorial Notices

Little Rebecca 80th Anniversary

Special meeting, Sunday, November 1, 2026, odd Sunday. 80th Anniversary. All Old Regular Baptist ministers welcomed to attend.

Tuttle Memorial

We, the descendants of the Tuttle Family wish to invite everyone to meet with us for the Tuttle Memorial on Sizemore Mountain near Wayland, KY on Saturday, May 29, 2027. Singing will start at 9:30 am with preaching at 10:00 AM. Any and all are welcome to attend. We especially look forward to the presence of Old Regular Baptist Ministers.

Chaffins Memorial

May 30, 2027, 10:00 AM, Chaffins Cemetery, Four Mile, KY. The family would like everyone to know that the memorial is for all families and their loved ones. All are welcome. Elders Called: Elders Ralph Cloud, Clyde Lewis, John Lewis, and Preston Lewis. Directions to the cemetery: From Garrett, KY take route 550 towards Mousie. Once you reach the coal trussell at Four Mile take the left up to the cemetery.

Hicks Memorial

The Hicks Memorial will take place on the second Saturday of July 2027 at 1141 Gene Street, Grundy, VA. The meeting will be held at 5:00 PM. We want all to feel welcome and invited. No specific Old Regular Baptist ministers called but all are welcome.

Obituaries

Ministers

Elder Don C. Lawson

December 11, 1933–July 9, 2026

Church: Little Ruth Old Regular Baptist Church



Elder Don C. Lawson, 92, of Pleasantville, Ohio, passed away Thursday, July 9, 2026, at his residence. He was born December 11, 1933, in Norma, Tennessee, to the late Mike and Florence (Jeffers) Lawson.

On June 29, 1957, Don was united in marriage to Evalou (Marcum) Lawson. They shared many years together before her passing on October 30, 2022. Don was a member of Little Ruth Old Regular Baptist Church in Marengo, Ohio, where he was known and loved as a brother and minister among the Lord's people.

Elder Don is remembered by his family and church family for the life he lived among them. His years were marked by his devotion to his family and his place among the Old Regular Baptists. The simple record of his life reflects a man who remained connected to his home, his family, and his church through the years.

Those left to cherish his memory are his children, Dianne (Lee) Lawson of Rockwood, Tennessee; Rick (Dianna) Lawson of Carroll, Ohio; Pamela (Paul) Shaeffer, Brian (Lori) Lawson, Shawn (Vickie) Lawson, and Kimberly (Patrick) Thompson, all of Lancaster, Ohio; his sister, Ada (Berkey) Marcum of Oneida, Tennessee; fifteen grandchildren; and sixteen great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents and wife, Don was preceded in death by a daughter, Sandy Houck; a grandson, Dustin Shaeffer; one sister; and four brothers.

The Northern New Salem Association remembers Elder Don C. Lawson as one of its ministers and members. His passing leaves a place among the brothers and sisters who knew him, and his memory remains a part of the continuing record of the church.

Members

Hannah Louise Addington

August 9, 1936–February 13, 2026

Church: Antioch Old Regular Baptist Church



Hannah Louise Addington, affectionately known as Louise, age 89, of Middletown, Kentucky, passed away peacefully on February 13, 2026. She was born on August 9, 1936, in Pikeville, Kentucky, to Robert and Hannah Blackburn.

At the age of 18, Louise met the love of her life, Karrel Addington. High school sweethearts, the two eloped and shared 65 beautiful years of marriage. They fondly told the story of their senior class trip, when they were already secretly married but could not tell anyone—a memory that always brought smiles and laughter. Louise and Karrel moved to Ann Arbor, Michigan, living there for 30 years. Louise and Karrel later moved to Middletown, Kentucky, to be closer to family.

Louise was a devoted pastor's wife, loving mother, grandmother, and faithful servant of the Lord. She cherished her family deeply and found great joy in caring for those she loved. An avid member of the Old Regular Baptist Church, Louise faithfully attended church for more than 65 years, living a life rooted in faith, kindness, and devotion. She was a proud member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, tracing her ancestry back to the 1700s.

She had a passion for collecting antique dolls and Hummel figurines, and she especially loved baking and cooking. Known as a wonderful cook and baker, Louise delighted in sharing meals and homemade treats with her church, family, and friends. She also enjoyed collecting cookbooks and treasured the memories created around the kitchen table. Louise was known for being well-dressed, never having a hair out of place, and naturally beautiful.

Louise was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Karrel Addington, and siblings Ruth (Arnold) Lawson, Nancy (John) Wood, Bobby (Frances) Blackburn, Ralph Blackburn, Jim (Bessie) Blackburn, Ruby (Royce) McQuarry, and Alma (Langley) Miller. Louise's life was a beautiful reflection of love, faith, and devotion to family. She will be deeply missed and forever remembered by all who knew and loved her.

With God's help, I shall endeavor to write a few words in memory of a lovely sister in Christ, to wit, Sister Hannah Louise Addington, wife of the late Elder Karrel Addington. Sister Louise was a model sister, always setting good examples for others. She presented many examples of how a Christian should live. She was different from the world, a true child of God, bringing Him glory

and honor. Meek and humble, with a lifestyle that let her light shine, she was always dressed in modesty. She was different from the world and a true jewel of the Antioch Old Regular Baptist Church.

How often in our godly conversations she would tell me of her experience with the Lord, how she prayed and felt with all her heart that she was a child of God, and that someday after this life was over she would live in a land where she would never be sick, lonely, or cry anymore.

Sister Louise, we loved you yesterday, today, and always. We will wait for that glorious day in which we hope to meet you in a land of everlasting peace and joy. You left us with precious memories.

With love, Brother Hillard.

Hansel Brown

January 28, 1941–May 17, 2026

Church: Little Melrose



Hansel Brown was born one of nine children to Nancy and Isadore Brown of Dorton, Kentucky, in 1941. His story begins when he made the basketball team in high school and noticed a certain young blue-eyed beauty who frequently attended his games.

He admired her from afar until events began to unfold that changed everything. One day after practice, the boys on the team were handed their letterman's jackets, and a schoolgirl asked my dad if she could wear his jacket. My dad was agreeable, although oblivious to what that might signal to the young lady. My mom, the same blue-eyed beauty I mentioned earlier, saw this young lady wearing my dad's jacket and was having none of that. She left the stands and walked onto the gym floor and told the young lady in no uncertain terms to take off her jacket. I'm sure my dad enjoyed the moment, but he never showered affection on another woman the rest of his days. He married Loretta Carol Brown while he was a high school senior, and as soon as he graduated, he moved his bride north to Chicago to make a living.

We were soon a family of four. Mom and Dad scrimped and saved and made the dream of home ownership a reality. After that, my dad wanted that dream of home ownership to be attainable for everyone willing to work for it. He became a realtor and then an owner and broker of his own real estate firm, telling anyone who would listen, "If you can afford to rent, you can afford to own!" He helped so many people realize their home-ownership dreams. His easygoing nature and contagious smile made him a natural for sales, but for him it wasn't just a job—it was an outreach of

his generous spirit. He was always looking for ways to help people. He was a volunteer in our local fire department. He was the first responder who saved the life of one of my neighborhood friends when she had been bitten by a dog. He truly served his neighbors.

When the demands of making a living were not so pressing on him, he turned his attention to serving within the church. He would identify a need and then meet it. He identified the need for a church directory and went out and created one. He had to drive to each church to get photos and make notes of all the surrounding streets so he could offer directions from any starting place. He was the original Google Maps for the Northern New Salem Association of churches. In his spare time, he transferred Old Regular Baptist songs from tape to CD. He distributed thousands of CDs to anyone who wanted a copy. This didn't just make long car rides better and bless those who could not make it out to church, but it also created a donation stream that he could funnel back into the church. To the many people who wrote him thank-you notes, your cards and kind words meant so much to him. He cherished his brothers and sisters so much.

In Mark 12:30–31, Jesus tells us to “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.” My father lived this scripture daily. He adored his Savior and treasured his brothers and sisters in Christ. One day we will all be together again. All praise to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Written by Sandra (Brown) Dykstra, loving daughter.

Sister Lovel Faye Clay

August 17, 1950–March 20, 2026

Church: Little Flock Church, Jackson, Ohio



It is with a shattered heart that I will try to write an obituary of my dear sweet sister, Lovel Faye Clay. Lovel was called away to her heavenly home on March 20, 2026, after a long battle with lung cancer. Lovel was born on August 17, 1950, making her 75 years old.

Lovel was born in Wyandotte, Michigan. She was the daughter of the late Elder Okie and Rubel (Hamilton) Kent, who preceded her in death. In addition to her parents, Lovel was preceded in death by two grandsons, Ian James Seymour and Mark Quinn Jr.; three sisters, Shirley Stiffler, Myra Shepherd Polinsky, and Gloria Raby; and a brother, Robert Kent.

Lovel's family members often teased her because she weighed 10 pounds at birth. She always referred to herself as being “fat!” even though it was far from the truth. Lovel was the most

beautiful soul on earth. She was loyal to her faith and to God. Very seldom did she ever miss church. She told me once that she would get “hungry” to hear the word of God. Lovel was a member of the Little Flock Church in Jackson, Ohio. She had been a faithful and beloved sister for 47 years. Everyone who had the pleasure of knowing Lovel will miss her tremendously.

Lovel leaves behind many family members who are devastated to have lost her: her devoted and loving husband, Ben Clay; sons, Tracy (Angie) Seymour and Anthony (Kim) Kent; Natasha (Mark) Quinn; Crystal (Mark) Clay; Jessica Clay; and Samantha (Clay) Shiller. She also leaves eighteen grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, a sister, Brenda, and brother-in-law Mike Fortner.

Lovel had a feeling that God was going to call her home. She often told me that she wasn’t afraid to die because she knew she had a better home to go to, but she hated to leave her husband Ben. After her death, Ben was going through some of her things and found a poem she had left for him.

*I said a prayer for you today
And know God must have heard—
I felt the answer in my heart
Although He spoke no word!*

*I didn’t ask for wealth or fame
(I knew you wouldn’t mind)
I asked Him to send treasures
Of a far more lasting kind!*

*I asked that He’d be near you
At the start of each new day
To grant you health and blessings
And friends to share your way!*

*I asked for happiness for you
In all things great and small—
But it was for His loving care
I prayed for most of all!*

Written by her loving sister, Brenda Fortner.

Julie Cogan

September 11, 1932–May 7, 2026

Church: Little Ida Old Regular Baptist Church



Age 93, of Ecorse, Michigan, Mom was the beloved daughter of Virgie Roberts and Greenberry Harris. On May 26, 1956, she married the love of her life, Clairmond Cogan, and together they built a family rooted in faith and love.

A faithful woman of deep conviction, Mom was a faithful member of the Little Ida Old Regular Baptist Church in Ecorse, where her faith was a cornerstone of her life and identity.

Mom is survived by her daughters, Virgie Cogan of Ecorse and Kathleen Weger of Clarkston; her grandchildren, Tracy, John, Crystal, James and his wife Erica, Christina, Joseph, and Stephen; and her great-grandchildren, Kaylee, Maraya, James Jr., Julia, Amira, Cody, Sara, Bryson, Allison, and John Russell. Mom will also be missed by many nieces and nephews, especially Sherry Dawn and Della Ann. Mom is also survived by her loving brother, Mack Arthur, and sister-in-law Rena; our dog, Maggie May; and also a sister, Hester.

Mom is preceded in death by her loving husband, Clairmond; son, John Clair; daughter, Alfreda; her parents, Virgie and Greenberry; sisters, Mable, Ruth, Ethel, Mary, Nora Gay, Vonda, Avanel, Anna Christine, and Tammy Sue; and her brothers, Arnold and Ballard.

Mom lived 93 years, 7 months, and 26 days, and the legacy she leaves behind is one of enduring faith, quiet strength, and a family that will carry her love forward for generations to come. She will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her. I know that Mom was in God's arms while she was in the hospital. She had a very peaceful passing, with no pain and no gasping for breath. I told Mom it was okay to go to God, Dad, John, and her baby, that we would be okay, and Kathy also told her it was okay to go.

Mom, we will forever miss you and love you.

Written by her daughter Virgie, with the help of Kernan Funeral Home.

Marie A. (Bryant) Hall

April 22, 1948–November 3, 2025

Church: Little Pilgrim's Home



Marie A. (Bryant) Hall, 77, of Miamisburg, Ohio, passed away peacefully on November 3, 2025, at Stoney Ridge Senior Living in Miamisburg. She was born on April 22, 1948, in Hi Hat, Kentucky, to the late Johnnie and Lissie Bryant.

She graduated from McDowell High School in Kentucky and also attended Alice Lloyd College.

Marie loved to be outside. Any time spent gardening, mowing, tending her flowers, fishing, or finding Easter eggs with her grandchildren were cherished moments. She also loved to walk the beach in search of shells, travel to the Smokies and to any beach, and search for the best bargain at garage sales. She enjoyed cooking for others and hosting family and friends for holidays and cookouts. She was an active member of the Old Regular Baptist Little Pilgrim Home Church. Marie was a teacher's aide in the New London School system for many years before her retirement.

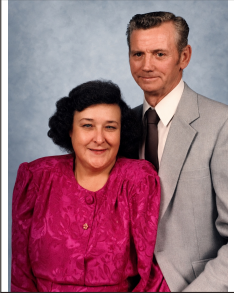
Survivors include her loving husband, Bill Hall, of 56 years; children, Debra Seman and Michelle (James) Jones; siblings, Ballard Bryant and Ida Hall; grandchildren, Brentin and Lucas Seman, and Calissa, Lee, and Isaiah Jones; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, Johnnie and Lissie Bryant, she was also preceded in death by her siblings, Hatler, Leonard, Buster, Carlis, Clyde, and Sidney Bryant, and Leona Newsome.

Sister Dossetta (Dot) Maddox

March 6, 1936–April 14, 2025

Church: Little Zion Church, Ray Township, Michigan



Sis Dot Maddox was born March 6, 1936, to the late Horace and Genetta (Hopper) Collins in Tazwell, TN. She married the love of her life Elder Charlie Glyn Maddox on December 23, 1949. They were married for 50 wonderful years before he was called to his eternal home. She worked at Automotive Molding for 11 years while being a wife, a mother to 4 children and a home-maker. She was a jack of all trades and a force to be reckoned with.

Sister Dot leaves behind 4 children. Jerry (Becky) Maddox of MI, Eddie Maddox of FL, Pat (Eddie) Smith of LA, and Sis Pam (Mike) Kiser of KY. She was adored by her grandchildren Kim (Erin) McQuade, Matthew (Tina) Maddox, Jason (Kelly) Maddox, Andrew (Veronique) Maddox, Chance Maddox, Bryan (Donna) Maddox, Paul Maddox, Ricky (Tracy) Maddox, Glyn (Beth) Smith, Adam (Brittany) Smith, Genny Kiser, Brittini Kiser. She was the cherished great grandmother of 17, and the beloved great-great grandmother of 3 with 2 on the way.

She loved to be with her family, and they loved spending as much time with her as they could. She enjoyed going on adventures and traveling because she was the best co-pilot. She could never resist playing a good prank on anyone. Her favorite pass time was when her family would gather all together at her house to eat, laugh, and play games for as long as possible. She fit in with any age group and never met a stranger.

Sis Dot was a faithful servant of the Lord most of her life and a longtime member of The Little Zion Church in Ray Twp, Michigan. Oh, how she loved and lived for Jesus!! Her favorite time of the week was the weekend because she was able to go to church. She cherished and loved her church family so much and was grateful to have them in her life. They were always there for her especially in her last days on this side of heaven.

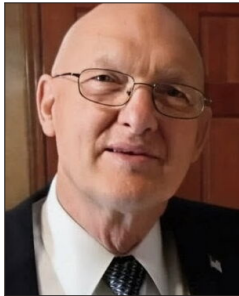
The nurses at the home she was in the last 6 weeks of her life would often tell us how she was loved by so many as there was always someone there to see her. In her final days here on earth the only thing she wanted was to go home to be with the Lord and her beloved husband. She would say “I think I’ve lived without them long enough, please don’t be mad at me.” Our reply was always “We will rejoice, because we know where you are going!” Sis Dot took her final breath and went to her eternal home with our Lord and Savior on April 14th, 2025. Our heartache and loss are Heaven’s gain. Bro Danny Adams and I (Sis Pam) were talking the other day about how some sweet day we will all rise and meet again in Heaven! What a glorious day that will be!!

Rest peacefully now Mom, rejoice for you are finally back with Dad free of everything in this broken world. We hope to see you again one day soon!! We love you and know you are our guardian angel now! To the Family: If you hope to see Mom/Granny again, seek the Lord so you can be free like her and join her with Jesus.

Milford Prater

October 10, 1940–March 6, 2026

Church: Antioch Old Regular Baptist Church



The chilly winds of early fall were entering every crack and corner of the little boxed cabin on the head of Greasy Creek, in the remote section of Pike County, Kentucky. On October 10, 1940, in the home of the late Roma Rowe Prater and Willie Prater, a delivery was made by the baby-delivery express, bringing to them a little bouncing baby boy wrapped in love.

He was welcomed into this little cottage home with open arms as he joined the company of his three little prissy sisters, Melter, Maxie, and Ruth. They loved and spoiled this little baby boy. They gave him the name Baby Brother, Little Brother, although he was named by his mother Milford, which means smart, intelligent, and a person of many talents—and this he was. He was an honor-roll student of the Class of 1960 from Virgie High School. After graduation, he enlisted in the United States Army, serving three years in Germany as a model baker. He told me many times that his pies, cakes, and other baked goodies were soon eaten up by his fellow servicemen. He was neat as a pincushion and always went that way.

Soon after returning home from the service, his eye caught a beautiful young lady across the hill on Rockhouse. Her name was Glenda Bentley. He told me “he vowed right then that someday he would marry her,” and this he did. For years he was a caring, loving, and devoted husband. To this union were born two sons, Gregory Prater of Fisherville, Kentucky, and Keith Prater of Crestview, Florida.

Brother Milford retired from General Electric Company in Louisville, Kentucky. Milford is survived by his beloved wife, Glenda; sons Gregory Prater (wife Lisa) of Fisherville, Kentucky, and Keith Prater (wife Kathi) of Crestview, Florida; his brother, Miles Prater (wife Justine) of Pike County, Kentucky; three nieces, Debbie Adkins, Ruth Durbin, and Michelle Bucayu, all of Louisville, Kentucky; and three nephews, Blake Newsome of Shepherdsville, Kentucky, Craig Skinner of Louisville, Kentucky, and Brian Prater of Pike County, Kentucky.

God blessed Brother Milford to live upon His good earth 85 years, 5 months, and 17 days—time he used wisely. Milford became a member of Antioch Church in Louisville, Kentucky, and was baptized by the hands of Elders Paul Adkins and Hillard Newsome into full love and fellowship of said church. For many years he was a gifted spiritual song leader at Antioch.

On Sunday, March 6, 2026, around 3:00 a.m., in his little humble home which he loved so

much, we feel and believe by the life he lived and the light he left shining, he whispered to Jesus, “All is well with my soul and I am ready to go home, the home I have sung about for so many years, the home I was longing to see.

“Oh, I see Jesus walking by the seaside. He says for me to have no fear, that He was here to help me on the Old Ship of Zion. Jesus, I can’t see clearly here on this side of the river, but I can see the other side of the river, and they are expecting for me to come. I can hear the angels singing, and I want to go and sing with them in that Holy Angel Band. Jesus, I am not afraid. You can calm the sea as You did for the disciples when You were here with them years ago. I have my ticket here in my heart. You gave it to me many years ago, stamped with Your most precious blood, called for Canaan’s Land. I know I will be happy here, never be sick anymore. It is here I will never grow old or tired.

“In this city I will never cry again. Jesus, tell my friends and loved ones to come and live with me, and I will be watching for them as they enter the gates of this city.”

Brother Milford, we loved you yesterday, and we love you today, and tomorrow we will love you forever because you touched our lives by the humble life you lived. Your life was an inspiration to all.

Precious memories, Elder Hillard Newsome.

Brother Milford Prater

Brother Milford Prater was a faithful member of Antioch Old Regular Baptist Church, a man gifted with his hands and his voice. His love for the church could be seen in the beautiful woodwork he created and heard in the songs he so faithfully sang. You cannot leave Antioch without seeing and feeling the love Brother Milford had for his church. The beautiful pulpit he built continues to stand as a lasting testimony of that love—a reminder of a faithful brother every time you look upon it. But as precious as that pulpit is, what I wouldn’t give to hear Brother Milford line “Poor and Afflicted” one more time. Some voices leave more than a sound behind; they leave a memory in your heart that time can never take away.

Elder Wayne Sartin, Clerk

Ruthie (Newsome) Tuttle

December 27, 1950–May 9, 2026

Church: Little Flossie Old Regular Baptist Church



On December 27, 1950, a beautiful baby girl was born to the late Jay Lee and Annie (Hall) Newsome. They named her Ruthie after her grandma. She was the third youngest of nine children.

She experienced the loss of her dad when she was nine years old. She started dating the love of her life and would-be husband, Harvey, when she was 13, despite her mommy trying to run him off with a broom. When she turned 16, Harvey proposed, and they were married on December 31, 1966. She began to spoil him with all the little things she did for him. They had an agreement: she would take care of the children and the home, and he would bring in the money. She had to say goodbye to him for a short time when he left for the military in 1968. They wrote several letters while he was gone. He came home to her in 1969.

A year later, they welcomed their first baby girl on June 5, 1970. They named her Leinoa. It was just the three of them until they welcomed their second daughter, Leslie, on February 15, 1974. A year and a half later, she gave birth to their youngest baby girl, Regina (Gina), on December 11, 1976. Her little family moved to Indiana in 1977, to the small town of Hudson. She gave her hand to the church on January 6, 1980, and joined Little Flossie Old Regular Baptist Church on February 10, 2002.

In the spring of 1985, they decided to build a house in Fremont, where they welcomed several grandbabies into their lives. She experienced another tragedy in November 1994 with the loss of a grandson, Bartholomew. They moved a couple more times before settling in LaGrange. In 1997, she said her final goodbyes to her mommy. She lost her oldest daughter, Leinoa, in July 2014, and her second daughter, Leslie, in August 2020. She said her final goodbyes to her last sibling in 2024.

She held strong to her faith in God during all the hard times she endured. She never lost faith and always made sure everyone else was taken care of and knew she loved them all. She was blessed to watch her remaining 11 grandchildren grow up and start families of their own. She loved going to church when her health would allow it, spending time with her family, gardening, canning, crafting, and even hoarding anything that she felt an attachment to or that might have potential. She never knew a stranger and was always wanting to make sure everyone was well fed. She was surrounded by her loving family when God called her home on May 9, 2026. She will be missed by all who knew her.

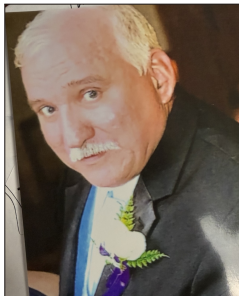
Written with love and a broken heart by “the bestest daughter ever,” Gina.

Friends

John C. Cogan

Birth Date Not Provided–Death Date Not Provided

Clerk's Note: Birth and death dates were not provided with the submitted obituary.



John Cogan, 63, of Ecorse, Michigan, was the son of Clairmond (George) Cogan and Julie (Harris) Cogan, and father of Tracy (Cogan) Webster, John Cogan Jr., James (Erica) Cogan, and Christina Cogan.

He was Papaw to Kaylee Webster, Maraya Webster, Julia Webster, Bryson Webster, Allison Hill, Cody Cogan, James Cogan Jr., Sara Cogan, and John Russell Pittaco. Johnny, as I called him, would be over the moon and so happy to know that he has two great-grandbabies on the way also. John was a wonderful uncle to his niece, Crystal Cogan, and nephews, Joseph and Stephen Weger.

John was not one to sit still. He was always walking somewhere, or you would see him riding the bike his kids got him for his birthday. He named the bike his Cadillac. He would walk or ride his bike five to seven miles every day. He didn't let the grass grow before he was back at his mom's, cutting the grass every few days. You would hear him out with the snowblower in the morning, cleaning the sidewalks at his mom's, son's, and daughter's houses. He even cleared a spot where the kids going to school caught the bus so they didn't have to stand in the snow. He loved animals and would even clear a spot with the snowblower in the backyard for the dog. Johnny would be so happy when Brother Billy would call James and ask if they wanted to do some work at the church.

Johnny leaves many family members, friends, an ex-wife, Judy, his partner, Evelyn, and cousins to mourn him. Johnny was loved by so many people. I called him my partner in crime when I needed him to help me do something or go somewhere with me. My brother and I were close, and it has hurt my heart so badly losing him.

Our mother said she was sleeping one time when it felt like someone was in her room. She looked and said it was Johnny standing in her door. She asked what he was doing there, and he said, "I just wanted to check on you, Mom, and make sure you're okay." We were with him in the end. I know John is with the Lord. I saw him mumbling in the hospital one day, and then he reached his arms up like he was going to hug someone, and I heard him say, "I'm ready." I asked him what he was ready for, and he told me to hush; he was talking to someone. I believe it was God.

Written by his brokenhearted sister, Virgie Cogan. Rest easy, little brother. I love and miss you so badly. You and Daddy don't need to worry about Mom anymore because she is up there with you both now.

Garnie Mullins

May 18, 1941–August 12, 2025



Garnie Mullins, 84, of Middleport, Ohio, passed away on August 12, 2025, at his home. He was born on May 18, 1941, in Dickenson County, Virginia, son of the late William and Inas Mullins.

He resided there until moving to Gallia County, Ohio, in 2010. He was a devoted husband, dad, and papaw. Lovingly known as “Pappy” to the whole family, he will be greatly missed.

A devout Christian, always giving thanks for God's blessings, Garnie loved to attend the Old Regular Baptist churches. He was a very gifted singer who could be distinctly heard from outside the building. He always enjoyed fellowshiping with the brothers and sisters before and after the church services. Pappy always worked hard, not only at home, but was ready to help anyone when needed, whether it was natural family or spiritual, across the road or across the county. When asked, he would show up with a song on his lips and a hammer in his tool belt.

Garnie came into an already-made family with two little girls. Phyllis, who would later become his wife, was very picky about whom she allowed around her girls. She prayed for God to place someone in that role, and God answered. It took a few years to develop a relationship, but the four grew into a family. Garnie would read his Bible every night, going from cover to cover several times. He and Phyllis would fervently pray, their voices intermingling like a song. Garnie was quiet in his opinions, but rest assured they were strong.

His love overflowed as the grandbabies came along, taking much delight in their laughter and playfulness. He would put them on his shoulders and walk around for hours, not complaining even when he grew tired and sore. One day, he was found swinging as high as he could with his 18-month-old grandchild. They were also singing at the top of their lungs, the children giggling all the while. The kids will always remember his love of chewing gum.

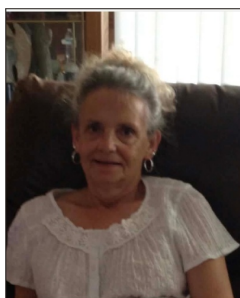
Later in life, even though he himself was starting to suffer the effects of Alzheimer's and a worn-out body, he lovingly helped care for his wife through her lifelong bouts with various illnesses until her passing. As his dementia progressed, he started to lose little parts of himself, but until the day he closed his eyes eternally, Garnie knew who all his loved ones were. God has surely blessed our family with the best parents anyone could have dreamed of. May he ever rest in peace.

Garnie is survived by two brothers, Alvin Mullins and Clarence (Peggy) Mullins; a sister, Draxie Mullins; two daughters, Loretta (Andy) Counts and Crystal (Joey) Gilliam; seven grandchildren, Drew Counts, Victoria (Ray) Bledsoe, Brittany (Chance) Mullins, Jessica, Joanna, Daniel, and Rachel Gilliam; eight great-grandchildren, Asher, Nora, Juniper, and Matthias Mullins, Thalan Counts, Anna, Joshua, and Delilah Bledsoe; as well as several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, Garnie was preceded in death by his wife, Phyllis Mullins, and two brothers, Marvin and Troy (Carolyn) Mullins.

Diana Lynn (Vance) Vanderpool

April 6, 1955–December 10, 2025



With the help of the Lord and a sad heart, I will try to write what I pray will be comforting words. Diana Lynn (Vance) Vanderpool, age 70, of Willard, passed away Wednesday, December 10, 2025. She was born on April 6, 1955, to the late Thomas and Charlotte (Dean) Vance.

She attended Man High School in West Virginia. She is survived by her husband, Roy Vanderpool, whom she married on May 28, 1994; children, Kathy Franklin, Delana (Mike) Lichoff, Tonya (Jason) Vanderpool, Angela (Darin) Hershiser, Joshua Vanderpool, and Steven Johnson; 18 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; siblings, her twin brother Danny (Sherry) Vance, Sandra (Brandt) Morgan, Tommy (Latria) Vance, and Tommy (Ashley) Vance; and aunt Christine Blankenship; along with numerous nieces and nephews and Susie, Joanne, and Debbie, who loved this family and are thankful to be a part of it.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a son, Teddy Johnson; stepson, John Richard Vanderpool; and grandsons Logan Hershiser and Christopher Fletcher.

Diana worked many years at, and retired from, RR Donnelley. She loved doing crafts and loved her flowers. She helped do oodles of cookies and candy at Christmas. Her least favorite were the frosted ones. You could always tell when we got tired because the cookies were not decorated as prettily.

Diana loved the Little Ruth Church and would pitch in and help us cook. She loved the old songs, and like most of us, there were some she grew closer to. You could see the tears flow, so you knew she understood that there was a difference. She was faithful to be there until her health started failing her. Susie and I had talks with her about her soul. She told Susie she didn't want to go to that awful place. She told Susie she was praying and she was trying. I know it's an individual matter between you and the Lord. Some will say one thing and some will say another. The truth is there is only one way, and you must get in that way. God made it so fair and so easy to understand.

Each person is given space and time to repent, and each person is given two choices. You can't serve God and the devil. You will love the one and hate the other. God's time is not yet come, but your time is always ready. The world may last another thousand years, but when the last breath goes out of your body, that is your end. There's no coming back and asking for another chance. Your fate is sealed.

I love you all with a heart of love, and I want you all to go to Heaven with me. You can, but you will have to do just like I did. Take that first step and ask, "Lord, what must I do to go to Heaven?" with a sincere heart. He's knocking on the door of your heart, but the handle is on the inside, and you must open it with sincerity. How do I know this? I made this decision a long time ago. God knows Diana's case. I don't. I can only pray she got a groan through. Please be a lifetime too early, but not a second too late. I thank God for blessing me to write this and for giving me the courage to tell you the truth. I loved Diana, and I'm going to miss her, but Roy will miss her the most. Death has entered our family once again, and it will come back if time lasts. Please count up the cost and see what you are selling your soul for.

Heart of love.

Edna Mae Williams

February 14, 1930–August 15, 2026



Edna Mae Williams, a 96-year-old resident of New London, passed into the arms of Jesus with family at her side on August 15, 2026. Edna, whom many knew as Mae or Mamaw, was the daughter of the late Willie and Laurie Hamilton.

She was born on February 14, 1930, in Betsy Lane, Kentucky. Mae was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Stallard, in September 2003. Mae and Stallard had five children: Helen Frith, Sandy Pylant, Ted Williams, Debby Collins (Mike), and Carol Leibolt. Mamaw Mae dearly loved all her 19 grandchildren, 53 great-grandchildren, and 21 great-great-grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by three sons-in-law, Ritchie, Graeme, and Wayne; five great-great-grandchildren; and her siblings, Everett, Clarence, Freddie, Carlie, Nancy, and J. D. Hamilton. Surviving are her brother and sister-in-law, Ed and Eloise Hamilton, and sister Juanita Case.

Her deep love, sacrifice, and commitment to family were displayed early in life. She dropped out of school in the eighth grade to help care for her siblings when her mom became ill. This pattern of caring and nurturing carried on to the very end of her life. She was ready to go to Heaven but admitted she felt she needed to stay and take care of those around her. Once we convinced her

that we would care for each other, it did not take her long to reunite with all of those she had been longing to see.

One of those she had been longing to see was a handsome young man she met at the Barn Theater in Kentucky. Back then, soda was only a nickel, which is shocking to some of us, but shocking to Mae was that handsome young man's name—Stallard. She had never heard of such a name! Mae and Stallard married on September 14, 1946. They treasured their many years together, and we are all grateful to know they are together again in a place where there are no more goodbyes.

Historical, Constitutional, and Scripture Notes

These accepted clerk notes identify places where a future reader may reasonably ask *why* the Association acted, what authority governed the action, or what Scripture appears behind a sermon summary. Inferred Scripture references remain expressly identified as editorial parallels and are not represented as texts announced by the preacher or writer.

Associational and Historical References

H-01 — Friday Item 3: Honorary Moderator for life.

The 2026 body named Elder Ray Hamilton Honorary Moderator for life. The note records the designation as adopted and does not assign duties, privileges, or authority beyond the motion.

H-02 — Friday Item 5: 2022 reading order.

The 2026 source draft cites Saturday Item 10 of the 2022 Northern New Salem minutes as the authority for reading the Constitution, Rules of Decorum, and Articles of Faith. The citation is retained as the clerk's source reference.

H-03 — Friday Item 6: Churches joining the union.

Constitution Articles VI and XIV govern admission of a new church by letter, delegates, examination, and the required vote.

H-04 — Standardized Saturday Items 8–9: Continuing care committee.

The 2026 minute records the report and continued work of the Committee for the Continuation and Care of the Several Churches. The full 2026 committee report is scheduled to be available on the Northern New Salem Association website by November 2026.

H-05 — Standardized Saturday Item 10: Mount Olive Church.

Constitution Articles III, XIV, and XV address internal church rights, dismissal, the general union, and correspondence. The note describes the Association's handling of the request and does not purport to govern or dissolve the local church.

H-06 — Standardized Saturday Item 10(a): Members and ministerial standing.

The current clerk source fixes the period as August 1, 2026 through August 1, 2027, and records that any future return of Elder Justin Hagerman to correspondence would be through the Northern New Salem Association. The note adds no requirement beyond the adopted minute.

H-07 — Standardized Saturday Item 12: Reprinted standing orders.

The request itself cites 2003 Northern New Salem Item 15, 1940 New Salem Item 9, and 1970 Northern New Salem Item 17. The note identifies the records named in the motion and does not paraphrase their complete text.

H-08 — Standardized Saturday Item 13: Website instructional material.

Each governing or instructional item should identify its authoritative source, adoption date, revision status, and informational-only character.

H-09 — Standardized Saturday Item 15: Reading of the current minutes.

Constitution Article XII permits the reading to be dispensed with; the 2026 minute records the motion dispensing with the reading.

H-10 — Friday Item 1 and standardized Saturday Item 11: Matter-referral procedure.

The 1985 minute, Friday Item 6(f), printed page 3, records referral of Mud River's letter to the Committee on the Bill of Arrangements and making it an item for the following day. In 2026, no letter was received from either the Lily of the Valley Church or the Mount Olive Church; only the matters concerning those churches were referred. The 1985 minute is a procedural analogy for referral followed by next-day consideration, not evidence that a letter was received in 2026.

H-11 — Standardized Saturday Item 11: Gospel-step record.

The supplied committee report records direct labor by Elder Dan Carty, Little Angel Church's committee action on April 25, 2026, the committee meeting at the Lily of the Valley Church on May 16, 2026, and presentation of the unresolved grievance to the Association. The other requesting churches reported similar Gospel-step efforts.

Scripture References

Entries marked *inferred* identify likely scriptural parallels. They do not claim that the preacher or writer expressly announced those texts.

S-01 — Friday opening exhortation, inferred.

The Lord's return and readiness: Matthew 24:42–44; John 14:1–3; 1 Thessalonians 4:16–17.

S-02 — Friday Introductory Sermon, inferred.

The Savior came to save the lost and heal the sick: Luke 19:10; Mark 2:17; Luke 5:31–32.

S-03 — Friday Introductory Sermon, inferred.

Prayer in the garden, sweat as blood, the cause, death's sting, and willing sacrifice: Luke 22:39–44; John 12:27; John 10:17–18; 1 Corinthians 15:55–57.

S-04 — Sabbath narrative, inferred.

"Feed among the lilies": Song of Solomon 2:16; 6:3.

S-05 — Sabbath narrative, inferred.

"Worship Him in spirit and in truth": John 4:23–24.

S-06 — Sabbath closing, explicit.

Psalms 133:1 is stated in the supplied source and requires no editorial inference.

S-07 — Circular Letter, inferred.

Love of God and the works of Christ: Mark 12:30; Matthew 14:25; John 11:43–44; Matthew 17:1–8.

S-08 — Circular Letter, inferred.

Speech, holiness, and lovingkindness: James 1:19; James 3:8; 1 Peter 1:16; Jeremiah 31:3.

S-09 — Circular Letter, inferred.

Light, divine government, and unceasing prayer: Matthew 5:14–16; Exodus 3:14; Isaiah 9:6–7; 1 Thessalonians 5:17.

Letter from the Clerk — Elder Wayne Sartin

S-10 — Laboring together, mixed.

The reflection later expressly quotes 1 Corinthians 15:58. The watchman and stewardship parallels are inferred: Isaiah 58:1; Ezekiel 33:6–7; Matthew 25:21.

S-11 — Called out of the world, inferred.

Commandments not grievous, the way of transgressors, separation from the world, and freedom from iniquity: 1 John 5:3; Proverbs 13:15; John 17:14–16; Romans 6:18.

S-12 — Old paths and the crown, inferred.

Jeremiah 6:16; Jude 3; 1 Peter 5:4.

S-13 — Concluding quotation, explicit.

The reflection expressly identifies 1 Corinthians 15:58 and requires no editorial inference.

All current historical, constitutional, procedural, and Scripture notes are accepted by clerk direction. Psalm 133:1 and 1 Corinthians 15:58 remain explicit source citations; all other Scripture entries retain their stated editorial classification.

LOCATION OF 2027
NORTHERN NEW SALEM ASSOCIATION
Little Angel Church with House of Prayer (co-host)



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