

This is Shiloh's Centennial year, and we should all take earnest note of such fact. It has been pungently said that a people who are ashamed of their ancestry will be despised by their posterity. Again and again, we should all look backward as well as forward. The occasional backward look should give us poise and patience and courage and faith. The ancient Hebrews, mighty and resourceful race, often looked backward for counsel and inspiration. They never wearied of chanting the praises of their beloved and mighty dead. Often, this cry rang in their ears: "Look unto the rock whence ye were hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye were digged. Look unto Abraham, your father, and unto Sarah that bare you; for when he was but one, I called him, and made him many."

It surely is befitting that the people of Shiloh shall give thoughtful, grateful, and practical emphasis to their Centennial Year. We should all be stronger and braver, if we thought oftener of the epic days and deeds of our beloved and immortal dead. Let us, therefore, give earnest heed and thoughtful consideration to the compilation of the following acts of our forebears:

State of Texas
County of Williamson

November
2nd, 1854

This is to certify that we, the undersigned, were regularly constituted into a Baptist Church of Jesus Christ by Elders David Fisher and W. B. Eaves on the above day and date. This church shall be called Shiloh. We have adopted the articles of faith as found in the Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge.

Signed.....

Samuel Carr, Clarissa Carr, H. A. Sample, Sarah Sample, W. R. Hobbs, Elise Hobbs, P. Lawrence, Addaline Lawrence, H. Waldrop, Amanda Waldrop, Jas. B. Williams, Margaret Williams, S. M. Burrough, Naveissa Lawrence, Dorcus Grouch, Nancy Jordan, Addaline Ralph, Elizabeth Foster. (18)

In the Nichols Survey. Evidently, that was not centrally located, for in the Deed Record No. Vol. 47, page 147, dated November 16, 1885, we find this writing: "G. W. Lawrence and wife for and in consideration of the good will and esteem that we have for the Baptist Church called Shiloh, and also for the sum of one dollar to us in hand paid, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged have this day granted aliened, and conveyed and by these present do give, grant, alien, and convey unto S. M. Slaughter; G. W. Lawrence, and Daniel Eckman, the present deacons and trustees appointed by said Shiloh Baptist Church to procure a deed to a tract or parcel of land to hold the same in trust for the use and benefit of said church all the right, title, claim, and interest we have in said land, etc....." This plot of land, located about two miles south of the present

Text says there were 22 members. 19 correct.
① ABOUT 3 mi. NE of present site

church, was comprised of four acres, more or less, and was to remain the property of the Shiloh Baptist Church as long as there was one member. The center of the community was gradually drifting northward, however, and in 1908 after having worshipped in the Echman School house for years, it was decided to move the church to the present site which was purchased from Mr. Lee Lawrence, nephew of G. W. Lawrence. The land on which the church formerly stood was then sold December 29, 1908, to Mr. A. W. Scruggs for the sum of \$28----half down, half to be paid in the fall.

Much has been accomplished through the years that have followed. Prior to this time all the summer revivals were conducted under brush arbors, but in 1911 a tabernacle was erected on the church lot at a cost of \$184.75. In 1913, a parsonage was built to accommodate the resident pastors. After several years, it became almost impossible to secure a resident pastor, and the parsonage was sold.

Both the church and tabernacle are now lighted by electricity instead of coal oil lamps or gasoline torches, as in earlier years. In those days, also, we had no musical instrument. (Our senior deacon, S. G. Eckman, is still in possession of his father's tuning fork.) At that time, we would borrow an organ for the summer revival. Eventually, we bought an organ, and when it was no longer usable, we had a second hand piano. In 1928 we became the proud possessor of a new piano. In 1953 we discarded the old cast iron wood heater (after the roof caught on fire one Sunday morning from a defective flue) and installed a butane gas system. Truly, "The Lord hath done great things for us whereof we are glad."

On September 27, 1917, we became a member of the Williamson County Baptist Association, having formerly been a member of the Western Branch Association.

We note through the passing of the years that the church has nurtured four generations of Eckmans, and four generation of Poes. Several have answered God's call to "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" from the Shiloh church. The ones of whom we have records are: (W. W. Sibley, deceased; C. E. Poe, retired; and Boyd Rhea, who now has a pastorate near Liberty Hill.)

Someone has said, "Every great institutuin reprints the lengthening shadow of a great man." Surely, each of the following pastors has left his impression on Shiloh: M. N. Leake, S. W. Leming, F. M. Glemin, A. A. Wilder, R. L. Byrum, G. E. Stewart, V. V. Youngblood, C. A. Mangham, Lex Shelby, G. W. Stewart, Burk, A. A. Davis, D. O. Baisdell, C. L. Sansing, I. W. Fulgham, T. F. Collier, Harrison McLerran, and D. N. Davis. Of this number, Brother T. E. Holt has the distinction of having held the longest consecutive pastorate--eight years. Our present pastor (at the time of our Centennial) is Brother Charles Conley.

3

2524

Our board of deacons consists of G. M. Davis, chairman, S. G. Eckman, G. J. Catchings, S. R. Carter, B. B. Davis, Dan Knight, and A. Clare. (On August 26, 1956. three new deacons were ordained---J. A. Carter, Dud Barker, and B. C. Carter.)

In the preparation of this brief historical sketch of the Shiloh Baptist Church we have drawn largely upon the minutes written by the clerks of the church... and now we give devout thanks to God for his marvelous blessings unto us, and in view of our past accomplishments and present opportunities and responsibilities, our fondest hopes and earnest prayers are that one hundred years from now, there will still stand on this very spot a Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church.

The church is located at Shiloh, fifteen miles southeast of Taylor on State Highway 112, Williamson County. The church was built by the local members. The foundation material consists of hand hewn logs, original timber walls still intact, but at present time recovered with asbestos siding. Being designed of "Early Pioneer" planning of simple structure. New flooring and wall panelling have been installed.

Dating from the Centennial year (1954) the following pastors have served the church the past 14 years to the present time---Bill Moyers, Wilson Manning, Paul Lewis, Joe Cariker, J. A. Hosea, Tom Smith, W. F. Griggs---the present pastor.

Morning and evening worship service have continually been held every Sunday during the 114 years.

1854
114
1968

SHILOH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
 ESTABLISHED NOVEMBER 2, 1854 - 1968
 SHILOH COMMUNITY, WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS

GREAT SPIRES DON'T MAKE A CATHEDRAL, IN MAN'S SOUL CHURCH FIRST STARTS.

OUR FATHERS STARTED THEIR CHURCHES, WITH REVERENCE IN THEIR HEARTS, WITH LABOR OF LOVE AND DUTY, AND WORK OF WILLING HANDS, THEY BUILT THE BRUSH ARBOR SHELTERS---WHERE THEY SHARED THEIR WORSHIP PLANS.

THEIR CHURCHES' ROOFS WERE GOD'S GREENRY, GROWN NEAR THE RIVER BED.

THEIR STAINED GLASS WINDOWS WERE ONLY THE RAINBOWS, SHINING OVERHEAD. EVEN WITH WEALTH AND POWER, WE NEVER SHALL BE FREE,

'TIL WE GO BACK TO BRUSH ARBOR FAITH, FOR LIFE'S GREAT MYSTERY.

On November 2, 1854, ¹⁸ ~~twenty-two~~ laymen concerned with the religious lives of themselves and their children were regularly constituted into a Baptist Church of Jesus Christ which was called Shiloh. With little else than an abundance of courage and deep religious these laymen adopted the articles of faith as contained in the Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge as the basis to found their church. Originally located in the Nichols Survey of Williamson County, this group of devoted people and their descendants have held services continually since that time.

With the passage of time, the center of the Shiloh Community drifted northward until in 1908, the church deacons decided the church should be relocated to its present site. Lack of sufficient room in the church building and warm weather during the summer months necessitated summer revivals to be held underneath

only 18 names listed; 18 correct 10-7-68-Pm

Correct term
brush arbors by the light of gasoline ^{in addition to church}torches and coal oil lamps, until 1911
when the congregation built a tabernacle on the church grounds.

Built of rough-hewn oak in the early Texas pioneer tradition, the Shiloh Baptist Church Building itself has changed little except for modern electric fixtures on the interior and asbestos siding covering the outside of the building.

Judging from the past history of this congregation and if history does tend to repeat itself as indeed historians tell us, it is the prayer of this congregation there will always be a Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church on this site.

MRS. JOHN W. CORNFORTH
TAYLOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
1221 CECILIA
TAYLOR, TEXAS 76674

There is much conjecture as to the location of the first house of worship, and it is not known whether it was built of logs or lumber. Our oldest citizens are agreed, however, that it was between Beukiss and Lawrence Chapel, ^{three} six miles ^{NORTH} east of Beukiss and Lawrence Chapel, and we find on the old records in Georgetown that there was a church in the vicinity, but there are no records to show the exact location except that it was in the Nichols Survey.

18 charter members is correct.

SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH

100th Anniversary
1854-1954

Morning Service

10:30 Congregational Singing

10:40 Scripture and Prayer
Bro. J. H. McClaren

10:45 Word of Praise for the
Church
Bro. C. E. Poe

11:05 Congregational Singing

11:10 Offering

11:15 Special Music

11:20 Anniversary Sermon
Bro. R. R. Lloyd

11:50 Invitation Hymn

11:55 Benediction

Afternoon Service

1:45 Song Service

1:55 Scripture and Prayer
Bro. Duane Davis

2:00 Recognition Time
Bro. Charles Conley

2:15 Special Music

2:20 History of the Church
Miss Noma Jarrell

2:40 Reminiscing and
Testimonials
Bro. C. L. Sansing

3:10 Special Music

3:15 Other Pastors

3:30 Sermon
Bro. T. F. Collier

4:00 Benediction

