

Open Door Bible Church

A prayer meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Frownfelter on July 2, 1958, to consider forming a new church. Following the prayer meeting, a business meeting was held. Richard Smith called the meeting to order and gave a report on the purchase of a school building located one and one-half miles West of Hudson. A vote was taken to decide the name of the new church and "The Church of the Open Door" was agreed upon. It was decided to hold the first church service on July 6, 1958 at the new church building. Wilma Abraham agreed to present a chalk talk for the combined Sunday School hour and Hall Million would lead the song service and preach during the morning worship hour. Irene Horn was appointed to act as Church Secretary and Doris Johnson was appointed as Acting Church Treasurer.

On Wednesday July 9, 1958, the ladies of the Church met at the summer home of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Smith for the purpose of organizing a Ladies Missionary Group. The following officers were elected: President, Violet McQueen; Vice-President, Virginia Webster; Secretary, Donna Vee Brandeberry; Treasurer, Hilda Peterson and Program Chairman, Margie Smith.

On November 12, 1958 the church voted unanimously to call Charles Jenkins as pastor. Under the able leadership of Pastor Jenkins and as a result of an extensive calling program the church attendance grew by leaps and bounds. Pastor Jenkins submitted his resignation of January 21, 1962.

On May 1, 1962 the first parsonage was purchased. It was located on Grove Street.

On April 18, 1962 at a special business meeting, the church voted unanimously to call Re. William Suk to be the pastor. The church attendance had grown and the school building would not accommodate them. At this time the former Nazarene Association.

On December 1, 1965 the church voted to call Rev. Ron Lawrence to be the pastor and on January 12, 1968, Pastor Lawrence resigned.

On November 16, 1969 Glenn F Williams was installed as the new pastor. He and his family moved into the new parsonage, which was purchased in 1967. Pastor Williams, along with the youth leaders, Paul and Gail Palpant, organized a youth choir, known as the New Life Singers. This group made several trips in the East conducting singing engagements at various churches.

Jay Bailey became the fifth pastor of the Open Door Bible Church in 1976. In April of 1978 the church purchased five acres of land at the corner of U.S. 127 and Union Road. This land will be the site for a new church building and an educational unit. The ground breaking ceremony for the \$225,000 project was held October 13, 1982. The one story structure framed with steel siding will be erected on a cement slab. The sanctuary will

seat 300 and the Community Christian Education Center will have nine classrooms which will serve a dual purpose, church classrooms and weekday classrooms.

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