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JAMES KENNETH PRESSLEY

While his family lived at Little River, James K. (Joe) Pressley, a licensed minister was an active member of the church. He was ordained at Little River December 7, 1969.

Following his ordination, Joe Pressley was pastor of Zion Church in Rosman for approximately eight years. He led the church to become strong supporters of Southern Baptist work. In addition to growth in church membership, new pews and carpet were purchased and the fellowship hall completed. Also, the church went from having a bivocational pastor to calling a full time pastor when Joe left.

Afterwards he was pastor of Mountain Grove Church in Macon County. He led Mountain Grove, a church averaging twenty to thirty in Sunday School, to build two Sunday School rooms and two bathrooms, to put in new windows and new siding on the church building, and to enlarge their cemetery, during a three year period, without going into debt for any of it.

Recently he accepted the pastorate of his and his wife's home church, Speedwell at Cullowhee. There were seventeen professions of faith during the 1984 Bible School June 11-16.

J. K. Pressley is a school teacher and has taught at Rosman and at Blue Ridge School in Glenville.

He is married to the former Shirley Seago. Two of their children, Mickey Pressley and Rhonda P. Galloway, have died. Three are living: two sons, Chuck and Jim, and Beth, their thirteen year old daughter born after the family moved from Little River.

Joe and Shirley have fond memories of Little River. Joe stated, "You folks taught me much about church organization, mission work through the Southern Baptist Convention, but most of all you taught by example of the love of God through Jesus Christ. I greatly appreciate this."

THOMAS G. PROCTOR

Rev. T. G. Proctor, retired minister and missionary, served as interim pastor February - July 1970. He and Mrs. Proctor became dearly loved friends of Little River Church.

Mr. Proctor was at Little River for revival services in November 1970. He and Mrs. Proctor have returned for homecomings and senior citizens' days. His comment to a member of the history committee included, "You belong to a mighty fine church. Serving you people was a great experience."

Rev. James Walker, a native of Scotland who had served for forty years in Africa as a Baptist minister, preached at Little River during the first weeks of February 1970, and returned for revival services April 5-12. Rev. Ralph Banning, who has through the years helped in services at Little River, was also one of the evangelists for the April 1970, series of meetings (as he had been in 1952. More recently Mr. Banning has preached during worship services and conducted prayer meetings in 1984 when Alex Booth had commitments that prevented his being at Little River.)

HISTORY OF LITTLE RIVER BAPTIST CHURCH, 1838-1984
(286.175693/H62)



Adam J. Corn
Preached often
at Little River



Louise A. Henderson
Missionary to India
for several years



Howell Medford
(1908-1982)
Deacon, Sunday School
teacher, active member



Vernon Gosnell
(1909-1981)
Deacon, served in
many church offices



Mike McGee
Ordained at
Little River



Mark Osborne
Ordained at
Little River



Joe Sanders
Pastors in Hawaii



Joe Pressley
Ordained at
Little River



Tim Kilstrom
Pastors in Louisiana