

# ***A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE HIGHLAND VIEW CHURCH OF CHRIST***





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## Elders' Message

It is a privilege to serve the Highland View congregation as elders. Looking back over the 70 years from August 1944 to August 2014 shows a congregation of the Lord's church that has a rich and robust history. Highland View began as a spinoff congregation from the New York Avenue congregation because the rapid growth of Oak Ridge at the time made that the most viable option. The congregation has continued to grow over the years making similar decisions as needed considering the will of God in all the congregation has done. Sometimes the growth was in numbers and often the growth has been spiritually.

Several additional congregations have been created with the help of Highland View in the surrounding communities as well as in neighboring cities and other states. Missionaries have been added, new works undertaken and various programs created, sustained and replaced as the changing times dictated. All the way, God has shown his grace toward the congregation by allowing involvement in the growth of the kingdom on earth here in East Tennessee's Oak Ridge.

Over the years, many have served the congregation in various leadership roles. Each has brought their own style and personal characteristics, yet God's will continues to be the primary focus of the congregational leadership. The congregation has undergone many changes as well, yet as with the congregational leadership, God's will continues to be the primary focus of the members of the congregation.

As the congregation moves ahead from 70 years to coming generations, more changes will be forthcoming. It is your elders', as well as we are sure the members', desire that God's will continue to be the primary focus of both the future leadership and future members. Mathew 6:33 - ...seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness...

It is your elders' prayer for the congregation that Highland View's long history and tremendous heritage of love for God and for each other will continue to result in the love shown to others who need Christ. We pray that each member will find suitable service in the congregation that will enable each and every one to grow closer to Christ through love and service. We thank God for his grace and we ask the Holy Spirit to continue to dwell in the congregation's members as we bring the beauty of Christ to all we come in contact with regardless of where and how.

As God instructed Aaron and his sons in Numbers 6, "This is how you are to bless the Israelites. Say to them: Numbers 6:24 'The Lord bless you and keep you; 25 the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; 26 the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace,'" so say we elders to Highland View. May the future be bright and may we continue to appreciate the past, but focus on the future, always looking to God for His will to guide us!

The Elders: Johnny Moore, Tim Oldham and Ray Smith



## Introduction

Much of this history draws heavily on W. O. Gentry's earlier efforts to document Highland View's history. Additional information which has been provided by others is noted within the text. Curtis McClane assisted with transcribing some of the material and documenting the most recent years. The rest is written from my perspective of 44 years with Highland View and my penchant for history.

– Ray Smith

## Origins of the Congregation

Oak Ridge was created as a part of the Manhattan Project beginning in 1942. The city was built to house the scientists, engineers and workers required to support an all-out effort to bring an end to the most dreadful war in the history of the world. The mission was clear and the workforce was dedicated to the single purpose of stopping the killing without fully knowing exactly what the method would be that would bring an end to the world's most deadly war.

Oak Ridge was to become their home and community as they worked feverishly on something about which most of them did not even comprehend. The citizens quickly adapted and thrived in this truly pioneer environment. A part of that adaptation, even while engaged in what they felt was most important war work included forming churches to meet their need for continuing to practice their chosen religions.

There were two new chapels built and at least two existing church buildings that were here before Oak Ridge used as meeting places for the various religious groups. However, the pressing need for meeting space caused many of the churches being formed to use school buildings as meeting places.

Jerry Love tells of what may well have been the earliest effort to form a Church of Christ in Oak Ridge. His parents, Jess and Margaret Love, moved into a trailer in the Midtown section of Oak Ridge in the summer of 1943. Jerry's dad had gotten a job working as a carpenter at the Y-12 Plant. Jerry said, his parents posted notices asking people interested to contact them about forming a Church of Christ.

Their first meeting of seven members, some children and a few guests met at the little white church in Grove Center (known then as Building #396 and later known as West Chapel and is now hidden beneath what has become The Alliance Church) at 3:00 PM on October 13, 1943. S. F. Timmerman, the preacher at the Harriman Church of Christ where Love's parents had attended while staying in the Hilltop Motel in Harriman before moving to Oak Ridge, preached at this first gathering of the Church of Christ in Oak Ridge.

By January 29, 1944, the small start had grown to the point that meetings were held in the Pine Valley Elementary School auditorium. S. F. Timmerman of Harriman and Billy Norris of Knoxville preached for the congregation on alternate Sundays.

By August of 1944, S. F. Timmerman moved to Oak Ridge and served as the first minister hired by the ever growing congregation which had moved yet again to the even larger space available at the Cedar Hill Elementary School. This is where the decision was made to take the name of Cedar Hill Church of Christ. W. O. Gentry told of attending at least one meeting at the Cedar Hill Elementary School where the gym was so crowded that he had to sit in a chair in the door.

This overcrowding incident must have happened before W. O. moved his family to Oak Ridge as he continued by saying, "I moved the family to Oak Ridge in August 1944. [We] met with the new congregation in [a] classroom in Robertsville School. The first Sunday. Brother Timmerman [who] had just accepted the work at Cedar Hill preached [for the new congregation]. I remember Brother H. L. Longshore, Russell Bailey and wife, Jess and Margaret Love [Jerry Love's parents], [and] Jess Mynatt and wife were there. The few weeks were very hot in August and there was no air conditioner."

Highland View Church of Christ had its beginning in August, 1944, when about 40 members from the Cedar Hill congregation (now New York Avenue Church of Christ) agreed to start a new congregation in the west end of town. While this might seem unusual now as the proximity of the two congregations is quite close, it made perfect sense at the time as much of what was then Oak Ridge is now the east part of the city.

Additionally, the new location in first the Robertsville School and soon after the Highland View Elementary School was in the western portion of the city and on the newly expanded bus route in what was then the city's newest section. However, the growth of the city continued and westward expansion would continue throughout the war years.

This arrangement would also relieve an overcrowded condition at Cedar Hill because of the rapid growth of the city and provide a more convenient meeting place for the members who chose the new location. The Cedar Hill congregation supported the new congregation financially and otherwise for a few months until it was well established. An example was allowing the Cedar Hill congregation's newly hired preacher, S. F. Timmerman, who came from Harriman, to preach for the new congregation being formed.

The growth of Oak Ridge in late 1944 and the first part of 1945 was increasing toward the peak population of 75,000. New families were arriving constantly and many were looking for churches to attend.

The first meeting place for the newly formed congregation was in a classroom at Robertsville School. W. O. Gentry was there and had just moved his family to Oak Ridge. His move was typical of many who were arriving with their families as quickly as housing could be built to hold them. Workers were being hired every single day and the city was growing as was this new congregation.

The congregation soon moved after only a few weeks to the new Highland View Elementary School where the church met for over six years. It was from this meeting place that the congregation took its name. Today, the original Highland View School building is the Children's Museum of Oak Ridge and is still serving the community and the congregation continues to carry the name "Highland View."

## Charter Members\*

Mr. & Mrs. A. Bryan  
Mr. C. E. Colley  
Mrs. Heyden Clark  
Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Gentry  
Miss Juanita Hendon  
Mr. Ray Kinslow  
Mr. and Mrs. Jess Love  
Miss Catherine Murray

Mr. & Mrs. Murray (Catherine's parents)  
Mr. & Mrs. A. L. Mynatt  
Mr. & Mrs. Jess H. Mynatt  
Miss Nola Norris  
Mr. & Mrs. A. L. Stewart  
Miss Betty Stewart  
Mr. & Mrs. Calvin VanHooser  
Miss Harriett Hawkins

\* No record of charter members has been found. Approximately 15 members of the original group are unknown at this time.



## First Elders and Deacons

### Elders:

- A. Bryan, Sr.
- Mr. Murray
- Jess Mynatt
- A. L. Mynatt

### Deacons:

- Ray Kinslow
- Mr. Bills
- Jess Love

Between 1944 and 1948 there were many changes in the membership of the congregation. This was primarily because of nature of work in Oak Ridge during the tremendous upswing in the number of workers needed for the Manhattan Project and then the rapid reduction of the workforce after the war ended. In this fast changing culture, friendships grew quickly and often ended just as quickly when families moved on.

Many who had endeared themselves to the congregation were compelled to leave. The attendance at the assemblies of the congregation while at the Highland View Elementary School reached a maximum of 400! Can't you just imagine the excitement of such a flux of new people arriving and the sadness as families had to leave their newfound friends and brief home.

In January of 1948 the congregation was challenged in the weekly bulletin named, *Highland View Messenger*, to begin thinking about raising money for a church building. Up until that time, the congregation had used the Highland View Elementary School for the vast majority of their meetings, however, they had also met briefly in Robertsville School and also used the Linden School as a meeting place.

Here is that original article:

### A NEW CHURCH BUILDING????

"The government is now allowing the churches to build buildings in Oak Ridge. They will lease the land for at least 50 years, and give each church its choice of a lot. This is all being mapped out in connection with the new 'master plan' for all Oak Ridge. What shall Highland View do? Do you want us to build? When? Let the elders hear your suggestions regarding this" (Vol.3, No.2, p. 1).

From this beginning, and in spite of the constant losses resulting from those moving away, the church continued to grow. Calvin VanHooser was the first regular minister, coming to Oak Ridge shortly after the church's beginning. He remained until September 1946 when he resigned after his wife died suddenly.

Charles A. "Bill" Holt became the minister for the church on the first Sunday in October, 1946 (Directory, 1947). Holt left in 1949 and later identified with the "anti-cooperation" movement.

The changing of Oak Ridge from a war time city behind guarded gates into a post war city with a reduced population from its peak of 75,000 to 30,000 slowed down the growth of the congregation. Yet, the congregation was maturing and beginning to support mission work. The first such effort was to support the church in Sevierville, TN as early as 1946. Two additional elders were named in 1946 as well.

The introduction to the 1947 Church Directory with its brief history ends this way: *“The congregation is at peace, and the ties of Christian fellowship are ever deepening. More and more each one is fulfilling his responsibilities, as together we press on to greater things in 1948.”*

The congregation has been under the oversight of elders since late in 1944. The first elders that served were Mr. Murray, A. Bryan, Sr., Jess H. Mynatt and A. L. Mynatt. The new congregation grew rapidly as construction of the western half of the city was completed to accommodate the ever increasing number of workers being hired by contractors managing the enormous war effort at the Clinton Engineer Works.

There had been many changes in the membership of the new congregation because of work termination and two of the first elders, A. Bryan, Sr. and Murray were among those to leave. The congregation has never again had the large number of people attending as it had during those first few months peaking along with the city’s population.

Because of the transient nature of the early membership and the conditions under which the congregation met, most of the records for the early years have been lost. The earliest church directory that has been found was published in 1948.

#### **Details of the Congregation in 1948**

##### Elders:

- Jess H. Mynatt
- L. Mynatt
- Jess Love
- T. A. Hall
- Fred R. Bogle

##### Deacons:

- R. M. Presnell
- T. D. Johnson
- W. T. Mason
- F. L. Collier

Evangelist:	Charles A. Holt
Song Director:	H. M. Hughes
Membership:	163
Sunday School Attendance:	210
Maximum Attendance:	400
Contribution:	\$200.00/week

From the very early days of this congregation the leadership has been aware of unique and pressing opportunities. Whether it has been building a new church building, adding on to the building, securing a full time minister, adding missionaries, hiring a youth minister, adding a staff position for education and involvement or in recent years taking on a pre-school or a new Bible program like AWANA, the elders have always sought feedback from the congregation and acted with faith in response to what members have felt strongly about.

The Highland View congregation has retained much of the characteristics of optimism and encouragement evidently prevalent in the opening months and years of its existence. The bold statement in that 1947

Church Directory could well be said of the congregation through the years. We continue to “press on to greater things.”

Both Highland View and New York Avenue congregations have had tremendous positive impact in the surrounding communities having helped to create many of the Church of Christ congregations in the East Tennessee area. This is in keeping with the influence Oak Ridge has had in many other ways on the area of Appalachia within which the city was placed in 1942.

There have been three other Churches of Christ formed in Oak Ridge, East Village (no longer meeting), Oak Ridge Church of Christ (an anti-cooperation group) and the Scarboro Church of Christ which still meets and frequently joins with Highland View and New York Avenue in joint endeavors.

## Early Years of the Congregation (1944 – 1960)

In January 1950, Charles G. Lemons was hired as the minister and was fired in May 1950. This decision resulted in 1/3 of the congregation leaving reducing the membership to 90. Yet the budget of \$7,500 was met.

Billy Nicks was hired as the minister in August 1950 and stayed until June 1955.

During this time of the early 1950's a new burst of activity began. It may well have been influenced by the decision made by the Atomic Energy Commission in 1949 to sell property within Oak Ridge for churches to construct buildings rather than continuing to meet in schools indefinitely. Thirty-two churches were built between 1951 and 1959.

In June 1951, the congregation moved from meeting in the Highland View Elementary School to the newly constructed Oak Ridge High School. Meeting space there was shared with the Baptist congregation that eventually became Central Baptist now located adjacent to Highland View's building on Providence Road.

The congregation first purchased 1 ½ acres just across the street from the high school on Providence Road and later in the year was offered another 1 ½ acres bringing the total lot size to three acres. This was a prime location being centrally located just off the main thoroughfare, the Oak Ridge Turnpike, and near the Grove Center business district.

Plans were drawn for a building that would seat 300. The design was intended to accommodate later expansion to provide space for additional classes in wings off each side of the auditorium. This was a major undertaking for the congregation and many volunteers hours were spent in the planning, design and construction of the church building.

The *Know Your Bible* radio broadcast was jointly sponsored by Highland View and the New York Avenue congregations. Highland View also sponsored a weekly thirty-minute Sunday radio broadcast, *Back to the Bible*.

Highland View sponsored several “mission meetings” in surrounding communities resulting in new congregations being formed in Claxton in 1951 and Karns in 1953. A congregation was planted in Loudon as well.

The building at 138 Providence Road was completed and the congregation held its first meeting in the new building in August of 1955.

Billy Nicks decided to do mission work in Nigeria in 1955. Garland Elkins was hired as the minister in October 1955 and remained in that position for 11 years, the longest tenure until that of the present minister, Curtis McClane, who has just passed the 11 year mark.

## Middle Years of the Congregation (1961 – 1990)

The original building plans were designed for expansion and new wings were added in July 1961. Additional elders were appointed and a new mission work in Greenville, NC resulted in a new congregation. A comfortable four bedroom minister's home was completed in 1964. It is located just west of the church building and was used as the minister's home for several years.

When ministers began to prefer to live in communities rather than at the church building location and the opportunity presented itself to remodel the home to meet state requirements for use as a children's home, the congregation welcomed the chance to serve children through the use of that facility.

After several years as a children's home, the need for the house no longer existed as the East Tennessee Children's Home was able to construct adequate housing at their primary location near Karns. In 1988, the house was again converted and this time it was modified into classroom space and the benevolent work moved there. The building is now known as the "Providence House" and is used for fellowship, bible study and benevolence programs.

Also, in 1964, Highland View helped establish the church in Jellico, Tennessee. In 1985 that congregation dissolved.

Elkins was followed in 1966 by James Yates as the minister who stayed until 1970.

In 1967, Tom and Mildred Goodpasture led an effort to start a Youth Program at Highland View. Their initial efforts focused on outings and activities that drew the youth and their friends. This initiative soon caught the attention of several other parents and adults who saw the value of a strong program for the young people.

Over the years Highland View has continued this emphasis on the youth. The activities soon included weekend retreats, hikes and other outdoor outings with many gatherings being held at the Goodpastures' home in Dutch Valley and routine after church gatherings at local Oak Ridge restaurants.

The program evolved and grew until it was a formalized element of the organizational structure. Fanny and I became engaged in the program shortly after our arrival in 1970. I well recall and Fanny and I have often reflected on the first retreat we attended. It was a winter retreat at Wa-Floy Lodge located in the edge of the Smoky Mountains between Gatlinburg and Cosby. It was a joint retreat with the teens of New York Avenue, a common practice during the formative years of the youth programs at both congregations.

Other retreats during the 1970's included Camp Ozone, near Crab Orchard, where I saw Ozone Falls for the first time and we took a hike to Spencer's Mountain and made a group photo of the teenagers sitting on

top of Spencer's Rock where Bigfoot Spencer, a long hunter during the late 1700's was ambushed and killed in 1794.

I became a deacon with the youth as my area of responsibility in 1976. For the next 10 years Fanny and I worked with the youth as volunteer leaders alongside Tom and Mildred Goodpasture and then for two years as the Deacon over the Youth Program. We had several adults who worked with us over the years and those times stand out in my memory as some of our most rewarding years of service to the Lord.

The Youth Program was not the only areas of growth and development during these maturing years of the congregation. Highland View spent much energy in spiritual activities and mission work during the 1970's. The benevolent program distributed an average of 6,000 pieces of clothing each year. W. O. Gentry was education director with four departments and 20 teachers.

Four preachers served the congregation during the 1970's, Hugh Counts, John Payne, Graham McKay, and Bill Nicks.

In the late 1970s Highland View supported the East Tennessee School of Preaching and Missions where Nicks taught part-time. Nicks left Highland View in 1980 to work full-time as director.

In 1973, Sarah Woody and other ladies began a "Baby Class" where they taught the youngest children to recognize the Bible. This was a very creative approach to teaching young children and attracted the attention of all visitors. This class was the first of many innovative approaches that have been introduced at Highland View over the years.

During the years that John Payne was the minister (1973 – 1976), two significant concepts were introduced to the congregation. One was the indwelling of the Holy Spirit and the second was the introduction to Grace. John had just returned from the mission field in New Zealand. His transition was not smooth. He finished a book, *Struggles of the Kingdom* while he was at Highland View. Charlotte Harding was the secretary at the time and she said later that she thoroughly enjoyed working with John on the book.

The Twenty-Plus group was also formed during the time John was here. Soon following was a Fifty-Plus group and later a Thirty-Something group. These groups functioned as fellowship groups but the Twenty-Plus had a Sunday morning class for several years.

The Love Feast was started by Rita Payne, John's wife, to honor the widows and widowers. It was held as close to Valentine's Day as practical. After John and Rita left, the ladies who were involved in working with the teenagers, primarily Mildred Goodpasture, Marsha Boren and Fanny Smith decided that event would be a good one for the teenagers to take the lead in and provide a service to the older members of the congregation.

Early during the time that Graham McKay was minister, in 1976, an attempt was made to merge the two congregations of New York Avenue and Highland View. Membership and attendance were both at a high peak at both congregations. Graham McKay and Robert Qualls (minister at New York Avenue) were both enthusiastic about the possibilities. A potential location for a new church building was even considered.

The effort got far enough along to form committees to work out details and address differences. However, it was not to be. While there seemed to be little to no resistance to the idea at Highland View, at New York

Avenue there were only two of the five elders in favor of merger and some deacons were outspoken against the idea.

There were those at both congregations who strongly favored the idea of merger even after the process was stopped by New York Avenue. The perception was that merger would eliminate duplication of effort and pool the talent from both congregations. It was thought that the synergy of the resulting combined resources could potentially produce much greater accomplishments for God's kingdom in Oak Ridge and the surrounding communities.

The youth continued to cooperate in many activities and over the years we have held some combined services for special events. The two congregations have remained supportive of each other, but this was the closest we have come to merger to this point in time. There are those of us who still hold out hope to see a merger at some point in the future.

Also during this time an attempt was made to utilize two ministers on staff. In hindsight, this may well have been a premature action and as it did not work as effectively as anticipated. The congregation was growing, but may have been still too small to support multiple preacher staff positions.

Graham McKay worked well with the community and succeeded in his outreach efforts. He became well-known and well-liked by all with whom he interacted. He was the first minister to take an active role in the community. He was active with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

This was a boost to the reputation of the congregation during a time when attempts were first being made to present a more open and receptive presence in the community. Ultimately the leadership of the congregation returned to a single preacher staff position when Graham left in January 1981 and remained such until a Youth Minister was hired some five and one-half years later.

A snapshot in time of the Highland View congregation in 1986 demonstrates the status of the congregation after 42 years. The congregation had a membership of 285, representing 166 families.

The aim of elders was to involve every member of the congregation in the work of the church. In order to use everyone's talents, the elders divided the work load into categories and assigned the following committees the responsibility of getting the work accomplished: Evangelism; Education; Worship; Finance; Fellowship; Benevolence; Buildings and Grounds; Membership; Promotion; Missions; Widows, Orphans, and Elderly; and, Youth.

This was the heyday of the "Herald of Truth" broadcasts and Highland View supported that initiative among other outreach approaches. I recall a number of adults taking the youth of the congregation to Jellico to "knock doors." They did as asked and did a good job of it, but even then that approach was not one many of us found productive. Yet we did it in Oak Ridge and at other places as well. It was a time of high desire to spread the word and a variety of methods were attempted.

The 1980's saw Highland View continuing to try new things and to seek ways to reach out to the community. Examples are special speakers who were invited to speak in Oak Ridge, at the Oak Ridge High School and the Pollard Auditorium. Robert Carrell was hired as minister in 1980.

In 1981, a "Brother's Keeper Program" was launched to encourage fellowship and participation. This was a precursor to the Small Groups that would come some years later. The program had a focus of keeping up

with the members in the groups to know the status of their health and to encourage regular attendance to church assemblies. Monthly meetings were encouraged.

A Youth Minister, Sid Snyder, was hired in August 1986. This was a major step for the congregation to add a paid staff member for what had been a volunteer led effort. There also were lingering memories of the earlier attempt at multiple preacher staff positions and the difficulties associated with that approach. Teamwork is necessary for multiple staff situations to thrive and all too often that is not adequately achieved.

For years, the Youth Program had been led by volunteers and had done quite well. The congregation saw the value of a strong Youth Program and it was credited with bringing several new families to the congregation over the years. By now the congregation was unwilling to allow the Youth Program to falter, yet none of the younger parents were willing to devote the necessary time and energy to replace the adult leaders who were needing some relief after years of sustained effort.

So, when most of the adult leaders no longer had kids in the program, it became more and more difficult to maintain the momentum and variety of program activities without additional leadership stepping up. And as you might expect, staying up all night for a lock-in is harder on adults as they age.

Keeping the pace necessary to assure a viable youth program requires constant attention and a high level of sustained energy. So, the decision was made to hire a staff member to focus full time on the Youth Program. Even after years of proven growth and effectiveness of youth group activities there were some who questioned the advisability of hiring a staff member "just for the youth."

This is one of those key turning points for the congregation when the leadership allowed the strong recommendation from the present youth leaders and parents of upcoming teenagers to overrule the objections of the few who questioned the move. Even the doubters soon were singing the praises of the decision and eventually it became impossible to find anyone who did not think the decision was a good one.

Sid was fresh out of college and eager to prove himself in the emerging world of Youth Ministers. He brought fresh ideas to the longstanding program that had become more routine than we adult leaders liked. We were convinced that a person who could dedicate constant attention to the program could do much more than a volunteer led program could ever accomplish.

Sid's wife, Laurie, took what Mildred, Fanny, Marsha and other ladies had been able to do with the young girls to a new level. She could do that as she had the support of the ladies but also had the ability to organize and along with Sid execute a strong program of education and practical applications for the entire range of youth at Highland View.

It was a heady time for us as the congregation moved into what seemed to be a larger scope of programs and began to think of ourselves as a more capable church because we now had a Youth Minister. It was during these years that even more of an increased emphasis on youth began to extend into the younger children with programs being created especially aimed at age appropriate activities.

Even more emphasis on small children would come in future years, but the early efforts in grade school and middle school levels can be traced back to the addition of a Youth Minister. I think the increased

awareness of the congregation that resulted in the resolve and financial support necessary to add a new staff member also resulted in additional volunteer efforts with the younger children.

The Committee System established in 1986 provided a focus for the formal leadership of the congregation until it was revamped and expanded as the Ministry System in 1988 which remains effective to the present.

The first booklet was created to define the roles of Ministry Leaders, not necessarily all Deacons, and the idea of an Involvement Ministry was born. This approach has evolved over time and more clarity and definition has been added with each new iteration of the Ministry System.

Eventually the Ministry System consisted of 14 ministries: Assemblies; Benevolence; Education; Evangelism (USA); Facilities; Fellowship; Finance; Helping Hands; Information Systems; Involvement; Missions (Foreign); Small Groups; Special Services; and, Youth Ministries. Specific Programs and activities were organized within each Ministry.

New teaching efforts were begun in Port Allen, LA., with support to Eddie Payne. Other support went to Scotland, Hong Kong, Japan, the Hispanic community of Miami, and in Tennessee—Mascot, Powell Valley, and a prison ministry. It was a time of sustained effort and constant service to the community and many other locations.

David Schonhoff was hired in May 1987 and stayed until October 1994.

In 1990, the congregation completed a visioning process resulting in a mission statement that embodied the concept of serving others. This aim has continued to be a primary focus.

The mission statement: *The mission of the Highland View Church of Christ is to teach Christ and to save souls through demonstrating the love of Christ in our lives. We are intent upon strengthening our faith in Jesus by serving others daily. Our faith is demonstrated by showing God's grace at work in our lives as we claim his promise of salvation for all who accept Christ.*

Highland View's Vision Statement: *Spiritual Growth through Loving and Serving Others.* These two guiding principles continued to guide the congregation throughout the years and remain a mainstay of our focus today.

## Recent Years of the Congregation (1991 – 2014)

In 1991, Dan Harless resigned as minister at New York Avenue, causing several younger couples, (and some not so young) to suggest that it was a good time to reconsider merger. Actually, according to David Wallace, they were looking with longing at Sid's youth work.

Walker Smith and David Wallace were the most outspoken elders in favor of merger. The elders from both congregations met and the Highland View elders were positive toward merger, although dubious as to whether it could be done or not. The New York Avenue elders agreed among themselves that Walker would prepare a questionnaire for the congregation asking people to give reasons why they were either in favor of or against merger.



Suddenly, two of the New York Avenue elders changed their minds, and said the questionnaire should not be presented. The decision was made for David Wallace to announce to the New York Avenue congregation that they were not pursuing merger.

At the same time David made that announcement, he announced his resignation as an elder and Walker Smith resigned shortly afterward. That is when a significant migration from New York Avenue to Highland View began. Over the next several months and even the next few years, several people continued to arrive at Highland View who had been long time members at New York Avenue.

This migration resulted in strengthening Highland View significantly as many families immediately went to work in what was a most welcoming atmosphere. The members at Highland View were encouraged by the addition of so many who they already knew to be hard working members. Most of the migration brought additional leadership candidates who quickly assumed appropriate roles in the Ministry System.

The assimilation of these members happened with ease. Many of them were even family or close friends already. So this period of transition was one that was smooth and essentially effortless.

A terrible wreck in 1991 that took the life of Martha Love and seriously injured Fanny Smith resulted in Love Bears being introduced at Highland View. Martha's two year son, Andrew, who was in the accident but uninjured physically was taken from the hospital by Susan Welch and Laurie Snyder. They realized later that if he had been given something to hold on to at the time of his trauma and separation from his dying mother he would have been more secure and thus the idea of a "bear" was developed. The name "Love" bear is in honor of Martha. Highland View has made literally thousands of these simple bears and they have gone to many states and some foreign countries.

In August 1994, Sid Snyder left after several years of very effective youth ministry but culminating in several months of increasing frustration over the lack of teamwork within the staff. In October 1994, David Schonhoff left as well and we were starting over with both staff positions.

Eventually it was thought best to hold a congregational meeting to address the issues facing the leadership. It was at this meeting that two longtime members, Lurlene Roper and Erb Mowery, spoke first and quickly established an atmosphere of support for the elders. Still a couple of families left. However, even these families have returned to visit Highland View over the years and seem to no longer hold any hard feelings.

A member, James East, came to us with the suggestion that his wife's brother in law was looking for a preaching position. After looking into Martin Pyle's background and speaking with him, the elders decided to hire him and did not search further. We hired him immediately and he was the minister from 1994 to 2002.

It took longer to hire the next Youth Minister as a broad based search was conducted. We hired Matt Presley in March 1995 and for a number of years we struggled to keep a Youth Minister more than two or three years at a time.

With regard to hiring Martin Pyle, we believed strongly that God was sending us a clear signal and Martin's eight year tenure with us proved to be a substantial help in moving the congregation in a positive direction. His help with the beginnings of Small Groups alone was enough to convince us of God's will guiding our decision.

Martin helped with the office reconstruction phase, along with the introduction of computers. He introduced the congregation to PowerPoint presentations. Small groups were introduced soon after his arrival and has been an important step forward in church life at Highland View. The Small Group concept was initially patterned roughly after the Brother's Keeper idea but soon evolved well beyond anything we had done before.

Attempts were made to gain the commitment from the congregation to have everyone in a small group, however, there were those who insisted on a Sunday evening assembly. The elders, understanding the reluctance for some to accept the change, allowed the evening assembly to continue. Fewer and fewer people attended the evening assembly, but not everyone joined a small group.

Small groups continued to grow in effectiveness and have evolved to the point that the small groups serve as key elements of the congregation structure. They are at the heart of much of what the congregation does ranging from providing food to the sick to helping with fellowship meals to providing food for habitat for humanity workers and even service projects by the youth.

In 1993, a gym and education wing was constructed behind the main building that houses the auditorium. In 1994, the auditorium was remodeled and expanded to enlarge the auditorium by removing the classrooms on each side of the original auditorium.

During the 1990's Martin Pyle provided lesson plans and discussion booklets for the Small Group Ministry and efforts were made to expand the number of people participating in the small group meetings. Finally, the decision was made to allow the small groups to evolve to the manner and methods most desired by the participants and efforts to periodically reorganize them or to move people around from one group to another was abandoned.

The people who are participating in small group meetings enjoy the forum, have grown closer to each other and more people have become participants. Small groups are now the most effective element of the congregation for meeting the needs of individuals and families within the congregation.

Martin took a group to the Holy Lands for a tour and indicates the trip changed his life. Martin also initiated Highland View's participation in the Knoxville area-wide Prayer Summits.

Several traditional activities that are standards which have stood the test of time were either begun in the 1990's or expanded and further developed in the 2000 decade. Examples are the Summer Series where special speakers are brought to Highland View on each Wednesday evening during the summer, Church in the Park (Sunday evening assembly held twice per year at a nearby park), Thanks for Giving (bags of food given to needy families at Thanksgiving), Christmas Carols (singing to the shut-ins), National Health Care (nursing home service held on Sunday AM two months of the year), Greenfield Retirement Home (Sunday evening devotionals held twice per month), Trunk or Treat (Halloween party where car trunks are opened and candy provided to kids on the Wednesday evening nearest to the holiday), Winterfest (teens go to Gatlinburg for a weekend gathering of church youth groups numbering in the thousands), Mission trips for youth to include foreign mission trips, Prison Ministry for both women and men, Web page created and has developed into one of the best church web sites on the internet, and a Winter Series where Highland View speakers bring lessons on Wednesday evenings.

In 2003 Curtis McClane was hired as pulpit minister. As a part of bringing Curtis on board, an increased emphasis was placed on spiritual maturity. As a result, more involvement was encouraged for small groups, and the existing ministries.

Curtis attempted to continue the practice of writing the small group materials, but as the concept had matured enough for better quality materials to be available commercially his efforts were soon replaced by purchasing books for the small groups to use.

The Summer Speaker Series was highlighted as a key element of our external speaker program with additional emphasis on bringing more well-known speakers. A “Habitat of Hospitality” series featured local organizations that helped the needy. A book was published out of the 2009 Summer Series, co-authored by Curtis McClane.

Annual congregational themes were developed each year and special Speakers series were set up. Randy Harris, Patrick Mead, Earl Lavender, Rob McRay and Tim Woodroof were some of the speakers who were scheduled in linked series focusing on themes complimentary to the annual congregational themes. This practice has proven to be an effective approach that better serves the need today than would the extended meetings of yesteryear.

Small group training with outside speakers was held and new small groups begun. Retired Men’s devotionals and teaching series (Restoration Movement, Protestant Reformation Movement) and an effort to broaden our awareness of the Oak Ridge religious landscape by bringing speakers from various other religious groups and even to observing a Passover Seder meal was included.

Several other activities should be noted. Curtis has written articles for OakRidgeToday.com and starting in 2012 has continued to publish a monthly article for Anderson County Visions magazine. For years Tom and Mildred Goodpasture have hosted a Widows and Widowers dinner.

Love Bear Workshops are continually held as the need for additional bears requires. In 2005 Jerry Tallman held an Evangelism Workshop. On November 5, 2006, we held a Friend’s Day where David Fleer spoke. On January 5, 2006 a Dominican Republic Workshop was held at Highland View, featuring the work of Brian and Tammie Wallace.

In 2007, the congregational theme was “Becoming more and more like Him—Spiritual growth and maturity” and Patrick Mead spoke on “The Battle Belongs to the Lord.” In 2008, the congregational focus: “For the sake of others—open hearts, open hands.” The Winter Series on Wednesday evenings led by men of Highland View was “Loving others as ourselves.” The Summer Speaker series was titled, “Radical Hospitality.”

In 2009, the congregational theme was “Plugged In & Powered Up,” the Winter Series was “Nuts and Bolts of Christian Living,” and on February 28 through March 1, 2009, Randy Harris spoke on “Resurrection Power,” the Summer Series was “Light in a Dark World” and on November 7 through November 8, 2009, Patrick Mead spoke on “Re-Imagining the Church.”

In 2010, the congregational theme was “Spiritual growth through loving and serving,” the Winter Series was “Challenging messages to warm our hearts,” Randy Harris spoke on “The Sermon on the Mount,” the Summer Series was “Ministry in the Community,” on October 3, 2010, Sean Ridge spoke on “The heart of

service—identity and community,” On November 7 through 10, 2010, Patrick Mead spoke on “A beautiful life...” and on December 1, 8, 15, 2010, Mark Smith spoke on “A Life Worth Living.”

In 2011, the congregational theme was “Growing in love...a closer walk with Christ,” on February 26 and 27, 2011, Randy Harris spoke on “Stories we live by,” the Summer Series was “Following in the steps of Jesus,” and the Winter Series featured Curtis McClane and Dale Dowling speaking on “What every church member should know about poverty.”

In 2012, the congregational theme was “Christ in us, the hope of glory,” using the E-100 Bible Reading Plan, the congregation was encouraged to read through the Bible, on March 10 and 11, 2012, Earl Lavender spoke on “Missional living: my story of redemption as response to God’s purposes,” the Summer Series was “Living in hope,” and on October 28, 2012, Mike Moss spoke on “We Belong to Christ.”

In 2013, the congregational theme was “Having the mind of Christ,” the Summer Series was “Helping each other grow in His grace,” and Rob McRay spoke on March 24, June 9, August 25, and Nov 17, 2013 on “Unity in the body of Christ.”

In 2014, the congregational theme is “Heritage and Horizons,” the Summer Series is “To dream again for the Kingdom,” Earl Lavender spoke on “Focus: Letting our past launch us into the future for God’s glory,” and in October through July, 2014, the special series for the Retired Men’s Meeting (open to the entire congregation) was “Becoming Aware of our Religious Landscape.”

The Youth group continues to be a primary focus area for Highland View with a mission trip to Nicaragua among other things such as work camp in Knoxville, Uplift at Harding University, and Winterfest. The AWANA program is a strong element of teaching our young children. The Preschool is a continuing success. Our attention on the children is reflected in a comment made by a recent Summer Series speaker, Randy Stephens, when he asked, “What is the most important thing that a church should do?” and was told “Go get the kids.”

As Highland View continues to age and many of our members have aged to the point that what used to be a “50+ group” is now 80 plus years of age, it is imperative that we reinforce our focus on the young people of the congregation. Our number of member families is as low as it has been in our history since the very first meetings. Yet it is not a time of sadness or loss, we remain strong and determined. God is with us and we continue to do His will as we understand it.

However, the future of Highland View Church of Christ will be determined by how well we continue to do God’s will and heed his teaching. Love continues to abound, excitement is evident.

Actions being taken now will determine the future of the congregation. We believe we are doing God’s will and we hold out much hope for the future. We are “getting the kids!” We are working together in love.

## History of the Ministry System

The Ministry System at Highland View began in November 1988. It was designed to replace an outdated committee system that was not functioning effectively. Often a very few individuals were doing the bulk of the work and most of the congregation could not fit into the structure and thus did not feel ownership of the activities. Frustration was evident. Participation was lacking. Enthusiasm for the work of the

congregation was at low ebb. After the initial implementation the first sixteen Ministries quickly grew as members began to see the system, encouraged innovative ideas and accepted involvement by any and all members, not just a few select "committees". The word "committee" was stricken from our vocabulary as it carried such a negative connotation.

A stated purpose of the Ministry System from its inception was, and still is, to provide opportunities for service for ALL members. Success is evident by the positive results of the formal evaluation conducted after one year of operation and by continued evaluation and adjustment over the years. One measure of continued success has been that a high percentage of the congregation should be involved in some facet of the Ministry System. The flexibility of the system has also contributed to its success, changing as needed over time.

There were sixteen ministries when the system was introduced, and at one time the system grew to as many as 27 different ministries. As needed activities were identified, ministries were allowed to form or change. The present arrangement is the result of identified needs and opportunities in the congregation.

Highland View held Ministry Leaders meetings quarterly for the first year to develop goals and objectives for each ministry. We held a Ministry Fair to promote interest and to identify support teams. Over the years similar Ministry Fairs continued to increase involvement and generate interest. Open forums and gathering congregational input have now replaced the Ministry Leaders meetings as the primary method to discuss and plan improvements.

During 1990 the congregation participated in several brainstorming sessions to identify our strengths and weaknesses and to develop a Mission Statement. The Ministry System was seen as a strength and a method to address several identified weaknesses while helping accomplish our mission. Then, in 1996 we implemented another change to provide a more efficient method of managing the numerous programs and activities. The ministries were grouped into twelve basic ministries with the oversight of each ministry assigned to a specific Deacon.

In 1998 the congregation simplified the system grouping programs under a reduced number of major Ministry areas. We assigned teams of Deacons/Ministry Leaders to the responsibility areas as sufficient numbers of leaders were identified and trained. The maturity of the system allowed for these Deacons and Ministry Leaders to assume full responsibility for their assigned Ministry areas and to function as servant-leadership teams. The system continued to be the primary method used to involve the congregation in ongoing activities and the structure within which to form new initiatives. This latest revision continued the emphasis on servant leadership by the Deacons/Ministry Leaders, and placed increased emphasis on the Ministry Program Leaders.

In 2009, the elders called for an activity known as "Vision 2010 and Beyond" to seek congregational input for the current strengths, needs, and opportunities of our church family. Among the several outcomes was a revision and update of the Ministry System.

In our vision to become a more CARING congregation with strong emphasis on FAMILIES and further encourage participation and involvement by all members of the congregation we determined to focus on preventive actions to assure that stable families were developed and maintained.

Several foundational elements were in place and our challenge was to claim that future vision.

Foundational Elements at the time were: A vigorous, dynamic pulpit ministry provided challenging sermons relating Christ's examples as realistic applications of God's truth and love; Wednesday nights were dedicated to Bible study and special activities to apply techniques for practical living; Small Groups were proving to be an exciting alternative for drawing congregational members closer to one another; Our youth program was the central focal point for an East Tennessee youth program and continued to expand.

Our congregational VISION had three primary focus areas: (1) CARING for people who hurt; (2) developing and maintaining effective FAMILIES; and (3) exemplifying CHRIST'S LOVE in individual members' daily lives as we showed God's grace through our love for each other.

FOUNDATION: We stood ready to grow the kingdom in Oak Ridge through our desire to see hurting people find solace and our eager interest in demonstrating Christ in our lives to lost souls. Our facility was capable of meeting the existing needs with excellent accommodations. Several activities were ongoing which demonstrated our desire to reach lost souls and heal hurting people. We had a successful youth program that continued to serve.

Several of our Ministry Programs were functioning effectively. More ministry programs had the potential to become vibrant and alive with additional involvement from the congregation. New leaders could be identified. Encouragement to serve could make a difference. We had two mission points. We had a stable financial base.

FUTURE: We saw that we must bring in our friends and neighbors in ever increasing numbers so they could be blessed by the excellent sermons and loving assemblies at Highland View. Special assemblies, Summer Series, Small Groups, Church in the Park, Bring a Friend Day, etc. were examples of opportunities we had. It was our obligation to God's grace to make these opportunities FUTURE possibilities to reach lost souls. We could move toward a program that more effectively addressed the unprecedented time of turmoil, violence, and sex and drug abuse faced by our youth. Peer pressure to conform to the world around them was stronger than any previous age. We felt we must save our youth! We could afford to dream and reach beyond our sight to launch out in faith!

With our sure FOUNDATION, the FUTURE shone with potential for God's kingdom in Oak Ridge. We desired to encourage one another to reach for the future with faith, hope, and love. Love being the key to great growth in God's kingdom through our accepting His grace and relying on Christ's example as our guide to action. We declared that GOD DESIRES ONLY OUR BEST, HIS GRACE DESERVES IT!

Our vision for 2010 and beyond was and remains to this day:

*Spiritual Growth through  
Loving and Serving Others*

## Mission Activities

The congregation has always been interested in mission work, budgeting 30% or more for spreading the gospel away from home. The first concentrated effort was made in 1947 when a preacher (Brother W. Couchin) was supported to help a small struggling congregation in Sevierville, Tennessee.

In 1951 the Highland View church conducted a tent meeting which resulted in the establishment of a new congregation now the Claxton Church of Christ (Anderson County, Tennessee). In 1953 a similar effort resulted in the establishment of the church in Karns (Knox County, Tennessee).

Another mission effort was begun in Greenville, North Carolina in August 1961. Highland View supported Brother C. E. Mannon there for six years while a congregation was established and a church building and minister's home were built. These four congregations are self-supporting and are a contributing element in their respective communities today.

Several from Highland View have traveled to surrounding communities to assist in spreading the Gospel. One such effort in 1964-65 was when Dave Bowman and Art Gibbs traveled to Jellico, Tennessee and that resulted in a new congregation being formed.

In 1966, a full time minister was secured for Jellico and what appeared to be a promising mission work was expanded. A new church building was constructed with help from other congregations, and the church prospered for several years. Among the ministers was M. H. Tucker, whom the congregation later supported in Hong Kong. The Jellico congregation decreased in number and stopped assembling in 1985.

A promising mission work assumed by Highland View was in Port Allen, Louisiana. A native of Louisiana, Eddie Payne had been trained as a preacher at East Tennessee School of Preaching and Missions with financial support from Highland View. Eddie returned to Port Allen, Louisiana in 1978 with support from Highland View, and started a mission effort directed primarily toward the black people in the West Baton Rouge parish. This congregation has grown and a new building was built.

Other missions supported over the years include: Scotland; Hispanic (Miami, FL); Hong Kong; Mascot; Japan; Powell Valley; Cape Ann, Mass.; Prison Ministry; Dominican Republic; Romania, Paraguay and Africa.

Among other mission efforts that have been sponsored, the following should be mentioned: Foreign missions in Hawaii, Europe, New Guinea, Africa and others; The Herald of Truth and other radio and T. V. programs; Student Centers of University campuses; Training of preachers for mission work; Bibles for China; Bible Correspondence Courses; Cassette Tape Program, and Bible Studies in homes.

Support was provided to Romania for a number of years with two families being supported in the work there.

Currently there are two primary mission fields being supported. One is in Asuncion, Paraguay and the second is Kevin and Tasha Spann with Mission Aviation Fellowship in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Africa.

## Benevolence Ministry

Much of this was provided by David Wallace

Local benevolent work has always been an active program at Highland View. A clothing program for those in need has been carried on by the ladies of the congregation for many years. An attic area in the church building was remodeled in 1973 to provide rooms for repair, dressing and storage. Large amounts of used clothing have been donated over the years by members of Highland View and other congregations as well as interested individuals in Oak Ridge and other places. This clothing is mended, sized and distributed to needy families.

New clothing, purchased by the church and donated by manufacturers and stores, supplements the used clothing. Although exact records of the amount of clothing distributed have not been kept, the best information available indicates that from 6,000 to 10,000 pieces of clothing were distributed annually in the early years of the program. For many years a pantry stocked with food was maintained for distribution on an emergency basis. The youth and children of the congregation are active in this area of work.

Household items have also been collected and distributed frequently to meet special needs. In addition to this local benevolent work, the congregation has supported homes for needy children with monthly contributions for many years. It has supported the East Tennessee Christian Services, Inc. since its beginning and continues to support the Tennessee Children's Home.

One of the homes for needy children was located next door to the church building and belonged to Highland View. It was furnished to the organization rent-free for several years.

After the home was no longer needed to serve as a group home for children, it was remodeled and was named the Providence House. The pantry and clothing program moved to that building, and was then in position to serve people from the community.

The number being served continued to grow. In approximately 1993 a group of men led by Walker Smith enclosed the carport and installed the shelves that comprise the current pantry. Shortly afterward a contract was entered into with Second Harvest of East Tennessee which allowed the program to expand.

Early leaders of the Food Program were Charles Maberry, Martin Gardner, J V Brock and Lewis Jones.

Early workers were Harold Cofer, Frank Turpin, Bob Lowery, Malcolm Theissen and Don Luigs. The pantry currently serves approximately 100 households each week, and is operated by retired men of the congregation. Sources of food are Second Harvest, the U.S. Postal Workers annual collection, and contributions from Small Groups and individuals.

Second Harvest provides food at a greatly reduced cost from their warehouse as well as providing produce, bakery goods, and meat from local grocery stores at no cost. Members assist the postal workers in their collection, resulting in our receiving 4,100 pounds of food this year.

Needed refrigeration has been supplied by generous gifts by Small Groups and individual members. Households from the surrounding counties as well as Oak Ridge are served each Thursday.



The clothing program continues to function effectively with clothing being provided to those who find themselves in need of help. As with the Food Program, the conversion of the Providence House has allowed this effort to be well organized and efficiently maintained.

When someone needs clothing, nice clean and often new clothing is provided. As the need arises, new clothes are purchased.

When needed help is given the recipients often are amazed at the quality and quantity of the clothing provided, always in the correct size and always in excellent condition. Over the years a number of women have provided leadership for this ministry program.

Several women faithfully continue to support the Clothing Program today. These women dedicate themselves to assuring that the most effective program possible is provided.

## Early History of the Youth Group

Provided by Tom Goodpasture

Back in the early sixties, I was teaching the junior high class on Wednesday night and the high school class on Sunday morning (or vice versa). I began taking the combined classes on hikes and other activities. Steve says that started even before he was old enough to go on them.

During this era, the prevalent belief of the preacher and some elders was that it was the family's responsibility to provide fellowship for the youth. And that is what we were doing. It was easy to get help from a number of parents.

Some of the parents thought it should be a church program. Luma Connelly was one of the more vocal parents on that issue. She talked the elders into having a meeting to discuss the possibility of starting a youth group. The elder in charge of the meeting presented his (and the preacher's) view on the subject. (The preacher happened to be out of town.)

Luma and other parents presented their views along with a request for biblical grounds for the elder's view. The elder tried to provide some ground for it but finally gave up. The elders agreed to start a youth group.

Luma and others insisted that I be the leader since I was already so involved with the youth. The elders designated Reel Case as the deacon in charge of the program. That was in the winter of 1966-67.

At that time we had a large number of excellent Bible students who were a very close group. The girls especially, could come up with all sorts of innovative ideas for us to get together. They loved to sing. Many were excellent singers. And Reel loved to work with them to make them even better.

Mildred and I had no problem in getting other parents to help us in making everything go so well. But I give the most credit to the wonderful group of young people we had.

There was an openness with this group that had not been seen before or since. They were always wanting to add new young people to the group. Many times, they would call every teen at Highland view and ask

them personally to attend the event, even if they hadn't been involved previously. Unlike so many groups, there were not any "clicks" and everyone was made to feel welcome!

Many of the "get togethers" were completely unplanned and just an opportunity to spend time as a group. We went to Montview Christian Camp at Johnson Bible College. We took a lot of hikes in the Smokies. On one retreat we camped at the Smoky Mountain Hiking Club Cabin in Greenbrier Cove; the girls and women in the cabin and the boys and men in the barn.

We had weekly meetings; always with singing. We regularly visited the shut-ins. We broke in to groups to do this. We did project like painting the Ryan's house and working on the building grounds. We attended the area singings.

That completes Tom's input what follows are my thoughts on the Youth Group program.

Some further thoughts of a more personal nature on the history of the youth group before we hired Sid Snyder in 1986. One of the key characteristics of Highland View is the love that is shown among members and to others. I have seen this love shown in numerous ways over the years. One of the most substantial exhibitions of the love of Highland View happened when Fanny and I joined Tom and Mildred in the work with the youth group in the early 1970's.

We were quickly assimilated into the congregation because of the love shown us by the teens and those adults who worked with the teens. Never was a young couple more readily accepted into a group culture than that which happened to us and our family.

Our two boys, Mike and Zane, were much too young to participate in the youth group activities, yet they were welcomed with open arms by all. Zane went camping in Frozen Head when he was six months old...Oh, by the way, Fanny will tell you that our tent flooded but we had brought a play pen for Zane to sleep in and he never knew that water was running through the tent underneath his bed.

I remember a retreat at the Booker T. Washington State Park near Chattanooga when after sending all the teens to bed, I heard voices outside and got up to see what was going on. Without turning on a light or using a flashlight, I walked outside the cabin where Fanny and I were sleeping and could not locate exactly where the voices were coming from.

Finally I realized the voices were coming from high up atop a water tank.

So, I quietly climbed up the ladder to the top of the 30 foot high water tank and peeped over the top to see silhouetted against the moonlit sky a group of girls just having a blast talking to each other.

After joining them for a bit to keep them from feeling too bad about getting caught, we climbed down and all went to bed. The next day every single one of those girls came to me individually and apologized for not being in bed as they had been instructed to do.

Such tender hearts. Such loving and kind teens. Some of the most important lessons in life, I learned from the Highland View Youth Group! The memories of those years are among the most precious of all.

## Women's Ministry

Provided by Evelyn Watson

From the establishment of the church after Pentecost, women have been nurturers and ministers, serving others in many roles. The New Testament has described some of these. Dorcas (Tabitha) was honored for her assistance to widows (Acts 9:36-41). Priscilla assisted Paul in his missionary work, taught, held church services in her home (Acts 13, Romans 16:3). Paul sent greetings to several women because of his respect for them and their work (Romans 16).

Throughout the last 70 years, women at Highland View have exemplified women of the 1st century. Women have been teachers, have shown hospitality to others in their homes, have taken food to sick and bereaved and have given gifts to brides and new babies. Although this is typical, it was only in 1989 that the elders requested the women to establish a Women's Ministry to make it easier for women to have opportunities to serve God and to help them grow spiritually.

A Steering Committee began with Evelyn Watson, Mildred Goodpasture, Melanie Schonoff, Mary Greer, Judy Osborne, Nancy Dowell, Agnes Hogg, Martha Ann Henderson, Carolyn Standefer, and Fanny Smith.

The committee determined the ministry's responsibilities to be the following: Assist with activities of church assemblies; Provide service to elderly, shut-ins, sick, and bereaved; Plan and carry out inspirational activities for women; Plan and carry out social activities for women; Encourage newcomers; and, Encourage Christian women whose husbands are not active participants at Highland View

Seventeen activities were identified to be suitable and helpful for the Highland View women. Many of these have been done and several are still existing. Visits to shut-ins, wedding showers, baby showers, farewell parties, care of communion articles, assistance to women being baptized, women's classes, children's classes, baskets for shut-ins at Christmas, Thanksgiving meals (Thanks-for-Giving), clothing distribution to needy, teaching the women at the Anderson County jail, decoration of the church building are among those that are on-going.

Inspiration Days, Women's Retreats, Secret Sisters have been popular activities. A number of special speakers have addressed the women at these meetings. The last inspiration day was held in 2012. Janet Ney came from California and presented inspirational talks over a two-day period.

That completes Evelyn's input what follows are my thoughts on the Women's Ministry.

The Women's Ministry remains an important element in the Highland View congregation and continues to provide a Bible study class and in addition to the on-going activities started as a result of the ministry, the women of the congregation continue to serve key roles in the functions of the church.

The women of Highland View have been one of the strengths of the congregation throughout its history. When the congregation undertakes a challenge, the women can always be counted on to support the effort and in many ways often take initiative to improve the results.

Without Highland View's women, the congregation would be hard pressed to make the progress we have over the years.

## Boy Scout Troop, Post, and Pack 220

Provided by Tom Goodpasture

In 1965 and through 1966 a few boys from Highland View, New York Avenue and Oliver Springs Churches of Christ had joined Boy Scout Troop 327 at Trinity Methodist Church. Several of their fathers began discussing forming a new troop. We took training for leading a troop. On March 1, 1967 we registered as Troop 220, sponsored by a group of Christian men of Oak Ridge and Oliver Springs, with 16 scouts and 22 men.

That July we went to Camp Buck Toms with 28 scouts. The following two summers we conducted our own summer camp on Norris Lake. We soon had over 70 scouts in the troop. We had a large number of highly adventurous activities, such as our own summer camp in Ft. Pierce Island in Florida and canoeing several days in a wild life refuge 1,200 miles north of Montreal in the same year.

Spring break trips included bicycling the Natchez Trace and canoeing in Okefenokee Swamp and down segments of the Suwannee River to the gulf. Four of our preachers each had two sons in the troop: Hugh Counts, John Payne, Graham McKay, and Martin Pyle. They helped in our troop activities. Jim Yates and Martin Pyle are Eagle Scouts.

Each had leadership positions in the troop. Jim also led a crew when the troop went to Philmont Scout Camp in New Mexico. Early on, we also formed an Explorer Post for the older scouts. A little later we formed a Cub Scout Pack which became a model for the other packs in the district. The three units introduced several new innovations into our district. The Troop was retired in 2009; the Post and Pack a few years before.

That completes Tom's input, what follows are my thoughts on Cub Scout Pack 220.

When our oldest son, Mike, became of age to participate in Indian Guides, I saw what was done using men as leaders in that program. Cub Scouts did not often use men to lead the dens at that time. When it became time for Mike to move on from Indian Guides and go into Cub Scouts, Tom Goodpasture asked me if I would consider starting a Pack to add to the scouting programs he already had going.

I agreed and we jointly decided to try and make the Pack program more outdoor oriented with men as the primary den leaders. This year round program with monthly outdoor activities became so popular, especially with single mothers who were often searching for positive adult male role models, that at one time we have over 80 boys in the Pack.

Steve Goodpasture helped with the Webelos and other men took on Den Leader roles. I also enlisted some women to help with organizational aspects of the program. Without Lucky Voit, we never could have managed. She was a tremendous help.

Even today, often I am reminded of the 16 years that I served as Cubmaster of Cub Scout Pack 220 when people who were associated with the Pack, as leaders or as scouts, still tell me how much that experience meant to them. It was surely a trend changer for cub scouting in this area and I am pleased to have been involved in it. Changes in insurance requirements prevents such Pack wide outdoor activities today.

## AWANA's October 2010-present

Provided by Erin Dodd

AWANA's is an outreach ministry that follows a Scout type model in which adults work one on one with children as they memorize Bible verses and earn badges, jewels, and rewards for their efforts. God began putting this ministry in place for Wednesday nights at Highland View when there was very little child participation, and it takes around 20 adults to run a program!

At the point we began planning the adults would have outnumbered the children by far. But we were so blown away with God's providence in this ministry because opening night 50 children showed up! We have continued to average 50-60 kids per week and 20 adults who lovingly volunteer.

The number of verses that the children learn are amazing Cubbies (preschool ages 4-5) learn 30 verses, Sparks (K-2) learn 65 verses, and T&T (3-5th grade) learn 225-310 verses. In total from age 4-11 children will memorize up to 400 Bible verses that forever shape their identity in Christ!

## Highland View Preschool Enrichment Program June 2010-present

Provided by Erin Dodd

This ministry began at Central Baptist in 1995 and had such an important community presence that upon their decision to close it, Highland View chose to save this ministry and move it to our building. [This was a Godsend for the congregation and another of those decisions that required little discussion as it seemed apparent to all that it was God's will. – Ray]

Within 30 days we completely prepared our building, playground, and hearts to receive this blessing from God. Every teacher came and every child remained in our loving care during the move as well.

Preschool hours are 9:00-2:00 Tuesday and Thursday with early drop off and late pick up options. We begin taking children at 6 weeks and keep them through pre-k. We average 65 kids throughout the school year, with 10-12 teachers and summer safari is our June and July program for school age children; this takes our summer numbers to 85-90 kids and 14-16 teachers and helpers.

Our AWANA program has received many participants from the preschool, making them great partners in ministry.

## Location of Meeting Places

1. Robertsville School - August 1944 for a few weeks.
2. Highland View School - September 1944 until June 1951
3. Oak Ridge High School - June 1951 until August 1955
4. Moved to present church building on Providence Road in August 1955.

## Pulpit Ministers

1. Calvin VanHooser	August 1944 to September 1946
2. Charles A. Holt	October 1946 to October 1949
3. Charles G. Lemons	January 1950 to May 1950
4. Bill Nicks	August 1950 to June 1955
5. Garland Elkins	October 1955 to December 1966
6. James M. Yates	February 1967 to June 1970
7. D. Hugh Counts	August 1970 to February 1973
8. John Payne	June 1973 to January 1976
9. Graham McKay	January 1976 to January 1981
10. Bill Nicks	1977 to August 1980
11. Robert Carrell	November 1980 to May 1987
12. David Schonoff	July 1987 to October 1994
13. Martin Pyle	Nov 1994 to Nov 2002
14. Curtis McClane	June 2003 to the present

## Youth Ministers/Youth and Family Ministers

○ Sid Snyder	August 1986 - August 1994
○ Matt Presley	March 1995 – January 1997
○ Mitchell Haynes	February 1997 – May 1999
○ Mark Atnip	July 1999 – July 2002
○ Neil Thompson	July 2002 – October 2010
○ Levi Dodd	January 2011 - present

## Education and Involvement Coordinator

○ Erin Dodd	January 2011 - present
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## Roster of Highland View Church Elders and Deacons 1944-2014

### Elders

<u>NAME</u>	<u>APPOINTMENT DATE</u>
1. A. Bryan, Sr.	1944
2. Mr. Murray	1944
3. A. L. Mynatt	1944
4. Jess H. Mynatt	1944
5. T. A. Hall	1946
6. Jess Love	1946

7. Fred Bogle	1947
8. G. B. Ryan	1950
9. A. L. Whaley	1961
10. C. W. Tays	1966
11. E. L. Bentley	1966
12. J. H. Parks	1967
13. Marvin Spann	1968
14. Erb Mowery	1971
15. Hoyt C. Huston	1976
16. Don R. Henderson	1985
17. Harold Standefer	1985
18. Ray Smith	1988
19. Jack McAmis	1994
20. David Wallace	1994
21. Tom Etheridge	1996
22. Johnny Moore	1998
23. Tim Oldham	1998
24. Steve Blount	2005

#### **Deacons**

1. Ray Kinslow	23. C. W. Tays
2. Mr. Bills	24. R. A. Nance
3. Jess Love	25. Edgar Egner
4. Fred Bogle	26. Bruce Mynatt
5. W. O. Gentry	27. Ken Bowers
6. R. M. Presnell	28. Hoyt Huston
7. T. D. Johnson	29. Ken Smith
8. W. T. Mason	30. Floyd Shook
9. F. L. Collier	31. Marvin Spann
10. E. L. Bentley	32. Milo Ward
11. H. A. Parker	33. Norman Allmon
12. H. D. Cofer	34. Reel Case
13. L. E. Hart	35. Bill Eads
14. W. R. Johnson	36. Earl Robertson
15. Jim Parks	37. Bill Baucum
16. A. L. Whaley	38. Mike Butler
17. Art Gibbs	39. David Cunningham
18. M. R. Keen	40. Ray Smith
19. W. F. Leggitt	41. Frank Turpin
20. Charles Maberry	42. Roger Vanover
21. E. H. Mowery	43. Dennis Connelly
22. L. L. Pilgrim	44. L. M. Hart

45. Joe Lochamy  
46. Jack McAmis  
47. Johnny Moore  
48. Colman Wright  
49. Max Boren  
50. Tom Etheridge  
51. Tim Oldham  
52. Walt Scarbrough  
53. Walker Smith  
54. Michael White  
55. Kevin Reaves

56. Henry Lynn  
57. Paul Wasilko  
58. Matt Mitchell  
59. John Hampshire  
60. Paul VanOver  
61. Kurt Peterson  
62. Mark Pratt  
63. Mike Travaglini  
64. David Morgan

## Timeline

- 1944 Cedar Hill established new congregation at Robertsville School; elders were appointed
- 1944 Congregation moved to Highland View School
- 1946 Additional elders were named; first mission started at Sevierville, TN.
- 1951 Moved to High School, bought lot, begins planning building
- 1952 HV Tent meeting began Claxton church
- 1953 Congregation started new church at Karns
- 1955 Highland View moved into new building; Bill Nicks went to Nigeria
- 1961 Additional elders appointed; class rooms were added; additional classroom space was added (currently room 10). Congregation started in Greenville, NC
- 1964 Minister's home built; started church in Jellico
- 1967 Started active youth program with volunteer leaders
- 1968 Added rows of classrooms outside of & alongside of auditorium
- 1969 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- 1970s Benevolence and education programs grew stronger
- 1981 Began "Brother's Keeper"; missions established in Port Allen, LA; Miami; Hong Kong; Mascot
- 1986 Highland View hired first youth minister
- 1988 Ministry System began; converted parsonage into classroom space
- 1990 Congregation wrote mission statement; conducted campaigns, youth time trips, and VBS at various locations
- 1992 Consolidate missions from many small efforts and supported the Hicks in Romania
- 1993 Built gym
- 1994 Renovated & expanded auditorium
- 1995 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Homecoming
- 1996 Two elders visited work in Romania
- 2000 Supported the Dowlings in Romania and later Estes Park, CO
- 2003 Added another mission point to support Hardins in Paraguay, now the Blackmers
- 2004 Assumed sponsorship of Wallace's orphanage work in Dominican Republic



- 2010 Brought Preschool Enrichment Program to Highland View from Central Baptist
- 2010 Adopted AWANA outreach ministry as Wednesday evening Bible School program
- 2012 Added Spann's work with Mission Aviation Fellowship
- 2014 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



## Pictures



Church at the Highland View School, 1944-1950



Church at the Highland View School, 1944-1950



Church at the Highland View School, 1944-1950—Sack race!



June 15, 1947 Church of Christ Assembly at Highland View School





Picture taken in 1953



Church lot before construction began—picture taken in 1953



Finished Highland View Church of Christ building—1955





Original church sign painted by Alf Connelly



Approximately 1961



**December 1971**—Alva Connelly, Carol Hawkins, Cheryl Tye, and Beth Scott on teen hike



## Memories of the Speakers

### Martin Pyle



Martin Pyle's Memories at Highland View

It is very difficult for me to describe a "favorite" memory from a place that was so wonderful for so many years to my entire family.

I think about all the work that Don Henderson and his dear wife put into our 'joining.' While we were awaiting the sale of our home in Florida, they had me set up with meeting someone in the congregation almost every meal for every day! It was a fantastic way to get "into the life" of Highland View. By the time Rachel and the children got moved up, I felt like I actually KNEW everyone.

Then there was the period while the offices were being 'reconstructed' that Jane Wright, Susan Welch, and I shared an office in what is now the Teacher's supply room. We had computer cables strung through the air, computers sitting on boxes, and plastic over the doors to keep down the dust. It was amazing that we were able to get ANYTHING done!

Later as the Spann's began to help get the media going for the Powerpoint projections.... There was lots of tension as we worked out the 'rules' for what we could--and couldn't do. Also, Debbie deserves an EXTRA star for trying to keep up with my 'cues' in the lesson so that the transitions actually happened at the correct time!

I recall the MANY sleepless nights working sometimes until 3 or 4 AM on the next series of SMALL Group booklets. When we first launched that program, there was great uncertainty about whether or not we

could actually get more people involved--at deeper levels--than attended our Sunday evening assembly. I am thankful to the elders who were visionary enough to try something new.

My life was changed by a trip to the Holy Lands with Charlotte Harding and the Maberry's.

It was changed again by my participation in the Prayer Summits conducted through a broad group of churches in Knoxville. My connection to that group altered how I viewed spirituality. Many churches of Christ leaderships would not have been supportive of that--but Highland View was.

So many wonderful memories of GREAT men and women. I will never forget Connie Prater, going to the head of her husband's casket, and turning to her extended family of children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews and saying, "I'm sorry to see him go. But I know where he has gone. I will one day go there too. But there are some of you who do not have that promise. The greatest thing you could do for him is to become a Christian and follow Jesus throughout your lifetime..."

I bought a car at the Oak Ridge drug auction--a LeBaron convertible. It was a disaster. It only ran well for one day--the day I took Cora Cole for a ride. We drove around Melton Hill lake, past the golf course, looped out by the Labs.... She had a smile as big as the blue sky!

I recall so many personal moments.... Sledding with the Oldham's and Etheridge's during the 'big snow', the pool blowout, Rebekah's knee surgery, Henry's delivery of trees to become firewood,

It was the greatest decade of ministry in my life. Everyone would be blessed to have such a time!

## Graham McKay



### Graham McKay's Memories at Highland View

We were warmly received and loved at Highland View. We had been living away from the Mainland USA for 14 years, 10 in Hawaii and four in Japan. So it turns out Oak Ridge was a great place for us as Oak Ridge is not a typical Tennessee town. The fact that people from several countries lived and did research in Oak Ridge, and especially Japanese people since we had just moved back from Japan and missed it as we had learned to appreciate that culture.

I studied the Bible (gospel of Luke) with several Japanese men and Esheron and some other women in the church studies with some of their wives. They usually attended church and became friends with lots of Highland View families. Some were converted and baptized into Christ.

We were very impressed with the work in the community of the congregation and especially the clothing program.

Esheron has fond memories of being a part of a great singing group that would sing at wedding and such.

Now, for us this is very significant... Highland View was the first church for our kids...to be part of a youth group.... and it was great. The leaders were all volunteers and their dedication and sacrifice for all the youth was "something else"....

And our sons were in the scouts and most of the scout leaders were members at Highland View....It had to be a God Thing as we could not have arranged it anywhere near what we had in this church family. Thanks.

Of course some ups and downs, highs and lows....We choose to remember the good and the positive.

Mahalo Nui Loa (Hawaiian for Thanks very much) , Graham McKay <><

## Eddie Payne



I would like to take time and thank the elders and congregation at Highland View for granting me this opportunity to speak at this 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

Gail and my relationship with Highland View goes back to 1972 when we would visit different congregations for gospel meetings and other activities. When we visited Highland View, we would receive a warm welcome.

In 1971, I started taking night classes at East Tennessee School of Preaching and Mission at Karns to prepare myself to do mission work in Louisiana. Going to classes mainly at night and at times during the day part time, was not enough to complete my coursework in a timely manner. As a result, I quit my job with the Y-12 Plant and enrolled as a full time student in 1976. This is when the elders, Hoyt Houston and Jim Parks, decided the congregation at Highland View would help us, which continued for many years in Louisiana. I feel that Gail and the children had a lot to do with us getting the support we needed from Highland View.

Brother Houston, Brother Parks and their families were wonderful, caring Christians, whom we loved dearly and really looked out for us. The Leggitt family adopted us as their children and our children as their grandchildren and helped take care of our needs. Sister Sarah Woody, whom we also loved, was our children's Bible school teacher. Our children loved her class. It appeared that all the children Sister Woody taught, young and old, loved her dearly. She was a great teacher.

Dennis and Janice Connelly as well as their children are greatly loved by us. They helped us do mission work along with the Rucker family. Sister Hart and the Hart family extended love to us when we were in dire need because of Nathaniel's medical bills. Although he died later, they were a great help to us and we love them for this. The ladies and teenage girls of the congregation did things for Gail and the children, as well. The ladies would take Gail out to eat. The girls would babysit the children from time to time.

Remembering these wonderful experiences have brought tears of joy to me when I think of all the love that was shown to us by the congregation in the past and even now by members who know us. I hope no one feels left out of this letter. We love all of you and I can only write so much.

## Jim Yates



### Jim Yates' Memories of Highland View

Jim and Faye Yates, along with their girls, have some very fond memories of their time at Highland View in Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

Faye, Lisa, Lydia and Jim came to Highland View on February 1, 1967 and left to move to Oliver Springs on June 14, 1970.

Through work and prayers of many, the following statistics show that there were 47 baptisms, 209 restorations, 58 who identified with the congregation. Also there were 24 marriages and 14 funerals in that time span. The averages for 1967 – 1969 were as follows: Sunday Bible Study – 259; AM Worship – 323; PM Worship – 200; Wednesday Evening Bible Study – 194; and, Contribution - \$916.

The elders during this time were A. L. Mynatt, G. B. Ryan, C. W. Tays, A. L. Whaley, Jim Parks, Marvin Spann. There were 13-15 deacons.

The Bible School program was great! W.O. Gentry served as Education Director and there were four department chairs that kept everything running smoothly.

I spoke regularly on the radio program, "Know Your Bible" on WATO. This was a combined effort of Highland View and New York Avenue.

We had some great gospel meetings. Some of the speakers were: Billy Nicks, Tom Warren, Lynnwood Mathis, Guy N. Woods, Jim Swafford, Michael Brooks, and Calvin Warpula. During the meeting with Jim Swafford there were 5 baptisms and 58 who came to rededicate their lives to Christ.

It was so good to work with Art Gibbs, Dave Bowman and Jack Hilliard in Jellico, TN. I held meetings there and also taught in VBS.

I was sent to Greenville, NC to assist Jim Swafford in a gospel meeting.

HV had a fantastic Bible Correspondence program directed by Hoyt Huston that brought several people to the Lord.

Alf Connelly made several signs to promote programs. One sign over the doors read, "Enter to worship. Leave to serve."

We had a fine working relationship with Charles Crouch and later Harold Scott at New York Ave. Also with James Greer at Oliver Springs.

I was able to work some with the Boy Scout Troop 220. Tom Goodpasture, Gerald Merriman, Bob Johnson and others did a magnificent job working with many young boys as they developed into fine men. I returned in 1971 to travel with the troop to Philmont. We hiked 73 miles in the mountains. One of the young men, Randy Turpin, went on to be a professional Scout Leader. I also remember making fiberglass canoes with the troop.

In 1968 the new wings on each side of the auditorium were added. It was beautiful and so very useful. Harold Coffey and five other men served on the building committee.

I began the production of the weekly bulletin, "Highland Views" in March of 1967. We published it on a new Gestetner duplicator.

Our youngest daughter, Laura, was born in Oak Ridge, January 12, 1970.

HV had a very well organized Zone Program that gave every family the opportunity to be involved in many ways.

Often the Zone Meetings, as well as bridal and baby showers were held in the basement of our home next to the Church building.

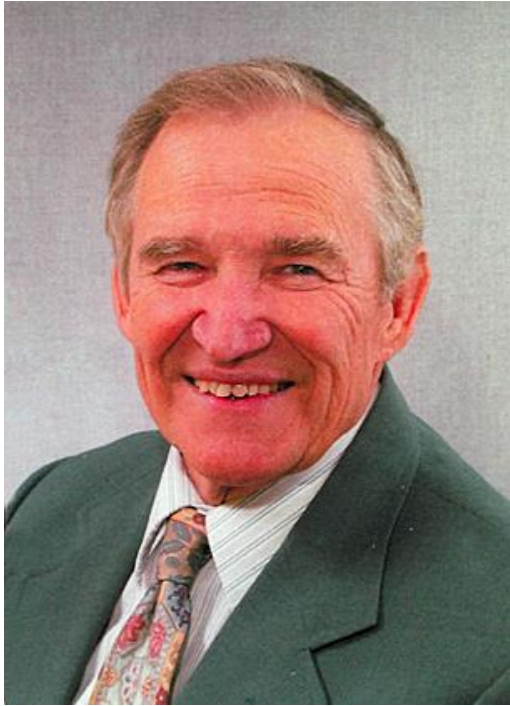
I enjoyed the monthly Men's Luncheons. Often they were held in the Green Room of the Oak Terrace Restaurant in Grove Center. Other times we met in West Knoxville.

The Youth program was very effective and involved many parents and young people. We held camps at Montview. (I directed one at Johnson Bible College), Harrison Bay, Big Ridge, and later we helped build cabins at Hillbrook, near Karns.

The elders and minister met almost every Saturday morning to discuss the work and plan for activities.



## John Payne



### As We Remember

Leaving New Zealand (1973) after 4 years was both sad and exciting for our family. We were sad to leave dear friends and excited to be going home to the USA and facing new challenges. Shortly after returning, a former co-worker in New Zealand, Hugh Counts, called and encouraged us to come and talk to the Highland View elders about the work. We were so glad we did.

Our three children, Carol, Tom and Jim, were entering their teen and young adult years and easily joined Highland View's youth. Early after our arrival, they all came home one evening soaking wet—they had been initiated by being thrown in the lake!

Another major factor influencing the lives of our sons, Tom and Jim, and many other young men—was the number of Highland View men, with Tom Goodpasture as Scout Master, leading the Boy Scout Troop in challenges and Christian association. I was privileged to participate in one encampment as Scout Chaplain----a wonderful experience.

Many church outings and activities, both enjoyable and inspirational, were planned to enjoy the beautiful outdoors of that area.

Both Rita and I consider a great joy the gracious way the elders, as well as the members, received our family. No one could have been kinder or more thoughtful. They were patient with the overseas congregation as they continued prodding me to return.

I would be remiss not to mention my appreciation for the help of a great secretary, Charlotte Harding. She and her husband, John, greatly assisted me in proofreading the book *“Struggles of the Kingdom”* which I co-authored, telling the story of our work and experiences in New Zealand.

The elders at Highland View both encouraged and helped us maintain the balance needed for both our local work and assisting the overseas work.

As I pen these thoughts, many of our dear friends at Highland View have died. Outstanding was the memory of going to Austin, TX, to conduct the funeral of our beloved elder, Jim Parks. We are part of all we have met—both living and deceased. You brethren at Highland View were our greatest gift as part of God’s great family which will live both here and in eternity.

John, Rita and Family





## 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at Highland View

### August 9 & 10 Schedule

#### Saturday Activities

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM: Brunch  
 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM: **Martin Pyle**  
 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM: **Graham McKay**  
 1:30 PM – 1:45 PM: Break  
 1:45 PM – 2:45 PM: **Eddie Payne**  
 2:45 PM – 5:00 PM: **Activity Break With Families**  
 (Memories shared: "What I remember when at Highland View")  
 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM: Catered Dinner  
 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM: **Ray Smith** (*History of Highland View* followed by congregational singing)

#### **Back to School Children's Bash!**

Concurrent on Saturday  
 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

*Special appearance by "Mr. Henry!"*

#### Sunday Activities

9:30 AM – 10:15 AM: **Jim Yates**  
 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM: **John Payne**  
 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM Potluck lunch and fellowship

