

## **Haywood Baptist Church September, 1932-2009**

The Haywood Baptist Church was started the 18<sup>th</sup> of September in 1932 by 15 charter members. A year later in September 1933, there were 80 members with Rev. Arlis Brady as pastor. He came the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays and was paid \$10 a month. Ophelia Donaldson was the first Church Clerk and Bonnie McClure was the first Treasurer. J. P. Henderson was the first Deacon.

Ophelia Donaldson and Clittie Barnett were sent as messengers to the Pittsburg Baptist Associational Annual Meeting on October 12, 1932 which held at the 1st Baptist Church of McAlester. Special offering for Associational Missions was taken, \$1.62.

In November 1932, a WMS was organized and the Church voted to begin its 1<sup>st</sup> revival in December. The Church voted to give \$2.00 a month to the Co-op Program.

In 1933, Frank Jennings the local mail carrier donated some land for a Church Building. June McGowen donated \$1.00 to begin the building fund.

In 1937, 13 members were granted their letters to start a church at Bethel Hill about 5 miles west of Haywood on Highway 31.

In 1952, the church building was turned around and moved back so a new sanctuary could be added on to the front. Later the old Bethel Hill schoolhouse was moved to the south side of the church and added on for classrooms. In 1955, a baptistery was built, then replaced in 1962. In 1980, a kitchen, fellowship hall and 8 classrooms were added on to the back.

Rev. Clarence Brinkley has been the pastor of the Church for 25 years. Luther Kilburn has been a deacon for 53 years. Other deacons include Joe DeLaune, Larry Gipson, Jerry Mincher, Kent Crawford, Jeff Osborne, Matt Rosenow and Dee Smart.