First Baptist Church

147th Anniversary September 21, 2014

"It's not longevity, it's faithfulness, God responds to faithfulness. Still standing but not standing still."



Romans 8:31 "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?"

147 Years ago a great work was started; today we celebrate all that has been done over those years and look with anticipation toward the coming years. God has blessed us to be able to continue the work. As we look back to honor let us look at our values, our mission and our vision to show that we are "Still Standing, but not Standing Still."

Our Values

Given the history and heritage of First Baptist Church, we value:

Worship ~ Education ~ Service

Our Mission

Given the history and heritage of First Baptist Church, it shall be our mission to be immersed in spiritual leadership, service and education to the youth and young adults that will result in a greater understanding of Christ Jesus and an acceptance of Him as Lord and Savior.

Our Vision

The vision of First Baptist Church shall be to evangelize for the purpose of discipleship in order to serve the City of Lexington, Virginia in particular and Rockbridge County in general and ultimately, the world!

You Humble Servant

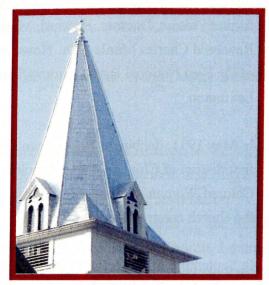
Dr. Louis F. Grandberry

Dr. Louis F. Grandberry

History of First Baptist Church

h 1867 "Negroes" worshiping at Manley Memorial Baptist Church, le Episcopal and the Presbyterian Churches, felt the need for a nurch of their own, after constantly hearing sermons preached from le text, "Servants be Obedient to Your Masters."

nown as the "Black Baptist," this body of worshipers requested tters of dismissal and on September 22, 1867 were permitted to ithdraw and organize as the Lexington African Baptist Church. hey were counseled, best wishes were extended, and friendly



elings prevailed. Meetings were held in various places prior to occupying a church building that stood on e north side of the present location.

astor Milton Smith, a product of the community, baptized at the Manley Memorial Baptist Church in 1841, rved as leader of this "new" church for five years. He was followed by Pastors G. Elliot, T. L. Jackson, G.B. oward, W. M. Troy, J.L. Barksdale, H. M. Moss and G. T. Johnson.

he Lexington African Baptist Church met in this first location for approximately twenty-six years, at which ne the lot next to the church was purchased for the erection of a new church. Brother David Humbles made e first contribution of \$25.00 to this new structure and he was joined by Brothers Lylburn Downing, Joe Imonson, Harvey Harper, Hugh Harvey, Richard Osborne, Robert Price and Phillip Pryor.

ter concluding their days work, members would gather at the church site to dig the foundation for their new ilding. As there was no electricity in Lexington at that time, the women held lanterns to provide light for the orkers. The Moore's from Amherst, Virginia were the masons and they were assisted by Mr. Ira Poindexter, Lexington resident. Mr. Richard Jones and other helpers were the carpenters. The combined efforts of these rsons and others caused the edifice in which we now worship to become a reality. Under the leadership of verend W. T. Johnson, the cornerstone was laid on July 4, 1894.

te church membership joined the Baptist General Association (now known as the Baptist Allied Bodies), tablished in 1898. Virginia Union University was then and continues to be the religious training site for ung men and women in the ministry. The church membership supported the ideas of the Baptist General ssociation until 1955

onday, September 29, 1905, was an exciting night, at what by then had become First Baptist Church. Over 400 persons joined Pastor P. S. Lewis and the congregation to observe the mortgage being paid off and the ining of the bonds by Mrs. Sadie Lewis. Returning for the occasion and giving remarks were

former Pastors, Doctors, Howard, Moss and Johnson. They were joined in addressing the gathering by Reverend Charles Manley, Dr. Howe of Washington and Lee University and Mr. B. E. Vaughn, President of the First National Bank, whom all emphasized the pleasant relations existing between the races in Lexington.

In May 1931, the Negro Republican Congressman, the Honorable Oscar DePriest, who represented the first district of Chicago, Illinois spoke at the church. Congressman DePriest was hosted by the Walker Colored Women's Foundation (this is no longer in existence). The Reverend John Goodgame was pastor of the church congregation at that time.

In September of 1937, the Masonic Lodge of Virginia met at the First Baptist Church for three days. The Reverend Corey Mitchell was the pastor of the church on that occasion.

July 1952, The Baptist General Sunday School Convention convened at the church. Reverend Peter Crawford had just been called to serve as pastor of the church on this occasion.

The first church Homecoming celebration was held at First Baptist Church on the second Sunday in August in 1965 under the leadership of Reverend Curtis Cofield.

In June 4, 1987, Pastor James B. Harris was formally installed as pastor and the church membership grew as new members joined the church by baptism, Christian experience, and by letter. A second choir was organized and a Board of Christian Education was organized in 1990. The Budget and Finance Committee was rejuvenated, the church restrooms were remodeled, and new doors were added to the outside entrances to the church. The Word of God was preached each Sunday morning and prayer meeting and Bible study were held at the church on Wednesday evenings led by Pastor Harris. It can be said that Pastor Harris was a diligent worker who worked hard to improve the spiritual aspects of the church and served the community well while serving on boards, commissions and Lexington City Council. Pastor Harris remained with the church congregation until his death in 1995.

The First Baptist Church congregation called Reverend LaVert H. Taylor in 1996 to serve as the 29th pastor. During his first year as pastor 66 individuals became members of First Baptist Church. Pastor Taylor formed the Joint Board which consisted of all church leaders, rejuvenated the Board of Christian Education, a new gospel choir was formed under the director of Mrs. Ethel Bouthal from Washington D.C. and in 2002, two female deacons were ordained to serve the church. They were Deacon Irene Thompson and Deacon Rosa Harris (former First Lady of the church and wife of the late Pastor James B. Harris). Pastor Taylor held a dynamic Bible Study and prayer service each Wednesday with a minimum of fifteen First Baptist members as well as members from other churches and he preached numerous revivals, homecomings and anniversaries throughout the state each year. He served the community well while serving on boards, commissions and Lexington City Council as well as Chaplain for Lexington/Rockbridge

rea Hospice. Pastor Taylor resigned as the spiritual and temporal leader of the church congregation in 2004 to locate to the Nevada area.

ne First Baptist Church family continued without a pastor until February 2006 when Reverend Doctor Edward R. ambry was called as pastor.

July of 2005, at a scheduled church meeting, the church family agreed to support the nomination to the Virginia epartment of Historic Resources. Trustee Rosalya Wiggins, assisted by Deacon Edlow Morrison and Sisters via Brooks and Mabel Poindexter, and contributed information to Dan Pezzoni, Landmark Preservation sociate, for his work on the nomination to the Virginia Landmark. At a meeting held on Thursday, June 8, 2006, e State Review Board and the Virginia Historic Resources Board considered the First Baptist Church, Lexington, r inclusion in the Virginia Landmark Registry. A recommendation to the National Registry of Historic Places as also made at that time.

the 147 year history of First Baptist Church, the congregation has been led by other educated, dynamic and mmitted pastors. Some of the other leaders were: Pastors W. R. Lucas, J. Carruthers, J. W. Tynes, J. A. inkley, S. A. Thurston, N.J. Gonslaves, P.W. Cook, J.W. Goodgame, Corey Mitchell, Everett Green, Peter awford, J. Cooper, V. Sims, Curtis Cofield, John Trotman, Lutrell Rainey, Theodore Anthony, and James Scott. hile being without a pastor from 2009 -2011 the church was blessed with two excellent interim pastors, Rev. nes L. Harris, Pastor of First Baptist Church of Ordinary, VA and Dr. Earl L. Pendleton, Assistant Pastor of Mt. on First African Baptist Church in Charlottesville, VA.

e church is presently under the pastorate of Dr. Louis F. Grandberry from Ohio.

her church leaders are Deacon Edlow Morrison, Chairperson Fellowship of Deacons, Irene Thompson, Deacon, bert Fields, Deacon; Mr. Preston Evans, Chairperson Trustee Ministry; Cabot Miller, Trustee, Rosalya Wiggins, ustee, Barbara Wright, Trustee, Mr. Edwin Walker, Co-Chairperson Finance Ministry, Priscilla Baker, -chairperson, Finance Ministry; Mrs. Marylin Alexander, Treasurer; Mrs. Mabel Poindexter, Financial cretary, and Mrs. Montrose Grandberry, Church Clerk.

ere are many other recent events within the history of First Baptist Church, Lexington, such as a new roof in 10, painting of the lower sanctuary in 2011, bridge added to the back property for individuals needed handicap cess to the church, repairs to half of the ceiling area in 2013, funding from the Ushers to repair the other half of ceiling in 2014 and the recent painting and repairing of the church steeple including new Plexiglas for the eple windows and painting several windows surrounding steeple.

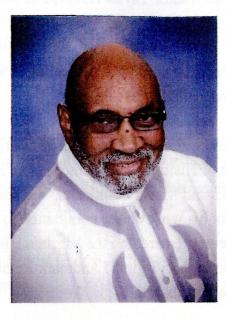
s our prayer that the Grace and Mercy of God will continue to be with us as move forward to a new year with w changes.

Intributors to the Church History includes the following persons: Irs. Laura Etta Ricker** *Mrs. Alice Morrison Moore *Mrs. Elaine Mack Payne Irs. Jacqueline Corbin Pleasants *Trustee Rosayla Wiggins *Mr. Edwin Walker

Rev. LaVert H. Taylor,

of Norfolk, VA, and our former pastor, will be the speaker for the morning service. He has pastored churches in Chapel Hill, North Carolina; Norfolk, Charlottesville, and the First Baptist Church in Lexington, Virginia. He is currently Pastor Emeritus, First Baptist Church, Norfolk, VA.

He is a native of Shreveport, Louisiana, and attended Grambling College but at the start of the Civil Rights Movement he organized the Shreveport chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality and later served for six years as a Field Representative for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, under the leadership of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



He received his B. S. Degree in Public Administration from Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina and his Master of Divinity Degree from Virginia Union University in Richmond, Virginia. He has also done doctoral studies in Adult Education at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. His work history includes the U. S. Office of Economic Opportunity, the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights, and the U. S. Department of Commerce. In March of 2004 he became a Case Manager for the Center for Academic Enrichment and Outreach at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and later accepted a position, providing spiritual guidance and organization to 1,500 inmates and 600 staff members at the Southern Desert Correctional Center in Indian Springs, Nevada where he retired and relocated to the Norfolk area.

He has served as an Independent Training Contractor for the Central Intelligence Agency, the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and the District of Columbia Superior Courts. He also conducts training for church leaders, including Deacons, Trustees, Ushers, and other organizational leaders. During his seven years in Lexington, Virginia he served as a Member of the Virginia State Board of Medicine, the U. S. Attorney's Task Force on Hate Crimes, the Ethics Committee of the Virginia State Bar Association, Chaplin for Rockbridge Area Hospice, Chaplain for the Lexington Police Department, Member of the Lexington City Council, President of Rockbridge County NAACP, President of the Lexington Area Ministerial Alliance, Moderator of the Natural Bridge Baptist Association, Director of Christian Education for the Berean Valley Baptist Association, Board Member of the Rockbridge Area Community Services Board, and a Member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.

Rev. Taylor is the father of one daughter, three sons, and grandfather of ten.

Rev. Anthony Perry,

speaker for the evening service is a native of Waynesboro, VA and graduate from Waynesboro H.S.; entered Washington and Lee University the fall of 1973. While attending W&L, Pastor Perry was a Dean's List Student who also excelled in Athletics, while attending the NCAA Track and Field Championships and receiving First Team All-American honors in Football. After graduation and a tryout with the New England Patriots, he entered U.S. Army, as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Finance Corps.



As with most military officers, he had both stateside and overseas assignments. During Desert Storm, he was the mobilization and training director for 25 Reserve and National Guard logistics units, in which he received numerous awards, the key to the City of Indianapolis, and an open invitation to the Indy 500 race. Besides being a Battalion Commander in Europe, the Army also sent him fully funded to received a graduate degree at Virginia Tech, in Blacksburg, Va. While at Virginia Tech, he was selected by the faculty as the captain of the graduate school's first three member business school case competition team, which came in second among 11 major universities, including Universities of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi to name a few. He retired from the Army in 1994, from the United States Special Operation Command at MacDill Air Base, in Florida, where he was responsible for a \$600 million budget as the Deputy Comptroller for Research Development and Acquisition. He was also the first US Army Finance Officer to be assigned to the General Staff of Special Operations.

It was in the military, that Pastor received his call into the ministry. In Germany, he led a small group that founded Rhienberg Bible Baptist Church. During graduate school, 1986, he was licensed to preach at Gateway Baptist Church, in Blacksburg. In 1995, he was ordained to preach at Providence Baptist Church, in Riverview Florida and became the associate pastor at Temple Heights Baptist Church, in Tampa, FL. In 1999, he founded Emmanuel Baptist Church, in Thonotosassa, FL. The ministry has also sent him to both stateside and overseas. He has spoken for conferences and crusades around the world, including Israel, Thailand, India, Burma, England, Suriname, Guyana, Mexico, Costa Rico, as well as in many cities throughout America. He works full-time while he continues to lead the church.

Rev. Perry has been married to Deborah Baker, daughter of Marie and the late Wendell Baker, Sr of Lexington, for 36 years and they have six children and two grandchildren. Alana is owner of an Assisted Living Facility, in Ruskin, FL; Kelly is working for the county and has an eight year old son, Anthony and living in Tampa; David, a Deputy Sheriff, and his wife Katie, an accountant, live in Roanoke with their two year old son Joshua; Daniel lives in Orlando, FL and he is a Forensic Analyst with Florida Department of Law Enforcement; and Esther and Priscilla both attend Pensacola Christian College, Pensacola, FL.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

147th Anniversary Celebration

Theme: "It's not longevity, it's faithfulness... God responds to faithfulness...

Still standing but not standing still" ...

About getting back to our roots~ our foundation~ builders of our church~ our men and our women who accomplished the impossible through faith!

WORSHIP LEADER	Minister, Christopher Perry
CALL TO WORSHIP	Minister Perry
OPENING SELECTION "We've Come This Far by Fa	aith" (Pg. 222) Choir and Congregation
SCRIPTURE	Reverend Louis Grandberry
PRAYER/Chant	Deacon Elect, Cabot Miller
MUSICAL SELECTION	Gospel Way Mass Choir Gospel Way Church of God in Christ
WELCOME	Trustee Rosalya Wiggins
CONGRATULATORY REMARKS	Reverend LaVert H. Taylor
OFFERING OFFERTORY RESPONSE	Deacons/Ushers Gospel Way Mass Choir
CHURCH HISTORY	Mrs. Marylin Alexander
INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER	Mrs. Priscilla Baker
MUSICAL SELECTIONS (2)	Gospel Way Mass Choir
ANNIVERSARY MESSAGE	Reverend Anthony Perry Tampa, Florida
INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP	Reverend Anthony Perry
INVITATIONAL SELECTION	Gospel Way Mass Choir
REMARKS	Mrs. Mabel Poindexter Edlow Morrison, Chairperson of Deacons Ministry Dr. Grandberry, Pastor
CLOSING SELECTION	Gospel Way Mass Choir
THE BENEDICTION	Reverend Anthony Perry

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Lexington, VA REVIVAL SERVICES SEPTEMBER 23–25, 2014

7:00 P.M. – Prayer and Praise Service 7:30 P.M. – Worship Service Rev. Charles Brown, Revival Minister Mt. Marine Baptist Church Fishersville, VA

Tuesday, September 23 Worship Leader: Dr. Louis F. Grandberry Revival Minister: Rev. Charles Brown

Wednesday, September 24 Worship Leader: Dr. Louis F. Grandberry Revival Minister: Rev. Charles Brown

Thursday, September 25 Worship Leader: Dr. Louis F. Grandberry Revival Minister: Rev. Charles Brown

Thank, you

The Pastor and members of First Baptist Church extend a profound thank you to all of you for sharing with us on our 147th church anniversary. Your prayers, encouragement and love have been shown to us through your presence today. A special thank you to Reverend LaVert H. Taylor, Reverend Anthony Perry, Minister Christopher Perry and the Gospel Way Mass Choir for so willingly accepting our invitation to be with us and helping us to make this day extra special! We pray God's blessings upon you all as you return to your homes. Again, we say thank you!

The 2014 Anniversary Committee

Trustee Marylin Alexander

Trustee Rosalya Wiggins

Trustee Preston Evans

Trustee Cabot Miller

Trustee Barbara Wright

Priscilla Baker, Finance Committee

Edwin Walker, Finance Committee

Mabel Poindexter, Finance Committee

On this 147th Church Anniversary we would like to honor our Deacon Edlow Morrison. Thank you for your Dedication, Love an Commitment to your church and to the members of this congregation over the past 80 years. You are the perfect examp of what a Deacon should be! You are Honest, Loyal, Kind, Compassionate, Respectful, Dignified, Sincere, not hypocritical/two-faced, not quarrelsome, Hospitable and definite a Man of Good Character and most important a Praying Man. These are the qualities that we have seen in you during our years at First Baptist Church and we thank God for you.

A PLONS

Deacon Edlow Morrison

Barbara Wright and Rebecca Richmond



THE GRANDBERRY'S THANK GOD AND OUR CHURCH FAMILY FOR ALL THEY DO FOR US.

WE LOVE ALL OF YOU !!!

PASTOR & FIRST LADY GRANDBERRY



From the Women's Ministry





God Bless You First Baptist on Our 147th Anniversary



In Memory Of

Sister Jacqueline C. Pleasants Brother Walter E. Lewis Brother James Mackey

Three dedicated members who left us this past year gave well over 100 years of combined service to First Baptist Church. Three rocks in the foundation who kept this church standing tall. Three angels watching over us, expecting more great things.

In Memory of Patrick H. Poindexter Husband and Father

Mabel Poindexter Audrey Poindexter Kimberly Poindexter Slater Patrick Poindexter, II

IN MEMORY

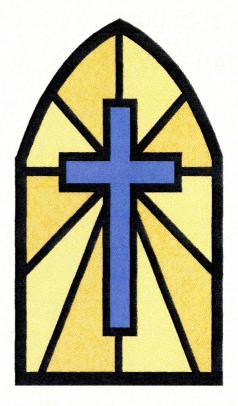
OF OUR

DECEASED FAMILY MEMBERS ANDREW C. JORDAN SR -LUCY S. JORDAN ANDREW C. JORDAN JR – MARGARET L. JORDAN AGNES J. DALTON - ALAN DALTON JAMES W. BROWN JR. ROSE J. JOHNSON – RUPERT V. JOHNSON



"LIVING FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS"

CONGRATULATIONS FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ON YOUR 147 th ANNIVERSITY



THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINOUS PRAYERS

VIRGINIA JORDAN BROWN

In Honor Of Our Uncle

Tommy Franklin

In Nemory Of Our Uncles and Father

Left to Right William Franklin Henry Franklin John D. Franklin-Our Father) George Lee Franklin

Quintus Franklin George Franklin Mabel Poindexter Pearlee Graham

Constatulations, First Baptist Church on reaching another milestone on reaching another milestone

In Loving Memory of Deacon

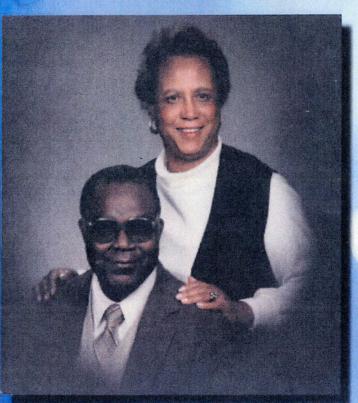
Rosa Scott Harris

Sunrise November 3, 1945 Sunset July 11, 2012



We've come this far by faith, 147 years from The Pastor and Deacon's Ministry

In Memory Of My Husband, Walter Clemit Lyle a former Deacon of First Baptist Church



Congratulations on Your 147th Anniversary!



Trustees: Preston Evans, Chairperson; Barbara Wright; Rosalya Wiggins; Marylin Alexander; (Cabot Miller, not pictured)

Finance Committee: Priscilla Baker, Chairperson; Preston Evans; Mabel Poindexter; Marylin Alexander, Treasurer; (Edwin Walker, not pictured)

Congratulations to First Baptist Church

on our 147th Anniversary. It is because of our Faith in God that we remain strong on this corner of Main and Henry Street.

"Upon this rock I will build my church; and thegates of hell shall not prevail against it." Matthew 16:18

Congratulations to First Baptist Church on our 147th Anniversary!



Mabel Poindexter, President



Priscilla Baker



Preston Evans



Ophelia Payne

The Ushers of First Baptist Church send this greeting in love, smiles and a cheerful disposition. "So, therefore, be ye steadfast, umovable always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."



Bernard Butler, Vice-President



Wendell Baker



Karen Payne



Barbara Wright, Secretary/Treasuren

God is our anchor and we will continually praise Him for His faithfulness



James C. Mackey 8/20/23 ~ 5/26/14

A Tribute of Love

God saw the road was rough The hills were hard to climb He gently closed his eyes And whispered, "Peace be Thine" His weary hours, his weary days His weary nights are past His ever patient worn out frame Has found sweet rest at last.

> Joseph and Lena Hansley James and Doris Mackey Frances Moore, Linda Frye and

Great Grandchildren and Great-Great Grandchildren



In Memory of my Mother and Father, Molly and Walter Dunn

Kent Dunn

PFC. Wilson Porterfield, '72

Gone but not forgotten. God Bless From the Porterfield Family We love you always In Memory of Louise Mack Osborne William Mack, Jr. Elaine Mack Payne



O God my heart is fixed, I will sing and give praise even with my Glory. Psalm 108:1

> Rosalya M. Wiggins, Janet P. Clark Isca M. King, Dorcas Payne Willie Mack



~ In Memory ~ of my parents Audrey & George Franklin

Quintus Franklin

In Memory Of Audren Kyle Franklin

Quintus Frankin. Mabel Poindexte George Franklin. Pearle<mark>e Graham</mark>



JAMES A. NOWLIN, SR. AND MARY M. NOWLIN JAMES, JR., JEFFREY, AND COLEMAN NOWLIN

> Daughter and Sister, Priscilla Nowlin Baker

In Memory Of

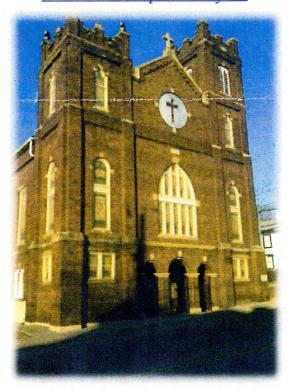
Wendell Baker "Gramps"

Grandchildren: Sheila, Marlene, Fella, Great Grandchildrenn: Brandon, Morgan, Sara

Main Street Baptist Church

Est. 1895

920 East Main Street ~ Clifton Forge, Virginia, 24422 540-862-4530 (Church), 540-863-2129 (Parsonage) www.mainstreetbaptistchurchcf.com



Reverend Preston K. Tyler, Pastor Deacon Freddie Dawson ~ Chairman of the Deacon Board

"... and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Matthew 16:18

Rev. Preston K. Tyler and the Main Street Baptist Church Family would like to congratulate, Rev. Dr. Louis F. Grandberry, First Lady Montrose Grandberry and the First Baptist Church Family on their 147th Church Anniversary. May God continue to bless you on this Christian journey.



Sunrise, February 23, 1911 Sunset, November 1, 2003

te a joyful shout to the Lord, all you lands! Serve the Lord with gladness; ne before His presence with singing. Know that the Lord, He *is* God; *It is* He *who* has made us, and not we ourselves; *are* His people and the sheep of His pasture. Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, *And* into His courts with praise. hankful to Him, *and* bless His name. For the Lord *is* good; His mercy *is* everlasting, And His truth *endures* to all erations. *Psalm* 100:1-5

October 24, 1952



In Loving Memory of Delreese L. Eason

We can no longer see you with our eyes, Touch you with our hands... But we will feel you in our hearts Forever! Love and Miss You So Much! Daughter - Justina Y. Eason Sister - Charlotte Alexander

May 11, 2013



In Memory Of Carrie Virginia Mackey May 31. 1898 ~ November 26. 1995

Thinking of you with Love and Admiration Joseph and Lena Hansley. James and Doris Mackey. Frances Moore. Linda Frye and Grandchildren

"Jesus Loves Me, This I Know..." Jaden Richmond ~ Baptized 9-21-14

REST Systers







Peacon hobert Fields and sister Mary Fuelds Eggleston, Pastor's wife, Montrine Grandberry, his MEtown, Chair Director Callot Miller (First Byptist Jespington Church and peacon Callot Miller (First Byptist Jespington Church



OUR BELOVED MOTHER & BROTHER WHO LEFT US DURING 2013 & 2014

JACQUELINE CORBIN PLEASANTS

ALFRED WILLIAM PLEASANTS, III



SALUTING FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LEXINGTON ON 147 YEARS

CARMEN PLEASANTS PEARSON

KITOLA PLEASANTS HENDERSON



"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."

Matthew 5:4





Mary Carter **Cheryl Craney** Lois Curry Marquita Dunn Mary Eggleston Lucy Ferrebee Leon Harvey **Beatrice Johnson** Gloria Martin **Constance Merchant** Chris Payne **Ophelia** Payne William Payne Sarah White Janie Wiley Brenda Woodley Maurice Woodley

Many Thanks To Each Of You!!