

## The Shiloh United Methodist Church

The History and Memories  
of the Members, the Families and the Community

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Updated 2006

*By Annabelle Leitner*

The History of the Shiloh Church did not begin just in 1880 when our ancestors gathered to form a new place of worship. Its history began much earlier, before there was a state of Florida, a Marion county or a community called Shiloh. This church, as all Methodist churches, can trace its roots back to 1736 when Charles and John Wesley arrived in the colonies from England. Its history can also be traced back to 1785 when the Methodist Episcopal Church was established in the newly created United States. The land that would become Florida in 1845 was first introduced to Methodism in 1821.

The Shiloh Church had been established for 59 years when the Methodist General Conference became known as the Methodist Church in 1939. The Shiloh Church was celebrating its 88th year when the Methodist Episcopal Church of the South united with all other Methodist Churches to become the United Methodist Church.

Before there was a Shiloh Methodist Church, the area was settled by many families that moved from South Carolina to farms being cut out of the forests and swamps. Some of our earlier settlers even had encounters with the local Indians. Although there were other families in the area, the two families we know most about were the Feasters and the Geiger/ Leitners. These two families have been continuously associated with the Church since its beginning.

The Feaster family moved to this area in 1848 from the Fairfield District of South Carolina and settled in Micanopy.

The Leitner family moved to what is now the Anthony area in 1854 from Cedar Creek, S.C. (Richland/Fairfield District). At Anthony this family helped in organizing the Anthony Methodist Church and donated the property for the Anthony Cemetery.

The Leitner name came to the Shiloh area when George Wesley Leitner married Caroline Lavinia Geiger May 31, 1866.

## A History of the Shiloh Methodist Church

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The Geiger family moved to this area at different time. John Geiger, the father-in-law of Mary Elizabeth Nunnemaker Geiger, was in this area in 1843. According to family legend Mary, a widow, and her children moved to Florida in 1861 from Lexington County, S.C.; there is documented evidence that at least one son was here in 1854 building a house, and one daughter – with her husband and children – had settled here in 1856.

The one thing that I have always found interesting was that the Shiloh Church was not established for almost 40 years after these families came here. Some say these early relatives went to Micanopy to church; maybe so, but there were several other churches already established in the area.

These include: Wacahoota Baptist Church, established April 14, 1852; Wacahoota Methodist Church established in 1852 (some of the early Feasters are buried in the Methodist Church cemetery); Micanopy Methodist Church, which was established in 1859 with the formation of the East Florida Seminary; and the Lutheran Church at Central, which disbanded prior to 1880 (Leitner/Geiger family members are buried here, but the cemetery has been destroyed).

Mount Arnow Baptist Church was established in February 1884; many of the members of the Shiloh Church attended this church, now known as the [Flemington Baptist Church](#).



*Photo taken in 1898 or before at the site of the old school house, which stood on the same site of the current one.*

In the old days, the Shiloh Church was always served by a Circuit preacher. For awhile, we were on the circuit with just the Micanopy Church; before that we were with Micanopy, Evinston and Wacahoota (with which we still have close ties). And, in 1893 we were on the circuit with the Reddick Methodist Church. Sometimes, possibly near the turn of the century, we had a Presbyterian Minister from the McIntosh Church to ride out and deliver the message on one Sunday afternoon a month. From 1929 to 1937, not only were we on the circuit with Micanopy, but with Archer and a few other churches as well. Some of our Circuit riding preachers must have really gotten to know North Central Florida just by going from one church to the other.

Unlike the "Big City" churches, the Shiloh Church has always been the social center of our community, not only for religious activities, but it has provided a place for baby showers, bridal showers, birthday parties, anniversary celebrations, 4-H Club meetings and barbeques, peanut boils, dinners on the grounds, Santa Claus at Christmas, weddings, funerals, and Easter egg hunts. School was held in the two-room school house that is now owned by the church; voting was here,

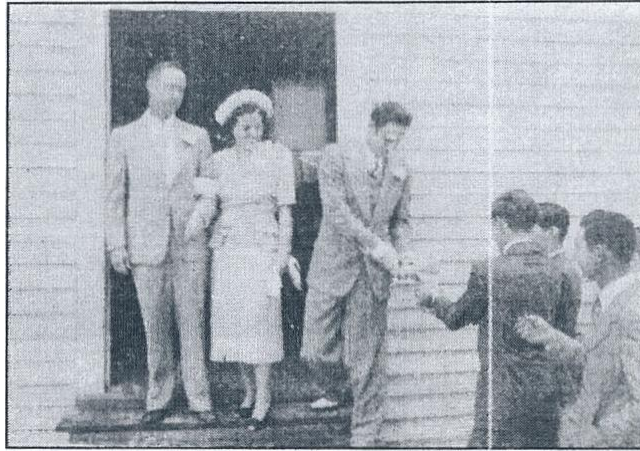


## A History of the Shiloh Methodist Church

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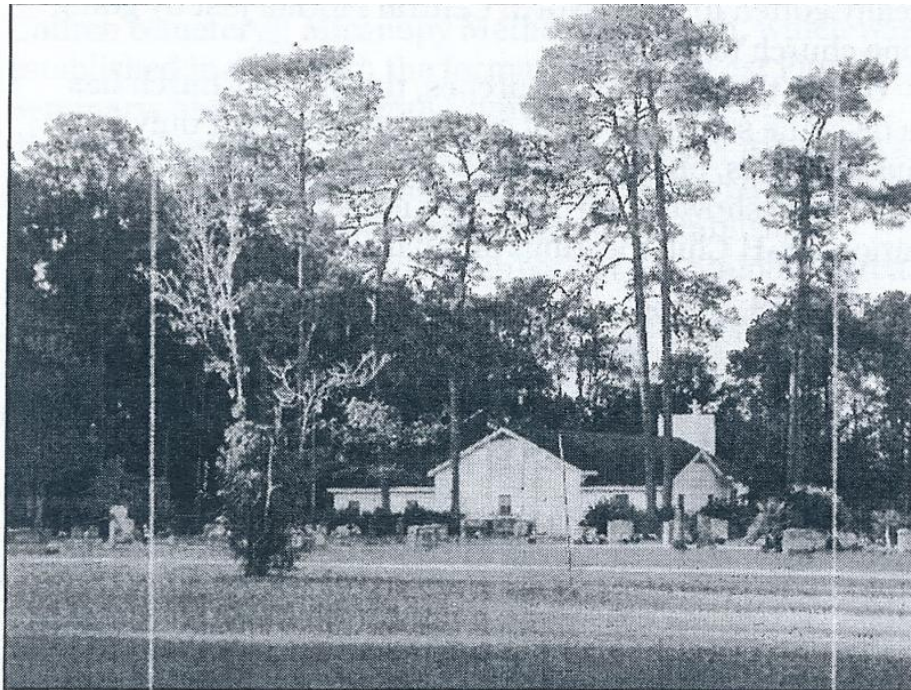
family reunions, chicken pileau suppers, and revivals. We now play basketball on the grounds and some used to play tennis here.

In 1948 Harvey Yawn (left) and Bernice Leitner were the last couple to be married in the "old" Shiloh church.



We visit and get to know our neighbors and our law enforcement officers at our Community/Crime Watch Meetings, which were established by David Ernest Leitner.

The present church building itself has undergone several additions since it was completed in 1955/56. The chapel, fellowship hall, kitchen, classroom and restrooms have been added as well as a portico to the front of the church. Before this church, the members met in the tall wood church that stood just east of this building until the late 1980s. Before the "old" church was built, the founding members met in a log house that was just east of the old church. The physical location of the church has just been moved more to the west every once in a while.



There are currently 208 people buried in the Shiloh cemetery.

The cemetery was started before the old church was completed. Mary C. Leitner, the daughter of Caroline Lavinia Geiger and George Wesley Leitner was the first known person to be buried here. The oldest stone is of Laura Frances Geiger (Caroline's sister) who died in 1864, but is actually buried at the Lutheran cemetery at Central. Her mother Mary Elizabeth Nunnemaker Geiger never

placed Laura's tombstone on her grave, but instead buried it behind the old church. At one of the workdays, the stone was unearthed and placed at the head of Mrs. Geiger's grave.

*Buried in the Shiloh Cemetery are many members of my family including my parents Barbara and Morris Mixson and my grandparents Fred and Waive Junior.* Larry M. Mixson

The community has changed since the original settlers established this church, but yet it has stayed essentially the same. Each member of the church and community has continued throughout the years to be generous, not only in material items, but in the giving of themselves. Many have given to the church over the years from volunteering their time to clean the grounds, general upkeep of the buildings, working on the construction of each church, playing the piano or organ, doing whatever needs to be done, without hesitation.

Items donated have included:

- velvet dossal cloth made by Esther Smoak Leitner
- kitchen cabinets in memory of Mary Catherine Conner and Benjamin Franklin Leitner (grandson of Mary Elizabeth Nunnemaker Geiger)
- Those cabinets were expanded in the memory of their youngest grandson David Ernest Leitner
- New steel back doors were added in memory of Janie Wylie and George Wesley Leitner Jr.
- front doors in memory of Harvey Hardin Yawn
- communion table in memory of Gladys Goodman Mixson Chambers
- hot water heater given for Helen Puzauskas
- brass cross, candlesticks, vases, and alter cloths by Mr. and Mrs. Larry Mack in the memory of their granddaughter
- Mr. Glenn Feaster (great-great grandson of Jacob Muscah Feaster) built the portico at the entrance of the church in memory of his parents, Clare and Ollie Feaster
- A christening bowl in the memory of Mary Catherine Conner Leitner
- microphones in memory of Benjamin Franklin Leitner
- chancel chairs in memory of Gladys Abraham and Lynn Feaster (great-grandson of Jacob Muscoe Feaster)
- the Bible stand in memory of Curtis Adams
- the communion cloths by Barbara Guillard in the memory of her late husband who had been killed in an accident while on military maneuvers
- The organ you hear being played every Sunday was a gift from Robert (great-great grandson of Mary Elizabeth Nunnemaker Geiger) and Barbara Jennings.

This building and the ones before have seen much joy and much sadness. For each of you who have journeyed here today, Shiloh has its own special meaning. I have just touched on a few moments that have helped shape the history of the Shiloh Church, its people and its community. I hope that today will bring back memories, not by just what is written here, but with your friends and neighbors with whom you will visit.

## The Shiloh Church Through the Decades

### The 1880s

The members of the Shiloh Community included Baptists, Lutherans, Methodists and Presbyterians who began meeting in a small log house owned and located on the property of Mary Elizabeth Nunnemaker Geiger, just east of where the present church now stands. Everyone in the community worked together to build the church, the pews and pulpit. Mr. Jacob Muscah/Muscoe Feaster (born 1832, Fairfield District, S.C.), who owned and operated a sawmill, cut the boards from the area pine trees that were used to build the original church building that was used until the present day church was built in 1955. Mr. George Wesley Leitner, the son of Jacob and Charlotte Souter Leitner and the son-in-law of Mary E. Nunnemaker Geiger, made the wood shingles that were used as the original roofing.

Jan. 5, 1883 – Mary C. Leitner died. She was the first person to be buried in what was to become the Shiloh Cemetery.

1884 members: Lula Sutherner, W.W. Geiger, Mrs. S.G. Tyson, J.J. Leitner, B.F. Leitner, Katie Bellah, **Henry Walkup Mixson**, **Job Spurgeon Mixson**, Estella Mixson

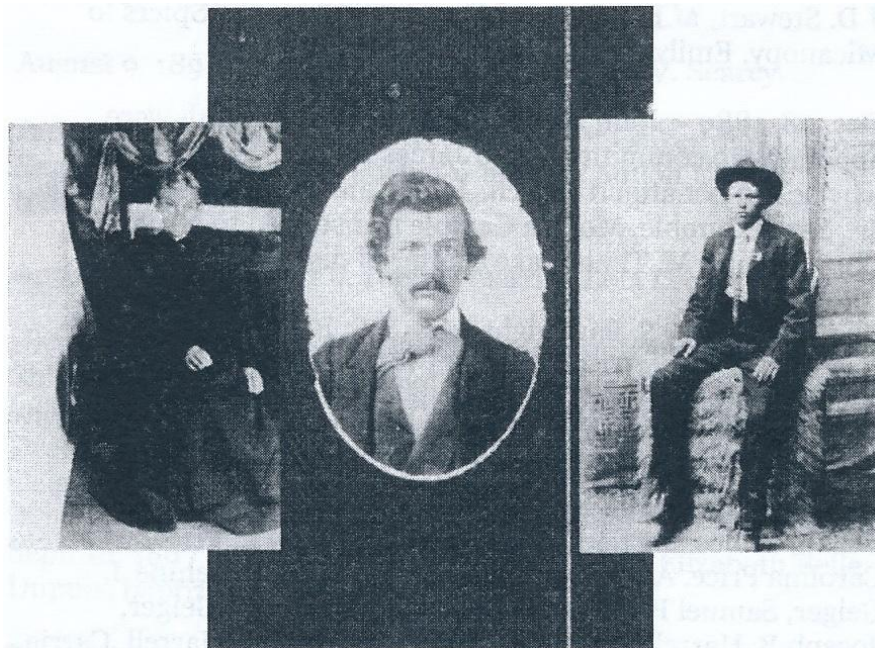
*Henry Walkup Mixson (#840), Job Spurgeon Mixson (#839) and Estella Mixson (#838) are brothers and sister of my Grandfather Wilbur Darlington Mixson (#842) who was five years old in 1884.*

Summer 1885 – The new Church was dedicated.

June 6, 1886: Board of Trustees – Zacchius Price, James W. Bellah, John Gamble, A.P. Price, George Leitner

Dec. 6, 1886 – George Wesley Leitner died

1887 – L.L. (Elizabeth Laney) Feaster died (wife of Jacob Muscoe Feaster)



*Caroline Wesley Leitner and George Wesley Leitner with their son George Wesley Leitner, Jr. (right). George Wesley Leitner died in 1886.*



Feb. 9, 1887 — George Walter Bellah married Lula Zetrouer

Feb. 9, 1889 — The names of Willie R. Dreher, Mrs. Mary E. Dreher, and Mrs. L.L. Bellah were added to the membership roll. A committee was appointed to see to the furnishing of the church and purchasing an organ. Committee members were Rev. T.L. Cooper; D.L. Geiger and J.B. Harrell.

Mar. 10, 1889 — The Church was called to order after services by W.H. Steinmeyer, P.E. to settle misunderstanding. Was put to vote that the money in charge of Sister E.S. Vann to go toward the finishing of the Church. T.S. Bouknight, Sec.

Nov. 20, 1889 — Members to withdraw: Robert Ratteree, Elizabeth Ratteree, May Bell Ratteree. Members Transferred: J.D. Stewart, M.F. Spiers to Micanopy, Samantha Spiers to Micanopy, Emily Spiers to Micanopy.

Dec. 28, 1889 — John W. Price and James W. Bellah were appointed to committee to see James L. Binnicker to know why he did not attend church. John Gamble Sr., John Gamble Jr., Sarah Gamble, Mostha Gamble transferred to Marvin Church. John M. Timberlake a letter of dismissal.

Deceased: Percy S. Bauknight, Mrs. S.E. Bauknight, R.E. Hartzag. Board of Trustees: John W. Price, Chairman; James W. Bellah, George W. Bellah, Willie R. Breher, Joseph B. Harrell.

Members: James W. Bellah, George W. Bellah, Laura L. Bellah, James W Price (died May 1891), Mary E. Price, Carolina Price, Annie Price, David L. Geiger, Jospehine J. Geiger, Samuel P. Geiger, Silviar J. Geiger, Mary Geiger, Joseph B. Harrell, Martha E. Harrell, Herber H. Harrell, Carrie L Leitner, Dora Leitner, Mattie Leitner, R.B. Hunter, Amos J.R. Sercy, George W. Sercy, William W. Sercy, William B. Sercy, Thomas L. Cooper, Ruther W. Cooper, Georgia A. Cooper, E.J. Caughn, M. Lena Vaugh, E.S. Vann, James L. Binnicker, Keziah D. Feaster, Willie R. Dreher, Mary Z. Dreher, Edwin Smith, George A. Harrell, M.F. Spiers, Samantha Spiers, Emily Spiers, Albert B. Dupius, Anna J. Dupuis, Miss Rosa F. Pardee, Mrs. Julia E. Geiger, James W. Bellah, Mrs. Laura L. Bellah, Robb. Ratteree, Mrs. Elizabeth Ratteree, Miss Mary Belle Ratterree, Mrs. Lola Dupuis, W.A. Dreher, Mrs. Mary J. Dreher, Bessie May Leitner, Mrs. Sarah J. Geiger, J.D. Stewart, William F. Spiers

## The 1890s

Dec. 31, 1890 — Members received into church: George A. Harrell, W.F. Spiers, Samantha Spiers, Emily Spiers. George A Harrell died prior to Dec. 31, 1890.

Oct. 17, 1891 – From Church Conference records: infant baptized: Mary Elizabeth Spiers.

August 9, 1891 – John T. Belew married Alice V. Searcy.

Jan. 1, 1892 – Mary Elizabeth Nunnemaker Geiger died. The founder and benefactor of what is now the Shiloh United Methodist Church.

April 19, 1896 Albert B. Dupuis married Lola Lee Raterree

1897s – Dillie Augusta McCullough and family moved to the Shiloh area where she was quoted in the Aug. 9, 1971, Gainesville Sun as saying: "Just the Leitners, Zetrouers, Feasters, Dreheres, Smiths, Gladneys and Uncle Sam and Uncle Luther Geiger were here."

Sept. 16, 1897 – Lola Dupius, Rosa Lee Dupuis, Elizabeth Belle Dupuis, baptized by Rev. R.M. Evins

## The 1900s

Apr. 24, 1904 – Mrs. S.G. Tyson was received by letter.

Jul. 23, 1905 – W.W. Geiger, E.F. Neal and H.H. Harrell was appointed as a committee to arrange for a tent meeting to be held by Rev. Northworthy to commence the first Sunday in August 1905

Mar. 25, 1906 – Members: J.B. Harrell, Martha E. Harrell, W.R. Dreher, S.P. Geiger, W.W. Geiger, Julia E. Geiger, Sarah J. Geiger, Carrie L. Leitner, Mattie E. Leitner, B.F. Leitner, J.J. Leitner, O.C. Simmons, Myler Simmons, Lula Sutherland (married John Herrow), Amanda Cora Bauknight, R. Palmer Ratterree, George W. Bellah, Laura L. Bellah, Katie Bellah, Mrs. S.G. Tyson, J. Clinton Dunning, Hautarre Dunning, Dora L. Zetrouer, D.R. Zetrouer, Kisire D. Feaster, Rosa Pardee, Ruth Dreher, Albert R. Zetrouer, Miss Lizzie Belle Dupuis, Mrs. Dillie Augusta Leitner, James L. Gladney, Mrs. E.S. Vann, A.B. Dupuis, Janie Leitner, Eula Zetrouer, Ethel Leitner, Elbert Zetrouer, May Jones, Glenwood R. Smith, Miss Bertha R. Smith, Thomas W. Smith, **Wilber D. Mixson, Miss Bessie Ola Mixson, Alice Mixson**, Miss Geogin A. Abbot, Mrs. Grace E. Morrison.

*Wilbur Darlington Mixson is my grandfather, Bessie Ola and Alice are his sisters. Larry M. Mixson*

June 16, 1909 — Silvar J. Geiger died

## The 1910s

Nov. 12, 1915 — Joseph B. Harrell died Dec. 14, 1916 — W.R. Dreher died

## The 1920s

June 16, 1921 — Samuel P. Geiger died

Feb. 4, 1926 — Caroline Lavina Geiger Leitner died

Feb. 26, 1926 — the following appeared in the Ocala Star-Banner:

### **Mrs. Caroline Leitner**

Mrs. Caroline Leitner was born in Lexington County, South Carolina, October 17, 1846, and lived to see her seventy-ninth birthday. Before marriage to Mr. Geo. Leitner in 1866, she was Miss Caroline Geiger. She moved to Florida at the age of fifteen, and was therefore a citizen of this state for sixty-four years, having come to Florida in 1861. Mrs. Leitner was left a widow in 186 with nine children; five of these are still living. The names are as follows: Mrs. Dora Zetrouer, Mrs. S.M. McGehee, Messrs. J.J., B.F., and G.W. Leitner.

Mrs. Leitner was a thoroughly consecrated Christian mother, and very much beloved by all who knew her. For fifty-eight years she was a faithful member of the Methodist church, and did all she could to fulfill every honor, love and cherish her memory. Just before dying she had the statement: "I am ready to go home." Death came from heart trouble physically but spiritly she was "pure in heart".

—John P. Gaines

In the late 1920s it was not unusual to see Kathleen and Caro Leitner spending Saturday afternoons polishing and cleaning the pulpit at the church. Their younger brother, Ernest, and their sister, Bernice, (the Leitner twins) would also help with the church clean-up.

## The 1930s

Oct. 16, 1933 – The Micanopy Methodist Church burned and in the true sense of being neighbors, the members of the Shiloh Church helped their fellow Circuit members to tear down the church at McMickens, Florida and then rebuild the structure at the site where it is still standing. From the church at McMickens, the members of the Shiloh Church were able to get and still use the pews and the pulpit.

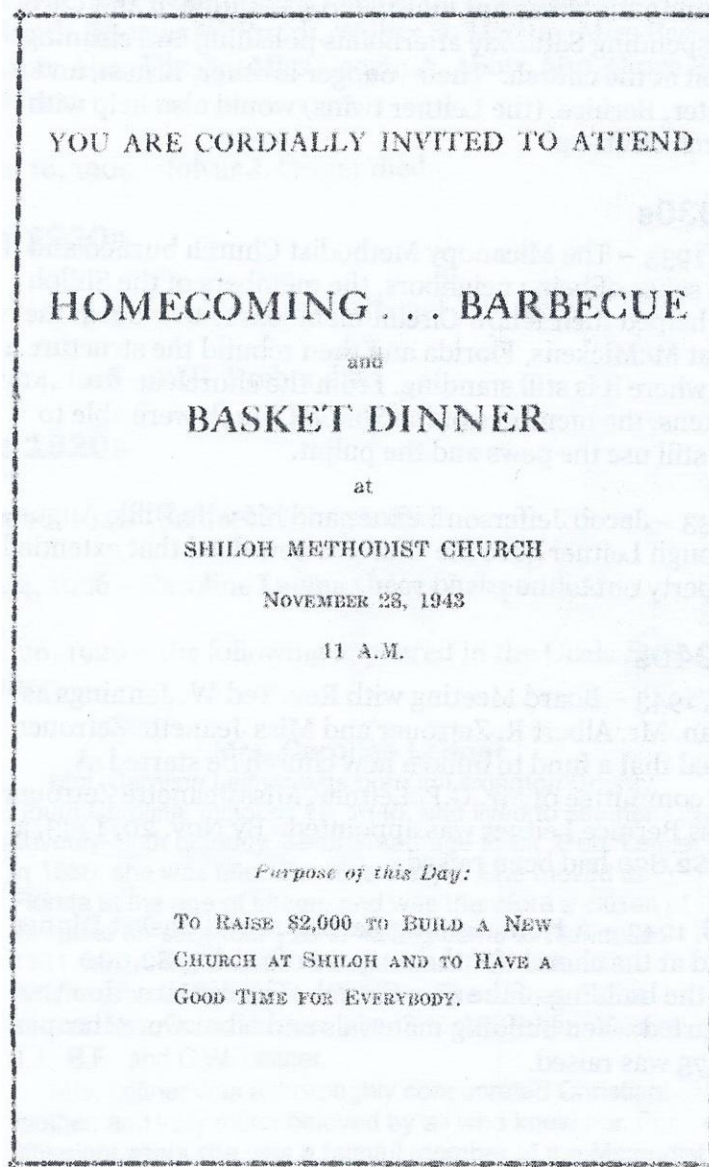
Dec. 1933 – Jacob Jefferson Leitner and his wife Dillie Augusta McCullough Leitner gave the church a new deed that extended the property out to the paved road.

## The 1940s

July 23, 1943 – Board Meeting with Rev. Ted W. Jennings as chairman. Mr. Albert R. Zetrouer and Miss Jeanette Zetrouer suggested that a fund to build a new church be started. A finance committee of Mr. G.P. Leitner, Miss Jeanette Zetrouer and Miss Bernice Leitner was appointed. By Nov. 20, 1943, a sum of \$2,820 had been raised.

Nov. 28, 1943 – A Homecoming Barbeque and Basket Dinner was held at the church for the purpose of raising \$2,000 toward the building of the new Church. The construction was to be started when building materials and labor were cheaper. \$2,142.75 was raised.





Aug. 8, 1945 — Mr. Willie R. Dreher and his wife Julia L. Dreher gave two acres more or less to the church for a free burial ground to be maintained. The land was to be used for the church and cemetery purposes only. The deed is recorded in Marion County, Florida Deed Book #263, page 324.

Nov. 23, 1946 — Bessie Mae Leitner Jones Russell died.

March 7, 1948 — Mary Bernice Leitner and Harvey Hardin Yawn were joined in marriage by Rev. Albert Joiner. This was the last wedding to be held in the Church that was dedicated in 1885.

## The 1950s

Jan. 14, 1950 — Mr. Daniel Remshart Zetrouer and wife, Dora Leitner Zetrouer gave one acre of land more or less to Shiloh Methodist Church. The deed is record in Marion County, Florida Deed Book #289, page 403.

May 11, 1950 — Jacob Jefferson Leitner was killed in an automobile accident at McIntosh along with his granddaughter Mary Lee Hoover. His daughter Josie Leitner Hoover was seriously injured.

Dec. 16, 1951 — Daniel Remshart Zetrouer died.

July 22, 1954 — James Marion Feaster died. His funeral was with full military honors with a fly over.



D. R Zetrouer at 24



*Dora Leitner Zetrouer at the groundbreaking for the new church in 1955.*

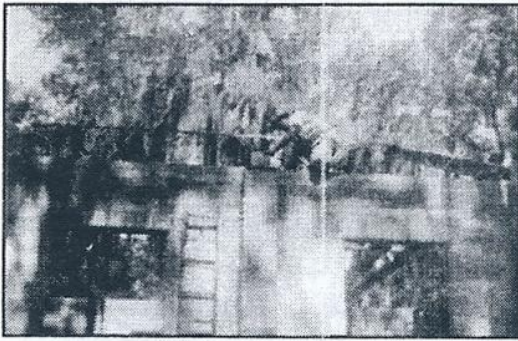
May 22, 1955 was the day of the Ground Breaking Ceremony for the start of the new church building.

The oldest member was Dora Leitner Zetrouer. The Board of Trustees was composed of: Benjamin Franklin Leitner, Ollie Glenn Feaster Sr., and Albert Remshart Zetrouer. The Building Committee included: James Feaster, Ollie Feaster, Benjamin Franklin Leitner, Jacob Lynn Feaster Sr., Eddie Smith, George Pinkney Leitner, and Cecil Vivian Pardee.

**June 1, 1955 — the new building was started** with part of the building committee agreeing to erect the new building with the total cost was not to exceed \$9,000. The dimensions of the building were to be 32 feet x 44 feet. The committee that agreed to erect the building was composed of James O. Feaster, Eddie A. Smith, O.G. Feaster, and Rev. Paul Hartsfield. As of June 1st there was \$6,579.19 in the building fund.

Oct. 14, 1955 – Friday at 7:00 in the evening, the marriage of Jacob Lynn Feaster and Annette Adams Martin was performed by Rev. Paul L. Hartsfield. This was the first wedding to be held in the new church.

In the Oct. 16, 1955 church bulletin, Rev. Paul Hartsfield wrote: I returned a couple of days earlier (from Pastors' School in Leesburg) in order to do a job every preacher loves to perform..... To join **J.L. Feaster Jr.** and **Annette Adams** in holy wedlock on Friday, October 14, at 7 p.m. in the NEW Shiloh Church – the first event in the almost completed building. "As J.L. and Annette begin a new era in their lives, so will the folks of the Shiloh Methodist Church. May both eras be long lasting in happiness and joy."



*Ollie Feaster works on the west side of the new Church in early 1955.*



*Annette Adams Feaster in 2005*

June 3, 1956 – The wedding service of Ruth Pauline Pardee and James S. McElroy with the Rev. Paul Hartsfield officiating.

**Nov. 27, 1956 – The formal opening of the New Shiloh Church.** Dr. R.E. Rutland Sr., District Superintendent of the Gainesville District, delivered the sermon. The building committee was given special recognition. Following the church service, a dinner-on-the-grounds was held, as well as an Afternoon Gospel Sing.

**Building Fund Contributors:** A.R. Zetrouer, D.R. Zetrouer, B.F. Leitner, Ernest Leitner, G.W. Leitners, George W. Leitner III, L.J. Leitners, Flora Ann Batts, W.B. Brown, J.O. Feaster, Mrs. J.L. Feaster Sr., Marion Feaster, E.A. Smith, E.I. Smith,

Mrs. J.H. Gladney, Mrs. C.B. Terry, Mrs. J.J. Hare, Inez Hare, Evelyn Harrell, Mrs. C.D. Sherouse, Mrs. Mattie McGehee, R.M. Hunter, Rev. C.E. Cook, Rev. F.C. Ferguson, 1949 Shiloh MYF, Hiers Funeral Home, W.W. Geiger, Glenn Geiger, V.E. Whitehurst, L.B. Bourgeois, Mrs. E.I. Whittington, Mrs. C.L. Robbins, Mrs. Gordon Moorhead, J.R. Mountain Jr., Anonymous, J.K. Christian, C.N. Smith, W.E. Christians, Mrs. B.O. Franklin, Jeanette Chitty, J.E. Zetrouer, Bernice Yawn, G.P. Leitners, Helen Leitner, Mrs. J.J. Leitner, Mrs. J.L. Hoover, Edna Beck, Alma Brantley, J.L. Feaster Sr., J.L. Feaster Jr., O.G. Feaster, Mrs. E.A. Smith, Mrs. E.O. Smith, Mrs. Harvey Gladney, LeVerne Terry, John Hare, H.H. Harrells, Frank Harrell, C.D. Shearouse, Mrs. S.W. McInnis, Ara Whittington, Rev. T.W. Jennings, Dr. Shuler Peele, Wacahoota Ladies Aid, "Little Church Bank," Mrs. W.W. Geiger, W.J. Whitehurst, Dan Whitehurst, E.I. Whittington, C.L. Robbins, Gordon Moorhead, J.R. Mountain Sr, Anonymous, David Baillie, J.E. Fanelli, C.M. Smith, J.B. DeVore, Ben Franklin, Z.C. Herlong, S.L. Lastingers, Dr. J.L. Strange, Mrs. Agnes Smith, Carlyle Ausley, Landis Blitch, B.B. Beck, W.E. Ellis, L.K. Edwards Jr., Mrs. Louise Graham, Joe Hannah, Mr. Jarago, Broward Lovell, T.S. Matthews, W.M. Palmer, Charles Phinney, W.C. Ray, Miss Allie L. Rush, Mrs. Mary Z. Dreher, Leon B. Thrasher, R.V. Lee, Horace Smith, Mrs. Agnes Carter, E.B. Denton, Miss Lois Dickson, Mrs. J. T. Love, Mrs. E.B. Morrow, Mrs. Bessie Russell, Mrs. Bill Stewart, W.J. Sheelys, Mrs. Lute Howell, Mr. Brothers, Ernest Corley, Mr. Grant, Mrs. H.F. Moon, F.B. Plemmons, Arthur Rou, A. Seckinger, Miss Doris Tompson, Capt. Williams, O.G. Johnson, W.A. Shands, Mrs. L.W. Jennings, R.P. Smith, Judge D.R. Smith, Dr. H.J. Babers, L.R. Bracken, Mrs. W.E. Dixon, L.K. Edwards Sr. L.E. Futch, Mrs. Maggie Gibbons, A.L. Jackson, C.C. Lon, Nathan Mayo, Ernest C. Nott, Dr. E.G. Peek, Mrs. F.L. Prescott, S.F. Rou, E.W. Rush, Leroy Richardson, J.F. Wyches, L.D. Smith, J.W. Barr, J.C. Crafton, A.J. Dukes, Ralph Eperson, **Mrs. M.B. Mixson**, P.S. Mann, L.M. Rhodes, Mrs. L.V. Ratteree Sykes, Mrs. Sue Hickson, J.H. Avera, Mrs. Bailey, Miss Fannie Dansby, Ernest Kelly, **H.W. Mixson**, H.C. Peace, C.B. Seckinger, Neil Sexton, Gus Taylor, Mrs. Mae Walton, Mrs. Willie Mae Walton, Mrs.



Herbert High, Margie Mack, John Philie, J.M. Smiths, Dr. Morgan, C.E. Hood, ,Junior Class of the Shiloh Sunday School 1955, Mrs. Maggie Wylie, Mrs. P.K. Richardson, Gainesville Methodist District Fund by Dr. R.E. Rutland Sr., George Hannahs and daughter Marian, Gerald Feaster, Mrs. H.G. Yongue, Mrs. W.C. High, Lilian Mack, Kelly Rowell, Mallon Monroe, Buck Maynard, Adult Bible Class of 1953, J.B. Smith Jr., D.J. Pringles, Mrs. Russell Phillips, Christian & Cockerill, Board of Missions Florida Conference of the Methodist Church, Block Fund, Jerome Feaster, M. Johnson, Mrs. C.E. Cook.

*M.B. Mixson is Miles Benjamin Mixson. H.W. Mixson is Henry Walkup Mixson, one of my grandfather's brothers.*

**Construction:** The New Shiloh Methodist Church was constructed by Mr. James Feaster and Mr. Ollie Feaster, cochairman of the Building Committee and others. Members of the Building Committee: Mr. James Feaster, Mr. Ollie Feaster, Mr. E.A. Smith, Mr. C.V. Pardee, Mr. Ben Leitner, Mr. G.P. Leitner, Mr. Lynn Feaster, and Rev. Paul Hartsfield.

**Labor Donated — Skilled:** James O. Feaster, Ollie Feaster, Glenn Feaster, W.E. Dixon, Rufus W. Tillman, Loonis Grant, Otis Feaster, Fred Feaster, Richard Feaster, J. Lynn Feaster, C.V. Pardee, Paul Grant, William Anderson.

**Common:** Bill Baldwin, O.L. Burnett, Wilfred Carrier, Ray Elholm, Gerald Feaster, Mrs. J.L. Feaster Sr., George L. Hannah, Elmer Hudson, Ernest Leitner, G.P. Leitner, Lawrence J. Leitner, **Henry Mixson**, Mrs. C.V. Pardee, Ollie Smith, Bernice Yawn, J.E. Zetrouer, John A. Dixon, J.L. Feaster Jr., Mrs. J. L Feaster Sr., Harvey Gladney, Paul L. Hartsfield, B.F. Leitner, G.W. Leitner, Mrs. G.W. Leitner, Jake Leitner, **Wilbur Mixson**, E.A. Smith, Everett Smith, A. Zetrouer

*Wilbur Mixson is my grandfather.*

**Other contributions:** Winston's Construction Company (concrete block saw, scaffold jacks and boards); Marion County Commissioners (to loads of lime rock for back fill); Vivian Whitehurst (crane to set trusses; donated church bell); Alex Wyche (hauling lumber from Ft. White); James Feaster (truck for hauling); Howard Morgan (built lectern); Wacahoota Ladies Aide (kneeling pads); Mrs. Maggie Wylie, Mr. & Mrs. W.J. Whitehurst, Mrs. George Leitner and Mrs. M.Z. Dreher (dossal cloth); Mr. G.P. Leitner (truck for hauling); Mrs. Esther Leitner (sewed pulpit and lectern cloths); Mr. J.J. Hare (pipe to hand dossal cloth); Bill Baldwin, Ray Elholm, J. Lynn Feaster, J.L. Feaster Jr., Mrs. J.L. Feaster Sr., B.F. Leitner, G.P. Leitner, Mrs. G.W. Leitner, Ed Mercer, Mrs. C.V. Pardee and A.R. Zetrouer (refinished the pews).

An offer of stained glass windows for the entire new church building was made by Dora Leitner Zetrouer, but it was turned down by the Church leaders because they felt that the windows would be too fancy for a little country church. The building of this church was a TOTAL community effort.

1958 — The New Sanctuary was dedicated

Oct. 19,1958 — Third Sunday Evening Service at Shiloh was not held due to the Quarterly Conference held at Wacahoota Methodist Church with Dr. J.E. McKinley, District Superintendent.

Nov. 23,1958 — During the Church services, the song "Wonderful Words of Life" was performed by the Junior Choir featuring a duet by Elmer and Clara Nell Yawn

1959 — Herbert H "Hub" Harrell died

July 10, 1959 — The "New Circuit Rider" announced that The Harvey Gladneys have a new baby boy, born June 21, named John Howard (note: his actual name is John Harvey) Gladney, but who reportedly answers to the name Hal.



*Left: Lucille Gladney at her birthday party at the Church  
Jan. 16, 2005.*

Nov. 10, 1959 — Dora Leitner Zetrouer died.

Dec. 13, 1959 – the Parsonage Committee of the Circuit gave a Silver Tea from 3-5 p.m. in appreciation of the work of Mr. Raymond Elholm of Shiloh, in donating his time to paint the interior of the parsonage.

### **The 1960s**

Feb. 14, 1960 – 4-H'ers from Shiloh: Helen Leitner received the Showmanship Award; and her brother George, with his Hereford heifer, won Champion in his class at the Florida State Fair, Tampa.

June 24, 1960 – Circuit Rider told of the housewarming of J.L. and Annette Feaster

July 10, 1960 – The wedding of Florence Annie Catherine Batts (great-great-granddaughter of Mary Elizabeth Nunnemaker Geiger) and James Bobby Estes took place with the Rev. Thomas J. Price officiating

Aug. 4, 1960 – Funeral service for Mr. Louie Wylie Dec. 18, 1960 – Alma Kathleen Leitner Terry died.

Jan. 21, 1961 — Circuit Rider reported Mrs. Elholm attended the Evangelism Rally in Lake City, and Shiloh 4-H Club members would enter projects in the Florida State Fair and the Ocala Livestock Show February 3 & 4.

Jan. 1962 Circuit Newsletter: The Shiloh Christmas program was "Angels Were Watching." After the program the members and friends then had a Christmas Tree and a Visit from Santa and his helpers. Home from college for Christmas Break included: Helen Leitner (Florida Southern); Paul Dixon and Lamar Yawn (Central Florida); **James Mixson** and Gerald Feaster (University of Florida). Gail Gladney, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Gladney, was voted Queen of the North Marion Future Farmers of America Chapter.

*James Mixson is probably James Clark Mixson, son of my grandfather's brother James Gilbert Mixson.*

Dec. 21, 1963 – John Gerald Feaster and Frances Rebecca Lee were married

1964 – Maggie Wylie died.



*Maggie Wylie (left) was the mother of Dillie Augusta McCullough Leitner and Janie Wylie Leitner A Confederate Civil War widow, she was affectionately called "Little Nannie."*

1965 – Mary Zetrouer Dreher died. Mrs. Dreher wrote the first history of the Shiloh Church

Mar. 25, 1965 – Bonnie C. Brown died

May 5, 1965 – William B. Brown died.

May 16, 1965 – The marriage of Gail Gladney and Don Smith was held with the Rev. Ted Camp officiating.

1965 – The marriage of Jake Lawrence Leitner & Sharon Clide Kinard was held with Rev. Arthur C. Davis officiating.

Jan. 15, 1966 – The marriage of Thelma Esther Elholm and Johnnie E. Horne was held with Rev. Eugene Carter officiating.

1966 – Thelma Hewitt married Richard Grant with D. Carmack Morris officiating.

June 13, [1968] – Gladys Lynette Feaster Hannah (great-greatgranddaughter of Jacob Muscah Feaster) died.

1969 – The Shiloh Methodist Women's Society was formed. Their goal was to increase the beauty of the Church and Fellowship Hall. Planned fund raising activities included homemade goodies and crafts, barbeques, and quilting. Various projects included: cushioning the church pews, adding a carpet runner, obtaining folding chairs for the Fellowship Hall, and adding flags.

Feb. 28, 1969 – Mary Catherine Conner Leitner died. She was the wife of Benjamin Franklin Leitner, the grandson of Mary E. Nunnemaker Geiger.

### **The 1970s**

Nov. 18, 1970 – Vivian I. Brown died.

Oct. 3, 1971 – The Shiloh 4-H Club began National 4-H Club Week by conducting the Sunday School Services. Rev. Clifford Cook wrote: "Their attendance at Sunday School and church and their participation in church activities shows that they take their 4-H pledge seriously." Members participating were: Sally Feaster, Yvonne Feaster, Hal Gladney, Annabelle Leitner, Phil Leitner, and Mary Beth Yawn.

Dec. 22, 1973 – Marian Lynette Hannah (great-great-great-granddaughter of Jacob Muscah Feaster) and Paul Lee Daniels were married by Rev. Clifford Cook.

July 20, 1974 – The marriage of Mary Helen Leitner (photo above) (great-greatgranddaughter of Mary Elizabeth Nunnemaker Geiger)





and Joseph Ingrao took place with the Rev. Thomas J. Price officiating. The reception took place at the McIntosh Civic Center in Van Ness Park.

**Nov. 3, 1974 – Homecoming Church Service** was at 11 am. with W. Tim Baughn, Pastor of the Micanopy Circuit delivering the message "Coming Home." Yvonne Feaster (great-great-granddaughter of Jacob Muscah/Muscofe Feaster) sang "Through It All." Dinner on the grounds followed with an afternoon sing.

1974 – The Church addition began. To be added was the Zetrouer Chapel in memory of Daniel Remshart and Dora Leitner Zetrouer (granddaughter of Mary E. Nunnemaker Geiger). Also included were classrooms, a fellowship hall, kitchen and restrooms.

July 12, 1974 – **Maxie M. Mixson** died. Aug. 6, 1974 – Cecil O. Bauknight died.

*Maxie Miles Mixson is my grandfather's youngest brother and his son, James Darlington Mixson is my father's 1<sup>st</sup> cousin and my mother's brother-in-law. See [Maxie Miles Mixson #766](#).*

Sept. 27, 1975 – Mattie Lorraine Driggers Knight Zetrouer died.

Oct. 6, 1975 – Dewey M. Pardee died.

1976 – This was the year that the new addition was dedicated. James Elbert Zetrouer (great grandson of Mary E. Nunnemaker Geiger) gave 3/4 acre to expand the cemetery.

Sept. 7, 1976 – Benjamin Franklin Leitner died. The son of George Wesley and Caroline Lavina Geiger and the grandson of Mary E. Nunnemaker Geiger.

Jun. 17, 1977 – The marriage ceremony of Clara Nell Yawn (great-great-granddaughter of Mary E. Nunnemaker Geiger) and Anthony Basham Clegorne took place with the Rev. Don Bain officiating.



*Left to right: Janie Wylie Leitner, Clara Nell Yawn Clegorne, Anthony Basham Clegorne, and Dillie McCullough Leitner at the Clegorne Wedding on June 18, 1977.*

Mar. 9, 1978 – The marriage of Florence Annie Catherine Brown and William "Billy" Fincher took place with Rev. Don Bain officiating. The church was filled with spring flowers – redbud, dogwood, plum, pear, pine and cedar.

May 27, 1978 – Juanita Ruby Jennings Leitner died.

Dec. 23, 1978 – The marriage of Michael Grant and his bride Leslie took place in the church where his great grandparents, Dillie and Jake Leitner, were members. Rev. Don Bain officiated at the family wedding decorated with small Christmas trees.

1978 – Ruth Dreher Jennings, Margaret Jennings Scott, Georgiana Jennings Rozier, Lester W.



Jennings and Robert B. Jennings presented the Shiloh Church with "The Book of Hymns" in memory of Mary Zetrouer Dreher.

Oct. 6, 1979 – The marriage ceremony of John Harvey "Hal" Gladney to Sandra Darlene Smith was held with Rev. C. Richard Jones officiating.

Nov. 7, 1979 – Dean Gunner Yohe and Rhonda Kay Wells were married by Rev. Leon A. Reich.

1979 – James Elbert Zetrouer gave the Church the Kolher and Campbell Studio piano in memory of his late wife, Mattie Lorraine Driggers Knight Zetrouer. At Elbert's request Franklin Ernest Leitner (Elbert's first cousin and long-time Church pianist and organist) and his daughter Nancy Leitner picked out the piano from Lillian's Music Store in Gainesville.

Elbert and Lorraine had a blonde cocker spaniel named Bud who was spoiled rotten and treated like their baby. He had his own special seat in Lorraine's Cadillac.

In other news in 1979, the Women's Society raised monies to outfit the pews with garnet velvet cushions.

### **The 1980s**

1980 – Ruth Dreher Jennings (great-granddaughter of Mary E. Nunnemaker Geiger) died.

April 7, 1980 – Ollie Glenn Feaster Sr. died (grandson of Jacob Muscoe Feaster).

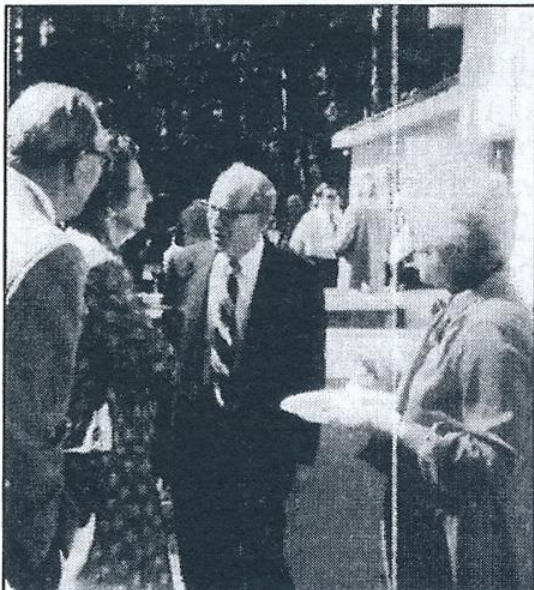
Jun. 18, 1980 – Lois R. Marsh died.

**Oct. 12, 1980 was the CENTENNIAL HOMECOMING** of the Shiloh United Methodist Church. Services began at 11 a.m. with the Rev. Theodore W. Jennings, Jr. delivering the Homecoming message.

Also making this a very special occasion was the Sacrament of Baptism of Jennifer Leitner (born July 7, 1980) by Dr. John James Rooks, Sr. (Jennifer's maternal grandfather and minister at First Methodist Church, Gainesville).

Jennifer is the daughter of David Ernest and Marianne Rooks Leitner; the granddaughter of Franklin Ernest and Esther Lorine Smoak Leitner and John James and Ethyl Lyles Rooks; and the great-great-great-granddaughter of Mary Elizabeth Nunnemaker Geiger. For Jennifer's Christening, the crystal compote that was used for her Aunt Annabelle's christening was used. The compote was a gift to Annabelle from her grandparents Benjamin Franklin and Mary Catherine

Conner Leitner, which was a wedding gift to them from his uncle and aunt, David Luther and Josephine Hull Geiger. After the service, a picnic lunch and visitation was held. The afternoon sing was held under the direction of Sally and Yvonne Feaster (the great-great-granddaughters of Jacob Muscoe Feaster).



*Rev. Dr. Ted Jennings, the featured speaker at the Centennial Homecoming in 1980, talks with Mark and Flora Richardson (left) and Bernice Leitner Yawn.*

Feb. 2, 1981 – Dillie Augusta McCullough Leitner died. In order to lower the casket of "Aunt Dillie" into her final resting place by her husband Jacob Jefferson Leitner and her daughter Florence Leitner Whitworth, the casket was lowered by hand on ropes, because the modern day equipment wouldn't fit among the many monuments. Her half-sister Margaret Janie Wylie was married to Aunt Dillie's brother-in-law, George Wesley Leitner Jr.

Feb. 4, 1981 – From Mitzi Karow Roess, McIntosh News, Ocala Star-Banner : "Dillie Augusta Leitner was laid to rest at the Shiloh Methodist Church, across the road from her white frame house where for 30 years she had taught Sunday School to her own and the neighbor's children. And on that bright, cold Wednesday, those children' children would be her pallbearers, bearing the woman they'd always known as Aunt Dillie."

Aug. 22, 1981 – Lawrence Jacob Leitner died.

1982 – Charlotte M. McElroy died.

Dec. 19, 1982 – Mary Yvonne Feaster (great-great granddaughter of Jacob Muscoe Feaster) and Mark Evert Engwall were married during a candlelight ceremony officiated by Rev. Leon Reich, the Sunday evening after Mark had just graduated from the University of Florida with a degree in Accounting on Saturday morning. To escape the cold weather of Shiloh, the Reichs spent their honeymoon in Hawaii.

Mar. 19, 1983 – The wedding ceremony of Loonis Thomas Grant and Reba Elaine Hunter was officiated by Rev. David H. Hodges. As soon as Loonis and Elaine were pronounced husband and wife, Paul Grant (the brother of the groom) surprised everyone by jumping up and dancing a jig in the church's aisle. Loonis and Paul are the great-great-great grandsons of Mary E. Nunnemaker Geiger.

Jun. 2, 1983 – Claire Agnes Richards Feaster died

Nov. 13, 1983 – The marriage ceremony of Lamar Freeman (great-great-great grandson of Mary E. Nunnemaker Geiger) and Robin Rivenburgh was officiated by Rev. Lonnie Cleveland.

Dec. 17, 1983 – Cecil V. Pardee died. Cecil's cousin, Joseph Joe Hare, married Caro Elizabeth Leitner. the great granddaughter of Mary E. Nunnemaker Geiger.

Jan. 28, 1986 – Albert Remshart Zetrouer died. He was the great grandson of Mary E. Nunnemaker Geiger.

Jun. 29, 1986 – The Sacrament of Baptism of Sarah Marie Engwall by Rev. Ken Kleckner. Donna Jones of McIntosh provided special music for the day. Sarah is the daughter of Mary Yvonne Feaster and Mark E. Engwall. She is the oldest granddaughter of Annette and J.L. Feaster and the great-great-great granddaughter of Jacob Muscoe Feaster

Sept. 1986 – The marriage ceremony of Sally Anne Feaster (great-great granddaughter of Jacob Muscoe Feaster) and Michael Anthony O'tero Jr. was officiated by Rev. Donald Bain

1987 – Parts of the pews used in the old Church returned to Shiloh, in the form of hand-turned offering plates. Dr. John J. Rooks Sr., retired Methodist Minister and maternal grandfather of Jennifer and John Mark Leitner, had taken some of the pews that Franklin Ernest Leitner (Jennifer's and John Mark's paternal grandfather) had saved and turned them into our beautiful collection plates.

Nov. 20, 1988 — On this Sunday after Thanksgiving it was acknowledged that Mrs. Eva Adams (mother of Annette Adams Feaster) had give to the Shiloh Church, in loving memory of Curtis Adams (her late husband) the Alter Bible and Bible holder.

Jan. 11, 1989 – Gladys Marian Abraham Feaster died.

Nov. 1989 – Mr. and Mrs. Ray Elholm gave the lace table cover for the table in the foyer.

### **The 1990s**

Mar. 5, 1990 – Janie Margaret Wylie Leitner died



*Janie Wylie Leitner on the day of her marriage to George W. Leitner Jr., March 26, 1911.*

May 1990 – David Ernest Leitner (great-great-great grandson of Mary E. Nunnemaker Geiger) outlined plans for Crime Watch Meetings held in conjunction with the Marion County Sheriffs Department. The Administrative Board agreed to provide meeting space at no charge.

Nov. 4, 1990 – Edna Lavina Leitner Beck died.

Dec. 13, 1990 – Harvey Hardin Yawn died. His burial was with full Masonic rites.



*Harvey and Bernice Leitner Yawn with one of their grandchildren at the Church in 1980.*

Oct. 1991 – G.P. Leitner and Louise Leitner Harris (great-great grandchildren of Mary E. Nunnemaker Geiger) had steel doors installed in the rear of the building in memory of their mother, Janie Wiley Leitner

Nov. 1991 – Bernice Leitner Yawn had steel doors installed at the front of the church in memory of Harvey Hardin Yawn, her husband.

Nov. 9, 1991 – David Ernest Leitner died. He was the great-great grandson of Mary E. Nunnemaker Geiger. His funeral was held Nov. 13, 1991, with representatives from every law enforcement agency in the State of Florida. The graveside service included Law Enforcement Honors with a gun salute. His funeral was the largest to be held at the Shiloh Church since the one for Benjamin Franklin Leitner, his paternal grandfather.

Dec. 1991 – The church was carpeted in memory of David Ernest Leitner.

Mar. 14, 1992 – The marriage of Philip Marshall Leitner (great-great grandson of Mary E. Nunnemaker Geiger) and Cynthia Jane Cross, M.D., was officiated by the Rev. Don Bain. Cindy's and Phil's wedding filled the church with happiness. The flowers and all of their little bridesmaids will be long remembered. Family and friends came from near and far for this joyous occasion in the Shiloh Church. The reception was held at the Jockey Club in Irvine as the sun was setting for the day.



*Cindy Cross (left) is shown on the day of her marriage to Philip Leitner in 1992. Yvonne Feaster is at right. Cindy has since passed away and is buried in the Shiloh cemetery.*

Apr. 1993 – Expanded kitchen cabinets were installed in memory of David Ernest Leitner. Mrs. Freda Hinson presented calligraphy artwork of the 23rd Psalm to be used as a future Memorial.

Jun. 29, 1993 – Eunice "Aunt Freda" McElroy Hinson died.



## A History of the Shiloh Methodist Church

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Aug. 3, 1993 – Jacob Lynn Feaster Sr. died, the grandson of Jacob Muscoe Feaster.

Aug. 1993 – Descendants of George Wesley and Caroline Levina Geiger Leitner gathered together for a family reunion at the Shiloh Church.

Aug. 6, 1994 – Anna Maria Yawn (great-great-great-granddaughter of Mary E. Nunnemaker Geiger) and Thomas Ballenger were married by the Rev. Ken Hostetler. The Church was decorated with hundreds of home-grown flowers, more than 100 yards of pink netting, over 800 yards of pink ribbon for bows and 120 candles. On the altar was a candle, flower and a greenery arrangement that included her mother's rosary. The decorations remained in place for the following morning's Sunday worship service as it took a week to prepare the family church for the wedding. At this time the candle sconces were added to the Church sanctuary, donated by Nancy Leitner and Annabelle Leitner in memory of Mary Elizabeth Nunnemaker Geiger (their great-great-grandmother) and Caroline Lavina Geiger and George Wesley Leitner (their great grandparents).

Sept. 20, 1994 – Ethel Leitner Hadsock died. Nov. 30, 1994 – James Elbert Zetrouer died.

*This photo shows Elbert Zetrouer and his wife Marjorie in 1989 in the Fellowship Hall.*



Mar. 1995 – The microwave oven and the outside speakers were installed in the memory of Harvey Hardin Yawn.

Jun. 16, 1996 – In honor of Father's Day, a special ceremony was held in which a Crepe Myrtle was planted near the Church sign to honor all fathers.

Jul. 1995 Two chancel chairs were given in memory of Gladys Abraham Feaster.

1996 – "Happy Doves," the Shiloh Youth Group, was started under the direction of Elizabeth and Nestor Villardefrancos.

Nov. 4, 1996 – Mary Louise Smoak Zetrouer died. Dec. 3, 1996 – George Pinkney "G.P." Leitner died.

Jan. 4, 1997 – George Leonard "Buddy" Hannah Jr. died.

**Apr. 6, 1997 – Homecoming 1997** held under the theme "Coming Home to Shiloh" with our former ministers Dr. Paul Hartsfield and Rev. Ken Hostetler delivering Homecoming Messages.



*Rev. Dr. Paul Hartsfield and Thelma Elholm at the 1997 Homecoming.*

Mar. 31, 1999 – Raymond A. Elholm died.

Oct. 30, 1997 – Dr. Cynthia J. Cross Leitner died.

Dec. 15, 1997 – Elizabeth Feaster Dixon died.

Feb. 26, 1999 – Mary Bess York Harrell died.

### **The 2000s**

Improvements continue to be made to the Shiloh Church property. In the cemetery, all the unmarked graves have been identified with small permanent granite markers. Acoustical sound boards have been installed in the Fellowship Hall and a new speaker system has been installed. A pump house has been built.

Apr. 16, 2002 – Mary Helen Leitner Ingrao died (great-great granddaughter of Mary E. Nunnemaker Geiger). Helen was an educator – principal of Eighth Street Elementary School in Ocala and a business woman – co-owner of Parker's Tire Service.

She attended and graduated from Reddick High School, the same school her parents attended, where she played on the girls basketball team. She was active in the Shiloh Church and would later graduate from Florida Southern College and the University of Florida. As a 4-H'er she won many awards for her projects and held positions of leadership at the local, district and state levels. She began her teaching career at Oakcrest Elementary School in Ocala. She was a "rabid" Gator fan and truly loved Orange and Blue.

Her funeral service was held at First Baptist Church in Ocala with over 2,000 attending; many of the mourners were her former students. She was brought home to Shiloh and laid to rest among her family and friends.

May 29, 2002 — Thelma Mizell Elholm died.



Aug. 16, 2003 — An era of service to the Shiloh Church ended with the passing of Franklin Ernest Leitner, the great grandson of Mary Elizabeth Nunnemaker Geiger, at his home (which was the homestead of his Great Uncle David Luther Geiger). Several years prior to his death, the Rev. Robert Asmuth and his wife Vi honored Ernest for over 50 years' service to the Shiloh Church and community as the Shiloh Church's pianist and organist with a special Sunday Morning Service.

Aug. 22, 2003 — The Funeral Service for Franklin Ernest Leitner began at his birthplace, now the home of his twin sister, Mary Bernice Leitner Yawn, when his wooden, flag-draped coffin was placed in a cherry Funeral Coach pulled by Gunsmoke, a black Clydesdale whose reins were held by Lassie Tompkins of Briar Patch Farm for the short journey to the Shiloh Cemetery, complete

with a police escort. His two grandsons, John Mark and Robert Ernest Leitner, walked behind the horse-drawn funeral coach. The clip-clop of Gunsmoke announced the arrival of the coach. As the coach entered the east gate of the Cemetery, the morning sun shone through the coach's windows casting a glow on the flag. The Rev. Dr. Thomas J. Price conducted the simple graveside service with Billy Wood providing the music. A Magnolia tree was planted at the head of the gravesite and was donated by Gene Liddon in honor of Ernest's love of flowers and plants, especially camellias. The flag was folded by Mickey Milam and his daughter Ashley Milam, Funeral Directors, and was presented by Marion County Sheriff Ed Dean. Lt. Terry McElroy of the Alachua County Fire Department – and a Shiloh Church member – played TAPS. Close law enforcement friends and family served as pall bearers. He was buried beside his son David Ernest Leitner, who had been killed Nov. 9, 1991.

Aug. 2004 – The Voting Precinct returned to Shiloh after being moved to a central location when the Geiger/Shiloh Precinct was combined with the Flemington Precinct.

August & September 2004 – Hurricanes and tropical storms hit the Shiloh Community. Damage to buildings, property and trees occurred, and the clean-up has been on-going ever since. The church property lost many trees, monuments in the cemetery were damaged, and the Church sustained minor damage. The Church grounds were used as a distribution center for ice, water and food to local residents.

**2005 – The 125th year of the founding of the SHILOH CHURCH by Mary E. Nunnemaker Geiger** along with her children and neighbors.

Jan. 16, 2005 – Lucille Gladney's birthday celebration prior to the morning church service.

Jan. 17, 2005 – Eula Zetrouer McInnis died.



Jan. 30, 2005 – Fifth Sunday Pancake Breakfast.

*Pat Feaster cooks pancakes at the breakfast in January.*

Feb. 20, 2005 — Jeanette Zetrouer Chitty died.

Apr. 24, 2005 – Congratulations to Jerelyn Register for pitching a winning softball season for PKYonge School.

May 22, 2005 – Ron and Jean Baney presented a program on their visit to a Methodist Church in Cuba.

Jun. 3, 2005 – Certificate presented at the Annual Conference commemorating the 125th Church Anniversary.

Jul. 3, 2005 – A special gospel program featured Evangelist Pauline Moore, Jesse and Rose Agnew.

Oct. 19, 2005 – Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary Reception of Annette Adams and Jacob Lynn Feaster.

Late 2005 – The Ladies Restroom was remodeled

2006 – Plans began for a homecoming celebration. Laura Conway Lyne was appointed chairperson with Lucille Gladney, Annette Feaster and Annabelle Leitner as committee members. Throughout the year, various members of the Church worked on the homecoming celebration. The Shiloh Church and school were spruced up for the big day.

Jul. 21, 2006 – James Otis Feaster Jr. died (great-grandson of Jacob Muscoe Feaster).

Jul. 23, 2006 – From the "Bulletin:" "Sgt. John Mark Leitner of Troop E of the 153rd Cavalry of the Florida National Guard arrived at Hunter Army Air Base, Savannah on July 6 after demobilization at Fort Stewart, Hinesville, GA. He arrived home at Shiloh July 10. Sgt. Leitner will receive his discharge in October. Leitner and the approximately 80 members of Troop E – the majority being from Marion and Alachua counties – were called to duty in March of 2005 and were deployed to Afghanistan to participate in Operation Enduring Freedom."

Aug. 26, 2006 — Memorial Service for James Otis Feaster with covered dish luncheon afterward.

Sept. 2006 — Tithes and Offerings \$1492.51. Sept. 7, 2006 — Guest Pastor Bob Lee

Nov. 9, 2006 — Church Council Meeting held at Conway Farm Library



Nov. 11, 2006 — Veterans Day Celebrations: Rev. Don Bain sang with the BarberGators at Forest Lawn East Cemetery and J.L. Feaster (founder of Gen. James Van Fleet Korean War Veterans Chapter) participated at Kanapaha Veterans Park.



*Bernice Leitner Yawn and Rev. Don Bain share a laugh in 2005 Rev. Bain is currently in the middle of a second term as Shiloh's pastor. He first served from 1976-79.*

**Nov. 19, 2006 — The 126,h Shiloh United Methodist Church Anniversary Homecoming Celebration**

## MEMORIES

The following memories were obtained from present and past members and families of the Shiloh Methodist Church. We'd very much like to add to this section at the next anniversary; please take time to jot down your memories and send them to us!

### **Earliest Memories of Louise Leitner Harris March 7, 1997**

The main road went behind our old home place. Papa (George Wesley Leitner, Jr.), Mama (Janie Wylie Leitner), G.P. and I and Grandma (Caroline Geiger Leitner) when she was able, walked across and up the hill to the back of the school and on to Church and Sunday School every Sunday afternoon. Preaching was on the fourth Sunday afternoon after Sunday School. After services, everyone stood around and visited – the men, the women and the young folks. It was a great time to visit.

Mrs. W.W. Bowman always had the children to celebrate Children's Day. We would recite poems, sing, have a little play or some drama. We always went to the spring and got a picture of water for the preacher.

The men sat on one side of the Church and the women sat on the other. We had a choir. On Sunday evening we had "A Sing" at someone's house where there was an organ – the Smiths, the Feasters...

During revivals we had morning and evening services – the preacher usually went home with a member, had lunch and dinner and returned that evening. Sometimes we would go home with a friend and come back to Church in the evening.

We would have classes on the grass outdoors – later in cars, maybe – and would also use the school.

We had Christian Endeavor on Sunday evening for the young people; this gave us a chance to speak before others and become leaders.

I remember Grandma (Caroline Geiger Leitner) wearing long black dresses and a bonnet when she went to church. She would walk with us to Sunday School. My other Grandma (Maggie) Wylie went to church with us in later years, but she liked to dress up — we called her "Little Nanny." Wherever she lived — that was her church.

We visited Flemington Baptist Church frequently and they visited us some.

The church members enjoyed dinner in the ground —no tables — in the early years. We always had egg hunts. There were pileau dinners, peanut boilings, etc. for the old and young.

We often picked wild flowers and carried them to the Church.

Church members would stay up at night with a corpse until burial. I remember seeing big white horses pulling the hearse carrying Uncle Sam Geiger to his funeral when I was real small.

When Grandma Leitner (Caroline Geiger Leitner) expired, I remember so many whites and blacks coming to the Church and our home. She had lived with us many years.

We wore hats and gloves to Church by the time we were teenagers. Nowadays it has to be cold for this.

A wood heater was used in the church.

**Franklin Ernest Leitner** would often tell about how on one summer Sunday afternoon while the

preacher was preaching the sermon, the "old" Shiloh church had an unexpected visitor. A lightening bolt came through the front door, went up the aisle and before hitting the pulpit and preacher, turned and went out the window.

**Elizabeth Villardefrancos** wrote in 1997: My family Nestor, Monica, Jacky, Nestor, Jr. and myself, Elizabeth, were brought here by the Lord. We moved in on June of 1996. We were invited to visit the Shiloh Methodist Church where we were asked to start a youth group! My husband and I both feel blessed that He has given us this opportunity to do His work. We have gotten a lot of support from the church goers and the Pastor. There has been somewhat of a struggle being the new kids on the block, but with the Lord all things are possible.

**Nita Leitner Caulder**  
**March 1997**

Brother Paul Hartsfield is the first person that comes to mind. He was full of life and loves all young people. He was always faithful to be there for us and a lot of fun to be around. It seemed he brought the best out in us. He really had a lot to deal with, too.

Choir practice comes to mind, too. There were enough of us that we made up a pretty good choir and we sounded pretty good, too. I also remember one night Brother Hartsfield bragging on my voice at church.

I will always remember how we were allowed to drive Brother Hartsfield's car a little ways down the road when he loaded us all in his car from choir practice. Now, let me explain: He was right there guiding the steering wheel and kept his foot ready for the brake. He also did the gas pedal for us. We really thought we were driving though. That man had a lot of faith in us and God in allowing all of us to do that. He had a lot to deal with, too, all begging for our turn.

Also, I with fond memories always remember our MYF meetings. They were fun besides being good for us. We met with other young people and did things that I for one would not have had the opportunity to have done otherwise. When we met at Micanopy, I'll always remember going to the old parsonage and seeing part of the old Phil Silvers show on TV. We had a lot of good times. We had plays we did, hot dog roasts and always burnt marshmallows. It was always a fun time.

There were times we had birthdays parties and others at the building behind the Church, which was a Sunday school building for us at the time.

The youth at that time were very fortunate in our area to have the opportunity to participate in our youth group at Church here. I remember inviting friends from Flemington Baptist Church to a skating party and the like. I thank God that I have those wonderful memories in my life.

**From the [Diary of Barbara Junior Mixson](#), writing about the death of her father on Sept. 27, 1976.**

Fred Junior was a former minister at Flemington Baptist Church.

September 27: Daddy died. Mom and Dad were living in a condo at Clearwater and Daddy started losing his memory so he came up to Gainesville in June to see a doctor. He went to the hospital and had his neck arteries cleaned out. He never got well. He celebrated his 10th birthday in the hospital, June 30th. He and mom stayed with us for awhile, then he wanted to go home, so they went back to Clearwater. He died of a heart attack suddenly, soon after they got home. We had the funeral at Westside Baptist Church and he was buried at Shiloh Methodist cemetery at Shiloh, Florida (near Micanopy, Fla.).

**The Shiloh Woods** by Jacob Lynn Feaster, Jr.

Get off 1-75 at the Micanopy Exit. Go west, young man, go west on CR 234 for a mile and a half and you cross the Marion-Alachua County line. You are now entering the northern unofficial limits of the community of Shiloh.

Horse Farms and Cattle Ranches: The road now changes to CR 329. As you go farther south you will pass by homes of the Feasters and their relatives, and the Zetrouers and their relatives. Much of the area is hammock land of pine, live oak and sweet gum. What used to be small tracts of land used for truck farming has now been consolidated into larger tracts consisting of horse farms or cattle ranches. You will see that the area is sparsely settled; many of the families have held onto their land and passed it down to their descendants. Other old name families in the area are Smiths, Leitners and Geigers. They were among the early settlers of Florida in the 1800s.

The Little Church in the Wildwood: About two miles from the county line you just passed, turn left at the crossroad where CR 329 meets CR 320. A half mile farther on the right you will see the community's namesake, the Shiloh United Methodist Church. It was originally built of heart pine, which was sawed at the local sawmill of Jacob Muscoe Feaster in the middle 1800s. It was replaced with a concrete block structure in 1955. The first service in the new church was the wedding of Jacob and Annette Feaster. The church is situated in a grove of longleaf pine trees that still show the scars of being tapped for rosin many years ago to make turpentine. You can also see bumps on some of the tree trunks about waist high caused by ingrown horseshoes. They were nailed to the trees so that the horses that brought parishioners to church could be hitched and waiting until church services were over. Behind the church is an old cemetery in which you will find the graves of many of the community's former residents, including some veterans of the Civil War and the other wars since.

**Jonathon M. Jacob** moved with his family to Shiloh as a child in the late 1960s/early 1970s. His father and brother are buried in the back of the cemetery. As he walked to his brother Tom's grave, he made the comment that it was so hard to believe how many people he used to know who were now in the cemetery: Mr. Zetrouer, Aunt Dillie (Leitner), G.P. (Leitner), David (Leitner), his father (Elmer Jacob) and now his brother, Tom.

**George Hayes**, a long time funeral director from Gainesville, has often said that it not often that you can come to a cemetery in this area of Florida and find so many generations of one family in one place.

**Mickey Milam**, another funeral director from Gainesville, has also commented about the generations of families that are in the Shiloh Cemetery. He appreciates seeing the next generations being introduced to the many generations before them. For Mickey, coming to Shiloh is like old home week — so many people he knows are from this area.

From the North Pole in 1997: Christmas at Shiloh has always been a special family time bringing the community together for an evening of celebration. Most years, I was able to stop by and visit, bringing joy and happiness to everyone no matter what had happened during the year. However, due to a very busy holiday schedule, regretfully, I just couldn't make it every year.

These are some of my happiest memories: I surprised everyone by making my entrance through a window, rather than coming through the only door in the church. Due to traffic problems that grounded my normal mode of transportation, I had to hitch a ride with a deputy.

I had some special elves who made sure that everyone had a special treat of fresh oranges — G.P. Leitner; nice shiny red apples from the Dillie Leitner family; and huge bags of candy for A. R. Zetrouer. Then there was the surprise and happy faces of two youngsters who received a baby puppy to replace their beloved dog who had recently gone to "doggy heaven."



One year I had been getting some reports that everyone wasn't being as good and nice as they normally are, so I had to check my records to find out who was being naughty and who was being nice. That night I found out that several had been naughty. So, I reached in my bag and pulled out two bundles of switches that I gave out. These had to be delivered to send a reminder message to everyone that you better watch out when Santa Claus comes to town, because he does know when you are good and when you are bad!

In November of 2006 when **Annette Pardee Yawn** was asked about some of her memories of growing up in the Shiloh Church, it did not take her long to start telling about the Sun-day School classes held in cars, or her wedding shower that was given to her and her new husband Wayne Yawn soon after their marriage in 1958.

Annette talked about her sister Ruth's Sweet 16 party that was held in the old school house — that it was a sock hop and yes there were poodle skirts worn! She remembers the days she was the MYF leader and the time the church sent her, Nita (Leitner) and Flora Ann (Batts) to the Methodist Camp in Leesburg for a week. How the MYF would once a month visit other churches like Citra, Sparr, First Methodist in Ocala. She also remembers fondly David McElroy carrying the MYF around during the Christmas season in the back of his big red truck, down the back roads between Shiloh and Micanopy caroling.

She told of the missionary who visited the church from China during the time that Paul Hartsfield was the minister. She told about when Mr. Zetrouer (Albert) let her Sunday School class come and pick the long stemmed violets and Easter lilies out of the field by the pond on 329 just south the old store. Annette also recalls walking to church through the Zetrouer field that was between her house and the church.

On June 3, 1956, Annette's sister Ruth was married to Jimmy McElroy in the Shiloh Church and remembers that Ernest and Esther Leitner decorated the church and made Ruth's bridal bouquet.

**Annabelle Leitner:** I am not sure what my earliest memories of the church at Shiloh are. I remember always setting on the back pew at church with a pen or pencil drawing on the "Bulletin." I remember if you moved a certain way the pew would creak.

Does anyone else remember how hard those pews were after having to sit still for what seemed to be hours every Sunday morning?

I remember my father Ernest always playing the organ and sometimes my older sister Nancy playing the piano for church. With Daddy playing the organ every Sunday, we had church music in the house every time he practiced, or as we termed it, as he banged on the old upright grand piano at our house. If he was playing for a wedding or funeral then we would have funeral or wedding music.

At some point, Nancy was the one who begin to play for weddings and funerals, and I got to help her pick out the music that she would play — so it did not seem like it was always "church" music.

One thing I do remember growing up was that we were always told about how the Shiloh Church was a part of our family heritage. I always knew that not only my father, but my mother Esther always did things for the Church, cleaning it, arranging flowers, taking care of the placement of those buried in the cemetery. They decorated for weddings, Momma made Christmas program costumes, my mother often times as not would do the arts and crafts of Vacation Bible School.

She also has made the last two dossal cloths that have hung in the new Church. The one I

liked best was the one that we did and hung the day before Yvonne Feaster's and Mark Engwall's candlelight wedding, it was a dark burgundy velvet; and until the day it was removed, it was never hemmed, but had straight pins holding up the hem.

When I was growing up I would hear about the peanut boils, the suppers, the political rallies and all the other things that happened on the church grounds, but most were before I was born.

I do not know if I remember when Flora Ann Batts married Bobby Estes, but I remember hearing about the purple cattelya orchids that were brought to the house by Esther Hooper to be used and how Mama and Daddy attached them to the arch that they had made as part of the decorations.

I do remember Flora Ann's wedding when she married Billy Fincher; this too was held in the new Church and Mama and I decorated it with what was blooming in our yard and everyone else's yard around. I also photographed the wedding and remember as people walked into the church they talked about how good the church smelled!

When Helen Leitner and Joe Ingrao were married, I remember that Helen had had a friend do the decorations. After they had gotten home after the rehearsal, we received a phone call asking if we could do something to help with the decorations — so we made palms and added them in. I also remember that Helen had her reception at McIntosh, and she had forgotten something at the Church and asked me to go get it — it was lucky that I had just gotten my permanent driver's license the week of her wedding. Joe and Helen were married on my parent's anniversary — July 20.

When Loonis and Elaine Grant were married, Elaine's bridal gown looked like a gown of a Southern belle. The Church was filled with family and friends. Although we have had many memorable family weddings at the family church at Shiloh we have never had one where the groom's brother got up and gave a yell and danced a jig in the middle of the aisle.

When Anna Maria Yawn and Tom Ballenger got married it took one week to decorate the church, Nancy and I started decorating on Sunday afternoon after church and finished the last bouquet two hours before Elmer was to escort his oldest child and only daughter up the aisle. The family had been growing flowers and collecting pink net and ribbon for months. Anna had always dreamed of a fairy tale wedding and we all worked very hard to make sure she had it. The sconces that now hang in the church were placed there for her wedding. Her Great Aunt Esther made the wedding cake from Anna's mom's (Judy) pound cake recipe.

Although Anna's mom and Dad were not married in the family church — they were married in Columbia, S.C., they were given a wedding reception that was held in the old school. Wonder how the cans got tied under their car during the reception?

Funerals — they happened too, some years there were more than others, but like the weddings and other events, some of them also stick out in your mind. Although attending funerals was normal since Daddy was in charge of the cemetery burials, until I inherited the job, the first funeral that I really remember here at Shiloh was that of my grandmother — Mary Catherine Conner Leitner — who died a few days after my eighth birthday.

I remember today her death and that she had been outside pulling weeds from her garden. She would die later that night. At the funeral home I remember someone remarking about her dark black hair and how she had less than a dozen gray hairs. What really stands out as the family entered the church was how it felt that everyone was staring at Us.

When my grandfather (Benjamin Franklin Leitner) died was the day that I voted for the first

time. What really sticks out in my mind is once again the walk into a full church that was filled with what seemed to be hundreds of flowers. There were not enough seats for all those attending and almost all families in the communities were represented including those that had sharecropped with him.

In 1981 it seemed that the deaths came way too often. This was the year Aunt Dillie (Dillie Augusta McCullough Leitner) died; she was buried in the section where all the really old family graves are. The vault company really had a difficult time and called for every strong person around, as they had not only to lower her casket, but also to lower the vault by rope, the old fashioned way. A bunch of Daddy's first cousins were talking and G. P. (Leitner) made the comment, "I guess we will see you in two weeks," and sure enough there was another family funeral. When G.P. started to sat something, his cousin Elbert Zetrouer, told him not to say another word.

There seemed to be so many family funerals at Shiloh, that when Aunt Janie (Janie Wylie Leitner) was laid to rest, and we all realized that she was the last of her generation — but now our parents and their first cousins are the oldest generation of the family.

We thought that Grand Daddy Leitner's funeral was large, but when Uncle Harvey (Yawn) died, again there were people from all over, including his fellow letter carriers.

Less then a year later we had another family funeral — that of our brother David. His unexpected and untimely death shook the family and the community. I think David's burial was really the first one of many that I would watch over, as I gradually took over Daddy's cemetery duty that day, 15 years ago. Again, the Church could not hold the family, friends, co-workers and law enforcement officers that came from all over the state of Florida. We were later told that by some of the attendees that they had never seen so many law enforcement from every agency in one place at one time. They also thought that it seemed that everyone was dressed in a uniform. We made the casket spray using flowers that he liked. Many of his pall bearers were those that had gone to school with him, including several that had started first grade with him. A gun salute was presented by the Florida Department of Corrections. Purple cattelyas were once again brought to our house by Mrs. Hooper, this time not for a joyous reason, like a wedding, but because Mrs. Hooper remembered how much David had loved orchids. These orchids were placed in the casket.

There have been so many family funerals and they all seem to be about the only time our family gets together. Working with the cemetery I have met many cousins that I probably would have only known on a cemetery plot map. Some of the funerals have been large, some have been small.

The next funeral that sticks out in my mind is that of Helen — Mary Helen Leitner Ingrao. Although her service was held in Ocala, the reporters came in the long funeral procession from Ocala. Again this was a family funeral where there were so many people from all walks and again this was another family member who was taken too early.

Then in 2003 came the death of my father. His funeral was to be a simple graveside service with nothing extra, the way he had always said he wanted. One his favorite ministers was asked to conduct the service —Tommy Price. Billy Wood sang at the funeral, just as he had sung at David's a little over a decade before. So many from the community outside church offered their services to make our planned simple country funeral, unique and unforgettable. For me, it was really just another day at the cemetery, as I was the one to supervise the opening and closing of the grave, as no one else offered to do it for me.

Two funerals — one in 2002 and one in 2004 also stick out in my mind, not so much for the funeral itself, but because they were the fathers — James Beck and Billy Yawn — of two of my

kindergarten classmates, Thad and Timmy.

When Jeanette Zetrouer Chitty passed away, her daughter and son-in-law Jeanne Chitty and Chad Campbell, put up a display that included photos, banners and awards that showed the accomplishments of Jeanette and her family.

Ministers — when talking to people about their memories of the Church, many have mentioned the name Paul Hartsfield. He was here before my time. Again, I have grown up hearing tales about the different men that have served our family church. Some I remember being here, some I remember when I see the list of names. Some I remember seeming to be awfully old. The one minister that always comes to mind is Ken Kleckner; I will always remember him because of his sense of humor. I think he is the one that started letting Daddy know the songs of the week by calling. Since my father hated the phone, I was the one who usually answered; Ken never identified himself, but always said that this was the bookie and here was the numbers. He was one of the ministers at David's funeral, and even on that occasion he was able to get the mourners to laugh a little.

Welcome to my family's Church, which, over the last 126 years has welcomed many other families. Some have stayed just a short time, others for generations. Some have been active in the Church and the community. Please share another family funeral. When G.P. started to say something, his cousin Elbert Zetrouer, told him not to say another word.

There seemed to be so many family funerals at Shiloh, that when Aunt Janie (Janie Wylie Leitner) was laid to rest, and we all realized that she was the last of her generation — but now our parents and their first cousins are the oldest generation of the family.

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The next funeral that sticks out in my mind is that of Helen — Mary Helen Leitner Ingrao. Although her service was held in Ocala, the reporters came in the long funeral procession from Ocala. Again this was a family funeral where your memories of the Shiloh Church, Cemetery and Community with us as your memories are what makes up this Church history. May the Church that was founded in my great-great-grandmother's cabin continue to grow and welcome many



more generations to come.

Thank you for coming today and we all hope you enjoy the day!

Annabelle Leitner, Church Historian

- Great-great-granddaughter of Mary E. Nunnemaker & Emanuel Geiger
- Great-granddaughter of Caroline Geiger and George Wesley Leitner
- Granddaughter of Mary Catherine Conner and Benjamin Franklin Leitner
- Daughter of Esther L Smoak and Franklin Ernest Leitner

9 November 2006

To be continued with your memories

**Christenings in the Shiloh Church**

Theresa Ann Brown  
Sarah Marie Engwall  
Jacob Lynn Feaster III  
Joseph Adams Feaster  
Mary Yvonne Feaster  
Sally Anne Feaster  
Annabelle Leitner  
Caroline Jane Leitner  
David Ernest Leitner  
Franklin Ernest Leitner  
George Pinkney Leitner  
George Wesley Leitner III  
Jennifer Leitner

Kelly Marie Leitner  
Louise Margaret Leitner  
Mary Bernice Leitner  
Mary Helen Leitner  
Nancy Leitner  
Philip Marshall Leitner  
Patricia Annette Pardee  
Ruth Pauline Pardee  
Clara Nell Yawn  
Harvey Elmer Yawn  
Mary Beth Yawn  
Jeanette Zetrouer

**Our Earliest Members of the Shiloh Church**

Bellah James W.  
James L. Binnicker  
George W. Cooper  
Ruth A. Cooper  
Thomas L. Cooper  
Anna J. DuPuis  
L. L. (Elizabeth Laney) Feaster  
Julia E. Geiger  
David Luther Geiger  
Josephine J. Hull Geiger  
Mary Elizabeth Nunnemaker Geiger  
Samuel P. Geiger  
Sarah J. Geiger  
Sylvian J. Geiger  
William Wade Geiger  
Joseph B. Harrell  
Martha E. Harrell  
Worth E. Harrell  
Bessie May Leitner  
Caroline L. "Carrie" Geiger Leitner  
George Wesley Leitner  
Henry Walkup Mixson<sup>#840</sup>  
Job Spurgeon Mixson<sup>#839</sup>  
Alex P. Price  
Annie Price  
Carolina Price  
James W. Price  
Mary E. Price  
Azccchius Price  
Elizabeth Rattree  
Mary Belle Rattree  
Emily Spires  
M.F. Spires  
Lola Sutherner  
E.J. Vaughn  
M. Lane Vaughn

## MINISTERS AT SHILOH

1880-1889	Selwyn L. Smith
1889-1891	W.H. Steinmeyer
1891-1895	J.P. Hilburn
1895-1912	John C. Ley
1912-1919	Tom Williams
1919	CA. Saunders
1920	George T. Bennett
1921	Charles E. Cook
1922-1924	J.D. Murry
1925	John P. Gaines
1926-1928	W.C. Starts
1928-1929	George E. Summers
1929-1930	A.B. Austin
1930-1931	M.B. Cox
1931	L.F. Driskell
1932-1933	S.I. Hendrix
1934	H.B. Boyd
1935-1937	W.C. Rogers
1937-1939	R.F. Kersey
1939-1941	H.W. Tyler
1941-1942	George L. Zorn
1942	Lindsey Pherigo
1942-1943	J.F. Yancey
1943-1946	Ted W. Jennings
1946-1947	Frank Ferguson
1947-1948	Albert Joiner
1948-1949	Walter Jessup
1949	Eugene Zimmerman
1949-1950	R.U. Bilbro
1950-1951	LeRoy Hendrix
1951-1952	R.S. Brodie
1952-1956	Paul L. Hartsfield
1956-1957	E.F. Mayton
1957-1960	Thomas J. Price
1960-1961	F. Gene Carter
1961-1963	S.H. Fountain
1964-1965	Arthur C. Davis
1965-1967	D. Carmack Morris
1967-1969	David E. Underwood
1969-1974	Clifford J. Cook
1974-1975	W. Tim Baughn
1975-1976	Leon Reich
1976-1979	Donald L. Bain
1979-1981	C. Richard Jones
1981-1983	Kenneth V. Vickery
1983-1985	David H. Hodges
1985-1988	Kenneth W. Kleckner



1988-1989	L. Louis Trembley
1989-1991	Wendell H. Startup
1991-1994	Kenneth R. Hostetler
1994-1996	Harry Kellam
1996-1998	Charles H. Ketchum
1998-2004	Robert Asmuth
2004-	Donald L. Bain

## CEMETERY

The Shiloh Cemetery was established in January 1883 with the burial of Mary Caroline "Minnie" Leitner. Minnie was the daughter of George Wesley and Caroline Lavina Geiger Leitner and granddaughter of Mary E. Nunnemaker Geiger. With Minnie's burial, the Geiger-Leitner Family Cemetery was established on the family property. It eventually would become the Shiloh Community Cemetery at the Shiloh Church. The cemetery is part of the holdings of the Shiloh United Methodist Church. Those buried in the Shiloh Cemetery are:

Miss Geogin A. Abott	died 1917
Frances E. Anderson	24 Apr. 1910 — 17 Dec. 1960
Robert W. Anderson	14 July 1928 — 28 July 1966
Cora V. McElroy Baldwin	30 Oct. 1903 — 7 May 1998
Paul Eugene Baldwin	3 May 1924 — 9 Dec. 1986
William Elmo Baldwin	24 Apr. 1922 — 24 Apr. 1999
Bessie Mauldin Beck	22 July 1915 — 27 June 1986
Edna Lavina Leitner Beck	4 Nov. 1913 — 29 Nov. 1990
James Benjamin Beck	24 Sept. 1935 — 10 Oct. 2002
P.L. "Doc" Beck	27 June 1902 — 27 Feb 1998
William Jeffrey Beck	14 Sept. 1963 — 18 Sept. 1963
Woodrow Wilson Beck	5 Oct. 1911 — 4 Dec. 1971
Bobby Joe Benton	29 June 1937 — 28 June 1986
Mrs. Bevel	dates not known
Annie C. Bouknight	29 Dec. 1902 — 28 Oct. 1998
Cecil O. Bouknight	13 May 1897 — 6 Aug. 1974
Bonnie C. Brown	21 Mar. 1902 — 25 Mar. 1965
Eunice K. Brown	18 July 1917 — 2 Jan. 1992
Henry M. Brown	6 Jan. 1924 — 28 Feb. 1980
Infant Son of W.B. & Bonnie Brown	5 Nov. 1943 — 5 Nov. 1943
John H. Brown	2 Apr. 1899 — 5 July 1970
Vivian I. Brown	28 Dec. 1886 — 18 Nov. 1970
William B. Brown	31 Aug. 1898 — 5 May 1965
Patricia Wyche Carter	2 June 1939 — 9 Aug. 1959
Ethel McElroy Carrier	20 Feb. 1907 — 12 Oct. 1991
Wilfred W. Carrier Sr.	8 July 1897 — 26 Jan. 1979
Henry Martin Chitty Jr.	5 Sept. 1918 — 23 Feb. 1993
Jeanette Zetrouer Chitty	so Sept. 1926 — 20 Feb. 2005
Kelley E. Christmas	9 Oct. 1905 — 3 Mar. 1968
Eunice Coons	1882 — 1962
George E. Crow	8 Oct. 1913 — 2 Jan. 1975

## A History of the Shiloh Methodist Church

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Lola C. Crow	6 Jan. 1914 – 6 Apr. 1995
Elizabeth “Lizzie” Feaster Dixon	29 Apr. 1906 – 15 Dec. 1997
John Alvin Dixon	20 Sep 1932 - 14 Aug 2018
Wesley Edward “Dick” Dixon	9 May 1931 – 29 Mar 2022
William Edward Dixon	28 Sept. 1904 – 23 Apr. 1964
Mary Zetrouer Dreher	1886 – 1965
W.R. Dreher	12 Oct. 1860 – 14 Dec. 1916
Stanley L. "Jack" Dunker	26 May 1924 – 14 Jan. 1981
Raymond A. Elholm	8 Oct. 1914 – 31 Mar. 1999
Thelma Mizell Elholm	22 Mar. 1906 – 29 May 2002

Annette Elaine Adams Feaster	9 Jun 1931 – 5 Nov 2023
Barbara Ann Conrad Feaster	6 Oct 1936 – 14 Oct 2021
Claire Agnes Richards Feaster	28 June 1911 – 2 June 1983
Gladys Marian Abraham Feaster	18 Feb. 1909 – 11 Jan. 1989
Harold Frederick Feaster Sr.	16 Sep 1934 – 5 Feb 2014
Jacob Lynn Feaster	2 May 1903 – 3 Aug. 1993
James Marion Feaster	6 Apr. 1931 – 22 July 1954
James Otis Feaster Jr.	30 Aug. 1932 – 21 July 2006
Dr John Gerald Feaster	3 Aug 1942 – 24 Apr 2017
Lawrence Richard Feaster	31 Jul 1931 – 11 Sep 2021
Michael Ollie Feaster	4 July 1958 – 23 July 1958
Ollie Glenn Feaster	27 June 1910 – 7 Apr. 1980
Shirley Ritten Feaster	31 Jan 1935 – 5 Oct 2021

Ford	dates not known
Ford	dates not known
Ford	dates not known
Ford	dates not known
Howard Bloxham Forsyth	16 Nov. 1918 – 5 July 1986
Jewel F. Forsyth	20 Nov. 1927 – 16 June 1988
Mildred Harrell Friend	13 Aug. 1946 – 15 Apr. 1997
Christine Geiger	19 Nov. 1896 – 10 Sept. 1897
Laura Frances Geiger	19 May 1855 – 25 Nov. 1864
Mary Elizabeth Nunnemaker Geiger	1815 – 1 Jan. 1892
Samuel P. Geiger	2 July 1848 – 15 June 1921
Silvar J. Geiger	18 Jan. 1849 -16 June 1909
Annie Leitner Grant	1911- 2004
Bertha Jane Grant	1935 - 1959
Betty J. Grant	8 July 1931 – 22 Jan. 1999
Infant Son of Paul & Doris Grant	20 July 1955 – 20 July 1955
James W. Grant	26 June 1904 – 2 Mar. 1971
Loonis H. Grant	1909-1971
Paul J. Grant Sr.	6 Jan. 1929 — 21 Jan. 1981
Thomas C. Grant	20 May 1870 – 26 Aug. 1956
Margaret K. Gordon	1908 – 1975
Dixie Lee Junior Guinn	30 Mar 1936 – 30 Nov 2019
Ethel Leitner Hadsock	22 Nov. 1908 – 20 Sept. 1994

## A History of the Shiloh Methodist Church

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Vernon B. Hadsock	2 Sept. 1895 – 27 Jan. 1967
Gary Thomas Hannah	13 July 1960 – 13 June 1968
George Leonard "Buddy" Hannah	28 Aug. 1957 – 4 Jan. 1997
Gladys Lynette Feaster Hannah	21 June 1933 – 13 June 1968
C. Marvin Harrell	23 July 1905 – 21 Nov. 1976
Franklin D. Harrell	2 Jan. 1909 – 1 Mar. 1977
George A. Harrell	1868 – 18 Sept. 1890
George Luther Harrell	1 Mar. 1903 – 28 Nov. 1909
Herbert H. "Hub" Harrell	1870 – 1959
Herbert Milton Harrell	4 Aug. 1899 – 5 July 1950
Joseph B. Harrell	22 Mar. 1828 – 12 Nov. 1915
Martha Elizabeth Geiger Harrell	5 May 1835 – 12 Feb. 1914
Mary Bess York Harrell	16 July 1916 – 26 Feb. 1999
Mary McEwen Harrell	1877 – 1955
Oliver J. Harrell	2 Feb. 1874 – 6 July 1887
Robert McEwen Harrell	18 Oct. 1914 – 18 Oct. 1914
Wilma D. Harrell	3 Nov. 1915 – 21 Apr. 1996
Eulalee G. Harris	18 Dec. 1898 – 8 Dec. 1957
Ella Belle Herrod	19 May 1876 – 19 Mar. 1968
Infant Daughter Hilliard	dates not known
Eunice "Aunt Freda" McElroy Hinson	18 July 1902 – 29 June 1993
Virginia C. Hoff	17 Feb. 1914 – 16 July 1985
Esther B. Hooper	1905 -1993
Percy L. Hooper	1898 – 1962
James Lovell Hoover	7 July 1920 – 22 Mar. 1962
Mary Lee Hoover	17 Feb. 1944 – 11 May 1950
James B. Hunter	2 Oct. 1908 – 30 Nov. 1987
Robert M. Hunter	19 Feb. 1878 – 9 Feb. 1969
Mary Helen Leitner Ingrao	5 Aug. 1945 – 13 Apr. 2002
Eugene A. Ivory Sr.	7 Nov. 1908 – 23 June 1993
Eugene A. Ivory Jr.	19 May 1956 – 20 Dec. 1988
Elmer J. Jacob	20 Aug. 1920 – 25 Feb. 1999
Thomas Joseph Jacob	17 July 1947 – 21 Apr. 2002
Lester W. Jennings	1897 – 1945
Lester Windsor Jennings Jr.	10 May 1928 – 13 Oct. 1995
Robert B. Jennings	1922 – 1997
Ruth Dreher Jennings	1896 – 1980
Melody L. Jensen	1950 – 1986
Clyde W. Jones	9 Mar. 1901– 16 Dec. 1970
Infant Son of Cornelius & Bessie Leitner Jones	C. 1919
Royce M. Jones	26 Nov. 1921 – 4 Mar. 2001
Fred John "Cork" Junior, II	2 Jun 1947 – 7 Apr 2024
Fred John Junior	30 June 1906 – 27 Sept. 1976
Gary Rex Junior	3 Oct 1940 – 3 Oct 2008
Waive Carrie "Mike" Schwander Junior	8 Sept. 1912 – 28 Jan. 1999
Colleen McElroy Latner	6 Dec. 1960 – 27 Mar. 2004
Mary Lena F. Lee	3 Nov. 1908 – 7 Nov. 1996

## A History of the Shiloh Methodist Church

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Annie Leitner	1 May 1885 – 4 Nov. 1886
Benjamin Franklin Leitner	10 Apr. 1880 – 7 Sept. 1976
Caroline Levina Geiger Leitner	17 Oct. 1846 — 4 Feb. 1926
Dr. Cynthia J. Cross Leitner	23 Sept. 1953 — 13 Oct. 1997
David Ernest Leitner	25 Aug. 1950 — 9 Nov. 1991
Dillie Aug.a McCullough Leitner	3o Jan. 1885 — 2 Feb. 1981
Franklin Ernest Leitner	22 Jan. 1917 — 16 Aug. 2003
George Pinkney "G.P." Leitner	2 Jan. 1912 — 3 Dec. 1996
George Wesley Leitner	18 Oct. 1835 — 6 Dec. 1886
George Wesley Leitner Jr.	10 June 1882 — 12 Mar. 1966
Infant Son of G.P. & Julia Mae Leitner	25 Mar. 1945 — 25 Mar. 1945
Jacob Jefferson Leitner	10 Oct. 1878 — 11 May 1950
Jake Lawrence Leitner	27 Feb. 1941 — 14 Dec. 1982
Janie Margaret Wylie Leitner	21 Oct. 1895 — 5 Mar. 1990
Juanita Ruby Jennings Leitner	2 Feb. 1922 — 27 May 1978
Lawrence Jacob Leitner	30 Sept. 1918 — 22 Aug. 1981
Mary Caroline Leitner	19 Aug. 1867 — 5 Jan. 1883
Mary Catherine Conner Leitner	18 Aug. 1879 — 28 Feb. 1969
Susian Leitner	17 Sept. 1916 — 22 Oct. 1917
John A. Lloyd	1888 — 1962
Margaret L. Lloyd	1895 — 1972
Lois R. Marsh	4 Jan. 1897 — 18 June 1980
Jesse L. Mays Sr.	21 Mar. 1898 — 23 May 1993
Jesse L. Mays Jr.	8 July 1923 — 5 Aug. 1976
William R. McCullough	11 May 1854 — 4 Jan. 1926
Charlotte M. McElroy	1914 — 1982
David McElroy	5 Sept. 1908 — 4 Feb. 1980
Elmo Iverson McElroy	3o Oct. 1903 — 19 Jan. 1995
Eugenia C. McElroy	22 June 1879 — 8 June 1965
Fred R. McElroy	19 Oct. 1936 — 16 June 1995
Geraldine McElroy	1907 — 1992
James W. McElroy	1911 — 1978
Lorene McElroy	8 Jan. 1920 — 6 Jan. 1980
Eula Zetrouer McInnis	1903 - 2005
Sam W. McInnis	1891 — 1978
Edward Mercer	1888 — 1961
Pearl R. Mercer	1881 — 1966

Barbara Rose Junior Mixson ( <i>wife of Morris</i> )	16 Jan 1932 – 10 Mar 2013
Iva Mae Mixson ( <i>Wife of Maxie Mixson</i> )	30 May 1910 — 11 Oct. 1996
James Darlington “Jim Jimmy” Mixson <sup>#922</sup>	29 Aug 1929 – 17 Aug 2024
Maxie Miles Mixson <sup>#846</sup>	1 Sept. 1898 — 12 July 1974
Morris Darlington Mixson <sup>#918</sup>	23 Aug 1926 – 15 Aug 2020
Sue Beverly Junior Mixson ( <i>wife of Jimmy Mixson and sister of Barbara</i> )	21 May 1934 – 23 Jan 2021

Yvonne Moen	6 Apr. 1919 — 27 Sept. 1976
Henry T. Mulkey	1 Nov. 1924 — 12 Apr. 1996



## A History of the Shiloh Methodist Church

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Olington L. Nail Sr.	12 Nov. 1902 — 16 May 1960
Olington Nail Jr.	4 Mar. 1929 — 18 Dec. 1930
Alan A. Parado	17 Mar. 1896 — 1 Mar. 1981
Cecil V. Pardee	17 Aug. 1903 — 17 Dec. 1983
Dewey M. Pardee	12 Sept. 1898 — 6 Oct. 1975
Baby Boy Parker	22 Jan. 1958 — 22 Jan. 1958
Harold A. "Pat" Parker	23 Jan. 1937 — 4 Nov. 1978
Harold A. Parker Jr.	25 Jan. 1956 — 25 Jan. 1956
Leslie Parker	3 May 1923 — 8 June 1979
Franklin A. Plemmons	1939 — 1939
Robert Lewis Plemmons	1941 — 1944
Patty Parker Preast	26 Jan. 1959 — 15 Apr. 1993
Jodie Proctor	13 June 1892 — 9 Sept. 1896
Helen Miller Puzauska	9 Aug. 1921 — 27 Sept. 1992
Everett Rodgers Jr.	1 May 1930 — 20 Aug. 1993
Bessie Mae Leitner Jones Russell	12 Oct. 1876 — 23 Nov. 1946
Thomas Brian Scott	8 May 1934 — 1 May 1995
Elva Mae Dean Shepard	22 Oct. 1910 — 13 Apr. 2000
Samuel I. "Earl" Shepard	16 Nov. 1903 — 21 Jan. 1987
Laura Sykes	24 Apr. 1843 — 2 June 1903
Owen Sykes	30 Aug. 1836 — 22 May 1894
William Sykes	dates not known
Alma Kathleen Leitner Terry	17 May 1912 — 18 Dec. 1960
Barna F. Turner	1815 — 1985
Joe Walker	18 June 1949 — 20 Mar. 2004
Martin L. Watson	1928 — 1985
Billy Wayne Weaver	27 Feb. 1936 — 13 July 2001
Frank Harrell Weaver	21 June 1937 — 5 June 1997
Gloria Dale Weaver	19 Sept. 1944 — 11 Mar. 2003
Mary Harrell Weaver	23 Dec. 1911 — 30 Aug. 1991
Wiley "Mac" Weaver	18 Mar. 1895 — 13 Mar. 1985
Willie J. Whittington	9 July 1932 — 17 Sept. 1996
Florence Leitner Whitworth	9 Nov. 1922 — 23 June 1959
Thomas Wilson	27 Feb. 1928 — 4 Aug. 1970
Alexander J. Wyche Jr.	6 Jan. 1907 — 2 Jan. 1991
Verna Brown Wyche	14 Nov. 1909 — 25 Feb. 2004
Louie Thomas Wylie	9 Sept. 1892 — 2 Aug. 1920
Maggie Wylie	1863 — 1964
Mills Henry Wylie	18 Mar. 1902 — 20 Apr. 1964
Cora Stapleton Yawn	10 Dec. 1899 — 24 Mar. 1963
Harvey Hardin Yawn	12 Dec. 1917 — 13 Dec. 1990
Jesse William Yawn	12 July 1895 — 6 Nov. 1978
Jesse William Yawn Jr.	30 Sept. 1937 — 10 Aug. 1995
Otis Cleveland Yawn	17 Apr. 1920 — 20 May 2000
William "Billy" Herbert Yawn	28 Oct. 1926 — 24 Aug. 2004
Albert Remshart Zetrouer	10 May 1900 — 28 Jan. 1986
Daniel Remshart Zetrouer	21 Jan. 1876 — 16 Dec. 1951

## A History of the Shiloh Methodist Church

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Dora Leitner Zetrouer	11 Feb. 1872 — 10 Nov. 1959
James Elbert Zetrouer	26 Dec. 1908 — 30 Nov. 1994
Lucius Zetrouer	6 Jan. 1902 — 31 Oct. 1902
Mary Louise Smoak Zetrouer	12 Nov. 1904 — 4 Nov. 1996 Mattie Lorraine
Mattie Lorraine Driggers	
Knight Zetrouer	24 July 1909 — 27 Sept. 1979

## About the Author

Annabelle Leitner is a fifth generation Shiloh resident and landowner, the youngest daughter of Ernest and Esther Leitner and the youngest grandchild of Ben and Mary Leitner.

She received her Bachelor's of Rhymes from Micanopy School and Graduated from North Marion High School, which was formed from the same school both her parents graduated from.

She was an early admission student to Central Florida Community College and received a Bachelor of Arts in Art with emphasis in Studio Art from the University of Florida College of Fine Arts. Annabelle has worked as a graphic artist, photographer, writer, historical demonstrator, and teacher. She is now a professional fiber and textile artist whose work has been recognized nationally (Who's Who in American Contemporary Art) for her unique form of tapestry weaving; her work is in private collections worldwide, including the 1993 White House Christmas Angel Collection at the Smithsonian.

The Shiloh Church Historian, Annabelle was appointed to the Marion County Historical Commission. She is co-founder of the Micanopy Community Council for the Arts and the Northwest Marion Quilters.

She is the third generation in her family to work for the Supervisor of Elections at the Geiger/Shiloh/Flemington voting precinct.