

Columbiana County Archives and Research Center

*Preserving the past ****

*Saving the future ****

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WINTER NEWSLETTER

NO. 4 2022

President's Message

Merry Christmas! It is always Christmas at the Archives! Everyday we are unwrapping gifts from our past. How **Exciting!** Recently we received some church histories from various sources. I'm sharing church records in this issue. We do collect information on Columbiana County Churches. If you find in your collections histories of churches or are able to borrow, we would love to have or copy for our files! Christmas is a great time to research your family history. At the family gatherings, ask questions and share your family photos and stories. It is a season for creating and remembering family memories and traditions.

Take time to **Love** your family and neighbors! Be a part of the true meaning of Christmas!

Love & Blessings!

Linda

Remember CCARC will be closed Dec 23 to Jan 3 for Christmas. If inclement weather is forecasted the CCARC may be closed.

Family Histories at CCARC

Continues from Fall Issue

Rhoads	Triem
Rice	Troyer
Riddle	Tullis
Rogers	Turner
Roller	Twaddle
Ruth	Vale
Sanor / Zenner	Vandall
Schmahl / Small	Vaugh
Sell	Vulcan
Seeds	Walker
Shaffer	Walter
Shaw	Wampler
Sheckler	Ware
Sheehan	Webb
Sitler	Weber / Weaver
Small	Wendell / Vandall
Smith	Whiteleather
Snuke / Snook / Snoke	Williams
Souders	Williamson
Speidel	Willyard
Sprinkle	Wilson
Stanley	Woolman
Stauffer / Stouffer	Wright
Stewart	Wolf
Stratton	Yerian / Yarian
Sulouff / Suloff	Young
Sutherin	Zerber
Switzer	Zimmerman
Teegarden	Zulouf Suloff
Thomas	
Thompson	

We have many more family names in our vertical files.

Always remember to read the old newspapers. Newspapers.com had two articles about Achor Baptist Church. I do not know of any records for this church except for newspaper articles and our cemetery inscriptions book. The church congregation celebrated their Centennial in 1904 and an article was published in the Pittsburgh Weekly Gazette. CCARC has the REVELLE ECHO newspaper articles from 1904 about the Centennial. The article by Tom Jones tells about George Brown, who died in 1828 and buried at Achor, and his history. CCARC Church file has history of Valley of Achor Baptist Church: 1804-1975 published by Daily Leader 14 Aug 1975. The church was destroyed by fire Aug 2020.

Pittsburgh Weekly Gazette

26 Aug 1904

The Evening Review

26 July 1935

**BAPTIST CONGREGATION
CELEBRATES CENTENNIAL**

Achor Church Was Organized in 1804,
Chiefly of Families From Fayette
County, Pa.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE GAZETTE.]

NEGLEY, O., Aug. 25.—(Special).—The Achor Baptist church, the oldest one of the denomination in Eastern Ohio and the fourth oldest church in the country, celebrated its centennial today. The Beaver Baptist association is holding its ninety-fifth annual meeting in the church and Centennial day brought crowds. The Rev. A. H. Bawden of East Liverpool presided and Rev. M. B. Sloan and W. H. McKinney made addresses. Miss Lizzie Davis read the church history. The evening was devoted to addresses by former pastors, visiting clergymen and others.

The Achor Baptist church was organized in 1804 with 14 members, chiefly of families who came from Fayette county, Pa. The first pastor was Rev. Henry Frazier, who preached at Achor once a month for 11 years. The log church had neither floor, door nor windows. In 1812 a substantial church of hewn logs was erected. In 1842 a new frame church was built. It burned in 1881 and was replaced by the present edifice.

The Sunlit Road
BY TOM T. JONES

For 167 years, the body of George Brown, son of William Brown, a physician and a friend of George Washington, has lain under the sod in the little country cemetery which adjoins the Achor Baptist church, at the top of the knoll overlooking the East Palestine Country club, south of Negley.

The Pennsylvania-born resident of Columbiana county was the great grandfather of General William Carey Brown of Denver, Colo., who recently visited with local friends and relatives while en route to the commencement exercises at the West Point Military Academy. With Mr. and Mrs. Sanford Fisher, Gen. Brown, a retired army officer, visited the burial ground to view the final resting place of one of his paternal ancestors on his visit here.

The grave of this pioneer is covered with a flat stone. The inscription has been entirely erased by the elements but a small marker which has been placed at the head of the grave tells that he was born in 1773, three years before the signing of the Declaration of Independence, and died in 1828 when but 55 years of age. He came to Columbiana county in 1804 from Fayette county, Pa.

In this cemetery is also buried John Brown, born May 8, 1796 and who died May 2, 1878. He may have been a son of George Brown. One of the earliest burials in this plot was that of John Y. Strait, who "departed this life" on Aug. 18, 1812. He was but 31 years of age at the time of his death having been born in the same year as was George Brown.

It was a church on this site that George Brown no doubt attended services during the 24 years which he resided in the county. The present church once had two entrances but one of these has not been closed. It occupies a foundation of fine cut stone. Within it are fine pews and a piano. The building is illuminated with oil lamps and heated by two large stoves.

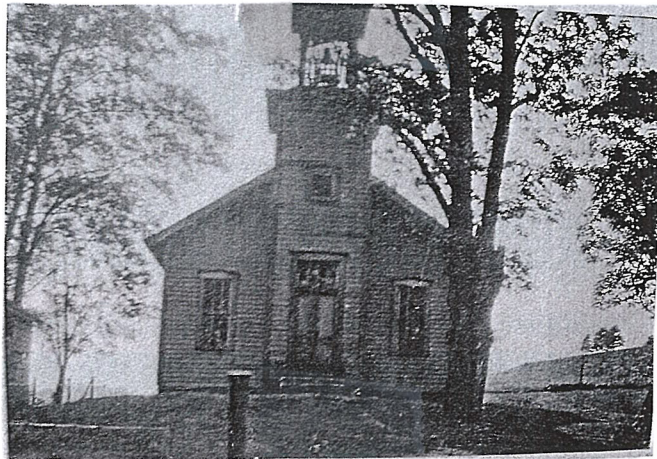
Valley of Achor Baptist Church

Rev. Reese Davis
born 5 Oct 1790
died 2 Feb 1873



Pictures by
Albert Smith

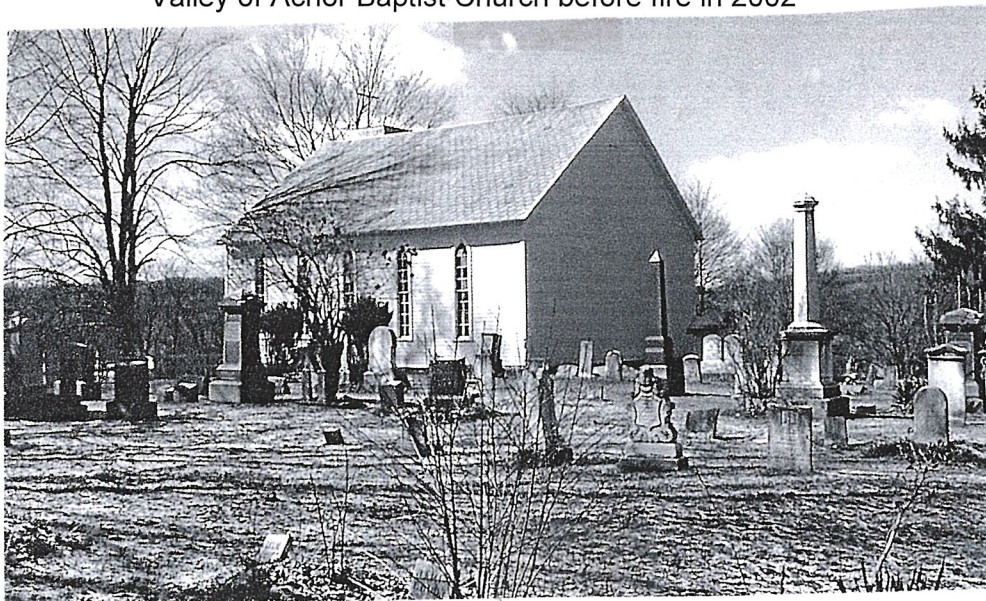
Valley of Achor Baptist Church burnt in 1881



Inside of Valley of Achor Baptist Church Abt 1991



Valley of Achor Baptist Church before fire in 2002



Before 1846 Columbiana County also consisted of the five lower townships of Mahoning County, Ohio.. Zion Hill Church of the Brethren, New Buffalo Road, Columbiana, Ohio is located just over the line in Beaver jTwp. We obtained a copy of the **History of the Zion Hill Church of the Brethren** by Alice LaVern Rupel Rohrer, 1979

In 1825, **Henry Kurtz (1796-1874)** a German born Lutheran minister, moved from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to Columbiana County. Here he heard of the Brethren or Dunkards as they were then nicknamed because of their mode of baptism by trine immersion, and attended their meetings. Having been satisfied with infant baptism, he was baptized by Elder George Hoke of the Canton church on April 6, 1828. Two years later he was elected to the ministry. In 1842 Henry Kurtz was appointed by Elder Hoke to serve the Old Mill Creek Church. He faithfully served, making the trip of about forty miles on horseback once a month until the spring of 1842. In 1842 he moved to Poland, Ohio until in 1857 moving to Columbiana. His great knowledge of of both German and English made it possible to serve the denomination in a remarkable way.

In the loft of the springhouse on his farm near Poland, OHio, Brother Kurtz began to publish **The Gospel Visitor** in 1851, In June 1857, the office of **The Gospel Visitor** was moved to Columbiana. It was located on the northwest corner of the intersection of the railroad tracks and E. Park Avenue. He was a national leader for the denomination, serving on the Standing Committee for twenty years. He also printed a hymnal without notes. In 1867 he edited and printed "The Brethren Encyclopedia, a handbook to be consulted on any point by a conscientious brother. When the editorial duties would grow heavy he would play a few tunes on the little pipe organ he brought from Germany. Bro. Kurtz preached his last sermon in the Zion Hill meeting house on Jan 11, 1874 on Jeremiah 17:9. He passed away the next day while sitting in his rocker at the age of seventy seven years.

Further history can be gained by quoting from the little book, **Meet Henry Kurtz** Harry A Brandt, Brethren Publishing House, Elgin, Illinois, 1941, pp. 128-132

"In the Henry Kurtz home one granddaughter had the privilege of spending some months. When well past eighty years of age, Eliza A. Good, looking back across a lifetime, recalled scenes of her grandfather's last years for the improvement of our story— "I remember very distinctly what he looked like. He was a small man with a hump on his back, and he always used a cane when he walked. He took short, quick steps. He had rather long white hair, but the top of his head was bald and in cold weather he always wore a little silk cap to cover that bald spot. He had long white whiskers."

" 'His home was in Columbiana, Ohio, when I was staying with my grandparents. As there was no Church of the Brethren near, he went with me to the Grace Reformed Church a time or two, or until I got acquainted. It was quite a walk for him, but I was much pleased to walk by his side to Sunday School.' "

" ' Well, we used to get books to read that were very interesting. I remember the first one I brought home. After I was through reading it he said he wanted to read it, too. He wanted me to write what I had read about in my own words. Well, I did the best I could for I loved him. I know now it was a good thing for me to do. '

" 'I am seven years older now than my grandfather was when he died. I was not living in their home when he passed away. But grandmother found him asleep in his chair. '

" ' I remember very well how his room looked. We entered from a hall in which were shelves of books. His room was about twenty by twenty, I think, and there were an old-fashioned heating stove and his rocker to the left of it. At his left was a stand with a lamp

Continued story of Henry Kurtz by his granddaughter

on it. In the corner, back of him, was the old pipe organ which came from Germany. Along the wall was a long table which he used for a writing desk, and his bed was in one corner. There was a dresser to the right of the stove. He always had a buffalo robe thrown over his chair.'

" ' Sometimes he played on the organ and enjoyed teaching me some little songs on Sunday afternoons after Sunday school. He gave me many good suggestions and rules to follow, which I remember and some which I have followed all my life. '

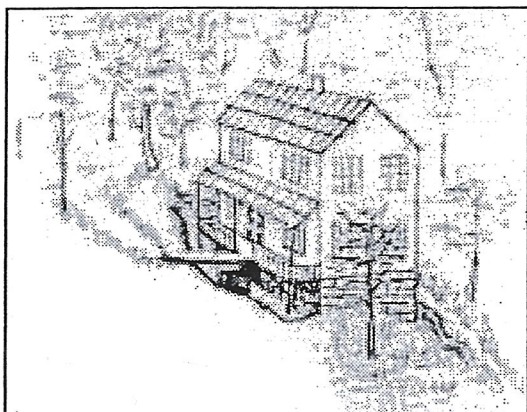
" ' He was very particular about himself. He was neat and clean and expected those in his home to be the same. He was a great man for order. He had a place for everything, and if you did any dusting or cleaning you had to be pretty careful to place everything just as it was or you would hear from him-- but only in a joking way. But I always tried to remember to place everything in its place as I found it. His room was always used for worship. Every night he would read from the Bible, sometimes in German, then we would kneel in prayer, closing with the Lord's Prayer. Grandmother would quite often repeat the Lord's Prayer in German, which I learned by hearing her repeat it. ' "

" ' My grandfather was a jolly and good man. I do not think he ever had any pictures taken--- at least I never saw any. I cannot remember of hearing him say why he came to America, but I think he wanted more freedom. He was a great reader. When you went in to his room he would be sitting in his rocker, reading... Well, maybe these few lines will land in the wastebasket. Maybe you can pick out a few things that will suit, but you will have to arrange them, as I cannot place them as I ought. ' "

Henry Kurtz was buried near the Bethel Church, not far from the springhouse where he had begun printing The Gospel Visitor. The lack of care of the grave was the concern of the district. With the permission of their descendants, the remains of Elder and Mrs. Kurtz were moved by church trustees to the burial ground at the Zion Hill church during the summer of 1930. A bronzed plaque set in a large boulder was unveiled in June 1931 at ceremonies sponsored by the district.

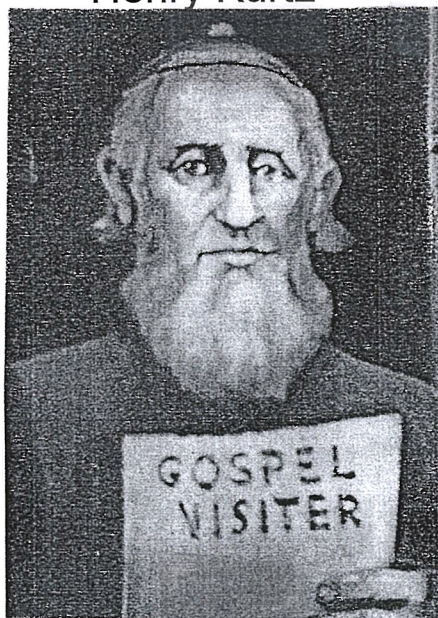
CCARC has an index of the **THE GOSPEL VISTOR** for 1852, 1855-1862 with the articles.

SPRINGHOUSE



Drawn from memory by Irene Kurtz Summers, granddaughter of Elder Kurtz

Henry Kurtz



Church Hill Christian Church Elkrun Twp.

Church Hill Christian Church was organized about the year 1826 by Elder Robert Hawkins upon the basis of the Holy Scriptures as a rule of faith and practice and Christian Character as a test of Christian Fellowship and the name Christian as the name of the organization. Members were received by the right hand of Fellowship and these names recorded in a church book. Wm. Tegarden received license to improve his gift May 17, 1826 Samuel Conway, John Adams, Robert Hawkins officiating elders; and on the 2nd of October 1831 ordained a minister and elder by laying on of the hands of the Presbtry.

The log church had a dirt floor. It did not contain a stove or fireplace for heat. The room was warmed by a mass of charcoals ignited in a glow in Joseph Paxson's big iron kettle. No chairs were used - the seats were slab benches. The ladies sat together and the men sat together. Supposedly the church was moved to Pine Hollow Road and used as a blacksmith shop. Joseph Paxson was the first blacksmith in Elkton, having lived in Pine Hollow. The society at that time was known as Bible Christian Church.

Church Hill Christian Church was destroyed by fire by vandals June 1988.

Partial List of Names of Persons who have been members of Church Hill

Christian Church: Some have notations such as "disowned", "removed by letter or death", moved away," "gone from among us" and joined Methodist Church. **CCARC has these records.**

Elias Hanes	Ann Farmer	Darkis Knight	Ann Wagnioner
Catharine Beard	Mary M Donly	Nancy Crawford	Frederek Weather
Elder Wm Ellis	Susan Havel	Jane Ellis	Morgan Goble
William Caldwell	Delila Aldoerffer	Seth Thomas	Nancy Thomas
Mary J More	Elizabeth Ennis	Susan Burcaw	Lucy More
James Long	Nancy C Harrison	John J McConnel	Mary C Switzer
Charles Metchley	Sarah Metchley	George Guy	Arminda Foutz
Catherine O Rits	Reason Hawkins	Ortha Baker	Martha McClain
R S Baker	Theadorie Morris	Anthony Burcaw	Edilda Donnaly
Bethene Guy	Amanda Wright	Lizzie Hawkins	Christian Welker
Elija Thompson	Catharine Hawkins	Hugh Pike	Maryane Crawford
Rebecca Caldwell	Margaret Crocket	Loretta Hill	John McClurg
Jerusa Hoffman	Caroline Hill	George Barnes	Lydiann Kannal
Edward Peart	David H Smith	Jesse Donnely	Rebeca Kennal
Elizabeth Crawford	Sarah Whestel	Hester Donnally	Elniorah Randolph
Ann McConnel	Elizabeth Steel	Susan Welker	Catharine Donnely
Susan Martha Miller	Margaret Painter	Sarah Ann Fisher	Millainne Richards
Isabell Monrow	John Steel	Mary Donly	Jesse Donly (Sen)
Mannah Morrow	Matilda McClurg	Mary Fingh	Margaret Caldwell
Sidna Garwood	Lydiann Farmer	George Farmer	Uriah Foutz
David Kennal	Charles Donley	William Teagarden	James Caldwell, Sen
Ruth Pike	Elizabeth McCoy	Naoma Siddle	Elizabeth Jones
Elizabeth Kannal	Mary Jackson	Lydia Jones	Wm B Jones
Rachel Ennas	Thomas McCoy	Amy Crawford	Mary Kannal
Catharine Barnes	Mary Randolph	Robert Crocket	Hannah Stickle
Elizabeth Barnes	Alford Paxson	Mary Jones	Joseph Smith
George Hawkins	Isaac Bradfield	Rebecca Hawkins	Israel Reader
Sulky Reader	Jeremiah Richards	Anna Richards	Elizabeth Caldwell
Nancy McCollister	Elizabeth McCollister	Thomas Cross	Mary Forgasson

First Presbyterian Church Columbiana, Ohio

“Certain Persons” appeared before Presbytery, then in session at New Lisbon, Ohio and requested that a church of this faith be established in Columbiana, Ohio. The committee organized a church May 13, 1865. During the first few years services were held in the town hall, but in 1867 the congregation erected a frame church building on the site which previously was the high school auditorium. The building was erected by Hiram Bell. During its erection a scaffolding collapsed, causing the death of Thomas Tayler and serious injury to Joel Morlan, carpenters.

On April 30, 1868, Johnson Campbell and Robert Close were received as the first elders of this church. At the death of William Geiger in August of 1875, the church was left without an elder, he being the only male member of the congregation. Again in 1888 the church was without a session for one year due to the death of Elder J H Trotter. On Jan 14, 1910, the congregation petitioned Presbytery meeting at Lison, to be permitted to attempt self support for one year, having been partially supported by the Board of Home Missions up to this time. **CCARC has booklet with Members names.**

Partial Roll of Members

<p>1865</p> <p><i>Charter Members</i></p> <p>Mrs. Maria Kyser Miss Elizabeth Close Miss Almira Close Mr. G. O. Fraser Mrs. Leah Esterly Halverstadt Mrs. Elizabeth Esterly Mrs. Anna Esterly Mr. Solomon Esterly Mr. and Mrs. C. Kramer Miss Ann Kramer Mr. and Mrs. James Moore Mr. Newton Moore Mrs. Charlotte Moore Freed Mr. and Mrs. William Geiger Dr. J. T. Barclay Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Bell Mrs. Anna Bell Davidson Mrs. Amasda Vogleson Mrs. Mattie Bell Flickinger</p> <p>1866</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Heckert Mrs. Martha Lamb Mr. Robert Close Miss Laura Kramer Miss Alice Holloway Miss Ann Strickler Mrs. Sara Hoover Mr. and Mrs. J. Campbell</p> <p>1867</p> <p>Miss Sophia Hoffman Miss Leah Truckas Mrs. Mary Close Mr. and Mrs. John Smith</p> <p>1868</p> <p>Miss Hattie Hoffman Mrs. Nancy Knowles DeHoff Mrs. Fannie L. Gilmore Mr. John Flickinger</p> <p>1869</p> <p>Mr. James Barclay Mrs. E. Barclay Mrs. Nancy Caughey Mrs. Anna B. Hisey Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Hastings</p>	<p>1870</p> <p>Mr. William Lamb Mr. A. C. Bell, Jr. Mr. Levi Esterly Mr. Daniel Strickler Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Holloway Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Stouffer Miss Rebecca Armstrong— Miss Mary Armstrong Mr. and Mrs. George Lamb Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Rice</p> <p>1871</p> <p>(None)</p> <p>1872</p> <p>Mrs. Mary Johnston Miss Emma Johnston</p> <p>1873-1875</p> <p>(None)</p> <p>1876</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. John Trotter Mr. and Mrs. O. N. Gaylord</p> <p>1877</p> <p>Mrs. Daniel Strickler Mrs. Eliza Wright Bell Mrs. Mattie Wright Wallace Mrs. Armanda A. Allen Mrs. Lavina Hall Miss Maude Kramer Miss Fannie Kramer Miss Lizzie Wilson Miss Josephine Augustine Miss Eliza Christy Mrs. Sara Augustine Miss Ida Augustine (Beck) Miss Mollie Bell Miss Tryphosa Esterly Miss Miranda Esterly Mrs. Jennie Harbaugh Mr. and Mrs. I. N. Sample Mr. William Shaler Mrs. Carrie Nevin Mrs. Anna Johnson Kennedy Miss Ella Johnson</p>
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Old Church erected in 1867 on site of old High School Auditorium



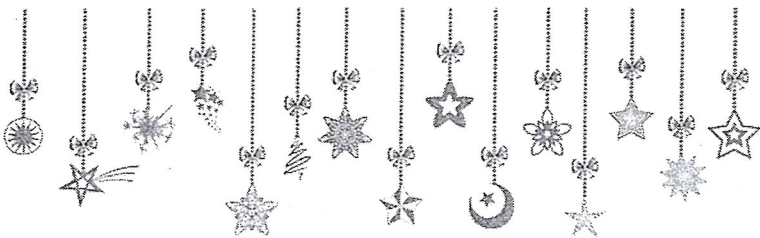
<p>1878</p> <p>Miss Hattie Close</p> <p>1879</p> <p>Mrs. J. J. Johnston Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Weaver</p> <p>1880</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Weaver Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Crothers Mrs. Mary McMillen Miss Rebecca McMillen Mr. J. N. McMillen</p>	<p>1882</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Martin Mrs. Jennie Todd</p> <p>1883</p> <p>Mrs. J. N. Yoder</p> <p>1884</p> <p>Dr. and Mrs. J. A. Douglas</p>
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129 S. Market St.

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Recipe for a Good Life

Take two parts of unselfishness and one part of patience and work together. To this add plenty of industry. Lighten with good spirits and sweeten with kindness. Put in smiles as thick as raisins in plum pudding and bake by the warmth that comes from a loving heart. Make one recipe of this each day. If this fails to make a good life, the fault is not with the recipe but with the cook.

Leah Morgan Strain