

Western Heights Baptist Church



50th Anniversary Celebration

Celebrating Fifty Years of Ministry and Missions

October 13, 1963 – October 13, 2013

Our Worship of God
50th Anniversary Celebration
October 13, 2013

“He Must Increase, but i Must Decrease”

Welcome	Jeffrey Baird
Greetings from PBA	Rev. Ron Sowers
Greetings from SBCV	Rev. Steve Bradshaw
Opening Prayer	Rev. Kenneth Russell
Congregational Hymn # 10 “How Great Thou Art”	Alex Perkinson
Testimony	Joel Sneed
Recognition Charter Members/Former Pastors	Helen Heller
Picture Slideshow	
Building Explanation	Jack Mayes, Jr.
Offertory Hymn “Amazing Grace/My Chains Are Gone”	
Offertory Prayer	Rev. Gilbert Henshaw
Offertory Music	WHBC Orchestra
Special Music	Jacob Perkinson
Missions	Jeff Lovin
Special Music	Perkinson Family/ Choir
Message	Pastor Jon Dundalow
Invitation Hymn #54 “Great is Thy Faithfulness”	
Benediction/Blessing	Rev. Carl Weaver
Dismissal of Special Guests and Seniors	
Closing Hymn	“Blessed Be the Name”

Flowers

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given with glory to God for our 50th Anniversary, and in honor of Helen Heller for her love and dedication to the Lord and to this church on her 89th birthday, October 12th, given by her Sunday School Class.

WHBC Pastors as a Chapel

**Rev. Charles Sneed	December 1960-March 1962
**Bobby Pugh	June 1962-August 1962
Rev. Gilbert Henshaw	September 1962-October 1963

WHBC Pastors as a Constituted Church

Rev. Gilbert Henshaw	October 1963-August 1964
**Rev. John Boon	November 1964-December 1966
**Rev. Sidney Cowles	May 1967-November 1967
**Rev. Charles Dick	December 1967-May 1982
Rev. Carl Weaver	May 1982-September 1982
Rev. Harry Leland	September 1982-February 1984
**Rev. Dalton Leath	May 1984-June 1985
Rev. Russell Vickery	June 1985-November 1990
Rev. Kenneth Russell	November 1990-September 1991
Rev. Wayne Dishman	October 1991-September 1994
Rev. Ron Sowers	February 1995-February 2006
Rev. Jonathan Dundalow	June 2006-Present

Membership Roll of Western Heights Baptist Chapel

*Neal Barnes	Gaydell Henshaw
*Betty Barnes	**L.S. Holderfield
**Mary Canada	*Anne Holderfield
Linda Canada (Ramsey)	Diane Holderfield (Berberich)
William Canada	Barbara Holderfield
Rose Coleman	**Lillian Howard
William Coleman	**Dennis Miles
**Lloyd Compton	**Josephine Miles
**Marguerite Compton (Erb)	Margaret Miles (Belvin)
David Cook	**George Miller
**Tony Christopher	**Gladys Miller
James Denson	**Oscar Moon
Imogene Densen	*Florence Moon
*Judi Doss (Tucker)	David Moon
**Jimmy Ezzell	*Dwen Moon (Marek)
Marie Ezzell	**Judson Moore
**Al Fisher, Jr.	**Elizabeth Nemecek
**Lawrence Leigh Glasscock	Donna Phelps (Wicks)
*Evannah Glasscock	*Rudy Phelps
*Betty Haddon (Mayes)	**Hubert Price
*Virginia Haddon (Bragan)	*Virginia Price
Brenda Haddon (Reese)	**Eunice Royster
Sue Haddon (Henshaw)	**Herbert Williams
**Raymond Heller, Sr.	*Mary Williams
*Helen Heller	*David Williams
*Brenda Heller (Olgers)	Susan Williams (Mellott)
Raymond Heller, Jr.	**Agnes Wright
Diane Heller (Price)	**Mary Ziegler
Gilbert Henshaw	

*Current Members **Deceased

History of Our Church

The origin of Western Heights Baptist Church began in June 1960 with prayer meetings held in private homes of the Dinwiddie Gardens area. These meetings were organized and lead by Rev. Charles Sneed, a church planter, employed at Richmond Army Depot.

As the body grew, it was necessary to provide larger and more permanent facilities for worship. We began meeting in a new residential home in the Mount Pleasant subdivision. The Petersburg Baptist Association voted to sponsor the chapel in October 1960. Our first worship service was held November 13, 1960. We became known as Western Heights Baptist Chapel.

The Petersburg Baptist Association authorized the purchase of seven acres of land from the Hamner Estate located on Rt. 226 (formerly US 460) for future expansion. On July 7, 1963, a groundbreaking ceremony was held at our present location. A two story building consisting of a sanctuary with baptistery, eight classrooms, pastor's study, and vestibule were constructed. An organizational service was held on October 13, 1963, when we became known as Western Heights Baptist Church with a membership roll of 59 members. The dedication service for our church was held on February 16, 1964.

In 1968, a new educational wing and fellowship area were added to the rear of the building. A second expansion in 1976 was accomplished by an addition to the front of the first building, and adding a covered porch. In 1988, a third educational building was added along with a new fellowship hall and kitchen.

Western Heights continued to be blessed with growth and on March 15, 1998, a groundbreaking service was held for our present day sanctuary. Our first service in this sanctuary was held on Mother's Day, May 9, 1999. Sanctuary Dedication Day was held October 24, 1999. A "Cornerstone Laying Ceremony" was also held on that day. The old sanctuary was converted to a children's wing. God continued to bless and on June 25, 2006, we had a "Note Burning Celebration" retiring the debt of the new sanctuary.

Western Heights' mission is the same today as when started 50 years ago – To reach out to others with love and compassion, as Christ did, and to share the gospel in our community and around the world. We are grateful to God, and give Him the praise for our heritage, principles, and theological beliefs.