





*Hiter Nelson Quisenberry Lula T. Crouch Quisenberry*  
(Wife)

*Married December 7, 1892*

In 1892 Rev. H. N. Quisenberry was pastor of Berkley Avenue Baptist Church, where he served until 1895. This was his first pastorate. He was truly a man of God with a vision of missions.

There was no Baptist Church in the area of South Norfolk. Rev. Quisenberry felt there was a need for a mission to serve those of Baptist faith.

Under the leadership of the Holy Spirit he led his church to establish Christian work in the thriving new community of South Norfolk.

Rev. Quisenberry went on to become pastor of a number of Baptist Churches and was President of Stephens College, Columbia, Missouri.



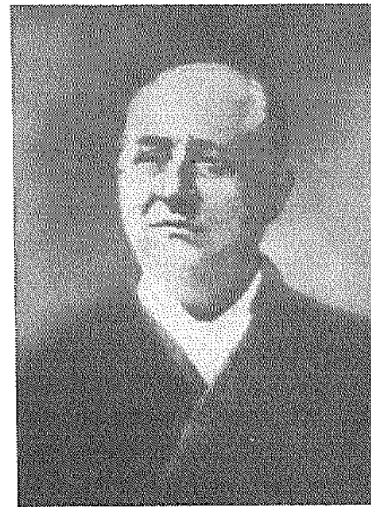
*Charles Wright Matthews*

January 28, 1894  
October 1, 1894



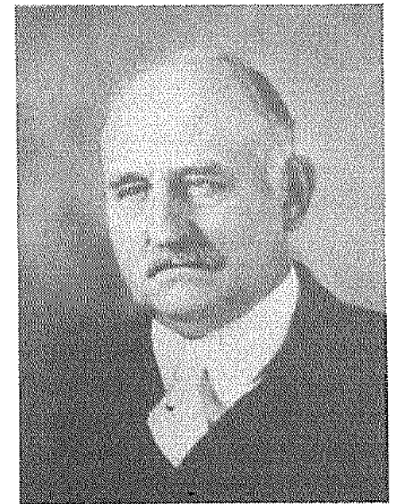
*William Brooke Duling*

May 16, 1895  
March 27, 1898



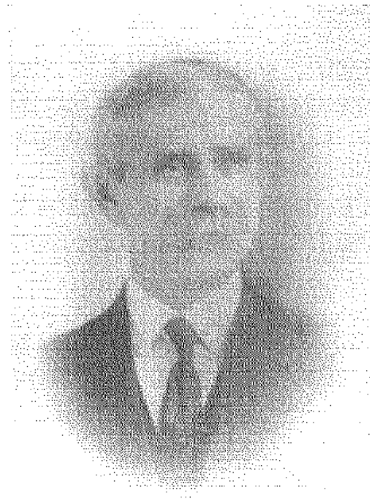
*Philip Sealey Cohoon Davis*

May 4, 1902  
October 1, 1905



*Quinton Clarence Davis Sr.*

October 15, 1905  
May 19, 1909



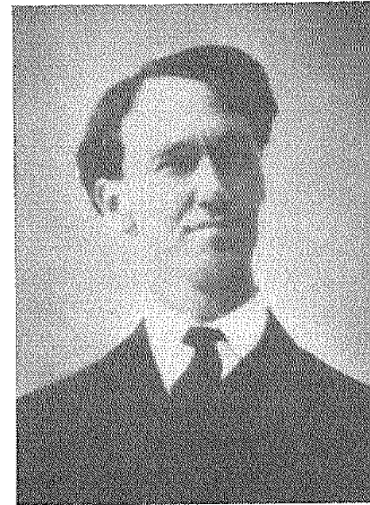
*Joseph Tynch*

June 19, 1898  
October 9, 1898



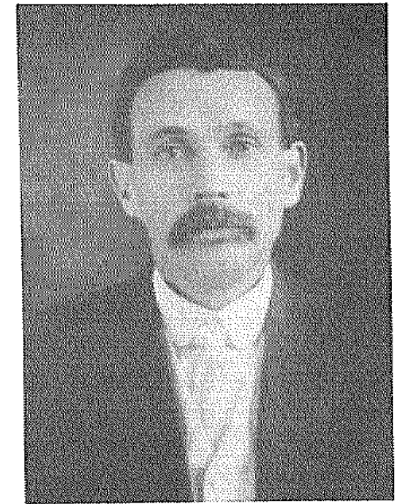
*S. S. Robinson*

February 5, 1899  
April 20, 1902



*Frank M. Wilson*

November 14, 1909  
February 2, 1910



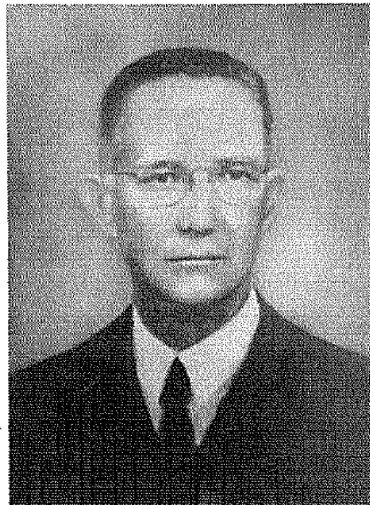
*Edward Sylvester Pierce*

June 12, 1910  
April 28, 1912



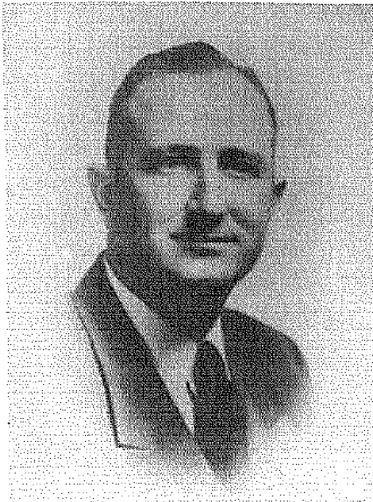
***William Madison Black***

October 7, 1912  
November 24, 1918



***Clyde Spurgeon Sawyer***

December 1, 1918  
December 31, 1946



***Frank Hughes, Jr.***

February 9, 1947  
September 30, 1984



***Donald McCall Brunson, Jr.***

July 7, 1985

## BRIEF HISTORY OF SOUTH NORFOLK BAPTIST CHURCH

Visions of things to come may be gained only through a knowledge and understanding of the past. We are told that an understanding of history enables us to interpret the present and look forward to the future with confidence and courage. The present state of things is a result of the past and it behooves all of us to pause at frequent intervals to inquire as to the source of the good we enjoy or the evils we suffer.

The history of any church is a story of many people and their service to God, community and country through their Church. Some of these people are mentioned. However, there are many more who contributed much to make South Norfolk Baptist what it is today.

The birth of the church began on this order: Rev. H. N. Quisenberry, pastor of Berkley Avenue Baptist Church became interested in establishing Christian work in the thriving new community known today as South Norfolk (part of Chesapeake). With the aid of outstanding laymen such as Mr. John Privott and Mr. E. J. West the work was launched on July 1, 1892. A building was erected at the total cost of \$2,000.00 and opened for worship on January 5, 1893. This chapel was formally dedicated June 11, 1893 at 3:30 P. M., at which service a special offering was received that amounted to an amazing sum of \$550.00. The Sunday School grew steadily and it was reported 162 present in the March 2, 1893 issue of The Religious Herald. Another note of interest recorded in the January 5, 1893, copy of The Religious Herald, stated that the plans for the chapel were drawn by Benjamin D. Price of Philadelphia and the furniture was furnished by George S. Perry of Boston.

The mission was organized into a fully constituted church on November 30, 1893. Members voted the name of the church would be South Norfolk Baptist Church. Work began in writing a Church Covenant and Church Constitution.

January 28, 1894 Rev. C. W. Mathews was called as the first pastor. At a called Business Meeting, Sunday, April 30, 1905, it was

## COVENANT

of the

### South Norfolk Baptist Church

*Adopted November 30, 1893*

decided not to build a new church but to add an extension to the present edifice at the cost of about \$1,500.00. The annex would be 28'x30' and a baptismal pool and a steeple would be added.

The church was destroyed by fire June 13, 1914. The congregation had in contemplation the erection of a new church edifice and had been raising funds for that purpose for some time. On October 13, 1914, with \$10,000.00 on hand, ground was broken for the present church building. After selecting a plan with which to begin this work, the congregation rejected all bids for the work and the members erected the building with Johnson Brothers Contractors supervising at a cost of \$20,000.00 including the furnishings. The Dedication Service was held July 4, 1915.

On April 24, 1920 the church voted to start a mission (Southside Baptist Church). On June 20, 1926 they voted to erect a building for the mission at a cost of \$2,500.00.

In 1924 the church parsonage was erected on Chesapeake Avenue.

In 1953 a building program was started to make space for Sunday School with a balance of \$100,000.00 in the building fund, the church voted to build our present Educational Building. The cost of the building, including the furniture was \$265,000.00. The first services were held February 13, 1955.

On July 10, 1961 the church voted to reach out into the Princess Anne Plaza area of Virginia Beach. With a loan of \$50,000.00 land was purchased and a chapel erected. The chapel was organized into a church May 26, 1963, with Rev. Melvin Hughes, brother of Rev. Frank Hughes, Jr.

Today as we remember the vision the pastors and laymen of South Norfolk Baptist Church had, how can we not *"Take Hold Of Tomorrow"* to build not only churches but people to the glory of God.

*"Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain."* Psa. 127:1a NJV

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour, and on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we do now, in the presence of God, angels and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.

**We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love;**

To strive for the advancement of this church in knowledge, holiness, and comfort;

**To promote its prosperity and spirituality;**

To sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines;

**To give it a sacred preeminence over all institutions of human origin;**

To contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations.

**We also engage to maintain family and secret devotion;**

To religiously educate our children;

**To seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances;**

To walk circumspectly in the world;

**To be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our deportment;**

To avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger;

**To abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage, and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Saviour.**

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love;

**To remember each other in prayer;**

To aid each other in sickness and distress;

**To cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech;**

To be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation, and, mindful of the rules of our Saviour, to secure it without delay.

**We moreover engage, that when we remove from this place, we will as soon as possible unite with some other church, where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.**

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## CHARTER MEMBERS

J. D. Berry, J. W. Berry, Mrs. C. R. Brown, Miss Nannie Beasley, Miss Metta Ballance, J. S. Barron, J. W. Beasley, Miss Naomi Beasley, J. P. Downing, Miss Minnie Harrell, Thomas Hallows, Mrs. Thomas Hallows, Charles T. Hallows, James Johnson, Mrs. James (Julia) Johnson, Miss Clara Johnson, Miss Annie Johnson, Mrs. M. E. Keeter, Timothy Keeter, Mrs. Susan E. Knox, A. J. Madra, Miss Alice McHorney, William McPherson, Miss Kate Simmons, Miss Mary Shultz, Mrs. Annie D. Shultz, Miss Hattie Spence, A. W. Taylor, Mrs. A. W. Taylor, and Mrs. Annie Walker.

## HISTORY COMMITTEE

Bessie Briggs  
Billy Bryant  
Helen Cahoon  
Ray and Louise Curling  
Mutt Harrell  
Frank and Katharine Hughes  
Artwell and Stella Pierce  
Virgie Scott  
Earl and Billie Todd  
Walter VanDavier