

# Chapter 13. People in Service of the Lord

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Throughout its history, many people have served Castle Rock Christian Church, directly or indirectly.

## Pastors Who Have Served

Pastor William Huntington

Pastor Keathley Bailes

Pastor David Finley

Pastor Moses Warren

Pastor George T. Wilson

Pastor Godlove S. Orth Humbert

Pastor William A. Moore

Pastor Rickes (Listed in Orval Peterson's book. We could find no other information about him.)

Pastor David Trumble (Listed in Orval Peterson's book. We could find no other information about him.)

Pastor Dr. Everard Roy Moon and wife (Bessie Leone Huntington)

Pastor C. E. Daugherty November 7, 1908 Christian Standard

Pastor Fred Jackson January 25, 1911 Christian Standard. Note there is a related article in Chapter 2, page 30.

Pastor Aaron Hayes Mulkey 1913 - 1915

Pastor David Norcross

Pastor Harry Bell June 1916 – November 1916

Pastor Lee Sadler December 1917 – Sept 1918

Pastor E. L. Wood

Pastor Ted Goodwin, October 19, 1919 to January, 1922

Pastor Kenneth Arrent

Pastor Hugh McCallum August 1, 1923 – May 30<sup>th</sup> 1925

Pastor Kenneth Husby

Pastor Walter Straub

Pastor William W. Crabb 1927 - 1932

Pastor Earl C. Chandler 1932- July 6, 1933

Pastor Charles B. Osgood 1933 September 21 – June 1934 Died while pastor.

Pastor Edward R. Rogers 1934 - 1940

Pastor Roy A. Pittman 1940

Pastor Lafy P. Nebelung 1940 - 1943

Pastor Edward R Rogers 1943 - 1945  
Pastor Maynard Grandlund 1945 - 1946  
Pastor Wendell Small 1946 - 1953  
Pastor Kenneth Holsinger 1953 - 1955  
Pastor Larry Morley 1955 - 1959  
Pastor Martin Lee December 6, 1959 – 1979  
Youth Pastor Part Time: Chuck Nilsen 1974 - 1979  
Assistant Pastor Part Time: Bruce Caldwell 1975 – 1979  
Pastor Ed L. Miller 1979 - March 2000  
Missionary/Associate Pastor Dick Hugoniot August 1981 - June 1982  
Youth Pastor Part Time: Art Williams June 26<sup>th</sup> 1991 - 1992  
Youth Pastor Part Time: Doug Kennedy December 15, 1992 – 1996.  
Associate Pastor Doug Kennedy 1996 - Present  
Missionary/Interim Pastor Ken Davis April 2, 2000 – September 2, 2000  
Pastor Dr. John Leffler September 3, 2000 - Present

## Evangelists

In the early days and even recently within the memory of some of us, traveling evangelists held revival meetings that energized the small congregations. While none of these people directly pastored the church, they are nonetheless significant to the growth of the church.

A few of these evangelists of whom we have been able to find records are listed below. The dates signify when the evangelists directly visited or ministered to the church according to the available information.

T. F. Royal	Marion McQuary, 1952
Lewis Castell	Don and
John Rigdon, 1857	Teddy Leavitt, 1952
Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Jackson, 1908	Fred Hoy, 1953
A. A. Doak, January 25, 1911	Dave Vaughn, 1954
Walter Straub, May 23, 1913	Floyd Mackler, 1954
Teddy W. Leavitt, 1942, 1950	Elery A. Parrish, 1957
Haldane Duff, 1946	John W. Frye, 1958
Virgil Halbig, January 9-23, 1949	Elmo Robinson
Hervy Abercrombie, 1951	Mel Byers, 1969
	Tex Yearout, early 70's

## Past Elders

Here are the names of men who have served as elders in the past. The text following the list has some biographical information about some of them. There are others about which we know little or nothing. Finally, others are mentioned in other chapters in this book. The names are listed in the approximate order in which these people served. No doubt we have missed some of the early elders.

William Huntington  
Moses Warren  
J. K. Conger  
Benjamin Huntington  
Charlie Huntington  
F. E. Van Horne  
Jennie Studebaker\*  
William McCoy  
Hozy Drew  
Percy Affleck  
Pearl Campbell  
Jim Fuller

Robert Shulke  
Hiram Hurst  
Clarence Taylor  
Elmer Barnes  
Harold Haskins  
Bob Rockett  
Leon Engelbertson  
Harry Stottler  
Lloyd Hurst  
Vic Holcomb  
Ed Campbell  
Bruce Caldwell

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Note: Jennie Studebaker is the only woman listed as an elder. This information was taken from Pastor Charles Osgood's diary.

### **WILLIAM HUNTINGTON**

Chapter 1 tells the story of William Huntington.

### **MOSES WARREN**

Moses Warren was an early pastor as well as an elder. See page 10 in Chapter 1.

### **J. K. CONGER**

What we know about J. Kelsey Conger is on page 10 in Chapter 1.

### **BENJAMIN HUNTINGTON**

Benjamin Huntington was the grandfather of Dollie (Watkins) Holcomb, Perry Watkins Lottie Watkins Pier and served as church elder.



*Benjamin Huntington*

## CHARLIE HUNTINGTON



*The Charlie Huntington family*

Charlie served as an elder, and the family was raised in the church. Two of the girls dedicated their lives to full time service. See page 155 for details. Charlie's daughter, Lida, lived her life in Castle Rock and was a life long member of the Castle Rock Christian Church. She sold part of the land that the present church owns today for a very reasonable price and later donated the Charlie Huntington home and remaining property to the church shortly before she died. The present property is on the site where Charlie Huntington operated his dairy for many years.

## F. E. VAN HORNE

We have no information about Mr. Van Horne.

## JENNIE STUDEBAKER

Ted Goodwin tells Jennie Studebaker's story in the appendix "Ted Goodwin's Memories."

### WILLIAM MARION MCCOY



William Marion McCoy was a long-time elder who served in the early church.

*William Marion McCoy*

### HOZY DREW

Hozy Drew lived in Castle Rock most of his life and was involved in church leadership most of that time.

When he was in high school, he was state champion in pole vault and was also a member of the basketball team. At this time he was also Sunday School superintendent which makes him the youngest Sunday school superintendent in the history of the church.

Hozy's mother was a Sunday school teacher as evidenced by the photo that hangs on the wall at the Castle Rock Visitors' Center.

He was a deacon and elder for many years and was a leader among them. He was a politician and a strong Republican and on occasion would lecture the congregation on how to vote. Obviously this may have pleased some and angered others.

Joan Anderson reports that Hozy always washed dishes after church dinners which was no small chore in those days because the dishes were all washed and dried by hand.

Agnes operated a dry goods store where Bredfield's Hardware is today, and Hozy operated a service station located where the variety store is now. Directly north of Hozy's station was John Gilliland's garage. The Gillilands were also members of the church, and Mrs. Gilliland was very active. (Vic Holcomb worked for the Gillilands in their garage as a mechanic.)



*Agnes and Hozy Drew*

Agnes Drew taught Sunday school for many years. The Drews were also very close friends of Lucille Janisch, as she worked for Agnes in the store. After they retired they moved to Portland to be with their children.

### **PERCY AFFLECK**

Jean Shulke's father, Percy Affleck, was born in Scotland in 1888. By the time Percy was about 12 years old, extreme famine was gripping the family. Percy's mother was not able to feed herself and her children so in an act of desperation, she took the only option that seemed to be available to her and sold Percy age 12 and his brother Albert age 14 into indentured slavery to a family in Winnipeg, Canada. According to his daughter, Jean, this happened about 1902.



*Cora and Percy Affleck*

The boys lived with the family that owned them for some time, but were treated very poorly. They both ran away from their owners, and Percy worked his way to the United States and ended up in Vancouver, Washington because of a job. This is where he met his wife, Cora, (Buker) who was a cousin of the old-time Buker family of Castle Rock.

Percy and Cora were soon married and moved to Castle Rock. They lived in town when they first arrived. At that time only Cora was active in the church, but Percy attended occasionally. About 1930 they moved to a farm outside of town to what is known today as The Shulke Chicken Farm. Percy had been a nominal Christian for many years, but after this move he became very active in the church, soon began to teach Sunday School and became an elder and strong leader for the congregation. Cora taught Sunday school but was unable to be involved in women's activities during the week because of lack of transportation.

The Affleck farm is located in what used to be known as Scantygrease. This is an area west of the Cowlitz River where wagon trains stopped for food and supplies. Grease was a great luxury in those early days hence the name Scantygrease! When Cora moved there in the 30's she had a real problem with her address being Scantygrease and made a great effort to rename it. Dan Delameter had lived in the area the longest, and soon Cora was able to have the road renamed Delameter Road.

Cora was the driving force to develop land that was willed to the state for a park. She organized car caravans to Olympia to lobby the legislature to fund and develop it. She gained the support of *The Daily News* editor J. M. McClelland who wrote articles and helped campaign for its development. Today we know the land as Seaquest State Park. It is located a few miles east of Castle Rock on Spirit Lake Highway.

### **PEARL CAMPBELL**

Pearl Campbell was an elder at Castle Rock Christian Church in 1938 and also a Timothy. There is a photograph and a little more about him on page 157.

### **JIM FULLER**

Jim Fuller served as an elder during Larry Morley's ministry and was popular as the Candy Grandpa to the children. He built the first offering box after Martin Lee came.

### **ROBERT AND GLADYS SHULKE**

The Shulkes were very active in the Christian Church for many years. Bob would come to church Sunday evenings dressed in his logging attire with the exception of his cork boots. He would have to leave before the service was over to catch the train that took the men to logging camp for the week. Robert served as an elder and Sunday school teacher, and Gladys was a great supporter of missions and had a special interest in the Women's Temperance Society.



*Gladys and Robert Shulke*

### **HIRAM HURST**

Hiram served the church as an elder for more than 10 years in the 30's and 40's (His house was washed downstream during the flood of 1906. It was lodged on an island along with several other homes. It was later cut in sections, returned to Castle Rock and reconstructed on higher ground in Castle Rock.)



*Hiram Hurst*

### CLARENCE TAYLOR



*Elder Clarence Taylor and wife Mary*

We are sorry we have no information about Clarence's ministry. All we could learn is that his wife was an excellent seamstress and that he was highly respected and admired. He worked as a logger.

### ELMER BARNES



*Elder Elmer Barnes and wife, Clara*

Elmer was an elder for many years. He taught Sunday school and wrote many articles on the restoration movement and Alexander Campbell. Clara Barnes played the organ and piano. Elmer worked for Weyerhaeuser Co. as a timber faller, and they lived on a farm east of Toledo. Both were members of the church for more than 25 years.

They had one daughter, Ruth, and two sons, Melton and John.

### HAROLD HASKINS.

Harold Haskins served as an elder for more than twenty years. We have no records to consult, but we do have some folks with good memories. He worked for Weyerhaeuser Timber Company and held several positions with them including paymaster, regional controller over the Headquarters Camp area, and he finished his career as an accountant. He also served as a board member of the Weyerhaeuser Timber Credit Union.

Harold was highly respected in the community and church and became an elder in the late 1950's. His professional skills were used for the church when it came to financial matters, especially when



the church entered into the building program in 1965. He helped guide it through loan negotiations with the Board of Church Extension. He also contributed his skill to raise funds and convince our members that we could accomplish the goal of a new building. He also served as chairman of the congregation and chairman of the board of elders for many years.

### **BOB ROCKETT**



*Bob and Sadie Rockett*

Bob Rockett was born at Fort Vancouver in 1887 and lived most of his life in the Castle Rock area. He passed away in 1972. Most folks believe that Bob Rockett became an elder around 1949 or 1950. We have a picture of him at Bible Rock Camp about 1953. Les Greene reports that Bob was a wonderful man very dedicated to his work as an elder.

His family memoirs state that he was a kind and gentle man good at math and music. His son Leslie and family also attended Castle Rock Christian Church.

It has been noted that Bob was a great supporter of the new building, lending his retirement funds to the Board of Church Extension to help guarantee the church loan. He also spent a considerable amount of time helping with the construction. When it was time to install insulation in the rafters, the first night Bob and Les Greene along with 16 other volunteers gathered to begin the work. The next night only three people showed up. The following two and one half weeks Les and Bob worked alone. By the time they had finished the project they had, in effect, insulated over one third of an acre of roof.

According to Jim Pomeroy, in Bob's later years, after his wife passed away, he would faithfully chauffeur four or five widow ladies to church each Sunday. People jokingly referred to them as his "harem." Bob sold his farm to Glen Campbell and it is the home of Dave and Lois Campbell today.

In doing this research we found reference to a Pastor A. J. Campbell of the Christian church here in August of 1920 listed in his family memoirs. We can only conclude that he was a summer interim pastor as that was the time Ted Goodwin was here.

### LEON ENGELBERTSON



Leon served as an elder and was very involved with all aspects of the new church building that we occupy today. He was the main church representative in dealing with the contractor who had been hired to construct the new building. Leon put in countless hours shopping for the best prices and assuring that our building was constructed properly.

*Leon Engelbertson.*

### HARRY STOTTLER

Harry Stottler was a retired barber and transferred to our church from the Christian church in Payette Idaho. He and his wife, Vera, lived in Ryderwood. He was a great handyman around the church.

### LLOYD HURST



Lloyd Hurst was an elder and deacon who served many years of devoted service as Sunday School secretary and church treasurer. Lloyd and his wife, Edythe, both sang in the choir.

Lloyd served in the European Theater during World War II.

*Lloyd Hurst*

### VIC HOLCOMB

There is an article about Vic Holcomb on page 185 of this chapter.

## ED CAMPBELL



*Ed and Clara Campbell*

Ed and his wife, Clara, joined our church in the mid 1970's.

Ed Campbell became an elder in 1980 and was an influential leader in encouraging us to build the new sanctuary as well as responsible for expanding our vision about the size of the building.

He had a heart condition and knew that he did not have long to live. During his short time as an elder, Ed's main message to us as a church was to lift Jesus up! He also continually reminded us that no matter what kind of difficulties we are experiencing "we are seated with Christ in the heavenly places."

While Ed came to us from a Pentecostal background, he encouraged all of us to seek the Lord in a spirit of unity. We had a difference in understanding of spiritual gifts within the eldership, and at one point all of the elders addressed the congregation about their individual stands on the matter. This was done in a great spirit of love and unity. Ed had great respect for his fellow elders and did not let his personal understanding of spiritual gifts affect the unity of the eldership. He was not the only elder who held this position. Ed passed away in 1982.

There is more about Clara Campbell in "Our Missionaries."

## BRUCE CALDWELL

See the appendix about Pastor Bruce Caldwell.

# Women in the Church

## HISTORY OF LADIES' CIRCLES

Some years ago there were five women's circles, the Mary, Rebekah, Sarah, Gleaners and Pauline Circles that met at night. The Pauline Circle is still functioning today. These ladies planned potlucks, cooked funeral dinners, and helped cater weddings (which began in 1963). Some of them also made layettes for babies for the Caring Pregnancy Center. Besides having a lesson each month, they did projects during the course of the year.

The Paulines have cooked meals at Community House (a shelter for the homeless) and also have funded toys etc., for our nursery. Besides making layettes, the Pauline Circle has made lap robes for nursing homes and supported an orphanage in Korea.

## WOMEN'S CONTRIBUTIONS

Certainly the women of the church have been involved from the very beginning when William Huntington was walking about the Indian trails, preaching in those few homes built along Arkansas Creek and Hazel Dell.

The very first reference to the work of the women of the church is as follows: "The parsonage was constructed through the efforts of the Church Ladies Aid Society in 1894-95." Then Pastor Aaron Mulkey, in 1914, reported the following information in his article in the *Christian Standard*: "Aid Society made improvements on the church and parsonage, paid off a long-standing debt, and have cash in hand for further improvements."

During remodeling of the church building in 1936, according to Dorothy Adams, the women worked feverishly to raise funds for the project and keep the church from debt. It is thought that some time in the 1930's the Ladies Aid Society changed its name to Christian Women's Fellowship.

Janie Damschen states that "in earlier times the women met together once a month for devotions and to hear a speaker. It was named Christian Women's Fellowship. They supported missionaries, took charge of the wedding receptions and bought needed items for the church, especially the kitchen."

## CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Christian Women's Fellowship (C. W. F.) met once a month with all the circles together, usually with a special speaker with women's interests in mind. One year they had a bridal gown fashion showing, a mother's tea and a tasting tea. The C. W. F., for a fund-raiser, has compiled cookbooks that included many of our family favorites. The C. W. F. was disbanded in 1989 or 1990.

## BEV POWELL

Within the body of the Castle Rock Christian Church there are many women who are very talented. Often, men are given the highlight position, and the women are not given the notice that they most certainly deserve.



We asked Bev Powell, an author in her own right and a remarkable woman, to share with us a piece of her work illustrating the value of women and their precious roles. Even though this is a book dealing with the history of Castle Rock Christian Church, we cannot allow it to ignore some of the more creative "juices" of the people who make up this body of faith.

*Bev Powell*

Bev and her husband served as short-term missionaries with Wycliffe Bible Translators.

Those described here are many of the women who have given so much to the work and ministry of this church.

#### WOMEN OF FAITH

These lovely Christian ladies are a mosaic of jewels and beauty, shining brightly in our church yesterday and today. Each one is a composition of many who have gone through similar testing of faith. Therefore, they are presented as one.

*Pearl* is very precious in God's sight. She is elderly and frail having lived a long life of trials and faith. She shines with an inner beauty revealing the Light of Jesus through her countenance.

*Emerald* is a beautiful gem who has lost her husband through death. By faith she knows that Jesus is her husband, protector and provider. She clings to Him for her every need.

*Beryl* has lost a child through death. As she grieves she knows she must not give in to her sorrow. By faith she reaches out to family and friends with a caring heart; a heart that meets the needs of others. She carefully nurtures her other children who need her more than ever.

*Diamond* has given long term care to an ailing or physically injured husband. Her faith in God sparkles in this difficult situation. She trusts God in the daily choices she must make. She knows the presence of God because she relies totally on Him.

*Sapphire* has stood firm in a slipping, sliding marital relationship. In some cases the husband comes back to her as she waits in faith; others have watched the husband walk away bringing painful divorce. Her faith is strong that God will take care of her every need. In faith she continues her life.

*Turquoise* prays in faith, sometimes for many years for her children to come to the Lord. Some of them just don't care, some have run away and she has no idea where they are. Others are nearby, their lives being ruined by drugs or alcohol Her faith never wavers to her dying day that they will come to the Lord no matter how bad the situation. Her faith endures

*Jade* has suffered loss of material things through fire, flood, or in this area a mudslide from Mt. St. Helens. She has lost everything she has but has not lost a thing because God's presence is near. Her faith is in God alone, not in mere possessions.

*Opal* has faith in God when finance troubles have come or her husband has lost his job. Her faith clings tightly to God, knowing that He is in charge of all things and will provide for them no matter how desperate the circumstances are.

*Amethyst* has patiently endured chronic physical or emotional pain, living with health problems which make her life more difficult. Her gentle spirit shows through as she ministers to others. She trusts the God who created her as she draws closer to Him through the refining fire.

These are some of the women of faith. We do not always know the struggles they have gone through but recognize them as Handmaidens of the Lord who put their complete trust in Him. They are truly a blessing to all.

### **ELIZA HUNTINGTON 1823 - 1896**

Eliza and William Huntington were married June 23, 1839 in Brown County, Indiana. Their lives and their move from Indiana to Washington are described in Chapter 1.

After Eliza and William took up a land donation claim and founded Castle Rock, she became the typical pioneer wife caring for the family while William was gone days at a time ministering for the church and performing his legislative duties.

*An interesting note:* Eliza could have been one of the first women to be allowed to vote because the Washington Territory was the among the first in the nation to vote in women's suffrage. This occurred in 1883 while William was serving in the territorial legislature.



*Eliza Huntington*

William and Eliza were very kind and thoughtful folks and gave the Castle Rock Methodist Church the property their building occupies today. It is sad that we do not have more facts about Eliza, but I believe that she was a very strong influence on the success that is chronicled about William Huntington. Together they raised a total of six children. Both William and Eliza spent their last days living with their son George Huntington.

William and Eliza left a legacy of Christian leadership and faith in Jesus Christ that is exhibited not only by their descendants but those who worship here today. They have passed on the vision of reaching out to their fellow man through the ministry of the Castle Rock Christian Church and their Christian influence continues to affect many parts of the world today.

### THANKFUL (DEMING) PITTMAN



Thankful  
(Deming) Pittman

Thankful's husband, Henry Pittman, owned a newspaper, the *Cowlitz Bulletin*, in Kelso. He had an affair with his secretary, so he left Thankful and their six children.

Longview was just in the process of being built, so there were no houses for rent in Longview or Kelso. Henry found an old rundown house in the south end of Castle Rock for the family. That was 1923. He continued to give her support money but after two years he sold the newspaper and disappeared with the woman.

Thankful prayed for him and asked God to forgive him.

After waiting for a period of time, she decided that he wasn't coming back so she had to file for divorce.

Thankful was a Baptist, but at that time, there was no Baptist church in Castle Rock, so she and her family attended the Christian church. She was very active in the church, and on several occasions she counseled with some young people who were on the verge of making some big mistakes. She took other people's children into her home on several occasions even though she could barely take care of her own family. She also served as a deaconess in the church until the pastor told her she would have to resign because she was a divorced woman. That really hurt.

Thankful washed and ironed and did housework for other people to make a living for her family because when Henry left, the child support payments stopped. Later she had a job at a restaurant called The Barbecue, so she had to work on Sundays. That meant an end to her work for the church. She attended whenever she could though. Regardless of the fact that she had to spend so much time away from her children because of her work outside the home, she instilled good morals and values in them and taught them by her actions about what love means. Now there are grandchildren and great grandchildren. They are a close family and have love for each other.

Note: John Stuart, retired Castle Rock Jr. High School teacher and basketball coach, past member and deacon of the church is Thankful Pittman's grandson.

### MAUDE (DEMING) WELLS



Maude Wells was Thankful Pittman’s sister. She was a nurse, working in a hospital. She was giving up her job to enroll in Moody Bible Institute when she found out that Henry Pittman had left his family destitute. She immediately gave up her plans and came to Castle Rock to help her sister.

Soon Maude was involved in the Christian church. She taught a Sunday school class called the “Willing Workers.” She was also involved in the Ladies Aid Society. She probably served as a deaconess, also.

*Maude (Deming) Wells*

When Maude began to attend the Christian church, she was a “spinster.” After she had lived with Thankful and her family for five years, a good-looking bachelor with black hair and a black shiny new Model T Ford moved to Castle Rock and began to attend the Christian Church. There were several maiden ladies who had their eye on him, but Maude was the winner. After a year of courtship, they were married in the church.

Maude was still taking care of sick people as a nurse. Also, she was a “prayer warrior” and had a long prayer list. After she was married, Maude still helped Thankful’s family. She was a strong influence in their lives.

Both of these articles were contributions from Rose (Pittman) Johnson about her mother, Thankful Pittman, and her aunt, Maude (Deming) Wells.

### MYRTLE STEPHENSON

Myrtle was a member of the Gore family who were all very much involved in the life of Castle Rock Christian Church for many years. One ministry that both Myrtle and her sister Nona Little shared was a 15-minute weekly radio program where they sang Christian songs and shared their faith.



*Myrtle Stephenson*

In 1948 Myrtle’s husband passed away, and soon her family had all grown up and left home which allowed her to pursue the adventure and ministry of her life. After prayerful consideration, Myrtle left Castle Rock in 1951 to join the staff of Central Washington Bible College in Selah,

Washington as the school's cook. It was an act of faith as she did not receive a salary and had to work jobs in nursing homes and local fruit canneries to support herself. Myrtle was given the small church parsonage for housing and shared this with three girls for the first school year.

Fifty-three years later these girls still recall fond memories of their experiences of living with Myrtle.

A few years later her brother Delbert Gore, who had been severely injured in a logging accident, came to live with her and required considerable extra care. He had a small pension that allowed her to stay at home to care for him and still perform her cooking ministry for her students whom she loved very much. Both students and faculty really enjoyed Myrtle's cooking, and they always enjoyed gently teasing her and joking around with her because she was always such a good sport.

When she retired, she moved to Longview and lived next to her daughter, Wanda Nelson, continuing her service to the Lord and keeping track of "her" students.

Two items come to students' minds when thinking of Myrtle's cooking. Almond Roca candy that she made from her personal recipe was a Christmas favorite, and everyone really loved her homemade cinnamon rolls.

Myrtle most of all really loved the Lord, and was always ready to give account for the reason for her faith. According to her own family, at family gatherings Myrtle was avoided by those of her own family who were not Christians because they knew they were going to be admonished to accept Christ into their lives, and they were not ready to deal with God or Myrtle. She often had the opportunity to share in the lives of some of the students as they learned of her strong faith and relied on her advice and counsel.

Myrtle spent 17 years serving the Lord as cook and had the opportunity to make a valued contribution to many students' lives, some of whom still serve as pastors and missionaries.

Myrtle also served as cook at Bible Rock Camp for several years and was much appreciated for this ministry. Joyce Bilderback, one of the very early students, asked that we mention that Myrtle often sang at church services and other gatherings. Joyce remembers her true contralto voice, and recalled that two of her favorite songs were "Wonderful Peace" and "Never Alone."

God bless the memory of Myrtle Stephenson.

## SULAR FROST



*Sular Frost*

Sular was a very faithful member of Castle Rock Christian Church for many years, and her husband would invite folks home for dinner after church. Sular would begin dinner preparations by killing the chicken.

Years earlier she lived on West Side Highway near the Arkansas Creek Bridge and would walk to church services twice on Sunday and again for Wednesday night prayer meetings and any other special church events. Those who remember her all said that the church was her whole life.

She had the gift of helps and was always helping folks in need. Words like warm, loving, caring and consistent aptly describe her. Pastor Martin Lee would often mention her in his sermons and was inspired by her faith.

Sular's extended family all joined her for church as a surprise 80<sup>th</sup> birthday present. It is believed that the number of relatives that attended was close to 60. She was truly surprised and very pleased.

Sular was Dorothy Adams' mother and Wilma Braizer's grandmother.



*Pastor Martin Lee with Sular Frost at Sular's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday party.*

## LOTTIE (WATKINS) PIER



*Lottie (Watkins) Pier*

Lottie (Watkins) Pier was a great-granddaughter of William Huntington and the oldest member of the Henry Watkins family. She was a sister of Dollie Holcomb, Flossie Hamilton, Frank, Ray, Richard, Phillip and Perry Watkins.

Lottie devoted a life time of service to her Savior and Lord. She was a member of the Castle Rock Christian Church longer than anyone else to this date. Lottie, like most of her family, helped her mother with the janitorial duties of the church because this was the Watkins ministry for many years.

Lottie served the Lord in personal ministry early in life and played piano and taught Sunday school for over 63 years but was finally forced to retire because of a broken hip.

## EVELYN DAVIS

Evelyn was influenced for Christ when Gertie Janisch began in 1940 to pick up Evelyn's son, Ken, and take him with her family to Sunday school and church in Castle Rock. Later Marilyn, Ken's sister, joined them. That eventually led to Evelyn's interest and attendance. In 1948 Pastor Wendell Small baptized Evelyn, along with her children, Ken and Marilyn. Evelyn and Peggy Jarrett were new Christians at about the same time, and they encouraged each other greatly in their spiritual growth.



*Evelyn Davis*

Ken remarked that he has never seen anyone grow in Christ faster than his mother. It wasn't long before she was playing piano for worship services. She was a Sunday school teacher and later Sunday school superintendent. Although Evelyn and her husband, Linn, moved from Castle Rock to Portland in 1954, those years and the influence of Bible Rock Camp during that time made Evelyn a maturing, dynamic Christian. Evelyn spent the remainder of her life as a serving and contributing member in the St. Johns Christian Church in Portland.

## CHARLOTTE GREENE



*Charlotte Greene*

Charlotte was the mother of Les Greene and Beverly Powell. She served as Sunday school superintendent in the late 1930's and early 1940's. She also served as Sunday school teacher and led devotions for the ladies circles for many years.

## Other People We Remember

### PERRY WATKINS

Perry is the youngest member of the Phillip Watkins family and the second longest-term member of the church. He has been a member for almost 80 years at the time of this writing. As a very young boy, Perry was involved in early ministry. See page 44. His mother, Agnes, was in



*Perry Watkins served as Castle Rock's postmaster for 20 years.*

charge of the janitor's work at the church and made sure that her family took part in the ministry of chopping and fueling the wood furnace, ringing the bell as well and cleaning and maintenance of the church.

When Perry grew up he became a deacon and served as Sunday school superintendent and presided over one of the largest Sunday schools in the history of the church, at times exceeding 220 people. He was very active in promoting and securing our present building. He held the same job as did his great grandfather, William Huntington, who was Castle Rock's first postmaster.

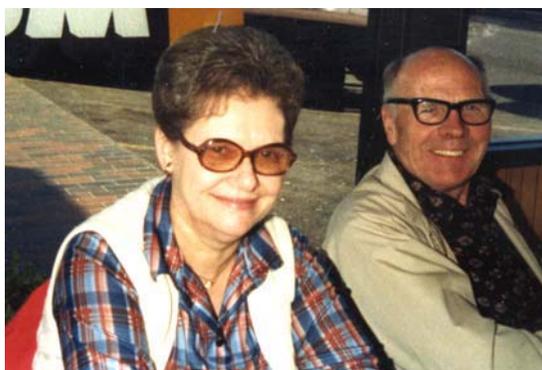
### **JERRY AND HAZEL CARNAHAN**

Jerry served as a deacon and taught Sunday School. Their daughter Wanda married Pastor Earl Johnson.



*Hazel and Jerry Carnahan*

### **CURT AND PEGGY JARRETT**



*Peggy and Curt Jarrett*

was a friend to everyone, with many spiritual children.

Curt served as a deacon and was very involved with construction the new sanctuary.

Peggy played the piano and organ and was a choir member for many years.

Peggy was a woman of faith and prayer, intercessor for the church, an encourager to the body of Christ and on occasion gave oral prophecies. She expressed great joy in her music. She

## Other Ministries

### THE MINISTRY OF VIC AND DOLLIE HOLCOMB

These discussions of Castle Rock Christian Church history have mentioned pastors, evangelists and missionaries. It is obvious that Castle Rock Christian Church has had many devoted lay men and women who were very strong witnesses for Jesus Christ and who have ministered within the church body over the past 150 years. These lay people have served over the years but have often gone without mention because of the lack of a detailed written history.



*Dollie and Vic Holcomb*

Most members of Castle Rock Christian Church would heartily agree that the many years of ministry of Dollie and Vic Holcomb have been a great service and example to those following in their steps. During this quest to revisit Castle Rock Christian Church history, an amazing fact has surfaced. Dollie (Watkins) Holcomb has been a member of this church for over half of the 150-year history. Moreover, Dollie is a direct descendent of William Huntington.

Her mother, Agnes Watkins, and Dollie's sisters and brothers served during the 1920's and 30's as janitors of the church, caring for the everyday physical needs of the church such as building fires in the wood furnace, sweeping out the building and keeping it clean and neat for the services during the week and on Sundays, tolling the church bell for funerals, and calling the congregation to worship each Sunday morning.

The job of janitor came to Dollie and Vic permanently about 1947, after Pastor Wendell Small experienced a wood-cutting accident that prevented him from continuing his duties as janitor. Vic and Dollie stepped in and maintained this ministry until January 1, of 2002. During those many years, they did a superb job and did the work as a ministry, being paid only a small amount as compared to their devoted work and countless hours they put in.

Dollie has shared the duties of preparing communion for more than 60 years, and has hosted a women's Bible study in her home for close to 40 years.

For many years the Holcombs were the backbone of Castle Rock Christian Church camp experiences. Vic and Dollie were regular counselors each year at Thetis Island Camp, always providing transportation and pulling a trailer with all of the camping gear. Vic could always be counted on for transportation for youth activities whenever extra transportation was needed. Vic and Dollie were the people who made things happen at the Dunes Bible Camp at Long Beach, Washington. Dollie cooked, and Vic attended to all of the details that made the camp successful. This camp was always held over Presidents weekend in February and was a regular church activity for more than 10 years.

Vic has served both as a deacon and elder, and he has held the very responsible job of church treasurer for over 30 years. He still performs this important task today. Vic has also served as Sunday school secretary for more than 18 years.

Both Vic and Dollie labored hard and long when circumstances were very difficult, through times of great trouble and strife in the church, during periods when others found it too difficult to continue and left the body. Not only did they stay and continue their ministries, but they have always been a source of positive encouragement and example to the rest of the congregation. Vic and Dollie have always been a beacon of stability and a real brother and sister in Christ for so many years.

Their home has always been given to hospitality and open to guests of the church. They often provided a place to stay for traveling pastors or missionaries. On one occasion they provided a bed for a fellow church brother who could not make it to his home because of severe flooding that caused the bridge over the Cowlitz River at Castle Rock to be closed. In 1969 Lenard and Lindarae Hovde can personally remember the wonderful hospitality offered to them of a place to stay while they located a apartment after they had returned to Castle Rock from three years service in the navy.

Vic and Dollie have forever left a mark in the history of Castle Rock Christian Church. They have lived out a commitment to Christ by serving others and have provided a path and example showing the rest of the body how members of Christ's church should minister to one another.

### **OTHER MINISTRIES**

Of course there are those who are involved in ministries of whom we are unaware. We can praise God for the great foundation that the ministries of Teddy Leavitt, Bible Rock Camp and Central Washington Bible College and all of those who were a part of the past 63 years who have helped inspire many of us to be involved in our ministries today.

It has been a great blessing for this writer as I have researched this information to look back and review these wonderful but sometimes difficult times and realize that it is important to have an eye on the past as we view the unknown future.

## People Supported in Mission Work in the Past

### MISSIONARIES FROM THE PAST

Castle Rock Christian Church has a long history of supporting mission work. The document “Our Missionaries” lists those whom we currently support. Here are some who have served short term and lifelong in the past.

Mel Beyers

Maxine Hollister

Jung Woo Han

David and Beth Brooks

Yoon Kwon Chae

George Juola

Janie Damschen

Chuck and Carleen Goertler

Ron and Marta Randall

Cordell and Marlene Stone

Bob and Jolene Greene

Jeff Tippner

Ferris and Gladys McClellen

Don and Bev Powell

Bob Cole

## Ministries Supported At Home in the Past

McKinley Indian Mission

North American Indian Mission

Caring Pregnancy Center

International. Disaster Emergency  
Service

Christian Church/ Vancouver

Love All People

Christian Military Fellowship Love  
Inc.

Cornerstone Ministry

Puget Sound College of the Bible

Emmanuel Gospel Center

St. John Hospital Chaplaincy

## Missions Supported Abroad in the Past

David Gourley Ministries

Foundation for His Ministry

Gospel for Asia

Liberia Inland Mission

The Mustard Seed

No. Canada Evangelical Mission

Summer Institute of Linguistics

Teen Mania

YWAM - Mercy Ships and Youth

With a Mission

“And don’t hold back.  
Throw yourselves  
into the work  
of the Master,  
confident that  
nothing you do  
for him is a waste  
of time or effort.”

II Cor. 15:58b. The Message.

