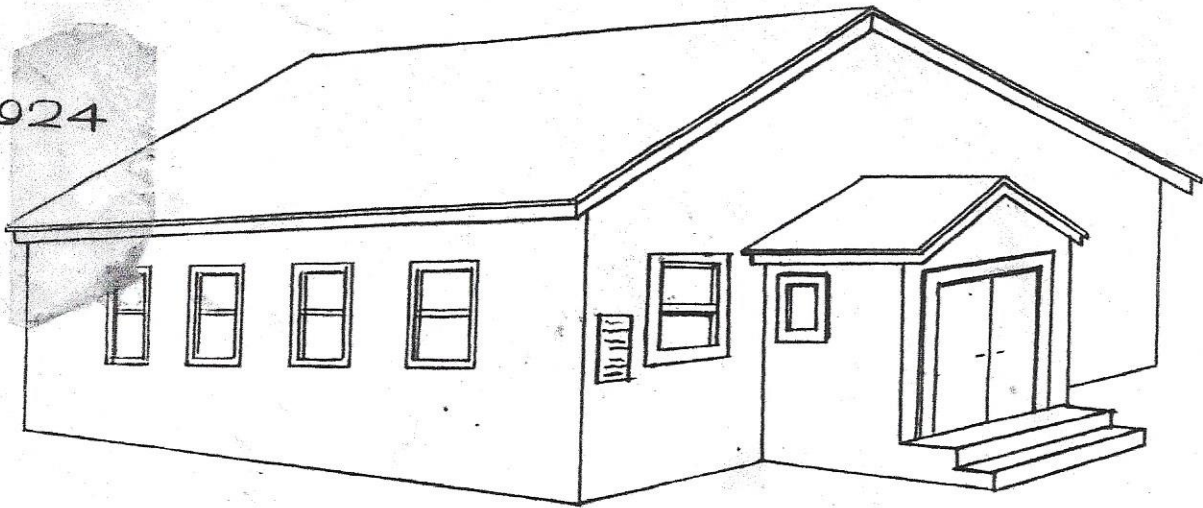


1924



1957 ?



1964



CH

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.

Proverbs 3:6

Thankful for all other help received in compiling this  
History of the Church of God in Christ--Harvey, Illinois 60426

15046 Honore Avenue

## INTRODUCTION

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. James 1:5

Sometimes, we as people, fail to realize the importance of keeping records. Only when certain documents are needed do we realize the importance of them.

History,<sup>45</sup> an account of what has happened is very important. Not only to those who are here now, but invaluable to those who will come after.

Procrastination, the thief of time, causes us to regret not doing what should have been done a long time (years) ago. The history of the Church of God in Christ in Harvey should have been kept up to date year by year. I blame myself for not keeping a personal record from about 1962. It was during that year, that I was impressed with the idea that we should have a Church Historian.

We are now attempting to compile a History of the Harvey Church of God in Christ as it was known from its inception--now known as The St. Andrew Temple Church of God in Christ. At best this will only be a vague account with many generalizations. Hopefully our future accounts will be accurate and factual.

THIS IS MY CHURCH

By Dr. Ozora Davis

Here through beautiful service I come close to God  
And to my human comrades in worship  
Here in many ways I learn the truths by which  
I may live a brave, happy and useful life  
Here I gain the strength by which I become  
that which I've learned I ought to be.  
Here I find comfort in my sorrows, courage  
in my struggle, joy in my victories.  
Here I come into union with Christ,  
My Master and Friend

## EARLY SETTLERS

And all that believed were together, and had all things common. Acts 2:44'

How did they all arrive at the same place? Certainly it must have been by Divine Providence.

From many states--for many reasons--some economic I'm sure--they arrived in Harvey, Illinois.

Deacon William Gibson, the founder of this church married and came to Harvey in 1917 from Georgia. He and his wife Pearl (who later became Church Mother of the Harvey COGIC) worshipped with Elder William Roberts (who later became a Bishop) at 31st. and La Salle Street in Chicago, Illinois until 1921. In the same year the Gibsons started services in their <sup>HOME</sup> in Harvey.

Some of the Gibson sons and daughters were saved and became members of the church. Mrs. Magnolia Gibson Nicholson is the only known child that is yet living. She is currently a resident of Harvey, but not a member of this church.

In the early years the Watson and Wheeler families were members of the Methodist Church. Later they accepted the Lord and placed their membership in the Harvey Church. Father Wilson Watson was the Sunday School Superintendent for many, many years. His wife Ada, was the first in the family to be saved. They raised a large family of sons and daughters--all yet living at this writing--scattered in many places. Some saved, with many

accomplishments to their credit.

One son Dr. T. T. Rose is pastoring in Springfield, Illinois. Dr. Rose is also one of the Administrative Assistants to Bishop L. H. Ford--First Jurisdiction of Central Illinois. Another son, Dr. James T. Watson is pastoring in Chicago, Illinois. He is also the State YPNW President of First Jurisdiction of Central Illinois. Another son, Albert W. Watson and his family are yet members of the Harvey Church. Albert is currently a Deacon, Trustee Chairman and Sunday School Superintendent--following in his father's footsteps.

Mother Nancy Wheeler, the sister to Mother Ada Watson, also raised a large family. At anniversary time, she often told about the little red pushcart that she used to carry her small children to the house to house services. Many of her saved sons and daughters have accomplished much in the field of Divine Labor.

Father Farris, the father of Ada Watson and Nancy Wheeler, was also an early settler and a member of the Harvey Church.

In 1921 Lalia Woodson was saved under the first pastor, Elder Joseph Staples. Her husband, Sylvester Woodson, was saved in 1924 and also healed of a heart condition.

Elder Harry Davis and his wife Anna, came to Illinois in 1923 and moved to Harvey in 1925. Over the years, some members of the Davis family have been worshipping at the Harvey Church. At this writing, some are scattered in various other parts of the United States. Some yet professing a Hope in Christ, but none

are currently members of this church.

Mother Rateree, another early settler, was a woman of great Faith. She was the sister to the Founder--Deacon William Gibson. She and her family lived and served in Harvey. At present no members of her family are serving with us.

Other early settlers include--Sister Holmes, Brother and Sister Lumford, Sister Love, Mother Rena Lee, Elder and Sister Bryant, Mother Malinda Cantrell--her son, Elder Henry Cantrell and daughter, Sister Maude Thornton, Sister Lalia Woodson and Sister Katherine Latham--her son and daughter.

Another settler,<sup>was</sup> Mother Clara Cantrell and her family. The oldest son, Howard D. (now deceased) served as the Pastor of this church for a very brief period. The oldest daughter, Mother Vera Williams (now deceased) was the wife of our former Pastor--Elder Andrew Williams, who served for 32 years. Another daughter, Mother Carrie Cantrell now serves as the State Mother of Central Illinois--First Jurisdiction under Bishop Louis H. Ford. The youngest daughter, Sister Clara Agnes Clemmons, is the wife of Bishop Ithiel Clemmons of New York and the International Chairlady of the Youth Department. Another daughter, Sister Etta P. Cantrell is the only one yet serving in the Harvey Church. She is currently the Church Secretary.

## THE BUILDING

So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work.

Nehemiah 4:6

The house to house meeting began in 1921. Early in 1923, the saints got together and purchased the ground that our present building stands on. We are told that the first three pennies were given by the late John Johnson. Later material was purchased to put up a building.

When the weather was suitable a tent was pitched and services were held under it. During the winter of '23, Elder Joseph Staples, the first pastor, allowed the saints to come into his home, which was next door to the purchased property, so that service could continue until the building was ready.

On the fourth Sunday in March, 1924, the saints marched into the new building. My earliest recollections of the building include an outside covering of plain brown siding, with a foundation of cedar posts. The entrance faced Honore Avenue with two or three steps leading up to the small vestibule. There was one restroom outside at the back, with running water. We had benches for seats, plain globe lights and an alarm clock for the time. For our comfort heat was provided by a coal heater that had to be filled--shaken--and the ashes carried out. The offering



pans were plain tin pie plates covered with wine velvet. I suppose the velvet was to keep the change from sounding so loud when put into the pans. The coverings were made by one of the sisters of the church. Our music was provided by an upright piano.

As time progressed improvements were made in the building-- a foundation of cement pillars, cement walls and a basement. The entrance which was changed to face 151st Street, was designed by our own Deacon Albert Watson. The restrooms were put inside, the benches were replaced with comfortable pews and new lights were installed. They purchased new windows--glass brick for the front ones and we changed from a Big Ben to an electric clock on the wall. The heating system had changed from coal to oil to a gas furnace. Regular church offering pans were purchased and the aisles, pulpit and choirstand were carpeted. The music--from a new spinet to a new Baby Grand piano and also an organ.

As the remodeling continued the church was raised and a basement put in. The restrooms were put in the lower level with space for a kitchen and dining area.

The walls were brick veneered in 1964. The front changed again, yet facing 151st Street. The bricking of the church in 1964 cannot be mentioned without remembering Elder Earl Brooks--son-in-law to early settler Mother Clara Cantrell. His wife was daughter, Nina, now deceased. He was an associate minister at Harvey Church for many years. He worked untiringly to see that the brick work was completed. Inspiring the members to give--

pledges were taken and the work completed. Elder Brooks now lives in Jackson, Mississippi where he pastors two churches in the surrounding area. His daughter, Thayer Baker, is a member of the Harvey Church.

The Dedication and Corner Stone Laying after this major change was held on Sunday November 22, 1964 at 2:00 PM. The sermon was given by Bishop Louis H. Ford and the laying of the Corner Stone by Elder Andrew Williams assisted by Elder Earl Brooks. The woodmason was Deacon Mc Alister.

The last major changes--an addition on the west end of the building. This addition made the choir stand larger and increased the basement space. Also a new Pastor's study was added to the north side of the building.

## THE PASTORS

Ministers, as the shepherds of churchly flocks. Ephesians 4:11

And I shall give you Pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding. Jeremiah 3:15

The pastors have been many. Elder Andrew Williams, who served longer than all those before him put together, <sup>WILL</sup> will be discussed in a later chapter. The account of the Pastors will be vague as to year and time. If some are not listed in their order it is because of a lack of records.

Most agree that Elder Joseph Staples was the first pastor. He hailed from the state of Georgia with his wife and family. Some of the children were born in Illinois--three sons and nine daughters. At this writing one son and seven daughters are yet living. None are serving at this church. Elder Staples passed in January of 1961.

On record we have the following serving as Pastors: Elder Washington; Elder West--some say about one month; Father Andrew W. White Sr.--pastored during the last of 1926 and all of 1927. He died January 26, 1928 while yet the pastor. Elder Howard Cantrell, the son of Mother Clara Cantrell also served, along with Elder Herndon and Elder William Smith, who lived until after Elder Andrew Williams had begun pastoring the church. We remember

Elder Smith well, he came back to Harvey quite often and Elder Williams would always let him preach. Mother Williams would always give him dinner and if it was late in the evening when he arrived she had to make him coffee. We loved him and enjoyed him.

Other pastors include--Elder Calhoun; Elder A. A. Childs, who later became a Bishop and served in the state of New York; Elder Andrew W. White Jr., son of Father Andrew White Sr. was called to pastor on January 18, 1938. The most extensive remodeling of the church building was begun while he pastored. Elder White served until 1945. In 1945 Elder Cain Scott came and served until sometime in 1948. Elder Scott later became a Bishop. He was followed by Elder Andrew Williams who served from August 1948 until his death, June 14, 1980. Our present Pastor is Elder Samuel E. DeBose.

## ELDER ANDREW WILLIAMS

Songs: "You May Count On Me"  
"Jesus Is The Light"  
"Jesus You Brought Me-All The Way"

Elder Andrew Williams was born October 3, 1900 in Le Flore County--Woodville, Mississippi. He lived in Mississippi until he was about seventeen years old and then he went to Cleveland, Ohio. He was saved under Elder Mack E. Jonas in 1920 on Christmas Day.

He was married to Miss Vera F. Cantrell on December 28, 1922 in Harvey, Illinois by Bishop William Roberts. The father of three sons, two daughters and father guardian to one daughter.

In 1927 Elder Williams was called to preach and he pastored a small mission in Phoenix, Illinois for about seven years. For seven years he served as assistant pastor to Bishop Cain Scott in the Harvey COGIC. In August of 1948, Bishop William Roberts appointed Elder Andrew Williams the pastor of the Harvey Church of God in Christ.

He has held many positions during his many years in the Service of the Lord. He was District Sunday School Superintendent of the South Eastern District with Elder F. G. Green (who is now a Jurisdictional Bishop) as the District Superintendent. At that time Mother Mamie Covington was the District Missionary, Mother

Covington now serves as an assistant to State Mother Cantrell.

The first annual meeting of South Central District was held July 30 thru August 4, 1956 with Elder Williams as District Superintendent and Mrs. A. L. Gayton as District Missionary. In 1959 the District's name was changed to the South East Central District with Elder Williams yet the Superintendent. Elder Williams served as the District Superintendent until he passed June 14, 1980.

Elder Williams was also assistant to the Presiding Elder on the Ministers' Ordination Board. In 1977 Elder Williams was given a Testimonial Dinner in recognition of 50 years in the Ministry. In 1979 he received the Pastor of the Year Award--First Jurisdiction of Illinois.

Our memories of Elder Williams are too numerous to record here. The yearly Revival beginning each New Years' Day. His revival themes: 1970--Let Us Enter the New Year with Supreme Faith and Joy in the Lord; the Joy of the Lord is Our Strength and Unflagging Faith in God.

The church building itself went through many changes and improvements during his tenure as pastor. The organization and government of the church moved forward. If this was Pastor's history for Elder Williams it would take pages to complete.

His service as Pastor of the Harvey COGIC and he himself will never be forgotten by those who knew him. The Church was renamed--St. Andrew Temple and at his demise the Bishop made a new district--Williams Memorial in his honor.

We close this section with a poem written about him on his Tenth Anniversary as Pastor.

Who Is This?

Selected by God to work for Him  
Anointed of God to preach for Him.  
Calling men from paths of sin  
Leading them to victory with Christ within.  
Compared with Moses, our meekest man  
Ranking with Abraham the most faithful man.

Who Is This?

No task too large, no task too small  
You'll find this man doing them all  
From the biggest job, to the smallest chore  
Even providing transportation from door to door.  
Often misunderstood, often criticized  
Ten years of struggling, trying to lead  
People who say they are walking with God  
Ten years of joys, mingled with sorrows  
Looking for a brighter tomorrow.

Who Is This?

With a contagious smile  
That puts men at ease whoever they are  
By now I'm sure you've already guessed  
That this great man who is standing the test  
Is none other than our Pastor Elder Andrew Williams  
Behind every great man, there is a great woman  
Who Is She?  
Our Pastor's wife, Sister Vera Williams.

E. B.

## CHURCH MINISTRIES

but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister;

And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant. Matthew 20:26b-27

### Ministry of Proclamation

The Present Pastor

Elder Samuel E. DeBose

Elders Now Serving

Elder Fred D. Hall  
Elder Lenzy Lowery  
Elder John W. Johnson

Ministers Now Serving

Minister J. Duvall Ross  
Minister Henry S. DeBose

### Administration

Deacons: We are blessed with enough brothers to fill the seven quota and more. The first chairman of Deacons was the founder, Deacon William Gibson; followed by Deacon Sylvester Woodson; Deacon Ewing Foulks. Presently we have Deacon Esco Adams with Deacon Henry Whiteurst serving as his assistant.

Trustees: Deacon Albert Watson is the chairman and he has a cabinet. In 1982, Pastor DeBose appointed two women to the Board, something that had never been done before---  
Missionary Jesse Johnson and Sister Elizabeth Bridges.



## Ministry of Teaching

Sunday School: The first superintendent was Father Wilson Watson(to my knowledge). The present superintendent is his son, Deacon Albert Watson. Our Youth Day superintendent now is Brother Derral J. Anderson, who was preceded by Brother Samuel E. DeBose who is now our Pastor.

Y. P. N. W.: In years gone by I remember Sister Lalia Woodson as president--Elder Earl Brooks; Sister Helen Lewis; Brother Henry DeBose with Brother Percy Weathington as his assistant. Our current president is Deacon Robert Caldwell with Minister Henry DeBose serving as his assistant.

Deaconess: The former president was Mother Mary Adams. Now we have Sister Ruth Watson serving as president.

Home and Foreign Mission: In 1953 Mother Mary Malone served as president. In 1961 Sister Marie Moore became the president. In 1963 Missionary Cleo Lloyd became the president and some-time during 1977 Missionary Ruby Roseman became the president. She served until her death in 1982. Our current president is Missionary Peggy Taylor.

Bible Band: The first president I remember was Sister Maude Thornton. Sister Ruby DeBose now serves as president.

Children's Church: This is a first for us, organized by Pastor DeBose. It meets three Sundays a month in the lower level after the morning devotions. Children's Church is headed by Sister Aleyce DeBose and her helpers. The childrens' programs for Christmas and Easter are handled by Sister Liddie Hall.

## Ministry of Music

We currently have four choirs: Tiny Tots; Children; Youth and Inspirational. Our musicians for the choirs have been many---starting with the Watson and Wheeler families. Sister Ada Wheeler served many years after her sisters, brothers and cousins(the Watsons) moved on to other places. She was followed by Sister Esther Sanders; Sister Leathabell Wells; Elder A. Samuel Hawkins; Elder James R. Adams; Sister Amethyst Moye and now Sister Omega DuBose, aunt to our Pastor.

## Missions and Outreach

Monday thru Friday---Prayer at 9:00 A.M.

A Community Prayer Band--President Sister P. Stevens

A Visiting Prayer Band--President Missionary J. Johnson

Tracts

Sadie Watterson Home

Oak Forest Hospital--Every second Saturday in each month, a group of saints headed by Elder L. Lowery and Missionary Peggy Taylor have service with the patients.

Church Van for transportation

Prision Visitation

## Ministry of Helps

Pastor's Aide--President Sister Thayer Brooks Baker

Usher Board--President Brother Kenneth Watson

Ministers Wives--President Sister Liddie Hall

Decoration and Maintenance

## Church Mothers

Mother Pearl Gibson

Mother Ada Watson

Mother Mary Malone

Mother Vera Williams--Mother Mary Adams served as Co-mothers

Mother Sara Murff--took Mother Vera Williams place when

Mother Williams' health prevented her from serving.

Now serving: Mother Joyce Brandon *when health prevented*

*her from serving the Mother of the Board were*  
*Mo Ruby DeBose, Mo The Elizabeth Bridges Mo Etta Cantrell*  
*Mo Etta Passed Mo Bridges was no longer able to function*  
*Miss Thayer Baker was appointed and she appointed*  
*Nelva Davis, Gerace Rosehage, Long DeBose and Jean Hall on*  
*an app. Basis Mo Miss R. Moye Jean Hall was appointed*

And I heard a voice from Heaven saying unto me, Write,  
Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea,  
saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their  
works do follow them. Revelations 14:13

In Memory Of

Father & Mother William Gibson  
Father Farris  
Sister Holmes  
Brother & Sister Lumford  
Mother Raterree  
Sister Love  
Elder & Mother Harry Davis  
Sister P. Watkins  
Mother Clara Cantrell  
Mother Malinda Cantrell  
Elder Henry Cantrell  
Sister Maude Thornton  
Elder & Sister William Bryant  
Sister Ada Mitchell  
Elder & Sister Joseph Staples  
Brother & Sister Sylvester Woodson  
Mother Rena Lee  
Mother Alberta Williams  
Sister Ruth Gray  
Elder Hodge  
Father & Mother Wilson Watson

Mother Wheeler  
Sister Lena Roseman  
Brother Thelma Austin  
Sister Leola Foulks  
Sister Clara Williams  
Sister Nina Brooks  
Sister Carter  
Mother Mary Malone  
Brother & Sister Sylvester Rodgers  
Sister Robena Wooden  
Sister Lemmie Lee Coleman Davis  
Sister Dorothy Board  
Sister Lucy Williams  
Mother Malinda Thomas  
Mother Lemmie Coleman  
Sister Ruth Miller  
Sister Tatum  
Pastor Andrew Williams  
Deacon John Roseman  
Missionary Ruby Roseman  
Mother Vera Williams

The preceding chapter carried the names of the Church members that have passed. Many of them served most of their Christian service as members of the Harvey Church.

We do not want to forget the many who are yet living, but have moved or left for other reasons. We also want to remember the many friends who came from the surrounding areas to help. In years gone by, Mother Mamie Covington of Chicago Heights, was a helper in the Harvey Church. She is yet living and comes occasionally. We also remember Mother and Father Brothers, Mother Rosie Neal and others.

To those of you who have come later, you too are a part of this Great Heritage left by the Early Settlers of 1924. What time you arrived is not nearly as important as--What are you doing to carry on/ What are you preparing to leave behind for others.

If this church is to continue, all of us must give of Our Time--Labor and Money freely. We must be just as determined to keep what has been left to us, as the Early Settlers were to establish this church in Harvey.

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS

## TWO YEARS WITH PASTOR DEBOSE

On the fourth Sunday in November of 1980, Bishop Louis H. Ford (State Bishop, First Jurisdiction of Illinois; the second assistant--now first, to the International Presiding Bishop of the Churches of God in Christ) appointed Elder Samuel Earl DeBose pastor of the St. Andrew Temple COGIC--15046 Honore Avenue, Harvey, Illinois. Elder DeBose took office on January 1, 1981.

Elder DeBose was born in a Chicago hospital to Mr. and Mrs. Caine DeBose who were already members of St. Andrew. He grew up in Harvey and attended elementary and secondary school in Harvey. He graduated from Thornton Township High in 1967 and from Governors State University in 1972. While there he was appointed the first Student Assistant Dean in the College of Environmental Applied Sciences. He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from the College of Cultural Studies.

Pastor DeBose completed his seminary training at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary where he received his Master of Divinity, along with his Master of Social Work, in 1977.

For three years Pastor DeBose served as an Army Chaplain at Fort Hood, Texas.

Prior to his pastoral appointment, Elder DeBose served as the Protestant Chaplain for the Federal Prison System at Oxford, Wisconsin.

SD: Was West before D. H. Cantrell?

KL: Yes, West was before Cantrell.

SD: Is that right?

KL: Yeah.

SD: OK, then after West it was Herndon. . . I mean After Cantrell it was Herndon, hu

KL: No., Calhoun, ain't it? Don't it say Calhoun there?

SD: It says Herndon.

KL: But I'm quite sure Calhoun was, cause Elder Smith found Herndon.

SD: When I asked T. T. Rose he put Calhoun at about the ninth pastor, way down at the bottom. That's something that I really need to get done.

KL: Wait now, let me look on here now, let's see. (fumbling with papers).

SD: It's got Staples.

KL: Elder Staples was first in the church there, and then Elder West.

SD: Now, West only lasted a month?

KL: It wasn't long. I don't know how long, but it wasn't long. He was one of them kind that would tell you off (laughing). You know one thing, he run a meeting at Elder Smith's, William Smith who we was talking about, he was pastor in Chicago Heights for a while before he was here. And Elder West went down there to have the meeting and them Italians in those days, you know they didn't care too much about the church. One of 'em stepped up in the church and sat in the back with his hat on. He was an officer. Elder West shouted at him "Get that hat off in here!" And he made him pull his hat off. So when he got ready to go, he asked Elder West "Can I go?" (laughing again.) But I don't know, he didn't stay long, I don't believe it was a year hardly. Did Elder Rose say, cause he was here then

SD: Rose said about a month. (Both of us laughing)

KL: Well maybe it was a month.

SD: My goodness! Then Cantrell. How long did he stay?

KL: Well I couldn't tell you.

SD: We got him down here for about six years. From 28' to 34'.

KL: Well maybe he did. I just cain't keep these years together now, you know. See they bought that house where the Brooks lived, you know that house over there in West Harvey. They got they home and everything, and she was working up there in the hospital where I worked, cause I was working then, but she worked

there (his wife). That was Brother Gibson's daughter too. Howard married Brother Gibson's daughter.

SD: Which one, Lucy?

KL: Lucille, yeah! That was his wife. D. H. Cantrell.

SD: OK, then Herndon.

KL: Herndon, his wife was one of them twins. She was a missionary.

SD: How long did he stay here, do you have any idea?

KL: Oh, I don't know. Cause Elder Rose was gone then. Cause I remember Elder Rose come home to visit, and Sister Williams laughed and said that Herndon danced and shouted longer than Elder Rose.

SD: Elder Rose left here in 25'.

KL: Well Herndon come here after that.

SD: Now William Smith. . .

KL: Now Elder Smith. I couldn't tell you. . . let me see. I don't know exactly.

SD: We got him in 36'.

KL: Well, he was before that. He come here before 36', cause my husband. . . 36' is when I was with him, and my husband knew him. He used to like to hear him preach.

SD: So he had to be here before 36'?

KL: He had to be here before 36'.

SD: Then Andrew White, Sr.

KL: Yeah, Elder White.

SD: Then A. A. Childs.

KL: Did you get Calhoun in there?

SD: Calhoun come before Elder Childs?

KL: Oh, yeah! Elder Calhoun was here.

SD: OK, then A. A. Childs?

KL: After Calhoun. . . You know Herndon come after Elder Calhoun.



SD: We had Herndon up higher. But Herndon was after Calhoun?

KL: Yes sir. Then after Calhoun, then Herndon, then Elder William Smith.

SD: Allright then. White, Calhoun, Herndon, Smith. . .

KL: And then come A. A. Childs. You heard of him, I guess. Didn't you ever hereof him? He left here and went to New York. They brought him back here to bury him. Bishop Ford buried him.

SD: Is that right?

KL: That's been about two or three years ago when they brought Elder Childs back here. I thought you might have heard them speaking of him. Cause I know you didn't know nothing about him.

SD: Then White, Jr. after Childs?

KL: After Childs. That's when Elder Andrew White come. Jr., that's Jr., the son.

SD: And then came Scott?

KL: Yeah.

SD: And then Williams?

KL: Then Elder Williams. Yeah, Elder Williams been here longer than any of 'em. All of em put together. Been here longer than all of 'em put together.

SD: Isn't that something.

KL: Him and Sister Williams come back here in the 20's, cause they was in Cleveland. And Elder Caffey in Phoenix started him a mission. Elder Williams was his assistant pastor for a while. It was a small mission. Elder Goodwin used to come and run meetings there. Elder Buggs. You remember Paul Buggs don't you? He used to come there all the time.

SD: Did he used to wear a little black cap all the time?

KL: Yeah, yeah.

SD: Yeah, yeah, I can remember that much about him.

KL: Well him and his wife, they used to run meetings, and Elder Bennie Goodwin too. And Elder Caffey was pastor, and Elder Williams was assistant. And then Elder Williams got to be the pastor of the place.

SD: So Elder Williams had a lot of revivals when he was pastoring over there under Elder Caffey?

KL: Yeah, Elder Rose run a meeting over there even.

SD: Is that right?

KL: Yeah. T. T. Rose. I got here in time for his wedding. . . Rose's wedding, cause him and his wife we was just kids around together. Uh, Katie, Katie married him. That's Brother Gibson's daughter too! I come here and went to her wedding. They had it over in Schaeffer's Chapel. See, they was from the Methodist church, but they got saved.

SD: What do you think the success of Elder Williams ministry here has been, Mother Latham?

KL: What?

SD: Why do you think Elder Williams has been able to pastor so long?

KL: I really don't know! You know I never. . . well, I don't know. See Sammy, it look like when his success come he got different, he changed. You know how when you get successful; ooh, he just. . . oh, look like he was so nice and grateful you know. You know Brother Coleman told me one day when Elder Williams was about to get the church, he said " You know, it look like we going to have a split church. We going to have two churches." You see, cause one crowd didn't want Williams and one crowd did. But he was just so much different. Elder Williams is a changed man. Didn't you know that? Just like when Brother Adams seen him at the meeting, and he knew him from that smile. Just how nice he was. That had a lot to do with it. How he treated people. That had a lot to do with his success. You know he used to live in that little house right there, and it wasn't as big as it is now. But when his success come it looked like he changed or something. But I believe his success was being nice, friendly, doing what he could for you. But you know his attitude was all together different than what it is now. I'm telling you the truth. I believe that was his success. His attitude. He was just nice, that's all.

SD: I guess people felt as though since the leader is not that strong that if they all just pitched in and help we would get the job done.

KL: Yeah. Of course, Elder Brooks is a stronger person. That's how we got the brick on the church. I remember when Elder Goodwin came to one of Elder William's anniversarys, and he commended Elder Brooks and told him and Elder Williams to stick together. If we build a church he going to get credit cause it was built under him.

SD: In your opinion, what was the atomosphere of Harvey like during the early 20's, 30's and 40's?

KL: You mean the church?

SD: Well, the atomosphere of the town. Not a lot of black people, huh?

KL: It wasn't too many. They would come to church on Sunday nights especially. It was so many people that they would just come and stand. And Easter! It

just wasn't seats for them, cause the ushers had their's to do on Sunday afternoon. But as far as the town was concerned, well . . . you mean our people?

SD: Yes.

KL: Well, they was just nice as far as I know. We didn't have all that trouble like we had down south. They just come to church.

I conducted an interview with Brother Ewing Foulks, Sr. on Monday, April 5, 1976. Brother Foulks has not attended the Harvey Church Of God In Christ since the death of his first wife Leecola, who died of cancer in 1959. He had six children from that marriage. Later Brother Foulks remarried a younger women who had about five children.

I might add, as you'll probably notice, that Brother Foulks did not volunteer any information other than the questions that I asked him. Most of the time he was inarticulate and didn't care to go on with the interview. He didn't seem to remember most of the things that I inquired about.

SD: You were there when Elder Williams was appointed, right? Can you say something about that? What happened?

EF: Bishop Roberts appointed him.

SD: What year was that?

EF: I don't really know. I'm sure Eld. Williams knows that.

SD: You don't know what size that church is, do you?

EF: I think it was 30 feet wide and 40 feet long, cause back there where the choir-stand is, they had to knock a wall out to put that there.

SD: It was a 30' x 40', then?

EF: It was pretty small.

SD: Let me ask you this. You were there for how long, ? When you came from Kentucky, were you a member then?

EF: Yeah.

SD: Why do you think Eld. Williams has been there for 28 years when before him there were 10 other pastors?

EF: You mean why he stayed that long?

SD: Yeah.

EF: Well, he was good at getting along with the people, for one thing. He had a good personality, but I don't know too much about the others before him.

SD: You weren't there when Caine Scott was pastor?

EF: Yeah, he left there because he got a better position. Elder White was there when I came, but he didn't seem to get along with the deacons.

SD: Who were the deacons then?

EF: Brother Watson, Brother Roseman. . .

SD: Were you a deacon then?

EF: Not with Elder White.

SD: You don't happen to know where Elder White is now, do you?

EF: You mean the son? Naw. (chuckle)

SD: He's still living, and I've been trying to get to him.

EF: I almost forgot he was still living.

SD: Well, then the church was remodeled again in 63'. Did they put the red brick on?

EF: I'm not sure, let's see. . .

SD: Well, then alright. I guess since you were one of the deacons I wanted to get by to talk to you for a few minutes and mention what i was doing. You don't happen to know where the original deed to the church is, do you? '

EF: The deacons and the trustees know where that's at.