

Elwood Baptist Church August 17, 1948

Many said it couldn't be done. Some tried and failed, but on August 17, 1948 Elwood Baptist Church was formed under the leadership of Bro. Barnard Franklin, Fannin Association Missionary. Our first church home was the community church building. The song leader was Mr. Will Rue and the pianist was Audrey Parker.

Petitionary Letter From the Elwood Baptist Church to the Fannin County Baptist Association

Meeting September 30 - October 1, 1948 at Edhube Baptist Church

Greeting:

The Elwood Baptist Church, Fannin County, Texas, respectfully submits this petitionary letter to the County Association, seeking fellowship and membership in your body. The Elwood Baptist Church was constituted on August 17, 1948, and has a present membership of 35, with three more awaiting baptism. When formed, the church adopted the Articles of Faith as contained in Pendleton's Church Manual, and pledged co-operation and fellowship in the program of the Association, and in the causes fostered by Texas and Southern Baptists.

Barnard Franklin (Moderator)

Mrs. Bill Rowland (Clerk)

(Excerpt from Sixty-Second Annual Session of the Fannin Baptist Association)



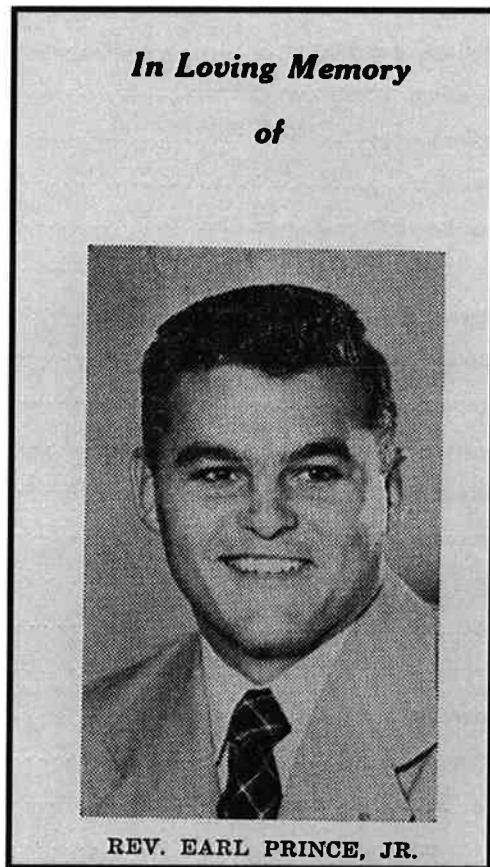
Bro. Barnard Franklin served as supply pastor and helped in the purchase of a parsonage that was bought for two dollars. Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Gibbs donated the land for the parsonage to be set on.

April 3, 1949

Bro. Tommy Green was called as the first pastor and Elwood was his first church to pastor. He worked with Leon Keeton, Bill Rowland and Bill Scrivner on the parsonage. Bro. Tommy resigned January 1, 1950. He later served as a foreign missionary.

April 2, 1950

Bro. James Sitze and wife was the first pastor to live on the field in the renovated parsonage. He resigned August 26, 1951.



October 1951- March 1952

Bro. Earl Prince Jr. served as pastor, but was killed tragically in an automobile accident. He was a young man and the church suffered a great loss.

October 1952 – April 1953

Bro. George Hammond served as pastor



Unknown time frame of this picture of the church.



December 1953- October 1957,

Bro. Carol Pennell served as pastor, his wife was pianist. During his pastorate the youth were in charge of fifth Sunday night services. In the photo Bro. Carol is baptizing in the Narvoo creek.

The first homecoming was held on July 31, 1955.

The first two deacons were ordained – Bill Rowland and Bill Scrivner on August 12, 1956. The church was able to hire Bro. Carol as full time pastor.

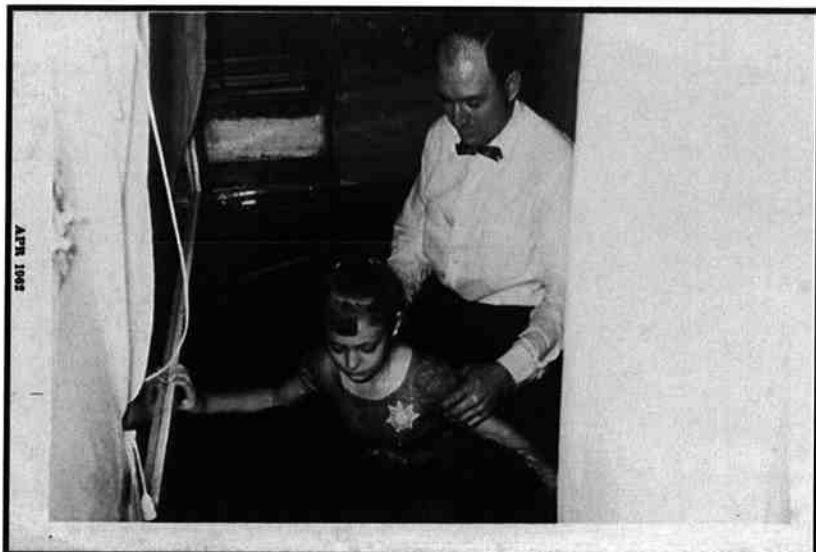
October 1958 – February 1959

Bro. Mac Pope came as pastor from Anna, Texas.

July 1959-January 1962

Bro. Danny Whitt was called as pastor. The church began using Baptist Sunday School and Training Union literature. The former parsonage was converted into a church building.

We celebrated homecoming with the dedication of our church building on July 9, 1961. Bro. Albert Warnkin, county missionary brought the message.



April 1, 1962 – July 1966

Bro. Alva Fletcher served as pastor with his wife Beatrice and three children Doretha, Sandra and Rinny. In the photo Bro. Alva was baptizing Donna Scrivner.



Elwood Baptist Church as it looked in the mid 1960's



November 13, 1966- June 1967

Donald Moore and wife Janice served at Elwood. Bro. Moore was ordained while at Elwood and Gene Graham was ordained as deacon on February 26, 1967. Bro. Donald left Elwood to go to Hanover, Michigan to serve in youth evangelistic ministries.

October 17, 1967 – August 1968

Bro. Charles Nesbitt served as pastor. Bro. Charles was ordained on January 21, 1968 while serving at Elwood.

September 1968- June 1969

Bro. Jerry Cocks

June 1969-

Bro. Dan Christian and Mary Lou Wilshire, his fiancée were married during his time at Elwood. Mary Lou was the church pianist at this time.



September 27, 1972 – August 18, 1974

Bro. David Norwood and wife Shirley. This photo was taken at the Elwood homecoming in 2001. Pictured with Bro. David and Shirley is Crystal Reeves.

Bro. Rick Paris served as interim pastor.



December 12, 1974 – May 1977

Bro. Rodney Stanford and fiancée Vickie Siebenthal were married while they served at Elwood. During Bro. Rodney's tenure the church was air-conditioned and other improvements were made.



January 31, 1977 -1982

Bro. Randy McBroom and wife Kathy served. When they came they had one son and while they were here they had another son born. During this time a new auditorium and Sunday school rooms were built. Two new deacons were ordained Pete Harrison and Verlon Eubanks.



Elwood Baptist Church
Late 1970's

1982 -1989

Bro. Andy Quinton and wife Dina and their two children Mark and Tamara led the church to see a large growth. The remodeling of the old part of the church along with addition of new Sunday school wing on the west. A baptistery was added and a kitchen with new cabinets was added. During this time the church purchased an old yellow school bus and started a bus ministry. Two new deacons were ordained Mickey Lyles and Don Kissinger, with two deacons joining the church Lyman Goodnight and Buddy Carlisle.



The Old Yellow School Bus that had a great impact on the ministry of Elwood Baptist Church. Bro. Andy Quinton drove it many miles and picked up many children.

1989

Bro. Richard, wife Debra and two sons, Jessie and Micah served as pastor

1990 -1991

Bro. Bob Cody and wife Gloria served as pastor. At the end of Bro. Cody's tenure the church purchased a mobile home to be used as a parsonage. The mobile home sits on the property on the east side of the road.



1991 – 2002

Bro. Mickey Lyles served as pastor. Bro. Mickey's wife, Sheila and sons Micah, Marshall and Jake were a significant part of growing the youth program. During this time the youth formed a drama group called "Ministry in Motion" and would travel to other churches to do programs. During Bro. Mickey's tenure at Elwood the new sanctuary, Sunday School rooms and restrooms were built as well as a new kitchen in the fellowship hall. In 1998 the new sanctuary was finished and dedicated on June 7, 1998.

Bro. Mickey's mother, Billye Lyles is also in the photo.



In February 1998 we had our first service in the new sanctuary. The building dedication was held on June 7, 1998. Several church members put in many long hours to help with the construction on the new building. Earl Owens overseen the construction and dedicated many long hours of hard work to its completion.

2003-2005

Bro. Dennis Noblett served as interim. Bro. Dennis and his family live in Sherman, Texas. Bro. Lee Skinner was ordained as deacon on Nov



December 2005-May 2008

Bro. Mark Owens served as pastor and was ordained on January 21, 2007.

Bro. Mark and wife Kelley, girls Aliesha, Caitlin and Elizabeth came to serve at Elwood from Trinity Baptist Church. ember 20, 2005.

Elwood Pastors

Barnard Franklin	August 17, 1948
Tommy Green	April, 1949- January 1950
James Sitze	April 1950 – August, 1951
Earl Prince, Jr.	October 1951 – March 1952
George Hammond	October 1952 – April 1953
Carol Pennell	December 1953- October1957
Mac Pope	October 1958 – February1959
Danny Whitt	July 1959 – January 1962
Alva Fletcher	April 1962 – July 1966
Donald Moore	November 1966 – December 1967
Charles Nesbit	January 1968 – August 1968
Jerry Cocks	September 1968 – June 1969
Dan Christian	June 1969 – 1970
David Norwood	1972-1973
Rick Paris	
Rodney Stanford	December 1974- May 1977
Randy McBroom	July 1977-1982
Andy Quinton	1982-1989
Richard Hayes	1989
Bob Cody	1990-1991
Mickey Lyles	1991-2002
Dennis Noblett (Interim)	2003- December 2005
Mark Owens	December 2005 – May 2008