

Church Dedicates 70 Years Of Service For The Lord

By **SUMMER KELLEY**
Staff Reporter

On a summer day in 1939 a small group gathered at the top of Sand Mountain to receive the first members of Woodlawn Baptist Church. This Sunday, Woodlawn Baptist will celebrate its 70th anniversary.

Willie Hartline, Charlie Bodenhamer, Maggie Bodenhamer and Claude Stephens joined Rev. Francis Marion Ott, James Smith, Jr., Davis Robinson and Lewis McBryar on August 30 to become Woodlawn Baptist's first members. The first four members began the church after Worley Baptist Church was destroyed in a fire and members of the congregation went their

separate ways. Davis School Principal Cleve Austin suggested the church's name and one acre of land was purchased for \$25 to be used as the church site.

Seventy years later the church has had 18 pastors pass through its pulpit, experienced three improvements and renovations to the buildings and carried out five major construction projects. The original church building is still on site and has been renovated to meet the church's changing needs. A new family life center, the most recent construction project, was dedicated with a ribbon cutting ceremony in October of 2007.

The church is approaching another milestone as it prepares

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Aaron And Amanda Crabb Singing At Woodlawn

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to celebrate its 70th anniversary
this Sunday.

There will be no Sunday School, but church services will begin at 10:30 a.m. with a time of celebration and recognition of the church's years serving God in the Davis community.

Music by the church's choir, the Joyful Noise Choir, and Aaron and Amanda Crabb will be followed by a message from Woodlawn Baptist Pastor Clay Moreland.

More music from the Joyful Noise Choir and the Crabbs will continue until around 1 or 1:15 p.m. when a dinner in the new Family Life Center will end the day's festivities.

Woodlawn Baptist Church invites everyone to join them in celebrating 70 years of God's goodness.

The church is located at 5681 Highway 301 North on Sand Mountain.



Contributed photo

People gather for Sunday services outside the original building that housed Woodlawn Baptist Church. Located on Highway 301 North at the top of Sand Mountain, the original building has changed over the past 70 years, but is still in use by the church. This Sunday Woodlawn Baptist Church will celebrate its 70th anniversary.