



# Paisley Family Research and News

Fall/Winter 2007-2008

Issue 23

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## Contributors

### Welcome

**This newsletter is a forum for Paisley family records and research. If you have copies of family Bibles, letters, newspaper articles, cemetery or courthouse records, please consider sharing them here.**

### Pension Application Of Findley, John , Natl Archives Microseries M804, Roll 975, Application #S6843

JOHN FINDLEY, a resident of Guilford County, aged about seventy-seven years: ... "That he [John Findley] continued in the service until he was taken with the small pox, which was 3 weeks after the Battle of Guilford. That as soon as he recovered he was sent by Colonel PAISLEY, belonging still to the minute company, down into the waters of the Alamance in his own county after some Tories who were drafted to increase the American Army and refused to serve."

"That during the latter part of the summer and fall of 1781 until towards Christmas, he was always ready with the minute company to be sent at the command of Col. PAISLEY and Captain ROBERT PAIS-

LEY, by whom they were sent out on various and different tours consuming at least one half of his time. ...

"That he [John Findley] is known to Rev. WILLIAM PAISLEY, Rev. Eli W. Caruthers, Rev. John Coe (or Cox), Col. Walter McDonnell, Captain Robert L. Gilmore, Joseph Gibson, esq., Findly Shaw, James Thom, Joseph Hanner, JOHN PAISLEY, and David McAdow, esq, and many other respectable citizens in his neighborhood, who can and are willing to testify to his veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution."

File at: <http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/nc/guilford/military/revwar/pensions/findley166gmt.txt>

### Pension Application Of William Smith, Nat'l Archives Microser-

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“Paisley Family As-  
sociation.”

The Paisley Family Association is a member of the Paisley Family Society of Scotland. Check out their web site for more information: [www.paisleyfamilysociety.org.uk](http://www.paisleyfamilysociety.org.uk)

## Revolutionary War Pensions, continued

**ies M804, Roll 2236, Application  
#S7555**

“WILLIAM SMITH, resident Guilford County, aged seventy-nine years... That he was born in Pennsylvania, but knows not in what county, on the 1st day of December, [1753], as always stated to him by his father, who had it written in his family Bible, which he once copied into his own family Bible. That his father moved when he was about three years of age to North Carolina, upper part of Orange County, now Guilford County where has lived ever since.”

“That from the commencement of the Revolutionary War, the citizens of his section of North Carolina were divided into two parties—the Whigs and the Tory. That he joined the Whigs, the friends of freedom, liberty and independence, and served his country from 1775 to 1781, sometimes at home a few days, and again out on service sometimes days, sometimes weeks, and sometimes months at a time....

“That he again marched under his Captain FORBIS and Colonel PAISLEY, and joined General GREENE on his march north before the British, and marched with him over Dan River to Halifax, Virginia, when he, with his captain, was permitted to return home to oppose the ravages of the Tories and British in his own neighborhood, and to use some means to secure his property, in which he was engaged when the Armies met and fought at Martinsville. That his captain had joined the troops again before the Battle of Guilford and was mortally wounded in said battle.”

“That his company was after this battle, again collected, commanded and marched under Captain ROBERT PAISLEY, after the British on their retreat south and continued this pursuit until they arrived at Ramsour’s Mill, where he was again marched home. That he continued to serve as above stated after the Tories until the close of the revolutionary war.”

[It was requested that JOHN FINLEY more clearly explain how he was acquainted with WILLIAM SMITH’s service:..]

“That his services were rendered in the manner which he states in his declaration. That at the first of the war, the Whigs

(among whom was SMITH) were compelled to resist the degradations of the Tories. They assembled and went out in service as necessity seemed to urge. But when these aggressions seemed rather to increase than diminish, it was resolved by many of the Whigs to form themselves into a company called **minute men**, to be ready at any and all times to march in a minute’s warning, so that their operations against the Tories might be united and more efficient. That said SMITH and himself both belonged to this company. That the regulation was that this company was to march at all times when there was necessity under whatever Captains the Colonel (mostly Colonel PAISLEY) should assign to command it. That those who composed this company were considered, called and looked upon as soldiers of the Revolution from the time the company was formed until the end of the war....

“That this company would be out sometimes days, sometimes weeks, few and then many, and the times which they spent at home, they were compelled often to go armed, when in the field engaged at work. That this company was commanded much and very often by Captain ARTHUR FORBIS, who was mortally wounded in the Guilford Battle. Sometimes by **Captain ROBERT PAISLEY**, Captain GILLESPIE, and Captain BRASHEARS and almost always under the command of Colonel JOHN PAISLEY. That the tours mentioned to have been made down the country were made mostly to disperse companies of Tories collected by Colonel FANNING. That many of FANNING’s men were taken prisoners, others killed and the balance mostly as much dispersed as practicable. That said SMITH was always with him in these tours.”

[File at: <http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/nc/guilford/military/revwar/pensions/smith267gmt.txt> and at <http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/nc/guilford/military/revwar/pensions/forbis316gmt.txt>]



## Fairfield Presbyterian Cemetery Cedar Grove, Orange Co., NC

Fairfield Presbyterian Cemetery was established in 1834 and is still actively used. It is owned and maintained by the Fairfield Presbyterian Church. Location: about 4 1/2 miles south of Cedar Grove; Cedar Grove Road (State Route 1004) at its southeast intersection with Halls Mill Road (State Route 1336).

**Hanner, John Paisley, born 1803, died 1875,** spouse Celia M. Hanner [John was the son of Robert Ervin Hanner and Agnes Nancy Paisley. Agnes was the daughter of John Paisley and Marianna Denny and granddaughter of William and Elenor Paisley.]

**Hanner, Celia M., born 31 Aug 1807, died 27 Nov 1881**, spouse John Paisley Hanner

**Hanner, Fannie E., born 29 Jan 1843, died 12 Jun 1902**, Daughter of John Paisley and Celia M. Hanner

**Hanner, John E., born 19 Sept 1839, died 20 Oct 1922**, spouse Elizabeth Hodge Hanner. [son of John Paisley and Celia Hanner]

**Bain, Annie Laurie Hanner, born 20 Aug 1871, died 10 Sept 1947.** Spouse Robert David Bain [daughter of John Ervin Hanner, granddaughter of John Paisley Hanner]

**Bevan, Joe Paisley, born 4 May 1929, died 4 May 1929**, Son of R. D. and Mamie B. Bevan [grandson of Annie Laura Hanner Bain]

**Woods, Mamie Murray Hanner, born 9 Sept 1870, died 14 Dec 1966.** Spouse Henry Pratt Woods [Mamie or Minnie was daughter of John Ervin Hanner, granddaughter of John Paisley Hanner]

There are undoubtedly more graves of descendants of Robert and Agnes Paisley Hanner. To see a complete cemetery listing visit [www.interment.net/data/us/nc/orange/fairfield\\_presb/index.htm](http://www.interment.net/data/us/nc/orange/fairfield_presb/index.htm).



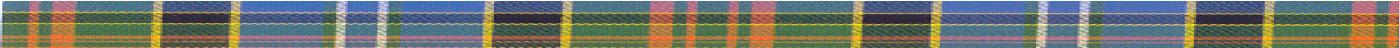
## Deliverance Paine Paisley

The story of Deliverance Paine's deliverance from the Indians is one that anybody would be delighted to find when digging around the roots of the family tree. Dilly Paine married William Paisley in 1763 and became part of our Paisley history. But, what is the real story behind her adoption, and what records do we have that give credibility to it?

The oldest published account appears in the 1846 book *Sketches of North Carolina, Historical and Biographical* by William Henry Foote. Mr. Foote says that the information came from Deliverance Paine Paisley's son, the Rev. Samuel Paisley. Foote also indicates that the story could be collaborated by school teachers still living in New Jersey. The full text from Foote' book is printed on page four.

The next account of the Deliverance Paine story appears in a letter written by the aforementioned Samuel Paisley. Samuel's 1850 letter is addressed to his nephew Samuel Paisley of Montgomery County, Illinois. William Marion Sikes made a copy of a copy of this letter that his Grandmother Paisley had. Silva Partridge indicated on page 17 of the *Paisley and Allied Families* book (1973) that she also had a copy of a Samuel Paisley's letter. The 1850 letter is transcribed on pages 4-6.

The last account is a published article written by William Marion Sikes. It was published in the October 1899 issue of the *Davidson College Magazine*. Rev. Sikes spent much time researching the family and was able to talk and correspond with many older relatives in his lifetime (1875-1941). This article appears on pages 6-7.



## “Deliverance Paine” By William Henry Foote

(from page 243, *Sketches of North Carolina, Historical and Biographical*

by William Henry Foote, printed by R. Carter, NC, 1846; 557pages

An online edition can be found at <http://docsouth.unc.edu/nc/foote/foote.html>).

There is an interesting tradition connected with the family of William Paisley, of Alamance. The well-attested facts and dates respecting Mrs. Paisley, mother of the Rev. Samuel Paisley, as received from the son, are—That she used to say that she had no recollection of ever seeing father, mother, brother, or sister ; that it was understood that the Indians killed her father, and that her mother died soon after him ; that Mr. Smith and Mr. Clack used to say, the Indians had the child; that she never spoke of her captivity; that she was reared and educated by the Rev. James Davenport, of Pennington ; that she went to school to a Mr. Chesnut, an Englishman, about twenty miles from Philadelphia; that William Paisley became acquainted with her there, and gaining her affections, he took her to Philadelphia, where they were married by Rev. William Tenant, in the year 1763, in her 20th year; that they went to Princeton, and lived there till after the birth of their eldest son, and then removed to North Carolina.

The tradition in Jersey about this lady is—That the Rev. James Davenport, whose wife's maiden name was Paine, was from New England, and settled first on Long Island, in New York, and from thence removed to Pennington, New Jersey, and was pastor of the church there for many years ; that he obtained the child from the Indians, gave it the name of Deliverance Paine, and reared it carefully as his own. Miss Sally Martin and Miss Phoebe Davis lived together a long time in Princeton, New Jersey, taught school, and had the first instruction of almost all the children of the place. Miss Davis is still living (1846). These ladies used to tell the children about little Dilly Paine, as is well recollected by some that went to school to them, and re-affirmed by Miss Davis, upon inquiry, in 1844 ; that the Indians brought her along and claimed her as theirs, and said she had no parents ; but would not tell where nor how they got her, nor give her up to the white people ; that getting out of provisions, and having nothing to buy with, and becoming wearied of carrying the child with them, they sold her to Mr. Davenport, for a loaf of bread and a bottle of rum. With him the little orphan grew up and lived till her removal to Carolina.

### 1850 Letter from Rev. Samuel Paisley to his nephew Samuel Paisley of Montgomery County, Illinois

Edgefield, Moore County, NC  
July 22nd, 1850

“My ever dear nephew,

I received your kind letter of February 25th and I began soon after, to write to you, but having concluded to give you some account of our ancestors, I stopped writing to try to get more correct information; but not having an opportunity to get any information, I shall delay no longer, but write what little I know, believing it



will be gratifying to you and to our posterity after we are in the Eternal World, to know even the little I now write."

"We have certain information that our ancestors emigrated from Scotland to Ireland: And if we ask how it came to pass that the north of Ireland came to be inhabited by the Scotch, history informs us that the English government, by conquering the Irish and forcing them to submit to English laws and English government, and to acknowledging the King's supremacy in religion and to consider him as head of the Church in England and Ireland, instead of the Pope in Rome, the Irish being Roman Catholics, the few privileges that were left to them were used by the priests and nobility to promote religion."

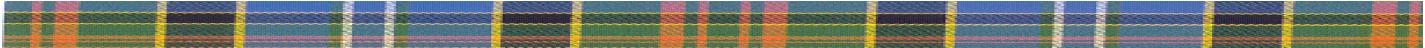
"In the reign of King James I, a conspiracy was formed by the Earls of Tyrone and Tyrone of the Province of Ulster against the government in expectation of aid from the courts of France and Spain. Their plan was discovered in time to prevent its execution. The Earls fled and left their vast estates containing half a million acres of land to the mercy of the King. These lands were divided among the King's most favored, and by his direction, a preference was given to the people from the west of Scotland. They were chiefly Presbyterians when Prelacy was afterwards established in Scotland in the year 1637, to which, as Presbyterians they could not submit, and being greatly persecuted, many more were compelled to emigrate, and in Ireland found a safe retreat. Among these were our ancestors, who settled in the county of Tyrone, where my Grandfather, WILLIAM PAISLEY was born (the year of his birth is not exactly known, but must have been between the year 1700 and 1705.)"

"He lived there until he married ELENOR "NELLY" MCLEAN in the year 1736 or 37, and soon after, they immigrated to this country and settled on the Schuylkill River about 20 miles above Philadelphia where he lived on rented land. By industry and good management, he raised six children in comfort and saved money enough to bring his family to North Carolina and purchase land for them."

"His first wife (my Grandmother) died in Pennsylvania, and he afterward married Catherine Hamilton; and I suppose had no children by this wife. His first child was JANE born in 1737 or 1738, and was married in Pennsylvania to JOHN WHITE, but afterwards they removed to North Carolina, where Mr. WHITE died February 1787. She afterward married William Gaudy, Esq. After his death, she removed with her daughter, MARTHA, who was the wife of JOSEPH McDOWELL, to Kentucky, where he died, I believe, in 1804. She had lived with her daughter, MARTHA and son-in-law JOSEPH McDOWELL in Robertson County, TN. Her brother, Capt. Robert and his wife, Margaret Majors lived in Logan County, across the Red River about three miles from the McDowell homestead."

"WILLIAM and NELLY's next child was Robert, born 1739. He married his cousin, Margaret Majors in Philadelphia. Their third child, William, my father and your grandfather, was born Dec. 23, 1741, old style. Their next, John was born in 1745. Their fifth, Margaret born 1747, and Mary the youngest, born 1750. He removed to North Carolina in 1765. My father was married to Deliverance Paine, in November 1763, lived in Pennsylvania until after the birth of the first child John, your father, who was born August 10, 1764. They removed to North Carolina the same fall, and lived one year in Orange County, and then removed to Guilford. After they had all come to Carolina, their oldest son, Robert, returned to Pennsylvania and married his cousin, Margaret Majors. He lived in Orange County till 1780, then removed to Guilford, and in 1797, removed to Kentucky. He had five sons and four daughters. John, their third son, born in 1745, married Mary Ann Denny in 1769. They had four sons and six daughters. Margaret, their second daughter, was married to William Denny, they had ten children. Mary, the youngest daughter, was married to James Doak. They had four sons and four daughters."

"Grandfather had several brothers and sister, but none of them came from Ireland to this country but his brother, John, who settled in the state of Delaware, where he died and left six children, four sons and two daughters. Although it was said that he was an excellent man, yet none of his children did well. Grandmother had two brothers and three sisters that came from Ireland to Pennsylvania. Her brothers were John and Joseph McLean. John married Jane Marshall. Their children were Joseph, John, Thomas, Robert, and Marshall, Nelly, Jane, Margaret, Polly, Nancy and Betsy. Joseph



## Rev. Samuel Paisley's 1850 letter, continued

married Nancy Marshall. Their children were Catherine and Martha, John, Joseph, William and Thomas. John McLean came to North Carolina about 1776, and settled in Guilford in 1780 or 1781."

"Grandmother's sisters were, first, Martha, who was married to Mr. Adams. They both died in Pennsylvania in 1782 or 1783. Margaret was married to Thomas Major. They came to North Carolina about 1782 or 1783. Her third sister, Isabelle, married Mr. Sterling, who died in Pennsylvania. His widow, with two children, removed to North Carolina."

"Your grandfather, William Paisley, was married to Deliverance Paine in November 1763. She had been rescued from the Indians, when an infant, by the Rev. James Davenport. It is said the Indians would not tell who she was or where they got her. The probability is that they had murdered her parents. Mr. Davenport named her Deliverance Paine, after his wife's maiden name. After Mr. Davenport's death, his widow removed with her daughter, who was married to Enos Kelsey, to Princeton, from which place Mrs. Davenport sent my mother to a boarding school kept by Mrs. Chestnut, the wife of Rev. Benjamin Chestnut, in Pennsylvania near grandfather's, where father became acquainted with her and gained her affections. So they agreed to spend their lives together. It was the custom in those days to publish in the church the banns of matrimony between those who intended to marry before they were joined together. Mr. Chestnut refused to marry them unless the banns were published, which they refused, but went to Philadelphia and were married by Mr. Tennant."

"They lived in Pennsylvania until your father (John) was born, August 10, 1764, and removed to North Carolina that fall, and lived one year in Orange County, and removed to Guilford where they had seven children born. William was born February 17th, 1767, Elizabeth was born October 10, 1769. Robert was born September 11th, 1772. Samuel was born April 6th, 1773. Their next two died in infancy. I have no register of the time of their births, but Joseph died when he was between three and four years old. Preston was born July 6th, 1779."

"My grandfather's second wife, Catherine Hamilton, died soon after they came to North Carolina. He afterwards married Elizabeth Denny. He was among the first elders ordained in Alamance congregation and was one of the most influential and exemplary officers in that church. I remember him well, he was low of stature, but heavy built and stood very erect. He died in March 1787."

"I could write much more about our ancestors, but perhaps I have already written more than will be interesting to you. They were nearly all members of the Presbyterian church, and if we so live and so act as to be able to render account at last with joy and not with sorrow, we shall meet with many of them in Heaven, where many of them, I have no doubt, are now singing Hallelujah to God and the Lamb. What will be our feeling when we meet them there and join in rapturous songs and be ever with the Lord! It will be but a little while till we all shall meet to part no more forever.

### DELIVERANCE PAINÉ

By William Marion Sikes

(*Davidson College Magazine*, October 1899, pp11-14)

The story of the subject of this sketch is one of those romantic events that often happened in the early history of our country. Sometime during the year 1743, a party of Indians passed the home of Rev. James Davenport, who lived in Pennington, N. J., having in their possession a little white girl, a mere infant, whom they claimed as their own, saying that she had no parents; but would not tell where they got her, nor give her up to the white people. Mr. Davenport endeavored to get the child from them, but all in vain. One day afterwards, however, getting out of provisions, they sold her to Mr. Davenport for a loaf of bread and a bottle of rum, Mr. Davenport adopted the child and christened it Deliverance Paine in honor of his wife, whose maiden name was Paine; but Deliverance was given in significance of the fact that she was rescued from the hands of cruel savages. (continued, p.7)

The child was carefully reared and educated by Mr. Davenport. She attended the schools at Pennington, N.



## "Deliverance Paine article from *Davidson College Magazine*, October 1899, continued

J., until she was old enough to go to a high school, taught by a Mr. Chestnut, about twenty miles from Philadelphia, Pa., in the valley of the Schuylkill River. This school was near the home of Mr. William Paisley, a Scotch-Irishman, who immigrated to Pennsylvania about the year 1738. Mr. Paisley, who had married Elenor McLean in Tyrone County, Ireland, had six children—three sons and three daughters—who were Jane, Robert, William, John, Margaret, and Mary. While Deliverance Paine was attending school in this neighborhood, Mr. Paisley's son William became acquainted with her, and gaining her affections, he took her to Philadelphia, where they were married by Rev. William Tennant, in November, 1763, in the 20th year of her age, and in the 21st year of Mr. Paisley's age.

After having lived in Chester county, Pa., one year, they moved to Orange county, N. C., where they lived one year, and then removed to Guilford county, N. C. They were blessed with six sons and one daughter, but two of their sons died in infancy. The other four sons were John, William, Preston and Samuel. The daughter's name is not known to the writer. Mr. and Mrs. Paisley were very careful to rear their children "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." For this they were rewarded by seeing their son Samuel enter the Gospel ministry, in which he labored for fifty-eight years. He was licensed by Orange Presbytery in 1805 and devoted himself faithfully to the Master's cause until his death in 1863.

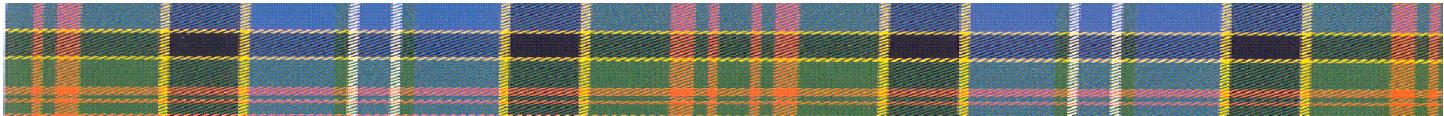
The home of William and Deliverance Paisley was about two miles south of the present village of McLeansville, and some little distance south of the old stage-road leading from Greensboro to the town of Gibsonville. Mr. Paisley's brother John, who had married Mary Anne Denny, settled about a mile east of him. He raised ten children, among whom was the Rev. William D. Paisley. John rose to the rank of Colonel in the War of the Revolution and took an active part in the battle of Guilford Courthouse. His brother William fought under Capt. John Forbis in the same battle and was severely wounded, though not mortally.

Dr. E. W. Caruthers, in his "Life of Dr. David Caldwell," says that Capt. Forbis's company was made up almost entirely of Paisleys, Wileys, Allisons, Kerrs, and others, most of whom were his neighbors; and he also says that a braver band of militia was not on the field.

Deliverance was by no means idle during her husband's absence in the war. She labored incessantly for the welfare of her family also for that of the family of Colonel John Paisley. While her husband and Col. Paisley were in the army an epidemic of small-pox, which had been spread by a soldier, broke out in that neighborhood. In Caruthers' "Life of Dr. David Caldwell," he says, in speaking of this epidemic: "A young man by the name of Rankin, who had an extensive connection and was much esteemed, had been taken prisoner at Ramsaur's Mill; and, after a few days, made his escape. He was very sick on his way home; but as the eruption had not taken place, he was not aware of his situation. His death was the consequence, but his friends and acquaintances, not knowing what was the matter, flocked to see him; and thus the disease was at once spread over the whole congregation." During this epidemic of 1780, a member of Col. Paisley's family was stricken with the disease. Deliverance, having had the disease, went regularly every night to Col. Paisley's to nurse the sick patient, and returned home each morning. Her family had not had the smallpox, so to avoid carrying the disease in her clothes, she would take a change of clothing and hide it in the woods every night, and when she returned in the morning she would change and leave the other clothing in the woods. This was done continually until the patient recovered; and a remarkable fact is that no one of her family took the disease.

Soon after the close of the war Mrs. Paisley made a visit to Mr. Davenport in New Jersey. There were no railroads in those days, so the trip was made on horse back in company with her little son, Samuel, who was about ten years of age. On her return, she and her little son each broke a limb from a pear tree in Mr. Davenport's yard for a riding switch. When they reached home they stuck the switches in the ground, thinking they might grow. They both grew to be large trees. One of them is still living and bore fruit during the summer of 1898. The writer had the pleasure of visiting the place and of eating fruit from the old tree during the past summer. The old plantation is still owned, by the descendants of William and Deliverance Paisley.

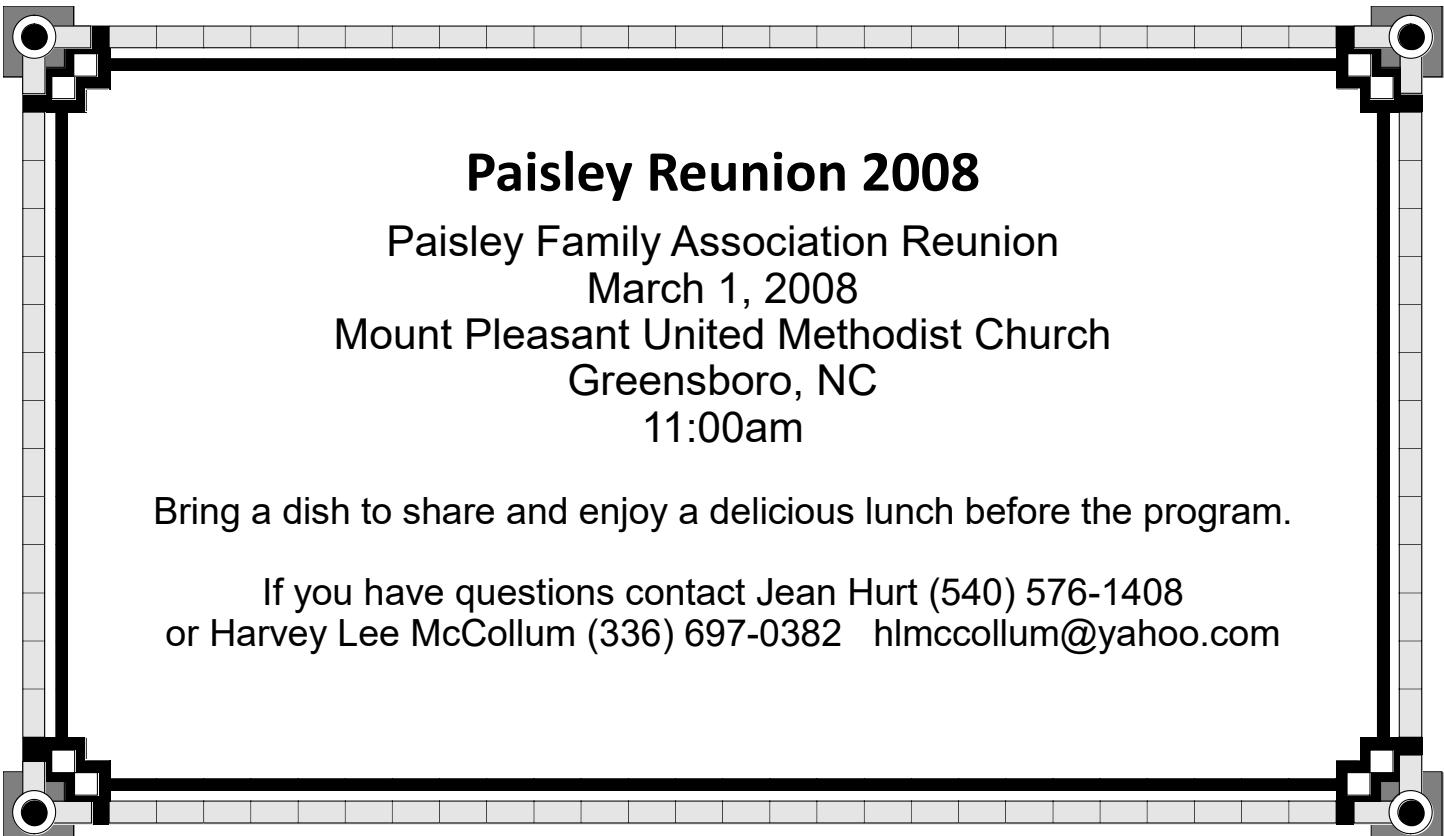
Deliverance and her husband were devout members of Alamance Church, in Guilford County, of which Dr. David Caldwell was pastor. Their remains rest in this church yard awaiting the resurrection. What a blessing that the child without a name and without people was rescued from the hands of savages. Her descendants are many, and most of them are true Presbyterians, who still live to bless the world.



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***Paisley Family  
Research and News***  
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## **Paisley Reunion 2008**

Paisley Family Association Reunion  
March 1, 2008  
Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church  
Greensboro, NC  
11:00am

Bring a dish to share and enjoy a delicious lunch before the program.

If you have questions contact Jean Hurt (540) 576-1408  
or Harvey Lee McCollum (336) 697-0382 [hlmccollum@yahoo.com](mailto:hlmccollum@yahoo.com)