

# *Reubin Thompson Family Newsletter*

*September 2025*

Dear Family and Friends,

Time is fast approaching to gather at our Ebenezer – Green Leaf Church for the 67th Reubin Thompson Family Reunion. This annual tradition is our opportunity, as the name Ebenezer implies, to memorialize the faith of our ancestors, fellowship with our cousins and perpetuate our legacy through new faces of younger family members.

Not only is this our family's reunion, but also the annual Ebenezer-Green Leaf Church Homecoming Day. Therefore, we encourage local Church members to join us on the 1st Sunday in October for both our inside program and outdoor lunch at the adjacent picnic shelters.

Obviously, the aesthetics will be different this year due to the loss of many of our 100+ year old pine trees; however, our historic CHURCH BUILDING (as cousin, Clarke Johson accurately observed) has now survived both General Sherman and Hurricane Helene.

Hurricane Helene was a devastating event and subsequent clean-up was quite expensive. Donations from various family members have been greatly appreciated along with the on-site, heavy duty clean-up work of cousin, Bill May and his assistant Chris. I will definitely include time during this year's program to recognize Bill for his tireless efforts.

Most everyone is aware by now that over this past 2-year period, we lost two dedicated family members. Phillip Stephens, served as Foundation President for 17 years and Board Member Robert Thompson, provided the delicious BBQ along with other volunteer services for too many years to count. These two will be impossible to replace. During the program portion of this year's reunion, we will have a special time of remembrance for both of these invaluable family members. Let us know of any other family to include in this memorial.

Phillip and Robert are only 2 of the many dedicated family members that have built and sustained this Reubin Thompson Family Foundation. As it is with many organizations in today's fast paced world, I am concerned about our Foundation's future. Therefore, we continue to promote our Roots and Wings Scholarship which rewards family members with funds to further their education. It is our hope that this annual scholarship program will exhibit our concern for our younger generation, and it is our further desire that this younger generation will be compelled to become involved in our Family Foundation.

Cousin Susan Middleton is in charge of our Roots and Wings Scholarship program and will make presentations of our 2024 and 2025 scholarship recipients. By the way, I am happy to announce that Susan has agreed to serve as our Foundation President for the next 2 years. Susan is an accomplished author. Her most recent book is related to our Thompson family history and the main character of this book will be an important part of our 2026 reunion.

Scholarship recipients that would have been announced at our 2024 reunion included Lucy Thompson and Laura Johnson. Laura has reported that she will be graduating from Austin Peay State University in December of 2025. Her plans are to work with the pediatric population in a private clinical setting, focusing on the medically fragile and early intervention needs of these patients and families in the Middle Tennessee area. She expresses her appreciation to everyone donating to the scholarship fund over the years so people like her can continue to pursue their education.

We are fortunate this year to have as our special guest and featured speaker, distant cousin Mark Sweat. Mark is a minister, retired schoolteacher, lover of history and a talented orator. Mark was a member of the church youth group which cousin, Phillip Stephens taught during the 1970's. Mark will have memorial comments related to Phillip and possibly memorial comments related to Grandpa Reubin Thompson.

After our busy morning program, we look forward to a delicious BBQ and stew lunch prepared by cousin, Wanda Thompson Scarborough (daughter of Randolph Thompson and owner of Bone Yard BBQ).

As usual, all family members are encouraged to bring their favorite homecooked: salads, vegetables and desserts in order to compliment our main course.

**Therefore, it is time to “SET ASIDE ALL OTHER DUTIES AND MAKE THE JOURNEY TO EBENEZER-GREEN LEAF CHURCH FOR THE 67TH GATHERING OF DECENDENTS OF REUBIN THOMPSON WHERE WE WILL ENJOY FELLOWSHIP AND FOOD”.**

**Let's make Sunday October 5, 2025 a priority event.**

**OUR PROGRAM WILL BEGIN AT 10:30 AM FOLLOWED BY BBQ LUNCH.**

We look forward to seeing you at the Reubin Thompson Family Reunion/Ebenezer Green Leaf Church Homecoming!

*Andy Thompson*



**Church  
Pre-Storm**



**Church  
Storm Damage**



**Church  
Post storm—cleanup and repaired**



**Picnic Shelter  
Pre-Storm**



**Picnic Shelter  
Storm Damage**



**Picnic Shelter  
Post Storm—Cleanup and repaired**



**Cemetery  
Pre-Storm**



**Cemetery  
Storm Damage**



**Cemetery  
Cleanup and repaired**

