

Daniel D. Coker died January 26, 1886 according to the Coker family Bible. He was buried in the Coker Cemetery near Limestone.

On October 5, 1888, Nicey Coker applied for bounty land based on her husband's military enlistments. She gave her post office as Wauchula, DeSoto County, Florida. W. H. Seward and W. L. Carlton were witnesses to her mark.

Nicy Coker made her will in DeSoto County on February 4, 1889. In it she named her children Wesley A. Coker, Bryant Coker, Daniel J. Coker, heirs of Isham Coker (Isham R., Minnard W., Metus, Della, Ida & Frank Coker), heirs of Laura Ann Hampton nee Coker (Hester V., Annie, Mattie D., Archibald, Joseph, Nicy C. & Bryant Hampton) and heirs of daughter Mary Ann DeVane. Wesley A. and Bryant Coker were executors. It is believed that the daughter Mary Ann DeVane was adopted but it is possible that she was a daughter although she is not listed in any of the census records.

Nicy (Taylor) Coker died August 6, 1891 and was buried in the Coker Cemetery.

REFERENCES: Wesley A. Coker pension; Olney O'Banion, LaBelle, Fl.; Lola Coker Lott, Tampa, Fl.; Madison Co. deeds & marriages; Wesley A. Coker family Bible; Daniel D. Coker bounty land application; Nicey Coker bounty land application; 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870 Madison Co., Fl. census; 1880 Manatee Co. census; Confederate service records; Coker Cemetery; DeSoto County, Fl.'s "Record of Wills, #1", Annie Newton, Arcadia, Fl.

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MANATEE COUNTY: HISTORY OF BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH & CEMETERY

The following Church history and cemetery records were compiled and contributed by Mrs. Vera M. Dupree, Rt. 1, Box 41, Myakka City, Fl. 33551. Continued from Issue #19/20:

An interesting point is the way the Lord has entwined the Hendry family with the history of Bethany. Starting with Brother J. M. Hendry in 1891 as the second pastor, he was called again in 1895 and for the third time in 1899 when he then remained for six years. Rev. E. L. Hendry served as pastor for 3 years from 1910-1913. In 1911, Brother E. B. Hendry served as moderator for revival meetings. Then in 1949 Rev. Alex Hendry (our pastor's father) was called. He remained for about three years and in 1958 he preached for a few months as interim pastor. Rev. Newell Hendry led several revivals here at Bethany. In March 1973 our present pastor, Rev. A. O. Hendry, was called. Under his leadership and guidance the membership has grown from 133 in 1973 to 448 in 1977. Five men have been licensed to preach and many have been called to full time Christian service during his ministry.

In June 1974 we dedicated our present sanctuary with Brother Harry Phillips as chairman of the building committee. In June 1975 we dedicated our education building with an enlarged nursery included. Our lovely parsonage was finished in April of 1978. Brother Ralph Wiley was building chairman for these. We also have added a new fellowship hall and a recreation area for our youth.

Now we are nearing the middle of the year of 1979, May 7, 1979 to be exact and the Lord has blessed and preserved and prospered his Church. Our pastor, Rev. A. O. Hendry, is still serving and our membership is now 472. Our present and very capable sunday school supt. is Brother Jim Dubois and enrollment is 117.