

The Campbells

Thomas Campbell

- Family background of Catholicism and Anglicanism in Ireland
- Born 1763 in County Down, Ireland
- He was a Presbyterian minister in Ireland (Old Light, Anti-Burgher, Seceder)
 - Seceder churches chose their own ministers, Anti-Seceder ministers were chosen by higher church authorities
 - Burgesses were Scottish public officials who were given the authority to determine whether a congregation would be Seceder or Anti-Seceder
 - New Light congregations believed that scripture should be used to shed new light onto the Westminster Confession (Presbyterian doctrinal statement)
 - He tried to unite some of these factions in Ireland but Scottish church leaders would not let him
- Came to America in 1807 for health reasons and was assigned to preach in Pennsylvania
- Got into trouble with the Presbyterian church for serving communion to different kinds of Presbyterians and for preaching to churches that asked him to preach without permission
- Started an inter-denominational Bible study that became known as the Christian Association that eventually became the Brush Run Church
- 1809 – wrote the *Declaration and Address* outlining the beliefs of the Association and stressing unity

- 1808 – he left the Presbyterian Church to become an independent preacher
- Condemned all creeds stating that the Bible was all sufficient
- 1809 - made the statement - " Where the Scriptures speak, we speak; and where the Scriptures are silent, we are silent"
- 1813 – opened a school in Cambridge, Ohio and taught there
- Died 1854 in Bethany, West Virginia

Alexander Campbell

- Born 1788 in Ireland
- In 1808 boarded a ship to join his father in America but ended up wrecking in Scotland
- He spent a year studying at University of Glasgow
- Became friends with several people seeking unity and return to New Testament practices – autonomous leadership by elders, weekly Lord's Supper, Love Feasts with foot washing and the holy kiss, believer's baptism by immersion, opposition to ministerial titles, separation of church and state
- Separated from the Seceder Presbyterians
- Joined his father in Pennsylvania in October, 1809 and realized they had been thinking the same thoughts
- 1812 – the birth of his first daughter was a challenge on whether to baptize her or not – they chose not to baptize her

- Immersed in 1812 by Matthias Luce, a Baptist minister
- Published "The Christian Baptist" paper from 1823 until 1830
- 1816 – differentiated between the authority of the Old Testament and the authority of the New Testament which caused problems with the Baptist church. Broke with the Baptist church in 1830.

- 1826: "I have no idea of adding to the catalogue of new sects. I labor to see sectarianism abolished and all Christians of every name united upon the one foundation upon which the apostolic church was founded."
- Spent much time debating various people on various religious issues
- Died on March 4, 1866

Christian Association of Washington, Pennsylvania

- Formed in August of 1809 as an inter-denominational Bible study group
- September 1809 – wrote the Declaration and Address
- In 1811, the Christian Association became known as the Brush Run Church
- This church was not affiliated with any denomination and was made up of immersed believers
- In 1813 the church became affiliated with the Redstone Baptist Association even though they didn't accept all of the aspects of Baptist doctrine
- In 1823, Alexander Campbell left Brush Run because of opposition from the Baptist Association