

NORTHERN KENTUCKY VIEWS PRESENTS:

The Long Ridge Baptist Church

by
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**A History of Owen County Baptist
Association and Its Churches**

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HISTORY OF LONG RIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH

For this Thy house we praise Thee,
Reared at Thine own command,
For every generous spirit,
And every willing hand;
And now within Thy temple
Thy glory let us see,
For all its strength and beauty
Are nothing without Thee.

On the 29th day of July 1820 an indenture was made between John Snell and the trustees of Long Ridge Baptist Church of Christ conveying one square acre of ground lying west of Ross Mill and New Liberty turnpike, one and a half miles north of Owenton. Here the above church was constituted with nine members by Issac Foster, John Scott, Isaac Malin and others and held its meetings in the Hancock schoolhouse on these grounds. The church was served by various preachers until 1822 when Rev. C. Duvall was called as pastor. During this period the church increased by emigrants, by letter, and a few by baptism. In the fall of 1829 Rev. Duvall and several others asked for dismissal in order to constitute a church in Owenton.

Rev. Joseph Crouch was asked to be pastor and twenty-five members were added by baptism during his ministry of five years. Andrew Suter was ordained in November and became pastor as Crouch had resigned. Thirty-six members were added to the church and Elijah Threlkeld was ordained to the ministry and called to fill the pulpit following Rev. Suter's death.

Trouble over beliefs of doctrine weakened their spiritual power and part of the congregation withdrew and formed themselves into a body called The Particular Baptist Church of Christ. A committee composed of J. Herndon, B. Kemper and A. Motherhead resolved that each group would meet at specified times. At this time there were forty-three Negro members belonging to the families of Bainbridge, Forsee, and Mundy.

In 1842 a general revival was enjoyed among the churches in Concord Association and reported 1,023 by baptism. Branham, a young man of promise, aided the pastor.

The year 1844 was highlighted by the organizing of the Southern Baptist Convention and Long Ridge gave \$7.00 to Indian and China Missions.

1852 saw the resolve and baptism of L. H. Salin, a Bavarian. When ordained in 1857, Salin became an active evangelist throughout the state but retaining Owen as home.

J. W. Waldrop was granted license to preach in 1853 wherever his lot may be cast. These were busy times for the church voted to build flues, stoves to be put in, sears painted, house white-washed, burying ground laid off and prayer meeting held on first Saturday evening.

Salin and Waldrop were to preach on each first Sunday. During a business meeting a motion was passed stating the brethren should not chew and spit on the floor. A good protracted meeting was held by Johnson with E. Bainbridge furnishing candles for lights.

Next, J. Cook, P. H. Todd, B. Garnet and J. W. Waldrop served as pastors with Waldrop being paid the first set salary of \$250 in 1869.

Talk began by Regular Baptist of buying a lot and building a church at Harrisburg, south of Lewis's store. In 1876 an acre of land was purchased from Joe U. and Dorinda Thompson for \$75 and work was begun on church. Particular Baptist paid Regular Baptist \$200 for original property. By 1880, the church was completed and all indebtedness paid.

J. W. Waldrop resigned and was replaced by H. T. Daniel. In May 1879, the Sabbath School was organized. J. S. Tanner accepted the pastorate in 1893. From 1901 until 1909, P. E. Burroughs and E. F. Wright served both Long Ridge and New Liberty. Rev. Wright organized the first W. M. U. with Mrs. John Hayes as president. A. C. Hambry followed then I. Andrews who later resigned for fulltime at Dallasburg.

In 1911 W. O. Harrison was ordained and in 1912 the church bought the first individual communion service and collection plates. In 1913 L. L. Watson was called; 1914 S. F. Lowe; 1918 W. R. Deal and 1919 I. E. Enlow to serve half time with Pleasant Ridge. In 1920 P. E. Burroughs led the church in a centennial of spiritual progress and revival.

Then in 1921 the body voted for full time preaching and also to erect a new stucco edifice which was dedicated in June 1924 and is the present place of worship. In 1925 Rev. Enlow went into state mission work and was replaced by R. E. Alley. Following his leave, L. E. Aldridge began his ministry in 1927 and continued until 1947, with the Lord adding to the church year by year. H. L. Malone came in 1947; Frank Colquett, 1950; M. F. Strunk, 1953; Fred Anderton, 1955; John L. Bledsoe, 1958; Colburn Hooten, 1960, and Tom Miller in 1964.

"Unto him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all generations for ever and ever." Ephesians 3:21

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