

NORTHERN KENTUCKY VIEWS PRESENTS:

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Pleasant Ridge  
Baptist Church:

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by  
Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church

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

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## HISTORY OF PLEASANT RIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH

Over the rolling landscape can be seen the church steeple of the Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, as it stands high and tall, a challenge to all to come and listen to the gospel.

Under the leadership of Brother Hugh Montgomery, a group of men composed of Jonathan Kemper, William Morgan, Thomas Jones, Jesse Smith, Jesse Stamper, Daniel and Elisha Cobb, C. Duvall, Samuel Mason, John McGibney and Farmer Reese met at the home of Uriah Chandler on the fourth Saturday in June, 1836 for the purpose of constituting a place to worship Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. At this meeting Hugh Montgomery was appointed moderator, and Farmer Reese clerk. Minutes show the following brethren and sisters presented their letters for membership. W. H. and Nancy Miller, George Wood, Garland Sims, Jacob Rolland, Lidia and Frances Chandler, Washington and Sallie Simpson, Amos Clark, Samuel Agee and Frankie Marksberry. The right hand of fellowship was extended to them by Brother Montgomery, thus Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church was constituted. There is no record of another pastor being called until the year 1872 when Brother Clark Monroe Riley was called and held worship services once a month.

It was admitted into the Concord Association from Ten-Mile association in 1867. It was a charter member of the Owen County Association when it was organized in 1924, after Concord and Owen Association disbanded. It entertained Ten-Mile twice while a member of that body and Concord three times, the first time in 1887, again in 1906, with J. H. Toole, C. F. Pryor, W. H. Lyons, Mrs. Ann Mary Toole and Mrs. Sarah Satterwhite serving on the entertaining committee, and the last time it met on August 13, 1924.

One of the early pastors, Brother William Jesse Agee, was licensed in 1885, and ordained in 1886 at Pleasant Ridge. He married Miss Adeline Waldrop in 1891. She died that same year. Four years later he married Miss Hallie Ransdell, a sister to Brother John S. Ransdell and the late Mr. Lindsey Ransdell, who was the oldest member of the church, when he passed away in July 1966. In 1904 Brother and Mrs. Agee were appointed to the Home Mission Board and served in the state of Idaho 42 years.

After worshiping in the first building 68 years, the members voted to build a new church. Therefore, the present building was erected in 1904, under the pastorate of Brother John S. Ransdell. He was licensed in 1897 and ordained in 1901. Brother Ransdell was converted, licensed and ordained in his home church, which was Pleasant Ridge. He became a State Board Field Worker in 1922.

Two other members felt the call of the Holy Spirit and went out to serve the Master. Dr. William F. McGibney was also converted in this church. He felt the call to be a minister, was licensed and ordained and came back to serve as its pastor from 1933 to 1939. One of its young women, Sara Betty Ellis Galloway felt the call to Christian Service. She dedicated herself to full time service, receiving her appointment from the Foreign Mission Board in 1946. She and her husband, Dr. Edward Galloway, who was also appointed, went to China in 1947 and served until 1951.

Minutes show the first Woman's Missionary Society was organized in July 1924. Mrs. E. R. Sams was elected president, Mrs. Susie Brumback secretary. Pleasant Ridge still has an active W. M. S.

It celebrated the 55th anniversary of the present building with a Homecoming in May 1959. Two of the former pastors brought messages and reminisced. Brother Marshall Flournoy, who is now a missionary in Brazil brought the morning message and Dr. W. C. Holland spoke in the afternoon.

Twenty-nine pastors have served Pleasant Ridge through the years. Many are still living and serving in other places. Some served as many as six years at a time. Clark M. Riley, J. D. Clark, J. W. Waldrop, J. B. Wheatley, J. A. Hensley, William McMillian, Wm. Jesse Agee, G. W. Hill, N. F. Jones, J. S. Ransdell, Henry Holbrook, W. O. Harrison, S. A. Cooper, W. S. Landrum, I. E. Enlow, E. R. Sams, G. C. Sandusky, C. D. Boozer, William F. McGibney, Guy Ranson, W. C. Holland, Gus Verdery, Jack Epps, Wayne Slaton, John Wilson, Marshall Flournoy, Joe R. Baskin, John McCommon and Morris Trayner, who is serving at the present time. Brother Trayner has labored with this congregation the past three years. Under his leadership the church is advancing.

Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church