

NORTHERN KENTUCKY VIEWS PRESENTS:

Salem
Baptist Church

by
Simeon Webster

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BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH

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On February 11, 1837, with the Rev. Joseph Crouch presiding and with E. Johnson acting as clerk, a group of some 30 persons met at the home of the latter for constitution a Church to be located on Big Twin Creek on Jacob Ball's land. Each person present came forward and gave themselves to the Lord and each other. They adopted their articles of faith at that time.

On the second Saturday in May 1837, nine more people came forward and united with the Church, three of these were of the colored race. At this time a business meeting was held in which D. W. Cull agreed to build their original Church building for \$700.00. The Salem Church has built two houses of worship, the first structure was of stone, and the present building at this date is a one-room auditorium built in 1900.

On November 29, 1900, the dedicatory sermon was preached for the present building by W. P. Harvey, D. D. of Louisville, Ky. At that time the Church building was given to the service of the Lord free of debt.

Looking back to some interesting events which have place in the history of the Church--in 1858 the Church agreed to proportion its members to defray the expenses of the Church.

In 1858 a motion was passed that any male member in good health missing two services would be cited the third.

In 1859 a group of men were appointed to meet with the Church at New Liberty for the purpose of employing a missionary to preach to the destitute within bounds of the Concord Association.

In 1884 there is a record of the exclusion of members for non-attendance and non-payment.

In 1886, 64 were baptized, three accepted by relation and fourteen restored.

In 1913 a roll call was had. There were 111 present and 120 absent.

In 1925 the missionary committee reported \$2,588.75 collected and paid over. From 1837 to 1965, 36 men have been called to serve as pastors, seven of these men have been called back the second and third time, and C. M. Riley called the fourth time.

William Morgan	1837
F. D. Alexander with	1849
Bro. Brown	
Bro. Todd	1852
Bro. Garrnet	1853
P. Todd	1864
G. Kenny	1865
B. F. Baker	1867
C. M. Riley	1868
J. E. Keney	1872
J. D. Clark	1875
C. M. Riley	1876
E. Keney	1881
J. B. Wheatley	1882
C. M. Riley	1883
R. H. Alexander	1885
C. M. Riley	1887
J. B. Wheatley	1888
J. D. Clark	1894
J. B. Wheatley	1879
J. D. Clark	1898
J. W. Waldrop	1899
E. F. Wright	1906
J. W. Waldrop	1907
W. E. Fedley	1908
A. H. Mahaffey	1908
W. T. Ellis	1910
S. A. Cooper	1916
Walter Oliver	1921

Levi Kemper	1930
C. B. Love	1938
Clel Rogers	1940
J. W. Cummins	1941
Birchett Kemper	1942
Harvey Ayres	1944
H. A. Buchannon	1946
L. R. Magers	1949
J. O. Prentice	1951
J. R. Smith	1952
R. Kelley	1953
C. Price	1954
S. Webster	1956
Roscoe Brong	1958
Bro. Cowherd	1960
Robert Ford	1961
S. Webster	1965

In 1886 the Church licensed J. W. Hensley to preach the Gospel of Christ. In 1901, December 29, B. F. Hunter was ordained to the Gospel ministry at the Salem Church. The churches represented in the council were as follows: Owenton, South Fork, Mt. Zion, Moxley, New Liberty, Gratz, Squiresville. Bro. Hunter was to serve Mt. Zion and Gistville as their pastor.

In April Albion Arnold was ordained to the Gospel ministry at the request of the Mt. Zion Church to serve as their pastor. The Salem Church invited the churches of the Owen County Association to assist in the ordination. The Interrogation was led by C. G. Billups, pastor of New Liberty. Pastor W. W. Oliver preached the ordination sermon. The 1964 associational letter reported a total membership of 125. Non-resident 78; Enrollment in Sunday School 34; average attendance 18. The church now has preaching services every Sunday and Sunday night.

Simeon Webster