

Northern Kentucky Views Presents:

History of the Bullittsville Christian Church

By

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History of the Bullittsville Christian Church.

On the seventeenth day of November 1879 a protracted meeting was begun by Elder W. S. Keene of Lexington, Kentucky, at the Baptist Church in Francisville, Boone Co. Ky. After it had continued five days the meeting was moved to the Grange Hall in Bullittsville, Situated upon the Covington and Petersburg turnpike, 13 miles from Covington, (the former home of Mr. and Mrs. Theodora Birkle)

On the 27th of November being Thanksgiving Day, a meeting was called at 11:00 A.M. to organize a Christian Church at that place after services and preaching by Bro. Keene.

The meeting was organized by calling Bro. James A. Davis of Hebron to the secretary's table and Bro. J. C. Jenkins of Petersburg to the chair, after discussing the matter fully.

The Church was organized with 19 members. An effort to raise funds to build a meeting house was then made and in a few moments the sum of \$1205.00 was secured, a building committee of four members was then appointed.

Said committee was composed of Bro. John Stephens, F.L. Gordon, J. A. Davis, and John R. Smith with instructions to erect a suitable house as soon as possible. This committee was afterwards augmented by adding Bro. James L. Riley to it. The meeting was continued by Bro. Keene until December 12th and resulted in 43 more additions to the original 19 members.

The original 19 members were:

John Stephens and wife Medeline Stephens.

F. L. Gordon and wife Sallie Gordon

Mrs. Isabelle Davis

J. A. Davis

Mrs. Lizzie Gaines

Mrs. Mary Quick

W. P. Oldham

Mrs. Alice Grady

N. D. Stephenson

Alonzo Gaines Sr.

Mrs. Nannie Day

Maria Dye

The Church was built in 1880, a large frame structure, seating 400, by a Bree will offering at a cost of \$4000 . Rev. Robert Graham Dedicated the Church. Rev. W. S. Keene was the pastor for years. Rev. R. L. Howe followed Rev Keene. His brother Rev. W. J. Howe followed. These men were educated for the ministry from Lexington College of the Bible.

On Monday, September 19, 1910 the Christian church at Bullittsville was struck by lightning and completely destroyed by fire. The organ and a few benches were saved. It had been kept in good repair and but recently was reroofed at which time a steel ceiling was put in.

The building was insured in the Boone Co. Company for about \$2,200. The congregation consisted of 100 members, Rev. Edgar Riley of Burlington was the pastor at the time.

The following Sunday being the regular meeting day, we met in the Mt. Pleasant Church. It was discussed whether we would build on the old site or move to another place. The vote was taken and carried to build on the old site.

In the deed to the lot, it is written whenever the lot ceases to be used for a Church lot shall be sold and the money given to Midway Orphans School.

The following Thursday we met a subscription was taken and a building committee appointed, consisting of Bro. J. L. Riley, George Riley, Charles Goodridge, J. C. Hankins, George Gordan and E. R. Stephens. agreed to

commence the new building at once.

Sunday, December 11, 1910 the new Christian Church at Bullittsville was dedicated free of debt. Bro. J. W. Hagin of Covington, preaching the morning sermon and Bro. Edgar Riley the regular pastor, preaching the afternoon sermon.

In 1921 the members decided to buy a parsonage in Hebron. In 1933 a basement was built adding four Sunday School rooms and a Kitchen. In 1948 a new organ was installed and Miss Mary Margaret Fowlers class bought two beautiful palms for the Church. Mrs. Charles Engle and daughter donated the jardinears for the palms.

In 1949 the Crusade Class bought a new communion set for the Church. During the summer of 1949 two Sunday School rooms and a new chancel were built to the Church. October 9, 1949, dedication of the new Sunday School rooms, new chancel and organ was held. Rev. Edgar D. Jones was the speaker. At this time a check from Mrs. Ida. Bawsley's estate for \$1000 was received. Mothers Day May 14, 1950 after Church services ground was broken for a new parsonage.

Sunday October 22, 1950 the parsonage was dedicated. Rev. George V. Moore was the speaker. On this day Bullittsburg Baptist Church presented the parsonage with a lovely Mantel Clock and Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Denniston presented beautiful door chimes.

October 10, 1954 Ground Breaking ceremonies were held for the construction of our first unit-the educational unit. The first unit consists of 6 Sunday School rooms, including a nursery, 2 restrooms, a Church office or pastors study, installation of a complete vew heating system and a cistern. They began building October 11, 1954. Dedicated Sunday June 5, 1955 Rev. Forrest L. King, Secretary- Director of the Christian Churches of Kentucky was the speaker.

Some of the former Pastors were:

Rev. W. S. Keene .	1879-1883
Rev. R. L. Howe.	1886
Rev. W. J. Howe.	1887-1888
Rev. Murdock Gunn.	
Rev. Clinton Lockhart.	
Rev. Elvin Curry.	1894-1895
Rev. George Watkins.	1897-
Rev. Edgar D. Jones.	1900-1903
Rev. A. F. Hensey	1904-1905
Rev. Haskins.	1906-1907
Rev. Edgar C. Riley	1910-1911
Rev. Everett True	
Rev. Oscar Riley	
Rev. G. P. Simmons.	1915-1919
Rev. Robert Carter	1920-1922
Rev. Chester Williamson 2 yrs. $\frac{1}{2}$ time	1922-1925
Rev. Sam Allen 1 year & until Sept 30, $\frac{1}{2}$ time.	1928-1929
Rev. Forest Brown 2 yrs. full time.	1930-1933
Rev. Don. Walker	
Rev. Noble Lucas	1935-1945
Rev A. C. Young Sept. 1945 to Jan. 1952.	1945-1952
Rev Roy Martin. January 15, 1956.	1952-1956

Sunday March 25, 1956 Rev. Milton Pearson was installed as pastor of Bullittsville Christian Church. He served as minister of youth from 1950 to 1953 with the Douglas Blvd. Christian Church, Louisville, Kentucky. On the same date Burnam Roberts and James Gordon Bullock were installed as elders and the following were ordained as deacons:

Delbert Engle, William Mattox, Richard Free, Lloyd Dorman, Ray Hill, Eli Williams, John Berryman

Rev. Edgar C. Riley is the only young man to enter the ministry from Bullittsville Christian Church, though the Church has helped a number of young ministers in their work.

One afternoon in October 1929 Mrs. W. R. Humphry Secretary, Kentucky Womens Missionary Society and Mrs. Fynne, Vice President of the State Board came to Bullittsville Church and organized a Missionary Society. They organized with 25 members, and met every month.

Mrs. Albert Willis was the first President. December 12, 1950 they changed to Christian Womens Fellowship.