

Northern Kentucky Views Presents:

Lewisburg Baptist Church

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LEWISBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

From The Daily Independent, Maysville, KY, July 3, 1961. and the historical collection of the Mason County Museum

The more-than-century-old Lewisburg Baptist Church was the subject of a photograph and feature story by J. Winston Coleman, Jr., in Sunday's edition of the Lexington Herald-Leader. It is located three-fourths of a mile from Lewisburg and 8 miles south of Maysville on well-traveled Ky. 11.

Mr. Coleman recalled that it was in October of 1843 when Harlow Yancey, Walter Calvert, John Chamberlain, W. S. Foreman and 21 other members of the congregation withdrew from the May's Lick Baptist Church and constituted the Lewisburg Baptist Church, a member of the Bracker Association. Both churches are in Mason County.

It was in the same year that three acres of ground were purchased from George Chinn for \$65 and the present brick church erected.

Elder Charles H. Parker, the first pastor, served for a number of years; he is buried in the side yard of the church. He was followed by Gilbert Mason and Cleon Keyes, who occupied the pulpit of Lewisburg Church for nearly 32 years, July, 1857 to 1889.

Some of the members in the mid-1880's were the Bollingers, Strodes, Burrises, Hawks, Halls, Keyes, Calverts, Marshalls, McDaniels, Kings, Lashbrooks, Chamberlains, McClellands, Singletons, Steers, McCrackens and Gaithers.

Ministers of the latter-day period who have held pastorate at the historic church, according to Mr. Coleman, are H. S. Sercy, 1899; Lewis N. Thompson, 1910; O. B. Mitchell, 1917; Robert H. Griffin, 1921-1924; J. Frank Estep, 1928-1929; Harry H. Welsh, 1930-1932; Dr. M. B. Adams, former president of Georgetown College, 1932-1935; T. H. Kingston, 1937-1939; Edward Furginson, 1940-1942; Glenn Means, 1944-1946; T. M. Browning, 1946-1949; Terrell Durham, 1949-1951; Richard M. Shields, 1952-1954; and O. T. Harmon, the present pastor, since November 1954.

The church presently has a congregation of about 150. A large cemetery on the hill holds remains of many pioneer families and early members of the congregation.

Lewisburg Baptist Church physically has changed but little during its long life. It still has original pews, sloping floor, and other woodwork.