

NORTHERN KENTUCKY VIEWS PRESENTS:

Mt. Pleasant
Baptist Church

by
Mrs. Walker Thomas

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HISTORY OF MT. PLEASANT CHURCH

During the fifteenth session of the Concord Association the Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church was accepted into the Association. This was in 1835. The minutes of the 1832 Association do not mention the church as Mt. Pleasant. In 1840 the church reported 40 members and 74 in 1841. Rev. James Martin was the pastor in 1839. In 1843 the Concord Association met at Mt. Pleasant. Rev. Eligah Threlkeld preached the Introductory sermon from John 8:36.

The church grew rapidly for in 1848 there were 156 members, but by 1857 there were only 125. The next year 25 members were added, making the membership to 150. In July 1867 the church was asked to help Owenton constitute a new church.

In 1867 the Mt. Pleasant Church donated one-half of the church ground for the purpose of erecting a school house with a Mason's hall above.

Rev. Lewis H. Salin was the pastor in 1867. The church ordered that each male member over 20 years of age pay a tax of 50 cents a year, to pay the pastor and for missions. The church held an annual call meeting each year for selecting a pastor. There were preaching services only one Sunday a month, with business meetings held on Saturday afternoon preceding this Sunday, with Sunday School each Sunday. One Sunday the attendance at Sunday School was recorded as 20 present.

In 1873 Rev. T. Pike Powers of Mt. Sterling held a revival meeting. The Associational minutes of 1882 carried this report of Mt. Pleasant

church, "A gracious revival, received 16, total membership 215, L. H. Smith, pastor". There were 12 churches in the Association, Mt. Pleasant ranked fourth in membership.

In 1873 Mt. Pleasant Church was requested to send help to the World's Wonder School to constitute a church there at that place.

In 1877 the minutes recorded that a committee from Cedar Hill community of Baptists requested help to meet at the school house on Wednesday after the 2nd Saturday in Feb. to take into consideration the organization of a Baptist Church at that place. The request was granted and a committee appointed to meet with them.

In 1888 a motion passed to tax all male members from \$2.00 not to exceed \$15.00 and females 50¢ not to exceed \$1.00, this was amended to tax relative to respective ability of members. A new church was dedicated in July, 1889, Rev. Eaton helped in the dedication. October 1889 Rev. J. P. Porter was called as pastor. Sept. 1891 the church appointed a committee of five to fence the graveyard. In 1900 Eula Walker and Daisy Plum were appointed to assist in raising funds for purchasing an organ.

In March 1901 The Ladies Aid Society was granted permission to use the church building for an entertainment to raise funds to re-decorate the church. Minutes of 1902 record that the Gratz church requested the Ladies Aid Society of Mt. Pleasant to meet with their ladies in mission work.

In 1905 Rev. J. T. Jones was pastor, L. A. Schooler, clerk. May 1905 Bro. Louis Thomas was ordained to the ministry with the following churches sending members to sit in council: Owenton, Gratz, Cedar Hill, Squiresville, South Fork, and Salem. Rev. J. W. Waldrop as chairman and Dr. Swindler as questioner. The charges were presented by Rev. J. S. Ransdell.

The records from 1905 until 1920 were either lost or burned. Pastors serving then were Rev. E. R. Sams, Rev. J. A. Lee, Rev. J. W. Thompson and Rev. Sandusky. In 1929 Rev. Campbell Jeffries from Georgetown College came to the church as pastor. It was during his ministry that an electrical storm struck the church and burned it to the ground on Friday, July 27, 1934. The church had no insurance. One year later on June 30, 1935 a new church, on the same plot of ground, was dedicated. It was built of field stone quarried by members of the church and community. A former Owen countain and relative of Mrs. Callie Hancock Morgan, Mr. Lee Wainscott of Winchester, Ky., gave the first \$1,000 to start the building with contributions from many people the church was built and debt free on the day of dedication. Sunday school rooms were added later to the basement, also a new organ and piano.

In April of 1939 Rev. Jeffries left and from that time until 1965 the church has acquired pastors from the Southern Baptist Seminary. The church has been most fortunate in securing good pastors, who have built the church both spiritually and in members. The membership now is 238. One young lady from the church, Mary Elizabeth, now Mrs. Jack Lee Wyatt, went as a missionary to the mountains of Kentucky.

Pastors since 1939 were:

Dr. Lafayette Walker	1939-1942	Alabama
Dr. Otis Williams	1942-1945	Alabama
Rev. Paul Turner	1945-1948	Tennessee
Rev. H. G. West	1948-1949	Mississippi
Rev. B. J. Turner	1949-1951	Tennessee
Rev. Dale Burton	1951-1953	Florida
Rev. W. D. Turner	1953-1956	Tennessee
Rev. Bob Patterson	1956-1958	North Carolina
Rev. Robert Cantwell	1958-1959	North Carolina
Rev. Charles Rice	1959-1962	California
Rev. Joe Slade	1962-1965	Florida

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