

NORTHERN KENTUCKY VIEWS PRESENTS:

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Sparta  
Baptist Church

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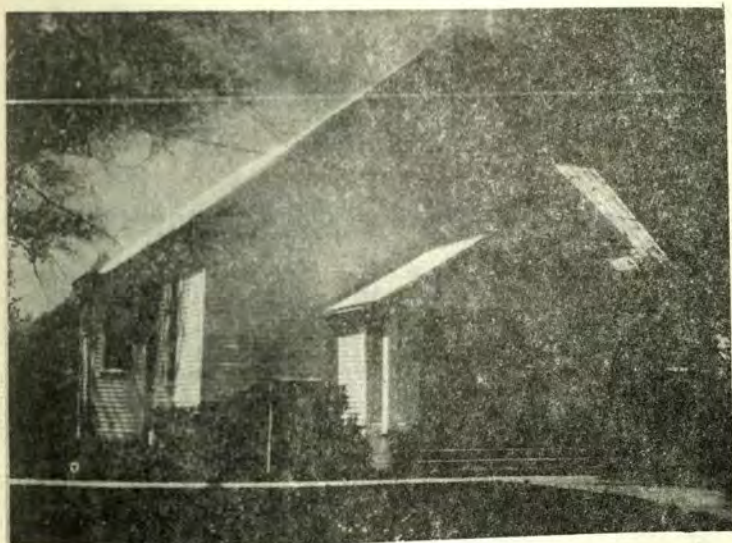
by  
Fannie Varble

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

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### SPARTA BAPTIST CHURCH

The Sparta Baptist Church was organized with seventy members August 30, 1881 in the old red school house, and became a member of the Owen County Concord Association, and later became a member of the Owen County Association.

Those residing in Sparta who met to organize the church were: R. H. Alexander, P. J. Hale, T. J. Jenkins, and Granville Brock from New Liberty, Enoc Smith, Taylor Webster, Lewis Webster, and N. S. Riley from Dallasburg, R. T. Vories, Benjamin Jones, and William Satshell from Liberty Station, H. T. Daniel and W. D. Beck from Long Ridge, T. A. Spicer, J. F. Williams and A. D. Noel from Glencoe, R. Simeon Coates, Asa Kemper, J. J. Brock, and J. T. Garvey, Poplar Grove, J. C. Turley from Ten Mile, J. H. Dorman and J. W. Waldrop from Owenton, J. J. Hopkins, W. P. Slaughter and Stephen Slaughter from Oakland.

The council was organized by appointing T. J. Jenkins, Moderator; R. Simeon Coates, Secretary; and H. T. Daniels preached a very instructive sermon in July. Twenty-four members of other churches and ordinance of baptism was administered to twenty more.

In February 1882, a lot was bought and foundation was built on the lot now owned by Mrs. Walter Kennedy. This was sold in January 1890. The new building was started in August 1897, and finished last of May 1898. Rev. M. A. Hunt preached the dedication sermon. The amount of money needed was raised to clear the house of debt.

The preacher's salary in 1900 was raised from \$7.50 to \$10.00 a month. Revival meeting in the same year by Rev. A. F. Jones had thirty additions of which seventeen were by baptism. He received \$46.06.

Some of the first moderators were: P. T. Hale, B. F. Turley, W. J. Agee, and V. A. Brock. Clerks were: Dr. J. M. Stallard and B. F. Wilson. The pastor called March 1911 was Rev. Don Q. Smith. The Rev. Cockran, Rev. C. T. Clark, Rev. Tullu were pastors until 1923 when Rev. S. W. Rodgers was called. Rev. L. E. Aldridge served from 1926 to 1934, then Rev. Abernathy, and Rev. Will Smith until Dec. 1941.

In 1930, a new metal ceiling was put on. Mr. Grant Samuels tore down the belfry and put a louvre in front.

The Association met with us August 1930 and in 1955.

In 1934, two new Sunday School rooms were added on one side of the Church, and an extended pulpit in form of a bay window on opposite side and two rooms were taken from main auditorium for Sunday School rooms.

Our services were held on first and third Sundays until July 1948. It was voted to have full time preaching.

In 1952 we were having difficulty heating the church properly as our coal furnace had seen better days. It was suggested by C. N. Varble to build another room and put in a furnace. As the land always flooded when Eagle Creek overflowed, it was impossible to have a basement. Under the direction of Joseph Wilson, another room was built and an oil furnace installed. The transom over the door was removed. A front entrance was added, a new floor laid, and the interior redecorated.

The school house and lot was purchased in 1953. The building was torn down in 1955, making a large parking lot.

In 1963, we remodeled the church putting in colored glass windows, new rugs, doors, and redecorating in general.

Some of our recent pastors: Rev. Charles Arnold, Rev. Olive Rice, Rev. Oscar Brooks, Rev. Ovis Fairly, Rev. Bill Haub, Rev. Lou Mc Nabb, Rev. William Hartung, and our present pastor, Rev. Richard L. Horton.

V. A. Brock, one of the charter members, was the last charter member to die.

Mrs. Fannie Varbel