

LOCUST BAPTIST

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LOCUST BAPTIST CHURCH



Locust Baptist Church First Organized Sometime Before 1866

First reliable records of the Locust Baptist Church date to the year 1866 when the land on which the church now stands was purchased from S.G. Falls on East prong of Locust Creek by the trustees of the church.

Because the old records were destroyed by fire it is impossible to trace the early origins of this religious organization.

The church building erected in 1866, still serves the congrega-

tion. It was stoutly constructed of stone and concrete and was built by the hard work of men who were interested in having a church in their community.

Among some of the early members were Mr. and Mrs. Peter Conway, Mr. and Mrs. E. Holmes, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bradley, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Shelton and several others whose names could not be recalled.

Some of the first pastors were

Revs. John McGuire, Armas Smith, Levi S. Chilton and Clark Riley. During their pastorates there was much interest taken, with a membership of about 300, from which the Baptist congregation at Union Grove was formed in the early 1890's.

In 1900, the Locust church left the Sulphur Fork association and became a member of the White's Run association, together with 11 other churches in Carroll County and adjacent territory. About this time, Revs. W.C. Pierce and W.F. Jones held lengthy pastorates.

During a revival held by Brother Pierce, the crowds were so large that the church could not seat them, so he continued his revival in a barn near by, now owned by the Thompson family.

Then during a period of about 14 years, the church at Locust went back to half-time services. Some of the pastors were W.G. Potts, Rev. R.B. Patterson, Rev. S.A. Cooper, Rev. W.S. Hardin and Rev. D.P. Rowlett, who were all vitally interested in the Lord's work.

After this time the membership declined and in 1932, the church went to quarter-time, calling Rev. T. Rupert Coleman as pastor, who served for three years. Since that time the church has had many consecrated Christian pastors as their leaders.

The church now has Sunday school each Sunday morning and preaching services as often as possible on Sunday morning.

Some of the deacons who have served down through the years include: S.G. Falls, Will Kagle, Wash Adams, Jonathan Brunton, Henry Pulliam, Riley Gross and E.F. Carlisle. In recent years some of the deacons were Morris Chatham, J.N. Banks, L.C. Cribbins and Jesse Westrick.

LOCUST BAPTIST CHURCH

Due to fact the old records have been destroyed by fire, only a brief sketch can be given of the Locust Baptist church, this information being gathered from some of the older members.

The ground on which the church now stands was bought from the late S.G. Fallis on East Locust creek by the board of trustees, and the erection of the church began in the year 1866.

The structure is of rock and concrete and was built by hard work of men who were interested in having a church in their community.

Among the earlier members were Mr. And Mrs. Peter Conway, Mr. and Mrs. E. Holmes. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bradley, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Shelton and many others whose names can not be recalled now.

Some of the first pastors were Revs. John McGuire, Archie Smith, Levi S. Chilton and Clark Riley. During their pastorates there was much interest taken, with a membership of about 300 members, from which the Baptist congregation at Union Grove was formed in the early '90's.

In the year of 1900, leaving the Sulphur Fork Association, this church became a member of the Whites Run Association, being one among the twelve other churches.

About this time among those holding lengthy pastorates were Revs. W.C. Pierce and W.F. Jones, under whose services much good was done, having full time preaching and Sunday school every Sunday.

During Rev. Pierce's revival the crowds were so large the church could not seat them, so he continued his revival in a barn near by, now owned by John Thompson, Sr.

Then during a period of about 14 years the church went back to half-time. In this time some of the pastors were Rev. W.G. Potts, who served three years; Rev. R.B. Patterson, who faithfully and very successfully served a long period of time; Revs. S.A. Cooper, W.S. Hardin and D.P. Rowlett, who were also much interested in the ongoing of the Lord's Work.

After that the church membership declined in numbers in 1932, and went to fourth-time calling Rev. T. Rupert Coleman as pastor, who faithfully served in this capacity nearly three years.

Since that time the church has had many noble, consecrated Christian pastors, including our present minister, Rev. T.S. McGee, as their Shepherd and leader.

The church has Sunday school each Sunday morning, and preaching services on second Sunday, morning and evening, in each month.

A revival is held each year. second Sunday, a Sunday school offering goes to missions, also a donation to the State Orphans' Home during the year.

We also mention some of the elder deacons down through the years; Messrs. S.G. Fallis, Will Kagle, Wash Adams, Jonathan Brunton, Henry Pulliam, Riley Gross and E.F. Carlisle, most all of whom have gone on before.

The present board of deacons is composed of Messrs. Morris Chatham, J.N. Banks, L.C. Cribbins and Jesse Westrick.