

A Brief History of the First Baptist Church Grayson, Kentucky

In January, 1920, in answer to fervent prayers from Baptist people in Grayson, Dr. J. G. M. Bow, came for the specific purpose of helping organize a Baptist church. After contacting every Baptist in the vicinity, 16 people became charter members, all deceased now.

The first of several buildings in our church history, were purchased in 1920, from a gift from Lena Browning of Falmouth, Kentucky. The new Baptist church was called the Lena Browning Memorial Church. The church grew greatly during the years to come.

The first pastor, B. F. Hyde taught the Baptist doctrine and the church grew in membership.

Under the leadership of E. W. Summers, the second pastor, many lost souls were brought to Christ.

In 1927 the church called V. B. Castleberry as pastor and he labored faithfully for two years.

David Brainard became pastor in 1930 and the first building program was undertaken.

S. M. Meade was pastor from 1931 - 1934.

Alonzo Outland accepted the full time pastorate in 1935 and remained until 1946, when he resigned due to ill health. The church membership grew steadily during his years here.

In 1946, C. E. Wiley was called as pastor. Under his leadership, missions were opened at Willard, Wolf Creek and Carter. Bro. Wiley resigned in 1951 to accept a church in Indiana.

From 1951 - 1955, W. T. Durham kept the church striving in the Lord's work.

J. C. Stephens became the pastor here in 1956. He was instrumental in organizing a departmental Sunday School with W. L. Kouns as superintendent.

On August 26, 1956, a vote was made to become a corporate body and change the name to the First Baptist Church of Grayson.

In September 1966, the church voted to go into a building program to begin construction of our auditorium.

On June 21, 1968, Bro. Stephens was called to be with the Lord. The funeral was held in the unfinished auditorium. The first service was held in the new auditorium on November 29, 1968.

Adrian Lamkin was called as pastor in 1969 and served until 1973.

Sam Sloan had been pastor less than one year when he was called home by a sudden heart attack.

Earl G. Neal came on the field in 1975 and remained until his retirement in 1982.

Under the leadership of Charles Davis, a bus ministry was started. Hitchins Missionary Baptist and First Baptist Church united as one congregation in 2000 and John D. Newland became co-pastor. Bro. John resigned in 2004 to accept a pastorate in Indiana.

In 2005, the church called Terry Leap as pastor and he remained until 2008.

Down through the years since 1920 God has sent many pastors to serve as the spiritual leaders for His church. Each fulfilling the needs and responsibilities for which they were called. Likewise, there have been many faithful and devoted members who have stood by and assumed responsibilities for leading His children whether on the mountain top or in the valley.

The original 16 members, back in 1920, have multiplied down through the years, to who can tell, how many members will be part of the First Baptist Church of Grayson, in the years to come.