

Wellman Over the Years

The first deacons at Wellman Baptist Church were

Mr. W.L McGraw

Mr. John Taylor Thompson

Mr. Park Roberts

These men were ordained in 1909 with the ordination service being preached by Reverend George Darling of Brookhaven other deacons have been,

JC Nations 1912

TT Busby Sr. 1917

Murray R. Hux 1940

Albert Parkinson 1940

R.L Adams 1940

Wellman Baptist Church, founded in August 1908, was located on the present site in a building that had been used by the old keystone mill and built by the Keystone Lumber Company. The land was some 5 acres, was donated by the Keystone Company.

Six years later, in 1914, the original structure was destroyed by a storm. It was rebuilt and served as a meeting place until 1939. During the time of construction the congregation held services in an old store building located on the church property.

In 1939 the third building was erected and the first services were held in the new building during the month of August. This building served the church until 1964.

The present building was started in 1958 under the leadership of Reverend George Mosley and completed in 1960 during the pastorate Reverend Wendell Jones. Bonds were sold to finance the construction.

Three acres of land joining the church property to the rear was purchased in 1963 and 1 acre of land to the west of the church was purchased in 1966.

In 1947 the pastors home was built under the leadership of W.L. Thompson. This building was renovated in 1963.

Interesting Events

1911- Church Meeting one Saturday and Sunday a month

1911- Sisters Ella Morgan and Susie were thanked by the church for being Organists during meetings

1911- The time of Saturday preaching was changed from 8:00 am to 2:30 pm

1911- Motion was carried that the church arrange correspondence with the association and Brother J.J Roberts, R.L. Hammonds, WA Nations and Elzie Roberts were appointed delegates and brothers WL McGraw and J.L. Thompson alternates

Wellman invited to association for 1912

1911- Brothers JJ Roberts and WL McGraw were appointed to meet with the country laymen meeting in Brookhaven and arrange for one at Wellman

1911- Motion carried to have the Lord's supper observed and the Church Covenant read quarterly and the articles of Faith read semiannually

1912- Protracted meeting beginning August 4. Rev. Pink Bowman preacher for the meeting

1912- Rev. H.B. Price served as pastor, salary for a year was \$125

1914- Church changed time of meeting from Saturday and Sunday services to Sunday morning and Sunday Night

1914- A committee was appointed to repair "Church House". Pleasant Hill Committee asked Wellman not change their time of meeting, so both churches could use the same preacher but the motion was voted down

1914- Building committee reported that the "Church House" was completed with the exception of one window. Paid out \$114.17 collected \$93.94 due \$20.23

June 10, 1915- Brother WL Gray accepted a call to preach for \$100 a year, with the time change from Sunday night to Saturday Night.

May 8, 1915- A committee was appointed to arrange to get a new organ for the church

July 1939- New building erected. First service in new building in August 1939

January 1940- Church voted to go half time (2 Sundays a month) rather than only one Sunday a month. This later dried back to quarter time.

October 15, 1944- They voted to go to half time again

April 13, 1947- church voted to build a pastors home

1948- Addition to education building

1951- Baptistry put in church

1958- Plans are underway for a new auditorium

1964- building a new educational building