

HOWARDS VIEW BAPTIST CHURCH

A group of members from Bradley's Chapel Church met at Henry's School to organize a Baptist church April 5, 1931.

After electing Reverend C. W. Williams moderator and R. C. Williams clerk, Reverend Clifford Williamson led in prayer and Reverend Jake Owens presented the Articles of Faith which was adopted by the council.

Eleven charter members became the nucleus of Howards View Baptist Church: John Williams, Preston Howard, Clyde Kent, Pauline Kent, Lennie Howard, Homer Howard, Thomas Whitted, Zeb Kent, Bertha Williams, Beulah Howard, and Viola Whitted.

Reverend Clifford Williamson was first pastor and Homer Howard was first church clerk. The church ordained Homer Howard and Thomas Whitted to be the first deacons in an inspirational service the first Sunday in May 1931.

The membership began planning almost immediately to build a church on land donated by Henry Howard about three and a half miles off Jones Cove Road on the Henry Town Road. The new white weatherboard church was dedicated July 31, 1932.

Through the years, improvements have been made to add to the comfort and appearance of the original building. Sunday School class rooms were added and central air and heat installed. The building still serves as a worship place for the community.

Pastors from the time of organization: Reverends Clifford Williamson, John Williams, Clarence Hurst, G. W. Williams, Richard Watson, M. L. Plemons, Raymond Hurst, J. P. Davis, Wiley Pickens, Andy Ball, Roy Ball, Orville Parton, John Spurling, Allen Pine, Odes Parrott, Tommy Ashley, John Russell, Bill Evans, Dee Wilson, Ben Knight, and Julius Justus... through 1977. Bill Barns, present pastor, 1991.

Information from Lennie Kent.