

PEARL VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

According to Sevier County Baptist Association Minutes. Pearl Valley Baptist Church was organized in 1900. In the 1901 report, Reverend William McMahan, A. R. McMahan, and John Dennis were messengers to the annual Association meeting when the church was accepted as a member of the Association.

B. S. McMahan represented the church as messenger. Reverend L. N. Bradley was pastor and B. S. McMahan, church clerk.

In 1905, the church called Reverend G. W. Williams as pastor. There were 69 members. The 1907 messengers were G. C. Owen, G. W. Owen, and D. J. Owen. G. W. Henry served as church clerk in 1909 and D. P. Dixon as Sunday School superintendent.

Pearl Valley changed pastors in 1910, calling Reverend Middleton McCarter. In 1911 Lizzie McMahan served as Sunday School superintendent, G. W. Henry as church clerk, and Reverend McCarter as pastor.

The church called G. W. McMahan as pastor in 1913. Reserved one year before A. P. Valentine was called. By 1921 Pearl Valley had a total membership of 123 with Reverend Seldon Ogle as pastor. Reverend R. A. McCarter was pastor for the next three years.

Reverend John Fox accepted the pastorate in 1925, serving for two years then came Reverend Robert McCarter who was pastor through 1930. At that time the church had 16 members.

In 1933 A. P. Valentine pastored for two years, Reverend C. Williamson being called in 1935. Reverend Otha McCarter succeeded Reverend Williamson in 1938 for three years. In 1939 the Sunday School superintendent was Reubin Thomas. Reverend J. A. Baker accepted the pastorate in 1941, serving through 1949. Reverend Otha McCarter was pastor in 1950, L. E. Wilhoite in 1951 and Reverend Otha McCarter returned as pastor for the third time in 1952, serving through 1956.

In 1957 Reverend Andy Ball became pastor for two years, Reverend Collie O'Shields in 1959, Reverend Julius Justus from 1960 through 1961, Reverend Leonard Adams in 1962, and Reverend Ben Whitted in 1963 for three years.

The pastor in 1966 was Reverend Carl Shelton, followed three years later by Reverend Eugene Smelcer. In 1972 Reverend Kenneth Blalock accepted the pastorate, serving through 1975. Church membership in 1975 was 158 as compared to 58 in 1901.

Reverend Kenneth Blalock is pastor, 1989.

Information was taken from Sevier County Baptist Association of Minutes.