

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church

Township:	T-48-N	Organized:	Dec 1878
Range:	R-18-W	Disbanded:	Yes - 1934
Section:	25	Active:	No
Map:		Updated:	March 8, 2020

Cemetery: There is a cemetery associated with this church.

Area: Southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of the section near Pilot Grove, Missouri.

Records: The location of the church records is unknown at present.

History:

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church

From "Pleasant Hill Baptist Church Cemetery Records"

When the Pleasant Hill Church was disbanded, Mr. Tom Bryan was appointed to dispose of the property and to give letters of membership to those who wished to join other congregations. Some went to Mt. Herman and some went to Pilot Grove churches.

The church building was sold to the Lotspiech brothers. It is still standing on the former church yard which adjoins the cemetery property. The building has been sided with tin and is used as a granary.

Pleasant Hill Church a Memory

From "Memorabilia of Cooper County", 1990

Pleasant Hill church is only a memory to most persons now, so much a memory that it appears impossible to find any definite records of the origin of the church. Most who remember it agree it was organized early in the 1800s.

The earliest record available is that of a meeting in December, 1878, for the purpose of reorganizing the church. At that time the original building still stood on the plot of ground situated about four and one-half miles northeast of Pilot Grove and eight miles south of Boonville. A cemetery adjoined the church yard.

The Rev. John Jeffress and his wife, Elizabeth, were leaders of the reorganization, and the Rev. Mr. Jeffress served as pastor.

Others who were members then or joined shortly afterward were Mrs. Mary Barnhart, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie E. Jeffress, Mrs. Rhoda Jeffress, Mrs. Sallie Sharp, Richard Turner, Lucinda Turner, and William Warnhoff.

Pastors after Mr. Jeffress were W.N. Phillips, B.F. Reid, L.E. Hedrick, E.J. Sanderson, and D.W. Williams.

The records of an early church meeting gave Sunday school attendance as 47. Preaching services were held only one Sunday a month with a business meeting on the preceding Saturday night.

The original building was replaced in 1912 and the old building was sold at auction. Services were held regularly until about 1920, then as membership and attendance dwindled the services were held irregularly and usually on Sunday afternoon preceded by a basket dinner.

In 1934 the church building was sold to the Lotspeich brothers, so now all that remains of a once thriving rural church is the church yard overgrown and forsaken, and the cemetery plot which has recently been renewed and improved by a newly reorganized cemetery club.

by Miss Genevieve Jeffress
