



### History of **Corinth Baptist Church**

January 1, 2011 began the 121st year of ministry and mission for Corinth Baptist Church. On December 31, 1890 a small band of believers. Thirteen men and women of the Ridings Community led of God met to organize a new Church committed to proclaiming Jesus Christ to their community. The Church was given the name Corinth Missionary Baptist Church.

The original thirteen men and women were PP Ridings, Millie Ridings, F B Davis, Mary Davis, Corrie Davis, JA Moore, Tennie Moore, E W Ridings, Jane Duckworth, Mary Whisenhunt, W B Fogel and Sarah Fogel.

One year later five more members, Jane Ridings, Julia Ridings, T B Henry, L J Tubbs, and Mrs. Texie Keeton; were added to the Church.

News articles written in the 1950's stated that Mrs. Keeton recalled that the group first held their meetings in the homes of the members and later they met in a schoolhouse near Sandy Creek Cemetery. Church members then built a log church near that site and around the turn of the century they built a wooden Church with a tall steeple on the grounds where the present church stands. The bell in the steeple could be heard for miles calling worshippers to Sunday School and

Corinth Baptist\_Organized in 1890

Church services. The Church soon became the meeting place for Church suppers, singings, and upon the sad occasion of a funeral.

By 1939 the Church roll listed 39 members.

Once a year the members of the church would erect a brush arbor and hold a two week Revival meeting. The arbor consisted of a pole foundation with brush piled on the roof to keep out the sun and the rain.

In 1935 after the yearly revival the brush arbor was being dismantled and the dry brush burned when sparks from the fire ignited the church and engulfed the Church within minutes. The only thing salvaged from the church was the pulpit and the church piano. Fortunately the Church records were kept at another location.

Until the church could be rebuilt the members met at the Ridings Schoolhouse which was next door to the Church.

In 1936 a new wooden church was built and it served the community until 1993 when a new brick sanctuary was built. The church added a fellowship room which provided a gathering place for church dinners, meetings and many other events. The community has greatly benefited from hot meals served by the ladies of the church for family and friends during times of mourning the passing of loved ones and the celebration of wedding anniversaries etc. To this day the fellowship hall as it is called today is still used for fellowship dinners, bible studies. Anniversary parties, Bridal showers, Sunday School parties and so much more.

“Missionary” was dropped from the name in the 1940’s and the Church is now known as Corinth Baptist Church. The church has had 47 pastors in 120 years.