



APRIL 2024

## When Did First Baptist Hamilton Start?

Part 2

By Dan Clemens

Last month, we were considering the question, “When did First Baptist get started?” The question was provoked when Rev. Timothy Mohon was with us at First Baptist Church of Hamilton for the American Baptist History & Polity Workshop, Saturday, February 10, 2024. We are looking at A GENERAL HISTORY of THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH of Hamilton, Ohio 1946.

A mission-minded remnant from the division of the Hamilton-Rossville Baptist Church were together for a prayer meeting December 31, 1841 at the home of Dr. Loami Rigdon, when they felt the call to begin anew a missionary Baptist Church in Hamilton. As they slowly organized, they were received under the watch-care of the Muddy Creek Church, and later became a branch of the Lockland church, being the nearest Baptist church.

“After April 15, 1844, preaching was supplied every other Sunday by visiting pastors. Meetings were held in either the Court House or Female Academy at the corner of Market Street and Monument Avenue. Finally, the members felt their need for a regular pastor and called Elder Bryant at a salary of two-hundred dollars a year, to preach every other Sunday. He arrived to preach his first sermon October 20, 1844.



“Two months after the arrival of Elder Bryant, a meeting was called at the home of Bro. Rigdon, the result of which was the adoption of a resolution to circulate a paper, soliciting aid for erection of a meeting house on Third Street. This house was in due time erected on the west side of Third Street between Market and Dayton Streets. With an addition, a few years later, it was occupied until 1858.

“Elder Bryant continued pastor until November 1845, just a few months previous to the dedication ceremonies, when he accepted a call to the Fifth Street Church in Cincinnati. The church parted with this brother with great reluctance, for he was a good man, and had done much to advance the cause of religion in Hamilton.

Continued from page 1...

By Dan Clemens

## **RECOGNITION IN THE MIAMI BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

It was a great week in the history of The First Baptist Church of Hamilton, when ceremonies were conducted, to make it an independent organization. On April 14, 1846, the new church building was dedicated and on the following day, a council convened and after due examination of the Articles of Faith, Church Covenant, and evidences of organization, they proceeded with ceremonies of recognition. Rev. John L. Moore preached the sermon, Elder L. Osborn offered prayer, Bro. Bryant gave the hand of Fellowship, and the First Baptist Church of Hamilton was received into the fellowship of churches and united with the Miami Baptist Association.

“On the third day of the ceremonies, April 16th, William Rooney was ordained and set apart for the work of the ministry. Bro. Finley preached the sermon, Rev. John L. Moore offered prayer, Bro. Osborn gave the hand of fellowship to the pastor, and in turn to the people. Officers of the church were elected, five trustees being Dr. L. Rigdon, Aaron Potter, J. L. Batchelder, Joseph Shotwell and J. S. Beatty. The treasurer became Dr. L. Rigdon; the clerk, W. S. Going; and the deacons, Dr. L. Rigdon and Joseph Shotwell.

“During the ministry of Pastor Rooney, many united with the church and much progress was in evidence. When this good pastor left on June 4, 1848, a resolution expressive of the appreciation of the church was passed by a unanimous vote of the congregation.



“William Ashmore was called to the pastorate on September 22, 1848. He, too, was a young man and ordained in Hamilton soon after he had assumed his duties as pastor. His ministry was one of exception and his was truly of God. Believing his duties were more than to the congregation of his church, he labored from house to house fervently until June 1850, when he resigned to become a missionary. Although but a youth, his work was long remembered by the church and community. tendered care and comfort at the bed of sick, visited and assisted who were destitute, rendering always such aid and comfort as was needed. During the cholera epidemic in 1849, his labors were constantly among the poor and needy. Rev. Ashmore, as a missionary in China.

“When Rev. Ashmore left Hamilton, the church was passing through some trying times. For the next fifteen months, the church was without a pastor, the feeling being that it was impossible to maintain the salary of a pastor and pay off a church debt, which had accumulated during the period of depression. Meetings, however, were regularly held.”

So, there we have the story of the start of First Baptist Church of Hamilton, Ohio. From our official charter, “when ceremonies were conducted, to make it an independent organization. On April 14, 1846...”, our forefathers and mothers in the faith committed themselves to live and share the Gospel of Christ in the community. It was not always easy. Pastors came and were called away. But they remained true to the mission of sharing Christ.

So, First Baptist, your official birthday is April 14, 1846! HAPPY BIRTHDAY! And MANY more!

God bless you, Beloved,

Pastor Dan

## Keenagers Update

The Keenagers, our senior adult group, will be heading to Galos in Richmond, Indiana, on April 17. Meet at the church at 10:15 a.m. If you have more questions, contact Tonja Randall.



## The Abelle Circle

The Abell Circle will meet on Tuesday, April 9 @ 10:30 in the church library. They will be making Valentines for boys and girls living at Hope Unlimited in Brazil. They celebrate Valentine's Day in June! We support Philip and Corenne Smith, the missionaries there. We will also be collecting a donation for the Women's and



### Please note the room changes below:

#### Sunday School & Groups

9 A.M. Sundays

Nursery/Toddlers - Room 207  
Children Pre-K - 6th grade - Room 206  
Youth 7th - 12th grade - Room 201  
Berean Adult Bible Fellowship - Room 200  
WINGS, Women In God's Service - Room 205

---

#### Wednesday groups

6 P.M.

First Baptist Youth, grades 7-12 - Room 201  
Adult Prayer & Bible Study - Room 200

6:30 P.M.

First Baptist Kids, Pre-K through 6th  
Room 206

#### First Baptist Youth

7-12 grades

Led by JD & Becky Simpson  
and Natalie Lakes

9 a.m. Sundays

6 p.m. Wednesdays  
in Room 201

#### First Baptist Kids

Pre-K-6 grades

Sundays @ 9 a.m.  
Room 206

Nancy Whipple, Debby Gibson,  
Jill O'Hara, Lisa Witmer - Teachers

Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m.  
Room 206

Jill O'Hara - Lead Teacher

# Church Cleanup Day!

Please join us on Saturday, May 4,  
from 8:30-12:00.

Bring your lawn tools!  
Contact Larry Bowling  
with questions.  
See you there!



# Honoring all Graduates!

We would like to honor our graduates and their accomplishments on Sunday, June 2nd. If you know of anyone graduating this Spring from high school, college, graduate school or trade school, please send an email to [lisa.sprague@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.sprague@gmail.com). We would love to celebrate you!



---

## Pulpit Schedule

As First Baptist is in the process of seeking a new senior minister, others are filling in on Sunday mornings. The following is the current list of who will be giving the message.



April 7 - Dr. Glenn Perry  
April 14 - Rev. Christopher Beecher  
April 21 - Rev. Mark Click  
April 28 - Rev. Dan Clemens

## Sunday Evening Services

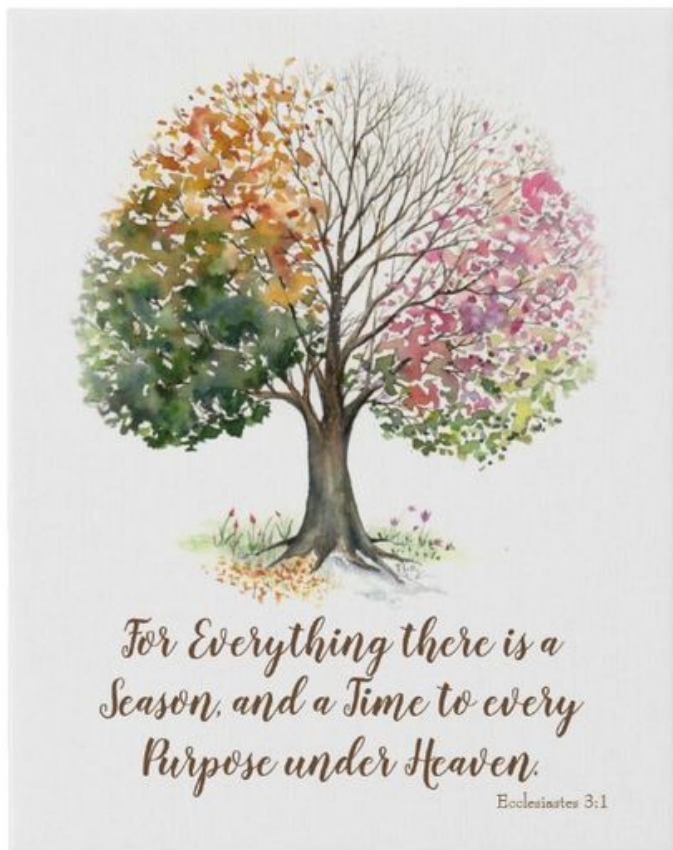
April 2024

6:00-7:00 p.m.

Come join us as we study the Book of Revelation. You've only missed one week if you haven't joined us yet. No meeting Easter Sunday. Rev. Dr. David Palmer, Sr. Pastor of the Kenwood Baptist Church will be teaching via video. Rich Hazelwood is leading song.

## Change of Plans for FBC

As most of you know, the Deacons did not go through with the plan to bring an intentional interim pastor to First Baptist. The board continues to search for God's chosen person to lead us through the transition. Please be in prayer as we wait upon The Lord for His provision!



Tickets are \$16.00 per person  
\$10.00 ages 6-12  
Free for those 5 and under

April 20, 2024, from 5-7 p.m. (open seating)  
First United Methodist Church  
225 Ludlow Street | Hamilton, OH 45011  
513-896-5683

For More Information: [www.firstumc-ham.org](http://www.firstumc-ham.org)  
Check us out on Facebook

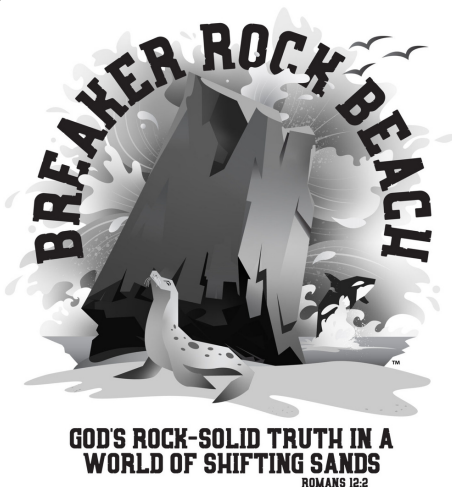
## April Birthdays

- 4-2 Carolyn Dudley
- 4-4 Richard Viebrooks
- 4-9 Fay Hardert, David Hollowell
- 4-10 Kathie Russell
- 4-14 Kryz Schramm
- 4-14 First Baptist Church of Hamilton is 178!
- 4-17 Azariah Osterbrock
- 4-24 Sharon Click, Andrew Huff
- 4/27 Conner Bowling
- 4/30 Valerie Osterbrock

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

## VBS June 24-28

We have our teachers all set! Cheryl is still looking for a photographer to take pictures and put a short video together for the end of the program. After she gets all of our props gathered together from around storage areas, she will need several people to help with additional props. If you are interested and haven't already signed up, please contact Cheryl Motzer so she can organize a work Saturday with all of the helpers! She's also planning a meeting for after church in June for all volunteers. Lunch will be served and the meeting will be about 30-45 minutes after lunch. This is when you can get your schedules and pertinent information or ask any questions before it all begins. Thanks for your willingness to serve in such an important ministry of the church!



## Tabitha Ministries

We are meeting every 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month from 9:30-noon. We will be working on pillowcase dresses for our missionaries. Ann Clemmer has 1700 children in her area! We will also be making quilts for Pathway to Hope along with lap quilts for our shut ins and baby quilts for our new babies at church. Please contact Cheryl Motzer if you know of a shut-in or new baby. We also have dress or quilt kits if you would like to sew something at home and bring it back to church!

---

## Online giving is easy: Give it a try

If you're using the internet, go to the website:

<https://fbchamilton.churchcenter.com/giving>

If you're on your phone or tablet, download the "Church Center" app and find First Baptist Church of Hamilton.

You will need your bank account website login details to set up recurring payments. Have that in hand before proceeding. We ask that you include the processing fee, which is .25 to .30 cents per donation.

Church Center can also be used for getting more information about FBCH and to check in on Sundays. It is a service of Planning Center, which we use to keep membership records and more.



**CHURCHCENTER  
APP**