

**Boonville Christian Church
(Christian Church Disciples of Christ)**

*301 Fourth Street
Boonville, Missouri 65233
Phone: (660) 882-6239*

*Dr. Dan Crum, Pastor
Janice Bradshaw, Organist and Choir Director
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:40 a.m. Worship Service*

Township:	T-49-N	Organized:	23 Dec 1887
Range:	R-17-W	Disbanded:	No
Section:	35	Active:	Yes
Latitude:	38.976035	Longitude:	-92.745696
Map:		Updated:	March 8, 2020

Cemetery: There is no cemetery associated with this church.

Area: Boonville, Missouri

Records: At this point in time the location of the church records is unknown. However, it would be safe to presume that they are located in the church office.

History:



Photograph courtesy of H. Stone

Boonville Christian Church

From "History of Cooper County Missouri" by W. F. Johnson, 1919

Boonville Christian Church, was organized by C. Shouse, Dec. 25, 1887, with about 20 charter members, six of whom are still living, viz., Mrs. Frank Swap, Boonville, Mo.; Mrs. W. R. Baker, Montana; Mrs. Albert Elliott, Chillicothe, Mo.; Miss Lizzie Bacon, Kansas City, Mo.; Mrs. P. L. Starke, St. Louis, Mo.; Miss Lottie Crews, Boonville, Mo.

The money for the erection of the church building was raised by the faithful and persistent efforts of J. I. Quigley. It was dedicated by J. H. Garrison, of St. Louis, in 1889. The Rev. W. W. Gibbony is the present minister.

**Boonville Christian Church
From "Memorabilia of Cooper County", 1990**

December 25, 1987, marked the observance of the one hundredth birthday of the First Christian Church of Boonville. The anniversary was marked by a series of celebration over a period of approximately seven months honoring former living ministers who returned to the church for a portion of the celebration. Members and friends of the congregation were afforded an opportunity to worship, work, and celebrate together.

The Boonville Christian Church had its beginning December 25, 1887, when twenty-three dedicated individuals met in the basement of a building on the northeast corner of Sixth and Vine Streets for the express purpose of establishing a Disciples of Christ congregation. The group was led by C.O. Shouse, and W.R. Baker served as clerk. U. I. Quigley. C. O. Shouse, and W.R. Baker were the elders. Other charter members of the newly formed congregation were: Mrs. Frank Swap, Mrs. W.R. Baker, Mrs. Albert Elliott, Miss Lizzie Bacon, Mrs. L.P. Starke, Mrs. Eveline Crews, and Miss Lottie Crews. The twenty-three charter members on that Christmas afternoon formulated a charter, planned immediately goals and objectives, and formulated some long range goals which allowed them to proceed purposefully.

The collection at the first meeting totaled twenty-three cents. Elder Quigley promised to take the money and build a church. He sold his farm, spent two years traveling over the state largely at his own expense, securing subscriptions for a fund to build a church. On January 14, 1888, Mr. Quigley announced that the money had been procured and a suitable lot had been bought and paid for. This original purchase of land is the same location on which the present church now stands - the southwest corner of Fourth and Morgan Streets. Between the original meeting of the congregation and the completion of the church structure, the congregation met in the basement of the German Methodist Church. There were weekly prayer meetings on Wednesday evenings, usually conducted by one of the elders. The need for a pastor was met by supply services of ministers from churches in other localities and by "circuit riders."

In July 1890, the new church was ready for occupancy. The total cost was \$9,000. All but \$1,000 of this amount had been met before the service of dedication, and on that date the very large crowd attending the service raised the remaining \$1,000, so that the church began debt free. Following the dedication, O.P. Davis of Prairie Home was asked to fill the pulpit until a resident minister could be procured.

As the congregation grew, a series of structural additions met the need for additional space. These included the addition of a wing, then another wing comprised of classrooms below and a balcony above, several classrooms to the rear of the sanctuary, and excavation of the basement for classrooms, dining room, kitchen, and restrooms. The accommodations provided by the structure in this state were adequate for this busy congregation. Redecorating of the interior was done to keep the physical structure a church to which the members could point with pride. A pipe organ was installed in 1931. Just when the physical facility seemed quite complete and desirable, tragedy befell the congregation. Early Sunday morning March 5, 1933, fire completely destroyed the church except for a portion of the rear wall, which was preserved for use in building a new church. The response of the congregation to this tragedy was overwhelming, and an entirely new structure was ready for occupancy and was dedicated on Sunday, February 18, 1934. The final structural addition came at the time of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the church - the education building adjoining the church on the west side. This is an account of the history of the physical structure of the church as it progressed. A history of the members and friends of the church could be guessed by that account. The members were dedicated, hard working, and conscientious, and their efforts were not selfish or concerned only with their needs. An early account from a local newspaper told of outreach services extended to the state reformatory for boys. Teaching, prayer meetings, revivals, special musical programs, support for missionaries, and church dinners were all a part of the busy calendar of the church.

The church is proud of having had special services of ordination for the following young men who were entering the Christian ministry: Jack H.C. Clark June 8, 1958; Patrick Overton June 26, 1976; Earl Evans Johnson March 20, 1977; David Nelson Todd October 30, 1983.

The first complete list of members of the congregation other than the names of charter members, appeared in History and Directory of the Christian Church by the Rev. J.P. Weldon, circa 1912.

At the time of the centennial activities of the Boonville Christian Church, a history of the church entitled A Monument of Courage was written for the celebration by Dorothy Stammerjohn Cline. The following staff of the church was listed as of that date: Members Of The Staff. First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Boonville, Missouri. The Reverend William David Puntney Minister; Katherine Kenney Secretary; Tom and Mildred Nichols Custodians; Gladys Darby Organist; Kathy Murdock Director, Chancel Choir; Rita Sanders Co-director, Children's Choirs; Norma Puntney Co-director, Children's Choirs.

The membership list which appeared in the centennial publication follows: First Christian Church membership Roster September, 1987.

Abele, Andrew; Abele, Bill; Abele, Bruce; Abele, Douglas; Abele, Joyce; Aggans, James; Aggans, Minnie; Amick, David; Arnold, Pearl; Askren, Ken; Askren, Linda. Baragary, Barney; Baragary, Janice; Bassel, Irene; Bellamy, David; Bodamer, Donna. Callison, Hazel; Cawley, Alice; Chamberlain, Virgil; Cline, Dorothy; Conner, Bill; Conner, Gladys; Couick, Leah. Darby, Gladys; Darby, Paul; Derendinger, Debi; Derendinger, Emily; Derendinger, Rachel; Deuel, Barbara; Donley, Susan; Donley, Van; Dudenhoeffer, K.W. Earls, Earl; Earls, Jason; Earls, Kay; Early, Wilburta; Eichenberger, Bob; Eichenberger, Coletta. Forbis, Rosa Fae; Forbis, William. Garrett, Frances; Garrett, J.B.; Geiger, Betty May; Geiger, Chellie; Geiger, Holly; Geiger, Julie; Geiger, Lloyd E., Sr.; Geiger, Lloyd, Jr.; Geiger, Peggy; Griffy, Betty; Griffy, David D. Haerle, James; Haerle, Kimberly; Haerle, Marcella; Harold, Mary; Harris, Harvey; Harris, Ruby; Harris, Wilma; Haun, Albert; Haun, David; Haun, Gwentyth; Hays, Ethel; Hern, Dana; Hern, Doris; Hern, Kim; Hern, Mike; Hern, Robin; Higbie, Tia; Hill, Delma; Hill, T.C.; Holloway, Robert; Huff, Ann; Huff, Bob; Huff, Jill; Huff, Louise; Huff, Mike; Huffstutler, Betty; Huffstutter, Ralph; Hull, Jack. Isom, Patsy. Jewett, Gertrude; Jewett, Gill; Jewett, Louise; Jewett, Martha; Jones, Izola. Kammerich, Danny; Kammerich, Sharlene; Karrick, Romie; Kelley, Tim; Kester, Jeff; Kester, Judy; Kester, Neal; Korte, Lisa. Lacer, Bertha; Lawson, Karen; Leonberger, Bennie; Leonberger, Jay; Linhart, Gina; Lindsey, Zada. McMahan, Alberta; McMahan, J.T.; Martin, Karen; Mayginnes, Mildred; Mayginnes, Paul; Melkersman, Charles; Melkersman, Evelyn; Melkersman, James; Meyer, Leonard; Meyer, Robert; Mills, Helen; Mills, Robert; Murdock, Charles; Murdock, Kathy; Murdock, Kevin. Nelson, Lloyd; Nicholas, Krista; Nicholas, David; Nicholas, Michael; Nichols, Herbert (Tom); Nichols, Mildred. Overstreet, Viola; Owen, Allie. Penny, Norma; Ponzar, Audrey; Purvis, Gertrude; Purvis, Gregory; Pulliam, Jerry; Puntney, David; Puntney, Norma. Quint, Morris.

Rastorfer, Nancy; Reesman, Dale; Reesman, Phyllis; Rinehart, Mary; Robinson, William; Rohlfing, Brandy; Rohlfing, Carol; Rohlfing, Heath. Sanders, Larry; Sanders, Rita; Scheibly, Alice; Scheibly, Wayne; Schnuck, Ruth; Scott, Larry; Scott, Lenora; Sears, Ann; Sears, Cecil; Shelton, Helen; Shipp, Azile; Shipp, Roy; Shull, Donna; Shull, Teresa; Shull, Tommy; Sims, Thelma; Sites, Charles T.; Sites, Dianne; Sites, Steve; Sly, Mary K.; Swearingen, Betty; Swearingen, T.T. Taylor Ids; Thoma, Lawrence; Turner, Jane; Turner, Wayne. Vaughn, Myrtle; Viertel, Bruce; Viertel, Don; Viertel, Doris; Viertel, John; Viertel, Susan; Viertel, Tim. Waterfield, Dan; Waterfield, Debbie; Waterfield, Sharon; Wendleton, Alice; Wendleton, Barbara; Wendleton, Earl; Wendleton, Stanley; Wilkerson, Edna; Willers, John C.; Willers, Martha; Willers, Robin; Willers, Stacia; Wing, Marjorie; Wing, Yardley; Wood Ruth; Wood, William; Wooldridge, Mandy-, Wooldridge, Shara; Wooldridge, Sharon; Wooldridge, Tate; Wooldridge, Wendy.

The church also maintains a list of its nonresident members. At the same time as the publication of the list above, the nonresident members were:

Nonresident Members: Abele, Chris; Acuff, Bill; Acuff, Wesley; Arrington, Virgie (Amick). Baker, Ruth Ann (Goodwin); Bellamy, Mike; Blackwell, Teresa (Karrick); Burroughs, Mary; Burroughs, Mary Grace; Burroughs, David. Carlson, Linda (Swanstone); Cline, Jean; Cromer, Helen

(Swanstone); Crosby, Patricia (Sears). Dudenhoeffer, Kirk; Dudenhoeffer, Amy. Earls, Earl, Kay and Jason; Eller, Phil. Forbis, William Dale; Fuser, Hubert B. and Bertha; Fuser, Bill. Glover, Jeff; Green, Betsy (Bozarth); Griffy, Dave; Griffy, Jack. Harris, Larry and Brenda; Hawkins, Ronald. Infield, Frank; Infield, Jewell; Infield, Sterling Franklin. James, Nancy (Willers); Jewett, Jean; Jewett, Vicki; Johnson, Earl and Ruth. Karrick, Bobby; Karrick, Ronnie; King, Lula; Kinsley, Sarah; Korte, Linda. Lake, Joyce; Layton, Velma; Leonberger, Jay. Maddex, Aletha; Mayginnes, Kyle; Mayginnes, Ray; Mayginnes, Jim; Mayginnes, Kevin; Mattingley, Paula (Mayginnes) Morris, Sam and Charleyne; Morris, Chuck. Peck, Beth; Pitlock, Carolyn (Wilson); Reesman, Ellen; Reesman, Sarah; Rowe, Tom; Rowe, Carolyn Sue. Shaw, Judy (Burroughs); Sites, Minday, Stansberry, Rae Anna (Acuff). Wallen, Debbie (Wilson); Weyland, Goldie; Williams, Shelly; Williams, Doug. Zieba, Debbie (Glover).

The Boonville Christian Church meets launching into a second century as a challenge to continue working together in harmony in support of the church.

by Dorothy S. Cline
