

**Pleasant Grove Baptist Church  
Old Lamine Baptist Church  
Ebenezer Baptist Church  
Blackwater Baptist Church  
Blackwater Federated Church**

<b>Township:</b>	T-49-N	<b>Organized:</b>	Jun 6, `842
<b>Range:</b>	R-18-W	<b>Disbanded:</b>	1986
<b>Section:</b>	31	<b>Active:</b>	No
<b>Latitude:</b>	38.981828	<b>Longitude:</b>	-92.994042
<b>Map:</b>	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	<b>Updated:</b>	October 6, 2004

**Cemetery:** There is a cemetery associated with this church.

**Area:** Southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of the section.

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

**History:**

**Old Lamine Baptist Church  
From "Old Lamine Cemetery Records"**

There was a small Baptist Cemetery located in what is now the south central part of the cemetery and which was added to by the moving of the Baptist Church to Blackwater. The part from the Baptist Church is about an acre in size.

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**Churches Have Long Played Important Part in Blackwater  
From "Memorabilia of Cooper County", 1990**

The first religious services held in Blackwater were conducted in a hall on the second floor of a frame building adjoining the old hotel. This building burned and was replaced by a brick building now serving as a hotel and Hurst pharmacy.

These services were held approximately a year before the Christian church was built and were union services. There was no regular pastor but ministers of the various denominations who were near came and preached at various times.

**Baptist Church**

In the history of the Blackwater Baptist church we find four different names for the congregation.

The church was organized at the Prairie Point school house in Lamine Township on Aunt Polly Turley's land on June 6, 1842. It was later moved to the Pleasant Grove School house at Old Lamine. Here they continued to worship until the church was built. The deed to this property was written in 1853.

The name of the church was then the Pleasant Grove Baptist church. They were compelled to discontinue services for the duration of the Civil War. After the war they again resumed services until they were reorganized in 1889 as the Ebenezer Baptist church at Old Lamine. Here they worshipped until 1905, at which time they moved to Blackwater, Mo., and became known as the Blackwater Baptist church. The Rev. Guy L. Prather was at that time the pastor.

The record of the church organization states "the following ordained ministers of the Gospel of the Baptist Churches, Thomas Frite Fielding Wilhite, and Jeph C. Buckley, did certify that "on June 6, 1842, they had constituted this Baptist Church of Jesus Christ."

Charter members were George Herndon, Elisabeth Herndon, Gerard Stephens, Daniel Berger, Elizabeth Berger, Robert Clark, Roddy Clark, Francis Fog, Eliza Ann Wells, Mourning Tomlin and Abigail Church.

Centennial services were held last year with the pastor, the Rev. W.E. Prewitt, in charge. The present pastor is Rev. Lawrence Scott and the church clerk is W.E. McMahan who has served in this capacity for forty-seven consecutive years.

by Miss Clara B. Harvey

**Blackwater Federated Church  
From "Memorabilia of Cooper County", 1990**

To the east of Blackwater, in Lamine Township, another group of Baptists were organized in 1842. The group met on June 6, 1842, at the old Prairie Point School on "Aunt Polly Turley's" land. They later moved to the Pleasant Grove School at Old Lamine. The school was used as a place of worship until a building was erected. The deed was dated 1853. The church was forced to discontinue services for the duration of the Civil War. After the war was over, they met and reorganized and were called The Ebenezer Baptist Church.

In 1905, the church moved to the new town of Blackwater and they became the Blackwater Baptist Church. It continued as a Baptist Church until 1950, when the Rev. Omar Wetherell came to Blackwater to serve as pastor and it became The Federated Church. Soon after a new 33 by 60 foot expansion was added to the building for Sunday School classrooms, a kitchen and dining area.

On February 25, 1965, special services were held to dedicate a new organ and choir robes. The new pastor, Rev. J. Max Krewell was a talented organist and choir director. In early 1986, the church disbanded due to few active members. The building and lot was given to the Blackwater school.

by Mary C. Davis

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