

Peninsula Baptist Church

Township: T-48-N
Range: R-19-W
Section: 10
Map: [Click Here](#)

Organized: August 1873
Disbanded:
Active:
Updated: July 19, 2005

Cemetery: There is a cemetery associated with this church.

Area: Lamine Township, Cooper Co., Missouri on Route R in northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section.

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

History:



Photograph from "Pilot Grove Centennial 1873 - 1973"

Peninsula Baptist Church From "Pilot Grove Centennial 1873 - 1973"

Celebrating its centennial year in 1973 is the Peninsula Baptist Church. It was organized in the Peninsula School House in August, 1873. The Sunday School had functioned since 1865, first meeting in Dr. John Allison's office. Charter members were: Fleming Marshall, James Bruce, George Potter, Frank Mallote, James Murphy, Robert Quisenberry, George Rucker, Mrs. Harriet Potter, J. L. Dix, Mrs. H. K. Mallett, Jim Bridgewater and wife, Tandid Dix, Joseph Dunn and wife, Mrs. Nat Allison, Sr., Tom Bridgewater, Carrie Bridgewater, Carter Bridgewater, Alonzo Dix, Billie Williams and wife, Mrs. Robert Quisenberry, Wm. Thornton and wife, Mrs. Fleming Marshall, Mrs. George Bucker, Jack Potter and wife, Tom Dix and wife, and Allen Mallote.

The Peninsula School district is almost surrounded by the Lamine and Blackwater Rivers; hence the name, Peninsula Church.

The original building was built in 1887 at a cost of \$453.80. The land for the church and cemetery was donated by Flemming Marshall. Improvements were made in 1962, and in 1972 the educational addition was built.

One church member, Sgt. Richard Green Alley, gave his life for his country during World War II. He died a week after being wounded on Casablanca on March 28, 1943, and was reburied in the Peninsula Cemetery in 1948.

One member is serving under the foreign Mission Board in Gaza, Mrs. Jarral Peach, who is the former Shirley Nowlin.

Two young men have been ordained into the gospel ministry from this church: Edward Conway in 1914, and Ireland Caton in 1917. Three preachers have been ordained: Rev. Billy T. Hargrove in 1947, Rev. David C. Head in 1949, and the present pastor, Rev. Samuel Anderson in 1971.

**Peninsula Baptist Church
From "Memorabilia of Cooper County", 1990**

In 1841, just south of where the town of Blackwater was to be, a religious movement was evident and a Cooper County Atlas records shows that persons by the names of Fristoe, Gwin, Rucker and Bridgewater organized a group of Baptists in 1841, and they met in the home of Nathaniel Bridgewater.

The Peninsula school had its beginning in 1868. The Peninsula Church was organized in the schoolhouse on August 9, 1873. There are records indicating that a Sunday School had been held in 1865, in the Office of a Dr. John Allison.

Both the school and church were given the name, Peninsula, from the geographical location - a large fingerlike area, bounded on the south by the Lamina River and on the north by the Blackwater River, extending to the east to a point where the Blackwater River empties into the Lamina.

The original land for the location of the Peninsula Church and for a free burying ground was donated by Fleeting Marshall.

The original building was erected at a cost of \$445.90. A 20'x36' addition was made in 1971-1972, providing additional classrooms, a nursery, and a kitchen area. The cost was approximately \$9,000 and when dedicated it was debt free.

On August 12, 1973, the Peninsula Church observed its Centennial with special services, marking a century of Christian service in the community. Since there is no Baptist Church in the town of Blackwater, a number of persons from town attend services at Peninsula. The membership is small but active with a full-time pastor and services each Sunday. The Peninsula Cemetery circles the church building on the east and north sides. A new chain link fence was built around the cemetery and church in recent years. All-time care is assured by a Perpetual Care Program under the direction of a Board of directors of interested persons.
