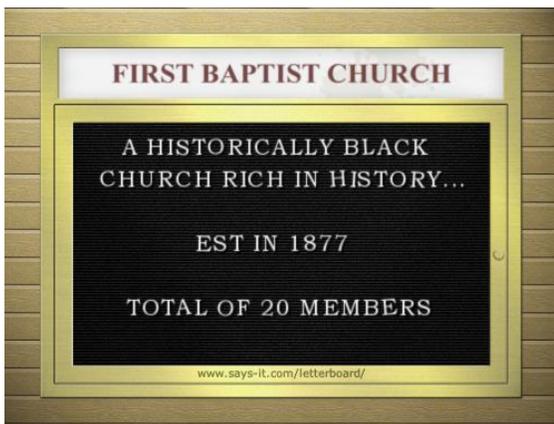




HISTORY



Previous to the year 1877, an idea was born among the Baptists in this area of Accomack County to change their meeting place of Nathan's Chapel near Modest Town, Virginia to the present site.

Twenty members more or less moved from Nathan's Chapel to organize the First Baptist Church of Mappsville, Virginia (FBCM).

The first tract of land was deeded to the Church by Albert S. Matthews and wife and N.W. Nock and wife -the deed bearing the date of January 8, 1876.

Some of the early trustees of the Church were George Johnson, Frank Laws, Isaiah Watson, Henry Watson, James Cluff, and Peter Davis. The first house of worship was completed by 1879, under the leadership of Reverend A.J. Satchell, the inaugural pastor who was outstanding and highly respected. After several years of service to FBCM, Reverend Satchell was called to his heavenly home. His remains rest in the cemetery of Metompkin Baptist Church.

After the death of Reverend Satchell, Reverends Lee, Satters and Parham each served as Senior Pastor for short durations.

In the early part of the 1900s, Dr. John Collins was called as Senior Pastor. Under his leadership, the Church reached its highest mark in Foreign Mission. Dr. Collins had a great interest in Mission and Education. FBCM today still maintains these objectives are part of our core values and focus. Dr. Collins had the desire for a larger building of worship. More than \$300 was raised and placed into a special building fund and deposited into Hallwood National Bank. After 18 years of leadership, Dr. Collins' administration came to an end.

Before choosing its sixth pastor FBCM decided a parsonage was desired so the pastor would be able to live among the congregation. The parsonage was built at the cost of \$2,000 (\$31,000 in today's value).

In August of 1924 FBCM called Dr. M.T. Boone to service. In 1929, the Church was remodeled and under the leadership of Dr. Boone became actively affiliated with the Foreign and Home Missions. In under the leadership of Dr. Boone additional repairs and upgrades were made to FBCM at a cost of \$1,000. After thirty-six years of hard work and dedication, Dr. Boone resigned as pastor of FBCM.

In June 1961, Reverend A.A. Cash was called to Senior Pastor of FBCM. Under Reverend Cash's leadership, the Pastor's Aid and Willing Workers Club was organized. In 1965, the congregation found itself without leader. Three Deacons, namely Bennie Downing, Will Nock and John T. Davis were tasked with securing a leader.

After contacting Dr. C.L. Evans, Executive Secretary of the Baptist General Convention, the Church was blessed to have Reverend Cornell Herron accept the call. Reverend Herron began leadership in September 1965. Under Reverend Herron's leadership the Church was remodeled once again. New members were added to the rolls and the membership continued to grow until the untimely administration of Reverend Herron came to an end on July 12, 1969, along with Reverend and Mrs. M.T. Boone, when they were called from labor to reward.

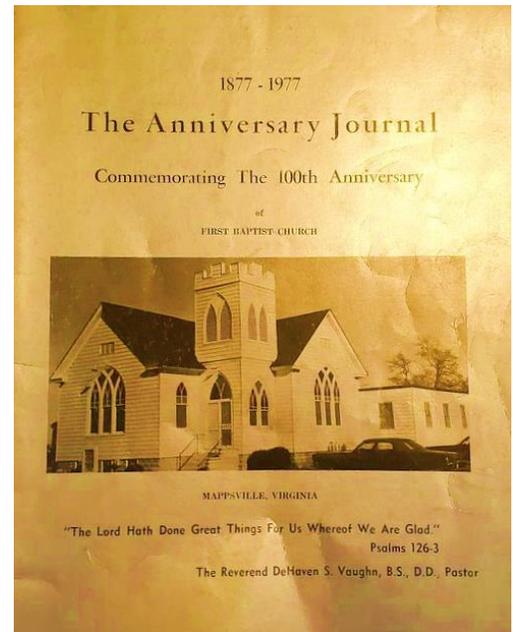
In 1970, God sent Reverend DeHaven Vaughn along with his wife Emma Vaughn and daughter Myra Antoinette. Under the leadership of Reverend Vaughn, the Church grew tremendously in spirit, membership, fellowship and financial standing. Under his leadership, a radio outreach broadcast was started and heard every Sunday morning before regular services on WESR. Reverend Vaughn resigned in July 1979.

In 1980 we extended the call to Reverend Lewis T. Brim to serve as Pastor. Under the leadership of Reverend Brim, the church continued to grow both spiritually and financially. FBCM continued to do Foreign and Home Mission work and purchased a bus to transport members to and from services. The Ways and Means committee was organized and the Board of Christian Education organized. Many souls came to Christ under the leadership of Reverend Brim who resigned in 1982.

Reverend Robert P. James was given the call to Pastor in March 1983 for a short time departing in October 1983.



In August of 1984 Reverend James Israel Boyd came to lead First Baptist Church of Mappsville. Reverend Boyd was determined in his desire to lead the church down new and innovative pathways. He helped the church grow spiritually and financially. Reverend Boyd, modest, humble and living in spirit had a great love for people and fellowship of FBCM. He is a true man of God and helped his parishioners learn to appreciate and believe that all things are possible through Christ. He often chimed in with his familiar phrase "First Baptist Church, the church where everybody is somebody".



In June 1998, the Church purchased another bus to transport members. In 2020 FBCM was blessed with the addition of two Associate Ministers, Reverend James Rich and Reverend Marguerite Moore. Reverend Richard Wesley joined them in 2001. In 2003 joined FBCM as an Associate Pastor. In addition, we were blessed with sister, Renay Trader as an evangelist. Reverend Boyd worked tirelessly to bring about positive change and to establish First Baptist as one of the most influential and largest historically Black churches on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. Reverend Boyd retired in January of 2019 after 35 years of dedicated service to FBCM. His servant heart and influences will continue to shine on our Church.

Pastor Fred Ardoundra Crawley Jr., commenced preaching September 2007 and was appointed Senior Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Mappsville October 4, 2020. He was ordained Deacon by Pastor James I. Boyd in 2003. Pastor Crawley is a self-taught musician beginning his music ministry in 2005 during which time he was the musical support for several of the Church choirs. Pastor Crawley also led several gospel groups who performed all around the Eastern Shore.



He received his license to minister in 2007 under the Baptist Association. God has blessed him with a melodious voice to preach and sing the Gospel. Pastor Crawley is known for his ability to bring people together through his teachings, singing and ministry. He currently attends the Christian World College of Theology.

Pastor Crawley is married to Vera J. Crawley; they are the proud parents of four; Taria, Khiry, Kia and Kaneisha along with seven grandchildren.

A Man of God Committed to God Serving the People of God

First Baptist Church of Mappsville, Virginia is a member of the Eastern Shore Virginia/Maryland Baptist Association organized in 1884. The first session was held in Huntington, Virginia near Cherrystone Wharf. The first name given to the Association was the Northampton Baptist Association. This included both Northampton and Accomack counties. Later, churches from Maryland applied for membership. After acceptance of these churches, namely Macedonia Baptist Church – Pocomoke City, Maryland and a Baptist church from Salisbury, Maryland, the name of the Association was changed to the Eastern Shore Virginia-Maryland Baptist Association.

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