

# **Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church**

Ackerman, Mississippi



**130 Year Anniversary**

**1887 – 2017**

*“Yea, I have a goodly heritage.” (Psalm 16:6b)*



# Preface

When the Lord Jesus Christ established His Church, Jesus ordained for His disciples in the Church assembly to be the source of His glory and His truth in the world until He returns. The Church is the place where Jesus Christ's glory is to be manifested in the world: *"Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen."* (Eph. 3:21). Also, the Church has been given the commission to uphold and defend the truth of God to a scoffing world: *"the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."* (1 Timothy 3:15b). Our hope is that our efforts at Macedonia during this time for the kingdom has been acceptable to our Heavenly Father. Furthermore, we sincerely hope that God's glory has been manifested in our worship, in our love for one another, and in our service to the surrounding community.

Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church has attempted to stand for the truth of God's word and earnestly contend for "the faith which was once delivered to the saints" for the past one hundred and thirty years since her constitution in July 1887. We hope that we have maintained a steadfast commitment to the doctrine and practice of the original Church that Jesus established in His ministry, and hopefully to maintain that commitment until the Lord's return.

It has been my privilege to serve Macedonia Church in the position of pastor for two years, since July 2015. The Church has been blessed with faithful members, deacons, and pastors in the past that have allowed Macedonia Church to continue and to flourish until this day. The Church, and particularly its current pastor, stand upon the faithful labor of many others who have come before us. Jesus Christ is the only foundation of His Church (1 Corinthians 3:11), but it is due to the faithful planting and watering of previous ministers in years past and God's subsequent blessing of increase (1 Corinthians 3:6-7) that the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ remains here today in this locale at Macedonia. It is our prayer that we can faithfully continue what the Lord has begun at Macedonia Church and others have diligently followed as well. The command of God to those

like myself who come later to serve and to continue this blessed work that the Lord began is a very sobering message to take heed in the manner that we attempt to build upon what has already been established: *“According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.”* (1 Corinthians 3:10).

In the church, in salvation, in our daily lives, there is only One source of our blessings,, and consequently there is only One who is worthy of our praise. *“That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.”* (1 Corinthians 1:31). We trust that this verse has been the desire of Macedonia Church since her constitution and that this will also be our mission until the return of Jesus Christ. May God be gloried in our Church today, tomorrow, and until the world without end. Amen.

Elder David Wise

Pastor of Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church

July 2017

# **Church Constitution**

## **History Leading up to the Church Constitution**

The Town of Ackerman, Mississippi, was chartered in early 1884 due to growth in the region from the railroad. Among the influx of new residents from the railroad were a group of disciples of Christ who believed and held to the Original, Old Line, or Primitive Baptist faith.

Fairview Primitive Baptist Church was constituted on July 17, 1886, in Choctaw County, Mississippi, with three original members, holding letters of dismissal from Friendship Primitive Baptist Church.

Around one year later, on July 31, 1887, one of the founding members of Fairview Church, Brother J.P. Robinson, along with four other likeminded saints also with letters of dismissal from Fairview Church, met together with a Presbytery of three elders to constitute Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church near to Brother J.P. Robinson's home in Choctaw County. The land for the church building was donated by I.S. (Isaac) Baker, just a few miles north of Ackerman, Mississippi. Macedonia Church was constituted only three years after the Town of Ackerman was originally chartered.

## **Original Church Covenant of Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church**

We the following named Brethren and Sisters holding letters of dismissal from Fairview Church, viz: J.P. Robinson, N.J. Robinson, Isaac Baker, Jermia Baker, and G.M. Franklin, who have first given ourselves to the Lord and to each other, do hereby covenant and agree to be constituted into a church to be known by the name of Macedonia; we further mutually promise and covenant to watch over each other for good and to keep house for the Lord.

# **Church Constitution (Continued)**

## **Minutes of the Constitution of Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church**

State of Mississippi, Choctaw County  
July 31, 1887

We the undersigned Presbytery, to wit: Elders J.B. Chambers, C.M. Scroggins, and J.E. Dorris, met according to previous appointment for the purpose of constituting a church near Brother J.P. Robinson's known as Macedonia, and after motion and second, Brother C.M. Scroggins was appointed Moderator and J.E. Dorris Clerk; whereupon, the Moderator called the Presbytery to order and went into conference by prayer by the Moderator and after read the Covenant and Agreement which was received and endorsed; then the Abstract of Faith was read and the Brethren and Sisters were examined thereupon and found to be sound and were endorsed. Motion and second that the same be received; then the Moderator read the Rules of Decorum and there was motion and second that they be received, after which the following named Brethren and Sisters came forward: J.P. Robinson, I.S. Baker, G.M. Franklin, and Sisters J.E. Baker and N.J. Robinson, who were received and the right hand of fellowship was extended and the charge given by Brother J.B. Chambers.

Signed:

Elder C.M. Scroggins, Moderator  
Elder J.E. Dorris, Clerk

# **Macedonia Through the Years**

## **Notable Events**

On July 31, 1887, a Presbytery of three Elders meet together with five constituting church members to constitute Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church near Ackerman, Mississippi. Macedonia Church was organized near to the home of Brother J.P. Robinson in Choctaw County.

The church building was originally built on what came to be known as Macedonia Road on land that had been donated by Brother Isaac Baker, a constituting member of the church. A church cemetery – which still remains on Macedonia Road – was designated during this time for the burial of the deceased members of Macedonia Church.

In 1927, Macedonia Church extended an arm of the church to worship at the Smith School House in Cleveland, Mississippi, which in 1930, was constituted into New Prospect Primitive Baptist Church.

Macedonia Church met for worship services one Sunday weekend a month from 1887 to 1970. The meeting weekend fluctuated between 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday throughout those years. Then in 1970, the church began to meet met on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> weekends on Saturday night and Sunday mornings.

In July 1987, Macedonia Church voted to begin holding services every Sunday and discontinue Saturday night services. This occurred 100 years, even to the same month, after the church was originally constituted. The church has continued to meet every Sunday since that time.

# **Macedonia Through the Years (Continued)**

## **Notable Events**

The church has hosted her special Annual Meeting each year since its constitution, fluctuating between a few months. The Annual Meeting finally settled on the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in October and is still observed during that same weekend. In 2006, Macedonia Church voted to host a new open Fellowship Meeting to be held annually on the 4<sup>th</sup> weekend in February.

Macedonia Church continued to worship at her original location for around 60 years. Below is a picture of the original church building on Macedonia Road.



Around 1948, the church building was relocated about two miles north from her original location on Macedonia Road to Staten Road just at the corner of Highway 15. The church sanctuary on Staten Road was constructed with brick siding.



# **Macedonia Through the Years (Continued)**

## **Notable Events**

Below is a picture of the brick siding church that was constructed in 1948 on Staten Road.



In 1970, a new church building was constructed on Staten Road with the white vinyl siding building that still remains as the current church building. The church still continues to worship in this same church building on Staten Road currently in 2017. A picture of the current church building is on the front of this booklet.

In 1985, Macedonia Church added the kitchen and fellowship hall onto the back of the church sanctuary.

In 2008, Macedonia Church constructed another addition to the fellowship hall, adding additional room for tables and new bathrooms to accommodate increased capacity and visitors in hosting the annual Fellowship Meeting.

# **Macedonia Through the Years (Continued)**

## **Deacons of Macedonia**

In Macedonia Church's 130 years, 15 men have been ordained by the church to serve in the office of deacon. Brother J.P. Robinson and Brother Isaac Baker were both constituting members of Macedonia Church and later served as deacons as well. We are extremely grateful for the steadfast commitment of these brethren to humbly serve the church in this appointed office.

1888-1905	Brother Isaac Baker
1888-1928	Brother George Griffin
1889-1893	Brother J.P. Robinson
1892-Unkn.	Brother John Meece
1905-1935	Brother J.W. Brooks
1935-1959	Brother R.C. (Rufus) Brooks
1935-Unkn.	Brother F.D. McMinn
1935-1978	Brother H.S. Brooks
1957-1961	Brother A.R. Griffin
1969-1985	Brother Raymond Staten
1971-1978	Brother Donnie Staten
1984-1985	Brother Carl Staten
1991-2015	Brother Earl Frost
1984-Present	Brother Joel Nowlin
2016-Present	Brother Jeffrey Weeks

# Macedonia Through the Years (Continued)

## Pastors of Macedonia

In Macedonia Church's 130 years, 21 men have served the church as pastor. Elder C.M. Scroggins was the Moderator of the Constitution of Macedonia Church, served as her original pastor for two years, and later served as pastor for another eighteen years. Since that time, twenty other men have attempted to faithfully and humbly serve the church, and we pray God will continue to bless Macedonia's pastorate with diligent service until Christ's Second Coming.

1887-1888	Elder C.M. Scroggins
1888-1898	Elder G.W. Meece
1898-1916	Elder C.M. Scroggins
1898-1900	Elder D.L. Hitchcock (joint pastor from 1898-1900)
1908-1926	Elder W.R. Humphreys (joint pastor from 1908-1916)
1926-1935	Elder N.T. Easley
1931	Elder W.T. Stegall (joint pastor in 1931)
1935-1936	Elder J.M. Bullard
1937-1949	Elder L.V. Lott
1950-1955	Elder C.N. Sandifer
1952-1963	Elder W.E. Blair (joint pastor from 1952-1955)
1964	Elder R.J. Townsend
1965	Elder Frank Blair
1966-1978	Elder Clyde Blair
1978-1985	Elder Cleveland Smith
1980-1985	Elder J.T. Shields (joint pastor from 1980-1985)
1985-1993	Elder Carl Staten
1993-1994	Elder Bob Ward (interim pastor)
1994-2003	Elder Sidney Shows
2004-2010	Elder Philip Conley
2010-2014	Elder Tony Lester
2015-Present	Elder David Wise

# **Macedonia Today**

The current members and leadership of Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church, as of July 2017, are listed below with the year they assumed the position or the year they joined the church, as applicable.

## **Pastor**

Elder David Wise (2015)

## **Deacons**

Brother Joel Nowlin (1984)

Brother Jeffrey Weeks (2016)

## **Clerk**

Sister Myra Frost (1991)

## **Meeting Times**

Macedonia meets every Sunday at 10:30am, with singing, prayer, and preaching, followed by a fellowship lunch each week.

In conjunction with Sulphur Springs Primitive Baptist Church (Caledonia, Mississippi) and Elder Joe Nettles (Pastor of Sulphur Springs PBC), Elder David Wise hosts a weekly Wednesday night worship service beginning at 6:00pm at the La Quinta Inn in Starkville, Mississippi. The weekly Wednesday night Starkville meeting began in September 2014.

## **Annual Meetings**

Macedonia hosts her Annual Meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday weekend in October every year, and also hosts an open Fellowship Meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Weekend in February each year.

## **Communion**

Macedonia observes the Communion service – with the Lord’s Supper and washing of the saints’ feet – on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in July, annually.

## **Macedonia Today (Continued)**

### **Gospel of Grace Radio Broadcast**

In September 2015, the Lord opened a door for Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church to produce a local radio program based out of Starkville, Mississippi. In conjunction with Sulphur Springs Primitive Baptist Church (Caledonia, Mississippi), Elder David Wise (Pastor of Macedonia PBC) and Elder Joe Nettles (Pastor of Sulphur Springs PBC) co-host a weekly radio program entitled the “Gospel of Grace Radio Broadcast” on WLZA 96.1 FM out of Starkville, Mississippi, airing every Sunday morning at 8:00am.

WLZA is a 40,000-watt station that broadcasts out of Starkville, Mississippi. The broadcast area of WLZA extends throughout most of Northeast Mississippi and some areas of far West Alabama. The broadcast coverage area of the radio station extends from Carrollton, MS to Vernon, AL (from east to west) and from Tupelo, MS to Philadelphia, MS (from north to south). A website and iTunes Podcast was also established to distribute the messages from the radio program.

Information on the Gospel of Grace Radio Broadcast can be found at:

- **Website:** [www.gospel-of-grace.com](http://www.gospel-of-grace.com)
- **iTunes Podcast:** Gospel of Grace Radio Broadcast

## **Articles of Faith**

1. We believe in one true and living God, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost, and these three are one. (1 John 5:7, John 1:1)
2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, King James Translation, are the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice. (2 Peter 1:21, 2 Timothy 3:16)
3. We believe that God, before the foundation of the world, chose a definite number of the human race in Christ Jesus to salvation and they, in particular, are redeemed. (1 Peter 1:2, Ephesians 1:4-5)
4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin that Adam's fall in the garden plunged his entire posterity into death in trespasses and sins and that man cannot, of his own free will and ability, recover himself from the fallen state that he is in by nature. (Romans 5:12, Genesis 2:17, Romans 4:16, John 6:44)
5. We believe that sinners are justified only through the merits and power of the obedience, death, and resurrection of Christ Jesus imputed to them. (Acts 20:28, Revelation 5:9, Romans 4:11)
6. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated, justified, and glorified by the Holy Spirit and that the saints will be preserved by grace and never fall finally away. (Romans 8:29-30, 2 Timothy 1:9, John 10:27-29, 1 Peter 1:23)
7. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper and feet washing are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only proper subjects and the proper mode of baptism is by immersion. (Matthew 3:16, Mark 1:10, Romans 6:4, Ephesians 4:5, John 13:14-16)

## **Articles of Faith (Continued)**

8. We believe that Jesus Christ who is the Head and Lawgiver has instituted the ordinance of baptism and the Lord's Supper, which are to be perpetually observed by the Church to the end of the world. (Isaiah 33:22, James 4:12, John 13:17)
9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment and that the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting. (John 5:28-29, 1 Corinthians 15:19, Daniel 12:2)
10. We believe that no minister has a right to the administration of the ordinances except those who have been regularly baptized and called of God and have come under the imposition of hands by a presbytery and that only so long as they continue in the faith once delivered to the saints. (Acts 13:2-3, Titus 1:5-6)
11. We know, from experience, that no good can result to the church from any secret organization; therefore, we declare non-fellowship with those who participate or engage in secret organizations of any kind. (John 18:20-21, Ephesians 5:11-13, Matthew 5:14-16)

# **Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church**

11 Staten Rd, Ackerman, MS 39735  
(5 miles north of Ackerman on Highway 15)



## **Website**

[www.macedonia-pbc.org](http://www.macedonia-pbc.org)

## **Worship Times**

**Sunday Morning: 10:30am**

Followed by fellowship lunch every Sunday

**Wednesday Night: 6:00pm**

Held at La Quinta Inn in Starkville, MS  
(982 Hwy 12, Starkville, MS 39759)