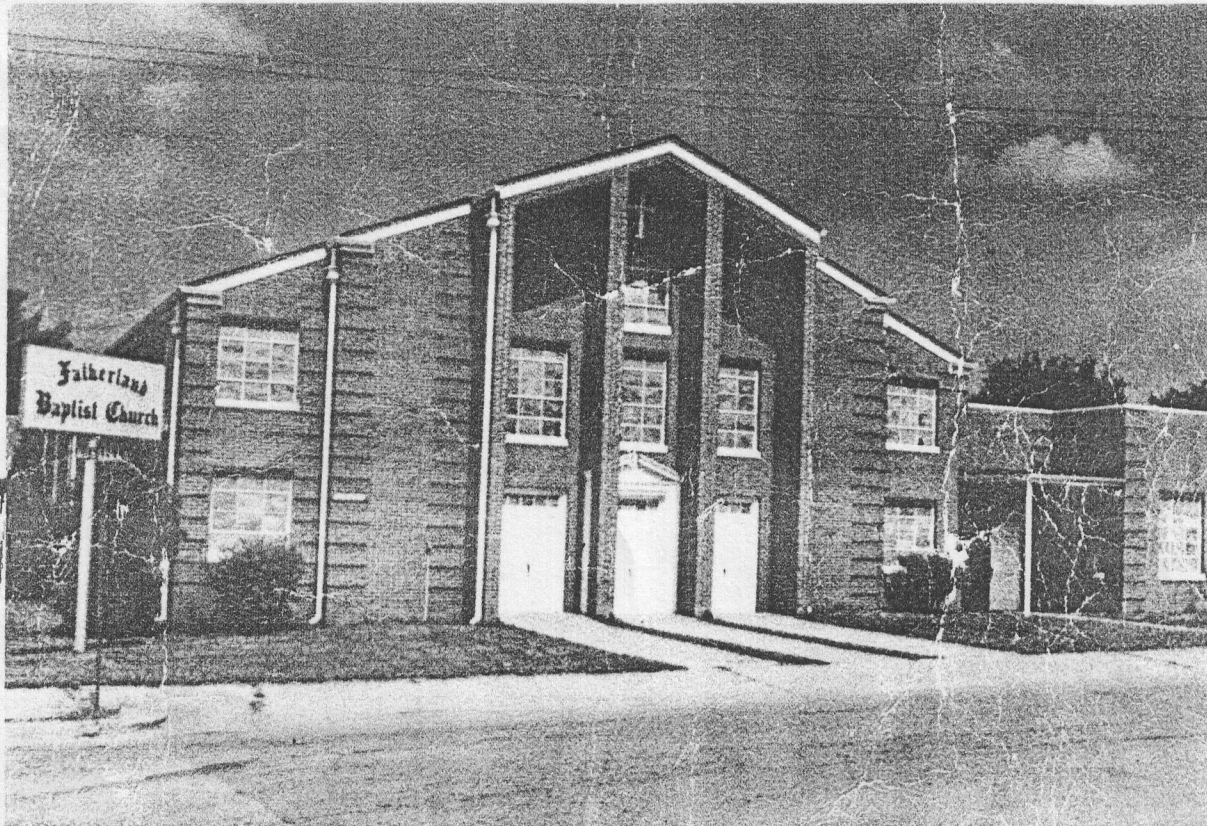
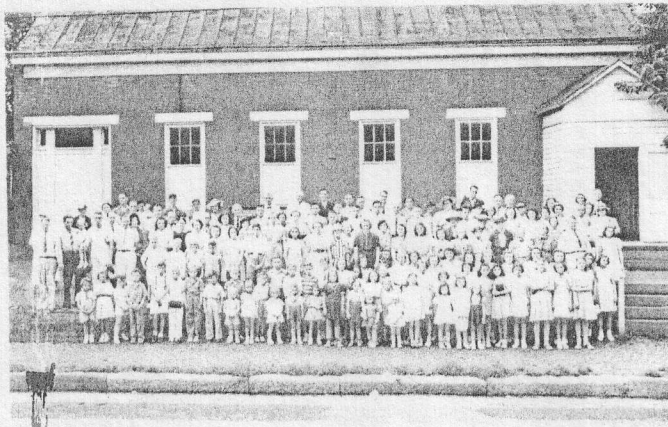


Fatherland  
Baptist Church



Tenth and Russell Streets  
Nashville, Tennessee



## CHURCH HISTORY

Fatherland Baptist Church has such a long, exciting history that space will not permit the full story of her long journey from a desire in the heart of an elderly lady to a present day great church.

Fatherland Church was conceived in the heart of Mrs. E. E. Hudson, who lived in the two hundred block of Fatherland Street. Once the elite, residential section of Nashville, this area was neglected since the town had spread in other directions. The crime wave was very high, beer parlors and dance halls were plentiful. This was a transient community.

It was in 1939 that the Lord moved on the hearts of the Hudsons, along with another family, the Pomeroy's, to start a mission. They contacted their pastor, R. F. Langston, who was willing to give it a try. A tent was set up, a revival held, and out of this meeting came the desire to rent an old house and open a mission. In the spring of 1939, the mission opened under the leadership of Reverend Langston and Shelby Avenue Baptist Church. By the first month it was paying it's own way. In one short year the mission was ready to be organized into a full-time church. The date was set, and sister churches were invited. On the night of August 8, 1940, we organized into the Fatherland Street Baptist Church with forty-two members. Two years later a full-time pastor was called. A three story Sunday School building was later erected with a spacious, comfortable, beautiful auditorium soon following.



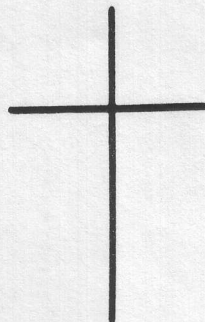
On the opening Sunday, the building was completely filled and continued with a good attendance until December 15, 1949, when all the buildings were destroyed by fire. For us, it seemed that the bottom of our world had dropped out, but the Lord answered our prayers by arranging to have us assemble in the old Dixie Tabernacle, which was two blocks up the street. Although the building had dirt floors, crude benches, and little heat, we were so thankful for it. In August of the next year, we moved to the Seventh Day Adventist Church building and remained there until we purchased the Russell Street Presbyterian property, located at Eleventh and Russell Streets. In less than one year, a large balcony was added to accommodate the crowd. In 1953, a purchase of all of the corner at Tenth and Russell Streets was made, where construction began on the new, beautiful auditorium. The building was soon paid for. A few years later, a children's building was added and paid for.

Busses have been purchased to bring our people to church who do not have the means of transportation. If one wished to remain at home, he may listen to several programs which are all broadcasted from the church's own radio studio in connection with WNAH, "The Old Country Church Hour", "The Gospel Hour", and "The Hour for the Shut-Ins" have all brought blessings to many persons. We have been on the air twenty-four years, with almost six hours of radio time weekly.

We have organized four churches out of Fatherland and have had a part in the beginnings of several other. The paper, which has been in publication for more than twenty-three years, has a circulation reaching into almost every state. For many years Fatherland has been sending missionaries into other countries. Africa, Jamaica, Israel, and Navajo Indian Country in Arizona, are just a few places that our people are spreading the word of our Lord and Saviour.

We owe so much to many people, those who made great sacrifices to serve the Lord and church well before meeting their Creator, along with those still striving to relay His message. These people did this though, because they had a strong dedication and love for the Lord's Church, and especially lost souls. This love will always continue down through the ages to come, until the final day when we may hear the Lord say, "Well done." Fatherland has used all of the tools placed at her disposal, has done her best for the glory of God, and He has blessed her efforts through His abounding grace.

Rev. W. W. Miles



Go Ye Into all the World and Preach the Gospel

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