

A Brief History of FBC Carthage

Court records show that on April 3, 1880, a lot, 70' x 44', located on Main Street, was purchased for \$150 for a church building to be built. The property occupied the south side of the current church property. A church building was built on that lot and was ready for occupancy when the charter members met to organize almost a year later.

“The Carthage Baptist Church” was organized on July 16, 1881, with eighteen charter members, the majority of whom were former members of Peyton Creek Baptist Church in Carthage.

On October 16, 1921, tragedy struck the congregation. The original building in which they had worshiped for forty years burned to the ground. The adjoining property on the corner of Fite Avenue and Main Street was purchased for \$1,600 and plans were made for a new facility. A year and four months later, the church began meeting in this new building, where the current sanctuary stands today.

In 1947, the church began the erection of an additional sixteen classrooms. This addition was completed on January 23, 1949.

On April 11, 1948, the church voted unanimously to change the name of the church from “Carthage Baptist Church” to “First Baptist Church of Carthage.”

After three years of planning, the Christian Life Center was built in 1998 for the purpose of ministry, fellowship, and outreach. The facility was dedicated in memory of Alfred and Margaret Apple.

On June 8, 2008, Dr. Tim Frank was called to serve as the Senior Pastor and led the church to be intentional in three key areas: Exalt Christ, Establish Connections, and Express Compassion.