The History Of Benjamin Lynn

- Born In Chester County, Penn.
- 4th Child Of Irish Parents, Andrew Lynn, His Father
- Was A Slender, Dark-Skinned Man, With Blue Eyes, His Height Was 5’10”
- Very Fine Marksman, Lived Among The Shawna & Delaware, Maumee and Kickapoo Indians Four Years – Learned Their Languages
- As A Trapper He Became Aware Of All The French Settlements East And West Of The Mississippi
- Went To Fort Pitt, (Now Pittsburgh) And Became Good Friends With George Rogers Clark
- Served Clark As Spy For His Army Until Clark Came To The Falls Of The Ohio, Where Lynn Was Given The Rank Of Captain.
The History Of Benjamin Lynn

- Seventeen Men Placed Under Him, And He Was Sent To Fort Harrod, Kentucky - 1772
- During Revolution Helped The Settlers At Ft. Harrodsburg Against The Indians
- 1779 Married Hannah Soverigns, Then Learned To Read – His Text Was The Bible At Harrod’s Station
- To Bardstown, KY, In 1780
1782 Lynn Formed A Separate Baptist Group
- Baptized Seven People In Nolin Creek,
Believed To Be The First Baptisms In
Kentucky
SOUTH FORK BAPTIST CHURCH

Seven persons baptized in Nolin Creek by Rev. Benjamin Lynn. He and Rev. James Skaggs founded South Fork Church ca. 1782. Organized as Separate Baptist Church with 13 members, it met at Phillips' Fort; later moved to South Fork of Nolin. In the past, church has assumed philosophy of United, Separate, and Regular. Later split on slavery issue. Over.
In 1805 Lynn learned of Barton Stone and his work at Cane Ridge.

i. Stone was immersing and he was not a Baptist.

ii. Lynn traveled to Cane Ridge at Stone baptized him.

iii. B.F. Hall reflected in his journal.

In the summer of 1825 I visited Georgetown, and conversed with Father Stone respecting baptism for remission of sins. He said it would not do; that he had introduced it early in the present century, that it was like throwing ice water on the people; that it froze all their warmth out out, and came well nigh driving vital religion out of the country, and would have done it, if he had not desisted from preaching it. He said he had preached it at different places and to different congregations, and that the same results followed. Finally he abandoned it altogether.
The History Of Benjamin Lynn

- Moved To North Alabama With Family – About 1810
- He Was Alabama’s First Located Preacher
- That Year Organized A Church In North Part Of What Is Now Huntsville, Alabama
- Wife Died in May, 1814, Huntsville, Alabama
- Died December 23, 1814 – In The Home Of John & Esther (Lynn, 2nd Dau.) Chisholm, Buried On Church Cemetery Ground, Present Location Unmarked On The Campus Of Alabama A&M.
FORT HAMPTON

Approx. 1/4 mile North is the site of Ft. Hampton, built in 1810 and named in honor of Brig. General Wade Hampton of Revolutionary War fame. Two Companies of soldiers were stationed here in log buildings. The purpose of the fort and its garrison was to keep settlers, or “intruders”, off Indian land, as this area was not ceded to the United States by the Chickasaw Indians until 1816. This fort was one of few ever built to protect Indian land from white settlers. The soldiers garrisoned here built most of the earliest roads in this area. After 1816 the fort was not needed and was soon abandoned.

ERECTED BY LIMESTONE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
The History Of Benjamin Lynn

- The Family Without Lynn
- When Legalization Of Settlement In Northwest Alabama Came Open, in 1816, The Chisholms Moved To Florence Area & Began Worshipping In Their Home
- By 1824 A Congregation Was Planted, The Oldest Continuous Church of Christ In N.W. Alabama, Now The Stoney Point Church Of Christ
- The Chisholm Graveyard Is The Oldest Cemetery In N.W. Alabama
Church In Waterloo, Alabama Grows

- Another Of Lynn's Daughters, Rachel Married Marshall DeSpain & Moved To Waterloo, Alabama
- In 1826, The Church Of Christ At Waterloo Was Established.
- While In Waterloo, A School Teacher In The Community, Mansil W. Matthews, Taught The Daughter Of The DeSpains, Hetty.
- The DeSpains Taught Him The Gospel & He Was Baptized For The Remission of His Sins, Very Soon Thereafter Began Preaching
- Matthews And Lynn DeSpain, Son Of Marshall & Rachel, Were The Preachers For The Congregation

Dr. Mansil W. Matthews
1806-1891
Buried At Paradise, Texas
Lynn’s Influence In NW Alabama

➢ 1830 The Church Ordered 300 Songbooks From Barton W. Stone’s Publishing House. Mentioned In Christian Messenger Vol. 6 #12 Dec. 1832 page. 380

➢ Marshall Died, And Is Buried In Waterloo, Ala.
N.T. Christianity Comes To Texas

According To 1936 Document Prepared By Jewell Matthews, Descendant of Dr. Mansil Matthews, Cheap Land In Texas Prompted Nearly The Whole Town To Desire To Move To Texas

The Church Left Waterloo In 1835

It Was A Church On Foot, On Wheels, & On Horseback

Leading Them Was David Crockett

Slow Travel, With Sundays Set Aside For Worship, Crockett Left The Group At The Mississippi River

Crocket Passed Among The Campers, Greeting Each Man, Woman And Child; Left With Them And Affectionate Farewell, Mounted His Noble Bay Charger, Accoutered For Battle, And Waved His Cap, Halloed, ‘Hurrah For Texas,’ As He Galloped Away At The Head Of Some Sixty Volunteers For The Texas Army! Off They Went To The Alamo

David "Davy" Crockett (1786-1836)
The Church of Christ In Texas

- Later Dr. Mansil Matthews Would Take Part In The Fight For Texas
- He Joined Sam Houston’s Fighters As A Doctor, Administering Medical Aid To Houston When Santa Ana Was Captured at Battle of San Jacinto.
- Still Later, Matthews Served As Member Of The First Congress Of The Republic Of Texas, October, 1836
- The Church Was Established In Clarksville, Texas January 17, 1836
- After A Year The Group Moved South To Nacogdoches County And Planted A Church – 1837
- Here Joseph Addison Clark Met Hetty DeSpain And Found New Testament Christianity As Well.
- Dr. Mansil Walter Matthews Died At Paradise, Texas, Apr. 13, 1891, 86yrs., Having Preached The Day He Died
Work Of Joseph & Hetty Clark

• Moved To Thorpe Spring And Started The Church Of Christ
• Had Two Sons, Addison & Randolph
• Started A School At Thorpe Spring Called AddRan College
• Later Became Known As Texas Christian University
Incident At Thorpe Spring

• The Instrument Of Music Began Entering Worships Assemblies Around 1860
• 1894, The Sons Of Clark Desired To Bring It In At Thorpe Spring Much To The Strong Reservations Of Joseph Clark
• Tuesday Night, February 20, 1894, B.B. Sanders, A Minister Who Favored The Instrument Was Involved In A Gospel Meeting.
• A Petition Was Signed By 139 Members Of The Congregation Saying They Did Not Want It, Even Having The List Read
• Before Meeting Began Joseph Clark Stood And Prayed A Prayer For Unity
• As Addison Clark, Directing The Worship, Said The Students Had Been Promised Instruments And They Were Going To Have Them, Turning He Looked At Miss Bertha Mason, The Pianist, And Said, “Play On, Miss Bertha!”
• When It Was Introduced Brother Clark, Now In His 80s Departed The Assembly With 2/3 Of The Congregation
• The Church Of Christ Was Re-established Across The Street.
The Church Still Survives There Today
Individual Movements Begin In Many Places

Old Philadelphia
Warren Cty., TN
1805

Dr. Chester Bullard
1809-1893

John Taylor
1807-1895

Christian H. Dasher
1789-1866