



MHBC



Moraine Heights Baptist Church History

In the Beginning God created...

MHBC started as a mission project of West Side Baptist Church which became the Far Hills Baptist Church now Far Hills Community. During 1948 - 1949, the West Side Baptist Church held a series of meetings in Moraine, Ohio. In June 1949, after Vacation Bible Schools, revivals, and much prayer, believers began to feel a real burden for a permanent work in Moraine.

In answer to prayer, God lead West Side Baptist Church to begin a permanent work in Moraine in the form of a mission meeting in a small tent. The prayers of the saved in the community were answered. By the end of July, seven families were attending and the average attendance was 25.

As winter approached in 1949 the tent would not do; God provided a place for the mission to meet in the garage of Mr. & Mrs. Oscar Angel. The garage served as the main auditorium, while the rooms of the Angel's home served as Sunday school rooms.

The Mission was burdened for the lost of the community. These Christians had lost souls on their hearts. Historical records indicate that sacrifices were made so that men and women with their Bibles under there arms could knock on doors with the message of God's love and an invitation to the Mission at Moraine.

The going was hard for few people cared to consider the souls of the community. Most discouraging of all was the fact that many professing Christians ridiculed the idea of a future church and openly criticized the conditions under which the little group worked.

The Mission grew steadily and surely. By the fall of 1949 the attendance was averaging close to 75. The little home of the Angel's could not hold them. On some days people actually sat outside the house and listened through opened windows.

Finally, the mission purchased two small lots in the West Moraine Plat on the corner of Holman and Cloverlawn Streets. Blue prints were made for a small brick church to be built.

At this time the mission felt its first heartbreak. Pastor McGiff, who had fed this flock and nurtured its growth, resigned. The little flock was without a pastor. No immediate help came from the mother church (West Side Baptist). By the grace of God, the little mission struggled on. Intending to help out until a pastor was found, Travis Hudson began to preach in the mission's services.

Travis Hudson showed promising potential and most importantly, the hand of God. After much encouragement and prayer from the congregation, Travis Hudson accepted the call to pastor the little mission and was ordained.

On June 10, 1951, with only half a building, the mission was organized into a church. The building had no doors or window panes just a floor, a roof, and four walls. The average attendance was 80. The church voted to be called the West Moraine Baptist Church and to become affiliated with the Whitewater Association of Missionary Baptists and the Southern Baptist Convention. There were 31 charter members of the brave crowd.

Independent · Fundamental · Evangelistic · Discipleship · Separated · Missionary · Premillennial
Moraine Heights Baptist Church · 5661 Munger Rd, Dayton, Ohio 45459 · (937) 434-6658

www.moraineheights.org

Page 1 of 2

The little church grew. The building soon became too small. In 1952, the church voted to expand that building with a basement. In 1954, the basement was doubled in size, and the parking lot was extended. In 1955, plans were completed for an auditorium over their new basement. On July 10, 1956 that auditorium with a seating capacity of approximately 500 was dedicated to the Lord. In 1961, an educational building was built. Between 1962 and 1968, three houses next to the church were bought in West Carrollton expanding the property. God continued to bless and the membership had grown to approximately 1000.

As hard as the church tried further building plans were stopped by West Moraine Plat zoning laws or neighbors who did not want to sell their property. With the growing attendance, the church had no choice, but to relocate.

The Lord provided the place for the new church building south of Dayton in Miami Township. If you go to the intersection of St. Route 741 and Alex-Bell Rd. today and look up you will see "what great things the Lord hath done." The church sets atop of one of the highest points south of Dayton. Its altitude together with its excellent lighting during the night makes the church visible for miles.

The name was changed to Moraine Heights Baptist Church when the church moved to its new location. The reason was to make it clear that the church was no longer in the old West Moraine Plat and yet keep the identity as the church from Moraine.

Moraine Heights Baptist Church has always stood firmly upon the Word of God. Our uncompromising and fundamental stand upon the Word of God necessitated our separation from the Southern Baptist Convention in 1972. We still hold today the basic truths that were preached in that little garage in the West Moraine Plat. We are unashamed of our fundamental and Baptist heritage.

In 1989 Travis Hudson Youth Chapel was added to the church along with a full-size kitchen, youth room, and five additional Sunday school rooms. The gym is used to provide opportunities to witness, to disciple, and to have fellowship.

In 1995, an office building was added for the pastor and staff. This provides a modern facility for our church staff to plan, organize, study, pray, and council from.

50 Years and still going strong!

The future is bright for Moraine Heights. Souls are being saved, lives are turned toward our Savior, children trained to love and obey our Lord, and hopes restored. The glory goes to God! In 2001, we embarked upon a remodeling project to modernize the main auditorium with state-of-the-art audio visual equipment, new roof, open balcony, new carpet and pews, and much more. This was completed on October of 2001.

Come check us out. We are Dayton's Friendliest Church -- **the Church on the Top of the Hill!**

Moraine Heights Baptist Church

Pastor: Terrell Hudson

5661 Munger Rd

Dayton, OH 45459

(937) 434 – 6658

www.moraineheights.org

Independent · Fundamental · Evangelistic · Discipleship · Separated · Missionary · Premillennial
Moraine Heights Baptist Church · 5661 Munger Rd, Dayton, Ohio 45459 · (937) 434-6658

www.moraineheights.org

Page 2 of 2