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This history was submitted by Rev. W. E. Johnson, 361 County Road 864, Dennis, MS 38838. It was written by Rev. Frank Smith with information supplied by Irma Ivy and Curtis Wigginton. It was printed by Betty K. (Smith) Brasfield, daughter of Frank W. Smith.

Chapel Hill Church of God of Prophecy, 509 County Road 864, Golden, MS

In 1918, the first Holy Ghost revival was conducted by Sid Smedley and Henry Lucius, who married B. O. Funderburk's sister from Alabama. Doll Ashby, a Nazarene, also conducted a revival, and although she did not know or preach the church's doctrine, Lucy Jane Pharr received the Holy Ghost. Services began to be held at the old Pharr School and Samps and Mindy Wigginton sought the Holy Ghost as a result of these revival services. These converts then attended and joined the Walker Church of God on Highway 25. This church is now affiliated as a Baptist Church. E. C. Rider preached revivals at the Walker Church and the Golden School. A brush arbor was utilized in front of Samps Wigginton's house, and services were also held in his home.

In 1919, the church was officially organized in the brush arbor in Samps Wigginton's front yard by E. C. Rider. The next brush arbor was constructed up in the woods. The converts called this area Chapel Hill, and then built a church at this location. Jim Shook donated the land, Dr. Oscar Copeland donated the lumber and 2 x 12 lumber for benches, and Jim Shook and Doc Clements sawed the lumber for the church construction.

Elmer Wigginton became Chapel Hill's first pastor. He was a good preacher. The founding members of the congregation were:

Doc Clements
Samps Wigginton
Elmer Wigginton
Lillian Wigginton

Mary Clements
Mindy Wigginton
Evergreen Wigginton
Lucy Jane Pharr

During this time, Cummings Hallmark, Jim Pharr's uncle by marriage, sought for the Holy Ghost.

In 1921, Joe Lentz held a revival at Chapel Hill. New converts who received the Holy Ghost and joined the church during this revival were Lula and Violet Pharr, Ila and Ida Clement, Archie Belle Wigginton, Velma Shook, Tabitha Wigginton, and Gladys Whitehead. Later, during the same year, Curtis Wigginton joined the church. Curtis helped cut the lumber to build the first church on the hill, but he was not saved at that time.

In 1924, Irma received the Holy Ghost under a brush arbor and joined the church.

In 1943, Afton Newsome conducted a revival at Chapel Hill. New converts from this revival who joined the church were Marie and Betty Ivy, Helen and Jean Fuller, Charlene Tanner, Iris Wigginton; and Lera Mae, Johnny Faye, and Frances Allen. Claude and Irene Shook and Laval Wigginton were also saved.

Fletcher Ray was the pastor of the Chapel Hill Church of God when the church relocated to Red Bud Road. Samps Wigginton donated this land to Chapel Hill, and the title and deed are clearly deeded to the church.

In 1952, while Frank Smith was pastor, the church added a platform and two Sunday School rooms. In 1954, Frank Smith was still the pastor. A revival was held by Irene Whitten, and Samuel Pharr received the Holy Ghost. Samuel was already saved, and he and Gloria were members of the church. He was also principal of the local school. Ezekiel Pharr and Minnie Lou were also members of the church at Memphis. Also during that time, a revival was held with Harper Hunter, and Nathan Wigginton and Rufe Tanner got saved. Nathan later joined the church.

In 1962, the parsonage was built while Claxton Cook was pastor. Jerry and Irene Owen joined the church.

In 1965, Bonita Oswalt, Tommie Wigginton, and Quay Wigginton joined the church. Larue Montgomery was saved, sanctified, and received the Holy Ghost at the General Assembly while watching others getting saved and filled with the Holy Ghost. Larue also joined the local church. While in a revival with William Tribble and Pastor James Gray, Sullivan Fuller was saved and miraculously delivered from alcohol. He also joined the church.

In 1968, a complete new church sanctuary was added to the church facility. The older sanctuary was turned into Sunday School rooms. During this time, Faye Patterson joined the church. Clettis Harris was pastor.

In 1990, Frank Smith was once again pastor of Chapel Hill. Carpet was installed and the platform was remodeled during this time.

In 1992, Billy West became Chapel Hill's pastor. He completely remodeled and painted the parsonage and the interior of the church. The man-sized pulpit, comfortable pews, and the inviting altar benches were built by Bro. Calvin Fuller.

The following ministers have served as pastor of the Chapel Hill Church of God:

Elmer Wigginton
Wesley Abbot
Tom Holland
B. O. Funderburk
Monroe Parker
Jourdon Grimes
L. A. Moxley
D. D. Jones
Oliver Mills
Fletcher Ray
Tommy Priest
Clyde Overstreet
Jim Thorn
John McElrath
Grady Horner
Sam Rainey
C. V. Creel
W. W. Weldon

J. E. Cardwell
Frank W. Smith
Lucious Dean
Claxton Cook
James Akins
David Browder
Clettis Harris
James Gray
Danny Calvert
Edwin Pharr
Roger Allen
Jimmie D. Bailey
James Gray
Ricky Darrel
Frank W. Smith
Billy West
W. E. Johnson (2005—)

These men of God have turned the world upside down and come hitherto also. They have each contributed to the growth and development of the Chapel Hill Church of God. The early years of the church preached the Church of God in the face of bitter opposition. Nevertheless, they stood steadfast in the Word of God, knowing that Jesus said, "I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Their toils and labors for Him will be rewarded when they stand in His presence and see His face.

The following members—of whom the world was not worthy—have all died in faith, and these all, having obtained a good report through faith, and received not the promise; God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

Jim and Lucy Jane Pharr
Samps and Mindy Wigginton
Doc and Mary Clements
Nathan and Lillian Wigginton
John and L. M. Wigginton
Veron Allen
Archie Bell Shook

Velma Wigginton
Violet Fuller
Bill Campbell
Lucy Bell Green
Mary Wigginton
Norman Fuller

Other members of Chapel Hill have included:

Rev. Calvin Fuller
Gary and Cletra Maxwell
Annie Frost
Faye Patterson
Cathy and Michael Moore
J. W. and Lela Wooten
Ezekiel and Fay Parker