

## FIRST BAPTIST

Source: Crawfordsville Daily Journal 8 Jan 1894

It was an interesting occasion at the First Baptist Church yesterday morning when the history and growth of that church during the past six years were shown. This period covers the time that Rev. GP Fuson has been the pastor, and is indeed a very gratifying record, showing what determination, energy and working for the salvation of souls can accomplish. Six years ago when Rev. Mr. Fuson became pastor of this church there were about 70 active members and but two young people in the congregation. Now the membership has reached 231 and near 60 young people in the church. This shows that the average per cent increase in members per year has been 25 and a third. During this period Rev. Fuson has been the moving spirit in having a new church edifice erected, cost \$10,000 and seating 500 persons. Since Jan 1, 1888, Rev. Mr. Fuson has delivered 745 sermons and addresses, made 8,000 religious visits, attended 612 prayer meetings, conducted 176 funerals, baptized 86 persons and received 221 persons into the church membership. During this time about \$12,000 has been raised for church purposes. This is surely an excellent record and Mr. Fuson enters upon his 7th year among us greatly encouraged and with a new vigor for the work that is before him. The record during the past six years shows that his heart is in the work. Six years ago there were but two young people in the church. After the meetings of B. Fay Mills 12 young persons were among the number who united with this church. A young people's society was organized with 7 members. This has now grown to over 50 members. The officers are: President: EG Horton Sec – Miss Flora Fuson Corresponding Sec – Miss Georgia McIntire Treasurer: Mrs. Mollie Boyland