

Old North Church	
Organized	1838
First effort made by	Mrs. Massie Millard
Organized by	Isaac Reed, assisted by R. G. Green
Current pastor or contact	



The oldest Baptist church in Texas to meet on a continuing basis is believed to be the Old North (Union) Baptist Church, located in Nacogdoches, Texas.

The church was the result of prayer meetings held by Mrs. Massie Millard. She put together a good number of people interested in invoking the name of God. Isaac Reed organized the church in May, 1838, but Mrs. Millard died shortly before the date. Z. N. Morrell visited the young group and preached to them.

J. M. Carroll states, "On Saturday before the first Lord's Day in May, 1838, Isaac Reed, assisted by Rev. R. G. Green, who had just arrived in Texas, organized the first church in East Texas, to be known in later years as a *missionary* Baptist Church. Nine members went into the organization — all from Tennessee except one from Missouri. Two of them were colored slaves." The church cooperates with the Baptist General Convention of Texas. Recent figures revealed that the church averaged about 9 in Sunday School and church attendance but it is supported by the Convention as a Historical Site.

The prayer meetings were held under a small oak tree which grew to be very large. Damage to the tree about 1950 was corrected by a forestry student at Stephen F. Austin College trying an experiment never tried before. The tree stood until recently, as can be seen, it is in pieces on the ground now.

There is a very large cemetery located adjacent to the church and contains the remains of settlers of the period of the 1840's to the present.

