Lovejoy church was formed as a result of a breaking away from Austin Chapel Protestant Church. There seemed to be conflicting opinions about the first church.

It was said to have been formed in 1889. We have deeds for the present site that were granted in 1897 and recorded in February 1889. It was told to me by Mrs. Sadie Grant, one of the oldest members, that church services were held in a small tenant house across the road from the present church site. On the creek behind the Laguin School house. This new group named the building the Shady Grove Church. This seems logical, as the deeds for the present Lovejoy Church were drawn up in 1897 and the break was in 1889. This Shady Grove house was to the right of a gin and warehouse. Beyond the gin was Holly Springs Primitive Baptist Church, near the Holly Springs Cemetery.

The first building on the present site was a one room building. The church was named Lovejoy after a former minister of Austin Chapel, the Reverend W. P. Lovejoy. The Odd Fellows Brotherhood built a second story over the original building.

Early families who made up the membership of Lovejoy Church were Meadors, Salter, Wright, Thompson, Coggins, Wilson, Lassiter, Woodruff, Forman and Hackett. The first pastor was Reverend W. R. Branham, Jr.

The sale of the land for the church was from a Mr. Norris and Mr. Cook, for the amount of one dollar as so stated in the deed. The deed was drawn up on March 3, 1897 and paid for by the trustees, J. P. Thompson, John B. Meadors, John G. Coggins, W. Hackett, and H. B. Meadors. The old church was torn down in 1948 and the present
sanctuary built. This was under the leadership of Reverend J. W. Everhart assisted by leadership of John Meadors, E. M. McCart, Elwood Lassiter and W. C. Johnson. Since then many additions have been made. Early trustees were Gus Wilson and John Thompson. The Stewards were Henry Meadors, Billy Forman, and Jack Meadors. The first Sunday School Superintendent was John Thompson, followed by Mr. Salter. The first Society of Woman's Christian Aid was organized in early 1900. Mrs. John Meadors was its president. A night circle was also organized in 1967, the Clara Smith Circle.

During History of the church Lovejoy has been on the following charges:

- Newborn Circuit: 1889-93
- Porterdale Circuit: 1893-94
- Starrsville Circuit: 1894-95
- Oxford Circuit: 1895-1901
- Almon Mission: 1901-02
- Conyers Mission: 1902-04
- Porterdale Mission: 1904-17
- Newton Circuit: 1917-present time.

It has had 51 minister from 1889 - 1980.

The first grave in the cemetery was Myrtice Meadors, daughter of the John Meadors 1897-1901. There are now 120 graves in the cemetery.

The first Homecoming for Lovejoy was in 1946. The first wedding at Lovejoy was of Clara Sue Johnson and Richard Ridling on March 30, 1953.

- 1950-51 Education building built
- 1962 Friendship Hall built to connect educational and sanctuary
- 1962 Porch was built on sanctuary
- 1966 Celebrated the arrival of a steeple for the church to enhance its appearance
- 1974 Rest rooms and kitchen built
- 1975 Two additional acres of land obtained to enlarge cemetery and grounds
- 1975 Central air and heating added.
- 1976 Sanctuary and educational building carpeted
  (sponsored mainly by the youth)
- 1977 Intercom system added
1978  Men's club organized
1978  New pews with cushioned seats and pulpit furniture added
1979  New organ given to church

The iron was made to float and the greatest of these firsts came in June 1980 when Lovejoy became a station church and Reverend Michael L. Akin as its pastor.

Compiled by J. D. Smith for the 1980 Lovejoy Homecoming.
July 27, 1980