A HISTORY OF

BALL GROUND

METHODIST

CHURCH

COMPILED    BY

CARL WESLEY GROOVER

1951
The earliest available record of Ball Ground Methodist Church is a revised list of members made on September 25, 1870. At that time, the Rev. A. C. Carson was pastor. The list of members follows:

**Male Members:**
Edward Jones  
Larkin Smith  
James P. Drummonds  
John P. Drummonds

**Female Members:**
Sophronia Byers  
Sicillia Smith  
Sarah E. Carpenter  
Sarah E. Spence  
Sarah A. Spence  
Mary Spence  
Emily E. Johnson  
Janetta Canady  
Nancy Spence  
P. A. Howell  
F. M. Smith  
Manerva Drummonds  
Louisa R. Drummonds  
Manerva E. Drummonds  
Emily M. A. Drummonds  
Elizabeth A. Ridings  
Martha A. Miller  
Ladesca I. Byers

During the year, the following names were added:

**William West**  
Marion W. West  
Cicero L. West  
Thomas R. Bell  
Daniel Spence  
Sophronia West  
Naomi West  
Elizabeth West  
Priscilla West  
Matilda Spence

The next member list was revised on November 8, 1872 with the Rev. J. N. Sullivan pastor. In 1874, the Rev. J. J. Harris was pastor and on July 9, 1874, M. J. Cavender made a deed to one acre of land to be used for a Methodist Church, and the deed was made to William West, Marion West, Thomas R. Bell and Daniel Spence as Trustees. The Rev. John H. Mashburn was pastor in 1876. In 1881, Rev. W. A. Candler was Presiding Elder and Rev. W. O. Butler pastor. William West was listed as Class Leader, Steward and Trustee. Levi L. Spence was named a Trustee.
The first church building was situated just back of present building with entrance facing West. This building was continued in use until 1896 when a new building was erected on the site of the present building. This building was erected during the pastorate of the late Rev. John P. Erwin.

The above building was of frame construction and was so badly damaged by wind in 1915 that it was necessary to replace it with the present brick building which was erected in 1916. Rev. W. D. Amack, who was named as our pastor at the November Conference in 1915, soon resigned, and we were served during 1916 by the Rev. Elliott and the Rev. C. L. Middlebrooks.

A Sunday School Record Book starting with March 26, 1882 reports twenty-three present with five absent. Mr. J. H. Kilby was Superintendent and Mr. L. A. McClure Secretary. It is evident that this was not the beginning of Sunday School work in this church.

On April 16, 1882, the Secretary made these remarks:

"The school received the American S. S. Literature, about half of which was donated by the American Sunday School Union. Oh, how happy it made the children feel when they received their little papers and cards."

Sunday School took a rest from July 2nd to October 22, 1882 when it was reorganized, and was continued regularly through the remainder of this book to Jan. 13, 1884.

June 20, 1951.

C. W. Groover, Historian.