

A HISTORY OF
BETHEL METHODIST CHURCH

Bethel - St Paul

BROCKTON CHARGE OF THE
GAINESVILLE DISTRICT
NORTH GEORGIS CONFERENCE

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BETHEL CHURCH, HALL CIRCUIT, NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE WAS ORGANIZED FEBRUARY 12, 1888, BY GEORGE K. QUILLIAN, ALFRED F. GOUDELOCK, SECRETARY OF CHURCH CONFERENCE.

FIRST SERVICES WERE HELD IN A LITTLE LOG SCHOOL HOUSE ABOUT ONE-HALF MILE FROM PRESENT LOCATION OF THE CHURCH. HOW LONG THIS BUILDING WAS USED HAS NOT BEEN DETERMINED, BUT IT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN FOUR YEARS. ON SEPTEMBER 9, 1884, RECORDS SHOW THAT A.F. GOUDELOCK, S.B. McDONALD, AND J.C. GILSTRAP BOUGHT TWO ACRES OF LAND FROM J.O.L. SUTTON FOR SIX DOLLARS FOR THE PURPOSE OF BUILDING A CHURCH THERE. RECORDS DO NOT SHOW, AND OUR OLDEST MEMBERS DO NOT REMEMBER, JUST WHEN THE CHURCH HOUSE WAS BUILT. IT WAS MADE OF LUMBER SAWED ON THE FIRST STEAM SAWMILL EVER USED IN THIS SECTION. LOGS WERE DONATED BY EARLY MEMBERS AND OXEN WERE USED TO MOVE THE LOGS TO THE SAWMILL. THE LUMBER WAS HAND PLANED. THE BENCHES WERE HAND MADE AND ARE IN US TODAY. THE MAJOR CHANGES IN THE BUILDING IN RECENT YEAR HAVE BEEN NEW FLOORS, MATS, UNDERPINNING, NEW ROOF AND VENETIN BLINDS. IT HAS BEEN PAINTED REGULARLY.

THE CHURCH WAS ORGANIZED INTO THE METHODIST CONFERENCE ON FEBRUARY 12, 1888 BY GEORGE K. QUILLIAN. RECORDS DO NOT SHOW THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS AT THAT TIME. ON NOVEMBER 2, 1888 THE CHURCH PROPERTY WAS DEEDED TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE CHURCH AND THEREBY, BECAME THE PROPERTY OF THE NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE AS A PLACE OF DIVINE WORSHIP.