HISTORY

of

CEDARTOWN CHARGE

Blooming Grove Church
Lindsey Chapel Church
Wesley Chapel Church
BLOOMING GROVE METHODIST CHURCH

Organized about 1856 in a log school house. The record reads: Van Wert Circuit 1872-73 - Rev. J.W. Trawick was pastor. Prior to this time the records show that in 1856 Cedartown the county site was a station and Brother Trawick was its first pastor appointed by the Conference. It is thought that sometime in between 1856 and 1873 Blooming Grove was part of the Van Wert Circuit. The church is located in the southern part of Polk County just off State Highway no. 100 in the Militia District of Blooming Grove, near what is known as Fulwood Springs. At one time there were twenty (20) or more springs of different minerals here, and is said to be the Assembly grounds of the Cherokee Indians back in the days before the "Trail of Tears" to the Indians territories in the West.

Just across the mountains from Blooming Grove in Haralson County, is Tallapoosa, Georgia, where Captain Tumlin organized a Company of Georgia Volunteers in which was Sargent Duncan H Tally the grandfather of Oscar B. Tally, who is recording these remembrances and hold Grandfather's discharge papers on their return from this trek westward of the Indians from this section.

We have here also one of the old cemeteries of the County. In which our negro slaves were also buried.

Here are listed some of the settlers of this section. Uncle Andy Brannon was the grandfather of D.E. Brannon. The Brannons lived across the mountain in old Carrol County now Haralson County. Mr. Washington Garner, married Miss Susan Evelyn Pritchett, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William N Pritchett also the parents of Mrs. Georgia Watson, who relates much of this history. Rev. Ramsour was the pastor when Miss Georgia Pritchett joined the church, and later married Mr. William A. Watson. John I. Fulwood, the Garners, Pritchetts, Watsons, Garrards, Hicks, Arthur, Malcus, Garys, Browns, Shorts Godwins, Chapmans, D.F. Neese and family. Mr. Jim Garrard was the father of Rev. Alan Garrard now living in Texas, also Dr. John L Garrard now practicing medicine in Rome, Georgia. A Mrs. Hicks, a widow and mother of four daughters, Emma, Mattie, Molly and Annie and one son Willie Hicks and Lasseters (out at every meeting) Dr. Wright of the Antioch Community married Miss Ida Lasseter. Miss Mary was another daughter of this family, there were two brothers, one crippled and the other blind. Miss Stella Watson, daughter of Mrs. Georgia Watson married a Mr. Crocker, Miss Rena Watson married Honorabel Clifford C. Mason, the present Ordinary of Polk County (1952) M.A. Godwin married Miss Sara Park of Antioch Community who became a Methodist at Blooming Grove. The father of one of our leading Grocery merchants in Cedartown, the Mr. H.P. Godwin Sr. Then later came the Packets, Hoopers, Harris, Isbell, Ledfords, Malcus, Kibbans, Livelys, Hatch, Hulsey, Dinglers and Flosom. Brother Gary, O.W., gives the names of some of the preachers. The early preachers: Trawick 1871, Ramsour, Moon, John Ellis, Mallory, Kennedy, Sewell, Edwards, Crowe, Green, Tatum, Howell, Warrick, Freeman, Cantrell, Shearwood, King, Free, Huckaby, Aaron, P.E. Erwin, Bowdon, Smith, Perry, Berrier, Tally. Thus Blooming Grove continues to work for social and civic righteousness having graced the homes of the leaders of the present and past. The wife of the Judge, the Doctor and also the Doctor and the preacher to go forth and bless the world around us, while our farmers and merchants provide our food across the channels of service, like the great Master, who came not to be "ministered unto, but to minister".