HISTORY

OF

CEDARTOWN FIRST METHODIST CHURCH
The Cedartown Methodist Church was reorganized in 1850 in a small storehouse built of logs. The first building stood on the spot on the corner of North College Street and Wissahickon Avenue where Mr. Trawick's residence now stands. When first organized, the church had only a few members--9 in fact.

Later, Mr. Asa Prior donated land and logs to build a church on Spring Branch, near where the Blue Springs is located. In 1852, Mrs. Mosley donated the land, an acre, on the north side of town on what now is Gordon Street, on which a one room house was erected to be used as a Methodist Church and also a school house. This acre of land was known in later years as the Negro Methodist Church property.

This spot selected was where Mrs. Annie Byrd and Family camped for the night when traveling from Dekalb County Ga. to Walker County, Ga. As was her custom, Mrs. Byrd, knelt by a large tree and prayed that God would erect a Methodist Church in Cedartown on that spot. In 1852 the church was built on the very spot where she was praying. This building was erected through the loyal efforts of Cap. Wimberly, Major Mosley, Judge Daniel C. Roberts, Noah Webster, Elija Byrd Mrs. Annie Byrd and others.

In 1856 Cedartown was a station and Rev. J.W. Trawick was appointed its first pastor. It remained a station until 1864. From 1865 to 1871 the church was combined with Cave Spring and made a half station. In 1872 and 1873 it was merged into the Cedartown and Van Wert Circuit and 1874 it was made a full station.

In 1871 the old church was sold and Mr. William Peek, father of the late Captain Julius Peek, purchased the property and gave it to the negro Methodists of Cedartown. (The brick church now occupied was built in 1871 and remodeled in 1887.)

The first parsonage was built in 1877 and after many years it was sold and the present parsonage built. The Sunday School rooms were built in 1925.

A very interesting fact has recently been furnished that will throw some light in the history given. Two brothers named Nicholas and Hardin Scales whose families were Baptist lived near Nashville near the Hermitage, Andrew Jackson's home. These men had heard about the great revival of religion that was sweeping over the country through the preaching of John and Charles Wesley at Savannah. These brothers were eager to hear the Wesleys preach, so their father gave them each a horse and saddle bags and some money. They traveled to Savannah and after
Hearing John and Charles Wesley, were converted to the Methodist faith.

They sold their horses gave their money to help carry on the great revival, took their staffs and were told to preach to the Indians and settlers on their way home, which they did. They came back through Cedar Valley and gathered together the Indians about the Big Spring in what was afterwards known as Cedartown and preached Jesus Christ to these Indians as they had heard the Wesleys preach.