

HISTORY OF FRIENDSHIP METHODIST CHURCH

In the late 1800's several of the young people in the community went to the Bethany Methodist Church to a revival being conducted by the Salvation Army. These young people realized the need for a church in the community, so they organized a church under a brush arbor on the Milner farm with seventeen members. The members met in Milner's store for two years then moved to a vacant house located on the William Eason farm. In 1892, Mr. Eason gave the church one-half acre of land for a church building. Logs were donated by people in the community and they were carried to a nearby sawmill to be cut for the new church building. Additional land was purchased from Mrs. Mollie Banks. In 1894 the church was dedicated as a Methodist Episcopal, South, Church. * Some of the charter members were Mrs. John Waller, Mr. Thad Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Lam Cox, Mr. and Mrs. Billy Cox, Mr. Lonnie Eason, Miss Lavina Eason, Mr. Bob McGarty. The families of West, ^{Babbs} Gennet, Dumas, Turner, and Milner's are some who were vital contributors to the early church. In 1936 the congregation built a new sanctuary which is still being used. Additional church school rooms were added in 1956. A new front is being added to the building at the present and additional plans are being made to enlarge the sanctuary and brick veneer the church. The Friendship Church has been on charges with Fairburn, Fayetteville Circuit, Inman-Brooks, South Bend, Jonesboro, Morrow, Riverdale, Noah's Ark, and presently with the Ebenezer Church. One of the first pastors to serve the Church was Rev. Wood. Ministers from Florida, Miss Nonoda Lewis submitted the name Friendship and it was selected for the church.