History of Mossey Creek Church

Mossey Creek Methodist Church was established in 1821. Until the first church could be built, the congregation met in a little one room log school-house. The first church built was a log building. There is not much known within these first years except a storm coming and shaking the log building so that Uncle Billy Morris braced it with pine poles and it remained this way until it was wrecked and replaced in 1873. Uncle Billy Morris was a great church man. He kept the preachers from preaching the same sermons by following them from one church to the other.

The wood frame house remained the same until 1908 when Mr. J.D. Cooley was leader in adding 10 feet to the building to meet the congregation need. Mr. Albert Dorsey and Mr. Wiley Dorsey helped to add this addition. During the lifetime of the church, it was covered four different times.

In 1936, Mr. Harrison Gillstrap built a belfry and a bell was bought from the Belton Church which had been dis-banded and torn down. Mr. T.J. Haney was Sunday School Superintendent there for many years and was attached to the bell. He moved to Mossey Creek and became a Local Preacher and church worker. Because of his affection to the bell he had it brought to Mossey Creek. Mrs. W.F. Dorsey paid $30.00 for the bell and when the Church was dedicated, the bell was dedicated to her.

In 1947, this wood-frame building was torn down and a new brick church was built. The old Church was sold to Mr. Joe Davidson for $350.00. Those serving on the building committee were: Mr. Henry Allison, Mrs. Peirce Palmer, Mrs. Steve Duvall, Mr. Carlton Black, Mr. Albert Dorsey, Mr. Frank Miller, Mr. Charlie Hamilton, Mr. Marvin Hamilton, Mr. L.Q. Meaders, Mr. Bob Hodges, Mrs. Z.T. Addington, Mr. Z.T. Addington, Mr. Lanier Meaders, Mr. Ray Meaders, Mr. Clifford Miller, Mr. Gus Sosbee, Mr. Robert Dorsey, (Mr. Robert Dorsey was forman of the work)

Memorial windows were given for Infant L.A. Skelton, Mrs. Steve Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Miller, Mr. J.B. Sosbee, Mr. Tarpley "Orsey, Mr. and Mrs "Daddy" Bill Dorsey, Mr. Hamp Autry, Mr. G.W. Dorsey and Mr and Mrs. J.M. Meaders.

The Mossey Creek community as well as White County owes much to the Mossey Creek High School which was established in about 1890. At this time it was the only high school in the county. It served so effectively that at one time there was a move under way to make it a junior branch of Young Harris. This was because of travel difficulties to Young Harris. This never became effective. The church at Mossey Creek was used by the school and they were very close companions in labor. Since this was a boarding school the Church had its part to play in the life of the students.
History of Bethel Church

Before Bethel Church was organized in 1882, services were held in the different homes. Sunday school was held in the open under the trees in pretty weather and in Ford Tate's blacksmith shop on bad days. Ford Tate was a colored blacksmith. Mrs. Furgeson was the first teacher. She walked three miles to teach Sunday School.

In 1882 the land was given to build a church by Mr. Milton Moore and the Rev. R.H. Robb was pastor when the Church was organized. Bethel Church was organized as a Northern Methodist Church due to local differences over slavery, even though slavery was not being practiced.

Those helping to organize Bethel were: Mr. and Mrs. Bazill Quinn, Mr. and Mrs. William Ferguson, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Black, J.M. Duckett and Mr. Enoc Brownlow (The leader)

In about 1907 the church began to preach the bootlegged liquor business. Mr. Enoc Brownlow was the leader in this campaign. Some of the boot-leggers broke into the church and poured gas on Mr. Brownlow's pew and set the church afire. Mr. Brownlow had his special seat in the corner. The church burned on Saturday night of Mossey Creek Camp-Meeting. Uncle Nath Thompson was preaching at camp-meeting and the next morning at service he gave the first donation of $5.00 to rebuilding the church. Rev. J.F. Allen was pastor at this time.

The church was replaced immediately but the few Sundays before the Church was completed, services were held at Duckets School House.

In 1931 the Baptist were invited to come and use the Methodist Church due to a split in a local Baptist Church. They used the Methodist Church for some six years but difficulty the Baptist built what is now County Line Baptist Church.

The church remained about the same until 1950. The Sunday School grew until the one room building did not meet the need so a building committee was appointed and met to draw up plans for additions and improvements amounting to some $2,000. Three Sunday School rooms were added, remodeled inside and new pews added.