A Historical Sketch of the New Holland Methodist Church
1901 - 1951

In the late Autumn of 1901 Mr. J. S. Brownlow, after harvesting his crop in White County, sold his farm and with his family moved to New Holland which is located just two miles from Gainesville in Hall County, Georgia.

The Pacolet Mfg. Co. of Spartanburg, S. C. had bought a large tract of land known as the Holland Springs to build a Textile plant. Hence the name of New Holland, Georgia came into existence. Mr. Brownlow was employed by the Pacolet Mfg. Co., in New Holland.

Before leaving the Zion Community of White County he asked for the transfer of his and his family's church membership from Zion Methodist Church. In the early spring of 1902 Mr. Brownlow and a local Methodist preacher by the name of Smith and a few interested Christians met in the lobby of the Holland Springs Hotel and there organized the New Holland Methodist Church. Soon after the organizing of the Methodist Church the Baptist people organized the New Holland Baptist Church. For a short time the two churches met and worshipped together in the Holland Springs Hotel, alternating their individual worship service. In the late summer the Mill Company moved two "shot gun houses" together and arranged them into a chapel for the worship services of the churches. There the New Holland Methodist Church was fully established.

From the best information we can gather the Rev. Mr. Smith served as supply pastor until the meeting of the North Georgia Annual Conference in November, 1903. The conference sent the Rev. Mr. Braselton as the first pastor in charge of the New Holland Methodist Church.

In the year of 1904 the Pacolet Mfg. Co. built the present church building located on the hill overlooking the residential section of the community and the "Plant", ever reminding us of the past and its Spire pointing skyward to remind us of God and the future. Before leaving the building may we pause long enough to thank the Company for the building and for keeping it in good repair at no expense to the Church.

Since 1904 the Methodist and Baptist have alternated their worship service, each having its own pastors. The Baptist have recently begun a building program and will by mid-summer move into their most beautiful and modern church plant. The Methodist Congregation will for the first time in its history have a full-time preaching service.

We could not complete this historical sketch without mentioning the contribution that the Jones families have made to the church. In the year of 1910 from Lebanon Church community came Mr. M. E. Jones and like Mr. Brownlow he brought the church membership of his family, placing them in the New Holland Methodist Church where he worshipped and served his Lord until he passed away some years ago. Charlie and Clifford Jones moved from the Lebanon Church to New Holland placing their membership in the church here and have added much to the progress of the Church.

Among the early Methodist families to come to New Holland and find employment with Pacolet Mfg. Co. was Rev. C. B. Allison another stalwart, christian gentlemen. He was called to his eternal home several years ago, leaving a fine family to carry the work of the kingdom on in the New Holland Church. Many others could be mentioned but space will not allow.

Since we do not have a complete record we can give names of only a few pastors who have served.

Rev. Smith
Rev. Morek
Rev. Roper
Rev. Jenkins
Rev. Swallows
Rev. J. S. Brownlow
Rev. Chandler
Rev. Nocie Garrett
Rev. E. L. Noble

Rev. I. J. Lovorn
Rev. Jessie Harwich
Rev. W. H. Venable
Rev. W. L. Bruckman
Rev. M. H. Bruckman
Rev. P. H. Stokes
Rev. B. W. McHan
Rev. S. H. Milllap
Rev. J. C. Lupo

Rev. B. W. Kilpatrick