

Brief History of Shiloh Church.

Many years ago a small group of Methodists worshipped under a brush arbor, called "The Hermitage", at a spring near Sharon Baptist church, but there is no record that they built a church there. Later, about a mile westward, they built a rectangular house with one side opening into a shed room where negro slaves sat ~~and~~ and could see and hear the preacher. The land on which it stood was deeded by Waters Briscoe and Green Dozier to four "Commissioners of the Methodist meeting house" in Sept. 1858 and the church was then called "Shiloh".

The present church was built in 1858 with space in one end for the negroes, for as late as 1890 some negroes were recognized as members.

Early in this century the pulpit was removed from center of the building to a recessed window, a partition was inserted, forming a vestibule and class rooms at front. Two more classrooms, repairs, and improved equipment have been added as needed.

Until 1897 Shiloh was served by the pastor of the Thomson church with services on 3rd Saturday and Sunday mornings. Then it was put on the Appling Circuit and later ~~was~~ changed to the Thomson Circuit.

There are 70 members enrolled now; the Sunday School, with 30 members ~~members~~, is well organized; and the W. S. C. S., which was organized in 1878, is still active.

Successive generations of Neals, Doziers, Smiths, and Tankersleys have ~~been~~ taken the lead in church activities, with many other families giving loyal assistance in carrying on God's work at Shiloh.