Gatesville Methodist Church.

In the beginning Gatesville Church was known as Friendship Methodist Church. It was founded in the year 1953 by the families of Stanley Penriff, Donald McDonald, Mr. and Mrs. Revere and Mr. Saunders.

In the beginning it was in the County Line circuit. The building was a long unceiled house with but one heat. The pulpit was boxed in and entered as the side by a door and two steps. The pews were divided by a center aisle.

Services were held one Sunday in month also a service on Saturday. The first pastor was J.M. Delia assisted by a local preacher, Abram Ennis.

In early years such men as Westley Smith, John Pate, W.J. Patillo, Leonard Rush, the grandfather of John, Charles and Frank Jenkins. Such names as C.J. Owens, J.R. Little, J.B. Hanson are called to mind.
Early presiding elders were such men as Dr. Jessie Boring, W.L. Paine, Dr. Lurke Johnson.

One preacher, Artemas Lester went from this church.

About 1885 a new and more commodious building was erected. It had a vestibule and bell tower. This house was razed and the present brick structure was built in 1917.

During the pastorate of Douglas Lewis Culloden and Gatesville were united and made a station, with two Sundays each in a month.

The first missionary society was organized about 1870 with Miss Helen McDonald President and Miss Martha Gates, secretary.

Many pastors have served this church. The present pastor is Henry Rinnard.