

Ebenezer Methodist

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Yazoo's early churches

The Ebenezer Methodist Church

When the Ebenezer Methodist Church was organized in 1828 it was located in that part of Yazoo County that later went into forming the County of Holmes in 1833.

John G. Jones, early Circuit Rider, while in charge of the Warren Circuit wrote that in the fall of 1828 he "penetrated the upper part of Yazoo County, held a two day meeting at the house of brother Rule, organized a class and appointed Burwell Scott class leader. This meeting on the waters of Cypress Creek was the beginning of Ebenezer Church."

Listed among the organizing members of the church were Mr. and Mrs. Brittain Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Hoover, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Rule, Mr. and Mrs. Burwell Scott. Also assisting was the Rev. Peter James, a brother of Mrs. Rule.

The lot, upon which a frame building was erected in 1851, was given by Charles and Nancy Hoover. Charles N. Hoover was

born in 1807 in Orangeburg District South Carolina, and came to the Mississippi Territory, in what is now Pike County, at the age of two. In 1827 he moved to Holmes County and in 1828 married Miss Nancy May of Yazoo County. They were the parents of six children. After her death he married Mrs. Elizabeth Knight in 1854 and they had eight children.

Lewis Hoover died June 30, 1842. His widow, Harriet Matchett, daughter of Edward Matchett, married second, Moses R. Cunningham in 1843. He died in 1852 and Mrs. Cunningham married Brittain Smith on July 21, 1853. Brittain Smith was born October 11, 1796 and died in Holmes County in 1862. His first wife was Elizabeth Zeigler, daughter of Jacob Zeigler. Mrs. Harriet M. Smith died January 30, 1897 at the age of 79 years, 11 months, 19 days.

Thomas Rule, born 1787 died in Holmes County July 22, 1850. He was the son of Thomas Rule of Adams County, Mississippi. He

married in 1815 Christiana James, daughter of John James. She died in Holmes County April 19, 1853. They were parents of nine children.

Peter James, was born in Pennsylvania in 1789 and died near Pickens in Yazoo County, March 16, 1869. He married in 1816, Charlotte Siddon, who died in 1851. They had eleven children, and have a number of descendants in the county today.

Burwell Scott, the class leader, died October 12, 1851 age about 69 years. Both are buried in the Scotland Cemetery near Bentonia, where rest many long prominent in helping to establish Methodism in Yazoo County.

Bibliography:

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