

METHODIST CHURCHES OF DELAWARE

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A Brief Presentation
Of
Each Known Methodist Church
In
Delaware

With
Accounts
And
Pictures
of
Most Churches

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For Delmarva History and Culture,
Salisbury University, Salisbury, Maryland,
To complement the
“Churches of DelMarVa,”
And the
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Which are on File

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The first church bell didn't satisfy the congregation and they traded it back on a new one with a mellower tone. This original structure was destroyed by fire in 1892 and the church was built anew in 1893 with a tower and steeple. [There is a picture of the church].

[Mt. Olive] Methodist Protestant Church, Delmar, DE - A Methodist Protestant congregation was formed in Delmar in 1889. A church was built on West Street beyond the Baptist Church, and the first services were held on November 30, 1889. After phenomenal growth in Membership, a new church was built in 1893 on the north side of State Street, this time, completed in November. [Collection of E. Pusey]

Division Street, DE & MD Line - This picture shows how close the Methodist Episcopal and the Methodist Protestant Churches were. The former Methodist Episcopal Church had the larger sanctuary, so regular services were conducted in it. Since then the former Methodist Protestant Church has been sold and the former Methodist Episcopal Church building completely remodeled, a work done with grace and beauty. Picture of the two churches in collection of Frank Holloway shows how close the churches were to each other so that when union came between the two branches of Methodism in 1939 it became sensible to have a single church. When the two congregations merged in 1964, the members selected St. Stephen Methodist Church of Delmar as the name of the united single congregation

Interiors of the Methodist Episcopal and the Methodist Protestant Churches - A forerunner of the eventual union of the Methodist Episcopal and the Methodist Protestant Churches was the printing of the pictures of the interior of both churches on one post card. Heat and electricity had been installed in the Methodist Protestant Church, as was its pipe organ before the picture was taken. The pipe organ was installed in the Methodist Protestant Church in May 1907. The pipe organ in the Methodist Episcopal Church was dedicated on January 19, 1899, and it seems to be flanked by oil lamps with globes, so the interior picture may pre-date the M.P. interior picture by several years.

Mt. Olivet Methodist Protestant Church



1910 Postcard - Covington Collection



2015 - Covington Collection

Zebley Mt. Olivet Methodist Protestant Church (M. P.) of Seaford. In 1831, this congregation purchased the old Bochim Meeting-House at Chapel Branch and moved it into Seaford. It was placed on a portion of the Hooper burying-ground, which is still the church site. This burying-ground was laid out for his family by Thomas Hooper, the first owner of the present site of Seaford of whom the county has any record.

The church was incorporated on February 13, 1847. A new church was built in 1862. The present brick church was built in 1897. The old church was used for the last time on May 29, 1898. The new church was dedicated on June 5, 1898, by the Rev. F. T. Tagg, D.O., assisted by the Revs. D. W. Austine and F. T. Little. All of the windows were memorial windows. A new organ was used for the first time on Easter Sunday, 1911. The organ was entirely rebuilt and was used for the first time on Sunday, July 22, 1945.

Among the old and interesting tombstones in the cemetery beside the church, the earliest is over the grave of Molly Tennent, who died on July 17, 1793. She was one of Thomas Hooper's daughters.

Scharf Mt. Olivet Methodist Protestant Church in Seaford

Not long after the Methodist Protestants began preaching in this part of the country, about 1831, the small frame church, standing on Chapel Branch, became the property of Dr. William Morgan, a prominent member of this denomination, who removed it to Seaford. It was placed on a fine site, on a lot adjoining the old Hooper burial-ground, where it stood until the present edifice took its place. On the 13th of February, 1847, the church was incorporated with a board of trustees composed of Dr. William Morgan, P. M. Rust, Samuel Lacy, Thomas J. Phillips, Henry Wallace, Tirasa Phillips and Isaiah Neal, and their successors have since controlled it.

In 1862 a new church - a frame building, thirty-two by forty-eight feet - was erected, which was placed in good repair in 1887. Its value is given at four thousand dollars.

The Seaford and the Gethsemane Methodist Protestant Church at Reliance have for many years constituted an appointment, and the ministers preaching here have been the following:

Rev. S. Taylor	1838	Rev. Samuel Raleigh	1833
Rev. G. D. Hamilton	18834-36	Rev. J. W. Krieret	1837
Rev. E. T. Boyd	1838	Rev. J. K. Miofaolt	1838
Rev. L. A. Collins	1839-40	Rev. W. W. Tipton	1839-40
Rev. O. D. Hamilton	1841	Rev. O. D. Hamilton	1842
Rev. T. Eeinick	1842	Rev. J. A. Jackson	1842
Rev. B. Adkinson	1843	Rev. J. B. Nichols	1844
Rev. J. Downing	1845	Rev. W. T. Wright	1846-47
Rev. B. Adkinson	1848-49	Rev. W. Beinick	1850-51
Rev. W. D. Hamilton	1852	Rev. T. Burton	1853-54

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Hallman Mt. Olivet Methodist Protestant Church in Seaford began its corporate life near the location of old Beauchamp Methodist Episcopal Chapel [or Bochim, as it is sometimes spelled]. Rev. William Morgan, an un-stationed Methodist Protestant minister, who was practicing medicine in Seaford for many years, and whose journal is now in the Archives Building in Dover, says that the church was organized in 1833 and that they purchased the Bochim Chapel, using it in its old location for a while, then moving it into Seaford somewhere around 1840. A new church was built in 1862. This was supplanted by the present brick church, which was built in 1898. Improvements to the building occurred in 1913 when they added a Sunday School room at a cost of \$1,200.00, in 1940, and in 1944.

[See: Bochim Methodist Episcopal Meeting-house, Seaford]

WPA-440 Mt. Olivet Methodist Protestant Church, 1847--, High Street, Seaford.

Organized and incorporated February 13, 1847. Originally it was part of Sussex Circuit; changed to Seaford in 1877. Present building was dedicated in 1897. It a brick structure with a tower and bell. There are several memorial tablets in the auditorium. The first settled clergyman was Rev. J. M. Elderdice, 1871-72.

Covington Mt. Olivet Methodist Protestant Church (M. P.) of Seaford. The following is from a History of Seaford by Shannon Willey.

Mt. Olivet Methodist Protestant Church was organized in 1830 and in 1850 the first church was built on the present Mt. Olivet land. The deed was signed and a structure erected for worship.

Mt. Pleasant Methodist Episcopal Church

Zebley Mt. Pleasant Methodist Episcopal Church (M. E.) is located five miles west of Laurel just off the Sharptown Road. This was one of the early Sussex County Methodist churches, presumed to have been built in 1780. It was known as the "Church in Broad Creek," while, at this time Laurel was known as "Broad Creek Wading-place." For many years the church was known as "Moore's Chapel." The early