

THE CHURCHES OF DELAWARE

by

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*A history, in brief, of the nearly 900 churches
and former churches in Delaware as
located by the Author.*

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were abandoned when Chaplain's Chapel was built. The land was donated by Charles Macklin and Fisher Willis. A board tent was erected and it was dedicated on July 17, 1859. The erection of a chapel was started on July 23, 1859. It was completed and dedicated in 1861. The chapel was named for the Rev. John S. Chaplain, the minister in charge of the church. There is a small graveyard beside the church. The tombstones date back to Apr. 9, 1870.

Nanticoke Hundred A. M. E. Church. This church was located four miles east of Bridgeville on the road to Redden Forest. The half-acre church site was secured from James L. Sharp, on Feb. 13, 1867, upon the payment of \$10.00. A church was built and it was quite active for several years and then was abandoned. There is nothing to mark the site which was close to the present home of John Donovan. Mr. Sharp was a famous teller of "tall tales" and was given the nickname of "Lying Jim Sharp."

Cokesbury Methodist Church (M.E.) is located three miles east of Coverdale's Crossroads. The first building was erected, partly of logs, in 1803. On Dec. 17, 1803, Wm. Swain donated a church site on the road from Evan's Saw Mill to Deep Creek, to a board of trustees. They, in turn, agreed to erect a building to be used as an M. E. Church and a day-school. When this school was opened, it became the first free school in that neighborhood. The church was incorporated on Nov. 22, 1816.

When it was decided to build a new church a deal was arranged with Walter Swain whereby he gave them the present site of 60 perches in trade for the old church and site. The new church was completed and was dedicated on Nov. 26, 1869. Mr. Swain's deed to the church was executed on Jan. 31, 1871.

There is a large cemetery across the road from the church. Land was purchased on June 10, 1893, from Noah Isaacs, Sr., with four burial plots exempt. The ornamental gateway of frame construction was built in 1915. The oldest tombstone is dated 1865.

Pepper's M. E. Church, located two and one-quarter miles west of Georgetown, was organized and incorporated on Mar. 17, 1894. The church was then built and on Oct. 13, 1894, the property was transferred to a new board of trustees. During a heavy storm on Feb. 21, 1912, it was blown down. A new chapel, on a site closeby, was completed and was dedicated on Feb. 16, 1913, by the Rev. James L. Derrickson, who did most of the carpenter work himself. The one-acre site was donated by the Georgetown Land Co., on Mar. 22, 1913. It was closed in 1929, the building was sold and is in use on a nearby farm.

Hebron Methodist Church (M.P.) is located six miles east of Coverdale's Crossroads. The church was organized in the schoolhouse where it was incorporated on Apr. 16, 1888. The church site was secured from John A. Day, on Oct. 24, 1888, with the understanding that the church would be built immediately. Through lack of interest the church was closed in 1933. Through the efforts of Virgil C. Littleton, a local-preacher, the church was reopened and is making some progress. There is a graveyard beside the church, the tombstones dating back to 1889.

Cannon Methodist Church (M.P.) was incorporated on Oct. 4, 1902. The church site was donated by James W. Ward on Nov. 19, 1902. The church was built of frame, in 1903. This building was destroyed by fire and the present