

The History of Woodland United Methodist Church

Woodland United Methodist Church is a small, uniquely located building—unique because it borders the Nanticoke River in the hamlet of Woodland, Delaware.

The land on which the church was erected was donated by Isaac and Jacob Cannon on December 10, 1832. It was deeded to seven trustees and located at the village of Cannon Ferry, Sussex County, Delaware. The church was to be named "Canton Church." The deed for the land was recorded on April 17, 1833.

It was ten years later, in 1843, when Mrs. Thomas Boling (Luanna Cannon Boling, sister to Isaac and Jacob) and her son, Jacob Cannon Nicholson, built a small house of worship for the Methodist Episcopal Persuasion. The lot on which the church was constructed adjoined the Cannon Family's burial ground. The date 1843 is on the corner of the present church's foundation. During a thunderstorm, this original structure caught fire and burned to the ground.

In 1883 the present church was built. It was originally a frame building, measuring 38ft. by 45ft. The cost of this building was \$1284.00. Two hundred dollars of this amount was paid by the Women's group of the church. The building was dedicated at the first service on August 26, 1883. The Reverend Joseph Dare was the first minister.

This building was remodeled in 1941, at which time electricity was added. The re-opening service was held September 21, 1941. By this time Woodland was known as "the church built beside a graveyard." Members of the Cannon and Nicholson families were buried in the walled-in cemetery to the right of the church building.

The congregation was industrious, and in 1925 built a social hall to the left of the church structure. Dinners were held in the hall to help with church expenses. By 1941, Woodland had a countywide reputation for its fish fry and fried chicken dinners. The very first dinner held in the dirt floored hall was shad at the cost of a quarter per person. This hall was used for 54 years and was torn down in 1979.

The church building also housed the Sunday School until 1974 when Sunday School rooms were built by the congregation and attached to the church. In 1979 the new Fellowship Hall was added, also connected to the Sunday School rooms.

July 26, 1981 is a date the Woodland congregation will long remember. An electrical fire completely destroyed the Sunday School rooms and extensively damaged the Fellowship Hall. Some damage was also done to the church sanctuary. Due to high spirits and a believing congregation, services were held the following Sunday in the church sanctuary.

Today, Woodland has had a facelift. The Sunday School rooms and Fellowship Hall have been re-built, and have been in use since December 1981. The interior of the church has also changed, with new wallpaper, carpeting, and air conditioning. The church still retains traces of its former self - the stained glass windows which came from Baltimore and were installed in 1952 remain; the original gas ceiling lamps, now electrified, still hang. There are still brackets from the original oil lamps. The woodstoves and oil burners have been replaced by a modern central heating system.

The congregation of Woodland has maintained its reputation for dinners, holding monthly chicken and dumpling dinners, buffet style, in the Fellowship Hall during the months of October, November, February, March, April and May.

The cemetery, which is a part of our history, was restored in 1982. Today, we proudly say we are Woodland United Methodist Church, the friendly little church by the beautiful Nanticoke River.

OUR CHURCH'S STORY...

Woodland United Methodist Church is a small, uniquely located building — unique because of its location opposite the Nanticoke River in the hamlet of Woodland, Delaware. On December 10, 1832, Isaac and Jacob Cannon donated the land that would soon house the church. It was deeded to seven trustees and was recorded on April 17, 1833. It was to be named *Canton Church* after its location next to Cannon Ferry.

Ten years later, in 1843, Isaac and Jacob's sister Mrs. Thomas Boiling built a small house of worship for the Methodist Episcopal Persuasion. Much to their dismay, the church caught fire during a thunderstorm. That did not stop the people of Woodland! The present church was built in 1893. Originally a frame building measuring thirty-eight by forty-five feet, it cost a mere \$1284. The Women's group of the church raised \$200 of this amount. At the first service on August 26, 1883, the first minister, Reverend Joseph Dare, dedicated the building. It was remodeled in 1941 and electricity was installed.

The congregation was industrious and in 1925 built a social hall to the left of the church. Dinners were held in the hall to help with church expenses. On the dirt floors of the hall the church held its first dinner and by 1941 Woodland had a countywide reputation for fish fry, fried chicken, and shad dinner that cost a quarter. The hall was used for forty-three years and was torn down in 1979.

The church building housed the Sunday school classes until 1974. At this time, Sunday school rooms were built by the congregation and attached to the church. In 1979, the new Fellowship Hall was attached to the Sunday school rooms. The congregation and community of Woodland will much remember July 26, 1981 when an electrical fire completely destroyed the Sunday school rooms and did extensive damage to the Fellowship hall. There was also minor damage to the inside of the church. Due to the high spirits and believing congregation, services were held the following Sunday in the church.

Today, Woodland has had a facelift! The Sunday school rooms and Fellowship Hall have been rebuilt. The congregation generously donated funds to obtain a new room for the church and other buildings in 1994. The outside of the church has been painted and storm windows have been installed. Air conditioning has been installed in the church, Sunday school rooms and Fellowship Hall. The new hell was donated in 1996 and a new gazebo was dedicated in 2002.

The members of Woodland's congregation have been growing as servants of God's Kingdom, too! The church houses an active youth group, a choir that sings beautifully for the Lord, and a congregation that joyfully gives funds to mission groups in the area. Woodland publishes a newsletter each month that reaches over one hundred fifty homes in the community! The United Methodist Women's group has remodeled the kitchen in the Fellowship Hall with beautiful state-of-the-art appliances and a new color to brighten it up. Woodland still has its reputation for holding monthly chicken and dumpling dinners from September through June.

Today we are still excited to have our Pastor, Robert D. Robinson. Pastor Bob's role in the church does not stop at being a minister. His vision for the church has been our driving force for growth. It is because of him that the Word of God reaches more and more individuals and families each year in our little community. He and his wife Betty are always open-minded to new ideas and joyfully encourage others with their support and prayers.

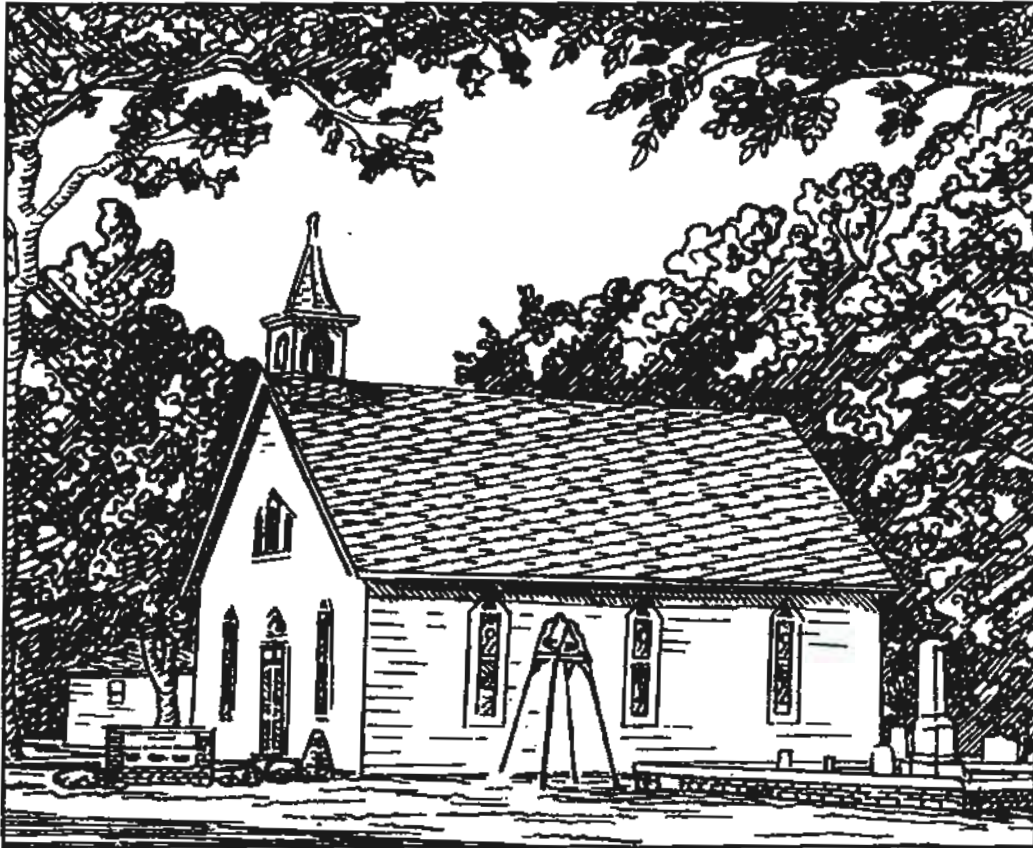
We are all very proud to say that we are the Woodland United Methodist Church, the *friendly little church by the river*.

Woodland United Methodist Church

"Enter to Worship...Depart to Serve."

**5123 Woodland Church Road
Seaford, DE 19973
302-629-5404**

Pastor Robert D. Robinson



**One-Hundred Sixty Years of Ministry to
the Community and the World.**

1843

2003

Guest List
WUMC Historical Marker Dedication

Barbara Duffin, Curator & Conference Archivist, from Barratt's Chapel
Rev. Phil Lawton, Conference Historian, from Barratt's Chapel
Katelyn Fair, Historical Markers Coordinator, Delaware Public Archives
Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith, Dover District Superintendent of the Peninsula-
Delaware Conference.
Councilman Michael H. Vincent, 1st District, President Sussex County
Council
Representative Daniel B. Short, Delaware's 39th House District
Senator Robert L. Venables Sr., Delaware's 21st Senate District

2 DRAFT

Woodland United Methodist Church
Delaware Historical Marker Dedication Ceremony
Sunday, August 24, 2014 at 10:15 AM

RGH
8/20

Welcome and Introduction of Honored Guests - Paul Birch, President of
Administrative Board

Opening Prayer - Linda Birch, Lay Minister

Special Music: *In God We Trust* Woodland Church Choir

Unveiling the Historical Marker

Dedication of Marker - Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

Closing Prayer – Rev. Richard Bridge

Woodland United Methodist Church

Land for the Church site was donated on December 10, 1832 by Issac and Jacob Cannon with the provision that a Church would then be built. This land was then deeded to seven trustees and recorded on April 17, 1833. In 1843 Mrs. Thomas Boiling, the sister of Issac and Jacob Cannon, and her son, Jacob Nicholson, built a small house of worship for the Methodist Episcopal Persuasion. The Church was to be named "Cannon Church" due to its close proximity to the Woodland area known as Cannon's Ferry. This area was home to Delaware's only intrastate ferry which was supervised by the State Highway Department. The Church was incorporated twice, first on May 18, 1833 and again on June 13, 1843. Unfortunately, the building caught fire during a thunderstorm. The present-day Church was erected in 1883 as a frame building, measuring thirty-eight by forty-five feet and costing \$1,284.00 to construct. The building was dedicated by its first minister, Reverend Joseph Dare, on August 26, 1883 during its first service. In 1925 a social hall was constructed to the left of the Church and was actively used by the congregation until its demolition in 1979. With the exception of the installation of electricity and other remodeling in 1941, the original integrity of the Church has been preserved. The Church's stained glass windows date from 1951, the original gas ceiling lamps were made electric, and the original oil lamp brackets adorn the windows. Following a devastating electrical fire in 1981, the Sunday School classrooms and Fellowship Hall were rebuilt in 1994 after a generous donation of funds by the congregation. Known as "The Friendly Church by the River" due to its location across from the Nanticoke River, the Woodland United Methodist Church continues to serve the spiritual needs of the community.

From Zebley's:

- Nanticoke River/Woodland area near the Church was known as "Cannon's Ferry" and was home to Delaware's only intrastate ferry which was supervised by the State Highway Department.
- Dec. 10, 1832, Issac and Jacob Cannon donated the site to Canton M.E. Church with the provision that the Church would then be built. It was incorporated on May 18, 1833, and again on June 13, 1843.
- The new Church was erected in 1883 and remodeled in 1941 with the reopening service held on Sept. 21, 1941.
- The Church has a county-wide reputation for its fish-fry and fried chicken suppers.
- It is a prime example of a church being built near a graveyard; next to the Church is a cemetery with a walled-in plot for the Nicholson family with stones dating back to 1811.

* check Kent Co. Mutual Ins. records
↳ churches, name or name

* x drive

Woodland United Methodist Church

- Known as "The Friendly Church by the River" due to its location across from the Nanticoke River @ Woodland. (beside?)
- Issac and Jacob Cannon donated land for the Church site on December 10, 1832. This land was deeded to seven trustees and recorded on April 17, 1833. It was to be named "Cannon Church" due to its close proximity to the Cannon Ferry. In 1843 Mrs. Thomas Boiling, the sister of Issac and Jacob Cannon, and her son, Jacob Nicholson, built a small house of worship for the Methodist Episcopal Persuasion. Unfortunately, the building caught fire during a thunderstorm.
- Built in 1883, the present church was originally a frame building measuring thirty-eight by forty-five feet and cost \$1,284.00 to construct. Electricity was later installed in 1941. ^{which ed}
- The building was dedicated by its first minister, Reverend Joseph Dare, on August 26, 1883 during its first service.
- In 1925 a social hall was constructed to the left of the church and was actively used by the congregation until its demolition in 1979. Following a devastating electrical fire in 1981, the Sunday School classrooms and Fellowship Hall were rebuilt in 1994 after a generous donation of funds by the congregation.
- The stained glass windows date from 1951, the original gas ceiling lamps have been made electric, and the original oil lamp brackets adorn the windows.

Per Zebby's:

- nanticoke River / Woodland area near church known as "Cannon's Ferry" (now where Woodland Ferry is?) and was home to Delaware's only intrastate ferry under the supervision of the State Highway Department
- Dec 10, 1832 Issac & Jacob Cannon donated the site to Canton M.E. church w/ the provision that the church would then be built. It was incorporated on May 10, 1833 and again on June 13, 1843.
- new church was erected in 1883 and remodeled in 1941 w/ the reopening service held on Sept. 21, 1941.
- county-wide reputation for its Pisk-Pry & Fried-chicken suppers
- example of a church being built beside a graveyard
- next to church is a cemetery w/ walled-in plot for the Nicholson family; stones date back to 1811.

Vol. 2 Roll 2 (Cannon Charge M.E Seaford)

and defend the above described land from all manner of persons claiming any ^{right} title, to the same by under or through them In witness whereof the said Samuel W. Forman and Stephen Forman Sons and heirs at Law of Stephen Forman Decd. by their attorney in fact Weiden Dashiell have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year just above written.

Lighted Sealed and Delivered in presence of us
John H. Ueyood, J. C. Ellip

Samuel W. Forman by attorney in fact Weiden Dashiell
Stephen Forman by his attorney in fact Weiden Dashiell

State of Delaware Superior County J. Be it Remembered, that on this twentieth day of April in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and thirty three, in open Superior Court, personally appeared Weiden Dashiell, the attorney in fact, of the Grantors Samuel W. Forman and Stephen Forman and the foregoing Indenture, and acknowledged the said Indenture to be his act and Deed, for the purposes therein mentioned, and desired that it might be recorded, In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of my office, at George Town, the day and year aforesaid.

George R. Fisher Pro:
J. P. W. Kollock Recorder

This Deed was lodged in the Recorder office in and for Superior County on the nineteenth day of April Eighteen hundred and thirty three

Deed John Loyd, Wm Powell & others Trustees From Isaac & Jacob Cannon
Indenture, made this Tenth day of December in the year of our Lord, One thousand eight hundred and thirty two, between Isaac Cannon and Jacob Cannon of Superior County, in the State of Delaware, of the one part, and

or parcel of
and confirm
and every of
Doctor Willia
and Isaac
to their accep
aforesaid, and
the said Isaac
Cannon an
the said Job
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Copies for reference only from the original
in the Custody of the Delaware Public
Archives, Hall of Records, Dover, Delaware
19901. Permission for reproduction must
be obtained.

Volume _____ Page 1

From Microfilm:

RG 4555.030

Recorder of Deeds; Sussex Co.; Deed Books
Vol. 43-44; 1833-1834

p. 234-236

John Loyd, William Powell, Doctor William Morgan, William Allen, Isaac Cannon, Henry B. Fiddeman and James Downing of the County and State aforesaid of the one part, Whereas the said Isaac Cannon and Jacob Cannon being desirous to promote religious Worship and it being expressly understood that there is to be built a House of Worship, in or at the Village of Cannon Ferry in the County and State aforesaid by the name of "Canton Church" and the aforesaid John Loyd, William Powell, Doctor William Morgan, William Allen, Isaac Cannon, Henry B. Fiddeman and James Downing having been legally nominated and appointed Trustees of the same, it becomes necessary to prepare this Indenture Witnesseth that the said Isaac Cannon and Jacob Cannon as well for and in consideration of the desire and wish for the promotion of religious Worship, as also for the better maintenance and support and preferment of the same, hath given, granted, aliened, enjoyed and confirmed and by these presents do give, grant, alien, enjoy, and confirm unto the said John Loyd, William Powell, Doctor William Morgan, William Allen, Isaac Cannon, Henry B. Fiddeman and James Downing in trust, and their Successors in office forever in trust for the use, intent and purpose that is to say, in trust for the use of "Canton Church" aforesaid, all that part of a Lot, piece or parcel of Ground, Situated in the County and State aforesaid, being part of Lot Number seven as so designated and distinguished on the Plot of said Village of Cannon Ferry, Beginning for said part at a Stone planted at the distance of Seventeen feet on the line dividing Lot Number Seven and Lot Number Eight thence running South forty five degrees West seventy four and a quarter feet across Lot Number seven to ... Station thence with the

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a quarter of an acre of Lott Number seven to a Stone, thence with the
line running Lott Number seven and Lott Number six South fifty six
degrees and thirty six Minutes East forty feet to a Stone, thence North
forty five degrees East seventy four and a quarter feet to a Stone on the
line dividing Lott Number seven and Lott Number eight, thence with
said line North fifty six degrees and thirty ^{four} Minutes West forty feet to
the first beginning together with all and singular, the improvements
rights, liberties, privileges hereditaments and appurtenances whatsoever
tenements belonging or in any wise appertaining, and the reversion and
reversions, remainders and remainders, rents, issues and profits thereof, and
all the right, title and Interest of them the said Isaac Cannon and
Jacob Cannon both at Law and in Equity, of, in and to the above
recited ground and premises, hereby given, granted and confirmed
or intended hereby so to be, and every or any part and parcel thereof, with their
and every of their appurtenances To Have and to Hold the part of a Lott, piece
or parcel of ground and all and singular other the premises, hereby given, granted
and confirmed or meant, mentioned or intended hereby so to be with their
and every of their appurtenances unto the said John Lloyd, William Powell
Doctor William Morgan, William Allen, Isaac Cannon, Henry B. Fiddeman
and James Downing in Trust for the use of "Canton Church" aforesaid and
to their successors in office forever, in trust for the use of "Canton Church" as
aforesaid, and to and for no other use, intent or purpose whatsoever, and
the said Isaac Cannon and Jacob Cannon for themselves, their heirs
Executors and Administrators, do Covenant grant and agree to and with
the said John Lloyd, William Powell, Doctor William Morgan, William
Allen, Isaac Cannon Henry B. Fiddeman and James Downing in trust

and confirmed or meant, mentioned or intended hereby to be with their
and every of their appurtenances unto the said John Loyd, William Powell
Doctor William Morgan, William Allen, Isaac Cannon, Henry B. Fiddeman
and James Downing in Trust for the use of "Canton Church" aforesaid and
to their successors in office hereafter, in trust for the use of "Canton Church" as
aforesaid, and to and for no other use, intent or purpose whatsoever, and
the said Isaac Cannon and Jacob Cannon for themselves, their heirs
Executors and Administrators, do Covenant grant and agree to and with
the said John Loyd, William Powell, Doctor William Morgan, William
Allen, Isaac Cannon Henry B. Fiddeman and James Downing in trust
and their successors in office in trust as aforesaid by these presents, that
they the said John Loyd, William Powell, Doctor William Morgan, William
Allen, Isaac Cannon, Henry B. Fiddeman and James Downing in trust
as aforesaid, and their successors in office in trust as aforesaid, shall and
lawfully may from time to time and at all times hereafter peaceably
and lawfully have, hold, use, occupy, possess and enjoy (for the use of
said "Canton Church") the said ground and premises hereby granted and
confirmed with the appurtenances thereunto belonging, free, clear, and
fully discharged, or well and sufficiently saved, kept, harmless and
secured by, from and against all former and other gifts, grants
conveyances, sales, Jointures, settlements, Dower, Estates, entails, rents, and
charges and against all former and other titles, troubles, charges
and claims whatsoever, had done or suffered, or to be had
done or suffered, by them the said Isaac Cannon and Jacob
Cannon, or any other person or persons lawfully claim,

to claim by from or under them or either of them
Isaac Cannon and Jacob Cannon have hereunto subscribed
and affixed their seals, the day and year first above written
Signed, Sealed and Delivered in the presence of } Isaac Cannon
us Mr. M. W. M. J. H. Smoot. } Jacob Cannon

The within Indenture further Witnesseth that the within named Isaac
Cannon and Jacob Cannon have constituted and appointed, and do hereby
constitute and appoint Elisha D. Cullen of Sussex County in the State of
Delaware, County and severally, their attorney or attorneys with full power
to appear for them, and in their names, and as their act and Deed, to
acknowledge the within Indenture before any Court, Judge or Justice or any
other person or persons having lawful authority by the Law of the State of
Delaware, or of any other of the United States of America or elsewhere to take
the said acknowledgment, in order that the said Indenture may be recorded
according to Law In Witness whereof the said Isaac Cannon and
Jacob Cannon have hereunto subscribed their names and affixed their
seals, the day and year within written
Signed, Sealed and Delivered in the presence of } Isaac Cannon
us Mr. M. W. M. J. H. Smoot. } Jacob Cannon

State of Delaware Sussex County ss Be it Remembered, that on the 9th day
of April Anno Domini 1855, in Open Superior Court personally appeared
Elisha D. Cullen Esquire, the attorney appointed by the said Isaac Cannon
and Jacob Cannon in the above power of attorney and acknowledged the
 foregoing Indenture for and in behalf of the Grantors in the same named
to be his act and Deed, and desired that it might be recorded. In
Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal
of my office at George Town the day and year aforesaid.

This Deed was lodged in the Recorder's Office in said Sussex County on the
Seventeenth day of April Eighteen hundred and thirty three.
George R. Fisher Pro.
J. P. M. Kellock Recorder

acknowledged the same
his name as Witness
State of Delaware }
Sussex County } Be
year of our Lord one thousand
Court personally appeared
Holy Evangelists of almighty
the hand writing of Elisha
signature thereto purports
that he is also well acquainted
Subscribing Witness to the
Witness, thereto purports
and that the said Elisha
whereof I have hereunto
at George Town, the day
This Bond was lodged
the Seventeenth day of

Deed. William
This Indenture made
right hand, Betwee
of Delaware, of the o
other part, Witness M.
Dollar, annua Curr
and delivery hereof by
said Thomas Hooper a
Contented and paid,
released, conveyed and
and sell, alien, Enjoyn
Staylor, his heirs and
or parcels of Land Ten

Woodland United Methodist Church

5123 Woodland Church Road
Seaford, DE 19973

January 20, 2014

Honorable Robert Venables, Sr.
Delaware General Assembly
Legislative Hall Office
411 Legislative Avenue
Dover, DE 19901

Dear Senator Venables:

Earlier this year the Administrative Board of Woodland UMC requested the Delaware State Archives place a Historical Marker at our church recognizing the significance of the church and adjacent graveyard in the continuing history of the Woodland Ferry and the Nanticoke River.

Katelyn Fair, Historical Markers Coordinator, contacted me that she was beginning the process for installation of the marker. DelDot's Right-of-Way crew has appropriately marked the church property. She has begun to research the church history and to draft the text for the marker.

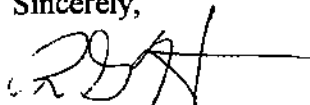
Ms. Fair noted that the funds would come from your Community Transportation Funds (CTF). We are requesting that your office begin the funding process by contacting Ms. Fair and DelDot.

We have pride in the fact that the property was deeded by Isaac and Jacob Cannon to seven trustees and recorded on April 17, 1833. In 1843 the Cannon's sister, Mrs. Thomas Boiling, built a small house of worship on this site. The present church was built in 1893.

If you have any questions, I can be contacted at robt_haught@yahoo.com or 302-629-4749.

The congregation certainly appreciates your service to the State of Delaware and looks forward to working with you on this marker.

Sincerely,



Robert G. Haught
~~Chairman~~ of Trustees

Chairperson

WOODLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH TRUSTEES

C/O Robert G. Haught, Chairperson Trustees

112 Meadow Drive

Seaford, DE 19973

E-mail: robt_haught@yahoo.com

2014 FEB 27 PM 1:31

February 25, 2014

Katelyn Fair
Historical Markers Coordinator
Delaware Public Archives

Good Morning Ms. Fair,

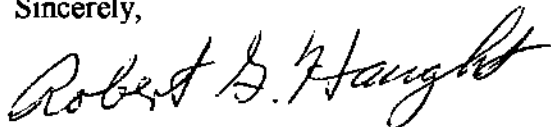
I want to apologize for not getting back to sooner, but I received a call from Senator Venables office concerning receipt of our request for a historical marker. They were going to contact you and progress our application.

DelDOT has marked their right-of-way in front of our church.

Attached is a copy of our letter to Senator Venables, to photographs and several pages of history covering Woodland United Methodist Church. The history may be duplicates of the information previously furnished.

I hope this information is complete, but do not hesitate to contact me if there is a discrepancy in the various documents. The church will be happy to review your draft of the text.

Sincerely,



Woodland United Methodist Church
 5123 Woodland Church Road
 Seaford, DE 19973

January 20, 2014

Honorable Robert Venables, Sr.
 Delaware General Assembly
 Legislative Hall Office
 411 Legislative Avenue
 Dover, DE 19901

Post-It [®] Fax Note	7871	Date *	# of pages ▶
To: <i>Geri Smith</i>		From: <i>Donnie Wood</i>	
Co./Dept:		City:	
Phone #		Phone #	
Fax # <i>739-7390</i>		Fax #	

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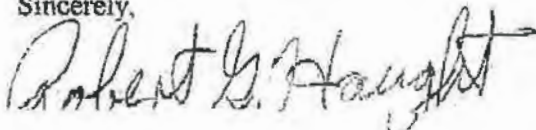
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If you have any questions, I can be contacted at robi_haught@yahoo.com or 302-629-4749.

The congregation certainly appreciates your service to the State of Delaware and looks forward to working with you on this marker.

Sincerely,



Robert G. Haught
 Chairman of Trustees

*Robert G. Haught
112 Meadow Drive
Seaford, Delaware 19973*

March 26, 2008

MS Moira Conlan
Delaware Public Archives
121 Duke of York Street
Dover, DE 19901

Dear MS Conlan:

This is reference to our telephone conversation yesterday concerning a possible historical marker for the Woodland United Methodist Church at Woodland, Delaware.

The Church is located approximately 80 yards from the Woodland Ferry slip, but our Post Office address is Seaford, Delaware.

Enclosed is the Title Page and "Our Church's Story...." page taken from the Church Directory.

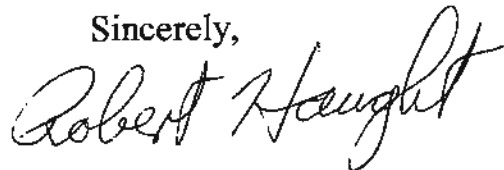
Please let me know what the next step would be after you have had an opportunity to review our history.

Of course this subject must be presented to our Administrative Board.

If you have any questions I can also be reached via robt_haught@yahoo.com.

Appreciate your reviewing the information our little church.

Sincerely,



cc: Reverend Richard Bridge - Woodland UMC
Bob English - Chairperson Administrative Board
Lee Schroeder - Chairperson of Trustees

THE CHURCHES OF DELAWARE

by

FRANK R. ZEBLEY

Author of "Along the Brandywine"



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

1947

Grove an original Mason and Dixon boundary stone can be seen close to the side of the road.

Wesley Methodist Church (M.E.) is located three miles s. w. of Atlanta. This congregation was organized in the local schoolhouse. On Nov. 18, 1861, a half-acre church site was donated by Henry Little. The deed stipulated that the building should also be used as a day-school for the white children of School District No. 138. A small church was built and it was called "Little's Chapel." A half-acre of land was donated on June 1, 1882, by Wm. W. Dashiell. A new church was erected in 1882 and it has a particularly pleasing background of trees. The dedication services were held on Sept. 23, 1883 and were conducted by the Revs. W. Underwood and J. B. Mann.

The district schoolhouse was donated to Wesley Church by the Seaford Special School District on Dec. 5, 1930. It is located to the rear of the church, facing on another road and has been converted into an attractive social-hall.

Bethel Methodist Church (M.E.) at Bethel was originally called "Sailor's Bethel." Bethel, known as Lewisville until 1880, was quite a seafaring village with several shipyards and many sea captains. The church was organized in 1852 and a building was erected in 1855. A new church was built in 1884 and it was dedicated by the Rev. J. B. Quigg. The church was incorporated on Oct. 12, 1887. The present church was dedicated in February, 1895. The old church is now on the farm of J. Garfield Moore. The church was incorporated on Oct. 20, 1932. There is a large graveyard, the tombstones of which date back to 1814.

St. John's M. P. Church, at Bethel, was built in 1858. The present building was erected in 1884. Jonathan Moore, upon his death in 1890, bequeathed a half-acre of land adjoining the church property as a parsonage site. The old church is now on the farm of J. Garfield Moore. Services were discontinued in 1902. The building was then purchased by the Ladies' Aid Society of Bethel M. E. Church and converted into a social-hall. The adjoining graveyard is still used for interments.

Mt. Lebanon Methodist Church (M.P.) at Portsville. Portsville Chapel and Academy was organized in 1832 and a frame building for church and school purposes was erected about one-half mile west of the present site. This church site was secured from James H. Phillips on Apr. 30, 1832 and the deed was executed on Feb. 21, 1834.

The present church was built, in 1868, on land donated by James W. Phillips and the name "Mt. Lebanon" was adopted. Land in the village was secured on Feb. 4, 1869, from Isaac G. Phillips and on Aug. 1, 1874, from Jesse Wright. The church was incorporated on Jan. 21, 1911. It was rebuilt in 1920 and again in 1935. There is a small graveyard, the earliest tombstones of which are dated 1875.

Mt. Calvary M. E. Church, colored, at Portsville. On Sept. 6, 1861, Samuel Spencer donated 15 perches of land, s. w. of Portsville as a church site. This church was known locally as "Spencer's Chapel." On Mar. 10, 1900, they purchased the old Dist. No. 162 school property on the southern edge of Portsville and moved the church building to this site.

Woodland Methodist Church (M.E.) is located beside the broad Nanticoke River at Woodland, which was known for many years as "Cannon's

Ferry." Here, is located the only intrastate ferry in Delaware, under the supervision of the State Highway Department. The ferry is a flat-boat of two-car capacity, powered by an automobile engine. It is guided by a steel cable that sinks to the bed of the river when the ferry has passed. It is operated from sunrise until sunset and there is no charge for crossing.

On Dec. 10, 1832, Isaac and Jacob Cannon donated the site to Canton M. E. Church with the provision that the church would then be built. It was incorporated on May 18, 1833 and again on June 13, 1843.

A new church was erected in 1883. In 1941, it was remodeled and the reopening service was held on Sept. 21, 1941. It has a county-wide reputation for its fine fish-fry and fried-chicken suppers which are served in the social-hall beside the church. In the graveyard there is a walled-in plot of the Nicholson family, the stones of which date back to 1811. This is undoubtedly an instance of a church being built beside a graveyard.

Wallace M. E. Chapel was organized and met in Quinton's School, between Laurel and Cannon's Ferry. They were incorporated on Mar. 4, 1881. No church was ever built.

Mt. Zion Methodist Church (M.E.) is located on the Du Pont Highway three miles north of Laurel. The original church was built on the road to Bethel. The congregation was organized in 1809. On May 19, Matthias and Charles Moore deeded 81 square perches of land at Manlove's Grove to a board of trustees headed by Elzy Moore. The church was built and was called "Elzy Moore's Meeting-House," until 1825, when it was given the name "Wesley Chapel." The building was of frame construction. In 1852, the chapel was torn down and the congregation divided; one group organized Sailor's Bethel at Bethel and the second group organized Mt. Zion Church. For a short time the second group met in a district schoolhouse.

The present church site was donated on Jan. 8, 1853, by Wm. Wheatly. A church was erected during that year. In 1872, the church was extensively repaired. A rededication service was arranged to be held on Nov. 3, 1872, by the Rev. Messrs. Wm. Urie, J. B. Mann and Ridgeway. The church was incorporated on Oct. 31, 1881.

Four acres of land, opposite the church, were secured from Robert T. Spicer on Oct. 4, 1918. The present church was built in 1921 and was dedicated on June 11, 1922. The old church was moved to the opposite side of the road where it is used as a social-hall. There are two graveyards, one to the rear of the church and one north of the social-hall.

Christ Methodist Church (M.P.), at Laurel, was organized in 1831. The first meetings were held in the schoolhouse. The first church was built in 1832 and a graveyard was laid out. It was located on West St., just west of the railroad where the old graveyard can still be seen. The oldest tombstone is that of Susan Townsend, who died on April 28, 1852. The church was dedicated by the Rev. Samuel Rawleigh. It was not plastered until 1841 at which time the benches without backs were replaced with comfortable seats. The church was incorporated on Feb. 4, 1843.

On May 14, 1866, a new church site on Wheat St.—now Central Avenue—was purchased from Geo. B. Phillips. The new church was completed and was dedicated on Nov. 10, 1867, by the Revs. J. J. Murray, R. Semple Rowe and L. W. Bates, D.D. The old church was sold to a negro congregation and moved to a new site. More land beside the old graveyard was purchased on Mar. 4, 1881, from Joshua H. Marvil.