

EBENEZER METHODIST CHURCH
BENTONVILLE, N.C.

The Methodist Church at Bentonville was burned during the Civil War and the church did not rebuild. Therefore; for many years a Methodist Church did not exist in Bentonville. In the late 1800's--after the war--people of Bentonville went to the Methodist Church at Newton Grove if they attended a Methodist Church. Often they would attend services at the Mill Creek Christian Church.

Eldridge Troy Westbrook moved from the Methodist Church at Newton Grove to Bentonville in the 1880's when he married and left home. For many years he went back to Newton Grove to attend church services. In the 1890's he and other leaders of Bentonville organized a Methodist Church on land donated by Chapman and Betty Cogdell. Due to the hard depression days of 1893-1895 money was scarce and the people used a brush shelter for their house of worship. In 1896 E.T. Westbrook and others furnished timber, cut the logs, and built a rectangular small church. It was very simple; the construction work was slowly performed under the able hands of Mr. George W. Edwards and others. The floors and walls were added later. The front had two doors--for the men and women to enter and sit segregated in the church. Most of the church was completed by 1900. The church is built from the original structure, and has been renovated. In 1962 we had a building program to remodel and add class rooms to the present structure. In 1965 the debt was retired and dedication services were held by Rev. M. W. Lawrence, our District Superintendent.