



THE HISTORY OF MOUNT HERMON METHODIST CHURCH

According to the late J. W. Whitehead, religious worship at the site of the Mt. Hermon Church dates back as far as 1753. The earliest record of deeds is 1834, originally recorded in Hillsboro for one acre of land sold by Henry Foust, and for two acres sold by George Albright to the trustees of the church.

The year 1790 is a date on a tombstone in the cemetery indicating that it was a burial ground at that time. And according to an inscription on a monument in the cemetery, the first member to join the Mt. Hermon Methodist Protestant Church was Nancy A. Nicholson.

It is thought that in 1829, Mt. Hermon was organized as a Methodist Protestant Church. But opinion is divided as to how the church obtained its name. Some believe it to be named after the biblical Mt. Hermon in Palestine, but others agree with Miss Sallie Stockard's story. In her book, *THE HISTORY OF ALAMANCE*, she said: "Mt. Hermon Church is named for Hermon Husbands, a prominent Quaker, who came from Maryland to North Carolina in 1751, and in 1755 married Mary Pugh of the Cane Creek community. He made a road known as the 'Hermon Road' from Cane Creek to Hillsboro, the county seat of Orange, of which this area was a part at that time. Since the church was located on the 'Hermon Road', the church was named for him."

Mt. Hermon Church

Mt. Hermon church was established in 1829, as a Methodist Protestant church. The earliest deed that has been located in Hillsboro Court House, shows that November 7, 1834 that the first "Meeting House" was organized. Early records indicate that the first building was a log building, and was used not only for worship, but for day school. A Brush Arbor was used also. A frame building was started before the Civil War, and was completed during the reconstruction days.

The frame building, which was replaced by the present brick structure, was built in 1890, Rev. John N. Garrett being the first pastor.

Early records show that Mt. Hermon was the scene of many camp meetings. At times there were as many as 85 tents, besides people attending in covered wagons. Records show that in 1829 the first Annual Conference in N.C. Methodist church was organized Feb. 1834, the Conference met at Mt. Hermon meeting house. In 1843 it met at Mt. Hermon again.

February 1949 the Mt. Hermon people realized that a new church building was needed. R.Z. Newton was the pastor of the Mt. Hermon charge at this time. Immediately the building fund was started. During the year 1956 the new building was started and completed April 1957. Rev. Auburn W. Lore delivered the message at the opening service the first Sunday in May.