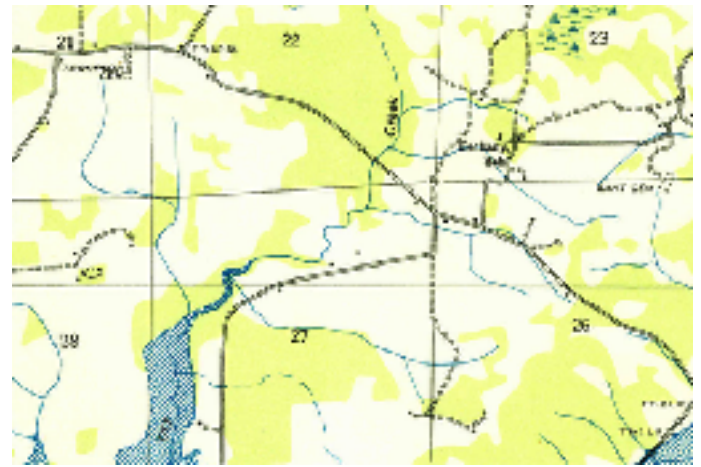


Shake Rag/Bethany School

Location: S24/T4/R6E
 Funds: \$187.20

One-teacher school. Name changed to Bethany about 1919. Consolidated with Randall's Chapel in 1925



THE DAILY SENTINEL, SCOTTSBORO, ALABAMA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 26, 1970, PAGE 5

Scottsboro Church dates back to 1800's

By CARMEN WARD

Bethany Missionary Baptist Church at Shake Rag, Scottsboro, was established in 1800 according to records of the church deacons. The land where the church stands was given to the church by Mrs. Lucinda Thompson and Mrs. George Gast, great-grandparents of the present pastor, the Rev. Sam Gast.

The original church deed which the church has in its keeping was written in script the written language of America in that day. The church is proud to have many of their early records available and still in good condition.

The early church deed was signed October 29 1804, by John H. Norwood, Probate Judge of Jackson County at that time. The church as deeded was originally named Union Grove Baptist Church. No one knows exactly when the name was changed to Bethany Baptist.

Two of its oldest living members are still active in the church. The Rev. Fred McKee, lives at Piqua, but still commutes to Bethany. Mrs. Gertrude Glass of Scottsboro is the other long-time member. Both have been members for over fifty years. The Rev. McKee will preach when called upon.

The church meets in the original building although considerable renovation has improved it through the years. Jack Franks, whose father is buried in the church's cemetery, has contributed painting and stucco to improve the church both inside and out, recently.

The church members were then motivated to further improve their church and through individual donations have added two additional Sunday school rooms, making four and tapers and cushioned their church pews.

Bethany Missionary Baptist Church members are proud of their little church which many of the members have attended since they were small children. The church has 89 members, 22 active today.

Productivity Cuts Prices

In 1950, there were more than twice as many farmers and ranchers than there are today. But farm production in terms of bushels per acre and livestock per man-hour of labor is twice the level of 1950. The dramatic increase in productivity by farmers and ranchers has helped curb increases in food prices. A willingness to use new and better techniques for production, investments in large, more efficient equipment and continual improvement in the quality of livestock and crops are the major reasons for the surge in agricultural productivity.

QUALITY GIFTS INTERIOR DECORATING

Poupart

116 S. BRIDGES

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OLDEST LIVING MEMBERS

Two of Bethany's oldest living members, the Rev. Fred McKee of Piqua, and Mrs. Gertrude Glass, of Scottsboro, have been members for over fifty years.

BETHANY CHURCH

Bethany Missionary Baptist Church at Shake Rag, established in 1800 still meeting in the original building which has been recently renovated. The Rev. Sam Gast is pastor.

