

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Methodist Church was organized July 21, 1902. The first trustees were Rudolph Hertenstein, Charles Harpstrite, Oscar Mitzel, Oscar Harper, Mrs. Barbara Singler, Philip Weiss, Joseph Arbegg, Charles Engelhardt, and Oscar Carney. The name adopted was Methodist Episcopal Church of New Baden, Illinois. This was set forth in an affidavit by Z. J. Farmer, a minister from Trenton, and notarized by George J. Monken, Notary Public, on August 25, 1902; it was recorded with the County Recorder of Deeds August 26. In the same year Rudolph Hertenstein deeded the ground on which the first church stood to the church. It was located directly across the street to the east of George Hertenstein's present home.

The first minister was Reverend Matthews. The organizations of the church were: Ladies Aid—now the Gleaner's Class, Epworth League—now Methodist Youth Fellowship, and the Men's Class.

The present church was built in 1922 and the minister is Reverend Guy Watson. The church board is made up of the trustees and the stewards. The trustees are Dr. E. C. Asbury, Orville Phillips, Ed Dagit, Earl Gildig, John Dagit, Oscar Poos, and George Hertenstein. The stewards are Charles Cook, Gus Laux, Matt Berberich, Josephine Asbury, Hilda Kennedy, Lily Watson, Vivian Hertenstein, Margaret Poos, Amanda Dagit, John Weatherford, and Robbie Odom.

New Baden Centennial Book, 1855-1955, page 21.