## Rev. Ford founded Trenton First United Methodist Church

The First United Methodist Church of Trenton, Tenn., was founded in 1827 by Olive Branch and the first pastor and "founder" Rev. John Ford. The congregation initially met in the log courthouse until their first church was built on the corner of First and Church St. in 1834. It was constructed by Thomas Fite, the county's first settler. It was then known as the Trenton Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

After the Civil War, plans were made to build a new church, so a plot of land was purchased on the corner of College and Fourth St. for \$300. This new building was completed in 1870 and became the first brick church in Trenton.

In 1897, the church's vestibule and bell tower were added. Since then, educational rooms and a fellowship hall have been built.

Over the years, the church has had a total of 73 pastors; Dr. Phillip Cook currently preaches.

First United Methodist is a warm and welcoming church and they encourage anyone to attend and share their love and faith. They indeed live up to their creed of "Open hearts, open minds, and open doors."

Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. followed by worship at 10:50 a.m. on Sunday mornings. They also have a Wednesday night service beginning at 5:30 p.m.





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