

Brief History of the 1st Methodist Church, City of Clayton, Clayton County, Iowa

The building of the 1st Methodist Church was started in the winter of 1891 and finished in the spring of 1892 on lot 1, block 9 and lot 1, block 10 in Clayton, Iowa, for \$225. The land was sold by John & Eliza Kuempel to the Trustees of the Methodist church: Elisha Griest, J.H. Buhlman, George Beacom, Horace Jenkins and John G Bass. Previously the Kuempel Blacksmith & Carriage Shop had stood on this property.

The Congregation itself was already in existence since in 1882, but met in the schoolhouse until they had a church building.

The final minutes of the 1st Methodist Church of Clayton were dated June 15, 1894. It is stated that at that time services were limited to once in two weeks, weekday evening.

The Picture Postcard of the Methodist church is dated 1914.

The deed to the 1st Methodist Church was transferred from the Upper Iowa Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church to the Evangelical Lutheran Peace Congregation of Clayton on November 29, 1924 for \$800.

The building continues to serve the Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church of Clayton where services are held weekly year-round.

Sources: Clayton County History 1882; Gem of the Prairie pg 190; Louise Liers Clayton History Picture Book courtesy of Kent Werges; Information available from Vicki Spiker

Compiled 2-3-2017 by Jane Thein, Garnavillo Historical Society