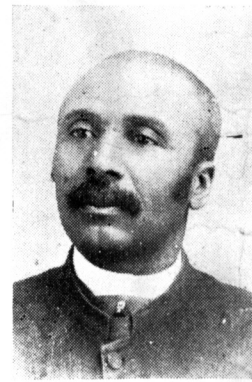


Bethel A. M. E. Church,

Easton, Talbot County, Maryland.



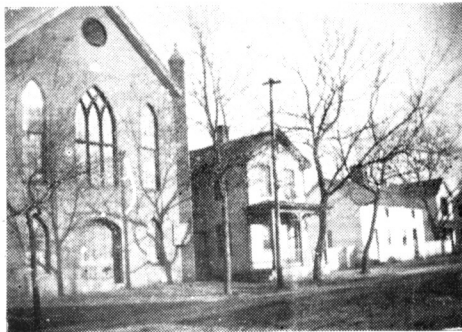
RT. REV. JAMES A. HANDY, D.D.,
Bishop of the 2nd. Episcopal Dist.



REV. CHARLES H. YOUNG,
Pastor of Bethel A. M. E. Church,
Easton, Md.

The first colored church in Easton, Talbot county, Maryland, was organized in 1818, on South street, after hearing a sermon from an African Methodist preacher, who preached in the street from a horse cart. The organizers were Rev. Shadrach Bassett, Joseph Chain, Washington Dorrell, A. Harkless, Jacob Howard, Sol. Benson, Perry Chase, A. Harris, Henry Newman, Levin Henry, Pollard Hazzard, J. Dobson, Perry Dobson, Abram Dobson, Wm. Dobson and Chas. Dobson. Slavery prevented preachers from the Baltimore Conference from serving as pastors from 1818 to 1849 when J. Edward Hawkins was appointed as the first regular pastors serving two years.

The first building purchased was a carpenter's shop which was sold to the organization by a Mr. Cochran, a good Christian Quaker, who lived on Hansom street, opposite the shop in a large brick building. After some little alteration, the building was dedicated by Rev. Bassett. The text was from Matt. 16: 18. "Upon this rock I build My church and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it." Freeholders only could hold property, hence the property was deeded to Joseph Chain a large property holder. Some years afterward he failed and the property was sold by his creditors. The clerk of the court being in sympathy with the organization purchased the church property and sold it to the organization, and secured a charter for them. A solid and a permanent organization under the African Methodist Episcopal connection was thus built up.



BETHEL A. M. E. CHURCH AND PARSONAGE.

INCORPORATORS:
[All local preachers.]

- JOS. CHAIN,
- WASHINGTON DORRELL,
- JACOB HOWARD,
- A. HARKLESS,
- SOL. BENSON,
- PERRY CHASE,
- A. HARRIS,
- HENRY NEWMAN,
- LEVI HENRY,

Local Deacons:
FORWARD HAYARD,
CHAS. DOBSON,

A few years later the following local preachers joined them:

- J. DOBSON,
- ABRAM DOBSON,
- WILLIAM DOBSON,
- PERRY DOBSON,
- HENRY JAMES,
- JOSEPH MILLER,
- GARRISON WELLS,
- JOSEPH GRAY,
- CHOICE STEVENS,
- RICHARD MACKAY,
- HORACE THOMAS,
- ROBERT BRYANT,

BISHOPS:

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| RICHARD ALLEN, | MORRIS BROWN, |
| EDWARD WATERS, | WM. PAUL QUINN, |
| WILLIS NAZREY, | D. A. PAYNE, |
| A. W. WAYMAN, | J. P. CAMPBELL, |
| JAMES A. SHORTER, | THOS. M. D. WARD, |
| J. M. BROWN, | H. M. TURNER, |
| WM. F. DICKERSON, | R. H. CAIN, |
| R. R. DISNEY, | W. J. GAINES, |
| B. W. ARNETT, | B. T. TANNER, |
| A. GRANT, | B. F. LEE, |
| M. B. SALTER, | J. A. HANDY, |
| W. B. DERRICK, | JOSEPH H. ARMSTRONG, |
| | JAMES C. EMBRY. |

Pastors who filled the appointment
from 1818 to 1900.

- REV. J. EDWARD HAWKINS,
- " SAMUEL WILMORE,
- " SAMUEL WATTS,
- " JAMES R. STERRETT,
- " S. P. BAYARD,
- " WM. W. GRIMES,
- " R. F. WAYMAN,
- " THOMAS M. HENRY,
- " WM. H. BROWN,
- " JACOB NICHOLSON,
- " GEORGE M. WITTER,
- " J. R. HENRY,
- " DANIEL RIDEOUT,
- " WILLIAM H. SMITH,
- " ARTHUR JONES,
- " WILLIAM M. JOHNSON,
- " JOSIAH HUGHES,
- " A. WOODHOUSE,
- " JAMES T. MORRIS,
- " DANIEL DRAPER,
- " J. P. COX,
- " W. D. W. SCHUREMAS,
- " HENRY HUTTEN,
- " CHARLES BOURNE,
- " J. W. DIGGS,
- " S. H. COOPER,
- " J. B. WARNER,
- " GEO. W. NICKLAS,
- " C. H. YOUNG.

