

History of Belden United Methodist Church, Belden, Mississippi

Belden United Methodist Church is a historic congregation in Belden, Mississippi, with roots dating back to **January 1, 1892**, when it was formally established. It is part of the **Mississippi District** within the **Southeastern Jurisdiction** of the United Methodist Church.

Early Years and Community Role

Founded in the late 19th century, the church served as a spiritual and community hub for the Belden area. Its early years were shaped by the Methodist tradition, emphasizing worship, education, and outreach. The congregation has long been committed to nurturing a diverse and welcoming community, encouraging members to “follow fearlessly wherever God is leading” and to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

Decline and Closure

By 2023, the congregation had ceased active ministry. The church was officially **closed on June 30, 2023**, with no reported attendance or active programs in that year. This closure likely reflects broader trends in rural congregations, where declining membership and resources have led to consolidation or closure.

Legacy

Despite its closure, Belden United Methodist Church remains a part of the Methodist heritage in Mississippi, with a history tied to the growth of Methodism in the state. Its founding in 1892 places it in the same era as many rural Methodist churches that helped shape the religious and social fabric of small towns in the South.

If you are researching local history or genealogy, Belden’s church records, cemetery records, and community yearbooks may be accessible through **Lee County and Mississippi historical resources**

Source: LDS Genealogy