

**Pleasant Green Methodist Church**  
**Pleasant Green United Methodist Church**  
*Pleasant Green, Missouri*

*Dan Clark, Pastor*  
*First and Third Sunday each Month*  
*10:15 Worship Service*

<b>Township:</b>	T-47-N	<b>Organized:</b>	1825
<b>Range:</b>	R-19-W	<b>Disbanded:</b>	No
<b>Section:</b>	34	<b>Active:</b>	Yes
<b>Map:</b>	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	<b>Updated:</b>	July 19, 2005

**Cemetery:** There is a cemetery associated with this church.

**Area:** Northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of the section. Pleasant Green, Missouri.

**Records:** The location of the church records is unknown at present.

**History:**



Photograph From "The Pilot Grove Centennial 1873 - 1973"

**Pleasant Green Methodist Church**  
**From "The Pilot Grove Centennial Book 1873-1973"**

The Pleasant Green Methodist Church was organized in 1825 by M. B. Evans and a group of people in the Walker neighborhood. Charter members were: Winston Walker, Polly Walker, Samuel Walker, Nancy Walker, Peter B. and Sallie Cockrell, Laban and Lucy Johnson, Samuel and Margaret Forbes, and Ruben Walker.

This group held religious services in their homes until a log meeting house was built in 1826 which was the first Methodist Church west of St. Louis County. The second church building was erected in 1836. The present one was built in 1868 and was dedicated by Dr. McAnally.

During 1954-60, the interior of the church was remodeled and redecorated through the Lord's Acre Plan. In 1959, a church kitchen and dining area was erected near the church. Double

doors, a new concrete porch, and steps were added in 1960. The Rev. Louis Odneal is the pastor”

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**Pleasant Green United Methodist Church  
From "Memorabilia of Cooper County", 1990**

In 1823, Samuel Walker arrived, the owner of a large federal land grant of land located in the southern part of the Clear Creek area. The grant was of several thousand acres in that part of Cooper County which now lies south of State Highway 135, north of U.S. Highway 50 and east of Lamine River. The following year, other members of the Walker family arrived. Judge Smith Walker built a large brick home in a small valley and named his new home Pleasant Green. This name was later applied to a small town which was soon established.

In 1825, several families were called together to establish a new church, and the Pleasant Green Methodist Church was officially organized. The newly formed congregation met in various homes of its members until 1826, when a log meeting house was erected a few hundred yards from the Walker home. This log meeting house, according to the "History of Missouri Methodism", was the first Methodist Church building erected for worship west of St. Louis.

The Pleasant Green Log Church proved too small and was dismantled in 1836 and a larger building was built. The Pleasant Green Cemetery was established near the church building and is still maintained. In thirty years the new building also proved inadequate and a new, larger structure was built in 1868 and is still in use today.

The Women's Society was organized in 1920. It has maintained an active program through the years and today continues its dedicated work as the United Methodist Women.

In 1954-1960 the interior of the church was remodeled and redecorated through the Lord's Acre Plan. In 1959 a church kitchen and dining area was erected near the church. Double doors, a new concrete porch and steps were added in 1960.

The church is located on Missouri Highway 135, eight miles south and four miles west of Pilot Grove, Missouri and one mile west of Pleasant Green. Charles Jordan is the present pastor.

by Mrs. Virgil Wolfe

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**Pleasant Green Methodist Church Organized in 1825  
From "Memorabilia of Cooper County", 1990**

The Pleasant Green Methodist Church was organized in 1825 by M.B. Evans and a group of people in the Walker neighborhood.

Charter members were Winston Walker, Polly Walker, Samuel Walker, Nancy Walker, Peter B. and Sallie Cockrell, Laban and Lucy Johnson, Samuel and Margaret Forbes and Ruben Walker.

**First Methodist Church in Area**

This group held religious services in their homes until a log meeting house was built in 1826, which was the first Methodist church west of St. Louis county. The second church building was erected in 1836 and the present one in 1868, and it was dedicated by Dr. McAnally.

The Clear Creek township was settled about 1816 by Isaac Ellis, Alex Brown, and Mr. Scott. In 1823 Samuel Walker and his father Winston Walker arrived, followed in a short time by other members of the Walker family. Judge Smith Walker settled on the farm now owned by Mrs. J.H. Schlotzhauer, and named his home Pleasant Green. Later the church and town here were given the same name.

On July 2, 1950, this church celebrate its 125th anniversary with a large crowd attending. Judge Roy D. Williams of Boonville gave the historical address. The Rev. H.A. Wood, pastor, conducted the worship service.

### **Methodist Church Organized 1825**

A missionary society was organized Jan. 20, 1920. Mrs. Zeverly district secretary, and the Rev. G. L. Coffman were present to assist with the plans. There were 19 charter members and by the close of 1941 there were 44 members. In 1940 the name was changed to Woman's Society of Christian Service. It is estimated that during the 32 years of service this group has collected more than \$7000 which has been used for the church, community, and in foreign fields. An old Bible used in the church more than 100 years has recently been rebound and placed on the pulpit by the Woman's Society of Christian Service.

Pastors who have served this church since 1908 were: W.D. Kelley, Lawrence Orr, U.V. Wyatt, G.L. Coffman, E.I. Ailor, J.R. Scott, Powell Cain, S.P. Cayton, Herman Thylor, T.A. Huffine, H.S. DuBoise, J.S. Bottoms, William Sampson, C.B. Young, Gunning Beery, Ray Biggers, H.A. Wood, and E.L. Rathert.

One of the former members, the Rev. W. M. Eckerle, has been preaching for several years. He now has half time pastorate at Wesley Chapel, Methodist church near Holden, and half time pastorate at the Blackburn Methodist church. Mr. Eckerle makes his home in Sedalia.

by Mrs. W.B. Woolery

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### **Pleasant Green Methodist Church**

#### **From "Cooper County Church Sketches" by F. Chesnutt, 1993**

Pleasant Green Methodist Church is recognized as the oldest Methodist congregation west of St. Louis. It began among the Walker, Cockrell, Johnson and Forbes families who held services in their various homes in the early 1820's. Under M.B. Evans they formally organized in 1825 and built a log church on 1 1/2 acres donated by Winston and Polly Walker behind their home, called Pleasant Green after an earlier home in Virginia.

As the neighborhood grew the log church, located at the intersection of two trails, was dismantled and a larger one built in 1836. This building proved too small as a letter in 1863 mentions that "protracted meetings" (where 21 were confirmed at the event) were held in the schoolhouse to the East.

In 1868 the present structure across the road was dedicated by Rev. David R. McAnally (co-founder of Central Methodist College) on 1.7 acres donated by Addison and Margaret Walker, for "the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church South." Early sketches show a bell tower and separate doors for men and women which were eliminated in the 1900's renovation. The Civil War caused a rift; many ministers did not sign the Loyalty Oath and were prevented from preaching. The union of the Methodists, North and South, did not occur until 1939.

The old Pleasant Green Cemetery where the church first stood contains burials of five Confederates and one Union veteran as well as many negro slaves. The oldest legible tombstone, of John Wesley Walker, is dated 1836.

The Pleasant Green churchwomen met in 1920 and organized a Women's Missionary Society. A Mrs. Zeverly, then the District Secretary for Methodist Women, and the congregation's pastor, Rev. G.L. Coffman, assisted. The charter members included Mrs. J.H. Schlotzhauer, Mrs. James Coe, Mrs. C.W. Decker, Mrs. H.D. Schlotzhauer, Mrs. John Gibson, Mrs. George West, Mrs. Raymond Hurt, Mrs. A.G. Wolfe, Mrs. Riley Phillips, Mrs. J.H. Parrish, Mrs. Hob Stephens, Mrs.

Ewing Hurt, Mrs. James Stephens, Mrs. Jesse Tavenner, Mrs. J.C. Tavenner, Mrs. Lela Tutt, Mrs. Mahlon Tavenner, and Miss Carrie Baslee.

An iron fence was purchased to enclose the old and new cemeteries in 1929 from Stewart Iron Works Company. By the time the church celebrated its sesquicentennial in 1975, a kitchen area had been added to the south.

In 1989-90 the church auditorium was sub-divided to provide Sunday School space.

The Pleasant Green Churchwomen still meet once a month with Mrs. Aubry Schlotzhauer as president.

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[www.mogenweb.org/cooper](http://www.mogenweb.org/cooper)