

## **A BRIEF HISTORY OF FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SLOCUM TWP, PA**

Beginnings of Faith United Methodist Church go back to the village of Wapwallopen in 1847. Two preachers from the Evangelical Association of the old Columbia Circuit established a preaching point at Wapwallopen. In 1859 a Union Church was built on Slocum Road in Slocum Township near the present baseball diamond, and the Evangelical preachers began holding their services there as well as the Reformed and Methodist congregations of Slocum.

On January 19, 1869 the Slocum Evangelicals officially formed their own congregation. The first minister was Rev T. M. Morris and they continued to worship in Union Church until 1890 when they constructed their own church building nearby, the present sanctuary of the Faith United Methodist church, on land donated by Priscilla Myers Hoch Jones. In 1937 the Evangelical's church building was expanded using picks and shovels to add a basement under the sanctuary. Electricity was added in the 1930's.

In 1947 the Evangelical and United Brethren in Christ denominations (both German with Methodist roots) merged to form the Evangelical United Brethren and we became the Slocum E.U.B. Church. Then in 1968 the E.U.B. and Methodist denominations merged to form the present United Methodist Church and Slocum E.U.B. was re-named Faith United Methodist, part of a West Nanticoke Charge.

Building expansion took place in 1971 when Faith added the Sunday School wing and Dining Hall. In 1973, the Slocum Charge of the Methodist Church was formed bringing Faith, Slocum & Stairville churches under the leadership of one pastor, at that time living in a rented house. Then in 1978 a Parsonage, built entirely by the men of the congregation, was completed next door to Faith Church, insuring for the first time our Pastor would reside in Slocum Township.

In 1988 Slocum Church went on its own and Faith & Stairville merged to form New Hope. Slocum has since re-joined to become the current three church New Hope United Methodist Charge. We believe God will continue to use our churches to serve this community, in His Name, for a long time to come. All are welcome to join us in service to the Lord.