

Chronology of Alabama Methodism

- 1808 Methodism first enters Alabama through circuit riders Matthew P. Sturdivant and James Gwinn of the Methodist Episcopal Church (MEC)
- 1829/1830 Alabama Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church (MPC) organized
- 1832 Alabama Conference of the MEC organized to include all of Alabama (not included in the Tennessee River District of the Tennessee Conference), West Florida, and 8 ½ counties in east Mississippi
In 1832 the part of north Alabama in the Tennessee Conference included that north of the Tennessee River plus Franklin, Colbert, Lawrence, Morgan and Marshall Counties. East Alabama opened up with Creek Indian cession.
- 1846 Southerners secede from the MEC over issue of slavery and establish the Methodist Episcopal Church, South (MEC, South).
Alabamians organize the Alabama Conference of the MEC, South.
- 1867 Alabama Conference of the MEC organized by missionaries sent south after the Civil War, primarily in northern Alabama among those least attached to secession
- 1870 North Alabama Conference of the MEC, South, organized
- 1870 Black members of MEC, South, receive permission to form their own denomination, the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church (CME). In 1954 name changed to Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
- 1876 Central Alabama Conference of the MEC organized exclusively for blacks, splitting the MEC along racial lines ~~this~~ in response to black desires for greater self-direction and white desires for racial separation
- 1939 MEC; MEC, South; and MPC unite to form the Methodist Church
- 1968 Evangelical United Brethren join the Methodist Church to form the United Methodist Church