

1
Origin and Subsequent History of New Hope Bethel
Baptist Church in East Texas

By

Belva Vickers Beall

1 The New Hope-Bethel Baptist Church in East Texas

is thought to be the first Missionary Baptist Church in ^{Texas} this area. It is located $\frac{1}{4}$ mile off Hwy 87, 4 miles north of Milam. Earliest name of the Church was Bethel. Why it was later changed to New Hope no one seems to know. Its membership likes to retain both names. However as a member of the ^{Southern Bapt Convention} SBC ~~association~~ ^{part} of The Sabine Valley Ass'n, it is known as New Hope.

2 This Church was begun as a mission station in the winter of 1818-1819 by Elder Wm. Cook of Nacogdoches, La.

Note: "Footsteps of the Flock or origin of La Baptists" written by Elder Ivan Wise of Estherwood, La. in 1910