

## A HISTORY OF THE CARROLLTON METHODIST CHURCH

Nearly a century ago, in 1846, when our present flourishing city was a very small village, there was no church here, and a few of the enterprising citizens, realizing the necessity of a church building, erected the old barn like Methodist Church on Alabama Street, which was used for a place of worship for the Methodists, Baptists, and Presbyterians for an indefinite length of time. The bell, which called the little flock together, hung in a tree in front of the church, and furnished music for the west side of our quiet little village.

The Church yard around it, in other days, was shaded by a grove of old cedars, and in it lies the sacred dust of some of our sainted dead. Some of them were veterans of the War Between the States, one of whom was my honored father, Judge J. M. Blalock, a Christian and one of nature's noblemen.

Although the membership of the church was small, and the building unpainted and unattractive, the Conference always sent us good preachers, such as Dr. J. W. Lee, W. J. Scott, W. F. Quillian, and others, who have long since passed over the river and are resting under the shade of the trees.

This old Church was used for about forty-five years, and as the little town grew and the membership increased, it was decided to build a nicer and more centrally located Church, and in 1880, a more modern church building was erected on the lot where this church now stands. We were still being served by the best preachers in the North Georgia Conference.

D. L. Anderson, who was once pastor here, afterwards went to China, as I remember.

Carrollton became a station in 1875, and has had full time appointments for more than 65 years. Some one handed me a list of the names of the pastors serving the Carrollton Church since it became a station until the present time: - I'll pass them on to you: -

Rev. John W. Stipe	1875
" W. F. Quillian	1876-77
" D. D. Cox	1878
" J. W. Lee	1879-80
" D. L. Anderson	1881
" J. S. Bryan	1882
" W. J. Scott	1883-84 (did not remain through 1884)
" John W. Heidt	1884 (supplied after Rev. Scott left)
" A. W. Quillian	1885-86-87
" A. M. Thigpen	1888-89 (Rev. Thigpen died in 1889 and was followed by Rev. Heard)
" P. A. Heard	
" W. R. Foote	1890-91
" J. W. Parker	1892
" A. G. Worley	1893
" C. C. Cary	1894
" G. W. Duval	1895-96

Rev. W. L. Pierce	1897-98
" J. R. McClesky	1899-1900
" H. J. Ellis	1901
" J. R. Lewis	1902
" W. B. Dillard	1903 4 years
" Wm. Dunbar	1908
" A. W. Guillian	1909-10
" R. A. Edmondson	1911 4 years
" A. M. Pierce	1915-16
" W. T. Hamby	1917
" W. H. Cooper	1918-19
" J. P. Erwin	1920-22
" J. G. Logan	1923
" Frank Quillian	1924-26
" Irby Henderson	1927-29
" B. F. Frazer	1930-32
" W. H. Clark	1933-35
" H. C. Emory	1936-38
" C. W. Haynes	1939
" Zach Hayes, Jr.	1940-42

This list does not include the Circuit preachers, sometimes called the Carrollton Mission, of whom there were about 22, who served part time from the building of the old Church on Alabama Street. The first one to serve in 1846-47 was Rev. W. B. Moss.

The membership grew and the good work went on in this second building for about twenty-five years when it became apparent that a larger building was necessary, so the wooden church was dismantled and moved to Hewlett, a small settlement a few miles from town, and in 1904, our present beautiful church was started, while Rev. W. B. Dillard was pastor, with the following building committee: C. H. Stewart, Chairman, W. O. Baskin, Treasurer, C. M. Tanner, J. S. Travis, J. T. Bradley and R. F. Hyatt.

In 1904 Bishop Candler presided at the laying of the corner stone, and 1906 when he preached the dedication sermon.

One thing has always called for another, and our beautiful auditorium began to call for a pipe organ, and a committee of ladies, composed of Mrs. C. F. Stewart, Mrs. L. K. Smith and Mrs. Warren Meadows got busy, with the result that we have a good John Brown organ (the 1st one in town) to the music of which we have sung the songs of Zion through the years.

Time passed on, as time will you know, and the town grew and the membership increased, and it was found that our Sunday School quarters in the basement were inadequate for carrying on class work successfully, and with the progressive spirit of our membership, it was determined two years ago, 1940, to build sufficient room for all purposes, and on August 12th the first dirt was broken and a number of us did a little shoveling, and on October 6th, the corner stone was laid.

And so we have this lovely S. S. building, with all necessary classrooms, dining room, and all modern equipment, costing approximately \$2,500.00, all paid!!

Our fellow townsman, Charlie Tanner, started the subscription with the modest gift of \$5000.00, and other subscriptions began to roll in, with Mr. Hayes constantly on the job.

Things were placed in the corner stones of these buildings which may be interesting to future generations, if they should ever be opened up.

Each of these Methodist Churches had parsonages which compared favorably with the Churches they were built for. The present parsonage for this Church on Newman Street, has fourteen rooms, and is too large for any preacher's family except Mr. Dillard's, who had 13 children. Mr. Edmondson had charge of the building when he was pastor here and probably had an eye to the future.

And so today we are proud of our church buildings, in which we can study the Bible and worship Almighty God, and we are happy and honored to have with us our Bishop Moore, and some of the Ministers who have served our church so faithfully in other days.

And to the visitors who were interested enough to come and celebrate with us, we extend the glad hand, and invite you to move to Carrollton and live with us, and worship in this Holy Temple.

[Compiled by Mrs. W. M. Meadows and read by her at the dedication of the new Church School Building, October 11, 1942]

[Attached Statement #1]

AFFILIATION WITH ANY EARLIER GROUP OR CHURCH

The next year after Carroll County was chartered (1827), in the summer of 1828, the traditional "first" organized religious group in the county was Methodist. It was formed by James Baskin and had 13 members. Immediately a church house was built, hewn logs from the forest used. It was a member of the "Carroll-Coweta Mission", Athens District, South Carolina Conference. Dabney P. Jones was the first officially appointed pastor. In 1829, the appointment was Simeon L. Stephens. In 1830, the "Carroll Mission" was set apart from Coweta, changed from Athens to Columbus District, still South Carolina Conference. In 1831, Georgia became a Conference.

[Attached Statement #2]

DATE ENTRANCE INTO CONFERENCE, PASTOR THEN

In 1834, the Georgia Conference Minutes recorded "Carrollton" (sic) for the first time. The pastor was W. Graham.

As Carrollton grew, for a number of years worship was carried on at the Courthouse. The Methodists of Carrollton erected the first town house of worship in 1847. It made at that time an "official" entrance into Conference. The pastor that year was J. Blakely Smith; the Presiding Elder, James B. Paine. There were 648 white members and 58 colored.

[Attached Statement #4]

LOCATION OF EARLIER HOUSES, ETC.

The first church was erected in 1847 on a lot in the western sector of Carrollton on the corner of Alabama Street and Highway 27 (now called). The purchase of the land was made according to the directive of Quarterly Conference by three Trustees: Patterson G. Garrison, Washington T. Parker, and Thomas B. Espy. The land cost \$50.00 and measured 156' by 219'. It was a wooden, unpainted structure.

The second Carrollton church structure followed two purchases of land on Newnan Street in downtown Carrollton in the second block off the center of town. The first purchase was made of John Rodohan on February 24, 1881, at a Sheriff's sale before Carroll Courthouse and consisted of a lot 85' (front) by 150' deep, costing \$150.00.

The second church building in Carrollton was constructed immediately thereon - a wooden structure never painted.

On June 30, 1904, trustees acting according to directive of Quarterly Conference, purchased an additional adjoining lot to the west, from Eli Benson, a colored man who ran a livery stable. That same year, a stone church was constructed, made of stone quarried just southwest of Carrollton in Carroll County. The old building was dismantled, sold to Will McClendon of Hulett, a small community five miles due east of Carrollton. He rolled the parts away via wagons to the center of Hulett, where he built a house of the old church. (This house later burned to the ground.)

Two additions have been made to the church now in use. The Church School program has been accommodated by this. The first was in 1940, the corner stone reading: "First Methodist Church Education Building 1940". The second was in 1954, the corner stone reading: "First Methodist Church School Building Annex, 1954." The latter addition is particularly fine as a chapel was included, which is in constant use.

The first parsonage was a one-story structure, located on Lot #18, 1st Section on the City map bounded on the east and north by avenues and on the west by a street (now Highway #27, then called "Spring Street") leading from the cemetery to Crystal Spring, on the south by Lot #17, owned by Mandeville and West, very close to the land owned by the M. E. Church South, North Georgia Conference, purchased at the direction of Quarterly Conference, called the "Property of Carrollton Station." It was sold on November 18, 1889, to James P. Moore.

[Attached Statement #4 continued]

A new parsonage was built circa 1900 on land purchased within two blocks of the new church lot - two blocks east, two blocks north - on the northeast corner of Cedar and North White Streets. This was a one story wooden structure, which was sold in 1910 when by directive of Quarterly Conference a new, larger parsonage was built at 537 Newnan Street to accommodate the large family of R. A. Edmondson, assigned to Carrollton as pastor that year. It was a two-story white framed building.

In 1947-48 a new attractive brick parsonage was built on land purchased at the northwest corner of Cedar Street and Jones Avenue, ready for the pastor's family in 1948.

In 1969 a breezeway to the carport was enclosed, the double carport was remodeled to make a playroom and utility area, and considerable improvements in general were made. A small carport was added. There are nine rooms now in this parsonage.

It was completely renovated and refurbished in 1973.

At no time has any Carrollton church or parsonage been damaged by fire, storms, or other.

[Attached Statement #3] FORMER PASTORS WITH DATES

Date of Conference	Preacher Assigned	Presiding Elder or District Superintendent	District Conference	Comments
1828	"to be supplied"	T. Samford	Athens in South Carolina Conference	Called "Carroll-Coweta Mission"
1829	(not included in minutes)	T. Samford	Athens in South Carolina Conference	Called "Carroll-Coweta Mission"
*1830	George W. Pournell	A. Hamill	*Columbus in Georgia Conference	Called "Carroll Mission" split from Coweta *Changed District
*1831	Appleton Haygood	A. Hamill	Columbus in Georgia Conference	Called "Carroll Mission" * <u>First Georgia Conference</u>
1832	George Bishop	A. Hamill	Columbus in Georgia Conference	Called "Carroll Mission"
1833	William W. Steagall	I. A. Few	Columbus in Georgia Conference	Called "Carroll Mission"
*1834	W. Graham	Isaac Boring	*Cherokee in Georgia Conference	"Carrollton" appears first time * Changed District "Carroll Mission" lists 306 members
1835	J. Jones	Isaac Boring	Cherokee in Georgia Conference	356 members listed
*1836 (1835-1836)	J. W. Yarbrough and W. Jones	Isaac Boring	Cherokee in Georgia Conference	* changed time of conference. 350 w 23 c listed. Gave \$1.50 to Superannuate Fund
1836-1837	Thomas L. Thomas	Isaac Boring	Cherokee in Georgia Conference	321 w - 8 c members listed
1837-1838	Alfred Dorman	John W. Glenn	Cherokee in Georgia Conference	339 w - 14 c members listed Gave \$1.20 to Superannuate Fund
1838-1839	Philip Groover	John W. Glenn	Cherokee in Georgia Conference	
*1839 (December)	Sidney M. Smith	John W. Glenn	Cherokee in Georgia Conference	* No Conference in 1840. Time of Conference apparently changed again
*1841	Sidney M. Smith	John W. Glenn	Cherokee in Georgia Conference	* Listed as "Carrollton Mission in 1839 and 1841



Date of Conference	Preacher Assigned	Presiding Elder or District Superintendent	District Conference	Comments
1842	Jesse W. Carrel and "one to be supplied"	William J. Parks	Cherokee in Georgia Conference	Listed as "Carrollton"
1843	Thomas Fowler and "one to be supplied"	Peyton P. Smith	Cherokee in Georgia Conference	
1844	Basil E. Lucas	Willis D. Matthews	Cherokee in Georgia Conference	
* 1845	Robert A. Johnson	Willis D. Matthews	* LaGrange in Georgia Conference	* Changed District
1846 (January)	W. B. Moss	W. D. Matthews	LaGrange in Georgia Conference	721 w - 31 c members listed
1847 (December)	J. Blakely Smith	James B. Paine	LaGrange in Georgia Conference	648 w - 58 c members listed
1848-1849 Jan. 10-18	William E. Lucy	James B. Payne *	LaGrange in Georgia Conference	750 w - 28 c members listed * spelling changed in minutes
1849-1850	Thomas H. Whitby	James B. Payne	LaGrange in Georgia Conference	"Carrollton Mission"
1850-1851	Thomas H. Whitby	F. Jefferson Pearce	LaGrange in Georgia Conference	854 w - 60 c members listed "Carrollton Mi"
1851-1852	A. Dorman, L. Q. Allen	J. C. Simmons	LaGrange in Georgia Conference	"Carrollton Mission" 957 W - 78 c members listed
1852-1853	Claiborn Trussell James G. Worley	J. C. Simmons	LaGrange in Georgia Conference	891 w - 58 c members listed
1853-1854	William J. Wardlaw M. W. Arnold	J. C. Simmons	LaGrange in Georgia Conference	874 w - 53 c members listed "Carrollton Mission"
1854-1855	Peter Groover	John C. Simmons	LaGrange in Georgia Conference	1100 w - 70 c members listed "Carrollton Mission"
1855-1856	Robert Stripling	Samuel Anthony	LaGrange in Georgia Conference	"Carrollton"

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1856-1857	R. Stripling	S. Anthony	LaGrange in Georgia Conference	
1857-1858	James T. Ainsworth	Samuel Anthony	LaGrange in Georgia Conference	
1858	Columbus W. Howard, John T. Boring	William H. Evans	LaGrange in Georgia Conference	Conference time apparently changed again
1859	John W. Reynolds	William H. Evans	LaGrange in Georgia Conference	"Carrollton (and Smyrna)"
1860	James L. Lupo (and one to be supplied)	J. Blakely Smith	LaGrange in Georgia Conference	"Carrollton (and Smyrna)"
1861	James L. Lupo	J. Blakely Smith	LaGrange in Georgia Conference	"Carrollton"
1862	John Murphy	J. Blakely Smith	LaGrange in Georgia Conference	
1863	John Murphy	J. Blakely Smith	LaGrange Georgia	
1864	"to be supplied"	J. B. McGehee	LaGrange Georgia	
1865	W. C. Dunlap	John B. McGehee	LaGrange Georgia	
* 1866	W. C. Dunlap, "to be supplied"	George C. Clarke	LaGrange * North Georgia	4023 w. r. 85 c. members "Carrollton Circuit" also "Carrollton Mission: to be supplied". N & S Ga. Confer. organized
1867	Claiborne Trussell	Lewis J. Davies	LaGrange	980 W - 70 c members listed
* 1868	John J. Davis	George W. Yarbrough	Marietta *	* Changed District 666 w - 51 c members listed
1869	Marshal E. Malsby	Peter M. Ryburn	Marietta	420 w - 32 c members listed "Carrollton (and Bowdon Circuit)"

Date of Conference	Preacher Assigned	Presiding Elder or District Superintendent	District Conference	Comments
1870	Joseph Chambers	Peter M. Ryburn	Marietta	"Carrollton (and Bowdon Circuit)"
1871	Joseph Chambers	Francis A. Kimbell	Marietta	"Carrollton (and Bowdon Circuit)"
* 1872	William C. Dunlap	Thos. Pierce	Rome *	* Changed District "Carrollton (and Bowdon)"
* 1873	W. C. Dunlap	H. J. Adams	LaGrange *	* Changed District "Carrollton"
1874	J. W. Stipe	J. W. Heidt	LaGrange	
1875	W. F. Quillian	J. W. Heidt	LaGrange	
1876	W. F. Quillian	J. W. Heidt	LaGrange	
1877	D. D. Cox	J. W. Heidt	LaGrange	
1878	J. W. Lee	W. H. Potter	LaGrange	
1879	J. W. Lee	W. H. Potter	LaGrange	
1880	David L. Anderson	W. H. Potter	LaGrange	
1881	J. S. Bryan	W. F. Cook	LaGrange	
* 1882	W. J. Scott	G. E. Gardner	Newnan	* Changed District
1883	W. J. Scott	G. E. Gardner	Newnan	

Date of Conference	Preacher Assigned	Presiding Elder or District Superintendent	District Conference	Comments
1884	A. W. Quillian	J. Boring	Newnan	
1885	A. W. Quillian	W. W. Wadsworth	Newnan	
* 1886	A. W. Quillian	J. F. Mixon	LaGrange *	* Changed District
1887	A. M. Thigpen	T. F. Pierce	LaGrange	
1888	A. M. Thigpen	T. F. Pierce	LaGrange	
1889	W. R. Foote	W. F. Cook	LaGrange	
1890	W. R. Foote	W. F. Cook	LaGrange	223 w - 1 c members listed
1891	J. R. Parker	W. F. Cook	LcGrange	
1892	A. G. Worley	W. F. Cook	LaGrange	257 w - 1 c Last time colored members listed
* 1893	C. C. Cary	A. W. Williams	Carrollton**	**First time for Carrollton District - 146 w members. Included in District:
1894	G. W. Duvall	A. W. Williams	Carrollton	Carrollton Paulding Mission Houston Powder Springs Bowdon
1895	G. W. Duvall	A. W. Williams	Carrollton	Whitesburg Douglasville Tallapoosa Villa Rica
1896	W. L. Pierce	M. J. Cofer	Carrollton	Austell Bremen Temple Buchanan
1897	W. L. Pierce	M. J. Cofer	Carrollton	Roopville Hickory Level Hutcheson High School Lithia Springs

Date of Conference	Preacher Assigned	Presiding Elder or District Superintendent	District Conference	Comments
1898	J. R. McClesky	T. J. Christian	Carrollton	
1899	J. R. McClesky	T. J. Christian	Carrollton	
* 1900	H. J. Ellis	M. J. Cofer	*LaGrange N. Georgia	* Changes District
1901	J. R. Lewis	M. J. Cofer	LaGrange N. Georgia	
* 1902	W. B. Dillard	W. R. Foote	* Rome N. Georgia	* Changes District
1903	W. B. Dillard	W. R. Foote	Rome N. Georgia	
1904	W. B. Dillard	S. B. Ledbetter	Rome N. Georgia	
1905	W. B. Dillard	S. B. Ledbetter	Rome N. Georgia	
1906	William Dunbar	S. B. Ledbetter	Rome N. Georgia	
1907	William Dunbar	S. B. Ledbetter	Rome N. Georgia	
1908	A. W. Quillian	John S. Jenkins	Rome N. Georgia	
1909	A. W. Quillian	John S. Jenkins	Rome N. Georgia	
1910	R. A. Edmondson	John S. Jenkins	Rome N. Georgia	
1911	R. A. Edmondson	Walter B. Dillard	Rome N. Georgia	

Date of Conference	Preacher Assigned	Presiding Elder or District Superintendent	District Conference	Comments
1912	R. A. Edmondson	J. H. Eakes	Rome N. Georgia	
1913	R. A. Edmondson	J. H. Eakes	Rome N. Georgia	"Carrollton Station"
1914	A. M. Pierce	J. H. Eakes	Rome N. Georgia	
1915	A. M. Pierce	J. H. Eakes	Rome N. Georgia	
1916	W. T. Hamby	J. R. King	Rome N. Georgia	
1917	W. T. Hamby	J. R. King	Rome N. Georgia	
1918	W. H. Cooper	J. R. King	Rome N. Georgia	
1919	W. H. Cooper	J. R. King	Rome N. Georgia	
1920	J. P. Erwin	W. T. Irvine	Rome N. Georgia	
1921	J. P. Erwin	W. T. Irvine	Rome N. Georgia	
1922	J. P. Erwin	W. T. Irvine	Rome N. Georgia	
1923	J. G. Logan	W. T. Irvine	Rome N. Georgia	
1924	Frank Quillian	J. P. Irwin	Rome N. Georgia	
1925	Frank Quillian	J. P. Irwin	Rome N. Georgia	

Date of Conference	Preacher Assigned	Presiding Elder or District Superintendent	District Conference	Comments
1926	Irby Henderson	J. P. Irwin	Rome N. Georgia	
1927	Irby Henderson	J. P. Irwin	Rome N. Georgia	
1928	Irby Henderson	G. L. King	Rome N. Georgia	
1929	B. F. Brazer	George L. King	Rome N. Georgia	
1930	B. F. Grazer	George L. King	Rome N. Georgia	
1931	H. W. Clark	George L. King	Rome N. Georgia	
1932	H. W. Clark	J.W.O. McKibben	Rome N. Georgia	
1933	H. W. Clark	J.W.O. McKibben	Rome N. Georgia	
1934	H. W. Clark	J.W.O. McKibben	Rome N. Georgia	
* 1935	H. C. Emory	J.W.O. McKibben	Rome N. Georgia	* Carrollton First Church mentioned first time
1936	H. C. Emory	H. C. Holland	Rome N. Georgia	
1937	H. C. Emory	H. C. Holland	Rome N. Georgia	
1938	C. W. Haynes	H. C. Holland	Rome N. Georgia	
* 1939	Zach C. Hayes, Jr.	* W. H. LaPrade	Rome N. Georgia	* District Superintendent (changed from Presiding Elder)

Date of Conference	Preacher Assigned	Presiding Elder or District Superintendent	District Conference	Comments
1940	Zach C. Hayes, Jr.	W. H. LaPrade	Rome N. Georgia	
1941	Z. C. Hayes, Jr.	W. H. LaPrade	Rome N. Georgia	
1942	Z. C. Hayes, Jr.	W. H. LaPrade	Rome N. Georgia	
1943	Horace C. Smith	B. F. Pim	Rome N. Georgia	
1944	Horace S. Smith	B. Frank Pim	Rome N. Georgia	
1945	E. Nash Broyles	B. Frank Pim	Rome N. Georgia	
1946	E. Nash Broyles	B. Frank Pim	Rome N. Georgia	
1947	E. Nash Broyles	Wills M. Jones	Rome N. Georgia	
1948	J. W. Segars	Wills M. Jones	Rome N. Georgia	
1949	J. W. Segars	J. A. Griffies	Rome N. Georgia	
1950	J. W. Segars	Delma D. L. Haygood	Rome N. Georgia	
1951	J. W. Segars Tom Johnson, Ass't	Delma L. Haygood	Rome N. Georgia	1st time church had assistant pastor
1952	B. W. Hancock	Delma L. Haygood	Rome N. Georgia	
1953	B. W. Hancock	Delma L. Haygood	Rome N. Georgia	



Date of Conference	Preacher Assigned	Presiding Elder or District Superintendent	District Conference	Comments
1954	B. W. Hancock	J. Hamby Barton, Sr.	Rome N. Georgia	
1955	H. C. Stratton	J. Hamby Barton, Sr.	Rome N. Georgia	
1956	H. C. Stratton	J. Hamby Barton, Sr.	Rome N. Georgia	
1957	H. C. Stratton	J. Hamby Barton, Sr.	Rome N. Georgia	
1958	Frank Q. Echols	J. Hamby Barton, Sr.	Rome N. Georgia	
1959	Frank Q. Echols	J. Hamby Barton, Sr.	Rome N. Georgia	
1960	William A. Tyson, Jr.	R. Parks Segars	Rome N. Georgia	
1961	William A. Tyson, Jr.	R. Parks Segars	Rome N. Georgia	
1962	William A. Tyson, Jr.	John B. Tate	LaGrange N. Georgia	Change to LaGrange District
1963	William M. Holt	John B. Tate	LaGrange n. Georgia	
1964	William M. Holt	John B. Tate	LaGrange N. Georgia	
1965	William M. Holt	John B. Tate	LaGrange N. Georgia	\$77,068.00 Total paid out
1966	William M. Holt	Robert L. Taylor	LaGrange N. Georgia	973 members \$104,903.00 Total paid out Value of Property:
1967	William M. Holt	Robert Taylor	LaGrange N. Georgia	\$610,000.

Date of Conference	Preacher Assigned	Presiding Elder or District Superintendent	District Conference	Comments
1968	Larry Bauman	Robert L. Taylor	LaGrange N. Georgia	
1969	Larry Bauman	Edgar A. Padgett	LaGrange N. Georgia	
1970	Larry Bauman Clay Jacobs, Asst.	Edgar A. Padgett	LaGrange N. Georgia	Question: Why? \$590,000 (value of property \$111,559 total paid out
1971	Larry Bauman Clay Jacobs	Edgar A. Padgett	LaGrange N. Georgia	
1972	Larry Bauman Tommy Green	Edgar A. Padgett	LaGrange N. Georgia	
1973	Hugh Cauthen Tommy Green, Asst.	Edgar A. Padgett	LaGrange N. Georgia	