

Dear Brother McKee

I am sending you some of the Concord Records I
have & I also wrote down the remarks I made
Sunday June 25 about our Heritage. Thank you for
your interest

Sincerely

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our Heritage

In the early part of 1820 thirteen going families came from South Carolina to the area to establish a Community. Some of the families were Allen, Baxter, Bryce, Cook, Powell, Taylor, Turner Wynn, Ballards and Baskin. There were no houses, roads, schools, church not even a well. There were no saw mills or mills. The land had to be cleared, logs cut & used to build their dwellings & chimneys made from rock & clay. They enjoyed none of the things we take for granted today. They had a genuine faith in God & love for one another and a strong belief in the future.

God instructed Abraham to leave his home & go to land that he would show him. Abraham, father of the faithful obeyed & when he came to the north of Palestine he saw that land which was to be the promised land.

These first settlers came to a vantage point three miles north of here & they looked southward and saw level terrain & healthy trees & they reasoned if the land would grow hickory trees it would grow cotton & corn and would be a good place to build for the future.

It is no accident that they called this church Concord Hickory level Community. The name describes the people. This Sunday June 25 1978 we observe 150 years of fruitful Christian ministry from Concord United Methodist Church. The church was organized in 1828 one year after Carroll County was chartered. Concord is the oldest Methodist church in the Rome district. There has been a pastor guiding the people

every year since 1828 except 1864 during the Civil War. The pastors were circuit riders & the lay people did much of Christian ministries, later on the pastors taught the school & performed pastoral services.

In 1868 Alfred Smith & his family went from Concord to Brazil as missionaries, as a result the first Methodist work in Brazil was established.

In 1897 under the ministry of ^{Rev. W. F.} Irwin a revival was held & more than 50 people were added to the church.

By 1905 the membership of Concord was 400.

In 1909 there were 52 children in the cradle roll of the Sunday school.

There have been five buildings here. The first ⁱⁿ 1828 a log cabin 18' x 18', then in 1836 another log cabin 24' x 24'. The first frame construction was in 1854. This was a 36' x 40' structure and cost \$500⁰⁰. The fourth building was erected in 1891. This building was dedicated to the glory of God Aug 30 1891. The sermon was preached by Rev. H. C. Morrison. His text Matt 16:18 "Thou art Peter & upon this rock I will build my Church."

In 1909 the frame building was destroyed by a storm in Feb. The people went to work and by July the brick structure we are in this morning was completed. This building was dedicated to the glory of God the first Sunday in July 1909 by Bishop Warren A. Candler.

Typical of our heritage is the memorial marker of James and Heneratta Beshin one of the original families that lived and built here for more than 60 years. Of James the memorial states: "a friend of humanity a devoted husband a kind father a true Christian. Of Heneratta: "a loving wife, a fond mother + a devoted follower of Jesus."

The heritage of this people is great but the challenge of the future is even greater.