Holly Springs Methodist Church
on
Mayesville Circuit Charge

Five acres of land was donated by Luke T. Watkins for the purpose of building a church for his community. The spot of land is on the Jefferson-Bainesville road five miles from Mayesville, Ga. Jackson County. A log house was first built at a spring down below the present building around this spring grew some holly trees. From this came the name Holly Springs. As the church grew in membership a lumber building was erected in front of where the cemetery now is. Finally the present building was built and painted inside and outside. The first lumber building was used for a school building many years after the church was moved into the present building.

As back to 1883 we have a record telling that the attendance of Sunday School was twenty in number. Eight of these were no members of any church. The pastor's salary for the circuit was $10. Holly Springs was assessed $80. At the first Quarterly Conference of 1883, the quarterly collection for Holly Springs church was $2.50. Just to show how scarce money was at that time. It was agreed that prayer meeting would begin. The church insisted that parents as well as children attend Sunday School. J. B. Parker was pastor at that time.
February 1887 there were no subscribers to the Wesleyan Christian Advocate. May 1887 five subscribed to the Advocate. J. S. Emruby was pastor at that time. He was followed by Rev. W. Duval.

Sunday school was suspended when W. T. Hamby came next. During his two years Sunday school was renewed, pastor's salary raised from $100 to $150 and seven subscribers to the Advocate.

J. R. Speck followed as pastor 1898. Sunday school and prayer meeting were very prosperous, and has been continued until the present time. The present church membership is 85.

When the Woman's Missionary Society was organized Mrs. W. P. Hancock was the first president. The Epworth League was organized. Now the church has an organization for adult young people and children.

Holly Springs Church has been able to send out three preachers. Parker Watkins, who is now a superannuate, living at Decatur, Ill., Burren Hancock, now pastor of First Church Carollton, Ga., and Willie Watkins, a bishop now living at Louisville, Ky.

The following is a list of pastors who have served Holly Springs Church:

1940 - W. T. Hamby 1911 - W. S. Smith 1916 - J. S. Lappington 1933 - J. S. Hall
1940 - W. T. Hamby 1917 - J. L. Rice 1919 - J. S. Lappington 1934 - W. S. Blackman
1902 - J. B. Turner 1925 - W. D. Woodruff 1945 - J. I. Blackburn
1927 - C. B. Drake 1929 - A. J. Wilmot 1949 - C. J. Bray