

HISTORY OF MAYFIELD METHODIST CHURCH, MAYFIELD, GEORGIAWRITTEN BY: MRS. CLARENCE F. REYNOLDS, CHURCH HISTORIAN

Mayfield, Georgia is a small community, located in Hancock County on the Ogeechee River, which divides Hancock and Warren Counties.

The Mayfield Methodist Sunday School was organized by Mrs. J.H. Coleman, nee Miss Blanche Miller, in a one room school house, before the church was founded. Mr. J. Hunter Coleman was the first Superintendent. A Sunday School has not always been held, however, at intervals during the years it was possible to have a thriving Sunday School. Among those serving as Superintendents were Mr. J. Hunter Coleman, Mr. J.M. Middlebrooks, Mr. J.S. Birdsong and Mr. L.M. Carr, Sr.

In 1894, 1895 and 1896 Rev. Marion Eakes, stationed at Culverton, preached at Mayfield in the school building on Sunday afternoons. Rev. Crawford Jackson was pastor when the original church was built in the late 1800's. Some of the brick and lumber that went into this building was hauled from Camak, Ga., 13 miles away, by ox cart.

The Church, which started on its own initiative, was built by a few people banded together. Among these were Mr. and Mrs. John B. Anderson, Mrs. W.T. Birdsong, Mrs. Thos. W. Whaley. The property, which contains a Trust Clause, was deeded to the Conference by Mrs. Lena Birdsong (Mrs. W.T. Birdsong) on April 21, 1896 for the sum of \$1.00.

Rev. Marion Eakes dedicated the new Church Building on the fifth Sunday in July 1897.

Some of the Charter members were: Mrs. W.T. Birdsong, Mrs. Thos. W. Whaley, Mr. and Mrs. John B. Anderson, Miss Mary Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Cheeley and Mr. J.C. Ledbetter.

In 1918 Rev. C.A. Hall, with the help of Mr. L.M. Carr, Sr. and others, was instrumental in having a parsonage built at Mayfield for the Circuit, valued at \$5,000.00. The property where the present parsonage

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stands was purchased from Mrs. Lena H. Birdsong (Mrs. W.T. Birdsong) on October 18, 1918 for the sum of \$500.00, and the deed to the property contains the Trust Clause. On this lot formerly stood an old house which was used as the parsonage. The present one is a comfortable five room house with running water and electricity installed.

The Mayfield Circuit composing Mayfield, Rock Mills, The Shoals and Powelton was formed in 1906 and has not been changed since except for the Shoals Church being withdrawn and the Smyrna Church added to the circuit.

We have a thriving W.S.C.S. which was organized as the Woman's Missionary Society a few years after the church was founded. The present membership is eleven.

In May 1948 the old church building was torn down and about fifteen active members started raising funds for a new building to be erected on the same lot. In May 1949 work was begun on the new church. During this time worship services were held in the community house. The beautiful new chapel of colonial architecture would do credit to a much larger community. All indebtedness on the building and the handsome furnishings has been paid and the church will be dedicated at an early date. The present membership is twenty five. Being a circuit, services are held one Sunday in each month, morning and evening.

Attached hereto is a list of Preachers and Presiding Elders (now District Superintendents) who have served the Mayfield Church.

PREACHERS

Rev. Marion Eakes
Rev. Crawford Jackson
Rev. J.R. Lewis
Rev. W.T. Delph
Rev. A.C. Cantrell
Rev. Eugene Reynolds
Rev. W.P. King
Rev. G.L. King
Rev. L.M. Twiggs
Rev. Firley Baum
Rev. W.H. Clark
Rev. J.D. Milton
Rev. M.K. Patillo
Rev. W.A. Wells
Rev. C.A. Hall
Rev. W.J. Culpepper
Rev. H.E. Stipe
Rev. C.A. Reese
Rev. J.S. Hill
Rev. C.A. Dougherty
Rev. H.M. Strozier
Rev. J.A. Langford
Rev. T.E. Sherwood
Rev. L.G. Hendricks
Rev. L.J. Coe
Rev. L.S. Baugh
Rev. E.M. Sibley
Rev. G.F. Wright (1942-1951)

PRESIDING ELDERS

Rev. J.R. King
Dr. J.B. Robins
Dr. John W. Heidt
Rev. B.F. Frazier
Ref. J.H. Eakes
Rev. W.T. Hamby
Rev. W.T. Irvine
Rev. J.W. Quillian
Rev. J.E. Ellis
Rev. W.H. Clark
Rev. W.H. LaPrade
Rev. H.H. Jones
Rev. L.M. Twiggs
Rev. J.W.O. McKibben
Rev. Geo. L. King (1947-1951)