

Menlo - Bethel Charge

Menlo Methodist Church History ¹⁴⁵

~~At~~ 1900 Dalton Dist

The Menlo Methodist Church was built in 1897-'98. The first service held in it was our Commencement Sunday May 1898. Rev. Fletcher Walton, a former pastor, delivering the address. During his pastorate, a few years previous, it was decided that the Amie congregation should have a church located at Menlo. The Amie church building was sold and became the Chesterfield, Ala. Baptist Church.

J. N. W. Powers, Wm. Horton, and R. A. Wood were the first trustees and donated the land for the Amie Church and the cemetery. These men and their families were ever faithful to the duties of the Church and the welfare of the community. Wiley C. Horton, for many years a member of the W. Ala. Conf. applied for and was granted license to preach, Summerville Conf. on Feb. 26, 1876. His brother, Taylor Horton lead the singing and was S. S. Supt. of the Menlo Church for many years. Mr. Thos. C. Raubs served as Supt. and steward for an equal period. Mrs. Hughie C. Anderson was connected with the church work from 1901 to 1917.

Mrs. Anderson was ^a gifted musician, an unusual leader and teacher, a devout Christian, and a beloved and trusted friend to many.

No history of the Menlo Church would be complete without the mention of the association and influence of Rev. Lorenzo Dow Patterson of the M. Ala. Conf. who led a revival, he was then 21 years old, in Oct. 1900, again in 1903 and returned with his bride, Miss Annie McCoy, sister of Bishop James McCoy, for a short visit in April 1910. He returned to Menlo for a few days before leaving for China where he and his wife labored as missionaries from 1912 to March 1920. In April of that year he moved his family from Nashville ^{Tenn.} to Menlo and resided here until Nov. 1926 when he became pastor of the Jefferson St. Church, Birmingham, Ala. Dr. Patterson served as a special Evangelist of the M. Ala. Conf. while a resident of Menlo. The influence of this wonderful couple in the Church and community will last thru countless ages. The records of Ami show the transfer from

Oak Hill to Ami in 1886 of J. M. D. King, respected and beloved by many, devoted to his friends, his Church, and his family, a Christian gentleman, unselfish in his service as a country physician. In Nov. 1903 the Church at Broomtown Camp ground was sold, the parsonage there having been disposed of previously, and members were transferred to Menlo or Macedonia. For interesting ^{early} history of the Broomtown Church see Quarterly Conf. records of the Sumnerville charge, dating from 1848 to 1900. Among others who have passed to their eternal reward are Mrs. Florence Rogers, a generous contributor to every worthy cause, a cultured lady, with unique reflections of her Cherokee ancestry. Mr. Hugh Yett, a faithful steward, a loyal friend to every pastor, he was ever alert to the interest of the Church.

In 1946 a balcony and Sunday

school rooms were added, the church was painted, more recently, a well equipped kitchen and dining room has been completed, floors in the sanctuary refinished, new chairs placed in the pulpit area, new carpets and beautiful stained windows, add to the appearance of the building as does the additional planting of shrubs in the landscape. In Dec. 1949 the parsonage was completed and furnished, and is a source of pleasure and satisfaction to the pastor and to the Bethel and Menlo congregations.

Ida Wyatt Hale

List of P.
Broomtown Campground and Ami Churches
Parent Churches of Mentis Meth. Church 149

Wm. H. Hickey 1844
H. F. Pritchard 1845-46
W. J. Cotter 1847
J. H. Ewing 1848-49
Wm. W. Fambrough 1850
J. L. Gibson 1851
A. C. Quillian 1852-53
Wm. Brewer 1854-55
H. T. Pritchard 1856
Wm. F. Connelly 1857
Wm. D. Bond 1858
D. J. Myrick 1859-60
J. W. Anthony 1861-62
C. A. Mitchell 1863
Wm. Powell 1864
J. T. Lowe 1865-66.
Wm. A. Parus, didn't serve
Wm. Powell 1867
W. J. Hamilton 1868
John A. Reynolds 1869
Wm. D. H. Harts 1870
Wm. C. Dunlap 1871-72
J. W. Myers 1873
G. R. Kramer, went to
M. E. Church mch-1874
Wm. Hickey finished
out year 1874
W. P. Longfellow 1875-76
H. C. Christian 1877
Geo. W. Dural 1878-79
C. A. Throver 1879-82
W. J. Cotter 1883
Wm. P. Hamilton 1884-86

R. A. Beale 1887
J. H. Timmons 1888-89
J. T. Lowe 1890-91
G. W. Griner 1892.
Fletcher Walton 1893-94
A. B. Weaver 1895
W. A. Parks 1896
W. L. Troutman 1897-98-99.
J. S. Embury 1900
J. A. A. Grogan 1901-02
W. A. Simmons 1903-04
J. W. Guber 1905-06
F. W. McCleskey 1907
Mentis^{Ami} Church was on the
Sperly charge from 1897 to 1908.
then returned to
J. A. A. Brand 1908-09ville charge.
E. G. Thomasson 1910-12
J. A. L. Rappington 1913-14
H. L. Hendrix 1915-16-17
J. E. Parker 1918-19-20
H. L. Byrd 1921-22-23
Geo. R. Hary 1924-25-26-27
H. F. Maxwell 1928-29
W. E. Brown 1930
H. C. Stratton 1931-33
W. L. Gardner 1934-35
E. R. Eubanks 1936-37
Gilbert H. Ramsey 1938-39
Mentis-Bethel's Charge Nov. 1939.
Henry Norris 1940-41-42-43
Eugene Gilreath 1944-45
J. F. Caldwell 1946-till July 1947
Geo. D. Erwin July 1947-1948
C. E. Purcell 1949-50-51
C. L. Harris 1952-53