HISTORY

Of

YORKVILLE CHARGE

Braswell Church
Mt. Nebo Church
Mt. Tabor Church
Mt. Zion Church
Pleasant Grove Church
Smyrna Church
Wesley Chapel Church
Yorkville Church
HISTORY OF
MT. TABOR METHODIST CHURCH
(in Paulding Co., Ga.)

About 1850 Ezekiel Griffin and his family came from Coweta County, Georgia, to live in Polk County. From there they moved to a farm near New Hope, in Paulding Co.

Since there was no Methodist Church nearby and they were Methodists, Mr. Griffin and Andy Hipps, also a local resident, gathered their families together and built the Mt. Tabor Methodist Church.

Mr. Hipps furnished the land and Mr. Griffin furnished the lumber. The building was completed in 1861.

The first members were of the Miller, Lewis, Hipps, and Griffin families.

During the Battle of New Hope, a noted engagement of the Civil War, the Church was used as a hospital. On the original floor, now a sub-floor, you may see the blood stains left there at that time.

The present building is the original one but has been refinished once. This was done in 1901.

Mt. Tabor paid a pastor's salary from the beginning. It soon became the leading church in the community, with two singings a month, regular Sunday School, and preaching on the third Sunday of each month.

It first became a part of the Emerson Circuit, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, then was on a circuit with Hopewell, transferred to the Dallas Circuit, then to the Hiiram Circuit, later back to the Dallas Circuit, and at the present time is a part of the Yorkville Charge.

In 1892, the Church was used for a school building by Miss Emma Ragsdale, now Mrs. Charlie Camp, of Powder
Springs, Georgia.

Other prominent families that came to the Church soon after its organization were those of the Ivy Rakestraws and the John Atchesons. The Rakestraws came from the Flint Hill Methodist Church.

The Church originally had an apron-front type of pulpit but this was changed when the Church was remodeled. The lampstands and lamps, which were donated by Mrs. John Ragsdale, were also removed and electric lights were installed. The benches, however, are the original ones.

Some of the original historical records have been lost, but those we have give the following information:

The Church was first a part of the Dalton District, of the North Georgia Conference, (1905-1910) then was transferred to the Rome District in 1911. It is still a part of the Rome District.

The first pastor appointed to the Charge by the Dalton District seems to be C.C. O'Neal, and he was appointed by P.E. J.T. Gibson, December 6th, 1892.

Pastors serving after that were:

J.F. Davis - 1895 - 1894
C.E. Dowdell - 1894
Sanford Leak - 1895 - 1897
J.A. Sprayberry - 1897 - 1898
W.S. Gaines - 1899 - 1900
E.W. Reynolds - 1900 - 1901
J.S. Rowls - 1901 -
G.B. Barton - 1916
T.S. Elliot - 1917
M.M. Walraven -
C.A. Allday -
N.H. Jay -
Lucian Roper -
Thomas N. Elliot -
W.A. Woodruff -
G.W. Ridley -
W.E. Brown -
O.J. Withrow -

E.C. Sweatman
A.B. King
J.F. Black
Wallace Wiggins
Gilbert Ramsey
B.H. Berrier
Albert Savage, Jr.

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