HISTORY

of

CARROLLTON CHARGE

New Hope Church
Old Camp Church (bound elsewhere)
Stripling Chapel Church
NEW HOPE CHURCH HISTORY

New Hope Church people are now using the same church by the same name which should give us really new visions and new hopes. The first building being over one hundred years old, no-one remembering the exact date of the church being founded. The first was very crude, hewn by logs of our fore-fathers with split rails for seats. Seemingly the spirit was there to inspire worship in such crude buildings. The first building was in the hollow below the present one. The second one being across the road where the cemetery now lies. The one we are now using was built in 1893 by W. C. Baker furnishing all material, windows and doors complete for $65.00. The lot was donated by Mr. Bill Moore, a tenth of an acre. Later Mr. John Broome gave more ground for a cemetery. Mr. Henry Garrett was Church School Supt. for forty years. There were very few members in the beginning but they gradually increased until today we have a large Sunday School.

The Ladies Missionary Society was organized about twelve or fifteen years ago. The first president was Mrs. Harvey Garrett, followed by Mrs. Ruby Raiden, Mrs. Kermit Strickland, Mrs. Had Pearce. Our present President being Mrs. Maud Creel. In the beginning there were 18 charter women in the W. S. C. S. At the present we only have 12 due to losing some by death and moving.

We can claim one outstanding member in our church. He is Mr. Reuben Baxter, one of today's best rural ministers in the Rome District.

The present membership of the church is now around 75. This speaks well of the progress made in the past few years.

The Youth have also played their part in the church with an organization that is approximately 12 or 15 years old. At the beginning this was known as Christian Endeavor and later Youth Fellowship. The first President of this was Reuben Baxter and later followed by the majority of the young people at one time or the other holding various offices.

The pastors of olden days received very little cash but mostly produce for their efforts. Today the pastors have a set salary knowing what they will receive each month. Our charge composed of four churches, known as the Carrollton Circuit pays only $1500.

Charter members of the first church were: Isaac Ingram, and wife Mildred, the Siglers, John and Banks Burr, Carn Parr, Thompsons and Bakers and probably other members that we were unable to secure. More recent ones that we remember are: Henry and Levi Garrett, Mrs. Betty Johnson, Mrs. Georgia Pearce, Mrs. Jessaline and Odie Garrett, Mrs. Joe Moore, Mrs. Will Holmes, Mrs. Layne Creel, Mildred Ballard and probably others.
About five years ago we began a campaign to raise funds to remodel our old and dilapidated church. Today it is a modern church completely remodeled with Sunday school rooms and a basement with butane gas for heat. Right now we have a drive on to raise money for new church pews.

Under the leadership of our fine pastor, C. L. Harris, all departments of the church are functioning extra well. The following are the lists of officers:

Stewards
Radford Pearce
W. W. Strickland
T. S. Wright
Steve Crawford
Jack Ashmore, Chairman

Trustees
Edward Smith
Lawrence Haiden
Harvey J. Garrett

Lourell Strickland serves as President of the Youth Fellowship and Maud Creel as President of the W. S. C. S. Mrs. H. J. Garrett is Church Sec. Steve Crawford is the present Church School Supt. The teachers are: Emma Jean Ashmore, Mrs. H. J. Garrett, Jack Ashmore, Maud Creel and Josephine Strickland. The chorister is Billy Smith and the pianist is Norris Garrett.

The parsonage for the charge is located on Coleman Street in Carrollton, Georgia.

By Mrs. H. J. Garrett

Carrollton, Ga.