

1918 Atl - Sw Dist
Palmetto - New Hope

1136

NEW HOPE METHODIST CHURCH

Palmetto Charge

1957

"History only records the event, the date, the place;
God, in His time, reveals its worth, its power, its grace."

1843-1858

In 1843-44, members of the Watts Methodist Church, Cochran Mill Road, and Carroll Methodist Church, Palmetto-Roscoe Road, united to form the New Hope Methodist Church.

The first Church was built of logs; no doubt, by the members themselves, and at no cost other than the time and labor donated by these men and women who had a "Vision". The location was across the road from the site of the present building on the Newman & Atlanta Road, in originally Cowetta, then Campbell, now Fulton County.

The Church records from the founding of the Church to 1866 were not found, but through a discussion of the present membership of the facts as handed down to them by word of mouth through their parents and grand-parents, the Charter Membership was comprised of the families of:

Grant Roberts
Wm. McGee
Wiley Steed
Jacob Hearn
Kenney Hearn
Berry Watts
Wm. Davenport
Wm. Andrew

Bill Davis
Stephen Shell
Jas. Carroll
J. Redwine
Eli Reeves
Floyd
Eli Bailey
Epharim Pennington

Jno. Condor
Dr. Skein

According to the list as compiled by Rev. Stephen Shell about 1860, John W. Yarbrough, and Ephraim Pennington, Local Preacher, were the first to serve this new Church; however, he gives us in this list Ministers from 1837. It is thought possible, and very probable, that these Ministers served in either the Watts or Carroll Church, and perhaps helped in the organization of the New Hope Church.

During this period, the Church-yard Cemetery was established, and the young Church took on her sacred obligation of furnishing a resting place for her dead. The oldest legibly-marked tomb is dated 1851.

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1858-1937

In 1858, under the pastorate of Rev. M. H. Hubbard, the log Church was replaced by a larger, frame building. This was used until 1937 - 79 years.

We find no record of the beginning of the Sabbath School, but the Church Report of Aug. 15, 1866, notes that the School is closed. From the record of the Church meeting of Feb. 23, 1867, Sabbath School is reorganized and J. T. Longino is appointed Superintendent. There are several references later of the School's being reorganized or resumed after periods of bad weather; however, in 1875, we have a record of Sunday School attendance as 40 to 50, and the membership of the Church as 144 - "62 Males and 82 Females."

But for the fictitious names, an excerpt from the Minutes of the Church Meeting, Sept. 26, 1868, reads as follows:

"Called the Tom Smith and Jno. Brown cases; and the committee reports that they have seen them, and that Bro. Smith agrees to quit swearing, and Bro. Brown agrees to come to Meeting when he can. The report of the committee was then adopted by the vote of the Church".

This, one of several such entries, is quoted to give insight to the thinking of that era. It might well furnish us food for thought, also.

During the early years of this period, Rev. Stephen Shell was the first to organize the Epworth League in New Hope Church.

New Hope Church feels a particular and personal pride in two great Bishops.

Bishop Jas. O. Andrew was the brother of Mr. Wm. Andrew and Mrs. Wm. Davenport, charter members of New Hope. He no doubt visited the Church often when in the homes of his kinsmen. The "Andrew Fellowship Class" in our Sunday School is named in his honor.

Bishop Blanton Parks, whose mother was a slave of the Tom Davenports, was raised in the neighborhood, and doubtless attended New Hope Church with his "white folks".

In 1932, the Woman's Missionary Society was organized by Mrs. C. M. Rogers, wife of the then Pastor. The following is a list of the presidents, and their dates of service:

| | |
|---------|-----------------------|
| 1932-33 | - Mrs. C. M. Rogers |
| 1933-38 | - Mrs. W. A. Longino |
| 1938-41 | - Mrs. Loy Shell |
| 1941-42 | - Mrs. Howard Shell |
| 1942-43 | - Mrs. Denzil Hopkins |
| 1943-44 | - Mrs. Howard Shell |
| 1944-45 | - Mrs. W. A. Longino |
| 1945-46 | - Mrs. Loy Shell |
| 1946-47 | - Mrs. Lee Shell |
| 1947-48 | - Mrs. Howard Shell |
| 1948-51 | - Mrs. Loy Shell |

In 1916, Geo. Shell, born and raised in the neighborhood, was admitted to the North Georgia Conference, where he still serves.

1837-1951

At the suggestion, and under the leadership of Rev. Hubert Dodd, the Preacher in Charge, the present main building of New Hope Church directly across the road from the former two- was erected in 1936-37. The building consisted of the auditorium and three Sunday School rooms. All interior was finished in knotty pine. The cost was approximately \$2000.00 which was paid in 1937. The first regular service was held in the new Church the third Sunday April, 1937 - 4-18-37.

In 1940, new pews were installed, and in 1948, new Pulpit furniture. The Pulpit furniture was dedicated to the memory of Clyde Bearden and Winston Shell, the two members of New Hope who lost their lives in the 2nd World War.

At this time, the need for additional Sunday School Rooms, recreational room, and kitchen became very acute; consequently, in the early part of 1949, it was decided to build an annex. The following is an extract from the invitations sent to all members, former members, and friends by the Annex Rally Day Committee:

"Rev. Hubert Dodd, former pastor of this charge, will deliver the morning message. The Salvation Army Band will be in charge of the music. -----Our own pastor, Rev. Boyd Winn will be Master of Ceremonies.

The Annex Rally Day with the free barbecue lunch was a great success, both spiritually and in a material way. About \$1200.00 was paid and subscribed. This amount, together with later donations, and proceeds from many gainful undertakings by the entire membership furnished the nucleus for the building fund. A loan of \$3000.00 for three years was secured. The Annex was completed and furnished; and Sunday, March 5, 1950, was formally opened for service, Rev. Worth Sweet officiating. The cost was estimated at \$6100.00. One third of the above loan was paid in the fall of 1950; and this year's quota is subscribed by the "Dollar-a-Week Club" now in use. In the Spring of 1950, under the leadership of Bob Hughes, assistant pastor, a playground was opened and equipped at the Church.

In January, 1951, the District Conference was held at New Hope Church. Dr. Joe S. Thrailkill, District Supt. presiding. Mrs. Holmes, wife of Rev. Jas. Holmes, Minister in charge, sang; and the ladies of the Church served a delightful lunch in the basement. Dr. J. Ed Fain delivered the morning message.

Family Night, instigated in 1950 at the completion of the basement, is well attended; and is very much enjoyed by the whole neighborhood. The date is set as the first Saturday night in each month.

Now at the end of the Conference year, May, 1951, the New Hope Methodist Church has an enrollment of 103; The Sunday School, 81; the Woman's Society of Christian Service, 17; The Adult Study Group, 19; The M. Y. F., 13. The average attendance at Sunday School is 69.5; at Church, somewhat more.

MINISTERS WHO HAVE SERVED AS PASTORS OF NEW HOPE CHURCH.

| Date of Appointment | Name of Minister | Presiding Elder or District Supt. |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1837 | James Jones & E. W. Story | |
| 1838 | E. W. Story & Rev. Grover | |
| 1839 | Noah Smith & Rev. Johnson | P. P. Smith |
| 1841 | Noah Smith & John M. Milner | |
| 1842 | Young F. Tigner & Andrew Neese | |
| 1843 | John W. Yarbrough & J. T. Smith | |
| 1844 | John W. Yarbrough & Ephram Pennington | |
| 1845 | Ephram Pennington | W. J. Matthews |
| 1846 | Ephram Pennington & Rev. Mirich | |
| 1847 | Claiban Tressell | |
| 1848 | Claiban Tressell | |
| 1849 | James Jones & Rev. Brantley | |
| 1850 | W. Matthews & E. Lucas | |
| 1851 | John W. Tally & Rev. Brantley | |
| 1852 | John W. Tally & Geo. C. Clark | J. B. Paine |
| 1853 | William Simmons | |
| 1854 | Claiban Tressell | |
| 1855 | Noah Smith | |
| 1856 | Noah Smith | |
| 1857 | M. H. Hubbard | Samuel Anthony |
| 1858 | J. W. Turner | |
| 1859 | E. W. Reynolds | W. Evans |
| 1860 | Rev. Bonds & Rev. Stripling | |
| 1861 | Thomas Embry | |
| 1862 | Thomas Embry | |
| 1863 | James Lupo | |
| 1864 | James Lupo | |
| 1865 | John Murphy | Rev. McGee |
| 1866 | John Murphy & D. Stripling | |
| 1867 | James Jones | |
| 1868 | John Davis | |
| 1869 | J. M. Bowden | |
| 1870 | John J. Davis | |
| 1871 | Richard I Harwell | |
| 1872 | Richard I Harwell | |
| 1873 | Joseph Chambers | |
| 1874 | Joseph Chambers | |
| 1875 | John M. Bowden | |
| 1876 | John M. Bowden | |
| 1877 | Levi P. Neese | Geo. F. Gardener |
| 1878 | Levi P. Neese | S. V. Heidt |
| 1879 | J. A. Rosser | W. H. Potter |
| 1880 | J. A. Rosser | |
| 1881 | H. L. Newton, S. Shell, & A. Longino | J. F. Cook |
| 1882 | L. T. Neese | |
| 1883 | J. R. Smith | |
| 1884 | B. Sanders | |
| 1885 | F. M. T. Brannon | |
| 1886 | F. M. T. Brannon | |
| 1887 | W. T. Smith | |
| 1888 | J. C. Davidson | W. W. Wadsworth |
| 1889 | F. P. Brown | Thos F. Pierce |

| Date of Appointment | Name of Minister | Presiding Elder or District Supt. |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1890 | W. C. Fox | Thos. F. Pierce |
| 1891 | W. C. Fox | Ditto |
| 1892 | E. C. Marks | " |
| 1893 | J. R. Bailis | J. F. Mixon |
| 1894 | J. F. Bailis | J. T. Gibson |
| 1895 | J. F. Bailis | Ditto |
| 1896 | F. P. Smith | T. R. Kendell |
| 1897 | L. H. Green | W. R. Foote |
| 1898 | L. H. Green | Ditto |
| 1899 | R. A. Seale | J. W. Quillian |
| 1900 | J. S. Embry | M. J. Cofer |
| 1901 | Frank Quillian | Ditto |
| 1902 | Frank Quillian | B. P. Allen |
| 1903 | Frank Quillian | Ditto |
| 1904 | George W. Barrett | " |
| 1905 | George W. Barrett | " |
| 1906 | Geo. P. Gary | J. B. Robins |
| 1907 | Geo. P. Gary | J. W. Quillian |
| 1908 | Geo. P. Gary | Ditto |
| 1909 | Geo. P. Gary | " |
| 1910 | V. E. Lanford | W. P. Lovejoy |
| 1911 | R. P. Tatum | W. L. Pierce |
| 1912 | O. M. Ponder | Ditto |
| 1913 | O. M. Ponder | " |
| 1914 | W. W. Watkins | " |
| 1915 | W. W. Watkins | B. P. Allen |
| 1916 | J. O. Pettis | Ditto |
| 1917 | J. O. Pettis | " |
| 1918 | J. O. Pettis | R. C. Cleckler |
| 1919 | T. Z. B. Everton | Ditto |
| 1920 | T. Z. B. Everton | " |
| 1921 | I. T. Hind | " |
| 1922 | Lucian Roper | Wallace Rogers |
| 1923 | Lucian Roper | Ditto |
| 1924 | Lucian Roper | W. H. LaPrade |
| 1925 | W. D. Spence | Ditto |
| 1926 | Z. C. Hayes, Jr. | " |
| 1927 | Z. C. Hayes, Jr. | " |
| 1928 | C. F. Hughes | W. M. Barnett |
| 1929 | B. P. Read | Ditto |
| 1930 | Thomas M. Dye, Jr. | " |
| 1931 | Thomas M. Dye, Jr. | " |
| 1932 | C. M. Rogers | Irby Henderson |
| 1933 | C. M. Rogers | Ditto |
| 1934 | G. C. Knowles | " |
| 1935 | Hubert Dodd | " |
| 1936 | Hubert Dodd | Augustus Earnest |
| 1937 | L. G. Cowart | Ditto |
| 1938 | T. L. Rutland | J. W. Veatch |
| 1939 | T. L. Rutland | Geo. L. King |
| 1940 | T. L. Rutland | Ditto |
| 1941 | J. S. Hill | " |
| 1942 | J. S. Hill | " |
| 1943 | J. S. Hill | W. M. Twiggs |
| 1944 | V. V. Hill, | " |

Gilliam, C. F. Hughes

| Date of Appointment | Name of Minister | Presiding Elder or District Supt. |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1945 | C. F. Hughes | W. M. Twiggs |
| 1946 | Comer L. Brownlow | Ditto |
| 1947 | Homer Morgan | " |
| 1948 | Boyd C. Winn | " |
| 1949 | Worth Sweet | J. S. Thraillkill |
| 1950 | Worth Sweet - James M. Holmes | Ditto |

The above list was begun by Rev. Stephen Shell about 1860, and handed to us by Rev. George Shell. The first five names on the list evidently served in some other church, or churches, as New Hope Church was not founded until 1843-44. As Rev. Geo. Shell suggests, they could have had something to do with the organizing or building of the Church.

It is also pointed out that some of the above Ministers were local Preachers, which accounts for there being more than one serving the Church much of the time.

"New Hope was first on the Troup Circuit which included about all the Methodist Churches in Troup and Heard Counties, and those located in the outskirts of some adjacent Counties. I think it became later a part of the Campbellton Circuit which included about all the Methodist Churches in Campbell County. Later it became a part of the Palmetto Circuit, as now. For a short while Palmetto was taken out and with Fairburn was made the Palmetto-Fairburn Charge; but this was soon done away with, and Palmetto came back into the Circuit with the country Churches." -(Contributed by Rev. Geo. Shell.)

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SUPERINTENDENTS OF NEW HOPE SUNDAY SCHOOL
(Not in chronological order)

J. T. Longino
W. H. Steed
Pernel Hearn
Parks Hearn
Edd Roberts
Dr. H. B. Roberts
E. H. Bearden
George Longino
Joel Shannon
Joe Ben Bonds
Robert Bonds
Jimmy Shell
S. L. Longino
Geo. Shell

George Keith
Marvin Waldrop
George Carroll
Wayman Shell
John Woods
Lee Shell
Dailly Bearden
Mrs. Mamie Hopkins
Mrs. Polly Shell
Charley Shell
William Keith
Mrs. Jane Shell
Charley Keith

Officers and Teachers of the New Hope Church and Sunday School, May 1951

Presiding Bishop
District Superintendent
Minister
Secretary

Bishop Arthur J. Moore.
Dr. Joe S. Thrailkill.
Rev. James M. Holmes.
Miss Nellie Keith.

Board of Stewards

H. P. Shell, Chairman.
Mrs. Robert Barnes
Mrs. T. D. Wilson
G. A. Keith
W. A. Longino

R. L. Harmon.
Howard Shell.
H. R. Shell
J. D. Jackson
W. G. Keith

Board of Trustees
W. A. Longino

G. A. Keith

H. P. Shell

Sunday School

Superintendent
Secretary
Teachers:

Charlie Keith
Howard Shell

Andrew Fellowship Class
Harmony Bible Class
Wee-Lassies
Sunbeams
Precious Jewels
Beginners - Tiny Lights

Mrs. W. A. Longino
Mrs. R. L. Harmon
Mrs. Robert Barnes
Mrs. Howard Shell
Mrs. T. D. Wilson
Mrs. Lee Shell

W. S. C. S.

President
Secretary

Mrs. Loy Shell
Mrs. Horace Wilson

M. Y. F.

President

Miss Ann Shell

We are deeply indebted to the following for information furnished either from Minutes held, or records passed on to them by their forefathers by word of mouth:

Mr. & Mrs. W. A. Longino
Mr. & Mrs. Geo. Keith
Rev. George Shell
Mrs. Loy Shell
Mrs. Horace Wilson
Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Waldrop.

We also want to thank the entire membership of the Church for their cooperation and assistance.

The Committee on History.

May 20, 1951.

MINUTES PAID
CZERASZ
CONTENT