

HISTORY
Of
ROME NORTH ROME METHODIST CHURCH

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In writing the history of the North Rome Methodist Church, the 1950 historical committee is indebted to Rev. C.M. Rogers and his co-workers for the following taken from the year book and directory published during the years of 1929-1930:

"The North Rome Methodist Episcopal Church, South is located on Perkins Street between Calhoun and Kingston Avenues. Its history goes back some seventy-five or more years when it had its beginning in the Old Running Water Church, which stood in the days before the Civil War, at a point just beyond the present site of the Floyd County Home near Rome, Georgia. Rev. J.M. Treadaway and Rev. Noah Kanutt were among those having regular appointments there.

The church actually became affiliated with North Rome in 1868 when under the pastorate of Rev. Oscar Odum, fifteen members organized themselves into a new congregation, began holding services in the old North Rome School House, which stood at the place the school building now stands. These services in the school house were continued for some four years. Finally in 1870-71, during the pastorate of Rev. Sam Stewart, a lot was secured from Mr. Milus Reece and a church erected on the spot that has since been the place of worship for the North Rome Methodist Congregation. The first building was a square frame structure.

The following is a list of the ministers who succeeded Rev. Stewart in the North Rome pastorate: 1872, Rev. Cramer; 1873, Rev. Josiah Lewis; 1874-75, Rev. John A. Reynolds; 1876, Rev. David Weems; 1877-78, Rev. W.P. Rivers; 1879, Rev. C.C. Timmons; 1880, Rev. M.L. Underwood; 1881, Rev. C.L. Patillo; 1882-84, Rev. M.L. Underwood; 1885-86, Rev. E.W. Ballinger; 1887, Rev. J.A. Rosser; 1888, Rev. C.C. Spence; 1889, Rev. T.J. Christian; 1890, J.E. Rorie; 1891-92, Rev. T.S. Edwards.

In 1893-96, Rev. J.A. Sewell was sent to North Rome, and during these years the old church was condemned, and plans were laid for the construction of a new one. The actual construction was begun in the spring of 1895. For three months, while the building was torn away, the congregation worshipped in the Baptist Church through the kindness of their Baptist friends, then in the unfinished church till its completion in 1896. The building committee for the new church was: R.B. Morrison, E.P. Treadaway, G.W. Trammell, T.B. Broach, and C.I. Jenkins. F.A. McCurry gave valuable service in its construction.

Pastors since Bro. Sewell are: 1896, T.P. Graham; 1897-98, A.H. Bugg; 1899-1902, J.T. Davis; 1903-06, G.L. Chastain; 1907, J.R. Speer; 1908-09, L.H. Green; 1910, O.L. Evans; 1911, R.F. Elred; 1912, V.E. Landford; 1913-14, B.H. Trammel; 1915, J.S. Sappington; 1916-21, G.L. Chastain; 1922, E.A. Ware; 1922-27, A.B. Elizer; 1927-29, C.M. Rogers; 1929-1931, J.A. Partridge; 1931-1933, J.H. Couch; 1933-35, A.S. Hutchinson; 1935-36, T.H. Williams; 1936-40, B.W. Hancock; 1940-1944, Hubert Dodd; 1944-1947, Floyd Walden; 1947,- G.A. Lively. In 1938 James Carver, a member of the church, began to prepare for the ministry.

Presiding elders who have served the church are: 1899-1900, J.F. Nixon; 1901-02, W.F. Glenn; 1903, W.R. Foote; 1904, M.J. Cofer; 1905-09, S.B. Ledbetter; 1910, John S. Jenkins; 1911-12, W.B. Dillard; 1913-16, J.H. Eakes; 1917-20, J.R. King; 1921-24, W.T. Irvine; 1925-27, John P. Erwin; 1928-31, G.L. King; 1932-35, J.W.O. McKibben; 1936-39, H.C. Holland; 1940-43, W.H. LaPrade; 1944-46, Frank Pim; 1947,- Wills Jones.

The church has had two parsonages. The first was located on Perkins Street and was build in 1885 during the pastorate of Rev. E.A. Ballinger. This was the pastor's home until the present parsonage was built at 14 Stephens Street in 1912 while Rev. V.E. Landford was pastor.

At the fourth quarterly conference of 1924-25 during the Rev. A.B. Elizer's pastorate, the church was given permission to purchase property adjoining the church on both sides. The church property now runs along Perkins Street from Calhoun Avenue to Kingston Avenue.

At the fourth quarterly conference in 1938 permission was granted to erect a new church. This is a brick building and was dedicated in 1940 during Rev. B.W. Hancock's pastorate. It was valued at \$50,000.00.

The present membership of the church is 503. The church contributed \$10,434.00 for all causes the past conference year.

Records show that a Home Missionary and Parsonage Aid Society was functioning in 1900 with Mrs. F.F. Quarles as president.

Efforts were made in 1907, 1910, 1916 to organize the Foreign Missionary Society but these seem never to have flourished or to have been followed consistently until about 1916.

From 1916 the Foreign Missionary Society continued and functioned though not fully according to the connectional standards. In 1922, the society was reorganized according to the connectional plan and has continued thus to function. No little credit for the standards which

the connectional society had attained is due to the work of Miss Mattie Timmons who came shortly after the 1922 reorganization. Charter members still living are Mrs. J.A. Lester, Mrs. L.M. Johnston, Mrs. Cora Trammell, and Mrs. Leila Trammell.

The present society has an enrollment of 83 and paid for all causes the past year, \$340.06. Mrs. R.E. McCurry is the president.

The Sunday School was flourishing in 1901, having been organized previous to this time. Mr. R.E. McCurry is the superintendent.

The North Rome Methodist Episcopal Church South took the name Methodist Church in 1939, as all other Methodist churches did at the time of the Methodist Union.

Mrs. R. Lindsey Ford
Mrs. Charles A. Moore
Mrs. Paul E. Wright
History and Record Committee, June, 1950.
Rev. G.A. Lively, Pastor