

*Belonging to Dalton District
but placed in Rome Charge
Rome*

THE HISTORY OF PROSPECT METHODIST CHURCH

The history of Prospect Methodist Church has been a long and difficult one. But with the help of God it has grown as fast as the modern world.

The first official record was found on the tomb stone of Dr. Jess G. Carr. Born December 27, 1804, died December 21, 1884 a member of Prospect Methodist Church for 45 years; he united with the church in 1835. Which would make the Prospect Church 116 years old. ✓ 123 yrs.

The first Church was built on the hill in front of the church that now stands. There arose a dispute between the Southern and Northern Churches and the church was burned. They then built an arbor.

It was once a Camp Ground. People would prepare generous baskets of food and go in carriage, ox-carts and on foot, to camp for weeks at a time, sewing for the Confederate Army ✓ and worshipping God. They had their prayer meetings on the week ends, Saturday and Sunday and would go into the woods to pray. "And may we remind you again that it is night time in this dark world? Likewise we would remind you that the dawn of a new day is at hand, Christ is coming back for His church and if you are not prepared, it will then be too late. Why not

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wake up now, for it is "High time to awake out of sleep" for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed (Rom. 13:11). "I am the light of the world; he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness but shall have the light of life" (John 8:12).

Among the first records that I have are the deeds to the property where the church now stands. The deeds were made on ✓ the Twenty-first day of October in the year 1851. Between William Mathis of the first part who owned the property at that time and the following Trustees of the second part: Asbury A. Comer, William J. Comer, William James, James Hughess James Duval, William Carr, and Harrison Camp, Trustees for the Georgia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. This site contains six acres, more or less.

After the church was burned a frame church was built and some years after that, the present church was erected on the site.

The first one that was built was used for a schoolhouse, ✓ until it was burned. Then the school was moved to the building in front of the church then to Fairview Consolidated school and now Coosa in the year 1928.

In the early days of the church, most of the people ✓ were Cherokee Indians.

Colonel Hart organized his command for the Confederate ✓ Army on the site where the church now stands.

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Dispite all the difficulties and handicaps of the church it is growing rapidly and today it has 200 members and one of the oldest churches in the county. ✓

"For when you trust Christ as your Saviour, you are "born again" born into the family of God and you have eternal life and a home awaiting you in God's Heaven" (John 3:3).

At the present their are no record of all the Pastors who have served the Prospect Church. On record it showes fifteen Presiding-Elders names dating from the year 1902, through 1951. I also have the record of fifty Pastors names who served from the year 1856 through 1951.

The present Pastor Rev. John M. Minter is the youngest pastor to ever serve Prospect Church and the Rome Circuit. He was licensed to preach in 1950 and held his first Revival and Quarterly Conference at Prospect Church, August 29, 1950. His first District Conference was held at the First Methodist Church in Cedar Town, Ga. January 11, 1951.

Following are the Pastor and Presiding-Elders names and the year they served:

Presiding-Elders: Ford McRee 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, 1906 1907, W. P. LoveJoy 1908, 1909, 1910, T. I. Christian 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914, George Chambers 1915, 1916, S. B. Led-Better 1917, 1918, 1919, John F. Youbough 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, S. A Harris 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, Frank Quilian 1928, 1929, 1930,

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J. R. Turner 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, A. M. Pierce 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, H. Holland 1939, W. H. LaPrade 1940, 1941, B. Frank Pim 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, Wills M. Jones 1948, 1949, Delma R. Hagood 1950, 1951.

Pastors: Bob Cobb 1857, W. F. Powel 1869, W. W. Braswell 1883, J. C. Brown 1884, F. McCollough 1885, W. Sampler 1886, D. C. Brown 1887, H. I. Edmondson 1888, Ellis 1889, W. M. Austin 1890, 1891, 1892, S. A. Harris 1893, H. O. Brand 1894, G. C. Harris 1895, N. A. Parson 1896, J. H. Little 1897, J. H. Chamber 1898, N. A. Parson 1899, T. L. Bryson 1900, 1901, W. A. Simmons 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, J. W. Gaber 1906, 1907, F. W. McCleskey 1908, G. C. Harris 1909, J. E. Rorie 1910, R. A. Cliett 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914, W. T. Ervine 1915, G. L. Harris 1916, N. A. Parson 1917, 1918, L. H. Green 1919, T. L. Brison 1920, 1921, O. A. Bagglery 1922, W. H. Spear 1923, 1924, Charlie Drake 1925, O. P. McDerment 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, Forrest Slater 1930, Clyde Lee 1931, 1932, Max Whitemore 1933, W. A. Warwick 1934, 1935, W. P. Hughs 1936, T. L. Rutland 1937, 1938, J. T. Birdette 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, R. T. Padgett 1942, 1943, 1944, Paul E. Morris 1944, 1945 1946, Vernon Wynn 1946, H. G. Garrett 1946, 1947, J. R. Baxter 1948, 1949, 1950, John M. Minter 1950, 1951.

By Annie Ruth Hall (Miss)