



CHURCH HISTORY

Saint James Methodist Church was organized in 1867. The first building was located at 109 Cumming Street in Alpharetta. The parents and grandparents of some of our present members were charter members.

The records give the names of these two men as early pastors; Rev. Woods and Rev. Jones. They were followed by Mays, Varner, Zachery, Richardson, Tate, Grier, Sherman, Holmes, Cobb, Gissentanner, Garrison, Gordon, Davis, Bryant, and our present pastor, Melvin Hardin.

Known District Superintendents are Reverends McMillan, Backstrom, Henderson, Grier, Ruff, and our present Superintendent, Rev. W. Melton McNeill.

The following persons have given their musical talents to the church: Strickland, Teasley, Tate, Holmes, Wells, Williams, Orr, Chandler, Randolph, Carter, and Hardin.

Our present church was the culmination of Rev. Garrison's dream and labors. He passed away before our Cornerstone Laying and Open House which was held September 8, 1968. Six years later the congregation had paid off the mortgage and Bishop William R. Cannon and Dr. William H. Ruff came to dedicate the Church in the Fall of 1975.

Less than a year later on Palm Sunday of 1976 Dr. Ruff returned again to consecrate our Mobile Home parsonage. This marked the first time in more than 100 years that any black minister lived in the community where he pastored in the North Fulton area.

God has richly blessed us in allowing us to progress in such a fine manner. We have trusted him and labored in love. He has never failed us yet. God's love and mercy has brought us from 1867 to 1979. To him be all glory.