HISTORY

of

SANDY CROSS METHODIST CHURCH

The history of the Sandy Cross Methodist Church, located in Taliafetro County near the historic town of Crawfordville, dates back to the year 1891 when it was organized under the leadership of the Rev. H.M. Harrison, a local preacher. The original name was Mispah which was changed to the name of Sandy Cross at a meeting of the Quarterly Conference held in 1939.

Prior to the year 1891 a small group of Methodists composed largely of the families of Rhodes, Harrisons, Flynts, Browns, and Andrews were worshipping in private homes and also under the shady oak trees at the home of Mr. G.S. Rhodes.

Dreams of a church building in which to worship were formed into reality when Mr. T.J. Rhodes gave the lot on which to build the church in addition to money and other materials. Others also gave of their time, materials, and labor to help construct the building.

The sills of the church are hewn logs that were formerly used as the foundation of an old cotton gin house.

At a later date the children of Mr. T.J. Rhodes gave an additional plot of ground to be used for a cemetery. The first grave in this cemetery was little Leo Lavender, grandson of Mr. Rhodes.
Among the charter members were Rev. H.M. Harrison, Mrs. Dilla Harrison, Mr. T.J. Rhodes, Mrs. Bufaula Flynt, Mrs. Ella Fouche, Mrs. Antonet Acoree, Mr. M.B. Brown, and Mrs. Stella Lavender. Mrs. Lavender, the last charter member, passed away June 9, 1954.

Although the early records of the church were destroyed by fire, we find that Sunday School was organized in the early history of the church with Rev. H.M. Harrison as its first superintendent. Others that have served were A.S. Ledbetter, W.P. Johnson, Paul Harrison, S.W. Rhodes, W.D. Malcom and Mrs. George Fambrough, the present superintendent.

The records show that among the stewards who have served Sandy Cross were: G.S. Rhodes, M.B. Brown, A.S. Ledbetter, John P. Johnson, and J.T. Shilds. The present stewards are H.N. Fouche, S.W. Rhodes, and Mrs. George Fambrough.

Former trustees were A.S. Ledbetter, W.P. Johnson, and L.U. Fouche. The present trustees are H.N. Fouche, S.W. Rhodes, and W.W. Fouche.

Quite a number of improvements have been made on the church building and grounds during the past few years. In addition to a new roof, the church was underpined with concrete blocks. Beautiful used pews were recently purchased from the Greensboro Methodist Church. Both the interior and exterior of the church have had a new coat of paint. Venetian blinds add much to the appearance of the sanctuary and comfort of the worshippers.
The entire cemetery lot is fenced with a substantial and attractive wire fence with steel posts.

The Women's Society of Christian Service was reorganized in 1953-1954. It had been twenty years since there was a Society in the church. Seeing the need of this branch of service, Mrs. Lewis C. Davis, wife of the present pastor, met with the ladies and organized the WSCS with Mrs. S.W. Rhodes elected as president.


Sandy Cross Church is now on the Crawfordville Methodist Charge and has forty-eight members.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. George Fambrough

June 17, 1954