

Griffin Dist.?

Tabernacle Church

HISTORY OF TABERNACLE CHURCH

Tabernacle Church is located about five miles Southwest of Forsyth, Ga. on state highway # 83. Unfortunately there are no available written records concerning the early history of the church. There are those now living among its membership who know that the church was moved to its present location from an original location about one mile east of the present one. The change of location ✓ 113 took place probably between 1845 and 1855.

The structure remained except for necessary repairs, exactly as it was built on its present location until 1924. In 1924 the church was completely renovated and two Sunday school rooms were added. The building has been painted several times since its remodeling and at present is equipped with electricity, and gas heating.

Like many rural churches during the first part of this century its membership was depleted consequently it contributed less to the support of the church. In recent years there has been quite a change. A number of new residents have come into the community which has added to its membership and activity.

Tabernacle has been a part of the Forsyth Circuit, West Monroe Circuit and Barnesville, Circuits respectively but always in the Griffin District. The church would like to acknowledge its deep appreciation for the valuable services rendered by the men who have served as her pastors through the years. Space forbids the mention of the names of all these men. Dr. G. G. Smith who was given the Forsyth ✓ Circuit as his first appointment served as the pastor of Tabernacle. Dr. Smith later became a great preacher and one of Methodism's outstanding writers and historians.

Tabernacle has given two preachers to the N. Georgia Conference; the late Rev. J. B. Holland and Roy C. Owen who is at present pastor of the First Methodist Church of Montcello, Ga. The families of these men are still residents of the community served by Tabernacle. The paternal and maternal grandparents of Dr. Lester Rumble were residents of this community and members of Tabernacle.

The outlook for the future of Tabernacle is good. With a record of more than a century behind her with a better trained ministry and a prosperous community to support her she has a right to expect great things in the future.