

HISTORY
of
TALLAPOOSA METHODIST CHURCH

Tallapoosa

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The Tallapoosa Methodist Church was the first church in town. It was founded in 1882 by Rev. Alvin Green Dempsey. In 1885 a wooden structure was erected. The men of the town volunteered to do the work as well as donating the materials. The ladies of the church cooked and carried dinners each day for the workmen. The building was a wooden structure with a high steeple and a gallery for the colored people.

In 1895 repairs were made and about 20 feet was added to the front. This gave ample room until 1908 when the south side of the church was enlarged, adding about 200 to the seating capacity.

In 1913 the building was obsolete and leaking. Rev. Homer Thompson, pastor at the time, and full of energy undertook to ~~erect~~ erect a new building. Work moved slowly but with a great many sacrifices on the part of the membership and friendly help from citizens of our town and friends outside, we were able to build the present church which will seat about 500 and with 12 classrooms and a kitchen at a cost of \$35,000.00. This church was dedicated by Bishop Moore in 1933.

Since then the platform and choir were rebuilt and birch plywood seats installed.

Miss Jessamine Orgain, a faithful servant of the church, in use of her talents and possessions, donated a Hammond organ and was largely responsible for the present parsonage.

The church building has been improved. Chimes and a gas furnace added and recently the women of the church

raised \$600.00 and purchased 80 metal folding chairs, 4 banquet tables and painted all downstairs rooms. The church and furnishings are now estimated at a valuation of \$75,000.00.

Work is moving along well in all departments. We have the W. S. C. S., two Circles, the Guild, the Mens Club and Choir, and an active Youths Fellowship.

A measure of success has crowned the efforts made by the pastors, laymen and laywomen. The church has had many excellent ministers, some of whom have gone to their reward. Many have gone from this church to bless the world. Four ministers among them.

Respectfully submitted by

Mrs. Ross C. Greene