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1972 Dalton Dist

HISTORIES

of

LAFAYETTE CHARGE

Trinity Church

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Trinity Methodist Church, LaFayette Circuit
Rfd 4 , LaFayette, Georgia

Located 8 miles southwest of LaFayette, Walker County Georgia

Many years before the War between the States, probably in the late thirties or early forties, a Methodist church was established about half a mile east of the present site of Trinity Church. The old original church was called Birds Chapel and was near the ancient burying ground east of Duck Creek. The building was of log construction as were most buildings of that day and served for a house of worship for many years and probably, also, for school purposes at times. In the decade preceding the war this old house was abandoned and a frame building was erected at the present site of Trinity Church on the Broomtown Road, the name being changed from Birds Chapel to Trinity Church. This is one of the very old churches of the county, having been established near the time of the organization of the county.

The original deed to the church land on which Trinity Church stands today is still held by the trustees. It is dated February 3, 1852, and recites that for " divers good causes" this parcel of land is granted to " Thomas Sharp, John S. Shields, Enoc Boils, Joseph M. Wardlaw, and Benjamin W. Maddux, Trustees in Trust, " etc., and is signed by E. Mabry, being witnesses by H.W. Mabry and Enos Martin, J.P. It was recorded in the Clerk's office on August 23, 1852, by John Jackson, Clerk. In 1912 this church was destroyed by fire and the present handsome and commodious church was erected.

An interesting old record and minute book of the quarterly conferences held at Trinity has been brought to light, which gives the names of pastors for the period from 1870 to 1878. One pastor makes this report at a quarterly conference: " Traveled 620 miles, made 110 visits, and preached 44 times, " which is pretty good for a quarter's work in that day. Another report of the Sunday School lists 5 McGuffey's readers as a part of the literature used in the Sunday School.

Records are not available giving the names of pastors preceding the year 1867, but the following is believed to be a correct list of pastors from the year 1867 down to the present year of 1950:

1867-1871 J.L. Lupo; 1871-1872 Thomas H. Timmons; 1872-1874 Alexander Odom; 1874-1875 H.C. Christian; 1875-1878 P.G. Reynolds; 1878-1879 O.C. Simmons; 1879-1882 T.J. Edwards; 1882-1885 E.W. Ballenger; 1885-1886 J.L. Moon; 1886-1888 G.W. Thomas; 1888-1890 J.L. Perryman; 1890-1892 Fletcher Walton; 1892-1895 R.R. Johnson; 1895-1896 William A. Parks or A.B. Weaver; 1896-1899 J.F. Davis; 1899-1901 S.P. Wiggins; 1901-1902 J.J. Ansley; 1902-1903 A.S. Harris; 1903-1904 N.A. White; 1904-1906 A.F. Ward; 1906-1909 J.A. Sprayberry; 1909-1912 H.O. Green; 1912-1913 R.A. Cliett; 1913-1914 W.S. Norton; 1914-1915 T.L. Rutland; 1915-1917 J.G. Lupo; 1917-1918 N.A. Parsons; 1919-1921 J.E. Statham; V.B. Harrison ; 1921-1922 R.A. Coleman; 1922-1926 J.R. McCurdy; 1926-1928 C.C. Cliett; 1928-1929 Rembert Sisson; 1929-1930 Barrett Barton; 1930-1932 McLowery Elrod; 1932-1934 W.H. Venable; 1934-1936 E.W. Dunagan; 1936-1938 Clifton Freeman; Nov. 1938-May 1939 A.C. Budd; May 1939-November 1939 Charles Boleyn; Nov. 1939-1941 Grady Lively; 1941-1942 Benson Barrett; June 1942 -1944 Edgar A. Padgett; 1944-1946 M.L. Crowder; 1946-1947 J. L. Caldwell; 1947-1948 Charles W. Reeve ; 1948-1950 W.M. Hunton; 1950- Norris King.

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The Woman's Missionary Society was organized by the pastor, McLowery Elrod in 1931, with Mrs. Eugene Weatherly as president, with about ten charter members. The Society has grown in development of work through these years.

From this church has gone one to serve in the world in the capacity as a minister of the Gospel - Charles T. Gray, who is a graduate of Emory University and is serving in the North Georgia Conference. He is in this year, 1950, pastor of the Clarkston Methodist Church .

Mrs. Lee Thurman Weatherly,
Historian

Bibliography: History of Walker County Georgia, by James Alfred Sartain
Minutes of North Georgia Methodist Conferences 1867-1895
Trinity Church Record Book -1895-1950