

History of the Clanton

First United Methodist Church

By

Helen Evans Parrish

Written for the 1968 Chilton County Centennial Programs.

*Transcribed from the original paper copy by Derric Scott.
Version 1.6, December 31, 2022*

History of the Clanton First Methodist Church

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By Helen Evans Parrish, 1968

Written for the 1968 Chilton County Centennial Programs.

*Edited and transcribed from the original paper copy by Derric Scott, 2020-2022.
Some information inserted from Ms. Parrish's later History that was written
for **The Heritage of Chilton County, Alabama** (2000) book and other minor
additions and typographical edits. Pastor list updated
and Appendix on the campground added.*

**HISTORY OF
THE CLANTON FIRST METHODIST CHURCH**
By Helen Parrish for the 1968 Centennial (with additions)

Early records show that a Methodist Society existed in Clanton as far back as 1871. Meetings were held in a small house on the corner of 2nd Avenue and 3rd Street, which was used as a schoolhouse during the week. Various itinerant preachers conducted services there whenever they were in the area.¹

Facts concerning the founding of the Clanton First Methodist Church are unavailable. The earliest existing record goes back only as far as 1873. In that year, on June 28th, the property on which the present church building stands was purchased from Alfred Baker for the sum of \$1.00.

The pastor in those early days is thought to be R. A. Miears, who shared his preaching duties with Mt. Nebo, and possibly with Lime Springs, Jemison, and Mt. Moriah². (These five churches were known to have made up the Clanton Circuit in the late 1800s. Jemison and Mt. Moriah remained on the Circuit until around 1913, Lime Springs remained until the 1930's, and Mt. Nebo was still a part of the Clanton Circuit as late as 1919.) These churches were a part of The Methodist Episcopal Church South, having joined with most of their fellow Southerners in breaking away from the Northern Methodist churches over the slavery question.

A tent was used as a place of worship until a small one-story white frame building was erected.¹ This building, which housed the Methodists of the Clanton area in the early days, was a white one-story frame building facing east/west as does the present building. This served the Clanton Methodists until 1887 when it was sold to Tom Gullahorn for \$37.50 and moved. A second building, considerably larger, was then erected and dedicated in May 1 by Bishop Keener. It was a one-story building with a steeple and bell tower¹ which housed a bell said to produce "the clearest, sweetest sound ever heard in Clanton!" A highlight of the week for the children of the church was the opportunity of helping the pastor ring the bell every Sunday morning! One little boy who took particular delight in this was Joe Mullins, who thought he was "taller than a mountain" when the bell rope lifted him six feet into the air!

Directly behind the church, facing north, was a small house which served as a parsonage for the preacher and his family.

There being no Sunday School rooms attached to the old church, the classes met in various parts of the sanctuary. The building was heated by two pot-bellied stoves and music for the worship services was provided first by a peddle organ, then later by an organ, piano, and bass violin. The choir which sang at both services each Sunday was not outfitted with choir robes. Instead, the men dressed in their Sunday best and the ladies vied with one another to see who could wear the fanciest hats to the choir. (An amusing incident concerning the choir took place in 1918, when E.C. Maye was the pastor. During the evening service one Sunday a bat flew in through an open window and began circling the choir loft. The ladies ducked frantically with every swoop, and the congregation became visibly nervous. At last the bat landed squarely on a large be-ribboned hat belonging to the pastor's wife. Mrs. Maye promptly leaped to her feet, snatched the hat from her head and threw it wildly over the pastor's head and into the congregation. At the same time, in a piercing voice she cried "Oh-o-o- my Lord!" As the congregation

¹ (ed. DS) This paragraph/sentence is from of Ms. Parrish's church history written later for the *Heritage of Chilton County* book.

² Mt. Moriah was located 5-6 miles from Jemison across from what is now Scott's Store. Most of the members seem to have transferred to Randolph or Jemison in 1909-1912. The last building used as Mt. Moriah Church is still standing and is occupied by a Mr. Green. (1968)

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roared with laughter, Brother Maye maintained his pastoral poise and calmly said, "When Mrs. Maye regains her composure we will continue with the service."

The old church had a special section down front which was known as the "Amen Corner." On these pews sat the older men of the congregation who gave forth with loud "Amens" and "Praise Gods" at appropriate times during the service. These vocal tributes to the sermon were a vital part of the people's worship, and no one thought it embarrassing to be called a "Shouting Methodist" in those days. Another characteristic of the older, more devout members was their custom of kneeling at their pews during every prayer. This custom persisted until about 1910.

In the early 1900s a room was added to the south side of the building to serve as a pastor's study and literature supply room. This convenience allowed the pastor to have a quiet place in which to counsel and to work on his sermons.

The early Methodist Church in Clanton also boasted a Camp Grounds³ which was located 2-3 miles from town on the Enterprise Road. This was the place where the people came in the summer for services which lasted anywhere from an all-day affair to a week-end long series of revival services. A large wooden shed housed the people during the preaching services, and long log tables and benches served as the place where they ate their "dinner on the ground." The services were often conducted by visiting preachers who shouted lustily as they delivered their "hell-fire and brimstone" sermons which usually lasted at least two hours! Hand clapping and loud "Amens" punctuated the preachers' sermons as the Methodists testified to their religious fervor!

A time for singing was always observed at the Camp Grounds and the Methodists could be heard at surrounding farm houses and for at least a mile or two down the road! Few hymn books were available in those days, so the song leaders followed the principle of "lining off the hymns" ... that is, reading the unfamiliar hymns line by line and letting the people follow their lead.

Some of the early recorded members of the Clanton Methodist Church were: Mrs. Mollie Bowden, in whose memory a small stained glass window in the present building was erected; W. A. Middleton; Mr. & Mrs. Henry Warren Athney; Mrs. Martha Carrol; Mrs. H. E. Evans; Miss French Evans; Mrs. Glennie Evans⁴; William McDaniel; Mrs. Maggie McDaniel; Mr. & Mrs. J. B. Marlor; Mrs. Mary E. Oates; Mrs. Willie Jones; Mrs. Glennie Phillips, who taught the Phillips Willing Workers class for many years, and whose class purchased one of the large windows in the present church building; Miss Rene Rembert; J. W. Stanfield; W. M. Wilson and W. T. Callen, in whose memories two of the large sanctuary windows were erected. (The above members were listed in the old church record books as belonging before 1895.)

In the early 1920's the Clanton Methodist Church took a great step forward. The congregation, under the leadership of the pastor, C. C. Wilkerson, voted to dismantle the old building and to erect a beautiful new church to the glory of God. Architect on the project was W. S. Price; the building committee consisted of C. C. Wilkerson, J. Q. Wade, T. C. McSwain, T. H. Neighbors, J. B. Atkinson, V. J. Elmore; Secretary was J. O. Middleton; Treasurer was Eric Hart.

³ Reference Wyatt, Chilton County and Her People, Campground information, reproduced in the Appendix I. (ed. DS)

⁴ The Evans and Phillips members are ancestors of Ms. Helen Parrish. (ed. DS)

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Pledges for the financing of the new church were raised in one of the most thrilling campaigns ever seen by the people of Clanton! The well-known evangelist, Bob Jones, was brought to town for a three-day series of sermons designed to raise pledges. For these three days he was paid \$300, an amount thought by many to be extremely large for such a short series of preaching. However, the fiery messages of Bob Jones paid off ... at the end of three days the people had pledged \$50,000 toward the building of a new church!! An additional \$13,500 was borrowed from the bank, and the work was underway.

When the old church was torn down, the "sweet-sounding" bell was given to the Negro Methodist Church in West End Clanton. It still may be heard each Sunday as it calls the worshippers to the Negro Church.⁵

While the new church was being built, the congregation met for worship and prayer meeting in the Courthouse. During the week the members were busy at the task of raising money for the new building. An active part in this fund-raising was taken by the Women's Missionary Society under the guidance of its president, Mrs. Sophia L. Mullins Jones. She pledged the Society to raise \$5,000 for the new church. The money was raised in some of the following ways: Fourth of July barbecues at the old high school; dinners for various groups; ice cream socials; cake sales; and selling ice cream cones each Saturday in front of the old J. C. Jones store.

An interesting note concerning the church comes from those of our church who were neighborhood children at the time of the building. They relate that when the time came to pour the cement for the basement floor, each child brought a glass jar full of notes and mementos, and carefully laid them on the ground. The cement was then poured over them and they became a part of the basement floor. There they remain ... a childish gesture that may someday be revealed to a far-distant generation.

The new church was completed in 1923. *The building was constructed of pressed brick and was 112 feet in length and 72 feet in width.*¹ It had a Sanctuary with a seating capacity of 500, eleven Sunday School rooms, a Pastor's Study, kitchen, and large Fellowship Hall. *The Methodists, who had been worshiping in the Courthouse during construction of the building, worshiped for a time in the fellowship hall (basement), until completion of the sanctuary.*¹ A distinctive feature of the Sanctuary was the Christian symbolism which was evident in the stained glass windows, around the chancel rail, and on the arch over the choir loft. Other aids to worship were the two large murals which depicted Christ and the Woman at the Well, and Christ with Mary Magdalene at the Empty Tomb. These murals and the symbols around the chancel and choir loft were the work of an Italian artist, C. V. Malmede. They were dedicated in honor of his wife, the former Mrs. Belle J. Matthews.

Mention should be made of the neighborhood children who had the honor of sitting on the scaffolding and watching Mr. Malmede as he painted the murals. They were: Sam and Leroy Martin; Alice and Corinne (Snookum and Potsy) Polk; Mary Goodwin Jones, now Mrs. E. G. Chism; Julia Ruth Hester, now Mrs. Percy Hicks; Clyde Jones, now Mrs. Leroy Martin; Imogene Simms, now Mrs. J. W. Moliston; and Mary Robinson, now Mrs. Tucker. (Mary reports that she sat on the floor and looked up at the painting more than she sat on that high scaffolding!) The painting of the murals and symbols was done during the coldest part of the winter, and took three months to complete. The only expense for this work was Mr. Malmede's room and board at the Wilson Hotel. The tedious work was done at the

⁵ (Ed. DS) In 2022 I believe this bell is still at Union Baptist Church in Clanton.

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request of the artist's wife, who wanted to see a thing of beauty installed in the new Methodist Church.

In 1926, three years after the construction of the new church, Chilton County's first pipe organ was installed in the Clanton Methodist Church. It was a Moller organ costing \$17,500. The Women's Missionary Society took on the job of fund-raising and pledge \$1,200 per year until the organ was paid for. At the time this pledge was made, there were only 51 members in the Society! *In 1967, the church organ was rebuilt, retaining the original pipes, at a cost of \$18,000.*¹

In 1926 the church saw the necessity for a larger house for the parsonage family so the house adjoining the church, owned by Mrs. E. A. Matthews, was purchased. This was to serve as the parsonage for the next twelve years, until 1938. At that time the house fell into disrepair and it was considered essential that a new, more up-to-date parsonage be built. There was opposition to the idea, however, due to the debt which still existed to some \$2,000 on the church building. Mallie White and John C. Page, Chairman of the Board of Stewards, undertook the job of soliciting funds from the families of the church. At the end of their solicitation a total of \$1,000 had been pledged to the new parsonage, and the work began. The house was built by the pastor, J. M. Truitt, Mallie White, who was given 90 days off from his job at the L & N Railroad, one brick layer, and one carpenter. The parsonage family moved into the basement of the church while the work was being done. The new house was completed in August 1938 at the cost of \$2,842.

In 1931 the beautiful holly tree which adorns the yard of the parsonage was planted by Mrs. D. W. Haskew, wife of the pastor in charge.

In 1939 the Northern and Southern Methodist Churches, along with most of the Methodist Protestant Churches, united to form The Methodist Church. Our church in Clanton was therefore no longer known as the Methodist Episcopal Church South, but was officially the First Methodist Church of Clanton.

In 1956 the church purchased the vacant lot adjoining the parsonage for the sum of \$3,000. This was done to insure the privacy of the parsonage family and to provide extra space in case of an addition to the church in later years.

In 1961 the need for additional Sunday School space became acute and the congregation voted to enter into a building program to erect an Educational Building. The pastor was Lloyd H. Kimbrough, and the Building Committee consisted of: J. Hollis Jackson, Sr., Chairman; R. C. Williams, W. B. Crowe, Mrs. M. L. Batson, and Mrs. L. H. Boddin. Chairman of the Official Board was Isaac C. Byrd. Architect was Harold Foshee; contractors were Patterson Alred of Clanton. Cost of the building was \$96,720.00. Space was provided for 20 classrooms, modern restrooms, and a Church School Secretary's office.

The Educational Building was completed in 1963 and named The Griffin E. Lloyd Building in memory of a beloved former pastor who died while serving the Clanton Church.

In 1968 two departments in the Educational Building were dedicated in memory of two devoted women who gave many years of outstanding service to their church. The Junior Department was dedicated in memory of Clara Small Mullins who served as a teacher in that department over forty years. The Nursery Department was dedicated in memory of Pearlie E. Carter who served as Nursery Mother for fourteen years.

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The Methodist Church in Clanton is now officially The First United Methodist Church of Clanton, having assumed this new name when The Methodist Church and The Evangelical United Brethren Churches united in 1968.

In 1974, a memorial elevator was installed at the cost of \$10,200. And in 1979 the church voted to construct a new parsonage, located on Yellowleaf Road; its cost was \$65,000.¹

In 1986, the old parsonage adjacent to the church was donated to the Chilton-Shelby Mental Health Association for housing mentally challenged adults. The building was moved to the corner of 2nd Avenue and 8th street. The house was dedicated in November 1986 and was named The Civitan Home. It currently houses eight adults plus a live-in supervisor.¹

During its years in Clanton the Church has had the high privilege of seeing many members take a step forward for Christ. Foremost among the Church's proudest moments came when four of her young men made their decisions to enter the ministry: Oliver Eugene Murphree, Russel P. Shelton, Jr., Marvin Ervin Dailey, and Perry Meade Dalton. Another young man is presently studying for the ministry and will receive his License to Preach this year - Lester Stanley Carter. *Others include Danny Doss, James Craig Shannon, Dallas Lane Little, Jack P. Davis, Robert Nathan West, Francine Lenoir Schmidt, and Ellen Hopkins Westbrook. Lisa Ausley was also received into full connection while a member of our church.¹*

The following members of our present congregation are recorded as having joined this church more than 50 years ago: Mrs. R. N. Ranson, 1907; Mrs. John Newell, 1907; Omar Reynolds, 1907; Mrs. Mattie Lee Johnson, 1908; Miss Lurline Harper, 1908; Mrs. Phala Belle Martin, 1908; Otto Jones, 1910; Miss Alma Jones, 1910; Mrs. T. C. McSwain, 1911; Mrs. Maggie Wilson, 1911; Mrs. J. O. Middleton, 1912; Hugh Branch, 1913; Mrs. W. L. Maddox, 1913; Robert Evans, 1913; Mrs. Myrtle Pitts, 1917; Mrs. Etta Wagner, 1917; Mrs. Mason F. Jones, 1918.

Other members of our present congregation who joined this church from 38-49 years ago are: Crit Jones, 1919; Mrs. John C. Page, 1919; Jack Jones, 1920; Burton Mullins, 1920; Hoyt Reynolds, 1921; Mrs. E. G. Chism, 1921; Mrs. A. S. Prince, 1923; Earl Wilson, 1923; S. A. Jones, 1923; Vernon Jones, 1923; R. L. Jones, Jr., 1923; Mrs. Omar Reynolds, 1924; Mrs. G. H. Tucker, 1925; Mrs. Berber Farley, 1925; W. L. (Fate) Maddox, 1925; Marcus Polk, Jr., 1926; Mrs. B. R. Plyler, 1926; Mrs. J. S. Nivens, 1927; O'Dell Headley, 1927; Mrs. G. C. Headley, 1927; Miss Ruby Branch, 1927; Mrs. Earl Gore, 1927; Milton Diefenderfer, 1929; Mrs. J. E. Edgar, 1929; Mrs. O. D. DeLoach, 1930; Mrs. Sam Powers, 1930; T. R. Burdette, 1930; Wilbur Prince, 1930; Cecil Carter, 1930; Mrs. E. D. Dailey, 1930; Miss Helen Parrish, 1930; Mrs. L. H. Bodden, 1930; Mrs. G. A. Arnold, 1930.

The present membership of the First United Methodist Church of Clanton is 497.⁶

⁶ Original membership numbers from Parrish's 1968 version.

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PASTORS OF THE CLANTON METHODIST CHURCH

1872-1875	R. A. Miers	1950-1952	J. M. McKinney
1875-1876	W. H. McDaniel	1952-1956	Marvin Keron Vickers, Sr.
1876-1880		1956-1959	Griffin Eugene Lloyd, Sr.
1880-1881	S. H. Nettles	1959-1963	Lloyd H. Kimbrough
1881-1882	Robert Strictlin	1963-1964	Glenn P. Cantrell
1882-1883		1964-1967	Arthur Lee Martin, Sr.
1883-1884	John W. Roy	1967-	John D. Trobaugh
1884-1885	J. A. Scott		
1885-1887	A. A. Green		
1887-1889	Daniel L. Lindsey		
1889-1891	A. J. Briggs		
1891-1895	B. E. Feagin		
1895-1896	P. M. Guthrie		
1896-1898	W. B. Dennis		
1898-1899	S. W. Williams		
1899-1901	D. F. Ellisor		
1901-1902	J. S. F. Stephens		
1902-1903	W. A. Montgomery		
1903-1904	D. B. H. Jeffcoat		
1904-1905	J. T. Eckford		
1905-1907	S. U. Turnipseed		
1907-1908	J. F. Price		
1908-1909	Felix M. Wood		
1909-1911	R. J. Mills		
1911-1913	L. H. S Chappelle, Sr.		
1913-1915	I. W. Chalker		
1915-1916	J. Frank Bilbro		
1916-1918	Thomas G. Jones		
1918-1920	E. C. Maye		
1920-1921	David M. Pearson		
1921-1926	C. C. Wilkerson		
1926-1927	W. M. Cox		
1927-1928	Lemuel B. Green		
1928-1930	Earnest A. Childs		
1930-1932	Daniel Walter Haskew		
1932-1934	Robert Presly Cochran		
1934-1936	Acton E. Middlebrooks		
1936-1938	J. M. Truett		
1938-1940	J. Lawrence Daniel		
1940-1942	T. C. Casaday		
1942-1945	O. C. Lloyd		
1945-1949	John Carlisle Miller		
1949-1950	W. Brunson Atkinson		

This History of the Clanton Methodist Church was compiled for the occasion of the Chilton County Centennial. September 1968

Helen Parrish
Church Secretary

Transcribed from the paper copy 2020 by Derric Scott with minor changes for typographic errors.

This list of pastors has significant changes in a later history by Helen Parrish in 2000 in The Heritage of Chilton County, Alabama book.

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2000 Helen Parrish List of Pastors in Heritage of Chilton Book

1871-1872	J. T. Roper
1872-1874	Ransom Adkins Mears
1875-1877	W. H. McDaniel
1877-1878	G. W. Biggs
1878-1880	W. A. Rice (Conf minutes)
1880-1881	L. C. Calhoun (Conf minutes)
1881-1884	J. W. Shores (Conf minutes)
1881-1882	Robert Stricklin
1883-1884	John W. Roy
1884-1885	C. R. Lamar (Conf minutes)
1884-1885	J. A. Scott
1885-1886	S. H. Nettles (Conf minutes)
1885-1887	A. A. Green
1886-1888	A. J. Briggs, Sr. ('86- Conf minutes) (from 1904 Conf minutes, 1887 A. J. Briggs, Sr., pastor, died, and Dr. W. A. McCarty served term)
1887-1889	Daniel L. Lindsey
1888-1889	J. P. Sanders
1889-1891	A. J. Briggs, Jr.
1891-1894	B. E. Feagin
1894-1896	P. M. Guthrie
1896-1898	W. B. Dennis
1898-1899	S. W. Williams
1898-1899	J. P. Sanders
1899-1901	D. F. Ellisor
1901-1902	J. S. F. Stephens (Conf minutes)
1902-1903	W. A. Montgomery
1902-1904	D. B. H. Jeffcoat (Conf minutes)
1904-1905	J. T. Eckford (Conf minutes)
1905-1907	S. U. Turnipseed (Conf minutes)
1907-1908	J. F. Price (Conf minutes)
1908-1909	Felix M. Wood (Conf minutes)
1909-1912	Robert J. Mills (Conf minutes)
1912-1914	L. H. S Chappelle, Sr. (Conf minutes)
1914-1915	I. W. Chalker (Conf minutes)
1915-1916	J. Frank Bilbro (Conf minutes)
1916-1917	Thomas G. Jones
1917-1920	E. C. Maye
1920-1921	David M. Pearson
1922-1926	C. C. Wilkerson
1926-1927	W. M. Cox
1927-1928	Lemuel B. Green
1928-1930	Earnest A. Childs

1930-1932	Daniel Walter Haskew
1932-1934	Robert Presly Cochran
1934-1936	Acton E. Middlebrooks
1936-1938	J. M. Truett
1938-1941	J. Lawrence Daniel
1941-1942	T. C. Casaday
1942-1945	Oscar Clifford Lloyd
1945-1949	John Carlisle Miller
1949-1950	W. Brunson Atkinson
1950-1952	J. M. McKinney
1952-1956	Marvin Keron Vickers, Sr.
1956-1959	Griffin Eugene Lloyd, Sr.
1959-1963	Lloyd H. Kimbrough
1963-1964	Glenn P. Cantrell
1964-1967	Arthur Lee Martin, Sr.
1967-1972	John D. Trobaugh
1972-1974	Malcolm L. Roberts
1974-1980	Henry E. Roberts
1980-1983	Torrence H. Maxey
1983-1987	Thomas L. Parker
1987-1993	Donald K. Fuller
1993-1994	Rex. K. Mixson
1994-1998	Ruel Reuben Ausley, Jr.
1998-2002	Fred E. Zeigler, Jr.
This list of pastors was part of the history of the church written by Helen Parrish for The Heritage of Chilton County, Alabama, 2000.	
<i>Transcribed from the book 2021 by Derric Scott. Highlighting added for differences from 1968 version. Added pastors since last Helen Parrish entry:</i>	
2002-2004	Ed Britton
2004-2013	Larry Anderson/Brian Dovey
2013-2017	Robert N. West/Barbara Brewi
2017-	Meghan S. & Wesley G. Kelley

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Modified List of Pastors Combining All Sources

1871-1872	J. T. Roper	1950-1952	J. M. McKinney
1872-1874	Ransom Adkins Miears	1952-1956	Marvin Keron Vickers, Sr.
1875-1877	W. H. McDaniel	1956-1959	Griffin Eugene Lloyd, Sr.
1877-1878	G. W. Biggs	1959-1963	Lloyd H. Kimbrough
1878-1880	W. A. Rice	1963-1964	Glenn P. Cantrell
1880-1881	L. C. Calhoun	1964-1967	Arthur Lee Martin, Sr.
1881-1884	J. W. Shores	1967-1972	John D. Trobaugh
1884-1885	C. R. Lamar	1972-1974	Malcolm L. Roberts
1885-1886	S. H. Nettles	1974-1980	Henry E. Roberts
1886-1888	A. J. Briggs, Sr.	1980-1983	Torrence H. Maxey
1888-1889	J. P. Sanders	1983-1987	Thomas L. Parker
1889-1891	A. J. Briggs, Jr.	1987-1993	Donald K. Fuller
1891-1894	B. E. Feagin	1993-1994	Rex. K. Mixson
1894-1896	P. M. Guthrie	1994-1998	Rurel Reuben Ausley, Jr.
1896-1898	W. B. Dennis	1998-2002	Fred E. Zeigler, Jr.
1898-1899	J. P. Sanders	2002-2004	Ed Britton
1899-1901	D. F. Ellisor	2004-2013	Larry Anderson/Brian Dovey
1901-1902	J. S. F. Stephens	2013-2017	Robert N. West/Barbara Brewi
1902-1904	D. B. H. Jeffcoat	2017-	Meghan S. & Wesley G. Kelley
1904-1905	J. T. Eckford		
1905-1907	S. U. Turnipseed		
1907-1908	J. F. Price		
1908-1909	Felix M. Wood		
1909-1912	Robert J. Mills		
1912-1914	L. H. S Chappelle, Sr.		
1914-1915	I. W. Chalker		
1915-1916	J. Frank Bilbro		
1916-1917	Thomas G. Jones		
1917-1920	E. C. Maye		
1920-1921	David M. Pearson		
1922-1926	C. C. Wilkerson		
1926-1927	W. M. Cox		
1927-1928	Lemuel B. Green		
1928-1930	Earnest A. Childs		
1930-1932	Daniel Walter Haskew		
1932-1934	Robert Presly Cochran		
1934-1936	Acton E. Middlebrooks		
1936-1938	J. M. Truett		
1938-1941	J. Lawrence Daniel		
1941-1942	T. C. Casaday		
1942-1945	Oscar Clifford Lloyd		
1945-1949	John Carlisle Miller		
1949-1950	W. Brunson Atkinson		

This list of pastors was part of the history of the church written by Helen Parrish for The Heritage of Chilton County, Alabama, 2000.

This list transcribed in 2021 by Derric Scott. Additional pastors since 2002 have been added. A significant number of other pastors served as temporary, visiting, or substitute roles, especially in the early years. Many of Ms. Helen's original list were likely those.

Appendix I

The Old Campground

Reproduced from *Chilton County and Her People*, by T. E. Wyatt.

During the summers of 1874, 1875, and 1876, camp meetings were held at what was generally and commonly known as the Old Camp Ground, a mile and a half southwest of Clanton, near the present site of Laurie Ann Dairy in Samaria community. The elite of Clanton joined with people from adjoining communities in religious gatherings which lasted for several weeks during the summers. Denominations played little part in the camp meetings, but preachers of various faiths came here from far and near conducting the meetings.

Says *The Chilton County Courier* on August 12, 1875: "Able ministers are in attendance, and strict discipline is enforced around the grounds. Tents are pitched on the ideally pleasant location, according to the plans of those in charge. At a Methodist meeting such notable divines will be on hand as: Rev. Louis Douden of Tuskegee, Rev. Andrews of Montgomery, Rev. R. A. Myers, our former pastor (Baptist), and Rev. B. H. McDaniel. All are earnest and eloquent who have the good work at heart. Present a few weeks later were: Rev. Solomon of Wetumpka, Rev. Rush of Prattville, Rev. Lightfoot of Selma, Rev. Blow of Somerfield, Revs. Wells, Nathan, and Samuel Dobbs of this county."