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Patterson Chapel Methodist Church

The Patterson Chapel Church was organized by and named in honor of the Reverend Hardin Patterson, in the year 1884. Brother Patterson was a local preacher and one of the early settlers of this community. Many of his direct descendants still belong to the church. The closest relatives are four grandchildren, Many Thestle Patterson, Charles Patterson, Mrs. Pheobe Hale Taylor, and Mrs. Ida Hale Creel.

The first membership of the church was made up mostly of members of Mount Hope Methodist Church, which was located a few miles over in Alabama and the building was destroyed by a storm. Since this church was nearer in the community, most of the members of Mount Hope moved to Patterson Chapel. The early members were primarily of the following families: Fanchers, Nabers, Miknks, Pates, Pattersons, Messers, Bosticks, and Epps.

The first building was completed on the present site in the year 1884. Within twenty years, 1904, the building was deemed inadequate and during the pastorate of the Reverend T. B. Young, a second frame building was constructed, the carpenter being a Mr. Bob Cranford. Several of the older members remember assisting in the construction. This building was used for forty years to lead people to Jesus Christ and minister to the needs of the community. During this period one of the sons of the church accepted the Call to Preach, the late Reverend C. A. Northington. He served as a member of the North Mississippi Conference until his untimely death in 1941 at Coldwater, Mississippi.

In 1944, during the pastorate of the Reverend Nash Hammil, the present building was constructed of concrete blocks. The Building Committee was L. V. Mink, the late G. B. Northington, and the late O. Wheeler.

Soon after completion, the church was clear of debt and ready for dedication. The late Bishop Loyd DeCell had scheduled a date to dedicate the building and died suddenly, before the date; therefore, it was dedicated by Reverend L. P. Wasson, District Superintendent of the Corinth District.

Since completion of the building there have been two attempts to build adequate space for the Church School, but each time the classes outgrew the space almost as soon as they were completed. In 1955 the membership of the church was determined to build adequate space for the Christian education of the community. A Church Quarterly Conference was called and the following committees were named: Finance Committee, G. B. Northington, Chairman O. J. Bullen, W. R. Wheeler, L. B. Bostick, Building Committee: Chester Bostick, Chairman L. V. Mink, Cason Wheeler, Dale Fancher. The building was completed in the fall and winter of 1955 and 1956. This included the complete redecoration of the present church and the addition of the steeple and the white paint on the outside of the church. The new look and the steeple have added much to its beauty and worshipful atmosphere. This was completed and ready for dedication in the fall of 1956, all during the pastorate of the Reverend E. S. Furr.

Among the members, who have joined the saints in heaven, whose lives, time and talents have in years gone by contributed much to the growth of the Kingdom of God through the Patterson Chapel Church are Ben F. Patterson, John Creel, W. R. Creel, Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Mink, Hugh Northington, Grover Northington, Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Northington, Isham Messer, Dr. A. E. Bostick, W. A. Bostick, Mary T. Bullen, and Orlando Wheeler. Special mention must be made of Mr. Creel, who for over thirty years taught the adult class in the Church School and was sometime Church School. Supt.

Patterson Chapel has been on the Belmont Charge since its organization, and presently is in the Aberdeen District, of the North Mississippi Conference. It has a membership of 80 and a Church School with average attendance of 40. W. B. Fancher is the Church School Superintendent.

As we come to this date, February 23, 1958, when Bishop Marvin A. Franklin will dedicate the Educational Unit and rededicate the church, we pray that its future history will bring an even greater impact for Christ to the community and that many more souls will be born into the Kingdom of God by its ministry.