

History of the Peachtree Road Methodist Church
as prepared by Rev. E. H. Wood.

In January or February, 1925, Rev. J. C. Adams of the North Georgia Conference, Bro. C. J. Cofer and two or three Emory University students made a pretty thorough religious canvass on the north side of Peachtree Creek, especially, on the East side of Peachtree Road, including a compass of a mile around Buckhead. 21 8 9

In this canvass they found a great many Methodists, as well as other denominations, holding their membership in city churches and other places.

The Presbyterians and Baptists had organized churches in this community and quite a number of Methodists had joined these Churches. Many of us felt that something should be done -- must be done.

Thousands were moving into the Buckhead district and the need of a Methodist Church was urgent, indeed.

Under the wise leadership of Dr. W. L. Pierce, our beloved Presiding Elder and others, this Church was organized in the home of Dr. and Mrs. M. T. Salter, on Peachtree Road, April 28th, 1925.

Mrs. C. J. Cofer was elected church Secretary. The following were elected Trustees; Mr. E. B. Adams, Ex-Governor Hugh Dorsey, Dr. M. T. Salter, Mr. Jas. L. Respass and later Mr. G. W. Cooley was made chairman of the Board.

This was a great meeting. Enthusiasm ran high. Congratulations were in order as well as thanksgiving and praise to God. Dr. and Mrs. Salter were happy and gave expressions of pleasure on account of the Church being organized in their home.

Nineteen names as Charter Members were enrolled, as a result of that meeting.

During the month of May, we continued to meet in the home of Dr. and Mrs. Salter. At these meetings on May 5th, 11th, 25th, 29th and 31st, questions of financial help from City Churches, location of lot for Church and a series of meetings to be held either in a tent or a temporary Tabernacle was discussed. It was finally decided at our meeting on the 29th of May, to build a Tabernacle. Bro. G. W. Cooley was to have entire charge of buying material and erecting said building.

On Monday, June 1st, E. H. Wood checked off the first load of lumber.

Tuesday morning early, Bro. Cooley was on the ground with a number of carpenters. The race began; will we? can we be ready for Bishop Darlington and a great congregation on the next Lord's day? YES. In a very material sense we were ready and everybody happy and in great expectation. Many were surprised to find a building with a roof over their heads; two hundred and forty chairs on the floor and one hundred Cokesbury song books at hand. 14

Bishop U. V. W. Darlington of Huntington, W. Virginia, was with us and conducted our first service, much to the delight of the

Mr. Cofer says that Mr. Wood was not asked -
nor needed - to check off lumber. Mr. Cooley
was in complete charge. But Mr. Wood was told,
+ so eager to help, + everyone was patient with him.

Congregation.

We had with us during the following week, at night, Dr. S. R. Belk, Dr. T. R. Kendall, Sr., Dr. ^{W. L. Quillian} W. L. Quillian, Dr. S. P. Wiggins, and possibly one other who preached for us at different times. (Rev. Costen J. Harrell).
(Mrs. Cofer thinks)

On June 14th Bishop Candler preached for us. It is needless to say it was a wonderful sermon.

We asked him to take a collection. He asked about how much we needed. Some one suggested five or six hundred dollars. When the collection was counted we found we had in cash and subscriptions \$1,182.00

Our Sunday School was organized June 7th, with a membership of 45, with good officers and teachers. We now have enrolled more than 160.

Our Woman's Missionary Society was organized right away with a membership of 22 to 25. It now has 50 members.

The Epworth League, The Wesley Brotherhood, the adult Wesley Bible Class is well attended and promises much good to the Church.

Our roll of members increased from April 28th, the date of organization up to our Annual Conference in 1925, we were able to report 89 members.

During the pastorate of Bro. C. A. Norton in 1926 there was a good healthy growth of 57; total for our 18 or 19 months was 146.

I am proud of our church as a whole. I am proud of each of you individually. I am so glad that I have had a small part in developing and stabilizing Peachtree Road M. E. Church, South. So far as I have been able to judge you as individuals and as a Church, you have stood for the purity of the home and of the Church, for high and enobling ideals of life.

Lastly.

The great Problem of building a commodious Church and Sunday School Annex is before us. By the help of God, we must practice Christian Stewardship from week to week and year to year all the while looking to God and depending upon HIM as our leader.

Respectfully submitted,
Signed, E. H. Wood.