

JACKSONVILLE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

This church was organized at the dwelling house of Robert Hunter, sr., in the village of Jacksonville, in the year 1839, and the congregation met in the public school house from 1841 to 1859. This school house was erected for school and church purposes.

The original members were, Daniel Welsh, leader, Mrs. Welsh, James Hunter, Jane Hunter, Martha Hunter, Nancy McGlaughlin, Ellen McIntire, Robert hunter, sr., and wife, and Mary Hunter.

The first pastors were, Revs. John Coil, Joseph Ray, Samuel Nesbit, James Beacom, James Dean, M. L. Weekly, Thomas Higgins, James Borbridge, Richard Jordan and Robert Cunningham.

In 1859, the society erected the present church building and have since worshipped therein. The trustees at that time were, Elliott Ferguson, D. M. Henderson, D. S. Hunter, A. D. Ferguson and Phillip Steffy. Rev. Williams, the presiding elder, dedicated the new church in November, 1859. John Bruce was the contractor. It cost \$1500, and is in size 45x 54 feet.

Since the building of the church the following ministers have preached here: Revs. Robert Cunningham, two years; Joseph Shane, two years; S. Howe, two years; John Wakefield, two years; Appleton, two years; J. Leonard, two years; Joseph Pershing, two years; D. Kurtz, two years; George W. Cook, two years; T. J. Hatfield, two years; and the present pastor, Edward J. Knox.

The present trustees are Elliott Ferguson, in the sand office since first election, D. S. Hunter, S. C. Kennedy, R. L. Hunter and Joseph Ferguson.

The present membership is thirty-seven. The attendance at the Sabbath school is about forty.