

DICKERSON, PHILIP J.

ANADARKO CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

4437

306

INDEX CARDS

First Church Services
Opening-1901
Church Officers

4-307

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Taken from a souvenir pamphlet printed by Philip J. Dickerson, between the dates August 6 and December 25, 1901.

Field Worker, Lillian M. Cassaway,
June 15, 1937.

She was among the first to herald the Gospel in this new field. The Rev. G. E. Drew and the Rev. L. B. Parker, under the supervision of the Congregational Home Mission Society, arrived upon the townsite which was then a wilderness of corn stalks, on that memorable day, August 6th, and immediately began work for the Master's Kingdom. On the evening of the first day of the lot sale these two missionaries held a religious service on the Court House square. This service was attended by hundreds of men, and a number took part in the services. This, Brother Parker believes was the first religious service held on the townsite of New Anadarko. The two consecrated missionaries continued to hold services in the open air until their Gospel tent arrived on August 14th. This was raised upon the Court House square, and soon lumber was secured and seats provided for the crowds that gathered nightly to hear the Gospel message. Soon a sufficient number of Congregationalists assembled in the large tent to start a church organization. Before the month of August had expired and while the lot sale was yet going on these brethren had applied for, and

secured a charter for the Congregational Church of Anadarko. Lots were purchased on South Boundary Avenue, directly south of Court House square, and soon the contract was let for the construction of a house of worship. At the expiration of two weeks from August 6th Rev. Drew filed upon a claim near the town of Addington and Rev. Parker continued in the work here and became the pastor of the church. The church building was a neat pretty little house, with seating capacity for about a three hundred audience. The house faces south with a southeast corner entrance, protected by a corniced porch. Colored windows, white walls and beaded ceiling beautified the interior. The total cost will perhaps aggregate near \$1200. A neat cottage parsonage stands on one side of the church, and Hon. W. H. Campbell's large and beautiful residence on the west.

Soon after the church organization, a Sunday School was formed with J. F. Connor, Superintendent, and B. E. Towle, Assistant.

CHURCH OFFICERS

Pastor, Rev. Lyman B. Parker.
 Deacons, W. H. Campbell and Wm. Pilcher.
 Clerk and Treasurer, Randall Livesay.
 Trustees, W. H. Campbell, A. W. Koontz, J. A. Wimberly,
 Dorsey Kreitzner, J. H. Connor, Randall Livesay.

Now in 1937, this church is no more. It flourished for a while but didn't stay long. This building is now a dwelling house and has been moved to another lot and block.