

**1877 Historical Account of the Founding of Succasunna M.E. Church
written by Rev. G.H. Winans, edited by Rev. Joseph Monahan, 2011
(Noted as Book #22 in Succasunna UMC records)**

The Organization of the M.E. Church of Succasunna NJ was effected under the Ministry of Rev. T. T. Campfield in the year 1850. Previous to this organization series of meetings were held and a class formed. From June 1851 until the meeting of the Annual Conference 1852 Rev. Bro Thackeray in connection with Rev. Absalom Steelman had charge of the Circuit including Walnut Grove. Jerry Totteus (now Ironia), Alpaugh School House, Flanders, Drakestown and Cross Roads - refer to A. Steelman's Autobiography pages 118-119-120. [Editor's note: Steelman's autobiography was published in 1875 by Benjamin H. Vogt, Dover, NJ]

The Succasunna M.E. Church with Walnut Grove was constituted a Station by the NJ Annual Conference in the year 1852. William Day was appointed Preacher in Charge. On the occasion of the laying of the cornerstone of the Succasunna Building Rev. W. P. Corbit preached in the graveyard adjoining a sermon of unusual interest to a large congregation. Bishop Janes who had the residence in the vicinity at this time contributed five hundred dollars. The Church building was dedicated in February 1852. Rev. J. R. Wakeley officiated on the occasion.

The following were the Official Board of the Society in April 1852: C A Lippincott, Presiding Elder, Wm. Day, Preacher in Charge, Absalom Steelman, local preacher, Silas Hopkins, exhorter.

Class Leaders: Harmon K. Wear, A. Steelman, Silas Hopkins, E. Lewis, D. Trowbridge, Wm. Fowler.

Stewards: E. Lewis, D. Trowbridge, Wm Fowler, Richard Green, H.K. Wear.

Trustees: Richard Green, M Force, J.S. McDougall, Wm Fowler, A.W. Snyder.

At this time there were thirty-nine members of the Church. The following are the names of the pastors who have officiated from the time of the organization to the present 1877: T.T. Campfield, Thackeray, Absalom Steelman, Wm. Day, R. Arndt, J. Stevenson, J. Atkinson, J.S. Coit, H. Harris, T.S. Dederick, C. Clark, W.W. Voorhees, F. Lummis, Wm. N. Searles, J. P. Fort, J. H. Runyon, G.H. Winans.