

H. P. Anderson,



Twenty-fifth Anniversary

Rev. BENJ. JUDD

NOW

Pastor Memorial American

Episcopal Zion Church

Yonkers, N. Y.

October 4th, 1917

State Street American
Episcopal Zion Church,
Hudson, N. Y.

The First Church Built By
Rev. JUDD



Twenty-five years ago I was sent as pastor to the city of Hudson, N. Y. I was inexperienced, but I was willing to do the best I could. Here I found a few faithful members—two Christian men only and nineteen women. One of the men, Bro. Peter Bronk, has gone to rest; Bro. John R. Tucker is standing by the church to-day with a few others who have come in since. Bro. Robert Smith of Mother Zion was there trying to hold the people together.

After preaching on Sunday I made preparation to move my family. Then the struggle began. It had been said that Zion was dead in Hudson. This was in 1893 and in 1895 we dedicated the present new brick church after paying off a mortgage of \$500.25. We left a debt of \$1,000 on the new church.

In August, 1896, we held the Sunday School Convention and the Annual Conference in May 1897, coming out of both with money ahead. This charge now pays \$700 per year with parsonage.

In May, 1898, I was sent to Nyack, N. Y. The bishop stated that he wished he had something better for me because Nyack was dead, since Sparkill had built up. Here we renovated the church inside and out, put in gas and doubled the



Church Repurchased By Rev. JUDD, Franklin Street
American Episcopal Zion Church, Kingston, N. Y.

membership; we attended the Missionary Training School for two winters. We should have bought the lot next to the parsonage but the men were not willing to follow. I attended the General Conference in Washington, May, 1900.

I was sent to Kingston, N. Y., in May, 1901, from the Conference held in Port Chester, N. Y. Here I remained seven years. On my arrival on Saturday, I called to see Mrs. Johnson, the owner of the church. She told me that it was not worth while for me to try to do anything as the man that was before me could not pay one year's rent, and how could I pay two, and that I had better go back and tell the bishop that she had decided to turn the church into a dwelling house. I finally got her to give me until the 16th of September, at which time I was to pay something over \$110. When the 16th came I paid her all and had \$45 over.

I found some very good members here, who, when they saw that I meant business stood by me until the last. During the seven years we raised over \$8,000, renovated the church, putting on a new roof, putting in gas and water, painting inside and out and placing a new organ. I also attended the General Conference in St. Louis in 1904 and in Philadelphia in 1908.

The white people in Kingston were very kind and assisted me greatly in paying the \$2,000 for the church. When I needed \$320 to make a complete payment ex-Senator H. C. Connolly, uncle to Gov. Hughes, took a book and in three days collected the full amount. He was the treasurer of my finance committee, and we placed a marble slab in memory of them—Herbert Carl, Walter C. Dolson, Hon. H. C. Connolly, Conrad Hilderbrant and John B. Alleger.

While in Kingston I lost my daughter, Meta, in October, 1904, and my wife the following June, 1905.

It was not until the fall of 1907 that I was able to pay off all indebtedness on the church and burn the mortgage. On September 11th of the same year I married again to Miss Alice Levi of Westbury, N. Y.

In June, 1908, I was sent to Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Here I remained for six years and increased the membership by four successful revivals, the greater portion of whom are still standing true. A new brick church was built on the corner of Smith and Cottage Streets at a cost of \$35,000, completely fitted up with everything—trustees' meeting room, ladies' dressing room, a large room called the "guest chamber," a fine kitchen, with gas and coal range, 800 dishes made to order, with the letter Z in gold on each piece, a new organ costing \$700, a new piano costing \$350, pastor's study carpeted and fitted up with desk, chairs, hot air and hot water furnaces, all the gift of Hon. Wm. W. Smith, "the Cough Drop man." We placed a tablet to his memory in the church.

We purchased two lots in the rear of the church and facing on Cottage Street, with \$2,600 in the bank for a new parsonage which has since been built on the two lots.

While here we held the Annual Conference in 1910 and in 1912 the Connectional Council; we also attended the General Conference in Charlotte, N. C., in 1912.

In June, 1914, I was sent to Yonkers, N. Y. Here I found things in much confusion, with between \$700 and \$800 indebtedness. We went to work as best we could but did not and could not make any showing until March, 1917. Then we made some improvements, cleaning up the auditorium, putting in electric lights and new carpet and repairing the roof; a new sink and stove were also placed in the kitchen. We have the debt down to about \$200 including new debt.

By the efforts of Bro. E. W. Butler, our efficient chorister, we have raised the choir space and secured 25 new chairs. We hope in the near future to install a \$700 pipe organ.

Through the efforts of Bro. Arthur Simmons we secured 100 new hymnals. Through the Brotherhood, 300 dishes have been purchased for the dining room and kitchen.

It was my pleasure to attend the General Conference in Louisville, Ky., May, 1916, with Bro. Thomas S. Lane. I am thankful to say that the church is in fine working condition.

In 1915 we were able to form a company of United States Boy Scouts with Bro. Philip Ryerson at its head. He has since been promoted to the office of major. There are about 50 in the company.



State Street American Episcopal Zion Church. \$35,000 Church Built
By Rev. JUDD at Poughkeepsie, N. Y.