

The First African-American Church of Christ in Jackson, MI

When African-American began moving out of the South after World War I a cluster of relatives who were members of the Church of Christ settled in Jackson for worship. Their meeting place was a house converted to church purposes. The oldest members were born in slavery. Few preachers came by to encourage their faithfulness until T. H. York, the last man seated on the right of the front row, drove over from Detroit for a gospel meeting. Shortly thereafter G. P. Bowser did the same when he came to preach in Detroit. T. H. York was originally from Nashville, TN and was one of the first black preachers to settle in Michigan. His work resulted in the beginning of the Ford-Linwood Church of Christ in Detroit.