



Friendship Church Today

Friendship Elementary was one of the first community schools in the area. Prior to community schools, reading, writing and numbers (as math was referred to) were taught primarily in homes. Children were attending classes at Friendship, decades before the town of Malone was even a logging camp. It was located on the south property of Friendship Church. For many decades children from the Collins and Friendship area were educated there. The photo below was taken in 1924, the last year the school was open. A new Malone High School had opened in 1921 and offered 12 grades of schooling. Friendship Elementary closed and students were transferred to Malone in 1925. This fourth grade class in the photo was taught by Mrs. Ernestine McMillan. It was the beginning of a teaching career for her that would span many decades as an educator at Malone High School before retiring. Students left to right top: Arland Hand, Wilson Hall, and

Sherley Dekle. Middle left to right: Fletcher Hall, Lewis Ham, W.B. Floyd, M.D. Jones, Jeff Jones, and P.T. Everett. Bottom left to right: Barney Rogers, Alton White, Lester Rogers, and Melburn Mathews.

There are no remaining living student in the class photo, Lester Rogers, born in 1915 was the last to go. He died in Albany Georgia on May 19, 2004.



The original Friendship Church