

# First United Methodist Church

Douglasville, Ga.



History of  
**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
Douglasville, Georgia  
1850 to 1980

The writing of this history has been a project of the United Methodist Women. We have endeavored to include pertinent facts that will be of interest in future years.

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**PART I**  
**1857 - 1951**  
**Mrs. B. J. Lunsford**

**With Revisions and Additions**  
**by**  
**History Committee of 1980**



History of  
THE DOUGLASVILLE METHODIST CHURCH  
Douglasville, Georgia  
May, 1951

The Douglasville Methodist Church was first known as the Flat Rock Church. The exact date of its organization is not known. We do know it was at some time prior to 1850; an old bulletin says 1819. It really had its beginning in the homes of its people. In the early years of the century, Mr. Franklin Winn, a local preacher, moved from South Carolina to what was then Campbell County and now Douglas County, Georgia. At that time the country was undeveloped as it had up to this time been occupied by the Indians; consequently, no church was near. Mr. Winn, brimming over with the love of God in his heart, realized the need for a place of worship for the community and he invited the people to open their homes for religious services. They came together in great numbers to the various homes to hear him preach from the Word of God.

In those days the people looked to the good earth for their livelihood. . . in spring-time planting the seeds and working their crops. Then came time of the laying-by of the crops which was a time of rejoicing for all. During the summer months neighbors would gather for the religious services, followed by social and recreational activities. On the occasion of one such meeting Mr. Winn discussed with them the need of a house of worship. He struck a responsive note, and at once it was decided all would come together near a large flat rock two miles west of the present site of the city of Douglasville. All lending a hand with the work, a brush arbor was soon erected which housed the first camp meeting in Douglas County. It proved to be such a revival that the people were inspired to erect a permanent church building near the site of the brush arbor.

Mr. Young Vansant donated the land on which to erect a church building. This first church was built of logs cut from the nearby forest. There was no organ in the church. Later, a frame building was erected with benches in the rear for slaves who were members of the church with their masters.

The first pastor to succeed Mr. Winn was the Reverend Clayburn Trussell, who lived near Villa Rica, Georgia. He came on horseback once a month to preach on Saturday and Sunday. "Uncle" Miles Norton was an exhorter and a great help to the church. "Uncle" Ike McKelvey was an exhorter and he was noted for his uplifting prayers. The family name of some of the charter members were: Winn, Maxwell, Wright, McElreath, McKelvey, McLarty, Entrekin, Weddington, Watson, Polk, and Norton.

In the year 1870, Douglas County came into being. It was formed from part of Campbell County and also a part of Carroll County. In 1871, by popular vote, the county seat of the new county was located at "Skint Chestnut", so called because

of a chestnut tree which was used as a hitching post, and skinned by horses that were hitched to it.

The Flat Rock church was torn down while the Rev. J. B. C. Quillian was pastor. The good material from the old church was used in the erection of a new church building. The new church was built on a lot 121 x 200 feet, purchased from Mr. J. H. Winn for the sum of \$254.35. The lot was on the corner of Broad Street and what is now known as Rose Avenue. The new church building was a modern structure of that day. The estimated cost was \$1,500. Trustees elected were: J. C. Wright, C. S. McElreath, I. W. McKelvey, S. W. Biggers and C. W. Weddington. Mr. Weddington was also Superintendent of the first Sunday School and Director of Music. In 1886, at the time of the Charleston earthquake, the church was rocked from its foundation and had to be repaired. The Rev. Simon Peter Richardson, Presiding Elder, was preaching at that hour. The story goes that when the tremor was first felt in the church the pastor requested some of the brethren to go outside and run the hogs from under the building, as it appeared to him that the hogs were "scratching" their backs on the supports of the floor, thus shaking the building. The church was repaired and used for preaching services for three years longer. In November of 1889 it was sold to Mr. J. T. Duncan for \$300 and a lot near the center of town was bought from Messrs. J. B. and J. M. Dorris for the sum of \$700. Trustees elected were: J. Q. Entrekin, N. B. Duncan, W. T. Roberts, John B. Dorris, A. W. McLarty, John M. Morris, J. S. James, M. B. Watson and J. T. Duncan. On this lot, which is on the corner of Church and Price Streets, a beautiful church of medieval architecture with stained glass windows was erected. The seating capacity was ample; the woodwork and carving were beautiful. A solid oak pulpit and communion table were donated by Mr. M. M. Haines, who had moved here from the north. Each piece was handmade and hand carved by Mr. Haines himself. These are in our church today as we reserved them in the sale of the church at Price Avenue and Church Street.

There was an interesting incident in relation to this church building. On or about 1910 a fire occurred in the barn of Mr. J. Abercrombie, where the Douglas County Federal Savings Building is now (1980), and there being no fire department in the town, the "Bucket Brigade" was formed. Before this was under control, the high winds had carried the fire to another barn just back of the old post office and adjacent to the business district. This church building was one-half block away and in the path of the fire. Mr. J. E. Phillips, whose house was next, seeing the sparks landing all over the church building, hurriedly secured a quart size bottle filled with water with a cork stopper loosely fitted. When he discovered leaves which had been ignited in the gutter in the valley of the roof, he threw the bottle above the blaze, and what he had desperately hoped would happen—DID. The bottle lodged in the valley. The water forced the stopper out and the fire was extinguished. Was this the hand and will of God? Who knows?

Several of the outstanding church leaders of that day were: N. B. Duncan, J. T. Duncan, W. T. Roberts and A. W. McLarty. These men were great contributors

financially and in many other ways. Other laymen and laywomen contributed largely with their various talents.

The Douglasville Church has always been blessed with wonderful musical leadership. Many noted occasions that will be long remembered took place in this church. The first wedding was that of Miss Lizzie Parks to Mr. Bellerton. For the occasion the church was decorated with Goldenrod and Fringed Gentian.

In 1905 a farewell party was given for Miss Kate Cooper just before she sailed for Korea as a missionary.

Great revivals are still living and bearing fruits in the hearts of some of its members. To mention one — Reverend Fletcher Walton was so heavily burdened for the sins of his people that he remained in the church for a whole night in prayer. God came in great saving power, as He always does when the people are ready to pay the price.

In 1921, while the Reverend W. H. Clark was pastor, the church was again torn down to give place for a more modern structure. The need for Sunday School rooms being great, a modern Sunday School plant was built. The church lot was not adequate for the Sunday School Annex and church as planned by the blueprint which was drawn by the Reverend C. M. Lipham, architect, consequently, a twelve foot extension on the lot was purchased from Mr. J. E. Phillips for the sum of \$240. The Sunday School plant was completed with ample room for all departments; a basement with assembly room for adult departments of Sunday School, a kitchen equipped with all modern conveniences and facilities for serving large groups, and a small auditorium for worship services. The auditorium was used for church services for several years. Since funds were exhausted, the building of the main auditorium was delayed until a later date. Trustees at this time were J. T. Duncan, F. M. Stewart, J. L. Giles and Glenn Dorris.

The work of Reverend Marvin Williams with the young people could not be measured. The results of his ministry are still living and growing, and looms as one of the peaks of Methodism.

The young people and pastors of the Douglasville Church, the Douglasville Circuit, Powder Springs Charge, Lithia Springs and Austell churches, met at Douglasville and organized a Young People's Union in April, 1931. To their organization they gave the name of "Marvin Williams", in honor of the beloved Presiding Elder of the Marietta District who loved young people so much. Miss Elsie Wood was elected the first president and held this honor for many years. Since Unification, we call this organization the "Marvin Williams Sub-district" and other churches have come into it. The meetings of the Sub-district are for inspiration, instruction, fellowship and recreation.

The young people cooperated in every respect with the activities of the Sub-district and Conference. They held summer retreats, Christian workers schools, attended

Conferences at Camp Glisson and Junaluska. The Sub-district paid \$300 toward the education of a Chinese boy. This was called the Fred Gwin Memorial Fund because of the great love for, and interest in young people by the faithful minister who was one of the four pastors responsible for the organization of the Union. The other three pastors were Reverend T. M. Sullivan, Douglasville; Reverend S. A. F. Wagner, Austell; and Reverend Peter Manning, Powder Springs.

Reverend Charles L. Allen served this church as pastor for four years, 1941-1944 inclusive. His first major accomplishment was to build a sanctuary to the already completed Sunday School Department at the up-town site on Church Street. With the example of substantial aid, money and effort from a very few of the most able members, the effort was completed and the new church facility was turned over to the congregation. The first service was held on October 26, 1941. The dedication service, conducted by Bishop Arthur J. Moore, District Superintendent W. H. LaPrade, and Reverend Allen, was on December 28, 1941.

The first \$500 paid into the building fund was given by Mrs. J. B. Dorris in memory of her son, Frank, who was killed in the First World War. The money was really donated by Frank himself in his will, to be presented by his mother should he not return. Trustees in 1941 were: W. G. Dorris, E. M. Huffine, Astor Merritt, R. E. Hamilton, T. N. Mozley, Mrs. N. M. Hawley, J. L. Dorris, W. C. Abercrombie, D. S. Strickland, G. T. McLarty, F. M. Stewart, C. D. Mozley and W. C. Carver.

Other highlights of Reverend Allen's pastorate include several special services: A service of "Renewed Wedding Vows" on Sunday, June 20, 1943 was administered to seventy couples, a service honoring those of our Church in the service of our country, and dedicating the Service Flag was held on August 30, 1942 and again on August 29, 1943, and a service honoring members of the Douglasville Masonic Lodge was held on May 30, 1943. Reverend Allen is now (1980) pastor of the largest Methodist Church in America, the First United Methodist Church of Houston, Texas.

The Douglasville Methodist Church has contributed in a large way to the religious life of the world in the person of Miss Kate Cooper. She was born and reared in Douglasville. She gave more than forty years of her life to the mission field in Korea. For twenty years or more, she was an ordained minister, possibly the first woman to be ordained in the history of the Methodist Church. She refused to be retired, choosing to continue to labor and live among the people she loved, ever saying she desired her last resting place to be in her beloved Korea. The Koreans speak of Miss Kate as "the Saint", and "The Angel of the Mission Field". However, she was forced by the Korean government to come home. Here she continued to witness for the Lord and died on May 1, 1976. She is buried in the old part of the Douglasville cemetery.

Miss Willette Allen was nationally known for her great efforts in the field of kindergarten work. Her home was in Douglasville where she and her family were valuable

members of the Methodist Church. Others who made large contributions to the religious life of the world were the three Brockman brothers, Fletcher, Whitfield and Frank. All went to the foreign fields as missionaries. After the death of their father, the mother followed her sons in this work. Her grave is somewhere in a distant land.

Revivals of note: In 1897, while the Reverend D. J. Myric was pastor, a tent meeting was held. Lincoln McConnell (an evangelist) was the preacher and the Reverend William Mackey was musical director. This revival was one of power and of lasting good. Mr. Mackey later married a Douglasville girl, Miss Alice Farmer.

Another revival of note was held in 1903, the Reverend W. W. McCord preaching. While the Reverend Wills M. Jones was pastor, a union tent meeting was held; Methodists and Baptists worked together. The Methodist pastor preached one day and the Baptist preached the next. Great soul-stirring sermons were delivered by both pastors. God came with great power to convict and save; much lasting good resulted from the meeting.

During the pastorate of the Reverend George L. King, an evangelistic committee was appointed, consisting of laywomen and laymen. This committee went in groups to visit the rural churches of the home county, assisting in any way possible with the religious work of the church.

As a Sunday School teacher, Colonel Astor Merritt was one of the best. As teacher of the Men's Bible Class he contributed greatly to the church. He was a leader in many ways.

The first parsonage was a house on the rear of the church lot bought from Messrs. J. B. and J. M. Dorris in 1889. This house was used for a parsonage until 1906. At that time, a house and lot fronting 200 feet on Broad Street and running back 200 feet was purchased from Mr. M. M. Haines for the sum of \$800. In 1908, while the Reverend George Barrett was pastor, the parsonage and one-half of the lot was sold for the purchase price. The other half of the lot, 100 x 200 feet, was reserved to build a seven room house costing an estimated \$2,000. Trustees were J. Q. Entrekin, J. B. Dorris and G. T. McLarty. In the year 1949 this parsonage was sold for the sum of \$4,500. A lot adjoining the church was bought from Mr. W. C. Abercrombie for the sum of \$1,000. On this lot a lovely ranch style brick parsonage was erected at a cost of \$16,000, exclusive of the lot.

The Woman's Missionary Society was organized in the home of Mrs. C. W. Weddington sometime before 1890. The Charter members were: Mrs. J. B. C. Quillian, Mrs. A. G. Weddington, Mrs. N. B. Duncan and Mrs. C. W. Weddington. Mrs. J. B. C. Quillian was the first President. The names of Mrs. W. T. Roberts, Mrs. Jennie Morse and others were soon added, among them Mrs. Priscilla Duncan Jackson. Mrs. Jackson was most loyal, serving as Treasurer for more than thirty years. During her lifetime she seldom missed a meeting. She attended the district meetings and brought inspiring reports to the Society. The Society had grown until there were



67 charter members when the Woman's Society of Christian Service was organized. The Woman's Society of Christian Service sponsored and brought to completion many worthwhile projects. When the new church was completed in 1941, the Woman's Society of Christian Service bought the pews, carpet and other furnishings for the church for an amount of \$2,500.

In 1923, a worthwhile project, undertaken and completed by the Woman's Missionary Society of the Douglasville Church was the sponsoring of a Woman's Missionary Society in each of the Methodist Churches of the home county. Committees from the Douglasville Woman's Missionary Society were appointed as sponsors for the newly organized societies to help with program and in other ways.

The Woman's Society of Christian Service paid in all for the year 1950-1951, \$905.95. The following Woman's Society of Christian Service officers were elected and installed for the year 1951-1952:

President.....	Mrs. W. S. O'Neal
Vice President .....	Mrs. R. E. Hamilton
Recording Secretary .....	Mrs. Margaret Maile
Treasurer .....	Mrs. Glenn Dorris
Secretary of Promotions.....	Mrs. T. A. Slaughter
Spiritual Life.....	Mrs. C. H. Watkins
Missionary Education and Study.....	Mrs. Morgan Freeman and Mrs. J. O. Sayer, Jr.
Christian Social Relations.....	Mrs. W. E. Hewitt
Local Church Activities.....	Mrs. Bill Pharr
Student Work.....	Mrs. L. E. Brewer
Children's Work.....	Mrs. J. L. Dorris
Supplies .....	Mrs. Harold Orr
Status of Women .....	Mrs. R. L. Lloyd
Literature and Publications .....	Mrs. J. O. Sayer, Sr.
Publicity .....	Mrs. Ossie McLarty

#### Historial Committee (1952)

Mrs. W. M. Morris  
Mrs. G. T. McLarty  
Mrs. W. M. Hays  
Mrs. Mollie Lee  
Miss Pearl Price

**PART II**  
**1951-1980**  
**History Committee of 1980**

Reverend Grady A. Lively, the minister who served this Church for the longest period of time, ten years, came to us in 1950, at which time the pastor's salary was \$3,600 per year. The all-inclusive budget for the year was \$7,209 and was paid in full.

Collections for Sunday School from May 1950 to May 1951 were \$1,113.

The Men's Club of the Church was very active during the 1950's, having as high as 70 members, with usually 40 or more in attendance.

Reverend Lively was active and supportive of the Men's Club, as well as all departments of the Church. His years here were very fruitful, both in the spiritual life of the Church and the general progress and fellowship.

The Lively Sunday School Class was named for this family.

At Eastertime, 1951, Dr. and Mrs. W. S. O'Neal presented to the Church a beautiful stained glass window. It was given in memory of their son, Charles S. O'Neal, who passed away on January 16, 1949.

The window was placed back of the pulpit and represented Christ with outstretched arms beckoning all to come unto Him. Matthew 11:28. Reverend G. A. Lively accepted the picture on behalf of the Church in most fitting words.

During this period in the life of the Douglasville Church certain individuals contributed greatly to the total program of the church. Ben Beall added much to church services with his magnificent vocal solos. He also served as choir director for a time as did David Young. Mr. Young, who first came to Douglasville First Methodist as a part-time music and youth director while still a student at Emory University, made many contributions in these areas until he moved away from Douglasville in the early 1970s.

Many laymen and laywomen in the past history of the Church are worthy of special mention, among some of the outstanding, not already given special mention herein, are as follows: J. B. Dorris, J. R. Duncan, F. M. Stewart, G. T. McLarty, T. P. Huckaby, W. M. Morris, E. M. Huffine, Mrs. Pearl Duncan, Mrs. W. M. Morris, Mrs. Ossie McLarty, Mrs. N. M. Hawley, Mrs. Vinie McLarty, Mrs. Rossie Sayer, Mrs. W. M. Hays, Mrs. Edna Hamilton and Mrs. C. H. Watkins.

Reverend Arthur L. Gilmore served as minister at Douglasville First Methodist Church from July 1960 to July 1962.

Reverend Gilmore brought to the church an extensive background in the religious education field which was indispensable in building and strengthening the educational program of the church.

It was during his ministry that plans for relocation of the church to its present



site were formulated. In 1961 a study committee was appointed by the official board of the church for the purpose of determining whether it would be feasible to expand the church or re-locate it. The committee was composed of Robert J. Noland—chairman, Marvin Morris, J. W. Wallis, W. J. Tidwell and I. S. Owings.

Assisted by the Board of Church Architecture of Nashville, Tennessee, the committee made a recommendation to Reverend Gilmore and the congregation for a relocation of the First United Methodist Church.

Reverend Max M. Whittemore was assigned as minister in June 1962. One of the first major developments during the tenure of Reverend Whittemore was the approval of the move of the church to another Douglasville area. After considering several offers of tracts of land, a special church conference on November 17, 1963 approved a five-acre area on Prestley Mill Road for the construction of the new worship facility.

The property on Prestley Mill Road was later deeded as a gift to the church by Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Haddle, Sr., on September 1, 1964.

The church lot and building at the corner of Price Avenue and Church Street was sold in 1964 to the Seventh Day Adventist Church for \$40,000 and the parsonage was sold to the Georgian Villa, Incorporated, for \$20,000. This transaction was not finalized until 1966 when possession was granted. The church lot and building were sold to the City of Douglasville in 1973. This transaction resulted in an unusual worship arrangement. The First Methodist's main worship service was held on the first day of the week, Sunday, and the Seventh-Day Adventist's service on the seventh day, Saturday. Both groups held a combined service on Wednesday evening. These two religions shared the building, by mutual consent for two years during the completion of the new sanctuary.

The new parsonage was constructed prior to the church in 1964 on land deeded by Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Winn. The parsonage, built by A. B. Craven Construction Company, cost \$30,000. The ground-breaking ceremony was held May 10, 1964 with District Superintendent Joseph L. Black and Reverend Whittemore presiding. The parsonage was completed in February 1965, and was officially dedicated at services held February 21, 1965, conducted by Reverend Whittemore.

The ground breaking for the church building was held on April 18, 1965. The contract for the church and educational building was awarded to Rogers Brothers of Rome, Georgia, on April 13, 1965 for \$473,265. Godwin and Beckett Incorporated of Atlanta received \$28,153 for architectural services connected with construction of the church.

Other costs, not included in the contract, were kitchen equipment, \$3,460; Sunday School furnishings, \$3,232; and sanctuary furnishings including pews, altar, balcony, windows, carpet, etc.

Dr. W. S. O'Neal honored his wife, Nell, by donating furnishings for the parlor on the ground floor of the educational building. Mrs. J. Thad Smith and Mrs. Freeman Warren planned and purchased the furnishings. The carpet for the sanctuary was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Carl C. Forrester, Jr.

A memorial of a beautiful fountain was placed in the courtyard by the family of Major Frank H. Wright, and wrought iron benches were placed on either side in memory of Horace Wright by the R. J. Noland family. These additions certainly helped to beautify this area of our church. Plantings around the fountain make this a beautiful quiet spot for meditation.

A new electronic organ was purchased from Allen Organ Corporation of Atlanta for a cost of \$10,835 by a previously appointed church committee.

The Building Committee was composed of I. S. Owings—chairman, John Freeman, J. M. Haddle, Sr., W. S. O'Neal, Mrs. J. Thad Smith, John O. Warren and F. M. Winn.

The first service in the new church was conducted by Reverend Whittemore on November 6, 1966, by consent of the contractor. The building was not finally turned over to the officials of the church until January 12, 1967.

The Consecration Service was held on November 27, 1966, with District Superintendent Joseph L. Black presiding and assisted by Reverend Whittemore and former church minister Reverend Arthur L. Gilmore.

Reverend Whittemore ended five years of service to the church in June 1967 and was replaced by the Reverend Norman P. Manning.

Under Reverend Manning's leadership, the first week-day kindergarten was conducted in the church. A youth building was constructed with the hopes of helping to meet a real need in the ministry to youth.

Both Reverend and Mrs. Manning were active in the music program of the church. As a result of their enthusiasm and their leadership, a full music program involving children and youth choirs was developed. These musical groups participated in all district and conference festivals and provided programs for local worship activities.

Reverend C. Lavern Mobley became the minister of the church in June 1971. Many significant programs were either initiated or improved by his dynamic leadership. He believed in a strong interaction of church and community, thus opening the doors of the church and its facilities to worthy community organizations such as, Alcoholics Anonymous, Senior Citizens Nutrition Programs, Scouts, and others.

He organized some trips to the Holy Land. On one of these trips a beautifully hand-carved wooden nativity scene was bought and given to the church as a memorial

gift by the family of Jack E. James. It is used each Christmas.

Programs established during his ministry were: Mother's Morning Out, Senior Breakfast, Food Pantry for Home Missions, The Joyful Noise (a youth choir), and a church library. This library was organized by an active group of young people under the direction of Mrs. Freeman Warren. It was furnished and is maintained through memorial contributions. In addition to many interesting books, it contains most of the works of a former pastor, Charles Allen.

Reverend Mobley's untimely death in April 1975 saddened the entire Conference. A scholarship in his honor was established at Young Harris College.

Reverend Dennis Price, Assistant Pastor, and Reverend Dumas Shellnut, District Superintendent, provided excellent leadership until a new pastor was assigned.

An unexpected event took place on Pentecost Sunday soon after Reverend Mobley's death. The church had to be cleared due to a fire in the electrical system. There was only minor damage done to the church building, but the congregation felt they had truly experienced fire from heaven.

Reverend Edgar A. Padgett was assigned as minister of the church in June 1975. Due to his vast knowledge of Methodist doctrine and organizational structure of the church, and through his expertise and dedication, the church progressed.

During Reverend Padgett's service the narthex of the church was furnished and redecorated, a gift from the will of church member Mrs. Carrie Smith.

Church expansion plans were made less burdensome by the generous gift of Mrs. J. M. Haddle, Sr., when she gave land adjacent to the church for future expansion. The church also received a substantial gift of Citizen Bank stock given by Claude Abercrombie, Jr.

The parsonage has been kept in good condition with repair and replacement of normal "wear and tear" items.

The church roof was found in need of repair. Although this was a major expense in 1976, it was completed through personal donations and a substantial gift from the week-day kindergarten. The work of the church and its family was not hindered by this necessary construction.

In 1978 the first pictorial directory of the church membership was compiled. During this period of extensive growth this was a tremendous asset to the congregation.

Realizing the contributions of dedicated Christians under Reverend Padgett's guidance, the Council on Ministries recognized four members for outstanding leadership through the years. During a morning worship service a miniature pen

and ink sketch drawn by Mrs. Jennings Garbade was presented in appreciation to Dr. W. S. O'Neal, Mr. Jake Carnes, Mr. Frank Winn and Mr. I. S. Owings.

Reverend Padgett was transferred to Calhoun, Georgia, in June 1979, and was replaced by Reverend Emory Brackman.

Reverend Brackman, an avid camera enthusiast, immediately began compiling a pictorial review of all programs and functions of the church.

Mrs. Elise Brackman was employed as the first full time music director and the music program was greatly enhanced by the addition of the marimba and hand bells. The handbells were bought with memorial contributions and the handbell choir gave its first performance on Christmas, 1980.

Mr. George Jones was employed as the new organist to replace Mrs. Rachel Mozley. Mrs. Mozley retired after serving as church organist for over 30 years. She was honored by her church family with a reception and a gift for her outstanding musical contribution to the First United Methodist Church.

Problems brought about by tremendous growth from 1970 to 1980 were capably met by the Board of Trustees. In the summer of 1980, under the leadership of Chairman Eugene Tidwell, a parking lot adjacent to the Youth Building was completed.

Continuing the custom of honoring outstanding leadership in the church several members were recognized during 1979 and 1980. At the annual "Hanging of the Green" in December, 1979, Miss Diane James was honored for her years as Coordinator of the Children's Division. "Brewer Day" was observed on September 14, 1980 to honor Sue and L. E. Brewer for their many services and contributions.

As our church has grown, the United Methodist Women's group has kept pace. The name was changed from the Woman's Society of Christian Service but the group remains constant in its supportive efforts. There are now ninety (90) members in four units which meet once a month.

Our officers are:

President	Virginia Pope
Vice President	Lynnda Stanford
Secretary	Kathleen Seagraves
Treasurer	Libby Swofford
Christian Personhood	Bea Aldredge
Secretary of Program Resources	Beth Hutcheson
Supportive Community	Gerila Atkinson
Christian Global Concerns	Catherine Pursley
Membership	Marie Patillo
Publicity	Betty Harper
Key Woman for Community Affairs	Elsie Wood
Committee on Nominations	Shirley Anderson
	Joan Tidwell, Dora Strickland

**PART III**  
**Appendix**

**CHURCH GROWTH  
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
Douglasville, Georgia  
1875 - 1979**

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Year	District	Membership	Sunday School Enrollment	Pastor's Salary & Assistant's Salary	Total Money Raised
1875	Rome	355	365	\$ 198.50	\$ 435.00
1877	Rome	355	125	288.50	600.00
1887	North Atlanta	450	275	602.00	
1890	North Atlanta	498	300	625.00	
1900	Carrollton	286	192	600.00	1,599.35
1909	Rome	553	119	800.00	
1920	Rome	410	308	1,600.00	
1933	Marietta	471	391	1,800.00	
1940	Marietta	457	236	1,500.00	3,378.00
1950	Rome	658	385	3,600.00	
1960	Rome	520	411	6,000.00	23,553.00
1970	Atlanta S.W.	666	441	6,900.00	87,289.00
1979	Atlanta-College Park	910	479	16,500.00	158,451.00

**MINISTERS AND YEARS OF SERVICE**  
**First United Methodist Church**  
**Douglasville, Georgia**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>MINISTER (Charge)</b>	<b>DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT (Presiding Elder)</b>	<b>DISTRICT</b>
1857	Thomas Boring Villa Rica	Samuel Anthony	LaGrange
1857	To be supplied Haralson Mission		
1859	J. W. Hardy & S. A. Clark Villa Rica & Haralson Mission	William H. Evans	LaGrange
1859	T. T. Arnold Paulding Mission	W. R. Branham P.E.	Atlanta
1859	J. W. Brady & S. A. Clark Villa Rica & Haralson Mission	William H. Evans	LaGrange
1860	J. W. Brady Haralson Mission	William H. Evans	LaGrange
1860	A. F. Beavours Paulding Mission	J. W. Yarbrough, P.E.	Atlanta
1867	M. D. Morton, Supply Haralson Mission	W. R. Branham, P.E.	Atlanta
1867	C. Trussell & A. J. Deavours Powder Springs	H. J. Adams, P.E.	Atlanta
1868	M. D. Morton Haralson Mission	L. J. Davies, P.E.	LaGrange

YEAR	MINISTER (Charge)	DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT (Presiding Elder)	DISTRICT
1868	J. N. Myers Powder Springs	T. F. Pierce, P.E.	Atlanta
1868	A. G. Carpenter & A. J. Deavours Dallas		
1868	To be supplied Sand Town	L. J. Davies, P.E.	LaGrange
1869	R. R. Johnson Villa Rica	G. W. Yarbrough, P.E.	Marietta
1869	C. Trussell Sand Town Mission	G. W. Yarbrough, P.E.	Marietta
1870	W. G. Morton, Supply Dallas	P. M. Ryburn, P.E.	Marietta
1870	J. N. Myers Villa Rica	P. M. Ryburn, P.E.	Marietta
1870	Wiley Steed Sand Town	P. M. Ryburn, P.E.	Marietta
1871	E. K. Aiken Dallas	P. M. Ryburn, P.E.	Marietta
1871	J. N. Myers Villa Rica	P. M. Ryburn, P.E.	Marietta
1871	M. G. Hamby Powder Springs	P. M. Ryburn, P.E.	Marietta
1871	J. P. Prickett Sand Town	P. M. Ryburn, P.E.	Marietta



YEAR	MINISTER (Charge)	DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT (Presiding Elder)	DISTRICT
1872	H. C. Christian Dallas	F. A. Kimbrell, P.E.	Marietta
1872	J. N. Myers Villa Rica	F. A. Kimbrell, P.E.	Marietta
1873	H. C. Christian & W. D. Payne, Supply Dallas & Sand Town	T. F. Pierce, P.E.	Rome
<b>Minister Assigned at Conference in November of Year Before</b>			
1874	Reverend Farris	P. E. Cook	
1874	Isaac G. Parks	W. P. Pledger	Rome
1875-76	M. L. Underwood	W. P. Pledger	Rome
1877	J. Carr	S. P. Richardson	Rome
1878-79	J. T. Richardson	S. P. Richardson	Rome
1880	Wesley G. Hanson	W. P. Green	Rome
1881-82	C. C. Andrews	W. F. Glenn	Rome
1883	G. W. Hardaway	J. R. Mayson	Marietta
1884	C. S. Owens	W. D. Anderson	Marietta
1885	G. W. Thomas	W. D. Anderson	Marietta
1886-87	W. R. Foote	W. D. Anderson	Marietta
1888	C. P. Marchman	W. F. Glenn	North Atlanta
1889-90	H. L. Crumley	W. F. Glenn	North Atlanta

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>MINISTER (Charge)</b>	<b>DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT (Presiding Elder)</b>	<b>DISTRICT</b>
1891-92	J. L. Moon	J. E. Heidt	North Atlanta
1893	W. A. Parks	J. W. Heidt	North Atlanta
1894	W. T. Caldwell	A. W. Williams	Carrollton
1895	D. J. Myric	A. W. Williams	Carrollton
1896-97	D. J. Myric	M. J. Cofer	Carrollton
1898-99	F. Walton	T. J. Christian	Carrollton
1900	John Spier	T. J. Christian	Carrollton
1901	John Spier	W. F. Glenn & J. W. Heidt	Rome
1902	J. B. Holland	W. F. Glenn	Rome
1903-04	J. O. A. Grogan	W. R. Foote	Rome
1905-06	B. H. Trammell	S. B. Ledbetter	Rome
1907-08	George W. Barrett	S. B. Ledbetter	Rome
1909	J. R. Lewis	John S. Jenkins	Rome
1910-11	Marvin Williams	John S. Jenkins	Rome
1912	Marvin Williams	W. B. Dillard	Rome
1913	J. A. Timmerman	W. A. Cooper	Marietta
1914-15	Frank E. Jenkins	W. A. Cooper	Marietta
1916	J. C. Atkinson	W. A. Cooper	Marietta
1917	J. C. Atkinson	W. H. LaPrade, Jr.	South Atlanta
1918-19	Augustus Earnest	W. H. LaPrade, Jr.	South Atlanta

YEAR	MINISTER (Charge)	DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT (Presiding Elder)	DISTRICT
1920	W. H. Clark	W. H. LaPrade, Jr.	South Atlanta
1921-23	W. H. Clark	J. H. Eakes	South Atlanta
1924-26	G. L. King	W. T. Hunnicutt	South Atlanta
May 1926	Roy Ethridge	W. T. Hunnicutt	South Atlanta
1927-28	Wills M. Jones	H. H. Jones	Marietta
1929	Wills M. Jones	Nath Thompson	Marietta
1930	J. R. Turner	Nath Thompson	Marietta
1931-33	T. M. Sullivan	Marvin Williams	Marietta
1934	J. W. Brinsfield	Marvin Williams	Marietta
1935	J. W. Brinsfield	Wills M. Jones	Marietta
1936	C. A. Hall	Wills M. Jones	Marietta
1937-38	McLowery Elrod	Wills M. Jones	Marietta
1939-40	T. R. Kendall	Augustus Earnest	Marietta
1941-43	Charles L. Allen	W. H. LaPrade	Rome
1944	Charles L. Allen	B. F. Pim	Rome
1945	E. M. Wise	B. F. Pim	Rome
1946-47	Irby Henderson	B. F. Pim	Rome
1947-48	Irby Henderson	Wills Jones	Rome
<b>The Time of the Annual Conference Changed from November to June in 1947</b>			
1948-50	D. S. Patterson	Wills Jones	Rome
1950-54	G. A. Lively	Delma L. Hagood	Rome

YEAR	MINISTER (Charge)	DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT (Presiding Elder)	DISTRICT
1954-60	G. A. Lively	J. Hamby Barton, Sr.	Rome
1960-62	A. L. Gilmore	R. Parks Segars	Rome
1962-67	M. M. Whittemore	Joe L. Black	Atlanta-Southwest
1967-68	Norman Manning	Joe L. Black	Atlanta-Southwest
1968-71	Norman Manning	William C. Bowen	Atlanta-Southwest
1971-74	Laverne Mobley	William C. Bowen	Atlanta-Southwest
1974-75	Laverne Mobley	Dumas B. Shelnutt, Sr.	Atlanta-Southwest
1975-76	Edgar A. Padgett	Dumas B. Shelnutt, Sr.	Atlanta-Southwest
1977-79	Edgar A. Padgett	A. C. Epps	Atlanta-Southwest
1979-80	Emory Brackman	A. C. Epps	Atlanta-College Park

**DESIGNATED CONTRIBUTIONS**  
**For Building Erected in 1966**  
**Prestley Mill Road**  
**Douglasville, Georgia**

**PEWS**

Mrs. W. D. Lloyd  
In Memory of  
Mr. W. D. Lloyd

Mrs. J. L. Dorris  
In Memory of  
Mr. & Mrs. George T. McLarty

Mr. & Mrs. R. W. Thompson, Jr.  
In Memory of  
Dr. & Mrs F. M. Stewart  
&  
Mr. E. R. Stewart

Mr. & Mrs. E. M. Huffine  
In Memory of  
Emma Lowe Dorris

Mr. & Mrs. J. M. Haddle, Sr.  
In Honor of  
Mr. & Mrs. E. M. Huffine

Mr. & Mrs. Frank M. Winn

Mrs. O. B. Farrell  
In Memory of  
Mr. O. B. Farrell

Ross Telford  
In Memory of  
Effie Greene

Their children  
In Memory of  
Mr. & Mrs. T. N. Mozley, Sr.

Mr. & Mrs. W. S. O'Neal  
In Honor of  
Rev. & Mrs. G. A. Lively

The Children  
In Honor of  
Rev. & Mrs. Max Whittemore

Mr. & Mrs. Lamar Smith & Family

Mr. & Mrs. R. L. Smith & Children

Mrs. W. E. Hewitt  
&  
Sons, Claud & Harry  
In Memory of  
Mr. W. E. Hewitt

Mrs. V. R. Smith  
In Memory of  
V. R. Smith

Mr. & Mrs. Carl C. Forrester, Jr.  
In Memory of  
Rev. & Mrs. Marshall Grant Ledford

Mr. & Mrs. I. S. Owings & Family

Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Lloyd & Louise

Mr. & Mrs. Robert J. Noland & Family

Clyde & Gerila Atkinson  
In Memory of  
Mr. & Mrs. W. T. Atkinson  
&

Mr. & Mrs. J. T. Denny

Their Children  
In Memory of  
Mr. & Mrs. A. S. Baggett

Mr. & Mrs. J. Thad Smith  
In Memory of  
Mr. J. M. Smith

Mr. & Mrs. Freeman B. Warren & Children  
In Honor of  
Mrs. Eula Mae Warren

Mr. & Mrs. B. J. Lunsford

Mrs. H. N. Kemp  
In Memory of  
Hoyle N. Kemp

Mr. & Mrs. J. A. Jones  
In Memory of  
Mr. & Mrs. F. K. Duncan

Robert Sherrer & Family  
In Memory of  
Douglas A. Lee

Mr. & Mrs. J. M. Haddle, Sr.  
In Honor of  
Mr. & Mrs. T. W. Haddle

In Memory of  
Mr. & Mrs. W. C. (Mattie) Abercrombie

Robert M. Dorris  
In Honor of Inez M. Dorris  
In Memory of John Luther Dorris

Mr. & Mrs. Donald Bennett & Family

By Their Children  
In Memory of  
Mr. & Mrs. M. J. Morris, Sr.

The W. G. Dorris Family

In Memory of  
Mr. John Thomas West

The Children  
In Honor of Mrs. W. P. Wood  
In Memory of Mr. W. P. Wood

In Honor of  
Mr. & Mrs. Mac C. Abercrombie, Sr.

### THE ROSE AND PICTURE WINDOWS

Mr. & Mrs. J. M. Haddle, Sr.  
In Honor of  
Mr. & Mrs. T. W. Haddle

Mr. & Mrs. George McLarty

W.S.C.S.  
In Honor of  
Miss Sallie Kate Cooper

Mrs. R. D. Pounds, Mrs Ruth Gelders,  
and  
Mr. Ben Beall  
In Memory of  
Mr. R. D. Pounds  
and  
Mr. & Mrs. B. B. Beall

Mother and Father  
In Honor of  
Elaine Smith

Mr. & Mrs. I. S. Owings & Family

In Memory of  
Mr. & Mrs. J. B. Dorris  
and  
Frank P. Dorris

W.S.C.S.

Mrs. S. E. Johnston  
Mr. & Mrs. M. T. Erhard  
In Memory of  
S. E. Johnston

Mrs. J. Lyman Morris  
John & Frances Morris  
In Memory of  
J. Lyman Morris  
and  
Mr. & Mrs. W. M. Morris

Eugene M. and Lizzie M. Dorris Huffine

The M. B. Watson Family

### OTHER GIFTS

Building Site

Mr. & Mrs. J. M. Haddle, Sr.

Parsonage Site

Mr. & Mrs. F. M. Winn

Speical Gifts

Mr. & Mrs. Julian V. Jones

In Memory of

Mr. & Mrs. Walter House

Carpet

Mr. & Mrs. C. C. Forrester, Jr.

In Memory of

Mr. C. C. Forrester, Sr.

Brass Urns and

Permanent Flower Arrangement

A. S. Baggett Family

Reredos and Altar

Mr. & Mrs. W. S. O'Neal

In Memory of

Son, Charles S. O'Neal

Lectern

Mr. & Mrs. John O. Warren

In Honor of

Reverend Arthur L. Gilmore

Pastor, 1960-62

Pulpit

Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Lloyd

In Honor of Mrs. J. R. Duncan, Sr.

In Memory of Mr. J. R. Duncan, Sr.

Communion Rail

Mrs. O. B. Farrell

In Memory of

Sister, Mrs. Elbert L. McCreery

Brass Altar Furnishings

David Lee

In Memory of

His Mother and Aunt

Guest Register

Crusaders Sunday School Class ;

Balcony Rail

Mr. & Mrs. John O. Warren & Family

Narthex

Mrs. V. R. Smith

Baptismal Font

The Children

In Memory of

Mr. & Mrs. Sam W. Mozley

**CHURCH ADMINISTRATION**  
**First United Methodist Church**  
**Douglasville, Georgia**  
**January 1 — December 31, 1980**

MINISTER	Emory Brackman
ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD	*John Dorris H. W. Hopper George Bishop
*COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES	Mrs. Paula McClung
*LAY LEADER	Garey McManus
CHURCH TREASURER	H. Eugene Sheets
LAY MEMBERS ANNUAL CONFERENCE	Miss Elsie Wood George Bishop
RESERVE LAY MEMBERS ANNUAL CONFERENCE	Beth Hutcheson Mary Chapman
DISTRICT STEWARD	Robert J. Noland

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*EDUCATION	Mrs. Lynn Turner
*EVANGELISM	Mrs. Evelyn Bullock
*MISSIONS	Robert Patterson
*SOCIAL CONCERNS	Mrs. Betsy Garbade
*WORSHIP	Mrs. Beth Hutcheson
FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP	Ken Blair

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*YOUTH MINISTRIES	Mrs. Ruth Walters
*CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES	Miss Diane James
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*SECRETARY OF CAREER PLANNING AND COUNSELING HIGHER EDUCATION	Mrs. Mary Nell Pratt Mrs. Ruth Walters



\*HEALTH AND WELFARE REPRESENTATIVE  
 METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME REPRESENTATIVE  
 \*UNITED METHODIST WOMEN  
 COORDINATOR OF COMMUNICATIONS  
 FINANCIAL SECRETARY  
 MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY  
 COMMUNION STEWARD  
 \*YOUTH DIRECTOR

Mrs. Betsy Garbade  
 Mrs. Betsy Garbade  
 Mrs. Virginia Pope  
 Andy Bruce  
 Mrs. Montie Boozer  
 Mrs. Montie Boozer  
 Mrs. Beth Hutcheson  
 Cliff Pilson

### **TRUSTEES**

CLASS OF 1980  
 Clinton Estes  
 John Headman  
 Daniel P. Wood

CLASS OF 1981  
 Dennis Connally  
 Eugene Tidwell, Chairman  
 Lamar Smith

CLASS OF 1982  
 Kent Owings  
 Harold Williamson  
 Joe House

### **STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Robert J. Noland, Chairman

### **COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS & PERSONNEL**

Mrs. Beth Hutcheson, Secretary

### **WEEKDAY KINDERGARTEN COMMITTEE**

Earl McCall, Chairperson

\*Indicates Council on Ministries



Methodist Church, 1889  
Church Street & Price Avenue  
Demolished, 1921



**First Methodist Church**  
**Church Street & Price Avenue**  
**Sunday School Plant 1921**  
**Sanctuary Added 1941**  
**Demolished 1972**



**First Methodist Church  
Church Street & Price Avenue  
Interior**



First United Methodist Church  
Prestley Mill Road  
1965



**First United Methodist Church  
Prestley Mill Road  
Interior**

Covers Compliments of  
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