80 YEARS
1898 -- 1978

A Church Rooted In The Past, Serving The Present,
And Looking To The Future.

Anvil Block United Methodist Church
Ellenwood, Georgia

REV. ROSCOE SIMPSON, PASTOR
ANVIL BLOCK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHILDREN'S DAY AND HOMECOMING
JUNE 25, 1978

(Congregational Songs from The Cokesbury Hymnal)

The Prelude Brenda Chamlee
Congregational Song 186
*Congregational Song 158
Piano Duet Paula Mitchell & Cathy Lassiter

Devotional Rev. Roscoe Simpson
Prayer Rev. Roscoe Simpson
Specials by Our Choir

"IN JESUS' NAME" Cathy Lassiter
Solo Pam Mitchell
Reading..."OTHERS WITH ME" Carol Murdock
"WE'RE HELPERS TOO" Cathy Lassiter
Trio Ann Lassiter, Pam & Barbara Mitchell

"GOD GIVES US EVERYTHING" Jeff Martin

Offering
(As on every Children's Day, our offering today
goess to our United Methodist Children's Home.
If you wish to make a contribution to the regular church budget, please so mark it.)

Offertory Carol Murdock

"CANDLE LIGHTING...
Loriann Fuller Stacy Youngblood
Cindy Lassiter Richie Hudson
Brian Evans Jamie Thompson
Rebecca Lowery Christy Lassiter

SONGS BY A GROUP OF CHILDREN

Play ..."THEY ALSO SERVED"
The Weaver - Brenda Chamlee
Her Sister - Paula Mitchell
A Neighbor - Mandy Fuller
Mother - April Thompson
A Lad - Cathy Lassiter

HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR 80 YEARS
Announcements
*Benediction

*Indicates congregation standing.

We appreciate your presence today and invite everyone to stay for lunch in the Community House and the afternoon singing.

KNOWN SICK AND SHUT-INS: Mrs. Edna Davis, Mrs. Lola Echols, Mr. Dawson Childress, Mrs. Ida Greene, Miss Marilyn Butler, Mr. L. W. Kennedy.

IN THE HOSPITAL: Mr. Frank White, Room 4487, Clayton General; Mrs. Carl Chamlee, Georgia Baptist; Mr. Frank Green (brother of Bob Green), VA Hospital. Remember all our sick with cards, calls, visits and prayers.

We are Grateful for the beautiful flowers today - the arrangement placed in memory of Mr. Sam Mitchell, Sr. by his wife, Ruby, and those from the yards of Mrs. O. Ray Clark, Mrs. Ruth Helms, Mrs. G. W. Rowden, Sr. and Mrs. Mary Simpson, and Mrs. Bill Mitchell and Mrs. I. B. Barnes. Much gratitude and deep appreciation is expressed to all those involved in presenting our program today, as well as to those who helped assemble our booklets containing our program and 80 year history.

THERE WILL BE NO NIGHT SERVICES HERE TONIGHT. However, we will be back on our regular schedule next week.

If you enjoyed our morning service, let those who took part know. Our young people have worked very hard, as well as a number of adults, to bring you this program.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
How beautiful a day can be when kindness touches it.

(ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED ON PAGE 39)
In the Spring of 1898 preachers Blalock and Hightower from Jonesboro converted Mr. Henry Masters and started a Revival in the school house which stood where the Anvil Block Community House now stands. Mr. Sammy Masters, father of Henry, was a Methodist preacher and helped start the Revival. Anvil Block Church was organized in May, 1898.

In July of that year, after "laying-by time", all the men in the community started building the church. Some of them cut the logs while others hauled them to the sawmill and on to the church site, where the carpenters were working on the building. The lumber was sawed for nothing by John Sprayberry. Mr. Will B. Hayes was the foreman of the building crew and others helping were John Humphreys, J. J. Kelly, Grace Partin, John Weaver, Mac Blackmon, Ed Hunt, Jim Clark, W. W. Clark, Bill Henry, the Rowdens, Henry Simpson, William Henry Clark, Hayden Bond, John Clark, John Boyd and W. I. Mitchell. Mr. Henry Masters gave the land for the church.

The church building was finished and dedicated on the fourth Sunday in October, 1898. Mr. Carl Clark gave the welcome at the dedication. He was just a little boy. Rev. W. B. Costley was the preacher. He was preaching at Mt. Zion at the time and Anvil Block was put on the Mt. Zion Circuit.

Mr. Kirkes had a blacksmith shop across the road in front of the school house and there was another blacksmith shop nearby run by Billy Clark. Capt. Clayton had a woodworking shop on the now Frank White home site and there was a Post Office on the hill where the Ray Clark home is presently located, run by Mr. Henry Masters. This Post Office was named Anvil Block because of the blacksmith shops, and the church got its name from that.
Some of the charter members were Liva Pope, Fannie Weaver, Mamie Clark (Snead), Janie Partin, Maidie Weaver, Jessie Snead, Minnie Rowden, Mattie Leak Clark, Zanie Partin, John Weaver, R. M. Gilbert, Robert Partin, H. J. Snead, L. O. Kelly, W. F. Kirkes, Mary Belle Rowden, Alex Blackman, H. A. Austin, J. W. Clark, Ida Rowden, W. C. Rowden, Mrs. Will B. Hayes, W. R. Simpson, J. R. McKee, John Gilbert, Fannie Blackman (Clark), Mattie Rowden, J. C. Kelly, Anna Kelly, Mrs. W. C. Rowden, Maggie Lee and Bessie Shuttlesworth, Grady Simpson, and Donnie Clark (Baughknight).

In 1900 the first Conference was held. Anvil Block was at this time a Methodist Protestant Church.

In a report to the quarterly Conference held at Mt. Zion Church in July, 1911, the value of the church property at Anvil Block was given as $1600, and $1200 insurance was carried at a premium of $1.40. At the end of 1977 the value of the Anvil Block church property was $175,000 and the parsonage $60,000.

We had always been a circuit church, being on several different circuits, until June, 1974, when we went full-time and became a station church. In 1911 we were on the Cedar Grove Circuit with Cedar Grove, Clifton, and Kelley's Chapel. In 1932 we were on the Anvil Block Circuit with Kelley's Chapel. We were also on the Riverdale Circuit at one time. In 1941 we were put on the Ellenwood Circuit with Ellenwood, Bethel and Mt. Zion. When Bethel went station, we remained on the Ellenwood Circuit with Ellenwood and Mt. Zion until June, 1974, when we became a station church with a full-time pastor.

At the Quarterly Conference held October 4, 1913 to elect officers for the next year, the following were elected:
TRUSTEES - I. H. Simpson (Great-uncle of E.M. Bond)
P. M. Blackmon
W. I. Mitchell (Father of Grace Mitchell and Inez Hamrick)
W. C. Rowden (Father-in-law of E. M. Bond and Mrs. G. W. Rowden, Sr.)
J. E. Boyd
CLASS LEADERS - W. C. Rowden and W. A. Sockwell
(Father of Vara Matthews, Inez Clark and Ruth Helms)
HOUSEKEEPER - W. T. Stanfield (Father of O'Delle Wilson)
STEWARDS - W. C. Rowden, G. F. Chafin, A. H. Blackmon, Mrs. Parry Carroll (Sister of O. Ray Clark), and Miss Ida Rowden

Our Sunday School has always been a vital part of the ministry of our church. Even when we had worship services only once a month, our Sunday School met each Sunday. In the early 1900's Sunday School was held in the afternoon, with Mr. Ed Cowan as Superintendent. He would hold Sunday School elsewhere in the morning and then come to Anvil Block in the afternoon. In a Quarterly Conference report dated Nov. 12, 1910, Anvil Block had 5 Sunday School teachers, 25 on roll and an average attendance of 15. In January, 1911 we had 3 Sunday School officers, 4 teachers, 40 on roll and an average attendance of 20. During the quarter $2.50 was raised for Sunday School supplies. The church had 89 members at the beginning of that church year. May 15, 1920 we had 4 teachers, 60 on roll and an average attendance of 50 (quite an improvement in ten years). In May, 1921 we had 4 teachers, 85 on roll and an average attendance of 65 for Sunday School. During that quarter $10.00 was raised for Sunday School supplies. The church membership was 76. In November, 1958 we had 46 on roll in the Sunday School with an average attendance for the month of November of 41. At the end of 1977 we had 10 teachers, 100 on roll and an average attendance of 73, with 138 church members on roll. As of June 25, 1978 we have 146 church members on roll.
At the 89th session of the Georgia Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, a report from the Committee on Temperance reads: "We are thankful to say the cause of Temperance is still growing in our nation and Church, but we are sorry to say that the habit of tobacco and Coca-Cola, etc. is being indulged in by men, women, boys and girls to their hurt mentally, physically and spiritually. We recommend that all abstain from the use of the same."

At this same Conference the Committee on Sabbath Observance recommended: "That the Sabbath be strictly observed. That we, as pastors, do our very best to discourage Sabbath desecrations, such as joy riding and visiting places of amusement on the Sabbath or buying or selling on the Sabbath Day."

We had two members to serve as Treasurer for the Georgia Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, E. M. Bond and O. Ray Clark. At the 105th session of the Georgia Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church held at Mt. Zion Church, Ellenwood, Georgia November 14-17, 1935, E. M. Bond, Conference Treasurer, reported $508.12 received during the Conference year; payments of $130.10 for "General Interest", $164.36 for "Annual Conference", and $.70 Government Tax, leaving a balance in the Conference Treasury at the end of the year of $212.96 (This included $50.00 for the Superannuate Fund). At this Conference E. M. Bond and Anvil Block's minister, Rev. M. L. Spain, were elected as delegates to represent the Georgia Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church at the General Conference held at High Point, N. C. on May 20, 1936, where plans were made for unification.

Unification came with the "Uniting Conference" of 1939 at Kansas City, which brought together The Methodist Episcopal Church, The Methodist
Episcopal Church South, and The Methodist Protestant Church into a body known as The Methodist Church. After unification, the name of Anvil Block Methodist Protestant Church was changed to Anvil Block Methodist Church.


Since unification, the following pastors have served Anvil Block:

- Glyn Boye
- Webb Garrison (1939-40)
- T. H. Norton (1940-41)
- A. E. Shelton (1941-42)
- Hoyt Henderson (1942-44)
- W. A. Woodruff (1944-46)
- Thomas Fowler (1946-49)
- Frank E. Jenkins, Jr. (1949-52)
- Charles W. Tanner (1952-56)
- Cliff T. Weathers (1956-58)
- Truman D. Brooks (1958-60)
- Richard Wilson (1960-61)
- Tomie R. Aust (1961-63)
- Harold W. Lyda (1963-67)
- Joe P. Peabody, Sr. (1967-69)
- Sydney W. Whiteman (1969-70)
- Roscoe V. Simpson (1970-)

The District Superintendents serving Anvil Block since 1941 are:

- R. L. Russell (1941-42)
- M. M. Maxwell (1942-43)
- P. A. Turner (1944-49)
- Henry H. Jones (1949-53)
- Hoke Sewell (1953-58)
- Clyde Calloway (1958-62)
Delma Haygood (1962-64)
Nat G. Long (1964-70)
Frank Prince (1970-71)
Adolphus Dickerson (1971-74)
A. C. Epps (1974-77)
Garnett Wilder (1977-)

Anvil Block has been in several Districts, the Griffin District, the Atlanta-Decatur-Oxford District, the Atlanta-Stockbridge District, and now, since June, 1977, back in the Atlanta-Decatur-Oxford District. Anvil Block has hosted two Annual Conferences. We have had two ministers to enter the Armed Services - Rev. Hoyt Henderson, World War II Chaplain; and Rev. Clifford Weatheres, who is presently making a career of the Chaplaincy.

In the Annual Conference minutes for the Conference held Nov. 17-20, 1932, it was reported that the Anvil Block Circuit (composed of Anvil Block and Kelley's Chapel) paid the pastor a salary of $210.00 for the year; the church offering for the year was $40.52; the Sunday School raised $62.02; the Ladies Aid raised $3.00; and the Children's Day offering was $17.81. The two churches received a total of $134.19, spent $130.58, leaving a balance in the treasury at the end of the year of $3.61. In the year 1977, Anvil Block paid out a total of $31,235.00.

In the Conference year 1932-33, the pastor's salary for the Anvil Block Circuit was $210.00. Rev. Marcus L. Spain was pastor at this time.

In his report to the fourth Quarterly Conference in 1939, Rev. H. C. Marx, pastor for Anvil Block, reported during the year he had preached 27 sermons, traveled 3581 miles, made 106 visits, had expenses of $48.45 and had been paid $87.60 plus
$16.00 paid him at the close of the Revival.
He worked 54 hours a week in Columbus, Georgia
and came on weekends to hold services at Anvil
Block.

My, how things have changed during the years!
Not the least of these changes have been the
comforts and conveniences to the worshiping
congregation. Our church was first lighted by
kerosene lamps, then gasolene lamps, a Delco
lighting system, and finally, in 1940, electricity. The hooks from which these early kerosene
and gasolene lamps were hung by chains so they
would be raised and lowered to facilitate re-
fueling and lighting can still be seen in the
ceiling of the sanctuary. Mr. E. M. Bond relates
that during Revival services one year the lights
went out because someone had failed to see that
they had enough fuel before the services. The
preacher had another meeting with him and Mr.
Sam Mitchell following the regular service and
the next day Mr. Bond went to Atlanta and pur-
chased the gasolene lamps. Undoubtedly the fuel
supply was checked carefully after that. The
lights presently in our sanctuary are the
original electric lights which were installed
in 1940. Rev. M. L. Spain, who was pastor at
the time, wired the church and the lights were
purchased from Bryant Electric Company, where
he worked.

The round hole in the ceiling just in front of
the altar rail was for the stovepipe. On cold
days especially, the early preachers didn't have
the problem so prevalent nowadays of people sitting
in the back of the church. If you didn't sit
near the front near the stove you would almost
freeze. The church was heated by wood and coal
stoves until gas was installed. Many faithful
members and their families labored to see that
a fire was built in time for some degree of
comfort in the cold weather. Mr. Ray Clark also
tells that he and Mr. Sam Mitchell would have to
go down many Saturday afternoons and build a
fire, get the stovepipe red hot and spray it
with dairy spray to kill the wasps to keep the congregation from being eaten by them on Sunday morning. Perhaps the wasps we are still battling today are descendants of these early occupants. Now it is merely a matter of setting out aerosol bombs and letting them do the killing.

On September 8, 1934 the Ladies Auxiliary was organized with 10 ladies present. Mrs. J. B. (Hazel) Bond was the first President. After unification the name of this organization was changed to Woman's Society of Christian Service. This was later changed to Women's Society of Christian Service and then in 1973 to United Methodist Women. The Woman's Society of Christian Service was chartered August 30, 1940, with 21 members and the first President of this group was the same as the first President of the Ladies Auxiliary. Our ladies have been and are still very active in the life of our church.

October 31, 1971 the first meeting of the Anvil Block Community Men's Club was held with 19 present. Mr. E. M. Bond was elected President. The men meet each third Sunday morning at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast and a program. This group has been a real blessing to our church and community, reaching many men who do not attend church regularly. At the May, 1978 meeting there were 23 present.

Our youth groups have always been very strong and very active, participating in Sub-District as well as local church activities as long as we had a functioning Sub-District. We did have three groups meeting on Sunday nights for all ages, The Methodist King Pins (MKPs) for children up through sixth grade; the Junior High UMYF and the Senior High UMYF. At the present time, however, we only have one active youth group, the UMYF, but they are REALLY ACTIVE. One of their ongoing money making projects is the collecting of glass for recycling. Since this project began they have collected and hauled approximately 90,285 pounds
of glass, receiving 1¢ per pound for it.

Prior to 1955 we had preaching services once a month on the fourth Sunday. In 1955, during the pastorate of Rev. Charles W. Tanner, he became concerned about the churches only having preaching services once a month. He began preaching at two churches each Sunday morning, giving all churches on the circuit two worship services a month instead of one. He allowed himself about five minutes to get from one Sunday morning appointment to the other, so everyone knew to clear the road when they saw him coming.

Rev. Tanner was later able to get a student at Emory to work on the circuit, thus giving additional worship services (3 each month). Our first associate was Rev. John Bass and a Sunday School Class at St. Mark Methodist Church in Atlanta paid a part of his salary for him to work in a rural church. At this time Anvil Block had no second Sunday or fifth Sunday worship services. In 1963 another associate pastor was obtained on the circuit, thereby making it possible for us to have worship services each Sunday of the year. The pastor-in-charge preached at Anvil Block on fourth Sunday, one associate on first, third and fifth Sundays, and another associate on second Sunday.

The Associate Pastors who have served Anvil Block have been:

John Bass
Truman Brooks
Kerry Robb
David Knight
Dave Looney
Douglas Butler
Jimmy Harpole
Travis Fulton
John H. "Dusty" Rhodes
Fred Bowers
Oscar C. Spence
Recognizing a need for a parsonage for the Ellenwood Circuit, at the second Quarterly Conference meeting May 21, 1944 at Bethel, a Board of Trustees was elected and authorized to raise money and build a parsonage for the circuit. Mr. J. H. Fridell was elected as Trustee-at-large, with each church to elect one Trustee. Those elected were J. B. Bond from Anvil Block, Earl South from Bethel, Horis Ward, Sr. from Mt. Zion, and M. E. Waggoner, Sr. from Ellenwood. Construction was begun during the pastorate of Rev. W. A. Woodruff and completed shortly after Rev. Thomas Fowler was appointed to the charge in 1946. Mr. Glynn Stanley and a group of carpenters working with him built the parsonage. The indebtedness was soon paid off. When Bethel went station, the parsonage was appraised and the other three churches paid Bethel for her one-fourth interest in this parsonage. Then when Anvil Block became a station church in June, 1974, the parsonage was again appraised and Anvil Block was paid her one-third interest.

The General Conference of The Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church voted in November, 1966 to form The United Methodist Church. The action was ratified by the Annual Conference of both denominations in 1967 and the merger took place in April, 1969 in Dallas, Texas. This changed the name of Anvil Block Methodist Church to Anvil Block United Methodist Church.

The church property is located in both Henry and Clayton Counties and is described as follows:

In Land Lot 218 of Henry County, 180' road frontage on Anvil Block Road, 298' deep
and 146' across to the Clayton County Line.
In Land Lot 217 of Clayton County, 100' road
frontage on Anvil Block Road, 373' deep,
136' across to the Henry County Line and
53' up to the Henry County Land Lot.
This property is located in the 12th District of
both Henry and Clayton Counties. The church
building is located in Clayton County except for
a few feet on the east end of the Sunday School
rooms. The Community House is in Henry County.

We are still worshiping in the original sanctuary
built by the dedicated men of our community 80
years ago, although many additions and changes
have been made through the years. We will try
to chronicle some of these events below in the
order of their occurrence.

In June, 1940 the Woman's Society of Christian
Service bought rugs and rubber runners for the
sanctuary.

In 1949 the need for a recreational building was
felt and construction began on our Community
House, built on the site of the old school house
where the Revival was held which resulted in
the building of Anvil Block Church. Most of
the work on this building was done by men of
the church and community.

In 1956 the pews in the church (which are the
original pews) were refinished by the men of
the church and the floors were redone and the
green carpet which is on the floor today was
installed shortly thereafter. This carpet was
purchased from Davison's in Atlanta.

November 24, 1958 a chargewide newsletter, the
BEAM (for Bethel, Ellenwood, Anvil Block and
Mt. Zion), was first published and a newsletter
has been published monthly continuously since
that time. Previously a newsletter had been
published for a short time but discontinued.
This newsletter is mailed to church members,
former pastors, and to anyone else who requests
a copy. When Bethel went full-time the name was changed to Assistant Evangelical Messenger (Anvil Block, Ellenwood, Mt. Zion). Later this was changed to AMEN (Anvil Block, Mt. Zion, Ellenwood News), the name it bears today. When the newsletter was begun we mailed out less than 200 copies for the four churches. Today we have over 400 names on our mailing list for the three churches. This newsletter was funded by donations from the readers and by each church contributing a certain amount each quarter to cover expenses. When the Ellenwood Circuit was dissolved in 1974 it was requested that this newsletter be continued on a combined basis. Since that time it has been funded entirely by donations from the readers. Each month the "Pastor's Page" is written by one of the three pastors on a rotating basis and much appreciation has been expressed for this publication, especially by shut-ins and those unable to attend regularly. It also provides a means of keeping in touch with our inactive members and letting them know what is going on in their church.

In February, 1959 three new chairs and a table were purchased for the pulpit area. One chair and the communion table were purchased by the Woman's Society of Christian Service, one chair was donated by Dr. Charles Hill in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Glynn Stanley and one chair was donated by Mrs. Ruby Mitchell in memory of her husband, Sam.

The four Sunday School classes had been meeting in the four corners of the sanctuary until 1963, when the number of classes had grown until it was imperative that we have more room. The educational building was started in March, 1963 and was built at a cost of approximately $13,000. A loan was made for $7501.50 in May, 1963, which was repaid in November, 1963. The two doors on the sides were made into windows and two doors were cut at the end of the church where windows had been to offer access to the educational annex. Restroom facilities were
added at this time, putting an end to the little house in the back woods. The choir loft was made at this time also by modifying the end of the sanctuary. The dedication of the Sunday School annex was held on the fourth Sunday in June, 1963.

The Young Adult Class purchased metal folding chairs for their classroom in August, 1964.

The year 1965 saw many improvements. The church purchased 50 new hymnals in the Spring; screens for the Sunday School rooms were purchased in June; a new aluminum communion set was purchased in December; the Adult Class #1 paved the walk in back of the church in October; in August the WSCS purchased 12 wooden chairs for the Community House. In September the MYF purchased a sofa bed and matching chair, an occasional chair, two pole lamps and a bedroom suite for the parsonage; and in December the MYF (after many fund-raising activities over a period of time) had the stained glass window installed in the choir loft.

In 1966 the book racks were installed on the back of the pews; in March the Young Adult Class #2 purchased the gold cross for the altar, the church purchased collection plates and baptismal bowl to match, and the WSCS purchased the candleholders; on Christmas Day 100 New Methodist Hymnals were dedicated as a result of a campaign by the MYF whereby books were donated in honor or memory of someone, plus the purchase of enough to make out 100 by the MYF. One of the highlights of our worship services this year was the "This Is Your Life" program honoring Mrs. Ruby Mitchell with which the MYF surprised her on Mother's Day night.

January, 1967 saw the beginning of our fifth Sunday night singings, which continue to the
present time. A used mimeograph machine and typewriter were purchased for the parsonage this year. Paving of the parking area was begun in May, 1967 at a cost of $2800-$3000. In June the MYF purchased envelope holders for the pews. Jack Bond donated a security light and pole for the yard in August and the WSCS purchased new communion tablecloths. In September the parking spaces were marked off and the MYF purchased a bookcase, antiqued it and the Church Library was opened. Nancy Rosser donated step treads for the steps leading downstairs to the new Sunday School annex, which were installed in 1967, and Mr. Grady New donated chalk boards for the Sunday School rooms and the Community House.

In November, 1967 combined Sunday night services for MYF and worship were begun on the circuit. These combined services were discontinued in December, 1968.

In January, 1968 a record player and microphone were bought from proceeds of our newspaper sales and a donation by the MYF and MKPs. In April O'Delle Wilson made money by selling knives to put treads on the steps leading upstairs and a runner for the hallway upstairs in the Sunday School annex. In May over 100 books were donated to our church library by the daughter of Mrs. Edith Hines from Mrs. Hines' estate. In June the WSCS bought paint and the men painted the Community House and the ladies put up new curtains. The church was also painted in October. The speakers for the PA system were installed and the bulletin board for the vestibule was made and donated by Mr. Grady New in November.

In June, 1969 robes and candlelighters were purchased and the acolyte program was begun with different youth serving each month. In July the church began purchasing and distributing a copy of The Upper Room to each
church family. In November the white church bank was purchased and the "Fund For The Needy" was started to aid needy families or individuals when the occasion arises. The name of this fund was later changed to "Emergency Fund" since it is used to aid persons or families when an emergency arises, such as a fire, huge medical bills, etc. This fund is administered at the discretion of the pastor, church treasurer and chairpersons of the Administrative Board and Council on Ministries.

In early 1970 a new Hoover vacuum cleaner was purchased for the church. In March Dorothy Stanley presented a set of paraments which she had made (table runners and pulpit scarves) in all the liturgical colors to the church. In October, aluminum siding was put on the church and new plexiglass windows were installed at a cost of $7880.18. The windows in the sanctuary were donated in memory of, in honor of, or by different ones. A new cover was put on the cross on the front of the church at this same time. This debt was paid off in June, 1971. A new mimeograph machine was also purchased for the parsonage in November.

In January, 1971 Grace Mitchell donated money to put indoor-outdoor carpet on the front steps and landing, in the vestibule and Fellowship Hall, the downstairs hall and men's restroom in memory of her mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. W. I. Mitchell, and her brothers, J. B., Isaac, and Sam. In March Clayton County water was connected. The WSCS paid for having the meter installed and O. R. Clark and E. M. Bond dug the ditch and connected the water.

In September, 1971 the Sunday School classes were divided, making three classes out of the one youth class, for a total of nine classes. In December Jack Grant donated accordion-type folding doors to divide the Fellowship Hall into two classrooms to take care of the extra groups. Carpet was purchased by the church for the upstairs as well as for the two remaining uncarpeted
downstairs classrooms. Insulation was also put into the attic and walls of the church. The Men's Club purchased three folding tables for the Community House and the Senior High MYF purchased an artificial Christmas tree for the church, all in December.

1972 was another year filled with activity, as well as heartache. In January the Young Adult Class #2 bought 20 metal folding chairs for the Sunday School classrooms. In February Jack Grant donated hand rails for the stairs and cork to put on the classroom walls for putting up posters, etc.; J. B. Bond donated the paint and the men painted the educational building. In March the Young Adult Class #2 purchased a picture of The Last Supper for their classroom.

In March, 1972 tragedy struck when a 17-year-old member of our church, Lynn Mitchell, was stricken with encephalitis and remained in the Intensive Care Unit at Crawford Long Hospital until her death almost eight weeks later. Our MYF started "Project Love" to help with her unbelievable hospital expenses and over $5,000 was raised, not just from our church, but from friends - and even strangers - who heard of this project. Our church was drawn closer together than it had been in a while by the sharing of the long weeks of heartache this family suffered. A 24-hour prayer vigil was held during this time for Lynn and her family. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Mitchell.

In May, 1972 50 copies of The Cokesbury Hymnal were presented by Joe and Barbara Mitchell in honor of Mrs. Ruby Mitchell. In June, 100 Spiritual Life song books were purchased by the church.

At our Revival in July, 1972 Bobby and Pat Whitmire led our singing and organized a Revival choir. After the Revival, interest was still high and Joe and Barbara Mitchell agreed to work with this group so we might have a regular church choir. Efforts had been made along this line in the past, but the group had not continued. We are quite proud of our choir as they continue to bless us.
each Sunday with two specials as well as adding much to the entire worship service. We are now blessed not only by the choir specials, but by solos, duets, trios and quartettes composed of members of our choir both on Sunday morning and Sunday night. We feel our choir is second to none and continue to be amazed at the progress they keep making.

In September, 1972 the Community House got a face lifting. A new cement floor was poured; the WSCS bought paint and the men, women, boys and girls painted the building; Jack Grant bought new doors; the WSCS bought new cabinets and sink; and Homer Jinks donated the cabinet tops.

Also in September, 1972 the Senior High UMYF bought and painted book shelves for the church library. In October the UMYF and some of the ladies made cushions for all the wooden chairs. In November three new folding tables were donated to the Community House and Bill Mitchell donated a storm door for it. Also in October the UMYF bought file boxes for the library. In December a new roof was put on the Community House.

In January, 1973 Talmadge Walden donated two folding tables for the Sunday School rooms. In February the men built a closet in one corner of the Community House. In March the J. E. Warrens donated over 100 books to our library.

In March, 1973 a dream of many years began finally materializing. Plans were begun for starting the building of a parsonage in order that Anvil Block might work toward becoming a full-time station church. In May, 1973 Mrs. Ruby Mitchell donated 1.3 acres of land on Anvil Block Road with approximately 250 feet road frontage, 420 feet deep and 70 feet across the back. The first money for this Parsonage Fund came in

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April 1, 1973 and everyone began working toward the fulfillment of this dream. From the oldest to the youngest, our church was united in this giant undertaking. We will merely hit the high spots of the building of our parsonage here. For a complete history of our parsonage, see the booklet published June 23, 1974, "The Story Of Our Parsonage From Beginning To Now."

A Parsonage Committee of Bill Mitchell, Chairman, Jack Crant, and Talmadge Walden were elected to decide on the site and make needed plans. Mrs. Georgia Sutton, Mrs. Betsy Gleaton and Mrs. Thelma Walden were added to this committee to help select plans, furnishings, etc. By May 23, 1973 plans were submitted and approved by the Administrative Board for a house with approximately 1389 square feet of living space plus carport and study. A meeting was held with the District Committee On Church Location and Building and our plans were approved.

At the Administrative Board meeting held September 20, 1973 it was decided to notify our District Superintendent, Dr. A. S. Dickerson, that we would be prepared to receive a preacher for full-time service and would have a parsonage for him to live in by the June, 1974 Annual Conference. Groundbreaking ceremonies were held at the parsonage site November 11, 1973 and the deed was presented by Mrs. Ruby Mitchell to Mr. J. B. Bond, Chairman of the Administrative Board.

After the carpenters got the framing up and the building "dried in", the people of the church began doing all the labor they possibly could in order to save as much as possible. Our church really became a family during this period, working together on the project harmoniously and enjoying laboring for the Lord, many of our people working both during the daytime and at night.
even had a two-year-old and a five-year-old helping clean up the yards.

The United Methodist Women decided they would purchase a refrigerator for the parsonage, but exceeded their goal and also purchased a washer and dryer and drapes, sheers, bedspread, pillows, sheets, pillowcases, curtain rods, mattress cover and pillow covers for the master bedroom. The UMYF completely furnished the den, bought the dining table and six chairs, floor covering for the den, kitchen and utility room and bottom curtain panels for this area, a chest for the twin bedroom (which was presented on Father's Day in honor of all fathers of the church) and a floor lamp with built-in table, presented on Mother's Day in honor of all the mothers of the church. They also contributed cash and labor.

The Upper Room Class (Class #2) had two suppers and donated proceeds from both to the Parsonage Fund. The Fellowship Class (Class #1) purchased a mirror for one of the bathrooms. The Unique Foundations Class (Class #3) asked everyone to invite some other families from the church to dinner and charge $1.25 per person, with the money being turned over to the Parsonage Fund.

Much of the parsonage furniture was donated by individuals, both members and friends of our church, some new - some with interesting history behind it. The solid rock maple double bed suite was the one with which Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Warren began housekeeping; the credenza donated in memory of Mrs. E. M. (Merle) Bond had been in her family for many years and was refinshed by Judy Gilbert and her Unique Foundations Class (#3); the beautiful wrought iron vanity benches in both bathrooms were made by Rev. Roscoe Simpson and the cushions by his wife, Mary; the straight chair in the study was also a family piece donated in memory of the W. C. Rowden
family.

This was truly our HOUSE THAT LOVE BUILT and to name all who labored so long and sacrificed time, money, and even their health, would be an impossible task. On Friday, June 14, 1974 (the last day of Annual Conference), the driveway was poured and on Monday, June 17, 1974 Roscoe and Mary Simpson, our first parsonage family, moved in. While Roscoe was delivering mail, some of the members moved most of their belongings. The screens on the windows of the parsonage were put up on this day.

The cost exceeded our $25,000 original estimate just a little; however, the cost of paving the driveway was not included in the original estimates. The only money borrowed was $6,000, which was loaned by some of our members to save the church the high bank interest rate.

On Sunday, January 19, 1975, the dedication of our HOUSE THAT LOVE BUILT was held with Mr. E. M. Bond presenting the parsonage for dedication to Dr. A. C. Epps, District Superintendent. Our parsonage costing approximately $32,000 to build and valued at that time at $50,000 was finished and PAID FOR! Truly this was a dream come true and proof that God does indeed help those who help themselves.

Mary Simpson has spent countless hours making the yards a real showplace, as well as keeping the inside looking like new - in some cases even better than new - and we are grateful for a parsonage family who takes pride in keeping their home - and ours - a thing of beauty.

Now, on with other events of 1973, although they may seem small by comparison. At our Children's Day and Homecoming June 24, 1973 we celebrated our church's 75th anniversary with members and guests wearing clothing of
75 years ago. We even had two Model-A Fords, and our minister, Rev. Roscoe Simpson, was dressed in a top hat and tails and a black wig, looking very much like a circuit-riding preacher from the pages of history.

In September, 1973 the men installed new water pipes in the church and repaired the ceiling in the Sunday School rooms. Then in November the Men's Club installed fluorescent lights in the Community House.

The year 1974 saw many other activities in addition to the work on the parsonage. In January the UMYF got the library books which had been donated catalogued and on the shelves. In February the UMW and Men's Club purchased a stove for the Community House. In April the UMW purchased (from donations from individuals) a new gavel in memory of Mrs. E. M. (Merle) Bond and put it into use. Then, in June, 1974, ANVIL BLOCK WENT FULL-TIME, becoming a station church.

In July, 1974 bulletin covers with the picture of the church on them were printed for use each Sunday, the same style covers we are still using today; the Men's Club purchased four new church road signs with the name of the church and the arrows being lettered on by Pam Mitchell and Leigh Rosser and the signs erected by E. M. Bond and Benny Rosser. In August Margit Dickhute made a crocheted table runner for the secretary's table in the sanctuary and the UMYF purchased another communion tray. In September the Homer Jinks family donated coat racks for the church vestibule and a ten foot table for holding printing supplies; Gene Scarbrough was responsible for an offset printing press being donated to the church; and Jack Grant was certified as a Lay Speaker. In October Homer Jinks donated a hot water heater for the
Community House, which was installed by some of our church men. In November the men put up a storage building/garage at the parsonage.

In January, 1975 a church band was begun under the direction of Alan Grant; however, this was discontinued in March due to lack of instruments and/or players. During this month also the UMW bought carpet for the Community House and had it installed; the Men's Club bought a vacuum cleaner for the Community House and plastic runners for the kitchen area; and the UMW began the practice of placing a rosebud on the altar when a baby is born to a church member or regular church attender. The first baby so honored was Christy Lynn Lassiter in March.

In March, 1975 the UMYF presented a 16mm sound movie projector and six foot screen to the church; Sara Ellen Jinks presented a silver bud vase to the church to hold the rosebuds presented in honor of new babies; Mrs. J. E. Warren had carillon tape chimes installed in memory of Mr. J. E. Warren (These were formally dedicated April 20); and Mrs. Talmadge Walden was elected news coordinator for Henry County papers and Mrs. Wayne Murdock for Clayton County papers to send them news items about our church activities.

May, 1975 saw our choir outgrowing the choir loft, so Bill and Joe Mitchell moved the choir to the left side of the sanctuary to give more room. Also in May an Honorary Church Roll was set up for those with special interests in Anvil Block who are no longer official members and Mrs. J. E. Warren was put on this list; E. M. Bond and Benny Rosser donated and installed a permanent metal sign frame for the front lawn of the
church; work was begun on a church scrapbook. On Mother's Day the UMYF presented a corsage to the oldest mother present, Mrs. Ruby Mitchell; to the youngest mother present, Mrs. W. M. Chamlee, Jr.; to the mother with the most children present, Mrs. W. M. Chamlee, Sr. (all 6 of her children were present); and to the mother with the most children present EVERY Sunday, Mrs. Joe Mitchell (the "Mother" of our choir).

Another "First" took place in May, 1975 when the Nursery was opened for the first time under the direction of Mrs. Stewart (Betsy) Gleaton. It was aptly named "God's Corner For Tiny Christians" and was set up in the Community House. On June 1 certificates were presented to the charter members of our Nursery: Christy Lynn Lassiter, Rebecca Lee Lowery, and Jolie Ann Youngblood.

Also in June, 1975 the inside of the sanctuary was painted thanks to the $550.00 raised by the youth in a Walk-A-Thon/Bike-A-Thon. They even had help from a stray dog who walked the entire ten mile route with them and when some people heard about this they sponsored the dog (He earned $15.00). A Weed-Eater was also purchased for the parsonage. On Father's Day boutonnieres were presented by the UMYF to the oldest father present, Mr. Frank White; to the youngest father present, Mr. Mike Brewer; to the father with the most children present, Mr. Jack Grant; to the Shepherd Father of the entire flock, Rev. Roscoe Simpson; to the father with the most children present EVERY Sunday, Mr. Joe Mitchell ("Father" of our choir); and to Mr. E. M. Bond for all the help given the youth and the fatherly love shown them. One hundred new Cokesbury Hymnals were also purchased during June. In July a film splicer for the movie film was donated by an anonymous donor.
In August, 1975 Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Criswell donated two air conditioning units for the Community House and the men of the church installed them. In September Bill and Roy Mitchell installed a speaker in the Community House so the Nursery workers could hear the worship services; and Mr. and Mrs. Will Brinson donated a multi-colored hanging light fixture for the church, which was installed by Bill, Joe and Roy Mitchell and Talmadge Walden in November. In October the men painted the outside of the Community House and the Sunday School roll was revised, showing 100 on roll.

In November, 1975 two permanent green plants were placed in the old choir loft by E. M. Bond in memory of his wife, Mrs. Merle Bond. In December a new heater was installed in the Community House; and Thelma and Talmadge Walden went to the United Methodist Children's Home and picked up some azaleas and cedars they were giving away to the churches. These were planted in the church and Community House yards by Bill and Roy Mitchell, Talmadge Walden and Richie and Richard Steele and add much to the beauty of the grounds. The ones at the Community House were replaced with evergreen shrubbery when the new addition was put on.

Each year seems to get busier and busier and 1976 was no exception. In January a ceramic head of Christ which was made by Mrs. Elva Scarbrough and given to the Senior-High Youth Class (#4) for Christmas was placed in the sanctuary; the UMW bought a new refrigerator for the Community House; John Sego donated a coffee maker for church use; and a Sunday School attendance banner was purchased and put into use, being given to the class with the largest number present each Sunday. This seems to have found a permanent resting place in the Fellowship Class (#1), since they have only been beaten four or five times. In March new furnaces and air conditioning units were installed in the church, once again adding to the comfort of our worship experience.
April of 1976 saw another very special event. On Easter Sunday, April 18, we observed "Nursery Recognition Day," when Bibles were presented to the five members of our Nursery (having grown from the original three in May, 1975) from the Sunday School and a corsage of five red rosebuds (one for each of her "babies") was presented to Mrs. Stewart (Betsy) Gleaton who had presented the need for a Nursery and volunteered her services in staffing it. It's amazing what can be accomplished for our Lord when we are willing not just to make suggestions, but to offer ourselves to help carry out our suggestions! All five of the Nursery members at this time had been baptized and are on our Preparatory Roll. "Betsy's Babies" are a joy to our entire church and much gratitude is due not only to Betsy, but to others who have kept the Nursery during morning worship services. Beds, playpens, high chair, and toys have been donated to our Nursery, for which we are extremely grateful.

In May, 1976 two fire extinguishers were purchased and installed in the church and Community House; and the UMYF presented a red and white permanent flower arrangement to the church in honor of all mothers of the church family on Mother's Day. In June, for Father's Day, the UMYF presented a flower stand made by Roy and Robert Mitchell and Richie Steele to the church in honor of all the fathers; two new tapes were purchased for the carillon tape chimes; the church scrapbook was presented to the church; and on Children's Day a fund was started to purchase an organ for the church. In August, the money had been raised and an organ was purchased. It was played for the first time by Ann Lassiter on August 29. Also in August the UMYF went on a trip to Six Flags. At the end of the day they all pooled their Skee Ball tickets they had won and got a stuffed skunk which was donated to the Nursery.

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Our church was growing and the need was seen for more space for dining facilities, for the Nursery and for an office to house the printing equipment and other supplies. On August 2, 1976 a committee of Homer Jinks, Jack Grant, Talmadge Walden, G. W. New and Bill Mitchell was appointed as a Planning Committee for the project.

On September 26 the UMYF presented three flags to the church, the Christian flag, the American flag and the United Methodist flag, along with two flagpoles, to be placed on each side of the pulpit. Also in September the Planning Committee reported to the Administrative Board and Homer Jinks presented plans for enlarging the Community House as well as plans for a basement over which a new sanctuary could be built in later years. It was decided letters should be sent to every church member with a copy of both plans, asking them to vote on which one they preferred and indicating what financial help they would give. These letters were sent on October 9 to be returned by October 20.

In October the UMYF bought a pulpit light for the church and Rev. Simpson bulldozed trees and cleared bushes and undergrowth at the back of the church. In November Mr. G. W. New repaired the floor in the sanctuary and the UMYF began work on a new Church Membership Directory. Also, on November 1, the votes were recorded from the letters sent regarding the proposed expansion program and a majority of those returning their letters favored adding to the Community House.

The year 1977 was another eventful one in the history of Anvil Block United Methodist Church. In January a cover was purchased for the organ; and Robert Mitchell and Richie Steele sanded and repainted the doors leading into the sanctuary. In February Mrs. J. E. Warren donated a custom-made tape for the carillon containing some of Mr. Warren's
favorite hymns; and the men and boys installed another security light on the right side of the church. In March Mr. and Mrs. Homer Jinks planted Red Bud and Japanese Magnolia trees at the parsonage in memory of Mr. G. W. Rowden, Sr.; Mr. and Mrs. G. W. New installed new wood doors for the back of the church; Richie Steele and Robert Mitchell painted the back doors and the basement door; and the youth completed an up-to-date Church Membership Directory.

In April the men and boys smoothed the ground and planted grass seed back of the church. The seed and fertilizer were donated by John Sego. Also, Mr. G. W. New made beautiful new lecterns for the UMW and the church; the UMYF put up a basketball goal at the edge of the parking lot; and Sunday School Class #6 presented felt-covered bricks for doorstops to the church. They had made these and printed the church's initials on one side, with one side finished in a stained glass pattern. They are presently in use at the front doors.

May 4, 1977 the Planning Committee met to look over the Community House property and decide what type expansion should be done. Plans were presented to the entire church May 15, one for adding to the back of the present structure and one for adding to the end. The church voted to add to the end of the present building an addition the same size as the existing facility to contain men's and women's rest rooms, a room for the Nursery, a room for an office and printing room, and a large open space for dining facilities. Jack Grant (Vice Chairman of the Administrative Board) appointed a Building Committee of Homer Jinks, G. W. New, H. D. Savage, Joe Mitchell and Richard Steele. At a special meeting of the Trustees and Chairpersons of the Administrative Board and Council on Ministries May 25, 1977, Betsy Gleaton was appointed to serve on the Building Committee as a representative of
the UMW and G. W. New and H. D. Savage were appointed Co-Chairmen of the Building Committee.

For Mother's Day this year the UMYF placed two hearts filled with 96 red and 39 white carnations which had been purchased for $1.25 each in honor and memory of mothers. A booklet was printed listing all names of the mothers and names of the donors. After the morning worship service the flowers were given to those who purchased them. Also in May the church purchased a new Royal electric typewriter for Dot Bond, who had worn out several of her own typewriters doing work for the church and the circuit over the years. She has given her services as church secretary free of charge for many years.

May 29, 1977 was a VERY SPECIAL FIRST at Anvil Block. This was designated as the "Rock Of Anvil Block Day" to honor those of our church and community 60 years old and over. The entire morning worship service was dedicated to and honored those in the congregation 60 years of age and over. The center section of pews reserved for those being honored was a beautiful picture with silver hair framing over 40 dear faces of members still active in their support of their church and community. The highlight of the musical presentation was the "Over Sixty Quartette" composed of Mrs. G. W. Rowden, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. O. Ray Clark, and Mr. E. Morris Bond, who gave their rendition of "Sometime." These persons (three of whom are now in their seventies) have been a vital part of the music ministry of Anvil Block Church most of their lives.

On this special day, Pam Mitchell, speaking for the youth of the church, and Talmadge Walden, speaking for the younger adults, paid glowing tribute to the honorees and what their lives had meant and still mean to their particular age group, to the entire church and community. The very meaningful
sermon by the pastor, the Rev. Roscoe Simpson, entitled, "Who Do People Say The Rock Of Anvil Block Are?" was followed by a time for testimony. The church's oldest living member, Miss Lillian Clark, 83, and the youngest preparatory member, Master Jason Stackhouse, eight months, were present for this special occasion. A covered dish lunch, followed by a time of fellowship and visiting, concluded this grand day. Not enough can be said in appreciation of our faithful "Rocks Of Anvil Block" upon whose faith and guidance we build our lives and our church. The Committee in charge of this special event - Jack Grant, Talmadge Walden and Rev. Roscoe Simpson - under the direction of Chairperson Pat Mitchell, did an outstanding job.

On Father's Day the UMYF placed two hearts filled with 97 red and 47 white carnations in the sanctuary. As on Mother's Day, people bought carnations in memory or in honor of their fathers and a special booklet was printed with the names of the fathers and the names of those who purchased the flowers in their honor or memory. Also in June, 1977 Mr. G. W. New and Mr. O. Ray Clark installed storm doors at the back of the church; Talmadge Walden was certified as a Lay Speaker; Anvil Block was put back in the Atlanta-Decatur-Oxford District at Annual Conference; and on Children's Day, June 26, the organ was formally dedicated - just one year after the fund was started.

Perhaps the most outstanding event in June, 1977 was on June 4 when the men and boys met at 9:00 a.m. and broke ground for the Community House addition and work was begun. The UMW appointed Mrs. G. W. Rowden, Sr., Mrs. Jeff Stewart, Sr., and Mrs. Bill Sprayberry to work with the Building Committee to select furnishings for the restrooms in the new addition. This was
just the beginning of many, many hours of
HARD work before this project would be
completed.

In July, 1977 Richie Steele, Roy and Robert
Mitchell made a new wooden sign for the
brick frame outside the church. In August
the Kindergarten Sunday School Class bought
paper cup dispensers for the men's and
women's restrooms in the church, and new
aluminum letters were bought by the Sunday
School for the outside sign. In September
the acolyte program was reactivated by
Class #6, with Class #7 also serving.
Two new acolyte robes were ordered to fit
the smaller children.

On October 15, 1977 the new Community House
addition was used for dining facilities for
the UMW sponsored Turkey Supper, even though
it was still unfinished. Then in November
the Administrative Board voted to brick the
front, back and east end of the Community
House in memory of John Bill Bond, in
recognition of his many years of faithful
service to our church as Chairman of the
Administrative Board and in many other
offices. The UMW donated $500 toward the
brickling and the Sunday School gave $250
toward putting new windows in the old part
of the building to match those in the new
addition. The UMW also started a fund to
buy a new stove for the Community House
kitchen.

And so we come to 1978! In February Sunday
School Class #6 donated a four-drawer metal
filing cabinet for the new office and the
printing machine and supplies were moved
into the new office in the new Community
House addition. In March the UMW bought
curtains and rods and bathroom shades for
the Community House, except for the Nursery
window, which were furnished by Betsy
Gleaton, and for the office window, which
were donated by Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Bond.

On April 21 prayer meeting was again begun under the direction of one of our newest members, Mr. Louie Johnston, Sr., with 20 present at this first meeting. This continues to meet each Thursday night at 7:30 p.m. with different ones bringing the message each week.

In April, Richard Steele donated shutters for the front of the Community House. For Mother's Day, May 14, the UMYF again placed hearts in the sanctuary filled with 107 red and 39 white carnations which had been purchased in honor and in memory of our mothers. Again, a special booklet was printed listing the names of the mothers and the names of those who purchased the flowers. Rosebuds (grown and donated by Pat Mitchell) were presented to the oldest mother present, Mrs. O. Ray Clark, 76, and to the youngest mother present, Mrs. Jeff Grant, 19.

The UMYF purchased 100 metal folding chairs for the Community House in May. The old wooden chairs which were purchased by the church were sold for $2.50 each to help pay for the new chairs. The youth also painted and reseated the little wooden chairs and redid the top of the table for the little folk. The Men's Club bought two folding tables for the Community House and donated $100 toward the cost of the new folding chairs; and Jack Grant purchased one folding table.

May 7, 1978 was the celebration of another GIANT STEP in the history of our church. The Community House addition was completed and dedication services were conducted by our District Superintendent, Dr. Garnett Wilder, after morning worship. The building was dedicated "To God and In Memory of John Bill Bond." A plaque of appreciation was presented to Richard Steele (who is not a member of our church) for the many hours of labor he
contributed during the construction and the great amount of money he saved the church by his wise purchasing of materials, etc. To many of our men and boys who had worked several nights each week and every Saturday during the entire period construction was going on, this was truly a time of rejoicing. Our church will be forever in debt to those who labored so long, so hard, and so faithfully. Several of our ladies said they had felt almost like widows during this time, their husbands had been at home so little.

For Father's Day, June 18, 1978, the UMYF placed two baskets of 77 red and 36 white carnations in the sanctuary in honor and in memory of our fathers. Again, a special booklet was printed listing the names of the fathers and the names of those who had purchased a flower in their honor or memory. Boutonnieres were presented to the oldest father present, Mr. Bob Lassiter, 81, and to the youngest father present, Jeff Grant, 19.

Fourth Sunday in June is set aside each year as Homecoming and Children's Day at Anvil Block and our children have the program on this day. Today, June 25, 1978, we celebrate our 80th anniversary at our Children's Day and Homecoming. In the early years we had a speaker for Children's Day in addition to the program by the children. Some of those who spoke were Judge Hutchinson, Judge of the Stone Mountain Circuit; Col. R. O. Jackson, Henry County School Superintendent from McDonough; Mr. Mack Morris, who was a member of Gideons International; and the Rev. John Morris, who was a Methodist preacher in Tulsa, Oklahoma and Sanford, Texas.

It is interesting to note that we had charter members named Simpson and our pastor on this 80th anniversary also bears the name Simpson. We might also point out that two of the members of our choir today (Pam and Roy Mitchell) are great-grandchildren of one of our charter members who used to be in charge of getting up
the Children's Day program, Mrs. W. B. Hayes. Also in our choir and on our program today are great-great-grandchildren (Robert and Paula Mitchell and Cathy, Cindy and Christy Lassiter) of Rev. Sammy Masters.

It is very difficult, in trying to go back 80 years and compile an accurate history, to get all important events chronicled and we are sure many things have been omitted which should have been recorded. We beg your forgiveness for any omissions and assure you they were unintentional. Research has been going on for months in this connection, but with incomplete records and so few people who were around in the early founding days of our church, we did the best we could.

Anvil Block is proud of her past history, but we cannot rest on the achievements of our ancestors. We are grateful to them for the firm foundation they have provided for our church and community and we are thankful to God for the many dedicated men, women, boys and girls who have worked so faithfully in the past and for those who still work today to build on that foundation. We feel very fortunate to have many descendants of our founding fathers still active in our church today. With God's help and guidance we press on and pledge our service for as long as we remain on this earth, with the hope and prayer that Anvil Block United Methodist Church will continue to be a beacon for God in this community for more than 80 additional years.

Some of the special practices now in effect at Anvil Block are listed below for your information:

FLOWERS - The Sunday School sends flowers to members of the church and/or Sunday
School and members of their immediate family when any of these are confined to the hospital. Grace Mitchell is presently responsible for sending these and should be notified when you hear of a hospitalization. The church sends flowers in case of death of a member, their parents (but not grandparents), their husband or wife. Pat Mitchell is presently responsible for ordering these and should be notified when you know of a death.

The church sends "Get Well" and sympathy cards to members and their families. The Coordinator of Adult and Family Ministries is responsible for either sending these or appointing someone to send them. Mrs. H. L. Clark is presently filling this position and should be notified when you know of illness or bereavement affecting our church family.

The UMW puts a rosebud on the altar the Sunday after the birth of a baby to a church member or regular attender. The flower is taken to the mother following morning worship.

Once each quarter the UMW, the laymen, and the youth each have charge of an evening worship service.

Two youth take up the offering on Sunday nights.

Officers of the Men's Club and of the UMW may serve no longer than two years consecutively.

The pastor is to have two weeks vacation each year with pay. Expenses of getting someone to fill the pulpit during this time are to be paid by the church. Visiting preachers who fill the pulpit will be paid $25.00, plus 10¢ per mile if coming
from any distance.

Visiting singing groups who are invited to come on fifth Sunday nights will be given $10.00 if they come from some distance.

If a person comes three Sundays in succession they are added as a member of the Sunday School. If they miss three months in succession they are removed.

The pay schedule for Revival initiated in July, 1975, and still in effect:
   Visiting preacher - $150
   Song Leader - $100
   Pianist - $50

The church offering on fifth Sunday nights goes to our Emergency Fund, which is a fund established to help persons in emergency situations, such as in case of fire, unusual medical bills, etc. The money placed in the white church bank in the vestibule each Sunday also goes for this special fund.

The offering on Children's Day goes to help support our United Methodist Children's Home, 500 Columbia Drive, Decatur. An offering is also taken on Work Day (usually in October) for this Home.

Church officials, as well as Sunday School teachers and officers, take office January 1 each year.

The Community House is let for showers, family gatherings, reunions, etc. Anyone wishing to use these facilities for any purpose should contact Pat Mitchell, who keeps a schedule of activities. It is let strictly on a first come, first served basis. No set fee is charged for the use of these facilities; however, any donations to help defray the cost of utilities are appreciated. Even groups within the church should contact Pat when
they plan to use the Community House for a class dinner or for whatever purpose to avoid the embarrassment of two groups gathering there at the same time.

SET DATES------
Holy Communion is observed once a quarter on the first Sunday of the quarter.

Fifth Sunday nights are set aside for singing.

The UMW meets Wednesday after the first Sunday of every month at 10:30 a.m.

The Men's Club meets third Sunday morning of each month at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast and a program.

Children's Day and Homecoming is fourth Sunday in June each year and the children have charge of the morning service. Lunch is spread and we have singing in the afternoon. There are no night services and no Sunday School on this day.

Vacation Church (Bible) School is set up for the week following the second Sunday in July each year.

Revival begins fourth Sunday in July each year.

Promotion Day for the Sunday School is the first Sunday in September each year.

The AMEN newsletter is published on Tuesday night following the last Sunday in each month at Anvil Block.

Sunday School meets at 10:00 a.m. each Sunday; worship services are at 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. each Sunday; and the UMYF meets at 6:30 p.m. each Sunday.

Choir practice is every Wednesday night at 7:00.

Prayer meeting is each Thursday night at 7:30.
The United Methodist Children's Home Auxiliary meets on the fourth Monday of each month except July and August. This meets at the Children's Home and is open to anyone who wishes to attend.

We hope you will keep this booklet for future reference and hope you will find it both helpful and interesting. We look to you to help write the next 80 years of the history of Anvil Block.

And thus continues the history of Anvil Block United Methodist Church.

FRIENDSHIP

Friendship is a mighty ship
That weathers many gales,
And leaves a blessing to the world
In every place it sails.
It helps the dreary, cheers the sad,
And drives dark clouds away;
It gives a helping hand to those
Who've fallen by the way.

Friendship is a blessed ship
That's full of peace and love,
And carries sunshine everywhere,
From God's own blessed above,
And makes the world a better place -
E'en more like heaven sweet -
And helps to smooth the pathway out
For weary pilgrim's feet.

-Walter E. Isenhour

MAY YOU CONTINUE TO FIND FRIENDSHIP AT ANVIL BLOCK!

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AN INVITATION

To all who sin and need a Savior . . .
To all who mourn and need comforting . . .
To all who are weary and need spiritual rest . . .
To all who are friendless and desire companionship . . .
To all who are strangers and long for a church home . . .
To all who are afflicted and need the heavenly physician . . .
To all who are in doubt and are seeking for light . . .
To all who wish a place of fellowship and worship . . .
The Church opens wide its door and in Jesus' Name says
"WELCOME."

Matthew 11:28
ANNOUNCEMENTS - CONTINUED

MONDAY - Children's Home Auxiliary meets. Let Pat Mitchell know today if you plan to attend.

TUESDAY - Combined newsletter published. Get news in TODAY, PLEASE.

WEDNESDAY - Choir practice at the church, 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY - Prayer meeting at the church, 7:30 p.m. under the direction of Mr. Louie Johnston, Sr. We are grateful to Mr. Johnston for our message last week and look forward to hearing Mr. Turner, a nephew of Mr. Johnston, this week.

JULY 10-14 - Vacation Church School. Please see the insert regarding this in today's booklet and fill in the information and get it back to Dot Bond IMMEDIATELY.

JULY 23-27 - REVIVAL!!! Services begin at 7:30 each night. The Rev. Juel Sealey will be our evangelist and music will be under the direction of Joe and Barbara Mitchell. Begin NOW to PRAY and PREPARE your heart for our Revival.

We still have 7 or 8 of the old wooden chairs for sale at $2.50 each. If you would like to purchase one, let Dot Bond know. The proceeds from the sale of these chairs go toward paying for the new metal folding chairs which the UMYF borrowed money to buy.

HAPPY 80th BIRTHDAY, ANVIL BLOCK!!!

Everyone is extended a cordial invitation to Open House at the parsonage today from 2:30-3:30 p.m.