Historical Notes on churches of
the Augusta District
The United Methodist Church

A people without history
Is not redeemed from time,
for history is a pattern
Of timeless moments.

T. S. Eliot
In December 1806, Francis Asbury, the father of American Methodism, was visiting within the boundaries of what is now the Augusta District. Tuesday evening, the 23rd, on the way to Liberty Chapel for Christmas, he preached at John Crutchfield's. Of that meeting he said, "We had a gentle gale of grace." This year, 1984, we are celebrating the Bicentennial of that Methodism which Asbury helped to start, and this booklet was prepared as a part of observance of that historical event.

For the past five years it has been my privilege to follow in the tradition of Asbury as I have traveled the ten counties to the 18,131 members in our 86 churches plus the people and ministers in the 4 appointments beyond the local church in our district. I have found them to be worthy successors of those countless others who have come between Asbury's day and our own.

Throughout those 178 years the same "gentle gales of grace" have continued to blow across our district. Within these pages we have sought to capture some of the history of that grace. We are grateful to those churches which have shared their history with us. This book is compiled from those who responded to our invitation to participate.

As we read these pages, we will be so awed by what God has done that we will be moved to pause and give thanks. We will be so inspired that we will commit ourselves anew to being a part of the "gentle gale of grace."

And now "May the gentle grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." Amen.

Charles E. Hoover
District Superintendent
1. Dunn's Chapel was organized between 1838 and 1850, the congregation meeting first at the Citizen's Academy. The present rectangular building with high pitched roof was erected between 1900 and 1910. The congregation's first church building was three miles south of Little River Bridge enroute to Appling. 736-4763

2. St. Paul is a congregation born of the campmeeting. After the campground was disbanded, the congregation for several years gathered under brush arbors on the present church grounds. A frame church was built in 1898. The original building burned in 1975 and was replaced by the present brick church. Highway 43, Loco 359-4925

3. Pierce Chapel originated with Methodists who first worshiped at the old Zoar Meeting House, built on the plantation of Joe Gartrell in the early nineteenth century. The present church was built in 1846, and the old Zoar building became an AME church. The congregation is named for its first minister, the Rev. Thomas Pierce. On a country road to Amity, off Highway 78 south of Washington 678-7331

4. Smyrna traces its origins to a Presbyterian congregation organized in 1788. Methodist meetings were also held in the Smyrna Church, a log building with steeple and gallery erected in 1793. When the founding congregation transferred to the Presbyterian Church in Washington in 1820, Methodists continued to worship in the old Smyrna Church. The two denominations conducted joint camp-meetings on the church grounds in the 1840’s, and the Methodists and Baptists had a united missionary society and Sunday School in the 1880’s. The present church was built in 1911 and replaced a clapboard building erected in 1860. Highway 378, about five miles east of Washington 678-7331

5. Anthony Chapel was built in 1897 and replaced this congregation’s original building erected in 1848 on the same site. This white frame church is most lovely in the late afternoon when the setting sun strikes the stained glass windows flanking the pulpit. Metasville Road, off Highway 378 359-4925

6. Lincolnton, in its early days, had a single house of worship used by Presbyterians, Baptists, and Methodists at different hours. At this Union Church, still used by the Presbyterians today, the first Methodist meetings in Lincolnton were held in 1836 and the congregation organized. The present Methodist Church was erected in 1915. This white frame building with two unique bell towers has the distinction of being the first church in Lincoln County to have stained glass windows. Humphrey and Peachtree Streets, Lincolnton 359-4339
7. Pine Grove was organized by converts at a brush arbor meeting, and a log church was built in 1806 on land given by Lewis Parks. The present building was begun in 1846 after the earlier one was destroyed by fire. Pine Grove's Sunday School has existed for over 164 years and is "the oldest Sunday school which has had a continuous life in Georgia." 359-7262

8. Bethany developed from a Sunday School conducted by Miss Hattie Albea, first at her home and later at a school house. The congregation was organized in 1891, and the present church was built in 1899. 359-7262

9. Midway was organized in 1906 as a result of a successful series of brush arbor meetings. The Rev. A. D. Echols of Lincolnton sparked the congregation to erect its own building when he was invited to speak in the community. The church was named Midway because of its location midway between Lincolnton and Tignall. Highway 79, north of Lincolnton 359-4925

10. Pope Chapel was built by a congregation first organized by the Rev. Thomas Humphries in 1786 at the home of James Marks in "Goosepond." The first building, called Mark's Meeting House, was built before 1799, when Bishop Asbury held a "quarterly meeting" there. Asbury visited this church no less than nine times, and, according to some authorities, the first Methodist Conference in Georgia was held at Marks' home in 1788. The church was named Pope's Chapel in 1811 and was relocated in 1852. The present building was constructed in 1957, following tornado damage to a second church built on the same site in 1897. Broad Road off Highway 17 north of Tignall 285-2156

11. Independence may have received its name from an independent meeting house established in 1783 for the use of all denominations. After 1840 the building was claimed by the Methodists and the issue settled by litigation. The Methodist Campground and an academy were located near by. The original building was sold to an AME congregation in 1868 and moved to its present location on Highway 17. It is still in active use today. The present building, in classic Greek Revival style, was completed in 1870 and dedicated by Bishop Pierce in 1871. Tignall 285-2156

12. Rock was organized in 1839 near a big rock a few miles west of the present church building, which was erected in 1870. Its rectangular shape and frame construction preserve the beauty and simplicity of the early protestant church structures in America. Originally the church had two front doors and a gallery with an outside entrance for its black members. The gallery has been enclosed and is now used for Sunday School rooms. Highway 78, west of Rayle 285-2156

13. Washington, First received a nucleus of its first congregation from Grant's Meeting House, the first Methodist church built in Georgia. In 1819 the Methodists acquired property and erected the first place of worship in Washington. When the building was completed in 1823, it was shared with other denominations. A brick church built in 1881 is now owned and used by the Masonic Order. The congregation moved to its present building in 1910. The church was badly damaged by fire in 1955, but fortunately survived through the heroic efforts of a volunteer fire department. Memorial windows depicting Flanders Field and the devastation of World War I are a compelling prayer for peace. The congregation organized the first Woman's Missionary Society in our Conference in 1878 and the first Men's Club in the entire denomination in 1917. Spring and Liberty Streets, Washington 678-7116

14. Bethel was built in the days of the great Methodist expansion of the early nineteenth century. Although the date of its founding is unknown, a record of black members exists for as early as 1838. In 1849 a new church was built about one mile from the original location, and that building was replaced by the present one in 1912. Skull Shoal Road, off Highway 44 southwest of Washington 678-7331

15. Mt. Zion originated in Grant's Meeting House, the first Methodist church built in Georgia in 1787. Several years later the building was moved five miles southeast to Mt. Zion Hill. In 1905 the church was rebuilt, incorporating as much material as possible from the original building and preserving its Early American, rectangular style. The original pulpit and altar rail from Grant's Meeting House are still being used. Highway 88 about eight miles south of Washington 678-7331

16. Raytown stems from the early 1800's when Methodists in the community were first "formed into Society." Meetings were held in the homes of members and, after 1828, at the old South Liberty Meeting House. In 1845 a church was built in Raytown to meet the needs of that growing community. The present building was erected in 1890. Raytown 456-2317

17. Sharon 456-2317

18. Sandy Cross 456-2317
19. Crawfordville built its first church in 1826. Originally known as Bird’s Chapel, many of its founding members came from the Power Creek Meeting House established about 1805 near Sandy Cross. Disbanded during the War Between the States, the congregation was re-formed in 1876 and built a new church on land donated by Alexander H. Stephens on the southwest corner of Liberty Hall lawn. A larger building, erected near the present site in 1911, was destroyed by a cyclone in 1918. The present church of Greek colonial design was built in 1920. Alexander and Moore Streets, Crawfordville 456-2317

20. Union Point was formed in 1852 by the union of two of the oldest Methodist churches in Georgia, Burk and St. John. The first building was replaced in 1886 by the larger and more substantial one still in use today. For many years Baptist and Presbyterian congregations met in the Union Point Methodist Church and a community Sunday School was held there. In 1936 a basement was dug beside the church and then the old building was placed on new foundation. The exterior was veneered in stone in 1941. The large cross in the pulpit area was made by the Rev. Emory Gartrett of the same wood used in the altar railings. Union Point 486-4411

21. Greensboro, First traces its origins to the first recorded Methodist meetings conducted in Greensboro by the Rev. James Jenkins in 1797. A log meeting house erected about 1800 was succeeded by a frame building in 1825 and a brick one in 1859. The present Akron-style church was begun in 1908 and completed in 1911. Bishop Asbury visited Greensboro and preached there. Broad and West Streets, Greensboro 453-7064

22. Walker began as early as 1798 in a log house known as Walker’s Church, in honor of Col. William Walker, Revolutionary soldier and religious leader in the community. A new building was erected in 1805, and this was moved five miles south to its present location about 1820. Much of the original building remains, an example of Early American frame architecture. Turn right off Old Sparta Road from Greensboro after crossing I-20 453-4234

23. Siloam was founded when the congregation of the “Old Hastings Church,” erected in 1832, decided to move into the town of Siloam and built a white frame church there in 1894. Each of the three successive buildings of this congregation has preserved the original Early American style. Siloam 467-2805

24. White Plains was an active congregation in 1817, although the date of its founding is unknown. The first building was destroyed by fire, and the present white frame church was built in 1871. This congregation proudly claims the distinction of having turned out more college graduates per capita than any other Methodist Church in Georgia. Main and Church Streets, White Plains 467-2805

25. Liberty Chapel was the first church organized in Greene County. This “Cradle of Methodism” began in 1788 under a brush arbor erected by John Bush for camp meetings. The first building was erected in 1797. On several occasions Bishop Asbury preached at “Old Liberty,” and there he and Bishop McKindree presided over the South Carolina Conference in 1808. In this church were first practiced two traditions which spread throughout American Methodism: the custom of “coming to the altar” and the mourners bench. The present church was built in 1903 and is a white frame structure with two gothic-inspired turrets. Turn right off Old Sparta Road five miles south of I-20 467-2805

26. Poweltown 595-4927

27. Smyrna, originally known as Piney Grove Meeting House, is the second Methodist Church organized in Georgia. The present building, with hand hewn sills joined with wooden pegs, was completed in 1790. Bishop Asbury preached here while the building was still under construction. Bishop McTyre reported that a crowd estimated at ten thousand (!) attended camp meeting at Smyrna in 1806, and the twenty-four-year-old Lovick Pierce “delivered a sermon of such power that more than one hundred persons were converted in a day.” Highway 22 five miles east of Sparta 595-4927

28. John Turner Memorial in Culverton originated in preaching services conducted by Bishop Pierce at the old Culverton School House in 1865. Earlier Methodists in the area had worshiped at Rock Mills Church near Jewell. In 1881 John L. Culver donated land on which the first church was built. In 1910 this building was damaged by storm, sold, and replaced by the present brick church. In 1911 the church was named John Turner in honor of one of its outstanding members. Highway 16, Culverton 444-5689

29. Pierce Memorial began in a Methodist Society organized in response to the preaching of Bishop Asbury in 1802, either at the courthouse in Sparta or at “Old Dominin,” home of John Lucas. As early as 1799 a Methodist circuit rider, George Daugherty, had preached in Sparta. Land was donated in 1805 and a Methodist meeting house built. This building was destroyed by fire in 1910. The present Greek columned, brick church was built in 1927, after the second church also burned. It is a memorial to Bishop George Foster Pierce whose home was in Sparta and whose grave is in the City Cemetery across from the church. In 1806 Bishop Asbury presided over the meeting of the South Carolina Conference at “Old Dominin.” Hamilton and Boland Streets, Sparta 444-5108

30. Knowles Chapel 444-5108
31. Bethel erected its first building in 1813 on land given by Samuel H. Hughes. A second building was erected in 1853 but burned in 1968 while many of the church members sadly watched. The first service held in the new sanctuary was in April, 1969.

32. Gaissert has developed from a congregation organized in 1913. The first building, used both for worship and as a school, burned, and Mr. and Mrs. L. Gaissert, Sr. donated land and trees for the building of a new church and school room. The church is named for these benefactors. Unlike most Methodist churches, Gaissert’s property does not belong to the Conference, and its building and land will revert to the Gaissert family if it ever closes.

33. Devereux traces its origins to a meeting house built on the Oconee River at Fraley’s Ferry. Although the exact date of its founding is unknown, in 1842 a Baptist church burned and the Methodists invited them to use this building for their services. In 1851 A. I. Butts built Reynolds Chapel, a simple frame church which served the congregation until 1908 when the present building was constructed. Devereux

34. Milledgeville, First was organized in 1806, the first Methodist Church west of the Oconee River. The first building stood on the public square now known as Memory Hill Cemetery. In 1814 Bishop Asbury and McKindree presided at the Annual Conference held here, and Gen. Lafayette attended services in the church in 1825. Sherman’s army camped in the church and burned its pews and furnishings. The present sanctuary was built in 1914 and features a large dome and lovely stained glass windows.

35. The Wesley Foundation at Georgia College and Georgia Military College was instituted in 1942. The Foundation occupied its present home, a low Georgian brick building, in 1958. For over forty years this has been the right hand of Methodism reaching out to college people of the Milledgeville area.

36. Hardwick began as the Sixth Baldwin Mission organized in 1892. Services were held in a Presbyterian church until the first building was erected in 1893. The church was first called Joyworth, then Midway, and took its present name after the post office was established and designated Hardwick. The present building was dedicated in 1938. On the front porch is the bell that hung in the original church’s belfry.

37. Bethel erected its first building in 1813 on land given by Samuel H. Hughes. A second building was erected in 1853 but burned in 1968 while many of the church members sadly watched. The first service held in the new sanctuary was in April, 1969.

38. Pleasant Grove has three lovely rugs depicting Christian symbols. These were hooked by the women of the congregation and are well known in the community. The original hand planed pews have divide boards that separated the men’s and women’s sections of the church.

39. Hopewell held a barbeque to raise funds to build its first log cabin church in 1877. The present American Gothic building was erected in 1887 and contains the original pulpit used for over 100 years. Three Confederate markers in the church cemetery mark the Milledgeville skirmish.

40. Montpelier was originally organized as a Baptist congregation in 1790. The congregation changed its name to Mt. Olive and then back to the original name, Montpelier. The church was closed for a time and then reorganized as a Methodist Church. The pulpit Bible donated in 1872 records the names of all the church’s pastors since 1866.

41. Linton

42. Mt. Hope was founded in 1846 largely through the instigation and inspiration of the Rev. George F. Pierce, at that time Presiding Elder of the Augusta District and later Bishop. Since there was no district parsonage, Pierce bought a home about four miles east of Sparta in 1845 and took a special interest in the Methodist people near by. The present church evidently goes back to the early days of the congregation, but the actual date of its construction is unknown. It was preceded by two hewn-log buildings which were also used as community school houses.

43. Rock Mills was erected in 1840 between Jewell and Mayfield and was moved to its present location at the edge of Jewell in 1894. Like many churches of its day, the pulpit originally stood in the front of the building beside its only door, the pews facing those entering. No one could slip in late without everyone knowing! A Woman’s Society of a Methodist Church in Maryland for many years had a “Jewell Circle” in honor of the outstanding accomplishments of the women of this small congregation. Known for over forty years as Jewell Methodist Church, the congregation in 1980 readopted its original historic name.

44. Mayfield is the outgrowth of a Sunday School organized about 1893 by Mrs. B. H. Coleman. First the Sunday School and then preaching services were held in a little one room school house until a church building was erected in 1897. That church was replaced by the present one in 1949.

45. Johnson
46. Warrenton, First was begun by Methodists who had been worshiping at Mt. Gilead and felt the need of a church in the growing town of Warrenton. A lot was purchased in 1805 for $.25, and in November that year Bishop Asbury preached in "the new chapel at Warrington." Three rose windows highlight the present semi-gothic sanctuary which was built in 1904.
East Main Street, Warrenton 465-2309

47. Prospect 465-3485

48. Norwood 465-3485

49. Camak was organized in 1869 as the result of a three-week protracted meeting conducted by Dr. R. W. Hubert, a local preacher. The frame church, erected in 1873, was twice damaged by cyclones but served the congregation until 1930, when the present brick, gothic-style building was occupied. Miss Susie Mayes of this congregation served 35 years as a missionary in China and Malaysia.
Highway 80, Camak 595-1432

50. Macedonia erected its first church building in 1856 on land donated the previous year by William Wall. The present brick building was built in 1975, and the fellowship hall and education building were added in 1983.
Highway 88, Norwood 595-1432

51. Mesena was begun in 1886 with 18 charter members. The congregation still uses the frame church that was built the following year on land donated by William F. Gusling. The church now has a brick veneer. Descendants of some of the original trustees still attend the church.
Highway 223, Mesena 595-1432

52. Young Memorial is named in memory of its founder, the Rev. J. Foster Young. First known as North Thomson Methodist Church, this congregation held its first meeting in a warehouse in 16 degree weather in January, 1961. Twenty were present.
Highway 78, Thomson 596-3375

53. Thomson, First is a direct descendant of Bethany Church, established sometime prior to 1849. About 1853 the membership built a church in town and changed its name to Thomson. The present brick building was erected in 1902. In addition to the lovely Knox Chapel, the church contains another unique chapel known as the "Little Country Church." This room was constructed and furnished with materials from the old Mt. Gilead Church, which was taken down and reassembled inside the present Thomson complex.
595-3936

54. Salem began in 1820 when, at a meeting in the Piney Woods school house, the decision was made to build a church. After the building was completed in 1822, the name was changed to Salem. In 1900, when the road was rerouted, the entrance to the church was reversed.
Sweetwater Creek, Thomson 595-2542

55. Boneville 783-1145

56. Dearing was organized by twenty charter members in 1899. In 1944 the original one room structure was brick veneered, an entrance way built, and Sunday School rooms added. Interior renovations continued until 1952 when the church was dedicated.
Dearing 556-6744

57. White Oak Campground and 58. White Oak Church are sites where Methodist meetings have been held at least since 1792. Bishop Asbury preached here on several occasions, and a meeting house was built in 1803. The campground was used as a prison camp and hospital during the Civil War. After an outbreak of typhoid, the campground was burned and rebuilt about a mile away. The present Tabernacle was built in 1873, and a few of the tents are equally as old.
Just off Highway 223, Thomson 595-6258

59. Shiloh was built in 1858 replacing an earlier meeting house that had existed on that site since 1824. The first services were conducted by a hermit who lived beside a nearby spring. The Woman's Missionary Society was organized by 13 women in 1878 and is the oldest rural mission society in the state.
Winfield 595-6258

60. Riverview was organized in 1948. The congregation occupied its frame and brick building in 1949 and Sunday School classrooms were added in 1954.
Furys Ferry Road, Evans 790-0328

61. Lewis Memorial is the old Sardis Church organized about 1900 and succeeding an earlier St. Mary's Church. The congregation developed from a Sunday School organized by Mrs. William Ellis Lewis whose husband donated the land and material for the first building. In 1947 the name was changed to perpetuate the memory of these charter members and benefactors of the church. The present sanctuary was built in 1919, again through the leadership and contributions of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis.
Columbia and Lewiston Roads, Evans 863-6795

62. Marvin is named for Bishop Enock M. Marvin. The congregation was organized in 1891 in the Marvin School House, and its first building was erected in 1892. The present blue granite sanctuary with Gothic arches and stained glass windows was dedicated in 1950.
4181 Wheeler Road, Martinez 863-0510

63. Martinez was formed by nineteen charter members in June, 1956. The fellowship hall was built first and used for worship services until the sanctuary could be completed in 1977.
3614 Washington Road, Martinez 863-6541
64. Grovetown held its first meetings “in a clearing” on Wrightsboro Road. The first church was erected in 1880. In 1891 a licensed member of the church was paid $3.97 per quarter to “exhort” twice each month. The present sanctuary was built in 1924.  
206 East Robinson Avenue, Grovetown 863-6668

65. Philadelphia began as Rocky Mount Church erected before 1840 on the Hamilton Plantation about one mile from the present location. The present building was erected between 1879 and 1888. The congregation possesses a register dated from 1879 with notations going as far back as 1882.  
Louisville Road, about five miles from Harlem 860-6930

66. Harlem was organized in 1874 by members of Mt. Tabor Methodist Church in the neighboring community of Saw Dust. A large one-room building was erected that year and replaced by a beautiful frame church with a large bell in its tower in 1902. After the building burned in 1928, services were held in the Star Theatre until the present church could be built and occupied in 1929.  
Harlem 556-6885

67. Blythe was organized in 1893 at the Farmers’ Alliance Hall. The congregation dedicated its present Greek Revival church in 1894. Blythe’s “missionary,” Mr. B. M. Long, helped other Methodist men build needed buildings in Belize, Haiti, Mexico, and at Simpsonwood.  
Church Street, Blythe 592-9888

68. Friendship erected its first building in 1914. The present contemporary design sanctuary was completed in 1966.  
Tobacco Road near Gate 5 of Fort Gordon, Hephzibah 736-1168

69. Hephzibah is the old Brothersville Church which was built in 1853. This beautifully proportioned neo-classical building was moved one mile into the town of Hephzibah in 1890. The congregation was organized in 1852 by members of the old New Hope Church which dated from the early nineteenth century. The oldest known grave in Hephzibah is that of Eleazor Brack whose funeral sermon Bishop Asbury preached in 1801. The congregation has complete sets of Quarterly Conference Minutes beginning with 1851 and Woman’s Missionary Society Minutes from 1910.  
4431 Brothersville Road, Hephzibah 592-4305

70. Berlin held its first meeting between 1824 and 1827. In 1827 one acre of land was deeded to the congregation for building a church. The present clapboard church with columns was built in 1877. Two entrance doors and dividers in the center pews separate what was originally the women’s and men’s sections in the church.  
Hephzibah-McBean Road, east of Highway 25 793-4189

71. Liberty is the oldest Methodist congregation in Richmond County and one of the oldest in the entire state. Its first meetings were held perhaps as early as 1784. Bishop Asbury preached at an earlier log meeting house of this congregation in 1790. The present wooden building dates from the first decade of the nineteenth century. It was carefully and beautifully restored in 1981.  
Liberty Church Road, Hephzibah 738-7091

72. Gracewood was originally known as Bethesda and was established sometime before 1851. The name was changed to Gracewood in 1912. After the Civil War the Richmond Campground was located here, many people coming by train from Augusta to attend. Across from the State Hospital is the old Bethesda Cemetery. The newly-elected bishop, L. Bevel Jones, III, was born in the Gracewood parsonage.  
Tobacco Road, just east of Highway 25, Gracewood 798-2200

73. Cokesbury was organized in April, 1963, largely through the efforts of the Rev. Grady S. Wheeler. The congregation first used buildings transferred from Ft. Gordon. In April, 1982, the new church and fellowship hall were dedicated and the notes burned. One tradition of this congregation is the annual celebration of the church’s birthday.  
2005 Windsor Spring Road, Augusta 798-2954

74. St. Andrew renovated an existing building for use as a sanctuary in 1971. The new sanctuary, New England style with white siding and steeple, was added in 1980. The Korean Church, most recently organized congregation in the Augusta District, meets in a trailer on the St. Andrew lot. This Korean language congregation held its first meeting in March, 1981, in a chapel at Ft. Gordon.  
2945 Meadowbrook Drive, Augusta 793-3081

75. Barton Chapel held its first services in 1843 under a brush arbor erected at the present location of the church. After the first church burned, it was widely rumored that the next one would also if slaves were not permitted to worship there also. The second building therefore had a gallery entered by outside steps for its black members. The present church is the third building to house the congregation.  
Dean’s Bridge Road at Barton Chapel Road, Augusta 793-6166

76. Burns Memorial was organized in 1945. The congregation met in the Fleming Community House until its first building was erected in 1946 on property donated by George Burns and E. J. Richards. The present colonial style church was dedicated in 1955. A parsonage was donated to the church in 1950 by Pete Knox who was developing the surrounding area. The church is a memorial to George Doster Burns, a young man killed in a traffic accident at the intersection near the place where the first church was built.  
2372 Lumpkin Road, Augusta 798-1454
77. **Mize Memorial** developed from a mission Sunday School held in the Turpin Hill community of Augusta. Soon revivals were also conducted there, and a congregation was organized in 1924. In December of that year its first building was ready for use. In 1935 the church building was relocated at its present site. The church is a memorial to its first pastor, the Rev. B. F. Mize. 
302 Barrow Drive, Augusta 736-3276

78. **Mann Memorial** was established as a living memorial to perpetuate the ministry of Dr. Alfred Turner Mann, a native Augustan and one of our most illustrious nineteenth-century preachers. Many of the subscriptions and donations given for the erection of the church were collected by Dr. Mann’s widow. The original little white church was built in 1890. The present sanctuary was completed in 1947.
2705 Milledgeville Road, Augusta 736-1602

79. **Asbury** is the outgrowth of a Sunday School organized near the Augusta Factory in 1856 by members of St. John Church. The Asbury Mission was created in 1858, and its first building was erected the following year on a lot provided by the Factory. Like its mother church, Asbury was blessed with a missionary spirit, and from its Sunday School and revivals at Turpin Hill, Mize Memorial Church developed.
1305 Troupe Street, Augusta 736-0061

80. **Woodlawn** began with a Sunday School organized in 1889 by the Rev. F. S. Hudson, city missionary to Augusta. A congregation developed and was organized into a church in 1892. Between 1911 and 1916 a large church was built on Fifteenth Street. A large part of the sanctuary was destroyed by fire in 1934, but this was rebuilt and improved. Because of urban renewal, the congregation moved in 1967 into its new complex, contemporary in style. All furnishings in the chapel are from the old church, including the lovely stained glass windows.
2220 Walton Way, Augusta 738-2546

81. **Trinity-on-the-Hill** was organized in 1926 and occupied its first building in 1935. The first five people who made contributions toward the fund to erect this first building were remarkably diverse in ethnic and religious backgrounds: two were Greek, one Jewish, one Irish, and the other Anglo-Saxon. Stained glass windows and lovely festive banners made by members of the congregation adorn the sanctuary. This modern Gothic-style church was dedicated in 1958.
1330 Monte Sano Avenue, Augusta 738-8822

82. **Pierce Memorial** is named for Bishop George Foster Pierce. The first Methodist place of worship at this location was erected in 1800. The present brick sanctuary was completed in 1951, and in 1980 stained glass windows were installed.
1441 Jackson Road, Augusta 736-8794

83. **St. Mark** was established in 1881 as a mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church to the poorer black communities of Augusta. This was part of an extensive effort on the part of Northern Methodism to re-establish itself in the South after the Civil War. After many years of mission and service on Florence Street, the congregation purchased a church building in West Augusta and relocated in 1984.
1296 Marks Church Road, Augusta 733-3194

84. **Aldersgate** was organized in 1962 and was originally called Brynwood. The congregation met at Walton Way Temple Congregation of Israel until the first unit of its modern facility could be completed in 1963. The contemporary Gothic sanctuary was dedicated in 1980.
3185 Wheeler Road, Augusta 733-4416

85. **St. Mark** was organized in 1949 to serve the growing community in the National Hills area of Augusta. Later that year the congregation erected its first building where worship services were held until the completion of the sanctuary in 1956. The original building is now used as Sunday School class rooms. An educational plant was added in 1969.
2367 Washington Road, Augusta 736-8185

86. **St. Luke** held its first services in 1875, meeting in a small Presbyterian chapel. The congregation’s first building was a small wooden chapel which was replaced in 1883 by the present sanctuary, a brick structure with stucco finish.
309 Crawford Avenue, Augusta 736-6913

87. **St. John** was organized in 1798 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ebenezer Doughty on Washington and 16th Streets. This is the first Methodist Church to be organized in a Georgia town and before long it also became Georgia Methodism’s first station church. The congregation’s first meeting house was a large frame building erected in 1801. This was, according to Bishop Asbury and much to his indignation, probably the first Methodist meeting house in America to have a bell. That building was sold to the Springfield Baptist Church, was moved to Reynolds Street, and is still in use today. The present Romanesque-style sanctuary was erected in 1842. Here was held the organizational meeting for Paine College in 1882. Five of St. John’s pastors later became bishops. Because of this congregation’s role in helping establish at least eight other Methodist Churches in the Augusta area, St. John has long been known as the “Mother of Methodist Churches.”
736 Greene Street, Augusta 724-9641

88. **St. James** was organized in 1853 and occupied its first building three years later. The church was enlarged in 1886 and a belfry added. President Taft, in 1912, and President Eisenhower, in 1954, attended services in this Gothic-style church. According to a tradition of St. John Church, Augusta’s first two Methodist churches jointly decided that they would be named for these two apostles because they were brothers.
439 Greene Street, Augusta 722-8373