The History of Belvedere Methodist Church

As a result of prayer and faith based on a need of a Methodist Church, a small group of Methodists met Sept. 14, 1952 at the Home of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Moore, 193 Midway Road at 2 o'clock. This meeting was the summation of previous talks with Bishop Arthur J. Moore and Dr. Edward G. Mackay. There were a total of 17 present. Rev. Ruff acting as chairman, those present elected a co-chairman and other officers until the church would be officially organized. Mr. Carne told of the school expansion and felt that the church need was in line. Plans were made for temporary meetings at Hooper-Alexander School. Sentence prayers for guidance were given by those present. A collection placed $11.15 in the treasurer.

The second meeting met at the school September 21st, 1952 at 3 o'clock with Mr. O'Kelley as chairman, presiding. A summation of the previous meeting were given by Rev. Ruff. The guest speaker was Dr. Mackay. He stated that a new church could be organized with 30 members and that money was available from the Mission Board toward obtaining a lot and student pastor for the new church. All ministers present promised support and interest in the church. Again the third meeting was held at the school at 3 o'clock. A motion was made and seconded that Church School begin the following Sunday at 9:15.

Mr. O'Kelley turned the service over to Dr. Mackay. He took as his text the last verse Ezekiel 48:35 "And the name of the City from that day shall be, The Lord is there".


During the month of October there were visiting ministers until the church was officially organized. On November 2, 1952 at 7:30 with Dr. Mackay presiding and delivering the sermon "The Church". A secretary, board of stewards and a board of trustees were nominated and elected. Also the Supt, Asst. Supts, Treasurer were elected for the Sunday Church School. The name of Belvedere was selected with the provision for changing in the future, if desirable. There were 40 charter member present and a total of 67 present.

On November 9th, 1952 the M.Y.F. was organized.

February 1953 the W.S.C.S. was organized. Now each has grown to be a very strong backbone of our Belvedere Methodist Church.

November 1952, Dr. Mackay appointed Rev. D. Rodney Robison as Pastor of Belvedere Methodist Church.

The first Easter Sunday a sunrise service with Rev. Geary as guest minister. A breakfast was sponsored by the M.Y.F. with all the proceeds going to the Building Fund.

In May 1953 a lot was purchased on Midway Road to build the future home of Belvedere Methodist Church. The cost of the lot was $6500.00. The total indebtedness as of this date Jan. 1954 is $11,900.00.

Thru Pray, Faith and work our Church has grown to 127 active members, 10 on Profession of faith, 3 from other denomination and 13 from transfer letter. Our Sunday School enrollment is 170. Our highest goal was made Jan. 10, 1954 with 129 present in church school.

With this good record in the past what a future there is in store for Belvedere Methodist.