HISTORY
OF
CASCADE METHODIST CHURCH
NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE
ATLANTA GEORGIA
JUNE 1951.
On the first Sunday in October, 1926, a small group of loyal Methodist men and women met in a vacant store building on Cascade Avenue, near Beecher Street, in the city of Atlanta, Georgia, for the purpose of organizing a new Methodist Church in the fast-growing Cascade-Beecher community.

The result of this meeting was the organization of the CASCADE METHODIST CHURCH and the original list of members contained forty-seven (47) names.

For approximately two months, during the organization and formation period, Rev. S. A. F. Wagner and Rev. Y. A. Oliver divided their time between Mary Brannon Methodist Church and Cascade Methodist Church.

At the annual meeting of the North Georgia Conference in 1926, presided over by Bishop W. B. Beauchamp, Rev. S. A. F. Wagner was duly appointed Pastor of the new Cascade Methodist Church on November 20, 1926. Dr. W. T. Hunnicutt was Presiding Elder of the Atlanta District at that time. With hard work and much prayer, the Charter Membership list was closed with a total of one hundred twenty-seven (127) members enrolled.

Under the continued leadership of Rev. Wagner, on April 1, 1927 a beautiful lot located on Cascade Avenue at Richland Road was purchased and upon this lot was erected the first building of Cascade Methodist Church.
With the Church fully organized and actively working, continued progress was made, both in the spiritual and financial structure of the Church. It was not long before it was realized that the original building would not take care of the ever-growing community.

On September 24, 1936, Mr. H. T. Pullin and Mr. G. H. Stegar donated to the Church the adjoining lot on Richland Road, thereby giving the Church additional property on which, together with the original lot, a larger Church could be erected. The original building was then moved to the back of the new lot in order to make way for the new permanent building to be erected facing Cascade Avenue.

At the meeting of the Annual Conference in November, 1939, Dr. W. T. Hunnicutt was assigned to Cascade Methodist Church. It was felt that his appointment to Cascade was very fitting inasmuch as the Church was organized while he was Presiding Elder of the Atlanta District and he demonstrated sincere interest in its organization. Also, he was nearing the end of his active ministry, and he was assigned to serve the last few years of his ministry at Cascade, which he often referred to as his "baby".

While plans and specifications were being worked out for the new building under the able leadership of Dr. Hunnicutt,
on May 20, 1940, fire of an unknown origin burned out the interior of the frame building. While work was in progress re-building and repairing the damage done by the fire, services were held in the Connally Grammar School, just across the street from the Church.

After reconditioning and enlarging the frame building, construction was started on the first unit of the permanent building. However, due to the beginning of World War II in December, 1941, work was suspended on the new building with the completion of the basement. The basement was then used for Sunday School classes.

After serving three years as pastor of Cascade Methodist Church, Dr. Hunnicutt was retired at the meeting of the Annual Conference held in November, 1942, and Rev. J. J. Sneed was assigned to Cascade.

During the trying years of World War II, Mr. Sneed kept constantly before the membership, a mental picture of the completed structure which had been so long the dream of the people of Cascade Methodist Church, and with the close of the war new building was restricted until February 10, 1947 at which time authorization was granted to complete the building program started in 1940. The new building was completed and the first service was held in it on the first Sunday in July, 1948.
The new Cascade Methodist Church, constructed at a cost of approximately $125,000.00, is considered to be one of the most beautiful churches in the City of Atlanta. It is of Gothic design with large memorial windows. The large front window is a picture of Christ praying in the Garden. Behind this window is a floodlight operated by a clock arrangement whereby the window is lighted from 7:00 P.M. to 11:30 P.M. each night. This window is a constant reminder to a tired world of the necessity of prayer.

The Sanctuary has a seating capacity of four hundred and twenty-five (425). The interior walls are painted a light blue which harmonizes with the wall-to-wall mulberry red carpet and American oak pews and other furniture.

The Baldwin organ and chimes lend a note of completeness to the interior.

On November 10, 1945, the parsonage located at 972 Westmont Road, S. W. was purchased, at which time it was completely reconditioned and is now a very comfortable home for our ministers.

During the years, Cascade has had the following pastors (length of service with us is shown beside each name):

S. A. F. Wagner 2 years
C. A. Norton 2 years
J. D. Swaggerty 2 years
A. G. Shankle 1 year
Y. A. Oliver 4 years
H. H. Dillard 1 year
J. J. Copelan 1 year
W. T. Hunnicutt 3 years
J. J. Sneed 8 years
E. C. Wilson 1 year

The Cascade Methodist Church was wisely located in one of the fastest growing communities in the city as shown by the following figures that were compiled by the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company:

"POPULATION FIGURES AND ESTIMATES ON CASCADE-BEECHER SECTION"
1926 there were 373 families, or an estimated population of 1529
1940 there were 963 families, or an estimated population of 3624,
an increase of 137% over 1926
1945 there were 1350 families, or an estimated population of 5076,
an increase of 232% over 1926,
It is ESTIMATED that in 1960, there will be 3370 families, with
an ESTIMATED population of 11,795 in the same area,
an increase of 671% over 1926,
which provides a challenge to the members and pastors of Cascade Church.

The original forty-seven (47) members that so wisely worked
for the organization and building of this Church are due the thanks and gratitude of future generations for their faithful work.

With the wise guidance of the various pastors listed above, this Church has continued to grow and at the close of the Conference year in June, 1950, there was a membership of 639. During the current Conference year 209 additional members have been received into this Church.

Cascade Methodist Church has always been known as "The Friendly Church" and with this feeling continued into the future, together with an ever-growing community, and with constant prayer and the help of our Master, the members of Cascade feel that their Church will continue to grow and be a blessing to the community which it serves.