Dearing Methodist Church like so many other churches had its origin in a Sunday School which was organized three years before the Church on the school house lot South of Dearing on Huff bridge road. Then in November 1899 the Church was organized with twenty charter members on a different location which was across town on the North side of Dearing, being now the same location. The preacher in charge was Rev. Thomas R. Gibson of the Harlem Circuit. The lot on which the church now stands was donated by Jack Harris in honor of his wife. Mrs. Bob Printup was the founder and a very noble person. The oldest and only charter member living is Mrs. W. C. Rodgers. The Church is deeply grateful for such benevolent character, for such is surely the salt of the earth and the light of the world. The history of Dearing Church would not be complete without mentioning Mrs. Susan Clark a charter member which was the first woman steward of the Church, was Mrs. Printup’s Co-worker in soliciting funds for church. Also by her efforts of selling ice cream on her lawn bought the first Bible presented to the Church.

The Church building was a very plain structure with two doors in front, two windows in the rear and three windows on each side. The pulpit was in the rear built high with two steps leading up into it, surrounding it was an altar, the railing around being round. The chair elevated to left side of altar. Mr. Artie McGeehe donated and hauled the first load of lumber for this building. Mr. J. H. Langford donated his labor for building all pews, in fact all labor was donated with the exception of Author Logan which was the supervisor.

In 1906 four Sunday School rooms were added on the front of the Church. Rev. G. W. Tumlin and Hardin Pearson solicited funds for the rooms. According to information the trustees were: J. H. Langford, O. D. Rodgers, Oscar Howard and William S. Whitaker.

In 1944 under the leadership of Rev. A. D. Whittemore the Church decided to renovate the old building. The building committee appointed was: G. L. Rodgers, M. A. Culpepper, Sr., and Mrs. J. M. Beall. The educational department was expanded by adding five Sunday School rooms on the rear of the Church. The building was brick-veneered, the front entrance was formed into an arch with one door leading into auditorium.

Rev. Harvey A. King was the next pastor and served for five years from November 1945 to June of 1950. The interior of the Church was completely renovated with sheet rock on walls and celatex over head, the choir being placed back of pulpit. A heating system was installed and venetian blinds added.
After the expansion of the educational department a Men's Bible Class was organized, which added much to the growth of our Church. Mr. J. Willis Howard being Superintendent at present time and was for a long period of time.


At the present time the membership of the church stands at 118. The Church carries out a well-rounded program in every area of its work.

Rev. R. E. Lyle is the present pastor of the Church. Mr. R. B. Morgan is General Superintendent of the Church School, with Mrs. Roy L. Howard Secretary and Treasurer. The Board of Stewart being G. L. Rodgers, L. E. Moore, R. L. Howard, Mrs. Beth Weathers, Harry Camp, Mrs. John Harry Reeves, and Mrs. J. M. Beall. The Trustees being J. M. Beall, R. L. Howard, L. E. Moore, G. L. Rodgers and R. E. Morgan.

The Woman's Society of Christian Service is quite an active organization of our Church. Mrs. J. M. Beall being the able president of the W. S. C. S. The Spiritual Life Leader Mrs. W. M. Black is quite an inspiration to our society in her well planned devotionals. We say we are advancing for Christ and His Church.

Through the continued cooperation of all groups in the Church, Dearing expects to have an ever enlarging ministry, and looks to the past with a spirit of deep gratitude for what has been accomplished during the short fifty-two years of her glorious history.