HISTORY OF
FAIR OAKS METHODIST CHURCH
213 Joyner Avenue
Marietta, Georgia

August 1956 - June 1957

Mrs. R. L. Osborne
Mrs. A. M. Stringer

Historians

July 1957
THE CHURCH AND CHURCH SCHOOL

In July 1956, the Church had some 265 members, with a budget for 1956-1957 of $25,000; and the Church School had a membership of 369, with a staff of 36 teachers.

On Sunday morning, October 26th, 1956, the biggest Homecoming had thus far was had at our Church. After dinner on the grounds, a group assembled in the Sanctuary for a period of singing led by J. C. Jones, Jr., our first choir director. Dr. Boone M. Bowen, Professor of Old Testament at Emory University, was guest speaker.

Also, on Sunday morning, October 26th, 1956, the first Church Directories ever prepared for the Church were passed out to the Church members and other interested persons. These directories contained the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of all the Church members, in addition to the officers of the Church, Church School, and the various organizations in the Church.

A meeting of parents and teachers was held here at our Church on Monday evening, October 29th, 1956, with Miss Jean Buchanan, Director of Children’s Work in the North Georgia Conference, as guest speaker. She spoke on “More Effective Cooperation between Parents and Teachers in the Church School.” A short discussion period was held afterwards.

Larry Gaywood, a young adult in our Church, was granted a preaching license at the District Conference at Audubon Forest Methodist Church in January 1957. He is the first young man from our Church to receive this license. On March 25, 1957, Larry preached his first sermon in our Church.

On Tuesday evening, February 5, 1957, bids for our proposed Church School Building were received and opened at the Church. Bothwell and Nash were the architects. The J. F. Demney Construction Company of Rome, Georgia, had the low bid of $62,000. As a result, the Church School Building contract was let on
March 7th, 1957. Construction was started on the building with the clearing of the ground on Friday, March 22, 1957. Work on the steeple was started May 2, 1957.

Another first for our Church on Sunday morning, April 7, 1957, was the placing of 2 rosebuds on the pulpit in honor of Robert Walter Campbell, son of the R. L. Campbells, born March 21st, 1957, and Marsha Ann Lipscomb, daughter of the David Lipscombs, born April 4th, 1957.

The Church School attendance of 286 persons on Sunday morning, April 21st, 1957, was the greatest our Church has ever had.

A spring revival was held nightly from Sunday Night, May 5th, through Friday Night, May 10th, 1957, with an average attendance of 110. Very inspirational messages were brought each night by Rev. Lamar Cherry, pastor of the Oakland City Methodist Church in Atlanta. Rev. David Carter, Associate Pastor of Druid Hills Methodist Church in Atlanta, led the singing.

Vacation Church School was held for two weeks beginning Monday, June 3, 1957, with Mrs. Milton J. Brown, as Director. There was an average attendance of 116, without the Intermediate Department.

WSCS:

On August 5, 1956, a new Royal Upright Typewriter was presented Rev. W. F. Byrd by the congregation at the morning worship service. This project was sponsored by the WSCS, and collections for the gift were made by them.

In January - March 1957, the Primary Department completed a 10-weeks mission study on the Philippine Islands, sponsored by the WSCS.

As of April 1957, there were 37 members in the WSCS, 13 in the WSG.

MYF:

The Cobb County MYF Sub-District Fall Rally was held at our Church on Thursday Night, September 20th, 1956, with some 120 young people from all over the county attending.
METHODIST MEN:

Some 22 of our Methodist Men from our Church joined other Men's Groups from all over Cobb County in a joint meeting and barbecue supper at Lake Acworth on Monday Evening, September 21, 1956.

On Monday Night, April 22, 1957, the Cobb County Methodist Men received a charter, the first of its kind to be issued in the United States. Our Church had the second best representation, with 28 members attending the supper meeting at the First Methodist Church in Marietta.

On Friday Evening, February 22, 1957, Mr. and Mrs. Gerhard Trojahn and their 3 sons, Wolfgang, Klaus-Dieter, and Horst (the refugee family from Germany) that was sponsored by the Methodist Men of our Church) arrived in Marietta. Other Church groups had joined the Men's Group in preparing for the arrival of the Trojahns. A completely furnished 3-bedroom home at 331 Hall Drive in Smyrna, Georgia, Cobb Heights, was awaiting them, complete even to an automatic washing machine and a filled pantry. Gerhard soon found employment in the Engineering Department of the J. B. MoCrary Company in Atlanta, and they worked in to the life of our Church rapidly.
HISTORY OF THE
FAIR OAKS METHODIST CHURCH
Marietta, Ga.
1957-1958

Mrs. R. L. Osborne
Mrs. A. M. Stringer
Historians
July 1958
THE CHURCH AND CHURCH SCHOOL:

In July 1957, the Church had 311 members, with a budget for 1957-1958 of $26,000; and the Church School had a membership of 654, with a staff of 33 teachers.

On the nights of September 16, 17, and 18, Miss Virginia Proctor, Director of Religious Education at Glenn Memorial Methodist Church in Atlanta, taught a course here in our Church entitled "Understanding Youth". Twelve persons received certificates for attending this course.

Open House was held at our Church Sunday afternoon, November 17, 1957, from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m., at which time people in our Church and community and other interested persons visited our newly completed Church School Building. The ladies of the WSCS served as hostesses. Dr. Lester Rumble, our District Superintendent, brought the morning message and dedicated the memorial pews already installed in the Sanctuary.

From January 12th to Easter, 1958, our Church took part in an Attendance Crusade.

During 1958, approximately 41 Methodist Hymnals were given to the Church by various members as memorials to loved ones.

During the latter part of January 1958, the remaining 10 pews were installed. This completes the pews needed for the sanctuary since its enlargement.

On 16 February 1958, a Church School class was organized for the unmarried older youth of the church who have graduated from high school and are working or in college (ages 18-23).

On February 29, 1958, Rev. Henry K. Irvin, our evangelist for our revival, conducted our prayer service, after which we had a period of fellowship to get better acquainted with him before our revival.
On March 11, 1958, a prayer vigil was held at our Church for the purpose of asking God's help in keeping liquor stores out of Cobb County.

On March 9-11, 1958, Rev. W. F. Byrd, pastor of our Church, held revival services at Southside Methodist Church in Macon, Georgia. This was part of the simultaneous revivals held by North Georgia Conference pastors in South Georgia.

During the week of 17-21 March 1958, a program of visitation evangelism was held by our Church before our spring revival.

Revival services were held at our Church by Rev. Henry Irvin, pastor of Southside Methodist Church in Macon, beginning March 23 and lasting through March 28, 1958.

On Sunday, 23 March 1958, we first used a little electric organ, installed by Mr. Kenneth Hoorn, on a loan basis, until he completes the one he is building for the Church.

Rev. Larry Caywood, our Local Preacher, held a revival at Silver Creek Methodist Church, Rome, Georgia, during the week of March 23-28, 1958.

On Sunday Evening, May 25, 1958, Rev. M. E. Picaso, Missionary on leave from Haiti, and his wife and children brought the evening message. The WSGS sponsored the Picasos with a $5 monthly share in their work in Haiti for a year, beginning in the fall of 1958. Others in the Church have also sponsored them individually.

Vacation Church School was held here from June 9 - June 20, 1958. Mesdames Wendell Anderson and D. L. Braund were co-directors. Average attendance was 126.

Christian Adventure Week for Intermediates was held June 16-20, 1958, under the leadership of M. J. Brown, with Mrs. W. T. Anderson assisting. The theme was "Nature in God's Universe".
METHODOIST MEN:

Mr. and Mrs. Gerhard Trojahn, our German family sponsored by our Methodist Men, joined our Church in December 1957. (Until our Church Directory came out in November 1957 not including them, they had considered themselves members since they attended the Church regularly and took part in its activities.)

M.Y.F:

Our M.Y.F entertained several young people from our Methodist Children’s Home in Decatur on November 23-24, 1957.

In the fall of 1957, our Youth Council was formed, with Mrs. W. T. Anderson as Counselor to the group.

Sunday, January 26, 1958, our Church was host to the Cobb County Sub-District M.Y.F from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

W.S.G.S:

On 29 September 1957, Larry Caywood, our young Local Preacher, was presented with an Honorary Youth Membership in the W.S.G.S. He was the first youth to be so honored in our Church.

On October 27, 1957, Rev. W. F. Byrd and family were presented with 7 pieces of matching aluminum luggage at the morning service. This was a W.S.G.S project.

Beginning January 26, 1958, for 6 weeks, the W.S.G.S sponsored extended sessions for the Primaries during the morning worship service, "Children of Japan". The Juniors met during Evening Fellowship and studied "Journey to Japan".

As of July 1958, there were 52 members in the W.S.G.S and 19 in the Guild.

During June 1958 at one of the morning services, the pastor recognized all student groups from grammar school through college. The W.S.G.S presented
the 12 graduating high school seniors with gold 10 Commandment bookmarks
and the 3 graduating college students with a book of poems "Leaves of Gold".
HISTORY OF THE
FAIR OAKS METHODIST CHURCH
Marietta, Ga.
1958-1959

Mrs. R. L. Osborne

Mrs. A. M. Stringer
Historians

July 1959
THE CHURCH AND CHURCH SCHOOL

In July 1958, the Church had 347 members, with a budget for 1958-1959 of $29,000, and the Church School had a membership of 485, with a staff of 42 teachers.

In July 1958, our Church employed its first part-time paid secretary, Mrs. W. P. Byrd.

On July 1, 1958, a large commercial type stove was presented to the Church for the kitchen by the Crusaders' Class.

In July 1958, a Men's Choir started singing each Sunday Evening at the worship services, under the direction of John Hoskins.

During the week end of July 26-27, 1958, the Official Board members and other church officials had a planning meeting at Camp Clisson at which time they planned the work of the Church for the coming year.

The first Youth Activities Week was held at our Church August 10-15, 1958. This began with a prayer breakfast on Sunday, August 10, 1958, and continued through the week with a program designed to deepen the spiritual life of our youth. The theme was "How Do You Measure Up?" Older Intermediates, Seniors, and Older Youth participated. Mrs. Bob Smith was in charge.

R. M. Harris (Dick) preached his first sermon in our Church on Sunday evening, August 21, 1958. He received his Preaching License on June 23, 1959, at the North Georgia Annual Conference in Atlanta. He was sent by the Conference to the Fannin Circuit, Bethel and Liberty Hill Methodist Churches, near Morganton, Georgia, and will attend Young Harris College this next year.

On October 12, 1958, a new adult class was organized. This group was different in that instead of regular literature they studied special books such as "Christian Family Living", etc. (Sanctuary Class)
the highest per cent ever of the budget being pledged.

In May 1959, the new hymnboard and register were installed in the
Sanctuary.

Vacation Church School was held for 2 weeks, from Monday, June 8, 1959,
through Friday, June 19, 1959, with Mrs. W. T. Anderson as the Director.

Christian Adventure Week was held June 8 - 12, 1959, with the theme
"All of Life a Sacred Trust". Mrs. W. T. Anderson was in charge.

Rev. James Sanders, native of LaGrange, Georgia, and pastor at
Zebulon, Georgia, for the past 5 years, was appointed as pastor of Fair
Oaks Methodist Church at the North Georgia Annual Conference, June 22-26,
1959. Rev. W. F. Byrd, our pastor here at Fair Oaks for the past 6 years,
was appointed as Associate Pastor at Peachtree Road Methodist Church in
Atlanta. After the evening worship service, June 28, 1959, the WSCS and WSG
presented gifts to Rev. Byrd and his family and Rev. R. N. Harris and family.
Then an informal reception was held by the WSCS in the Fellowship Hall for
the Byrds and Harrises.

[WSCS]

On Sunday morning, July 6, 1959, the WSCS presented Rev. W. F. Byrd with
an honorary membership in the WSCS.

On Thursday evening, July 21, 1959, we had a Family Night covered dish
supper. At that time, Rev. W. F. Byrd was honored with a "This Is Your Life"
program by the Church members and was presented with a check for $250.00 from
the congregation for a vacation trip. The WSCS was in charge of all the
arrangements.

Extended sessions for Primary and Junior Children began Sunday, February
22, 1959, and continued for 5 weeks. This study was on Mexico and was spon-
sored by the WSCS.

As of April 1959, the WSCS had 59 members and the Guild had 16.
HISTORY OF THE
FAIR OAKS METHODIST CHURCH
Marietta, Ga.
1959-1960

Mrs. R. L. Osborne
Mrs. A. M. Stringer
Historians
July 1960
Fair Oaks Methodist Church History, 1959-1960

In July 1959, the Church had 40 members, with a budget for 1959-1960 of $3,500.00; and the Church School had a membership of 597 with a staff of 4 teachers.

The Methodist Men drew up their first constitution in June of 1959.

On Wednesday Night, July 8, 1959, the Methodist Men sponsored a Church-wide family night supper, with 130 persons attending. The new pastor, Rev. James Sanders, and family were special guests.

On Sunday, July 12, 1959, after the Evening Worship Service, an informal reception was held by the membership of our church for our new pastor and his family, with miscellaneous gifts being brought for them. This was sponsored by the WSCS, WSG, and Methodist Men.

In August 1959, the nursery was relocated and rebuilt to provide a room for the babies in the beds and a room for the toddlers.

Our Church took part in the Total Enlistment Program, beginning September 13, 1959, and continuing through December 6, 1959. The purposes of this program were Total Enlistment of the Total Self; Total Enlistment of the Unenlisted People; and Total Enlistment of Every Member. Ten Zone Study Prayer Groups were held each Wednesday Night in various homes, instead of services at the church. A visitation program was also held. Revival services were held by the Rev. Bruce Wilson, Exec. Secretary of the Georgia Temperance League November 1-8, 1959. Rev. Jim Thompson of Belvedere Methodist Church in Decatur, Georgia, led the singing nightly.

Rally Day in our Church School was held on Sunday, September 27, 1960, on Promotion Day. There were 317 in Church School and 313 in morning worship. During the morning worship service, there was a service of dedication of teachers and workers.

A fellowship group for the Primaries was begun on Sunday Evening, October 4th, 1959, under the direction of Mesdames C. W. Harrell, Jr.; H. N. Chapman; and James Sanders.
The ninth annual Homecoming was observed on Sunday, October 25th, with Rev. Sanders bringing the message. A basket lunch followed the morning service. Afterwards, the church history was read, and congregational singing was enjoyed.

The MIF "tricked or treated" for UNICEF on Halloween in October 1959, the money being used to buy milk and food for the needy children of the world.

On November 22, 1959, the MIF of our Church received 3rd place honor award for the Methodist Youth Sub-District Booth Festival held at Smyrna First Methodist Church. The theme of this Festival was "Thy Kingdom Come", and the purpose was to further the missionary cause of the church among young people.

On November 29, 1959, Dr. Goddard from the Board of Missions met with our Long Range Planning Committee, Commission on Education, and Church School workers to advise on future needs of Church School buildings.

Beginning with Sunday Evening, November 29, 1959, it was decided that each fifth Sunday night would be observed as Youth Night when the young people of the church would conduct the services. Larry Caywood, Local ordained preacher, brought the first message entitled "Vast Horizons", and special music was provided by Beverly George and Rima Ford.

A church-wide study on the United Nations was held at our Church on December 2, 3, 4, and 6, 1959. This was sponsored jointly by the WSCS and Commission on Christian Social Relations and directed by Mrs. T. L. Williams.

On Wednesday, December 16, 1959, the Commission on Education and WSCS honored their senior adults with a Christmas Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall of the Church. Mesdames A. M. Stringer and H. T. Bradberry were in charge of planning this event. Carols were enjoyed by the group, and a message entitled "Contributions of our Golden Years" was brought by our pastor.

On Sunday Evening, December 20th, 1959, our choir presented a Christmas Cantata, entitled "Carols of Christmas".

On Tuesday Evening, December 22, 1959, a Christmas pageant, "No Room at the Inn", was presented by the youth of our church, with Mrs. John Nabes as director.
A Christmas communion was held at 8:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve at our Church.

On New Year's Eve, the young people of the church sponsored a program of planned recreation, a film strip, refreshments, and closed with a worship program led by Rev. Sanders, beginning at 11:45 p.m.

On Tuesday Evening, January 5, 1960, the Methodist Men of our Church observed "Ladies Night" at their regular January meeting, with 70 present.

On January 25-28, 1960, a study was held at our Church, "Medical Missions in Africa", sponsored by WSCS and Commission on Missions and directed by the pastor, Rev. James Sanders, with an average attendance of 75 persons. Millard Wear, Administrator of Kennestone Hospital; Rev. Fred L. Gillson, Chaplain, Emory University Hospital; and Rev. Marvin Wolford, Missionary from Africa, were special guests during the week; in addition, many members of our church participated in the study. As a result of this study, an acetylene welding torch (cost $100.00) was presented to Rev. Wolford to take with him to Africa when he returned in July.

On Wednesday Evening, February 17, 1960, Rev. Homer Morgan, missionary to India, spoke to the congregation on his experiences in the mission field.

In January 1960, a new schedule of Commission meetings was started - all commissions to meet at 7:00 p.m. in the same night as the Official Board meeting, with a sharing session at 8:00 p.m., and Official Board at 8:30 p.m.

In January 1960, the Fair Oaks Community Kindergarten was organized at our Church, sponsored by the Osborne Pre-School PTA. Mrs. P. G. Bailey was the first teacher.

On Monday Evening, Feb. 22, our Church held an "Appreciation Supper" in the Fellowship Hall of the Church for the teachers and workers in the church school.

The Chaplains' Association at Kennestone Hospital was formed early in 1960. This group had a system of alternating chaplains on duty at the hospital a week at a time. Rev. James Sanders was on duty at the hospital for the first time the week of March 7th.

Rev. Sanders published for the first time for our church a little booklet for
new members and prospective members telling them about the pastor and his family, the Men's Club, WSGS, WSG, Church School, and including a brief church history.

On Friday Evening, March 18, 1960, a Boy Scout Troop, sponsored by the Methodist Men at our Church, was started at our Church, with E. F. Jarrett as the Scoutmaster and Ray Clark as Asst. Scoutmaster. On Friday Evening, April 22, 1960, the charter was presented at our church.

A Spring Youth Revival was held at our Church April 10-15, with a Christian Witness Mission preceding on April 8-10. Rev. Larry Caywood was in charge of the entire series. Miss Mary Elizabeth Dawson, a student at Young Harris College, was in charge of the Christian Witness Mission. Rev. Larry Roberts led the singing during the revival and preached two nights. Other guest ministers included Rev. John Horton, Rev. Dave Hanson, and Rev. Jimmy Wynn.

On Palm Sunday, April 10, 1960, 46 new members were brought into the membership of the church and 8 babies baptized.

On April 3, 1960, at a Church Conference, the members voted to purchase the Andress property adjacent to the church to be used for additional space for the church school and for parking. On April 20, at a Quarterly Conference, the matter was legally disposed of. This property consists of a vacant lot (75 x 200 ft.) and house on another lot (75 x 200 ft.) and was purchased at a cost of $16,000. The Andress home will be remodeled and used as the parsonage later on.

Beginning on Palm Sunday, duplicate services were held each Sunday morning at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. with Church School at 9:45 a.m.

In May 1960, the Official Board of our Church voted unanimously to recommend to the Commission on Finance that the church employ Larry Caywood as Asst. Pastor for 1960-1961, beginning July 1, 1960.

On Wednesday Night, May 4, 1960, our church observed Family Night, with a covered dish supper, as a part of "National Family Week" observance. Following was a special prayer service for the family.
Beginning in May 1960, nursery facilities were provided during both morning services and church school.

Approximately 100 members of our Church enjoyed an "Appreciation Dinner", sponsored by the Commission on Stewardship and Finance on Wednesday Evening, May 25th, at Osborne High Lunchroom. At this time, the budget for the coming year was presented to the group. The progress of the church for the past year was reviewed, and a look was taken at the future program of the church, after which a short pledge service was held. M. J. Brown, Chairman, Commission on Stewardship and Finance, was in charge.

Vacation Church School was held June 13-24, 1960, with Mrs. W. T. Anderson as director and Mrs. T. A. Guest as Co-Director.

The new Official Board members were installed at the morning worship service on July 10, 1960.