FAIRVIEW CHURCH

On Forsyth Circuit 2 1/2 miles North of Forsyth, Georgia, Griffin
District, Monroe County.

I'll give a few notes and dates given me by my father and
mother, Mr. & Mrs. J. F. McLane, two of the charter members, about
the founding of our church. To begin at the beginning—in 1888
Mt. Zoin Congregational Methodist Church had as their pastor Dr. Jones
from Macon, Georgia. In some way he persuaded the members to leave
the Congregational Methodist Church and just be Congregationalists.

When members found out what they had done, they joined themselves
to a mixed race affair from the North, they were not satisfied and
were so thoroughly disgusted in their selection of a pastor until
they decided to establish a Methodist Episcopal Church so as not
to have to choose their pastors.

Rev. S. R. England of the Barnesville Circuit (West Monroe
Circuit at that time) and Rev. J. H. Mashburn of the Forsyth Cir-
cuit were invited to meet with members at Mt. Zoin Church on fifth
Sunday in September 1888 to organize a Methodist Episcopal Church.

All members appeared to be willing, but when the roll was called
two members failed to answer. Mrs. W. F. Darden and Mrs. J. M.
Collier, two sisters. Their families were so surprised that they
did not vote either way at that time. All the other members went
ahead and were organized into a Methodist Episcopal Church. (My
father and mother were their with letters from Marvin Church, Barnes-
ville Circuit to join the band). But this group was left without
a church to hold their services in. The two sisters that held
back with their families could hold the old church and naturally
they would not invite the M. E. to hold service in their church.
Logwall Missionary Baptist came to the rescue. They invited the band to hold service in their church. The invitation was accepted and services were held there in 1889 with Rev. J. H. Mashburn as pastor. The little band had been attached to the Forsyth Circuit.

A goodly number when they found out they would have to leave their old church withdrew at once from the M. E.'s and went back to the C. M. Church. Others stayed on until Fairview Church was built and then they went back to the churches nearer to them. Some went back to the C. M. Church, others to Marvin M. E. Church and to Rocky Creek Missionary Baptist Church. In some way a part of the first roll was lost so I can only give a few names of the charter members:

- Captain & Mrs. Bob Merritt
- Miss Nannie Merritt
- Mrs. Fannie Goodrum
- Miss Fannie Goodrum
- Mrs. Emma McMullan
- " Annie Tinsley
- Mr. & Mrs. Jim Phinazee
- Mrs. Dave Phinazee

(All died years ago)

With others promising to join if church were built convenient to them and they did as soon as the place was decided upon:

- Mr. William Walker
- " G. W. Waldrep
- " C. W. Tinsley
- Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Hollis
- Mrs. Sarah Chapman
- Miss Loula Chapman
- Mrs. Minnie Ivey
- Mrs. Mary E. Mbry

In the fall of 1889 two acres of land were purchased from Mr. Charlie Ensign. They paid him $35.00 for said two acres. Said land being deeded if it ever ceases to be used for church or school purpose to go back to Mr. Charlie Ensign's estate. Mr. Ensign made deed to the three trustees of the church: Mr. William Walker, Mr. G. W. Tinsley, and Mr. J. H. Sutton. Deed is recorded in clerk's
office in Forsyth, Georgia, in Deed Book, W. page 330. Witnesses:
Mr. G. W. Waldrep, and Mr. John T. McGinty, November 5, 1889. Mr. Cyrus Sharpe, Clerk. (All dead).

In the winter of 1889 and the spring of 1890 the church was built. Mr. William Walker was the contractor. It was not completed but services were held.

The first service was held on Saturday before fourth Sunday in March, 1890 by the pastor, Rev. W. A. Dodge. The next day, Sunday, General C. A. Evans, a noted General in the Civil War, preached even though the church was not finished. It was not out of debt until spring of 1892. I do not know the cost of the church.

Rev. W. A. Dodge and Rev. J. H. Mashburn were invited to come on fourth Sunday in June 1892, to dedicate the Church. Rev. R. P. Martin was pastor at the time of the dedication.

Mrs. J. H. Sutton, one of the charter members, was appointed to suggest a name for the church. She wanted to name the church for Rev. J. H. Mashburn, but he objected and asked to let him suggest a name. "Fairview" was his choice, and everybody was well pleased with the name. This church has not sponsored any other church. It has sent out three preachers: Rev. W. A. Brooks in 1893, Rev. J. C. G. Brooks in 1902, and Rev. Jack Waldrep in 1936.

The church is worshipping in the original building which is built in a beautiful oak grove. It is a nice country church. There is only $1,000 insurance on it.

Forsyth Circuit which consists of seven churches, owns a parsonage, but it is not the original one. It was burned in 1890. That lot was sold and they purchased a lot with a building on it.
I do not know the cost at that time, but a little later it was valued at $3,000. Lots of improvements have been done since then. I don't know the present value.

The first Sunday School was organized in 1890. Hon. J. H. Sutton was the superintendent. He was at one time Representative of Monroe County. There has been a Fairview Sunday School most of the time during these sixty years. At the present day, October 1950, the school is small. There are only 38 enrolled. There have been a good many more. So many moved away. The Sunday School paid for all causes last conference year, June 1, 1949-June 1, 1950 $144.74. At present, Mrs. Mary McElrue is Superintendent.

The church like the Sunday School has had a decreasing membership. There are only 64 members at present. There have been three local preachers to preach at Fairview real often. Rev. Thomas G. Scott (one time county school superintendent, dead), Rev. J. W. Hunt (dead), and Rev. T. J. Hughey (Forsyth businessman)

On May 14, 1939, we had Kiyoshie Manimonte, A Japanese student at Emory Theological School to preach at Fairview as the guest of Jack Waldrep.

March 25, 1945, Miss Mary Culler White, 40 years a missionary in China, lectured at Fairview at 7:30 P. M.

March 24, 1940, was Easter Sunday and Fairview celebrated its fiftieth anniversary of the church. A short history of the church was read by Miss Cornelia McLane. Rev. Jack Waldrep, one of Fairview's boys, preached. The service was closed by the administration of the Lord's Supper. We used the first table cloths (gift from Mrs. J. H. Sutton) and communion set the church ever had. Mr.
G. W. Waldrep was with us. He was the only member that had been with the church all of the fifty years. The church was covered and painted on outside in 1944. The first service held with electric lights was on October 28, 1945 by Rev. Adrian Warwick, pastor.

In July, 1946, Mr. J. C. Porch and children, McMullan children and grandchildren, gave Fairview Church a new carpet in memory of Granny McMullan Webb, her daughter and son, Mrs. Jennie McMullan Porch and Gordon McMullan.

In February, 1949, Mr. H. C. Waldrep and Sunday School built cement steps to church.

In February, 1949, Sunday School Rooms were begun. A good bit of material and work were donated. The Sunday School paid for all the materials and work that had to be paid for.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reverend Name</th>
<th>Years</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>J. H. Mashburn (at Logwall Church)</td>
<td>1889</td>
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<tr>
<td>W. A. Dodge (First at Fairview)</td>
<td>1890</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. B. Holland</td>
<td>1891</td>
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<td>R. P. Martin</td>
<td>1892-93</td>
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<td>J. R. McClouds</td>
<td>1894-96</td>
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<td>E. K. Akins</td>
<td>1897-98</td>
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<td>E. J. Mashburn</td>
<td>1899</td>
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<td>W. C. Fox</td>
<td>1900-02</td>
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<td>S. H. Dimond</td>
<td>1903</td>
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<td>J. O. Brand</td>
<td>1904-05</td>
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<td>W. E. Arnold</td>
<td>1906-07</td>
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<td>J. M. Hawkins</td>
<td>1908-09</td>
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<td>E. A. Ware</td>
<td>1910-12</td>
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<td>M. M. Walraven</td>
<td>1913-14</td>
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<td>E. P. Eubanks</td>
<td>1915-16</td>
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<td>R. P. Tatum</td>
<td>1917</td>
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<td>H. L. Byrd</td>
<td>1918-20</td>
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<td>R. F. Eldred</td>
<td>1921-24</td>
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<td>A. M. Sprayberry</td>
<td>1925</td>
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<td>J. E. Ward</td>
<td>1926-27</td>
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<td>F. J. Green</td>
<td>1928</td>
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<td>A. O. Baggerly</td>
<td>1929-32</td>
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<td>A. W. Williams</td>
<td>1933-35</td>
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<td>W. A. Woodruff</td>
<td>1936</td>
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<td>W. J. Culpepper</td>
<td>1937</td>
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<td>J. D. Gibson</td>
<td>1938-41</td>
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<td>G. T. Shell</td>
<td>1942-43</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adrian Warwick</td>
<td>1944-46</td>
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<td>Clyde Blackstock</td>
<td>1947-49</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tasker D. Johnson</td>
<td>1949</td>
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DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS

S. P. RICHARDSON--------------------------1890-91
J. S. BRYAN------------------------------1892-95
W. W. WADSWORTH--------------------------1896-99
J. S. BRYANT (Monroe Co. boy)-------------1900
J. B. ROBINS-----------------------------1901-02
W. F. GLENN-------------------------------1903-06
JOEL T. DAVES----------------------------1907
J. H. EAKES-----------------------------1908-11
FLETCHER WALTON--------------------------1912-15
W. L. PIERCE------------------------------1916-19
LUKE JOHNSON------------------------------1920-23
J. H. EAKES-------------------------------1924-26
L. M. TWIGGS-----------------------------1927-30
W. L. DUREN-------------------------------1931
W. T. HUNNICUTT--------------------------1932-35
W. M. TWIGGS-----------------------------1936-39
R. L. RUSSELL-----------------------------1940-42
M. M. MAXWELL (died) A. M. PIERCE (filled out) 1943-44
P. A. TURNER-------------------------------1945-49
HENRY H. JONES---------------------------1949-

Histórian, Miss Cornelia M. Lane
Dec 1950
P. I. Forsyth, Georgia.
February 22, 1907, the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society was organized with Mrs. Z. T. Watkins president.

September 6, 1940, changed name to Woman's Society of Christian Service.

First President, Mrs. Wallace Waldrep

Charter members—15

Mrs. George Waldrep
Mrs. H. C. Waldrep
Charles F. Collier, Sr.
Willis Smith
George McMullan
J. D. Gibson
Frank Bowdoin
W. H. Hickman
Stanford Waldrep
J. C. Porch
Harvey Pitts
Miss Lois Waldrep
Cornelia McLane
Rev. J. D. Gibson

Only 16 names on roll October, 1950. Fairview W. S. C. S. paid out for all causes last conference year, June 1, 1949-June 1, 1950, $269.09.