HISTORY OF FLOVILLA METHODIST CHURCH

The Flovilla Methodist Church was built in 1884. The architect was P. P. Kelly. The deeds were recorded in 1884, the lot having been bought from James W. Heard.

The first trustees were James L. Maddux, James C. Maddux, J. F. M. Fields, Pleasant Kelly, and V. C. McMullin.

Ebeñezzer G. Murrah was the first pastor to serve the church. The records give the date of the first Quarterly Conference as December 19, 1884. The East Indian Spring Charge, Griffin District, North Georgia Conference. Religious services were conducted by G. H. Patillo, District Superintendent or Presiding Elder at the time. No written report was given, just formally or officially organized.

James L. Maddux was elected the first secretary.

During the year, a Sunday School was organized.

In 1885 Bro. D. F. C. Timmons was pastor, the name of the charge became Flovilla.

In 1887 J. E. England was pastor and N. N. Parks was District Superintendent.

The Sunday Schools had poor attendance on account of severe winters.

The pastors for the years 1887 until 1892 are not known as the records are not available.

In 1892, at the first Quarterly Conference, the Flovilla charge was in the South Atlanta District, with J. M. Tumlin, pastor.

In 1893 there were five churches on the charge or circuit, as it was then called. They were Flovilla, England's Chapel, Pleasant Grove, Elgin and Beulah. The quota for the charge for a year was only seven hundred dollars.

John Spier was pastor in 1894 and 1895. During these years the Sunday Schools never seemed to survive the winters but were organized each spring. This was due to poor ways of travel, lack of interest and poor heating facilities.
In 1897 when J. A. Sewell was pastor, there was a good Epworth League and Sunday School. He remained for 1898 when more interest was shown in all phases of church work, especially missions.

No records are available from 1898 until 1907, when our church had been put back into Griffin District with F. W. McCleskey as pastor. During his stay a profitable mass meeting was held for the charge.

In 1908 M. L. Harris came to Flovilla as pastor with J. H. Eakes as District Superintendent. It was in this year that J. C. Maddux, the beloved secretary of the church passed away.

The churches on the charge now were Flovilla, Pleasant Grove, Elgin, Beulah and Juliette, with Sunday Schools in all the churches and special children's services at intervals. Prayer meetings were well attended this year.

In 1909 M. L. Harris continued as pastor with special emphasis on missions. A mission study class was organized.

In 1910 J. A. Sprayberry was pastor and expressed thankfulness that he had been so cordially received by the churches. He worked faithfully through 1911, 1912 and 1913, with Fletcher Walton as District Superintendent for the last two years.

Interest was growing steadily in missionary work in the church when J. T. Pendly came as pastor and was cordially received. A Woman's Missionary Society was reported active. There was also an active Epworth League in 1915.

A new District Superintendent, W. L. Pierce, came in 1916, but J. T. Pendly remained as pastor. F. C. Maddux was Sunday School Superintendent.

The Sunday School hour was changed from afternoon to morning in 1917 when J. J. Copeland was pastor. He came back for 1918.

No records were found for years 1919 to 1923, when J. E. Cline came as pastor and Luke G. Johnson as District Superintendent.
The Ladies' Aid Society was doing a great work in helping those in distress or need at this time, a home or local missionary group of church women.

The attendance of the Sunday School grew two hundred per cent while J. E. Cline was pastor.

When J. E. Cline left us W. J. Bryson was welcomed to our church for the years of 1926, 1927 and 1928.

The Sunday School rooms we now have were built while he was here, also the carpet we now have was bought. There were also other repairs to the church.

The Sunday School and Epworth League did splendid work for the three years that W. J. Bryson was here.

J. F. Davis came to us in the fall of 1928, as pastor and remained for three years. Our District Superintendent was W. L. Duren beginning in 1930 and staying for two years. He was followed by W. F. Humnicutt.

D. H. Maxey was pastor for the year of 1932.

Harvey A. King followed him and remained until the fall of 1936. Our church did well under his leadership.

W. M. Twiggs was District Superintendent beginning in 1935 and staying until 1939.

W. A. Woodruff came as pastor in the fall of 1936 for only one year.

J. W. Lee followed him as pastor in fall of 1937. He resigned after one year to teach school as our church could not pay a salary sufficient for his family to live.

Marvin Green, an Emory University student, came to us for one year, 1939.

In the fall of 1939, C. B. McKenzie came, he served as pastor for only one year.

The charge was changed in the fall of 1940 and we no longer had a pastor living in our parsonage. It became Jenkinsburg charge with Stark added and Juliette changed or put on another charge. Our church is still on Jenkinsburg charge.
In 1941 E. W. McDougal came and served for three years, living at the Jenkinsburg parsonage.

B. N. McHan came for 1945, 1946 and 1947, which was a short conference year, the time of the annual conference was changed from the month of November to June.

W. C. Bowen came to our church in June 1947 and remained for three years, serving our church, as well as the other churches on the charge, very well indeed.

It was in the last year of his stay that our beloved Mrs. F. C. Maddux died. In losing her, our church lost its most loyal and untiring worker. Her life should be an example and challenge for us all.

C. E. Askew came in June of 1950 for only one year, leaving the conference to study in New York City. He thrilled us with his "sermon in song" solos.

J. R. Thompson came in 1951 and is our present pastor.

H. H. Jones is our District Superintendent.

The Woman's Missionary Society, or Woman's Society of Christian Service, it is now called, has been active all the years since it was organized.

The church School is active and a Youth Fellowship Group has been organized this year.

A gas heating system has been installed this conference year.

Our church membership roll is now almost a hundred members.
Jenkinsburg Methodist Church had its beginning in a revival or tent meeting conducted by Reverend M. H. Dillard, pastor of Jackson Church, Reverend J. J. N. Kenney, pastor of Flovilla - England's Chapel Charge and Reverend Dempsey, grandfather of Reverend Elam Dempsey.

The meeting was held during the busy farming season when many said that they were too busy to have a revival.

The tent was erected on the present church ground and the charter members who are still living say that it was the greatest revival ever held at Jenkinsburg.

Out of that great revival grew the Jenkinsburg Methodist Church.

When the church was organized some of the members came from Beersheba Primitive Baptist Church in Henry County near Locust Grove. Others united on profession of faith. Among the first to unit on profession of faith was Mr. W. J. Bankston, who was baptized or immersed in what is known as "Miss Dolly's" pasture, now owned by Mr. Love Mote.

Reverend M. H. Dillard was the first pastor assigned to the church and he served 1889-1890.

The original church register shows that the members received into Jenkinsburg Methodist Church by
Reverend Dillard were:

1. W. H. Jenkins
2. W. S. Calvin
3. Leila Calvin
4. J. M. Bankston
5. Maggie Bankston
6. Adella Bankston
7. W. J. Bankston
8. C. H. Farrar
9. Emma Farrar
10. Mrs. M. O. Kimball (Miss Sis)
11. W. T. Crumbley
12. N. J. Harmon
13. Leila Harmon
14. Rebecca Harris
15. J. R. Gray
16. Malissia Mills
17. S. E. Glass
18. Letha Glass
19. Frankie Glass
20. Eddie Bankston
21. Ida Gray
22. J. M. Laseter
23. Addie Laseter
24. Jackson Kitchens
25. Jasa Kitchens
26. Rasco Bankston
27. Jennie Bankston
28. Robert Mills
29. Elizabeth Mills
30. Mattie Mills
31. Mary S. Mills
32. Nettie Mills
33. Earl Mills
34. Lewis Singley
35. Tom J. Thurston
36. Fannie Thurston
37. Thomas Singley
38. Pearley Harris
39. William Glass
40. C. C. Johnson
41. Adeline Johnson
42. James Burnett
43. Mattie Brown
44. Fannie Thaxton
45. W. J. Kitchens
46. Minnie Kitchens
47. Mary Ann Mills
48. J. H. Skinner
49. W. L. Skinner
The land upon which the church was built was donated by Mallissia Ophelia Crumbley, better known to most of us as "Miss Sis Kimball."

The deeds to which are recorded in Book 0, page 266, in the Butts County Court House. The deeds read:

"Know all men by these presents that I, M. O. Crumbley, of the County and State aforesaid for and in consideration of the sum of $1.00 to me in hand paid as well as for the love and friendship I bear the cause of religion and the Methodist Church South have this day sold and do by these presents grant, give, bargain, sell and convey unto J. R. Gray, William Jenkins, J. M. Laseter, W. J. Bankston and Sam Calvin in trust said premises shall be used, kept, maintained and disposed
of as a place of divine worship for the use of the ministry and members of the M. E. Church South, subject to the discipline, usage and ministerial appointments of said Church as from time to time authorized and declared by the General Conference of said church. And the Annual Conference within whose bounds the said premises are situated the following tract or parcel of land lying and being situated in the town of Jenkinsburg, County of Butts and said State and fractional parts of lot 144 in the 6th district to wit. One acre of land more or less being a tract of land three hundred and twelve feet long by one hundred and ninety-three feet wide and bound on the north by the land of Robert Woodward, east by the school house lot and south by Chappel Street and west by Nancy M. Jenkins in fee simple and I the said M. O. Crumbley for myself and all persons for me will forever defend the title in and to the said premises unto them the said trustees above named.

"In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this the 9th day of October the year 1889.

her

M. O. x Crumbley

mark

Signed sealed and delivered in presence of us the day and
The first church was built on the same lot on which the present church now stands but it faced the south and was many feet lower down on the lot.

At the 4th Quarterly Conference 1895 held at Jenkinsburg October 19, the trustees gave the following report:

"We the Trustees of M.E. Church at Jenkinsburg respectfully report that we have property as follows:

"One half acre with a frame and ceiled building 40 x 60, well seated and finished and painted on the outside. The house will seat 400, the property is worth $1,000 dollars and is in good condition.

The Title papers held by W. H. Jenkins recorded
The officials of the church in 1895 were:

- W. J. Bankston: Trustee and Steward
- J. M. Laster: Trustee
- W. H. Jenkins: Trustee
- W. S. Calvin: Trustee and Steward
- J. M. Bankston: Church Secretary
- S. E. Glass: Steward

In 1895 Jenkinsburg was in South Atlanta District and the churches on the charge were: Jenkinsburg, Worthville, New Hope and Stark.

The financial report given at the 1st Quarterly Conference held at Stark February 2nd was as follows:

- Jenkinsburg: $11.75
- Worthville: 12.40
- New Hope: 6.85
- Stark: 16.26

Total: $47.26
Paid to Presiding Elder $ 6.15  
Paid to Pastor 41.11  

J. M. McMichael, Sec.  
J. S. Askew, Pastor  
J. W. Hiedt, Pres. Elder  

The 4th Quarterly Conference of 1896 was held at Worthville November 7th and the churches paid:  

Jenkinsburg $ 25.15  
Stark 82.25  
New Hope 34.30  
Worthville 22.70  
Total $164.40  

Total paid for the year 1896  
Presiding Elder $ 51.35  
Preacher 380.35  
Bishop 5.00  
Conference claim 21.50  
Foreign Missions 27.00  
Domestic Missions 19.00  
Poor 15.00  
Incidental expence 39.00  

$619.25
In 1901 at the 1st Quarterly Conference Jenkinsburg was in the Griffin District for the first time and the churches on the Jenkinsburg charge were:

Stark
Jenkinsburg
Pepperton
Worthville

In 1902 the Quarterly Conference Records show the following churches on the charge:

Jenkinsburg
Stark
Worthville
Bulah

By 1903 New Hope again appeared on record as being on the Jenkinsburg charge.

In 1904 Bulah was dropped from the charge records and at the 4th Quarterly Conference in 1907 New Hope was withdrawn for the second time from the Jenkinsburg charge.

At the first Quarterly Conference held at Jenkinsburg January 31st, 1908, England's Chapel appeared on the charge for the first time, thus making the charge composed of:
On July 27, 1914 Pleasant Hill first reported with the Jenkinsburg charge.

In 1915 the Jenkinsburg Methodist Church was destroyed by lightning and the Methodists had to worship with the Baptists until a new church could be erected.

A new church was built during the pastorate of Reverend F. G. Spearman. The following article appeared in the Jackson-Progress-Argus:

Headlines:

"Jenkinsburg will Build
New Methodist Church."

"The Jenkinsburg Methodist Church is planning the erection of a new building in the near future and more than $1,000 has already been subscribed to the building fund. Rev. F. G. Spearman, the pastor, has the matter in charge and he is being assisted by a committee who will raise the necessary amount for the new building.

"Judging from the enthusiastic manner in which the subscription has been started it will be a comparatively easy matter to raise all the funds needed."
It is proposed to erect a thoroughly modern church edifice, a building that will fill the needs of the growing congregations of this enterprising church."

At her death Mrs. Adella Bankston Moss left $500.00 to the church and that was the first donation to the new church.

The new church was completed and dedicated by Reverend J. R. Jones.

Under the fine leadership of its pastors and with the courage of faithful members, Jenkinsburg Church has continued to grow.

In 1939 Flovilla was placed on the charge, making a six point circuit and one of the outstanding circuits of the North Georgia Conference.

The total financial report for Jenkinsburg Church alone for 1949-50 is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pastor</td>
<td>$625.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dist. Supt.</td>
<td>62.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conf. Claim</td>
<td>75.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bishop</td>
<td>10.94</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sup. Salaries</td>
<td>12.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benevolence</td>
<td>121.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District work</td>
<td>9.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden Cross</td>
<td>4.50</td>
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</table>
Superannuate

Endowment Fund $ 107.00
Travel for Pastor 60.00
Total $1,088.41

The church is now valued at $10,000 and during
the year 1950 new pews, costing $1,500, were bought and
dedicated by Reverend W. C. Bowen.

Other names appearing as Stewards and Trustees
throughout the years are:

S. E. Glass
E. E. Thurston
J. H. Mills
W. M. Glass
J. A. Moss
C. J. Childs
C. H. Farrar
J. T. Cook
B. T. Glass
J. E. McNair
J. C. Alexander
J. J. Prickett
D. B. Moore
H. B. Whitaker
H. C. Childs
W. D. Compton
J. L. Whitaker
Glynn Whitaker
H. C. Brooks
J. A. Middlebrooks
Mrs. James Childs
C. B. Harris
R. D. Bankston

The present official board is: 1950-51-52
H. G. Harris
M. B. Farrar
James Whitaker
Grady James
Douglas Glass
D. O. Woodward
A. R. Rosser
Gordon Bankston
Ruth Middlebrooks

Pastors Who Have Served Jenkinsburg
M. H. Dillard 1889-90
R. A. Eaks 1890-92
J. S. Askew 1893-94-95
E. Sanders 1896
J. W. Hunt 1897-98
J. N. Myers 1899
L. H. Green 1900
G. L. Ware 1901
J. O. Brand 1902-03
W. Millican 1904-05
W. R. Stillwell 1906
E. C. Marks 1907
B. F. Dodson 1908-09-10
L. G. Bowden 1911
W. R. Kennedy 1912-13
F. G. Spearman 1914-15-16
J. R. Jones 1917-18
A. W. Conway 1919
E. C. Wilson 1919-20-21
A. O. Baggerly 1922
T. F. Britt Nov. 1922 to Nov. 1923
J. E. Ward Nov. 1923 to Nov. 1925
L. L. Burch Nov. 1925 to Nov. 1928
V. O. Gentry Nov. 1928 to Nov. 1931
R. C. Owen Nov. 1931 to Nov. 1935
J. A. Griffies Nov. 1935 to Nov. 1936
A. D. Whittemore Nov. 1936 to Nov. 1937
Presiding Elders who have served the charge:

- S. P. Richerson 1889-90
- T. F. Pierce 1890-92
- W. F. Cook 1893-94
- John W. Heidt 1895-96-97
- W. P. Lovejoy 1898-99-1900
- J. B. Robins 1901-02
- W. F. Glenn 1903-04-05-06
- J. T. Daves 1907
- J. H. Eakes, Sr. 1908-09-10-11
- Fletcher Walton 1912-13-14-15
- W. L. Pierce 1916-17-18
- J. H. Eakes, Jr. 1923-24-25-26
- L. M. Twiggs 1927-28-29-30
- W. L. Duren 1930-31
- W. T. Hunnicutt 1931-32-33-34-35
When the second pastor, Reverend R. A. Eaks, was assigned to the charge in 1890, a house was rented at Stark for the parsonage.

At the 4th Quarterly Conference held at Stark October 3, 1891, a committee was appointed to build a parsonage. The committee was:

J. M. McMichael
F. L. Walthall
H. T. Barnes
J. M. Bankston
N. J. Harmon
W. E. Maddox

The land was donated by Mrs. W. H. Jenkins (Aunt Nancy) at Jenkinsburg and a four room house was built.

The deeds to the land are recorded in Jackson Court House and read as follows:

Ga. )
Butts ) Know all men by these presents that I, Nancy M.
Co. ) Jenkins, of the county and state aforesaid, for and in
consideration of a lot of land containing one half acre conveyed to me, have this day sold and do by these presents grant, bargain, sell and convey unto W. R. Gray, W. H. Jenkins, J. M. Laseter, W. J. Bankston and W. S. Calvin in trust, that said premises shall be used, kept and maintained and disposed of as a parsonage for the use of the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, subject to the discipline, usage and ministerial appointments of said church as from time to time authorized and declared by the general conference of said church, and the Annual Conference within whose bounds the said premises are situated, the following described parcel or lot of land lying and being in the Town of Jenkinsburg Co. of Butts, State of Georgia and fractional part of lot 144 in 6th District to wit: One half acre of land being a tract of land Two hundred and ten feet long and One hundred and five feet wide, fronting the Strickland road and bound on the North by the Strickland road and East, South and West by Mrs. N. N. Jenkins in fee simple, and I said N. N. Jenkins for myself and all persons for me will forever warrant and defend the title in and to the said premises unto them the said trustees above named and their successors in trust for said church. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal. This the 22nd day
of Dec. the year Eighteen hundred and ninety one.

N. N. Jenkins

Signed Sealed
and Delivered
in our presence
the day and
year above
named.

N. J. Harmon

J. G. Kimball N.P. Ex Off. J.P.

Recorded Mar. 3rd 1892

Joseph Jolly, C.S.C.

Reverend R. A. Eaks was the first pastor to live in the new parsonage.

Reverend Seals Askew was the second pastor to live in the parsonage and little Askew was the first baby born in the parsonage, 7/6/93. C. Pient Askew died Mar. 27, 1894 and was the first person to be buried in Jenkinsburg Cemetery.

The first available record of a Sunday School was 1891 and W. S. Calvin was Superintendent in 1893.

Quarterly Conference Records show that the following have also served as Sunday School Superintendents:

W. T. Cowen

W. J. Bankston
Levi Thurston
J. H. Mills
H. C. Childs
Dr. J. W. Harper
H. G. Harris
Judson Barus
A. B. Farrar
M. B. Farrar
Herman Shuman
Glynn Whitaker

The first organization for women in the church was the "Parsonage Aid" which prospered under the leadership of Mrs. J. F. Whitaker, better known as "Miss Jennie."

Some of the members of the "Parsonage Aid" were:

1. Mrs. W. J. Bankston
2. Mrs. Adella Moss
3. Mrs. W. S. Calvin
4. Mrs. J. W. Childs
5. Mrs. J. M. Bankston
6. Mrs. J. A. Middlebrooks
7. Mrs. M. O. Kimball
8. Mrs. J. H. Mills

In 1907 Miss E. C. Marks organized the first Children's Missionary Society.
Since the Woman's Missionary was organized those who served as presidents were:

- Mrs. E. A. Cawthon
- Mrs. J. R. Jones
- Mrs. J. W. Harper
- Miss Ruth Middlebrooks
- Mrs. B. T. Glass
- Mrs. E. K. Huie
- Mrs. J. L. Whitaker
- Mrs. H. C. Brooks
- Mrs. W. W. Hooten
- Mrs. A. R. Rosser

Ruth Middlebrooks served six years as zone leader of the Jackson-McDonough zone of the Missionary Societies and two years as Superintendent of Supplies in the Griffin District.

Jenkinsburg Church has produced one banker, H. C. Childs; one nurse who also served overseas with the Emory Unit, Hazel Dean Whitaker; and seven teachers:

- Carrilu Harper
- Sarah Ruth Harris
- Trevalu Whitaker
- DeWitt Compton
- Louise Woodward
- David Estes
- Ruth Middlebrooks
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Minister</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1887</td>
<td>Griffin</td>
<td>J. J. N. Kenny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1888</td>
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<tr>
<td>1889</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1890</td>
<td>South Atlanta</td>
<td>J. M. Tumlin</td>
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<tr>
<td>1891</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1892</td>
<td></td>
<td>John Spier</td>
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<td>1898</td>
<td>South Atlanta</td>
<td>W. C. Davis</td>
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<tr>
<td>1899</td>
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<td>T. S. Edwards</td>
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<td>Griffin</td>
<td>J. E. Rosser</td>
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<tr>
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<td>F. D. Cantrell</td>
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<td>F. W. McCleskey</td>
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<tr>
<td>1907</td>
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<td>M. L. Harris</td>
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<tr>
<td>1919</td>
<td>Griffin</td>
<td>Adrian Warwick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920</td>
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<td>1921</td>
<td></td>
<td>J. E. Cline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>1923</td>
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Note: The date given is the date of the conference.