History of Kennesaw Methodist Church

Kennesaw Methodist Church was organized in February, 1877, with the following charter members: J.F. Brinkley, J.T. Carrie, Angeline Carrie, Sarah Z. Carrie, Mrs. Martha Gulliver, Nancy Wallace Mayfield, B.H. Carrie, Margie Roberts, and Mollie Brinkley. Prior to the organization of the church there was a Sunday School which was organized by Mr. George Roberts and which met in the John W. Hill Hall.

The first building was erected some time in 1877, but the first deed given for the land upon which the church was built that contained the trust clause was made by G.T. Carrie and Jane E. Carrie, April 1, 1881. This building was used until 1902, at which time it was replaced by the present building.

There were no permanent improvements made on the building until 1932. At that time the Young Adult Class felt the need for a room in which to hold their meetings. There were no individual class rooms at that time. This class solicited funds and erected a room 20' x 24' to be used as a class room, and as a room for small assemblies. The Reverend Walter Millican was pastor of the church at that time.

In 1936, under the leadership of the pastor, the Reverend R.P. Segars, pews were purchased and put into the auditorium. These pews were bought by individuals and the pew bears the name of the person or family who purchased it. Some bear plates which dedicate the pew to the memory of an individual or a family.

The Reverend Charles L. Allen, who followed Mr. Segars on the charge, led in the remodeling of the front of the church building.

The church school grew in membership, and as the membership grew the zeal and enthusiasm of the members grew. There had been a vision of an annex to be used as a church school building for a number of years. The time was right, and in May 1949 the annex was started and was completed in June 1949. The building is 24' x 48', and contains a semi-basement and a second story.

The basement has a kitchen and a dining room which has a seating capacity of 90 to 100. The kitchen is equipped with an electric stove purchased by the Wesleyan Service Guild and the W.S.C.S., an ice box, kitchen table, and a cabinet which were donated by individual members of the church. The china, glassware, and silver for the dining room were donated by the Methodist Youth Fellowship.

The second story has four class rooms which have pine paneled wainscoting with the remainder of the walls and ceiling finished in sheetrock. The class rooms are furnished with new chairs, tables and speakers stands. Some classes have bought venetian blinds pictures, and wall maps for the class rooms.
The cost of this building was $3,509.00, and the furnishings amounted to $450.00. It is estimated that $250.00 in free labor was donated during the erection of the building. Other donations which are not recorded increase the value of the building to $5,000.00 or more. Mark H. Smith, general superintendent of the Sunday School, led in this work.

The Reverend R.R. Baker came to the charge as pastor in July 1948. Prior to that time the church at Kennesaw had not been required to furnish a parsonage for the pastor. This church together with Acworth and County Line formed a charge with the parsonage located at Acworth. In July 1948, this was changed and Kennesaw and Elizabeth were placed together to form a new charge. It then became necessary for Kennesaw to furnish a parsonage. We were fortunate in securing a six room house next door to our church for the parsonage. Some repairs were made on the house. Running water and a bath room were installed at a cost of $835.00. The interior of the parsonage was repainted, and the front porch was refloored and painted. The cost of materials for this work was $100.13. The labor was donated. This giving of time and work has made many improvements possible that would not have been possible otherwise. The parsonage was purchased, improved and paid for in less than two years, at a total cost of $5,600.

In July, 1949, the exterior of the entire church building and annex was painted at a cost of $450.00.

In September of 1949 an oil furnace was installed in the church building and annex at a cash outlay of $1,950.00. Donations were made in materials and time which increased the cost to $2,400.00.

Since July 1948 this church has built the new Church School annex, bought and paid for the parsonage, installed a central heating system in church and annex, and painted the exterior of the church. There is no indebtedness for any of these things. This has been done in addition to carrying the full budget of the church which has been met in full each year.

Members of the Young Adult Fellowship Class erected an attractive church sign board which is dedicated to the memory of a class member. This sign is electrically lighted. It was dedicated in May 1951.

Our plans for the immediate future include the remodeling of the interior of the church. We hope to undertake this project in the fall of 1951.

Our church school has had the able leadership of consecrated superintendents, beginning with the first, Mr. J.F. Brinkley in 1877, and coming down to the present Mr. Mark H. Smith in 1951.

Names of the pastors who have served this church are given in
the list which follows:

A.G. Dempsey    G.W. Barrett
M.W. Arnold     E.A. Ware
J.J. Singleton   J.R. Speer
D.J. Deams      S.H. Dimon
W.J. Scott      F.E. Jenkins
H.W. Quillian   C.T. Hughes
W.A. Simmons    H.C. Holland
W.L. Wooten     William Greenway
W.W. Oslin      J.W. Lee
J.M. Owens      Walter Millican
H.L. Edmondson  A.G. Shankle
M.D. Smith      R.P. Segars
E.H. Wood       Charles L. Allen
W.A. Farris     J.M. Guess
O.L. Kelly      Barrett L. Barton
W.G. Crawley    G.B. Henderson
A.C. Cantrell   R.R. Baker
W.D. Parrish

We are indebted to the Intermediate Department of the Vacation Church School for the main body of this church history which they have written up as a project of their study on the Church.

Signed:
Miss Inez Lewis,
Chm. Committee on Church History