History of the
FIRST METHODIST CHURCH of
Milledgeville, Georgia

The first church organization in Milledgeville occupied a small building near the center of the cemetery in 1809. (A granite marker has been placed near the location of the first building.) The second building was constructed on the grounds of the Old State Capitol. The third was the present structure, near the ground of the Georgia State College for Women.

Excepting the work of John Wesley in Savannah, the first Methodist Sunday School in Georgia, so far as records reveal, was organized in Milledgeville.

In 1810 Milledgeville was the largest Methodist station in the State. There were then 102 white members and 60 blacks.

Augusta had only 64 members at that time.

The first Methodist Sunday School in Georgia was established in 1812.

In 1806 Milledgeville Circuit was formed at a meeting of the South Carolina Conference.

In 1810 Milledgeville was set apart as a station, the largest station in the State.

Below is a quotation from "Historical Collections in Georgia."

"Indian Talk--On Saturday the 19th of July 1811, a company of fifty-seven of our red brethren of the lower creeks, of whom twenty-two are of distinction, encamped on the banks of Fishing Creek, about a mile from the State House. On Sunday, about twenty attended Divine Service at the Methodist Meeting House and their deportment was such as to evince they were disposed to be orderly and attentive. On Monday at 10 A. M., fifty eight
assembled in the Representative Chamber in order to have a talk with his excellency, the Governor; they were attended by Colonel Hawkins, the United States Agent for Indian Affairs, and Mr. Timothy Bennard as interpreter."

According to the copy, some good philosophy was given by the chief.

"Whenever persons are intoxicated, they look upon them as beside themselves."

The Indian spokesman also said in substance—"The old people will soon be gone, and his talk was for the rising generation, who would soon take the matters in their hands."

"Twenty of the Indians dined with the Governor; yet there was no complaint of any disturbance."

In William Capers's autobiography "he writes concerning the Annual Conference at Columbia, S. C., December 22, 1810, from which is the following quotation: It should be remembered that this territory was under the S. C. Jurisdiction.

What most concerned me at this Conference was Bishop Asbury's appeal to the preaches to induce them to offer themselves for work in the Southwest, which was lying beyond "the Wilderness." (As the country from the Ocmulgee river river to near the Alabama was called.) and yet another wilderness of the Chickasaw and Choctaw Indians beyond that, seemed as remote and inaccessible as California seem at present."

One of the outstanding events during the first twenty-five years of the history of Milledgeville was a four-day meeting held
in Milledgeville in 1811, conducted by William Arnold, Andrew, Howard, Pierce, and Olin—all of consequence."

The meeting was held under a bush arbor, with more than a hundred converted.

Strange as it may seem, there were then only three or four personages for Methodist Ministers—Savannah, Augusta, and Milledgeville, during the first 36 years of Methodism in Georgia.

A conference was held in Milledgeville in 1812. A statement of Bishop Andrew concerning that meeting will, no doubt be of interest to people now living in Milledgeville.

"My stay at home was brief, as I had to attend the Conference which met in 1812 in Milledgeville, Ga. This was then a new town; the streets fresh in the streets and everything looked new—The Conference held sessions in an unfinished house belonging, I think, to a Brother Reynolds, Bishop McRendree presided. The venerable Asbury was present and occasionally took the chair."

(Some reports state that the meeting was in 1811; others that it was 1812.) Also of this Conference Bishop Andrew wrote "I stayed at the home of Mrs. Jenkins, whose hospitality was extended to us without stint.

Five Annual Conference were held in Milledgeville, (according to the best information available.

1812 Bishop McRendree, presided
1814 Bishop Asbury, presided
1842 Bishop Naugh, presided
1888 Bishop Keener, presided
1906 Bishop Ward, presided
Buildings

1809 Church Building in the cemetery

1822 Church Building constructed on the capitol grounds—with galleries—it seated 500 people

Present Building constructed.

Parsonage constructed

1824 Parsonage erected, 1824, was of the capitol square. This was the third in the State for Methodist pastors.

Below are copies of two documents that are of interest to Milledgeville Methodists.

An Act

To grant to the Trustees of the Methodist Church and all other Religious Societies, one half acre of ground on the State-House Square, for the purpose of erecting a church thereon.

Whereas, by the petition of the trustees of the Methodist church in Milledgeville, together with the corporation and many citizens of said town, it appears that great inconvenience exists from the remote situation of the Methodist church, and as it does not appear that any evil can result from the erection of a church on the state-house square.

Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Georgia in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that from and immediately after the passing of this act, the trustees of the Methodist church in Milledgeville, shall be at liberty, with consent and approbation of the corporation of said town, as to the particular site, to select and lay off one half acre of ground in a square form, binding on or near the out line of said square. Which lot, when so selected and laid out, shall be the same as hereby set apart and granted to the trustees of the Methodist church in Milledgeville, for the purpose of erecting church, with full power to the said trustees, or their successors, to inclose and protect from trespass or injury the afore said lot of ground and building, so long as they may think proper to retain it for the purpose of public worship.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all and every denomination of Christians shall be and are hereby entitled to the like privileges of the trustees of the Methodist church in case they wish to exercise the same, and under the like restrictions. Provided—nevertheless, That nothing herein contained shall authorize the trustees of any church to build any other than such an edifice as will be ornamental to the state-house square, And provided also, That nothing contained shall authorize any church to make a grave yard on any part of
An act to authorize the Commissioners of the town of Milledgeville to convey a lot to each and every religious Society of said town for a parsonage lot.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Georgia, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That the commissioners of the town of Milledgeville, and their successors in office, be, and they are hereby authorized and required to convey to each and every religious society or association of said town belonging to the State, which may be selected by said society for the purpose of building a parsonage-house thereon; provided that said lot shall revert to the State, if the same be not improved within twelve months from the time of selection and conveyance; and if the same shall be used in any other way than for the benefit of the parson or minister of said society, residing on the same.

David Adams,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Thomas Stocks,
President of the Senate
Assented to
Dec. 20th, 1823.
G. M. Troup, Governor

BITS OF INFORMATION
MILLEDGEVILLE CHURCH, MINISTERS, BUILDINGS, PEOPLE
(LIFE OF WILLIAM CAPERS)

"At Clinton, Mr. Capers was joined by Col. R. A. Blount, a personal friend, and an invaluable ally in this enterprise (Work with the Creek Indians).

"The Governor of Georgia waited on him at Milledgeville, and tendered his official recommendation under seal of the Executive Department."

1921, 1922, 1923, 1924 "Mr. Capers was stationed at Milledgeville, Georgia, and continued Superintendent of the Asbury Mission."

At the beginning of the ministry of Mr. Capers, "at Milledgeville there was no parsonage; but Governor Clark, whose wife was a Methodist lady, having moved to a summer retreat at Scottsboro, a short distance from Milledgeville, his residence, handsomely furnished, was kindly put at the disposal of the stewards for Mr. Capers' purposes. (Cline House, perhaps)

"In the course of the year a parsonage was built and well furnished, and Mr. Capers moved into it in 1824."

"On the 15th October his little daughter, Esther Analie, died."

During most of the time (he was at Milledgeville) his Sunday's work was a sunrise sermon at the Penitentiary, and three services at his own church, besides administering catechetical instruction to the children, in the intervals of public worship."

(Information from LIFE OF BISHOP CAPERS.)
In the early days the names of the colored members were found at the close of the record books.

In those days there were "stewards, class leaders, and Trustees."

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Pastors, Presiding

Elders, Incidents

1805 Samuel Cowles P. E.
1805 Jeremiah Lamaden Pastor
1805 E. Tucker, Jr. Preacher
1807-1808 Josiah Randle P. C.
1809 L. Pierce P. E.
1810-1814 Josiah Tarbley, P. E.
1810 Church Built in Cemetery
1812 S. S. Began
1813 Conference Held
1814 Thomas Mania P. C.
1814-1818 Lewis Myers P. E.
1815 G. Christopher P. C.
1816 John Wright P. C.
1817 Nicholas Taillry P. E.
1818 I. T. Terpley P. E.
1818 I. M. Glenn P. C.
1818 Samuel Johnson Jr. Preacher
1819 James Bellah P. E.
1819 James Dunwoody P. C.
1820 Robert Flournoy P. E.
1821 Isaac Smith P. E.
1821 Allen Turner P. C.
1822-26 S. K. Hodges P. E.
1823-24 William Capers Station and Indian Supt
1825 Bond English P. C.
1826- R. F. Flumney
1827-1830 William Arnold P. E.

"Great Revival"

1829 George Hill - died and buried here.

1830 Lovick Pierce P. E.
T. F. Arnold P. C.
1831 John Howard P. E.

1833 Myers Green (Scottsboro)

1831 Elizabeth Sinclair (First Ga. Conference)

1832 R. B. M. Green

1833 Cassell Bunnison

1834 Ivie Francis

1835 R. A. Settle

1836 Calvin Douforh (supply)

1836-37 C. W. Key,

1838 Robert S. Wilson

1839-1841 Walter R. Ernham (Great Revival)

1842 Alfred T. Mann

1843 Ismore Boring
J. N. Danforth

1845 Joshua Knowles

1846 Frederick D. Lowry

1837 Bishop William Capers was the first editor of the Wesleyan Christian Advocate. The first number was published in 1837, at Charleston, S. C.
Records concerning Some F. C. '88 and P. E. '88

1846 Richard D. Lane
1846 Jackson F. Dimes
1849 Wiley P. Parks
1850 Robert W. Righam
1851 J. Bradford Smith
1851 J. W. Hinton "Bethel"
1853 Charles R. Jewett
1854 Charles F. Cooper
1855 Thomas H. Stewart
1856
1857 Lovick Pierce Bethel and Batonton
1858 J. T. Morris P. C.
1858 Walter Knox
1859 Wm. J. Scott
1859 John W. Glenn, P. E.
1851 J. B. Evans
1846 W. R. Mitchell P. C.

Office

Horton
Tucker, James
Duncan, N. C.
Barnett, Peter
Thomas, Fair
Green, F.
Hammond, John

1852 Josiah Lewis P. E.
Jos. W. Hinton P. C.
John Knowles L. P.
Probation before full membership was a custom. Now and then there appeared such statements concerning members "died hopefully" and "expelled".

1853 Josiah Lewis P. E.
Jos. W. Hinton P. C.
Josiah Knowles L. #.

(Frequently the titles are not given for P. E., P. C. Etc.)

1862 B. J. Adams P. C.
1860 H. I. Adams
1861 H. I. Adams
1862 J. O. A. Galark P. E.
1862-63 Chas. B. Fullwood
1863 Josiah Lewis, P. E.
1864-66 George W. Yarbraugh
1865 C. A. Fullwood
1866 Wesley Fledger
1867 W. C. Nalloy
1868 P. F. Arnold (Died 1868)
1868 W. T. Caldwell
1869 Peter A. Reon
1870-73 A. I. Jarrel
1874 W. W. Wordsworth
1875 H. G. Adams
1876 H. H. Parks
1876 Robert W. Burgham
1877-78 George S. Smith
1879 H. H. Parks
1880-81 G. H. Patillo
1882-84 R. W. Bigham
1885 J. D. Hammand & J. R. King
1886-1888 J. R. King W. P. Savejoy P. E.
1889-1890 J. M. White
1891 A. C. Thomas
1892 R. J. Bigham
1893-1894 J. M. White
1895 J. S. Bryan
1897 W. R. Braubam Jr. (Great revival 100 joined the church)

Note: 1887

At the Quarterly Conference recommendations were made that

1. Additions be made to the rear of the Church, for pulpit, organ stand and library room.

2. Pews arranged for a center aisle and two side aisles.

3. Galleries be taken down.

4. Overhead be covered with narrow planks.

5. S. All the suggestions were killed.

Note: It seems that there was a church at Mosleyville with G. R. Kent in charge of the S. S.

1888 J. R. King P. C.

W. P. Lovejoy P. E.

Note: Some reports and actions of the Quarterly Conferences have been cut out and lost. W. T. N.

1890 J. M. White P. C.

G. W. Carocker, Sec. and Recording Stewart

1891 W. P. Lovejoy, P. E.

T. F. Nevell, choir
1891 man of Trustees
   A. C. Thomas, P. C.
   W. T. Coran, Chairman Stewards.
1893 R. J. Bingham, P. C.
1894 J. M. White, P. C.
1895 John N. White, P. C.
   J. F. Mixon, P. E.
1896 J. F. Mixon, P. E.
   J. S. Boyan, P. C.
1897 W. R. Brau
   ham, P. C.
Collection taken for Library at Emory College
1896 Church Conference
   J. S. Bryan, P. C.
   D. S. Kraest, Secretary
   G. T. Whilden, Sec.
1897 Form the Quarterly Conference
   86 joined the church at a protractor meeting
1898 J. M. Mixon, P. E.
   W. R. Braubow, P. C.
Resolution concerning reforming the church $1000 needed.
"ch. at state property"
I Quarterly Conference.
G. W. Coraker, Sec & Rec Steward
W. P. Lovejoy, P. E.
1908 E. C. Downman, P. E.
Ford McNeil, Pastor
1899 W. R. Brennan, P. C.
   J. R. King, P. E.
P. C. $1200
F. E. $152.74
1900 J. W. Nashburn, P. C.
   J. R. King P. E.

1892 Stewards

W. T. Conn
G. W. Corraker
Dr. T. O. Powell
Dr. W. R. Robinson
John Cona
T. T. Newell
G. W. Hollowshead
E. B. Gibson
E. E. Bell
G. T. Whilden
N. Hines
Jacob Corker
J. N. Moore
T. J. Fairfield
W. D. Vinson
J. E. Foute
A. L. Hulian
H. V. Sanford
George W. Yarborough P. E.
A. C. Thomas, P. C.

1892 Finances
Paid P. Ed $210
   P. E. 1200
   Bishop .25
Com. Claims 184
Missions 220
Domestic Missions 100
Church Extension 66
1907 Dr. E. C. Dowman P. E.

(Dr. T. O. Powell)
resolution passed

1891 J. M. White P. E.
1892 A. C. Thames P. E.
1893 Geo. W. Yarbrough P. E.
1893 R. J. Bigham P. E.
Rev M. C. Underwood P. C.
W. T. Conn, Ch. of B. S. of Stewards

Quote: "We find quite a number on the roll whom we have been unable to locate." P. C.

Church Conferences seemed to be the order of the day.
Rev. J. T. Daves P. E.

1903 Dr. John W. Hivet P. E.
Rev. M. L. Underwood P. C.

Members 466

Houses of Worship
Value $4,000
Parsonage 2,500

No debts

Insurance $3,000
preacher paid 1365

32 Wesleyan Advocates
4 Nashvilles
Capt. Conn, S. S.


Bishop sent word presided at the Annual Conference in 1906.

1907 E. C. Dowman, P. E.
1906 Among those who spoke at the Conference 1906 were
Bishop Sethward
Dr. R. H. Hamill, Dr.
W. R. Sambuth, Dr.
H. M. DuBose, Dr.
C. O. Jones

May 17, 1906
Resolution
concerning the purchase of the lot now occupied by the
the church and parsonage.

Adopted Cost to be $4000.
Also request to sell the parsonage property then in use.

Adopted

1913

For Pastor $1800
P. E. 208

Elnor Dempsey Pastor
J. W. Guillian P. E.

1922 Henry B. Mays, P. E.
raised $1,500, borrowed for completion of S. S. Department,
October 22, 1922.

1923 C. W. Lapham P. C.
N. C. Crawley P. E.

1925 H. C. Emory P. C.
N. G. Crawley P. E.

1926 J. F. Yarbragah P. C.
E. F. Dempsey P. E.

1927

1930 Frank Guillain P. C.
Bath Thompson P. E.

1933 W. K. Lawrode P. E.
R. S. Smith P. C.
Miller S. Bell, Treas.
Group Insurance Commission and Entertainment committee of

1927 Elam F. Dempsey P. E.
J. F. Yarbragah P. C.
680 members
$1000 for P. E.
$300 for Pastor
Homer Shly, Director of Golden Cross
SAMPLE MINUTES
The First Methodist Church
Milledgeville, Georgia
September 11, 1928


The minutes of the preceding minutes were read, corrected, and approved.

Dr. J. E. Kidd stated that $200 had been paid on the superannuate fund, the total amount pledged, $560 a year.

The treasurer reported, with collections at this meeting, about $355 on bond, sufficient to meet all bills due.

Brother John spoke earnestly on the subject of conference collections. He requested that he be paid $200 a month from now until the close of the year and the balance used for payments on the "benevolences". On motion of Dr. Binion seconded by Dr. Kidd the pastor's salary will be paid regularly and an attempt will be made to raise the conference collections.

The chairman of the finance committee stated that it would be necessary to secure $3000 from now until the close of the conference year to meet all obligations. Lists will be distributed among the stewards.
On motion a statement will be mailed to all members of the church indicating their standing.

The necessity of a welcome for strangers attending the church was stressed.

H. G. Banks reported only $5 balance in charity fund.

G. J. Conn reported progress on the music of the church.

These were discussed.

Plans are being made for some repairs on the organ. Matter was left with music committee.

Dixon Williams reported the distribution all literature that has been sent to him.

The strangers and ushers committees are on their jobs, according to reports.

Dr. Tigner spoke of the parsonage debt and plans for its liquidation.

The amount due is approximately $3,200.

Adjournment after prayer by Brother John.

Approved 10/9/28

H. G. Bone, Chairman

W. C. Wynn, Secretary

1926

H. G. Bone Chairman, Board of Stewards

O. N. Conn, Chairman Finances

Boulder unveiled in the cemetery marking the location of the first Methodist Church in Milledgeville.

J. E. Kidd and W. A. Massey deceased

HISTORY STORIES OF MILLEDGEVILLE AND BALDWIN COUNTY

October 20, 1929

The U. D. C. erected a large granite marker on the site of Milledgeville's first church (Methodist). The marker was dedicated.
by Bishop Warren A. Candler. The inscription follows:

"This marks the original site of the Methodist Church erected about the year 1805. Bishop Asbury and Bishop McKendree in 1815, held here a conference which James O. Andrew attended.

"Bishop Capers, Dr. Lovick Pierce and many other notables served as pastors of the church, and the daughter of Bishop Capers is buried near this spot.

"In gracious appreciation of the pioneer work by this great church, this boulder erected by the Robert E. Lee Chapter, U. D. C. 1929."

Nathan Thompson, P. E.
Frank Quilliam, P. C.
R. B. Moore, R. S.
William T. Wynn, Sec.
M. S. Bell, Dis. Steward
679 members

A single budget was adopted

Religious survey made by Presbyterian, Baptist, and Methodist.

1930

E. E. Bell re-elected chairman of the Board for the coming year.
R. H. Wootten, Vice chairman
A. I. Butts, Treasurer
William, T. Wynn, Secretary

1930-31 Frank Quilliam P. C.
Nathan Thomson P. E.
(Oxford District)

members 688
Grand total assessed for the year $9364
R. B. Moore, Recording Steward
Religious survey made 1930.
Allen Barnes, Pres.
Epworth League

1931

Pastor granted a vacation at a time he may wish.

Loan negotiated to pay indebtedness on Personage Debt. $1520.

Officers of the Board:

E. E. Bell, Chairman
R. H. Wootten, Vice Chm.
Arthur Butts, Treas.
George Roach, Lay Leader
W. T. Wynn, Secre.

Stewards for 1931

R. S. Alford
Dr. Edwin Allen
Dr. Dawson Allen
E. E. Bell
M. S. Bell
J. F. Bell, Sr.
J. F. Bell, Jr.
A. I. Butts
D. W. Brown
Dr. Richard Binion
R. S. Bone
Russell Bone
C. J. Conn
Otto N. Conn
E. K. Hines
E. C. Kidd
George W. Hollinshead
John L. Horton
Dr. E. F. Longino
R. B. Moore
D. F. Montgomery
W. H. Montgomery
S. D. Stembridge
Dr. W. M. Scott
W. E. Stembridge
S. A. Tigner
R. H. Wootten
W. T. Wynn
Dr. V. H. Yarbrough

1931

"The pastor read a letter from Ed Easton, janitor, requesting
that he be allowed to retain his job on reduced pay."

Decision was made to continue communion services monthly.
1931 Mortgage for $1520 authorized for debt on the Parsonage
W. H. LaPrade P. E.
Frank Quillian P. C.
For P. C. $3600 assessed
P. C. $480

Mrs. Charles L. Moore, Pres. Woman's Society

New heating system made church more comfortable.

W. H. LaPrade P. E.
Frank Quillian P. C.
R. B. Moore, Sec.
P. C. $3600
P. R. $480

Conference Lay Leader, Ramsey spoke at a Men's meeting on
Stewardship. Without changes J. S. Beeson allowed the use of the
GSCW auditorium while work was being done on the interior of the
church.

1942

L. M. Twiggs, P. E.

E. D. Rudisill, Pastor
Miss Sampley, first Director, Wesley Foundation
S. S. Department—walls renovated, painted.

Third Quarterly Conference "All finances in full."

1932

Received on profession of faith Frank Evans, Mary Ann Roach,
Ruby Lee Pritchard, L. R. Thiggen, Jr., Elizabeth Clark, and
Bruce N. Hoiley.

Florida Moore President Epworth League

Montpelier Church and S. S. in charge of the First Church,
Milledgeville.

Collections made for Wesleyan College. Special campaign.
President Cox of Emory University occupied the pulpit Sunday.

1933
W. H. LaPrade P. E.
H. S. Smith P. G.
Mrs. C. S. Moore, President Woman's Society.

New Heating system installed, Roof repaired, Windows worked over.

Martha Barnes, President Epworth League

Upon motion a committee composed of M. S. Bell, J. C. Grant and Bertie Stembridge was appointed to locate and preserve all church records."

Passed July 1934
W. H. LaPrade, P. E.
H. S. Smith P. G.

1935
H. H. Jones P. E.

Mrs. Miller S. Bell, took care of repairs on the church organ.

1934
The George Roach family leave the city for Emory-Oxford. They were praised by the Board of Stewards—Regrets for their leaving.

Horace Smith, Pastor

Welcome service for new members who have moved recently to Milledgeville.

1935-Dec. T.

1935 Mrs. John Clark Grant
1934 Parsonage debt $1640.45
Debt on Heating Plant $290

1935 Henry H. Jones P. E.
H. S. Smith P.

members 694

1934 Horace S. Smith, Pastor
W. H. LaPrade P. E.
May 21, 1934

Mrs. Miller S. Bell
Milledgeville, Georgia

Dear Mrs. Bell:

I have just learned that it was you who took care of the repairs on the church organ.

We have not had since my connection with the Methodist Church of Milledgeville so generous treatment from anyone else and I am sure that it indicates your love for Milledgeville, our membership, and the great Head of the organization.

I was instructed at the last meeting of the Board of Stewards to write a letter of thanks to the one who made possible the delightful music which we are enjoying every Sunday.

I trust that you will give me permission to mention at the next meeting of the Board.

Sincerely yours,

William T. Wynn

1934

"Our motion a committee consisting of Miller S. Bell, Jr., J. C. Grant and Miss Bertie Stembridge were appointed to locate and preserve all church Records." July 22, 1934

Montpelier in charge of Milledgeville First Church.

R. Guy Smith
Thomas M. Smith
Mr. R. D. Collins
May 17, 1935

Mr. J. C. Grant
North Jefferson Street
Milledgeville, Georgia

Dear Brother Grant:

The Board of Stewards at its quarterly dinner meeting on Tuesday evening were greatly disappointed that your illness prevented your being with us. We missed your presence and your counsel.

The secretary was instructed to write you a note expressing our sympathy and sincere wishes that you might soon be well and able to be about your accustomed business, social, and church duties. There is no member of the Board who is more needed and whose influence is more helpful than yours, so hurry up and get well.

Fraternally yours,

Board of Stewards

By William T. Wynn, Sec.

1935

Personage indebtedness $700
Paving Bonds 1750
Heating System 260

$2700

On vote were consolidated and a valuatory committee composed of George Hollinshed, Edgar Long, and William T. Wynn in a few days collected the necessary funds. Within a few weeks all debts were paid.

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

Milledgeville, Georgia
Ladies' Parlor
October 8, 1935

After an informal discussion of the financial affairs
of the church, M. S. Bell, acting chairman, called the meeting to order.

Those present were:

- M. S. Bell
- D. W. Brown
- Homer Shy
- H. S. Smith
- B. D. Stembridge
- William Wynn
- W. E. Kreland

Collections were reported showing the good results from a letter recently mailed.

Upon motion the pastor is to be paid $350.00 and the organist $50.00. The amount necessary to pay current expenses was voted to be set aside.

William Wynn made a report for the committee appointed by the Board to look into the matter of the indebtedness for paving. He stated that he and Dr. Edwin Allen had a conference with Mr. P. M. Smaok of the First National Bank, Atlanta, and with Mr. T. L. Brown of Deveeran. He stated that the First National Bank offered to settle as of October 11, for $1086.08 and that Mr. Brown promised to let the committee know his decision with regard to settlement this week. The committee will be continued until the report is received from Mr. Brown.

The pastor was requested to secure permission from the Presiding Elder to hold a call quarterly conference at such a time as will suit the convenience of the Board in order that regular action might be taken on the paving debt.

M. S. Bell was requested to have a conference with Mr. Glenn with regard to securing a further rebate on Bond No. 356.

E. S. Bell, Chairman
William Wynn, Secretary

STANDING COMMITTEES 1935–36

Finance
- Miller S. Bell, Chairman
- J. F. Bell, Jr.
- Dr. L. P. Longino
- D. W. Brown
- Frank Evans
- M. R. Bell
- J. W. Overstreet
- Homer Shy
Music
E. C. Kidd, Chairman
Dr. Y. N. Yarbrough
Dr. E. A. Tigner
Russell Bone

Christian Literature
William T. Wynn, Chairman
R. B. Moore
S. D. Stembridge

Strangers
K. E. Moore, Chairman
Dr. E. A. Tigner
Geo. W. Hollinshead
Dr. H. B. Allen, Jr.

Ushers
K. E. Bell, Chairman
D. W. Brown
Homer Shy
H. S. Wootten
R. H. Wootten
Tate Harper

Chairman and Vice-Chairman are ex-officio members of the finance committee.

1935-1936
H. H. Jones P. E.
H. S. Smith P. C.

1936-1937
J. S. Thrailkill, P. C.
H. H. Jones P. E.

63 subscriptions to the Advocate.

Methodist Men's Club organized.

1936
William Wynn spoke Laymen's Day.

1939-1940
A. N. Fierce Pastor
L. M. Twiggs, D. S.

1940
Resolution of appreciation for the services of Miller S. Bell and regrets that his illness forbids his attendance at the meeting.
1941 Junior Choir services held once a month. Trained by Mrs. R. B. Long.

1933  W. H. Lahrae P. E.
      H. S. Smith P. G.

1935  H. H. Jones P. E.
      H. S. Smith P. G.

1936  J. S. Thrailkill, P. C.
      H. H. Jones P. E.

1939  L. M. Twiggs D. S.
      A. M. Pierce P. C.

1941  E. C. Atkins and J. H. Farr returned.
      E. D. Rudisill, P. C.
      L. M. Twiggs D. S.
      John Kidd, S. S.

M. S. Bell and D. F. Montgomery passed away during the year.

1943  E. D. Rudisill, P. C.
      J. W. O. McKibben, D. S.

1944  Successful vocation Church School.

1944  J. W. O. McKibben D. S.
      E. D. Rudisill P. C.

1941  One hundred twenty-three members of the Women's Society of Christian Service.
      Fifty-one in the Wesleyan Service Guild.

1941  L. M. Twiggs, D. S.
      A. M. Pierce P. C.

Mrs. J. W. Overstreet Chairman Woman's Society

Board of Christian Education organized.
      Mrs. Paul Farr, Chm.
      Major Conn Bryan, Sec.

1941  L. M. Twiggs, D. S.
      E. D. Rudisill P. C.
      J. W. O. McKibben D. S.

1942  E. D. Rudisill P. C.

1944  J. W. O. McKibben D. S.
      B. C. Sambo P. C.

1946  George King, D. S.
      J. Hamby Barton P. C.

1942  Intermediate Epworth League growing in numbers and interest.
      Senior Epworth League. Attendance 50 members.
Ed Rudisill, P. C.
L. M. Twiggs, D. S.
Mrs. J. D. Toague, President Woman's Society.

1924

S. D. Rudisill, P. C.
J. R. C. McRae, D. S.
Arthur Moore, Bishop
Value of Buildings $65,000
William Wynn, Lay Delegate
S. S. Paul Farr
Arthur Kinsey L. E.
William Winn, L. F.

1943

The Board of Trustees of First Methodist Church, Milledgeville, Ga., met on Sunday afternoon May 9th for consideration of special items of business. The following were present: E. E. Bell, Chairman, J. W. Brown, J. Furman Bell Jr., and C. T. Harper. Mr. Harper was unable to remain for the meeting, but read and signed the resolutions before leaving.

The following resolutions were presented:

Whereas Mrs. Miller S. Bell has graciously agree to present an organ to the church in loving memory of her late husband and a loyal member of this church, and whereas she has agreed to pay the complete cost of the organ including the cost of installation, be it resolved that we accept this lovely gift with our sincere thanks, and at proper time that we officially acknowledge the gift and cooperate with Mrs. Bell and the pastor in a service of dedication.

Whereas, the organ builder is anxious that the organ render the greatest and most efficient service, and feels that there must be slight changes made before this is possible, including the building of an organ chamber and the lowering of the ceiling, and there being no case work with the organ there must be the building of grills for proper installation: be it resolved that we authorize such changes as are necessary to properly install the organ, provided that all visible work harmonize with the present building.

Be it resolved further that we authorize the pastor to raise such funds as are necessary to do the above work, and that he be allowed to use also the trade-in value of the old organ, and we direct that all work be done without leaving a debt.

Upon motion of J. Furman Bell Jr. Seconded by D. W. Brown the resolutions were adopted, and the trustees present have affixed their names below.

E. E. Bell
D. W. Brown
J. F. Bell Jr.
Richard Minion
(continued on following page)
Being unable to attend the Trustee meeting on May 9th, this is to certify that I have read the above resolutions and have affixed my name as a sign of my approval of the sentiment expressed;

C. T. Harper
E. C. Kidd

1943

We are very grateful for the fine cooperation that has been given in the beginning of a new year. As a result of such splendid cooperation, we feel that the year has begun well, and that it should be a good year for our work here in every way. The attendance at all services has been better than average, and recently has been exceptionally good.

The various organizations of the church are functioning well. The Church School under the superintendency of Paul Farr is making progress both in attendance and in interest. His report will show his interest and that he has the support of a fine corps of officers and teachers. The W. S. C. S. has begun a new year under the Presidency of Mrs. J. D. Teague. Mrs. Teague was president for a part of last year and then followed her husband to the West Coast. When she returned to N. in the fall our people were unanimous in wanting her to continue in this office. Her report also will show progress. The Wesley Foundation has begun its second year recently. The Church Campus Relations Committee is headed by Dr. Sarah Nelson. Miss Mary Nell Sampley has been reelected director. We believe that this is one of the most important works related to our general church work, and that the second year begins in a splendid way. The Ga. Meth. Student Conf. meets here in Feb.

The following changes have occurred in our church roll since the last Q. C. (though several of these were reported to annual conference), By certificate: Mr. and Mrs. Hershel Walden, Miss Ann George, Mrs. Albert Fairfield, and Albert Fairfield Jr., Miss Alberta Goff, Mr. and Mrs. John Collins, Mrs. Lucille Fisher, Mrs. Katie Rogers Kidd, Mrs. W. H. Stembridge, Mrs. W. C. Humphrey, Mr. Holland Strother. Lost by death: Mr. E. L. Massey, Mrs. L. J. Zachery, Dr. T. Powell Allen: By Certificate Ralph S. Bryant.

The treasurer will show all financial matters paid up to date, and some of the items are paid for the entire quarter. Our year has begun splendidly in the matter of finances. The stewards are conscientious and active in their work. Our goal is all salaries and local items monthly, and all items balanced at least quarterly. Mr. W. H. Arnall is beginning his second year as chairman; he enters his work with zeal and interest, and has fine cooperation.

The Advocate Campaign is under the direction of Miss Minnie Grant, and is well along toward a successful conclusion. We will exceed our quota by a substantial percentage.

Plans are under way for evangelistic services in the late spring.
or early fall, depending on several other matters. With the completion of the Naval Ordnance plant soon there will be many new people in M. We are planning now for contacting them on arrival and relating the Methodists among them to our church. The school for Waves has brought a large number of new Methodists under the influence of our church. We are trying to make our church interesting and attractive to all who come under its ministry, and especially are we attempting to challenge to the high and good through its ministry to all.

1943

J. W. O. McKenzie F. E.
E. D. Rudisill F. C.
Paid $50 for Revival helper.

W. H. Arnall, Dist. Trustee
H. G. Bone, alternate

Miss Dorothy Stevens of . N. G. selected as Director of Wesley Foundation.

New Organ gift of Mrs. Miller Bell, installed.

Nell Sempley tendered her resignation, effective Aug. 31, 1943.

Many new people moving into Milledgeville.

Assisted the young people in entertaining thirty young soldiers from Camp Wheeler.

Methodist students in Summer School given a picnic.

1944

Dr. Lovick Pierce Longino died.

Waves on the GSCW campus.

Many of them being entertained in the homes of the church members.

A club of men organized.

Roll of Quarterly Conference for year 1944-45

___________________________ Pastor

E. G. Atkins, Retired

W. S. Winn, L. P.

Paul J. Farr, Church School Supt (name repeated)

___________________________ Pres. W.S.C.S

Dr. Sara Nelson, Church Campus Rel. Com.

Miss Dorothy Stevens, Wesley Foundation Director

___________________________ Youth Fellowship

Ann Fitzpatrick, Pres. Wesley Foundation
MILLER STEPHENS BELL

As a memorial to her illustrious husband, Miller Stephens Bell (born March 12, 1874, died April 18, 1941) Mrs. Miller S. Bell presented to the First Methodist Church of Milledgeville, a splendid pipe organ.

The Quarterly Conference appreciates the generosity of Mrs. Bell, indicative of her abiding love for the Church and Him who inspired her illustrious husband to serve long and faithfully in the local church, and in the District, Annual, and General Conferences.

(continued on following page)
Resolved that a copy of this paper be furnished Mrs. Bell and that it be made a part of the minutes of this Quarterly Conference.

Signed: E. D. Rudisill, Pastor
W. T. Wynn, Recording Secretary

January 9, 1944

1944 Resolution passed on the death of E. R. Hines.

Ninety-three men from our church are in service

Dr. N. C. McPherson, President Wesleyan College spoke to the youth division of the S. S.

Ann Fitzpatrick, President Wesley Foundation

Dr. Sarah Nelson, Chairman Church Relation Committee

Edward Robert Hines passed in 1944. Member of Board of Stewards for 35 years.

E. G. Bone delegate to Annual Conference
Alternate, Paul Ferr
Trustee, Miller R. Bell

Captain Irving Thomas Frazer killed in Italy May 26, 1944.

Colonel William LeRoy Turner killed in France on D. Day.

1945

E. G. Gamble P. C.

J. W. O'Mckibben, D. S.

Del. To Annual Conference, E. G. Bone
Alternate, W. T. Wynn

Dorothy Stevens, Director Wesley Foundation

Mrs. Harry Bone and E. Culver Kidd, Sr. passed away.

Jan. 1947

Ed. Perry elected Director Wesley Foundation.

Dr. and Mrs. Beiswanger received as affiliate members.

J. E. O. McKibben, D. S.

Paul J. Ferr S. S.

J. Samby Barton, F. C.
Mrs. L. M. Blanks, Pres. W. S. C. S.
Delegate to Annual Conference, W. T. Wynn
Alternate, Harry Bone
S. S. Department painted and new lighting fixtures put up. $100 spent.

1947

J. H. Barton, Sr. P. C. (3)
Geo. L. King, D. S. (2)

1948 - Feb.

Good Report of Wesley Foundation
Edmund Perry, Director
6th Birthday for the local organization.

October 10, 1948

T. H. Wootten passes.

Resolution of sympathy to the family

J. Hamby Barton P. C.
Geo. King P. E.

Members on roll.

A RESOLUTION

Inasmuch as Mrs. Miller S. Bell has placed an order for a three
manual Moeller Organ which is to be given to the First Methodist
Church, Milledgeville, Ga., as a memorial to her husband, the
late Mr. Miller S. Bell, a life long and honored member of this
church, and,

Inasmuch as the Trustees and Stewards of the church have, in
joint session, assured the Moeller Organ Company that provisions
would be made to house the organ and have named a building committee
for this purpose, which committee is subject to the approval of
this conference, and,

Inasmuch as it is thought by many to be wise, in the carrying
out of the project, to build an addition to the rear of the church
auditorium which will provide for a men's Bible Class Room, a
pastor's study and choir robing room as well as a room for the
housing of one half of the organ,

Therefore, be it resolved that this Quarterly Conference, in
session this the 30th. day of November 1947 approve the suggested
committee as the official Building Committee for the above named
project, which committee is as follows: Mr. J. F. Bell, Mr. Miller
R. Bell, Mr. Harry G. Bone, Mr. Frank C. Evans, Mr. R. E. Long, Mr.
Max Roach, Mr. Homer Shy and Mr. J. D. Teague.
Be it further resolved that the committee, working under the direction of the Board of Trustees and Board of Stewards, be empowered to raise the necessary money, let the contract, and carry through whatever plan may be decided on by the Board of Trustees and Board of Stewards.

The above resolution was presented to Quarterly Conference of the First Methodist Church, Milledgeville, Ga., in session Nov. 30th, 1947 and was approved by the conference.

Signed: George L. King
District Superintendent of the Augusta District.

William T. Wynn
Secretary of the Quarterly Conference.

1948
Roy Taylor, Pres. Board of Stewards
Geo. Stembridge, Sec.
A. I. Butts, Treas.
Mrs. Homer Shy, Pres. W.S.C.S.
J. Hamby Barton, F. C.
George L. King P. E.
Dr. Edward Tigner died.
Sec. copy of resolution

Edward Andrews Tigner

Doctor Edward Tigner by temperament and training represented the type of citizens who have been most influential in producing a truly great American civilization.

As his strength would permit there was no letup in his enthusiasm for his profession, politics, friends, community, nation, church.

Dr. Tigner never hesitated or wavered in business, social affairs, or religion, when he thought he was right; and his conscientious service in an official capacity for the First Methodist
Church of Milledgeville, would alone entitle him to a place in the hearts of the people.

We shall miss Ed Tigner's kindly smile, his encouraging word, and his overpowering desire to perform his duty, as he saw it, and to assist others in living lives full of good deeds.

Therefore be it resolved

1. That we express to the family of our deceased brother our heartfelt sympathy in this sad hour.

2. That this paper be made a part of the minutes of the Third Quarterly Conference of the First Methodist Church.

February 29, 1948

Passed by a unanimous rising vote.

William T. Wynn
William T. Wynn, Secretary

George L. King
District Supt.

February 29, 1948

Dear Mrs. Tigner:

I have the honor of handing to you a resolution unanimously passed by the Third Quarterly Conference.

May God's richest blessings be yours in the years to come.

Sincerely yours,

William T. Wynn
William T. Wynn

Mrs. Edward A. Tigner
Milledgeville, Georgia

1949

Byington, Director of Wesley Foundation

The Perry's leave.

Pastoral Committee selected at the 2nd 3rd Quarterly Conference.

Paul Farr, Boy Taylor, B. A. Willingham, Harry Little and George Hollinshead (All Chairmen of the Board of Stewards or past Chairmen).
1949 G. O. King P. G.
Geo. L. King D. S.

July 1, 1950

Report from Wesley Foundation
R. Harold Stinson, Director

Report to the First Quarterly Conference
Of the First Methodist Church

There are approximately 350 Methodist girls and boys at
the two College here in our city. Practically every charge in
our two Conferences is represented in the student body.

The following objectives have been set by our Wesley Foundation:

1. To reach all Methodist Students with information about the
   Wesley Foundation and its program. To relate them to the
total program.

2. To engage as many as possible in activities.

3. To make Wesley Foundation a cooperative and vital factor
   in campus life.

4. To offer opportunity for development in Christian leadership.

5. To relate the Methodist Students to the program of the Local
   Church.

July 1, 1950

Stinson

1949-50 Young adult class organized - George O. King organizer and Teacher.
Mrs. Charles Moore, Pres. W. E. C. S.
Paul Ferr delegate to Annual Conference.
Alton Barnes, Alternate.
Pastoral Relation-Committee
Chairman of Board of Stewards and past chairmen were appointed to
act as a special committee on Pastoral relations for the present
time.
Oct. 8, 1950
854 members
Geo. O. King P. C.
George L. King, D. S.
Roll being worked over.

Work of Director of Wesley Foundation, R. Harold Stinson commended by the Pastor in his report to the Quarterly Conference, June 10, 1951, 1950.

Ed. D. Rudisill D. S.
George O. King P. C.
1951

R. E. Long deceased

A Proposed Program of activities
1951-52 was adopted by the Board of Stewards. (See copy)

First Methodist Church
Milledgeville, Ga.

A Proposed Program of Activities
1951-52

Ordered by the Quarterly Conference September 9, 1951 to become a part of the minutes.

William T. Wynn, Secretary

1. Building & Grounds—
Our building is in good shape generally. We have occasional repairs to windows, doors and so forth that are normal. We anticipate no major alterations at present.

Goals for the year—
An attractive appearance at all times.
Painting of the Basement entrance. (Paint on hand for this)
The repairing of the ceiling of the stairs and painting. This will be perhaps identical with the work done in the room off the balcony last year. Cost should not exceed $200.

Committee—Bell, Brown, Dumas, Robinson, Williams, Wilson.

2. Crowed Conditions—
We all realize the crowded conditions of the Church plant. Nearly every room is used for two or more purposes. This naturally lends to less efficiency. Some departments are
so crowded as to be discouraging. Especially is this so in the Children's Department and in the Intermediate Department. Classes on the stairway are not indicative of the best work.

On a long range view we know what is best. To build a modern plant on the back of the Church is the answer and will come some day. We are interested now in the quickest answer with the least outlay and yet to have what we spend used wisely and constructively. It seems to be the general opinion that the best step forward would be the purchase or erection of a new parsonage and to use for a while the present parsonage for our Church School. As soon as this is done we can look toward a final solution to our problem.

Goal—
The selection of a committee with authority to act if such occasion would arise that needed immediate action.

Committee—Allen, Bell, Brown, Dumas, DeFree, Meier, Robinson, Shy, Williams.

3. Church School—
The preceding item gives an insight to the Church School needs. Our Church School is doing a fine job under capable leadership.

Goals for the year—
An increased attendance in every department.
A real effort to reach more people, especially the children.
An increase in the offering turned into the regular work.
Co-operation of the classes with the new record system.
Regular departmental meetings of workers.
Annual Vacation Bible School.
A teacher training class to add to the trained faculty.

Committee—Banks, DeFree, Ellis, Meier, Sawyer, Shultz, Stembridge, Woods, Wynn.

4. Evangelism—
Last year we had a large ingathering into our Church. At each service we can see the results of these additions. New additions to the Church add new strength and interest.

Goals for the year—
At least 100 additions to the Church.
One revival service as the Board may determine.
One visitation campaign during the year.
A training class for children.
A reliable census of our community with results tabulated.

Committee—Arnold, Athen, Baldwin, J. B. Butts, Herndon, Woods, Wynn, Godfelter, Shultz, Willingham.
5. Finances.
The Board of Stewards is charged with the distribution of the money of the Church but the Board can only distribute what they receive. It is easy to appropriate funds—it is another matter to raise them for distribution.

Goals for the year—
Complete information to our Church of what we need. Solicitation of contributions from the entire Church. A pledge, if possible, from every member. The use of the 12-check plan by all who will. Every member sharing in the work of the Church. Regular and systematic contributions to the Church. The training of our children to use the envelopes. All disbursements to be made monthly. Current bills to be paid as due. Try to avoid last minute balances. A report to the membership of the Church's standing and of the members' payments. This report quarterly if possible. The holding up of the tithe as the minimum of Christianity.

Committee—Rivers, Allen, Bell, A. I. Butts, Herndon, Wynn, Robinson, Willingham.

6. History.
Some years ago a history of the Church was written; perhaps this needs to be brought up to date.

Goal—
A complete history of our Church as facts will permit. This history printed and made available to all who are interested. Perhaps this history and a complete roll could be published together.

Committee—Wynn, Wilson and such others as selected.

7. Literature.
Martin Luther made history when he threw the ink bottle at devil. We need to do the same.

Goals for the year—
Full quota of Wesleyan Christian Advocate Subscribers. As many as possible to take the National Advocate. The WCGS to handle the Methodist Woman. The Men's Club to handle the Methodist Layman. Distribution of tracts regularly. 250 Upper Rooms bi-monthly. A printed program each Sunday. A newsletter to the membership each quarter.

8. Methodist Youth Fellowship.
No finer group of Young People are to be found than here. They are our own and will help us in year to come.
Goals for the year for us:
Encouragement in their every effort.
Assistance in the purchase of needed equipment.
Supplying literature through the Church School.
To give the young Folks a public service if they want it to acquaint the church with the work.

9. Men's Club
10. Music
11. Missions
12. Public Worship
13. Publicity
14. Records
15. Recreation and Fellowship
16. Social Service
17. Steward's Meetings
18. Welcome
19. Weasley Foundation
20. W. S. C. S.
21. Spiritual Deepening

April 27, 1952
Methodist Youth Fellowship divided.
Intermediate directed by Dr. and Mrs. W. G. Bloodworth
Counselors Later
Skillie Wilson elected Pres.
Counselor for older group to be selected.
1951-52

Sept. 21, 1952
Bone Chapel Completed.

Letter written to Mr. Frank Bone expressing gratitude for the lovely furnishings and finishings of the Chapel.

1952

According to the best evidence available, the Methodist Church of Milledgeville is the oldest organization in the City. The
Methodist Men's Club, with its charter, properly signed and sealed from "Headquarters, is the newest group now functioning. The officers are President, W. T. Thompson; Vice President, R. L. Brooks; Treasurer, A. H. Aspinwall; Secretary, W. S. Lemaster. Meetings are held monthly.

Wesleyan Christian Advocate 1952

1953-54

Charles Boleyn F. C.

Ed. Rudisill D. S.

Paul Farr S. S. Supt.

Henry King Stanford Chairman Commission on Education

Clayton W. Peacock Chairman Commission on Membership and Evangelism.

William T. Wynn Chairman Commission on Missions

J. M. Rivers, Chairman Commission on Finance