The Pine Mountain community, which is located in the extreme northeastern section of the state of Georgia, has been greatly blessed by the services of a Methodist Church over a number of years. This community is located in the northeastern section of Rabun County about twelve miles south of Highlands, N.C. and nineteen miles north of Walhalla, S.C. on Ga. highway # 28.

No record can be found of the exact date when the Methodist Church was first organized in this community, but it was sometime in the early part of the last half of the nineteenth
century. It is not known just what year the first building was erected but it was built by a Mr. Lovedoll and Mr. Evans in the early days of Methodism in Rabun county. The church was a small framed building on the road known as the Long Bottom Road, about one and one-half miles southwest of the present church. This first building was constructed without any heating facilities. The day services were conducted in this building all the year, but the evening services were held during the winter months in the home of Mr. William Holden, this being the nearest residence to the church. The name given to this first church was Mount Pleasant, the same name as is used today for the present church. Truly, this was a most appropriate name for it because of the beautiful natural mountainous setting.

In this original church building the singing was led by the pastor, who would read two lines of the song at a time, then the congregation would sing those two, and so on through the entire song.

A church school had been organized and was regularly attended in the early sixties. The people were divided into three groups; Adults, Young People, and Children. The adults and young people memorized passages of Scripture for each Sunday, while the children were taught the catechism, thereby learning some scripture.

The old church building was interdenominational and seems to have been built on private property as there is no record of any purchase or sale of the land, only the building. When the Methodist and Baptist groups ceased to use this first building as a church, it was sold for ten dollars and moved about two miles north, on the "Walhalla and Highlands Road,"
where it was rebuilt for a store house. It was used for this purpose for a number of years. Again, the building was taken to pieces and this time it took the form of a corn crib and is still in use on the farm of Mrs. Bell Billingsley.

The present church building was erected as a school building for the private school of Mr. Evan J. Nicholson, a prominent citizen of the community and church. This building and one-half acre of land, more or less, were purchased by the trustees of the Mt. Pleasant Methodist Church on November 25, 1882. The trustees of the church at that time were: Mr. Allen R. Turpen, Mr. William Wilson, and Mr. Evan J. Nicholson. It is very interesting to know that the pews in the present church are the same ones made for the first church by Mr. Lovedoll and Mr. Evans. The pulpit and altar are also from the old church building and remain just as they were except for a slight change which was made in 1905 by Rev. J.W. Taylor.

In the early days of Methodism this charge did not have a parsonage and the pastors lived in the homes of the members on his charge. He would have to leave home for each appointment about one week before time to preach in that community. It is said that it required two days or more to make the trip to most of his churches, then he would return home to be there only one or two days before starting on his next journey. The early churches and the early preachers did not have an easy time!

At the time when the present building was first occupied, in 1882, for church services there were fifty-six members and a very active Sunday School. The following names were among those fifty-six members: William Holden, William J. Nicholson,

The church continued to carry on its active work and although it never has been a very large church, it has played a vital part in the life of this farming community. A Woman's Society was organized in 1927 by Miss Bert Winter, who has done a great work in this county as a rural church worker. This organization functioned for a number of years and has done some very fine work in its services through the church.

The Pine Mountain Community, like many others of our rural communities, has undergone a drastic change with a shift in population to other sections of the country. The church has naturally felt this great change and today there are only fifteen members in comparison to the larger membership in past years when more people lived in the community.

Although the Mount Pleasant Methodist Church seems to have its greater history in the past, we must not forget its worthy contribution to the people of the community as it has pointed to them the Christ and led them in his way of life.