FOR THE GLORY OF GOD

... A CHURCH IS BORN

THE OFFICIAL HISTORY OF THE NORTHWOODS METHODIST CHURCH
FOR THE YEARS 1955-1960

by

DONALD A. WHELFLEY
Secretary, Official Board, 1959-60
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Northwoods Methodist Church
DORAVILLE, GEORGIA
... Those others have already forgotten the church
I've come to build, or find it hard to believe.
But when creation's tide crawled on its first
Advance across the sand of the air, and earth
Tossed its tentative hills, this place of idle
Grass where we are idling took the imprint
Of a dedication, which interminable
History could not weather away. And now
The consummation climbs on to the hill:
A church where the sun will beat on the bell, a church
To hold in its sanctuary the last light.
God be on the hill, and in my heart
And hand. God guide the hammer and the plane.
As the root is guided. Let there be a church.--

- Christopher Fry, The Boy With a Cart,
p. 29
FOREWORD

On this notable occasion, Founders' Day 1960, marking the fifth anniversary of the establishing of this congregation as a part of the Methodist Church, we are especially fortunate to have available this excellent history of our first five years.

After spending a number of hours with writer Don Whelpley and assisting in his researches, I know from experience and observation how exceedingly difficult is the job of searching out obscure and detailed information, much of which often is lacking even in the official records of the church. Scores of hours have gone into the production of this history on his part alone; many telephone calls were made to members of the congregation and to such places as the office of the Bishop, the Candler School of Theology, and the Southeastern Jurisdictional Office in the effort to authenticate "facts" which were rumored or "remembered" by various persons, upon whose memory the groundwork of this history largely rests. Especially helpful was the complete file of Sunday bulletins which have been maintained by each successive Minister of the church; information and references often omitted even in the minutes of the Official Board or Quarterly Conferences were found here.

It is our good fortune that Don Whelpley has contributed to the production of this history his strong personal interest in the project and his notable abilities as a free-lance writer whose pieces have received wide distribution in national magazines; (and, in the official copies being filed with the North Georgia Conference Historical Society, his still-maintained former accomplishments as a professional photographer). We are most grateful for his work.

The Reverend A. M. Pierce, retired, Secretary of the Historical Society, was much interested in adding the history of our church to the almost-complete library of histories of all churches of the North Georgia Conference. He wrote to us about this as long ago as February 17, 1958. On October 30, 1959, the present Minister assured
him by letter that we "will see that we have a history in your hands before the next session of the North Georgia Conference." We regret to say that Dr. Pierce died only a few weeks later, having done a great service to the Methodist Churches of North Georgia in his ministry and in this particular project which represented his final work.

A word is in order about the special significance of the title of this history, one which was deliberately and carefully chosen. The phrase "For the glory of God" appears many times in the Orders for "The Organizing Of A Church," "The Breaking Of Ground For A Church," "The Laying Of The Cornerstone Of A Church," and "The Dedication Of A Church" as provided in the Ritual of the Methodist Church. We are reminded that each piece of music played, each anthem sung, each prayer offered, each sermon preached, each piece of work done on buildings and grounds, each meal prepared, each class taught, each contribution of any sort whatever, is done not for personal pleasure or satisfaction or for personal entertainment or benefit, but only "for the glory of God."

The phrase "a church is born" reminds us of the truth about the way God works in the world. Of course the Church was born only once, when the mystical union that binds together saints-in-heaven and sinners-on-earth into the living Body of Christ was brought about by God himself. We know though, from our Lord's promises and our experience together of holy living, that "where two or three are gathered in His name," 'there will be the Lord in the midst of them. In this sense His Church is born afresh in a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit, as on the first Christian Pentecost, whenever a congregation of faithful souls is brought together and established "for the glory of God."

This history, recounting many of the material facets of the early life of our congregation, indicates how the life that is "in Christ" is meant to exist in the earthly physical life that we know so well. At the same time, it points upward and outward toward the unseen but
present One who is "the Church's one foundation." May He bless us
according to His purposes and our abilities in the years that lie ahead.

Jackson Pafford Braddy
Minister

Doraville, Georgia
February 27, 1960
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Appreciation is extended to the following persons for their help in the preparation of this history:

For reading the manuscript and offering suggestions:
  Thomas M. Carmichael
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  Billy H. Rogers

For assistance in authenticating facts and figures, Office of the Resident Bishop; Field Work Office of the Candler School of Theology; Office of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Council; John C. Pope, Treasurer; and Margie Schwab, Membership Records.

For typing the rough drafts and cutting the stencils, Pearle K. Whelpley.

For assistance in collating pages, Elva and Henry Eddleman, and for binding the completed history, Howard Huff.
The Northwoods Methodist Church was founded in February 1955. Only a few years before this date the residential area from which the membership is drawn was non-existent. The very name Northwoods, representing this newly-developed section, was assigned shortly before the organization of the church.

Northwoods, Doraville, and the entire County of DeKalb are closely involved with the economic "explosion" of Atlanta, the great and burgeoning city fifteen miles to the south. As the influx of people into Atlanta continues, "suburbia" expands rapidly on the fringes of the city. Northwoods is part of such suburbia, and is typically made up of young people, recent arrivals from all sections of the nation. These newcomers are rich in a variety of talents and abilities, and exhibit an aggressive interest in civic and community matters.

These facts are pertinent because they explain our unique "church personality," which might be described as "youthful, energetic, and forward-looking." However many assets "suburbia" may possess, it also has its drawbacks, and these, too, have affected the growth of Northwoods Methodist Church. The population is a transient one. People come and go, and many times this seems to be at an alarming rate. This is brought home to us when we lose dear friends because of "corporation transfer," and when we note that our church roster contains names of many members in all parts of the country--recent departures. Due in part to its transient nature, suburbia is somewhat reluctant to make permanent church affiliations. This is why gain in church membership has been slow when compared with the prospect list.

By late 1954 much of the wooded-hill country around Doraville, Georgia had been cleared for homes, newly-paved streets, and shopping centers. As people moved in they found that the expansion northward from Atlanta had created a need for new churches.
One group set out to build their place of worship, a Methodist Church.

"We had nothing to go on but desire," said one of them, "and this we created daily so that we could have our church."

This was a small group, but they had joined together in common cause. It is interesting that not only Methodists were included, but also Lutherans, Baptists, Congregationalists, Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Moravians, and Catholics. By January 30, 1955 they were ready for their first organizational meeting, held in the Doraville Civic Center. A week later, on Sunday, February 6, 1955, they gathered for their first worship service. It was a bleak and rainy winter day, but among the twenty-one adults and twenty-two children there was only joy and enthusiasm. The rafters of the Doraville Civic Center rang with "Faith of Our Fathers," the first hymn sung by the new congregation. A new church was being born, and they were part of it. Charter Day services were held on March 6, 1955, and Northwoods Methodist Church was now officially in being. The first baptisms were administered on this day to two children and five adults.

The congregation worshiped weekly for more than three years in the Doraville Civic Center, and obtained use of this building for a few dollars per month rent. Hard work by the "Set Up Committee" (members Edgar Heibel, then Mayor of Doraville, and Paul Jones deserve mention) transformed the auditorium into a fitting sanctuary.

Northwoods Methodist Church was not sponsored by another church, although the Skyland Methodist Church, of nearby Skyland suburban area, assisted in some of the groundwork. It was on the initiative of the original founders that our church was started, and it was on this same initiative and enthusiasm that it "gathered steam" and moved forward. The first pastor, the Reverend W. Richard Baker, a member of the Ohio Conference and a student at Emory University's Candler School of Theology, in his first report to the Quarterly Conference on June 2, 1955 expressed it this way:
"The state of the church is good. We have a growing, maturing spirit... all members have shown a definite interest in its development by the active way that each has gone about doing his job."

But mere statements of how well the church was doing in these early days were not needed. One had only to read the record of accomplishments. Chairman Jack W. Carney presided over the first meeting of the Official Board held on March 13, 1955. Weekly planning sessions were held thereafter. From the very first, minutes of these meetings reflect action on acquiring property and the building of a church; membership brochures and drives; appointment of commissions and committees; implementing Church School programs.

Good news came with word that some land had been donated by the J. A. Jones family of Charlotte, North Carolina. The property, approximately 200’ x 330’, was in the Northwoods subdivision. It was beautiful land, covered by tall stately oaks and pine. The Building Committee, headed by architect Ernest Mastin, immediately began planning. Additional land was bought a short time later (at a cost of $3,750, a big step for such a small congregation!), and design of the church building began.

In the meantime, other activities of the church were developing. On February 13, 1955 the Church School was organized with Mrs. Alveria Carmichael as Superintendent. The Woman’s Society of Christian Service held its charter service in May 1955 with President Anita Mastin presiding. All commissions were soon operating. About the only unit not functioning was the HYF, and this because there were no teen-agers in the congregation.

The choir got its start at a meeting of the Woman’s Society. The pastor was convinced when these eager ladies presented him with a nocturnal serenade over the telephone. Their selection was "The Old Rugged Cross". The new choir consisted of Margaret Carney, Allie Carmichael, Ann Tinsley, Ginny Needham, Margie and Ed Heibel, Mary Jones, Alice and Sid Clark. Margaret Carney was in charge of music, with Paul Jones as Choir Director.
On June 2, 1955 the young church attended its first Quarterly Conference. Dr. E. G. Mackay, District Superintendent of the Decatur-Oxford District, presided. The Reverend Thomas Ryan, of Skyland Methodist Church, conducted the devotional, and Thomas M. Carmichael was elected Recording Secretary. At this historic meeting, the following other members were present: the Reverend W. Richard Baker, Joseph I. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Clark, W. Edward Hoach, Robert Jay, E. O. Mastin, Mr. and Mrs. Emery Neal, Mrs. W. Schwab, James Seay, and Mr. and Mrs. Jack W. Carney. Each member present signed the permanent church record book. At this conference, business included discussion of purchase of additional church property, mentioned earlier. Approval to do so was granted. At this time, the pastor reported a total full membership of 51, and a preparatory membership of 43. The first reports from the new church were sent to the 1955 session of the North Georgia Conference. The first lay member of the Annual Conference to be elected by the congregation was Robert L. Jay, elected in June 1955 to attend the 1956 Conference. A budget of $3,927 was adopted, and the church entered into its first full church year.

During this year the activities of the members were centered around two main efforts: building a treasury to build a church; and building a congregation. The Fisherman's Club, under the direction of Ed Hoach and John Geiger, was busy and as a result membership grew to 99 full members and 85 preparatory members. Busy, too, were the planners for a place of worship. The ladies of the WSCS plunged into fund-raising programs with a zeal, and soon Mrs. Anita Mastin was to report that her small group had raised $300 for the building fund. The records show that Druid Hills Methodist Church and the First Methodist Church of Atlanta helped financially in this regard. Special thanks went to the Peachtree Road Methodist Church for its generous contributions.

On February 12, 1956, the church's first marriage ceremony was performed, uniting Lauree Halverson and Wesley Simmons.
At the first annual Founders' Day Service, March 4, 1956, twenty-seven new members were received into the membership of the church. They were soon swept into the "can-do" spirit of the other members.

In April 1956, the first pastor of Northwoods Methodist Church, the Reverend Mr. Baker departed to become pastor of Epworth Methodist Church in Kenton, Ohio. A milestone had been reached. To take his place came Harvey F. Smith, also a student in the Candler School of Theology. Other milestones were soon passed: a parsonage committee was formed, and began negotiating for a parsonage; 1956-57 budget for $14,000 was approved, and this was a large increase over that of the previous year; enough young people were found to form Methodist Youth Fellowship, with Millie Gann as their first adult counselor. Ernest Clark was the first MYF president; a Vacation Bible School, with 94 enrolled, was held; the Men's Club was launched in September 1956, with Arthur Guyton as president; the WSCS held a Christmas Bazaar and turned in $400 profit; church-sponsored Boy Scout Troop 83 and Cub Pack 83 were chartered in December and much credit for these fine additions must be given to Richard Garabrandt, first Scoutmaster, and to Tom Carmichael for the Cubs.

As 1956 came to an end, the Northwoods Methodist Church was proud of its 123 members (and 112 preparatory members), and the fact that it possessed a full and working complement of organizations. But there was one big thing missing--a church building the congregation could call its own. First steps had been taken in this direction, however. At the first Quarterly Conference of the previous October a motion had been introduced by Tom Camichal (seconded by Millie Gann) that approval be granted for construction to begin. The vote was favorable, and unanimous. It was reported that $12,000 had been given for this purpose, and Ralph Chamness was to head the building drive.

1957 got underway with a pervading spirit of optimism, but the members realized that much more was needed to build a church than optimism and $12,000. Much had been accomplished, but bigger hurdles loomed ahead. The people had given "till it hurt," and many sources had
been called on to raise that first money, but it wasn't enough. Where was the rest to come from?

The answer was a bond drive, the most challenging effort undertaken thus far. On Sunday, March 31, 1957, the congregation voted to go ahead with a $75,000 program, utilizing the Trinity Bond Plan. John Hamilton was named Chairman of the drive; Don Lacy, Co-Chairman; Jack Brown, Treasurer. Heading each of three divisions were Ralph Chamness, Hugo Provano, and Don Casson. Selling of the bonds was an "all hands" evolution. The drive began April 15, 1957.

"It started, floundered, and then," recalled Jim Randolph, "with renewed determination and strong faith the people rallied. With much effort and long hours of hard work, enough bonds were sold . . . ."

Many members have singled out Don Lacy as an especially hard worker in this drive. Proof that the bond drive was a success was soon forthcoming.

The fiscal problem was a consuming subject at business meetings, but it was not all-consuming. The regular functions of the church were carried out with enthusiasm. Members joined in the annual community religious census; promoted a successful visitation program, "Four Nights For God;" joined with other churches in the area for the Community Easter Sunrise Service at Oglethorpe Stadium; bought a lovely parsonage ($18,100) near the site of their future church; and, of course, continued to worship at the Doraville Civic Center. Nevertheless, the struggle toward the goal of their own church building was ever present.

In his Pastor's Report to the Fourth Quarterly Conference in May 1957, the Reverend Harvey Smith stated that "we are working diligently to complete our $75,000 building bond issue . . . we are now half-way, and when we reach our goal, building will begin." He was to report later, "This has not been an easy year . . . our weekly giving, when projected over the year, will cause us to be $4,000 below our budget . . . We have made plans for our building. We have been disappointed. We have planned again. Through it all our members have
been faithful. Our friends outside have continued to encourage us and we have moved steadily ahead. Now at last we are approaching the building of our church." And indeed they were.

It was at the Emergency Official Board meeting of November 10, 1957--called by Chairman James Randolph--that Edgar Heibel moved that authorization be given to contract with the Griffin Construction Company to build the church. The amount was $65,677. The minutes do not indicate who seconded this important motion, but it was carried unanimously.

Ernest O. Mastin, a member of the church, not only did the architectural plans for the structure, but also designed the chapel's side windows and dominant chancel window, the latter being executed by the Llorens Stained Glass Studio of Atlanta.

To the members of Northwoods Methodist Church it seemed that all of the momentous occasions in the short history of their church had been on bleak winter days. Sunday, November 17, 1957 was no exception. Low hanging grey clouds swept in from the north, and a cold wind seemed to drive the fine rain into the faces of the small group gathered on the hillside near Doraville, at the corner of Belaire Circle and Fairlane Drive. The tall oaks jabbed their stark branches, only recently stripped of autumn foliage, into the colorless sky. But the cheer in the faces of the people more than made up for the inclement weather. For this was the ground-breaking ceremony for their church. The prayer was given by the Reverend Harvey Smith, followed by a short talk by the District Superintendent, the Reverend J. Walker Chidsey. The group sang, "For The Beauty of The Earth."

Lay Leader W. E. Scott had no trouble pushing his shovel into the red Georgia clay--it had been properly softened by rain. Henry Eddleman, representing the Education Commission, turned the next shovelful. Then came Mrs. Winnie Van Keuren, for the WSCS; Carl Courson, for MYF; and Don Lacy, as Bond Chairman.

A special guest and participant at this ceremony was Bishop D. Stanley Coors, of Minnesota. Bishop Coors gave the closing prayer, and
later remarked that this was the first ground-breaking service he had ever attended in which a woman had participated. He was speaking of his daughter, Mrs. Van Keuren.

Construction began immediately, and in a short time the Reverend Mr. Smith reported that, "watching the building go up is a great experience . . . expect to pour second floor soon . . . sidewalk superintendents invited."

Early in 1958 the Commission on Missions, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Winifred Van Keuren, sponsored the "adoption" of a refugee child in West Germany. This little boy, Dragoljub Matic, soon became a very real part of the congregation.

Meanwhile the population of the Northwoods suburban area was on the move. Many of the original church members were gone. Monthly, the Sunday bulletins bade farewell to friends who were moving to all sections of the nation. But new arrivals came, and the congregation continued to grow.

And then the big day arrived--Sunday, June 1, 1958. This time it was not wet and grey, but instead a soft and sunny day. The huge oaks hovering protectively over the bright new church had taken on their lush green summer dress. Perhaps the weather had been symbolic in the history of Northwoods Methodist Church. At times the road had been rough, but what could be more appropriate for the first worship service in the new building than a fine summer morning?

The service opened with organist Margaret Carney playing "Finlandia" on the new organ. Then the congregation joined the choir in the fine old hymn, "Holy, Holy, Holy." The Reverend Harvey Smith preached his sermon on "The Beauty of Holiness."

This first building was only a small part of the projected church. It was, in fact, the nursery and chapel. But to the congregation it was "home," and they were proud of it.

At this time the membership totaled 222 (127 preparatory members). Commissions, committees, and other organizations now met
at the church instead of in members' homes. The first such meeting was by the WSCS on June 12. Thirty-five members and guests were present. President Margaret Carney introduced the speaker, Mrs. J. Walker Chidsey, whose subject was "A Woman In Service--Loving by Serving."

It is well at this point, to mention the fine accomplishments of the WSCS. From the very beginning, these ladies of the church enthusiastically supported all efforts to build Northwoods Methodist Church. Too often to mention they held bazaars, teas, barbecues, suppers to help raise money, and the sums achieved--suprisingly sizeable--went to the building fund, as well as for other obligations of the church.

During the summer of 1958 a full and active church program was in effect. A successful Vacation Bible School program was administered. The MYF and Men's Club were going strong. This latter group was successful in its monthly meetings, and some credit must be given to their format, which consisted of charcoal-broiled steaks, an interesting speaker at each meeting. and, above all, good fellowship.

The Service of Consecration for the new church building was on September 7, 1958. Two hundred thirteen persons filled the Sanctuary to sing "Holy, Holy, Holy," and respond to the Litany of Consecration led by the Reverend J. Walker Chidsey, District Superintendent. Bishop Arthur J. Moore, Resident Bishop of the Atlanta Area, delivered the sermon.

Autumn 1958 saw the activity at the church increase. Attendance at worship services averaged well over 100, and Church School attendance was 150 or more each week. The MYF sponsored a monthly evening worship service. Cub Scout Pack 83 held their monthly meetings at the church. On November 1st the first edition of the Northwoods Methodist News, a monthly newsletter, was distributed. Northwoods Methodist was host to other churches for the Community Thanksgiving Service. Slowly, but steadily, the physical property of the church was increased--inside work, furniture, furnishings. Volunteers landscaped the grounds and poured sidewalks. The Pastor's Study was furnished by a member-family
in memory of a loved one lost at sea in service of his country. The WSCS sponsored a Brownie Troop.

The Fisherman's Club again came into the spotlight in May 1959. Under the capable leadership of Lenn Greene and Oscar Jones teams of members carried out a thorough visitation program. One of the staunch workers in this program—as well as many others in the church—was Billy Rogers. 150 families were visited. The response was good.

The first revival (it was called "Week of Preaching Services") was held May 17th through 21st, 1959. This was a well-planned, well-publicized effort, and the choice of a visiting preacher was an excellent one—the Reverend John C. Moore, Pastor of East Lake Methodist Church, Decatur, Georgia. The church newspaper had this to say: "When the Reverend Mr. Moore began speaking that first night the congregation was exceptionally quiet, and that was with the sizeable gathering of 93 persons in the Sanctuary. Each of the four remaining nights was the same. Mr. Moore spoke in a low, soft voice but not a word of his spiritually moving messages was missed. A total of 435 persons was registered during this exciting week."

On Sunday, June 28, 1959, the Reverend Harvey Smith preached his last sermon at Northwoods Methodist Church. Then he and his family left for Danielsville, Georgia, his next assignment.

The new minister was the Reverend Jackson F. Braddy, a recent arrival to the North Georgia Conference, having come from the position of Associate Minister of the Trinity Methodist Church in Portsmouth, Ohio. Mr. Braddy was no newcomer to Georgia. A graduate of Emory University and Union Theological Seminary in New York, his home was Woodland, Georgia.

The beginning of the church year 1959-60 found Northwoods Methodist Church with 290 members (and 173 preparatory members). Financially the gross value of church property was $103,000, with an indebtedness of $78,000, and a net worth of $25,000. The budget for 1959-60 was $20,252. But there were a few dark clouds on the church's
horizon. Money pledged by the members amounted to $18,000, but payment on pledges was falling behind. Net gain in membership had slowed almost to a halt. The enthusiasm that had so typified Northwoods Methodist Church in its formative stages had cooled. The reason for this new attitude seemed obvious to many. During those first few years a relatively small group had put much energy into the effort of launching a new church. They had worked hard, and now they were tired. It was a natural reaction.

Mr. Braddy recognized the problem early. He commented to a group of members that the most impressive thing to catch his attention upon entering his new church for the first time was an architect's sketch of the proposed Northwoods Methodist Church. It was to be a magnificent structure, but in talking later with many of his congregation he failed to hear any mention of the expanded building. Perhaps the realization of these plans seemed too remote to the people who had done so much to reach the present state of development.

It was at the Official Board meeting of November 1, 1959 that the minister recommended a plan of action. He felt that if all members were made aware of the state of their church, improvement in attendance, giving, and new membership would follow. The Official Board, with Chairman Foster Goolsby presiding, unanimously approved the plan. Aims for the program were defined, and these included: to have every member active; to have all pledges paid; to over-subscribe the budget by April, 1960; to show a substantial increase in membership. Lloyd Johnson named the effort, "Know Thy Church." Attendance at the series of meetings was excellent. Time would tell if this response would be sustained.

In February 1960 the second annual Week of Preaching Services was held. The Reverend Charles W. Boleyn, Minister of First Methodist Church in Athens, Georgia preached the first two nights, the 14th and 15th. The Reverend Reynolds H. Greene, Jr. of North Decatur Methodist Church, Decatur, Georgia spoke on the 16th and 17th. Bart Peacock and Harry Hargrove led the singing, with Gloria Appling at the piano.
Margaret Carney arranged the musical program. Mrs. Jack W. Carney had served as first and only pianist and organist during the first five years. She and her husband, first Chairman of the Official Board, were soon to leave Northwoods. They would be missed.

Northwoods Methodist Church recorded another "first," and was proud of it. The pastor happily announced that percentage-wise our church was tops in membership in the Decatur-Oxford District in the Ten Dollar Club For Church Extension. Arthur Neal headed this successful drive.

At time of writing, no member of this young church had died. This was one "first" that could wait indefinitely.

And now, as the celebration of the fifth birthday of Northwoods Methodist Church approached, the congregation could look back with satisfaction. They had nurtured a church from its awkward beginning through some painful, as well as glorious, times. Perhaps some of the members dwelled briefly on a sermon preached early in the history of their church, "Do We Have The Courage To Be A Church?" The answer could only be "yes." Past events had proved it. Confidence in the future would allow no other answer... 

"For the Lord hath chosen thee to build an house for the sanctuary: be strong, and do it. Fear not, nor be dismayed: for the Lord God, even my God, will be with thee."

I Chronicles 28:10, 28
PHOTOGRAPHS BY DON WHELPLEY
Donald L. Lacy, Lay Leader 1959-60
Jack W. Carney, First Chairman of Official Board & Lay Leader
J. Foster Goolsby, Chairman of Official Board 1959-60

1959-60 CHURCH OFFICERS
Donald D. Casson, John C. Pope, Donald L. Lacy, Donald A. Whelpley
Jackson F. Braddy, Minister
Delma L. Hagood, District Superintendent
J. Foster Goolsby, Chairman of Official Board 1959-60
THE DORAVILLE CIVIC CENTER, FIRST PLACE OF WORSHIP
The Reverend

Jackson Pafford Braddy

grew up in Woodland, Georgia and was graduated from the Woodland Grammar School and the Talbot County High School.

He received the Bachelor of Arts degree in English and American Literature from Emory University in Atlanta in 1954. During his undergraduate years, he participated notably in extra-curricular activities, serving in several minor offices and as President of the Campus Club, as a member of the University Committee on Student Activities and Organizations, as Assistant Manager of the Emory Glee Club, and in 1953-54 as Manager of the Glee Club. During the summer of 1953, he was Assistant Manager for the Glee Club's European Concert Tour which took the group through ten countries where about sixty-five concerts were given.

During 1954-55, Mr. Braddy was Student Assistant on the Waverly Hall Charge in the South Georgia Conference, serving the Shiloh and Ellerslie Methodist Churches.

In 1955 he held the position of Supervisor of New York Ship Arrivals in the Department of Port Services of the Committee on Friendly Relations Among Foreign Students, whose national offices are in the National Board of Y.M.C.A.'s Building in New York. This organization cooperates with the State Department and is the officially-recognized agency for meeting and orienting foreign students who come to this country for higher education.

The Reverend Mr. Braddy engaged in a program of clinical pastoral training in the Boston City Hospital in 1956, under sponsorship of the Andover-Newton Theological School. In the following year, he served as Institutional Chaplain of the two general hospitals and fourteen convalescent homes of Stamford, Connecticut, being under appointment of the Stamford-Darien Council of Churches.

In 1957 he received the Bachelor of Divinity degree in New Testament from Union Theological Seminary in New York, to whose faculty he submitted a degree thesis entitled, "An Investigation of the Doctrine of the Person of Christ in the Letters of Paul." While in seminary, he served as a member of the Social Action Committee and the Interseminary Committee, as Chairman of the World Relief Committee, as Chairman of the Student Committee on Guest and Senior Preachers, and as a member of the Student Cabinet.

For two years, Mr. Braddy was a member of the Ohio Methodist Conference and filled the position of Associate Minister of the Trinity Methodist Church in Portsmouth, where his work was in the fields of worship, membership and evangelism, education, social and recreational life, parish visitation, and youth activities.

By joint action of the Bishops of the Ohio and Atlanta Areas, the Reverend Mr. Braddy was transferred to the North Georgia Conference in June, 1959 and appointed Minister of the Northwoods Methodist Church in Fleetwood Hills.