

HISTORY

Powers Ferry United Methodist Church was organized in 1954 by a handful of faithful Christians who were convinced that God needed a Methodist Church in East Marietta. The struggling new church was aided by contributions from Peachtree Road Methodist Church, First Methodist Church of Marietta, Park Street Methodist Church, the Atlanta-West District Board of Missions and the Board of Missions of the North Georgia Conference. Rev. J. W. O. McKibben was the District Superintendent.

Norton Ragan Campbell, Jr., a student in the Candler School of Theology, was appointed as supply pastor for the new congregation.

1954

After several preliminary meetings the church was officially organized and seventeen persons were received into membership of the Powers Ferry Road Methodist Church.....On February 14 groundbreaking ceremony for the new church building to be constructed on two lots fronting on Hamby Road which were purchased from Carl E. Hamby estate. Mr. Charles J. Thomas had the contract for a Colonial style, brick-veneer chapel with a finished basement for \$14,700. While the church was being built the congregation conducted worship services at Powers Ferry Road School.....Final papers were signed for the purchase of a six-room, \$12,500 brick-veneer home, constructed by Mr. O. S. Ragsdale, Jr. This house, at 107 Yancey Drive was bought to serve as the first parsonage and on March 13, the pastor, his wife, and their two-months-old son moved in.....The Woman's Society of Christian Service was organized with Jean (Mrs. George) Marcinko as the first president. Every woman attending that night volunteered for an office....the Sunday School of the church was held for the first time with G. B. Carson as superintendent on April 11.....Good Friday Communion service on April 16 was first use of new building and members were asked to bring candles for light and be prepared to sit on the floor.....The Chapel was used first for a Mother's Day Service. By this time folding chairs had been purchased but there were no pews, no carpeting, no blinds or drapes. The pulpit furniture was purchased from the Clarkesville Trade School, Clarkesville, Georgia, for the cost of the material used. The basement was left unpartitioned so that it might be used for recreation or fellowship gatherings. However, to section it off for Sunday School, wires were stretched along the ceiling and curtains were hung to separate one group from another. Tables and chairs were purchased for the younger groups and Sunday School went on despite the noisy, crowded conditions. Some of the youth groups held their classes outdoors under the trees when the weather was pretty. Later they met in the home of Jack Parker, across the street from the church.....first baby Christened in June was 5-month-old Norton Ragan Campbell III.....First Choir Director was J. J. Granade...Four lots joining the church's property on Hamby Road were purchased for \$4000.....Jack Parker was the first lay delegate to North Georgia Conference...On July 11th Charter Membership closed with 89 members...Methodist Youth Fellowship was organized in August under leadership of Mr and Mrs Bill Barnett and Mr and Mrs B F Yarborough....Willis Shell was the first organist.....

1955

Official Board voted to accept the contractor's bid of \$11,700 to construct a concrete block, 2-story addition to existing building. The building was left unfinished on inside and the men of the church set to work putting down the sub-flooring, partitioning the classrooms, etc. As chairman of the Official Board and then as Building Committee chairman, Mr. S. B. Spivey, made carpenters out of church members who had hardly ever held hammers. The women were frequently on the scene with coffee and cake or other treats.....The first anniversary was observed with a membership of 114.....First vacation Bible School was conducted under the leadership of Mrs. Ralph Ragland in June.....a Junior Choir was started under the leadership of Mrs. Joe Granade and Mrs. David Hubler....

1956

The new pews were used for the first time....Church Secretary was Mrs. Betty (Jack) Parker.....On March 30 Marvella Dodd and George Garriss were first members married in the new church.....Norton Campbell, Jr. ordained a deacon and received into the North Georgia Conference on trial. He was again appointed by Bishop Arthur Moore to serve Powers Ferry.....the women of the church held a Smorgasbord to help pay for carpeting for the chapel, Mrs. Virginia (G. Bill) Carson was chairman.....

1957

A Men's Club was organized with David Hubler elected president....in June Lewis C. Davis became the Pastor....by vote of the Quarterly Conference the name of the church was changed to Powers Ferry Methodist Church.....There were now 220 members with an average Sunday School attendance of 379.....Two frame barracks type buildings were purchased from Cobb County Board of Education for use by the Church School. The cost of the buildings and getting them ready for use was \$800. Besides Sunday School these were used for MYF and Boy Scouts. We shared our church facilities with the Seventh Day Adventist Church.

1958

A Family-Life Revival was held with Dr. O. Floyd Feely, Professor of Counseling and Pastoral Psychology at Candler School of Theology, preaching.....Jimmy Pennell became first Youth Director....church membership now at 285.....

1959

Began 8:45 early service as well as an 11 A.M. Service....Calvin Hammock hired as church custodian....completed construction of Fellowship Hall and additional classrooms. During summer had Christian Adventure Week for Intermediates and Youth Activities Week for Seniors.....Our WSCS combined with First Methodist to have a study on "Luke's Portrait of Christ"Church Library was started..... Cost of construction \$106,000 for third phase.....

1960

Yancey Drive parsonage equity traded and purchase of house at 118 Sybil Lane completed and open house held.....Beginning to talk about building a new sanctuary for Powers Ferry. Most successful Bible School held with 198 children and 72 workers participating...

1961

Sent Pastor Lewis Davis on tour of Europe and the Holy Land. While Rev. Davis was away his wife, Melba, brought the message....Special project was resettlement of Rolando Castellanos family from Cuba.. We supplied transportation, clothing, food, furniture, a house on East Acres owned by member, Dwaine Smith, later a car and insurance and \$600 cash (family- man, wife, grandmother, 2 children)....

1962

During summer months "Family Swim Parties" held at Sewell Park Pool. Cottage prayer meetings preceded Revival- Holy Week services were held with Dr. Ross Freeman as preacher and Rev. Gene Davis as song leader.....Alton Johnson and Carl Branson entered the ministry....

1963

Family night- "Hobby Night" which included all hobbies of membership including camping...Became necessary to have two services: one at 8:30 am (average attendance of 70) and a full house at 11 o'clock....Rev. Lewis Davis entered his sixth year at Powers Ferry.....

1964

Quarterly Conference held and a building committee was appointed to develop building plans and a financial program for the construction of a Sanctuary with Dave Hubler, Chairman.....Barker & Cunningham, architects were contacted and work began on securing a loan.....accepted partial support of full-time missionary, Joe McCormick to Central Congo for \$1050 yearly.....approved architect's plan for new sanctuary....

1965

Accepted full support of missionary Joe McCormick at \$3750 yearly. ...Post-Easter Revival held with Rev. Charles Jackson, preachingConference voted to begin Sanctuary construction, having obtained a 20-year loan of \$247,000 from Cobb Federal Savings & Loan....Ground-breaking for new sanctuary was October 3rd...Mr. Charles Thomas was contractor.....WSCS held first Talent Auction with Mrs. Lil Rugland as auctioneer.....University of Georgia Extension Division under the leadership of Dr. Archie Rushton used some of our Sunday School rooms for classes - the Barracks Buildings.....

1966

Rev. Lewis Davis left to head the Wesley Community Center in Atlanta. Rev. Norton Campbell returned for second pastorate at Powers Ferry.....Consecration of new sanctuary held on July 17 with Rev. Norton Campbell presiding, Rev. Lewis Davis preaching and Dr. Candler Budd consecrating the new Sanctuary.....voted at Church Conference to sell to Highway Department land (for Marietta Parkway) for \$18,948....also to purchase 706 and 704 Powers Ferry Road.....Walter Blalock began helping with custodial duties...organization of East Marietta Senior Citizens Club to meet in church Fellowship Hall.....Women's Society produced cookbook "Our Kitchen Treasurers" with proceeds to go to kitchen improvements....

1967

Addition to staff- Mrs. Alma Spivey as hostess, visitor and financial secretary....Began support of missionary Lucy Davis, social worker in Mexico....Held HYMN Festival at Family Night supper with different classes and individuals decorating tables to represent their favorite hymn. Madge (Mrs. Howard) Froman had prize winning table decoration....again ladies held Talent Auction with proceeds equipping the kitchen....

1968

A Lay Witness Mission was held January 19, 20 and 21.....As a special project the youth gave a Bovie Cauterie Instrument to Kennestone Hospital.....Wesleyan Class secured landscaping plan and several trees planted.....Men's Club continues to supply medicines and other needs to a widow and family, this project on-going for several years Men's 6 AM Monday morning Prayer Breakfast initiated.....

1969

First Youth Choir Tour - "GOOD NEWS" headed for St. Petersburg, Florida.....Dr. Bruce Wilson, Staff member of Board of Missions, helped with our Financial campaign....

1970

Beginning of Friendship House in old First Methodist Sunday School building- community work with all ages; interfaith fellowship of seventeen churches working to keep youth off streets - formation of ATTIC.....Sixteenth birthday celebration with Lewis Davis family as special guests.....Church Bus purchased by the trustees.....Jean Marcinko became the first woman Lay Leader in North Georgia Conference....Norton Campbell sent to Martha Brown Church in Atlanta and Rev. Rudolph R. Baker, Jr. new pastor of Powers Ferry....DECEMBER 13-Fire destroys interior of education building...Bill Oliver and Larry Cuba co-chairman of rebuilding of facility...Church Office opened in house at 704 Powers Ferry Rd and house at 706 used for classrooms, youth activities; three trailers moved onto church grounds; some classes met in Sanctuary; Dan Brothers selected as contractor to rebuild..Choir tour-Alabama and Florida, selections "GOOD NEWS" and "TELL IT LIKE IT IS"

1971

M.U.S.T. (Methodist United for Service and Training) formed and Wayne Williams appointed DirectorYouth Choir Tour- "TAKE ANOTHER LOOK" using original script by youth, included Highlands, Cherokee and Bryson City....established an Altar Build...Rebuilt Education Building opened with dedication and Open House in August....WSCS and Wesleyan Class fenced the play yard for the Kindergarten building....\$1000 was paid on bus loan by the YouthEcumenical Thanksgiving service was held at Powers Ferry including Campground Methodist, John Knox Presbyterian, St.Catherine's Episcopal and New Life Presbyterian.....

1972

After several break-ins a burglar alarm system installed in church office....new parsonage purchased at 2356 Tuxedo Drive with an open house held in March....Wayne Williams, representing MUST requested use of church bus for transportation of children from Boston Homes to day care center at St.James Episcopal Church- also to operate a shuttle-bus to transport elderly or disabled persons to do necessary shopping....Adult fun night sponsored by Wesleyan Class.....Recognition of Mrs. Lucy Clark (on her retirement) for her many years (13) of service in our church nurseryYouth Choir Tour "WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT, ANYHOW?" went to South Carolina.....Cobb County Board of Education requested and was granted use of classrooms on second floor of Education Building to relieve overcrowding in the first grade classrooms of Brumby Elementary School....

1973

United Methodist Women presented Life Membership pins to Rev. Rudolph R. Baker and Larry Cuba.....During ice storm five families including the Pastor's were housed in the church for several days.. ..new church pictorial directory published.....Helen Whaley was engaged as hostess to plan and serve Family Nite suppers....the children's choirs presented "100% CHANCE OF RAIN" for family nite in March.....Rev. Richard Taylor presented to congregation as Associate Pastor.....Youth wrote their tour program which they gave June 2-6 from Pine Mountain,Ga. to Louisville, Ky. "ONCE UPON A TIME"....License to preach presented to Clyde Kirby, church lay leader.....Pony Express first utilized for Financial Campaign....

1974

MUST moved to basement of Elizabeth UMC and donations of canned goods began....Mother's Morning Out Program established...assumed partial support of Dick Schisler, missionary to Brazil...\$750 subscribed individually apart from budget....Cerebral Palsy Foundation began using two rooms of Education Building for their programYouth presented "GODSPELL" from Panama City to Columbus, Ga. ...Retreat at Red Top Mt for workers in church program..... Weekday Kindergarten opened for first time in September.....

1975

Celebrated 21st Birthday with dinner served by the youth....Bill Oliver class held Mardi Gras costume party at the Ed Woods'... Mother-Daughter Banquet with men from Administrative Board serving 225 33 persons attended the Basic Youth Conflicts Seminar at the Omni.....Youth Choir took "NATURAL HIGH" on tour to St. Petersburg, Orlando and Savannah....Rev. Rudolph Baker sent to St. John UM Church in Augusta and Rev. Charles Farr came to Powers Ferry from Aldersgate in Augusta....Family Life Retreat held in Pine Mountain, Ga.....United Methodist Women publish second cookbook, "POWERS POTS AND PANS"....church membership now 985.....

1976

First Easter Sunrise Service held at Interstate North Park followed by Pancake breakfast at the church sponsored by the Bill Oliver Class.....Oliver class underwriting the cost of air conditioning the Fellowship Hall....Retreat for Confirmation Class held at cabin on Lake Allatoona.....special Bicentennial Program held with Mildred Salyer in charge....Administrative Board voted to establish Memorial Garden Committee....Audrey Griffies named Editor of weekly newsletter, renamed "NEWS FROM THE PEWS"....Youth Choir took "BACKPACKER'S SUITE" to Boston, singing for "bed and supper" along the way.....House at 704 Powers Ferry rented to refugee Cambodian family.....Facility Usage Committee established to make decisions where requests are made to use church property.....UMW held party for all the children at Hallowe'en....

1977

Easter Sunrise Service held at Interstate North Park followed by Oliver Class Pancake Breakfast at church...Youth Choir Tour-"THE FAMILY OF GOD" to Deland, Daytona, St. Simons and Warm SpringsFamily nite supper introduced new Associate Pastor, Rev. Boyd Whaley.....Brumby Elementary School again used classrooms on 2nd floor of Education Building for first-grade classes

1978

Once again men from the Board cooked and served Mother-Daughter Banquet with Cecil Moncrief and Smitty Sprinkle co-ordinators... Senior Citizens honored and presented flowers by UMWomen and plaques made by the youth....19 members of Powers Ferry attended Basic Church Growth Seminar at First Baptist Church, Marietta.... Breakfast was held honoring graduates.....Youth Choir headed to North Carolina singing "WHERE YOUR HEART IS"..... FAMILY VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL was held at night which adults enjoyed but enrollment of children down....Men's Softball Team won FIRST-PLACE trophy.....Church Library moved to room 202, old library became a Teachers' Resource Center.....Youth held scavenger hunt to search out food for MUST- 500# collected.....Christian Financial Concepts Seminar held.....On Dec. 26 Rev. Farr moved to Lawrenceville First and Rev. Richard T. Lumpkin assigned to Powers Ferry and preached first sermon December 31.....Visual evidence of Memorial Garden beginning to grow....

POWERS FERRY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH HAS COME A LONG WAY SINCE THAT SMALL GROUP OF DEDICATED CHRISTIANS MET 25 YEARS AGO. AS WE CELEBRATE OUR ANNIVERSARY WE HAVE GROWN FROM 17 MEMBERS REGISTERED ON JANUARY 22, 1954 to 1026.

FOR 1979 WE HAVE A BUDGET OF \$143,975. IN ADDITION WE PAID OVER \$1700 LAST YEAR TO OUR MISSIONARY TO BRAZIL, REV. RICHARD SCHISLER.

THE CHURCH LAND, BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT ARE VALUED AT \$897,000. THE PARSONAGE AND FURNISHINGS ARE ESTIMATED AT \$66,000. THE VALUE OF OTHER PROPERTY IS \$50,000. THE TOTAL INDEBTEDNESS ON THE ABOVE IS \$151,742.

(In compiling this history special thanks goes to JoAnn (Mrs. Norton) Campbell who had written a history of the first four years.

If you have any corrections or additions you would like to see made to this history, please put in written form and turn in at the Church Office.

Ministers

1954-1957 Norton R Campbell, Jr.
1957-1966 Lewis C. Davis
1966-1970 Norton R. Campbell, Jr.
1970-1975 Rudolph R. Baker, Jr.
1975-1978 Charles Farr
1979- Richard T. Lumpkin

Secretary

1955-1956 Sara (Mrs James) Leek
1956-1957 Betty (Mrs Jack) Parker
1957-1959 Ruth (Mrs. Fred) McNeal
1959-1961 Jean (Mrs. R Z) Clifton
1961- Virginia (Mrs. G.B.)
Carson

Associate Ministers

1973-1976 Richard Taylor
1977- Boyd Whaley

Business Manager

1970- Mrs. Martha Cuba

Youth Director and/or Christian Education

1958-1959 Jimmy Pennell
1959-1961 Eddie Mixon
1962-1965 Richard & Sue Ross
1965 Ray Earls
1966-1969 Gail Sims
1969-1971 Wayne Williams
1971-1973 Rick Putman
1973-1974 Tim Brewer
1974-1977 Herb Brigham
1978- Boyd Whaley and
Gene McRee

Choir Directors

1954-1958 J. J. Granade
1958-1960 Bernard Inhulsen
1960-1964 Mrs. Phyllis Haines
1964 Mrs. Karen Webster
1964-1974 Mrs. Lois Howell
1974- Fred Schlosser

Organist

1954-1957 Willis Shell
1957-1959 Ruth (Mrs Dick) McNeal
1959-1960 Toni (Mrs Lynwood) Floyd
1960-1961 Grace (Mrs Robert) Dailey
1961-1962 Phyllis (Mrs Ralph) Haines
1962-1972 Marilyn (Mrs C P) Cullen
1972-1974 Irma (Mrs E C) Cranmer
1974-1977 Herb Brigham
1978- Peggy (Mrs Doug) Power

PAST PRESIDENTS OF LOCAL UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

1954-55 Mrs. George Marcinko
1955-56 Mrs. Ray McLeroy
*Mrs. S. B. Spivey
1956-57 Mrs. S. B. Spivey
1957-58 Mrs. Joe Boyd
1958-59 Mrs. David Hubler
*Mrs. G. Marcinko
1959-60 Mrs. W. L. DeVan
1960-63 Mrs. Carl Branson
*Mrs. Phil Dross
1963-65 Mrs. J. T. Faris
*Mrs. G. Marcinko
1965-66 Mrs. George Marcinko
1966-68 Mrs. Paul Storey
1968-69 Mrs. George Marcinko
1969-70 Mrs. John Salyer
1970-71 Mrs. Louie Lamb
1972 Mrs. Larry Cuba
1973 Mrs Andy Croft and
Mrs John Pruett
1974 Mrs. Andy Croft
1975 Mrs. Talley Fountain
1976 Mrs. Hewell Winn
1977 Mrs. Harry Jones
1978 Mrs. Ed Woods

*Finished unexpired terms

CHARTER MEMBERS

Arnold, Mrs. Imogene Lord
Arnold, Mr. Thomas Mansfield
*Dorris, Mrs. Elizabeth Robbins
Oliver, Mr. Baxter Lance
Parker, Mr. Jack Dies
Parker, Mrs. Betty Smith
*Carson, Mr. George Billie
Campbell, Jr., Mrs. JoAnn Russell
*Copeland, Mr. Joel Lafayette
*Copeland, Mrs. Alma Robinson
Spivey, Mr. S. B.
Spivey, Mrs. Alma Franklin
Spivey, Richard Franklin
McLeroy, Mr. Ray Byron
McLeroy, Mrs. Wynell Wilson
McLeroy Jr., Ray Byron
McLeroy, Mary Cornelia
Church, Mr. Edward Leonard
Church, Mrs. Mildred Day
Church, Marlene Harriet
Church, Karen Lee
Church, Gerald Edward
*Marcinko, Mrs. Jean Parker
Brewer, Mr. Russell Coleman
Brewer, Mrs. Margaret Mitchell
Bass, Mr. Neil Wade
Guthrie, Mr. John Clay
Guthrie, Mrs. Opal Fern Snider
Moon, Mrs. Dora Lorraine
Banner, Mr. Lewis Thomas
Banner, Mrs. Daisy Lowery
Banner, Richard Eugene
Kilgore, Mr. Roy Lamar
*Kilgore, Mrs. Helen Purvis
*Alexander, Mrs. Thelma O'Donnell
*Pittman, Mrs. James K
Granade Jr., Mr. Joel Joseph
Granade, Mrs. Patricia Moon
*Dorris, Mr. Julius Nolan (Sr.)
Oliver, Mrs. Alice Hoag
*Ricketson, Mr. Charles Robert
*Ricketson, Mrs. Sarah Summerford
Powell, Mrs. Alice
Powell, Drucilla
*King, Mr. Walter Cook
*King, Mrs. Mary Cawthon
Davis, Mr. James Louis
Davis, Mrs. Dorothy Bonine
*Carson, Mrs. Virginia Hood
Wolfe, Mr. Rowland Denton
Wolfe, Mrs. Joan Harris
Wolfe, James Rike
Woolery, Charles Roscoe III
Woolery, Mr. Charles Roscoe
Woolery, Teresa Evelyn
Davis, James Louis Jr.
Gabriel, Mr. Hugh Colquitt
Gabriel, Mrs. Betty Savage
Duncan, Mrs. Nell Little
*Moore, Mr. Walter Seaman
Moore, Mrs. Janet Allen
Leek, Mr. James D
Leek, Mrs. Sara Hodge
Yarborough, Mr. Forrest
Yarborough, Mrs. Claudia Nell
Prater, Mrs. Margaret Jean Russell
Russell, Miss Mable Lee
Britt, Mr. James Gaston
Britt, Mrs. Carolyn Sutherland
Barnett, Mrs. Vivian Scoggins
Barnett, Mr. William Clifford
*Ragland, Mr. Ralph Marvin
*Ragland, Mrs. Lillie Crawford
Ragland, Jacqueline Diane
Ragland, Janice Carol
Alexander, James Patrick
Oliver, Trudi Carole
*Gard, Mr. John Robert
Gard, Mrs. Johnell
Hightower, Mr. Angus W
Hightower, Mrs. Audrey Stanfield
Hurley, Mr. Chester Norman
Hurley, Mrs. Helen Cottenginn
Moon, Miss Betty
Copeland, Alma Lohreine
*Clark, Mr. George Wilson
Wheeler, Mr. Vincent DePaul
Wheeler, Mrs. Carrie Louise
Hiuet

*Indicates present member

The Memorial Garden is dedicated to the memory of the following:

Members

1961

F. M. Hall
W. E. Proctor

1962

C. L. Lyle

1963

Georgia Ragsdale

1964

James D. Leek

1965

Jana Hubler
Katherine Broadwater
Paul Varner

1966

Mrs. Joseph Walker
Lewis Banner

1967

S. B. Spivey
Tim J. Ovbey

1968

John C. Wiesendanger
Shirley Harz

1969

Lt. Travis Lee
Arnold Ricketts

John Eidson

1970

Mrs. John Eidson
Glen G. Dodd
David Berkely Bohn
Nora Leath
Mack Jones

1971

Kenneth Alan Bohn
Matthew Fulford
W. H. Newsom
J. P. Herrington

1972

Mrs. J. C. Wiesendanger
G. Lee Davidson
Mildred S. Newsom

1973

Gene H. Bishop
Russell Brewer
A. A. Dalton
Lucille Banner Tedder

1974

Madge Froman
Rosa W. Purvis

1975

Elizabeth Whisner
J. Thomas Channell
R. W. Westbrooks
Roy W. Duncan
Thomas E. Carver
George Beisel
Hettie Hallum Dies
Mary Lou Smith

1977

Robert F. Lyon

1978

Cora Graham
W. D. Crouch
Rasha Smith
Ruth Robinson
Lawrence G. Cuba
Jackie Winn
Mary Ann Tuthill
Mary Lou Boyd
Katherine Larsen
Andrew D. Croft
Stacey Lynne George
Allen Ball

Friends

J. H. Morris
W. Robin Hood
Walter T. Wood
Sallie W Collins
Daniel E Newberne
Grady O. Williams

Dwight Floyd
Mrs. W O Wilkerson, Sr.
J. R. Warren
Frank Waits, Sr
Willard Mayo
Mrs Ruth Cook
Theodore Sisk