In October of 1858 the trustees of the Social Circle Methodist Church South purchased two acres of land from John S. Means of Early County. This plot of land was bound on the north by the Methodist Church lot indicating that a church already existed. In February of 1860 another plot of land consisting of one and one half acres was purchased by the church trustees from the trustees of Social Circle Academy, bound on the south by the Methodist Church lot and east by Broad street. This identifying it as the present location. Oral history tells us previous to 1832 the Methodist Church stood about where the Co-operation Department Store now stands. There was no railroad here at that time. The railroad desiring to extend the Augusta to Madison railroad on to Marthasville (not Atlanta) purchased from land owners the right of way for the road. It was at this time the land was sold and the church moved across the street. The railroad was completed in September 1845.

Social Circle was incorporated in 1831 and we find that John P. Blackman, in 1829, gave a lot of land to the Methodist Church. So there was a local Methodist Church before there was an incorporated Social Circle.

The first time the name Social Circle appears in the appointments of the North Georgia Conference is in the appointments made at the Conference of 1872. At that time we were a part of the Atlanta District. In 1882 we were for one year in the Athens District. A redividing of the Districts in 1883 placed Social Circle in the Oxford District, until 1932 when it became the Decatur-Oxford District.


Bishop Warren A. Candler was licenced to preach May 15, 1875 at a District meeting held at Social Circle.

The present church, a cement block veneered building, was erected in 1907. Two small class rooms at either side of the vestibule and a long narrow room across the back of the church were the only church school accommodations until 1933. A small unused church building at Dorsey was moved to the rear of the church. This was used by the Woman's Bible Class called "Bereans" until it seemed advisable to give it to the children's division of the church school. It was a substantial contribution to the educational side of the plant. Many
meetings of the Woman's work, Board of Stewards, Prayer meetings, Epworth Leagues, and church dinners were held in this building called "The Little Chapel".

In 1948 the church was completely renovated; new carpets, a modern two story church school annex with a recreational room, two rest rooms and a kitchen were added. A Hammond organ and Degani chimes were installed by Mr. and Mrs. Whit B. Spearman in memory of their parents Mr. and Mrs. Gabriel Toombs Spearman.

In 1950 the parsonage, which is next door to the church, was also renovated - painted, papered, floors sanded, furniture refinished and replaced.

J. S. Clegg has been Sunday School Superintendent since 1934. W. S. McKibbens is chairman of the Board of Stewards. J. P. Walton is chairman of the Board of Trustees and Mrs. W. V. Murrow is President of the Woman's Society of Christian Service. Rev. W. R. Ridgeway is Pastor.

Respectfully,

Mrs. E. C. McDowell

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