In 1896 Mr. J. B. Swords and family moved to Blue Springs, a lovely spot situated in Morgan County, four miles from Buckhead, nine miles from Greensboro and twelve miles from Madison.

At that time only two white families, those of Mr. Albert Davis and Mr. Ben Roberts, lived in that community. Mr. Swords had a large tract of farm land and soon a large number of white families moved in to do farming with Mr. Swords.

Farming was a principal industry and soon a station on the Georgia Railroad and a depot was built, which was named Swords. There also grew quite a business section, a large brick building. The Swords General store, a Post Office and Bank and a large and modern Cotton Gin.

In 1900 Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Swords decided to establish a Sunday School. They felt the need of a place of worship in their midst. They met in the school house for several years. They invited ministers to come and speak to them. These were from all denominations and responded gladly to the call. Pastors from Greensboro, Madison, and Buckhead Baptist churches came to preach. The Sunday School flourished and they soon began to want an organized Church. In 1912 the Methodist Church was organized and built on land contributed by Mr. Swords and by all working together it was financed. The deed is recorded in Book 6, page 12 in the Clerk's office of Morgan County.

The Church was a wood building, beautiful in structure. Bishop Dickey dedicated the Church building. It was against Bishop Dickey's belief to ride on the train on Sunday or eat. So I shall never forget, he came down on Saturday, for the dedication on Sunday, and stayed over until Monday. In 1914 Miss Bert Winterspent several days with us and organized what was then called a Woman's Missionary Society, now known as W.S.P.U.S. The Society has had its ups and downs since then, sometimes flourishing and at times being revived.
The Charge rented a house in Buckhead and our first pastors lived there. These being: Rev. Amack, Rev. Taylor and Rev. Lawrence Neff. Later Mr. Swords gave the lot in Swords for a parsonage. The Charge needed a place for the pastors to live.

The Charge met to decide where it should be built. Buckhead and Greshamville both wanted to have the parsonage. The Charge was building was put to a vote and Swords won. The building was erected and the deed was recorded in Book Foliio 164.

Our first pastor to live in the parsonage was Rev. J.W. Stevens. Others were: Rev. Hill, Rev. Z. Spear, Rev. Hoke Sewell, Rev. Shirley Sherall, Rev. Oscar Green and many others.

From each of these and others we have learned spiritual truths that helped us in the formation of Christian Character. To each we owe a debt of gratitude and feel for each a deep affection.

The time came when only student pastors were sent to the charge. Some were married and some not. All lived in Athens where they were in school. Among these were: Rev. D.C. Kirkpatrick.

The lovely parsonage stood vacant year after year. So the Charge decided to sell the parsonage. In 1945 it was sold for $750.00. Brother Robinson was the District Superintendent.

Others I remember so well were: Rev. Middlebrooks, Rev. Bird, who was killed in an accident, Rev. Berton, Rev. Holland and Rev. Callaway, Rev. Turner who is serving now in 1960.

At one time, we had a progressive young peoples work, then known as the Epworth League under the leadership of Mrs. E.A. Bond, daughter of Mr. Swords and Mrs. Raymond Hobbs Mitchell.

Then came the sad day when we lost our young people and adults, moving to cities to get jobs. We do not have enough young people now for a M.Y.P. However we do have a wide awake primary and junior department in Sunday School.

The Swords Church has always fulfilled its financial obligations. Although this year, 1960, and for several years before we have had so few members and only a few families, the family of J.W. Moon, Paul Strickling, the J.M. Cochran's, the Arlin Wheat's, the Mitchell family are the active families in the church.
All of these are a wonderful help, being very active.

Though the membership is small the finances are paid in full each year.

The newly appointed historian is Mrs. Jesse Swords Cochran, of Madison. Much of the data is from memory since no history has been kept of the Swords Methodist Church.

Mrs. J. H. Cochran.