The Duluth Methodist Charge
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Duluth, Georgia

BRIEF HISTORY OF WARSAW METHODIST CHURCH - compiled 1952 by
Pledger W. Parker, pastor, from several sources.

Warsaw campground was established in the early years of the 19th
century by a group of Moravians. The year 1828 has been referred
to as the starting point of what has grown to the Warsaw church.
This campground was located at what is now "Foxdale Farms". It
was known as the "Tol Lofts place", for its onetime owner. Mr.
Lofts lived in the community and was well-known in the vicinity
for a long time.

Many people of European countries were attracted to the New
World when it was being settled. A band of Moravians was among
the settlers when General Oglethorpe founded Georgia for the
English crown. These Moravians sought for a land where they
could enjoy freedom of worship. They settled in middle Georgia
and later moved northward across the Chattahoochee River. The
river was then the dividing line between White and Indian territories.

Tradition reveals that tender memories of their homeland;
Poland, filled the hearts and minds of these Moravian settlers.
In tribute to their homeland they named their community "Warsaw".
For some reason the settlement did not hold its founders. Maybe
it was strife between Whites and Indians. Opposition to slavery
was spreading and these folk probably foresaw the war. They were
a peace-loving people and conscientious objectors to war. When war
did come they did not participate in it. (Descendants of these
Moravians did participate in World War I, however.) These people
moved on into the Carolinas and finally established a colony in
North Carolina which exists today.

During the War Between the States, Warsaw campground was a noted
meeting place for preparation to fight. Companies of soldiers
were organized there and plans were made for troop movements.
Captain Cunningham headed one company and Graham's Schouts had
their beginnings there. Other well-known companies were organized
at Warsaw campground.

After the war the members moved the site of the church to
the present location and built a house of worship. Later a school-
house was built near the church. Warsaw church became the center of
the community. Farming was the only business. The landowners
became the leaders in the church, school and community life. Names
on the many gravestones in the church yard pay silent tribute to
the memories of early days.

There have been three church buildings in the near vicinity of the
present day church. The first was a log church. The present
building was built by Mr. Bob Nun. It has been remodeled and
changed some. At first it did not have the extension from the back
in which the pulpit stands today.

Warsaw Sunday School was organized in 1873. Mr. Jesse Long came

"Worship, Fellowship and Service for All"
to Warsaw in 1882. The present church was standing at that time. Dr. J.A. Parsons was superintendent in 1893, but it is not known how long he held that place. Mrs. Calvin M. Parsons, Sr. married into the community in 1893 and was a teacher in the Sunday school until 1947. Mr. "Cal" Parsons was superintendent from 1904 until the late 1940's. Succeeding superintendents have been Mr. Luther Conner, Miss Bernice Anderson, Mrs. Mildred Medlock Dempsey, and Mr. Claude C. Burnett. Miss Sue Summerour is a name remembered by many people as one of the teachers for many years. Teachers now in the Warsaw Sunday school are Mr. Claude C. Burnett, Miss Nebraska Findley, Mrs. Eli Holbrook, Mrs. Claude Burnett, and Mrs. Edna Burnett. The church historian is Mr. A.C. Holbrook, Duluth, Georgia. Homecoming Day is held each year the fourth Sunday in June. This custom was begun in 1951.

Warsaw was on the Alpharetta Charge before it was put on the Duluth Charge about 1940.