HISTORY
Of
MORROW-RIVERDALE CHARGE

Morrow Church (William's Chapel)
Pleasant Grove Church
The History of William's Chapel later named
The Morrow Methodist Church.

There is some disagreement as to the exact time of the founding of William's Chapel Methodist Church. However, a few people gathered together beneath the shade of a brush arbor either in 1868 or 1870 and decided to build a church.

The name of Captain William Morrow was prominent in the early life of the church. He was one of the charter members and donated the land and lumber to build the first building. It is from this man the name William's Chapel comes.

The original building was not stately. Present day men would hardly think it conducive to worship. The building was made of unfinished pine boards; it was unceiled; and it was small. The first pews were made of pine slabs. They were very uncomfortable, especially during the lengthy sermons customary during that day. The windows had no glass panes. Shutters made of rough pine boards kept out the rain, wind and cold.

The original building was located about one mile from what is now known as Butler's Crossing, about two miles north of Morrow. The inadequate building did not discourage those sturdy men and women of that day from finding God. Some of the charter members of the church were:
Mr. & Mrs. A.J. Vineyard, J.T. Lambert, Captain William Morrow, Mr. & Mrs. A.F. Sears, Dave Dunson, Thomas Mitchell, Jake Baukright, Joe Baukright, Jim Baukright, Franklin Burks, Hamp Lambert, Mr. Peacock, George Sneed.

In 1882 the original building was torn down and a new and larger building was erected on the site where the first one stood. For almost sixty years public worship was held in this building. Many are the stories that are told by the "old-timers" about the summer revival meetings, Quarterly conferences, the home comings, and the like which marked the history of that period.

The years following the depression of the late twenties and early thirties brought many changes in the church. It was indeed difficult to carry on the program of the church on limited finances. However, as conditions got better one of God's saints gave $500.00 to the church. She was Mrs. Emmalyn Aent. Before provision could be made to spend this money for much needed repairs to the church building, death knocked at the door of Mrs. Aent's life. Upon her death bed she requested that the money be used to build a new church. Through her efforts a building program was started.

It was decided that the new church building should be nearer the Morrow Community. Mr. William J. Nolan had an acre of land upon which he was planning to build a home. He gave the land to the church and the present red brick was erected upon it in 1935.

Since 1881, as far as there are accurate records, thirty-
five men have served as pastors of the church. When the original building was torn away in 1882, the Rev. James B. Allen was pastor.

In 1935, when the present building was erected, the Rev. M.C. Allen was the pastor. It is said that Brother Allen drove as many nails as any carpenter, prespired, shed as many tears, and preached as true a gospel as any man who ever lived. A great deal of the present organization of the church is due to his untiring efforts to advance God's Kingdom in the community of Morrow, Georgia.

The history of Morrow Methodist Church would be incomplete without mentioning the name of Miss Maude George. She gave of her time, means and life to the ongoing of the church.

There are others too numerous to mention whose lives have made a contribution towards the advancement of God's Kingdom in Morrow. The present beautiful beautiful little church is a memorial to those who have gone on before and to those who will come afterwards.