

Gainesville
United Methodist Church

1884 - 1984

100TH ANNIVERSARY

AND

HOMECOMING

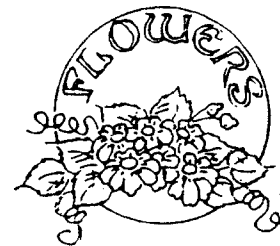


GAINESVILLE METHODIST CHURCH

OCTOBER 14, 1984

WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 AM

GUEST SPEAKER: REV. DR. JAMES L. DULEY



THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTER
WERE GIVEN IN MEMORY OF
MR. AND MRS. CLEMENT
FORREST SINCLAIR, SR.
BY THEIR DAUGHTERS BESSIE
AND KATHRYN AND THEIR SON
FORREST, JR.

Gainesville United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 85
Gainesville, Virginia 22065

Phone: Area Code 703 - 754-4378

PASTOR: Rev. Richard C. Benninghove
(Rev. B+)

PARSONAGE: 7634 Linton Hall Road
Gainesville, Virginia 22065
Phone: Area Code 703 - 754-4511

AREA BISHOP: Robert M. Blackburn

ARLINGTON DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT:
Kenneth E. Whetzel

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE: 11:00 AM

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Dear Members and Friends:

Greetings to you and your love ones in the name of Jesus Christ.

I feel indeed honored to be serving as Pastor here at Gainesville Church when it celebrates its 100th Anniversary of service to Christ, the Church and this community.

As I glance over the list of former Pastors, and then consider their places of service across the years in our Conference, I have a great sense of responsibility and a mandate to keep proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ in the Wesleyan spirit of the United Methodist Church.

I pray that all parents and grandparents here this day will share with the children and grandchildren the rich heritage that is theirs from the people and events listed in this little book. May they never forget why we are here today, how large a price was paid, and at the same time what real joys there were, what happy memories come to mind and all of this is theirs as they take their places of worship and service in Gainesville Church.

This day is not only a celebration of the past 100 years but also a celebration of launching into the next 100 years of service to Christ and His Church and the many new families moving into this community who need to know Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior. 200 years ago Charles Wesley wrote, "To serve the present age, May calling to fulfill; O may it all my powers engage, To do my Master's will." That was in 1784. He, and those of his time were faithful because we are here! We also have "a charge to keep" for generations yet to come.

I would be very much remiss if I did not pause here to express my gratitude to all those who have worked so long and hard for our Homecoming/Anniversary Celebration, especially Nancy (Sutphin) Allen and her committee. Thank you so very much.

And now, May God richly bless you and all who are dear to your heart. May you ever remain faithful to this Church until God calls you to the Church Triumphant. Amen

In Christian Love, Peace and Joy,

Richard C. Benninghove

GAINESVILLE METHODIST CHURCH
by Melvin Lee Steadman, Jr., Historian
Virginia Methodist Historical Society

Gainesville Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was organized during the 1870's as part of the Sudley Mission (formerly the Prince William Mission) of the Washington District, Baltimore Conference. Ewell's Chapel near Hickory Grove and Oakland were part of the original mission. In 1881 the following persons transferred from the Buckland Church to Gainesville and constituted some of the earliest members: M. C. Burghalter, Almira Clark, Alwilda Pattie, Jeanette McDonough, Sarah A. Gray and Mary F. Bell. The congregation met in the Gainesville School (now the kitchen wing of the home of C. F. Sinclair opposite the Church).

On April 21, 1883, at the first Quarterly Conference for Sudley Mission, held at Gainesville, with Dr. J.S. Gardner, Presiding Elder, in the Chair, the following building committee was appointed: J.S. Porter, Captain Henry Walper Kearney, John Luther Meetze, C.W. Marriott, and Captain James Herrell. On August 3, 1883 the first Board of Trustees was appointed: Captain Henry Walper Kearney, John Luther Meetze, A.W. Lemon, A.H. Compton, and Amos Benson.

It was important to construct a parsonage, and on November 16, 1883 (Deed Book 34-526) Lorenzo J. Prescott conveyed to the trustees (listed as W.L.B. Wheeler, H.W. Kearney, Amos Benson, A.J. Compton, J.L. Meetze, L.E. Johnson, and E.H. Smith) for \$800.00 cash, 2 acres 31½ rods in the Village of Gainesville. Here the parsonage was built.

Miss Somerville Gaines, an original member of the congregation (whose family gave the community their name) conveyed one acre of land for a Church on August 18, 1883 (Deed Book 35-406). This adjoined the historic Gaines Cemetery and it became the site of the Church. Fred Snook of Bristow laid the first stone of the foundation in 1884 and died before construction was completed. The building remained incomplete on the interior for many years. The congregation grew and on June 7, 1885, the following were received (the first since 1881): Edmund Allen, Jane A. Allen, Sarah Madison Allen, Martha Winifred Allen, Edith Gertrude Allen and James W. McIntosh. The first named was the father-in-law of Confederate hero and trustee, Captain Kearney, formerly of the Laurel Brigade. The Allen girls were his children, all maiden ladies. Miss Gertrude Allen taught in the Gainesville School.

On October 10, 1886 the completed Church was dedicated. The Sudley Circuit at that time included appointments listed as: Buckland, Sudley, Thoroughfare, and Red Hill. The first couple married in the Church were Frank Hunter Pickett and Jessie Moore Bell who were married November 1, 1899, and lived to have a 50th wedding anniversary celebration in the Social Hall.

The Ladies Aid, so long an important part of the congregation, was organized July 19, 1922, with Mrs. Virginia Lee (Rust) Beard as organizing president. It was organized in the home of Miss Ruth Brown, who became the first president. She was followed in this office by Mrs. Claude Ellis. The following years saw Mrs. Bessie Ellis as president (and she served 16 years). This organization is now the Woman's Society of Christian Service.

In 1954 it was deemed necessary to replace the Charge parsonage built in 1883-4. A new brick parsonage was built by members of the Charge as a "labor of love" under the capable leadership of "Uncle" Dave Boger on a site in Lake View Estates, a new addition to Gainesville, given by Henry A. Florance.

In 1961 Gainesville became a Station Appointment. A site opposite the present parsonage was a gift from Henry A. Florance. This was sold and with the help of Mr. Florance and the Northern Virginia Methodist Board of Missions, five acres of the Gaines estate were acquired, adjoining the Church.

HISTORY UPDATE
By Christine Rettman

1959- A Boys Scout Building was built on the northeast corner of the 5Acre track, under the watchful eyes of John Berger, Jim Jones, Bob Kennedy, Ted Smith, Ray Downs and David Ait. Boys Scout Troop 955 was formed by Jim Jones with the help of Bob Kennedy and Ray Downs.

1962-The deed was recorded, and St Luke's Church, Buckland became the property of the Northern Virginia Methodist Board of Missions, under the care of the Gainesville United Methodist Church. Plans were to open an outpost Sunday School.

1963-Rev. John H. Barter was appointed to St Lukes. The cross on the alter was made by Mr. Vernon Leitch. The wood came from the home of Rev. William Watters. Rev. Watters was minister at St Lukes in 1783.

1964-The first church paper was published under the name "The Gleaner". The colonial pulpit we now use came to us from Graham Road Methodist Church and was used for the first time in our Church on May 17, 1964.

1965-The pulpit bible that was given to Gainesville following the death of Philip Bell in 1903, was restored and rebound this year and placed on the alter, where it remains today.

1972-The District Superintendent (Dr. Turner) proposed a Gainesville-Bethel merger. This took place in June 1972 with the assignment of Rev. G. Thomas Brown, Jr. as the minister.

1978-A hand made Baptismal Font was placed in the Church along with adding a new railing for communion and weddings.

HISTORY UPDATE (cont'd)

1981-Billie Jeffery started a newsletter, published as CHURCH CHATTER. It is published monthly with contributions from both Gainesville and Bethel.

1982-Our Church received an updated electrical wiring system and nice white siding was placed on the Sunday School Wing.

1983-A well was dug on the northwestern corner of the 5 acre track and the sewer was hooked up. Water is now in our kitchen and we have nice new bathrooms. Billie and Jeff Jeffery moved from our community to their retirement home in Strasburg, VA. They both were very active and devoted long hours to helping with the repairs to the Church and Sunday School Wing. Nancy Allen took over the newsletter.

PASTORS OF GAINESVILLE/CIRCUIT

Grandin	1879-1880
Mercer	1880-1881
J.T. Maxwell	1881-1882
Robert Smith	1882-1883
J.S. Porter	1883-1884
J.D. Martin	1884-1885
A.P. Boud	1885-1886
Addison Weller	1886-1887
G.B. Sutton	1887-1888
J.T. Miller	1888-1889
F.H. Shipley	1889-1890
J.K. Gilbert	1890-1891
L.R. Jones	1891-1892
M.H. Keene	1892-1893
Addison Weller	1893-1895
C.B. Sutton	1895-1899
J.W. Bain	1899-1902
Simpson Veitch Hildebrand	1902-1907
L.R. Jones	1907-1908
Homer Welch	1908-1912
Walker Peyton Conway Coe	1912-1914
W.D. King	1914-1916
C.K. Mullican	1916-1919
Homer Welch	1919-1922
Charles Leonard Beard	1922-1926
H.A. Wilson	1926-1927
Charles F. Phillips	1927-1930
L.B. Atkins	1930-1931
K.D. Swecker	1931-1933
A.B. Snapp	1933-1938
John S. Schwartz	1938-1941
Clark H. Wood	1941-1944
John L. Thomas	1944-1945
D.R. Rinehart	1945-1946
Earl L. Hayter	1946-1948
James Lytton Duley	1948-1958
Denzil Daniel	1958-1959
Reginald Walton	1959-1961
Melvin Lee Steadman, Jr.	1961-1965
Thomas Jennings	1965-1967
Clyde Dews	1967-1970
James R. Price	1970-1972
G. Thomas Brown, Jr.	1972-1976
John S. Chadsey	1976-1983
Richard C. Benninghove	1983-

MEMORIALS

The picture of Christ in the Chancel was given in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Henry Florence and Mrs. Mary Florence Roland.

The organ was given in memory of Mrs. Mary Florence Roland.

A collection plate is inscribed - Given in memory of Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Florence.

The vases on the alter:

One was given in memory of A. Mode Smith by his wife and children and the other one was given in memory of Artemus W. Smith by his wife and children.

The baptismal dish is inscribed:

"In sacred memory of Miss Mary Ellis by the Victor Ritenour Family".

The Christian flag was given in memory of Clinton Sutphin by his wife and children.

The American flag was given to the Glory of God by the chairman of our Administrative Council and his wife, David and Barbara Carne.

The plaque above the organ was given by the Women's Missionary Society and is inscribed --
IN LOVING MEMORY OF CARRIE B. SINCLAIR WHO
WORSHIPPED IN THIS CHURCH - 1891-1974.

A bud vase was given in memory of Betty Wharton by her husband Marvin and her children.

ROLL OF HONOR

FOR THOSE IN THE SERVICE OF OUR COUNTRY

WALTER BURKE
PETER B. BEACH
RICHARD H. EASTHAM
ROBERT W. EASTHAM
LAWRENCE ELLIS
HENRY A. FLORENCE
WILLIAM J. GREEN, JR.
SAMUEL HAISLIP
F. R. HOFFMAN
JASPER MONROE
JOHN O'ROARK
DAVID S. REYNOLDS
GEORGE SHUMATE
C. F. SINCLAIR, JR.
ANDREW F. SMITH
PALMER SMITH, JR.
THEODORE M. SMITH
JOHN WINTER SLOPER
CLARK H. WOOD, JR.
*RANDOLPH M. WOOD
RAYMOND R. WOOD
WILLIAM A. WOOD

THIS PLAQUE HANGS ON THE WALL BESIDE THE PIANO
IN THE CHANCEL. * INDICATES HE LOST HIS LIFE.

A VERY SPECIAL TRIBUTE -- *To This Church's*

Guardian Angels --

Mr. and Mrs. Clement Forrest Sinclair, Sr.

Mrs. Sinclair (Carrie Carr Breeden Sinclair) an "Albermarle Pippin" was born on a farm near Free Union, Albermarle County, Virginia on November 18, 1891. She was the daughter of David and Lucinda Frances (Breeden) Breeden. The Breedens were early settlers at Elkton, in Rockingham County, and were of English, German, Scottish, and Dutch decent.

Young Carrie Breeden attended local schools near her home until about the age of thirteen. This was followed by six years at The Miller School, Charlottesville, Virginia. Upon graduation from Miller School, Miss Breeden became a "School-marm", teaching at Sugar Hollow, Albermarle County 1912/13, and at Peter's Creek, near Stuart, Patrick County, 1913/14. In the Fall of 1914 the future Mrs. Sinclair came to Gainesville to teach. Her first month in the community was spent in the old Parsonage with the Minister and his family. The Minister at that time was the Rev. Walker Peyton Conway Coe. The Gainesville School was located at that time on a site near the inter-section of Route 55 and Lee Highway.

After teaching one year "Miss Carrie", as she was affectionately known by the local people, became Mrs. Clement Forrest Sinclair, on October 14, 1915. (69 years ago today, the day we are celebrating the Church's 100th anniversary.) The wedding took place at Charlottesville, Virginia with the Rev. Dr. Williams officiating.

Mr. Sinclair had lived in the house opposite the Church since 1905. The back wing of the house is the original Gainesville School, moved up a few hundred yards to adjoin the house built by Mr. Sinclair. It was in the old school house that the first meetings of the Gainesville Church were held.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE (cont'd)

Mr. Sinclair, honorary Steward of our Church, was born at "Montmorency", (later the Harry A. DeButts home) near Upperville, Fauquier County, Virginia, on March 5, 1880. He was the son of William Norman and Eliza Jane (Dinsel) Sinclair. The Sinclairs were well-to-do Scottish Merchants at Dumfries during the early years of the eighteenth century. Among the many distinguished ancestors of this family was Col. Charles Lewis of Fauquier, Mr. Sinclair's great-great grandfather, who married Elizabeth Burgess, a close relative of Mary Ball, mother of George Washington. Mr. Sinclair's family moved to Lake Barcroft, Fairfax County, in 1896, coming to Gainesville in 1901. Although he became a member of Long Branch Baptist Church in Fauquier County in 1896, he attended Gainesville Church from 1905 until his death.

Mrs. Sinclair was a charter member of the Gainesville Woman's Missionary Society (formerly the W.S.C.S.) and was a former president of the group. The dinners for which the organization is justly famous, were held in the Sinclair home for many years. She was a trustee for about twelve years, served as acting Sunday School Superintendent, and was a member of the Choir. During her long and helpful career in the Church, Mrs. Sinclair held almost all of the important offices in the congregation. She taught the juniors in Sunday School, and upon the death of Charlie Rector became responsible for the cemetery. She served on the Official Board and was Treasurer of the Church for thirty-eight years. Mrs. Sinclair also served as Communion steward. During 1920, she taught in the old Mill Park School on Route 15, and later taught one-half year at Haymarket. Otherwise she remained at home, with Mr. Sinclair, tending their well known flower and vegetable garden.

Mr. Sinclair began to ring the church bell in 1912 and did so until he was unable to. He was always very helpful, having made the book racks and

SPECIAL TRIBUTE (cont'd)

and assembled the pews now in use, during the Spring of 1915. As a carpenter and builder, Mr. Sinclair often used his talents to help the Church. When the present Sunday School Building was built, he and his son-in-law laid the floor.

The Sinclairs had three children: Bessie S. Bonham of Sparks, Nevada; C. Forrest Sinclair, Jr. of Annandale, Virginia; and Kathryn S. Daniels of Punta Gorda, Florida. There are four Grandchildren and six Great-grandchildren.

Article by:
Kathryn Sinclair Daniels



Mr. & Mrs. Sinclair
Taken at their 50th
Wedding Anniversary
Celebration.

IN MEMORIAM

JOHN STANLEY HODGES
1919-1983

A devoted, hard working member, who was chairman of the Administrative Council at the time of his death.

IN MEMORIAM

ERNEST WILLIAM McCUIN
1909-1983

A long time faithful member, who devoted his time and talents whenever a need arose.

TODAY'S SENIOR CITIZENS

Ait, AL, born in 1919 and is 65 years old. Member of our Church for 33 years serving as the Lay Leader, Sunday School teacher, and Sunday School Superintendent. Has been a Certified Lay Speaker since 1956. Al and Elizabeth have three children and seven grandchildren.

Botts, "Tom", Thomas C. Botts was born May 11, 1903. Became a member of our Church in 1924. He served as Sunday School Superintendent for 35 years, has been a Board member since 1941 and a Trustee since 1948. In 1945 he married Mary E. (Fletcher) Smith.

Botts, Mary (Smith), was born May 24, 1900. During her many years as a member Mary served as the Financial Secretary for 17 years, taught a youth class for 20 years, was a member of the Women's Society of Christian Service and other committees of the Church. Mary and Tom have six children, 23 grandchildren, and 22 great-grandchildren.

Cartwright, Ellen F., is one of our newest members. She was born in 1915 and is 69 years old. Married to Richard Cartwright. They have four children and seven grandchildren. She has been a life-long Methodist serving as president of the United Methodist Women and other church offices in her previous Churches.

Cartwright, Richard born in 1913 and is 71 years old. He is the husband of Ellen.

Ellis, Lucy H., born in 1897 and is 87 years old. Married in 1914 and has six children, 14 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren. Organized the Ladies Aid Society in 1922 and was first president. She has been very active in many other church offices.

TODAY'S SENIOR CITIZENS (cont'd)

Johnson, Harry Lee ("Jack"), was born in 1907 and is 76 years old. Raised in the United Methodist Church, Jack came to Gainesville from the UMC in Catlett in 1966. Jack has served as an Usher, has been a Santa Claus for our children and serves his Church as needed. He and his wife Margaret run the Happy Jack store. Jack has a son in Florida and a daughter in Nevada.

McCuin, Margaret, was born in 1908 and is 76 years old. Margaret is the widow of Ernest McCuin who served the Church so faithfully for so many years. She was married in 1934. They have three children- Nancy, Gerald, and Ron. Also six grandchildren- Lisa, Wendy, Tina, Rhonda, Ronnie and Terry. She has been a member of our Church for 40 years.

Ritenour, Lucy M., born in 1905, she is 79 years old. She has two daughters and two granddaughters. "A believer in God, whose strong faith has sustained her throughout many trials." She is the sister of Tom Botts.

Smith, Leafy, was born in 1900 and is 84 years old. She has been a member of our Church for 64 years. She has held offices on the Administrative Board, Parsonage Committee, Pastor-Parish Relations, Communion Steward, Missions, Key Woman and Delegate to Annual Conference. Leafy has six children, fifteen grandchildren and sixteen great-grandchildren. She joined the Ladies Aid in 1933, now called the United Methodist Women. "Leafy has always been a faithful member of the Church."

Sutphin, Clara McCuin, was born in 1909 and is 75 years old. She is the widow of Clinton Sutphin. They had five children-three daughters and two sons. She has been a member of our Church for over 26 years, having served on the Administrative Council and is now an Honorary Member. "She has always enjoyed working with the Church oyster suppers and is noted for her home made rolls."

TODAY'S SENIOR CITIZENS (cont'd)

TOLLEY, Dr. Donald D., was born in 1916 and is 68 years old. He has been a member of our Church for 14 years and held offices as Chairman of the Finance Committee, Financial Secretary, and the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee. He has three children and four grandchildren. He has been a member of the United Methodist Church since 1932.

BEATITUDES FOR FRIENDS OF THE AGED

By: Esther Mary Walker

Blessed are they who understand
My faltering steps and palsied hand,
Blessed are they who know that my ears today
Must strain to catch the things they say,
Blessed are they who seem to know
That my eyes are dim and my wits are slow.

Blessed are they who look away
When coffee spilled at table today.
Blessed are they with a cherry smile
Who stop to chat for a little while,
Blessed are they who never say,
"You've told me that story twice today."

Blessed are they who know the ways
To bring back memories of yesterdays.
Blessed are they who make it known
That I'm loved, respected and not alone.

Blessed are they who know I'm at a loss
To find the strength to carry the Cross.
Blessed are they who ease the days
On my journey Home in loving ways.

GOOD-BY and GOOD LUCK TO:

Stanley H. and Erma G. Brewster

In August 1984 Mr. and Mrs. Brewster sold their home in Gainesville and moved to Windsor, New York (near Binghamton). It was with a note of sadness we bid them good-by and wished them well in a new home, in a new state.

Mr. and Mrs. Brewster joined the church on April 14, 1957. Over the years Mr. Brewster was active on a number of committees and boards. He was chairman of the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee, Chairman of the Official Board for 10 years and for many years a church trustee. In 1957 Mr. Brewster mapped and recorded the Gainesville Church cemetery. He also staked the layout for the present church parking. Mrs. Brewster worked with many committees and officers in the church. She especially donated her numerous talents to making Vacation Bible School a big success.

They have one daughter Carolyn, who joined church the same day as Mr. and Mrs. Brewster. She was our substitute organist for a while and played on a regular basis for several months.

Mr. and Mrs. Brewster's move to New York will give them the opportunity to be near Carolyn and her husband.

Do
you
remember?
When the Parsonage
was Dedicated.



Methodist Parsonage Dedicated

The members and friends of Gainesville and Sudley gathered for the Dedication Service and open house to celebrate the successful conclusion of a parsonage building program which began in August 1954. The new home was occupied in February of 1955 and a second house, which was built as a Lord's house project to help defray the expense of a new home, was sold in the Fall of 1955.

Through the sale of this home and the donations of land, labor, materials and contributions, the people of the Charge realized more than \$13,000.

Two-Level Home

The new parsonage is a two-level home with a church office, meeting room, bath, laundry room and spare bedroom on the lower level and three bedrooms, bath, kitchen, dining room and living room above.

The minister, Rev. James Duley is completing his ninth year as pastor.

A real debt of gratitude expressed to the members of the Building committee who were as follows: Henry Florance, chairman; L. J. Pattie (deceased), Paul Allison, Wm. C. Partlow, Ernest McCuin, Dave Boger, Carroll Latham, Vernon Wood and Mrs. Gertrude Caton.

The members of the Charge Parsonage Committee are Mrs. Margaret Boger, chairman; Paul Allison, Wm. Partlow, Mrs. Lenzy Smith, Miss Mildred Smith, Mrs. Dot Young, Mrs. Ottolene Latham and Blanche Allison.

Dr. Roland Riddick, superintendent of the Alexandria District of the Methodist Church, presided over the dedication of the parsonage Sunday, May 12.

The Members and Friends of Gainesville and Sudley Methodist Churches

invite you to attend the

Parsonage Dedication

Route 619, Gainesville, Virginia

on

Sunday, May 12, 1957

2:30 P. M., D. S. T.



DEDICATION OF PARSONAGE—Members of the Sudley and Gainesville Methodist Churches gather for dedication of parsonage Sunday near Gainesville. The groundbreaking was held in August 1954 and parsonage occupied by Rev. and Mrs. James Duley, February, 1955.

DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN?



Our Church had a fence. (Picture taken in 1945)

VOL. 93. NO. 33 Single Copy 10c MANASSAS, VA., THURSDAY.



COUNTRY CHURCH AT THANKSGIVING TIME — The season's first snowfall Monday forms a picturesque scene with the Gainesville Methodist

Church in the background. The church will be one of many throughout Prince William County that will offer special Thanksgiving services.

We had a snowy Thanksgiving Service and the newspaper sold for 10¢ a copy.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

Virginia Smith -- what a beautiful lady she was. Devoted her entire life to her invalid mother, Mrs. Palmer (Lillie) Smith. Do you remember, Mrs. Smith could not speak a word and when you visited to cheer her up, you went away being cheered up by her.

Daniel (Dan) Somers a trustee and lay leader, who was always available when needed. What a void his sudden death left.

DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN?

Mr. Sinclair rang the Church Bell, every Sunday.

Mrs. Sinclair, Mildred Smith and Alma Pearson sang in the choir and kept time to the music with their hymn books.

Johnnie and Helen Clarke sang a special duet during morning services.

Mrs. Bessie Ellis and Mrs. Lucy Ellis made ice cream for the Sunday School picnics.

Rev. Duley went to the Holy Land and brought back dried flowers for everyone.

We had strawberry/ice cream festivals and turkey and oyster suppers.

When we served the Masons' dinners.

OH YES!! YES!! WE ALL REMEMBER WHEN?

Our Church did not have running water and inside plumbing. Thanks to many of our devoted members and friends, who toiled long, hot, hard hours, our little old Church has been modernized. We started drilling the well on June 3, 1983 and by the end of the Summer of 1983 the project was completed. Just over a year before we turned 100 years old.

METHODISM For Two Centuries PROCLAIMING Grace and Freedom

As we celebrate 100 years at Gainesville, so we also celebrate 200 years of METHODISM.

Ten people listed as making important contributions to the history of Methodism:

FUTURE PLANS

For many years our church has been needing and wanting more adequate facilities; but because of lack of a sewage system nothing could be done. Now, however, we have a sewage system and a well. A study committee has submitted a report recommending a new church be built. The study committee report was approved by our District Superintendent, Rev. Kenneth Whetzel, and our charge. A building committee has been appointed to develop plans and to build a new facility. This committee is very determined, but it is a very large task and requires the full cooperation and support of all members and friends of Gainesville UMC. Everyone is invited to attend any of our committee meetings and to offer their advice and support at any time. This is a very exciting project and one that is crucial to the future of our church and community. Stay tuned to the Church Newsletter "Church Chatter" for progress reports. One hundred years ago the citizens of Gainesville saw a need and provided us with our church. They have handed us a torch and we will keep it burning for at least one hundred more years.

Dale Whysong
Building Committee Chairman

John Wesley
Charles Wesley
Susanna Wesley
Thomas Coke
Francis Asbury
Jacob Albright
Philip William Otterbein
Richard Allen
Mary McLeod Bethune
Frances E. Willard



As you leave our little 100 year old
Gainesville United Methodist Church this
Sunday, October 14, 1984, the fellowship
of the day will become a fond memory.

"GOD BLESS US, EVERYONE!"