# History

Alcouy United Methodist Church 1886-1975

Rev. Mell Simons





Rev. and Mrs. Mell Simons-Historiam and wife

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# Areface

The idea for writing this history was prompted by a statement made by a friend. While attending the homecoming at Alcovy Church in the summer of 1969, Mrs. Pauline Ellington, Smith, Sharpton said to me, "Mell, I wish you would write the history of this church."

Somehow the suggestion would not go away, and I soon myself engaged in research, a part-time work that would last f o r

more than six years.

It was nearly "too late" when I began the work, for time had almost closed her doors on the past. Without the untiring efforts and aid of Mrs. Louise Doster and the cooperation of relatives of deceased persons whose labors had played an important part i n the Church's early history, I could not have done the job. I wish to express my sincere appreciation to everyone who aided in any w a y in my difficult search for the factual information I am privileged

to give to those who may read the following pages.

Because the cost of publication was lower, we were forced to use the offset method of printing to get this book published. Even then, the cost was much higher than we had expected. To use this method, one must present a manuscript ready for the camera. finished work will be exactly like the original. In using it, I become responsible for every error in the entire book -- spelling, grammar, typing, etc. Therefore, I hope no one will read m y work from a critic's point of view. I rather hope each one will read it with a feeling of compassion for me in my desire to important happenings in the history of the church, for interested friends of the present and future.

I regret that some of the pictures, now faded with age, could not be reproduced as clearly as when they were new. Nevertheless, I present them proudly, feeling that we are fortunate to have pictures of those of the past whose labors of love have bequeathed us with this rich heritage -- the Alcovy United Methodist Church. of the dear friends pictured here have already been with the in heaven for many years. Truly, as the Scriptures have said, "We are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses", and I feel that they, the redeemed who have finished their missions on earth, and who now rest from their labors, are pleased that we their earthly labors, and that we are perpetuating their memory by bringing these things into a written history.

It is my prayer that we, and those who follow after us, m a y keep the history of the present and the future up-to-date so

anyone who will write a second volume of the church's progress and work may have at hand an abundance of recorded information to aid in their task. Would that I had been this fortunate!

## Methodism Comes to Alcovy

ntil the year 1886, the sparsely settled rural community of Alcovy, Newton County, Georgia, did not h a v e a church within its bounds. In the summer of 1886, t h e Lord gave a Macedonian call to the late Reverend Joseph Abner McGarity, a n d to the late Reverend Tom Greer to come into the community t o share the riches of Christ and His Gospel with people who made their homes there.

These men were faithful and promptly obeyed the Master's call. They announced that they would come to hold a revival in the community at an early date, and immediately started the work of erecting a brush arbor. The men of the community aided with the work, and very soon the revival was under way.

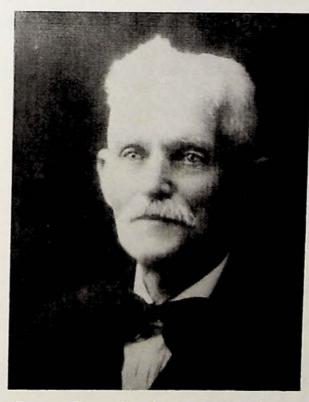
The Lord greatly anointed His servants, and this proved to be a very fruitful meeting. Thus, the Church was organized in the

year 1866, with a total of thirteen members.

During the first two years of the Church's existence, services were held from the brush arbor in summer and f r o m the community school house, near the site of t h e Alcovy Railroad Station, in winter.

The name first given to the newly organized body of Christian believers was The Rock Cut Protestant Methodist Church. The name was derived from the location.

If the name seems a b i t unusual, I would like to explain. Twenty-one years before the church was organized, in the year 1845, the Georgia Railroad laid their tracks f r o m Augusta to Marthas-ville which was renamed Atlanta.



Rev. Joseph Abner McGarity 1-11-1849 --- 3-1-1931

In building a road bed for t h e tracks, workmen h a d to cut through a rather steep hill which proved to be almost solid rock. After much blasting and hard work t h e road bed was completed in this area. Afterwards and even to this day t h e area is known as the Rock Cut Community: but it is no longer populated.

#### THE REVEREND JOSEPH ABNER MCGARITY 1-11-1849 -- 3-1-1931

Pictured on the preceding page is the Reverend Joseph Abner McGarity, who, with the Reverend T om Greer founded the Alcovy Protestant Methodist Church.

The Reverend Mr. McGarity was the son of Seaborn Soloman and

Carolyn Biggers McGarity, and was born January 11th, 1849.

When Joseph Abner was around t w o years of age, his parents settled in the town of Marthasville. The name of this thriving town was later changed to Atlanta. Their home was in the section where the old Kimball House was later erected. The family used water from a spring nearby, and members of the family recall that when they walked from the Georgia Car Shed of the Georgia Railroad Station that the walk was always wet. The water was coming from the spring that the McGaritys used for their water supply.

On November 5, 1878, the Reverend Mr. McGarity was married to Miss Eudoria Langdon Abercrombie of Jersey, Walton County, Georgia.

It is said that the town of Jersey was named for a fine herd of Jersey cows Miss Abercrombie's father owned.

Children of the Reverend and Mrs. McGarity are as follows:

Lescar, who married Miss Jamie Caldwell of Knoxville, Tenn.

Their three children were:

A daughter who died early in life;

A son, Caldwell, who lives in Monroe, Walton

County, Georgia, and

A son, Carson, who lives in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Robert (Bob) who married Miss Bessie Mobley.

Their children are:

Robert, Jr., of Jacksonville, Florida;

Nathan, of Eustis, Florida, and

Frances who married Tom Bryant who lived in Jersey, Ga.

Ethelene, a daughter, was never married.

Pearl married Dr. C. S. Floyd, of Logansville, Walton County, Georgia.

Joseph Hugh married Miss Lucile Meador of Covington, Newton County, Georgia.

Their children are:

Joseph Hugh, Jr., of Stone Mountain, Georgia;

Meador Bush, of Atlanta, Georgia;

Helen Ethelene Shepherd, of Stone Mountain, Georgia; and William Dudley, of Stone Mountain, Georgia.

Their son, Roy, married Miss Lessie Clegg of Social Circle, Georgia.

Their children were:

Mary, who died some years ago; Celeste, who is also dead; and

Dr. William C. who lives in Atlanta and is an outstanding surgeon and Physician with the Emory University Hospital, in Atlanta.

Rev. McGarity, one of the founding fathers of the Alcovy Methodist Church, was a member of the North Georgia Conference of the Protestant Methodist Church, but I could not ascertain the year of his reception. I found only a small number of copies of the Protestant Methodist Journals on file in the Archives. His Conference membership antedates my findings.

I did find Rev. McGarity's name in the Conference Roll of

November 5, 1869.

And in the Conference of 1877, he served on the Conference Committee on Ministerial Orders and Itinerancy, and on the Committee on Ministerial Education. His name appears in the list of Active Itinerant Ministers, and it was reported that there were no changes in the ministerial appointments for Walton Circuit. At this Conference Rev. McGarity was listed as Superintendent of the Dekalb Circuit and E. Morris and S. Masters were listed as assistants

The 1906 session of the Protestant Methodist Conference w a s held November 15, 16, 17, and 18, at the Owl Rock Church, with Rev. J. A. McGarity as Conference President. The Rev. J. J. Barge was Conference Secretary, and in this Conference Rev. McGarity was appointed to serve as one of the evangelists for the next camp meeting which was to be opened on the Fourth Sunday in August, 1907, at the Union Campmeeting site.

I would like to include the President's Report as given by

Reverend McGarity, himself:
"To the Seventy-Seventh Annual Conference of the Georgia Dis-

trict Methodist Protestant Church--

"Dear Brethren: Through the kind providence of our Father in Heaven, we are assembled in another Annual Conference. To Him be all the glory for the success that has crowned our labors. And in our sympathy, we would share part of the sorrows that have fallen to any one of our little Zion. May the Blessed Spirit of the Master guide us in all our plans and work, praying that we may be more abundantly used for His glory and the salvation of the world.

"It now becomes my duty, as well as privilege, to render an account of my official work entrusted to me as your executive officer. Immediately after the last annual session, I went to work to supply the unsupplied circuits and missions. Early in the season I succeeded in supplying the following charges: Atlanta Mission, with S. M. Garrett; Clifton Mission, w i t h H. C. Masters; Pleasant Grove Mission, with R. S. McGarity; Pomona Mission, with C. B. McDaniel; Harmony Mission, with T. J. Whitehead.

"The other part of the unsupplied work, after a labored effort I failed to supply. Brother E. C. Jordon said he could not make the sacrifice to serve the Rome Mission, and asked to be released, which I did. Brother J. R. Anderson, pastor of Randolph Circuit, on account of failing health and non-support, asked to be relieved,

and I did so, supplying with Bros. T. J. Pearce and M. W. Phillip. "During the winter months I visited the circuits nearest my home. Early in Spring I put myself in touch with the pastors of various circuits and arranged my appointments through the District.

"To our sad and great regret, my plans wer e seriously confused by the death of our dear and beloved bro. S. M. Garrett. As I could not satisfactorily supply the Walton County Circuit, I had to consent to serve it myself. The other part of h i s work w a s supplied by his associate, Bro. J. B. Earnest. However, I succeeded in making the following visits: Atlanta Mission; the Walton Circuit in full, every church on the Jersey Circuit; Pomona Mission; two churches on the Cedar Grove Circuit; one church on the Riverdale Circuit; three churches on the Jackson Circuit; Columbus Circuit in full; Owl Rock Station; Bowdoin Circuit; every church on the Waco Circuit; Laurel Branch Circuit in full. All of them seemed glad to have the President with them. The pastors found at their post and faithfully serving their people. I endeavored to press the necessity of loyalty to the church, and a more systematized plan of work and a liberal support of all the general interests.

"I received on salary from the various charges \$174.16. Paid

on expenses \$37.50.

"I regret that owing to the work that fell on my hands by the death of Brother Garrett, I have not been able to give a fair test for a traveling President. I feel assured, however, that some good was accomplished. I met the Camp Meeting: we had a great spiritual feast. A desire was expressed that we make the next one a ministerial rally.

"And now once more I thank you for the honors y o u have conferred on me, and the sympathy and love with which you have cooperated with me, and pray that we may be baptized with the love and compassion of the Master for lost souls."

#### J. A. McGarity, President Georgia Conference

I spent many hours in research at the Methodist Archives, endeavoring to establish full information on the ministerial appointments of the Reverend Mr. McGarity, but since so f e w copies of The Protestant Methodist Conference Journals were on file there, this was not possible.

In addition to his work at Alcovy, members of his family recall that he served The Clifton Church, in the Atlanta - Decatur -Oxford District; Wesley Chapel; Austin Chapel; Newton Factory and

other churches.

From his own pen we notice, in his report to the Seventy-Seventh Annual Conference (in the article appearing above) that he supplied the Walton Circuit himself, and that he visited t h e Atlanta Mission; every church on the Jersey Circuit; Pomona Mission; two churches on the Cedar Grove Circuit; one church on the Riverdale Circuit; three churches on the Jackson Circuit; the Columbus Circuit in full; Owl Rock Station; Bowdoin Circuit; every church on the Waco Circuit; Laurel Branch Circuit in full.

His name also appears in "A History of Methodism in Georgia," by Alfred M. Pierce (page 165). The article reads:

"Near Waco, Georgia, the Georgia Conference (of the Prot-

estant Methodist Church) established Union Camp Meeting which continues to hold its annual gatherings. Here leading members of the Conference - Bob and Joe McGarity, F. H. Henderson, Andrew Jenkins, John Thurman, John R. Anderson, W. M. Hunton and others - have preached, and during its twenty-five or more years many have been converted and many others spiritually enriched there."

Mrs. McGarity preceded her husband in death by a little more

than twelve years, having died January 24, 1919.

After a long and useful life, and after having made f o o tprints in the sands of time that the storms of life cannot s o o n erase, the Reverend Mr. McGarity fell asleep in the Lord, March 1, 1931. Both of these lovely people are buried in t h e family plot of the City cemetery at Jersey, Georgia.

The writer and his wife knew brother McGarity. Many years earlier he had officiated in the wedding of the writer's wife's father and mother, and when we planned our marriage we sought his

services and he officiated at our wedding also.

He spent his last years in retirement at his lovely home in

Jersey.

One final bit of information, found in research at the Newton County Court House in Covington, Georgia, was in a copy of the Covington News, dated Friday, March 6, 1931. It was a special notice of the death of the Reverend Mr. McGarity. It read:

#### REV. J. A. MCGARITY DIES

Rev. J. A. McGarity, well known Methodist Minister a n d business man died at his home in Jersey last Sunday at the age of 81. He served churches in Newton County and was an honored and honorable citizen.

#### THE REVEREND TOM GREER 3-20-1838 -- 12-7-1907

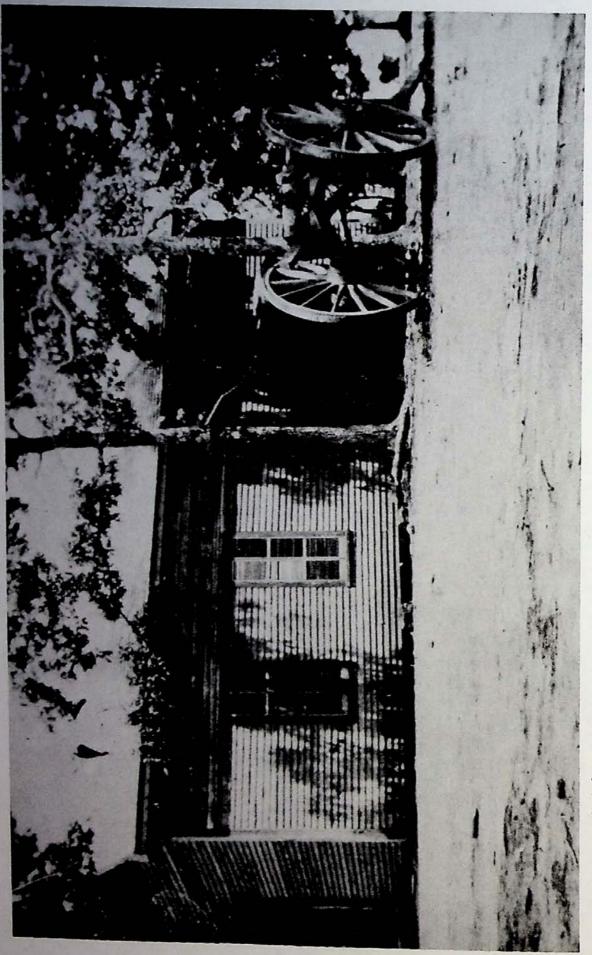
The Reverend Tom Greer, the other founder of the Alcovy Protestant Methodist Church, worked with the Reverend Mr. McGarity in

organizing this historic church.

While the Reverend Mr. McGarity was a pastor of the Methodist Protestant Church, the Reverend Mr. Greer was of Baptist persuasion; but they worked together in perfect harmony, and it is said of them that they did not endeavor to make Baptist nor Methodist of the people: rather they were burdened with a desire to 1 e a d everyone they could to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

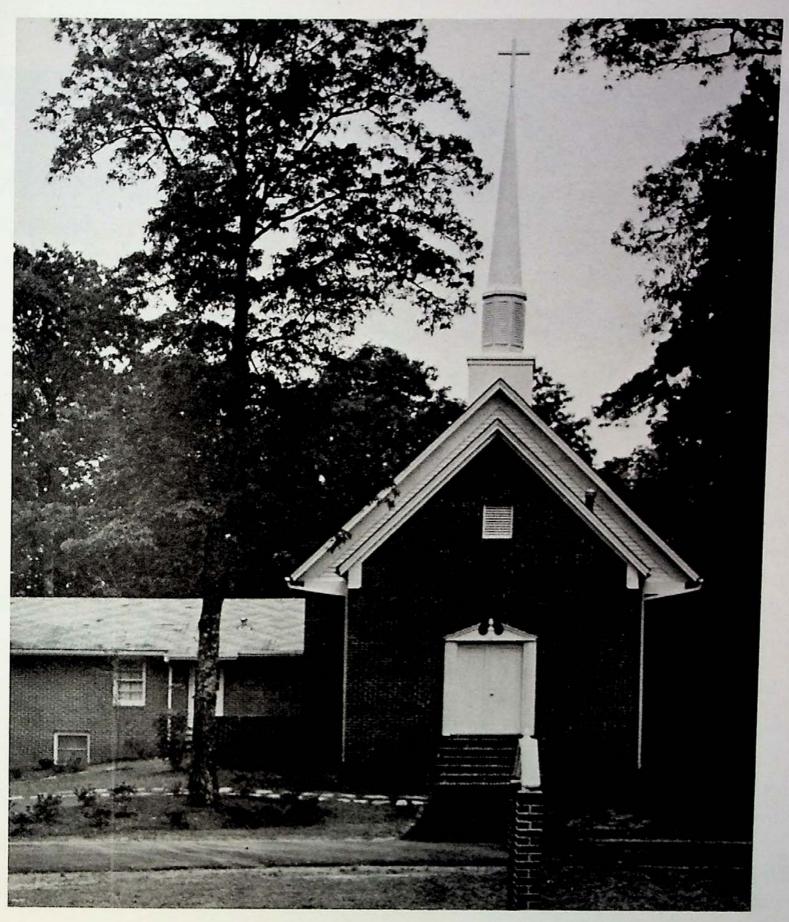
And the Reverend Mr. Greer was the Alcovy Protestant Methodist Church's first pastor. The records do not show how long this dedicated man was pastor here, nor who the second pastor was. Though we know who some of the men were who served appointments in the early years, we do not know exactly the order of the appointments. Information on pastoral appointments will be treated in a later section of this writing.

I searched diligently for a long time trying to develop some information on the Reverend Mr. Greer, but early efforts were of



(A news sketch found later in research states that the lumber for constructing this building was cut from the land by Mr. S. D. Hight's sons. M. S.)

# Alcovy Methodist Church



Alcovy Uhurch
as it appears at the time this History
is published.

(Courtesy: Mr. Gary Hancock)

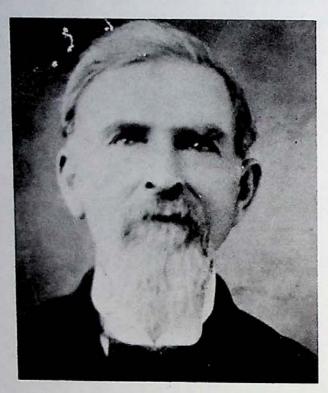
Record of Deeds # W, Pg. 430-431. State of Georgia 3 This Induction much this Bightimuth Lord Eightun Hundred aun Bighty Eight, between Stright of the Country of Auster and State of Georgia, of the one parts, and the Crotistant methodist Confinence, or Church of the Country of and State of Georgia of the ather parts, Witnesseth, strat the said of Deligate for and in Consideration of the some of Delor. you hand find at and before the scaling and deliving of these frants, the receipt where is builty acknowledged, has granted bargained sola and conveyed, and by there presents down grant bargain till and Cenory unto the said Protestant Methodist Church of lingue so long as used for climch purposes, him & assigns, all that tract or parell of lund situated, lying and bring in the country and State aforesaid, towet-Our acre man the alcova Station on the Gall: bounded east by brington of Cicle rough north by right of way of Galle. South twest by lunches HO I Hight to be one square acre: but the church at no tune is to use any part of said land as a burial oground, or to fromt any one else so to use the same of at any time the huch abounders the land then it is to revert to S. D. Hight: and if it is used for any other purpose than as a church los

it is to be returned to Stight, that is the church property its claim by such use Except the same be used for school purposes under the control of the churchdo have and to hola the said bangained primises with all and singular the rights muntils and appulenances Muriof, to the same bring belonging, or in any wise apper-Toining to the only proper use levelit and behoof of the said Protestant Methodist Church me attain apparation and any wife apparation the same bring belonging, or in any wise apparation. Towning to the only proper use lumbets and behoof of the Said Protestant Mithodist Church and Their successors & assingry, in Sudinple. and the Sain & D' Hight, his him Executors + administrator the said bargained primises unto the said Protestants Methodist church & their successors, against the said De Dight his him Executors and all mustrators, and all and every other from in prosess whatever, Spall and will ivament and friend defend, by virtue & struce prisuits. This have and affixed his seal the day and your first above we then Ligned Sealed and delined infrance of & D. Hight (elal) Franklin soright Georded Feb 18 Thy 889-Suo 12 Davis. Clirk. Two Brain Che -Page 15

no avail. I phoned many persons whose family names were Greer, but none of the persons contacted from the listings in the Covington Telephone Directory had ever known of the Reverend Mr. Greer. Then, providentially, I saw Mr. Aubrey Ewing in a barber shop in Covington, and he asked what progress I was making with the work on the History of Alcovy Church.

When I explained that I had been unable to contact anyone who knew anything about brother Greer, he told me of Mr. J. Bernard

Greer, a grandson, who lived in Covington.



The Reverend Tom Greer 3-20-1838 -- 12-7-1907

I contacted him, and he had a photograph of h is grandfather that he permitted me to copy for this record. I am also indebted to him for the information contained herein on the life, family and work of Reverend Greer.

Mr. J. Bernard Greer remembers being told that w h e n he was very young his mother visited here from Greer, South Carolina, and that she was taken ill and died while here. She was buried in the Hays family cemetery in Hayston.

The children of the Reverend and Mrs. Greer were as follows:

Sarah, who was lovingly known by all as "Sackie" Tom H.

William Robert

Leila

Ed

Ben

Cliff, whose wife is the only immediate relative living at the time of this writing (October 1975)

The Reverend Mr. Greer was born March 20, 1838, in Newton

County, Georgia. He was married to Miss Mary J a n e Hays. Mrs. Cliff Greer, mentioned above and the wife of the above mentioned son of the Reverend and Mrs. Greer, remembers two other pastorates of the Reverend Mr. Greer, in addition to his service at Alcovy, as being Union Hill Baptist Church in Jones County, a n d Old Rock Creek Baptist Church in Newton County.

Brother Greer was actively engaged in ministerial appointments until near the close of his life. He died December 7, 1907. Burial was in the Hays family cemetery, in Hayston, Georgia. Like Reverend McGarity, Reverend Greer also made footprints in the sands of time and the memory of both of these venerable gentlemen will be perpetuated as long as the Alcovy United Methodist Church

stands.

# The New Building

As stated earlier in this writing, the congregation of this newly organized church worshiped in the brush arbor in summer and in the community school house in winter for the first t w o years, but in the year 1888 the people felt that the Church should be

housed permanently.

At this time, Mr. S. D. Hight (4-26-1828 -- 4-15-1904) gave the congregation one acre of land for the new building. The donor was a wealthy business man who owned large tracts of land and operated a large store in the area. He also owned a large beautiful home of Victorian design. At his death, Mr. Hight was buried by his wife in the Colley-Hight family cemetery. This cemetery was very near the old home.

In the summer of 1910, the writer's father m o v e d into the community bringing his family; and our first home there was t h e old store house where remodeling and adding rooms h a d converted

the old building into a home.

The one-acre tract Mr. Hight gave the church was near the Alcovy Railroad Station, and when the new building was finished and the congregation moved in, the name of the Church was changed from The Rock Cut Protestant Methodist Church to The Alcovy Protestant Methodist Church.

This deed was given on the 18th day of June, 1888, b u t was not recorded until February 18, 1889. We are including a copy of this deed which appears on another page of this book. Our readers will notice that a clause of this deed states "...the church at no time is to use any part of said land as a burial ground, o r to permit anyone else so to use the same." This is why T h e Alcovy Church never had a cemetery at this location. When the church was moved to the present location it was found that a solid stratum of rock underneath would not permit burial here. So, Alcovy Church has never had a cemetery.

The first building to house the newly organized congregation was erected by Mr. Bill Stewart, who served as contractor and builder. When I first began to inquire about Mr. Stewart, none of the persons I contacted knew anything about him; then I was told that he was the grandfather of Mr. Roy Stewart, a parishioner of

the Mount Pleasant Church, and Mrs. Pearl (Stewart) Reynolds, who is also a member of this church. I am indebted to the emfor the information I have on Mr. Stewart.

The late Mr. Edward Butler told me that Mrs. Charlie (Daisy) Crutchfield had a portrait of Mr. Stewart. He had the family make Polaroid pictures of the portrait for this historical record, but our publishers advised that the Polaroid copies would not be clear enough for reproduction.

So on February 14, 1972, I visited Mrs. Crutchfield, who permitted me to carry her large photograph of her grandfather i n t o

Atlanta where I had a copy made for our church history.

I found Mrs. Crutchfield to be a charming and gracious lady, who was also most interesting. There was such a sentimental attachment to the photograph of her grandfather that I doubt that the she would have permitted any other person to have carried it out to be copied. Mrs. Crutchfield had known my parents who were neighbors of hers many years before; and they had been friends for an even longer period of time. So, she trusted me with her treasure, and in the afternoon I returned her copy safely, after having a copy made for this record.

Mrs. Crutchfield told me of working to earn the money to have her grandfather's picture enlarged. She earned the money by sewing for some colored friends of the community, and the large picture in a very heavy ornate frame cost \$1.95. Unthinkable, isn't it? The picture was m a d e in 1893 and was enlarged in 1906 by a

man whose name was Tom Almand.

Some relatives of Mr. Bill Stewart still live in the Alcovy and Mount Pleasant Communities. A granddaughter, Mrs. Pearl (Stewart) Reynolds, a great-granddaughter, Mrs. Ruth (Reynolds)



Mr. Bill Stewart, Contractor-Builder, and wife. Mr. Stewart built the original building.

Aaron, and a great-great-grandson, Mr. Dacus Aaron, reside in the Alcovy Community; Mr. Roy Stewart lives in the Mount Pleasant Com-

munity, and other relatives live in the near area.

Mr. Stewart rendered a real service to the congregation and the people of the community when he built the beautiful rural church that was to be the home of the worshiping congregation for twenty-seven years. Within her walls, were revivals, marriages, infant baptisms and funerals. At her altars, people prayed together, wept together and rejoiced together. Her influence still lives!

# Her Hirst Uwenty - Seven Wears

During the twenty-seven-year-period, the church was a blessing to the people of the community and to others as well.

As a seven-year-old boy, the writer came to know of the Alcovy Methodist Church in the summer of 1910, when I came with my father to attend a summer session of school in the community. I had attended the Social Circle City School for one year when my father traded with Mr. O. N. Stanton, the owner of the community gin, to run the gin for the coming fall season. He came to Alcovy daily to condition the machinery for the fall operation, and he brought me along to attend the summer session of school.

At this time all country schools were having a b o u t seven months of school in the Fall, Winter, and Spring months, and a session of about six weeks in the summer. This was done in order that the farmer's children could help with the work of gathering

the fall crops.

To me, this was a lot of fun. We rode the commuter type train that operated between Social Circle and Atlanta, and if I recall correctly, it was known as "the pick." I think the term referred to the pick-up-type service it provided, for the train would stop anywhere along the line, when flagged. We arrived at Alcovy around 7:00 o'clock in the mornings, and returned to Social Circle around 5:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

Circle around 5:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

The boys and girls of this country school were not very friendly to me at first, and I did not know why.

I later found that they had branded me "the city dude," as I had attended the

Social Circle school for one year.

Many happy memories still live in the mind of the writer of incidents and happenings during our long stay in this lovely community. The people were like one large family.

#### Charter Members

With the help of Mrs. Otis (Louise Ewing) Doster, a n d with the cooperation of the families who permitted me to c o p y photographs in their possession, I was able to locate photographs o f all but one of the charter members of the church. I am very grateful to Mrs. Doster for her untiring effort, and to the families who shared the photographs with me. Without their help, this interesting bit of information could not have been established.



Alec S. Higginbotham 11-15-1857 -- 1-27-1940

Mattie (Lemmond) Higginbotham 3-14-1867 -- 5-18-1933

Mrs. Higginbotham was the writer's wife's mother. We remember her saying that she was the first person to join the new church. She responded immediately when the first invitation was given.

Mr. Higginbotham was not a charter member, but he and M r s. Higginbotham were married October 19, 1887. He joined very soon after their marriage.

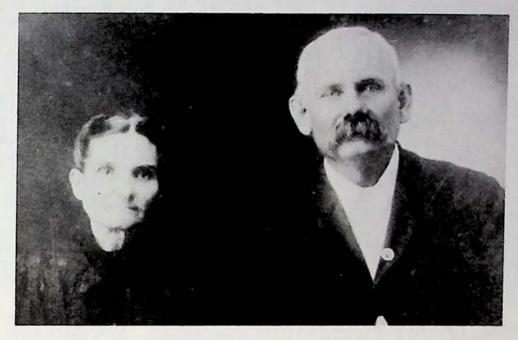
They died on the dates stated above, and both of the m are buried in the Social Circle City Cemetery.



Mr. and Mrs. Alex Cox

Mr. and Mrs. Cox were parents of one girl who died around the age of one year.

They are buried at w h a t is thought to be the Cox cemetery, between Social Circle and Monroe.



Mr. Bose Berry Mrs. Mary (Beam) Berry

Mr. and Mrs. Berry were parents of the following children:

Will Berry Clarence Berry Alex Berry Jim Berry Mrs. Katie (Berry) Swords Mrs. Jennie (Berry) Barnett Mrs. Minnie (Berry) Harmon Mrs. Fannie (Berry) Blasingame

Mr. and Mrs. Berry are buried at Sardis Cemetery, near Oxford



Mrs. Fannie (Berry) Blassingame

Mrs. Blassingame's children are:

Fred Willie Dewey Lula Lillian

She is buried in a cemetery near Monroe. We could not ascertain the name of the cemetery.



Mrs. Jenny (Berry) Barnett 11-23-1876 -- 5-1-1971

Pictured on the left is Mrs. Jenny (Berry) Barnett, the last living charter member of the Alcovy Methodist Church, who died in the Newton County Hospital May 1, 1971, at the age of ninety-four years.

She was married to Eric Barnett, and from their union twelve children were born. Their children were as

follows:

Sam, Rural, J. C. Rosa Mamie, Bertie, Mattie, Mamie, Ada, Jennie, Clarence Lott, Clara Dott.

Funeral services for Mrs. Barnett were conducted by the Reverend Robert Ballard on Monday, May 3rd. Interment was in East View Cemetery, Conyers, Ga.

Her husband preceded her in death, but we do not know the d a t e of his death.

Those surviving are as follows: Two sons, Sam Barnett of Oxford, and Clarence Barnett, of Chattanooga, Tennessee; two daughters, Mrs. J. Ellis

Reece, and Mrs. A. M. Baker, both of Chattanooga; four daughters-in law, Mrs. Porter Barnett; of Covington, Mrs. E l m a Lotz of Miami, Florida, Mrs. W. E. Spear, of Copper Hill, Tennessee a n d Mrs. Jim Warren, of Columbus, Ohio. Surviving also a r e one sister, Mrs. Minnie Harmon, of Atlanta, twelve grandchildren a n d a number of great-grandchildren.



Mr. Will Berry

Mr. Will Berry, whose picture appears to the left, was married to the former Miss Ethel Jones. Mrs. Berry's picture appears on the following page.

Mr. and Mrs. Berry were parents of four chil-dren. They were:

George Roy Grady Hardeman

Mr. Berry w a s buried at Sardis cemetery, near Oxford.



Mrs. Will (Ethel Jones) Berry, Hays

Pictured here is M r s. Will (Ethel Jones) Berry, H a y s. After Mr. Berry's death, she married Mr. Pleas Hays.

She is living at the time of this writing, and is a resident of a nursing home

Covington.

She was not a charter member, but we are carrying her picture for her kindness of furnishing us the picture of her husband, Mr. Will Berry, who was a charter member.



Mrs. Mary (Ewing) Hooten 1-1-1869 -- 9-7-1931

Mrs. Mary (Ewing) Hooten, pictured here was married to Mr. Bill Hooten. The four children, born from their union, were:

Ike Hooten Clifford Hooten Jewel Hooten Charlie Hooten

Mrs. Hooten was buried in a cemetery near McDonough Georgia.



Mr. Seaborn Hudson Wiley 5-20-1850 -- 3-14-1939



Mrs. Seaborn (Sarah Henrietta Sockwell) Wiley 4-20-1858 -- 2-27-1941

Mr. Seaborn Hudson Wiley and Miss Sarah Henrietta Sockwell were married on September 5, 1876. Twelve children were born from their union. Their names were:

Julia John T. Annie Charlie E. Leila James W. Seaborn C. Ida Mae Ora Coleman L. Homer W. Irene

Mr. and Mrs. Wiley are both buried at Sardis Cemetery, near Oxford, Georgia.



Mrs. Mary Virginia (Stark) Street 6-14-1861 -- 2-8-1958

Mrs. Mary Virginia (Stark) Street, pictured on the left, and her husband were parents of two children. Their names were:

Mary Stark who married a Mr. Barnett, Will Stark

I am very sorry that this is all the information we could develop on Mrs. Street.

We are very grateful for the pictures of twelve of the thirteen charter members of the church. Some of the pictures were faded with age and did not reproduce as clearly as we had hoped they would, but we are just grateful that this much of the past can be recaptured.

Miss (or Mrs.) Lula Ewing is the member on whom we were unable to develop any information. Mrs. Louise Doster, who has been so helpful in getting obscure information, and others she querried

could not recall ever having known this person.

#### Memoirs

Some of the families who made their homes in the Alcovy Community during the early years of the writer's childhood were: Nash, Pickett, Reynolds, Chapman, Berry, Fillyaw, Gibbs, Swords, Greer, Gober, Ivey, Darnell, Jordan, Mitchell, Hodges, Nichols,

Lee, Higginbotham, Hamby, Few and Lane, to name only a few.

As a small boy, I remember the Church and my attendance there. I probably remember the Christmas programs more clearly than other activities of the Church. We always had a beautiful tree, and it was lighted ... lighted with small wax candles that were tied to the branches of the tree. This was the only available way for rural churches to have lighted trees: electricity for rural areas was unheard-of at this time.

Often these candles would burn down and ignite the cords holding them; and sometimes the tree's paper chains and other handmade paper decorations would burst into flames. The lighted tree was much more brilliant than the dim kerosene lamps used to light the church in that day: and it was far more exciting to the children!

The writer also remembers revival meetings held in the first church building. We lived very near the church, a n d I remember when invitations were given that persons under conviction went to forth and cried as they repented and committed their lives to Christ. As a small boy, I did not understand what was happening: now I know that penitents were experiencing the joys of pardon.

I also remember Mr. Bose Berry and other older men of the congregation sitting in the "Amen corner." The "Amen corner" has almost disappeared from the churches of today. In the original church building at Alcovy, it was to the right of the chancel with some two or three short pews where zealous worshipers sat who led the responsive amens during the services. This was on the right, facing the chancel. A small choir of some ten or twelve persons was seated on the opposite side. The reed organ was also on the side with the choir.

It was within the walls of this sanctuary that I attended my first funeral. I attended a number of funerals here, in my early childhood; but I do not now remember who the deceased persons were. I remember most clearly the grief and tears of the sorrowing families and friends: and I remember that I wept with them. I d i d not fully understand the meaning of death, but I was moved to tears by the sorrow others were experiencing.

#### Une U hurch School

I think I remember correctly that the Church d i d not have a full service program. Earlier it was referred to as a mission in the Conference Journals, but by this time I believe it was a quarter-station appointment, having services one Sunday each month.

At this time (in 1910) Rev. Henry H. Jones, now a retired member of the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church, was a student of theology at Old Emory College, at Oxford, Georgia. He came down to Alcovy each Sunday, of ten bringing friends of his who were also theology students there. They gave the people a very fine Sunday School program.



Miss Helen Williams

One person who made a big contribution to the work was Miss Helen Williams.

Miss Helen was teaching in the little one-room school at Alcovy when the writer attended his first summer session there in 1910. I do not know how long she taught before this date, but I won't ever forget the full term and the summer term I had there as her pupil. She planted thoughts in the minds of her pupils that have blessed through the years. She had no favorites, and I am sure that her teachings and influence meant as much to every one of her pupils as they have meant to me.

Her brother, who lives in Oxford, had a family photograph he permitted me to copy for this record.

Miss Helen was, at the time I contacted her brother, a resident of a nursing home. She was very feeble and passed to her eternal reward very soon after I gleaned the picture for our history. I believe she was about ninety years of age at the time of her death. She is buried in the City Cemetery of Oxford. I attended the funeral and interment service.

### The Early Hastorate

It is a matter of great regret to the writer that there is a lapse of a number of years following the first pastor's tenure of office and any established service record of other ministers who served this historic church.

The writer's wife's sister, Mrs. Mae McIntosh, the oldest living member at this time (November 1975), remembers a Reverend Mr. Aycock who was a former minister here, but she does not remember the dates of his service.

Pictured on the following page is Reverend James C. Patrick who, as indicated, was born March 4, 1857 and died June 4, 1914.

The Reverend Mr. Patrick was married to Elizabeth Lanier in 1880. And following her death in November, 1904, he married Lona Aycock.

He entered the ministry around 1885.

He served the McKenzie Methodist Church, in Gwinnett County, and the Lovejoy Circuit, in Clayton and Henry Counties, in the late 1880's.



Rev. James C. Patrick 3-4-1857 - - 6-4-1914

He founded Ross Chapel Methodist Church i n the year 1890.

He served the Jackson County Circuit

in the late 1890's.

He was appointed to serve the Jersey Circuit in Walton County c. 1900 - 1902. Alcovy Methodist Church was on the Jersey Circuit at this time.

He was called back to serve the Lovejoy Circuit in 1903 and remained in that appointment through 1907.

In 1908 he was reappointed to serve the Jackson Circuit where he remained

through 1912.

The Reverend Mr. Patrick continued active in ministerial appointments until the year 1912. From 1912 until h is death in June 1914, his was a semi-retired relationship with the North Georgia Conference of the Protestant Methodist Church. During this semi-retired period he served the Nazareth and Pleasant Grove Churches. These

were two of the four churches constituting the Jackson County Circuit.

The Reverend Bob McGarity, who was also in a semi-retired relationship with the Protestant Methodist Church Conference at this time, accepted an appointment to serve New Pentecost and Pleasant Hill, the other two churches of the Jackson Circuit. Pleasant Hill is now a Presbyterian Church.

After a long and faithful ministry, the call to c o m e home came to brother Patrick on June 4th, 1914. The call did not take him by surprise for he had lived in expectation and readiness for a long number of years. After the funeral services, interment was in the church cemetery of the Old Pentecost Methodist Church, i n Barrow County.

We are indebted to Miss Eudene Jones, a granddaughter of Rev. Patrick's, for the picture and for information on the life and

work of Reverend Patrick.

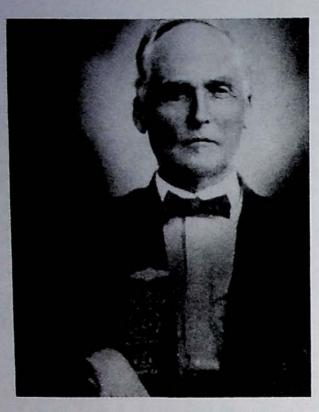
## A Ten - Hear - Tapse

Regretfully, there is at least a ten-year-time-lapse in o u r records between the tenure of office of Reverend Patrick and t h e next known appointed minister. Reverend Patrick's appointment t o the Jersey Circuit (and the Alcovy Church) was 1900 - 1902.

Memory, more than record, confirms who the next known minis-

ter was. He was the Reverend David Harrison Mobley.

As a very small boy, the writer remembers Reverend Mobley, and his appointment to serve the Alcovy Church.



REV. DAVID HARRISON MOBLEY 6-16-1840 -- 7-11-1929

In talking with some older friends we believe Rev. Mobley came to serve at Alcovy in 1912. We do not remember the length of time he served.

An interesting sketch of Bro. Mobley's life and work follows.

We are indebted to h is granddaughter, Mrs. Nannie Mae (Mobley) Morgan for the information.

Mrs. Morgan also l e t us copy her picture of h e r grand-father for this record.

"Uncle Dave," as he was affectionately called by a h o s t of friends, relatives, students and members of the churches he served, was born June 16, 1840, in Walton County, on t h e Hightower Trail near Jersey (Centerville), Georgia. His parents were Thomas a n d Harriett Coleman Mobley.

He was a member of the Walton County G u a r d s, Company G, Thomas Brigade, 35th Georgia Regiment, which was organized a n d went out in 1861. He fought in the battles of Gettysburg, Fredericksburg, Petersburg, and was wounded in the leg in Battle of the Wilderness. He was present at the surrender of Robert E. Lee, at Appomattox Courthouse, Virginia, on April 9, 1865. He h e a r d Robert E. Lee, when, with tears streaming down his face, he said to them, "Go home, boys, and be men, as you have been with me."

Upon returning from the war in 1865 he was married to M i s s Fannie E. Blasingame, and they were the parents of t h e following children:

October 29, 1886 Cora Lee Mobley, Born Junius Berry Mobley, Mar. 4, 1868 January 17, 1870 April 19, 1871 Osgood Horatio Mobley, 11 Eliza Ann Amanda Mobley, December 14, 1872 \*\* Charles Jeffrice Mobley, September 28, 1874 May 31, 1876 December 9, 1877 Lily Mobley, Maggie May Mobley, Michael Camilla Mobley, Laura Sidonia Mobley, September , 1879 September 23, 1883 Mahetabel Bashti Mobley, Thomas Powell Mobley. February 6, 1885

Upon the death of his first wife he was married to Miss Sarah Tyre Hayes, of Hayston, Georgia, and to them were born three children:

Marvin Coleman Mobley, Born February 14, 1890 Benjamin Harvey Mobley, "November 15, 1894 Winnie Davis Mobley, "July 22, 1899

"Uncle Dave" was never idle. He combined farming with teaching school, preaching, holding the office of Justice of the Peace, and in later years, gardening, tending the cow, and anything necessary to be done to help in the support of his family. He earned quite a few dollars marrying people, although on one occasion the colored boy being married reminded him of a bill due h i m for pressing, which cancelled the fee that time. He loved people and loved to have his family and friends around him. He w a s always the center of any gathering. He never met a stranger, or one who remained a stranger long, as he could always find s o m e common ground of interest, and, more often than not, the chance acquain tance turned out to be a relative, however far removed.

He had a sweet singing voice, and in his younger d a y s conducted singing schools. He enjoyed "all day singings," and could hold up his end with the best of them on "Murillo's Lesson" a n d other Fa-so-la's. He was usually asked to lead a f e w numbers at these singings. His preaching was done in the Methodist Protestant Church Conference, which closed its Southern Conference, and as he was getting old at that time and his hearing w a s impaired, he never affiliated with any other church as a pastor, but joined the Methodist Episcopal Church. Whenever he w a s spied by the preacher in a congregation, he was usually called on for a prayer, or a talk.

He was a true gentleman in every sense of the word; kind and considerate of his fellowmen; never criticizing anyone, but always seeing the best in everyone. His grandchildren a n d great-grandchildren who did not have the pleasure of knowing h i m personally must always remember that he set them a shining example, a n d a very high set of standards to live and die by. He was a joyous Christian, who believed in enjoying life and making the lives of those about him brighter.

He so loved the Lord with all his heart, and praised his name always, and we who knew him best know that when his Lord bade him "lay down his armor" on July 11, 1929, to enter the land of "eternal peace," he received a royal "Well done," and is enjoying reunion with his old comrades and friends who preceded him. He c a n sit a n d talk with them about t h e "Battle of t h e Wilderness," "Robert E. Lee" and "Old Traveler," with full assurance that they understand exactly what he is talking about - as we who were n o t with him there could never quite do, and if they need someone to lead the singing, he will be happy to oblige.

#### Relocation

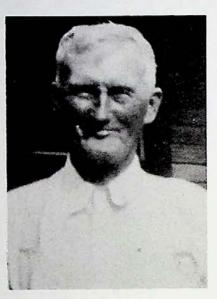
The original building housed the congregation for twentyseven years as previously stated, but they moved to the present site in the year 1915. The writer remembers much of the details about the construction of the new building.

Mr. Carlton Greer, a resident of the community, was contractor

in charge of erecting the new building.



James (Jim) F. Simons 8-3-1868 - - 7-2-1954



Dave M. Gibbs

Appearing above are pictures of Mr. J a m e s (Jim) Franklin Simons, the writer's father, and Mr. Dave Gibbs, who served as carpenter foremen in the work of building the new church. We tried to find a picture of Mr. Carlton Greer, the contractor, b u t were unable to do so. Later, Miss Allene Swords, a niece of Mr. Greer, advised the writer that she did not think a picture was ever made of Mr. Greer.

By the year 1915 a large number of the church members were living between Jersey and Alcovy, and it was decided that the church should be more centrally located. A plan to relocate the church was discussed, and the site of the present church was a

greeable to both the membership and the Official Board.

Mr. O. N. Stanton, a wealthy planter of the area, owned the land the group wanted. He also owned the land surrounding the church's one-acre lot at Alcovy where the original building was located. So, an exchange was worked out with Mr. Stanton. He gave the church the building lot at the present site and bought materials needed to build the new church building in exchange for the original church building and the one-acre lot at Alcovy. The members and the men of the entire community worked with Mr. Gibbs and my father to build the new building. Each person helping with the project donated their labor.

A copy of Mr. Stanton's deed for the new building lot, given

to the church July 11, 1915, appears on the following page of this book. This deed is recorded in Record Book No. 12, Page 493, Newton County, Covington, Georgia.

I, the writer, remember many details of the work of constructing the new church building. Robert Nash hauled the building materials to the building site, using a T-Model F or d truck. Robert was a young man, the son of Mr. Jimmy Nash, who lived on a farm in the community.

O. N. Gibbs and I carried lunches to our fathers every d a y, and we both spent much time observing the work from the foundation

until the building was completed.

I don't remember how much time was required to complete the work, but I do remember that the progress was slow. Mr. Greer, the Contractor, was a perfectionist: and Mr. Gibbs and my father were careful to see that none of the work would have to be torn away.

When the work was finally completed, I remember the f i r s t service in the new building was special. Announcement was made in advance, and the new building was filled for the service. A dinner consisting of picnic basket lunches was served, and the fellowship

was enjoyed by a host of members and friends.

Everyone was justly proud of the new church. It was beautiful and was painted inside and out. The rural farm homes of most of the members were never painted and the snow-white church in the beautiful grove of oaks, hickories and other trees was about the most beautiful sight imaginable to the people who were involved in

the project, and to all of the interested friends.

Money was very hard to come by at this time, and the handmade pews, pulpit and other furnishings, along with the same old
reed pump organ were moved into the new building. The pews and
pulpit were built by hand in 1888 for the first church building.
The decor would probably not have been approved by a decorator, but
the people were happy; the Lord met them at His altar there, and
a beautiful spirit of love prevailed. From the beginning to the
present date, this little church has been a Bethel in the lives
of the hundreds it has ministered to during the intervening years.
We pray that it may ever be so until the Lord comes to resurrect
those who died in faith, and to catch up the righteous living a t
the time of His coming.

# ARRANTY DEED.

# THE STATE OF GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY.

or less, in Juston Caute, Joseph Brunder, count = Our arm of land hund for less, in Juston Caute, Joseph Brunder an the looked West and Sound by Oh Stauton and Sover and Sover and Sover and Sover and Sover and Sover france, Johnson of Juston and Sover france, Johnson of Juston Staute, Johnson of Juston of the lower france, Johnson of Sover frank on the lower to be used for Clank or Solver frank on the hours of the hours of the hours of the sound to said On Stautons estate. 6. The simportum TO 4, Berry as Onoto of THIS INDENTURE, made the Girls of Detroit of Out Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Changes

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said above granted and described property, with all and singular the rights, members, and appurtenances thereunto appertaining, to the only proper use, benefit, and behoof of the said particle, of the second part, Hiers, executors, administrators, and assigns, in feesimple. And the said particle. of the first part the said bargained property above described unto the said part Adol the second part, Willy. ... heirs, administrators, and assigns, against the said party of the first part, We ... heirs, executors, administrators, and against all and every other person or persons, shall and will and does hereby warrant and forever defend by virtue of these presents.

O'n Stauton (Scal.) In witness whereof the said part M. of the first part ha B. hereunto set W. hand affixed M. seal ... seal ... said delivered these presents the day C. H. Mender Onlineny Signed, scaled, and delivered in presence of and year above written.

Remain Suly 11sts 1945

13335-Newton Co., Ga.

San Brlaus

### A Mackward Look

Time has closed her doors on the past! It is grievous to me that so much of the early history of the Alcovy Church has passed from us. Copies of Conference Journals of the Methodist Protestant Church were not preserved, and only a few copies are in the Methodist Archives. I am listing, on the following pages, excerpts of my findings that I think will be of interest to our readers.

#### SEVENTY-SEVENTH SESSION

Georgia Annual Conference, Methodist Protestant Church Held at Owl Rock Church, November 15-18, 1906

Pastoral Appointment,
Jersey Circuit (including Alcovy)

C. B. McDaniel, Pastor

| Conference Stewards Home Missions Ministerial Ed. Church Extension Easter Offering | \$ 14.20<br>\$ 7.65<br>\$ 21.45 | Circuit: Foreign Missions \$ Westminister Seminary \$ Conference Collection \$ Children's Day \$ | 22.85<br>9.05<br>6.35<br>15.00      |
|--|---------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Committee on Statist<br>Itinerant Ministers<br>Unstationed Minister                | 2<br>cs 3                       | Members (4 churches)<br>Additions<br>Withdrawals   | 260<br><u>93</u><br>353<br>6<br>347 |
|  |                                 | Loss by death  | 1<br>346                            |

Pastor's salary \$ 407.30 (4 churches) President's salary \$ 28.25

| Number of Sabbath Schools | on cl | harge 3  |
|---------------------------|-------|----------|
| Officers and Teachers     |       | . 19     |
| Scholars                  |       | 170      |
| Number of churches        |       | 4        |
| Value of churches         | \$    | 3,700.00 |
| Number of parsonages      |       | 1        |
| Value of parsonage        | \$    | 800.00   |

#### GEORGIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH NINETIETH SESSION Held at Waco, Georgia

November 20-23, 1919

| Report of Stationing Committee:<br>Pastoral Appointment, Alcovy Miss   | ion, Reverend L. P. Driskell  |
|--|---|
| General interest and Apportionment Alcovy Mission Church extension \$ 10.0 General Conference Budget \$ 7.5                |   |
| Delegate to Annual Conference, R.  | L. Ellington  |
| Membership Statistics: Alcovy Mission 37 Additions 8 Total 45 Loss by death 2 Total 43                                     | Conversions 8 Baptisms 8  |
| Number of Church Schools Number of Teachers & Officers Number of pupils Total enrolled                                     |   |
| Financial Report, Alcovy Mission<br>General Conference Budget \$ 2.0<br>Special Offering \$ 50.0<br>Total these four items | 00 Church Extension \$ 3.00<br>00 Conf. Expense \$ 1.00<br>\$ 56.00 |
| Pastor's Salary(promised) \$ 75.0<br>Pastor's Salary(Paid) \$ 98.0   | \$ 98.00  |
| Total raised   | \$154.00  |
| Property: Alcovy Church - value \$1,000. Other holdings \$492.   |   |

NINETY-SIXTH SESSION
GEORGIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH
Held at Mount Zion Church, Ellenwood, Georgia

November 18-22, 1925

Boundary Committee Report: Alcovy Mission, placed on Newton Circuit Charge The Churches on the Charge are:

> Newton Factory Austin Chapel Alcovy

Pastor appointed for the year: Reverend W. C. Harris

| Membership Report: On roll (Last report) 251 Gains - Baptisms 26  | Church School report:<br>Number - church schools 2  |
|---|---|
| Gains - by letter 3 Total 280 Lost - by death 2 Lost - by letter 4 Total on roll 274                        | Enrollment: Teachers & Officers 16 Pupils 85 Enrolled 101   |
| Property: 3 Churches. Valued  | \$ 3,200.00   |
| Financial Report: General Conference Collection President's Salary (3 churches) Camp Ground Pastor's Salary | \$ 3.00 Church Sch.\$ 13.16<br>\$ 17.07 C.E. Soc. \$ 28.95<br>\$ 1.15 Special \$ 50.00<br>\$ 179.16 Total \$ 92.11<br>\$ 200.38 |

NINETY-SEVENTH SESSION
GEORGIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH
Pleasant Grove Methodist Church, Draketown, Georgia

November 17-21, 1926

Boundary Committee Report: Alcovy Church on Newton Circuit Charge

The Churches on the Charge are:

Newton Factory
Austin Chapel
Alcovy

Pastor appointed for the year: Reverend G. B. Handley

(Continued on next page)

#### Value of 3 churches \$ 3,200.00

| Membership Gained by baptism Total Loss - by death 2 Loss - by letter 3          | 2.5   | 51<br>11<br>52<br>57                  | Number of Sunday Schools 1 Enrollment: Teachers & Officers Pupils                          | 4:<br>50  | 8<br>2<br>0   |
|--|-------|---------------------------------------|--|-----------|---|
| Apportionments:<br>President's Salary<br>Church Extension<br>Camp Ground         | \$55  | 25.00<br>15.00<br>3.00                | General Conference Budget<br>Conference Collection<br>Superannuate Fund                    | \$\$\$\$  | 85.00<br>15.00<br>3.00                                      |
| Collections: Conf. Budget Church Extension Camp Ground Janitor Evangelistic Help | 80000 | 3.75<br>3.00<br>2.00<br>36.00<br>6.00 | President's Salary Ministry Pastor's Salary(3 churches) Fuel Charity Sunday School Expense | 000000000 | 15.00<br>2.00<br>180.85<br>18.00<br>4.55<br>13.25<br>284.40 |

Delegate to Annual Conference: John J. Higginbotham

#### NINETY-EIGHTH SESSION GEORGIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH

Clifton Methodist Protestant Church, East Atlanta

November 16-20, 1927

Pastor Appointed for the year: Reverend R. C. Goddard

Value of 3 churches \$ 3,200.00

| Circuit Membership Report:<br>Number of Members 257  | Sunday Schools on Circuit 2            |                |  |  |
|--|--|----------------|--|--|
| Lost by Letter 1 Lost by Death 1 2 Total on Roll 255 | Enrollment: (last report) Gained Total | 43<br>45<br>88 |  |  |
|  | Teachers & Officers - 16               |                |  |  |

(Included in total)

(Continued on next page)

| Apportionments: President's Salary Church Extension Camp Ground            | \$ 25.00<br>\$ 15.00<br>\$ 5.00  | General Conference Budget<br>Annual Conference<br>Superannuate Fund<br>Representative-Gen.Conf. | ********************* | 85.00<br>15.00<br>5.00<br>10.00<br>160.00        |
|--|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------|--|
| Financial Report: President's Salary Printing Minutes Pastor's Salary Fuel | \$ 1.00<br>\$ 185.00<br>\$ 15.00 | Church Extension<br>Camp Ground<br>Janitor<br>Sunday School Misc.<br>Incidentals                | 0000000               | 4.00<br>3.00<br>36.00<br>20.00<br>4.10<br>273.60 |

Union Literature used in Sunday School.

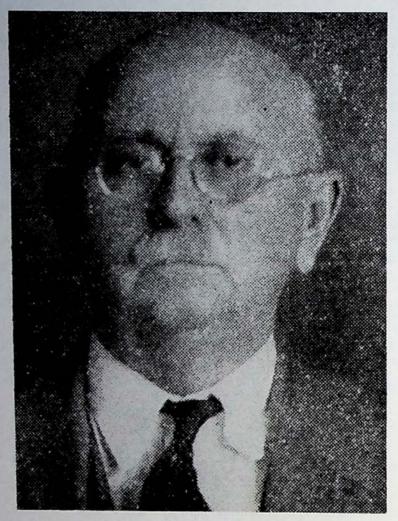
Delegate to Annual Conference: Mr. J. D. Wiley

NINETY-NINTH SESSION
GEORGIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH
November 21-25, 1928
Centenary Church, Moreland and Austin Avenue, N. E.
Atlanta, Georgia

Note: The Boundary Committee's Report does not show the Alcovy Church in the appointments for this year.

The writer remembers that before the Church Union in 1939, that the Methodist Episcopal Church supplied pastors for the Alcovy Church, although Alcovy remained a Protestant Church until the Union of 1939.

Hastoral Hrofiles



Reverend Seaborn C. Campbell 8-12-1871 -- 4-28-1962

The writer remembers the Reverend Seaborn C. Campbell and his pastorate at the Alcovy Church. Reverend Campbell served in 1918. His home was in Bowdoin, Georgia; and he commuted to his appointments at Alcovy by train. I, the writer, worked with Mr. John Fillyaw, Agent at the Alcovy Station for Georgia Railroad. At this time, the railroads gave ministers a special clergyman's rate, which, if I remember correctly, was slightly less than one-half the regular passenger rate. I sold brother Campbell many tickets.

Our home was near the depot, and on his return trips he would come to visit with our family, and almost always had the evening meal with us before he caught the late evening train westward on

his homeward journey.

As the records of this history show, ministers of small rural churches of this day barely earned enough to cover their expense of travel. So, they had to work at other jobs to provide for their families. Brother Campbell was a very versatile man. He owned a shop at his home in Bowdoin, Georgia, and did watch and clock repairing. He also tuned pianos, and could do almost a ny job that came to hand.

Brother Campbell was born August 12, 1871, and died April 28, 1962.

He was married to Miss Lula A. Thurman in 1892, and he a n d

Mrs. Campbell were parents of eight children.

He was licensed to preach in November, 1918. He was ordained Elder in November, 1922. His appointments were: Bowdoin Circuit; Riverdale Circuit; Clifton Church; Newton Circuit (Alcovy w a s on the Newton Circuit); and retired in 1937.

He was elected Secretary of the Georgia Methodist Protestant Conference eleven times, President three times, and served on the

Board of Church Extension a number of times.

He was one of the Methodist Protestant's greatest supporters of Unification in 1939.

Rev. L. P. Driskell served the Alcovy Methodist Church for the year 1919. I personally remember his appointment and his serving the church for this period, but I could not ascertain the date of his birth, nor the date of his death. I regret being unable to develop more interesting information on this faithful servant of the Lord.

#### REV. JEFFERSON STEWART STRICKLAND 8-7-1879 -- 12-8-1958

There is a period of three years, 1920, 1921, and 1922, that I am unable to establish. I tried to recall who served a s pastor at Alcovy during these years, and I discussed it with friends my age and older, but we just cannot remember and records are not on file to show who was appointed pastor for these years.

Alcovy Church was placed on a circuit with Social Circle for an afternoon service in 1923, and Rev. Jefferson Stewart Strickland drove out from Social Circle to hold the afternoon services.

Brother Stickland was born August 7, 1879, in S p a l d i n g County, Georgia, and died December 8, 1958, in Atlanta, Georgia, at age seventy-nine years and four months. Our heavenly Father was kind to spare him to us for so long a time, and we pray that He will sanctify every good influence of this, His dedicated ser - vant.

He was married to Miss Bertha Mae Payne on August 4th, 1905. Theirs was a long and happy married life. His faithful companion was a true helpmeet to him in his ministry of thirty-nine and one half years. She, with their eight children, survived him. Their children were as follows: Mrs. Eleanor Parker, Robert T., Mrs. Ralph Barber, Stewart P., Mrs. Raymond E. Cornett, Irving, James E., and J. S., Jr. At the time of his death in 1958, 13 grand-children and 12 great-grandchildren also survived him. The obituary, at the time of his death, shows that he was the first one of the immediate family to be taken in death.

Brother Strickland, records indicate, was converted in a revival conducted by the late Reverend Charlie Dunaway, many years prior to his death.

He was called to preach early after his conversion. He answered God's call, and served faithfully for this long period in the North Georgia Methodist Conference.

The Alcovy Church is richer because of his ministry.

## REV. EDWARD AQUILLA CALDWELL 7-8-1872 - 6-23-1952

Rev. Edward A. Caldwell was appointed to serve as pastor of the Alcovy Church in 1924. In 1936 he was again appointed a n d served for two years, 1936 and 1937. He also had a third appointment to Alcovy when he served the Church for another year in 1945.

Mrs. Anita B. Sams notes in "WAYFARERS IN WALTON" that he was the seventh son of James M. and Rebecca M. Caldwell. He was born

July 8, 1872.

He lived most of his life in Monroe and at an early a g e entered the newspaper field.

He was married to Katherine Trout of Pendergrass J u n e 10,

1903.

Mrs. Sams observed also that he advanced from " printer 's devil" to Editor and publisher of the Walton News, and that he re-

mained active in this field for more than 50 years.

The Walton Tribune, in its Wednesday June 25, 1952, edition, said of him, "Edward A. Caldwell, one of Georgia's best k n o w n newspaper men, and for more than a half century a prime factor in the community life of Monroe and Walton County, passed away in the early hours of Monday morning at the Walton County Hospital.

"The third of a series of strokes occurred at his home Saturday night, and Sunday morning he was moved to the hospital, where every possible service was rendered by doctors and loved ones. Had he lived until July 8th, he would have attained his 80th birthday.

"Impressive and largely attended funeral services occurred Tuesday p.m. from the Monroe First Methodist Church, conducted by Reverend George L. King and Reverend J. L. Drake. Interment was

in Rest Haven Memorial Cemetery."

In addition to his work in the field of journalism, brother Caldwell was also an active Methodist Preacher as long as h is health permitted. The writer and his family knew and loved brother Caldwell. He received our son, Jimmy, into full membership of the Alcovy Church on profession of faith following the week of revival. Our son was received into the Church with the class of others who joined on August 1, 1937. Our younger son, Kenneth, also knew brother Caldwell when he returned for his last appoint ment to Alcovy in 1945. Our family loved him.

#### REV. W. C. HARRIS 12-1-1882 -- 11-1965

The Reverend W. C. Harris came to Alcovy as our appointed pastor in 1925. Brother Harris was born in Fayette County, Georgia, December 1st, 1882. He received his call to preach in a tent

revival at Hopewell Protestant Methodist Church in Tyrone, Georgia. With the call came also the desire to be used of the Lord to help others. Before his ordination, he conducted cottage prayer services in the community, and used every opportunity to witness for the Lord.

He was a member of the Protestant Methodist Conference. North Georgia, until the Union in 1939. During h i s connection with the P. M. Church, he served the following churches: Austin Chapel and Newton Factory, on the Newton Circuit; Victory; Bowdoin; New Hope; Waco; Union; Bowdoin Junction and Chapel.

After the Union in 1939, he joined the Congregational Methodist Conference, and served churches in this connection until h i s retirement. He and his family made their home in Tyrone u n t i l 1928. He then moved to Carrollton where he lived until his death

in 1965.

Brother Harris was esteemed most highly by everyone in the Church. He returned to hold one homecoming service in later years, if I recall correctly.

I am indebted to his son, the Reverend C. L. Harris, a Methodist Minister and member of the North Georgia United Methodist

Conference, for this factual information about his father.

In a personal note to me, brother Harris said this of his father:

"My father was a good man. I shall always cherish the many wonderful things he taught me that have been of unestimable value."

This is a beautiful tribute, isn't it? But all of us who knew and loved brother Harris will say "Amen" to the tribute.

#### REV. JOHN B. GORDON HANDLEY 9-6-1880 --- 10-13-1937

The Reverend John B. Gordon Handley was appointed in 1926 to serve as pastor of the Alcovy Church. He was the first pastor to make his home in the community, and the people loved having h i m living in their midst. He rented the old Armestead home, a stately ante-bellum home, where he and his family lived for the year.

Brother Handley served this appointment for one year o n 1 y. He continued to serve after leaving Alcovy, but we do not k n o w

the churches he later served.

Alcovy was on the Newton Circuit at the time of his appointment, and Austin Chapel and Newton Factory were the other churches on the charge.

Brother Handley was living in Tyrone, Georgia, at the time of his death, and he was buried in Hopewell Cemetery, Tyrone, Fayette

County, Georgia.



REV. R. C. GODDARD 8-18-1890 -

In 1927 the Reverend R. C. Goddard was appointed to pastor the Alcovy Church. Brother Goddard is yet living at the time of this writing, and I would like to include this personal statement from him for our historical record:

"It was late in November, 1927, when I was appointed to my first pastorate. It was on the Newton Circuit and the three churches were Newton Factory, Austin Chapel and Alcovy. I had worked the previous year as the assistant pastor with Reverend C. A. Higby, of the Center Hill Church in Atlanta, Georgia.

"One night in 1926 the Lord woke me up and told me to read Ezekiel 3:17 and 18: so I considered this my call to preach. I hope everyone who reads these lines will also read this portion of

Scripture.

"The next Sunday I talked with Reverend Hunton, President of our Protestant Methodist Church, and asked for license to preach. It took some time to get the license, but I received them without too much trouble.

"I was converted when I was eleven years of age, a n d since that time I have been everything in the church f r o m Janitor t o pastor, including song-leader, Sunday School Teacher a n d Sunday School Superintendent. I was thrilled to get a circuit that opened a door to preach the gospel to people who needed it.

"I would leave early Sunday morning and drive forty miles i n my Model T Ford, arriving at the churches in time to kindle fires in the old wood or coal burning heaters used for heating the churches. I always made it a point to have the churches warm when

the people arrived.

"All of the people were very nice to my wife and me. They invited us into their homes and gave us good meals.

"During the summer, I spent a week in revival meeting at each church, but my wife did not accompany me because she had to stay at home with our children.

"We had a wonderful revival at Austin Chapel in the summer of 1928. Rev. M. L. Edgar led the singing. When I gave the Altar call two persons came; then I heard a little bird singing. I t caused a slight commotion, and when I turned around everyone in the church was at the altar.

"One night I preached on the Second Coming of Christ. The people said I preached for one and one-half hours that night, but not one person left the Church. I was so happy that night that I shouted all over the place, but the people stayed.

"In later years I preached in small towns, but I enjoyed the

country churches the most."

#### REV. ERA P. EUBANKS 10-29-1884 -- 8-31-1961

Our appointed pastor at Alcovy for 1928 was the Reverend Era P. Eubanks. Brother Eubanks was born at Cave Springs, Georgia, October 29, 1884.

He was licensed to preach in the State of Oklahoma in 1907, and ordained an Elder in the Methodist Church, November 12, 1912.

He married while living in Oklahoma, and he and M r s. Eubanks were parents of four children.

He served churches across North Georgia for fifty years. His

appointments were:

Rockmart; Mountville; Colloden; Hepzibah; Fairburn; Social Circle; Porterdale; Norcross; Summerville; Mount Vernon (Atlanta); Gracewood; Lovejoy (Newnan) Boynton; and the Turpin Charge, after retirement. He served in the itinerant ministry for m o r e than fifty years, altogether.

On August 31, 1961 his earthly ministry was finished a n d he

was called home to heaven.

In 1928 Alcovy Church was again placed on the circuit w i t h Social Circle, and brother Eubanks held afternoon services here. He served for three years, 1928 - 1929 - 1930, under this appointment.

#### REV. C. W. FRUIT 3-10-1901 --- 9-18-1969

Reverend Charles Wesley Fruit was born in Greensboro, North Carolina on March 10, 1901, the son of Elton Wesley a n d Hattie Williams Fruit.

He was educated in the public schools of Savannah, Georgia, and later graduated from the Manchester, Georgia, High School, in Manchester, Georgia.

He was married to Miss Winnie Clement on March 1, 1922, a n d from their union four children were born.

He was licensed to preach June 24, 1920. He w a s ordained a

Deacon in the Methodist Church in 1924. His Elder's ordination was in 1931.

Brother Fruit served the following appointments:

Logansville 1925; Powder Springs 1927; Salem Circuit 1 9 2 8; Milstead (Alcovy was placed on the Circuit with Milstead in 1931 - 1932 at which time he was Alcovy's pastor for these t w o years); Kincaid (Griffin); Villa Rica 1939; Royston 1940; Commerce 1942; Calhoun 1948; Epworth (Atlanta) 1951; Associate, Atlanta F i r s t Church 1953. He remained Associate Pastor of the Atlanta First United Methodist Church until his retirement in 1966. He served the Peachtree Road Methodist Church as a retired supply pastor until his death.

He died quietly in his sleep on the night of September 18, 1969. Interment was in Rest Haven Memorial Gardens, on Candler Road, in Decatur, Georgia.

#### REV. J. J. COPELAND 6-19-1879 -- 7-4-1941

Reverend Jasper Jefferson Copeland was Alcovy's pastor for two consecutive years when Alcovy was removed from the Milstead Circuit and again placed on the circuit with Social Circle. The years of his service at Alcovy were 1933 - 1934.

Reverend Copeland was born June 19, 1879.

He was licensed to preach in June, 1905, ordained Deacon by Bishop Wilson in 1911, and ordained Elder by Bishop Denny in 1913. He was admitted on trial in the West Oklahoma Conference i n 1909, and was received into full connection in 1911.

He served two appointments in the Oklahoma Conference, but, was transferred to the North Georgia Methodist Conference on November 11, 1911. He served seventeen appointments in the North

Georgia Methodist Conference from 1911 to 1951.

Following an automobile accident near Greensboro, Georgia, he died of injuries received in the wreck. The accident happened on July 3, and he died on July 4, 1941.

Funeral services were conducted at his old home in Siloam, Georgia, on July 5th, with Reverend B. F. Mize officiating. Interment was in the cemetery at Siloam.

#### REV. C. W. FRUIT

The Reverend C. W. Fruit was appointed to serve a t Alcovy for 1935. This is his second appointment as Alcovy's pastor, and an article on his life and work appears on another page of this book.

#### REV. EDWARD A. CALDWELL

The Reverend Edward A. Caldwell was appointed to serve prior to this time, and an article on his life and work appears on another page of this book.

The appointment at this time brought him to serve as Alcovy's spiritual leader for two consecutive years - 1936 - 1937.

#### REV. JESSIE OLIVER BRAND 1871 -- 1955

The Reverend Jessie Oliver Brand was appointed to serve f or three consecutive years. His years of service were 1938 - 1939 - 1940.

The Alcovy Church was again placed on a Circuit with Social Circle for these three years.

Brother Brand was born in 1871 and died in 1955 at a g e 84

years. He was a native of Cherokee County, Georgia.

Funeral services were held in Thompson, Georgia, on December 14, with the Reverend R. B. Hays and the Reverend James J. Sneed officiating.

He was a member of the North Georgia Conference for forty-two years.

#### REV. JACK NICHOLS 3-13-1903 --- 7-13-1975

Brother Jack Nichols was born in Houston County, near Dooling, Georgia, on March 13, 1903.

He was educated at Southern College and the University of Georgia, receiving the B. S. degree from the latter in 1936. He later attended Emory University where he earned the B. D. degree in 1951.

He was married to Miss Austelle Ruth Adams July 31, 1947.

He was ordained a Deacon in the Methodist Church a t the 1932 session of the Annual Conference, and was ordained a n Elder t w o years later in the Annual Conference of 1934.

His appointments were as follows:

Sylvan Hills 1931; Wesley Memorial 1932; Princeton (Athens) 1933; Marietta Campground 1938; North Covington 1938; U. S. Army Hospital 1943; West Putnam Charge 1945; Stone Mountain 1947; Morris Street (Dalton) 1952; Greensboro First 1955; St. Paul (Gainesville) 1960; Methodist Children's Home 1964.

He retired from active appointments at the 1969 session of the Annual Conference, but continued to serve as the assistant minister at Embry Hills United Methodist Church from 1969 to 1974.

Brother Jack died at Emory Hospital at 4:30 Sunday morning, July 13, 1975.

Excerpts from the Memorial Service read as follows:

"Realizing he had a terminal illness, Jack planned his memorial service about a year before his death. He realized he was

going, and was not afraid, as is revealed in the beautiful poem he wrote in 1966, and which he requested to be read at his funeral.

"He requested that the service not be a time of sorrow a n d

weeping, but one of celebration.

"He requested the service be held at the Embry Hills United Methodist Church, and that the church choir sing two favorite

hyms, "Blessed Assurance" and "How Great Thou Art."

"He selected the pastors whom he desired to officiate. They were: Dr. Bevel Jones, Dr. Bill Ruff, Dr. Gordon Thompson, the Rev. Clyde Lancaster, and the Rev. Randall Williamson, the present pastor of the Church. Dr. Thompson and Dr. Ruff could not be present."

The poem was read last. It is as follows:

#### A NEW LOOK AT DEATH

Death stood by life's way
And quietly said to me,
"You are nearing the close of day
I have come to walk with thee."

I said to death that day,

"Surely this is not so,
I love life's happy way,

I'm not really ready to go."

But, said solemn death,
"You do not understand.
I come not as an enemy,
But a friend to every man."

"I am but God's way
That all men must go,
To a richer fuller life,
Leaving earth's sorrows here below."

Then death took my hand
And together we passed thru
The valley of the shadows
To life eternal, in Christ ever new.

After the funeral service the body was brought to Rose Hill

Cemetery, in Royston, Georgia, where it was interred.

I, the writer, owe a debt of gratitude to brother Jack. While he served the Alcovy and Mount Pleasant Churches, he asked me to hold my first service at Mount Pleasant Church. He opened the door for me to serve on this Easter and on other occasions, and in serving on his invitations, the Lord was able to show me that He wanted me in the pulpit.

I tried to tell him in life how much his invitations meant to

me. I believe he knew how grateful I was!

#### REV. CLIFTON FREEMAN 9-24-1873 --- 2-3-1957

Funeral services for Reverend Clifton Freeman, a retired Methodist minister, were held Tuesday, February 5, 1957, o'clock at the North Covington Methodist Church. The Reverend Newton Scott, the pastor of the Church, and Rev. Charles Boylen a n d Reverend Henry Jones officiated. Interment was in the Covington Cemetery.

Rev. Freeman, age 83, died Sunday, February 3rd, at his resi-

dence following an illness of about three years.

He was a member and former pastor of the North Covington Methodist Church. He was a retired Methodist minister having served a number of churches in Carroll, Polk, Floyd, Bartow, Walker, Banks, and Newton Counties. He had served for the past thirty- e i g h t years.

Reverend Freeman was a native of Spalding County. He served the Alcovy Methodist Church in 1943 for one year.

#### REV. MILES BREWTON SAMS 10-11-1877 -- 4-27-1953

Reverend Miles Brewton Sams was born October 11, 1887, Gaffney, S. C. He was educated in the public schools there, a n d at Furman University.

He came to Newton County with his family, and taught in t h e public schools of the County for a number of years.

In 1904, he married Miss Lutie Blassingame, and he a n d Mrs.

Sams were parents of five children.

He was licensed to preach October 21, 1904, admitted on trial in the Methodist Church in 1905, ordained a Deacon by Bishop Ward in 1907, and an Elder in November, 1909, by Bishop Hendrix.

He served Newton Circuit in 1942 - 1945, and was pastor

the Alcovy Church in 1944.

He died on April 27, 1953. Funeral services were held from the First Methodist Church in Covington, April 28, 1953, o'clock.

The Reverend E. G. MacKay, Reverend Nath Thompson, Reverend R. B. Hawkins, and Reverend H. F. Barfield officiated. Interment was in Rest Haven Cemetery in Monroe, Georgia.

In 1945, the Reverend Edward A. Caldwell returned by appointment as Alcovy's pastor in what would be his last appointment to serve our church. See the detailed article on his ministry and work on another page appearing in this book.

#### REV. BENJAMIN PETTY

The Reverend Benjamin Petty, a young man from o u t of State,

was appointed to serve for the Conference year, 1946.

For a number of years the Alcovy Church was served by young men who came from other States to study at Emory's Candler School of Theology. After graduating, many of these students returned to their home Conferences. Since they were undergraduates, the Conference Journals only gave their names in the list of Conference appointments. Reverend Petty was one of the students who returned to his home Conference, therefore, I could only ascertain the year of his service at Alcovy.

I do remember that he was a young man who was loved by everyone, and that he was a good pastor and a good church executive. I regret that I cannot report on his whereabouts and h i s success

through the years.

#### REV. BOB WILCOX

The Reverend Bob Wilcox was appointed for the Conference year, 1947. His home was Waycross, Georgia. We do not know where he is now. We presume he returned to his home Conference in South Georgia.

#### REV. JIMMY JONES

The Reverend Jimmy Jones served as Alcovy's pastor f o r two years, 1948 - 1949. Reverend Jones came to Emory from Florida. After graduation, we presume that he returned to serve appointments in the Florida Conference, but no specific information on his present appointment could be developed.

#### REV. BILLY REED WICKLINE

The Reverend Billy Reed Wickline served in t h e pastorate at Alcovy in 1950. He was listed as associate pastor to Rev. Leslie Rabb. He made his home in West Virginia. Mrs. Howard (Ina) Davenport, who has served as the church historian for many years, advised that he is serving in Fayetteville, West Virginia, a t the time of this writing.

#### REV. LESLIE RABB

The Reverend Leslie Rabb came from Florida to serve t h e Alcovy Church in 1951 - 1952. After graduation, he returned to the Florida Conference, and is presently (1975) serving a church Lake Worth, Florida.

#### REV. TOMMY NANKIVELL

The Reverend Tommy Nankivell, who came to serve a s Alcovy's pastor for the Conference year 1933, came to Georgia to study a t Candler School of Theology, from Kentucky. After graduation, he returned to his home Conference in Kentucky, but we do not now know his address.

I would like to say again that I am indebted to M r s. Howard (Ina) Davenport, who has served as church historian for m a n y years, for information she shared on the above mentioned student pastors.

## REV. ALFRED W. HANNER 5-17-1933

The Reverend Alfred W. Hanner was born in Decatur, Georgia, May 17, 1933. He was married to Miss Patsy Hubert July 8, 1954.

The Reverend Mr. Hanner was educated at E m o r y University where he received the B. A. degree in 1953, and t h e M. Divinity degree in 1956.

He was appointed to serve the North Covington Charge (and Alcovy Church) 1954; Middleton Circuit 1956; St. J o h n (Augusta) Assoc. 1957; Kennesaw 1959; McDonough 1966; Tillman Memorial 1970; Associate Director of Leadership Training for Faith-at-Work, present date (1975).

## REV. IRA NEWTON SCOTT 2-21-1924

The Reverend Ira Newton Scott was born in Decatur, Georgia, February 21, 1924.

He was married to Miss Shirley Reagin, November 5, 1948.

He was educated at the University of Georgia where he earned the A. B. degree in 1959, and Emory University where he earned the M. Divinity degree in 1962.

His appointments are as follows:

Associate, Rome Circuit 1955; North Covington Circuit(including Alcovy) 1956; Gainesville Circuit 1958; N e w Holland 1 9 5 9; Chicopee 1960; Erhardt Charge (South Carolina Conference) 1 9 6 3; Pacolet Charge 1964; Hanleiter (North Georgia Conference) 1 9 6 6; Red Oak 1972.

#### REV. MELL SIMONS 5-7-1903

The next in order of appointed servants was the writer.
I was born in Social Circle, Walton County, Georgia, M a y 7,
1903.

I was married to Ina Higginbotham, June 20, 1928.

I was educated in the little one-room school a t Alcovy a n d later studied at Reinhardt College and the University o f Georgia. I completed the four-year Conference Course of Study with Candler School of Theology.

I was ordained a Deacon in the Methodist Church at the Annual Conference in 1956. I was ordained an Elder at the Annual Confer-

ence of 1958.

My appointments were as follows:

Old Pentecost, Corinth and Providence, Bethlehem Charge, 1950; Auburn Charge 1956; North Covington Charge (Alcovy, North Covington and Mount Pleasant) 1957; New Echota Charge (Calhoun) 1 9 5 9; Douglas Street (Cartersville) 1961; Shannon 1965. I retired a t the Annual Conference of 1968. After retirement, I returned to Auburn for one year.

At the Annual Conference of 1969 I was appointed to serve Alcovy and Mount Pleasant Churches on the North Covington Charge, where I served until the Annual Conference of 1975 w h e n I w a s

forced to give up the work because of ill health.

Few Methodist ministers have the honor that was mine in being appointed to serve their home church. Alcovy was the church of my childhood and I was twice appointed to serve these wonderful people. My first appointment there was in 1957 when I served for two years: later, in 1969, I was again honored at being appointed to serve the home church in my retired years. I served for six years in the last appointment, making my total service record for Alcovy eight years.

#### REV. DEWEY BENTLEY

In 1959, the Reverend Dewey Bentley was appointed a s pastor of Alcovy Church. This was Reverend Bentley's first appointment and he served only one year at Alcovy, and we think only one year in the ministry. At the close of the Conference Year, we are told that he accepted a position in business.

At the present time (1975) Reverend Bentley is making his

home at Auburn, Georgia.

#### REV. CHARLES POOLE

Reverend Charles Poole was appointed to serve at Alcovy for a two-year period in 1960 and 1961.

Mrs. Davenport thinks he was a resident of the State of Arizona and that he returned to his home Conference in that State,

after his graduation at Emory.

I regret that I could not develop more information on h is life and work.

#### REV. JAMES W. THURMAN, JR. 9-7-1938

In the 1962 session of the Annual Conference, the Reverend James W. Thurman, Jr., was appointed to the pastorate of the Alcovy Church.

Reverend Thurman was born September 7, 1938, in Atlanta, Ga. He was married to the former Miss Martha Ann Langford o n August 12, 1962.

His scholastic record is as follows: Young Harris (AA) 1958;

Huntingdon College (AB) 1960; Emory University (BD) 1963. He was ordained a Deacon in the Methodist Church a t the 1961 session of the North Georgia Annual Conference, a n d was ordained an Elder in the 1963 session of the Church's Annual Conference.

Reverend Thurman's appointments are as follows:

Milstead Charge 1960; North Covington Charge 1961; Newborn-Starrsville Charge 1963; Social Circle 1966; Burns Memorial ( Augusta) 1972, to date.

#### REV. CHARLES R. THOMAS, JR. 5-12-1942

The Reverend Charles Rickard Thomas, Jr., was born M a y 12, 1942, in Tampa, Florida.

He married Miss Barbara Ann Harris June 11, 1964.

He studied at West Georgia College where he earned the AB degree in 1963 and at Emory University where he earned the BD degree in 1966.

He was ordained a Deacon in the Methodist Church a t the 1964 session of Annual Conference, and received Elder's Orders at the Conference of 1966.

His appointments are as follows: Pauldin Circuit Associate 1960; North Covington Circuit (Alcovy was on the North Covington Ct.) 1963; Salem 1966; Grant Park (Atlanta) 1968; Leland United Methodist Church 1973.

Brother Charles endeared himself to the people and w o n many friends who still love him, during his three years (1963, 1964, and 1965) in the pastorate here.

#### REV. TERRY L. PHILLIPS 11-6-41

The Reverend Terry Lamar Phillips was appointed to serve Mt. Pleasant-Alcovy for one year at the Church's Annual Conference 1966.

Reverend Phillips was born in Newnan, Georgia, November 6,

1941. He was married to Mary Elizabeth July 15, 1971.

He attended Andrew College and LaGrange College, earning the AB degree at LaGrange College in 1965. He then attended University, earning the BD degree there in 1967. Emory

He was ordained a Deacon in the Methodist Church in 1966, and

received Elder's Orders in 1968.

His appointments are: Unity Circuit 1964; North Covington Circuit (Alcovy was on the North Covington Circuit) 1966; Woodbury Circuit 1967; Saint Luke 1969; Dallas First U. M. Church 1973, date (1976).

#### REV. JOHN H. GILES

We don't have much information on Reverend Giles. We believe his home was in Georgia, but we could not ascertain where hailed from.

He served at Alcovy Church from July first, to December 31, 1967. His name does not appear in record after 1967.

#### DR. VIRGIL YOUNG COOK EADY 5-9-1898 ----- 11-24-1969

When Reverend John Giles left the pastorate of the Church in December, 1967, Dr. Virgil Y. C. Eady was appointed to serve the Church's next pastor.

Dr. Eady held the A. B. degree from Hendrix College, Conway, Arkansas; the M. A. degree from Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, and the L.L.D degree from LaGrange College, LaGrange, Georgia.

In addition to being an educator, Dr. Eady was also an ordained minister, and the first person holding the doctorate to serve the Alcovy Church as pastor.

He was Professor of English at Oxford College of versity 1929-1944, and he served as Dean and Division Executive of this college from 1944 to 1966.

He served as pastor of Alcovy and Mount Pleasant United Methodist Churches from Jan. 1, 1968 until he suffered a heart attack

immediately after the morning service on January 12, 1969.
Dr. Eady was an educator; but he also was a dedicated Christian and gave himself wholeheartedly to serving in the Church. He was Conference Lay Leader, a delegate to the and Jurisdictional Conferences of The Methodist Church General (1952 1968). He served as member of the General Board of Education, a member of the Commission on Worship, and was President of The

Georgia Association of Junior Colleges. He was also President of the National Association of Two-Year Methodist Colleges.

He was also very active in civic and fraternal affairs.

Many honors were bestowed on Dr. Eady.

Dr. Eady married the former Miss Susanne Stone of Oxford, Ga. Funeral services for Dr. Eady were held from the sanctuary of the Allen Memorial United Methodist Church, Oxford, Georgia, a n d interment was in the Oxford City Cemetery.

Although his physical presence has been removed f r o m our midst, his influence continues to live with those who knew a n d

loved this great man.

#### DR. ANDREW L. PATE

After suffering the attack on January 12, 1969, Dr. Eady was never physically able to resume his ministerial duties. Dr. Andrew L. Pate, a member of the faculty of Oxford College of Emory University, at Oxford, Georgia, was appointed to serve as pastor of the Alcovy Church.

Dr. Pate served until June 30, 1969.

He was greatly loved and admired by all of the members and friends of the Church.

#### REV. MELL SIMONS

At the 1969 session of the Annual Conference I, the writer, was again appointed to return as the Church's pastor.

(See comments under my appointment for 1957-1958)

I was regularly reappointed from 1969 until the Annual Conference session of 1975.

#### REV. W. A. CHILDERS, JR.

The Reverend W. A. Childers, of Oxford, Georgia, was appointed to the pastorate at Alcovy at the 1975 session of the Annual Conference where he is presently serving at the time of this writing (1976).

Within only a few months, brother Childers has won the confidence of the people and is having a fruitful ministry. A number of new members have been added to the church roll, and the organi-

zational structure is sound.

# Alcovy Ministerial Roll

| Year Pastor   | District Supt.     | Bishop            |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1975 Mell Simons                                    | Frank Prince       | William R. Cannon |
| 1974 Mell Simons                                    | Frank Prince       | William R. Cannon |
| 1973 Mell Simons                                    | Frank Prince       | William R. Cannon |
| 1972 Mell Simons                                    | Frank Prince       | William R. Cannon |
| 1971 Mell Simons                                    | Frank Prince       | John Owen Smith   |
| 1970 Mell Simons                                    | Frank Prince       | John Owen Smith   |
| 1969 Mell Simons                                    | Nat G. Long        | John Owen Smith   |
| 1969 Dr. Andrew Pate<br>(1-12-69 to 6-30-69         | Nat G. Long        | John Owen Smith   |
| 1969<br>1968 Dr. V.Y.C. Eady<br>(1-1-68 to 1-12-69) | Nat G. Long        | John Owen Smith   |
| 1967 John H. Giles<br>(6-1-67 to 12-31-67           |                    | John Owen Smith   |
| 1966 Terry L. Phillips                              | Nat G. Long        | John Owen Smith   |
| 1965 Chas. T. Thomas, Ju                            | r.Nat G. Long      | John Owen Smith   |
| 1964 Chas. T. Thomas, Jr                            | r.Nat G. Long      | John Owen Smith   |
| 1963 Chas. T. Thomas, Ja                            | r.Nat G. Long      | John Owen Smith   |
| 1962 Jimmy Thurman                                  | Delma L. Haygood   | John Owen Smith   |
| 1961 Charles Poole                                  | Delma L. Haygood   | John Owen Smith   |
| 1960 Charles Poole                                  | Delma L. Haygood   | Arthur J. Moore   |
| 1959 Dewey Bentley                                  | Delma L. Haygood   | Arthur J. Moore   |
| 1958 Mell Simons                                    | J. Walker Childsey | Arthur J. Moore   |
| 1957 Mell Simons                                    | J. Walker Childsey | Arthur J. Moore   |
| 1956 Ira Newton Scott                               | J. Walker Childsey | Arthur J. Moore   |
| 1955 Ira Newton Scott                               | J. Walker Childsey | Arthur J. Moore   |

| Year | Pastor                                      | District Supt.         | Bishop          |
|------|---|------------------------|-----------------|
| 1954 | Alfred Hanner                               | Edward Mackay          | Arthur J. Moore |
| 1953 | Tommy Nankivell                             | Edward Mackay          | Arthur J. Moore |
| 1952 | Leslie Rabb                                 | Edward Mackay          | Arthur J. Moore |
| 1951 | Leslie Rabb                                 | Edward Mackay          | Arthur J. Moore |
| 1950 | Leslie Rabb<br>(Billy R. Wickline<br>Asst.) | Edward Mackay          | Arthur J. Moore |
| 1949 | Jimmy Jones                                 | Edward Mackay          | Arthur J. Moore |
| 1948 | Jimmy Jones                                 | C. L. Middlebrooks     | Arthur J. Moore |
| 1947 | Bob Wilcox                                  | C. L. Middlebrooks     | Arthur J. Moore |
| 1946 | Benjamin Petty                              | C. L. Middlebrooks     | Arthur J. Moore |
| 1945 | Edward A. Caldwell                          | C. L. Middlebrooks     | Arthur J. Moore |
| 1944 | M. B. Sams                                  | H. H. Jones            | Arthur J. Moore |
| 1943 | Clifton Freeman                             | H. H. Jones            | Arthur J. Moore |
| 1942 | Jack Nichols                                | H. H. Jones            | Arthur J. Moore |
| 1941 | Jack Nichols                                | H. H. Jones            | Arthur J. Moore |
| 1940 | J. O. Brand                                 | T. M. Sullivan         | Arthur J. Moore |
| 1939 | J. O. Brand                                 | T. M. Sullivan         | Arthur J. Moore |
| 1938 | J. O. Brand                                 | T. M. Sullivan         | Arthur J. Moore |
| 1937 | Edward A. Caldwell                          | T. M. Sullivan         | W. N. Ainsworth |
| 1936 | Edward A. Caldwell                          | Wallace Rogers         | W. N. Ainsworth |
| 1935 | C. W. Fruitt                                | Wallace Rogers         | W. N. Ainsworth |
| 1934 | J. J. Copeland                              | Wallace Rogers         | W. N. Ainsworth |
| 1933 | J. J. Copeland                              | Wallace Rogers         | W. N. Ainsworth |
| 1932 | C. W. Fruitt                                | J. E. Turner           | John Moore      |
| 1931 | C. Fruitt                                   | R. Z. Turner           | John Moore      |
| 1930 | E. P. Eubanks                               | Nath Thompson(P.Elder) | John Moore      |
| 1929 | E. P. Eubanks                               | E. F. Dempsey          |                 |

|      |                      | Dis       | tri | ct Supt. |
|------|----------------------|-----------|-----|----------|
| Year | Pastor               | Charles ! |     |          |
|      | E. P. Eubanks        | Ε.        | F.  | Dempsey  |
|      | R. P. Goddard**      |           |     |          |
| 1926 | G. B. Handley**      |           |     |          |
| 1925 | W. C. Harris**       |           |     |          |
| 1924 | E. A. Caldwell       | W.        | G.  | Crawley  |
| 1923 | W. S. Strickland     | W.        | G.  | Crawley  |
| 1919 | L. P. Driscoll**     |           |     |          |
| 1918 | S. C. Campbell**     |           |     |          |
| 1912 | David H. Mobley**    |           |     |          |
| 1906 | G. B. McDaniel**     |           |     |          |
| 1902 | James C. Patrick**   |           |     |          |
| 1901 | James C. Patrick**   |           |     |          |
| 1900 | James C. Patrick**   |           |     |          |
| 1886 | 6 Rev. Joe McGarity* | * F       | oun | der      |

1886 Rev. Tom Greer\*\* Founder

We do not know how many years Reverend Mobley, Reverend McDaniel, Reverend McGarity and Reverend Greer served. Would that I could have developed this information!

<sup>\*\*</sup>These ministers with two asterisks by their n a m e s were Methodist Protestant Ministers and I could not ascertain who t h e District Superintendents or Conference Presidents were.

# URRENT MEMBERSHIP KOLL

Alcovy United Methodist Church

he names appearing in this list are names of persons with whom the church can establish contact, and who are carried in the Pastor's Report to the Annual Conference. Through the years many have moved away, leaving no forwarding address; and the church can not establish any contact with them. Such names a recarried on the Church Roll until information on their whereabouts can be established. The inactive members' names appear on our Register of Members appearing elsewhere in this book.

This list is as it appears June 30, 1975.

#### Names

Arnold, C. Edsel
Arnold, Terry
Arnold, Lynn
Arnold, Mrs. Michael
(Cedelia Jones)
Allgood, Richard

Berry, Mrs. Estelle (Bert) Bruce, Mrs. Jack

Casper, Artis Coggins, James Laprade Coggins, Lola Lannell

Davenport, Howard
Davenport, Horace
Davenport, Hobert
Davenport, Johnny
Doster, Mrs. James Otis (Louise)

Gilbert, William Dean Gilbert, Mrs. Paul Gober, Mrs. George Robert

Hamby, Mrs. D.G.(Pearl) Sr.
Hamby, Dewey Gibson, Jr.
Hallmark, Mrs. Carol
Houseworth, Reuben
Houseworth, Michael B.
Houseworth, John
Huff, Bernice Dannetta (McCart)

Johnson, Carolyn Rose (McCart)

#### Names

Arnold, Mrs. C. Edsel Arnold, Lyle Arnold, Michael Allgood, Tommy Allgood, Mrs. Richard

Bruce, Jack Bruce, Mrs. Ammie

Casper, Mrs. Artis (Mattie) Coggins, Mrs. James Laprade

Davenport, Mrs. Howard (Ina)
Davenport, Mrs. Horace (Jean)
Davenport, Jerry
Doster, James Otis

Gilbert, Paul Gober, George Robert

Holmes, Mrs. Bobby (Louise Bruce)
Hamby, Mrs. Dewey Gibson, Jr.
Hamby, Lamar
Houseworth, Mrs. Reuben
Houseworth, Nan
Houseworth, Mrs. John

#### Current Membership Roll (Continued)

#### Names

McIntosh, P. M.
McIntosh, Jerry
McCart, Mrs. Dan
McDaniel, Jody
McDaniel, Mrs. Jody
Maughon, Mrs. Bobby Jo (Shirley)
Mann, Karen
Middlebrooks, Carlton (Pat)
McKinley, Colbert R.
Mann, Mrs. Jim (Ludie)

Pullin, Brenda Pullin, Hulon M.

Rush, Patrick

Seegars, Mrs. H. J.
(Shirley Ellington)
Stapp, Mrs. George
Shepherd, Mrs. Otis
Shepherd, Rita Faye
Simons, Kenneth

Unger, Eric Henry Unger, Henry

Verhine, Lester

Young, G. C.

#### Names

McIntosh, Mrs. Mae
McCart, Dan
McDaniel, Mildred
Maughon, Bobby Jo
Mann, Mrs. Mary
Mann, Sherry
Middlebrooks, Mrs. Carlton(Joyce)
McKinley, Mrs. Colbert R. (BettyJ.)

Pullin, Mrs. Hulon M. (Hazel)

Rush, Mrs. Patrick

Stowe, Mrs. Ollie (Louise) Stapp, George Dennis, Jr. Shepherd, Melody Elaine Sherod, Mrs. Charles Simons, Mrs. Kenneth (Edna)

Unger, Mrs. Eric Henry William Unger, Sylvia

Verhine, Mrs. Lester

Young, Mrs. G. C. (Murine Everett)

Our oldest membership record goes back to April, 1930, when names from the older record were transferred to the oldest record we now have. I have gone through the records from the oldest available one, and have listed all names shown f o r this period. I have doublechecked for accuracy, and, in addition, am asking a committee to check the manuscript before it is released to the press. I am doing this to give our readers, as nearly as possible, a perfect record.

In the early years, records were imperfectly kept: sometimes the name only was listed. Dates and other specific information were not listed. Names of some members, transferred to the record made in 1930, joined before the turn of the century.

| transferred to the record        | How Received    | Minister                      | How Removed     |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| A                                |                 |                               |                 |
| Anglin, Mrs. W. S.               |                 |                               |                 |
| Adams, Mrs. J. T.                |                 |                               | Died 3/31/1965  |
| Arnold, C. E.                    | P.F. 195        | 6 Newton Scott                |                 |
| Arnold, Mrs. C. E.               | " " 195         | 5 " "                         |                 |
| Arnold, Terry                    | P.F. 195        | B Mell Simons                 |                 |
| Arnold, Lyle                     | n n             | " "                           |                 |
| Arnold, Lynn                     | 11 11 11        | n a                           |                 |
| Arnold, Michael                  | P.F. 1958       |                               |                 |
| Allgood, Tommy                   | P.F. "          | ıı ıı                         |                 |
| Allgood, Richard                 | 11 11 11        | 11 11                         |                 |
| Arnold, Mrs. Michael             | " " 3/26/1967   |                               |                 |
| Allgood, Mrs. Richard            | C.T. 3/8/1970   | Mell Simons                   |                 |
|                                  |                 |                               |                 |
| <u>B</u>                         |                 |                               |                 |
| Beam, Mattie Jewel               |                 |                               |                 |
| Bryant, Mrs. Ada                 |                 |                               |                 |
| Beam, Mrs. Minnie Lee            |                 |                               |                 |
| Ruby Wiley, Bray                 |                 |                               | C.T.            |
| Berronton, Mrs. W.D.             |                 |                               |                 |
| (Virgie Ellington)               |                 |                               |                 |
| Beam, Irene                      | P.F. 7/ -/1931  | E.P. Eubanks                  |                 |
| Beam, Frances                    | P.F. 7/-/1931   | n n                           | C.T. 10/13/1963 |
| Beam, Evis                       | P.F. 1933       |                               |                 |
| Bruce, Albert (Rev)              | P.F. 1941       |                               | N.Ga.A.Conf.    |
| Bruce, James                     | P.F. 1942       |                               | C.T. 3/31/1963  |
| Bruce, Agnes,                    | P.F. 1942       | 11 11                         | C.T. 7/7/1962   |
| Bruce, Emory                     | C.T. 1945       |                               | Died            |
| Bruce, Mrs. Amie                 | P.F. 1953       | Tommy Nankivell               |                 |
| Bruce, Jack                      | P.F. 1945       | E. A. Caldwell                |                 |
| Bruce, Eve                       | P.F. 1948       | Bob Wilcox                    |                 |
| Bruce, Ina<br>Bruce, Mrs. Bennie | P.F. 1953       | Tommy Nankivell               | C.T. 6/24/1963  |
| Bruce, Timothy                   | P.F. 9/10/ 1961 | Tommy Nankivell J. W. Thurman | C.T. 6/24/1963  |
| Bruce, Mrs. Evelyn               | P.F. 7/27/ 1962 | " " "                         | 0.1. 0/24/1903  |
| Butler, Mrs. Deeward             | 0.D. 3/12/ 1967 |                               |                 |
| Dutter, Firs, Heewarn            |                 |                               |                 |

| Name   | How Received   | Minister   | How Removed                              |
|--|--|--|--|
| Chapman, Mrs. Beatrice Carter, Mrs. Edna Casper, Mrs. Edna Casper, Mrs. Mattie Chapman, Patty Jim Casper, Clifton Casper, Artis James Laprade Coggins Mrs. Nell Nelly Coggins  | P.F. 7/ -/1931<br>P.F. 7/ -/1931<br>P.F. 8/ -/1937<br>P.F. 1941<br>P.F. 1948<br>C.T. 7/12/1964<br>C.T. 7/12/1964 | E. P. Eubanks E. P. " E. A. Caldwell Jack Nichols Bob Wilcox Charles R. Thomas, Jr. " " "  | C.T. 4/26/1931                           |
| Coggins, Martha Jane<br>Coggins, Lola Lennell<br>Coggins, Jimmy<br>Coggins, Helen  |  | 11 11 11<br>11 11 11   | C.T. 2/21/1967<br>C.T. 2/21/1967         |
| D  |  |  |  |
| Dorsey, Clara Mae Borsey, Noah E. Davenport, Mrs. Ina Davenport, Mamie Cordelia Davenport, Howard, Dorsey, George T. Dorsey, Mrs. George T. Davenport, Hobert Davenport, Margie Doster, Mrs. Louise Davenport, Jerry Hobert Davenport, Jerry Hobert Davenport, Mrs. Jean Davenport, Mrs. Jean Davenport, Horace Doster, James Otis | P.F. 1933<br>P.F. 7/31/1938<br>" " 7/31/1938<br>P.F. 1950<br>" " 1950<br>" " 1958<br>" " 4/14/1963               | C. W. Fruitt J. J. Copeland C.W. Fruitt  Jimmy Jones " Mell Simons James W. Thurman J W Thurman Charles W. Thomas, Jr. Billy Reed Wickline Mell Simons |  |
| Ellington, R. L. Ewing, Mrs. Clara Ellington, Mrs. R. L. Ellington, Mr. Cornelin   | us   |  | Died<br>Died 7/21/1964<br>Died           |
| Ellington, Mr. J. F. Ewing, Mrs. Montine Everett, Mrs. Lillian S Ewing, Mr. Arthur Everett, Mary Everett, Jessie Ewing, Ben Ewing, Howard Everett, Billy Melvin  | 1933<br>1933<br>1933<br>1934   | C. W. Fruitt   | C.T. 8/25/1963<br>Died 1/27/1965<br>C.T. |

| Name   | Now Received   | Minister   | How Removed  |
|--|--|--|--|
| <u>G</u>   |  |  |  |
| Gober, Cilin<br>Gober, Ernest<br>Gibbs, Owen<br>Gober, Thelma Lois   | 402/   |  | Died 3/31/1965<br>C.T.<br>C.T. 3/31/1965   |
| Gilbert, Gwendolyn<br>Gilbert, William Dean<br>Gilbert, Paul   | 1934 P.F. 1957 P.F. 11/14/1965 P.F. 5/28/1967 P.F. " " " C.T. 4/25/1971 P.F. 4/11/1971 | J. J. Copeland Mell Simons Charles Thomas, Jr. Terry L. Phillips " Mell Simons Mell Simons | C.T. 10/ 1/1971  |
| <u>H</u>   |  |  |  |
| Higginbotham, Mrs. A.S. Higginbotham, John J. Hamby, Denny Higginbotham, Mr. A.S. Hamby, Mrs. Eunice Harper, Mrs. Roxie Higginbotham, Mrs. J. J. Hamby, Mrs. Myrtle R. | P.F 1886   | Charter Member   | Died 5/28/1933 Died 12/ -/1930 Died 1949 Died 1/27/1940 Died 10/14/1964 6.T. 3/31/1965 |
| Hale, Minnie Lee H. Hamby, Tom L. Hamby, Mrs. Curtis Hitchcock, Mrs. Odessa Hamby, Robert  |  |  | C.T. 3/31/1965<br>Died   |
| Hamby, William (Bill)  | P.F. 7/ -/1931   |  |  |
| Harper, Thomas Lee Hamby, C. M., Jr. Hamby, C. M., Sr. Hamby, Martha Jean Hamby, Daylor Cibran Su  | P.F. 1933<br>P.F. 7/ -/1933<br>P.F. 1941   | C. W. Fruitt " " " Jack Nichols  | Died 6/1/1940<br>Died 3/31/1965  |
| Hamby, Dewey Gibson, Sr.<br>Hamby, Mrs. Dewey Gibson   | ,Sr.   |  | Died   |
| Hamby, Dewey Gibson, Jr. Hamby, Mrs." " " Hamby, Carolyn Hallmark Hamby, James Robert Hamby, Lamar Houseworth, Reuben Houseworth, Mrs. Reuben Houseworth, Michael      | P.F. 1957<br>P.F. 1958<br>P.F. 1958<br>P.F. 1958                                       | Mell Simons Mell Simons Mell Simons Mell Simons Mell Simons Charles Thomas, Jr.            |  |
| Mrs. Louise B. Holmes Hancook, Gary Hancock, Mrs. Peggy M. Houseworth, John Houseworth, Mrs. John  | P.F. 1953<br>C.T. 11/13/1966<br>P.F. 1953<br>O.D. 1/24/1971<br>O.D. " " "              | Tommy Nankivell Terry L. Phillips Tommie Nankivell Mell Simons                             | C.T.<br>C.T.   |
| Houseworth, Nan  | P.M 8/25/1968  | Dr. V.Y.C. Eady  |  |

| Name   | How Received                   | Minister                         | How Removed           |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <u>K</u>   |                                |                                  |                       |
| Kines, Mrs. Rosa<br>Kitchens, Josie K.             |                                |                                  | C.T.                  |
| Kines, A. D.                                       | 1933                           | C.W. Fruitt                      | C.T.                  |
| Kines, Leonard                                     | 1900                           | C.W. Fluibe                      |                       |
|  |                                |                                  |                       |
|  |                                |                                  |                       |
| Ī  |                                |                                  |                       |
| Lackey, Minnie Ola N.                              | D.F. 4010                      | Clifton Freeman                  |                       |
| Lowe, Clark Lassiter, Martha Jane                  | P.F. 1942<br>P.F. 7/12/1964    | Charles R. Thomas, Jr.           | C.T. 1/5/1972         |
| Dassiver, her tha vano                             | 1.00                           | oner 200 in anomalo, i           | -1 -1 -1              |
|  |                                |                                  |                       |
| <u>M</u>   |                                |                                  | a.m. =  a   a   a   a |
| Mrs. Ethel W.McIntosh                              |                                |                                  | C.T. 7/21/1964        |
| Murray Mrs. J. D.<br>Mobley, Bennie                |                                |                                  |                       |
| Murray, Mrs. Addie L.                              |                                |                                  |                       |
| Mann, Mrs. Alene Reynold                           | ds                             |                                  | C.T.                  |
| McIntosh, William                                  |                                |                                  | C.T. 3/31/1965        |
| Mitchum, Mrs. Bessie G.<br>Mathern, Mrs. Ruby Lott |                                |                                  | C.T. 4/19/1965        |
| McIntosh, Parks M.                                 | P.F. 9/28/1930                 | E.P.Eubanks                      |                       |
| McIntosh, Mrs. Parks M.                            |                                | E. A. Caldwell                   | Died 12/20/1971       |
| McIntosh, Mrs. Mae<br>McIntosh, Mrs. Gladys M      | C.T. 7/31/1931<br>I. P.F. 1934 | E. P. Eubanks<br>J. J. Copeland  | C.T.                  |
| McIntosh, Dorothy                                  |                                | E. A. Caldwell                   |                       |
| McIntosh, Hazel                                    | P.F. " " "                     | и и и                            | C.T.                  |
| Menn, Mrs. Jim                                     | P.F. 1941                      |                                  |                       |
| McIntosh, Mrs. Alex<br>Mcintosh, Alex              | P.F. 1933                      | C. W. Fruitt                     |                       |
| McIntosh, Larry (Rev.)                             | P.F. 1949                      | Jimmy Jones N. Ga. An.           | Conf. 6/ -/1961       |
| McIntosh, Barbara Ann                              | P.F. 1949                      | II II                            | C.T. 3/31/1965        |
| McDaniel, Jody<br>Moyer, Gilbert                   | P.F. 1953<br>" " 1953          | Tommy Nankivell                  |                       |
| McIntosh, Kenneth                                  | 1953                           | u u                              | C.T. 2/18/1963        |
| McIntosh, Martha Jean                              | " " 5/23/1965                  | Charles Thomas                   | C.T. " " "            |
| McDaniel, Connie                                   | 1953                           | Tommy Nankivell                  | C.T. 9/14/1963        |
| McCart, Dan  | " " 1953<br>" " 1954           | Tommy Nankivell<br>Alfred Hanner |                       |
| McDaniel, Kenneth                                  | " 1956                         | Newton Scott                     | C.T. 12/23/1966       |
| McDaniel, Mrs. Kenneth                             | 1 " 1956                       | 11 11                            | C T " " "             |
| McCart, Carolyn Rose                               | " " 1958<br>" " 4/14/1963      | Mell Simons James W. Thurman     |                       |
| MaCart, Dannetta Berni                             |                                | n n n                            |                       |
| Morris, Eve Marie                                  | и и и и и                      | п п                              |                       |
| Maughon, Mrs. Shirley                              | " 3/29/1964                    | Charles R. Thomas, Jr.           |                       |
| Maughon, Bobby Joe<br>McIntosh, Robert             | 1933                           | C.W. Fruitt                      |                       |
| McCart, Mamie Cordelia                             |                                |                                  |                       |
| Mann, Mrs. Mary                                    | " " 6/25/1967                  | Terry L. Phillips                |                       |
| Mann, Karen  | " " 4/11/1971                  |                                  |                       |
| Mann, Sherry<br>Middlebrooks, Carlton              |                                |                                  | LAND IN CELLINIA      |
| Middlebrooks, Mrs. Ca                              | riton" " ", ", all             | Dr. V.Y.C. Eady                  |                       |
| McDaniel, Donna                                    | C.T. 8/25/1968                 | Dr. vereos zady                  |                       |

| Name   | How Received  | Minister                                     | How Removed  |
|--|---|--|--|
| Osborn, Mack Owensby, L. J., Jr. Owensby, Mrs. L.J., Jr. Owensby, Brenda Owensby, Jo Ann Owensby, William Owensby, Marie Owensby, William Lester                         | C.T. 11/8/19<br>C.T. 11/8/19<br>"" " " " "<br>"" " " " " "<br>O.D. 4/18/19                          | 964 m m m                                    | Died<br>C.T. 2/13/1966<br>C.T. " " "<br>" " " " "        |
| Pickett, Ebbin Pickett, Mrs. Mary C. Pickett, James Pullin, Brenda   | P.F. 7/11/19  | 71 Mell Simons                               | Died<br>C.T. 9/21/1964                                   |
| Reynolds, Mrs. Lula Reynolds Mrs. Pauline M. Reynolds, Miss Mamie Reynolds, Mrs. Pauline Reynolds, Grace Ray, Mr. C. V. Ray, Mrs. C. V. Rush, Patrick Rush, Mrs. Patrick | C.T. 194<br>" " 194<br>C.T. 3/8/197<br>C.T. " " "   | 15 " " "                                     | Died<br>Died<br>Died<br>C.T. 11/8/1964<br>C.T. 3/31/1965 |
| Smith, Mrs. Pauline E. Seegars, Mrs. Shirley E. Simons, Mrs. Ina Simons, Mell Stowe, Mrs. Louise M. Simons, James F. (Jim) Simons, Mrs. James F.                         | 193   | 0 E. P. Eubanks                              | C.T. N. Ga. Conf. Died Died                              |
| Simons, Firs. James F. Simons, Jimmy Shropshire, Glenn Shropshire, Frances Shropshire, Annie Smith, George   | P.F. 8/ 1/193<br>P.F. 193<br>193<br>P.F. 193  | 8<br>8<br>8<br>9                             | C. T. 3/31.1965  ve this to be an                        |
| Shropshire, Jean Shropshire, Mrs. Lottie Skelton, Mrs. Calvin Skelton, Lonnie Skelton, Alvin Stone, Mr. Seegers, Mrs. H. J. Sr.  | P.F. 1941 | 1 Jack Nichols 1 " " 1 " " 1 " " 1 " " 1 " " | Died 3/31/1965   |

| S (continued) Name  | How Red              | ceived                                      | Minister  | Now Ren                              | noved                   |
|---|----------------------|---|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Simons, Kenneth<br>Simons, Mrs. Kenneth   | P.F.                 | 1958  | Mell Simons   |                                      |                         |
| Sherod, Mr. Charles<br>Sherod, Mrs. Leona   | P.F.                 | 1960  | Charles Poole   | Died                                 | 4/ 2/1966               |
| Stapp, Dennis George, Jr. Stapp, Martha Jean Shepherd, Mrs. Otis Skinner, Douglas Skinner, Mrs. Douglas         | " "<br>P.F.<br>C.T.  | 9/ 8/1963<br>1941<br>9/25/1966<br>8/10/1969 | Charles R. Thomas, Jr<br>Jack Nichols<br>Terry L. Phillips<br>Mell Simons |                                      |                         |
| <u>T</u>  |                      |   |   |                                      |                         |
| Thomas, Mrs. Leonard W. Thomas, Rev. Charles R. Thomas, Mrs. Charles R.   | n n<br>n n           | 7/14/1963<br>6/14/1964                      | Charles R. Thomas   |                                      | Conf. 1964<br>6/28/1966 |
|   |                      |   |   |                                      |                         |
| <u>U</u>  |                      | -1  |   |                                      |                         |
| Unger, Eric Henry Willia<br>Unger, Marlene Alwine<br>Unger, Henry<br>Unger, Sylvia                              | 0.D.<br>P.F.<br>P.F. | 7/11/1965                                   | Charles R. Thomas   |                                      |                         |
| <u>v</u>  |                      |   |   |                                      |                         |
| Verhein, Lester<br>Verhein, Mrs. Lester   |                      | 1/22/1967                                   | Terry L. Phillips   |                                      |                         |
| <u>w</u>  |                      |   |   |                                      |                         |
| Wiley, Mr. J. D. Watkins, Mrs. Carrie Wiley, Mr. M. L. Wiley, Mrs. M. L. Wiley, Herman Williams, Mrs. Ina Bruce | P.F.                 | 112-1-15-                                   | E. P. Eubanks E. A. Caldwell Tommy Nankivell                              | Died<br>Died<br>Died<br>C.T.<br>C.T. | 3/31/1965<br>4/29/1969  |
| <u>Y</u>  |                      |   |   |                                      |                         |
| Young, Mrs. Jim   | P.F.                 |   | E. P. Eubanks   | Died                                 | 10/ 3/1969              |
| Young, Lillie Young, Damon Young, Hazel Young, G. C. Young, Mrs. G. C. (Mu:                                     | P.F.<br>P.F.<br>""   | 1933  | C. W. Fruitt C. W. Fruitt   | Died                                 | 12/24/75                |
| Symbol: P.F. = Profession of O.D. = Other Denomina C.T. = Certificate of  | ation                | er  |   |                                      |                         |

# hanges in Membership Roll Alcovy United Methodist Church

July 1, 1969 -- August 1, 1975

| Members Received  | Members Deducted   |
|---|--|
| 8/10/69 Douglas Skinner Mrs. Douglas Skinner (C.T. Nazareth U. Meth. Church, Winder, Ga.)   | 4/22/69 Mrs. M. L. (Margaret) Wiley (C.T. First Baptist Church, Social Circle, Ga.)  10/3/69 Mrs. Jim (Roxie) Young (Died 10/3/69)         |
| 3/8/70 Clara Elaine (Wood) Allgood (C.T. First U.M. Church, Covington, Ga.)  3/8/70 James Otis Doster (P.F. and Baptism)  3/8/70 Patrick Rush (C.T. Troy Baptist Church, Troy, S. C.)  3/8/70 Peggy (Turner) Rush (C.T. Union Baptist Church, Laurens, S. C.) | 2/26/70 Kenneth McIntosh Mrs. Kenneth (Jean) McIntosh (C.T. First U. Meth. Church, Lannett, Alabama)                                       |
| 12/10/70 Mrs. Shirlie (Ellington) Seegers (Reactivated)  1/24/71 John Houseworth Mrs. John Houseworth (C.T. Christian Church, Covington, Ga.)   | 5/ 1/71 Mrs. Jennie (Berry) Barnett (Died 5/ 1/71)  5/ 1/71 Lester Owenby Mrs. Lester Owenby (C.T. Calvary Baptist Church, Covington, Ga.) |

2/28/71 Mrs. Estelle (Bert) Berry (C.T.First Baptist Church, Covington, Ga.) Changes in membership roll, continued Alcovy United Methodist Church - 1969 - 1975

| Members Received  | Members Deducted   |
|---|--|
| Will/71 Karen Mann Sherry Mann (P.F. and Baptism)  4/11/71 Brenda Pullin (From Preparatory Roll-Infant Baptism)  4/11/71 George Gober (P.F. Received Baptism)  4/25/71 Carlton Middlebrooks Joyce Middlebrooks Joyce Middlebrooks (C.T. Cornish Mountain Baptist Church)  4/25/71 Mrs. George (Inez) Gober (C.T. Harmony Baptist Church McRae, Georgia) |  |
| 3/12/72 Colbert R. McKinley Betty J. McKinley (C.T. Midway Presbyterian Church, Decatur, Ga.)  7/ 9/72 Meoldy Shepard (P.F. and Baptism)  | 10/1/71 Gwendolyn (Casper) Gilbert (Mt. Vernon Baptist Church, Jackson, Ga.)  12/20/71 Mrs. Lottie Mell McIntosh (Died 12/20/71)  1/5/72 Mrs. Bobby (Martha Jane) Lassiter (C.T.Shiloh U. Methodist Ch., Covington, Ga., R 2)  Mack Ozburn (Died |

1/2/73 Mrs. Jessie Anglin (Died 1/2/73) Changes in membership roll, continued Alcovy United Methodist Church - 1969 - 1975

| Members Received   | Members Deducted   |
|--|--|
|  | 2/22/73 Mrs. Ina (Bruce) Williams (C.T. McEachern Memorial United Methodist Church, Powder Springs, Ga.) |
|  | 9/16/72<br>Dewey G. Hamby, Sr.<br>(Died 9/16/72)   |
|  | 8/24/73 Douglas Skinner Mrs. Douglas Skinner (C.T. Nazareth United Methodist Church, Winder, Ga.         |
| 10/13/74 Hulon Pullin Mrs. Hulon Pullin (C.T. North Covington Jeth. Church, Covington) | 8/25/74<br>Mrs. Shirley Ann Butler<br>(Died 8/25/74)   |
| 12/ 8/74 Rita Faye Shepherd (P.F. and Baptism)   | 12/12/74 John Alex McIntosh (C.T. First United Methodist Church, Centerville, Ga.)                       |
|  | Date Unknown Mrs. John A. (Eva) McIntosh (C.T. Northview United Meth. Church, Warner Robins, Ga.)        |
|  | 5/ 3/75 Eve Marie (Morris) Standard (C.T. North Covington United Methodist Church, Covington)            |
|  | 12/ /74 Edna (Hamby) Casper (Joined Alcovy Mtn. Baptist Church. We were not notified)                    |
|  | 5/23/75<br>Clifton H. Casper<br>(Died 5/23/75)   |

Changes in membership roll, continued Alcovy United Methodist Church - 1969 - 1975

| Members Received | Members Deducted                             |  |
|------------------|--|--|
|                  | 6/ 7/75<br>Margie Davenport<br>(Died 6/7/75) |  |

Code:

C.T. - Certificate of Transfer P.F. - Profession of Faith and Baptism

12/14/75 Mattie Jewel Beam (Died 12/14/75)

12/14/75 Damon Young (Died 12/24/75)

# Register of Alcovy United Methodist Church

(Note: It is clearly evident that records of Infant Baptisms have not been very well kept. We are giving the information as it appears in record.)

| Date | Child's Name/Parents                                  | Pastor Officiating    |
|------|---|-----------------------|
| 1949 | Johnny Davenport<br>(Margie & Hobert Davenport)       | Jimmy Jones           |
| 1956 | Jerry Davenport<br>(Margie & Hobert Davenport)        | Newton Scott          |
| 1957 | Brenda Pullin<br>(Hazel & Hulon Pullin)               | Mell Simons           |
| 1957 | Kent McDaniel<br>(Lily & Kenneth McDaniel)            | Mell Simons           |
| 1958 | Jeffery Holmes<br>(Louise & Bobby Holmes)             | Mell Simons           |
| 1958 | Thomas Bruce<br>(Evelyn & Jack Bruce)                 | Mell Simons           |
| 1953 | Jerry McIntosh (Lottie Mell & P. M. McIntosh)         | Tommy Nankivell       |
| 1953 | Tim Bruce<br>(Bennie L. & James Bruce)                | Tommy Nankivell       |
| 1953 | Mark Bruce<br>(Bennie L. & James Bruce)               | Tommy Nankivell       |
| 1959 | Pamelia Kay Simons<br>(Edna & Kenneth Simons)         | Mell Simons           |
| 1959 | Charles Dewey Hamby (Betty & Dewey G. Hamby, Jr.)     | Mell Simons           |
| 1962 | Robert Edward Hamby (Betty & Dewey G. Hamby, Jr.)     | James W. Thurman, Jr. |
| 1962 | Joseph Allen Maughon<br>(Shirley & Bobby Maughon)     | James W. Thurman, Jr. |
| 1962 | Jeffery Lynn Maughon<br>(Shirley & Bobby Maughon)     | James W. Thurman, Jr. |
| 956  | Vicky Nan Houseworth<br>(Francis & Reuben Houseworth) | William E. Hammond    |

## Infant Baptisms, continued

| Date     | Child's Name/Parents   | Pastor Officiating     |  |
|----------|--|------------------------|--|
| 1963     | Deborah Renee Owensby (Mr. & Mrs. L. J. Owensby)   | Hollis Lunsford        |  |
| 1964     | Martha Lanell Coggin<br>(Helen Thomas Coggin &<br>Jimmy Coggin)                                | Charles R. Thomas, Jr. |  |
| 9/ 1/73  | Dennis George Stapp, Jr.<br>(Martha Hamby Stapp &<br>Dennis George Stapp)                      | Charles R. Thomas, Jr. |  |
| 5/ 1/65  | Mark Simons<br>(Edna & Kenneth Simons)   | Mell Simons            |  |
| 5/23/65  | Douglas Earl Hamby (Betty & Dewey G. Hamby, Jr.)   | Charles R. Thomas, Jr. |  |
| 7/11/65  | William Robert Unger<br>(Parents names not listed-<br>Record does not provide space<br>for it) | Charles R. Thomas, Jr. |  |
| 7/11/65  | Mona Unger<br>(Parents names not listed)   | Charles R. Thomas, Jr. |  |
| 3/29/64  | Joanna Dean Gilbert<br>(Parents names not listed)  | Charles R. Thomas, Jr. |  |
| 6/26/66  | Tommy Lee Clark (Parents names not listed)   | Charles R. Thomas, Jr. |  |
| 6/26/66  | Linda Sue Clark<br>(Parents names not listed)  | Charles R. Thomas, Jr. |  |
| 7/ 1/66  | Travis A. Hancock<br>(Parents names not listed)  | Terry Phillips         |  |
| 11/26/66 | Kelley Dean Arnold<br>(Parents names not listed)   | Terry Phillips         |  |
| 4/23/67  | Eric Keith Arnold (Parents names not listed)   | Terry Phillips         |  |
| 8/10/69  | Susan Lane Skinner (Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Skinner)  | Mell Simons            |  |
| 8/10/69  | Debroah Lane Skinner<br>(Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Skinner)   | Mell Simons            |  |
| 5/ 9/73  | Brian Andrew McDaniel<br>(Donna & Jody McDaniel)   | Mell Simons            |  |

Infant Baptisms, continued

| Child's Name/Parents                                | Pastor Officiating  |
|---|---|
| John Matthew Houseworth (Marlene & John Houseworth) | Mell Simons   |
| Keith Andrew Houseworth (Marlene & John Houseworth) | Mell Simons   |
|   | John Matthew Houseworth (Marlene & John Houseworth) Keith Andrew Houseworth |

The Reverend Charles R. Thomas, Jr., writes of

#### AN INTERESTING HAPPENING

"I had invited a visiting preacher to preach at a S u n d a y night Service of worship at Alcovy.

"A fairly large crowd came to worship that night, expecting to

hear someone else preach.

"As the service progressed, I began to see that the visitor

wasn't coming, and I would have to preach.

"Someone in the congregation jokingly said that I had said a visitor would preach in order to draw a crowd. At a n y rate, a young lady was converted at the close of the service.

"Once again I saw the truth of the old saying, 'O u r disap-

pointments are God's appointments."

#### A SNAKE CAME TO CHURCH

In the early years of the church program, it was customary to hold annual revivals in the summer. One evening in August of 1917, the crowd had gathered for the evening service. The men were out-They seldom came into the Sanctuary until the congregation started singing, but the women, children and some teen age b o y s and girls were assembled. The kerosene lamps were burning brightly, when suddenly a scream was heard. "A snake! A big snake!" the voice yelled. Everyone fled! Exits were jammed, and m a n y teen age boys jumped from open windows.

The pandemonium of wild screams alerted the men who rushed in

as soon as the doorways were cleared.

The men spied the big snake that I think was as frightened as we were.

There was a door on the side of the building about where the church choir is now located. Some man, whose name I do not remember, rushed up to the big snake, lifted him by the tail, and tossed him out through the open door.

The incident seems humorous now, but it was very frightening to me at the time. I had then, and still have, an innate f e a r

of snakes!

# Register of Marriages

## Alcovy United Methodist Church

| Date     | Names   | Officiating<br>Minister | Place                             |
|----------|---|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 11/24/50 | Dorothy S. McIntosh<br>Edward Hooten                      | Jimmy S. Jones          | Alcovy United<br>Methodist Church |
| 11/14/51 | Martha Jean Hamby<br>George Stapp                         | Eugene E. Reiber        | Alcovy United<br>Methodist Church |
| 7/14/57  | Bettye Florence Sherod<br>Dewey Gibson Hamby, Jr.         | Mell Simons             | Beautiful lawn of Bride's Home    |
| 10/12/58 | Bobbe Ann Sherod<br>Paul Lamar Gilbert                    | Mell Simons             | Alcovy United<br>Methodist Church |
| 9/13/64  | Martha Jean Coggin<br>Robert Eugene Lassiter              | Chas.R.Thomas, Jr.      | Alcovy United<br>Methodist Church |
| 12/21/64 | Sarah Frances Montgomery<br>Clyde Richard Hood            | Chas.R.Thomas, Jr.      | Alcovy United<br>Methodist Church |
| 8/18/63  | Peggy Imogene McIntosh<br>Gary Alonzo Hancock             | Larry McIntosh          | Alcovy United<br>Methodist Church |
| 6/19/6   | Betty Grace Fillinjim<br>Robert G. Williams               | Chas.R.Thomas           | Alcovy United<br>Methodist Church |
| 9/ 3/6   | Annie Mae Brooks<br>Henry Grady Adams                     | Chas.R.Thomas           | Alcovy United<br>Methodist Church |
| 9/ 4/6   | 5 Betty Jane Owenby<br>Gerald Franklin Garner             | Chas.R.Thomas           | Alcovy United<br>Methodist Church |
| 9/26/6   | Mary Moyers<br>Roger Ward                                 | James Ashe              | Alcovy United<br>Methodist Church |
| 11/ 7/6  | Diane Thacker<br>Michael Arnold                           | Mell Simons             | Pastor's home                     |
| 12/20/   | John Lawson Richardson                                    | Mell Simons             | At the bride's home               |
| 2/ 8/    | 71 Patricia Annette Black-<br>stock<br>Jerry Lamar Owenby | Mell Simons             | Mr.Bill Owenby's home             |
| 2/19/    | 70 Glenda Lou Chapman<br>Wayne Gerald Duck                | Mell Simons             | Atlanta Hotel                     |

| Date      | Names                                       | Pastor Offici- | Place         |
|-----------|---|----------------|---------------|
| 8/ 8/1971 | Richard Byron Allgood<br>Clara Elaine Wood  | Mell Simons    | Alcovy Church |
| 8/ 8/1973 | Michael Beau Houseworth<br>Mary Lena Ingram | Mell Simons    | Alcovy Church |
| 8/ 3/1974 | James Pierce Nash<br>Linda Gay Clark        | Mell Simons    | Alcovy Church |

#### WORLD WAR I

Few people in the Alcovy community received daily newspapers, but my parents did. A train was scheduled to arrive at Alcovy a t five o'clock in the afternoon, and the papers arrived by train delivery. Those subscribing for the papers had to be at the depot

each evening to get their copy. This was my job.

News had reached us through the columns of our paper earlier that war had been declared. There were no radios nor televisions,

and our only source of news was through the newspapers.

My parents had visited with our closest neighbors one evening to "sit 'till bedtime," and the news of the declaration of war was discussed. Mrs. Nash assured my mother that that was happening far away, and that we would never hear much of it.

The next day, Mr. John Fillyaw, the depot agent, was advised by the railroad telephone, the only telephone in the community, that soldiers had been assigned to guard the Georgia Railroad trestle at Alcovy, and that they would arrive there on the ten o'clock express.

News of this unexpected happening traveled fast through o u r little community, greatly disturbing the peace and security we had known for all of the past years.

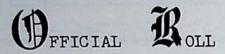
The soldiers arrived on April 6, 1917, and set up camp on the banks of the Alcovy River, on the East side of the trestle. seemed that everyone in the community came to witness the arrival of the soldiers.

I do not remember how long they were stationed at Alcovy, but I do remember how my sister, Lillian, a neighbor girl, Selma Nash, and I visited the camp more often, I suppose, than we ought to

have. But the soldiers were very nice to us.

I remember many things that happened, but space does not permit my sharing all of them. I do remember one of the boys, using one of the high-powered army rifles, shot a hole through a three-eights-inch steel girder of the wagon bridge. This girder still bears that mark today!

I wonder what became of the soldiers. When the war grew worse they were called in for active service, and were shipped overseas. It may be that some of them fell in battle in Flander's



## ATCOVY PROTESTANT METHODIST CHURCH

1930

Rev. E. P. Eubanks,

Secretary - Treasurer

Trustees

Stewards

Class Leaders and Advisory Committee

Conference Steward

Pastor

Mell Simons

M. L. Wiley

J. T. L. Hamby

M. L. Wiley

J. T. L. Hamby

Mrs. A. S. Higginbotham Mrs. M. L. Wiley

Mell Simons

John J. Higginbotham

(All of the above named persons are dead at the time of this writing except the writer. This bit of information was gleaned from an old Methodist Protestant Conference Journal found in the Archives.)

(Continued from previous page)

Field.

They said "good-bye" to us more than sixty years a g o. were older than I, and if they came safely through this war, they may be dead, now. I will always remember this disconcerting e x - perience of our little community. Hour Ulergymen Are Ualled

Fifty-nine years after the church was organized, her first son answered the Father's call to minister His Word to a lost and dying world. First to answer the call and to dedicate his life to the ministry was Clyde Lee.



Rev. Clyde Lee 6-22-1900

In 1925 Clyde heard and accepted the Lord's call a n d dedicated his life to the ministry. A young adult at this time, he was well situated in the business world. He was gainfully employ-

ed where he had worked for a number of years.

He entered the business world with only a grammar school education, having attended only the little one-room school in the Alcovy community. Returning to school, after many years of absence from classes, would have been a very difficult decision for most adults. But, not for Clyde. He was acting under a heavenly mandate; and even though there were long years of high school and college work ahead, the anticipation of this was joyous to him. And with no income, this was an absolute venture of faith!

He made application for entrance to the high school department of the Young Harris College, and was accepted. He was a very serious student and did the equivalent of four years of high school work in two years. After graduation from high school, he

enrolled in classes at Emory University.

He was born June 22, 1900, in Walton County, Georgia.

He married Miss Gladis Lindsey May 28, 1930.

He was ordained and received Deacon's Orders at the Annual Conference in 1930. He was ordained an Elder in the Methodist Church at the Annual Conference in 1934.

His appointments were as follows:

Chatsworth 1929; Lyerly 1930; Kingston 1932; Lexington 1935; Hoschton 1939; Cleveland 1940; Clarksville 1944; Lithonia 1 9 4 9; North Rome 1950; Mize Memorial (Augusta) 1955; K r e s g e Memorial (Cedartown) 1959. He retired from the appointment in Cedartown at the Annual Converence of 1964. He and Miss Gladis moved into one of the Methodist Homes for superannuate ministers at Marietta, following his retirement.

Six years later, following an illness of a few months M i s s

Gladis was called home to heaven on March 1, 1970.

A teacher and Christian wife and mother, and a radiant Christian Witness, her footprints in the sands of time shall not soon

be erased by the storms of life; and her influence in the lives of all who knew her will live on to inspire and encourage us all to live with heaven in view.

Clyde was a member of the Alcovy Church from 1915 until he

moved out of the community in the early twenties.

After Miss Gladis' death, he moved to Perry, Georgia, where he continues to make his home at the time of this writing.

After retiring he continued to serve. His last appointments were: Shiloh, near Kennesaw; Sharon, near Roswell; a n d Arabi-

Wenona, near Cordele.

Clyde and the writer have been close personal friends f r o m the days of our youth. We grew up in the same community, attended the same one-room school; and the first church we knew was the Al-

covy Methodist Church.

When he experienced the new-birth, he was seized with a compassionate desire to share his Christ with others. Naturally, he thought of me, and came to tell me of his new-found joy. His witness was convincing: so convincing, in fact, that he led me to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ during his short visit with me. I had been a churchman for a long time, but I was not saved until now. He has often referred to the fact that I was his first convert.



REV. WILLIAM ALBERT BRUCE 4-6-1925

The Reverend William Albert Bruce was born in Newton County, Georgia, on April 6, 1925, the eldest of the ten children of James Emory and Ammie Jones Bruce.

Albert's father was a cotton farmer who gave strong parental

influence to his children.

Al, the second person of the Alcovy Church to accept the call to preach, came to know the Lord as his personal Savior before finishing high school. We all felt that he was very firmly established in doctrine and faith, but I must admit feeling regret a t seeing him inducted into the Navy where he would live in an atmosphere that was totally alien to the Christian nurture of the church circle. Only time would tell how well he would withstand the trials and temptations he would face. The last service he attended before leaving for induction into the Navy was a special

prayer service. In this service the church group pledged to pray faithfully for him, and he promised to be true to his Lord and Master, to read the Bible regularly, and the at he would witness whenever the opportunity came. He faithfully kept that promise.

I corresponded with him during his travels and during his long tour of duty. He came home on leave only a few times, but everyone of his friends rejoiced and thanked God to see how he was

growing in grace and maturing in things of the Spirit.

A misfortune, we thought, befell him. He had a fall and suffered a knee injury serious enough to warrant his being sent back to the States for medical treatment. Strangely, he was routed to come through Covington and Social Circle, enroute to Portsmouth Virginia Naval Hospital.

I have never seen a young life more dedicated, a n d he never questioned but that this was the Lord's workings. Time proved it was. This resulted in his being given a medical discharge, a n d

later the Lord healed the injured knee!

With the Lord's permission, he knew what he wanted to do. He made plans to enter Asbury College in Wilmore, Kentucky, a s soon as he could. He was accepted, and entered the College of Liberal Arts there, where he stayed to earn the A. B. degree, and later, the B. D. degree in 1951.

Al's ministry predated his graduation by a number of years. Earlier, he was privileged to lead his own father to the Lord more than nine years before his father's untimely death in 1951. The closing years of his life were victorious years, and Al saw the tremendous Christian influence of his father's witness in the Alcovy Church and in the community.

His mother's deep love, Christian influence and inspirational teachings also played a large part in Al's life as a young man, and even today, thirty years later, her saintly influence contin-

ues to strengthen him.

While a student at Asbury College, Al met and married M i s s Bettye Swingle. They were married on March 15, 1947. Bettye was from Chattanooga, Tennessee. After graduation, and for t h e past twenty years she has taught and helped Al with h i s work in t h e ministry.

From their union three children were born. The children are Ralph, Joy and Phil. They also have a foster daughter, S a n d y Freeman Detar, and two grandchildren, Debbie and David Detar.

Al was admitted on trial in the Kentucky Conference in 1948. He was ordained a Deacon in the Methodist Church in 1950, and received his Elder's ordination in 1951 in the North Georgia Conference of the Methodist Church.

His appointments are as follows:

Hebron (Kentucky) 1947; Tunnel Hill (North Georgia) 1951; Chatsworth 1954; St. Stephens (Marietta) 1959; Second Avenue (Rome) 1961; Skyland 1966; Capitol View (Atlanta) 1969; Fair Oaks 1974.

Al has been a worker. At Tunnel Hill, in the Dalton District, he was instrumental in building a new church at Lee's Chapel, and he completely remodelled the Tunnel Hill Church and installed new pews.

At the First Church, Chatsworth, he built a new sanctuary.
At St. Stephens (Marietta) he was instrumental in getting the church to buy a new parsonage.

He had five very fruitful years at Second Avenue ( Rome ) be-

fore moving to Atlanta to serve the Skyland U n i t e d Methodist Church. While serving at Skyland, he built a beautiful new sanctuary. He had a long and fruitful ministry at Capitol View, before moving to Fair Oaks in 1974. He is serving at Fair Oaks at the time of this writing (1975). He has a l so served on many boards and commissions in the Methodist Church, and h a s worked actively with the Lions Club, the Optimist Club, the Y.M.C.A. and the Boys Club. And he worked extensively with the Juvenile Court in DeKalb County, the State Mental Health program, and is now a volunteer Probation Officer in the Cobb County Justice System. The Alcovy Church is justly proud of Al!



Rev. Mell Simons 5-7-1903

In writing of the third person who enlisted in the eministry from the Alcovy Church, I write in the First Person, singular, for it was I who then accepted my Master's call.

I had been very certain of the Lord's call since age fourteen. My failure to offer myself in obedience to His call was not from rebellion or from refusing to yield to the voice of God: it came from feeling that I could not meet the scholastic requirements of my church.

My parents did the very best they could toward helping me; but they were poor. We lived on the farm, and during the depression years there just wasn't enough money to meet the actual family needs. After they did the best they could for me, I on I yhad a grammar school education, and this from the little one-room school in the country. But I will never cease to praise the wonderfully conscientious teachers who did all they could to help me. I dreamed of a door opening for me to continue my education, and prayed that it would; but the dream was not realized.

In my early adolescent years I entered the business world and was quite content there until in the evening service of a revival at the Alcovy Church in 1947. There, the tender voice of G o d spoke to me again, and it was clear that this would be the last opportunity I would have to respond. I a m fully confident that, had I not become willing to answer in the affirmative that night, my life on earth would have been cut short, and I would never have had the glorious opportunity of having a part in the preaching ministry.

When the invitation was given, I consecrated the remaining portion of my life to the Lord to use as He saw fit. He accepted me and gave me twenty-seven years to preach His unsearchable riches, before having to retire because of failing health.

I was born May 7, 1903, in Social Circle, Walton County, Ga.

I married Ina Higginbotham June 20, 1928. The Lord gave us two fine sons: James Henry Mell, Jr., now affectionately known as Jimmy, and Kenneth Reginald. Both were dedicated to the Lord before their birth.

I was licensed to preach in a Quarterly Church Conference,

held at the Mount Pleasant Methodist Church March 9, 1948.

I completed the Four-Year Conference Course of Study with the Candler School of Theology in Atlanta. I a l s o studied w i t h Reinhardt College and the University of Georgia.

I was ordained a Deacon in the Methodist Church by Bishop Arthur J. Moore on June 22, 1956, after completing the first two

years of the Conference Course of Study.

I was also ordained an Elder in the Methodist Church by Bishop Moore on June 20, 1958, after completing the remaining two years of the course.

My appointments were as follows:

Old Pentecost, Corinth and Providence Churches, Bethlehem Circuit, Gainesville District 1950; Auburn 1956; North Covington Charge (Alcovy was one of the Churches on the North Covington Charge) 1957; New Echota (Calhoun, Ga.) 1959; Douglas Street (Cartersville) 1961; Shannon First Methodist Church 1965.

I retired from the appointment at Shannon in 1968. During the Conference Year of 1968, I returned to Auburn for one service

each month.

At the Annual Conference of 1969, I was appointed to serve the Mount Pleasant and Alcovy Churches. This was my second appointment here, having served two years, 1957 - 1958, previously. I served these churches for a period of six years, 1969 - 1975, when I had to retire fully because of failing health.

Few Methodist ministers have the honor that was mine ... that of serving their home church. Alcovy was the church of m y childhood, and I had the honor of serving there for a total of eight years (1957 - 1958 and 1969 - 1975). Truly, no honor c o u 1 d be

greater!



Rev. Larry Mell McIntosh April 7, 1938

## REV. LARRY MELL MCINTOSH 4-7-1938

Fourth in order of the church's sons to enlist i n the ministerial ranks of the United Methodist Church was Larry Mell Mc In-

tosh, who grew up in the Alcovy Church.

The son of Mr. P. M. and the late Mrs. Lottie Mell McIntosh, Larry grew up in a Christian home. He was nurtured in the doctrines of grace and in the teachings of the Bible, from youth. He was dedicated to the Lord in infancy, and was received into full membership of the Alcovy Church July 31, 1949, by the Reverend Jimmy Jones, pastor of the church at this time.

Larry was born in Newton County, Georgia, April 7, 1938.

He was educated at the University of Georgia a n d Wesleyan Central College. He received the A. B. degree from Wesleyan College in 1960. He then attended Emory University where he received the Master of Divinity degree in 1963.

He married Lillian Drucilla Thackerson July 3, 1960.

He was ordained a Deacon in the Methodist Church at the Annual Conference of 1961, and was ordained an Elder in the Conference of 1963.

His appointments are as follows:

Monticello Circuit 1960; St. Luke (Atlanta) 1961; Canon Circuit 1963; Holly Springs 1964; Dunson (LaGrange) 1967; Union County Coop Ministry 1970; Conference Evangelist 1974; Social Circle Methodist Church 1975.

Brother Larry received membership in the North Georgia United

Methodist Conference at its 1961 session.

During the time he was Conference Evangelist, he also served as Executive Director for the Methodist Hour. In this connection and in revivals, he has had a broad travel experience both Stateside and abroad, having made a number of trips to the Holy Land, to other areas of Bible Lands, and to other places abroad.

At the time of this writing (1975) brother Larry, his wife and their two sons, Anthony and Barry, are settled in their beautiful parsonage home in Social Circle where he is enjoying a very fruitful ministry. The fine people of Social Circle have accepted them

and we all hope they can have a very long stay with us.

Four ministerial recruits in the church's ninety-year history is not a very large number, but many churches with a much larger membership do not have a single recruit. So, again, we say, Alcovy is justly proud!

( Note: The ministers did not furnish pictures for this section, so I am using clippings from the Methodist Conference Journals. I hope they will be discernable clear in the book.)

# Beath \_\_ Last Charter Member

## MRS. JENNIE BARNETT

Mrs. Jennie (Berry) Barnett, Alcovy's last Charter Member, died in the Newton County Hospital May 1, 1971, at age ninety-four years.

She was a native of Newton County and had held membership in the Alcovy United Methodist Church since its founding date, 1866.

She was the widow of the late Samuel Barnett and was a resident of Milstead for a number of years.

Funeral services were conducted from the chapel of Caldwell and Cowan Funeral Home on Monday, May 3, with the Reverend Ronald D. Ballard officiating. Interment was in East View Cemetery a t Conyers, with Caldwell and Cowan Funeral Home in charge of arrangements. Serving as pallbearers were Cecil Allgood, Hubert White, Lamar Weldon, Charles Morris, Clarence Williams and Johnnie Reagan.

Surviving are two sons, Sam Barnett, Oxford, Georgia; Clarence Barnett, Chattanooga, Tennessee; daughters, Mrs. J. Ellis Reece, Mrs. A. M. Baker, both of Chattanooga; Mrs. Porter Barnett, of Covington; Mrs. Elmer Lotz, Miami, Florida; Mrs. W. E. Spear, Copper Hill, Tennessee; Mrs. Jim W. Warren, Columbus, Ohio; Sister, Mrs. Minnie Harmon, Atlanta; 12 grandchildren and a number of greatgrandchildren.

# Expansion...1955

For forty years, and until the year 1955, worship services and church school services were conducted in the sanctuary a t the Alcovy Methodist Church. This one-room building w a s very inadequate for some six or more classes, but during the depression years the Church was not financially able to add classrooms.

During the Conference Year of 1955 - 1956 the Church f e l t that an expansion was needful and necessary, so plans were m a d e

for the work.

This expansion called for adding two rooms on the rear of the sanctuary. Two classrooms would certainly not be adequate, but it would help; and the Official Board (as they were then called)d i d not feel that they could venture deeper into debt.

A bill in the Treasurer's report shows that the following a-

mount was expended for adding the two classrooms:

| Cutting logs                 |      | 60.66  |
|------------------------------|------|--------|
| Sawing logs                  |      | 30.33  |
| Paid Home Builders Supply    |      | 76.67  |
| Paid Spillers Lumber Co.     | \$   | 104.00 |
| Paid Piper Hardware Co.      |      | 4.22   |
| Paid for ventilators & Nails | \$   | 4.00   |
| Paid for paint, brushes and  |      |        |
| paint thinner                | \$   | 11.82  |
| Paid for fittings            | \$   | 1.50   |
| Total                        | \$   | 293.20 |
|                              | 1,92 |        |
| Another bill is as follows:  |      |        |
| Paid for:                    |      |        |
| Materials for S. S. Rooms    | \$   | 67.83  |
| Door and hinges              | \$   | 15.91  |
| Floor and other materials    | \$   | 233.75 |
| Heaters                      | \$   | 105.00 |
| Pipes for heaters            | \$   | 15.16  |
| Total                        | \$   | 437.65 |
|                              | 200  |        |

Thus, the two rooms were added on the back of the sanctuary at a cost of \$730.85. But it should be pointed out that all of the labor was donated by the men of the church.

This work was done during the pastorate of the Reverend New-

ton Scott.

# Remodelling...1957-1958

The writer was appointed to serve the Alcovy Church at the Annual Conference in 1957. This was to be a two-year appointment effective from July 1, 1957, to June 30, 1959.

In the fall of 1957, a remodelling program was launched. Until this time no change had been made to the interior of the sanc-

tuary: it remained exactly as it was when erected in 1915.

More classrooms were added to the rear of the building a n d a change was made in the floor plan. A door was made on the left of the end wall of the sanctuary for entrance to the educational plant. Previously, the only entrance to the educational plant was through a door in the back of the chancel. This ill-arranged door may have been made by removing a window a t the time the f i r s t classrooms were added in 1955.

The walls and ceiling of the sanctuary were first with a fancy beaded wood ceiling. Sheet rock was installed on the walls and celotex installed on the overhead, at this time.

A hand-made chancel rail of beautiful oak lumber was made by a craftsman in Covington and installed and hand-finished by the men of the church.

The interior was newly-painted and a beautiful dossal curtain, made by Mrs. Howard Davenport, was installed at the b a c k of the altar. The floor was carpeted and lighting fixtures installed.

A furnace was installed to heat the sanctuary and space heaters provided for the classrooms. The furnace and heaters were

gas-fired and burned L P gas.

New church pews were installed in the beautiful The pews were given by members and friends of the church: given in honor of living friends or in memory of those who are now forever with the Lord in heaven.

New Altar furnishings, chairs, flower stands, dossal curtain and a new piano were bought by the church.

# Memorial and Honorary Bifts

The pews and the Communion Table were special gifts to the Church by church members and friends. The polished brass plaques placed on each pew carry the following information:

> IN MEMORY OF Mr. and Mrs. J. H. M. Lee

IN MEMORY OF Thomas L. Hamby

IN MEMORY OF D. M. Gibbs (and) IN HONOR OF Mrs. D. M. Gibbs by their children

IN HONOR OF Mr. and Mrs. E. E. McDaniel

IN MEMORY OF Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Ellington

IN MEMORY OF M. L. Wiley (and) IN HONOR OF Mrs. M. L. Wiley

IN MEMORY OF Mr. and Mrs. Jim Simons

IN MEMORY OF D. W. Hamby (and) IN HONOR OF Mrs. D. W. Hamby

IN MEMORY OF Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Wiley

IN MEMORY OF Jessie I. Arnold (and) IN HONOR OF A. C. Arnold, Sr.

IN MEMORY OF W. M. McIntosh (and) IN HONOR OF Mrs. W. M. McIntosh by their children

GIVEN BY Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Hamby, Sr.

IN MEMORY OF George W. Gober (and) IN HONOR OF Mrs. George W. Gober by Gilbert Gober

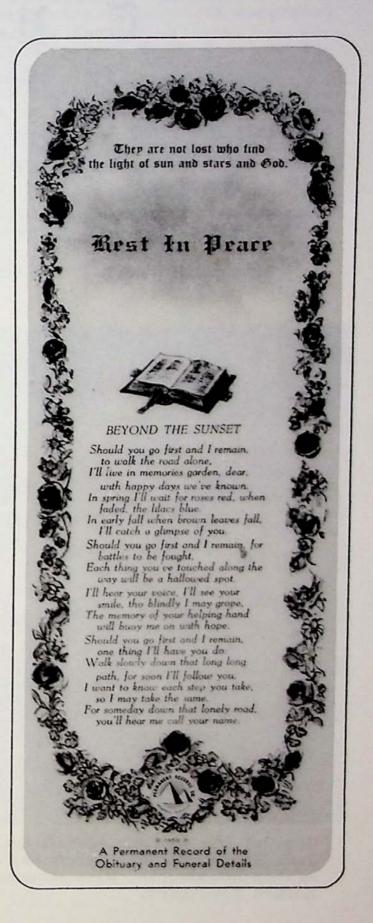
IN MEMORY OF Mr. and Mrs. Alex Higginbotham

A TRIBUTE
published in the pages of
THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION
ATLANTA, GA.
DEC 21 1971



Entered Into Eternal Rest Manday, Dec. 20, 1971

McINTOSH - Mrs. P. M. McIntosh of Covington, died Dec. 20, 1971. Surviving are her husband; sons, Rev. Larry McIntosh, Blairsville, Mr. Kenneth McIntosh, Lanett, Ala., Mr. Jerry McIntosh, Covington; daughter, Mrs. Peggy Hancock, Clarkston; brother, Mr. V. A. Johnson, Covington; sisters, Mrs. Hubert Latham, Mrs. W. B. Wilson, Mrs. Fred Piper, Mrs. Jessie Everett all of Atlanta, Mrs. O. L. Kitchens, Oxford: 6 grandchildren. Funeral services will be held Tuesday at 2 p.m. at Alcovy United Methodist Church with remains placed in state at 1 p.m. Rev. Mell Simons, Rev. Albert Bruce will officiate. Lawnwood Memorial C. Harwell and Son, Interment. Park. J. Pallbearers: Covington. Bruce, Bobby Maughon, John Houseworth, Mike Houseworth, Carlton Middlebrooks and Edsel Arnold.



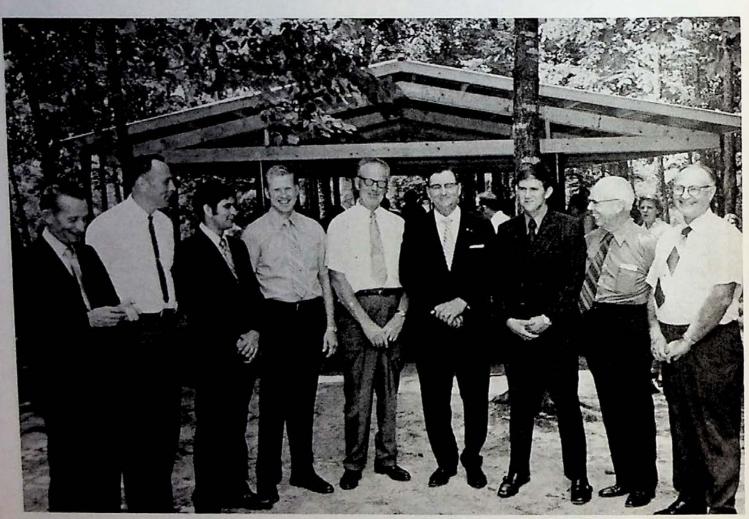
# Uhe Hicnic Shed

Until the year 1971, all dinners for homecomings a n d other out-door type meals were served on the church lawn. In clear open summer weather, this was fine and very enjoyable; but the writer remembers occasions when quick rains came after the foods had been served. And there were other days when the food c o u l d not b e served outside because of long rainy spells. On such occasions, we

were forced to serve inside in the crowded classrooms. So, in the Spring of 1971 it was decided that so me better plan should be made. A Building Committee was named to study the need, and the following persons were named to serve on this C o m-

mittee:

Howard Davenport Reuben Houseworth C. E. Arnold



Some of the men who worked on the project. (L to R) C. E. Arnold, Jack Bruce, Pat Middlebrooks, John Houseworth, P. M. McIntosh, Reuben Houseworth, Mike Houseworth, Rev. M e 1 1 Simons (Pastor), Howard Davenport.

Building cement tables on the open lawn a t the rear of t h e church was discussed first, but later brother Houseworth suggested that a roof be erected over the area. He further offered t o donate twelve iron pipes, six inches in diameter, to be set in cement to support the proposed roof. These pipes were of sufficient length to give adequate clearance. This plan was acceptable to the Committee.

The church bought lumber for framing, and f o r building two tables the entire length of the shed, and the sheet metal for covering the structure. In the future, rainy weather will n o t be a determent to plans for serving foods on the church grounds.

Through the generosity of brother Houseworth's costly g i f t and the labor donated by the men of the church, the building w a s erected at an estimated cost of \$3,000.00.



GATHERED FOR LUNCH (Homecoming of 1971)
-Courtesy of The Covington News

# Expansion, 1963...1966

By the year 1961, the church felt the need of expanding again

to meet the need, for they were experiencing a growth.

Although the actual work of construction on the n e w project did not begin until in 1963, the pastor, the Reverend J a m e s W. Thurman, Jr., wrote in his Report to the Quarterly Conference, dated December 10, 1961, as follows:

"A Building Committee has been organized and is looking forward to building a new educational unit for the Church," adding also, "A Building Fund was put into action on December 10, 1961."

Again, in his QC Report dated March 3, 1962, Reverend Thurman

wrote:

"The plans for the proposed Educational Unit of the Church are still in the hands of the Building Committee. Tentative Architectural Plans will be in the hands of this Committee in a few days. The plans will then be submitted to the Church at large and then officially to the Building Committee of the District. From there, these plans will be presented to the Fourth Quarterly Conference for final approval. A Charge Conference was held February 6th, and the Conference gave authority to the Building Committee to drill a well on the church property. This will be done in the near future."

In his QC Report dated September 30, 1962, Reverend Thurman wrote:

"The Church is still planning and working toward the new Educational Unit to be built. Water has been acquired at a cost of \$550.00, and a pump is to be purchased soon."

In his Second QC Report, dated December 2, 1962, the pastor writes as follows:

"The Building Committee has met several times trying to decide which would be the best way to put over the building program. The fellowship building is badly needed and every effort is being made to follow up on the plans to erect the building."

This statement appears in the Pastor's Report dated March 31, 1963:

"A special called session of the Quarterly Conference on February 10, has led to the beginning of construction of o u r Educational Plant and Fellowship Hall. \$3,500.00 will be borrowed from the Covington Bank to enable the church to complete the new wing. This building will be of great benefit to the Church."

The next QC Report I find recorded is that of the Reverend Charles Rickard Thomas, Jr., who has been appointed to serve a spastor at Alcovy. The report is dated August 17, 1963, and he makes this statement in regard to the work on the new unit of the Educational Plant:

"The men have worked hard to complete the building program and equip the trailer (parsonage)."

"The financial condition of the Church is excellent. We have paid off our Building Fund debt on the addition to the C h u r ch School Building."

The above statements were the last mention of the work in connection with the new Educational Plant.

The first floor of this commodious building houses the Fellowship Hall which also serves as the church dining hall. Space is also provided on this floor for a well-equipped kitchen.

The second floor of this building is a part of the existing Church School plant which was constructed prior to this time. This new wing provides four spacious class rooms, a church office, a men's room and a ladies' lounge. All of these rooms are connected by halls in the well-designed plan drawn by the Architect.

As unbelievable as it seems now, this lovely addition was constructed for \$3,500.00. But this would not have been possible, had it not been for the untiring efforts of the men of the church who so graciously gave of their labor. Throughout coming years, this structure will be a memorial to the faithful men who loved Christ and His Church enough to give of their time, thus making a dream come true.

# I and Hurchase

This interesting information is recorded with the Quarterly Conference Reports of May 24, 1964:

"Be it hereby resolved that the Trustees of the Alcovy Methodist Church request the permission of the Church Quarterly Conference to purchase approximately one acre of land adjoining the north side of the church property from Mr. Owenby for the sum of Four Hundred (\$400.00) Dollars. This resolution shall be presented to the Church Conference in session May 24, 1964.

Signed: Charles R. Thomas, Sr., Pastor P. M. McIntosh, Chairman

Signed: C. E. Arnold Hobert Davenport Howard Davenport D. G. Hamby, Sr."

At the time of purchase, four hundred dollars seemed a rather high rate per acre for land, but the prevailing prices of land a t the time of this writing makes it a sound and wise investment. And the Church Extension Fund gave the church a two-hundred dollar donation to aid in the purchase. A copy of this deed is being carried in this book.

County.

in the year of our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred

Deed from Mr. J. W. Owenby to Alcovy Methodist Church dated June 1, 1964. Recorded in Deed Book 66, Page 538 Newton County Court House, Covington, Georgia.

State of Georgia,

1 st.

DBK 66, 18. 538

THIS INDENTURE, Made this day of Sixty-four J.W. OWENBY Georgia of the first part, and and State of of the County of Nawton the Trustees of The Alcovy Methodist Church of the second part: and State of Newton of the County of of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of Witnesseth, That the said part y Four Hundred and No/100 -- Dollars, in hand paid at and before the sealing and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged. haucces sort in collection and conveyed, and by these presents do
of the second part their max and assigns, all that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Wyst's District of Newton County , Georgia, and described as follows: BFGINNING at the northeast corner of the property of the Alcovy Mathodist Church thence North, along the center of the old Alcovy-Jersey road, a distance of 210 feet to a corner; thence West a distance of 210 feet to a corner; thence South 210 feet to a corner; thence East 210 feat to the point of beginning. Said tract containing one acra, more or less, and bounded on the North and West by land of J.W. Cyenby; East by the center of the old Alcova-Jarsey road; and South by the land of the Alcovy Methodist Church. The tract herein conveyed being one acre out of the Southeast corner of the land conveyed by J.E. Cline to J.W. Owenby in the year 1945. U. S. REFENUL STAMPS for same .55 ces. Attached to this live treven To Have and to Hold, the said bargained premises, together with all and singular the rights, members and appurtenances thereof, to the same being, belonging or in anywise appertaining, to the only proper use, benefit and tell of of True sees of Alcovy Meth. Church. the said part 108 of the second part, their Research assigns forever in fee Simple. hia And the said part y of the first part, for bers, executors and administrators, will warrant and forever defend the right and title of the above described to operty unto the said part 108 of the second part, their / how and assigns, against the claims of all persons whomsoever. his scal In Witness Whereof, the said part Y of the first part ha S berennto set his hand and attixed the day and year first above written. Signed, scaled and delivered in the presence of: Louise M. Same Donald G. Stephenson (CRDINARY'S SEAL.) J. W. Owenby (SEAL) ORDINARY OF NEWTON COUNTY, GFORGIA (SEAL) , 19 64. at 11 n'clock, A.M. Recorded this day of June . 19 64 Piled this day of June S.H. Hoy Clerk Capetion Court.



My father's path may twist and HE MAKETH NO MISTAKE

But in my soul, I'm glad I know My heart may throb and ache He maketh no mistake

My hopes may fade away Still I'll trust the Lord to lead There's so much now I cannot see cherished plans may go astray For He doth know the way My eyesight's far to dim

For by and by the mist will lift, I'll trust the Lord to lead And plain it all He will make And leave it all to him Through all the way But

Tho dark to me

He maketh not one mistal

Jan. 13, 1940 -- Feb. 11, 1976 IN MEMORIAM

# **Bobby Joe Maughon**

Funeral services for Bobby Joe Maughon of Route 3, Covington were conducted Thursday afternoon at Alcovy United Methodist Church with Rev. W. A. Childers fr. and Rev. Charles Cowan offic-

native, was a member of Alcovy United Methodist Church and an his death on February 11, at the Maughon, a Walton County He was 36 years old at the time of local hospital following a short employe of Atlanta Gear and Axle. illness.

Interment was in Covington City Cemetery with J. C. Harwell and Son Funeral Home in charge of ers were Tommy Mitchell, Jimmy Knowles. Jimmy Burnett and Bo arrangements. Serving as pallbearones, Pat Middlebrooks, Allen

Felton Shirley Davenport Maughon, two Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Jeffrey Lynn Maughon, enn. and Mrs. Howard Maughon, all of Vester brothers, Chattanooga, Covington; Bons,

# Remodeling-1973-74

hen I was appointed to serve the Alcovy Church in 1969, the building was in need of repair. The need was often discussed among individuals and among groups, but no initiative was taken.

The building was badly in need of a paint job: and it was estimated that the cost of painting would run in excess of twelve hundred dollars. There was a feeling that the exterior walls should be veneered with brick for durability and beauty. Too, after more than fifty years, the windows were rotting and some of the weatherboarding would need to be replaced.

Perhaps thieves helped us to make a decision!

One afternoon while enroute home from Covington, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Arnold noticed a station wagon parked at the side door of the educational plant. They immediately recognized that the vehicle was not familiar, and that it did not belong in the community. So, they turned back to make an investigation. When Mr. Arnold walked to the front door of the sanctuary, a strange man, carrying a tire tool in his hand, walked out. When Mr. Arnold questioned him, he said he had come out to do some repair to the organ, but stated he was having to go for help.

After he drove away, Mr. Arnold went into the sanctuary a n d found that he had removed the screws holding one of the window air conditioning units in place. Surprisingly, this was in t h e full daylight hours. Had Mr. Arnold not passed a t this time, within a very short time both window units that we used to cool the sanctuary would have been stolen.

A very few weeks later, I was to have a wedding a t six o'-clock on Saturday afternoon. I drove to the church about three o'clock in the afternoon to turn on the air conditioning, to cool the sanctuary for the wedding.

Imagine my surprise! When I walked into the sanctuary, both of the cooling units had been removed, and the eroom was littered with debris. It was a very embarrassing thing, but the wedding was not interrupted. The situation explained itself.

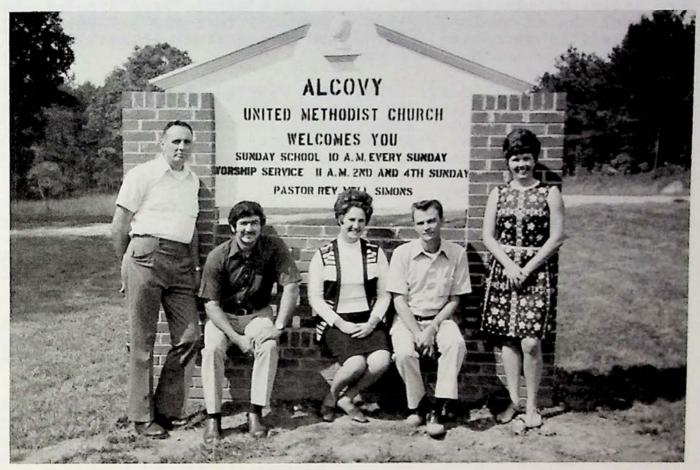
Just a short time prior to this, thieves entered and took five electric fans from the classrooms. Even before this, the y broke into the sanctuary and stole a lovely sanctuary clock that Mrs. Jim (Smith) Sharpton had given in memory of her husband, the late Mr. Jim Smith.

It seemed now that something must be done. So in a special meeting held after the Church School service Sunday morning, September 16th, 1973, a Building Committee was appointed. The persons appointed were:

Bobby Maughon, Chairman, Jack Bruce, M r s. Shirley Maughon, Carlton (Pat) Middlebrooks, Mrs. Elaine Allgood, a n d Mrs. Joyce

Middlebrooks, with P. M. McIntosh advisory member.

### THE BUILDING COMMITTEE



Left to right: Jack Bruce; Carlton (Pat) Middlebrooks; Mrs. Shirley Maughon; Bobby Maughon, Chairman; Mrs. Joyce Middlebrooks.

The following persons were not present when this picture was



made:

Elaine Allgood



P. M. McIntosh, Advisory member

This Committee made plans and work was started without delay. The first important consideration was the matter of arranging to cool the church. Contact was made with Heating - Air Conditioning Specialist, and the Committee decided to install two heating-cooling units; one to heat and cool the sanctuary, the other to heat and cool the educational plant. Within a very short time, these installations were made, and we now have uniform temperatures for services every month in the year.

While waiting to get other jobs started, a group of volunteer workers came in to paint the classrooms and fellowship hall. Those aiding in this work were Bobby Maughon, Jack Bruce, Buddy Glanton, Pat Middlebrooks, Rev. Mell Simons, Edsel Arnold, Richard Allgood, Thomas Bruce, Joey Maughon, and Jeff Maughon. Bobby Maughon furnished the paint for this job.

Then plans were made to carpet the classrooms and fellowship hall. The Committee found they could get better prices by going to the mills in Dalton. So a representative group made the trip to Dalton by truck where they bought beautiful carpet for all the floors. It was installed by Buddy Glanton, Bobby Maughon, Jack Bruce, Thomas Bruce and Pat Middlebrooks.

By this time the Chairman, Mr. Bobby Maughon, h a d found a n outlet where we could buy brick for immediate delivery. Demands for brick were great at this time, and many were having to w a i t weeks, even months, before their orders were delivered.

Our order was delivered promptly; but then we could not find an available mason. Mr. Jack Bruce who works in the building field, was able to get a mason whom he knew in Atlanta to do the work for us. The mason had a large crew of workmen, and they were able to get the brickwork finished within a few days.

Prior to this, members of the Committee had shopped for a n d selected new windows, and Mr. Jack Bruce had installed them. Thus, the new window trim was just right to receive the brick.

By this time the overall beauty was emerging: but one thing the writer had dreamed of for many years had not been added, although it had been put on order. I refer to a steeple which I knew would give the remodelled old church a "picture-book" appearance. Mr. P. M. McIntosh and his children gave the beautiful steeple in memory of the late Mrs. Lottie Mell McIntosh, one of the most devoted and loyal members ever to hold membership in the Alcovy Church.

The church had a few thousand dollars in a savings account when it was decided to remodel the building, but had it not been for the generosity of the members and our many friends, it would not have been possible to have done this work.

When the steeple was received, Mr. Buddy Glanton, M r. Bobby Maughon and Mr. Jack Bruce assembled and erected it.

An accurate record has been kept of a l l special gifts, in-

cluding gifts perpetuating the memory of loved ones a n d friends, and gifts that honor those who are still living. Mr Maughon and Mrs. Evelyn Bruce designed and finished a M r s. Shirley beautiful wooden plaque that displays the brass plates showing the names of all donors, the names of those whom they honor, and the names of those whose memory is perpetuated by their gifts. This list is as follows:

## WINDOW DONATIONS

In Loving Memory of DR. VIRGIL Y. C. EADY

Pastor of Alcovy United Methodist Church January 1, 1967 -- June 30, 1968 Given by Virgil Y. C. Eady, Jr.

> In Honor of Mrs. Mae McIntosh 6-23-1890 -and In Loving Memory of W. M. McINTOSH 6-6-1886 -- 9-24-1929 Given by their children

In Honor of Mrs. J. G. Davenport 11-30-1896 -and In Loving Memory of J. G. Davenport 1-13-1894 -- 8-6-1955 Given by their children

In Honor of Otis Doster 12-23-1892 -and Mrs. Otis Doster 11-1-1905 --

Given by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Allgood

In Honor of
Mrs. Emory Bruce
4-2 -1904 -and
In Loving Memory of
Emory Bruce
4-26-1904 -- 10-8-1951
Given by their children

In Honor of Rev. Mell Simons 5-7-1903 --Given by Friends

One window given by The Patrick Rush Family

One window given by The Adult Class

# OTHER DONATIONS

Church Steeple
In Loving Memory of
Mrs. Lottie Mell McIntosh
5-30-1919 -- 12-20-1971
Given by her husband
and
Children,
Larry, Mrs. Peggy Hancock,
Kenneth and Jerry

Doors and Hand Railings
Given by
Pat Middlebrooks and Family

Automatic Timer for Cooling-Heating Units Given by The Buddy Glanton Family Church Lawn Marker
Given by
Mrs. Ammie Bruce's Fellowship Class

# CASH DONATIONS

Given by
Mr. W. T. and Mrs. Minnie (Hamby) Lee
In Memory of
Dewey G. Hamby, Sr.
10-13-1898 -- 9-16-1972

Mrs. Jessie H. Anglin 1-16-1888 -- 1-2-1973

Aubie Hamby 1-25-1928 -- 3-29-1973

Alonzo (Lon) Hamby 7-14-1885 -- 7-11-1973

Thomas L. Hamby 1877 -- 1947 Mrs. Thomas L. Hamby 1881 -- 1970

Given by
The L. J. Owenby Family
In Memory of
Dewey G. Hamby, Sr.
10-13-1898 -- 9-16-1972

Given by
Reverend Albert Bruce
In Honor of
Mrs. Ammie Bruce
4-26-1904 -and
In Memory of
Emory Bruce
4-26-1904 -- 10-8-1951

Given by Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert D. Gober In Memory of G. W. Gober

> and Mrs. G. W. Gober

Given by
Reverend and Mrs. Mell Simons
In Memory of

Alec S. Higginbotham 11-15-1857 -- 1-27-1940

and

Mrs. Mattie (Lemmond) Higginbotham 3-14-1867 -- 5-28-1933

Also

In Memory of James Franklin Simons 8-3-1870 -- 7-1-1954 and

Mrs. Lessie (Reeves) Simons 9-9-1880 -- 5-17-1948

Given by
Mrs. J. G. Davenport
In Memory of
T. L. Ray

and Mrs. T. L. Ray

Given by
Mrs. Charles Sherod
In Honor of
A. H. Hamby, Sr.
7-14-1885 --

Given by
Mr. and Mrs. Ollie Stowe
In Memory of
Mrs. Esther Stowe
2-23-1881 -- 3-13-1959

# SPECIAL UNDESIGNATED GIFTS

Mrs. Charles Sherod

Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Doster

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Allgood

Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Sherod

The Birthday Club

and Many Other Cash Donations

- Resolutions -The grien reaper death has removed from our church and community our of our most belived and faithful mounters, Brother alex Higgenbothan although God how seen fit to share him to a rife ofd age, yet, we deplose his passing and miss him greatly. It is was a life of hus devotion to his home, his family and to his church, wer estocining it a privilege to attend the services whenever health permitted les au expression of our devotion to this hother and appreciation In the high ideals of true Christianity which his life examplyfied we tender the following resolutions. Whereas: God in his wisdom has called from our midst Brother alex Higging botham, and whereus, we desire to show our heart felt sympathy to the becaused ones.

Resolved: That it is with feelings of deep greif that we experence the loss of Brither Alex Aligginstotham. Le ever luved the principles of the Christ he loved. This was attested by his knowledge of Scripture and his daily Bitte readings. Resolved: That this community having been Hersed by his presquel for so many years realized that we have sustained a great loss in his passing. Resolved also: That those resolutions be entered whom the immutes of our church and copy he furnished the bereaved family. Kespectfully submitted, mrs P. a. Hale mre m. L. Wiley.

## A Resolution

of the

## Alcovy United Methodist Church

Whereas: Brother Mell Simons moved into Alcovy Community in 1910 at the age of seven years, continuing to live near the original church for many years, having joined Alcovy Church in the summer revival of 1917, receiving his call to preach in the community at age fourteen, answering God's call and dedicating his life to the ministry of God's Word in the summer revival of Alcovy Church in 1947, being licensed to preach in a Church Conference on March 9, 1948, being ordained a Deacon in the Methodist Church on June 22, 1956, being ordained an Elder on June 10, 1958, and; Whereas: He was appointed to serve his home church, Alcovy of the North Covington Charge, on two separate occasions, the first of which was from July 1, 1956 to July 1, 1958 and the second from July 1, 1969 until forced to retire due to failing health on August 1, 1975; during his eight years of service, under his leadership the congregation completely remodeled the Sanctuary, installed new furniture, completed an education building, brick veneered the old building, installed new windows, new lighting system, new heating and air conditioning system, church bulletin board on the grounds, a beautiful steeple, landscaped the grounds and paved the drive and parking area, and;

Whereas: During the years of his last appointment, twenty-three members were added to the Church roll, five infants were baptized and ten couples were united in marriage.

Be it resolved that: The members of the Alcovy United Methodist Church wish to express their deep love and sincere appreciation to Brother Mell for his unselfish service and unfailing devotion to God during his tenure of office at his home church.

Further resolved: That this resolution be incorporated in the history of Alcovy United Methodist Church, a copy read and presented to Reverend Simons at Homecoming, July 25, 1976 and a copy mailed to the Wesleyan Christian Advocate.

Chairman Administrative Board

Church Lay Leader

July 26, 1976

#### Note:

I have had many honors during my service years as a minister in appointments in the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church, but I esteem no honor greater than that of being appointed to serve Alcovy United Methodist Church, the church of my childhood. Under two different appointments, I w a spermitted to serve the Alcovy Church for eight years.

God bless you, beloved! My ministry is now reduced to praying for those whom the Lord lays on my heart, and to writing an occasional letter, but be assured, dear friends, that I will be faithful to pray for you until I am promoted to eternal life: then, I will talk to the Lord about you as I have communion with Him, face to face.

Alcovy, Georgia. May 14th. 1944.

To; Miss Annie Lemmond and Mrs. Mae Davis:

The Alcovy Methodist Church wishes to express thanks to the family of Mr. J. S. Lemmond for the gift of his Bible.

We deeply appreciate his thoughtfulness of us during his life and the gift will keep his memory alive in our church for coming generations.

Truly, it graces the Sacred Desk, it will be preserved here and will serve to be \*a lamp unto our feet, and a light unto our path," as it was to him in this life.

A copy of this expression of thanks is being entered in the Bible that those of future years may know who gave it, and the date we first used it in our services here.

This expression is over the official signature of the church, and expresses the gratitude of all the members of the Church.

Gratefully yours through him,

ALLOVY METHODIST CHURCH,

M. B. Dame, restor

OFFICIAL BOARD:

T. L. Harry M. L. Willy P.M. M. Intoch.

Fooward Davement

#### IN MEMORIAM

Given in loving memory of MRS. SHIRLEY BUTLER

# A beautiful Baptismal Font

matching the Pulpit and Altar furniture in color and design.

Given by her sons, Mr. Dwayne Butler, Mr. Glenn Butler,

and a friend, Mr. Clayton Lunsford

This gift was dedicated in the worship service, June 8, 1975.

The writer was invited to officiate in the service where the first persons were baptized from this font.

Those receiving baptism on this date were:

Joey Maughon Jeff Maughon Teresa Byrd Rosa Lee Byrd Ronnie Byrd Cindy Patterson

This service was held at 7:30 o'clock in the evening of April 18, 1976

## AN ELECTRONIC ORGAN IS ADDED

By the sanction of the Administrative Board and by the consent of the people, we had a small Magnavox Electric organ set in the church on trial.

Mr. William Wise, a representative of Cable Piano Company and a very accomplished musician, came down from Atlanta to play for our morning worship service on the Sunday the organ was added, February 14, 1971.

The majestic voice of the organ added a depth of inspirational beauty to the worship hour. Everyone liked it and we all wanted it very much. So it is now a part of our church equipment!

# Our Ooldest Living Member



Mrs. Mae (Higginbotham) McIntosh June 23, 1890

Mrs. Mae McIntosh, Alcovy's oldest living member, was born Mae Higginbotham on June 23, 1890. She was married to Mr. W illie

McIntosh on June 21, 1908.

Mr. McIntosh's untimely death on September 24, 1929, left this lovely mother with a great responsibility. Eight children, William, Robert, Louise, Parks, Mattie, Ina, Hazel and Alex had be en born from their union, and his death came almost five months before the birth of their ninth child, Dorothy.

In the depression of the thirties, the future for Mrs. McIntosh was dark, forbidding and uncertain: but she was a godly woman of great faith and walked into the shadows of the u n k n o w n trusting God to fulfill His promise that says, "My God shall supply your need according to His riches in glory by Jesus Christ." Philippians 4:19.

She is now past age eighty-six, and her testimony is that "There failed not ought of any good thing which the Lord had spo-

ken ... all came to pass!" Joshua 21:45.
All nine of her children are living and as the scripture has said, "They arise up, and call her blessed ... " Proverbs 31:28.

The weight of more than eighty-six years is taking a toll o f her strength, but she still attends church regularly when her health permits.

She transferred her membership back to the Alcovy Church by certificate on July 31, 1931. She has been a tremendous influence

for good to all of us.

# UHURCH MUSIC

It has been said that "Methodists sing joyfully." This may be truly said of the people of the Alcovy United Methodist Church!

My first recollection of the music at the Alcovy Church is of the impact the hymns and church songs made on my mind and heart as a small boy. I felt the near-presence of the Lord in the congregational singing, and I was almost always brought to tears by the singing at funerals and in the revival meetings.

I remember attending some funerals in 1910, the year we moved into the community, and in later years as well. Many times quartets would sing songs the deceased or members of their families had requested. In those days it was customary to sing two or three or even more songs at a funeral service. I was always so deeply touched that I would cry with those who wept.

The people sang with deep feeling, and the song s became a message. I do not think many of the people could read music, but they were very gifted in memorizing, once they learned a song. One of the early ministers whom I remember was the Reverend David Mobley. Brother Mobley was an apt sight reader and was recognized in the singing conventions of that day. A picture and an article about brother Mobley appears on page 28 of this book.

I am indebted to Mrs. Mae McIntosh, our oldest living member, for a bit of information on two of the church's early musicians. We think these persons may have served around or before the turn of the century.

# MISS ANNIE MAE BERRY



Miss Annie Mae Berry

Miss Annie Mae Berry, pictured to the left, was one of the early church organist. She lived in her early years with her parents, Mr. Charles Mercer Berry and Mrs. Sus an Elizabeth Herren Berry, in the old family home which stood at the site of Mr. Owenby's present home.

Miss Annie Mae was connected with Southern Bell Telephone Company, and remained in their employment until her retirement.

#### MR. GUS HARMON

The second person Mrs. McIntosh remembered as being active in church music a t Alcovy was Mr. Gus Harmon. Mr. Harmon w a s church choir director and song leader for a l o n g number of years.

I regret that I could not get a picture of Mr. Harmon, and that I

could not develop more information on his family connection.

# MR. ALONZO (LON) HAMBY

Another person who often did special singing (solos) was Mr. Alonzo (Lon) Hamby. I do not remember that he was choir leader at any time, but he very often brought special messages in song. Mr. Lon read music very aptly; and he was also gifted with ability to convey deep feeling, often a feeling of conviction, through h is messages in song. He also had the gift of a melodious voice which made his singing very effective.

Brother Lon was from a musical family.

## MRS. JESSIE (HAMBY) ANGLIN

Mrs. Jessie (Hamby) Anglin was one of brother Lon's sisters. She was a very accomplished organist.

Mrs. Anglin was born Jessie Hamby and married Mr. W a l t e r Anglin. She was most familiar with the reed organ, the type found in all small churches in the early years of this century.

I cannot establish the exact date of her service as church organist at Alcovy, but it was evidently in the mid teens.

Miss Jessie lived to age eighty-five, and left us to forever be with the Lord January 2, 1973. Mr. Walter, whom the writer knew quite well, preceded her to the grave by a long number of years. I think she was forced to give up music in later years because of failing health.

Every aspect of the Lord's plan is perfect, but I have often thought of the blessed thing it would be if talents and accomplishments like those she possessed could be bestowed on those of us who so covet them on earth: but these fine things come only by perseverance and hard work. This is the price all must pay if they are to excel as musicians.

# MRS. PAULINE (ELLINGTON) SMITH, SHARPTON

Pictured on the following page is Pauline Ellington, Smith, Sharpton, who grew up in the Alcovy Church and community.

She served as church pianist for eight years, f r o m 1917 through 1925. She began her service to the church at a very early age, at about age twelve years, and continued to serve faithfully until the year 1925, when the family moved from their farm home to Atlanta.

On moving to the city, Pauline began teaching piano, a profession she has followed for more than half a century. She revealed to the writer in a recent telephone conversation, her tentative plans for retirement, possibly at some early date, although no date was mentioned.

During the years of her teaching career, Pauline h a s made a host of wonderful friends. And her work, which she loves very much, has served to impress upon the spirits of her pupils the beauty of music, which is the language of heaven.



Mrs. Pauline Ellington, Smith, Sharpton 9-23-1905

We rejoice with her in the fine work she has done.

After moving from the country, she has not been able to return to the home church often, but her interest in and love for Alcovy has remained unchanged. She has returned for annual homecomings as often as convenient to her busy schedule. We sincerely hope that the retired years will make it possible for her to "come home" more often than providence permitted in the past.

DEWEY GIBSON HAMBY, SR.

One of my personal friends, brother Dewey Gibson Hamby, Sr., affiliated with the church many years earlier, perhaps in the twenties. He contributed much to the musical program. He was, without question, one of the most accurate vocalist I have ever known. He knew time and tonality so well that he

could sing a new piece of music that he had not seen, without piano or instrumental accompaniment: and each note would be as accurate as if played on an instrument.

He was very, very talented; but hard work and many hours of practice and study made him the accomplished musician he was. Although he did attend singing schools that were frequently held in the community at earlier dates, he was largely a self-taught musician.

He was a great help to me, the writer, in the hours we spent together in study and practice. We always bought copies of the new convention song books, which were published annually, and we found great pleasure in working to learn all of the new songs contained in the books. All of our practice in reading the new songs was acappella style. We never used an accompaniment.

I visited brother Dewey a short time before his death, and we talked about the yesteryears. I made notes of some of the things he said and am quoting him below:

"Until the year 1931, the church had continued to use the old reed organ which was now in a very bad condition. During the year (1931) I bought a used piano for the church from Attorney Barnes who lived in Covington. He sold it to me, for the church for Thirty-five Dollars. We did not have the money in the c h u r c h treasury to pay for it, so I, personally, signed a note f o r that amount.

"This was during the depression of the thirties and most of the common people had very little money. The late Mr. Jim S. Lemmond, who grew up in the community but who now lived in Charlotte, North Carolina, gave me the largest donation I received: his cash gift was \$10.00. Later I received one dollar each from T o m Hamby, Marvin Wiley, Denty Hamby, Charles Guest and Claud Allen.

"Then Mr. Lemmond gave the church the use of a field for a "cotton patch" and paid for the fertilizer we used to plant the field. The "patch" was worked by Tom Hamby, Marvin Wiley, Jim Young and their wives and my wife and me." (All of the se dear people are now dead except brother Dewey Hamby's wife.)

"We made a 500 pound bale of cotton on the "patch" a n d it sold for \$35.00. Cotton sold for seven cents per pound that year. The pastor said he thought the \$35.00 should have applied on his salary, but it was decided that the balance of the outstanding debt on the piano should be paid first."

There was a good bit of interest in music in the S u n d a y School and Church in the twenties. The Alcovy Sunday School w a s a member of The Sunday School Association, and a singing contest was held at the Cornish Mountain Baptist Church in the f a l l of this year. In the contest, the Alcovy Church took the banners for Class singing, and for Solo, Duet and Quartet. Every one at the Alcovy Church was thrilled that our singers were so victorious.

These banners, however, were won as a result of much hard work and by spending many hours in practice.

Our special singers were as follows:

Dewey G. Hamby, Sr. Soprano Mrs. Tom (Ola) Wiley Alto John J. Higginbotham Tenor Tom Wiley Bass

I remember all of these incidents, and writing about the m brings back memories of those happy days, and of those wonderful people as well. Only one of the persons mentioned above is living at the time this manuscript is being written. The living member is Mrs. Ola Wiley, widow of the bass singer, Mr. To m Wiley. She is now suffering a decline of health and residing with her son and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Wiley, of Covington, Georgia. After this article was written, and before the book was published, Mrs. Wiley died December 4, 1978. Funeral services were held December 5th.

Brother Dewey was, for a long number of years, the Choir Director of the Alcovy Church where he made a great contribution to the total musical program. He held membership here and attended services as long as his strength and health permitted.

After brother Dewey could no longer serve as the choir director, brother Edsel Arnold accepted the place. Mr. Howard Davenport, Mr. Pat Middlebrooks, and Horace Davenport have aided Mr. Arnold in the work.

# ther Unurch Hianists

I deeply regret that I do not have a list of the names of all of the musicians who have played for this historic church through the years.

In addition to the names listed on preceding pages of the is book, I am including the names of others who have ministered to the church and congregation by their contribution to the fine musical program the Alcovy Church has had through the years.

Mrs. Ben Sharpton gave me the names of two persons who served before she assumed the role. They are:

#### MRS. EUNICE WILEY HAMBY

Miss Eunice, as I knew her, was the daughter of M r. and Mrs. J. D. Wiley and was married to Mr. Denty Hamby.

As a girl, she grew up in the community, and she and her husband continued to make their home here, after their marriage. We can not verify the period of her service. We believe she served in the early teens.

#### MRS. MINNIE (HAMBY) HALE, LEE

Pictured on the following page is Mrs. Minnie (Hamby) H a l e Lee, who served as one of the church's pianists for eleven years. She served faithfully from 1925 to 1936.

In 1936 she was married to the late Mr. Prince A. Hale, and after their marriage they established their home in Social Circle.

Prince died early in life, and many years after his d e a t h Minnie was married to the late Mr. W. Theodore Lee. Mr. Lee lived only a few years after their marriage.

Minnie continues to make her home in Social Circle. She now holds membership in the Social Circle United Methodist Church, is a member of the choir, and is very active in the Church Program and the Church School program.

Minnie is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas L. Hamby and was born and reared in the community.

Although she is active now in her Church at Social Circle, she



Mrs. Minnie (Hamby) Hale, Lee

continues to have the interest and well-being and progress of the home church in mind, and we are grateful to her for her contribution to the church of her childhood.

#### MRS. EDNA (HAMBY) CASPER

Edna served as Alcovy's pianist following Minnie. She is the daughter of Mr. Denny and Mrs. Eunice (Wiley) Hamby, and was born in the community. As a girl, she grew up in the church. Edna's mother, as mentioned on a preceding page, was one of the former pianists.

Edna was married to the late Mr. Clifton Casper who was highly esteemed by everyone in the community.

Edna served faithfully from 1936 until Peggy McIntosh advanced in her studies of music enough to assume the role as church pianist.



Mrs. Gary (Peggy McIntosh)
Hancock

Pictured above is Peggy McIntosh who became Alcovy's n e x t church pianist. We cannot ascertain the exact date s h e assumed the role, but it was sometime during her grammar school years.

She was born Peggy McIntosh, lived in the community a l l of her youthful years and was later married to Gary Hancock. She is the daughter of Mr. Parks and the late Mrs. Lottie Mell McIntosh.

Although she was away in college after her graduation f r o m High School in 1959, she continued to play for the church services when she was home on holidays and for visits.

#### MRS. MARLENE HOUSEWORTH 1971 -- 1972

Mrs. Marlene Houseworth was a resident of the community. She was a very gifted and apt musician who served regularly during the years 1971 - 1972. She played both organ and piano, but served for the longest period as our church organist.

She is the wife of Mr. John Houseworth, who held many different offices in the church until his business connection necessitated their moving to be closer to his business.

Their two sons, John Matthew and Keith Andrew, were born before their parents moved from the community.

In history and in memory, Mrs. Houseworth is numbered among

those whose contribution to the musical program, and to c h u r c h music at large, made music a worshipful part of every service.

MRS. LILIE McDANIEL 1969 - 1970 1976 - to date.

Mrs. Lilie McDaniel served as church pianist f o r two years. She, with her husband and family moved into the community in 1969, where they continued to live until the year 1970.

Lil, as she is affectionately known by friends, is a most talented musician whose contribution to the musical program at Alcovy is superb.

In 1970 her husband, Kenneth, who is an Insurance Executive, found it necessary to move closer to his work; so they moved into the Atlanta area.

In 1976 they built a beautiful home in the Alcovy community and became residents here, again.

The church had now added an electronic organ, a n d, at its console, Lil was able to add the majestic voice of the organ to that of the piano, thus making our church music second to none.

#### MRS. JOYCE MIDDLEBROOKS 1970 to date (1977)

In 1970, Mrs. Joyce Middlebrooks came to our a i d in church music. Mrs. McDaniel was moving away, and Mrs. Middlebrooks a n-swered our Macedonian call, and came to help us.

She has served now for seven years, and no one c o u 1 d have been more punctual and faithful than she.

While she plays both organ and piano, she has served primarily as our pianist. She has a very graceful touch a n d expresses her beautiful personality in her musical contribution.

She and her husband, Carlton (Pat) united with our church on April 11, 1971. They and their two daughters and 1 i t t 1 e son, Jason, have been a wonderful blessing to us.

#### BRENDA PULLIN 1972 -- 1975

Miss Brenda Pullin came to help us in music before her graduation from high school.

She is very talented, reads music aptly, and can be classed as a sight-reader, or a musician who can play a song or musical composition at first sight.

She played both piano and organ, but was our church organist until her graduation from high school. During her years in c o lege, she always played on week ends when she was home from school.

## J<sub>nfluential</sub> J<sub>riends</sub>

It may be that I, the writer, can remember more persons w h o held membership in and worshipped at the altars of the A l c o v y Church than any other one living at this time.

If this is true, it may well be because of my association with the church through almost three score and ten years of its history. As a very young boy, I lived almost within the church yard until it was moved from its former to its present location. For many years, it was the one church in the community, and the only church I attended until after I was saved.

Before I was saved and united with the church, I was very active in the church program. Very early after I joined the church, I was elected to serve as Church Secretary-Treasurer, an office I held for a number of years.

In this office, I was custodian of the now missing earliest membership roll, on which the names of the Hights, Murrays, Berrys, Cox, Barnett, Higginbotham, Streets and many others were inscribed. O, how I wish that this record could be found!

As a child and very young boy, I personally knew many of these persons. And on being elected to the office of Secretary - Treasurer, these names were more indelibly stamped in mind as I handled the records. Although I loved, respected and held each one in high esteem, I came to know some of these elderly friends more intimately than others, through our work relations. Below, I am listing the names of three couples who were of great help and influence to me:

#### MR. ROBERT (BOB) LEE ELLINGTON 4-6-1870 -- 12-16-1942

I think "Mr. Bob", as he was affectionately known, we not through the chairs, holding about every office in the church. He was, for many, many years our very faithful Sunday School Superintendent.

Sunday School services, during the twenties, were held in the afternoon. I remember that no plan to visit or other hinderances ever kept him from his post. Sometimes teachers and class members would arrive late, but not Mr. Bob and his family. Unless hindered by illness, he always came; and he would be on time.

Many nostalgic recollections live to bless every thought of the wonderful days we had together in the yesteryears.



Mr. Robert (Bob) Lee Ellington 4-6-1870 -- 12-16-1942



Mrs. Eula (Shell) Ellington 6-23-1876 -- 7-15-1954

One thought that has blessed me through the years is something happened on the night of my conversion. We had gone through a weeklong revival; and on the last night, when the invitation was given to accept Christ, I was drawn to the altar. There I repented and dedicated life to God. This was a glorious moment. My dear heavenly Father accepted my dedication, and, like John Wesley, I felt my heart strangely warmed.

At this high moment, brother Bob came and embraced me, saying, "I know the Lord wants you to preach for Him."

I had known since a g e fourteen that the Lord was calling me into the ministry, but I did not enter the ministry at that time.

Later, at the altar of the Church that had blessed me in my early years, I did publicly announce my acceptance of this call.

I will never forget brother Bob, his labors of love, and his kindnesses to me.

MRS. EULA (SHELL) ELLINGTON 6-23-1876 --- 7-15-1954

Miss Eula, devoted companion of brother Bob Ellington, was also a faithful witness and laborer in ranks of the Lord's army. She held many offices in the church and was on the teaching staff until the family left the farm to make their home in Atlanta.

I was in the class s h e taught for a few years and remember her dedication to teaching a n d her loving concern for those of us who were her subjects.

She was very kind and her voice soft and assuring. She impressed on us the need of being saved, a n d emphasized that without Christian experience any other accomplishments in life would be fleeting; ours for only

a very short period of time, and worthless in eternity.

Those of us who sat at her feet will never forget her.

MR. THOMAS L. HAMBY



MR. THOMAS L. HAMBY 1877 ----- 1947

"Mr. Tom," whose photo appears above, was one of the writer's very close friends. Being older than I, he was more of a spiritual father to me. He encouraged me to become active in the Church much earlier than I normally would have. When I was elected to an office I felt I could not fill, he would say, "Sure, you can do it. We will help you." As a result of his encouragement, I began working as Secretary and Treasurer of the Alcovy Church in my early teens.

He and his wife, Miss Bessie, were dear friends to Ina and me, and to our families. Both of us knew them for a long number of years before our marriage. We always enjoyed short visits with them, and looked forward to Miss Bessie serving some gastronomical specialty, even if our stay was only for a few minutes. We also enjoyed the delicious watermelons Mr. Tom served in summer. Somehow, he could grow the best watermelons in the neighborhood.

Mr. Tom was a Trustee, a member of the Official Board ( now the Administrative Board) and served in other church offices from the time he joined the church, until his death.

His beautiful country home on the Alcovy-Jersey r o a d still stands to remind us of these wonderful friends and of happiness the yesteryears held.

#### MR. MARVIN WILEY 9-1-1887 -- 3-12-1957

Mr. Marvin Wiley was another of the close and v e r y influential friends to me, the writer, in my early years. And we remained fast friends until the end of his earthly life.

Brother Marvin owned a farm and beautiful f a r m home in the community. I don't believe that any one of Alcovy's members loved the church more than he. Even though money was very scarce during many of those depression years, he gave generously to the church. He also stood ready at all times to contribute his labors to the upkeep and maintenance of the physical plant.

He, too, held many offices in the church, and always did his best in the jobs he was appointed or elected to. In my early and inexperienced years, I felt very free to go to him for counsel. I became a better churchman and Christian as a result of his h e l p and advice.

He also felt that I should be in the ministry, a n d his encouragement helped me to believe that there was a place of service for me, in the kingdom of our Lord. I haven't forgotten, nor will I ever forget him!

## MRS. MARGARET (BUTLER) WILEY 9-12-1887 -- 2-9-1974

Miss Margaret was the best Bible student in our area!

With most of the people, Bible reading was limited and spasmodic. But this was not true with her. She had read the entire Bible through five times in the early teens. And, as one might think, she was a well-informed student of the Word of God.

I was fortnuate enough to be a member of her Sunday School class, at one time. As a boy, I marvelled at her interpretation of the Bible, and at the beautiful and interesting way s he taught the Holy Scriptures. She had a special gift, and could make the Word of God "come alive."

At this time the Revelation writings were a closed b o o k to most people: but she had a marvelous understanding of what would happen at the end of the age.

I was so fascinated by the living Truth of her teachings that I would not miss a class session. And I often talked w i t h her apart from the class sessions. Her teachings and her answers to

personal questions made me very anxious to learn m o r e about the Bible.

Her radiant life was an inspiration to all of the people of the Church. Her's was a heavenly influence. Although she is no longer with us, we know her influence will never die. Thank you, Lord, for Miss Margaret!

(WE REGRET VERY MUCH that pictures of brother and sister W i l e y were not available for use in this record.)

Mr. Howard Davenport

## A VERSATILE COUPLE MR. HOWARD DAVENPORT

Brother Howard Davenport joined the Alcovy United Methodist Church in a revival in 1933, when the late Reverend C. W. Fruit was pastor.

For forty-three years, and until 1975, he was a very versatile and faithful member. He is a tentalent person, and can do any job that comes to hand.

During this period of years, he served in many offices a n d on many committees, b u t perhaps his longest tenure of office was that of Church School Superintendent. He very faithfully filled this office for more than thirty consecutive years.

Brother Howard spearheaded all remodeling projects, giving his labor free to the Church. His skills and knowledge of such work made his services invaluable to the Alcovy Church.

When officers were elected again in the Spring of 1975, brother Howard felt that he should "slow down" physically, and asked a leave of absence. A beautiful thing is that he is still willing to do anything he can to benefit the Church, or to promote its program. We are very grateful to you, brother Howard.

#### MRS. HOWARD (INA McINTOSH) DAVENPORT

Mrs. Davenport, the faithful spouse of brother Howard, was equally faithful in her services to the Church. She joined the Church in 1933, and rendered a very faithful service through the vears.

She is of the ten-talent class, being able to do a n y job

She founded a class of small children and remained the teacher of this class until teachers were elected in the Spring of 1975. She was so faithful in her service here that the church honored her by naming the class for her.



Mrs. Howard (Ina McIntosh)
Davenport

She did many services a n d held many offices through the eyears. She was for a long time the Church Secretary -- Treasurer. She also served in many offices and on many committees. As Church Historian, she supplied the writer with very valuable information for our Church History.

While they both are not fully active now, they would be available for any service they could be perform for the church they love

so much.

## The Community School

I think the Alcovy Community School was organized w h e n the community was first settled: and I don't believe anyone living today knows the date that this little hamlet was settled.

We do know that the school's organization predated the founding of the Alcovy Church in 1886, for we find in the sketchy record of the early Church History that church services were held in the school building in winter, before the first church building was erected in 1888.

I decided to bring a bit of sketchy information on the school into the Church History, because of the influence each institution bore on the community life at large.

Through the courtesy of Mrs. Myrtle (Reynolds) Hamby, I am including one picture of the school group and building that predates my coming with my parents to make our home in the community in 1910. This picture, appearing on the following page, was in a collection of pictures belonging to Mrs. Hamby, who permitted me to copy it for our Church History.

All of the persons could not be identified, and I am indebted to Mrs. Ernest (Allene Reynolds) Mann and Mr. Spence Reynolds for their help in identifying a few more than half the number of persons who were photographed here.

The picture was made on the steps and in front of the school building. The date, circa 1909. Those identified are as follows:

| 1.                 | Edward Chapman         | 18. | Raburn Lee         |
|--------------------|------------------------|-----|--------------------|
| 2.                 | ?                      | 19. | ?                  |
| 1. 234. 56. 78. 9. | Neal Nash              | 20. | Mrs. Annie Fillyav |
| 4.                 | Willie B. Fillyaw      | 21. |                    |
| 5.                 | ?                      | 22. | Eddie Mae Harper   |
| 6.                 | Homer (Took) Gibbs     | 23. | ?                  |
| 7.                 | Lowe Hordan            | 24. | Mary Pickett       |
| 8.                 | ?                      | 25. |                    |
| 9.                 | ?                      | 26. | Berthan Chapman    |
| 10.                | ?                      | 27. | ?                  |
| 11.                |                        | 28. | Neal Nash (?)      |
| 12.                | (Jack)Willie B.Fillyaw | 29. | ?                  |
| 13.                | Mr. Todd (Teacher)     | 30. | ?                  |
|                    | Mr. John Fillyaw       | 31. | ?                  |
| 15.                | ?                      | 32. | Frank Reynolds     |
| 16.                |                        | 33. |                    |
| 17.                | Jim Lee                |     |                    |
|                    |                        |     |                    |



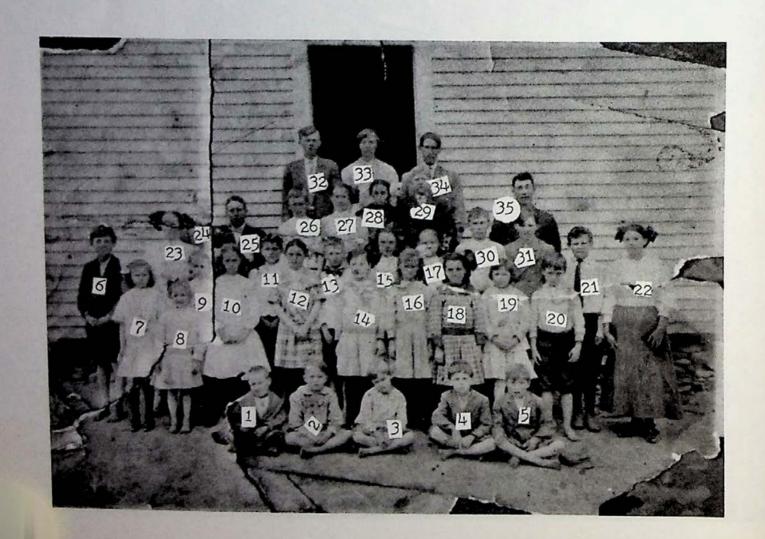
ALCOVI SCHOOL Class C. 1909

The second picture is from the files of the late Rufus Nash, a very dear friend of the writer. This picture w a s copied a n d presented to the writer by Rufus' son, Jimmy Nash. The original picture is old and faded, but I do hope it will reproduce discernibly clear in our historical record.

Those appearing in the picture are as follows:

- Millard Darnell
- E. S. Lane
- 3. Edward Chapman
- 4. Spence Reynolds
- 5. Ollin Gober 6. Clyde Lee
- Annie Lou Fillyaw
- 8. Allene Reynolds 9. Lizzie Lane
- 10. Ina Higginbotham
- 11.
- 12. Willie B. Fillyaw
- 13.
- 14. Pauline Nash
- 15. Fannie Mae Fillyaw
- 16. Mary Chapman
- 17. Emma Pearl Chapman
- 18. Essie Lee

- 19. Selma Nash
- 20. Mell Simons
- 21. Lee Lane
- 22. Maggie Simons
- 23. Lottie Darnell
- 24. Mr. Will Savage (Teacher)
- 25. Luther Darnell
- 26. Rufus Nash
- 27. Mary Darnell
- 28. Mamie Reynolds
- 29. Neal Nash
- 30. Otis Lane
- 31. Frank Lane
- Allen Lane 32.
- 33.
- 34. Jim Higginbotham
- 35. Mr. Alex Darnell



Appearing on the following page is a group picture, thought to have been made of the class of 1912-1913. Mrs.Allene(Reynolds) Mann, Spence Reynolds and the writer's wife, Mrs.Ina (Higginbotham) Simons aided in the identity of those appearing in this picture. They are as follows:

| 16.<br>178.<br>190.<br>212.<br>223.<br>225.<br>229.<br>233.<br>333.<br>336. | Jim Pickett Homer Gibbs Selma Nash Beatrice Pickett Ollin Gober Myrtle Reynolds Annie Lou Fillyaw Louise Ewing Bessie Mae Gibbs Essie Lee Lillian Simons Nina Darnell Kate Nash Mr. Jim Simons Visitor ? ? Neal Nash | 66.<br>67.<br>68.<br>69.<br>70.<br>71.<br>72. | Mamie Reynolds ? Mary Darnell Essie Lee ? Fannie Mae Fillyaw Mrs. Mattie Darnell Mary Chapman Emma Pearl Chapman Mrs. J. F. Nash Miss Stella Cowan(Teacher) Miss Carrie Black (Teacher) Raburn Lee ? Will Pickett Frank Lane Frank Reynolds Robert Chapman ? Mattie Jewel Beam Mr. Alex Darnell ? Luther Darnell Lottie Darnell Visitor ? " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " |
|---|--|---|---|
| 35.   | ?  | 72.   | ?   |

It is very grievous to the writer that all of these persons could not be identified, especially since I knew each one personally, except the visitors. All of the pictures we are using have faded with age, making it difficult to be certain, and a time-span of sixty-five years has elapsed since this picture was made.

Sorrow is heightened, too, in recalling that some twenty-six of those identified are no longer with us, but have gone to their eternal reward.

This is probably the first picture made after the building was remodeled in 1912. The two pictures appearing earlier in this



ALCOVY SCHOOL Term 1912-1913 history show the building with just a front door. This picture shows an addition of a front porch, and space for a nice cloakroom (where children could hang their top coats).

I remember when the old building was remodeled. Mr. Carlton Greer, the most skilled carpenter of the community, was foreman-incharge, and the men of the community donated their labor. A large group of workmen made it possible to finish the work in a very short period of time. During this period, classes were held in the church. The original church building, pictured on page twelve of this book, was still in use at this time. Miss Carrie Black was the Principal of the school, and Miss Stella Cowan was an assistant teacher.

Everyone, parents and children alike, were very proud of the new school building. It was painted beautifully inside and o u t, and was more commodious than any building of the past. It was also regarded as one of the most modern small rural schools in Newton County, by the County Board of Education.

Appearing below is the last picture made of the lovely little



Last Photo of the last class at Alcovy School, a n d last photo of the building. We are sorry that no one, other t h a n the teacher (1st person on the left) can be identified.

"hall of learning." This picture was made in 1924.

The writer's sister, Lillian Simons who was later married to Herschel Everette, was the little school's last teacher. After the close of the school term of 1924-1925, the boys and girls were bussed to another school. At some date, unknown to the writer, the little building was torn away. We are told that Mr. Claud Adams, a former County School Commissioner, bought the lumber and built a small dwelling on his farm with materials salvaged from this slittle building.

This little dwelling still stands and is all that remains, except memories, of the happiness and help those of us received there, from the staff of faithful teachers who did everything they could to prepare us for a better and more useful life. The few of us who remain cherish every memory of those wonderful days of the yesteryears.

Through the years, an annual picture was made of all of the schools in the County, and these together with the names of the School Trustees, the teachers and the pupils in attendance were printed in interesting brochures which were available to the families. The brochures were free, or could be had for a very small sum.

I had hoped that copies of these, or some such records would be available from the office of the County Board of Education.Persons I contacted there were very courteous and kind, but they advised me that no such records were in their files.

I was only able to find two copies of the brochures to which I refer. One copy was in the hands of Mr. Roy Varner; the other, belonged to Mr. Ernest Mann. Both of these friends were glad for me to glean information from their records, but when I compared them they were identical -- both were for the school y e a r 1911-1912. This information appears on the following page.

#### PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA

#### 1911 - 1912

#### ALCOVY SCHOOL

Trustees

J. S. Fillyaw

A. S. Darnell

J. F. Nash

Teacher

W. E. Savage

#### ENROLLMENT

|   | Bitito               | DEPICIVE  |                      |
|---|----------------------|---|----------------------|
|   | Grade                |   | Grade                |
| Beam, Mattie Jewel Bryant, Orion Chapman, Emma Pearl Chapman, Mary Chapman, Robert Darnell, Lottie Darnell, Luther Darnell, Mary Durden, Jessie Fillyaw, Annie Lou Fillyaw, Fannie Mae Fillyaw, Willie Blanche Gibbs, Herman Gibbs, Herman Gibbs, Preston Gober, Ollin Gober, Pauline Higginbotham, Ina Higginbotham, James Lane, E. S. | 45425332114353412151 | Lane, Cee Lane, Tooms Lee, Clyde Lee, Essie Lee, James Lee, Raburn Medley, Golden Medley, Nannie Mae Medley, Rubie Nash, Neal Nash, Pauline Nash, Rufus Pickett, James Pickett, Willie Reynolds, Allene Reynolds, Frank Reynolds, Spence Simons, Mell | 54341551325531314312 |
|   |                      |   |                      |

We had a photograph of the teacher, Mr. Willie Savage, but it was too dark to reproduce on the offset press. I wish to thank h i s brother, Mr. Ernest Savage, for letting me copy it.

July 22, 1962

# Alcovy Methodist Revival Meeting



SHOWN AT THE ALTAR of Alcovy Methodist Church, which observed its annual Homecoming Sunday are, from left to right, front row: Jack Bruce, steward; Mesdames Howard Davenport, C. E. Arnold, S. S. teachers; W. M. McIntosh, who holds a 61 year membership in the church, Miss Mildred McDaniel, Official Board member, Mesdames P. M. McIntosh, WSCS president, church secretary

and treasurer, and J. O. Doster, stewardess; 2nd row: Dewey Hamby, steward, P. M. McIntosh, S. S. superintendent, and Lamar Hamby, MYF president; 3rd row: Howard Davenport, Official Board chairman, the Rev. Mel Simons, former pastor and guest speaker, the Rev. Jas. W. Thurman, Jr., pastor, and C. E. Arnold, steward.

WL 22'62

# Homecoming Held Sunday, Rev. Simons Was Speaker

JUL 22'62

BY MARY S. MALLARD

Alcovy Methodist Church's revival was launched Sunday with observance of their annual Homecoming, which assembled some 150 members and friends for the significant day of spiritual enrichment and fellowship. The Rev. Mr. Mell Simons, former pastor, now of Douglas St. Methodist Church, Cartersville, was the Homecoming speaker.

Services of this week's revi-

val are held each evening at 8:00 p.m., with the Rev. Mr. Grady Lively bringing the messages and W. A. Childers, Jr. conducting the song services. The Rev. James W. Thurman, Jr., pastor, and the congregation cordially invite the public to attend the remaining services of the revival.

Rev. Thurman cordially welcomed those present, with especial recognition of the visiting pastor and his wife; and expressed appreciation to representatives of the Covington News for coverage of religious activities of churches throughout the county.

Rev. Simons, who spoke on "Limitations of God", chose Matt. 13:58 as his scriptual base. All things are possible with God, he pointed out, up to the limitations of human reto the limitations of fidulate sponsibility, which are set by the exercise of our Faith.

The past year has brought an increase Among factors cited by Rev. in both attendance and mem-Simons as limitations precipibership, under Rev. Thurman's tated by lack of faith were: able leadership. ness, Selfishness and Hardness of Heart. He closed by urging his hearers to take inventory of their spiritual lives, and discover what limitations each of us has imposed upon the progress of Kingdom Work.

A delightful season of fellowship followed the delicious picnic lunch enjoyed on rustic tables in the church grounds. Among interesting historical notes gleaned was one from Mrs. Mell Simons, wife of the guest speaker, who revealed that her mother, Mrs. Mattie Lemon Higginbotham, was the church's first charter member, when it was organized in 1886 as Rock Cut Protestant Methodist Church. Rev. Tom Greer served as the church's first pastor, for two years.

Upon graduation from the "brush arbor" days, the congregation erected its first building on land donated by S. D. Hight, in 1888; and changed the church's name to Alcovy Protestant Methodist Church, Owen Stanton donated materials for the church at the present site, in 1915, which was erected with volunteer labor of the members, Carlton Greer, contractor, and Dave Gibbs and Jim Simons as carpenters. Family names of Higginbotham. Cox, Berry, Wiley, Ewing and Starks stand out in the church's early history.

The beautiful, modern

church, renovated inside and out in recent years pays tribute to the loyalty of its 79 members. Among current plans for progress, the membership has recently launched a \$7,000 building program, which will include a deep well, fellowship

Scene At Alcovy Church Homecoming Sunday



SHOWN AT ALCOVY'S HOMECOMING Service are L-R, Front row: Mesdames Johnny Mann, S. S. Teacher; C. E. Arnold and Howard Davenport, stewards; W. M. McIntosh, eldest active member; Miss Mildred McDaniel and Mrs. Emory Bruce, stewards; Background: Howard Davenport. Trustee; Mrs. Lynn Arnold teacher; Lynn Ar-

nold, S. S. Supt.; C. E. Arnold, steward; Rev. Charles Thomas, guest speaker; Rev. Mell Simon, pastor; P. M. McIntosh, Adm. Board Chairman; Mrs. McIntosh, church secretary and treasurer; and Reuben Houseworth, Lay Leader.

## Homecoming Launches Alcovy Revival

Alcovy Methodist Church's annual revival was launched Sunday with observance of a memorable Homecoming, which assembled some 125 members and friends for the significant day of spiritual enrichment and fellowship. The Rev. Charles Thomas of Grant Park Methodist Church in Atlanta, a former pastor, was the Homecoming speaker.

Services of this week's revival will continue through Friday evening; and the pastor, Rev. Mell Simons extends a cordial welcome to the public to attend, on behalf of the church.

The altar arrangement of mammoth white chrysanthemums and gladioli, flanked by brass altar candlesticks holding burning white candles, was placed in memory of the late Emory Bruce, by his wife.

Special music was rendered by Mrs. Howard Davenport and Mrs. Bobby Maughon, who sang, "Holy Quietness"; and Rev. Simons cordially welcomed those present, He is one of Alcovy's four sons who have gone into

the ministry.

the pastor, based his message upon Luke 15, citing the three parables of something lost and In pursuing his then found. subject, the speaker reviewed the parables of the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the prodigal son. Concentrating on the lost coin parable, Rev. Thomas pointed out that the coin lost was one from a headband, worn by a woman to proclaim the fact that she was married; and to her, life was incomplete without the missing link in her wedding band. "And," he continued, "God's plan for mankind's redemption is also incomplete, so long as there are lost souls to be brought into the kingdom. We as His witnesses, should be diligent in our search for the lost, that everyone might be brought into the fold, as was the lost sheep, although the 90 and 9 were safe".

During the noon hour, a bountiful basket lunch was served on picnic tables in the shaded churchyard; and a delightful social hour ensued.

Reminiscences revealed many interesting facts in Alcovy's his-

tory. Mrs. Mattie Lemon Higginbotham, mother of Mrs. Mell Simons, wife of the pastor, was the first of the 16 charter members of the church, when it was organized in 1886, as Rock Cut Protestant Methodist Church, with the Rev. Tom Greer as the first pastor.

For two years, services were held in a small schoolhouse near Alcovy station in winter, and under a brush arbor during summer months. In 1888, the congregation erected its first building on land donated by S. D. Hight; and changed the church's name to Alcovy Protestant Methodist Church. In 1915, the present site was chosen, and an exchange of land executed with Owen Stanton, who donated materials for the construction of the present building, with the congregation volunteering their labor for the church's erection. It was not until 1939, when Alcovy joined the North Ga. Conference that its name was changed to Alcovy Episcopal (instead of Protestant) Methodist Church.

The beautifully kept church, which has a spacious brick addition of S. S. rooms, restrooms, and other facilities, has during the past year expanded its S. S. program in reactivating an Intermediate Class, taught by Mrs. Johnny Mann. The fact that Alcovy's first charter member's daughter is now the wife of one of Alcovy's own sons, who is her current pastor, bears testimony of the faith the membership has kept with the founding fath-

Among out of town guests for the Homecoming were Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Barronton, College Park; Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Smith, East Point; Mrs. J. S. Eskew, Miss Peggy Mobley, Mrs. Roy Studdard, Tampa, Fla.; and Mrs. Gladys Blade of Atlanta.

Page No. 129



ALCOVY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH officers are shown above at their Homecoming services held Sunday, July 26. First row left to right are Mrs. B. J. Maughon, teacher; seated, Mrs. Mae McIntosh, oldest member of the church; Mrs. P. M. McIntosh, church treasurer; Mrs. Carlton Middlebrooks, planist. Second row left to right: Howard Davenport, Sunday School Superintendent; Mrs. C. E. Arnold, teacher; Mrs. Jack Bruce, teacher; Mrs. Howard

Davenport, teacher; Mrs. Emory Bruce, teacher; Miss Mildred McDaniel, Board of Stewards; Edsel Arnold, Board of Stewards. Third row left to right: Rayburn Lee, one of oldest members of the church; Rev. Clyde Lee, also an elder member; Bro. Tommy Nankivell, guest speaker; Rev. Mell Simons, Pastor, and P. M. McIntosh, member of the Board.

# Alcovy Homecoming Launches Revival

The Homecoming Service at Alcovy United Methodist Church Sunday marked the beginning of the church's annual revival week as members and guests gathered for worship and fellowship.

The Rev. Tommy Nankivell precached the Homecoming sermon which he entitled "Going Home". He also preached Sunday evening at the first revival service.

Services are being held each evening through Friday with different preachers conducting each service. The speakers this week are: Rev. Jerry Horton, Monday; Rev. Al Bruce, Tuesday; Rev. Britt Hadley, Wednesday; Rev. Larry McIntosh, tonight; and Rev. Jimmy Thurman, Friday.

After the morning service members and guests gathered in the church yard where the ladies spread "Homecoming Dinner" on the tables beneath the trees. During the past year the members of Alcovy Church have added one new Sunday School class and placed fans in all the classrooms. The MYF has put new cutains in the basement of the church.

Mrs. V.Y.C. Eady, Sr. recently gave the church a loose leaf hymnal for the piano. Dr. Eady, her husband, was pastor at Alcovy for several years before his death.

Alcovy Methodist Church knew its beginning in a brush arbor revival meeting at Rock Cut in 1886, being conducted by the Rev. Joe McGarity and Tom Greer.

Among the little group of charter members were: Mr. and Mrs. Alex Cox; Mr. and Mrs. Bose Berry; Mr. and Mrs. Alex Higginbotham; Mr. and Mrs. Seab Wiley; Miss Fanny Berry, Miss Jenny Berry, Will Berry, Misses Lela Wiley, Julia Wiley,

Mary Ewing, Lue Ewing, and Jenny Starks.

For two years the little church, then known as the Rock Cut Protestant Methodist Church, held services in a small schoolhouse near Alcovy Station in winter months; and under the arbor in the summer, with Rev. Tom Greer as pastor.

Courthouse records show that on Feb. 18, 1888, a deed was filed there by S. D. Hight, transferring one acre of land owned by him, to the church; which read in part, "One acre of land near the Alcovy Station right of way of Ga. R. R. south and west by lands of S. D. Hight. . ." During that same year the first church building as such was completed, with Bill Stewart as contractor; and the name was changed to Alcovy Protestant Methodist Church, after the neighboring railroad station.

Serving its pastorate during the early years were the Rev. Messers Joe McGarity, Dave Mobley and Jim Patrick. Theological students from Old Emory College often visited the church and helped organize its first Sunday School.

with members from Jersey and Alcovy, the present church site was chosen for a new building in 1915. An exchange of land was negotiated with Owen Stanton, who furnished building material for the new church gratis.

Members gave of their time and talents to construct the new building, with Carlton Greer as contractor, and Dave Gibbs and Jim Simons as carpenters.

The church remained a Protestant Methodist Church until the union in 1939 with the North Georgia Conference.



OFFICERS AND STEWARDS gathered for a picture after the Alcovy United Methodist Church Homecoming held Sunday. Left to right (seated) are: Mrs. Ammie Bruce, teacher; Mrs. Mae McIntosh, oldest member; (second row) Mike Houseworth, steward; Marlene Houseworth, organist; Joyce Middlebrooks, pianist; Ina Davenport, S. S. teacher; Carlton Middlebrooks, steward; Mrs. Ina Simons, WSCS president; (back row) John Houseworth, steward; Edsel Arnold, steward; P. M. McIntosh, chairman of the administrative board; Rev. Mell Simons, pastor; Rev. Larry McIntosh, guest pastor; Reuben Houseworth, lay leader; and Howard Davenport, S. S. superintendent.

Simons, graciously welcomed the congregation and guests. He stated that he is still working on the compilation of Alcovy's history and requested the cooperation of members in furnishing pertinent information.

At the noon hour a bountiful basket lunch was enjoyed on tables beneath the picnic pavillion. A period of fellowship and reminiscences was enjoyed during the hour following.

Organized in a brush arbor revival meeting, conducted by the Reverends Tom Greer and Joe McGarity, at Rock Cut in 1886, Alcovy was first known as Rock Cut Protestant Methodist Church.

Its first services were held in a small schoolhouse near Alcovy Station, in winter, and in a brush arbor in the summer, with Rev. Tom Greer as the first pastor. Other early pastors were the Rev. Messers Joe McGarity, Dave Mobley, Jim Patrick and theological students at Old Emory College, who helped organize the first Sunday School.

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for the nearby station. The church remained a Protestant Methodist Church until the union with the North Ga. Conference in 1939.

A new building was constructed at the present site in 1915, on land exchanged with Owen Stanton, who gave the building material for the new church. It was erected with volunteer labor of the membership, with Carlton Greer

as contractor, and Dave Gibbs and Jim Simons as carpenters.

Present day membership has not lost faith with the founding fathers, for they too, exemplify the loyalty and spiritual zeal of their ancestors.

Alcovy remains one of Newton's outstanding rural churches, and one of our nation's cherished "Lighthouses of Faith."



ALCOVY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH officers gathered for a picture after the Homecoming Service on Sunday. Seated left to right are: Mrs. C. E. Arnold, president UMW; Mrs. Ammie Bruce, S.S. teacher; Joyce Middlebrooks, pianist; Brenda Pullin, organist; (standing) Howard Davenport, S.S. superintendent; Mike Housworth, steward; C. E.

Arnold, adult S. S. teacher; Jack Bruce, steward; P.M. Mc-Intosh, administrative board chairman; Rev. Mell Simons, pastor; Rev. Al Bruce, visiting preacher; Reuben Housworth, church lay leader; John Housworth, administrative board; Miss Mildred McDaniel, S. S. teacher; and Pat Middlebrooks, administrative board.

# Alcovy Church Homecoming

Homecoming Day was held Sunday at Alcovy United Methodist Church as the 87th anniversary of the church was observed. Rev. Al Bruce, who went out from Alcovy to preach, was the guest speaker.

Rev. Mell Simons, pastor, welcomed the guests and invited everyone to stay for dinner on the grounds after the morning worship.

Rev. Bruce read Mark 9:2-8 as the scripture lesson and used as his sermon theme "Jesus". He challenged the congregation to trust and believe in Jesus, and reminded them that there was no better time to start than at Homecoming.

Flowers at the altar were placed in memory of Emory Bruce by his wife and children. Flowers were also placed on the piano in memory of Mrs. Lottie Mell McIntosh by her children.

After the morning service the congregation gathered in the back of the church where a delicious dinner was spread by the ladies of the church. Everyone enjoyed their dinner served under the picnic pavilion.

Organized in a brush arbor revival meeting, conducted by the Reverends Tom Greer and Joe McGarity, at Rock Cut in 1886, Alcovy was first known as Rock Cut Protestant Methodist Church.

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Alcovy remains one of Newton's outstanding rural churches, and one of our nation's cherished "Lighthouses of Faith".

#### REVIVAL - 1974



In the picture of our 1974 revival the following persons are photographed:

(First row, sitting) Mrs. Ammie Bruce, Mrs. Mae McIntosh, the oldest living member, and Mrs. Howard Davenport.

(Second Row,)C. E. Arnold, Mrs. Elaine Allgood, Mrs. Donna McDaniel, Mrs. Sherlie Maughon, Mrs. C. E. Arnold, Mrs. Marlene Houseworth, Mrs. Joyce Middlebrooks, Miss Mildred McDaniel,

(Back Row) Jack Bruce, Howard Daveport, P. M. McIntosh, Rev. Charles Thomas, guest speaker, Rev. Mell Simons, Pastor, John Houseworth, Rueben Houseworth, Mike Houseworth, Pat Middlebrooks, the late Bobby Maughon.

We tried very hard to keep all of the newspaper clippings on our homecoming services, but somehow this one was misplaced.



### Homecoming Participants

HOMECOMING SERVICE — Officers of Alcovy United Methodist Church gathered after the service Sunday morning for this picture. Left to right (first row) are: Brenda Pullin, organist; Mrs. Mae McIntosh, oldest member; Mrs. C. E. Arnold and Miss Mildred McDaniel, official board; Mrs. Joyce Middlebrooks, pianist; (back row) Jack Bruce, Pat

Middlebrooks, C. E. Arnold, board members; Rev. Mell Simon, retiring pastor; Rev. James W. Thurman, Jr., former pastor and guest speaker; P. M. McIntosh, board chairman; Reuben Houseworth, chairman council ministry and Michael Houseworth, board member.

## 89th Anniversary Fourth Sunday in July, 1975

Homecoming Day was held Sunday at Alcovy United Methodist Church as the 89th anniversary of the founding of the church was observed. Rev. James W. "Jimmy" Thurman Jr., former pastor, was the guest speaker.

Rev. Mell Simons, retiring pastor, welcomed the guests and invited everyone to stay for dinner on the grounds after the morning worship

Flowers on the altar table were placed in memory of Emory Bruce by his wife and children; flowers on the piano were given in memory of Mrs. Lottie Mell McIntosh by her family; and memorial gifts to the building fund were given by Mr. and Mrs. Otis Doster and Mr. and Mrs. Mell Simons in memory of Jackie L. Pickett.

The church recently borrowed \$3,700 to complete the work of remodeling and landscaping and the Homecoming offering was designated to go toward reducing the note.

After the morning service the congregation gathered in the back of the church where a delicious dinner was spread by the ladies of the church, everyone enjoyed their dinner served under the picnic pavilion.

#### HISTORY

Organized in a brush arbor revival meeting conducted by the Reverends Tom Greer and Joe McGarity, at Rock Cut in 1886, Alcovy was first known as Rock Cut Protestant Methodist Church.

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Interior of the sanctuary as it appears at the time this history was published. (Picture: Courtesy, Covington News)



THE PARSONAGE

The only parsonage the Alcovy Church had was a trailer, hardly discernible in the woods at the rear of the church plant.

(Picture: Courtesy, Mrs. C. E. Arnold)

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## Homecoming - 1973

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