

## THE BIRTH OF A CHURCH

The Briarcliff Methodist church had its beginning when the Spirit of God moved in the life of Delma Haygood, the district superintendent of the Decatur-Oxford District, in 1960.

Through the \$10.00 Club, \$15,000.00 was raised to buy land. Dr. Haygood appointed Melton McNeill, a student at Emory's Candler School of Theology, as pastor.

After an extensive search, land was found at the intersection of Shallowford and Briarcliff Road. The property consisted of 4 1/2 acres of land, a two story, frame, four bedroom house with three baths, a guest cottage and a large garage. The first name of the church was Briarcliff-Shallowford Methodist Church and was quickly shortened to Briarcliff Methodist Church.

Dr. Haygood realized that he had found a young preacher who was on the move and so the dream of a new Methodist church had a strong beginning.

On November 13, 1960, the first worship service was held in the renovated main white house on the newly acquired property. A wall and chimney were removed from the inside of the house. A piano was donated and green corduroy draw drapes were made and hung over the wall behind the worship

center. Soon after another charter member made a beautiful wooden cross to enhance the worship area.

There were fifty persons at Sunday School the first Sunday and seventy-five at worship. At the invitational hymn, twenty-three persons indicated a desire to join the new church and these twenty-three joined the following Sunday.

Those members were:

Ann McNeill  
 Lynn McNeill  
 Kathaleen Reich \*  
 Mrs. E. C. Long  
 E. C. Long  
 George Flynn  
 Carl Reich \*  
 Bill Kilpatrick  
 Mrs. F. M. Kilpatrick  
 Mrs. W. W. Kilpatrick  
 Claude Hendricks  
 Nancy Hendricks \*  
 Frances McKoon \*  
 James McKoon \*  
 Dell H. Williams  
 Rogers M. Williams  
 Ella M. Johnson  
 T. A. Johnson  
 Patti Belden  
 Sheila Belden  
 E. W. Belden

Anne Williams  
 Lynne Griffin  
 Mrs. W. W. Griffin  
 W. W. Griffin  
 Nancy Fisher  
 Francey Ann Fisher  
 Mrs. W. W. Fisher  
 Woodrow W. Fisher  
 Emmett J. Stallings, Jr.  
 Jacqueline Stallings  
 Stanley Anderson  
 Mrs. H. E. Anderson \*  
 J. L. Hurst  
 Denise Hurst  
 Ken Long  
 Claude H. Fowler  
 Mrs. Claude H. fowler  
 Fleming H. Boyd \*  
 Mrs. Fleming H. Boyd \*  
 T. E. Allison, Jr. \*  
 Mrs. T. E. Allison, Jr. \*

\* Present active members of Briarcliff

Briarcliff Methodist Church was chartered 11-27-60 and  
 some of those original members are still active today.

Briarcliff-Shallowford Methodist Church<sup>a</sup> - November 27, 1960  
Report of Nominating Committee to Organizational Conference  
Committee composed of Rev. W. Melton McNeill, Clifford Long,  
and Claude Hendrick.

Chairman Official Board:  
Stewards:

Clifford Long  
Fleming Boyd  
E. E. Anderson  
E. W. Belden

Trustees:

Claude H. Fowler  
J. H. McKoon  
J. L. Hurst

Commission Chairman:  
Education:

Carl Reich

Sunday School Supt.:

Carl Reich

Membership & Evangelism:

Claude Hendrick

Church Treasurer:

Woodrow Fisher

Church Lay Leader:

Clifford Long

Communion Steward:

Mrs. Clifford Long

District Conference Delegate:

E. J. Stallings

Reserve:

Woodrow Fisher

District Steward:

Rogers Williams

Nominating Committee:

Rev. W. W. McNeill  
Clifford Long  
Claude Hendrick  
E. W. Belden  
Carl Reich

Briarcliff-Shallowford Methodist Church  
Decatur-Oxford District - North Georgia Conference  
November 27, 1960 - First Quarterly Conference  
Dr. Delma Haygood - Presiding

PROPOSED BUDGET

Pastor's Salary (\$100.month-7 1/2m)	\$750.00
Bishop's Fund (2%)	15.00
Dist. Supt. Fund (5 1/2%)	41.25
District Work (1%)	7.50
Pensions (17%)	127.50
Minimum Salary (2%)	15.00
World Service	100.00
Mission Specials (4 areas)	40.00
\$10. Church Extension Club	50.00
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	\$1,896.25

Local Expenses

Utilities:	Lights	\$21.00	
	Gas	70.00	
	Water	17.50	
	Telephone	77.00	
Supplies:	Bulletinss	24.00	
	Ink, paper, stencils	25.00	
	Stamps	25.00	
	Misc.	50.00	
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		\$309.50	309.50
			-----
			\$2,205.75

(Budget for balance of year ending June 30, 1961 )

6 THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION, Saturday, May 4, 1963



## Methodists Paint Their Church House

Flicking white paint on high gables, climbing ladders to whiten awning and mowing the grass all come under the line of duty for Briarcliff Methodist Church members. Seen refurbishing their church are representative members of more than 100 families who came to paint last Saturday and return to finish the job this Saturday. The Rev. Melton McNeill, pastor, said, "It was heartening to see

men used to air-conditioning and swank offices during the week put on their old dirty clothes and climb all over the building to see their church painted." Although the congregation has been meeting in this building since 1960, it will become Sunday school quarters when the new church building goes up. The foundation is scheduled to be laid in about two weeks. (Staff Photo—Charles Jackson)

# Wide Range Of Activities For All Ages Makes Briarcliff Methodist Attractive

By ELIZABETH BEST  
Feature Writer

The Briarcliff Methodist Church on Briarcliff Road in Central DeKalb is a large family-oriented church with wide range of activities which appeal to people of all ages. Rev. Wiley Stephens is the church's present guiding force with his associate pastor, Richard Hunter, working a great deal in the youth program there.

A student at Candler School of Theology, Hunter organizes the young people's involvement in a number of projects, one of the most unusual being an annual trip to the Appalachian Mountains of Kentucky.

According to Rev. Stephens, this project offers the church's young members an opportunity from which they receive a great deal of satisfaction.

"It's a unique opportunity for our young people," Rev. Stephens said. "They go to the Kentucky Appalachians on a service project where they work with the residents in various construction projects. This program is open only to the senior highs and they have to earn their way up there."

The junior high students at Briarcliff Methodist are involved in what they call "Noah's Ark," an outreach

ministry to other young people at the Panama City beaches.

Rev. Stephens said programs such as those for the youth are a strong attraction for the Central DeKalb church.

"I believe that our youth program attracts more families than anything else," he added.

The "anything else" to which Rev. Stephens refers are the other programs at Briarcliff Methodist Church such as the "Briarcliff Burns," a clowning group sponsored by the church, scout troops, intramural

sports such as softball, basketball and volleyball, special programs for retired people, Sunday school classes for the mentally retarded, an active drama club and five choirs.

Briarcliff Methodist also plays host to a quilting group Rev. Stephens feels is slightly reminiscent of years gone by.

"Our quilting group is a sort of Americana preserved in suburbia," he said.

Briarcliff Methodist Church currently has 1,200 members. Worship services are held twice each Sunday at 8:45 and 11 a.m.

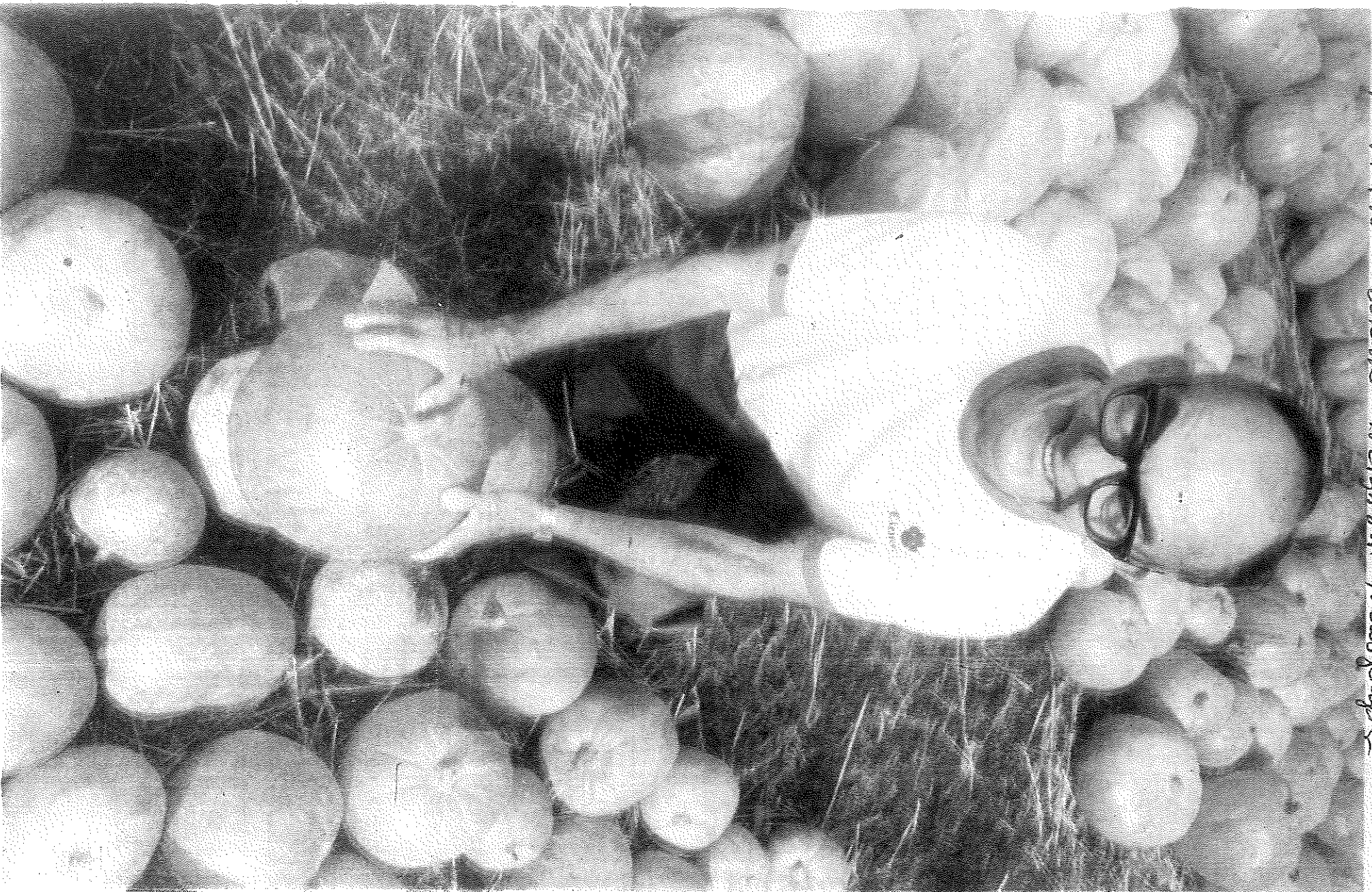


**YOUTH PROGRAM AND RANGE OF ACTIVITIES MAKE BRIARCLIFF ATTRACTIVE**  
Rev. Wiley Stephens Feels Church Offers Outstanding Programs For All Ages

## CHURCH NEWS



10-19-1983 Defeat/6 Neshoba NewsPages



## The Pumpkin Patch

10-26-83

These large, round orange fruits are seen on corners of many busy streets during the Halloween season. Here, Ernie Batts of the Lakeside area sits amidst 20 tons of pumpkins in the churchyard of Briarcliff United Methodist. The church sells pumpkins annually to help raise money for a youth group project that benefits

poverty-stricken areas in Kentucky. Next June, the group will travel to the Appalachia coal-mining area to insulate and upgrade homes there. The pumpkins are on sale daily from 10 a.m.-9 p.m. and cost \$1-6, depending on size. (Staff Photo By Paul Efland)



## Briarcliff Methodist Plans 'MAD Week' For Children

'MAD Week' is coming in the area are invited, for young people in the Music director Ruth Homick Briarcliff United Methodist will lead the program. Church community.

August 22-26 has been at the 8:45 and 11 a.m. planned for a week of services on Sunday, Aug. Music, Art and Drama 28, the children will present (MAD) activities. Each day "The Best You Can Be."

The program will be con- The church is located at ducted from 9:30 a.m. the intersection of Briarcliff and Shallowford roads. For noon.

Children entering second more information, phone through seventh grades may 321-3854. participate, and all children

## Briarcliff Methodist Names Hunter Associate Minister

The Briarcliff United the Candler School of The- ology, Emory University. Methodist Church recently The faculty of the school has appointed Richard A. selected him for the G. Ray Hunter to its staff as asso- Jordan Award which recog- ciate minister.

Hunter is a native of nizes the senior student Birmingham, Ala. where he who has excelled in inte- attended Birmingham grating academic study Southern College and with constructive leader- ship and service and shows worked as a youth director extraordinary promise for at local churches in the usefulness in Christian min- area.

He was graduated magna cum laude this spring from