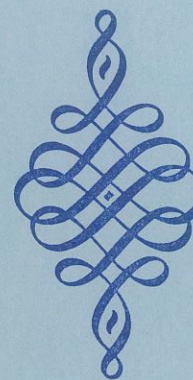


HISTORY OF

*Doraville Associate Reformed  
Presbyterian Church*



AUGUST 11, 1836 - AUGUST 11, 1961

10

HISTORY

of the

DORAVILLE ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

August 11, 1836 - August 11, 1936

"Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations, before the mountains were brought forth or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God. Ps. 90:1,2.

One hundred years ago today, a little company gathered, presumably in the house of Samuel McElroy, Sr., and under the guidance of Rev. Thomas Turner, affected an organization to be known as the Prosperity Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. This little company was composed of five families originally from the Waxhaws in Mecklenburg Co., N.C., but later from Concord Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church near Anderson, S.C.

Will you hear the roll of the fourteen charter members as it is written in the first session book?

1. John Stevenson
2. Sam'l McElroy Sen., and
3. His wife, Mary
4. Joseph Stewart and
5. His wife, Mary
6. Sam'l McElroy Jun., and
7. His wife, Nancy M.
8. John McElroy and
9. His wife, Margaret
10. Wm. Stevenson and
11. His wife, Sarah
12. Elizabeth McElroy and
13. Her daughter Rachel
14. Wm. McElroy

Samuel McElroy Sr. having been previously ordained a ruling elder under the ministry of Rev. Rob't Irwin in Concord Church, continued in the exercise of this office, and Joseph Stewart and Samuel McElroy, Jr. were ordained ruling elders. Wm. Stevenson and John McElroy were

elected deacons.

The sacrament of the Lord's Supper was observed for the first time on Aug. 14, 1836 and was administered by Rev. Thomas Turner assisted by Rev. John Wilson. Elder Joseph Stewart, whose home was located near the site of the B. T. Sheffield home in Chamblee, gave a parcel of land 18 rods square with right of way to the family spring, for the location of a church building. The original church building was located near the entrance to our present cemetery, and it is thought the original building was made of logs, and was on the land when given by Mr. Stewart. The log house was replaced by a frame building with one glass window directly behind the pulpit. Board shutters served for side windows. Light and air filtered through the cracks in the sides and roof on winter days, because it was never ceiled.

The pulpit was reached by a flight of several steps, at the top of which, a door completed the enclosure for the preacher. A box-like stove furnished comfort, not only for the worshippers on Sabbath, but for the covered wagoners who used the church for an overnight camping place.

A small session house was built a short distance from the church, in which the meetings of elders was held.

With the passing years, like Abraham, they needed a place in which to bury their dead, so the ground behind the church became the resting place of their dead to await the Resurrection.

As the friends of the Methodist denomination had no church building at this time, Prosperity Church was used by the Methodist until they located at the present site of Prospect Church.

Rev. Thomas Turner served as supply until Nov. 1837 when he accepted a call for his ministerial labors over the combined charge of Hopewell in Newton Co. and Prosperity Congregation. Mr. Turner made his home in Hopewell Congregation and came to Prosperity once per month, usually on the second Sabbath. On this monthly visit, he often preached on Friday, attended to public examination on Saturday with a sermon following, then a sermon on Sabbath morning followed by a lecture in the afternoon.

The little congregation organized a Society and meetings were held sometimes in the homes and sometimes in the church on Sabbath. At these meetings an officer would read and explain the scripture to the adults, and the children had a lesson in the catechism. Aunt Nancy McElroy was the children's teacher in those early days. This was the foundation and beginning of the present Sabbath School.

The first record of a collection was in June 1838, when it is said a collection was lifted for Foreign Missions which amounted to \$4.00, and in September of the same year, a collection was lifted for Home or Domestic Missions which amounted to \$5.00.

On account of the distance between the two churches, Rev. Turner asked Presbytery, in the spring of 1841, to dissolve the relations between him and Prosperity. From this time 1841-1849, the church was supplied by Revs. Gordon, Hazlet, Sloan, Ellis, Andrew McElroy and Missionaries to and from the west.

At a meeting of the Georgia Presbytery at Bethesda Church in Cobb. Co. in 1849, Rev. E. A. Ellis accepted a call from the United charge of Bethesda and Prosperity for one fourth of his time in each congregation. Rev. Ellis located in the Prosperity congregation and bought for his home what is known to us as the George Gholston place, and served the two congregations until his death in 1855. He was stricken with typhoid while attending a meeting of Presbytery in Due West, S.C. He was never able to be brought home and is buried in the cemetery in Due West, S.C.

John McElroy was elected the first stated clerk of session in 1850, and he with Alexander Chesnut lately received from Hopewell Church, were elected ruling elders in 1852.

No record was kept from 1856 to 1859 at which time Rev. Andrew McElroy supplied the pulpit until March 1860. Then again there is no record for those terrible years of the 60's, when the church seemed to have met the Red Sea place in her life.

When, in spite of all she could do,  
There was no way out, there was no way back  
There was no other way but through"

Fourteen of her young men left for the battle front-eight of whom never came back. The community was all but devastated by raiding parties from Sherman's army. Services were held only as occasion permitted, and when it was all over and the little company again gathered for worship, the communion tables were missing. It is supposed the soldiers used the wood for kindling fires.

The names of S. P. Davis, Wm. H. Hemphill and Thomas Turner appear as moderator of session from 1866-1872. During this period Elder David Chestnut was elected clerk of session and served until 1884, at which time J. C. McElroy, the present clerk of session was elected.

On Oct. 22, 1867, at a called meeting of Georgia Presbytery at Prosperity Church, John McElroy was licensed to preach the gospel, and ordained to the gospel ministry in Bethesda Church Sep. 10, 1869. He was 64 years old. Preachers were scarce in those days and he preached not only in A. R. Presbyterian Churches but in school houses and homes in DeKalb and adjoining counties. From 1880-1883 he supplied Prosperity half time with Rev. J. L. Hemphill the other half.

In 1871, it was decided to move the church to its present site for the convenience of the majority of the members. The land for the present church building approximately one and a half acres, was given by Maj. John Y. Flowers "in consideration of the love he bore to the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, and for the peace and good order of society." This gift carried with it the right to use water, for church purposes, from his family spring. Subscriptions for the new church were taken in 1871 and the church was built in 1872. J. N. Dodgen and J. C. McElroy made the shingles by hand for the roof.

The old church building was sold to elder David Chestnut, out of which he built a substantial gin house.

At a congregational meeting in Oct. 1880, J. K. Cowan D. A. Chestnut, John Weldon and J. T. Chestnut deacons and Bryson Henderson Clerk of church music. To retract a bit, uncle Billy Miller sat on the front seat in the old church and led the singing using a psalm book. Members bought and carried their own psalm books to church.

J. N. Dodgen was elected singing clerk in 1884 - J. T. Leslie, O. L. Cowan, W. F. and J. G. Stewart have rendered this service through the remaining years.

In the early '90's a county-wide singing celebration was held annually in "The Tabernacle" in Decatur. This congregation participated and was the only group to sing the psalms.

In Dec. 1883, Rev. C. E. Todd, verily a young Timothy to John McElroy the aged, accepted a call to this church, and with his young wife served acceptably until 1887 on a salary of \$500. per year. Young, active and zealous, he won the hearts of the people and the fruits of his labors soon appear in the re-organization of the Sabbath School; organization of New Hope Church in Dunwoody in 1885; organization of the Ladies Benevolent Society in 1886, and the organization of a young peoples society with 19 members. Miss Dora Chesnut of precious memory was the secretary.

It is thought the custom of observing the first week in January as the Week of Prayer was instituted by Rev. Todd, also pastoral visitation. During his ministry, Mrs. Nancy McDill gave a lot on which to build a parsonage. The plan to build on this lot, now the home site of W.V. Dodgen, failed and the lot was sold in 1900 for \$35. and applied on another parsonage lot.

Rev. R. E. Patterson accepted a united call to the pastorate of New Hope and Prosperity in December 1887 and served faithfully until November 1897. The salary for one half time was \$300. During his ministry Mr. T. T. Stewart was elected church treasurer, in 1884, which office he filled with fidelity until his death in 1933. J. T. Leslie was received as ruling elder from the White Oak Church in 1889 and the same year, new seats were bought for the church. J. D. McCurdy sold as many of the old seats as he could and the rest were given to the New Hope Church.

The name of the church was changed from Prosperity to Doraville in 1890.

Through the efforts of Rev. Patterson, a revival was held in the spring of 1893 with the late Dr. W. W. Orr as evangelist and Mr. Hunter, the singer. This was one of the greatest meetings of the church when more than forty people made a profession of faith in Christ and united with this and other churches.

A meeting of Second Presbytery was held at Doraville, April 1894. J. D. McCurdy and W. A. Chestnut were added to the board of deacons in 1897.

Rev. Patterson organized a Sabbath School, known as Miller's Mission, which in the course of a few years became Antioch Church.

Revs. J. L. Hemphill, R. L. Bell, W. A. Blakely, and L. T. Pressly supplied the pulpit in 1898.

Rev. Rabb served as stated supply the year 1899. Miller's Mission became Antioch Church in the fall of '99 and 23 of Doraville's members were given certificates to become charter members of the new church.

The now "Old Parsonage" was built in the spring of 1899 and occupied by Rev. Rabb and family. Rev. T. B. Stewart served as stated supply from Jan. 1899-1902. On account of a long illness of typhoid on the part of himself and several members of his family, he doubtless could say with the Apostle Paul his labors among us were often in weariness and painfulness. During his ministry, seventeen members were added to the church at one meeting.

Rev. E. E. Strong accepted a call from the combined charge of New Hope, Antioch and Doraville in July 1902 and proved an untiring and faithful shepherd over this large field until Jan. 1907. The half time salary for Doraville was \$350. per year. During his pastorate, C. L. Weldon was received as deacon; an organ was purchased as an aid to church music; the vestibule was built to the front of the church, and a bell purchased and hung in the belfry.

Second Presbytery held its spring meeting here April 1905.

Rev. Strong found his helpmate in the congregation in the person of Miss Julia Stewart.

Rev. M. T. Ellis began his ministry as pastor in March 1907 and closed his pastorate with a sermon from the text, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life", in 1921.

Elder J. L. McLin was received from the Presbyterian

Church, and J. W. Chestnut, J. W. Brown, O. L. Cowan, and J. G. Stewart were ordained ruling elders. J. C. Leslie, J. T. McElroy and R. T. McElroy ordained deacons.

Presbytery met at Doraville in October 1912.

On account of the proximity of Doraville to Camp Gordon, Dr. Ellis had the unusual experience and privilege of preaching to a house filled with men in uniform from Camp Gordon.

The custom of using communion tables was discontinued in 1918. These tables were made by elder Alexander Chestnut soon after the close of the Civil War.

Rev. T. F. White supplied during the summer of 1921 and declined a call to become pastor.

The concrete steps to the church were built in 1921 at a cost of \$23.50.

Having served as supply during the summer of 1922, Rev. M. B. Grier accepted a call and was ordained and installed at a call meeting of Second Presbytery in Doraville Church, November 12, 1922. This relation existed until June 1925.

The budget plan for financing the church was adopted during his ministry. The parsonage and church were wired for electricity at a cost of \$110.47 in 1925, and the three burner lamps were sold to Winter's Chapel for \$15. The Individual Communion Service was used for the first time in August 1924.

Mrs. M. B. Grier came as a bride in 1923.

Students Knox and W. M. Boyce supplied the pulpit during the fall and winter of 1925-26, and Mr. Boyce as supply until he accepted a call from Doraville and Antioch and installed in October 1927. Previous to the installation, Mr. Boyce was licensed to preach at a meeting of Second Presbytery in Doraville May 1927.

Again, the lady in the parsonage was a bride, Mrs. W. M. Boyce.

Antioch Church having been combined with Hopewell pastorate, Rev. Boyce became full time pastor of Doraville 1928.

In 1929, under Rev. Boyce's leadership, a new brick veneer parsonage, modern in its appointments, was built hard by the church on a lot 200 ft. front by 190 in 1933. "The Hut" was constructed for the social activities of the community and as added class room for the Sabbath School. A basement was made under the sanctuary for the benefit of the Y.P.C.U., and Sabbath School Classes. Mr. Boyce was the instigator of the first Daily Vacation Bible School in 1928.

The Rotary Diaconate was adopted in 1933 and J. D. Chesnut, W. R. Gregory, J. F. Wylie, J. N. Cowan, Rufus Kinnard, J. B. Roberts, and Joe Shelby were added to the Board of deacons during his ministry.

The light fixtures in the church were given in 1934 by Rev. and Mrs. Boyce as a memorial to his father, the late Elam Erskine Boyce.

Mr. Boyce demitted the pastorate in the spring of 1934.

Rev. J. G. Brawley served acceptably as supply October '31 - May '32 during Rev. Boyce's absence at Princeton Seminary.

Rev. B. Dale White's ministry began July 1935. During the year of his ministry R. I. McElroy and W. R. Gregory were elected and ordained ruling elders, and J. L. Dendy, J. S. Creel and J. C. Roberts were added to the board of deacons.

Now, at the beginning of the second century of our church history, we humbly and gladly offer our thanksgiving and praise to the King and Head of the Church for His goodness and mercy which has never failed us; for the faith, vision and steadfastness of our fathers in organizing and nurturing this church during the past century. Truly, we are enjoying the fruits of their labors, and ours is a goodly heritage. We owe a debt of gratitude which only true loyalty and consecrated service can repay. Someone has said, "The future is as bright as the promises of God." If this be true, Doraville has a bright future with this as a foundation for the new century, she has a consecrated young pastor and his wife to

shepherd the flock; 8 ruling elders; 10 members on the board of deacons; active membership of 154; well organized Sabbath School; mid-week prayer meeting; missionary society of 16 members; Y.P.C.U. with 24 members; 14 Intermediates and 10 Junior. Our prayer for the church we love so much, as we begin the second century is the closing verses of the Psalm with which we began - the 90th. "Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children. And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us and establish thou the work of our hands upon us, yea, the work of our hands establish thou it."

This portion was read at the Centennial Celebration August 11, 1930.

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#### HISTORY OF DORAVILLE ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

AUGUST 11, 1936 - APRIL 1951

Celebration of the Centennial, August 11, 1936, marked the close of the first hundred years of the history of our church. This celebration brought together a great congregation of members, former members, friends and three former pastors - Drs. E.E. Strong, M. T. Ellis and M. B. Grier. A bountiful dinner was spread on tables made for the occasion. The addresses by the former pastors made us realize that "The good hand of our God had been upon us in the years gone by and gave us hope to face the future with courage and assurance." The music was so inspiring that one attending remarked, "They almost raised the roof singing the 133rd Psalm in closing the service."

The pastor, Rev. Dale White, resigned August 22, 1937 to return as a missionary to India. The White family left Doraville Sept. 1 '37 in an especially built Ford right hand drive English style car to sail from New York October 1.

During Mr. White's pastorate, The Men's Club was organized, and, in 1936, the old parsonage was sold for \$1400. cash, and a lot was bought at Bonclarken the same year.

A meeting of Second Presbytery was held here October 1937. The basement S.S. rooms were completed; a coal burning furnace was installed and a new floor laid in the sanctuary in 1938.

Rev. W. M. Bladely accepted a call to this church and was installed the fifth Sabbath of May 1938. This relationship existed until he was ordered by U. S. Government to report for military duty November 17, 1940.

Letters were sent from session to DeKalb Co. officials and the W.P.A. expressing appreciation for extensive improvements in widening and grading the streets leading to the church in May 1939. The shrubbery, a gift from Norris nursery, was planted the same year. In consideration of the opening of Church Street to Central Ave., Mr. & Mrs. C. D. Jones gave a tract of land 67 x 150 ft. adjoining the church lot on the east.

On account of advancing age, Mrs. Emma Beatty asked to be relieved as custodian of the communion linen - a service she had performed for twenty-five years. Mrs. J. W. Brown assumed this duty and served until her death in 1949. In this connection, it should be in the record that the communion silver service has been cared for by the D. A. Chesnut family to the third generation.

Rev. T. B. McBride accepted a call and was installed pastor the second Sabbath of February 1940.

W. V. Dodgen and D. G. Chesnut were elected and ordained ruling elders, and in same year, session decided to hold quarterly communion on the first Sabbath of each quarter.

In 1942, new pulpit furniture was bought costing \$236. and the old furniture was given to the colored people. New pews were bought in 1943 at a cost of \$1,074.01, also a carpet for \$635.

In the same year, news letters from the church were

sent to the boys of the church in the armed service of World War II, and a service flag was raised in the church with forty three stars. After the close of the war, a service of Thanksgiving was held for the safe return of all who had been in military service and the flag removed on the first Sabbath in July 1946.

Asbestos siding for the church, new windows and two rest rooms were the improvements in 1944-45.

Mr. Powell, a student in Columbia Seminary, supplied the pulpit for several months until Rev. W. P. Grier accepted a call in May 1945. This relationship lasted until he accepted a call to Rock Hill, S.C. in 1948. During Rev. Grier's ministry, the following were ordained and installed ruling elders; C. R. Younts in 1945; J. D. Chesnut in Jan. '48; and J. T. McElroy in March '48. On account of advanced age and infirmities, Elders J. C. McElroy, O. L. Cowan and J. W. Brown asked to be relieved from active duty. This request was granted and they were made elders emeritus.

The Psalter Hymnal was adopted as manuel of praise in 1946.

A gift of \$1,000 was received from J. A. Swicord estate and was used in the purchase of a Hammond Organ in 1947. The price of the organ was \$2,192.

Second Presbytery held the fall meeting in Doraville church in 1946, and the Second Presbyterial held its meeting here in April 1947.

Asbestos siding for the Hut, a gift from Mrs. Younts, and kitchen equipment were the improvements completed before the meeting of Presbytery and Presbyterial.

Nine members were granted certificates to become charter members of the Candler Road Mission in November 1947.

Mr. Charles McKee, a student in Columbia Seminary, now a missionary in the Belgian Congo, supplied the pulpit from Sept. '48 to January '49.

The fourth Sabbath of January '49 is unique in the

history of the church. H. H. Long and W. K. Kerr were ordained and installed ruling elders in a service previous to the observance of The Lord's Supper at which they served. In the afternoon of the same day Rev. E. Gettys was installed pastor of the congregation, which charge he served zealously until elected by Synod to edit the A. R. Presbyterian.

Extensive improvements were made in 1949. The parsonage was insulated at a cost of \$145; new roof put on the parsonage; a gas furnace installed, a gas range and other furnishings for the parsonage kitchen. For \$1,275 a set of Norton Chimes was installed in the belfry of the church which send out messages of comfort and hope to the community. Also, the flood lights, a gift of Mr. Younts, which add so much to the appearance of the church at night, and reminds us of the Psalmist words, "Beautiful for situation is the city of our God the towers of Zion tell, her palaces survey, mark all her bulwarks well, and to your children say; This God forever shall abide, even unto death, our God and Guide."

In the Spring of 1950, a property adjoining the church property to the south, known as the Leslie property was purchased for \$7500. Dimensions are as follows, west line on Central Ave., 295 ft; north line 311; east line 138ft. and south line 250ft.

In July 1950, a party sponsored by Rev. Gettys and the session was held honoring J. C. McElroy's seventy years tenure of office as ruling elder.

The service of the members of the choir, under the efficient leadership of Leslie Brown, director, and Harriet Leslie, organist, is recorded with gratitude. The anthems on Sabbath morning and special music rendered at the Christmas and Easter season is unsurpassed by churches of comparable size.

A Vested Junior Choir was organized by Harriet Leslie which is a credit to her and the church.

At this time four members have been called in the U. S. Armed Service. They are Ellis Creel, James McElroy, Frank Maloney and William Eidson.

In the winter of '51, the coal burning furnace was converted to gas, and gas heaters installed in the Hut. When the pulpit was declared vacant after Rev. Gettys left in August 1950, Dr. E. E. Strong was engaged as pulpit supply until such time as pastor might be secured.

Active membership 155; active elders 7; deacons 9; Sabbath School 167; Y.P.C.U. 10; Missionary Society 30; Intermediate 8; Juniors 23 - Budget 1950-51- \$8,080.

This portion read at a congregational meeting -  
April 1951.

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#### HISTORY OF DORAVILLE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FROM

APRIL 1951 - AUGUST 15, 1961

In May 1951, Mr. H. T. Schutte, a student in Columbia Seminary was secured to supply the pulpit for the summer. In July, he was asked by session to continue indefinitely, and in January '52, he was interviewed by session as to whether or not he would consider a call upon graduation and ordination. Receiving a favorable reply, Mr. Schutte was ordained and installed pastor May 18, 1952. The subject of his trial sermon for ordination was "The Diet of Jesus Christ."

During the pastorate of Mr. Schutte the Fisherman's Club was organized; the new Psalter adopted; the Quonset Hut, a gift of Plantation Pipe Line, was erected for Sabbath School class rooms. The parking lots enlarged and paved with equipment from Latex Corporation under the supervision of W. C. Crippen. Geo. B. Keller, J. N. Cowan and J. C. Leslie elected elders.

In 1952, the congregation pledged the support of a foreign missionary, Mrs. Kenneth Morris, missionary to Pakistan, was assigned to us at a salary of \$1200. per year - later, it was raised to \$1580. Upon her retire-



ment from the field, Dr. B. L. Hamilton was assigned in her place in Sept. 1960. Mr. & Mrs. Younts gave a sterling silver communion service honoring the memory of his father and mother. Notes on the Leslie Property were burned at the Thanksgiving Service in 1953. A bronze plaque, the gift of friends was hung in the vestibule of the church honoring the memory of ruling elder J. C. McElory.

Rev. Schutte preached a farewell sermon Sept. 11, 1955 and left for Bartow, Florida to begin work in A.R. P. Church there.

From September '55 to July '56 the pulpit was supplied by students from Columbia Seminary and J. M. Carr.

The congregation approved plans submitted by the Building Expansion Committee in May 1955. The canvass for \$60,000, the estimated cost of the Educational Building, was made Sabbath afternoon, October 16, 1955 and by mid-night of same day, the goal was reached in cash and pledges. The Educational Building was completed and used first Sabbath of May 1956. Some additions were made to the original plans and the total cost was \$64,844. The last note on the loan was paid Sept. 10, 1959.

Rev. E. M. Grier accepted a call upon release from U. S. Navy in July '56 and was installed November 7, 1956. This pastorate lasted until August 1960. Rev. Grier accepted work in a Presbyterian Church, Alexandria, Va.

During his pastorate, the congregation was divided into districts - one elder and one deacon assigned to each district and the board of deacons increased from 12 to 15. Alexander Cullen, J. G. Creel, J. S. McElroy, J. R. Kinnard, E. S. Hobson, and J. W. Tysinger were ordained and installed ruling elders. The Church Kindergarten, under the leadership of Mrs. Mildred Martin was opened with capacity enrollment. Princeton Choir gave a religious concert July 20, 1957. Organizational meetings of the Northwood Presbyterian were held in the Sanctuary in Feb. 1958. The first edition of "The Chimes", a monthly church news letter came out the same year, also new lights for the sanctuary installed. The Celtic Cross and carpet for the vestibule were gifts from Mrs. Pelham honoring the memory of her husband. The carrilon chimes,

a gift of appreciation from a donor whose name was withheld, were installed in the Sanctuary. The Session room was comfortably and adequately equipped by a gift from Mr. C. R. Younts.

From Sept. 1, '60 to July 1, '61, Rev. Kenneth Morris served acceptably as stated supply.

During this period, the cottage at Bonclarken was built at a cost of \$8,467. The interior and exterior of the church was painted costing \$801.09, and a new carpet laid for \$923.77. Additions and redecorating the manse for \$2,268., plus many hours of labor by the deacons. Donations of money and labor made possible the redecorating of The Hut.

Under the guidance of two of our elders, Mr. Younts and Mr. Long, Synod adopted The Ministerial Retirement Plan at the meeting of that body June 1961. At the same meeting elder Younts was elected moderator.

At a called meeting of the congregation the third Sabbath of June 1961, a call was extended to Rev. J. H. Boyce to become pastor. Rev. Boyce accepted the call and began his pastorate Aug. 15, 1961.

The active members reported to Synod 249.

The active members in S. S. 250

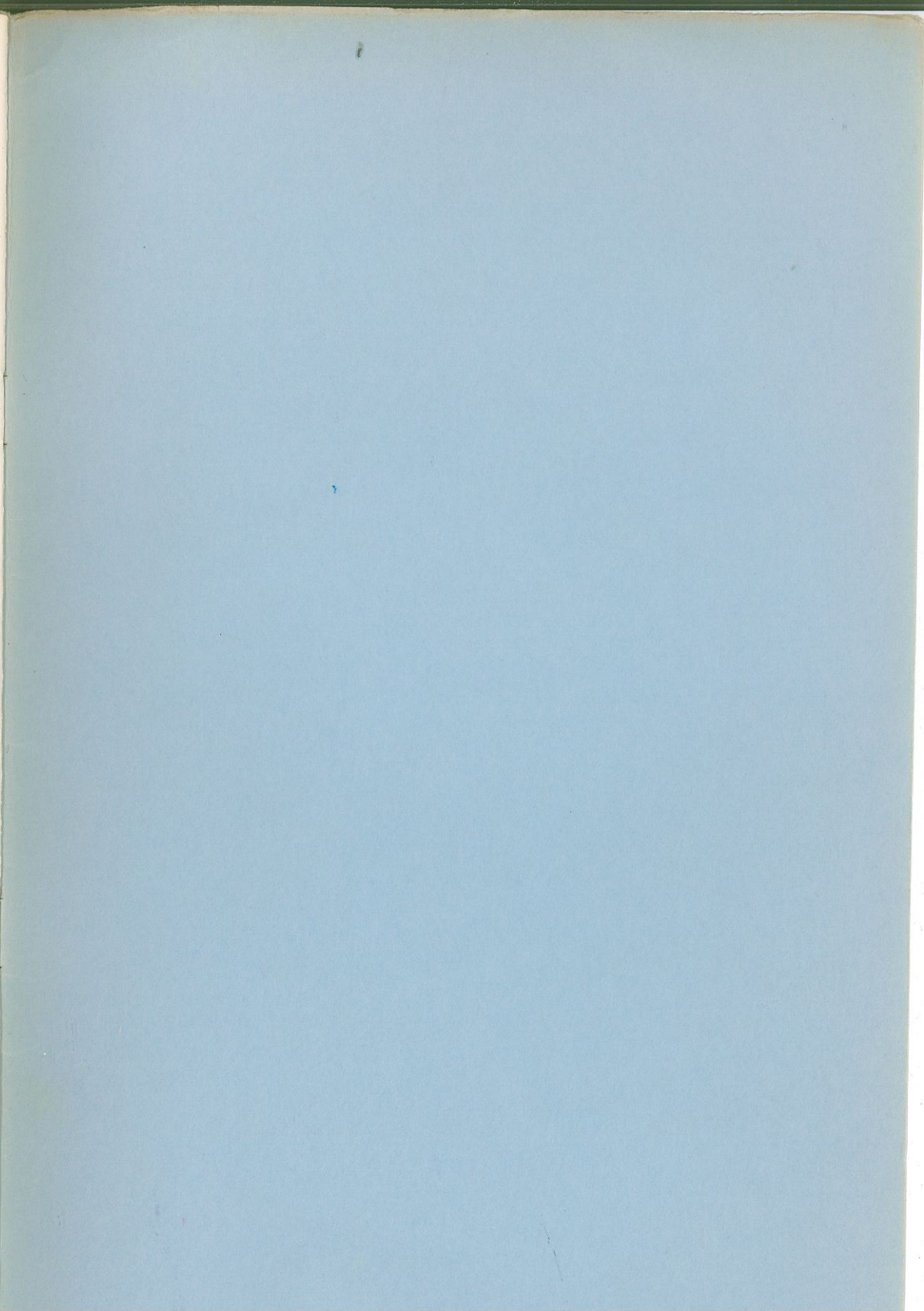
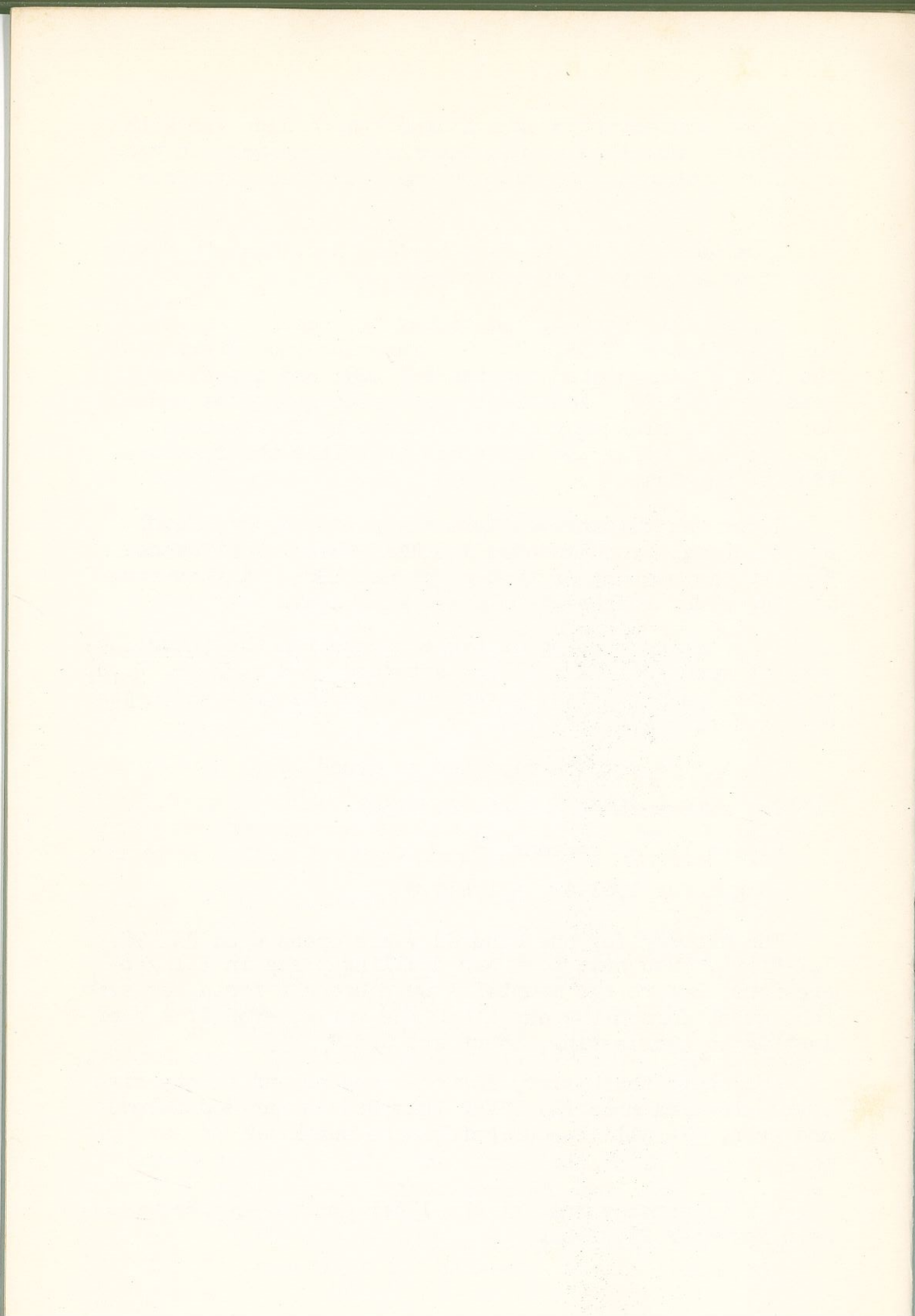
Elders 12 - Deacons 15

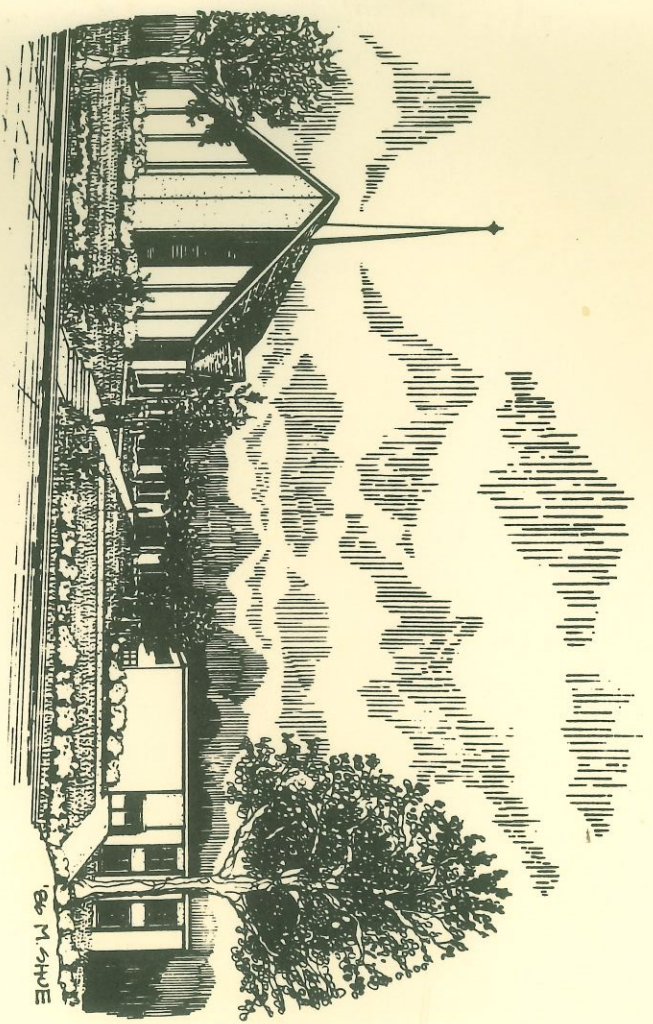
Budget for 1961-62 \$21,436.80

The history for one hundred years opens with Ps. 90: 1,2-"Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations; Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thour art God."

We close the history for one hundred and twenty five years with Psalm 48:14. "For this God is our God forever and ever; He will be our guide unto death.

This portion read at the 125th Anniversary Service held November 23, 1961.





**History of**  
**DORAVILLE ASSOCIATE REFORMED**  
**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**Doraville, Georgia**  
**Organized 1836**

HISTORY  
of the  
DORAVILLE ASSOCIATE REFORMED  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
1836-1986

The portion of the history dated from August 11, 1836, to August 11, 1936, originally was compiled and written by Mrs. Flora McElroy Miller, to be read at the Centennial Celebration. Later Mrs. Miller added to the history, taking the account through June 2, 1968, and had 400 copies of a booklet printed for distribution among the members of the congregation.

(A committee, consisting of Mrs. Robert L. Jones, Dr. James Z. Rabun, and Miss Sara Strong, has supplemented her narrative with additional details in this publication prepared for the celebration of the Sesquicentennial on August 17, 1986.)

*"Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations, before the mountains were brought forth or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God."*  
*Psalms 90:1,2*

One hundred fifty years ago today a little company gathered, presumably in the house of Samuel McElroy, Sr. (at the corner of Central Avenue and Buford Highway in Doraville) and, under the guidance of the Rev. Mr. Thomas Turner, effected an organization to be known as the Prosperity Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. This little company was composed of five families originally from The Waxhaws in Mecklenburg County, N.C., but later from Concord Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church near Anderson, S.C.

Will you hear the roll of the fourteen charter members as it is written in the first session book?

- |                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. John Stevenson            | 8. John McElroy, and       |
| 2. Samuel McElroy, Sen., and | 9. his wife, Margaret      |
| 3. his wife, Mary            | 10. William Stevenson, and |
| 4. Joseph Stewart, and       | 11. his wife, Sarah        |
| 5. his wife, Mary            | 12. Elizabeth McElroy, and |
| 6. Samuel McElroy, Jun., and | 13. her daughter, Rachel   |
| 7. his wife, Nancy M.        | 14. William McElroy        |

Samuel McElroy, Sr., having been previously ordained a ruling elder under the ministry of the Rev. Mr. Robert Irwin in Concord Church, continued in the exercise of this office, and Joseph Stewart and Samuel McElroy, Jr., were ordained ruling elders. William Stevenson and John McElroy were elected deacons. The sacrament of the Lord's Supper was observed for the first time on August 14, 1836, and was administered by the Rev. Thomas Turner (pastor of Hopewell Church in Newton County) assisted by the Rev. Mr. John Wilson.

On August 1, 1849, Elder Joseph Stewart (whose home was located in Chamblee across the street from the present Fire Station) gave a parcel of land 18 rods square with right-of-way to the family spring for the location of the church building. It is thought the original building, located near the entrance of our present cemetery, was made of logs, and that it was already on the land when given by Mr. Stewart. Trustees were G. Chesley Campbell, William McElroy, and Robert P. Jeffers.

The log house was replaced by a frame building with one glass window directly behind the pulpit. Board shutters served for side windows, and light and air filtered through the cracks in the sides and roof on winter days, because the building was never ceiled. The pulpit was reached by a flight of several steps, at the top of which was a door, making an enclosure for the preacher. A box-like stove furnished comfort, not only for the worshippers on Sabbath, but for the covered wagoners who used the church for an overnight camping place.

A small session house in which the meetings of elders were held was built a short distance from the church.

With the passing years, like Abraham, they needed a place in which to bury their dead, so the ground behind the church became the resting place to await the Resurrection. (The Atlanta Medical College, later to become part of Emory University Medical School, was started about 1854. Students were expected to furnish their own cadavers for anatomy studies, and had been robbing graves in the city cemeteries until local police were alerted. In order to prevent such a practice in this rural area, a lighted lantern would be placed on a new grave every night for two weeks while members of the Session took turns watching the site from inside the small session house.)

As the friends in the Methodist denomination had no church building at this time, Prosperity Church was used by the Methodists until they located a quarter of a mile down on Peachtree Road at the corner of N. Peachtree Road in Chamblee. (This is the site of the Prospect Cemetery. That church ultimately became the First United Methodist Church of Chamblee.)

The Rev. Mr. Thomas Turner served the Prosperity Congregation as supply until November 1837, when he accepted a call for his ministerial labors over the combined charge of the Hopewell Congregation in Newton County and the Prosperity Congregation. Mr. Turner and his wife (the former Miss Martha B. Crane) made their home in Hopewell Congregation and he came to Prosperity once each month, usually on the second Sabbath. On this monthly visit he often preached on Friday, attended to public examination (probably of the conduct of members) on Saturday, with a sermon following; then a sermon on Sabbath morning followed by a lecture in the afternoon.

The little congregation organized a Society, and meetings were held, sometimes in the homes and sometimes in the church on Sabbath. At these meetings an officer would read and explain the Scripture to the adults, and the children had a lesson in the catechism, taught by Mrs. Sam McElroy, Jr. This was the beginning of the present Sabbath School.

The first record of a collection was in June 1838, when it is said a collection was

lifted for Foreign Missions which amounted to \$4.00; and in September of the same year, a collection was lifted for Home or Domestic Missions which amounted to \$5.00.

On account of the distance between the two churches, Mr. Turner asked Presbytery, in the spring of 1841, to dissolve the relationship between him and Prosperity. From 1841-1849 the church was supplied by the Revs. Gordon, David C. Haslet, Sloan, A.E. Ellis, Andrew McElroy, and missionaries "to and from the West" (from South Carolina to Alabama, west Tennessee, and Arkansas).

At a meeting of the Georgia Presbytery held at Bethesda Church in Cobb County in 1849, the Rev. Mr. Augustus E. Ellis accepted a call from the united charge of Bethesda and Prosperity. His wife was the former Miss Mary Ann Ellis. Mr. Ellis located in the Prosperity congregation and bought for his home what was known as the "George Cholston place" (it presently is the Embury Hills subdivision area). He served the two congregations until his death in 1855. He was stricken with typhoid while attending a meeting of Presbytery in Due West, S.C., and is buried in a family cemetery there.

John McElroy was elected the first stated clerk of Session in 1850, and he and Alexander Chesnut, lately received from Hopewell Church, were elected ruling elders in 1852.

No sessional record was kept from 1856 to 1859, other than the note that the Rev. Mr. J. L. McDaniel served as moderator of the Session August 2, 1856. The Rev. Mr. Andrew McElroy supplied the pulpit from 1859 until March 1860. Then again there is no record for those terrible years of the 60's, when the church seemed to have met the Red Sea place in her life. Fourteen of her young men left for the battlefield - eight of whom never came back. The community was all but devastated by raiding parties from Sherman's army. (The Federal bivouac was on the site of Chamblee-Tucker Road near the present I-85 highway, and picket lines extended for two miles on all sides.) Services were held only as occasion permitted, and when the war was over and the little company again gathered for worship, the communion tables were missing. It is supposed the soldiers used the wood for kindling fires. (New communion tables were built by Alexander Chesnut, but none of these remain today.)

The names of S.P. Davis, William H. Hemphill, and Thomas Turner appear as moderators of Session from 1866-1872. During this period Elder David Chesnut was elected clerk of Session. He served until 1884, at which time J. Calvin McElroy was elected.

On October 22, 1867, at a called meeting of Georgia Presbytery at Prosperity Church, John McElroy was licensed to preach the gospel. He was ordained to the gospel ministry in Bethesda Church, September 10, 1869, when he was 64 years old. Preachers were scarce in those days, and Mr. McElroy preached not only in A.R. Presbyterian churches but in schoolhouses and homes in DeKalb and adjoining counties. From 1880 to 1883 he supplied Prosperity half-time with the Rev. Mr. J. L. Hemphill.

In 1871 it was decided to move the church to its present site (at the corner of Central Avenue and Church Street in Doraville). The land for the first building there, approximately one and a half acres, was given by Major John Y. Flowers "in consideration of the love he bore to the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, and for the peace

and good order of society." This gift carried with it the right to use water, for church purposes, from his family spring (in the present Flowers Park, behind the Doraville Police Station and Health Center). Subscriptions for the new church building were taken in 1871, and it was built in 1872. J.N. Dodgen and J. Calvin McElroy made, by hand, the shingles for the roof. The old church building was sold to Elder David Chesnut, out of which he built a substantial cotton gin house.

In October 1880 at a congregational meeting, J.K. Cowan and David A. Chesnut were elected elders, and John Weldon and J.T. Chesnut were elected deacons.

In December 1883, the Rev. Mr. Charles Edward Todd, a graduate of Erskine Seminary, with his young wife, the former Miss Lelia Cowan, accepted a call to this church at a salary of \$500.00 per year. Young, active, and zealous, he won the hearts of the people, and the fruits of his labors soon appeared: the Sabbath School was re-organized; a young people's society was started with nineteen members; and New Hope Church was organized in Dunwoody on October 18, 1884, with fourteen members from Prosperity. (This church later disbanded, and all that remains today is a well-maintained cemetery located on Chamblee-Dunwoody Road.) Mr. Thomas Turner Stewart was elected church treasurer in 1884, where he served with fidelity until his death in 1933. The Ladies' Benevolent Society, with Miss Dora Chesnut serving as secretary, was organized in 1883. The Rev. Mr. Todd is listed as a member (women could not then pray in public), and Mrs. Todd was the first president. The ladies met once a month, on a Friday at 2 o'clock. Dues were 10¢. Eggs then sold for 10¢ a dozen, and the housewife had the income from eggs which were laid on the Sabbath to contribute toward her dues. The ladies also sewed and sold bonnets for 25¢ each (calico was 5¢ a yard), and they pieced quilts which they sold for \$3.00 each. The custom of observing the first week in January as the Week of Prayer and the custom of pastoral visitation were instituted by Mr. Todd. While he was pastor, Mrs. Nancy McDill gave the church a lot on which to build a manse, but the plan failed and the lot was later the home site of William V. Dodgen (located at the present site where Peachtree Road, Doraville, crosses I-285 highway). Mr. Todd served as pastor until 1887, when he moved to Charlotte, N.C., to start a new church there.

In this era the Session was obliged to deal with problems of misconduct on the part of certain members of the congregation. These charges included fighting, use of profane language, intoxication, and even adultery. The right to take communion was suspended until the erring member appeared before the Session or the congregation and declared repentance. The last occasion on which the Session was obliged to deal with such charges was in 1936.

The Rev. Mr. Robert E. Patterson, a graduate of Erskine Seminary, who had done missionary work in Texas and Arkansas, accepted a united call to the pastorate of New Hope and Prosperity in December 1887. (His wife was the former Miss Sophronia Boyd.) He farmed in order to augment his salary, which was \$300.00 per year for one-half time. (His home was located near the present site of the General Motors Assembly Plant at the intersection of Peachtree Industrial Boulevard and the Carver Heights area.) In 1889 Joseph T. Leslie was received as ruling elder from the White Oak Church in Coweta County, near Newman, Georgia. The same year, new seats were bought for the church, and James

D. McCurdy sold as many of the old seats as he could. The remainder were given to the New Hope Church, Dunwoody.

The name of the church was changed from Prosperity to Doraville in 1890.

Through the efforts of Mr. Patterson, a revival was held in the spring of 1893, with Dr. W.W. Orr as evangelist and Mr. Hunter as song leader. This was one of the greatest meetings of the church, when more than forty people made a profession of faith in Christ and united with this and other churches.

A meeting of Second Presbytery was held at Doraville, April 1894. James D. McCurdy and William A. Chesnut were added to the board of deacons in 1897. The Rev. Mr. Patterson organized a Sabbath School, known as Miller's Mission, which in 1899 became Antioch Church with twenty-three members from Doraville as charter members. It was located at the present site of the doctors' office buildings at Chamblee-Tucker Road across from Embury Hills Shopping Center. This church later became Tucker A.R. Presbyterian Church.

In November 1897 Mr. Patterson demitted the charge, after which the Revs. J.L. Hemphill, R.L. Bell, W.A. Blakely, and L.P. Presly supplied the pulpit. In 1899 Mr. Patterson died of typhoid and was buried in the Prosperity Church cemetery.

The lot previously bought for a manse was sold for \$35.00 and the money applied toward the purchase of another lot. The Rev. Mr. Horace Rabb served that year as stated supply, and he and his family occupied a new manse which was built during that spring. It was located on New Peachtree Road, Doraville, across from the present Flowers Park.

The Rev. Mr. Thomas Bonner Stewart served as stated supply from January 1900 to 1902. On account of a long illness of typhoid on the part of himself and several members of his family, he doubtless could say with the Apostle Paul that his labors among us were "often in weariness and painfulness". During his ministry, seventeen members were added to the church at one meeting.

The Rev. Mr. Edgar Ellis Strong, a graduate of Erskine Seminary, accepted a call from the combined charge of New Hope, Antioch, and Doraville, in July 1902, at a half-time salary for Doraville of \$350.00 per year. He found his helpmate in the congregation in the person of Miss Julia Stewart. During his pastorate Charles L. Weldon was received as deacon. The vestibule was built on to the front of the church, and a bell purchased and hung in the belfry. A pump organ was purchased to replace the one which had been borrowed from Miss Dora Chesnut. In January 1907, Mr. Strong left to go to a church in Arkansas.

There was no instrumental music in the church during the nineteenth century prior to the use of the pump organ. Song leaders led the singing of the Psalms, and members brought their own Palm books. The earliest song leader mentioned was J.N. Dodgen. Joseph T. Leslie, Oscar Cowan, and William F. and John G. Stewart served as song leaders during the first quarter of the twentieth century.

The Rev. Mr. McClintock Todd Ellis, a native of Due West, S.C., and a graduate

of Erskine Seminary, became minister here in 1907. During his ministry, Elder J.L. McLin was received from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.), and J. Wilbert Chesnut, J. Walter Brown, Oscar L. Cowan, and John G. Stewart were ordained ruling elders. John C. Leslie, J. Todd McElroy, and R. Ivan McElroy were ordained deacons.

Second Presbyterial was organized by the women at Louisville, Georgia, in 1907, and the Doraville Ladies' Benevolent Society joined this Presbyterial in 1909. The monthly "Bulletin" was established by Second Presbyterial, and each Society received two copies a month, at a cost of 25¢ per year. The name of this publication was changed to the "Associate Reformed Presbyterian Journal of Missions" in 1913. The Synodical Union was organized in 1915 at Due West, S.C.

On account of the proximity of Doraville to Camp Gordon (which occupied the present site of Peachtree-DeKalb Airport) at the start of World War I, Mr. Ellis had the unusual experience and privilege of preaching to a house filled with men in uniform, and, without official appointment or remuneration, he performed a useful service as chaplain there.

The use of communion tables, which had been the custom of this church since its origin, was discontinued in 1918. (These have been described as tables about ten inches wide, placed across the front of the church, where communicants sat on benches along the side. The bread and common cup were passed down the tables.)

The Rev. Mr. Francis T. White supplied the pulpit during the summer of 1921, but declined a call to become pastor. Concrete steps to the church building were built at a cost of \$23.50.

Having served as a supply during the summer of 1922, the Rev. Mr. Mark B. Grier, a graduate of Erskine Seminary, accepted a call and was ordained and installed at a called meeting of Second Presbytery in Doraville Church, November 12, 1922. In 1923 Mr. Grier married Miss Emma Jennings, who joined him here in the manse. The budget plan for financing the church was adopted during his ministry. The manse and church were wired for electricity at a cost of \$110.47 in 1925, and the three-burner lamps were sold to Winter's Chapel Methodist Church for \$15.00. The individual communion service was used for the first time in August 1924.

Erskine Seminary students supplied the pulpit during the fall and winter of 1925-26. Among them was William Moore Boyce, who continued to serve as supply pastor until he accepted a call from Doraville and Antioch. He was installed in October 1927, having been licensed to preach and ordained at a meeting of Second Presbytery in Doraville in the spring of 1927. Again the lady in the parsonage was a bride, the former Miss Mildred Bedford. In 1928 Mr. Boyce became Doraville's first full-time pastor. Under his leadership, a new brick veneer manse, modern in its appointments, was built hard by the church on a lot 200 feet front by 190. He was the instigator of the first Daily Vacation Bible School in 1928. In 1933 "The Hut" was constructed across the street from the church. This was a wooden rectangular building with a kitchen at one end. It was to serve for social activities of the community and as added classroom space for the Sabbath School. A basement was dug out under the sanctuary for the benefit of the Y.P.C.U. and for additional Sabbath School classes.

The rotary diaconate was adopted in 1933. James D. Chesnut, Willis R. Gregory, J. Foster Wylie, J. Nesbit Cowan, J. Rufus Kinnard, J. Bruce Roberts, and Joe Shelby were added to the Board of Deacons during Mr. Boyce's ministry.

The Rev. Mr. John Gray Brawley served as supply from October 1931 through May 1932, during Mr. Boyce's absence to attend Princeton Seminary. Mr. Boyce demitted the pastorate in the spring of 1934 to accept the pastorate of the A.R. Presbyterian Church in King's Mountain, N.C.

The Rev. Mr. B. Dale White's ministry at Doraville began July 1935 at a salary of \$1,200.00 per year. He was a graduate of Muskingum College, Ohio. His theological training was taken at Xenia (Ohio), Princeton and Biblical (New York) Seminaries. His wife, Janet Ballentine White, was the daughter of Presbyterian missionaries to the Punjab, India. Mr. White came from the pastorate of the Glenwood A.R. Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, N.C., as he was on furlough from the mission work in India (Pakistan) during the depression years. Elected and ordained ruling elders during this time were R. Ivan McElroy and Willis R. Gregory; deacons were James L. Dendy, John S. Creel, and John C. Roberts. Men's Fellowship Club was organized, and the women began serving supper to the group. It is recorded that the Club paid a total of \$5.00 for the supper. The "old" manse was sold for \$1,400.00 cash, and a lot was bought at Bonclarken, N.C., the Assembly grounds of the A.R. Presbyterian denomination.

At the end of its first century the Doraville church had an active membership of 154, a well-organized Sabbath School, mid-week prayer meeting, a Women's Missionary Society of 16 members, a Y.P.C.U. with 24 members, 14 Intermediates, and 10 Juniors.

Celebration of the Centennial, August 11, 1936, brought together a great congregation of members, former members, friends, and three former pastors. A bountiful dinner was spread on tables made for the occasion.

### CENTENNIAL PROGRAM of Doraville Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

1836-1936  
August 11

INVOCATION .....	Rev. Horace Rabb
SONG .....	Psalm 100
WELCOME ADDRESS .....	Mr. J.D. Chesnut
RESPONSE .....	Member of Tucker Church
"WHY THE A.R.P.'s ARE HERE" .....	Rev. M.B. Grier
SONG .....	Anthem by Choir
"HISTORY OF DORAVILLE CHURCH" .....	Mrs. Flora McElroy Miller
LUNCH .....	12-2 o'clock
SONG .....	Dr. M.T. Ellis
"FORMER PASTORS" .....	Revs. E.E. Strong
SHORT TALKS .....	F.T. White, Mrs. Lela Todd, Mr. J.C. McElroy and others
SONG .....	Rev. B. Dale White
"THE CHURCH IN THE FUTURE" .....	Psalm 133
BENEDICTION .....	Rev. T.B. Stewart

Mr. B. Dale White, resigned the pastorate August 22, 1937, to return as a missionary to India. The White family left Doraville on September 1, 1937, in an especially built Ford right-hand drive English-style car to sail from New York October 1, 1937.

The Rev. Mr. William Milton Blakely, an Erskine Seminary graduate, accepted a call to this church from Salisbury, N. C., and was installed on the fifth Sabbath of May 1938. His wife was the former Miss Sarah Walls. Letters were sent from the Session to DeKalb County officials and the Works Progress Administration of the U. S. Government expressing appreciation for extensive improvements in widening and grading the streets leading to the church in May 1939. The shrubbery, a gift from Norris nursery, was planted the same year. In consideration of the opening of Church Street to Central Avenue, Mr. and Mrs. Carlos D. Jones gave a tract of land 67 by 150 feet adjoining the church lot on the east. (This was a parking lot and was located directly beneath the place where the present sanctuary stands.)

In the 1930's the first attempt to organize a choir was made when interested members met on Sabbath afternoons to practice under the leadership of Mrs. Susie Kennedy, the organist and choir director of the Atlanta A. R. Presbyterian Church. In 1939 a special Easter music program led by Mrs. Kennedy was presented at the evening service on Easter Sabbath — "The choir was allowed the privilege of using such music, the words of which were Scriptural". The implication of this statement from the Session minutes is that the text was from the Easter story and not from the Psalms.

On account of advancing age, Mrs. Emma Beatty asked to be relieved as custodian of the communion linen and the baking of unleavened bread—a service she had performed for twenty-five years. Mrs. J. Walter Brown assumed this duty and served until her death in 1949. It may be of interest to include the recipe these ladies used to bake the bread:

#### **COMMUNION BREAD**

**Serves 350**

1 cup plain flour  
2 tbs. shortening—Crisco  
(or any non-colored shortening)

1/4 tsp. salt  
1/4 cup ice water

Sift flour and salt; cut in shortening and add enough water to make stiff pastry. Knead until very smooth. Divide in portions (3 or 4) and roll to 1/8 inch thickness. Place on cookie sheet. Trim edges, mark 1/4 to 1/4 inch squares with spatula or other non-sharp utensil. Prick each square to prevent blistering. Bake at 300 degrees.

The Woman's Missionary Society (the name was changed in 1918), which had been faithful in its regular Bible study and in contributions to both foreign and home missions, was divided into two Circles in 1940. One of these, the Mary Gettys Circle, was named in honor of Mrs. E. Gettys, a missionary to India.

Mr. Blakely was ordered by the U. S. Army to report for duty November 17, 1940, as an infantry officer, where he served until March 1946.

The Rev. Mr. T. Bernard McBride, whose wife was the former Miss Jean Pressly, accepted a call and he was installed pastor the second Sabbath of February 1941. He was

a graduate of Erskine Seminary and had previously served A. R. Presbyterian Churches at Bethel and Oak Hill, Alabama. William V. Dodgen and David G. Chesnut were elected and ordained ruling elders. In the same year the Session decided to hold quarterly communion on the first Sabbath of each quarter. In 1942, new pulpit furniture was bought, costing \$236.00, and the old furniture was given to a colored peoples' church nearby. New pews were bought in 1943 at a cost of \$1,074.01, also a carpet for \$635.00. Some of these pews still remain in service in the Hazel Long classroom. Asbestos siding for the church, new windows, and two restrooms were the improvements made in 1944-45.

Newsletters from the church were sent to the young men of the congregation in the armed services in World War II, and a service flag with forty stars was raised in the sanctuary. Mr. McBride demitted the charge in 1944 to accept the pastorate of the A. R. Presbyterian Church at Lancaster, S. C.

An additional 1.72 acres was added to the cemetery property September 5, 1944, through the estate of W. A. Ramseur and wife, Donna. Trustees at that time were J. Calvin McElroy, J. A. Swicord, and James W. Chesnut. (This is the wooded lot adjacent to the present cemetery, and is in the plan for future expansion.)

Mr. Powell, a student in Columbia Seminary, supplied the pulpit for several months until the Rev. Mr. William Pressly "Kit" Grier, Jr., whose wife was the former Miss Mary Elizabeth Kerr, accepted a call in March 1945. He was a graduate of Erskine Seminary and had served churches in Troy, S. C. He was installed pastor of the Doraville Church the first Sabbath in May. On the first Sabbath in July 1946, after the close of the War, a service of Thanksgiving was held for the safe return of all who had been in military service, and the service flag was removed for storage.

During Mr. Grier's ministry, the following were ordained and installed ruling elders: Charles R. Younts in 1945, James D. Chesnut in January 1948, and J. Todd McElroy in March 1948. On account of advanced age and infirmities, Elders J. Calvin McElroy, Oscar L. Cowan, and J. Walter Brown, asked to be relieved of active duty. This request was granted and they were made elders emeritus. Mr. Cowan and Mr. Brown had served as elders for fifty years.

The A. R. Presbyterian church had always held the belief in exclusive Psalmody. At the meeting of General Synod on May 29, 1946, it was decided that hymns might also be used—only on the vote of the individual congregations. On April 6, 1947, after much prayer and deliberation, a Psalter Hymnal was adopted as the manual of praise. Also that year a gift of \$1,000.00 was received from the J. A. Swicord estate, and it was used toward the purchase of a Hammond organ, the total cost of which was \$2,129.00. Following her graduation from Erskine College, Harriet Leslie was elected pianist, and she continued as organist when the new Hammond organ was purchased. She also organized the first Junior Choir in 1950. W. Leslie Brown returned to Doraville about 1945 and assumed the leadership of the Adult Choir. Under his direction, with Miss Leslie as organist, the Doraville choir performed many of the Psalm Anthems from *The Harp of David* on Sabbath mornings. Their rendition of Easter and Christmas cantatas was unsurpassed by churches of comparable size. Mr. Brown served for twenty-five years as Director,



retiring in 1970. The Session sent him a letter expressing appreciation for his long and devoted service.

Second Presbytery held its Fall meeting in Doraville Church in 1946, and Second Presbyterial held its meeting here in April 1947. Asbestos siding for The Hur, a gift from Mrs. C.R. Younts, and kitchen equipment were the improvements completed in preparation for these meetings.

Beginning in 1948 and extending into January 1949, nine members were granted certificates to become charter members of the Candler Road Mission, which later became the McElroy Memorial A.R. Presbyterian Church on Clairmont Road, Chamblee, near the Buford Highway.

Mr. Grier accepted a call to the A.R. Presbyterian Church in Rock Hill, S.C., in September 1948. From that time, until January 1949, Mr. Charles McKee, a student in Columbia Seminary supplied the pulpit. Mr. McKee later was a missionary in the Belgian Congo.

On the fourth Sabbath of January 1949, Hazel H. Long and Dr. William K. Kerr were ordained and installed ruling elders prior to the observance of the Lord's Supper, at which they served. That afternoon, the Rev. Mr. Ebenezer "Si" Gettys was installed pastor of the congregation, which charge he served zealously until elected by Synod to edit the *A.R. Presbyterian*.

Extensive improvements were made in 1949. The manse was insulated and re-roofed; a gas furnace installed, along with a gas range and other furnishings for the kitchen. For \$1,275.00 a set of Norton Chimes was installed in the belfry of the church. Floodlights, a gift from C.R. Younts, enhanced the appearance of the church at night.

In the spring of 1950 a property adjoining the church property to the south, known as the Leslie Property, was purchased for \$7,500.00. Dimensions are as follows: west line on Central Avenue 295 feet; north line 311 feet; east line 138 feet; and south line 250 feet.

In July 1950 a party, sponsored by Mr. Gettys and the Session, was held honoring J. Calvin McElroy's seventy-three years' tenure of office as a ruling elder. (After Elder McElroy's death in 1953, a bronze plaque, the gift of friends, was placed in the vestibule of the church. It now hangs in the library.) When the pulpit was declared vacant after Mr. Gettys left in August 1950, the Rev. Mr. E.E. Strong was engaged as pulpit supply until such time as a pastor might be secured.

In the winter of 1951, the coal burning furnace was converted to gas, and gas heaters were installed in The Hur. At that time the active membership of the congregation was 155; active elders 7; deacons 9. Sabbath School had 167 members; Y.P.C.U. 10; Ladies' Missionary Society 30; Intermediates 8; Juniors 23. The budget for 1950-51 was \$8,080.00. The minister's salary was \$2,865.00, including car allowance.

In May 1951, Harry T. Schutte, a student in Columbia Seminary, was secured to supply the pulpit for the summer. In July he was asked by Session to continue indefinitely, and in January 1952 he was interviewed by Session as to whether or not he would con-

sider a call upon graduation and ordination. Mr. Schutte gave a favorable reply and was called by the congregation. He was ordained and installed as pastor on May 18, 1952. He was married to an Atlanta native, Miss Dorothy Griggs.

During the pastorate of Mr. Schutte the Fishermen's Club was organized; the new Psalter Hymnal, published by the United Presbyterian Board of Pittsburgh, Pa, was adopted; the Quonset Hut, a gift of Plantation Pipe Line, was erected at the southeast portion of the property for use as Sabbath School classrooms. The parking lots were enlarged and paved with equipment from Latex Corporation, under supervision of William C. Crispin. George R. Keller, J. Nesbit Cowan, and John C. Leslie were elected elders.

In 1952 the congregation pledged the support of a missionary to Pakistan. Mrs. Kenneth (Betty Jean) Morris was assigned to us at a salary of \$1,200.00 per year. Later it was raised to \$1,580.00. Upon her retirement from the field, Dr. B.L. Hamilton was assigned in her place in September 1960.

Mr. and Mrs. C.R. Younts gave a sterling silver communion service honoring the memory of his father and mother. Notes on the Leslie property were burned at the Thanksgiving service in 1953.

Mr. Schutte preached a farewell sermon September 11, 1955, and left for Bartow, Florida, to begin work in the A.R. Presbyterian church there. Before his departure the congregation had approved plans for an education building, submitted by the Church Expansion Committee in May 1955. A canvass was made Sabbath afternoon, October 16, 1955, and by midnight of the same day the goal of \$60,000.00 was reached in cash and pledges. The Education Building was completed and used the first Sabbath of May 1956. Some additions had been made to the original plans, and the total cost was \$64,844.00. The last installment on the loan was paid September 10, 1959.

The Rev. Mr. Eugene M. Grier, who was a graduate of Princeton Seminary, and who was married to the former Miss Mina Seipel, accepted a pastoral call upon release from the U.S. Navy in July 1956, and he was installed November 7, 1956.

During his pastorate the congregation was divided into districts — one elder and one deacon assigned to each district, and the Board of Deacons was increased from twelve to fifteen members. Alexander Cullen, John G. Creel, John S. McElroy, J. Rufus Kinard, Ed S. Hobson, Walter Lundy, and James W. Tysinger were ordained and installed ruling elders. The Church Kindergarten, under the leadership of Mrs. Wesley (Mildred) Martin, was opened with capacity enrollment of 35. The Princeton Seminary Choir gave a religious concert July 20, 1957. Organizational meetings of the Northwoods Presbyterian Church were held in the sanctuary in February 1958. The first edition of "The Chimes", a monthly church newsletter, came out the same year. New lights for the sanctuary were installed. The Celtic Cross, which now hangs in Marshburn Hall, and carpet for the vestibule were gifts from Mrs. William E. (Roberta) Pelham, honoring the memory of her husband. The carillon chimes, a gift of appreciation from an anonymous donor were installed in the sanctuary. The Session room was comfortably furnished by a gift from C.R. Younts. On January 4, 1959, John G. Stewart and Willis Gregory were named elders emeritus.

Mr. Grier's pastorate lasted through April 1960, when he accepted an associate pastorate in a Presbyterian Church (U.S.) in Alexandria, Virginia. From September 1, 1960, to July 1, 1961, the Rev. Mr. Kenneth Fitzhugh Morris, a graduate of Erskine Seminary, served as stated supply.

During this period the Doraville cottage at Bonclarken was built at a cost of \$8,467.00, and it was dedicated August 13, 1961, with Dr. E. Gettys presiding and twenty-five members in attendance. The building committee was composed of Mrs. James D. (Alice) Chesnut, Miss Harriett Leslie, James W. Tysinger, and Dr. W.K. Kerr. The wood frame cottage has a full basement with two baths; a main floor with three bedrooms and a bath; a kitchen; screened back porch; and a living room with fireplace. It was built by a Mr. Mintz, who had built many of the houses on the Bonclarken property. The furnishings were given by Mr. C.R. Younts. They had belonged to one of the Churches Homes for Business Girls located in downtown Atlanta (not church affiliated). Mr. Younts later paid for installing a furnace in the cottage, which means that groups can enjoy the use of the facilities all year. The mortgage was burned in August 1962.

The interior and exterior of the church building were painted, costing \$801.09, and a new carpet laid for \$923.77. At a cost of \$2,268.00, accompanied by many hours of labor by the deacons, the manse underwent redecoration and additions. Donations of money and labor made possible the redecoration of The Hut.

Under the guidance of two of our elders, Mr. Younts and Mr. Long, Synod adopted the Ministerial Retirement Plan at the meeting of that body June 1961. At the same meeting, Elder Younts was elected moderator of Synod, and he served two consecutive terms. Two other representatives of the Doraville Church have served in that office: Elder Hazel H. Long in 1964, and Dr. Robert J. Marshburn in 1980. Dr. Marshburn had previously served as Synod moderator, between the terms of Mr. Younts and Mr. Long; at that time he was pastor of the Statesville, N.C. First A.R. Presbyterian Church.

At a meeting of the congregation the third Sabbath of June 1961, a call was extended to the Rev. Mr. James H. Boyce, an alumnus of Erskine Seminary, with long business experience, to become pastor. Mr. Boyce, who was married to the former Miss Margaret Smith, accepted the call, and he began his pastorate August 15, 1961. Having served the church for more than two months, he was formally installed on November 26, 1961. Dr. Fred Glisson, a retired Methodist minister, had served the church from the time Mr. Morris left until Mr. Boyce came.

The active members reported to Synod in 1961 were 249, Sabbath School 250. There were 12 Elders and 15 Deacons. The budget for 1961-62 was \$21,436.80. The minister's salary was \$5,900.00 per year, which included car allowance.

A committee consisting of John G. Creel, Walter H. Lundy, J. Rufus Kinnard, and John C. Leslie, was appointed to arrange the observance of the 125th anniversary service, at a budget not to exceed \$200.00. This portion of the history was read by Mrs. C.E. (Flora McElroy) Miller at that Thanksgiving service, held Thursday, November 23, 1961.

In March 1962 the Session authorized the organization of Boy Scout Troup 411, with leadership to be provided by Men's Fellowship. John C. Roberts was the representative

of that group to the Scout leaders: Thomas S. Godson, Hiram H. Stevens, and Rex E. Berner, with Jack W. McElroy, O.E. Williams, and John L. Wilson. This proved to be an outstanding troop, unique in having the same leaders for seventeen consecutive years. In 1969 they won the Freedoms Foundation George Washington Honor Medal (on display in the church library) for a pageant which they wrote and performed; in 1973 they were included in a commercial for Cotton States Insurance which ran for two years. The Troop is rechartered each year on Scout Sunday in February.

The report of the Church Expansion Committee was read at a congregational meeting September 2, 1962, and adopted at a like meeting two weeks later on September 16. This report dealt with plans for the building of a new sanctuary, prompted by the growth of the congregation. The next step was the presentation of a plan to the congregation to raise a building fund of \$150,000.00 over a period of five years, with the stipulation that \$75,000.00 be in the treasury before the start of construction. The plan was adopted at a meeting of the congregation October 28, 1962; the date for the campaign for pledges was set for Sabbath, November 25, 1962. Mr. James W. Tysinger was elected chairman of the building committee; Mrs. Thomas S. (Ruth) Godson, secretary; and Mr. John C. Roberts, treasurer of building funds.

In October 1962, Session accepted with thanks the gift from Mr. and Mrs. Carlos D. Jones of a lot, appraised at \$11,000.00. The dimensions of the lot were: North line on Central Avenue, 380.1 feet; East-Southeasterly 234.9 feet; South 201.5 feet; and West line 201.5 feet. This is part of the present parking lot. This same year the Session sponsored a plan to give a Bible to each young person becoming a member of the Church.

By a vote of the congregation on April 21, 1963, the Session was increased from twelve to fourteen ruling elders. In May, two additional elders were elected, and a third was elected to fill the vacancy left by the death of James D. Chesnut. (A bronze plaque was placed as a memorial to him by members of his Sabbath School class.) The three elders were Rex E. Berner, Seth T. Farley, and Julian W. Neville. The plan for Family Night Supper was adopted in 1964. Also, for the first time, the manse was provided with a private telephone. The Cemetery Committee, consisting of Charles C. Ross, Jack W. McElroy, and David Adams, was allowed a budget of \$300.00 per year for maintenance.

In 1965 John Boyer, a student at Columbia Seminary, became the first youth director of the church, working on a parttime basis. He was graduated from the Seminary in 1968, and left to become pastor of the Manchester (Georgia) Presbyterian Church. His successor as youth director was George Evans, then a graduate student at Columbia Seminary; he left in 1969 and was not replaced.

By the early 1960's the Woman's Missionary Society had grown to around 50 members in four circles. These were named for our missionaries: Mary Gettys, Janet White, Betty Jean Morris, and Martha Sue Mitchell. In 1965 and 1966 bazaars were held to raise funds for the purchase of equipment for the new kitchen. The cost of the equipment, most of which is still in use, was \$3,016.00. The Society had as its responsibility the supervision of Juniors and Intermediates, a practice which began with Mrs. M.T. Ellis in 1916.

Through the sponsorship of the women, Intermediates attended the Bonclarken Conference each summer. Another major concern of the WMS was the Dunlap Orphanage in Tennessee, with each Society responsible for one child whom they supported with clothing, gifts, and spending money. In 1965 the first edition of the cookbook, *Presbyterian Popcorn*, was published, with revised editions in 1969 and 1977.

A chapter of the Mariners' Club, a service organization of Christian couples, was organized in March 1966. Also, during that year the Session for the first time allowed dancing by the young people in the Quonset Hut, subject to two conditions: it must be done "in good taste", and must be supervised by adults. In 1968 dancing was also allowed in Fellowship Hall. Perhaps it should be noted that the votes of members of the Session on these questions were NOT unanimous.

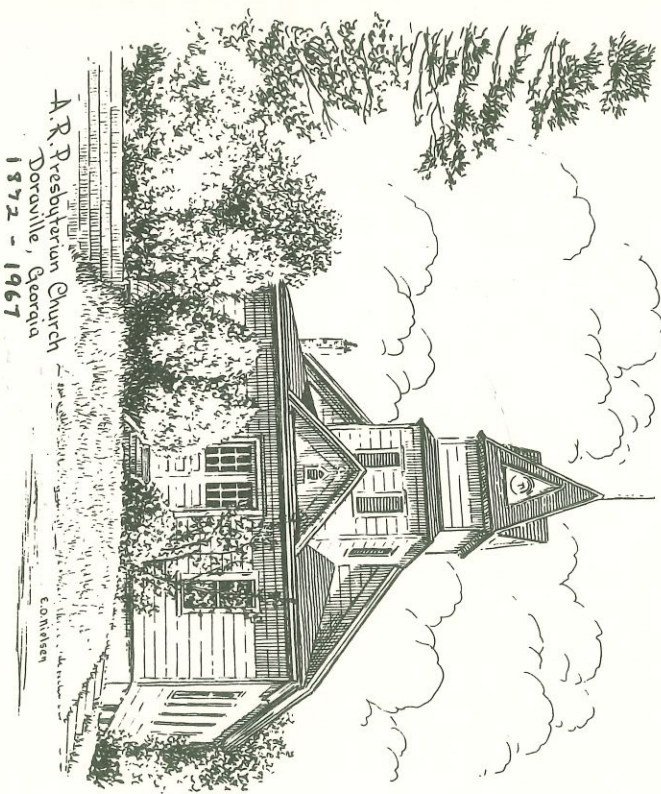
Between 1962 and 1965, the members of the building committee were actively engaged in raising the \$75,000.00 necessary for the beginning of construction of the new sanctuary. Preliminary plans by Architects Danielson and Paine were accepted June 4, 1965. These plans included not only the sanctuary building, but also a wing connecting it to the Education Building. This wing, opening onto a wide corridor, included rooms for offices, Session room, and library. Ground breaking was held June 5, 1966, and on December 4, 1966, a building fund loan of \$75,000.00 was authorized by the congregation.

Formal opening of the sanctuary was observed October 8, 1967, with a vested choir. Dr. Arthur M. Rogers, moderator of Synod, preached the sermon. Visitors, former members, and friends joined the members in enjoying a bountiful basket dinner in the Fellowship Hall after the service.

Gifts from individuals and groups substantially assisted in the acquisition of furnishings and equipment for the church building and grounds. John C. Leslie paid for shrubbery and for paving the parking lot; he and Resper G. Fowler worked uncounted hours in beautifying the grounds. The pews and the communion table were donated by Elder and Mrs. Charles R. Younts. The *Presbyterian Hymnbook* (a joint publication of three Presbyterian denominations) was adopted for use by the Church in 1967, and a gift from Mr. and Mrs. Younts provided copies of this Hymnal. (A plaque at the rear of the sanctuary records this gift.) The new collection plates were a gift from Elder and Mrs. Carroll E. Voss, who later gave Bibles for the pews. The candlesticks on the communion table were a gift from Mrs. Robert E. (Mabel) Peryam in memory of her father. The piano in the sanctuary was given by Mrs. Hoyt (Aline) Gillespie of Marietta, Georgia, the grand-daughter of the Rev. Mr. R.E. Patterson. The blue choir robes were a gift of Miss Jean Kerr. The permanent greenery in the narthex was given by The Builders' Sabbath School Class. The children of Elder and Mrs. William V. Dodgen gave the guest register desk, honoring the memory of their parents; the guest book and desk set were given by Mrs. James B. Matthews in memory of her father, James Bruce Roberts. The James D. Chesnut Class gave a piano and two tables for Fellowship Hall. The Session room was decorated by funding from Mrs. T. Curtis (Betty) Ware, Mrs. George (Virginia) Galloway, Mrs. Earl de Jarnette, and Mrs. Laura C. McDougal, as a memorial to Elders Alexander Chesnut, David A. Chesnut, J. Wilbert Chesnut, James D. Chesnut, and Willis R. Gregory. The large meeting table, side table, and chairs were a gift from Dr. Younts. In later years, following the death of

her brother, Elder Todd McElroy, Mrs. Flora Miller gave the large antique secretary which had been in their home, to be placed in the Session room.

The old church pews and pulpit furniture were sold for \$800.00 to the Whitehall Baptist Church, Gainesville, Georgia. The Quonset Hut was given to Sardis Baptist Church in Marietta. The communion table is now used in Marshburn Hall. The old white frame church building, erected in 1872 by willing hands and hearts of faith, was razed at a cost of \$930.00. The total cost of the new building and fixtures, architects' fees, and razing of the old church building amounted to \$226,738.50.



A.R. Presbyterian Church  
Doraville, Georgia  
1872 - 1967

A meeting of the congregation was called on June 30, 1968, to consider a rotary system for the Session, and to revise cemetery rules, increasing the price of a lot and restricting the sale of lots to members of the church. The system of rotation in office (for four years) was adopted for both the Session and the Diaconate, and on November 14, 1968, the elders drew lots to determine the sequence of termination. A definite procedure for nomination of church officers was adopted by the Session on November 25, 1969, in which both the Session and Diaconate were involved, and members of the congregation were thereafter invited to submit names in nomination.

Mr. Boyce resigned the pastorate in June 1968 to become pastor of the Craig Avenue A.R. Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, N.C. During the following year the pulpit was filled by numerous guest ministers.

In September 1968 Dr. and Mrs. Younts presented a silver punch bowl with cups, a silver service, and a 5-branch candelabrum. These were first used at a tea honoring newlyweds Thomas G. and Sherrill Terry Long. Mr. Long was graduated from both Erskine College and Seminary (and later earned his Ph.D. from Princeton Seminary). He subsequently became the first ordained minister who had grown up in our congregation. Later the Doraville Church nurtured two other young ministers, Gregory C. Slater and Joseph W. Donahue, both of whom were graduated from the Reformed Seminary (Presbyterian Church in America) in Jackson, Mississippi.

In June 1969 the Session voted to assume support of Dr. David Rodriguez in the Mexican mission field, and this was added to the budget.

Dr. E. Gettys was moderator of the congregational meeting July 27, 1969, when the pulpit committee's recommendation to call the Rev. Robert J. Marshburn, D.D. as pastor was approved. Dr. Marshburn entered his duties here on September 1, and he was installed in October 5, 1969. He was a graduate of Princeton University and of the Princeton Seminary, and had served as a missionary to Peru under the sponsorship of the Church of Scotland. He came to the Doraville church from Statesville, N.C., Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. As he and Mrs. (Gladys Grier) Marshburn had seven children, the manse was too small for their family's needs. He was, therefore, given an allowance for a suitable house. For the next eleven years the manse was rented to various lessees (including a mental health center and the City of Doraville). On May 31, 1970, the congregation approved the revision of the budget to pay for a pastoral assistant during the summer. The job was taken by Tim Robinson, a student at the Reformed Seminary.

At the end of the first year of Dr. Marshburn's ministry the church had received 101 new members. The budget for 1971 was \$51,030.00; pastor's salary, including allowances, \$14,110.00. There were 539 members reported, 376 in Sabbath School, and 61 members of Women's Missionary Society.

Atlanta Area Music Workshops were held on weekends in the fall of each year from 1965 to 1970, and in 1972. This was first a joint project of Doraville, Atlanta, and McElroy Memorial A.R. Presbyterian Churches, but was later expanded to include Northwoods Presbyterian Church and a number of other churches in the area. Dr. J. Marion McGill,

a well known choral conductor in the A.R.P. denomination and Director of Music in the Baltimore Public Schools, was guest conductor each year. Doraville was host for these workshops and concerts in 1967, 1968, 1970 and 1972.

In 1971 a Music Committee was appointed to work with the Worship Committee of the Session in the selection of an organ which would be suitable for the larger sanctuary. The instrument chosen was custom built by the Ruffatti Pipe Organ Company of Italy and the Rodgers Organ Company of Oregon. This unique organ combined the capabilities of a pipe organ of 14 ranks with 25 electronic ranks. The total cost was \$28,490.00, and it was installed in 1972 and dedicated in the spring of 1973. In December 1974, the old Hammond organ was given to Trinity Presbyterian Church at Rt. 1, Canton, Georgia.

Following the resignation of Leslie Brown as choir director in 1970, Harriet Leslie assumed the duties of both organist and choir director. She asked to be relieved of these duties in 1973 after having served as organist for more than two decades and as choir director for a part of that time. Her resignation was accepted with regret and in February of 1973, a family night supper was held to honor Miss Leslie.

In 1972, the Rev. Mr. Neil McCarter, a recent graduate of Erskine Seminary, was installed as the first full-time associate pastor, a position he held until April 1974, when he left to become pastor of the A.R. Presbyterian Church of Covington, Tennessee.

On March 8, 1973, a letter of appreciation citing her dedication to the work of God, was sent from the Session to Mrs. C.E. (Flora McElroy) Miller, as she had requested to retire as church historian. She was succeeded in this office by Mrs. Robert L. (Alice) Jones.

In 1973 Synod adopted a new and revised book of The Standards of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. Among the changes was a new rule allowing the election of women to the office of deacon if approved by the local Session. This rule states "To this office (of deacon) shall be chosen persons\* of good character. . ." The asterisked footnote states "Circumstances of the local congregation shall require each Session to determine the meaning of the word persons." In November of 1973, the Doraville Session voted that, as used here, the term "persons" would not include women. That is where the matter stands today, although a number of A.R. Presbyterian churches do have women deacons.

After an interim of several months of supply choir directors and organists, Robert H. Ellis began service as choir director in September 1973. He and his family made a significant contribution to the music service and particularly in the development of the Youth Choir. Miss Betty Williford was organist from 1974 through 1980.

Instead of engaging a new associate pastor, the Church decided to employ a director of Christian education, and Billy Owen Fleming, Jr., was hired in August 1975 to fill that position. He worked parttime and attended Columbia Seminary. He was graduated from Erskine Seminary, and after his ordination in May 1980, he became associate pastor here in July. He and his wife, Joy Teale Fleming, moved into the manse. During the fall of 1976, when Dr. Marshburn was recovering from a heart attack, Mr. Fleming performed the duties of senior pastor. A plan to expand the program of Christian education for very young children during regular church hours took shape during this time, and it has evolved in

to a very active Children's Church. Mr. Fleming resigned in February 1982, to become mission developer for the North Gwinnett A.R. Presbyterian Church in Lawrenceville, Georgia.

On February 15, 1975, a reception in Fellowship Hall was given by relatives honoring Mrs. Flora Miller on her ninetieth birthday. On this occasion the church library was named in her honor. The library had been organized in 1969 with a few shelves of books in the anteroom of the original pastor's study, and now was located in its own room along the hall joining the new sanctuary to the Education Building. The Mary Getrys Circle undertook the redecoration of the room, with funds furnished by Miss Jean Kerr. Selection of pleasing blue wallpaper, carpet, and draperies was completed by Mrs. Harry (Beverly) Cooper and Mrs. Bob (Mary Ann) Wages. Later, in 1984, Mr. and Mrs. Maynard Batchelder agreed to assume direction of the library, which had been staffed by volunteers who catalogued and shelved the books. Volunteers continue to assist the Batchelders, and a committee advises in the selection of new books.

The name of Women's Missionary Society was changed to the Women of the Church in 1974 when Synodical reorganized into eight departments: Spiritual Life, Family Living, Witness and Outreach, World Missions, Christian Higher Education, Youth, Leadership Training, and Current News and History. Doraville was privileged to host the meeting of Synodical in October of 1978. This event called for redecoration and beautification of the entire church and grounds. The membership had increased to 89 in six circles. The two new circles were named "Gladys Marshburn" and "Pioneer".

The budget for the Women of the Church was \$5,035, with an additional \$4,554 from the sale of the cookbooks. A record offering of \$1,022 was received at the Jubilee Birthday, the annual offering which provides support for two of our ladies in the mission field. In 1979, the Betty Jean Morris Circle started a fund for building a cabin at Rio Verde, Mexico, to cost \$3,720. With the help of all W.O.C. members and proceeds from a spaghetti supper, this fund was completed in 1980.

In 1974 approximately one-half acre of land described as the "Howard property", east of the church and next to existing church property, was purchased for future development at a cost of \$22,000.00. It is presently fenced and used for additional parking space.

At the September 1974 meeting, the Session approved holding a drive to raise funds, not to exceed \$20,000.00, for the purpose of constructing a new Scout and Youth building, and the congregation approved the plans in 1975. The building was completed in 1976 on the lot adjacent to the manse. In 1980, Dr. and Mrs. Younts gave \$1,000.00 to the youth program as a part of their fiftieth wedding anniversary celebration on March 12, and they also paid off the debt on the Youth Activity Building. In appreciation of their many kindnesses through the years, the building was renamed The Younts Building.

On September 28, 1975, a reception was held following the morning worship service to honor John G. Creel for his long and faithful service as Treasurer.

During this year Mrs. Robert L. (Alice) Jones acquired pictures of all except one of those persons who had been formally installed as ministers of this congregation from the

time of its inception. (Although the Rev. Mr. Turner had served in several congregations, no one had a photograph of him.) All of these pictures are of uniform size with the date each person served in this pulpit printed underneath. They hang in the narthex of the sanctuary. Later two credenza were purchased from funds of the Sabbath School and were placed in the narthex. The two credenza in the vestibule were purchased with funds which were collected through the Women of the Church as a memorial to Miss Rachel Pressly who had been an outstanding member of the congregation.

On May 12, 1977, the Charles R. Younts Scholarship Fund was established, administered by three trustees, to provide for scholarships to students from the Doraville church to attend Erskine College. This fund has grown through the years and now is actively providing remuneration.

This same year a used school bus was bought with a fund which had been initiated by youth groups. Later a new minivan was added to the "fleet". It is being used frequently by all groups for church functions. The YPCU paid for having the full name of the church painted on the sides of this van. The young people have been dedicated in their service to the local church and in their attendance at retreats and conferences at Bonclarken. Individuals have held positions of leadership in Second Presbytery and in Synod.

To celebrate the tenth anniversary of Dr. Marshburn's ministry in 1979 the Fellowship Hall was renamed Marshburn Hall; entertainment was a "Roast", with friends and members of the congregation revealing heretofore unknown misadventures of our pastor and his wife.

Senior citizens of the church first met together informally in the 1970's under the leadership of Mrs. Mabel Peryam. In 1980 Miss Harriet Leslie became director of these "Keenagers", planning programs for each monthly meeting. A team of volunteers and different circles are responsible for decorating the tables and serving lunch each time. Special trips are also arranged during the year.

The Doraville Church has maintained a strong music ministry for many years. Mrs. Walter (Jessie Mae) Bell has directed the Cherub and Primary Choirs as a volunteer, and Mrs. Robert (Nancy) English and Mrs. Charles J. (Elizabeth) Adams have been the principal directors of the Junior Choir. All choirs have been represented at the Bonclarken Music Conference each summer.

In 1981, Harriet Leslie was asked to return as choir director and organist. At present she directs both the Youth & Adult Choirs. The Session appropriated \$5,000.00 in 1985 to establish a scholarship in her name at Erskine College to be administered by the college, the interest to be awarded to a student from Georgia each year. During the years Miss Leslie has directed the music on a volunteer basis, choosing not to accept a salary for her service. She also has been the chairman of the Music Conference at Bonclarken for a term and has directed the music at the Adult Conference for two summers.

The McElroy Memorial Church, which had been formed in the 1940's from a nucleus from the Doraville Church and had had a fruitful ministry, suffered from being surrounded by a transition neighborhood in the time of accelerating growth in DeKalb County. On Easter Sabbath 1981, the congregation held its final service there. A number of the

members transferred to the Doraville Church, not only increasing the membership roll but also significantly infusing the congregation with new talents and leadership, both personal and financial.

The budget for 1981 was \$94,647.00; pastor's salary \$28,417.00 including allowances. There were 791 members reported, 291 in Sabbath School, and 111 members of Women of the Church.

David Brisben served as interim Director of Christian Education from April to September 1982, and he and his wife, Susan, lived in the manse during that time. On May 13, 1982, the Session made the recommendation that he come under the care of Second Presbytery, prior to the completion of additional work at Erskine Seminary. On May 29, 1983, at the morning service, David and Susan were commissioned for service in Mexico. Our missionary support was transferred from Dr. Rodriguez to the Brisbens, for the budgeted amount of \$4,000.00. In April 1984, the church increased its support of mission work to Mexico with the appointment of Tim Campbell, a member of our congregation, as a missionary and business manager there. In 1985 the budget shows the church's dedication to this work by the appropriation of \$15,000.00. Others who have gone from this congregation to full-time Christian work are French Jones and Neale Davis on the staff of Campus Crusade for Christ, and J. Herring to the mission field in Germany under the auspices of Greater European Mission.

In 1982 a new cemetery committee, with Jim Tysinger as chairman, was formed to update the by-laws and to establish a perpetual care fund and a maintenance fund. The legal work was contributed by a DeKalb County attorney, David Chesnut, a descendant of members of the church from the 1800's.

On October 17, 1982, the Session voted to extend a formal invitation to the Rev. Mr. Robert F. McAndrew, Jr., a graduate of Columbia (S.C.) Bible College and of the Columbia Seminary, to become associate pastor. He is a native of North Chelmsford, Massachusetts, and is married to the former Miss Phyllis Goodrum, who grew up in Zaire as the daughter of missionaries. Mr. McAndrew was installed on November 7, 1982. He and his family occupy the manse across the street from the church.

A bronze plaque was placed in the hall of the Education Building in 1984 as a memorial to Stewart Creel who had served as Superintendent of the Sabbath School for twenty-five years. He had had many faithful assistants during that time, and one of these, Raymond L. Abernathy, was elected to succeed him in the office.

The Christian Education Committee has, in recent years, supported the week of vacation Bible School which meets in the evenings with programs designed for all members of the family. There is an active sports program with softball teams for men and women which play in a church league. Recently the Committee has begun an outreach ministry for single parents which has received enthusiastic response in the community and which fills a growing need.

The Women of the Church have continued to make many significant contributions to the ministry of the church. One circle sponsored two film series which were shown on Sunday evenings — the James Dobson and the Joyce Landorf series. Bazaars were held in

1982 and 1984 with proceeds designated for office equipment, kitchen improvements, and a Bonclarken cottage fund. The young women have formed a new circle named for Mary Donahue, who had been their Sabbath School teacher. Generous contributions are made to the Synodical budget, and the Jubilee Birthday offering has been unusually large in recent years. The women have been consistent in their support of outreach projects, home and foreign missions, and other causes of Synodical. They were hostesses to Presbyterial in 1984.

On March 17, 1985, Dr. Marshburn announced from the pulpit that he would retire from the ministry on October 6th, soon after his sixty-fifth birthday. Following weeks of planning, the retirement festivities began with a family picnic August 17th. A sudden shower did not dampen the occasion, which continued in Marshburn Hall with a "Roast" of the Marshburns. On September 28th a reception was held at the Perimeter North Inn, attended by present members, former members, and many friends. The Marshburns were presented "Get Up and Go" airline passes, tickets for a two-week vacation trip to Israel, and a book of remembrances from members and friends. Immediately after the service on September 29th, the Women of the Church made a special presentation. For weeks many of the women had secretly stitched twelve blocks in counted cross-stitch, depicting events in the ministry of Dr. and Mrs. Marshburn in the Doraville Church. The result — a beautiful blue and cream colored quilt. A narration written by Mrs. Olive Hursey was a moving tribute to their sixteen years with the congregation. Dr. Marshburn conducted his final communion service on October 6, 1985, an emotional service all will remember. The Marshburns continue to live in their home here and attend Doraville Church. He has been elected pastor emeritus.

Dr. Marshburn had come to be pastor of the congregation which had been founded by a few farm families as a country church, and which had become a part of a large metropolitan area with members using thirty-eight different postal zip codes. During his ministry the church participated actively in all programs of the General Synod, in recent years giving twenty percent of the general fund contributions of the church to them. In 1971 there was a Comprehensive Capital Funds drive, collecting money to support Bonclarken and Erskine and other agencies of our church. Members pledged \$30,000.00, and received from the denomination a "Certificate of Appreciation." The Synod-wide church extension program of Create, Maintain, and Extend was started in 1984 and our church exceeded the goal that was set for it; a pledge of \$89,000.00 was made, of which over \$60,000.00 has already been paid. In addition, the Younits and the Harriet Leslie Scholarships, previously mentioned, have been established.

In the last seven years the church has had a part in starting three new churches in which some of the elders have served on provisional sessions: 1. the North Gwinnett Mission; 2. Faith Church in Cobb County, Georgia; 3. Trinity Church in Columbus, Georgia.

On March 2, 1986, the congregation voted to call Dr. Jack Heinsohn to be the senior pastor. He was accepted by Presbytery on April 8, 1986. Dr. Heinsohn was born in Long Beach, California, and grew up traveling with his father with various circuses all over the United States. He was graduated from Erskine College and Seminary, and in March 1977

was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity from his alma mater. He has served as denominational evangelist for the A.R. Presbyterian denomination and also has been senior minister of several churches, coming to Doraville from the Immanuel Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in Los Angeles, California. His wife is the former Miss Martha Lauderdale, and they are the parents of five children and five grandchildren. Dr. Heinson preached the first sermon of his new charge on June 8, 1986.

The Doraville Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church is proud of its ministry of one hundred and fifty years in the community. From rural roots to urban sophistication, members have adjusted to changes brought on by wars, depressions, and inflationary growth in the area. There is a balance of membership of descendants of early families, transfer members from other A.R.P. churches, and new members from other denominations who have brought vitality and new insights to the life of the church. The Doraville church now looks forward with faith and confidence to a continuing and expanding Christian ministry.

*"Mark ye well her bulwarks, consider her palaces; that ye may tell it to the generation following. For this God is our God for ever and ever: He will be our guide even unto death."*

*Psalms 48: 13, 14*

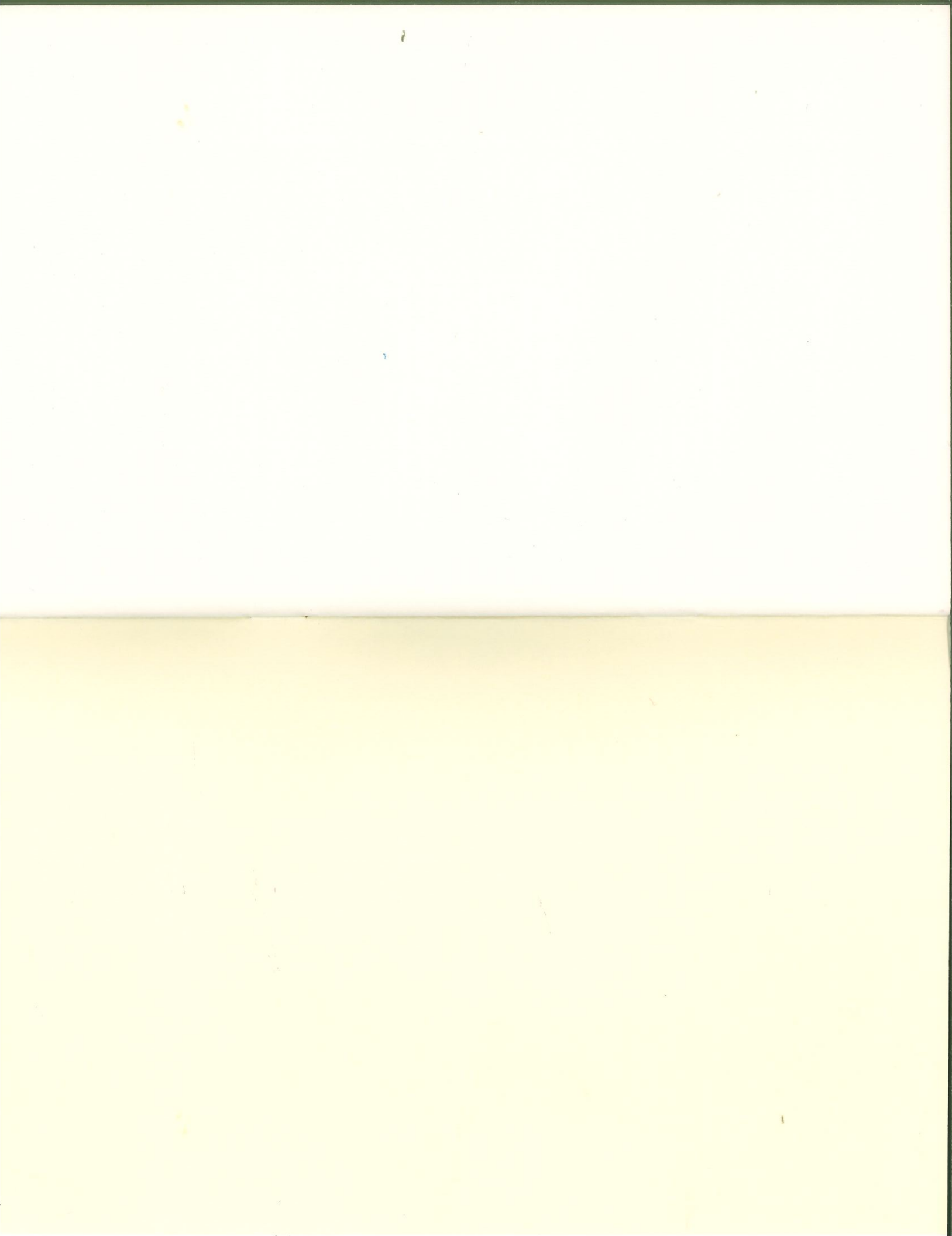
The Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church was formed on November 1, 1782 in Philadelphia by a union of the Associate Presbyterians and the Reformed Presbyterians, each having come from Scotland.

The Associate Presbytery of Scotland had been organized at Gairney Bridge near Kinross on December 6, 1733 (the same year that Georgia became the thirteenth American colony). Ebenezer and Ralph Erskine, James Fisher, Alexander Moncrieff, and William Wilson — all ministers — met in order to protest against innovations that had crept into the Church of Scotland, and particularly to protest against the practice of patronage (whereby the laird or wealthiest landowner selected the pastor of the local church, regardless of the wishes of the congregation). These leaders and their supporters were long called "Seceders" from the Church of Scotland. The Associate Presbytery sent its first ministers to America in 1753 to organize congregations of "Seceders" who had settled in Pennsylvania; and in that year the Associate Presbytery of Pennsylvania was organized.

The Reformed Presbyterian Church in Scotland was begun by the Rev. Mr. John McMillan and the Rev. Mr. Thomas Nairn and their supporters on August 1, 1743. Since 1638 this group of Scots had been called "Covenanters" because of their inflexible determination to adhere to the Solemn League and Covenant of 1581, by which the king and the people of Scotland had sworn to support each other to the death, if necessary, in establishing the presbyterian form of church government in their land. This covenant had been repeatedly breached in the reign of Charles II (1660 to 1685). Bishops had been appointed in the Church of Scotland, and the king had been declared supreme head of the Church. Some "Covenanters" had come to America as early as 1685, settling in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and the New England colonies, and later in South Carolina. In 1774, two years before the Declaration of Independence, the Reformed Presbytery of America was formed.

After the union of the Associate and Reformed presbyteries in 1782, the Church grew and developed four synods: synods in the West (west of the Appalachians), in the South (Virginia and the Carolinas), in Pennsylvania, and in New York. The Synod of Pennsylvania elected to unite with the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. in 1822. In 1858 the Synods of New York and of the West combined with remnants of the old Associate Synod to form the United Presbyterian Church of North America. This action left the Synod of the South (which had become independent in 1822) as the only body still bearing the name of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. Today this Church consists of 7 presbyteries, and its congregations range from New York in the northeast to Florida in the south and to Missouri and Arkansas in the west.

The Doraville Church is a member of Second Presbytery, and the Women of the Church are members of Second Presbyterial. Our Church and the Erskine Theological Seminary share the birth year 1836.





**SESQUICENTENNIAL  
OF THE  
DORAVILLE ASSOCIATE REFORMED  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
1836 — 1986**



**Sesquicentennial Worship Service  
Sunday, August 17, 1986  
10:30 a.m.**

## Meditations

The Lord is in His holy temple, let all the earth be silent before Him.  
(Habakkuk 2:20)

This is the day the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.  
(Psalm 118:24)

I was glad when they said unto me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord.'  
(Psalm 122:1)

I will give thanks to Thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and will glorify Thy name forever.  
(Psalm 86:12)

Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.  
(2 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you.  
(1 Peter 1:3-4)

Ministers

Jack F. Heinsohn

Minister  
Doraville ARP Church

Robert F. McAndrew

Associate Minister  
Doraville ARP Church

Robert Marshburn

Minister Emeritus  
Doraville ARP Church

W. P. Grier

Retired Minister  
 Mooresville, N. C.

Kenneth Morris

Minister  
Louisville, Ga. ARP Church

Harry Schutte

Minister  
Gastonia, N. C. ARP Church

Order Of Worship

Tolling of the bell

Prelude: "Lift High the Cross"

arr. Jordan

Procession of the Choir

Procession of the Ministers

Welcome

Welcome to all who worship here today - on this,  
the Sesquicentennial Celebration of the Doraville  
Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church.

Please follow the program through the worship service

Old Hundredth

from Genevan Psalter

Congregation please stand

All people that on earth do dwell,  
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
Him serve with mirth, His praise forth tell,  
Come ye before Him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed;  
Without our aid He did us make;  
We are His folk, He doth us feed,  
And for His sheep, He doth us take.

O enter then His gates with praise,  
Approach with joy His courts unto;  
Praise, laud, and bless His name always,  
For it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good,  
His mercy is forever sure;  
His truth at all times firmly stood,  
And shall from age to age endure.

Congregation please remain standing

Invocation

Dr. Jack Heinsohn

"Great is the Lord and greatly to be  
praised, and His greatness is  
unsearchable for His tender mercies  
are over all that He has created and  
underneath are the everlasting arms."

Congregation please be seated

Congregational Psalm

The Hymnbook, Page 104

Congregation remain seated

"The Lord's My Shepherd"

from Scottish Psalter

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;  
He makes me down to lie  
In pastures green; He leadeth me  
The quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again;  
And me to walk doth make  
Within the paths of righteousness  
E'en for His own name sake.

Yea though I walk through death's dark vale,  
Yet will I fear none ill;  
For Thou art with me; and Thy rod  
And staff me comfort still.

My table Thou hast furnished  
In presence of my foes;  
My head Thou doest with oil annoint,  
And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life  
Shall surely follow me;  
And in God's house forever more  
My dwelling place shall be.

The Apostle's Creed

Dr. Kenneth Morris

Congregation please stand

I believe in God the Father Almighty  
Maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord;  
Who was conceived of the Holy Ghost,  
Born of the Virgin Mary,  
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
Was crucified, dead and buried;  
The third day He rose again from the dead;  
He ascended into heaven;  
And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead;  
I believe in the Holy Ghost;  
The holy Catholic Church;  
The communion of saints;  
The forgiveness of sins;  
The resurrection of the body;  
And the life everlasting.  
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Dr. Kenneth Morris

Congregation remain standing

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be Thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth as it  
is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts, as we  
forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil;  
For Thine is the kingdom,  
And the power,  
And the glory,  
For ever;  
Amen.

Gloria Patri

The Hymnbook, Page 546

Glory be to the Father,  
And to the Son,  
And to the Holy Ghost,  
As it was in the beginning,  
Is now and ever shall be,  
World without end;  
Amen,  
Amen.

Congregation please be seated

Introduction of Guests

Dr. Jack Heinsohn

Anthem

Choir

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

arr. Hayes

All creatures of our God and King,  
Lift up your voices and with us sing,  
Alleluia!  
Thou burning sun with golden beam,  
Thou silver moon with softer gleam,  
O, praise Him! Alleluia!  
Thou rushing wind that art so strong,  
Ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,  
O praise Him! Alleluia!  
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,  
Ye lights of evening, find a voice!  
O praise Him! Alleluia!  
All ye men of tender heart,  
Forgiving others, take your part,  
O, sing ye! Alleluia!  
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,  
Praise God and on Him cast your care,  
O praise Him! Alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son!  
And praise the Spirit, three in one!  
O praise Him! Alleluia!

Responsive Reading:

Psalm 103

Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me bless  
His holy name.

BLESS THE LORD, O MY SOUL, AND FORGET NOT ALL HIS BENEFITS.

Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy  
diseases.

WHO REDEEMETH THY LIFE FROM DESTRUCTION; WHO CROWNETH THEE  
WITH LOVINGKINDNESS AND TENDER MERCIES.

Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things, so that thy  
youth is renewed like an eagle's.

THE LORD EXECUETH RIGHTEOUSNESS AND JUDGMENT FOR ALL THAT  
ARE OPPRESSED.

He made known His ways unto Moses, His acts unto the  
children of Isreal.

THE LORD IS MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS, SLOW TO ANGER, AND  
PLENTEOUS IN MERCY.

He will not always chide; neither will He keep His anger  
for ever.

HE HATH NOT DEALT WITH US AFTER OUR SINS; NOR REWARDED  
US ACCORDING TO OUR INIQUITIES.

Far as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is the  
mercy toward them that fear Him.

Rev. W. P. (Kit) Grier

King James Version

FAR AS THE EAST IS FROM THE WEST, SO FAR HATH HE REMOVED OUR  
TRANSGRESSIONS FROM US.

Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth  
them that fear Him.

FOR HE KNOWETH OUR FRAME; HE REMEMBERETH THAT WE ARE DUST.

As for man, his days are as grass; as a flower of the field,  
so he flourisheth.

FOR THE WIND PASSETH OVER IT, AND IT IS GONE; AND THE PLACE  
THEREOF SHALL KNOW IT NO MORE.

But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting  
upon them that fear Him, and His righteousness unto  
children's children.

TO SUCH AS KEEP HIS COVENANT, AND TO THOSE THAT REMEMBER HIS  
COMMANDMENTS TO DO THEM.

The Lord hath prepared His throne in the heavens, and His  
kingdom ruleth over all.

BLESS THE LORD, YE HIS ANGELS, THAT EXCEL IN STRENGTH, THAT  
DO HIS COMMANDMENTS, HARKENING UNTO THE VOICE OF HIS WORD.

Bless ye the Lord, all ye His hosts, ye ministers of His,  
that do His pleasure.

BLESS THE LORD, ALL HIS WORKS, IN ALL PLACES OF HIS  
DOMINION; BLESS THE LORD, O MY SOUL.



Congregation please stand

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

O God, our Help in ages past,  
Our Hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast,  
And our eternal Home.

Before the hills in order stood,  
Or earth received her frame,  
From everlasting Thou art God,  
To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight,  
Are like an evening gone;  
Short as the watch that ends the night,  
Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever rolling stream,  
Bears all its sons away;  
They fly forgotten as a dream,  
Dies at the opening day.

O God, our Help in ages past,  
Our Hope for years to come,  
Be Thou our Guard while life shall last,  
And our eternal Home.

Congregation please be seated

Congregational Prayer:

Dr. Robert Marshburn

Congregation please stand

"The Church's One Foundation"

The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord,  
She is His new creation, by water and the word;  
From heaven He came and sought her to be His holy bride;  
And with His own blood He bought her and for her life He died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,  
Her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth,  
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses with every grace endued.

Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,  
She waits the consumation of peace forever more;  
Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blessed,  
And the great Church victorious shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won;  
O happy ones and holy; Lord give us grace that we,  
Like them, the meek and lowly on high may dwell with Thee.

Congregation please be seated

Offertory Prayer

Rev. Robert McAndrew

Father, use this offering to strengthen the Church of Jesus Christ, to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to exalt the person of Jesus Christ in whose name we pray. Amen.

Offertory

Piano and Organ

"On the Good and Faithful, God Has Set His Love"

Anthem

Choir

"Under the Shadow of the Almighty"

E. S. Lornez

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High,  
Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.  
I will say of the Lord He is my refuge,  
He is my refuge and my fortress.  
My God, in Him will I trust.  
Thou shall not be afraid of the terror by night;  
Nor the arrow that flieth by day.  
Nor the pestilence that wasteth at noon-day.  
For He shall give His angels charge over thee.  
To keep thee in all thy ways,  
They will bear thee up on their hands,  
Lest thou dash thy foot against a stone,  
He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High,  
Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

Scripture Reading

Rev. Harry Schutte

Ephesians 4:1-13

King James Version

I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that you walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called.

With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;

Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;

One Lord, one faith, one baptism; One God and Father of all, who is above all, and in you all.

But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.

Wherefore He saith, when He ascended up on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.

(Now that He ascended, what is it but what He also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that ascended up far above all heavens, that He might fill all things.)

And He gave some, apostles; and some prophets, and some evangelists; and some pastors and teachers;

For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.

Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.

Sermon

Rev. Harry Schutte

"What You Believe About the Church Makes a Difference"

Text: Ephesians 4:12

For the perfecting of the saints,  
For the work of the ministry,  
For the edifying of the body of Christ.

Congregational Psalm

The Hymnbook, Page 98

Congregation please stand

"Praise Ye, Praise Ye The Lord"

Praise ye, praise ye the Lord  
In yonder heavenly height;  
Ye angels, all His hosts,  
In joyful praise unite;  
O sun and moon, declare His might  
Show forth His praise, ye stars of light.

Praise Him, ye highest heavens,  
Praise Him ye clouds that roll,  
Created by His power  
And under His control,  
Ye heavens that stand eternally,  
Established by His firm decree.

Ye creatures in the sea  
And creatures of the earth,  
Your mighty Maker praise  
And tell His matchless worth;  
Praise Him, ye stormy winds that blow,  
Ye fire and hail, ye rain and snow.

Ye hills and mountains praise,  
Each tree and beast and bird;  
Ye kings and realms of earth,  
Now let your praise be heard;  
By high and low, by young and old,  
Be all His praise and glory told.

By all let God be praised,  
For He alone is great;  
Above the earth and heaven,  
He reigns in glorious state;  
Praise Him, ye saints who know His grace  
And ever dwell before His face.

Benediction

Rev. Robert McAndrew

And now, may the grace, mercy, and peace of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit be and abide with you, now, till Jesus comes and for evermore. Amen.

Doxology

Psalm 71

"Now Blessed Be The Living God"

Now Blessed be the Living God  
The God of Isreal,  
Who only doeth wondrous works,  
In glory that excel;  
Who only doeth wondrous works,  
In glory that excel.

And blessed be His wondrous name  
To all eternity,  
The whole earth let His glory fill,  
Amen; so let it be!  
The whole earth let His glory fill,  
Amen; so let it be.

Recession of Ministers

Organ Postlude

Announcements

The flowers in the sanctuary today are to honor the congregation - past and present - for one hundred and fifty years of faithful and fruitful service to the Lord.

The Women of the Church are hosting a reception to honor our guests and visitors. The reception will be in the Bob and Gladys Marshburn Fellowship Hall following the worship service.

As you proceed from the sanctuary to the reception in fellowship hall, please stop by the table just off the narthex and receive your copy of the "Sesquicentennial History of the Doraville Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church."

A nursery is provided today for children under the age of ten. It is requested that the children in the nursery be picked up following the worship service.

Assisting with the music

Robert Adams	trumpet
Dean Heimbigner	trumpet
Ron Heimbigner	organ

The Church Staff

Jack F. Heinsohn, D.D.	Minister
Robert F. McAndrew	Associate Minister
Robert J. Marshburn	Minister Emeritus
Mrs. Ruth Wilson	Secretary
Miss Harriet Leslie	Organist Youth and Adult Choir Director
Mrs. Lib Adams	Pianist Junior Choir Director
Mrs. Jessie Mae Bell	Director Cherub and Primary Choir

Church Officers

The Session

Jack F. Heinsohn, Moderator	Robert McAndrew
Maynard S. Batchelder	Alexander C. McGill
Harry A. Cooper	Forrest L. Newton
John G. Creel	Ernie J. Parsons
Miles W. Dempsey	John J. Perpall, Jr.
Alex DiVita	John C. Roberts
William H. Eades	Robert E. Wages
J. L. Evans	R. W. (Pete) Webb
Larry G. Keeler	Robert S. Whitehead
Hazel H. Long	Joseph P. Wilson
Francis M. McCullough	Clarence W. Young
Elder Emeritus	E. S. Hobson

The Diaconate

Gus Muller, Chairman	John Priest, Co-Chairman
Charles J. Adams	Richard A. Hall
Michael A. Barker	Steve F. Hering
Lloyd Barnes	Kenneth L. Waite
Robert A. Barton	Carl Lanham
William A. Blackburn	Fred P. Meyer
Phillip M. Davis	James A. Razor
R. L. (Rob) English	Barry P. Shildneck, III
B. F. Gourley	Rod W. Vick

Congregational Officers

James W. Tysinger	Chairman
Floy Jumper	Treasurer
Barry P. Shildneck, III	Assistant Treasurer

The Sesquicentennial Committee  
would like to express its  
appreciation to the congregation  
and the many individuals who  
gave of their time and talent  
to make this a most special day  
in the life of our church.

Sesquicentennial Committee

Ruth Chapman  
Alice Chestnut  
Boyce Creel  
Alice Jones  
James Rabun  
Sara Strong

J.L. Evans,  
Chairman

D.H.D.  
Anshires

Churches - Presbyterian -  
Danville Associate Reformed  
Presbyterian Church

History of the  
Danville P.A.R.  
Denominational  
Presbyterian  
Church -  
1836 - 1886

Church was organized on August 14, 1836  
at the house of Samuel McCreary, Sr.  
(at the corner of Central Avenue & Buford  
Highway in Danville). On August 1, 1849  
Elder Joseph Stewart gave a parcel of  
land 18 rods square with right of way  
to the family spring for the location  
of the church building. That building  
was made of logs. The log house was  
replaced by a frame building with one  
glass window - directly behind the pulpit.

Danville Associate Reformed  
Presbyterian Church

D.H.D.  
Anshires

Board shutters removed for side windows, it light  
+ air filtered through the cracks in the sides  
+ roof on winter days, because the building  
was never ceiled. A box - like stove furnished  
comfort, not only for the worshippers on Sabbath,  
but for the covered wagons who used the church  
for an overnight camping place. \*The Atlanta  
Medical College, later to become part of Emory  
University Medical School, was started about 1854.  
Students were expected to furnish their own cadavers  
for anatomy studios, and had been nothing graves

\*  
note -

DHS  
Orelives

Doraville A. R.,  
Presbyterian Church

in the ~~city~~ city cemeteries until local police  
were alerted. In order to prevent such a practice  
in this rural area, a lighted lantern would  
be placed on a new grave every night for 2  
weeks while members of the seasons took  
turns watching the site from inside the  
small session house.  
Prosperity Church was used by the Methodists until  
they located a quarter of a mile down on Peachtree  
Road at the corner of N. Peachtree Road in  
Chamblee. This is the site of the Prospect Cemetery.

DHS  
Orelives

Doraville A. R.,  
Presbyterian Church

That church ultimately became the first  
Methodist Church of Chamblee, in the beginning  
the minister would come to Prosperity once  
each month, usually on the second Sabbath. On  
this monthly visit he often preached on Friday,  
attended to public examination (probably of  
the convert of members) on Saturday, with a  
Sermon following; then a sermon on Sabbath  
morning followed by a lecture in the afternoon.  
During the Civil War, the community was all  
but devastated by raiding parties from Sherman's  
army. When the war was over, the church members

History of  
Church



DH 3  
Declines

Dorville, A.R.  
Presbyterian

Again gathered for worship, the Communion tables were missing. It is supposed the order was used the word for drinking fires. In 1871 it was decided to move the church to its present site (at the corner of Central Ave. & Church Street in Dorville.) The land for the first building there, approximately one and a half acres, was given by Major John Y. Flowers. The new church was built in 1872. The old church building was sold to Elder David Clewett, out of which he built a substantial cotton gin house. Now Hope Church was organized in Dumwoody on Oct. 18, 1884 with 14 members from Prosperity.

History of  
Dorville

DH 3  
Declines

Dorville Associate  
Reformed Presby. Church

This church later disbanded, & all that remains today is a well-maintained cemetery located on Clambles - Dumwoody Road. In the 1880's the church dealt with problems of misconduct on the part of certain members of the congregation. These charges included fighting, use of profane language, intoxication & even adultery. The right to take communion was suspended until the erring member appeared before the Session or the congregation & declared repentance. The last occasion

History  
of  
church

DHS  
Oshkosh

Dewitt Associate  
Reformed Presby. Church

On which the Session was obliged to deal with  
such charges was in 1936. The name of the  
Church was changed from Prosperity to  
Dewitt in 1890.

<b>THE SESSION</b>			
Harry T. Schutte, Moderator		H. H. Long, Clerk	
John G. Stewart, Vice-Moderator			
J. D. Chestnut	W. V. Dodgen	G. R. Keller	J. T. McElroy
J. N. Cowan	W. R. Gregory	W. K. Kerr	C. R. Younts
<b>ELDERS EMERITUS</b>			
J. W. Brown	O. L. Cowan	J. C. McElroy	
<b>THE DIACONATE</b>			
<b>1953</b>		<b>1954</b>	
Sam Leslie, Chairman	E. S. Hobson	M. D. Chapman	
Stewart Creel	Walter Lundy	W. C. Gilbert	
Alex Cullen	J. C. Roberts	M. E. Kinnard	
<b>CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS</b>			
Alex Cullen, Chairman	John S. McElroy, Treasurer		Miss Rachel Pressly, Clerk
<b>TRUSTEES</b>			
Fred Brown, J. N. Cowan, George Walker			
<b>CEMETARY COMMITTEE</b>			
John C. Roberts, Mrs. A. F. White, W. L. Brown			
<b>THE SABBATH SCHOOL</b>			
J. D. Chestnut, Superintendent		J. R. Kinnard, Asst. Superintendent	
Miss Wilma Morris, Secretary		Stewart Creel, Treasurer	
<b>THE WOMEN'S SOCIETY</b>			
Miss Harriet Leslie, President		Mrs. Walter Lundy, Vice-president	
Mrs. J. S. Creel, Secretary		Mrs. J. Todd McElroy, Treasurer	
<b>THE CIRCLES</b>			
Circle No. 1.....	Mrs. Walter Lundy, Chairman		
Mary Gettys Circle.....	Mrs. W. K. Kerr, Chairman		
Circle No. 3.....	Miss Mary Grace Creel, Chairman		
<b>MEN'S FELLOWSHIP</b>			
W. L. Brown, President		G. R. Keller, Vice-president	
W. C. Spires, Secretary-Treasurer			
<b>YOUNG PEOPLE'S CHRISTIAN UNION</b>			
J. T. Morris, President		Miss Janet Chapman, Vice-president	
<b>MINISTRY OF MUSIC</b>			
W. Leslie Brown, Choir Director		Miss Harriet Leslie, Organist	
<b>CUSTODIAN OF THE LORD'S HOUSE</b>			
J. Todd McElroy			
<b>MEETINGS</b>			
Sabbath School.....	Every Sabbath at 10:00 A.M.		
Session.....	Monthly, on third Thursday at 8:00 P.M.		
Diaconate.....	Monthly, on call		
Men's Fellowship.....	Monthly, on fourth Friday at 7:00 P.M.		
Fishermen's Club.....	Second and Fourth Thursdays at 7:30 P.M.		
Sabbath School Teachers.....	First Tuesday at 8:00 P.M.		
Women's Society.....	First Monday in each quarter at 8:00 P.M.		
Circles: No. 1.....	First Monday at 3:00 P.M.		
Mary Gettys.....	First Thursday at 8:00 P.M.		
No. 3.....	First Thursday at 8:00 P.M.		
Christian Unions: Young People.....	Every Sabbath at 6:30 P.M.		
Intermediate.....	Second and Fourth Mondays at 3:00 P.M.		
Juniors.....	Second and Fourth Mondays at 3:00 P.M.		
Pioneers.....	Second and Fourth Mondays at 3:00 P.M.		
Choir Practice.....	Every Wednesday at 8:00 P.M.		



## Doraville Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

CENTRAL DRIVE AND CHURCH STREET

DORAVILLE, GEORGIA

HARRY T. SCHUTTE, *Minister of the Word*

TELEPHONE: CHAMBLEE 7-3731

"COME NOW, AND LET US REASON TOGETHER, SAITH THE LORD:  
THOUGH YOUR SINS BE AS SCARLET, THEY SHALL BE AS WHITE  
SNOW: THOUGH THEY BE RED LIKE CRIMSON, THEY SHALL BE AS  
WOOL."

"Behold how good a thing it is  
And how becoming well,  
Together such as brethren are  
In unity to dwell."

THANKSGIVING, NOVEMBER 27, 1952  
Morning Worship  
11:00 A.M.

"O Come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel  
before the Lord, our Maker".

The Prelude

\* The Call to Worship

\* A Song of Praise: "Praise Ye the Lord",  
Back Cover, vs. 1, 2, 4, 5

The Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

A Song of Thanksgiving: No. 303, vs. 1, 2, 3, 4

A Responsive Reading: Selection 16

A Silent Prayer of Gratitude

A Song of Praise: No. 301, vs. 1, 2, 3

The Word of God

The Thanksgiving Prayer

The Recognition Service for Elder J. Calvin McElroy

The Thanksgiving Offering

The Anthem

The Thanksgiving Message

\* A Song of Praise: No. 1, vs. 1, 2, 3, 4

\* The Benediction

\* The Congregation will please stand.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Three hundred and thirty-one years have passed since our Pilgrim forefathers first put aside their work to give God thanks for His many blessings. Could we be transported to that day and place, we would surely think they had little to be thankful for; but they were able to see the blessing of God in the smallest things, while often we are not able to see His blessing in the greatest of things. As we come today, let us approach the throne of grace with truly grateful hearts. Let us truly "come into his courts with thanksgiving, and into his gates with praise".

Among the many things we are deeply grateful to God for is the long life and blessed witness of His servant, J. Calvin McElroy. Born November 28, 1852, Uncle Calvin, the name by which he is beloved to us all, saw the early struggles of the congregation and this community through terrible war and more terrible reconstruction. He early became a leader both in church and community life, and by word and example he has continued to exert a great Christian influence to this day. For seventy-three years he has served as a ruling elder of this congregation, fifty-three years of which he served as clerk of the session. But his record is not one simply of length of service: it is one of wideness of service, and of depth of service. Calvin McElroy has been an instrument of God in the growth and preservation of this congregation. For his life we give God the praise and the glory, and we pray God's richest blessings upon him now, and forevermore.

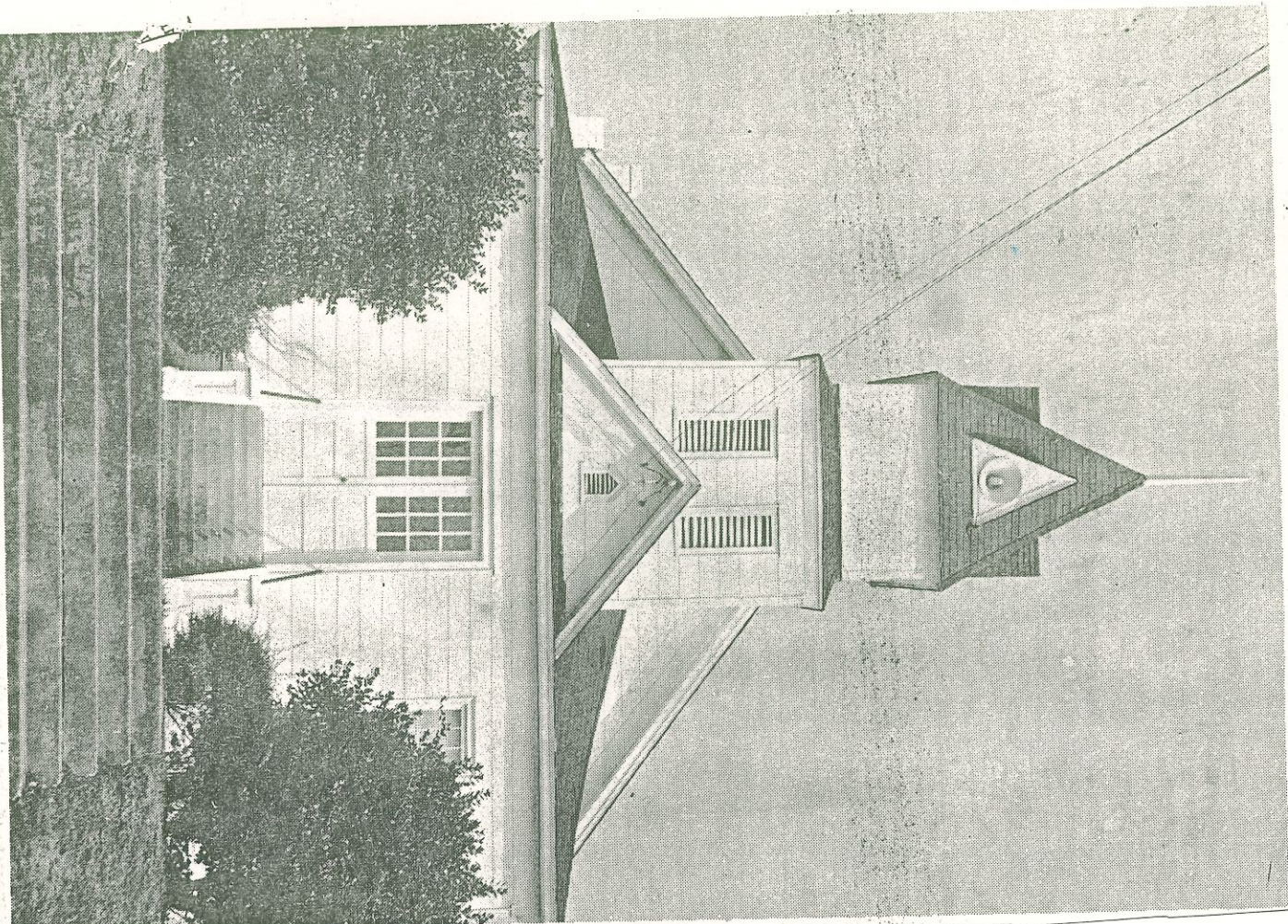
. . . . .  
We welcome our visitors and guests who worship with us today. You are invited to join the congregation in its annual Thanksgiving dinner in the Hut, immediately following the worship service.

. . . . .

Monday, July 22, 1963

TRI COUN

## Our North DeKalb Churches



One of the oldest churches in the North DeKalb area is Doraville A. R. Presbyterian, which was founded on August 11, 1836 by the Reverend Thomas Turner, in the home of Samuel T. McElroy, Sr. The 14 charter members were from five families who came to DeKalb County from Waxhaw in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, and from the Concord Community near Anderson, S. C. The church was moved to its present site in 1871 from its original location, which is Prosperity, the church cemetery. One of the distinctive features of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church was the belief in using Psalms exclusively in worship. This practice was followed until the General Synod decided in 1946 that Hymns might also be used. Membership of the church today is 350. The Reverend James H. Boyce is pastor, and Dr. R. S. Jones is chairman of the board of deacons.

DEED JOSEPH STEWART TO G.C. CAMPBELL, WILLIAM McELROY AND  
ROBT. P. JEFFERS, TRUSTEES.

STATE OF GEORGIA,  
DEKALB COUNTY.

This Indenture made this the first day of August in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and forty nine between Joseph Stewart of the said County and State of the first part, and Chesly G. Campbell, William McElroy, and Robert D. Jeffares, Trustees of the Ground and House of Worship of Prosperity, a Church in connection with the Associate Reformed Synod of the South, of the County and State aforesaid of the other part.

Witnesseth that the said Joseph Stewart for and in consideration of the Christian love and affection which he has and bears to the said Associate Reformed Church hath given, granted and conveyed and does of these presents give, grant, and convey unto the said Trustees and their successors in office, eighteen rods square of land, being 2 acres and 4 rods, for the express purpose of securing a site on which to build a house of worship for the use of and benefit of Prosperity Congregation, the site or situation of Said house to be on the North side of the Peachtree Road, and East of the Shallow Ford Road where it crosses the Peachtree Road, the said Peachtree Road to be one of the lines of Said Site on which to build Said House, the House to be about in the Centre of Said Square, with full liberty to use of the Spring some two or three hundred yards south of Said Site with rite of a road way to and from Said Spring, the Site, or lot 18 rods Square now described being a part of lot of land number three hundred and nine Situate, lying, and being the Eighteenth District of Origin Henry now DeKalb County containing two hundred two and one half acres more or less.

To have and to hold the Said 18 rods square above described for the purpose therein named unto them the Said Trustees and their Successor in office together with all and every singular the rights, members, and appertanances to the same in any manner belonging for the use and purpose afore named forever and in fee simple.

And the said Joseph Stewart for himself and his heirs, Executors and Administrators, the Said gifted premises unto the Said Trustees and their Successors in office will warrant and forever defend the right and title thereof against themselves and against the claims of all other persons whatever.

In testimony whereof the Said Joseph Stewart hath hereunto set his name and affixed his seal this day and year above written.

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of

Samuel McElroy  
John McElroy J.P.

Joseph Stewart (seal)

GEORGIA,  
DEKALB COUNTY.

CLERKS OFFICE,  
SUPERIOR COURT.  
Registered in Book L and page 578.  
December the 18th, 1849.  
R.M. Brown, Clerk.

At a Congregational Meeting of Prosperity Church it was ~~the~~ unanimously resolved that David Chesnut, Esq. be elected and appointed to fill a vacancy in the Board of Trustees of the Church Property of Prosperity Church occasioned by the death of Robert D. Jeffers, Member of Said Board.  
Done at Prosperity Church,  
DeKalb County, Ga.  
Sept. 1, 1852.

Rev. A.E. Ellis, Moderator,  
John McElroy, Clk.

At a Congregational meeting of Prosperity Church it was unanimously resolved that John T. Stewart be elected and appointed to fill a vacancy in the Board of Trustees of the Church Property of Prosperity Church occasioned by the ~~removal~~ removal of Chesly G. Campbell, Chairman of Said Board.

Done at Prosperity Church,  
DeKalb County, Georgia.  
August 1st. 1854.

Rev. A.E. Ellis, Moderator,  
John McElroy, Clk.

State of Virginia  
Dorset Co. County

Shew sheweth that the

The first day of August in the year of our Lord Eighteen hundred and forty nine between Joseph's Heirs of said County and State of the one part and Henry G. Campbell William W. McCoy and Robert D. Joffles Trustees of the ground and House of worship of Protestant Episcopal congregation with the appropriate Reformed Synod of the same of the County and State aforesaid of the other part.

Witnesseth that the said Joseph's Heirs for and in consideration of the sum of one one affection which he has and seems to the said Reformed Synod

has given granted and conveyed and does by these presents give granted and convey unto the said Trustees and their Successors in office eighteen rods square being 2 acres and 4 rods for the purpose of securing a site on which to build a house of worship for the use and benefit of Protestant Congregation the site or situation of said house to be on the north side of the Beach the road and east of the said four rods where it crosses the Beach the said site being three rods and to be one of the lines of said site on which to build said house with full liberty to use the adjoining 2 or 3 hundred yards south of said site with it to a narrow way to and from said place the site or lot of 18 rods square now divided being a part of lot of said number three

number one and six to be lying and being the E. to the District of Virginia Henry now Dorset Co. containing two acres and two rods and to hold the said 18 rods square above described for purposes therein named unto them the said Trustees and their Successors in office together with all and singular the rights members and appurtenances to the same in any manner belonging for the use and purpose before named forever in fee simple

To have and to hold the said 18 rods square above described for purposes therein named unto them the said Trustees and their Successors in office together with all and singular the rights members and appurtenances to the same in any manner belonging for the use and purpose before named forever in fee simple

21

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Protestant Episcopal Congregation of the County of Dorset



me in my name according for the we are paying  
before name of your in fee simple.

At a Congregation<sup>al</sup> meeting of Epworth Church  
it was unanimously resolved that David  
Bromst Agr be elected a squire to  
fill a vacancy in the board of trustees of  
the Church property of Epworth Church  
occasioned by the death of Robert D.  
Johnson said squire.  
Done at Epworth Church  
Diall County Georgia Sept 1st 1852.

Geo. St. G. McWhorter  
John McElroy & Co.

At a Congregation<sup>al</sup> meeting of Epworth  
Church it was unanimously resolved that  
John Stewart be elected a squire to  
fill a vacancy in the board of trustees of  
the Church property of Epworth Church  
occasioned by the removal of Robert D.  
Campbell Chairman of said board.  
Done at Epworth Church  
Diall County Georgia August 1st 1852.

Geo. St. G. McWhorter  
John McElroy & Co.

and the said Joseph Stewart for himself his heirs and  
executors and administrators the said gift or premises  
into the said trustees and their successors in office  
will warrant and forever defend the right and  
title thereof against them selves and against the  
claim of all other persons who have  
by testimony whereby the said Joseph Stewart  
made forecloses let his hand and affore said seal  
the day and year above written  
Gerald Barber and  
Deborah in presence of

Joseph Stewart

Samuel M. Eboys, Jr.

John M. Eboys, Jr.

Jo: Stewart,

To & Quod

G. Campbell & Wm. C. Croft  
& Robt. C. Jeffers

Georgia  
Cobb County  
Clerks Office  
Superior Court

Registered in Book  
I. & page 578

December the 18<sup>th</sup>  
1829

R. M. Brown  
Clerk

MRS. WIGGS.

J.C. McELROY } TRUSTEES  
J.A. SWICORD }  
J.W. CHESNUT }



SPRING WOODS S.S.

W.A. RAMSEUR.

S 1° 30' E. 18 Rods.

N. 1° 30' W. 18 Rods.

200' - 18 Rods -

PEACHTREE ROAD

PLAT OF

CEMETERY LOT

LYING IN LAND LOT 309,

18<sup>TH</sup> DIST., DEKALB Co., GA.

BELONGING TO

A.R.P. CHURCH

DORAVILLE, GA.

SCALE: 1"=50' - JAN. 30, 1912.

L. Flowers, Surveyor.

1985-4

McELROY TRUST

Stone

IRON PIN

Stone

Corner

IRON PIN

Stone Cor

Doraville Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

Sesquicentennial Celebration

Congregational Banquet

Saturday, August 16, 1986 7:00 pm

Perimeter Inn and Conference Center

Presiding

J. L. Evans

Invocation

Dr. Jack Heinsohn

Dinner

Introduction of Guests

Introduction of Speaker

Sara Strong

Speaker

James Mackay  
President, DeKalb Historical Society

Song

"Amazing Grace"

Amazing Grace -  
How sweet the sound -  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost,  
But now am found,  
Was blind, but now I see.

Closing Prayer

Rev. Robert McAndrew