“Together, Our Faith Has Endured”

Church Point

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Ester Hammond

And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations: ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.”

Exodus 12:14-KJV

CHURCH POINT NEWS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 1989

CENTENNIAL EDITION
help and encourage each other in our pilgrimage through life."

For 100 years the Methodist Church in Church Point has been striving to live out the catholic spirit that John Wesley, founder of Methodism, found to be an underlying principle of faith and practice.

As Christians, as people who believe in the redeeming death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ, we are all bound by common ties, and we reach out our hands to join our sisters and brothers that we - together - may bring our world to Christ.

Rev. Ester L. Hammond
Pastor, Ch. Point UMC

100 years of witness and service

"Is thine heart right, as my heart with thy heart?...If it be, give me thine hand." 2 Kings 10:15

"Is your heart right with God? Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, God of all, blessed for ever? Do you know Jesus and him crucified? Are you 'Walking' by faith, not by sight? Are you, through him, fighting the good fight of faith, and laying hold of eternal life? Is your heart right toward your neighbor? Do you love all mankind, even your enemies, without exception. Do you show your love by your works? If you are thus minded, your heart is right, as mine is with yours. If it be, then give me your hand.

I do not ask you to hold the same opinions I hold, or that you embrace my modes of worship. I ask that you love me, pray for me and encourage me to greater love of others and to good works. Then if our hearts are right with one another and with God, our hands can be joined as we

Hammond leads faithful

Rev. Ester Hammond, pastor of the United Methodist Church, was assigned to serve the church in 1987 and was re-assigned to serve for another year in 1988.

She is the first woman to serve in this capacity at the church.

Sister Ester came to Church Point after serving for six years as a missionary in Liberia, West Africa. Although not in a foreign country, she still serves as a missionary, not only pastoring the local church, but also the Methodist Church in Ville Platte and the church in Maxie, located near Iota.

The native of Bogalusa, La. who resided in Hammond for 20 years, began her studies to enter the ministry in 1970. After her husband passed away in 1972 she entered Southeastern State University in Hammond, graduated Magna Cum Laude in May 1976. She then entered Southern Methodist University in Dallas to acquire a Masters in Theology. After graduation, Rev. Hammond was ordained as an Elder in Full Connection in the Methodist Church. This was her goal when entering the ministry.

While at SMU she did an internship as a missionary for a year under the SMU Perkins Program. She enjoyed her work so much she decided to become a missionary.

For health reasons she gave up her missionary work and returned to the states.

Her mission work in Liberia began in June 1981. She taught English (See HAMMOND, Page 3)
Dr. Smith to give address

District Superintendent, Dr. Woodrow W. Smith of Lake Charles will be the guest speaker at the Centennial Celebration of the Church Point United Methodist Church which will be held on Sunday, April 23, 1989.

Dr. Smith was appointed District Superintendent of Lake Charles in June, 1984. He is in his fifth year.

The native of Hot Springs, Arkansas was educated at Southern Methodist University with A.B. degree, 1950; Perkins School of Theology, B.D. degree, 1952 and Wiley College, D.D. degree, 1978. He served eighteen and a half years in the Little Rock Annual Conference and seven years in the Texas Conference. In the Louisiana Conference: Board of Ordained Ministry President, Greater New Orleans Federation of churches, President, Calcasieu Ministerial Association, Lake Charles and president-elect, Perkins School of Theology Alumni Council.

He is the author of "The Twelve Who Walked in Galilee published by Fleming H. Revell Co.

Dr. Smith's hobbies are model boat building, camping and canoeing.

He is married to Mary Elizabeth Martin and they have four children.

The Church and community welcomes Dr. Smith to the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the local United Methodist Church.

From P-2

Rev. Hammond has three sons, Herbert of Colorado, Randy and Derwin of Bogalusa, seven grandchildren and one great grandchild.

The Congregation of the Church Point United Methodist Church, at 404 W. Plaquemine Street, their families, friends, past ministers and parishioners who have spent time in the Service of the Church have been invited to attend the Centennial of the Church.

The celebration has been planned for Sunday, April 23, 1989.

Registration and coffee at 9:30 a.m. in the church hall. A Commemorative Service will take place at 10:30 a.m. with a noon meal in the Woodmen of the World Hall on Keller Street.

Congratulations

UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

on your
Centennial Celebration, April 23, 1989.

Carole & Sandra Deshotel

DAIRY PRIDE

221 N. Bienvenue
Church Point
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The United Methodist Church is celebrating

100 YEARS
of Spiritual Guidance

We are proud to have you as part of our community

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Church’s history

The last decade of the 19th century witnessed the establishment of a Methodist Church for Church Point, Louisiana. The movement started in the year 1880 when the Rev. R. M. Blocker, who lived near the Branch community seven miles South of Church Point, made plans to hold a revival in the neighboring town. At that time he was serving a small church known as Plaquemine Brulee near Branch. The revival was to last for fourteen days. Because of transportation problems, Rev. Blocker and his family were guests in the home of Dr. and Mrs. Walter A. Jenkins for the two weeks meeting. There being no church, no building to shelter the congregation, interested families volunteered to provide shelter. A brush arbor was constructed on the property owned by the Evans brothers which was located on the North bank of Bayou Plaquemine. The brush arbor was a shelter consisting of rough posts with a skeleton roof onto which leafy tree branches were piled for protection against sun and rain.

Dr. and Mrs. Jenkins owned an organ and could provide accompaniment for singing. However, the organ could not be left in the brush arbor at the mercy of the weather. This problem was solved when Jerry Wimberley furnished a wagon to haul the organ from the Jenkins home to the arbor for each service.

The revival services were conducted nightly for two weeks. For the first time during these services, the music of old time Methodist hymns rolled out across Plaquemine Brulee prairies. As a result of the revival sixty-one persons united to establish a Methodist Episcopal Church South. A Sunday School was organized and met regularly each Sunday. A quarterly conference was held every three months with the Presiding Elder in charge. Some of the early families in the church were Childs, Evans, Fontenots, Harmonis, Jenkins, Sledges, Wilkins, Wimberleys and Youngs.

On April 24, 1891, one arpent of land was purchased from Valentine Breaux in the town of Church Point in Acadia Parish, Louisiana for the sum of $150.00 cash in hand. This site of land was to be used for a Church and cemetery. The Church was planned and built in 1891. Lumber for the Church building was from the Evans brothers sawmill near Lawtell and most of the labor was volunteered. The Church was built on the site of the present Methodist church, on what is now Plaquemine Street and served the congregation for fifty-six years. The Church was first heated by a coal burning stove and lighted with oil lamps; later gas and electricity were installed. A pump organ was replaced with a piano.

Services were conducted by ministers from surrounding towns. About 1955, a parsonage was built adjacent to the Church so that a full time minister could serve the congregation.

As we were - Members of the United Methodist Church gather on a Sunday, in front of the old church, which was located where the new brick church.

ON your 100th Anniversary!

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DEPARTMENT STORES

* Church Point
Breaux Bridge
* Home of the Buggy Festival
Oden serves as head of Conference

Bishop William B. Oden, Bishop of the Louisiana United Methodist Conference, was born August 3, 1935 in McAllen, Texas and graduated of the Louisiana United Methodist Philosophy), Harvard University (M. Div.) and Boston University (Th.D.). He was elected to the episcopacy in 1988 and assigned to the Louisiana Area.

He served as a delegate to four General Conferences and six Jurisdictional Conferences, leading the Oklahoma clergy delegation in 1984 and 1988. He was a member of the Jurisdictional Committee on the Episcopacy for eight years.

Bishop Oden was a member of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (1980-88). He has served on the faculty to train new ministers in United Methodist since 1984, continuing in that position as a representative of the Council of Bishops. He also serves on the General Commission on Christian Unity and Ecumenical Concerns.

Before his election to the episcopacy, he served in Oklahoma as pastor of First United Methodist Church in Enid (1963-68), Crown Heights in Oklahoma City (1969-76) and Aldersgate in Oklahoma City (1963-69). He chaired three Oklahoma Conference Boards: Ordained Ministry, Evangelism and Higher Education. Other Conference leadership included chairing the Commission on Structure and the Task Force on Ministry to Ministers, as well as serving as Dean of Ministers’ Week. He was a member of the Governor’s Blue Ribbon Commission on Government Reform, co-chairing the Committee on City-State Government Relations.

During his last ten years as a pastor, he was on the faculty of Phillips Graduate Seminary, where he taught courses in preaching, worship and spiritual formation. He has been speaker for numerous Schools of Christian Mission, Jackson Lecturer at Perkins School of Theology and Visiting Preacher for Boston University School of Theology. He is a trustee of two United Methodist related colleges in Louisiana: Centenary College in Shreveport and Dillard University in New Orleans. In 1980, he received an honorary doctorate (D.D.) from Oklahoma City University.

He is the author of three books: Worded: Evangelism in Biblical/Wesleyan Perspective, Liturgy as Life-Journey and Oklahoma Methodism in the Twentieth Century. He has also been a contributor to a number of theological journals and devotional guides, including Quarterly Review, Upper Room Disciplines and Alive Now.

Former pastor to be here for event

Rev. Daniel R. Deen, former pastor of the United Methodist Church, preached his farewell sermon on Sunday, June 2, 1974. He served the church for four years.

When Rev. Deen and his wife the late, Mrs. Deen, left from here for Natchitoches.

He is presently retired and plans to be here to attend the Centennial Celebration.

Rev. Deen’s daughter, Mrs. Jerry (Becky) Thibodeaux resides in Church Point with her husband and children.

Pastors 1889-1989

To the present time thirty-eight ministers have served the United Methodist Church of Church Point.

When the church was founded in 1889, Rev. R. M. Blocker served as the first pastor until 1892.

United Methodist Women: A vital part of the Methodist Church

The Church Point unit of United Methodist Women is proud to be a part of our organization of more than one million women that reaches around the globe in attaining our threefold purpose, which is:

1. To know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ.
2. To develop a creative, supportive fellowship.
3. And to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

We are an integral part of the Church, yet reach beyond the church conference askings to sponsor projects of our own on the local, national and world levels.

Here in Louisiana alone we sponsor four major projects; Dulac Community Center in Dulac; Mac Donnel United Methodist Children's Services in Houma; Peoples Community Center and St. Marks Community Center in New Orleans.

As early as 1869, Methodist Women, who were concerned about hunger, poverty, education and medical care, organized to meet the needs in these areas. At a time when the roles of women were extremely rigid, our forerunners founded schools, built hospitals, supported missionaries and worked untiringly to abolish child labor, reduce illiteracy and reform prisons.

We, as United Methodist Women continue this tradition of social action, lay ministries and service. Spiritual renewal and self development are important parts of our efforts.

On April 23, 1989 we will be celebrating one hundred years of Methodism in Church Point, however, our earliest record of an organized women's group here is in 1934, fifty-five years ago. At that time, twenty three women organized the Women's Missionary Society with Mrs. Carl Barham, the minister's wife, as president. Two of the charter members, Stella Harmon and Mary Lou Young are still active in the organization.

In 1940, the name was changed to Women's Society of Christian Service (WSCS). Later, with the merger of the Methodist and United Brethren Churches, the name was changed to United Methodist Women (UMW).

Funds for the UMW came chiefly from individual pledges and special offerings. Except for local funding, most monies are channeled through our Lake Charles District Treasurer and on to National Headquarters for distribution to mission work worldwide.

Once a year, in January, we observe United Methodist Women's Day. On that Sunday, the women have complete charge of the morning worship service. Other special observances include, "A Call to Prayer and Self Denial", "World Day of Prayer", and "World Thank Offering". We also participate in District and State events when possible, these include Leadership Training, Retreats, Quiet Days and Conferences.

At present, we have 17 members and meet on the second Wednesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. Meetings are generally held in member's homes, but occasionally in the church. An informative program is presented followed by a business session.

Officers for 1989 are: Dorothy Dunbar, president; Stella Harmon, vice-president; Sally Lafosse, secretary; Lena Wilson, treasurer.

Committee Chairman: Audrey Dunbar, Christian Personhood; Sally Lafosse, Supportive Community; Mary Lou Young, Christian Involvement; Isabelle Daigle, Christian Global Concerns; Louise Olivier, Membership; June Chandler, Program Material; Ethel Breaux, Isabelle Daigle and Mary Lou Young, Nominations.

United Methodist Women

 Congratulations

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH on your 100th Celebration

The Centennial Celebration is definitely a Historic Event.

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Congratulations

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH on your Centennial Celebration, April 23, 1989

MIKE WILLIAMS, M.D.
814 S. Broadway
Church Point 684-6312

“Best Wishes”
United Methodist Church
on your 100th year

April 23, 1989

We Are Happy
To Extend Our
Congratulations

United Methodist Church on your Centennial Celebration April 23, 1989.

Through the unity of this celebration the Spirit of our town is kept alive.

Farmers State Bank & Trust
Main Office 684-3301
110 W. Plaquemine St.

Branch Office 684-3321
250 S. Main St.
Memories out of past

The organized Methodist Church in America (1784) was the result of nearly two decades of dedicated effort by Methodist laity and lay preachers who had immigrated from Great Britain in 1766.

To celebrate this historic beginning, a celebration was held in Baltimore, Maryland on April 21-24, 1966.

A former Church Point Methodist Minister, Dan Tohline, was a part of this Commemorative Re-enactment named "Saddlebags East". Dressed as a circuit riding preacher, he was one of twelve ministers from all sections of the United States who rode horseback to Baltimore. Reverend Tohline began his forty-six day journey from Vidalia, La. and rode a distance of 1300 miles using two Appaloosa horses.

A well planned itinerary was worked out in advance to avoid any problems along the way. Cliff Jester, a resident of the Hathaway Community, drove ahead in a truck towing a two horse trailer and alerted persons along the route of the approximate time Dan would reach their town. At the beginning of the journey, the horses were replaced several times a day.

The basic schedule was a 40 mile ride per day Monday through Friday and only 20 miles on Saturday; no traveling was done on Sunday. During the week, Methodist Ministers along the way provided accommodations for Rev. Tohline and Mr. Jester and furnished lodging for the horses. Weekends were spent in motels.

Each day Rev. Tohline distributed small copies of the Book of Romans as he spoke to groups in schools, churches, parking lots and on courthouse steps. Every night he preached in a Methodist Church and delivered the Sunday sermon in each town where he spent the weekend.

Dan's wife, Veda (Duff), taught at Church Point High in 1947-1950 and later came back as minister's wife. When asked why she did not accompany her husband on this history making mission, she replied, "we had three teen-agers at the time and I just enjoyed being the "boss" for six weeks."