

Fiftieth Anniversary
of the
Simpsonville Presbyterian Church

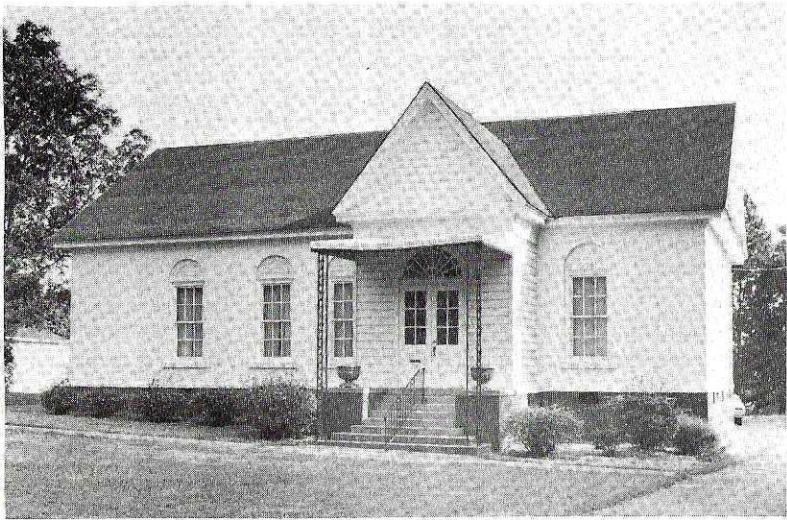


1922

1972



Fiftieth Anniversary
of the
Simpsonville Presbyterian Church



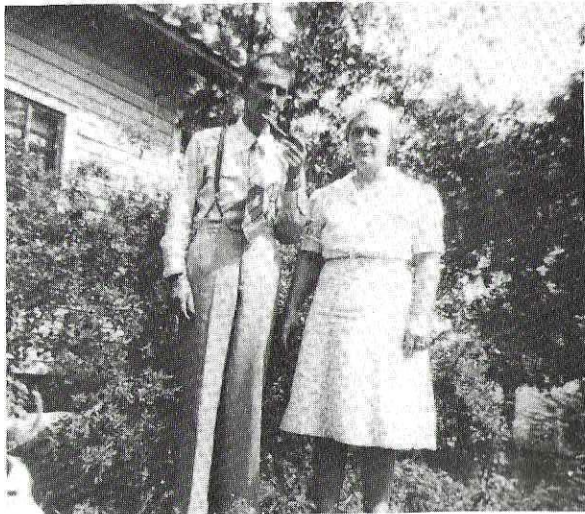
Church Built 1926

"And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

-Matthew 16:18-19

Until 1922, there were only about ten or twelve persons at Simpsonville who claimed affiliation with Presbyterian churches in other places. These few would have been pleased to have had a place to worship in Simpsonville, but there seemed to be no leader among them. It remained for the Reverend J. K. Roberts, Superintendent of extension work in the Enoree Presbytery to bring together the Presbyterians. In October 1922, the Simpsonville Presbyterian Church was organized by a commission of Enoree Presbytery, composed of the following ministers: Reverend R. K. Roberts, Reverend R. C. Morrison, Reverend J. M. McCord, Reverend J. G. Walker; and ruling elders: W. M. Stenhouse of the Reedy River Church and A. S. Peden of the Fountain Inn Church.

Reverend J.K. Roberts presided. Reverend R.C. Morrison preached to the small gathering; his text was Matthew 16:18-19.



Mrs. & Mrs. A. D. Stenhouse, Charter Members
Mr. Stenhouse was first Secretary & Treasurer of the Sunday School from 1922 to 1928. He was the first clerk of the session. Mr. Stenhouse deceased 1952. Mrs. Stenhouse deceased 1969.



Mrs. A. S. Kilgore, Charter Member
Of the twelve charter members, Mrs. A. S. Kilgore and Mrs. Furman Smith are the only ones now living. Mrs. Furman Smith moved her membership elsewhere. Mrs. A. S. Kilgore is still an active member.

There were twelve charter members: W.H. Bozeman, Sr., Mrs. W.H. Dillard, Dr. J. W. Dupree, Mrs. R. P. Gaines, A. M. Kilgore, A.S. Kilgore, Mrs. A. S. Kilgore, Mrs. Furman Smith, A.D. Stenhouse, Mrs. A. D. Stenhouse, G. D. Young, Mrs. G. D. Young.

The elected officers W.H. Bozeman, Sr., A. D. Stenhouse, G. D. Young, A. S. Kilgore, A.M. Kilgore, and Dr. J. W. Dupree. The officers were ordained and installed after which the organization was declared to be a duly constituted church. The meeting of the Presbyterian group was held in the Simpsonville High School building for three years after the founding.

One of the great privileges that the young church enjoyed was that of having the Reverend R. C. Morrison, now deceased, serve as supply. He was an able preacher and at that time was pastor of the Fountain Inn Presbyterian Church. The Reverend Mr. Morrison was succeeded by the Reverend D. C. Stogner of Roberdell, North Carolina. In May 1923, he began serving as the first pastor of the church. He is now deceased.



REVEREND D. C. STOGNER

*First Pastor of Simpsonville Presbyterian Church,
served as its pastor from May 1923-1941. Deceased in
1969.*



MRS. D. C. STOGNER

*Wife of Reverend D.C. Stogner, first pastor of
Simpsonville Presbyterian Church*

Additional members added to the roll during
Reverend Stogner's pastorate:

August 22, 1966

Mr. James M. Latimer,
Simpsonville, S.C.
29681

Dear James:

I am enclosing a list of those who were members of the Simpsonville Church during my tenure. Of course, they were not all members at the same time, but did affiliate with the church during my pastorate.

You might like to note that J. Furman Richardson donated the lot on which the church building was erected. What became of the drawings of the auditorium that was some day to be added to the present building, I don't know. I left them with those in office at the time of my retirement. Casey & Fant of Anderson were the architects.

Should there be any way that I can help you further, feel free to call upon me. I hope that the enclosed roll is what you wanted and is correct.

Come to see us, we are not always away. Old age is creeping upon us, and slowing us down and forcing us to be home-bodies.

Sincerely,

s/ D.C. Stogner

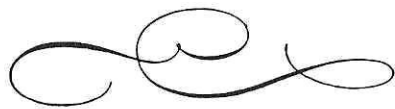
Mrs. T. C. Alexander	Robert Painter
Mr. J. D. Armstrong	John Painter
Mrs. J. D. Armstrong	Jack Painter
Mrs. W. F. Ashmore	Evelyn Painter
Miss Thelma Ashmore	Connie Painter
Mr. Wallace Balcombe	J. Furman Richardson
Mrs. Wallace Balcombe	Mrs. W. R. Smith
Mrs. R. L. Henry	Nell Woodside Smith
Robert Henry	Willie Roberta Smith
Donald Henry	Furman Smith
Mr. J. M. Latimer	Carl Smith
Mrs. J. M. Latimer	Marvin Smith
Mrs. R. R. Locaby	Mr. C. C. Stewart
Mr. G. S. Penn	Mrs. C. C. Stewart
Mrs. G. S. Penn	Eugenia Stewart
Mr. W. W. Plowden	Grace Stewart
Mrs. W. W. Plowden	DeWitt Stenhouse
William McKay Plowden	Mrs. D. D. Stogner
Mary Jean Plowden	Anabel Stogner
Susie Louise Plowden	D. C. Stogner, Jr.
James Douglas Plowden	Rachel Stogner
George Whitfield Plowden	Miss Hazel Thackston
Mr. H. L. Painter	T. T. Thomas
Mrs. H. L. Painter	Mr. J. L. Woodside
Draper Painter	Mrs. J. L. Woodside

In November 1926, a contract for a brick veneer church building was let and construction immediately began. J. Furman Richardson donated the lot on which the church building was erected. Mr. Reid Jones was the church builder. On May 30, 1927, the new church home was occupied.

Fifteen hundred dollars was contributed by the Enoree Presbytery and the members and their friends raised about two thousand dollars. The remaining two thousand dollars was borrowed. This debt was reduced annually until it was paid in full in 1937.



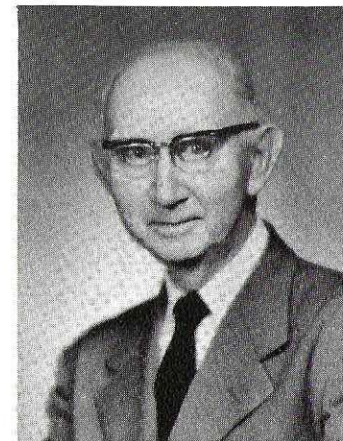
Mrs. Connie Whiteside, Chairman of Fiftieth Anniversary Committee, Rev. and Mrs. W. W. Preston, Mrs. Arnold Kilgore, Charter Member, looking at the original Bible donated by Miss Sue Scott.



The furnishings of the new church were received from various sources. The pulpit Bible was presented by Miss Sue Scott. It was formerly the family Bible in her father's home. The piano was furnished by Mr. and Mrs. A.S. Kilgore. The benches were donated by the Clear Springs Baptist Church. The seats were made from native pine, and fastened together by wooden pegs and handmade nails. They anti-date the Civil War.



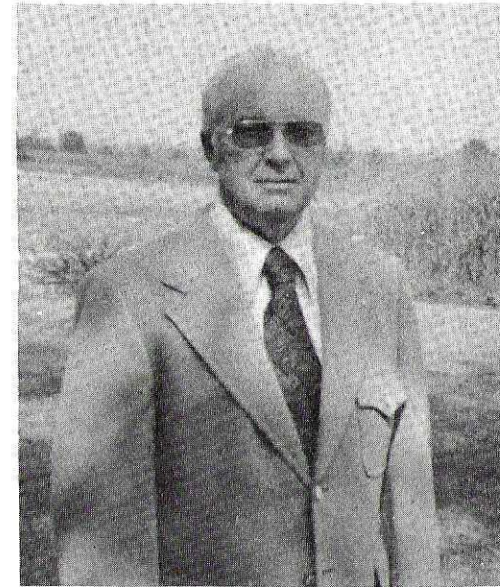
Mrs. Virginia Alexander
Mrs. Alexander was elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Sunday School in 1928, and is still serving until this date for a total of forty-four years of continuous service in this position.



DR. E. D. PATTON
Served twice as supply pastor. From July 1942 to September 1944. He served again from August 1949 to 1957.



The Reverend L. L. Barr served as pastor from September 1944 to August 1949. He is now deceased.



REVEREND C. O. GAHAGAN

Served as pastor of Simpsonville Presbyterian and Lickville Presbyterian Churches from September 1959 to October 1962.



REVEREND WILLIAM P. MCKINNON

Pastor of Simpsonville Presbyterian Church and Lickville Presbyterian Church from March 1957 to March 1959.

There were several supply pastors from 1962 until 1970. They were: Reverend J. K. Johnston, Webster Curry, Reverend Paul Gresham (deceased), Reverend W. H. Dendy, Reverend W. T. King, Reverend Vernon A. Crawford, Reverend Fred T. Mc Gill, Reverend Eulus Thomas, Gabriel Abdullah of Jacksonville, Florida, Reverend William H. Meyers, Lt. Colonel United States Air Force, (Retired).

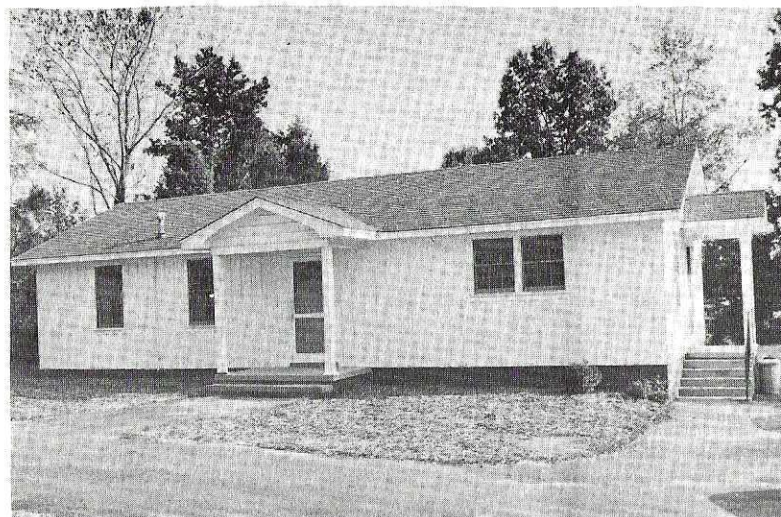
In 1967, a Hammond organ was bought with an organ fund, and the difference was to be paid from the church treasury in memory of Mr. A. S. Kilgore.

The first manse was purchased in 1957, and sold in 1959, and a manse next door to the church was purchased from Mr. and Mrs. J. Dewitte Stenhouse in 1959, and is still the present manse. In 1956, an extra lot was bought joining the manse property in the Poinsettia Subdivision.



PRESENT MANSE

The church was renovated inside in 1968 for approximately \$11,500.00. The outside structure of the building remains the same today. The Church was airconditioned in 1970 for approximately \$3,200.00. It has always met its benevolent quota thus making its influence felt throughout the world.



FELLOWSHIP BUILDING

Built in 1958, and was paid for upon completion by donations of members and from the church treasury.



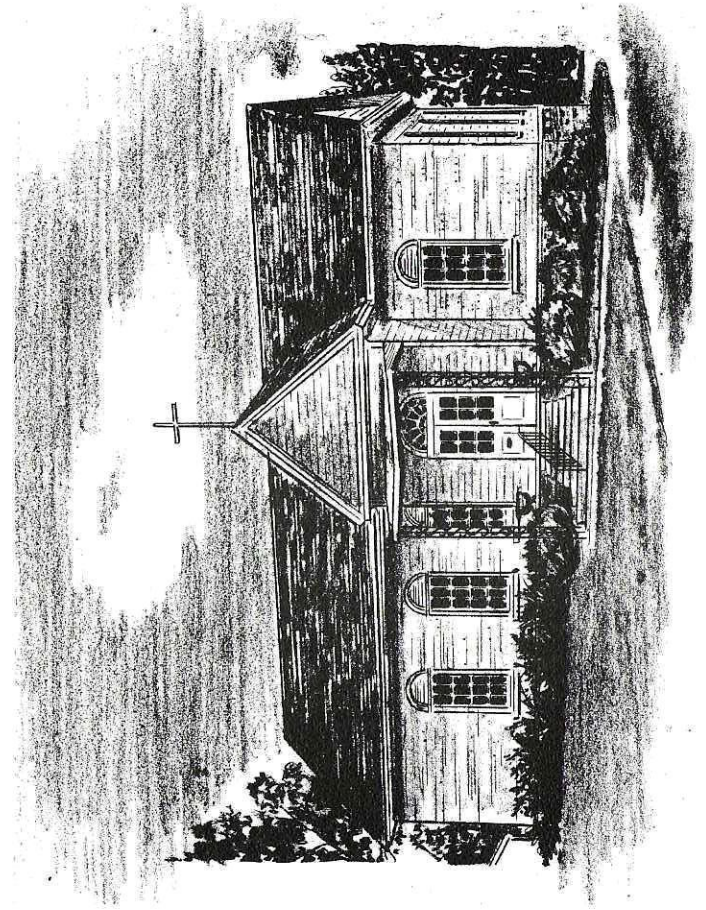
Reverend and Mrs. W. W. Preston singing a song in Portuguese.



*Reverend W. W. Preston
Present pastor of Simpsonville Presbyterian and
Third Presbyterian Church of Greenville, 1970 to date*

Reverend W. W. Preston was called to serve the Simpsonville Presbyterian Church and the Third Presbyterian Church of Greenville, South Carolina, in December 1970. He resides at the manse of the Third Presbyterian Church, 121 West Mountain View Avenue, Greenville, South Carolina.

Although the membership is small compared to most churches, the per capita giving is as good or better than average.



SIMPSONVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OCTOBER 29, 1972

New Members received during present pastorate:

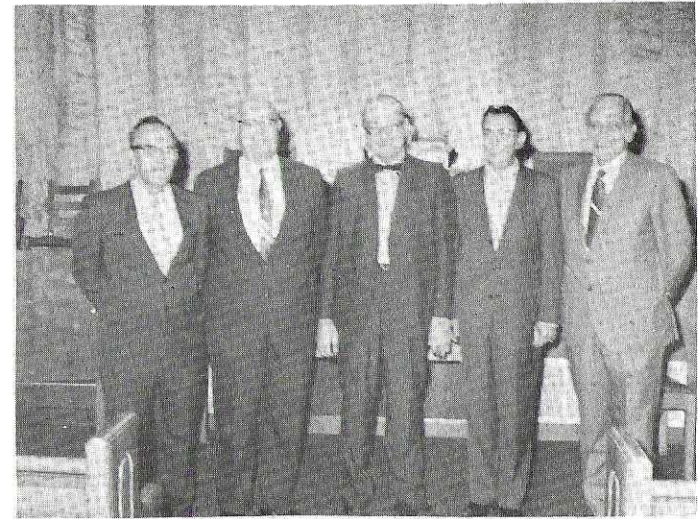
Mr. Ronald Carson
Mrs. Ronald Carson
Mrs. John Cooper
Mr. Phillip Dodson
Mrs. Phillip Dodson
Mr. William Hendrix, III
Miss Sandra King
Mr. Larry Mahaffey
Mrs. Larry Mahaffey

Mr. Phillip Price
Mrs. Phillip Price
Miss Leesa Price
Eddie Price
Dr. Guy Snow
Terry Watson
Mr. Milton Wright
Mrs. Milton Wright

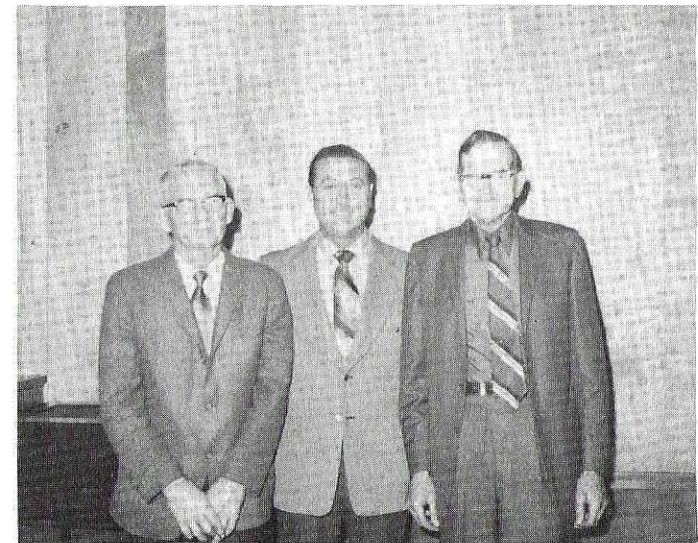


*Mrs. Arnold Kilgore and Mrs. Donna Price
prepare for Children's Choir*

There have been four clerks of the session:
Mr. A. D. Stenhouse; Mr. George S. Penn; Mr. A. S.
Kilgore, and Mr. James M. Latimer, present clerk.



ELDERS OF SIMPSONVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Mr. Dewitte Stenhouse, Mr. James M. Latimer, Mr. Jack
Jack Painter, Mr. Herbert A. Johnson, Rev. W. W.
Preston.



DEACONS OF SIMPSONVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Mr. Joe Cooper Mr. Boyce Watson Mr. Guy Whiteside
Secretary Chairman Treasurer of the
Church



STEERING COMMITTEE

Front Row, left to right: Mrs. Connie Whiteside, Mrs. Arnold Kilgore, Mrs. W. W. Preston, Mrs. Dot Watson, Mrs. Donna Price.

Back Row: Mr. Guy Whiteside, Mr. James M. Latimer, Reverend W. W. Preston, Mr. Boyce Watson, Mr. Philip Price.



50th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Front Row, left to right: Mrs. Connie Whiteside, Mrs. Dot Watson, Mr. Philip Price. Back row: Mr. Guy Whiteside, Reverend W. W. Preston, Mr. James M. Latimer, Mr. Boyce Watson

"May we ever be mindful that the blessings we do so bountifully enjoy have come to us by God's hand, and through the sacrificial struggle of those who kept the church alive during the dark days."