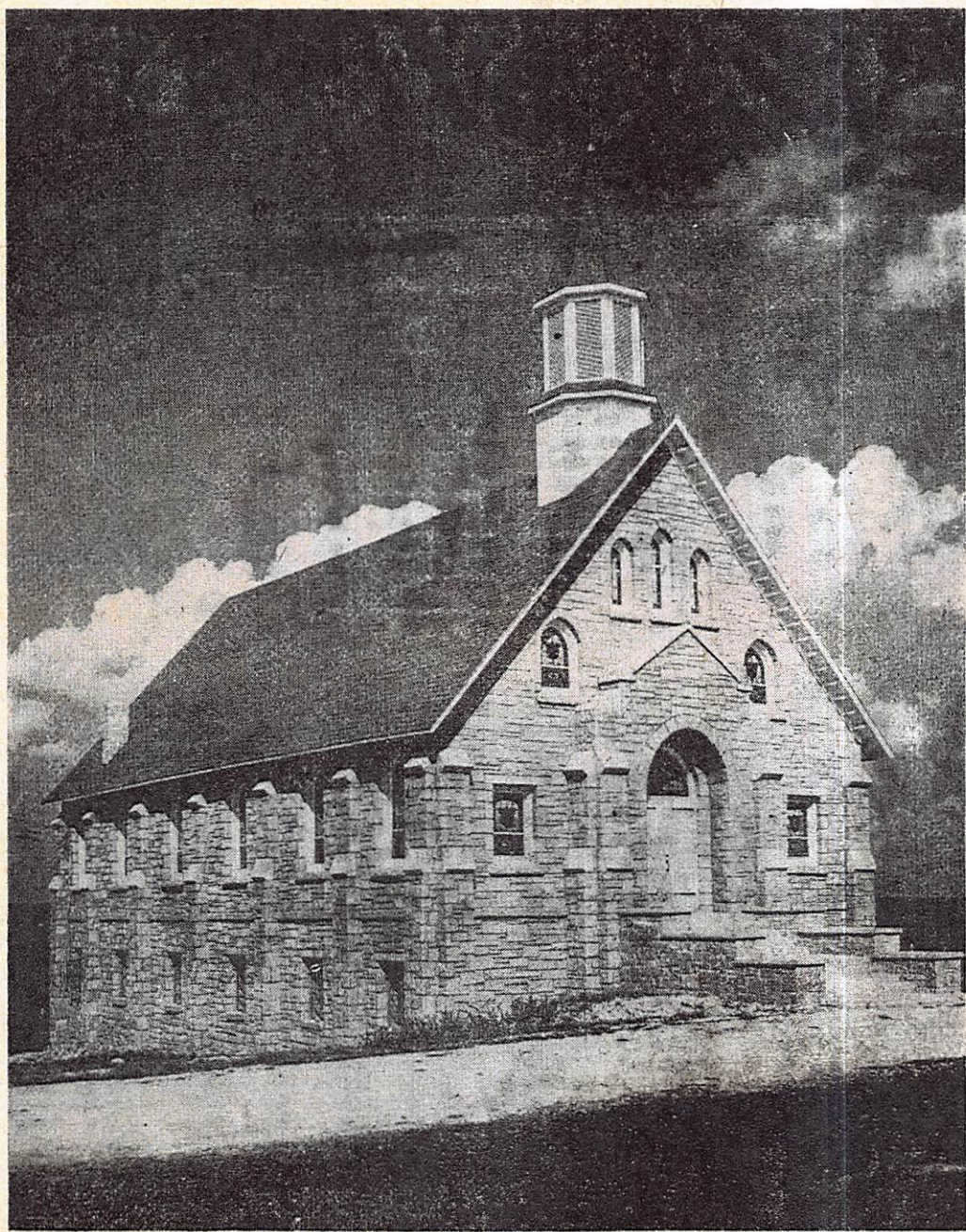


## Home-Coming and Formal Opening of Greenbrier Methodist Church Is Set for Sunday, July 25th



The members of the Greenbrier Methodist church are looking happily forward to the occasion toward which they have worked for two years. This is the formal opening of the new church and the home-coming event which will take place Sunday morning, July 25, beginning at 11 o'clock.

The small congregation of 86 members, along with friends, completed the structure at a cost of approximately \$40,000. The Greenbrier church was selected as

"The Most Beautiful Rural Methodist Church in South Carolina" and is being shown on television stations in Columbia, Charleston and Greenville.

Former members and friends are invited to attend the home-coming and formal opening, Sunday, July 25, 11 a.m. There will be a picnic lunch after services, according to an announcement by the pastor, the Rev. J. Sherwood Davis. Each family is requested to bring a picnic basket and tea.

# Bishop to Dedicate the Greenbrier Methodist Church on Sunday, Dec. 8



**BISHOP NOLAN B. HARMON**

On Sunday, December 8, at 11 a.m., Bishop Nolan B. Harmon will preach at Greenbrier Methodist Church and dedicate this lovely church building. Assisting him will be Dr. E. E. Glenn, District Superintendent of the Rock Hill District of The Methodist Church; the Reverend J. Sherwood Davis and Dr. H. L. Kingman, former pastors; and the Reverend W. H. Chandler, present pastor. Dinner will follow the morning service and an informal afternoon service will be held.

It has been difficult to compile a history of the Greenbrier church. However, the late T. C. Camak, writing from "Mossy Dale" in The News and Herald (date not given), recalls what he could of "the founding and early history of Greenbrier Church" as follows:

"In 1877, there were a few Methodist families in the vicinity of what is now the thickly settled Greenbrier Community, and there being no church within the area of 12 miles, the Rev. J. M. Boyd, who was serving the Fairfield Charge, conceived the idea of organizing a church somewhere between Bethel and Winnsboro, and there already being a Sunday School meeting in a small log house just in front of where the Church now stands, and when the Rev. W. W. Duncan (afterwards Bishop) visited Bethel, Mr. Boyd had him to preach in the little school house above mentioned, and at that meeting, a church building was discussed. Soon, a Building Committee was appointed, and Mr. James Madison Curlee, Sr., was asked to sell a lot, which he refused to do, but gave two acres free of charge. The Building Committee, of which Capt. Henry Padgett was Chairman, began to look around for lumber, but there being no portable saw mills, they were forced to buy Mac Bookman's flour mill which was built of very fine lumber, but in taking it down, a good bit of it was rendered useless.

"The Charter Members, as I can recall them at this late date, were Henry Padgett and wife, Charles Broom and wife, Sam Broom and wife, Thomas Hobbs

and wife, Bob Camak and wife, T. C. Camak and wife, Mrs. Jessie Dellaney, Mrs. Craig, and Mrs. Capt. John Lyles." (Another informant adds: "and the children of these, who were old enough to join.")

The Misses Nelson and T. W. Ruff, Sr., and mother joined about the first and made devoted members.

"No record of who dedicated the church, but I remember who named it. Major Woodward, having contributed 100 dollars toward the erection of the building, was given the right by a majority of the members to name the church and he called it Greenbrier. Space won't allow me to tell why he said Greenbrier. I may do so at another time."

Concerning the naming of the Church, someone else adds: "Because the place was thickly overgrown with the evergreen bramble some call bamboo vine."

It is said that "the lumber from the mill was hauled by Mr. Padgett from a place several miles back of the Fridy home (Bethel) near Cedar Creek."

The Fairfield Circuit appears to have been comprised of seven churches in 1858, as follows: Monticello, Cedar Creek, Mt. Pleasant, Union, Bethel, Shiloh, and Pine Grove. In 1860 Winnsboro was added, making the eighth church. The Winnsboro church was organized in 1808.

In 1878 the Winnsboro church was taken off the Fairfield Circuit and made a station appointment. Fairfield Circuit then consisted of the following churches: Bethel, Cedar Creek, Monticello, Shiloh, Pine Grove, and Greenbrier. In that year, Greenbrier is listed as the "smallest church" on the Fairfield Circuit.

The date when the Winnsboro church and Greenbrier were constituted as a charge was 1892. In 1898, according to the deed recorded in the Fairfield County Court House, these two churches purchased a house on Zion Street, in Winnsboro, for twelve hundred dollars, to serve as a parsonage.

The Church which replaced the one built from the flour mill lumber served until 1954.

In 1949, which was the last year of the Reverend T. C. Cannon's ministry, a building fund was begun. Contributions continued steadily during the pastorate of the late Reverend George K. Way, from 1949 until 1951.

In 1951 the Reverend J. Sherwood Davis was appointed to serve the charge. The following year steps were taken toward beginning the construction of the new church on a lot donated by J. Roy Robinson, of Winnsboro, and located directly across the road from the old church. Ground-breaking services were held in June of 1952. According to E. C. Blair, who was treasurer of the building fund at that time, approximately \$15,000.00 had been raised by the time construction was begun. Most of the actual construction took place during 1953 and early 1954. The local chapter of The American Bible Society

held its meeting in the new church on October 4, 1953. The formal opening service was held on July 25, 1954.

The beautiful Greenbrier church is a monument to the love and labors of so many people — pastors, the building committee, members, former members, and friends, for all of these had a significant part. There were, for example, some men who gave many hours of skilled labor, as well as their money. By vote of the congregation, two plaques have been placed in the church — one over the entrance to the fellowship hall, which designates it the "Ernest P. Blair Fellowship Hall," and the other in the vesti-

pastor under whose leadership church was built, the Reverend J. Sherwood Davis, and the building committee; W. M. Estes, chairman; L. B. Lewis, E. P. F. L. B. Robinson, H. H. Castles, Blair.

In 1955 the Reverend W. Chandler came to serve in charge. In the fall of 1955 an individual donor had steel steps landing erected at the rear of church. During the church 1955-56 the church paid \$1,800 toward the final indebtedness. During 1956-57 the final indebtedness of \$1,148.00 was paid.

During the past several months an extensive program of improvements to the cemetery ground and site of the old church has been placed, at a cost of more than

\$1,600.00. This included the erection of a stone fence, the moving of iron fencing, and enlargement of the cemetery grounds. Additional land for these purposes had been given by J. Roy Robinson and the late Herbert L. Castles. The Cemetery Committee which carried out this program of improvements, was composed of W. H. Blair, Frank L. Lewis, W. E. Stewart, Sr. They had valuable assistance from W. M. Estes, Jr. R. W. Rutland has donated a marker to designate site of the former building.

We have also purchased hardwood boards. And our most recent project is the installation of carpeting, at a cost of \$1,439.00. WSCS has contributed \$600.00 toward the carpet. It is generally understood that purchase of organ will be the next project.

The Greenbrier Church is valued at \$45,000.00. Congratulations are in order to this courageous congregation of less than a hundred active members.

It is believed that only six former pastors are now living. They are the Reverends J. D. Howell, L. A. Carter, T. C. Cannon, I. Kingman, H. B. Hardy, and J. Sherwood Davis.

## Revival Services Begin at Greenbrier Methodist Church



**REV. R. L. HOLROYD**

Revival services will begin at Greenbrier Methodist Church, Rt. 3, on Sunday evening, June 8, and continue through Friday evening, June 13, according to an announcement by the Rev. W. H. Chandler, pastor of the church. Services will begin each evening at 8 o'clock.

The Reverend R. L. Holroyd, pastor of Bethel Methodist Church, Chester will be the guest preacher. Mr. Holroyd is well known in the Winnsboro community, having served once as presiding Elder of the Rock Hill District of The Methodist Church.

The public is cordially invited to attend these services.

# Greenbrier Methodist Church Dedicated Dec. 8 1957



By Kathleen Lewis Sloan  
Greenbrier Methodist Church, near Winnsboro, was dedicated at 11 a.m. Sunday by Bishop Nolan B. Harmon of Charlotte, N. C. The building was presented for dedication by W. M. Estes, Jr., chairman of the building committee, in the absence of W. E. Stewart, Sr.

In the Methodist church, a sanctuary is not dedicated until it is fully cleared of debt.

Presiding over the services during the morning and afternoon was the Rev. W. Harry Chandler, pastor.

Several hundred people attended, including former members and friends from over the state, and were served dinner in the Ernest Blair Fellowship Hall by the women of the church.

Taking part on the program, in

addition to the pastor, were Dr. E. E. Glenn, superintendent of the Rock Hill district, of which Greenbrier is a part; and the Rev. J. Sherwood Davis, former pastor, under whom the actual construction was begun in 1952. Dr. Adlai C. Holler, editor of the South Carolina Methodist Advocate was also present.

Other special guests included Mrs. George K. Way of Columbia, whose husband, the late Rev. Mr. Way, was pastor when the building program began; Mrs. Nolan Harmon, Mrs. E. E. Glenn, Mrs. Sherwood Davis and Mrs. Adlai Holler.

Members of the building committee, in addition to Mr. Estes, were Lunce B. Lewis, E. P. Blair, L. B. Robinson, H. H. Castles and E. C. Blair.

The dedication of the blue

granite church, built of native, Fairfield stone, which is valued at \$45,000, was conceived and culminated within six years by the small congregation of less than 100 people.

It is fully equipped, has adequate church school rooms, kitchen and dining space, and a large sanctuary surrounded by stained glass windows, many of which were given as memorials in honor of members.

To complement the stone masonry of the church, a wall of architectural beauty now surrounds the cemetery, replacing an old iron one which stood for many generations.

Greenbrier church had its beginning in 1877, and the little white, frame church across the road, which has recently been razed, was the second building erected for the members.



*Greenbrier Methodist Church*

## Open House Is Held at Greenbrier Methodist Parsonage



Open house was held at the new Greenbrier United Methodist parsonage from 3 o'clock until 5 o'clock Sunday afternoon, February 18. 1973

The entire house was attractively decorated with cut flowers. An arrangement of pink and white glads and mums, given by Mr. John O. Honeycutt of Winnsboro Floral Company, was used on the dining room table, carrying out a color scheme of pink and

white, which was also used in the refreshments.

Members of the congregation along with the Reverend Perry W. Turner, pastor, Mrs. Turner, and their two daughters, Miss Vickie Turner of Belton and Miss Kathy Turner of Spartanburg, received and served.

Many members, former members, former pastors, and friends called during the afternoon.