

16" x 12" Medallion Plate
Harrison County

DP, 4-22-65

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH.BEGUN
BY LITTLETON FOWLER,^{***}1839.JOB M.
BAKER,FIRST PASTOR.ORGANIZED ^{***}1845.

BUILT ^{***}1861 ON SITE GIVEN BY WM.^N ^M
AND MARY M.JOHNSTON.BRICKS HAND-
MOLDED,BEAMS HAND-HEWN.GALLERY
IN NORTH END FOR SLAVE MEMBERS.

MUNITIONS STORED IN BASEMENT
DURING CIVIL WAR.BELL,GIVEN TO
CONFEDERACY,REPLACED ^{***}1865 BY ONE
STOLEN FROM FEDERAL ARMY.DURING
WORLD WAR I,THIS SOLD FOR METAL.

WHILE PASTOR HERE,^{***}1866,DR.E.M.
MARVIN WAS ELECTED BISHOP.**

RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK,1965.***

**3/8" lettering
***1/4" lettering

Good!
UC
JSS
4/24/65

APPLICATION
THE TEXAS HISTORICAL BUILDING MEDALLION

RECEIVED
SEP 4 1962

TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY

County Harrison Town Marshall

Date of Application: August 1962

Address: (If the Building is not in town indicate number of miles and direction from center of town and number or name of highway or road.)

300 East Houston

Present Owner: First Methodist Church

General Designation: Church

Date Built: 1860

Present Condition: Restored and kept up.

Interest:

Architectural Greek Classic

Historical Over 100 years old

Organization or Individual Assuming Responsibility of Building:

Membership and Trustees of First Methodist Church

Additional Remarks:

Old portion of building made of hand made bricks, made by slave labor (now covered with stucco.) Church has 11 large and very unusual stained glass windows, one of which is commemorating Bishop Marvin, who was elected Bishop while pastor of this church. It is a praying figure of Jesus and dominates the facade of the building - lighted at night.
Church history and various old time members.

James E. Hawk
Signature — Owner or Authorized Representative
Administrative Asst.

Box 849, Marshall, Texas
Address

UNLESS THE FOLLOWING IS SUPPLIED, THE BUILDING MEDALLION COMMITTEE CANNOT ACT UPON THIS APPLICATION:

1. Complete information asked for above
2. Kodak picture of building attached to application
3. Check for \$14.75 made payable to TEXAS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

I hereby certify the above application has been approved by the Harrison County Historical Survey Committee:

Leth R. Walton
Pres. Harrison County Historical Society
10 Linwood Dr.
Marshall, Texas
Address

TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
George W. Hill, Executive Director
112 East 18th Street
Austin, Texas

COUNTY Harrison
TOWN Marshall

MEDALLION PLATE
APPLICATION

MEDALLION PLATES

These plates are designed for use with the Historical Building Medallion and can be displayed with the Medallion to give the name, date built and other information depending on the size chosen.



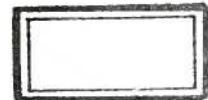
MEDALLION PLATE FOR First Methodist Church

MEDALLION PLATE 16 " x 12 " Size 57 50

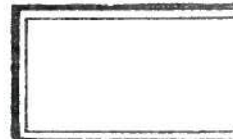
INSCRIPTION FOR PLATE: (please type or print)

Organized 1845 This building constructed 1861
Original building site ~~located~~ given by William M. & Mary M. Johnston
Methodism born in Marshall as part of Harrison Circuit, 1839
under Littleton Fowler. Job M. Baker first pastor.
Marshall became a station church in 1845, S. A. Williams, pastor
Hand-hewn beams used in construction. Hand-made bricks by slave labor.
Slave gallery in original sanctuary. Basement used for ammunition storage during
AUTHORITY FOR THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE INSCRIPTION: Civil War

9" x 3" 2 Lines \$11.0



4 Lines \$27.5



14" x 9" 7 Lines \$33.0

Centennial Edition, First Methodist Church, Marshall, Texas
History of the First Methodist Church, Marshall, Texas, Berglund
Mr. T. A. Johnston, 212 So. Lafayette, Marshall, Texas

WHO PREPARED THE INSCRIPTION?

(name) James E. Hawk, Adm. Ass't. (address) First Methodist Church, Marshall, Texas

First Methodist Church

By James E. Hawk
Signature of owner

same

Address

I hereby certify the above application has been approved by the _____

Harrison

County Historical Survey Committee:

Elizabeth Patterson

(county chairman)

200 Riggs Circle

(address)

RECEIVED
DEC 14 1964
TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY
COMMITTEE

COUNTY Harrison TOWN Marshall

NAME OF MEDALLION STRUCTURE First Methodist Church

MEDALLION PLATE SIZE 16 " X 12 "

OUR SUGGESTED INSCRIPTION FOR PLATE:
(please type or print)



TEXAS STATE CAPITOL

NATION'S LARGEST STATE
CAPITOL BUILDING. FINANCED BY
EXCHANGE OF 3,000,000 ACRES
OF PANHANDLE LAND. BUILT OF
TEXAS PINK GRANITE 1882-88.

(Copy must meet State requirements; the Texas State Historical Survey Committee reserves the right to change suggested inscription)

DO YOU DESIRE TO BE CONTACTED RE FINAL INSCRIPTION? YES NO

AUTHORITY FOR THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE INSCRIPTION:

WHO PREPARED THE INSCRIPTION?

(name) _____ (address) _____

THE PLATE WILL BE AFFIXED TO _____

PLEASE SHIP PLATE TO Mr. James E. Hawk, Administrative Assistant

First Methodist Church

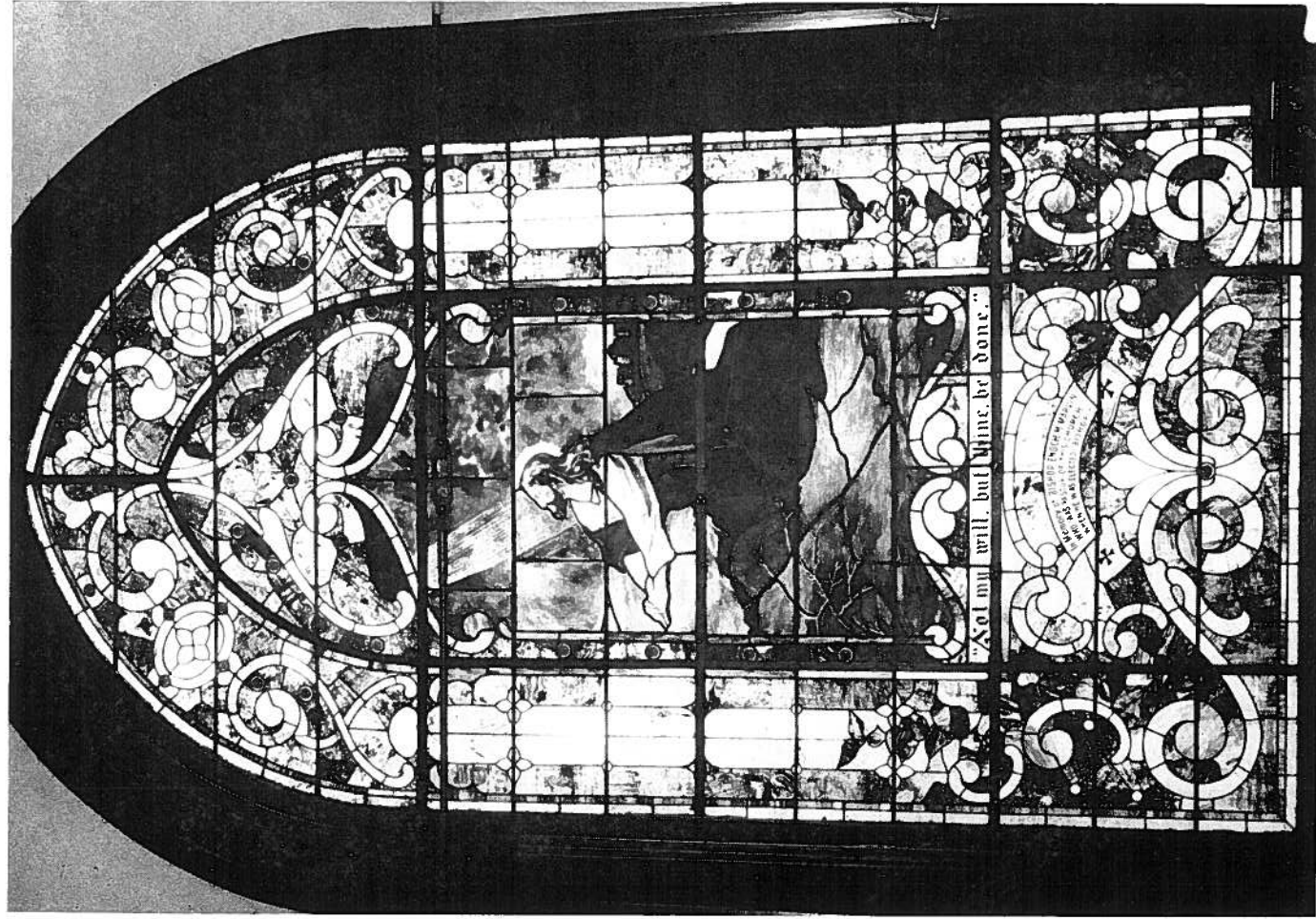
Marshall, Texas

DATE May 5, 1965

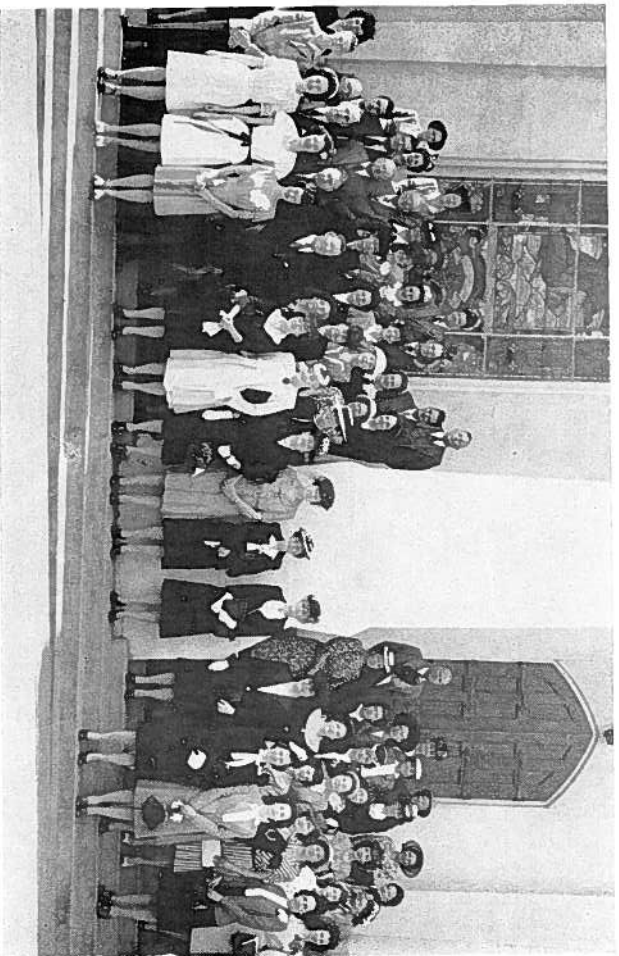
I hereby certify the above application has been approved by the _____
County Historical Survey Committee:

(name)

(address)



MARVIN MEMORIAL WINDOW
(Erected 1901)

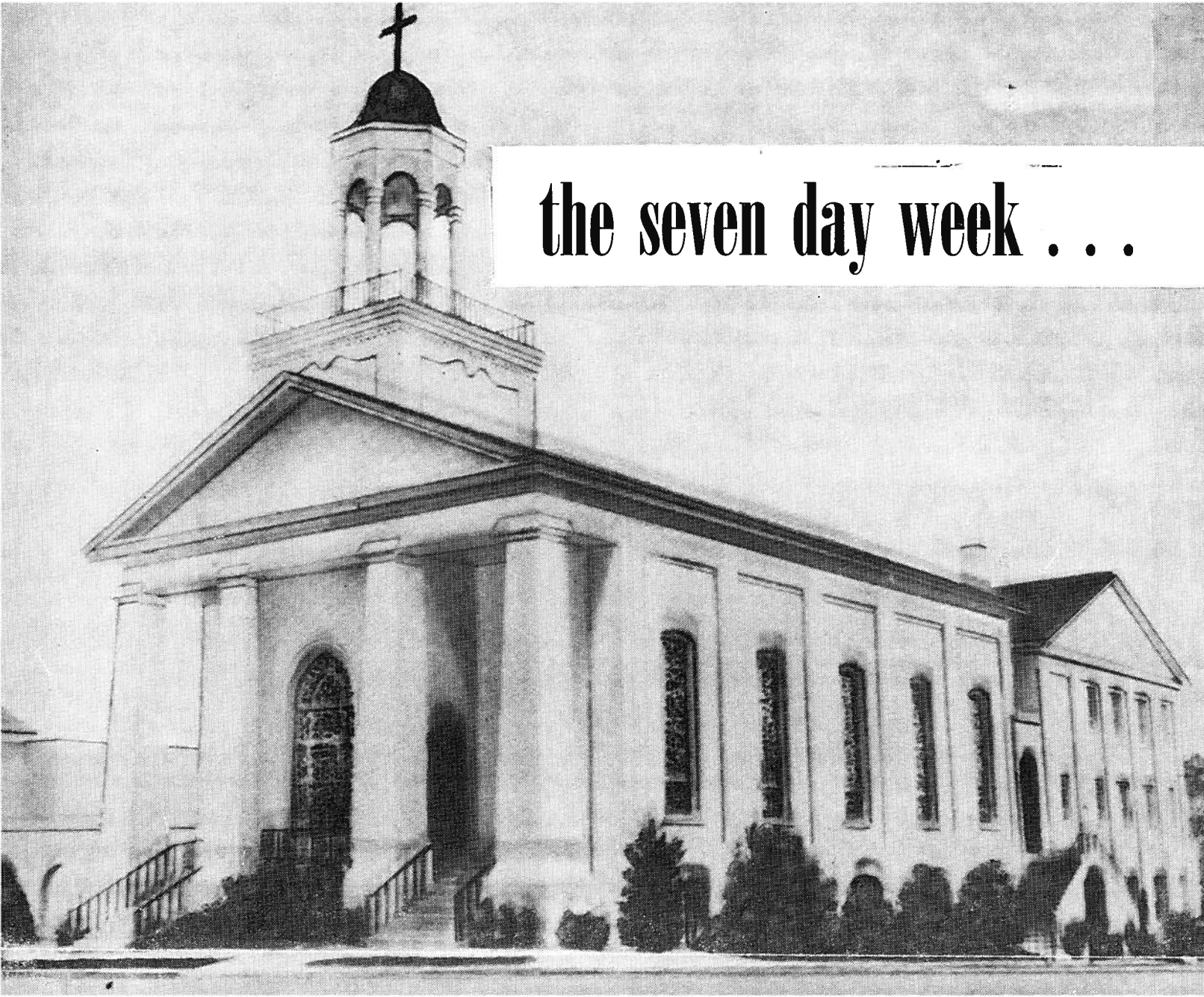


OFFICERS AND TEACHERS OF CHURCH SCHOOL



PASTOR AND 25 OF THE STEWARDS SHOWN ABOVE

the seven day week . . .



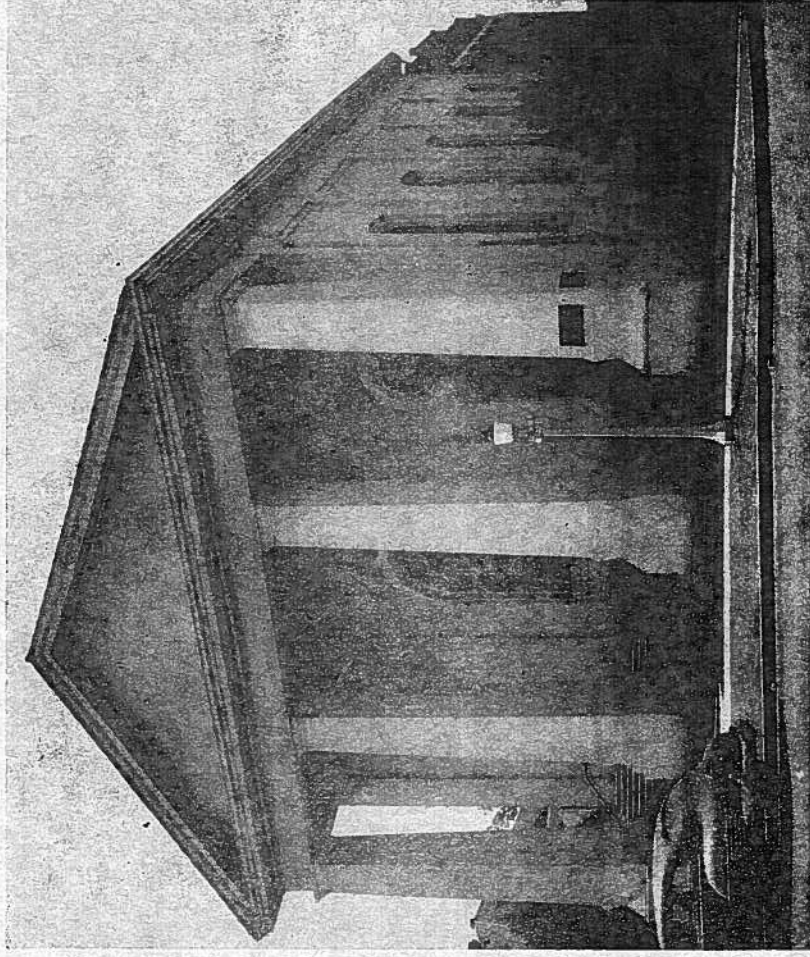
The Seven Day Week . . .

in the life of the First Methodist Church of Marshall, Texas. We are facing a period when all those who worship in, and are members of, the Church Congregation must consider the overall program in affect at First Methodist. We are an ambitious congregation . . . with our sights set high. The work of the Church does not cease with the “amens” of our Sunday Worship Services. As we worship God and live daily by His Holy Word—so must we recognize the SEVEN DAY WEEK program of First Methodist.

Centennial Edition First Methodist Church

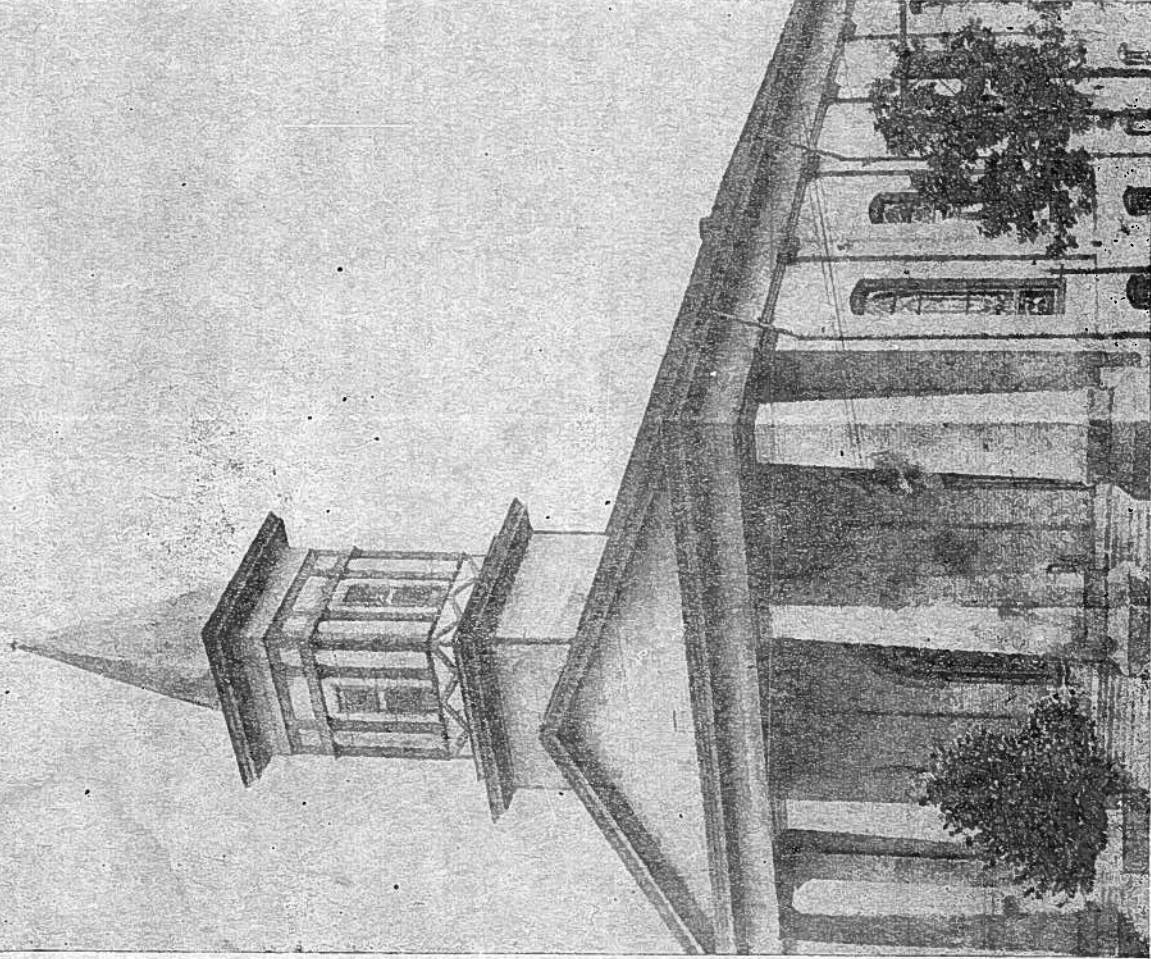
Marshall, Texas

1845 - - - 1945



"HOW AMIABLE ARE THY TABERNACLES, O LORD OF HOSTS! MY SOUL
LONGETH, YEA, EVEN FAINTETH FOR THE COURTS OF THE LORD!"
"THE LORD LOVETH THE GATES OF ZION MORE THAN THE DWELLINGS
OF JACOB. GLORIOUS THINGS ARE SPOKEN OF THEE, O CITY OF GOD!"
(Psalms 84:1-2; 87:2-3)

I will "Attend upon its Ordinances, and Support its Institutions"



Our Church As It Appeared With Its Tower

ALWAYS WELCOME TO YOUR FATHER'S HOUSE

"If after Kirk you bide a wee,
There's some would like to speak to ye
Is stranger here than you may be.
All here have got their fears and cares,

PASTOR'S CENTENNIAL PRAYER

(1845 - 1945)



O God, our Father: Thou God of our fathers, we pause in Thy presence for Thy blessing in this hour. We are creatures of a fleeting moment: Thou art the only Potentate of Time, and the Solitary Inhabitant of Eternity. Our days are as an hand-breadth; as a weaver's shuttle; as a watch in the night: Yet, "a thousand years in Thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past"—"even from everlasting to everlasting Thou art God!" We stand appalled in Thy Divine Presence. We are humbled at our insignificance, and we are ashamed of all our pride.

"E'er mountains reared their forms sublime,
Or heaven and earth in order stood;
Before the birth of ancient Time,
From everlasting Thou art God!"

From Thine Eternal Presence the millenniums fly like doves to their windows, and from Thy hands the centuries fall like sands upon the shores of Time. Our anniversaries and our centennials are as nothing before Thee: They are but as drops in the streamlets that flow into the boundless ocean of Thine Eternity. "So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom!"

May we so follow in the footsteps of our fathers and the founders of our historic Church that our children may find a highway over which they may journey toward the heavenly goal! May we, like them, attain unto the measure of the Statue of a perfect manhood in Christ Jesus our Lord, who is not only God's pattern of ideal humanity but in whom dwelleth all the fullness of the God-head bodily! So may we each fulfill our obligation to the past; be loyal to the ideals of the present, and be an inspiration to all who may come after us in the future!

Sanctify, we pray Thee, this sacred occasion, so that those who follow after us may not stumble in the darkness, but may have the light of Life! May this be an hour of sweet communion one with another and of holy fellowship with Thee; may it be for us the dawning of a better day of brotherhood and international peace, in which all men and nations may recognize the oneness of humanity and join in the Angelic Song of Peace on Earth and Good Will toward men of all races and climes! We humbly pray in the name of the Prince of Peace, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen!

How the Church is Built



GOD builds no churches! By His plan
That labor has been left to man.
No spires miraculously rise,
No little mission from the skies
Falls on a bleak and barren place
To be a source of strength and grace.
The humblest church demands its price
In human toil and sacrifice.

Men call the church the House of God
Towards which the soil-stained pilgrims plod
In search of strength and rest and hope
As blindly through life's mists they grope
And there God dwells, but it is man
Who builds that house and draws its plan;
Pays for the mortar and the stone
That none need seek for God alone.

There is no church but what proclaims
The gifts of countless generous names.
Ages before us spires were raised
'Neath which Almighty God was praised
As proof that He was then, as now.
Those sacred altars where men bow
Their heads in prayer and sorrow lifts
Its heavy weight, are Christian gifts!

The humblest spire in mortal ken
Where God abides, was built by men.
And if the church is still to grow,
Is still the light of hope to throw
Across the valleys of despair,
Men still must build God's house of prayer.
God sends no churches from the skies,
Out of our hearts must they arise!

—EDGAR A. GUEST



yes
I approve of the inscription for
the First Methodist Church
as submitted to me by your office
on April 26, 1965

Mrs Elizabeth Patterson
(Signed)

Harrison
(County)

RECEIVED
APR 30 1965

TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY
MRS. J. R. PATTERSON
COUNTY Circle
Marshall, Texas 75670

200 Riggs Circle
Marshall, Texas
June 28, 1965

Dear Mrs. Keefe:

S.O.S. I have troubles ! Mr. James Hawk, Assistant Pastor of the First Methodist Church, called me today that the Plate to go with the Church Medallion had arrived and there is an error in one initial in a name.

I am sure the fault lies at this end of the line. Mr. Hawk sent the information for the Plate direct to you, then I received a copy of the final inscription for approval. As I recall, I read the copy to him over the 'phone and he did not catch the error at that time.

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH. BEGUN

BY LITTLETON FOWLER, 1839. JOB. M.

BAKER, FIRST PASTOR. ORGANIZED 1845.

BUILT 1861 ON SITE GIVEN BY WM. N. → [this should
be M.]
AND MARY M. JOHNSTON. etc - - -

Please let me know if there is any way this error can be corrected. I am sure the N can be removed, but is there any way an M can then be fused onto the plate ? If it can be done, give me the name and address of the company that makes the plates so it can be shipped at once. The Church or I will, of course be responsible for whatever costs are involved.

If the error cannot be corrected, the only alternative I can see is to remove the N and this can be done locally. Do you have any suggestions ?

Sincerely yours,

Elizabeth Patterson

Chairman, Harrison County
Historical Survey Committee

RECEIVED
JUN 29 1965

TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY
COMMITTEE

July 2, 1965

Mrs. Elizabeth Patterson, Chairman
Harrison County Historical Survey Committee
200 Riggs Circle
Marshall, Texas

Dear Mrs. Patterson:

To correct the plate for the First Methodist Church,
please send it to the Southwell Company, 928 North Alamo
in San Antonio. By a carbon copy of this letter and the
corrected inscription attached, we are asking Mr. Southwell
to make the correction and to bill ~~it~~ to the Harrison
County Historical Survey Committee.

Be sure you send your return shipping address with the
plate.

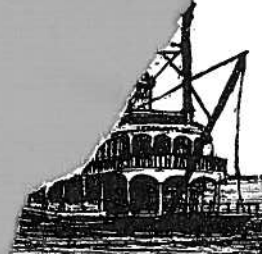
Sincerely,

Mrs. Thomas M. Keefe
Research Assistant

BK/scs

cc: Mr. Bill Southwell

L



The Harrison County Historical Society

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF THE HERITAGE AND RECORDED HISTORY OF MARSHALL AND HARRISON COUNTY

MARSHALL, TEXAS

ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE TO

200 Riggs Circle
November 29, 1965

RE: Error #2 on Methodist Church Information Plate

Dear Mrs. Keefe:

We have more troubles with the Methodist Church Information Plate. It was sent originally to the church and the Secretary discovered an error in an initial which I reported to you at the time. I did not see the plate; the church Secretary returned it to Southwell. The error was corrected and the plate was shipped to me last week. As soon as I looked at it, another error was obvious -- a proper name misspelled: Johnson on the plate should be Johnston. I immediately checked the copy of the inscription which you had sent me for approval before the plate was cast. The name was correct on the copy, therefore the fabricator is responsible for this error.

I will attach a notation of the error to the plate and ship it back to Southwell Wednesday or Thursday; this will give you time to contact the Company and explain the situation.

Sincerely yours,

Elizabeth Patterson

Chm.

Harrison County Historical
Survey Committee

RECEIVED
NOV 30 1965

TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY
COMMITTEE

PRESS CLIPS

TEXAS

PRESS

ASSOCIATION

718 WEST 5th ST. AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701 PHONE 477-6755

Marshall News-Messenger
Marshall, Texas

JAN 31 1971

Harrison First Methodist Church Has Historic Background

One of the most historic structures in the city of Marshall is the First Methodist Church, located in the heart of downtown Marshall. The building is a well-known landmark in the East Texas area.

Constructed of hand hewn cross ties and brick made by slave labor, the sanctuary at the corner of East Houston and Lafayette poses as a formidable structure.

The church bears the seal of the Texas State Historical Survey Medallion on the towering edifice begun in 1860.

The Rev. Roy Littleton Fowler is said to have formed the congregation in 1839 and the Rev. Job Baker of the Henderson evangelistic circuit served the church as pastor in its infancy.

The church plant on the original site is estimated at a

value of more than \$750,000 and embraces the primary sanctuary, Beard Hall and Guy F. Jones Memorial Chapel. The parsonage is located at 401 Lansdowne.

A most familiar sound on Sunday morning and at noon each day, the chimes of the church tower ring loudly throughout the city.

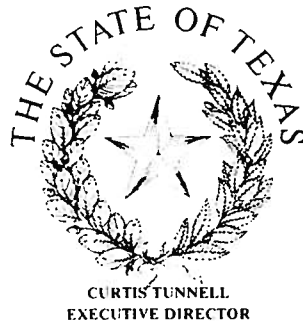
The present pastor, the Rev. J. A. Chapman, was appointed to the First Methodist pastorate in June of 1968. Before coming to Marshall Rev. Chapman was minister of the Fair Haven Methodist Church in Houston. He had previously held pastorates at Athens, Texarkana and Nacogdoches.

The music director for the church is C. M. Brock while Mrs. Kenneth Huffman Hall serves the congregation as organist.

The chairman of the church Administrative Board is Dr. Edgar H. Allen Jr. James F. Shea Jr. is superintendent of the study program.

Other church officials include

Russel Myers, membership secretary; Mrs. Elizabeth Scott, financial secretary; Don L. Rives, church lay leader; and B. J. King, president of the Women's Society of Christian Service.



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 12276

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

(512)463-6100

July 19, 1991

Mr. Lee Burch
Simons, Burch and Clark
3025 SSE Loop 323
Tyler, Texas 75701

Re: *First Methodist Church, Marshall, Harrison County, Texas (RTHL)*

Dear Mr. Burch:

I enjoyed meeting with you yesterday and discussing the rehabilitation of the historic First Methodist Church building. Thank you for taking the time to visit our office.

We would encourage you to examine once again the possibility of re-using at least some portion of the Chevy dealership building. It has been a significant part of the Marshall streetscape for at least sixty years, and from the exterior appears to be in good condition. It's true that it does not match the architectural style of the church building, but it does offer historic detailing and visual interest along the street. The blank wall of the new construction along the street would be of reduced visual interest.

We look forward to reviewing the plans and specifications for rehabilitation once the Church decides which option it will follow, and before the project is bid. We appreciate your interest in the preservation of this very significant religious complex.

Yours truly,

Linda Roark
Project Reviewer
Division of Architecture

xc: Audrey Kariel, Harrison County Historical Commission

November 29, 1996

Mr. Ben Bane,
Chair of Trustees
First Methodist Church
209 Dean Drive
Marshall, TX 75670

RE: First Methodist Church

Dear Mr. Bane:

I want to thank you for taking time to show me your fine historic church. As requested, I am enclosing the following material:

- Preservation Trust Fund Grant Program
- Preservation Briefs: Repair of Historic Wooden Windows
- Preservation Briefs: Exterior Paint Problems on Historic
Woodwork
- Preservation Briefs: Preservation and Repair of Historic Stucco

I am also enclosing the names of two contractors that have experience with preservation of wooden windows. Because we are a state agency, we can not recommend one contractor over another. This is for informational purposes only and suggest that this is a starting point in finding an appropriate contractor to work on your wooden windows.

Tom Clark
Post Office Box 222
Midlothian, TX 76065
(214) 775-3843

General Contractor
Bob Musch
Mid-Continental Restoration Co.
Post Office Box 821099
Fort Worth, TX 76182
(817) 498-7277

Please feel free to contact Linda Roark if you should have any further questions. She can be reached at 512/463-9122

Sincerely,

Gerron S. Hite, RA, NCARB
Cemetery Preservation Coordinator