

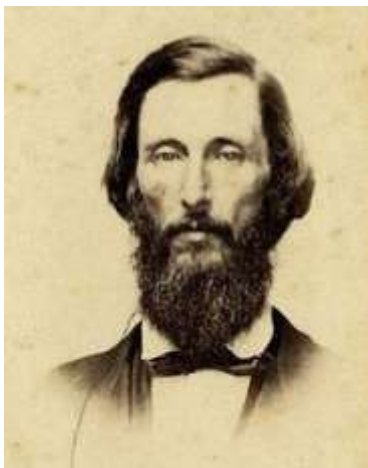


Welcome to Marvin's 125th Anniversary!

Our church, like many Methodist churches in the late 1800s, began in a "brush arbor," or a grove of trees with a clearing where people gathered. Fiery preachers called on the name of the Lord, hymns united the community as one voice, and home-cooked food filled the common table at the fellowship meal.

In 1891, just such a gathering marked the beginning of this church, named for Bishop Enoch M. Marvin. That same year the church was chartered by 39 members in a schoolhouse on Belair Road. Captain Samuel Mays donated land at the corner of Wheeler and Belair roads for a wood-frame building with a pot-belly stove and pews built by men of the church (completed in 1893). An annex was added in 1927. In the Methodist tradition, the church was a part of a circuit which included Grovetown. The current building, constructed in the 1950s of gray granite, reminds us of our brush-arbor heritage. The three stained-glass windows on the front facade were preserved from the original building.

By 1980, a new Family Life Center was built on land purchased for the expansion. The church's centennial celebration in 1991 marked the beginning of a new phase of construction, the second floor of the Family Life Center.



Historically Significant

Above: (top) Broad Street, ca. 1903; (middle) Augusta Railway Company, West Power Station, Fifteenth and Greene Streets; (bottom) Augusta Exchange, ca. 1900-1906. *Photos are from the digital collections of the Library of Congress.*

To the left: (left) Bishop Enoch Marvin, who served as a Confederate Army chaplain during the Civil War; and (right) the original Marvin church, ca. 1950s. Pictured: Gene Gray, Lessie Chapman, Glenn Wilson Jr., and Robert Wilson.

A Church for All Ages, Cultures, and People

The Marvin faith community is not the norm on Sunday mornings. We serve together in a diverse faith community that reflects how deep and wide is God's love for humankind.

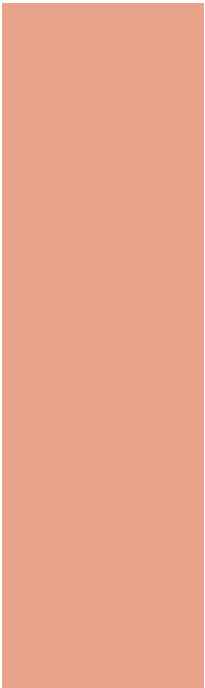
The stone church on the corner of Wheeler and Belair roads stands at a crossroad of past and future. We live in the present reality of our changing community that has a firm foundation with *Boomers & Beyond* and the renewed vitality of children and youth. Like no time before, we serve in a world with disparity that could rattle us to the core. At Marvin we seek *common ground* between those who remember rotary phones with party lines and those who with a text can reach around the world in mere seconds.

Where is Marvin's place in history ... today ... and tomorrow? The past is done and we cannot change it. Today, we are living as born-again people of God with open doors and open hearts for our neighbors—*all* neighbors. We serve as an Acts 1:8 church reaching out to our neighborhood, the larger community, and the world. We will give our personal testimonies of Christ and tell our faith-filled community stories—how God's gracious love has forgiven us and revived us after our many losses. It is not easy, but Christ told us there would be a price for following Him. We work at living together in unity as one body and one spirit, serving one Lord.

We rejoice because Christ is the *Gateway to Hope* and we are a part of His mighty works.



Marvin Preschool Teaching Young Ones



Above: Two-year olds in 1987–1988 class with Ms. Rae-Anne and Ms. Julie. **Below:** 2015–2016 teachers Nicole Smoke, Jennifer Marsh, Ginger Gruba (director), Nandy Cordova, Tina Canuette, and Paula Hicks.

New Extension Dedicated in 1979



Dedication of new extension (left) and ribbon cutting (right), with the Rev. Bill Griffin, Bishop McDavid, and Steve Garrison.

Marvin Pastors

- R.T. Dubose, 1891–1892
- H.W. Morris, 1893–1895
- J.V.M. Morris, 1896–1898
- H.D. Pace, 1899–1900
- L.H. Harris, 1900–1901
- A.B. Sanders, 1901–1902
- J.E. Embry, 1903
- W.I. Delph, 1904–1905
- E.C. Marks, 1906
- G.L. King, 1907–1908
- J.W. Crenshaw, 1909
- A. Sprayberry, 1910
- B.F. Mize, 1910
- A.W. Simpson, 1911
- R.G. Whitaker, 1912–1913
- A. Maness, 1914–1917
- E.A. Ware, 1918
- W.S. Norton, 1919–1922
- J.A. Griffis, 1923–1924
- O.B. Tally, 1925
- J.O. Burnett, 1926
- Wm. Greenway, 1927
- D.B. Cantrell, 1928
- A.C. Prickett, 1929
- A.E. Silvey, 1943–1945

God at the Center of Everything We Do

Marvin Pastors

A.P. Watkins, 1930–1931

R.E. Lyle, 1932–1933

J.J. Sneed, 1934–1935

G.C. Knowles, 1936–1937

A.W. Williams, 1938–1942

W.H. Norris, 1946–1950

C.H. Wheelis, 1950–1952

C.T. Weathers, 1953–1954

W.L. Thomas, 1955–1956

W. Marvin Poe, 1956–1960

C.A. Blackstock, 1961–1965

A.W. Williams, 1965–1966

Richard Frazier, 1966–1968

M. Peterson, 1968–1970

Pleman Folds, 1970–1972

M.J. Scott, 1972–1977

W.G. Griffin, 1977–1983

Richard Long, 1983–1987

John Giglio, 1987–1992

John H. Page, 1992–1998

Kevin Lobello, 1998–2012

D. Alan Smith, 2002–2005

Chuck Moon, 2005–2010

Elizabeth Ackerman, 2010–



From top to bottom: A worship service in the 1950s, welcoming the community at the 2015 Pumpkin Patch Festival, Lydia Project in 2014 (Beverly Courson), baptism in 2016, drive-through during Christmas 2004. Our year is filled with many more activities including the Clothes Closet (Barri Calloway), prayer blankets (Marvin Women), Family Promise (Mary Eash), Bill DaVitte Golf Tournament (Sandy Leathers and Phil Hendrickson), and Thanksgiving meals for Grovetown families in need (Bob and Mary Eash).

Children and Youth: Our Future

Our children and youth are involved in many activities, from Sunday school to vacation bible school (top, 2016). River of Life has become a traditional youth mission trip that involves repairing homes of those in need. During worship they are reminded that they are the hands and feet of Christ (bottom, 2016).



Marvin Celebrated Centennial in 1991



Marye Garrett, Evene Blackstock, Miriam Edenfield, Fred Garrett, Beverly Courson



Marvin Men, led by Bob Eash, have worked especially hard this year to help Kipuke Ministries in Togo, Africa, to purchase a new bus and by providing sewing supplies and tools for the students who are as young as 12.

Marvin Women, led by Sandy Leathers, and the Mikey Foundation (Phil Hendrickson) put on an annual golf tournament, now named in honor of Bill DaVitte, which funds missions and scholarships.



Fall Festivities

We are in the midst of our many fall festivities. The popular Pumpkin Patch, which has been headed by Marvin Men for seven years, funds church missions. The Marvin Women organize the annual craft festival, this year renamed MarvinGanza. And of course there's the Fall Festival with its much anticipated trunk-or-treat and chili cook-off. The community we serve looks forward to each of these events.



All ages help unload pumpkins, 2016. Volunteers include the Emmaus Community, Paine College, and Doctors Hospital.



Pumpkin Patch, 2004



Charter Members

Herbert Camp, W.H. Cliett, Ella Durst, William Farmer, Frances K. Gibbs, J.E. Gibbs, R.W. Gibbs, W.A. Harbin, Jimmy Harbin, Lucy Harbin, F.P. King, G.W. King, Leitha King, Mamie King, Ora King, Priscilla King, W.B. King, Daisy Maddox, Edmond Morris, Ella Morris, Lillie Morris, Patience Morris, Savannah Morris, Aleatha Savage, Carrie Savage, James M. Savage, Mary Savage, Dozier Walton, J.A. Walton, Lore Walton, L.H. Young, Mary I. Young, G.T. Young, J.H. Young, Sally Young, T.L. Young, W.B. Young Jr., W.B. Young Sr., and W.D. Young.



Pumpkin Patch Festival, 2013



Left: Girl Scouts help unload pumpkins, 2016. Above: Chili Cook-off winners, at the 2014 Pumpkin Festival.



Marvin men served wounded warriors dinner, 2014

Boomers & Beyond, Teams, and New Faces



Tea parties in 2011 and 2015 have been replaced with a September golf tournament. New young members get involved with VBS and service. Teams still prepare Thanksgiving meals (2015) and the indoor yard sale got a new invigorating name in 2016: MarvinGanza.

Friendly Loving People

Friendly Loving People, or FLP, was the name of the group now known as Boomers and Beyond, for men and women aged 55 and over. They meet for exercise, line dancing, tea parties, and more. Below, FLP group (ca. 1980s) and the FLP Fellowship Song.



Marvin's FLP Fellowship Song

1. There's a gray stone church at the crossroads
No freemason spot can be found
Come and join with the FLP Fellowship
As we meet and travel all around.
- Chorus: (Men continue singing *at the crossroads*)
Oh, come, come, come, come, come to church
at the crossroads
Oh, come join the FLP
You'll enjoy all the food and the fellowship
And the many places we'll see.
2. We will have some speakers and preachers
To help with our problems of today
We will listen to love each other
And thank our God as we pray.
3. So invite all your friends and neighbors
And let's have lots of fun
We're all getting older together
But laughing will help keep us young.
- Chorus

Looking Toward the Future

Pastor Elizabeth Ackerman

Pastor Ackerman is an Elder in full connection with the United Methodist Church., North Georgia Annual Conference.



Pastor's Message

"Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, O God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your might to all who are to come." –Psalm 71:18 NIV

Our work is not done until we teach the next generation about our living God in Jesus Christ. This straight-talking, table-flipping, yet forgiving man changed the world forever. How can we let the story of Jesus as both human and divine go untold? We live in a world of high tech and low touch when Christ was all about touch.

Therefore, the Marvin faith community is all about touch, too. We seek to connect with those who are lost, lonely, and unloved. We offer Jesus Christ as their *Gateway to Hope*. We begin by studying and learning together so that we have a laser-sharp focus on God in Christ. As we are filled with the Holy Spirit we overflow with love and serve our neighbors with joy and thanksgiving.

Hope is our future. Hope guides our next steps. Hope is our connection with God in Christ.



Trinity Knot carved by Art Graves for Pastor Ackerman.

Marvin United Methodist Church

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Upcoming Events

Poverty Simulation, Nov 11

Decorating Chrismon Tree,
Nov 27

Lydia Project, Dec 11



Marvin is an Emmaus and Kairos community. Pictured (top) are just a few of our Emmaus community, 2014. Each year Mary Eash (middle, 2016) burns last year's palms for ashes on Ash Wednesday. We celebrate baptism and confirmation during Easter worship, 2016.

