



The Glendale Heights Methodist Church

Leon Street Across From Brogden Junior High School
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

ENTER TO WORSHIP

DEPART TO SERVE

32X

A BRIEF HISTORY

In 1958 the N. C. Conference purchased property on Leon Street as a future site of a Methodist Church to be organized. A parsonage at 2507 N. Duke Street was purchased from the Reverend V. E. Queen. Following a survey made by Duke University students in the spring of 1959, Rev. Alison Simonton, Jr., was appointed by the Conference in late June to organize the church.

A letter was sent to all Methodists in the area on July 14, 1959, and the first service was held in Barfield Center on Acadia Street on July 19, 1959. Organizational Day was held on September 13, 1959, with 112 charter members, the largest number ever to join a new church at its organization in the N. C. Conference. Barfield Center was used as a Sanctuary for two years. During the first year of the church, Senior and Junior Choirs, the Methodist Youth Fellowship, and the Woman's Society of Christian Service were organized, and a graded Sunday Church School flourished.

The Groundbreaking Ceremony was held in the fall of 1960, and work was begun on the Educational Building of the new church. The Laying of the Cornerstone took place on April 23, 1961, with Bishop Paul Neff Garber, District Superintendent C. D. Barclift, and Rev. Somonton participating in the service. The first service was held in the new building on September 17, 1961.

Rev. Simonton was replaced by Rev. Nathan H. Byrd in June of 1964. An addition of six classrooms, including a Fellowship Hall and an enlargement of the Sanctuary to the Education Building will be completed in October, 1965.

The Congregation has experienced steady growth and now has a total membership of 403.