

**50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
October 15, 1995**



MINISTERS PRESENT: Rev. Don Richardson, Rev. W.A. (Bill) Fisackerly III, Dr. Ron Thomas, Rev. Ben Rider, Rev. Larry Cook, Bishop H. Hasbrouck Hughes, Jr., Rev. Scotty Bozeman, Rev. David Woerner



CHARTER MEMBERS PRESENT: Larry Lee, George Ann (Suggs), Barbara (Moore) Starling, Dot Lee, Elsie Nall, Mary Lois Lee, and Carolyn Suggs



WIVES OF MINISTERS PRESENT



Dr. Ron Thomas (our present minister), Rev. Larry Cook (District Superintendent), Bishop H. Hasbrouck Hughes, Jr, and Rev. Scotty Bozeman (our first minister).

This year marks the fiftieth anniversary of First United Methodist Church, which was founded in October 1945. The History Committee of our church decided we should celebrate this event during the entire year, instead of just for one day. Beginning in January, they have met each Tuesday afternoon to work on the history of our church, and the anniversary celebration.

In honor of Valentine's Day, we had a special service on February 19th, when we honored all couples who were married in our sanctuary. At the close of the service, they all went to the altar to renew their marriage vows. One of those couples was Ann and Bob Pearce (the lovely couple is shown on the right).



The membership class was received as members of our church on June 4th, so that Sunday was again a special service when we recognized all people who were baptized in our church, or joined through membership classes. At the first service in our sanctuary on October 3, 1948, four infants were baptized. Two of them were able to attend (one is deceased) and were recognized at this special service. Cheryl Dance came from Tallahassee.

Michael Wheeler and Cheryl Lee Dance with their parents

Invitations were mailed to all former ministers to attend the Anniversary weekend activities. On Saturday evening we had a Dutch treat dinner at Sonny's to entertain our guests and for a time of fun and fellowship.



HISTORY COMMITTEE: Mary Lois Lee, Alden Wyse, Mary Katherine Zemonek, Evelyn Sikes, Lois Galassinni, Ann Pearce, and Shirley Causseaux



On Sunday morning, Bishop Hughes delivered the sermon, and we had a covered dish dinner after the service. The church was packed, and the fellowship hall was filled to overflowing, but a good time was had by all.



God has blessed First United Methodist Church through the years and as we remember the past, we also looked forward to the future growth of our church.