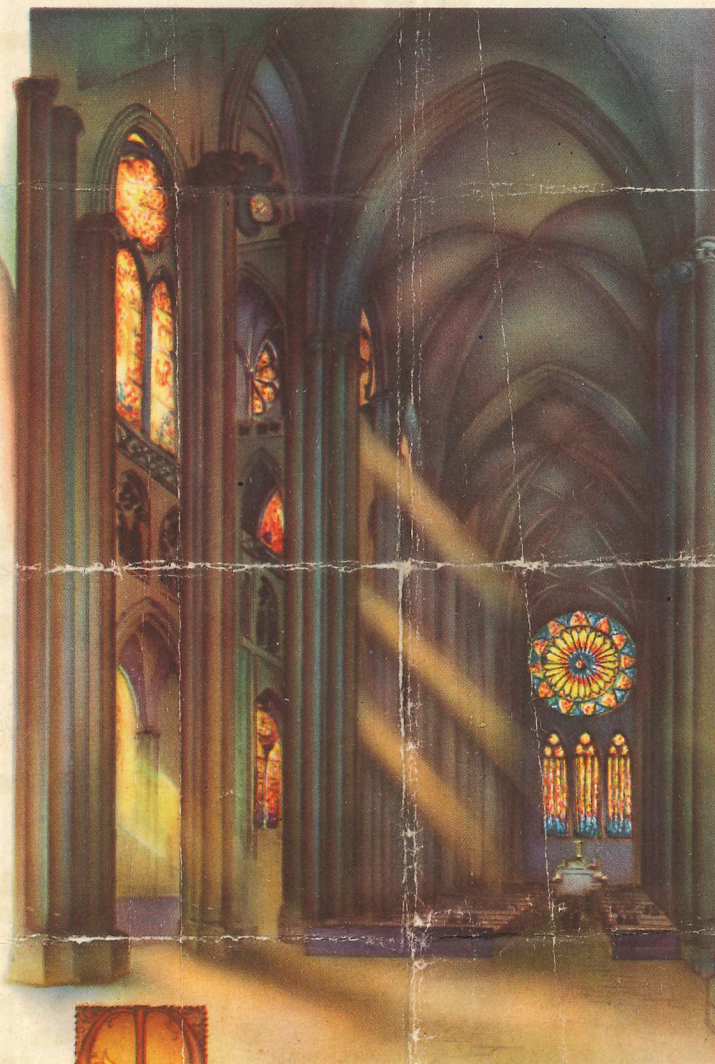


Stories of Northside: Northside's First Worship Service

TAKEN FROM THE FELLOWSHIP CLASS SCRAPBOOK 1950-56, WRITTEN BY: **MRS. EVA REID**



My house is the house of prayer

LUKE 19:46



Dr. Eugene T. Drinkard



Mrs. Eugene T. Drinkard

On a Sunday afternoon, November 5, 1950, a group of about eighty people assembled at the Northside High School to hear Bishop Arthur Moore and District Superintendent Dr. Lester Rumble tell about the opportunity and the challenge we had to establish a new Methodist church on the north side of Atlanta. Dr. Eugene T. Drinkard was presented to the group as the pastor that would lead us and help us form our church. That afternoon twenty-three people made decisions and asked that their memberships be transferred to the new Northside Methodist Church. Other names were added to the list of charter members during the week.

Sunday, November 12, 1950, is the date of our first regular worship held at Eleven o'clock AM in the gymnasium of the Northside High School. Dr. Lester Rumble delivered the sermon. Dr. and Mrs. Eugene T. Drinkard moved the following week into our first parsonage at Evergreen Lane, NW; it had been rented and

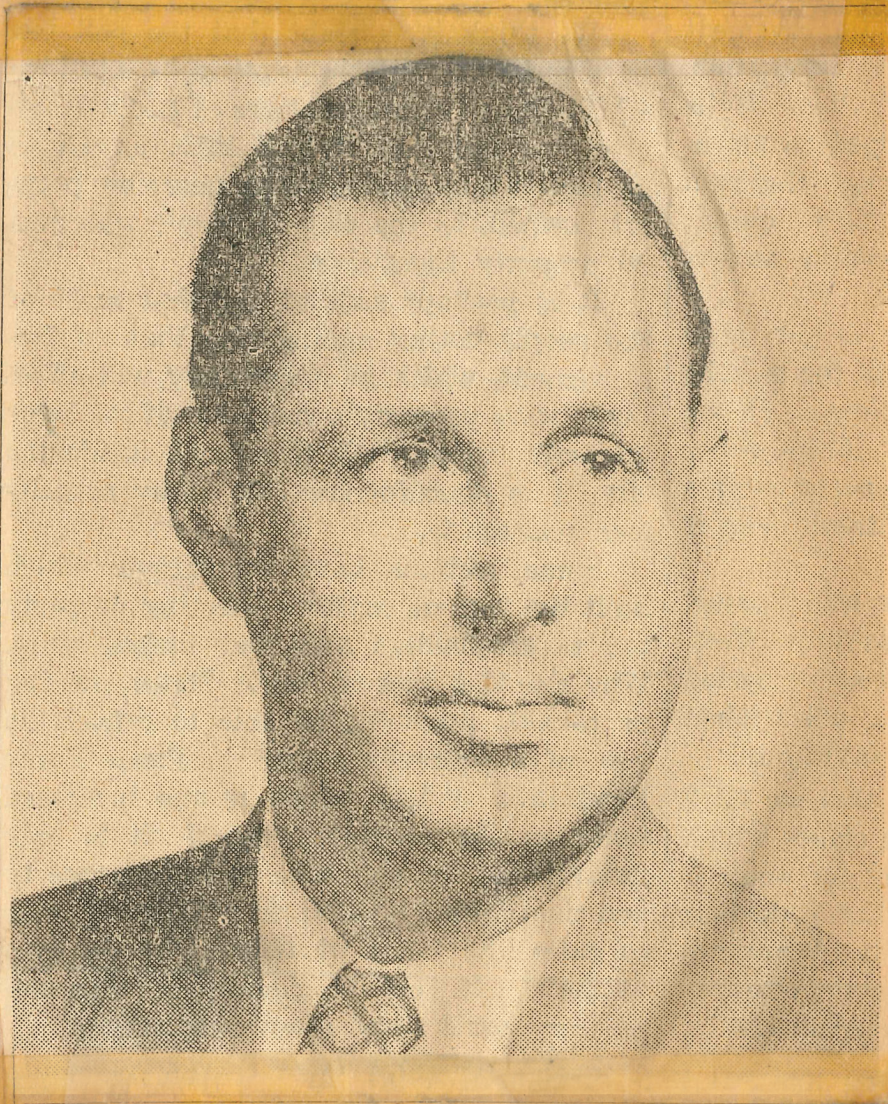
furnished. The house was furnished with gifts from the homes of the members: things taken from attics and storage, and spared from the very living rooms themselves. It was a very thrilling experience to get our parsonage ready for our first pastor and his wife. As we were all from different churches and had never worked together before, it was a wonderful way for members to grow acquainted with one another. The Drinkards' new home was ready for them when they arrived. Each room was in order; beds were made; rugs were down, and curtains hung at each window. We were proud of the results produced by a little paint and a few slip covers. The pantry was well stocked with supplies of all kinds, and the refrigerator was overflowing with ready-cooked foods; such as ham, salads, cakes, pies, and the like. Enough to last for quite a few days!

Gene and Caroline were received by this small group of members with open arms. We were his "little flock." Ready to organize and go to work,

Dr. Drinkard gave each person a responsibility. Everyone was called on to do jobs, and no one even thought of refusing.

On Sunday, November 19, 1950, we began our regular church and Sunday school programs in the Northside High School. Children were assigned to different classes according to their ages. A small group of men and women met in the music room and adopted the name of the adult Bible class (now known as the Fellowship Bible Class).

Mr. Respass Chatfield was elected president of this class and held that office until 1953. During this time the membership of our church and Sunday school grew rapidly. So after a short time, a group of the younger couples decided to form another adult class. The charter class decided it did not want to be called the "old adult class," our task was then to find a suitable name. We felt that we were a friendly group and enjoyed the fellowship of being together. »



Rev. Eugene Drinkard Named Pastor Of New Northside Methodist

Rev. Eugene T. Drinkard, recently appointed pastor of the new Northside Methodist Church, meeting in the Northside High School will preach Sunday morning at 11 o'clock.

Dr. Drinkard comes well-equipped for his assignment. He holds A.B. and B.D. degrees from Emory University and has completed his residence work for Ph.D. at Union Theological Seminary, New York City.

He is married and has served charges in North Georgia and while in school in New York he held a pastorate. The new pastor resides at 2066 Evergreen Lane, N. W.

Consequently, our class was named the Fellowship Bible Class. We also chose Psalm 19:14 as a closing prayer. It has been used at each service since then: "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable. In thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer."

Many things have happened in these past years of growth. The class has grown from a very small group to a membership of 150, the class has done many fine things, and we have had much fun and fellowship

together. Being a charter member of Northside Church and of the Fellowship Class, I thought it would be appropriate to record some of the high points and events of the past twelve years in the history of our class so that in years to come, new members might look back and see how the fellowship has grown. We forget events so quickly if we do not record them as they happen.

So with newspaper clippings, pictures, bulletins, and such, I am going to attempt to record some

things that have happened to us as a class. I suggest and sincerely hope that each new president will appoint someone to record the achievements of our class from year to year.

In His Love,

Mrs. Eva Reid

Atlanta-West Dist. Organizes 3 New Churches

The Superintendent of the Atlanta-West District, Dr. Lester Rumble, announces the opening of three new churches in his district during the last month.

The first one to be organized was at Leland—between the River and Austell. The first meeting was on October 15 in the afternoon. The temporary meeting place is the Leland Community House. Rev. Julian C. Callaway, Jr., has been appointed pastor. Good progress is reported.

On October 22nd in "Fair Oaks," Marietta, Rev. Sam Banks began his ministry to a very responsive congregation. Here the District Board of Missions and Church Extension had bought a lot and house previously. The congregation meets temporarily in the house. At the first regular worship service 100 attended.

On November 5th Bishop Moore and Dr. Rumble met with a hundred people from Northwest Atlanta looking to the establishment of a new congregation on Northside Drive and Kingswood Lane. Dr. Rumble preached to this group on November 12th with more than 100 present. At the time of this writing 56 have indicated their decision to join the new church. Here, too, the District Board has bought a lot. Rev. Eugene T. Drinkard, formerly of Salem Circuit, has been appointed pastor and will live at 2066 Evergreen Lane, N. W. The congregation meets in the Northside High School.

In order to give more preaching time to the Powder Springs Charge Rev. Robert Merriwether has been appointed to serve the Trinity Church. The Powder Springs Church receives the full-time service now of Rev. J. W. Scarborough.

Northside Methodist Church Continues To Show Splendid Growth

The newly-organized Northside Methodist Church, meeting at present in the Northside High School on Northside Drive, has been marked by rapid and encouraging growth since its beginning a few days ago on Nov. 5. Already seventy-one members have been received into the church and two children have been given infant baptism.

The young church's program is being directed by its minister, Dr. Eugene T. Drinkard, a graduate of Columbia University and Union Seminary, New York City, and a Steering Committee composed of: S. Russell Bridges, Jr., chairman, Henry L. Reid, secretary, James E. Dickey, treasurer, S. J. Barron, Respass M. Chatfield, H. S. McCurry, Paul M. McLarty, Dr. Marion C. Pruitt, and Randolph M. Trower.

A number of committees also have been appointed to direct specific activities in the new church's growing program. These committees and their chairmen are: Enrollment Records, Henry L. Reid; finance, Dr. Marion C. Pruitt; flowers and decorations, Mrs. S. R. Bridges, Jr., and Mrs. James E. Dickey; music, Paul M. McLarty; parsonage, S. J. Barron; publicity and history, Respass M. Chatfield; plate collections, James E. Dickey; membership, Randolph W. Thrower; ushers, H. M. McCurry.

At the morning worship service this Sunday at 11 o'clock the pastor, Dr. Drinkard, will preach on the subject, "What You Can Become." A most cordial invitation is extended to all Northside residents who are interested in this new church adventure to attend the service.