


Our Growth Story

1975 to 1979



What was Mandeville like in 1975? Why did the United Methodist Church decide to plant a church here, then? Who came and why did they come? What was important then and what remains important to us now?

We Came By *Single Span!*



This was the Causeway in the early days. It was only a single span! Before the single span, people had to use the ferry boat or drive around the lake.

*Now, we
enjoy the two
spans with
turnarounds.*

Did You Know?

- Mandeville was a little known summer vacation spot until the Causeway opened & then it became the fastest growing town in the state.
- The K-Mart Grand Opening was THE social event of the year.
- The Superdome was dedicated in August of 1975.
- The average cost of milk was \$1.57/gal and gas was \$0.44/gal in 1975.
- Our current address of 335 Asbury Drive used to be called 334 Old Hwy 190, although it is the same location.

Our First Minister

First minister founding church in Mandeville

everything is set up, Rev. McDowell said, the first priority is to buy some land so the church can build its own church, but now the emphasis is on the Methodists in the area to get the church started. "Right now, we

primarily want to get the services of the church to the people in the area. We want to find out what services the church can provide the people here," Rev. McDowell said.

Rev. McDowell, his wife Carolyn and their seven-month-

old son Keith, moved here from Baton Rouge where he served a ministry with the Broadmoor United Methodist Church.

He attended Louisiana Tech in Ruston and then attended the seminary in Denver. Rev. McDowell has a bachelor's degree and Master of Divinity. He served churches in north Louisiana and Colorado before going to Baton Rouge and eventually to Mandeville. He is an ordained elder of the United Methodist Church.

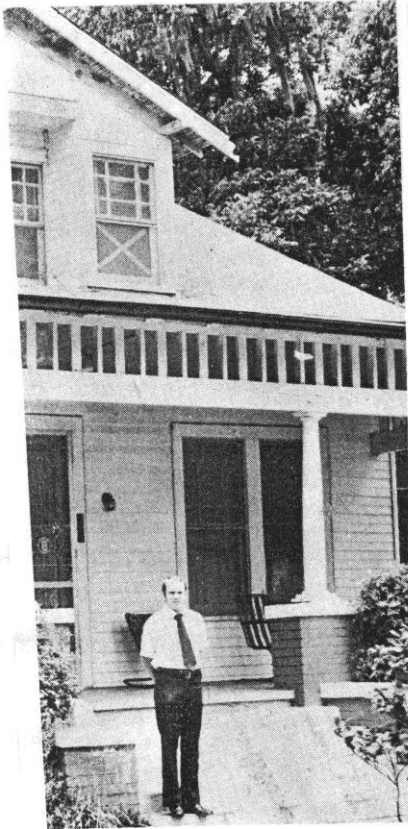
On July 13, at 10:30 a.m. at 2535 Lakeshore Drive in Mandeville, his work becomes a reality—St. Timothy United Methodist Church will hold its first services.



Don McDowell has come to Mandeville to start a ministry in Baton Rouge to found a new United Methodist Church here.

The first minister at St. Timothy was Reverend Don McDowell. He and his family moved here from Baton Rouge where he served at Broadmoor UMC. He said the first priority is to "buy some land so the congregation can build its own church building."

Our Almost First Location



of the Lakeshore Drive home that will
ew United Methodist Church in Man-
re Drive was lent to the Church by Dr.
st services will be held there July 13 at

(Photo by Steve Dusek)

This is the house
on Lakeshore
Drive where the
first service was
going to be held
but the
neighbors
objected, so the
first service was
moved to the
Reserve Life
Building at 1700
Causeway Blvd.

Our First Service

MANDEVILLE - The United Methodist Church of Mandeville, had 83 persons in attendance at their first service, Sunday, July 13.

Hammond District Superintendent Rev. Bill Fraser presented an outline for the formation of a new church and its proceedings.

The United Methodist Church will continue to hold its services in the Reserve Life Building at 1700 Causeway Blvd. each Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

"In two months we will be setting a charter day and St. Timothy on the North Shore will become an official church of the United Methodist," Rev. Don McDowell said.

After St. Timothy is fully recognized then those persons interested in uniting their membership may do so.

With this excellent beginning we hope to begin a Sunday School program for all ages. Other activities of the church will follow.

Everyone is invited to join in the worship service at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday morning.



... There were 83 persons, shown here, that attended United Methodist Church in Mandeville on Sunday Reserve Life Building.

The first service was held at the Reserve Life Building on Sunday, July 13, 1975. There were 83 people in attendance that day. Two months later, on September 21, 1975, Charter Sunday marked the day when St. Timothy on the North Shore became an official church of the United Methodists!

Facilities Timeline

United
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service,
at 10:00
Prayer
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There were 83 persons, shown here, that attended United Methodist Church in Madesville on Sun Reserve Life Building.

13 JUL 1975, 1st Worship Service
Reserve Life Insurance Bldg.

21 SEP 1975, Charter Service

17 JUL 1977, Groundbreaking at
new building site
334 Old Hwy 190

1976 to 1979, Warehouse



01 JAN 1995, Family Life Center

1997, Memorial Garden

2000, Major sanctuary
expansion



2006, Merger of Servant Campus
East Campus

2008, New classroom wing
under construction

01 JUN 2008, Parking lot
expansion under construction

01 JUN 2008, Youth center
under construction

*St Timothy
is a
fellowship
committed
to the worship of God and to the
love and care of others through
service. We invite people to a*

*New Life
in Christ
and to grow
in His
likeness.*

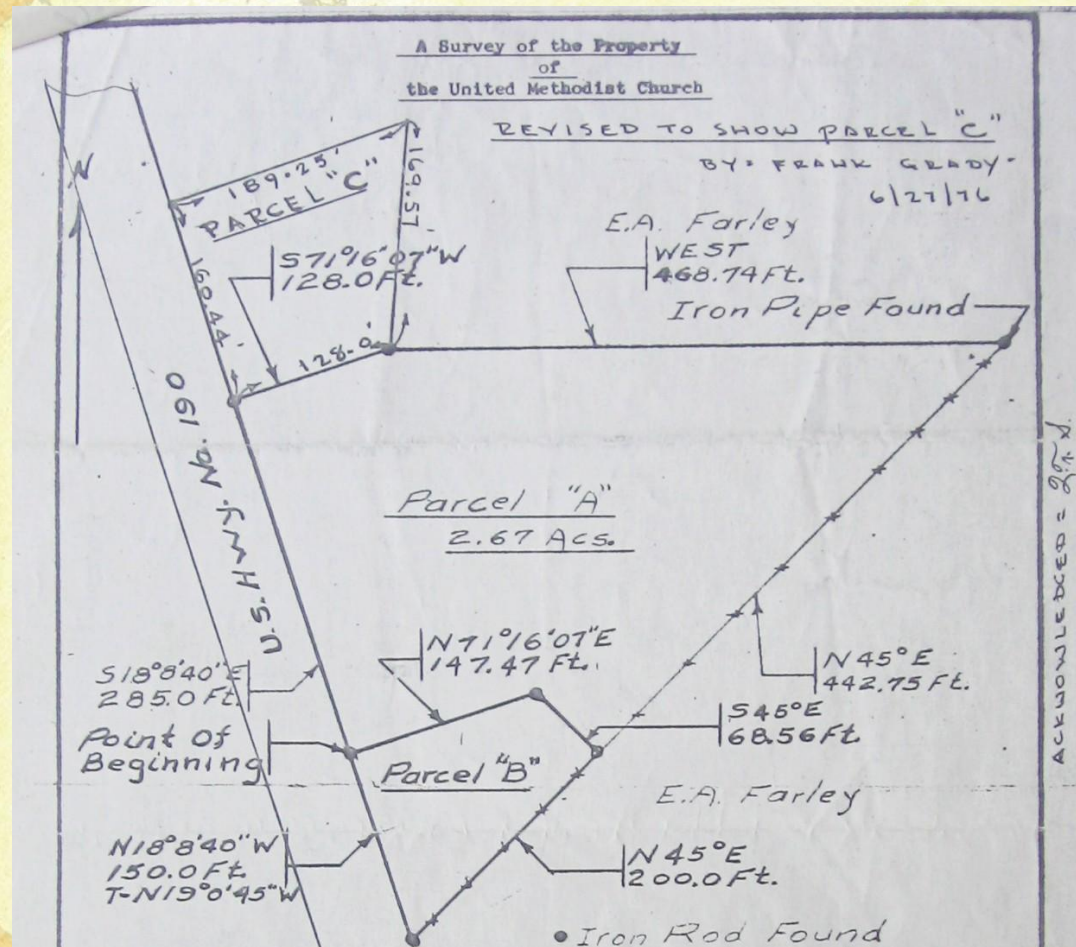
*Mission
Statement*
ST. TIMOTHY ON
THE NORTH SHORE
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH
MADESVILLE, INDIANA

The Infamous Warehouse



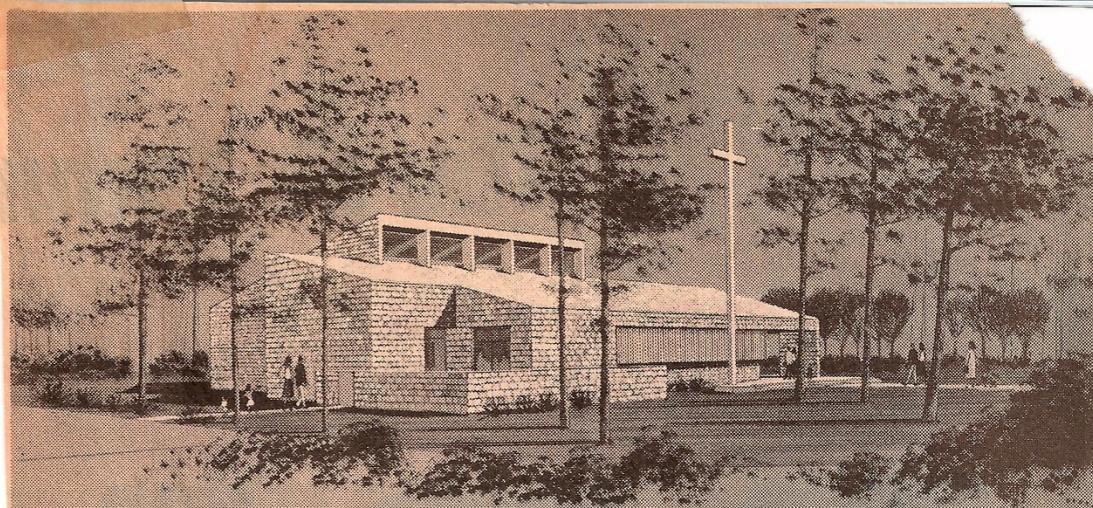
In 1976 this warehouse became the temporary home for our growing church body.

A Survey of the Land



By June 1976
this survey was
taken in order to
purchase the
parcel of land
that is part of
what we now
know to be St.
Timothy's.

The Architect's Rendition



JAMES P. GUBRE • ARCHITECT

ST. TIMOTHY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH • MANDEVILLE, LA.

On Sunday morning, July 17, 1977, at 10:00 a.m. St. Timothy United Methodist Church, under the leadership of Rev. Don McDowell, will hold a special service of worship at their property located on Highway 190. A very important part of that service will be the ground breaking for their new building. The Louisiana Methodist Bishop, the District Superintendent, the Mayor of Mandeville and other persons who have shown significant support for and interest in St. Timothy have been invited. worship service and ground breaking ceremony will be followed by dinner on the grounds.

On July 17,
1977 a special
service was
held at the new
property for the
ground
breaking of the
new building!



The Ground Breaking Ceremony



The Charter Members

Carnie M. Adams ✓
Claudia C. Becker ✓
Jeanette E. Blitz
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Brugmann ✓
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Childers
Laurie Childers
Karen Childers
Amy Childers
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Derouen ✓
Denise Derouen
Elizabeth Edwards
Betty Ruth Esquinance
Mr. and Mrs. N. G. Etheridge ✓
Mr. and Mrs. Bryant Grant
Janice Grant
Devonne Grant
Karen Grant
Meredith Granzin
Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Grapes ✓
Susan Grapes
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Harris
Frank Harris III
James Harris
Mary J. Hogan
Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Huff
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph C. Isaac, Jr.
Jane Cathryn Isaac
Janet Christine Isaac
Jean Carolyn Isaac

Margaret Jacob
Richard E. Jacob
Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Johnson
Karen Lee Joiner
Mr. and Mrs. A. E. May
Carolyn McDowell
Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Mills
Gregory A. Mills
Alicia L. Mills
Mr. and Mrs. Jeel Payne
Mr. and Mrs. Morris C. Place ✓
Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Poole
Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Rahm
Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Riser, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Frank P. Sims
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth L. Smith, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Stuckey
Beth Stuckey
Walter Stuckey, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Triplett ✓
John Triplett
Mr. and Mrs. Chas. B. Turman
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Wierda
Mr. and Mrs. Billy Graham
Mr. and Mrs. Finis Martin
Carolyn Ainsworth ✓
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sprehe ✓
Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Wilson

Michael D. Wilson
Melissa Wilson
Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Chotin, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Owen Brown ✓
Tana Brown
Brian Brown
Blain Brown
Mr. and Mrs. Warren C. Goolsby
Fran Allen ✓
Nancy Bernhard
Douglas Turman
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Hohlbough

Surely The Presence of The Lord Is in This Place

By Janet Isaac

Matthew 18:20 “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”

“The Warehouse” was the cornerstone of St. Timothy. It was there that 37 families (96 Christians) bonded into a family in Christ that has grown into a community of love & service. “The Warehouse” became a byword of St. Timothy. There was even a section of the sanctuary referred to as “Warehouse Row” where many of the Charter Members and long time members of St. Timothy’s congregation sat.

I can still look out from the choir loft and see Nola & Norm Etheridge, Helen & Ray Triplett, Bob & Opal Grapes and Noralee & Vance Tomlin just to name a few. Each time I come to St. Timothy, I pass by “The Warehouse” still standing on what is now named Kane Lane which used to be called Industry Lane and am reminded of what God can not only do in a church family but also in our lives. St. Timothy is my home and each time I enter its doors, I feel His presence not only in the building but also in each person I see.

The chorus of “Surely The Presence of The Lord Is In This Place” is what St. Timothy is to me.

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place. I can feel His might power and His grace. I can hear the brush of angels’ wings. I see glory on each face.

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

Memories of St. Timothy

By Alice Payne

Where to begin with all the memories I have of St. Timothy. I suppose the first place would be our first building where we had no heat for the winter, but did have a highly powered heater/blower. Sitting in church was like sitting next to a jet airplane, and it still didn't keep you warm! From there we moved to the lovely warehouse with the blown insulation on the walls. It was a wonderful and unique experience to be a part of such a special beginning. We had coffee hours there, although we had to use the outside faucet to fill and clean the coffee pots. The walls were quite thin, too. I have two really funny memories of the warehouse. During one of our services you could hear a small child in the nursery crying incessantly. Don McDowell, our pastor and friend, kept kind of glaring at me as if to say, "Alice, please go take care of your child." After about the fifth time he did this, I just spoke up in the middle of his sermon and said, "Don, it's not Jeremy." The other hilarious thing that happened came about because of another tenant in the front of the warehouse. This gentleman made, (I think,) fiberglass sinks. At least, he did something with fiberglass because we had to endure the smell. One particular Sunday you could slightly hear the gentleman working. At one point as Don was praying the gentleman began a loud sneeze with, Ahhh, Ahhh, Ahh, Choo!!! Without missing a beat, Don finished his prayer and said, "Amen and may God Bless You, my friend." No one could contain their laughter.

Then there was the experience and excitement of our first building, the family retreats at Fontainebleau State Park, family dinners, youth excursions, wonderful choir times and choir extravaganzas – too many to name. I remember the first Sunday Gene Finnell came to preach. He was concerned about where Don had stood during different parts of the service. This was when we had the large, free standing pulpit. I told Gene the pulpit was now his and to make it his own and stand wherever he wanted to stand - we would adjust, and we did. And, we all adjusted to the aqua color of the new front doors and the big light fixtures in the sanctuary!

Along with all the joy and excitement, we had some sad times, too. Marshall Watzon, one of our earliest members, died shortly before or after we broke ground for our first building. Marshall and I were both members of the building committee, and it was such a loss for us. During those early years we had several deaths - Carolyn McDowell's brother, Don's mother, the Childer's daughter in an auto accident and my young niece among them. It was the love and support of our church friends and the power of the Holy Spirit that sustained us through it all and drew us even closer. Those kinds of bonds can never be broken.

The friendships and relationships we formed have been life long. The love and support I received from friends like Helen Triplett, Carolyn McDowell, Nola Etheridge and Jeanie Hogan have meant the world to me. I know I speak for Carolyn and Jeanie, too, when I say I look forward to meeting Helen and Nola again in Heaven one day. We will laugh and celebrate just as we did each time we were together – and there were many of those times.

The times I visit St. Timothy, though few and far between, are very special. Many of our friends have moved or gone on to be with our Father, but it is always good to see the faces of the ones who remain. I'm not sure they realize how special they are to me and Joel.

What a special place St. Timothy on the North Shore was and is to this day. You have grown into a powerful witness for Jesus, and I commend you on your continued following of His Spirit. May He always bless and keep you in all you endeavor to do in His name.

Alice Payne

Fond Memories

By Joel Childers

St Timothy's Church brings back many fond memories. Starting out in some rented office space before moving into the corrugated warehouse with the orange spray on insulation! I remember that the women's groups (UMW and possibly others) made banners to decorate the interior. I was too young to be a charter member but I was in the 1st confirmation class I was old enough to join! I remember outings with the Junior UMY (bowling, Pontchartrain Beach amusement Park, and a water park), as well as the confirmation class and our overnighter at the new permanent building. The "new" building might be hard to recognize with its newer surroundings. As a child I'd have to say the most important lesson I learned there was that the Church isn't the building, it is the people!

As I look over the list of people that this will go out to I recognize many names, even though I haven't seen the people in over 20 years! Some were just babies. It was a great Church Family to set the foundation for my faith. Rev. Don McDowell's sense of humor and patience were a good example, and I even remember some of his sermons! He'd be surprised to know I even listened! One of his sermons had to do with a secret about how to turn ordinary dishwater into gold by wishing and stirring for ten minutes! The important thing was to not think about zebras at any time while you were doing the other two things. If only he hadn't told me about the zebras in the first place, it might have worked! I'm sure he was trying to make some point with that sermon besides letting us know about that secret. Our annual retreat to Fontainebleau state park was also a lot of fun. I always enjoyed the fellowship with both the other kids, as well as the adults. Getting back to Mandeville and St Timothy is definitely on my to do list in the next few years and I hope to see some familiar faces, I only wish I could join you for your celebration.

Joel Childers