

A U S T I N C I T Y C O U N C I L
AGENDA

Thursday, December 14, 2006

[Back](#) [Print](#)**Zoning and Neighborhood Plan Amendments
(Public Hearings and Possible Action)
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****ITEM No. 70**

Subject: C14H-06-0029 – First United Methodist Church Parsonage - Conduct a public hearing and approve an ordinance amending Chapter 25-2 of the Austin City Code by rezoning property locally known as 1612 Gaston Avenue (Shoal Creek Watershed) from family residence (SF-3) district zoning to family residence-historic (SF-3-H) combining district zoning. Staff recommendation: To grant family residence-historic (SF-3-H) combining district zoning. Historic Landmark Commission recommendation: To grant family residence-historic (SF-3-H) combining district zoning. Zoning and Platting Commission recommendation: To grant family residence-historic (SF-3-H) combining district zoning. Applicant and Agent: Matthew and Crista Wheeler. City Staff: Steve Sadowsky, 974-6454.

Additional Backup Material

(click to open)

[Staff Report](#)**For More Information:**

ZONING CHANGE REVIEW SHEET

CASE NUMBER: C14H-06-0029

HLC DATE:

October 23, 2006

ZAP DATE:

December 5, 2006

APPLICANT: Matthew and Crista Wheeler

HISTORIC NAME: First United Methodist Parsonage

WATERSHED: Shoal Creek

ADDRESS OF PROPOSED ZONING CHANGE: 1612 Gaston Avenue

ZONING FROM: SF-3

TO: SF-3-H

SUMMARY STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the proposed zoning change from single family residence (SF-3) district zoning to single family residence – Historic (SF-3-H) combining district zoning.

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION ACTION: Recommended the proposed zoning change from single family residence (SF-3) district zoning to single family residence – Historic (SF-3-H) combining district zoning. Vote: 9-0.

ZONING AND PLATTING COMMISSION ACTION: Recommended the proposed zoning change from single family residence (SF-3) district zoning to single family residence – Historic (SF-3-H) combining district zoning. Vote: 8-0 (Jackson absent)

DEPARTMENT COMMENTS: The First United Methodist Parsonage is outside the bounds of the Comprehensive Cultural Resources Survey (1984).

CITY COUNCIL DATE:

ACTION:

ORDINANCE READINGS: 1ST 2ND 3RD

ORDINANCE NUMBER:

CASE MANAGER: Steve Sadowsky

PHONE: 974-6454

NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION: Pemberton Heights Neighborhood Association

BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION:

The ca. 1948 First United Methodist Parsonage is a good example of Colonial Revival residential architecture in Austin and served as the home of pastors of the First United Methodist Church from 1948 to 2002.

Architecture:

The First United Methodist Parsonage is a two-story rectangular-plan side-gabled stone veneer house with a composition shingle roof and casement windows. The house is a good

example of Colonial Revival residential architecture with its symmetrical composition, and central entry with a broken pediment above. The Colonial Revival style dominated American residential architecture in the 1930s and 1940s, appealing because of its ties to the past during the Depression and war years.

Historical Associations

The parsonage was home to three Methodist ministers who contributed significantly to the social history of Austin. The First United Methodist Church built this parsonage in 1948, replacing a former parsonage located just north of the church building at 12th and Lavaca Streets. The first pastor in residence at this house was **Dr. Kenneth Pope** (1901-1989). Pope, born in Missouri, was the son of a circuit-riding Methodist minister, and spent much of his childhood in the small towns of the Texas Panhandle. He joined the Chautauqua as a young man, being put in charge of the huge tent that housed the revival meeting and lectures. He graduated from high school in Clarendon, Texas, from Southern Methodist University in 1922, received his bachelor of divinity from SMU in 1924, and was ordained in 1926. He served in various small town congregations until coming to Austin in 1940. Pope was a very charismatic minister; church membership at the First United Methodist Church nearly doubled during his tenure from 1940 to 1949. He moved to Houston in 1949 to lead the First Methodist Church there, a position he held until 1960, when he was elected a bishop and was assigned to the Dallas-Fort Worth area. He retired in 1972, and served as the Bishop-in-residence at the Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University. He died in Dallas in 1989.

Dr. Marvin S. Vance (1905-1966) succeeded Pope as pastor of the First United Methodist Church in 1949, serving until 1962. Dr. Vance was prominent in local civic and business circles, serving as president of the Austin Rotary Club, director of the Austin Council on Alcoholism, and on the Advisory Board of the Salvation Army. He was appointed to the Texas State Board of Correction, serving from 1959 to 1965, and was nationally known for his speaking engagements and national preaching missions. Attesting to his prominence in Austin and Texas, his pallbearers included Allan Shivers, Dan Moody, Jr., and DeWitt Greer.

Reverend Robert S. Tate, Jr. (1914 -) was a major social force in the church in the 1960s, taking over from Dr. Vance in 1963. Tate moved to Austin from San Antonio, and was prominent in the social and economic programs of the Johnson administration in Austin and Texas. Tate worked to bring social programs to the poor of Austin, and served as vice-president of the American Social Health Association. Born in Dallas, Tate grew up in San Antonio, graduated from SMU in 1936, and received his doctorate from Southwestern University in 1964. Upon his retirement in 1973, he and his family returned to San Antonio. The Tates re-decorated the parsonage upon their arrival from San Antonio.

Reverend Jack Heacock took over the pastorship of the First United Methodist Church in 1973, coming here from Corpus Christi. Heacock was the son of a Methodist minister, graduated from Texas A&I College, and received his doctorate from the Perkins School of Theology at SMU in Dallas. Heacock was superintendent of the San Antonio and Corpus Christi districts of the church. Reverend Heacock served until 1989.

The church sold the parsonage in 2002 to the current owners, Matthew and Crista Wheeler.

PARCEL NO.: 01170207150000

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Lot 1 and the West 10 feet of Lot 2, Block 29, Pemberton Heights, Section 10.

ANNUAL TAX ABATEMENT: \$8,221 (owner-occupied); city portion: \$1,999

APPRAISED VALUE: \$541,298

PRESENT USE: Residence

CONDITION: Excellent

PRESENT OWNER

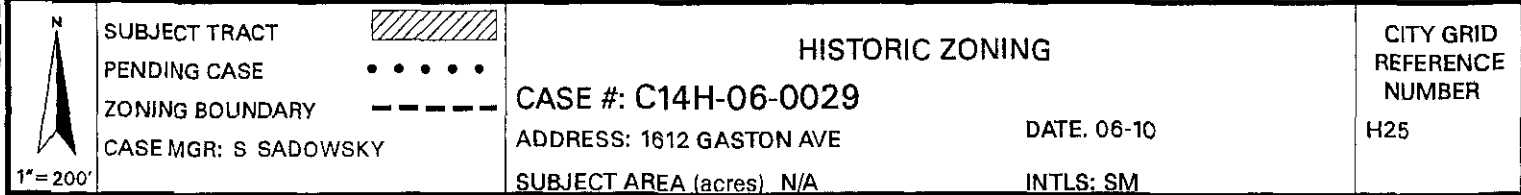
Matthew and Crista Wheeler
1612 Gaston Avenue
Austin, Texas 78703

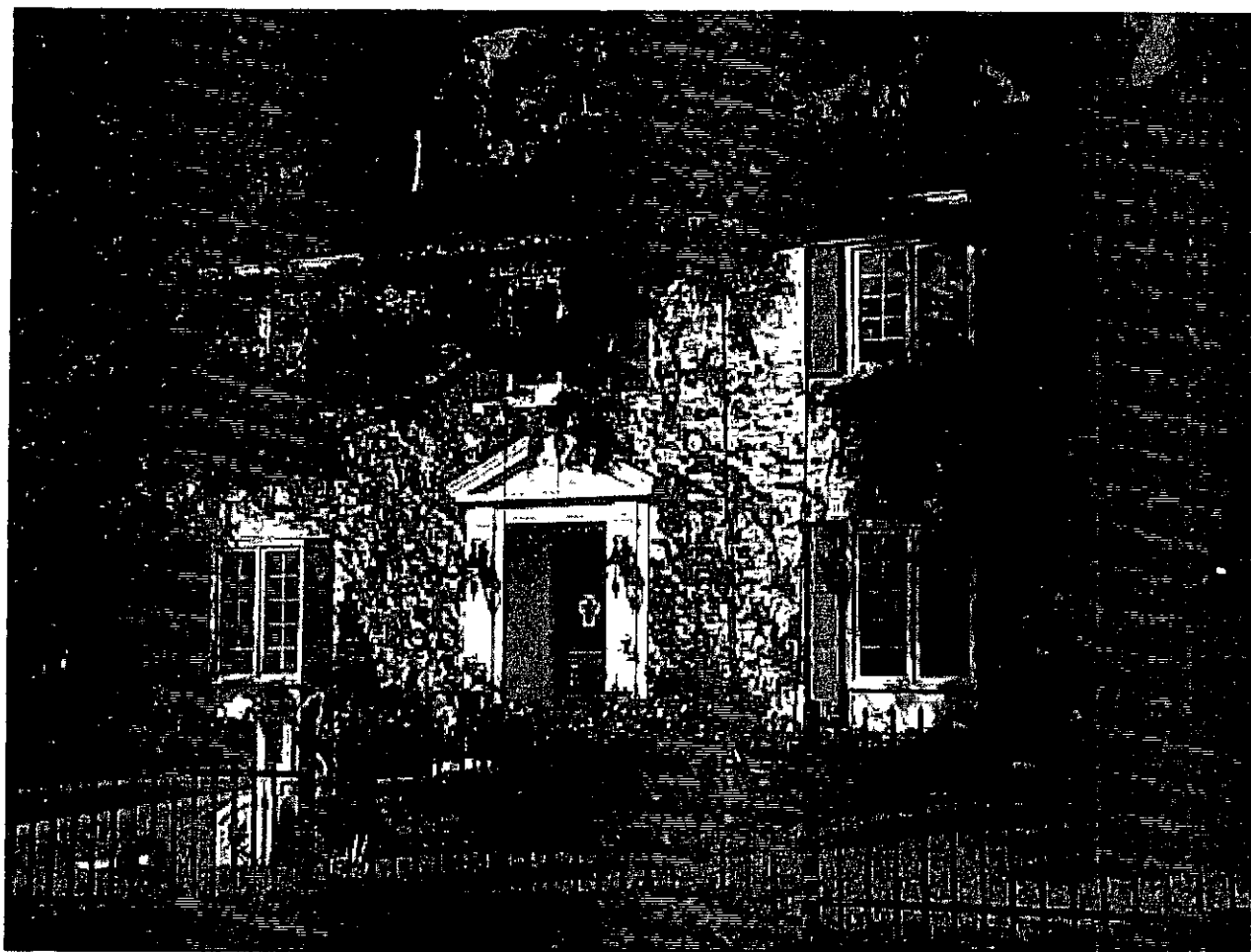
DATE BUILT: ca. 1948

ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS: The house was remodeled in 1973, and a portion of the breezeway was enclosed. The windows do not appear to be original.

ORIGINAL OWNER(S): First United Methodist Church (1948)

OTHER HISTORICAL DESIGNATIONS: None





First United Methodist Church Parsonage
1612 Gaston Avenue
ca. 1948

A. APPLICATION FOR HISTORIC ZONING

OK to go
SS
9-18-06

PROJECT INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY	
APPLICATION DATE: <u>09/21/06</u>	FILE NUMBER(S): <u>C14h-06-0029</u>
TENTATIVE HLC DATE: _____	
TENTATIVE PC or ZAP DATE: _____	
TENTATIVE CC DATE: _____	CITY INITIATED: YES / NO
CASE MANAGER: <u>[Signature]</u>	ROLLBACK: YES / NO
APPLICATION ACCEPTED BY: <u>[Signature]</u>	

BASIC PROJECT DATA:

1. OWNER'S NAME Crista & Matthew Wheeler

2. PROJECT NAME First United Methodist Parsonage / Pope House

3. PROJECT STREET ADDRESS (or Range): 1162 Gaston

ZIP 78703 COUNTY: Travis

IF PROJECT ADDRESS CANNOT BE DEFINED ABOVE:

LOCATED _____ FRONTAGE FEET ALONG THE N. S. E. W (CIRCLE ONE) SIDE OF _____ (ROAD NAME PROPERTY FRONTS ONTO), WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY _____ DISTANCE FROM ITS INTERSECTION WITH _____ CROSS STREET.

AREA TO BE REZONED:

4. ACRES 80 x 140 = 257 (OR) SQ.FT. 3008

5. ZONING AND LAND USE INFORMATION:

EXISTING ZONING	EXISTING USE	TRACT# (IF MORE THAN 1)	ACRES / SQ FT	PROPOSED USE	PROPOSED ZONING
<u>SF-3</u>	<u>residence</u>	_____	<u>80 x 140 / 3008</u>	<u>residence</u>	<u>SF-3-H</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

RELATED CURRENT CASES:

6. ACTIVE ZONING CASE?	(YES) <input checked="" type="radio"/> (NO) <input type="radio"/>	FILE NUMBER _____
7. RESTRICTIVE COVENANT?	(YES) <input checked="" type="radio"/> (NO) <input type="radio"/>	FILE NUMBER _____
8. SUBDIVISION?	(YES) <input checked="" type="radio"/> (NO) <input type="radio"/>	FILE NUMBER _____
9. SITE PLAN?	(YES) <input checked="" type="radio"/> (NO) <input type="radio"/>	FILE NUMBER _____

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION (SUBDIVISION REFERENCE OR METES AND BOUNDS):

10a. SUBDIVISION REFERENCE Name <u>Pemberton Heights Section 10</u>	
Block(s) <u>29</u>	Lot(s) <u>1 & WIDR Lot 2</u> Outlot(s) _____
Plat Book. _____	Page _____
Number _____	
10b. METES AND BOUNDS (Attach two copies of certified field notes if subdivision reference is not available or zoning includes partial lots)	

DEED REFERENCE CONVEYING PROPERTY TO PRESENT OWNER AND TAX PARCEL I.D.:

Instrument # <u>2002172799</u>	TAX PARCEL I.D. NO <u>0117020715</u>
11. VOLUME _____ PAGE _____	

OTHER PROVISIONS:

12. IS PROPERTY IN A ZONING COMBINING DISTRICT / OVERLAY ZONE? YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO
TYPE OF COMBINING DIST/OVERLAY ZONE (NCCD, NP, etc) _____
13. LOCATED IN A LOCAL OR NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? <input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO <u>Old West Austin NRHD</u>
14. IS A TIA REQUIRED? YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO (NOT REQUIRED IF BASE ZONING IS NOT CHANGING)
TRIPS PER DAY: _____
TRAFFIC SERIAL ZONE(S) _____

OWNERSHIP TYPE:

15. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOLE <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PROPERTY <input type="checkbox"/> PARTNERSHIP <input type="checkbox"/> CORPORATION <input type="checkbox"/> TRUST
If ownership is other than sole or community property, list individuals/partners/principals below or attach separate sheet

OWNER INFORMATION:

16. OWNER CONTACT INFORMATION	
SIGNATURE: <u>Crista</u>	NAME <u>Crista Wheeler</u>
FIRM NAME _____	TELEPHONE NUMBER <u>476-2160</u>
STREET ADDRESS: <u>11612 Gaston Ave.</u>	
CITY <u>Austin</u>	STATE <u>TX</u> ZIP CODE <u>78703</u>
EMAIL ADDRESS: <u>cristawheeler@aya.yale.edu</u>	

AGENT INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE):

17. AGENT CONTACT INFORMATION	
SIGNATURE: _____	NAME: _____
FIRM NAME: _____	TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____
STREET ADDRESS _____	
CITY: _____	STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____
CONTACT PERSON _____	TELEPHONE NUMBER _____
EMAIL ADDRESS: _____	

DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY: _____

D. SUBMITTAL VERIFICATION AND INSPECTION AUTHORIZATION

SUBMITTAL VERIFICATION

My signature attests to the fact that the attached application package is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that proper City staff review of this application is dependent upon the accuracy of the information provided and that any inaccurate or inadequate information provided by me/my firm/etc., may delay the proper review of this application.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT NAME BELOW SIGNATURE AND
INDICATE FIRM REPRESENTED, IF APPLICABLE.

C. Wheeler 9-12-06
Signature Date
Crista Wheeler
Name (Typed or Printed)

Firm (If applicable)

INSPECTION AUTHORIZATION

As owner or authorized agent, my signature authorizes staff to visit and inspect the property for which this application is being submitted

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT NAME BELOW SIGNATURE AND
INDICATE FIRM REPRESENTED, IF APPLICABLE.

C. Wheeler 9-12-06
Signature Date
Crista Wheeler
Name (Typed or Printed)

Firm (If applicable)

E. ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

concerning
Subdivision Plat Notes, Deed Restrictions,
Restrictive Covenants
and / or
Zoning Conditional Overlays

I, Crista Wheeler have checked for subdivision plat notes, deed restrictions,
(Print name of applicant)

restrictive covenants and/or zoning conditional overlays prohibiting certain uses and/or requiring certain development restrictions i.e height, access, screening etc on this property, located at

11612 Gaston
(Address or Legal Description)

If a conflict should result with the request I am submitting to the City of Austin due to subdivision plat notes, deed restrictions, restrictive covenants and/or zoning conditional overlays it will be my responsibility to resolve it I also acknowledge that I understand the implications of use and/or development restrictions that are a result of a subdivision plat notes, deed restrictions, restrictive covenants and/or zoning conditional overlays

I understand that if requested, I must provide copies of any and all subdivision plat notes, deed restrictions, restrictive covenants and/or zoning conditional overlay information which may apply to this property

CW
(Applicant's signature)

9-12-06
(Date)

F 1 Historical Documentation – Deed Chronology

Deed Research for 1612 Gaston Avenue

<u>Transaction</u>	<u>Vol /Page/Instrument number</u>
First United Methodist Church Lot 1 &W 10 Ft of Lot 2, Block 29, Pemberton Heights Section 10 March 16, 1948 \$24,750 00	Building Permut # 36912
First United Methodist Church Lot 1 &W 10 Ft of Lot 2, Block 29, Pemberton Heights Section 10 May 9, 1980 ¹	Vol 6958, p 2369
Crista and Matthew Wheeler Lot 1 &W 10 Ft of Lot 2, Block 29, Pemberton Heights Section 10 September 12, 1980	Instrument # 2002172799 ¹

¹ The house was built in 1948 and occupied in 1449 However, it was not deeded until 1980

F 2 Historical Documentation – Occupancy History

Occupancy Research for 1612 Gaston Avenue

<u>Year</u>	<u>Occupant Name and Reference</u>	<u>Source</u>
1948-49	Bishop Kenneth W Pope First United Methodist Church Pastor	Austin History Center
1949-63	Dr Marvin Vance First United Methodist Church Pastor	Austin History Center
1963-73	Dr Robert Tate First United Methodist Church Pastor	Austin History Center
1973-89	Reverend Jack Heacock First United Methodist Church Pastor	Austin History Center
1989-94	Reverend John Gilbert First United Methodist Church Pastor	Austin History Center
1994-2002	Reverend John McMullen First United Methodist Church Pastor	Austin History Center
2002-present	Crista and Matthew Wheeler	Austin History Center

F 3 Historical Documentation – Biographical Data²

Biographical Data Research for 1612 Gaston Avenue

- 1 Bishop and Dr W Kenneth Pope, Ph D (in residence 1948-49)
Awards include Bishop appointed by South Central Jurisdictional Conference
Yale Divinity School, M A
Trustee of Southern Methodist University
Bishop in residence, Perkins School of Theology (SMU)
World Conference on Life and Work in Oxford, Delegate
- 2 Dr Marvin Vance (in residence 1949-63)
Awards include President of Austin Rotary Club
Board of Corrections, Member
Director of Austin Council on Alcoholism, the Wesley
Foundation at the University of Texas, United Fund, and the
Child and Family Welfare Board
- 3 Dr Robert Tate (in residence 1963-73)
Awards include Southwestern University, Ph D
Chairman and Vice President of ASHA (American Social
Health Association) Southwest Regional Committee
Texas MHMR (Mental Health and Mental Retardation) Board
Member
Texas Youth Council Board Member
- 4 Reverend Jack Heacock (in residence 1973-89)
Awards include Bishop's Cabinet of the Southwest Texas Conference,
Chairman
Superintendent of San Antonio District
Superintendent of Corpus Christi District
- 5 Reverend John Gilbert (in residence 1989-94)
Awards include Clergy Emeritus First United Methodist Church
Perkins School of Theology, B A
- 6 Reverend John McMullen (in residence 1994-2002)
Awards include Vice Chair Council on Finance for Southwest Conference of
Methodist Churches
President of Southwest Methodist Churches
Mentor for Perkins School of Theology
Chair of Episcopacy Committee

² See attached documentation

Texas In Action - A Profile

From Circuit, Pastor Brings Religion Home

BACK IN 1918, a 17-year-old youth sat on the tail gate of a covered wagon as it jostled slowly down the road, and thought over the finer points of his first important sermon.

He listened to the steady, crunching sound of steel tires digging into the sandy ruts. The unhurried wheels picked up and carried small streams of sand halfway up the rims. For several yards behind the moving wagon a fine haze of dust hung ankle deep along the road.

Somewhere farther along was the frame church in which this youth would soon be preaching. In his mind he could already hear the shouting with which portions of his sermon would be greeted. Those were the days when shouting was expected, and good Methodists never let another down.

Young Kenneth Pope had studied at a combination junior college and high school at Clarendon in Northwest Texas. Now he was spending his summer vacation touring that part of the country and preaching the gospel, a lively occupation in those days when World War I was drawing to a close.

His father was a minister before him. It was most unusual for a minister to remain more than a year with any one pastorate. Methodism was on the move and new faces weren't things to be dreaded.

Dr. Kenneth Pope, pastor of the First Methodist Church, remembers that covered wagon ride quite well. Those who have known him for years remember that his sermon was accepted with fervor; and that although he wasn't ordained as a minister until several years later, he soon was more in demand than many of his seniors.

Seated behind a semi-circular desk in his study just off the high balcony to the front of the church, Dr. Pope will recall with some nostalgia his travels and his preaching of the gospel through Northwest Texas.

"The noise from such a meeting," he says, "could often be heard three and four miles away. You can't imagine how sound will carry in that part of the country."

He impresses one as a circumspect individual of much ability, who blends a natural courtesy with his ministerial dignity that induces confidences. Behind his glasses his eyes sometimes look more intense than his modulated voice—particularly when he talks of the old days

Open saloons, frequent street shootings and bad men became as vivid through Dr. Pope's speech as if they were memories come to life and were lined against the walls of his study.

Dalhart at the turn of the century was especially an outlaw town because fugitives had four close-lying states in which to hide. Crowded up in the very corner of the Panhandle, bad men from Dalhart could, within hours, be far away from the law in Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico or Oklahoma.

Born in tiny Hale, Mo., Nov. 21, 1901, it wasn't until his father had changed pastorates half a dozen times that Pope finally started to school at Goree. His best friend was a saloon-keeper's son.

"He was a fine boy," Pope declared. "And so was his father. It wasn't long until he quit selling liquor."

Then there was Paducah, also in Northwest Texas, where two rival firms waged outright war against each other. Every few weeks, a building would burn, and each time, it was the property of one of the firms.

Man is the son of God, but some of the men in Dr. Pope's past experience had almost given up their birthrights.

Pope preached through that summer of 1918, and then a year later joined the Redpath-Horner Chautauqua, one of those space-eating road lecture courses that educated the masses in those theaterless, radioless years.

Anyone, who can remember a small town in its summer months during that period, will remember that a chautauqua was about like the Fourth of July, Christmas and Easter rolled into one.

Pope, however, didn't make any of the show's many speeches. He was in charge of the tent. "Anyone who has ever taken down one of those big tents in the mud, trying to get to the next town in time, will know why I didn't stay with the chautauqua long," he said.

"And too, it wasn't so educating. I heard more speeches and screaming in the six weeks I was with that show than I ever want to hear again in the same length of time."

"I can still see one old fellow standing out there in front of those crowds, shouting at the top of his voice every time, 'Feed the mouths of those starving babes in Europe!'"



God's Word and Man's Works His Message

The young churchman wrote the Methodist circuit rider in Northwest Texas for a revival job, and when he went back, he was in the pulpit to stay. He has just completed his 30th year of active preaching.

The minister graduated from high school at Clarendon, and then from Southern Methodist University in 1922 with a bachelor of arts degree. Two years later he was awarded his bachelor of divinity degree from Southern Methodist. He did graduate work at Yale for two more years, being ordained as a minister in the meantime, in 1926. Southwestern University honored him with a doctor of divinity degree in 1937.

Pope started his pastoral career at Milford, but in 1929 he was transferred to Breckenridge, where he served until 1933. A young teacher, Kate Sayle, caught his eye at Breckenridge, and they were married in 1930. They have two children, Victoria, 8, and Kenneth Sayle, one.

He has held several pastorates since, one of them in Missouri. In

the fall of 1940, Dr. C. M. Raby, serving at Kenedy, was transferred from the Austin pulpit and Dr. Pope became his successor. Church attendance has climbed from 1,986 to 3,347 during his ministry.

The minister, still with an exciting outlook on life, has an intimate knowledge of conditions in Texas both as they were before the war and as they are now. He was an associate delegate to the World Conference of Life and Works at Oxford, England, in 1937, and during the summer of 1945, at the request of Bishop Paul A. Garber of the Geneva area of the Methodist Church, he made a tour of Europe to observe economic and religious conditions with special application to Methodism.

Dr. Pope hasn't the opportunity to roam through the country as he did as a youth, but after all, chautauquas aren't needed. Each Sunday his sermons are broadcast thus reaching many communities without the covered wagon. Only recently he received a fan letter from Lubbock.

WAYNE MACKEY.

Dr. Marvin Vance

Claimed by Illness

Austin American-Statesman

17 May, 1966

Rev Marvin S. Vance, 61, a widely-known Methodist minister in Austin, died in a local hospital Saturday morning following an extended illness.

Dr. Vance had served as pastor of the First Methodist Church here for 14 years when ill health compelled him to vacate the pulpit on May, 1963.

The body will lie in state at Weed-Corley Funeral Home until Monday morning when funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. at the First Methodist Church. Dr. Monroe Vivian and Rev. Don Benton of Dallas will officiate. Burial will be in the Texas State Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Allan Shivers, Rogan B. Giles, Tom W. Bradford, Dan Moody Jr., DeWitt Greer, C. H. Pete Coffield, Jack Stayton and Jim Yeates.

Rev Vance is survived by his widow, Mrs. Dorothy Vance of 3201 Guadalupe; three sisters, Mrs. Thelma Vance Johnson of Houston, Mrs. Ada Mae John-



DR. MARVIN VANCE

son of Laneville; and Mrs. Gladys Wilbur of Laneville.

Instead of sending flowers, those wishing to do so may send memorial contributions to the (See VANCE, Page A6)

administrators of Texas Junior Colleges and other gatherings of professional, business and trade organizations.

During his long service as pastor of the First Methodist Church, Dr. Vance became well known to state officials and Texas lawmakers, many of whom attended services at his church located downtown across the street from the Texas Capitol grounds. He held the honor of addressing a joint session of the Senate and House of Representatives.

Dr. Vance had rounded out eight years of service as pastor here when on May 21, 1957, he and his wife, Dorothy, were honored by members and friends of the church in an appreciation dinner at the Stephen F. Austin

The guest list for the dinner on that occasion included Governor Price Daniel, former governors Dan Moody and Allan Shivers, the late Mayor Tom Miller and Dr. Carlyle Marney, pastor of the First Baptist Church, who became pastor of

AF-Biog Vance, Marvin S - 1966

7-18-66-pm

Last Honors Paid To Marvin Vance

Final tributes were paid Monday to Dr. Marvin S. Vance, 61, former pastor of First Methodist Church of Austin, who died Saturday in a local hospital after an illness of three years.

Dr. Monroe Vivion of Austin and Rev. Don Benton of Dallas officiated at the funeral service held in First Methodist Church where Dr. Vance served as pastor for 14 years.

Burial was in State Cemetery here under direction of the Cook Funeral Home.

Dr. Vance joined the Texas Methodist Conference in 1931 and served churches in Bay City, Pasadena, Houston and Jacksonville during the next 18 years. He moved to the Southwest Texas Conference in 1949 and was assigned to First Methodist Church of Austin. He was a member and past president of Austin Rotary Club; a past member of Salvation Army Advisory Board, director of Wesley Foundation at The University of Texas, and served three and one-half years as secretary to the Texas Board of Corrections under appointment by Governor Price Daniel.

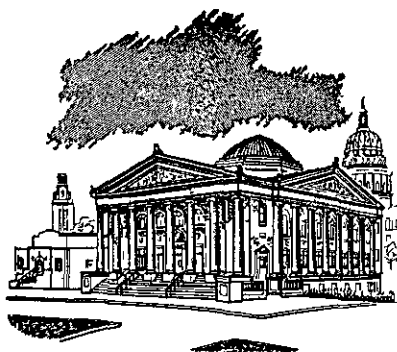
He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Dorothy Vance of Austin, and by three sisters, Mrs. Thelma Vance Johnson of Houston, Mrs. Ada Mae Johnson and Mrs. Gladys Wilbur of Laneville.

Pallbearers were Allan Shivers, Rogan B. Giles, Tom W. Bradford, Dan Moody Jr., DeWitt Greer, Pete Coffield, Jim Yeates, and Jack Stayton.

Honorary pallbearers were members of Downtown Rotary, current and past officials of First Methodist Church, and Methodist ministers of the Southwest Texas Conference.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Methodist Mission Home in San Antonio.

Austin History Center & Austin Public Library



Judge J. W. McClendon
1122 Colorado Apts - 1902
Austin, Texas 78701

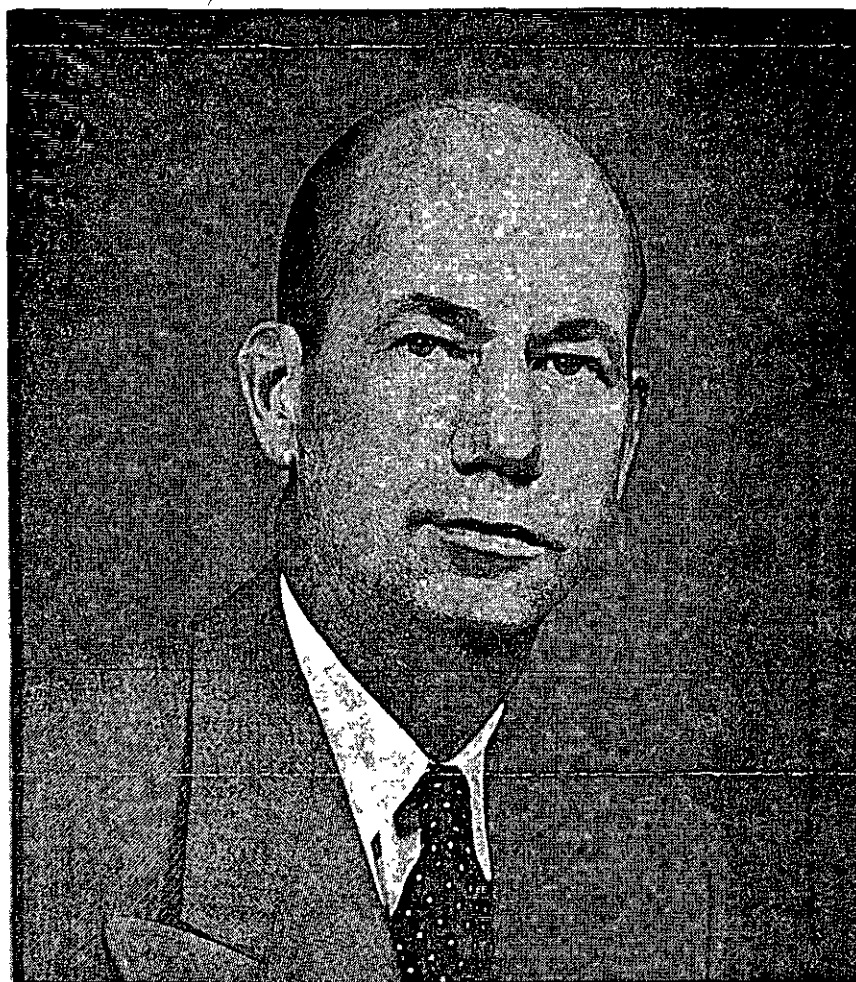
First Church Beacon

Vol. 27

Austin, Texas, July 22, 1966

No. 30

In Memoriam



THE REVEREND MARVIN S. VANCE, D.D.
Pastor of First Methodist Church
1949 — 1963

*"..... Know ye not that there is a prince
and a great man fallen this day in Israel?"*

Samuel 3: 38



American-Statesman/UPI

Yes, this is the kitchen sink . . . and it does go somewhere else besides in the den of the parsonage. The Rev. Robert S. Tate Jr., new pastor of the First Methodist Church, points in the direction of the kitchen which is being remodeled along with the rest of the house. With Rev. Tate is his attractive and enthusiastic family: at left, Bobby and Jennye Sue, in

the center, Peggy Tate Ezzell and her husband Mike, and at right, Mrs. Tate. Carol, the oldest daughter, is at SMU. Sunday afternoon, Rev. Tate and his family will be honored at a 3 to 5 p.m. reception in the Co-Ed Hall of First Methodist Church. Chairman of the reception is Mrs. Rogan Giles.

Dr. Robert Tate To Preach His Farewell Sermon Sunday

Am. St. 6/2/73

Dr. Robert Spence Tate Jr. preaches his farewell sermons Sunday to end an exciting decade as religious and social counselor to First United Methodist Church, the community and state.

Tate's text Sunday is the one he used in his first sermon from The Letter of Paul to the Philippians:

"And this is my prayer that your love may grow richer and richer in knowledge and perfect insight, so that you may have a sense of that which is vital . . ."

This giant of a man counseled the great and the humble. He served on major state boards with appointments from Governors John Connally and Preston Smith. He worked with then District Judge (now Supreme Court Justice) Tom Reavley in tough battles of the mid-sixties to bring to the poor of Austin new social and economic programs of President Lyndon B. Johnson.

He tried in his persuasive way to bring new insight and compassion to his flock, and beyond them to community, regional, state, and national forces seeking social action to improve the lot of man.

Tate, born Oct. 13, 1914, in Dallas, grew up in San Antonio, graduated from Southern Methodist University in 1936, got his doctorate from Southwestern University in 1964. He married



Staff Photo
ROBERT S. TATE
Leaves First Methodist

Ella Mae Starcke in 1940. She is a niece of the late Max Starcke, father of the Lower Colorado River Authority.

Tate preached first in Bastrop, Woodboro, and Pettus. He then preached in Corpus Christi five years before taking the pulpit of Alamo Heights Methodist Church in San Antonio from June 1950 until coming to Austin in September 1963. He is returning to San Antonio, but to a younger church, St. Andrews United Methodist.

Rev. Jack Heacock takes the Austin pulpit, on July 1, transferring from Corpus Christi as Tate did a decade ago. The preacher Tate succeeds in San Antonio moves to Corpus Christi. The three-way shift was worked out by Bishop Eugene Slator, Southwest Conference of United Methodist Churches.

The Tates have three children, Mrs. Robert D. Forrester married to an Amarillo lawyer; Mrs. Michael S. Ezzell, whose husband is getting his master's degree in pre-school child and family services at University of Hawaii in Honolulu; a son, Robert III who is a staffer at Ed Bridges' Marbridge House for retarded men working in the Austin community; and Jennye Sue Tate, 15, who is just graduating from O. Henry Junior High School.

"I'm leaving happy," Tate says. "I wanted to stay in the pulpit. And the beauty of St. Andrews is that its growth is all ahead of it."—CHRIS WHITCRAFT

F 9 Historical Documentation – Historic Narrative

Historic Narrative Research for 1612 Gaston Avenue

The first official parsonage of the First United Methodist Church was erected in December of 1948 at 1612 Gaston Avenue in Pemberton Heights. This property meets the following two criteria for designation as a city historic landmark:

B Historical Associations

Virtually all of its resident pastors have contributed to the history of the City of Austin, as well as to the state and nation. Bishop Kenneth Pope presided over the South Central Jurisdiction, was a trustee of Southern Methodist University, as well as the Bishop in residence of the Perkins School of Theology. Dr. Marvin Vance was the Director and President of the Austin Rotary Club, Director of the Austin Council on Alcoholism and the Wesley Foundation at the University of Texas at Austin.

The third pastor in residence, Dr. Robert Tate, worked with Governors John Connally and Preston Smith to further the plight of the poor through improved economic and social programs and policy. He was also married to Ella Mae Starcke, niece of Max Starcke of the Lower Colorado River Authority.

Reverend Jack Heacock was Superintendent to both the San Antonio and Corpus Christi Districts as well as the Chairman of the Bishop's Cabinet of the Southwest Texas Conference. Following Heacock was Reverend John Gilbert who still currently resides in Austin and is active in the First United Methodist Church. Finally, the current pastor, Reverend John McMullen, is heavily tied to both the city and state (see Section F 3 for more detailed lists of awards, etc. given to all pastors).

D Community Value

The history of the First United Methodist Church dates back to 1840 with the Reverend John Haynie as its leader. The church continued to grow and remains the largest Methodist congregation in the City of Austin. Three City Historical Landmarks exist with respect to its former and current locations: 1) Congress at Fourth Street (1847-1853), 2) Brazos at Tenth (1853-1923), 3) Lavaca at Twelfth Street (1923- present). Beginning in 1949, the head of the church resided at this home (1612 Gaston Avenue) for his entire term as pastor in residence. Church business and meetings were frequently held in this home, including meetings of the First United Women's Group, Christmas parties, and fundraisers. All pastors in residence were welcoming and gracious with respect to the use of the parsonage. This residence remains a symbol of the home to the First United Methodist Church.

building permit cards
floor by stage

101 of 101
1 and west 101
101 of 101

Pemberton Heights Section 10

Two story stone veneer residence and
frame garage
36912
3-16-48
\$24,750.00

Geo. D. Smith

11

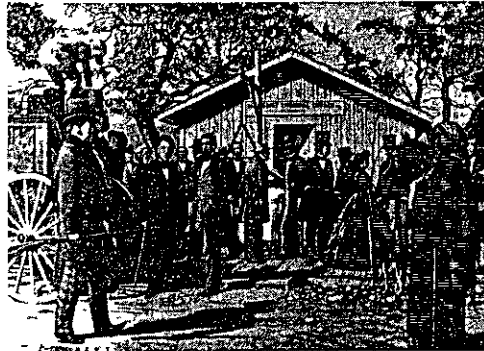
6-13-73 136679 Remodel exist. res. (enclose part of
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...-METHUEN (C3690) (1950-)

A Heritage of 139 Years

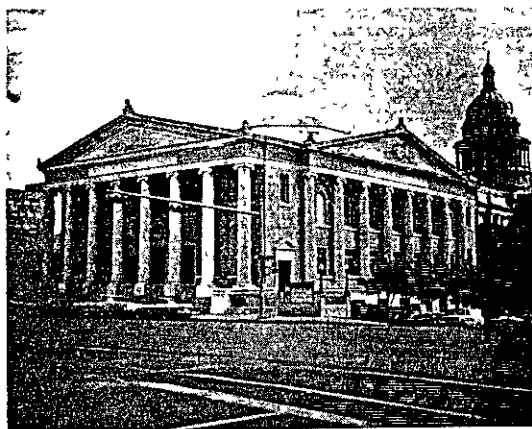
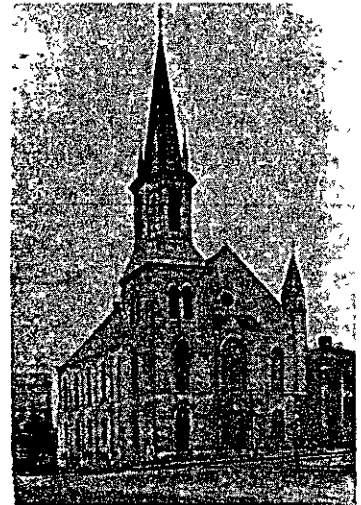
a celebration
of Methodism
in Austin

November 4, 1979



Congress at Fourth (Cedar)
1847 - 1853

Brazos
at Tenth
1853 - 1923



Lavaca at Twelfth
1923 - 1979

First
United
Methodist
Church

Austin, Texas

Austin History Center & Austin Public Library