

Historical Timeline for Jacksonville and First United Methodist Church

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event(s)</i>
1819	Alabama statehood
1832	Jacksonville Methodist Episcopal Church (JMEC) began as a mission church, part of the Talladega Mission
1833	Drayton/Jacksonville founded
1834	First Presbyterian Church of Jacksonville established
	Jacksonville Methodist Episcopal Church was mentioned in the Quarterly Conference April 19, 1834.
1836	JMEC was authorized to build a church
	First Baptist Church of Jacksonville established
1839	Building completed at corner of College St. & Pelham Road; JMEC shared their meeting spaces with the local Masonic lodge.
	Town of Drayton was renamed Jacksonville for President Andrew Jackson
1845	JMEC joined the Alabama Conference of Methodist Episcopal Churches, South
1848	JMEC membership was noted as 48 white and 28 black members
1860	Census reports showed Alabama population: 964,201, Calhoun Co. population: 17,169 (including 4,370 slaves)
1864	As one of the largest & most active churches, JMEC hosted the 1864 Annual Conference
1867	JMEC membership recorded as 68 white & 60 black members
1871	St. Luke's Episcopal Church was established
	Name of the church was changed to Jacksonville Methodist Church
1882	During the 1882-83 session of the Alabama legislature, Jacksonville State Normal School was created to educate teachers and to conduct a preparatory school for local children.
1884	Jacksonville State Normal School had 25 students and 222 students in the preparatory school.
1887	Land was given by Mrs. Lydia Weir for the construction of a new building at the corner of Gayle and College Streets.
1899	Calhoun County seat moved from Jacksonville to Anniston
1910	Asbury Methodist merged with Jacksonville Methodist Church
mid 1920s	An annex was added to the right of the sanctuary
1930	Jacksonville State Normal School became Jacksonville State Teachers College
1934	was the centennial anniversary of First Methodist Church. There were 268 members.
1938	A new parsonage was built north of the church on Gayle Avenue.
1945	membership numbered 250
1947-1951	The building was remodeled
1957	Jacksonville State Teachers College became Jacksonville State College
1953-1958	Current parsonage became the education building
1966	State Board of Education elevated Jacksonville State College to University status; JSU was born.
1968	A new parsonage was built at the corner of 12th Street & 7th Avenue.
	The United Brethren merged with the Methodist Church, and the name was changed to First United Methodist Church.
1973-78	additional property was purchased
1974	membership numbered 516
1984	saw another enlargement of the sanctuary and the choir loft
1993	fire destroyed much of the education building. It was reconstructed to accommodate children and youth Sunday School classes.
1997-98	construction of the McWhorter Activity Center
2002-2003	additional education space was added