

DR. BRUCE WOOD

Notes From Dr. Bruce Wood

Senior Pastor 1992-1996

(Written for 25th Anniversary 1995)

Serving as the pastor of Ashford United Methodist Church is one of the supreme privileges of my life. I stand in the tradition of great men and women of God who have led this congregation to faithful discipleship and witness in West Houston and the world. Those who have labored before me have not labored in vain and have left a great legacy of faith and love. I am deeply indebted to the former pastors, Don Willis, Jim Killen, Jim Foster, and Chappell Temple and all the dedicated people of God who have given themselves sacrificially to establish this outstanding church.



Twenty-five years ago, an ember was fanned into a flame as the Methodist people passionately and enthusiastically established a new work for Christ. The flame has been kept alive through the dedication of hundreds of people working together. No doubt, hundreds of lives have been touched through the ministry of Ashford.

The three years we have served Ashford have been rewarding and challenging. How will I ever forget the memorable mission trips to Jamaica – unity of mission, deep communion with God and one another, working side by side with brothers and sisters from Ashford and Jamaica, little children's smiles, burglaries, packed vans, a man left beside the road apparently dying, wrecked autos, broken feet, pool side parties, preaching in the open air with the roaring motor of a dump truck, hillside Bible studies, visitation in homes of humble villagers, prayer for God's grace to prevail and so much more. Ashford's commitment to mission beyond the community is a testimony to God's call on our church.

I believe that Ashford has a great future if the fire and passion for spreading scriptural holiness is kept alive among the people. May God's grace keep the flame burning brightly in us.

In His Steps, Bruce