



of The **BRANCHES**
LIVING
VINE

1916 - 1991

A Seventy Five Year History of
Highland Park
United Methodist Church

Edmund Deane
Senior Editor
Jessamine Younger
Assistant Editor

Leighton Farrell
Senior Pastor

Branches of the Living Vine
A Seventy Five Year History of
Highland Park United Methodist Church, 1916 - 1991

Endpaper: Preliminary drawing by Rodney Culver Hill for sanctuary wood carvings, 1973
Title page illustration: Liz Conrad

Book Design: Liz Conrad - Liz Conrad Graphic Design, Richardson, Texas
Page composition: Aldus PageMaker 4.0 on a Macintosh IIfx system

Copyright 1991 by
Highland Park United Methodist Church
Dallas, Texas
All rights reserved

PRINTED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



The carillon bells are ready to install.

A decade later, in 1984, the Porter Memorial Carillon was given to the church by Rufus C. "Buddy" Porter and his sister, Alicia Washam, in loving memory of their parents, Loula Lee Porter, Ralph A. Porter and Lena Kay Porter. One of the finest carillons anywhere in the world, this instrument in our bell tower was cast by the Paccard Foundry in Annecy, France, the premier foundry for these bells for the last two centuries. Our instrument contains 48 bells, with the largest bell weighing just over two and a half tons, and the smallest being 26 pounds. The instrument is played from a manual and pedal clavier in the room just below the bell chamber, which members can visit in order to watch the bells being played. There is also a practice clavier in a second room, just below this one.

New Strategies of Ministry

When Dr. Farrell analyzed the demographics of his new congregation, he found that he needed to encourage singles and young families to become a part of the congregation to bring more young adults into the current membership. He promoted the growth of the Child Development Program, which by offering through-the-week child care and classes for preschool age children, could attract young families. The program was designed for children who were two years through Kindergarten age that needed a half-day or all-day learning experiences while their parents were at work.

Dr. Farrell also gave additional resources to developing new singles classes, and assigned extra staff to give their energies to expanding this singles ministry. He also encouraged the congregation's concern in updating the aging church plant. With the renovation of the Educational Building already completed and the sanctuary remodeling done, Dr. Farrell extended their initial interest in renewing the church's physical plant across a decade of improvements to other areas of the building and grounds.

A new organ for Cox Chapel had been commissioned in 1970, to be installed in the rear of Cox Chapel with a small balcony built to accommodate it. When Cox