

Dorothy Smith Barton

Dorothy Smith was born in Somerville, Texas, to a Santa Fe tie plant family with seven children. After graduating as Salutatorian from high school, Dorothy attended business school to further her education. She returned to Somerville to care for her father.

Having taught herself music theory, Dorothy learned to play the pump organ and became organist for the local Presbyterian Church. In 1938 she married Charles Barton and together they joined the Methodist Church in Somerville in 1939. Dorothy was the 21st member to join the Somerville church. It wasn't long before she began playing the piano for the Methodist Church which required her presence there six times a week! In addition to lending her gift of music for Sunday School assemblies, worship services, MYF programs, and choir practices, Dorothy worked on special music programs for Easter and Christmas. Like all church musicians, she played for her share of weddings, funerals, and service clubs.