In 1925, Nelson accepted another call in Mayesville at Goodwill Presbyterian Church, where he was both pastor and principal of the Goodwill Day School. Goodwill Presbyterian Church had many needs when Nelson inherited it. The vast majority of Sumter County’s Black population were working as sharecroppers. Few owned land or were formally educated. In his 36 years of service there, the county’s social and economic standings were substantially improved. One of the biggest achievements was the establishment of the Goodwill Larger Parish, a consortium of nine congregations across Sumter, Lee, and Clarendon counties. The mission of the Parish was to join together pastors and other Christian education leaders to support the more than 3000 shared congregants and their surrounding communities.

Warren Julius Nelson served Goodwill Presbyterian Church and Christians all around South Carolina until he retired in 1960. Two years later, he passed away. However, Nelson’s legacy remains immeasurable. Goodwill Presbyterian Church and Day School raised future successful members of the community including business, civil, and religious leaders. Nelson had a positive impact on Atlantic Presbyterian, which during his lifetime produced an inordinate number of Black ministers compared to the rest of the denomination.