



COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*A HISTORY OF
COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH*

Community United Methodist Church had its beginning in a Community prayer meeting under the leadership of Mrs. Wallace Ellis. For five years prior to organizing of the church, she held cottage prayer services in the community each Sunday. This continued for three years without any special assistance. During the years 1946 and 1947, Rev. W.L. Maness held quite a few preaching services and two revival meetings in the community. The first revival was in the home of Mr. R.L. Chambers, 1946. The second was in a tenant house near the home of Mr. Chambers. This was in 1947 and was the beginning of the holding of services in the little tenant house which was called Community Chapel. Just prior to these services a petition was circulated in the community asking Rev. W.L. Maness to take the initiative in establishing a Methodist Church. The petition was signed by 122 of the citizens of the community. With this manifestation of interest, Mr. Maness took over regular services each second and fourth Sunday afternoons and appointed Mrs. Wallace Ellis to continue holding prayer services in the little cottage chapel each first and third Sundays.

On August 24, 1947, Rev. W.L. Clegg and Rev. W.L. Maness held service at Community Chapel and received into the membership of the church, as charter members, 20 people. Rev. W.L. Clegg did the preaching and assisted in the reception of the members. He, as District Superintendent of the Fayetteville District, announced that all members coming into the church between then and conference in November would be considered charter members. The record is so indicated, and thus began the history of Community Chapel.

Today, according to the 1974 Conference minutes, there are 75 members. Many changes have taken place since 1947. A sanctuary and four Sunday School rooms have been built and this past year have been modernized with new pews, carpeting, central heating and air-conditioning, painted inside and outside. The attendance averages around 51 for both Sunday School and Worship services.