

## Where Lives are Transformed

SEJ Historical Society Annual Meeting  
July 9-11, 2013  
Lake Junaluska Assembly, Lake  
Junaluska, NC

Plan now to attend the annual meeting of the Southeastern Jurisdiction Historical Society July 9-11 at Lake Junaluska Assembly. This year's theme "Where Lives are Transformed" will explore the Assembly's role in the transformation of lives for Christ over the past 100 years. Join us as we celebrate Lake Junaluska's centennial year through activities that will include a tour of a local historic site, music, drama, worship and, of course, beautiful scenery and good fellowship. For program and registration information, contact Nancy Watkins at [nwatkins@lakejunaluska.com](mailto:nwatkins@lakejunaluska.com) or (828) 454-6781.

## Greetings from the NC Conference Commission of Archives and History and The Historical Society of the NC Conference

You have received a copy of this Newsletter because you are a member of the Historical Society, a member of the Commission, you are a District Superintendent or other leader in our Conference, or your church has entered your name in the online database as the local church historian. If there needs to be a correction in your address, please let us know at The NC Conference Archives, 700 Waterfield Ridge Place; Garner NC 27529 or [rharry@nccumc.org](mailto:rharry@nccumc.org).

Archives and History  
NC Conference of the UMC  
The United Methodist Church  
700 Waterfield Ridge Place  
Garner NC 27529



## Saddlebags The NC Conference Commission on Archives & History

Saddlebags is  
a bi-annual  
publication of  
The NC Conference  
MARCH 2013

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### SPRING MEETING OF HISTORICAL SOCIETY - APRIL 13, 2013

#### Centenary United Methodist Church New Bern, NC

Methodism has a rich history in New Bern, NC. Beginning with George Whitefield bringing the first Methodist message in 1739 to Joseph Pilmore preaching to Methodists in New Bern on December 25, 1772, the message of Jesus Christ has touched the lives of the good people of New Bern for over 200 years.

George Whitefield was 25 years old when he arrived in New Bern to proclaim the message of Jesus Christ. Mr. John Green III writes that Whitefield preached in the afternoon of Christmas day 1739 after much prayer with his message being well received by his listeners. What a blessing that has been for New Bern ever since!

Rev. Pilmore was sent to America as a missionary by John Wesley and he made his way on horseback to New Bern in 1772. He entered North Carolina from Virginia earlier in December and travelled along the coast preaching in small



towns. He preached in Moyock, Currituck Courthouse, Tulls Creek Chapel, Indian Town, and in Edenton before arriving in New Bern on Christmas Eve. Like Whitefield thirty-three years before, Pilmore preached in the afternoon of Christmas day. Pilmore would stay in New Bern for six more days before itinerating.

Bishop Francis Asbury and Bishop Richard Whatcoat both preached in New Bern with Bishop

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**DIRECTIONS:** Centenary United Methodist Church is located at the corner of Middle and New Street in downtown New Bern (309 New Street). If you are coming east from Kinston and beyond, take Hwy 70 East to Exit 416. Take a left at the light until you reach Broad Street. At Broad Street take a right and follow until you arrive at Middle Street. Take a left onto Middle Street and the church is located on the right. Please check our church website at [www.centenarychurch.com](http://www.centenarychurch.com) or contact Rev. Bryan Huffman at [bryanhuffman@centenarychurch.com](mailto:bryanhuffman@centenarychurch.com) or 252-474-5773, if you have any questions.

On Saturday, April 13, 2013, Centenary UMC welcomes the North Carolina Historical Society at 10:00am and the Commission on Archives and History at 1:00pm. We also invite you to stay for a free concert by the Southern Gentlemen at 3:00pm in the Sanctuary. Please contact Robin Harry, [rharry@nccumc.org](mailto:rharry@nccumc.org), or 800-849-4433, ext. 252, if you will be staying for lunch.

## NC CONFERENCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING MINUTES - October 6, 2012

The fall meeting of the society met at The Methodist Building, 700 Waterfield Place, Garner, NC at 10:00 a.m. We gathered in the Sam Dixon Room. Fourteen persons attended. Attendees were:

Arthur Warren, Becky Warren, John Mitchell, Matt R. Johnston, Douglas Jonas, John Davis, Bryan Huffman, Dennis Lamm, Fred Shank, Bill Simpson, Wayne L. Davis, Ann Veasey Davis, Nancy Watkins and Rachel Oakes.

Everyone introduced themselves to the group and spoke of their connection with church history.

President Arthur Warren welcomed everyone and brought the meeting to order and offered a prayer.

Devotion was given from *Christian Believer: Knowing God with Heart and Mind-Readings* by Abingdon Press, Reading 187 by Albert Outler and *We Gather to Worship, Growing Christians Series* by Patti C. & Douglass W. Gilbert. God is at work through the Holy Spirit "to transform Christian history into personal faith...and so makes Christ our contemporary....The *medium* of the Holy Spirit's actions is — *history!* (CB, p. 154) "Amnesia is a tragic thing...Memory on the other hand, tells people and groups not only *who* they are and *what* they are, but *why* they are....Meaningful existence requires memory". (WGTW, p. 10)

Minutes were distributed from the spring meeting and approved.

Treasurer's Report was given and copies distributed with a current ending balance of \$ 4,238.33.

Rev. Dr. Bill Simpson shared that The UM Development Fund, office in NY, loans money to churches for building projects all over America. Individuals may contribute as well as churches.

Rev. Dennis Lamm encouraged everyone to invite new members to join the Historical Society. Church historians could be asked to contribute to the Historical Society and it could be set up to pay online.

Dr. Simpson shared several books of interest: *How to Write Church History, Methodist History from 1813 from NY and Watson's Wesley, 1839*, and *Journals of the ME church* contributed from the Heritage Center at Lake Junaluska. Conference Secretary, Rev. Dr. Jerry Bryan sends his regards and his office will be happy to assist us in any way. His wife, Margaret is not well. Also, Dr. Simpson noted that all memorials are now written for the Conference Journal.

Rev. Arthur Warren relayed that Pat Bailey who attended the SEJ Historical Meeting this summer in Tennessee has been receiving treatments for cancer. The meeting in Nashville was another outstanding program where we were informed on "The Church Confronts the World: Twentieth Century Southern Methodism and the Popular Culture", the theme of the Monday - Thursday, July 9-12, 2012 meeting. The annual meeting next summer for the Southeastern Jurisdiction Historical Society will be Tuesday-Friday, July 9-12, 2013 at Lake Junaluska, NC.

Mr. John Mitchell shared that his mother, Mrs. Vivian Mitchell, a long-time member and attendee of the Society, has recently had three falls and now cannot stand. She is receiving care from Hospice.

The program for our Society was presented by Mrs. Nancy Watkins, Director of the SEJ Heritage Center and Museum. An overview of the work of the Heritage Center was presented by Powerpoint. A discussion followed about the importance of records management, what needs to be kept or what to do with it when you no longer need something. She is happy to speak to churches to give guidance for the work of preserving our history. The Heritage Center loves to receive local church histories from all annual conferences of the SEJ. It was also noted that there are plans for a new facility for the Heritage Center but no specific date has been determined.

Rev. Lamm informed all to go to the conference website, [nccumc.org](http://nccumc.org), click Resources and Archives and History for a wealth of information available. Volunteers are greatly needed at the Methodist Building to scan approximately two billion records. Also, churches may scan their historical records and send them to the conference office for safe keeping.

The spring meeting for the NC Conference Historical Society will be April 13, 2013 at Centenary United Methodist Church in New Bern, NC.

Rev. Lamm invited everyone to tour the Archives and we then assembled for a delicious lunch of ham and chicken salad sandwiches, macaroni salad and banana pudding that was provided at the building.

Respectfully submitted,  
Becky Warren, Secretary

## YESTERDAY

The North Carolina Conference Historical Society was in existence as early as 1893. At that time all clergy were members of the society. In 1978, the Commission on Archives and History reorganized the Historical Society and opened its membership to anyone interested in the history of the United Methodist Church. The purposes included in the bylaws of the newly formed Society included: the collection and preservation of materials related to the history of the United Methodist; promotion of writing and historical research; training local church historians; and publicizing information and news.

## TODAY

At present time the NC Conference Historical Society meets twice a year, once in the spring and once in the fall. Usually the meetings take place in a church or location within the NC Conference of interest, historically. Meetings may include speakers on historical topics of interest, information for local church historians to share in their own churches, fellowship and a meal.

## SOCIETY MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO ALL!!

### For more information contact:

**Rev. Arthur Warren**  
President of Historical Society  
P.O. Box 26  
Littleton, NC 27850  
[awarren@nccumc.org](mailto:awarren@nccumc.org)

**Rev. Dennis Lamm**  
Conference Commission on Archives and History  
805 Farthing Ct.  
Fayetteville, NC 28303  
[lammbo@nccumc.org](mailto:lammbo@nccumc.org)

**Support for Church Historians and others interested in church history is available through participation in the NC Conference Historical Society. Renew your membership today!**

### MEMBERSHIP IN THE N.C. CONFERENCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*Dues are for a year and payable to: N.C. Conference (include: "Historical Society" on the memo line)  
Mail to: NC Conference, 700 Waterfield Ridge Place, Garner NC 27529*

\_\_\_\_\_ Student \$3.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Contributing \$25.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Regular \$7.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Life \$100.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Patron \$10.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## CENTENARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH HISTORY

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Asbury preaching fourteen times in this great city. In 1775, the Methodist Society in New Bern purchased a lot at the corner of Hancock Street and Pleasant Alley and in 1802 built Andrew's Chapel. By 1776, Centenary was part of the Carolina Circuit.

Andrew's Chapel became the first location of what is now Centenary UMC. The second location was built in 1843 at 511 New Street and the name was changed from Andrew's Chapel to Centenary. In the Conference minutes of the Methodist Episcopal Church, two Methodist churches in New Bern existed with "Centenary with 256 white members and led by Rev. Bryant and Andrew Chapel, the old meetinghouse on Hancock Street, with 800 coloured members led by the Rev. W.J. Parks" (John Burgwin Green III, Methodist Meeting House" The Early History of Centenary United Methodist Church, pg. 66).

Centenary would move once more in 1904 when the new sanctuary was built at its present location at the corner of Middle and New Street. The first brick for the present sanctuary was laid on December 7, 1903 with Rev. Gaston Adams as the presiding Elder. Rev. Adams had met the congregation just a day earlier and helped guide its construction. On Sunday, May 21, Bishop William Duncan dedicated Centenary Methodist Episcopal Church.

In the years that followed, God's Holy Word was proclaimed and lived out by the faithful Methodists of Centenary. Membership grew and lives were changed for the glory of God.

In the early hours of September 15, 1936, a fire broke out in the sanctuary and the ceiling collapsed. Across the street, Catholic nuns prayed that the stain glass windows would be spared and they were. The extensive damage did not dampen the spirits of the faithful. Repairs were begun and completed for Centenary to host the Centennial Session of the North Carolina Conference in November of that same year (1936).

Centenary has had several additions and renovations over the years. In 1956, the John A. Russell Educational Building was erected. In 1966, the Sanctuary was renovated with large Sunday School rooms converted into the chapel and the Ladies' parlor into a library. In October 1972, Bishop Robert M. Blackburn preached the Bicentennial Service.

Centenary United Methodist Church is officially recognized as the oldest continuous Methodist Congregation in the North Carolina Annual Conference. Unofficially, it is the oldest continuous congregation South and East of Baltimore, MD.

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## NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

### DECEASED CLERGY AND SPOUSES

#### CLERGY

Herbert F. Horne  
September 1, 1923 - September 22, 2012  
Husband of Lillie H. Horne

Robert Whittelsey Morgan  
February 8, 1930 – September 28, 2012  
Husband of Lavette C. Morgan

Luther Vance High, Jr.  
November 27, 1929 – October 28, 2012  
Husband of Velma Trott High

Charles Edgar Sparks  
May 10, 1926 – November 11, 2012  
Husband of Frances T. Sparks

Wilbur Carol Teachy  
June 17, 1931 – December 25, 2012  
Husband of Sylvia J. Teachy

Julius Oscar Jernigan  
June 17, 1930 – January 2, 2013  
Husband of Ruth Jernigan

Nevin David Snyder  
May 12, 1928 – January 2, 2013

Charles John Hause  
December 30, 1928 – January 3, 2013  
Husband of Rita V. Hause

James Allen Starnes  
September 24, 1936 – January 10, 2013  
Husband of Myrtle M. Starnes

Joseph Chapman Parker  
February 22, 1926 – January 14, 2013  
Husband of Eunice Bray Parker

Russell Ray Knowles  
November 22, 1920 – January 29, 2013  
Husband of Jaxie Knowles

David Richard Thick  
June 29, 1940 – March 6, 2013  
Husband of Sondra K. Thick

#### SPOUSES

Evelyn Z. Blake  
October 17, 1947 – March 17, 2012  
Wife of Rodger Russell Blake

Elizabeth Louise Hix  
August 1, 1912 – July 16, 2012  
Widow of Clarence Eugene Hix, Jr.

Frances Weaver Jordan  
January 20, 1925 – September 5, 2012  
Wife of Robert Harry Jordan

Mary Lou Smith  
June 7, 1937 – September 18, 2012  
Wife of George Calvin Smith

Elizabeth R. Davis  
November 16, 1919 – October 6, 2012  
Widow of George Alson Davis

Elizabeth R. Burgess-Lemons  
Died October 15, 2012  
Widow of Charles Nathan Burgess  
Widow of Lawrence Atwell Lemons

Mary Madeline Crawley  
June 25, 1918 – December 3, 2012  
Widow of Hyder Ferguson Crawley

Mary B. Pearsall  
February 28, 1928 – December 6, 2012  
Widow of John Sanders Pearsall

Delphia H. Mason  
June 19, 1912 – December 18, 2012  
Widow of Lemuel R. Mason, Jr.

Judith Lloyd Lister  
August 3, 1935 – January 29, 2013  
Wife of Joe Davis Lister

Dixie M. Barbour  
July 18, 1939 – February 6, 2013  
Wife of Berry Otha Barbour

Patricia Lewis Capps  
August 2, 1933 – February 18, 2013  
Widow of Clingman Carter Capps

