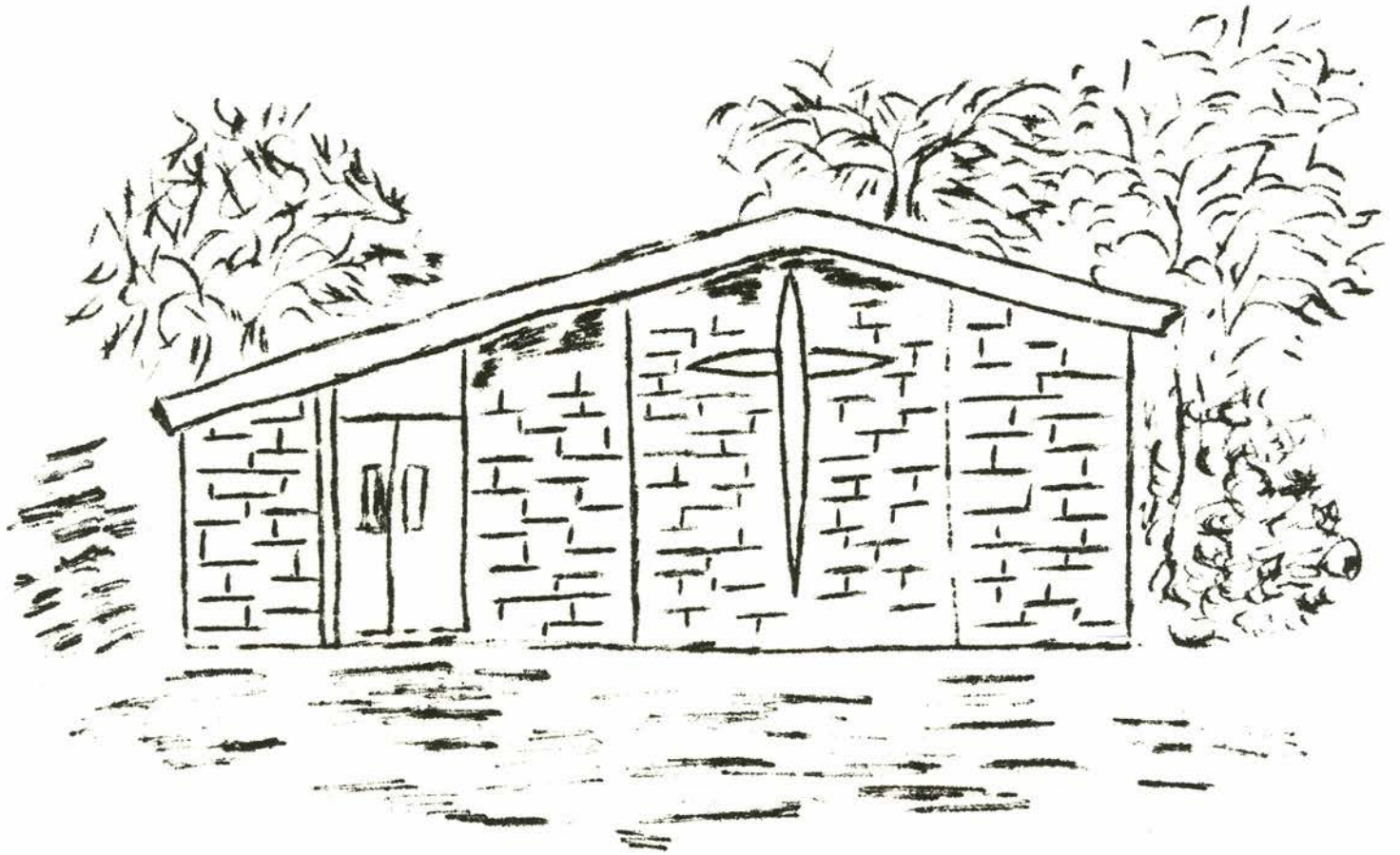


UNION GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
ROUTE 1
BROADWAY, NORTH CAROLINA



Reverend Leroy Spells, Pastor
Reverend James H. McCallum
District Superintendent
Bishop Robert M. Blackburn, Resident Bishop

Sunday, March 4, 1973

2:30 P. M.

A HISTORICAL STATEMENT

Union Grove Church Building was first an old school which was purchased and organized into a Church October 18, 1886 by Brothers Tony Pearson, Sherrod A. Harrington, Abram Davis, Zeb Pearson, Jesse McLean and Jake McNeill for a price of \$11.50 which they were considered as a School Committee. November 24, 1888 the Deed was executed before the Acting Justice of the Peace Mr. N. McLeod in Harnett County.

This Deed with the Certificate was registered in Harnett County Courthouse December 8, 1888 in Book No. 1, Page 300. The Trustees were Tony Pearson, Chairman, Sherrod A. Harrington, and Abram Davis. The first Pastor was Reverend Steel, after that Reverends Mryfey, Bullard, Robinson, Covington and Monday. The Church was given the name Union Grove Methodist Episcopal Church sometime between 1900-1910. This building was destroyed by fire and another building was started by the same Trustees. Brother Tony Pearson passed 1911 and was the first person to be funeralized in the new building. Rev. Mryfey Officiated. From 1912 - 1943 the following Ministers served Union Grove Church; Reverends McNair, McNeill, Fletcher, McQueen, Leach and Thomas. From 1943 the following Ministers have served; Reverends E. A. Rush, F. F. McCallum, J. L. Alford, A. H. Douglas, L. W. Coltrane, T. V. Carter, I. A. Friend and L. Hossley.

In March 1968 the Eastern District of the North Carolina-Virginia Conference (C.J.) of which Union Grove was a part, became a district of the North Carolina Conference (SE.J.); and like all other Methodist Churches became a part of the United Methodist Church in April of 1968. In June 1968 our Church became a part of the Sanford District. Reverend V. E. Queen, District Superintendent. Reverend Leroy Spells was appointed Pastor July 20, 1968. The need for a building was greatly felt and a Building Committee was immediately organized with the following persons; Mr. Arthur Buie, Chairman, Mr. Bernis Currie, Mr. Bennie Pearson, Mr. Warren McNeill, Mr. Curtis McNeill, Mrs. Flora Blue and Mrs. Mazie Reives.

The Architecture for the new building was Mr. Gordon E. Peebles from Fayetteville, North Carolina. A Ground Breaking Ceremony was held at the church Sunday afternoon, March 19, 1972 at 2:30 P.M. Persons participating in the service were the Members of the Building Committee, Rev. L. Spells, Dr. J. V. Early, District Superintendent of the Sanford District, Mr. Neil O. Medlin, General Contractor, Rev. E. R. Porter, Executive Secretary Board of Mission of the North Carolina United Methodist Conference. The Congregation was aided by funds provided by the North Carolina Methodist Conference Board of Mission, The Duke Endowment Fund, and the Sanford District Fund.

A HISTORICAL STATEMENT CONT'D.

The Building was completed and the first Service was held Sunday afternoon, November 5, 1972 at 2:00 P.M. Reverend Leroy Spells, Pastor. His Subject was "God Will Deliver His People". Exodus 6:7.

The first funeral held in the new building was Brother David Pearson December 26, 1972, the son of the late Tony Pearson who was the first to be funeralized in the old building 1911.

We the members of Union Grove United Methodist Church wish to thank all persons who have helped us to obtain this lovely building. Especially do we express our thanks to our Pastor, Members of the Building Committee, Members of our Church, Friends of the Community, Members of the Sanford District, Members of the North Carolina Conference, The Duke Foundation, Mr. Gordon E. Peebles, Mr. Neil O. Medlin and all other persons who have helped us.