GREETINGS FROM THE NC CONFERENCE COMMISSION OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY AND THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE NC CONFERENCE!

The NC Conference Commission on Archives & History: Visit the website: www.nccumc.org/defaultarchives.htm

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THANK YOU
ST. JAMES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
FOR HOSTING THE FALL 2006 MEETING

The United Methodist Church
1307 Glenwood Avenue
Raleigh, NC 27605

FALL MEETING OF HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Directions to St. Jenkins Memorial United Methodist Church
725 North Boylan Avenue, Raleigh, North Carolina

Jenkins Memorial UMC is on the corner of North Boylan Ave. & Devereux Street just off of Peace Street & Glenwood Ave. Coming south on Glenwood Ave, from the Methodist Building, go three blocks, turn right onto Devereux Street. Go one block turn left on N. Boylan Street. Jenkins Memorial is one block up on the left. Coming North on Glenwood turn left on Peace St. Go one block & turn right on North Boylan Ave. Jenkins Memorial is one block up on the right. Directions to The Methodist Building in Raleigh, are available on the Conference website link: “Contact Us” or call Laura Bailey 800-849-4433 ext 264. Contact # for the day of the meeting: 919-971-5967

ST. JAMES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
FOR HOSTING THE FALL 2006 MEETING

Jenkins Memorial United Methodist Church
May 4, 1832—July 4, 1906
Lynn James will tell us about the beginnings of the church community and how it was officially opened on September 29, 1907 with the name Jenkins Memorial Methodist Church in memory of the Reverend John W. Jenkins, founder and first superintendent of the Methodist Orphanage.

From Jenkins’ memoir in the 1906 Journal of the MECS, W.H. Moore writes, “Long and useful as was his life to the church, it was in his last years the crowning work of his life was wrought in the splendid home he was instrumental in building for the orphan children of our State and church”

The Conference Historical Society will meet at 10:00AM-Noon. Lunch will be served at the church at Noon.
The NC Conference Commission on Archives & History will meet at 1:00 PM. Please make reservations for lunch by contacting Laura Bailey, 800-849-4433 ext 264 or locally 832-9560 ext 264
Or by email llbailey@nccumc.org
Please let us know by Monday April 9th.

Jenkins Memorial UMC
May 4, 1832—July 4, 1906

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The fall meeting of the North Carolina Conference Historical Society met on Saturday, October 7, 2006, at St. James United Methodist Church in Greenville, North Carolina. There were 16 present: John Mitchell, Rev. W. Arthur Warren, Jr., Beverley S. Pierpoint, Snodie B. Wilson, Nancy Grady Wilson, Rebecca F. Warren, Vivian Mitchell, Jane Greeson, Para Drake, Berndt Bohm, (Virginia Beach, VA), Mildred S. Swain, Martha Moye, Ruth G. Copley, Rev. Tony Collier, Rev. C. Franklin Grill, and Laura Bailey. Rev. Gray Southern welcomed the NCCHS to St. James UMC. Martha Moye gave us a guided tour of St. James. Para Drake, president of the society, had us introduce ourselves and tell which church we are from. She then had a prayer.

The minutes of the April 1, 2006 meeting were approved by consensus with three corrections: 1- at the bottom of the third column it should be Garber Era, 2 — before the last paragraph, the name should be Micke Delano, and 3-in the last paragraph, the presentations of church music history was by Dave Miller. Jane Greeson was asked by Pam to read the paragraph about a conference historical society from the 2004 Book Of Discipline. The purpose of a society is “promoting interest in the study and preservation of the history of the conference and its antecedents.” Dues are also authorized. Para said she has experienced very little ethnic minority participation of the society meetings she has attended. To Be Faithful, a history of Black United Methodist Churches in North Carolina is going to be published with corrections. It was written by Linda Addo of the Western NC Conference and Rev. James McCallum of NC Conference and covers up to 1958. As an historical society, would we like to affirm this? Arthur Warren - the WNC Conference contacted us for permission to do an update since the book was a joint project of both conferences. Linda Addo would do the WNC update. We would need someone to replace the late Rev. McCallum to do our updating. Para — we should encourage the NC Conference Commission on Archives & History to pursue along with the WNC Conference updating the book. Arthur — cost would be about $5,000 for 500 copies and $7-8,000 for 1,000 copies according to a bid. One of the problems is funding. The WNC Conference has a list of corrections and additional information, not go past 1968. This is the most definitive history of Black churches that we have in our conference. It would be good to update it. Arthur has known about this for a year and doesn’t know how much longer the WNC Conference can wait. They want 500 copies, how many would we want? Para — can we sell them if we buy them? Vivian Mitchell — we also have Native Americans, Hispanics, and other ethnic minorities in our conference. Arthur — the 1989 book on the Lumbee Indians was sold over many years and the last 1,500 copies were finally given out at a session of Annual Conference. Para — the consensus is that the NCCHS is not ready to endorse the project for the NC Conference, but to give the Western North Carolina Conference permission to go forward with their updating project. The society is not ready to purchase the books. How many people are out there that the society is not reaching? How could we be more relevant? Para asked if we would like to have a hands-on workshop for historians. We would need 3-4 people to head this up and figure out what we want to do. Vivian Mitchell - use Bill King, retired archivist of Duke University or someone he could recommend. Tim Pyatt is the current archivist. Para — we could offer an overnight weekend or a single-day event. Beverly Pierpoint — Croadsdale Village could host the workshop. She can develop and print the necessary publications. Martha Moye volunteered to help. Beverly suggested contacting the North Carolina Historical Society and the North Carolina Genealogical Society. Planning was tabled.

What do we as a society want to look like 2, 5, 10 years from now? Nothing is on paper for our vision of the future. Arthur — how many members do we have, about 70? John Mitchell — most of the members are not active. Para recommended that the society develop a brochure that can be distributed. We need a purpose. Beverley said she will come up with some samples. Everyone can bring their ideas to the next meeting.
The General Commission on Archives and History announces the recipients of two of its award programs. Receiving the 2006 Asian, Black, Hispanic and Native American United Methodist History Research Grant are Jodi Skipper, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Texas, Austin, for her historical research at St. Paul Church, Dallas; and Andrew Witmer, a doctoral candidate at the University of Virginia writing on “God’s Interpreters: African Missions and the Social Construction of Race in America, 1865-1910”. The John Harrison Ness Award recognizes two outstanding papers written by M.Div. candidates. This year’s winners are Jessie Shuman Larkins for the paper, “John Wesley Among the Colonies: Wesleyan Theology in the Face of the American Revolution” and J.E. McConnell, II, for the paper, “The Character of Methodism in George Eliot’s Adam Bede”. Both recipients of the Ness Award are students at Duke Divinity School and were students of Dr. Richard Heitzenrater. While the dollar amounts are modest, these awards are a way for the General Commission to encourage students and scholars to research and write on Methodist history. Good work is being done and we are pleased to recognize such accomplishments. Information for all awards and grants can be found on the GCAH web site at http://www.gcah.org/AwardsGrants/GrantsLinks.htm.

AWARDS ARE ANNOUNCED

A vote for officers for the Historical Society will be held at the April 14th meeting. Please come and bring Nominations.

Current Officers:

Minutes

Charles Wesley: The Story of the Hymn Writer

Hymns of Praise

A 90 minute film starring John Jackman as Charles Wesley in a one man play is now available. “In Wesley’s time, congregational hymn singing was a revolutionary idea. Anglican churches had marvelous choirs, but the congregations rarely sang.” You many borrow DVD resource from the NC Conference Media Center (800-849-4433) or purchase it from Ecufilm 888-346-3862

Charles Wesley: The Hymn Writer

Charles Wesley

Laur Bailey had copies of the histories given out at Annual Conference as part of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the granting of full clergy rights to women. Directions were given for driving to Cypress Glen, one of our United Methodist Retirement Homes, for lunch. The meeting was adjourned with a prayer and blessing for lunch by Arthur Warren.

Respectfully submitted,
John Mitchell, Secretary

There will be a vote on these minutes at the next the meeting on April 14th.

From the Archives

A few months ago Steve Compton, Executive Director of Church Development, donated a small collection of postcards from churches and former churches in the NC Conference. I will be adding them to a few we already have from other churches. This would a good opportunity to ask others churches in the conference if they have images of church buildings that were made into postcard. If your church has an “extra” card that could be donated to the archives, please send it with a separate piece of paper indicating, name of church, year and other information that you feel would be helpful. Your postcard will be included in the collection.

Here is a question for you historians that I have from the example card printed here. In pencil on the back of the photo it says the individuals stayed in Roxboro in 1952. The cars in the photo are older than 1950’s cars, and the caption on the card says Methodist Episcopal Church. Can anyone see how there might be a question about the name in the caption?

Send postcards to: NC Conference Archives, 1307 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh, NC 27605
We will publish another one in our next issue.
300TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF CHARLES WESLEY’S BIRTH

Heritage Sunday is May 20, 2007, designated as the Sunday preceding Aldersgate Day, May 24. (Just a reminder that it was on May 24, 1738 the John Wesley’s heart was “strangely warmed” and thus is remembered as a critical moment in his spiritual journey.) This date this year is especially significant as it was on May 21, 1738 that Charles had a profound experience of faith and thus predated his brother’s by three days. Worship ideas and celebration suggestions are also available online: [www.gcah.org/Heritagesunday2007essay.htm](http://www.gcah.org/Heritagesunday2007essay.htm). Or call or Email Laura Bailey at the NC Conference if you would like a copy of the essay with study suggestions.

CHARLES WESLEY TO BE FEATURED AT HISTORICAL CONVOCATION

The sixth Historical Convocation: “Celebrating the Charles Wesley Tercentenary” is scheduled for July 20-22, 2007 at the National 4-H Conference Center in Chevy Chase Maryland, only a few blocks from Washington, DC. In addition to the Historical Society of the UMC, the Charles Wesley Society, Southeastern Jurisdictional Commission on Archives and History will all hold their annual meetings in conjunction with the with the Convocation. The Convocation will begin at 1:30 PM on Friday, July 20 and conclude with worship on Sunday Morning, July 22. Cost will be $80.00 registration. There will be an additional cost for meals and lodging at the 4-H Center. For more information, please contact Michelle Merkel at 973-408-3189 or Robert Williams at 973-408-3191. Advanced Registration materials are available online: [http://www.gcah.org/Historical_Convocation.pdf](http://www.gcah.org/Historical_Convocation.pdf). If you need help finding out more details about registration contact Laura Bailey North Carolina Conference, 800-849-4433 ext 264 or archives-history@nccumc.org.

DATES OF INTEREST IN THE LIFE OF CHARLES WESLEY

1707 Born the 18th child and youngest son of Samuel and Susanna Wesley in Epworth, Lincolnshire, England
1716 Enrolled in Westminster School
1721 Elected a king's scholar and provided with free tuition
1729 Formed the Holy Club with his brother, John, and George Whitfield
1730 Graduated from Christ College, Oxford, with a B.A.
1732 Graduated from Christ College, Oxford with a M.A.
1735 Ordained a deacon and elder, church of England; sailed to Georgia colony to serve as secretary to General James Oglethorpe at St. Simon’s Island. He returned to England, preaching at the Old South Church in Boston before he left. Continued writing in his journal from the time in Georgia until 1756 in Bristol
1738 On May 21, following a reading of Luther’s commentary on the Epistle to the Galatians, he was “born again”—converted into a new faith—three days before John Wesley’s conversion at Aldersgate. He wrote the words of his first hymn, “Where Shall My Wondering Soul Begin” UMH #342
1749 On April 8th, he and Sally Gwynne were married. John Wesley officiated.
1771 Returned to London
1788 Died in London

During his adult life, Charles traveled, preached, wrote poetry and hymns, saw to the work of the Methodist Societies, bands, and classes, remaining loyal to the Church of England. He wrote more than 6500 texts, including the poems and hymns. He wrote more than 6500 texts, including the poems and hymns. His range of poetic meters demanded the composition of new tunes and rhythms. His use of Scripture in his texts is unprecedented, with only the books of Obadiah, Nahum, Zephaniah, and Third John not used. The brothers published sixty-four collections of hymns between 1738 and 1785, many of which consisted of only Charles’ texts.

Adapted from a listing from the General Board of Discipleship at the 299th birthday of Charles Wesley, Dec. 18, 2006.

THE WORK OF CHURCH HISTORIANS COMPLEMENTS THE BISHOP’S SEVEN PATHWAYS

Teaching the Wesleyan Model for forming disciples of Jesus Christ: The continued need to teach about: “The General Rules, Class Meetings, Personal and Social Holiness” and how they are part of “our rich heritage.”

Strengthening clergy and lay leadership: Remembering our foundations: “educational institutions, Sunday School, Chautauqua movement, and periodicals such as the Christian Advocate.”

Reaching and Transforming lives of new generations of children: “Can we learn from telling stories of the Epworth league, Christian Endeavor and other ways the church has reached out to children?”

Eliminating poverty in community with the poor: “John Wesley encourage not only ministry to the poor but also the necessity of getting to know those who are impoverished”

Expanding racial/ethnic ministries: “The church can remember”, perhaps retaught, “the work in the language conferences of the early 20th century and other outreach ministries and be inspired to faithfully to ‘serve this present age’.”

General Secretary Williams concludes his article by saying, “The whole church can be energized around the clarity of mission that these pathways provide. May we offer our contribution to that vision with the gifts of memory and thus inspire all to live as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.”