

1857



1982

BUILT — 1921

**HISTORY
OF THE**

Beaver Dam

United Methodist Church

Rockingham, North Carolina

(Organized 1857)



BUILT — 1964

BEAVER DAM CHURCH ORGANIZED 1857

Beaver Dam Church was organized in 1857, soon after the organization of Green Lake Church, when a part of the membership of Pleasant Hill Church having united with others to form Green Lake Church, the remaining part of that church joined together with others, and organized Beaver Dam Church.

The deed, dated September 8, 1885 for two and one half acres adjoining the school house lot, was from Catherine Surginor to Warner Dawkins, A. J. Dawkins, W. W. Bounds, Richard Dawkins, and John H. Dawkins, Trustees for Beaver Dam Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Names of those living in the area, other than named as donor and trustees, were Currie, Gibson, Gillis, Lovin, McDonald, Perkins, and Terry, and it is reasonable to assume that they too had a part in organizing and carrying on the work of the early church.

As the custom was in those days, it is very likely that a "brush arbor" was used as a place of meeting until the first building was erected; the

site was about two miles northwest of where the present church is located; services were conducted there until about 1920 when the school house near here was used until the new building was finished; lot obtained in 1921, building started in 1921 and completed in 1922.

This church was in the Rockingham Circuit until 1903; Roberdel Circuit from that date until 1941 when it was placed with the Pinebluff Charge. In 1971, Beaver Dam was moved from the Sanford District to the Rockingham District and joined with Trinity United Methodist Church of Rockingham to form a charge. The church joined with Tabernacle United Methodist Church of Ghio, N. C. in 1977 to form a charge and in 1978, joined with St. Paul United Methodist Church of Cordova, N. C. to form the present charge.

Among other contributions, two young men went from this church into the ministry, Robert S. Gibson and Flake R. Davis. Rev. Gibson served churches in the N. C. Conference and is presently Librarian and Religious Counselor at Radford College, Radford, VA. Rev. Davis served churches in the N. C. and Western N. C. Conferences and passed away early in 1982.

Pastors in Charge, beginning 1857, year the church was organized:

Rockingham Circuit

1857	Peter Doub, Thomas L. Triplett
1858	Peter Doub, G. W. Hempinstall
1858	S. D. Adams
1860	S. D. Adams, M. L. Wood, Missionary to China
1861	John Tillett, William H. Wheeler
1862	John Tillett
1863-1864	H. E. Gibbons
1865	S. D. Adams
1866	No appointments appear in Minutes
1867-1868	Joseph Wheeler
1869-1872	T. W. Guthrie
1873-1876	Joseph Wheeler
1877-1878	J. W. Jenkins
1879	Joseph Wheeler
1880-1881	P. Greening
1882	S. C. Pharr, Supply
1883	W. S. Chaffin
1884-1889	F. L. Townsend
1890	(375 Members, 2 Preachers, not named)

1891-1893	H. G. Stamey
1894	A. D. Betts
1895-1898	J. M. Lowder
1899-1900	L. S. Ethridge
1901-1902	N. H. Guyton
1903	J. W. Gurganious, Supply

Roberdel Circuit

1904	Z. T. Harrison (Died about April, 1904--E. C. Kilgore supplied for the remainder of the year)
1905-1908	A. J. Groves
1909-1911	J. M. Ashby
1912	G. H. Biggs
1913	Y. E. Wright
1914-1916	S. J. McConnell, Supply
1917-1920	E. L. Hill
1921	G. C. Wood
1922-1923	F. E. Dixon
1924	J. G. Johnson
1925-1926	S. T. Moyle
1927-1928	G. H. Biggs
1929-1932	M. C. Ellerbe
1933-1935	E. C. Crawford

1935-1936	W. L. Dawson
1936-1939	F. A. Lupton
1939-1940	F. B. Bradenburg

Pine Bluff Circuit

1940-1944	William A. Parsons
1945	C. G. Traywick and J. Paul Edwards
1946-1948	G. W. Crutchfield
1949-1951	J. R. Riggan
1952-1953	Charles Ledford
1954-1956	James Hamilton

It should be remember when reading the above, that the conferences when the preachers received their appointments, were held in the late fall or early winter of each year, and remained that way until 1955 when it was changed. They began their pastorage just before Christmas, as an example: (1) "1939 F. B. Bradenburg", Mr. Bradenburg received his appointment in the winter of 1939, but 1940 was really his first year on the circuit, and so it is shown in the dates listed above. Example (2) "1954 James Hamilton", Mr. Hamilton received his first appointment in the winter of 1954, but his second appointment for the

year 1955 and thereafter, was in June for the period of June, 1955 to June of the following year.

1956-1961 Jack Martin--went as a Missionary to Alaska in January, 1961

1961 Kenneth Townsend--filled out the unexpired term

On January 31, 1960, the church members met to elect committees to start a new church building, as the old one was in need of repairs. By mid-year 1961, the blueprints for the new building had been approved and construction began. The church members and community friends provided the necessary labor needed to construct the building. Many donations were received to help pay for the cost of construction materials. By working and praying together, the members succeeded in completing the building. The new church was dedicated debt-free on the fourth Sunday of June, 1964. The Rev. Dr. J. V. Early, pastor at that time of the First United Methodist Church of Rockingham, assisted in the Dedication Services. Church membership at that time was approximately sixty.

1961-1965 J. W. Scott

1965-1967 D. M. Lewis

1967-1971 W. T. Greene

Trinity-Beaver Dam Charge

1971-1976 F. W. Pursley
1976-1977 James L. Reese, II

Beaver Dam-Tabernacle Charge

1977 James L. Reese, II

In August of 1977, the church members decided to install a Public Address System. Six recessed speakers were installed overhead and two Shure Professional microphones were mounted on the pulpits. An amplifier was purchased and placed inside the pulpit. Also in 1977, the members decided to construct a covered picnic area to be used for picnics, outdoor programs, Homecomings and other outdoor projects. It was designed so that it can be converted into a fellowship hall at a later time. Both the men and women joined in on the actual construction of the building. At the present time the building is about 85% completed.

1977 Don M. Dawkins

Beaver Dam-St. Paul Charge

1978-1980 William Townsend
1980- Robert L. Carpenter

In July of 1982, an anonymous donor offered five ceiling fans to be placed in the church to circulate air and help reduce heating and cooling costs. The church members voted to accept the donation and the fans have been installed and are in use.

At the present time, September, 1982, Beaver Dam United Methodist Church has fifty-seven members on roll. Worship Services are held at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday morning with Sunday School following. Bible studies are on Tuesday nights with different members leading in the studies. The United Methodist Men and United Methodist Women meet on the second Saturday of each month.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

1. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.
2. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image. Thou shalt not bow down theyself to them, nor serve them.
3. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.
4. Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.
5. Honour thy father and thy mother.
6. Thou shalt not kill.
7. Thou shalt not commit adultery.
8. Thou shalt not steal.
9. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.
10. Thou shalt not covet.

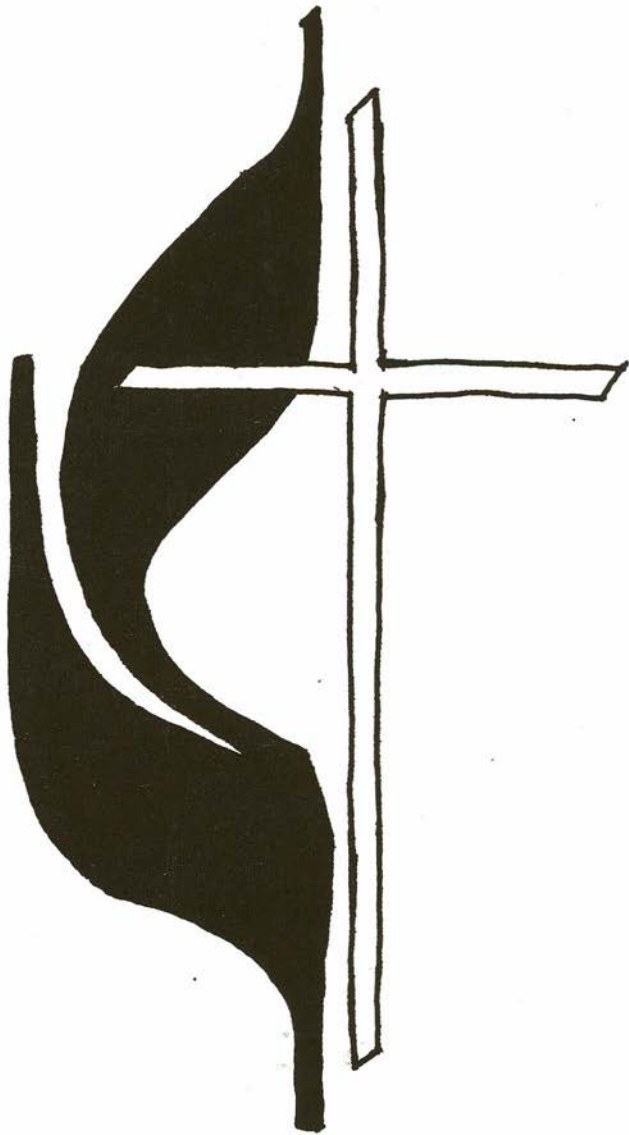
1914 Register of Members

Robert Wallace
Frances Dawkins
Frances A. Harris
James L. McDonald
Minerva McDonald
Mary C. Blue
Martha E. McLean
Temple C. Gibson
Sarah E. Gibson
Catherine Currie
John P. Harris
William P. Lovin
Nelson Gibson
Annie L. Dunn
Mary F. Lovin
Zula R. Farmer
Malcum A. Currie
Rachel Gibson
Mattie E. Lovin
Eli T. Gibson
Martha J. McDonald
Elijah Gibson
Lyda Gibson
Annie J. Dawkins
Sarah T. Gibson
Laura McLean
Ella M. Patterson

Mary F. Gibson
William C. Gibson
Edna J. Gibson
Zebulon Gibson
Mary J. McLean
Martha F. McLean
Sarah E. McLean
Brevy E. McDonald
Janie Gibson
John Gibson
Lila M. Gibson
Marshall J. Gillis
James Lee Currie
Julia A. McLean
Nancy Dawkins
Jasper Gibson
Mary E. Gibson
Temple Coleman Gibson
Walter M. Chance
J. F. Dawkins
Miss Maggie Dawkins
Lennie H. Patterson
Maggie McLean
Pearl Patterson
J. W. Yates

1940 Register of Members

Mrs. Catherine Currie	John W. McLean
Mrs. Martha F. Covington	Mrs. Sarah Russell
Mrs. Annie L. Dunn	Edgar D. Smith
Miss Maggie Dawkins	Joseph Calvin Liles
Mrs. R. R. Davis	William C. Yates
Mrs. Josie Davis McLean	Lois Yates
Shellie R. Davis	Mrs. Thelma Yates Seago
John N. Gibson	William Howard Yates
Jasper Gibson	M. P. Newton
Mrs. Jasper Gibson	Mrs. M. P. Newton
Lena Gibson	Dorothy Newton
Mrs. Luke Gibson	William Lampley
Luke Gibson	Mrs. Willie Lampley
Mrs. Lillian Gibson Rivenbark	Clyde Gibson
Wilma Gibson	Robert Stancil Gibson
Mrs. Bertha Gibson Jones	William Lampley, Jr.
John P. Harris	Beulah Gibson
William P. Lovin	Thomas Grady McLean
Mrs. William P. Lovin	Mary Earline Gibson
Mattie E. Lovin	John William McLean
John C. Liles	Calvin Nelson Gibson
Mrs. John C. Liles	William Luke Gibson
Mrs. Francis E. McLean	Ray Graham Gibson
Daniel Belvin Liles	Emmett Rivenbark
Maggie Deliah Liles	Mary Ida Liles
Mrs. Lula Bell Liles Spencer	Mrs. Jim Smith
Mrs. Mary Jane Haigler	Pearl Davis
Mrs. Julia A. McLean Smith	Elwin Samuel Gibson
	Rachel Ann Gibson



CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 1981-1982

Lay Leader

Mr. Calvin Gibson

Lay Member to Annual Conference

Ms. Beth Gibson

Chairman of Administrative Council

Mr. Calvin Gibson

Chairpersons of Work Areas

Ecumenical Affairs----Mrs. George Myers

Education-----Mrs. Eugene McLean

Evangelism-----Mrs. Emmett Rivenbark

Missions-----Mrs. Calvin Gibson

Social Concerns-----Mrs. F. R. Davis

Stewardship-----Mr. Calvin Gibson

Worship-----Mrs. F. R. Davis

Religion & Race-----Mr. C. F. Watson, Jr.

Age Level Coordinators

Children's Ministries-----Ms. Beth Gibson

Youth Ministries-----Ms. Lois Yates

Adult Ministries-----Mrs. Eugene McLean

Family Ministries-----Mr. Eugene McLean

Young Adult Ministries----Mr. C. F. Watson, Jr.

Health & Welfare Rep.-----Mrs. Emmett Rivenbark

Young Adult Members

Ms. Betty Jean McLean

Ms. Tracy Gibson

Minister Retired

Rev. F. R. Davis

Communion Steward

Mrs. John Gibson

Church Treasurer & Financial Secretary

Mr. Calvin Gibson

Administrative Board, Membership, and Recording
Secretary

Ms. Beth Gibson

Members at Large--Administrative Council

Mrs. Billy Estes
Mr. George Myers
Ms. Jean Seago
Ms. Doris Seago
Mr. J. R. McLean
Mr. Rhumilles Davis
Mr. E. A. Rivenbark
Ms. Ella Mae Richardson

Honorary Members Administrative Board

Rev. F. R. Davis
Mr. J. W. McLean, Sr.

Committee on Pastor-Parish Relations

Chairman---Mr. Calvin Gibson 1984
*Ms. Beth Gibson 1982
*Mr. Eugene McLean 1983
Mr. Elwin Gibson 1983
Mr. C. F. Watson, Jr. 1984
Mr. Emmett Rivenbark 1982

Committee on Finance

Mr. Calvin Gibson
Mr. Eugene McLean
Mr. C. F. Watson, Jr.
Ms. Lois Yates

Trustees

Mr. Carlyle Watson 1984
Mr. Eugene McLean 1983
Mr. Elwin Gibson 1983
Mr. Howard Yates 1982
Mr. Emmett Rivenbark 1982
Ms. Lois Yates 1983

Committee on Nominations of Personnel

Mr. Elwin Gibson 1984
Mr. Emmett Rivenbark 1982
Mr. Calvin Gibson 1983
Mr. C. F. Watson, Jr. 1982

Superintendent of Study Programs

Mr. Eugene McLean

*Denotes Charge P-P R Committee

President of Methodist Men
Mr. Elwin Gibson

Ministry of Music

Mr. Eugene McLean----Leader

Mrs. Eugene McLean---Pianist

WHY HAVE REVIVALS?

"A man should compare favorable with a river, an oak, and a mountain." From small acorns mighty oaks grow. The river becomes broader, deeper, and more powerful as it moves on; the mountain stands immovable through the ages.

Has your Christian life been growing through the years? Has your influence for good been growing wider and more powerful year by year, like a mighty river moving to the sea?

The Psalmist speaking of the righteous man said, "He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water." What a beautiful, useful object of nature the tree is! And we, too, should grow more beautiful and useful. More like the Master each day we should be.

Rev. E. C. Crawford

From the Roberdel Circuit
Bulletin, July, 1934

A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

For one hundred twenty-five years, a community of believers have met under the name of Beaver Dam Methodist Church. The name may have changed through the years, but we are still serving the same Lord.

The church has ministered to each other, the community, and the world. We pray that God will give us understanding to continue in His service. May our testimony always speak of the many things the Lord has done for us.

"I am thy servant; give me understanding, that I may know thy testimonies." Psalms 110:125

Robert L. Carpenter
Pastor

