

Bethel United Methodist Church



1800-1976

History

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Preface

Bethel United Methodist Church is located on the Park Springs Road, in the Cobb Community, the township of Pelham, of Caswell County, in the State of North Carolina.

It was started in the eighteen hundreds, and since has flourished with membership and growth.

Her members have labored long and hard to update and improve her facilities.

If you happen to pass Bethel at night, during the Christmas season, you will behold a lovely evergreen with beautiful lights upon it, in her yard.

Across the road from the church is the cemetery, which is neatly kept. It is surrounded by a modern fence.

Upon entering the sanctuary, you walk on a beautiful red carpet, a 1976 gift, and when facing the altar, your eyes will feast upon the Mural, it is so exquisite, you will have to see it to really appreciate it.

Bethel has an organ and piano tuned together, in order to render the congregation the best of music. She is blessed with three talented organists.

The high character of the members of this church has been a motivating factor in the search for what lies in the background of it.

Credit is due to many of her members for the material supplied, to complete this history. To all of those that contributed time and information, I sincerely thank you.

Peggy G. Daniel

History of Bethel United Methodist Church 1800 - 1976

A century and a half, possibly longer, has elapsed since Dr. Dabney, a physician, donated the land at Blackwell for a church called "Bethel." Bethel means "House of God." It was to be non-denominational and all ministers of every church were allowed to preach.

The Primitive Baptists, who were more numerous in those days, came more often, and such eloquent preachers as Rev. A.N. Hall, Rev. Shrever, Rev. Bodenheimer, and others, also Mr. Norman of the Methodist Church, were heard. It was used especially for funerals, and the last one preached in the old church was for Mrs. Nancy Cobb, grandmother of John, Hugh, and Jack Cobb. The latter was vice-president of the American Tobacco Company and donated Cobb School. As a boy, he attended this church. It was occasionally used until 1874 when, in such delapidated condition and no funds, it was given to the owls and bats. The old church lot is now a cemetery.

In 1884, through the influence of Col. Pinnex, Rev. Guthrie came to the community to see if a church could be organized. As the Methodists were now more numerous and with the aid of Eugene A. Glass, they investigated the deed in Yanceyville to see if a deed from Dr. Dabney had been recorded. There was none, and as the record showed that the Glass Family were the last owners of the land, they very readily gave a deed. The old church was remodeled and made larger. Eugene A. Glass, Mrs. Sally Joyner, and Mrs. Jack Dailey were charter members. Rev. B.J. Barrett was the first pastor and served in 1885. Others served as follows:

Rev. B.J. Barrett, 1885-86; members: Eugene A. Glass, Mrs. Sally Joyner, Mrs. Jack Dailey, Mrs. Mattie Badgett, J.H. Law, T.B. Law, S.I. Law.

Rev. J.D. Buie, 1886-87.

Rev. L.E. Thompson, 1887-90; members: Bertha R. Gatewood, 1889—Pattie J. King, Mary Lillie P. King, 1890—Cary H. King.

Rev. G.W. Fisher, 1891-93; members: 1892—Sarah Lizzie King, John A. Cobb, Mary E. Farish, Madona Law; 1893—Henry I. Glass, Robert A. Daniel.

Rev. J.H. Shore, 1893-97; members: 1894—Eva Howard Ragland; 1897—Daisy Farish King, Isabelle Berlie Cobb, John Dudley Gatewood, Leli M. Gatewood, Mollie Daniel, John B. Farish.

Rev. J.W. Twillie, 1897-99.

Rev. R.F. Taylor, 1899-1900; members: 1900—Annie May King-Glass, Alice Farish-Vanstory, Louise Glass-Dibrell, Pattie F. Badgett-Lipford, Lillian Badgett-Newton; 1901—Sallie Glass-Wilson, Joseph J. Jeffress.

Rev. J.H. McCracken, 1902-04; members: 1902—Alphonza S. Gatewood, W. Johnston King, N. Pricie Farish-Reid, C.B. Daniel, Emma A. Daniel, Fuller A. Glass, E. Wellington Glass, Maggie T. Blackwell, Albert R. Blackwell; 1903—Virginia Badgett-Daniel, Annie Farish-Cobb, Eula Gatewood-Foster, Elizabeth King-Watkins, Lucy King-Watlington, Bessie Jeffress-Best, Ora Gualdin, James Allen Gatewood, Martha Gauling, Nathaniel Gauling, Molly Jeffress; 1904—R. Rice Park, L.W. Reagan, Sidney B. Law, Annie Edwards, Hattie Edwards, Janie Gatewood-Park, Ethel Cobb-King.

Rev. E. Pope, 1904-05.

Rev. W.H. Kirton, 1905-06.

Rev. G.R. Rood, 1906-08; members: 1907—Emma Snow, Howard Snow, Beulah Snow, Nannie Snow, Mary E. Fuquay, Annie E. Daniel, Henry Foster, Mrs. Henry Foster; 1908—Ernest Jeffress, Turner Blackwell, Spencer Blackwell, Ola H. King, George R. Horton.

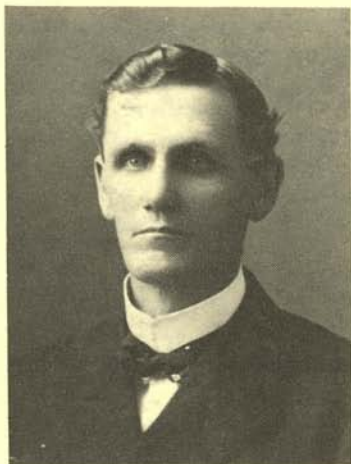
Rev. C.R. Ross, 1908-10; members: 1909—Henry Alfred Badgett, John Badgett, Howard Jeffress, Irvin King, Berkley Daniel.

Rev. J.E. Blalock, 1910-14; members: 1910—James L. Lester; 1911—Pearl Crumpton, Mary V. Daniel, Johnston Jeffress; 1912—Robert A. King; 1913—Mrs. Mollie Windson, Sarah Jones, Oscar Parrish Lena Parrish, Loyd Pruitt, Melinda Wray, Mrs. W.T. Walker.

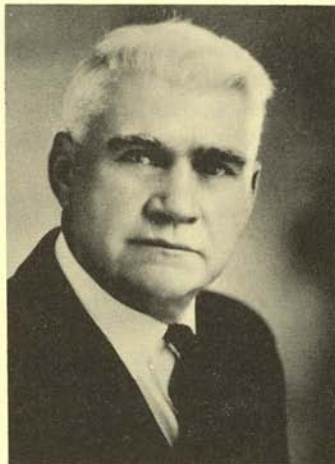
Rev. E.L. Pierman, 1914-; members: 1914—A.S. Garrett, Herbert Blackwell, James Edward King, Mollie Brown Rice, George Echols, John F. Pruitt, Jimmie Lee Pruitt, Bessie Toby.

Rev. R.G.L. Edwards, 1914-15; members: 1915—Lilly Cary King-Phillips, Melissa Blackwell-Torrena.

Rev. S.F. Nicks, 1915-18; members: 1916—Mary Crumpton; 1918—Lemuel James King, Capers Pryor, John Robert Daniel, A. Richard Blackwell, Louis Daniel, Gertrude Daniel-Millner, Sudie Ware Crumpton, Loucille Daniel, Cora Daniel-Jeffress, Wilson Gatewood-Gravelly, Alma Daniel-Brandon.



Rev. J. H. McCracken
1902-1904



Rev. S.F. Nicks
1915-1918

Rev. J.F. Stanford, 1919-22; members: 1919-1922—Louise Gatewood, Vela Daniel-Harrelson, Helen Gatewood-Dameron, Reuben Daniel, Mabel Crumpton, Charlie Daniel, Louise Gibbs, Doris Weatherford-Pickeral, William Daniel, Roy Robertson, Lizzie Arnold, Lillie Gibbs, Irene Gibbs, Arthur Daniel, Willie Windson, Lizzie Pryor, Martin Daniel, Lottie Weatherford, Nannie May Zimmerman, Sam Mettock, Mrs. Loyd Pruitt, Annie Walker Wray, Annie Pruitt, Laura Brown, Ida Mills, Annie Strader, Pearl Strader-Ferrell, Katherine King-Lipscomb, Bertha Brown, Mary Gatewood-Powell, Rosa Beggerley, Mary Betterly-Ware, E.H. Crumpton.

In 1918 the congregation and Sunday School had increased so that the old church was too small. Mr. Tom Law donated land on the opposite side of the road and a large new brick building was erected. This church was dedicated in 1920 by Rev. H.I. Glass.

Rev. Henry I. Glass was the only Minister to come from Bethel. He joined the North Carolina Conference in 1914, after working for a time with the American Tobacco Company. He was a graduate of the Vanderbilt School of Religion and in 1942 received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from High Point College.

During his forty-three years in the ministry, Dr. Glass served the following charges: Tarboro, Edenton, Raleigh, Washington, First Church, Elizabeth City, Front Street, Burlington, Queen Street, Kingston, Trinity, Willmington, and was superintendent of the Elizabeth City and Raleigh Districts.

He was called from the pastorate in Wilmington to be executive director in charge of the construction of the Methodist Retirement Home in Durham. After serving in this capacity for

three years, he organized Aldersgate Church, Durham. Following retirement in 1957, he and Mrs. Glass moved to their home at Lake Junaluska. Funeral Services were held at the First United Methodist Church, Washington, North Carolina.

In 1938, which was 20 years after the new church was erected, a nice modern education building was completed, at a cost of \$3200.

This church is a credit to many people, and the Bethel congregation is justly proud of it. Sunday, August 17, 1941, Rev. W.L. Maness, a former pastor and builder of the Educational Building, preached and dedicated the new addition. A musical program was held in the afternoon.

Since 1941 the church has been redecorated and new carpet added, and electric organ purchased, and also a new furnace. Memorials given include windows, and oil painting, lights, offering plates and brass candle holders. The cross was presented by the Bethel Methodist Youth Fellowship.



Dr. Henry I. Glass



Rev. W.C. Merritt
1924-1927

During the years of the early 19th century, there became a group of churches combined to form the Yanceyville Charge. The Yanceyville Charge consisted of Yanceyville, Prospect, Locust Hill, Shady Grove and Bethel Methodist Churches. One Pastor served all five churches. They had a Parsonage on Main Street in Yanceyville, but sold it June 21, 1941 for \$7,800.00. They then purchased the Sam Bason home June 28, 1941 for the sum of \$6,000.00. The W.S.C.S. of Bethel offered to furnish the living room and so they did. The three piece Wicker suit was given by Mrs. H. L. Cobb and this suit is in our assembly room.

Rev. and Mrs. J. V. Early moved in the new Parsonage July 24, 1941.

The Charge divided Sept. 30, 1951. They became two different charges, consisting of the Yanceyville charge and the Cobb charge. Those on the Cobb Charge were Bethel, Locust Hill and Shady Grove. The vote was 16 for and 3 against. The parsonage was to be built at Bethel. It was built in 1952.

During the Years between 1923 and 1976, here is a list of the Ministers and the members that joined Bethel.

Rev. E. L. Stack, 1923-24; members: 1924—Mabel Strader, Louise Strader-Neighbors, Charlie Weatherford, Thelma Gatewood-Fuqua, Lillian Gatewood-Nethery, Otis Daniel, Horace G. Strader, Allen M. Morgan, H. L. Cobb.

Rev. W. C. Merritt, 1924-27.

It was said of Rev. Merritt that he was not a sensational preacher, his work did not often make good newspaper copy, and probably most of his sermons had already been forgotten; but they will never forget that noble face which reflected his Christian character, and his pure, sympathetic heart.

Rev. W. C. Merritt, 1924-27; members: 1925—Margaret J. Blackwell, Lelia E. Blackwell-Staley, Alvis S. Gatewood, Willie Ware, Maude Frances Pruitt, Thelma Begley Ware, W. Scott King, Charles E. Strader, Edith Fannie Lee, Thomas Pruitt, Jamie Chandler, Cora Chandler, Daniel-Gammon, Margaret Louise Thacker; 1926—Dr. J. H. Thacker, Hezekiah Pruitt, Lunia Pruiue, George W. Stowe, Everette Stowe, Cary I. Gatewood, Stamey Gunn

Rev. S. J. Starnes, 1927-31; members: 1928—William H. Gatewood, Frank Daniel, Mrs. Charlie Weatherford, Mrs. Willard Gatewood, Ella Begley-Rice, Nancy Begley, Dandy Begley-Ware, J.W. Stowe, Mrs. J.W. Stowe, Lala Stowe-Holly, Eustace Ware; 1929—Charlie Adkins, Eugene Ware, Merle Barker; 1930—Elsie Lee Pruitt, Mrs. Edna Barker, Zadie Payne-Gilbert, Lillie Booth, Sallie Barker Pruitt, Loraine Strader-Gibson, Mary Lilly Watlington, Irene Thompson, Frank Begley, Margaret Pruitt, Mrs. Annie Pruitt, Sumter Bullock; 1931—Mrs. Martha Pruitt, Gracie Elizabeth Pruitt, Bannister Pruitt, Daily Pruitt, Rosa Wray, Will Wray, Calvin Chumlee, Mary Chumlee, James Adkins, John Pruitt, Oscar Pruitt, Thomas Pruitt, John D. Rice.

Rev. S.J. Starnes
1927-1931



Rev. W.L. Maness
1936-1939

Rev. Ivey T. Poole, 1932-35; members: 1932—Mary Elizabeth Pruitt, Edna Stradler, Beverly Crews, Gilmer Crews, Howard Daniel; 1933—J. G. Ragland, Mrs. J. G. Ragland, Mary Elizabeth Daniel-Haraway, Margaret Ann Daniel-Jones, Stanford Lee Matherly, Buster Brown Payne, Joe Pruitt, Henry Pruitt, Claude Thomas Pruitt, Addie Minnie Jones-Pruitt, Lillie Mae Pruitt; 1932—George Washington Ramsey; 1933—Mrs. G. W. Ramsey; 1934—John R. Bowles, John R. Bowles, Jr., Annie F. Watlington-Justice, Lula Paschall, John Daniel Jeffress; 1935—Ruby Weatherford, Mildred V. Cook, Mildred Louise Lane, Willard Badgett Gatewood, Joe Pruitt, Mary Ruth Adkins, Daniel Perkins Payne, Kathleen Davis, Mrs. Lillian Boggs, Mrs. Ora Crews; 1934—Mrs. W. M. Slade, W. M. Slade

Rev. W. L. Maness, 1936-39; members: 1936—A. J. Layne, Mrs. A. J. Layne, Virginia Daniel-Wynick, Helen Daniel-Benson, Mrs. C. A. Daniel, Annie Thompson-Perkins, Mrs. J. A. Weatherford, Evelyn Weatherford, Maudie Mae Pruitt, Lillie Mae Lewis-Ware, James Strader,

Raymond Chumlee, Mrs. Pattie Atkins, James Brown, Estelle Lewis, Jean King-Bedinger; 1937—Irvin Howard Jeffress, Cleveland Daniel, Andrew Jackson Layne, Mathew Pruitt, Mrs. B. R. Daniel, Margaret Layne Pruitt, Lindsey Dameron, Mrs. Lindsey Dameron; 1938—Mrs. Sarah Pruitt, Mrs. Stanford Matherly, Edward W. Daniel, Edna Pruitt, Mamie Lee Adkins; 1939—Mrs. Helen Pryor-Daniel, Mrs. J.J. Jeffress, Mary Ethel Daniel-Sakellaris, Frances Ray, Elizabeth Saunders, Rosa Saunders, Almeda Pruitt, Henry Cobb Farish, Mrs. Henry Pruitt, Elizabeth Daniel-Briggs.

Rev. A. E. Brown, 1940; member: 1940—Dorothy H. Gunn



Rev. J. V. Early
1940-1946



Rev. H. R. Ashmore
1946-1951

Rev. Early performed the first marriage in the new brick church on June 7, 1941. This was the marriage of John W. Staley, of Staley, N.C. to Evelyn Blackwell.

On Sunday night, May 5, 1946 he received 30 persons into membership by baptism and two by letter of transfer for a total of 32 new members.

Rev. J. V. Early, 1940-46; members: 1941—Thelma Chandler-Webb, Mrs. Nellie Strader, Lynwood Weatherford, Mrs. Lynwood Weatherford, Mrs. John Thompson, Phillip Dameron, Mrs. Marvin Gunn; 1942—Russell Saunders, Eunice Weatherford; 1943—Pauline Weatherford; 1942—Marie King, Irvin King, John Clifford Thompson, James Howard Thompson, Ralph Thompson; 1943—R. G. Strader, Mrs. R. G. Strader, William Thompson; 1944—Helen Strader-Jeffress, E. G. Strader, Jack Strader, Elmer Strader, Mrs. Elmer Strader; 1942—Katharine Rose; 1945—Raymond Strader, Jr.; 1941—Ernest L. Gunn, Mrs. Ernest Gunn, Vester Gunn; 1942—Willard B. Gatewood, Jr., Shirley Gunn, Ira Bracken Dameron, Ann Chandler; 1946—Betty Gunn-Davis; 1943—Sam B. Gatewood, Elizabeth Ann Ferrell, Ira Dameron, Sr., Otis Daniel, Jr., Myrtle Crumpton, Raymond Walker, Virginia Walker, Bertha Daniel Blackwell; 1944—Juanita Jeffress, Judy Lee Fuque-Carroll, Betty Dameron-Satterfield, Barbara Ann Millnew-Hodges, Raymond Millnew, Johnny Thompson, Mrs. Johnny Thompson; 1945—Ruth Ferrell-Somers, Edward Lee Ferrell, Ruth Crumpton, Katherine Crumpton, Jim Austin, Mrs. Jim Austin, Alice Chandler, Hubert Daniel, Mrs. Hubert Daniel, Ralph Daniel, Mrs. Ralph Daniel; 1946—Frances Kennon, Doris Kennon, Katherine Daniel-Tulloch, Elizabeth Crumpton, Margaret Crumpton-Shumate, George Clayton, Carolyn Austin, Mildred Strader, Herman Lee Strader, Mrs. Lottie Smith-Pruitt, Mary Smith, Lynwood Webb, Herman Weatherford, Effie Weatherford, Ola Thompson.

Rev. Ashmore served Bethel for a total of 5 years, he returned in July 1853, to dedicate the windows, lighting system and the cross for the altar.

Rev. H. R. Ashmore, 1946-51; members: 1946—Sam Thompson, Mr. John Crumpton; 1947—John Eaton, Mrs. John Eaton; 1949—Mrs. Dudley Gatewood; 1950—Oscar Daniel, Lucy

Gatewood-de la Bretonne, Cabell Early; 1951—Elizabeth Ann Early, Rachel Eaton, Marie Eaton-Walker, Mrs. Garcie Wray, Phillip Wray, Jerry Wray.

Rev. J.W. Spears, 1951-53: members: 1952—Mrs. Bertha E. Brown, Nanie Sue Crumpton; 1953—Louis Gibson, Danny Jeffress.



**Rev. J.W. Spears
and Family
1951-1953**



**Rev. W.S. Lambert
1953-1956**



**Rev. H.L. Harris
1956-1960**



**Rev. T.R. Conway
1960-63**

Rev. W.S. Lambert, 1953-56; members: 1953—Mrs. Iona Brooks-Strader; 1954—Betty Cobb-Strader, Margaret Lee Jeffress-Sartin, Betty Lou Robertson, Patricia Maude Walker, Mrs. Imogene S. Gatewood; 1956—Ira Strader, Elizabeth (Eliza) Strader, Virginia Lee Strader, G.W. High, Mrs. G.W. High.

Rev. H. L. Harris, 1956-60; members: 1956—Linda High, Mary Helen High; 1958—William Atkinson, Mrs. William Atkinson; 1956—Annie Laura Daniel-Roberson; 1957—Mary Carolyn Daniel-Savage; 1959—Frances W. Dameron; 1958—Nelson Daniel, Jackie Daniel, Lacy Daniel, Sr., Janet Long-Daniel; 1959—T. Dudley Gatewood; 1960—Betty Vernon Jeffress, Kay Jeffress-Satterfield; 1958—Mrs. Odessa Layne; 1960—Judy Layne, Linda Lawrence-Walker; 1959—Dewey Hodges; 1957—James Lindsey Neighbors; 1958—Wilson Nethery, Jane

Nethery-Poteat; 1959—Calvin Shumate; 1960—Jane Brooks-Hodges; 1956—Rhett Brooks, Crawford Hooks; 1958—Eddie Strader; 1960—Ralph Gray Shreves; 1956—Pete Wray; 1960—Mrs. Hubert Daniel, Jr.; 1956—Mary Lee Howard

Rev. T. R. Conway, 1960-63; members; 1963—Billy Atkinson, Janice Daniel, Carolyn Sue Jeffress, June Jeffress, Jo Ann Walker

Rev. Charles R. Hutchinson, 1963-67; members: 1967—Miss Mattie Hicks, Rosa Hodges, Rose Mary Hodges-Sykes; 1968—Gordon Satterfield

Rev. Clyde P. Pearce, 1968-70; members: 1970—Jackie Strader; 1969—Starr Strader; 1968—Bernard (Pat) Wray



Rev. Charles R. Hutchinson
1963-67



Rev. Clyde P. Pearce
1968-70



Rev. Harold T. Pickett
1970-75



Rev. Charles F. Eakin
Present Pastor

Rev. Harold T. Pickett, 1970-75; members: 1972—Shirley Wray, Sonya Hooks, Mrs. Elmer (Irene) Strader, Fay Strader, Debra Strader

Rev. Eakin arrived at Bethel in June 1975, coming with a firm hand shake, a big smile, a heart full of love and a praise the Lord for everyone.

He is very active in all capacities. Bethel is pleased to have Rev. Eakin and his wife Frances serving at this time.

Rev. Charles F. Eakin, 1975-76; members: 1976—Linwood Crichton, Jr., Mrs. Linwood Crichton, Jr. Felicia Crichton.

Recorded in the 1975 Conference Journal, Bethel has an enrollment of 186 members. The majority of these are active members.

On Nov. 14, 1976, Bethel will celebrate the bi-centennial and homecoming combined. There will be lunch on the grounds, with a song service following, consisting of the Charles Wesley Hymns. Dr. J. V. Early, a former minister, will be the guest speaker.

The members of Bethel march forward with their eyes toward the horizons and their hearts full of the love of God and no obstacle will be too large for them to overcome.

Women's Society of Christian Service

The history of the organized woman's work at Bethel Church began in 1916. The missionary society was organized by Mrs. W.W. Peele of Durham, who was the conference president at that time. Mrs. John A. Cobb was elected president, Miss Ola King, vice-president and Mrs. A.R. Blackwell, sec.-treas. Miss Lizzie King, was in charge of the woman's magazine named "VOICE."

Other ladies present were Mrs. H. L. Cobb, Mrs. Dora Law, Mrs. C. W. King, Mrs. J. D. Gatewood, Miss Virginia Badgett Daniel and Mrs. Nannie Cobb Badgett. These women were responsible for raising much of the \$12,000.00 for the new brick church building, our present benches, carpets and heater. From all reports these faithful women, assisted by other church members, worked hard to raise the money. They carried on the work of the church and added many new members to the church roll.

In 1939 and 1940, the Woman's Society of Christian Service was organized, also the Wesleyan Service Guild, for the working members in the church conference. All the other missionary organizations were officially recognized as members. The W.S.C.S. as it became known was still in the link of survival at Bethel. They served dinners for various clubs in Danville, bringing food already prepared and served it picnic style. The kitchen had not been built at this time. They served meals at Park Springs, Wildwood, the Rotary Club in Yanceyville. They sold baked goods at various stores in Danville and Yanceyville. They had a booth at the Curb-Market and sold food, produce, clothing and did well at that project. Bessie Gatewood and Annie Cobb went to the tobacco barns and asked for donations of tobacco and then carried it to the warehouse and sold it. All of these women were generous with their time and were willing workers. It was a way of life to work in those days, and they also enjoyed the fellowship of doing things together.

The story is told that Mrs. Eva Ragland and Mrs. Daisey King could slice a ham so thin you could see thru it and they sliced many a ham for all these dinners. This group of women was instrumental in building the new addition to Bethel Church.

In 1938 two Sunday school rooms and the large assembly room which was used as a Sunday school room were built. The kitchen was there but not equipped for some time. As time went on the membership changed, many of the older members having passed away and new names added to the roll.

In 1951 we started serving brunswick stews to the public to raise money for our needs at the church. Mr. Ernest Gunn was our cook at that time, with the help of all the ladies, we had good stews to sell. Mr. Ernest helped us for many years. As in most everything we did, we always had full cooperation with the rest of the church and all the ingredients were donated that were available. We served our stews at Park Springs, Wildwood and Cobb School cafeteria.

In 1954 we advertized our stew well and had sold lots of tickets to people in Danville. We were serving at Park Springs Club House and about the time we were ready for our customers the heavens opened up and everywhere was mud in a short time. Dudley Gatewood and

Howard Jeffress tried to assist the guest into the eating area and parking the cars. One of the doctors wives lost her shoe in the mud. We had lots of problems and ended up tired but satisfied for we had made over \$500.00 and sold all the stew, however we vowed never to serve at Park Springs again. Next time we went to Cobb School and served there until they wouldn't let us anymore. By that time we were prepared to serve at our church and have been doing that ever since. It was hard work for those involved but we really did enjoy it as we had worked up a good reputation for good stew. We sold it by the plate with pie and drink at that time, but as the years went by we now sell mostly by the quart, many people buying it to put in their freezers. Our stews are cooked outside in the large iron pots, we used Ed Gatewood's huge pot for a long time along with several smaller ones and had to carry the water from the parsonage, and using hot plates for heating water etc. We got a sink in the kitchen and that helped a lot but still had to carry the water. A few years later Mrs. Hugh Cobb had the cupboard put in the kitchen and we got a new sink and cabinet, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Strader gave us a new cook stove and we were going good, a little later Mrs. Frances Gammon gave us her refrigerator and we are still using them. In the mean time we had a well dug in 1966, the W.S.C.S. paying for that project, the amount of \$402.00.

After Mr. Ernest gave up the cooks job, Jamie Chandler took it for awhile, then Raymond Millner until his death and since then Dewey Hodges has done a great job with the help of several other young men and we still have one big stew a year. Every family contributes something towards the stew and it is an easy way to share in raising money for what ever project we choose to spend it for. We have been serving the Cobb Ruritan Club suppers for some time and that helps to raise more money.

The heating system was oil circulators since about 1950 with a coal burner in the furnace under the sanctuary, all having to be lit by hand. In 1960 the W.S.C.S. did their part in raising funds for a new oil furnace and later one was put under the educational building. Betty Strader has been turning on the heat for the church each cold week end for a number of years, we are grateful for the help of all who have given of their time.

In 1958 Mrs. H. L. Harris saw the need of organizing a night circle, as many of the younger women were working or had children to care for in the daytime, so she was instrumental in this project and with the help of Mrs. Maude Dameron and the cooperation of the young women the "Lelia Gatewood Circle" was formed. They wanted to honor Mrs. Lelia Gatewood as this was in her eighty-sixth year. She was greatly pleased and it gave her something to think about, even though she was paralyzed and could not move in any way she loved Bethel and the people involved there.

We still have the two circles, Circle No. 1 meeting in the daytime, but with a smaller membership as the years go by and we lose so many as they go on to their reward in Heaven.

We give each circle full credit for the work they have done and still doing and will only mention a few things. The rug in the assembly room was paid for by the Lelia Gatewood Circle, also the stainless steelware was their project and may other things.

Circle No. 1 sponsored an orphan for a number of years, one a Korean boy. Both circles have done much in mission work, many life memberships have been given and all that many goes to missions. We have helped the children's home in Raleigh by saving coupons to help buy equipment for their kitchen and other things.

Both Circles have been equally responsible for many activities at Bethel, painting, Assembly room curtains and various other things. In 1 Corinthians 3:14, it says, each mans work will one day be shown for what it is, this verse of Scripture has summed up the work of the United Methodist Women's work. The Apostle Paul said, there will be testing of the work we do, in the way we build our house, of service, the foundation upon which we build has already been laid—Christ Jesus. The best we can do, the golden hours of service still need refining to be pure. God can use any of our efforts, but lasting value comes from doing our best. When we do our best God will do the rest.

All through the years this group of ladies has tried very hard to work for God and Bethel Church and not for self interest.

These are the names of the women that have received life memberships.

Miss Lizzie P. King, Mrs. Annie F. Cobb, Mrs. Lizzie G. Daniel, Mrs. Mary H. Gunn, Miss Ola King, Mrs. J. S. Thompson, Mrs. Lizzie King, Mrs. Ethel King, Mrs. Bessie P. Gatewood, Mrs. Lillian G. Nethery, Mrs. Frances Dameron, Mrs. Frances P. Gammon, Mrs. Lucy K. Watlington, Mrs. Annie L. Strader, Mrs. Maude J. Dameron, Mrs. H. L. Harris, Mrs. Betty C. Strader, Mrs. Josie B. Gatewood

BABY LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

Carolyn Watlington, Lacy Daniel, Sonya Hooks, Liza Lynn Carroll, Donna Marie Fuqua, Michael Daniel, Nancy Crumpton, Wesley Daniel, J. Harvey Lawrence, Raymond Armstead Hodges, Robbie Jean Satterfield, Danny Jeffress, Vicki Daniel, John B. Dameron, Cathy Ann Dameron



Mr. & Mrs. Dudley Gatewood

In 1953-55 Brownie Gatewood had the honor of serving as Sub-District leader for Caswell County. A few high lights of her service are as follows:

One of the most inspiring events was the Annual Conference where you were privileged to meet and work with women who were dedicated to the service and work of their God and church. The District meetings were most helpful and interesting and of course our own local sub-district meeting where you could get to know all your neighbors. It is interesting to remember Durham Conference, President at that time was Mrs. Henry Glass, wife of our own Dr. Henry Glass, who was converted at Bethel. She was a great inspiration to all who worked with her, always so kind and helpful. One meeting that is well remembered by Brownie was at Leasburg church, where they were having a sub-district meeting, it was a very rainy day and her brother went along as he felt it unsafe for her to go alone, she was grateful for that as we later find out. There was a very good attendance with several district officers coming a long way, so because of the stormy weather they hurried thru the business session and the program before lunch. As they prepared to return home, someone came in and told them about the hurricane that was upon them. Everyone went home and all got there safely, but they doubt if Hurricane Hazel will ever be forgotten by those present in 1954. The last meeting Brownie presided over was at Bethel. She was presented a life membership from the conference. It was a complete surprise. She always says, "it was such a privilege to serve and a period in her life she likes to remember."



Frances W. Dameron



Maude J. Dameron

Frances Williams Dameron

Frances worked faithfully in Bethel Church since 1948. She was the first president of the Lilia Gatewood Circle. She was Treasurer of both circles for the last few years. Before she passed away May 8, 1976, she had been working on the History of Bethel Church about four years. Among her other work for the church, she helped with Bible school, chairmanship of several commissions, taught a Sunday School Class and helped with the United Methodist Youth. We are truly thankful for her service to us and to her God.

Betty Cobb Strader

Betty accepted the office of President of W.S.C.S. in 1967 and has served very well. No one has held that office so long. She has been faithful in her work for nine years and we hope she will continue. Betty says, "I could not have done it without the full cooperation of the rest of the organization." A lot of other members of Bethel have contributed time, work and gifts. This is not an easy office to fill and every past president deserves great credit for the work they have done. Among her many duties and offices, she is a leader for the United Methodist Youth.

Mrs. Maude J. Dameron

Mrs. Maude Dameron moved in to Bethel Community about 41 years ago and since has been a pillar of Bethel Church. For years she was Sunday School Superintendent over the children's department. A lot of children have remembered her as "Aunt Maude" or "Missie Maude." She has been influential in many of Bethel's children's lives. During her many years at Bethel she has served on many committees, president of W.S.C.S., taught Jr. and Primary classes, chairman of Evangelism and is still rendering her services.

Mrs. Dameron and her husband Lindsey are usually first to arrive at church on Sunday morning, to check to be sure everything is in order, they are the last to leave, trying to be sure the windows are closed, the heat turned off, the doors locked and that everything is alright. Their many years of service are deeply appreciated.

A Few Past W.S.C.S. Presidents



Mrs. Berlie Cobb



Mrs. C.H. King



Mrs. Mag
[A.R.] Blackwell



Mrs. Bessie Gatewood



Mrs. Annie Cobb



Mrs. Ethel King



Mrs. Helen P. Daniel



Mrs. Lucy K. Watlington



Mrs. Annie [H.G.] Strader

W.S.C.S. Membership

1916 to 1976

Mrs. Annie Cobb	Mrs. Bertha Blackwell
Mrs. Bessie Gatewood	Mrs. Nettie King
Miss Margaret Blackwell	Mrs. Cora Jeffress
Mrs. Helen P. Daniel	Mrs. Effie Weatherford
Mrs. J.C. James	Mrs. Mary Daniel
Mrs. Ester Bowles	Mrs. Matt Hicks
Mrs. Mary H. Gunn	Mrs. Maude Dameron
Mrs. Jack Layne	Mrs. J.H. Thompson
Miss Ola King	Mrs. Lillian Nethery
Mrs. Frances Gammon	Mrs. Iona Strader
Mrs. Marvin Gunn	Mrs. Louise Neighbors
Miss Mabel Strader	Mrs. Irene C. Daniel
Mrs. Loranie Gibson	Mrs. Blanch Webb
Mrs. Mary Sue Daniel	Mrs. Harry R. Newnam
Mrs. Alice Conway	Mrs. Wilma Daniel
Mrs. Gracie Wray	Mrs. Dorothy Gunn
Miss Lucy Gatewood	Mrs. Raymond Strader
Mrs. Dorothy Crumpton	Mrs. Carolyn Austin-Harrelson
Mrs. Mary Austin	Mrs. Cabell Early
Mrs. Kathleen Daniel	Mrs. Berkley Daniel
Mrs. Vonnie Payne	Mrs. Vela Daniel-Harrelson
Mrs. Louicle Daniel	Mrs. Nelson Daniel
Mrs. Bobby Daniel	Mrs. Brownie Gatewood
Mrs. Nellie Strader	Mrs. Betty Strader
Mrs. Frances Dameron	Mrs. Edna Thompson
Mrs. Lemma Hooks	Mrs. Duck Jeffress
Mrs. Shirley Wray	Mrs. Kay Satterfield
Mrs. Virginia Strader	Mrs. Irene Strader
Miss June Jeffress	Mrs. Joy Thompson
Mrs. Jane Poteat	Mrs. Helen Jeffress
Mrs. Barbara Hodges	Mrs. Sandra Crichton
Mrs. Lucy Watlington	

Youth Work

Soon after the woman's missionary society was organized, a group of the children, under the leadership of Miss Ola King, were organized into a missionary society for children. Their title was: BRIGHT JEWELS OF BETHEL CHURCH. These kept a mite box in which they saved pennies and dimes for missionary projects.

Some of the active members of this organization were: Cora Daniel-Jeffress, Lucille Daniel, Lilly King-Phillips, Wilson Gatewood-Gravelly, Melissa Blackwell-Lorrence and Anna Law, deceased. As these children grew, they continued to be active church workers and became members of the Epworth League. There were times when the young people were active and there were years in which the interest lagged or died. Some years there were joint meeting of young people at the churches on the charge.

Prospect Methodist had an active Epworth League and two of their leaders, Johnny and Patty Gunn were influential in getting the young people of Bethel Church interested in the work.

Mrs. Patty King invited the group to meet in her home as she often said, "I love young people." She and her son, Irvin, served refreshments after each meeting and fellowship social followed the programs.

Miss Ola King served as leader at this time. The members of the Bright Jewel Band became the charter members of the Epworth League. Other young people who came into the organization were Helen Gatewood-Dameron, Howard Jeffress and Willard Gatewood.

During the years of 1928 to 1930 Miss Mabel Strader was active in the youth work of the church and served as President, also as Secretary and Treasurer one of the years. She received a pin from the group as a token of their appreciation for the faithful service rendered. Mabel remembers some of the active members during these years; Charlie Strader, Louise Strader-Neighbors, Ruby Neighbors-Hodges and some of the teachers of Cobb School, Mr. Ralph Winchester and Mr. Fred Horton.

Miss Margaret Blackwell served as leader for the young people for a period of time about the time the Epworth League was changed to the Methodist Youth Fellowship. She recalls the five churches on the charge had joint meetings and there was a good cooperation and interest manifested in these meetings. There were worship and fellowship services held at the local churches and Margaret worked with the group at Bethel Church.

Following Margaret Blackwell, Mrs. Nellie Strader became the leader of the M.Y.F. work and she was assisted by Miss Janie Ruth Pleasant. Mrs. Strader and Miss Pleasant were teachers at Cobb School and they had a wonderful influence over the young people as they gave of their services in the church as well as in the school.

In 1950 the M.Y.F. re-organized, Rev. George Tyson was assistant pastor to Rev. H.R. Ashmore. Mrs. Tyson worked with the young people in all of the churches on the charge. He was influential in getting Bethel's young people re-organized and with the help of the leader would provide transportation for the ones who needed it.

Mary Ethel Daniel, now Mrs. Sam Sakellaris, was appointed leader for the group and worked with them until she married and moved to Danville. She reported: We had a large number of young people interested and active. We would meet at the church one Sunday night a month and had a program followed by fellowship social. During the week other social activities, such as swimming, picnics and weiner roasts were enjoyed. Some of the active members of this group were; Carolyn Austin-Harrelson, who served as president and another year was secretary and treasurer. Carolyn was secretary for the Sub-District organization, also Virginia Austin-Nelson was program chairman one year and served as secretary another year. Lemma Strader-Hooks, served as pianist and Barbara Millner-Hodges song leader. Other members who took part in the programs and activities were: Elizabeth Ferrell-Basco, Ruth Ferrell-Somers, Edward Lee Ferrell, William Thompson, Sam Thompson, Mildred Strader,

Herman Strader, Ola Thompson Watson, Shirley Thompson-Jones, Shirley Gunn-Peaden, Margaret Crumpton-Shumate, Hubert Daniel, Jr., Rachel Daniel-Hodges, Lorraine Daniel-Smith, Betty Gunn-Davis, Otis Pruitt, Ann Pruitt, Tracy Thurman, Ann Chandler-Wray, Alice Chandler, Annie Laura Daniel-Roberson, Marie Eaton-Walker, Rachel Eaton-Willard, Kenneth Fuqua, George Lindsey Dameron, Judy Fuqua-Carroll, Betty Dameron-Satterfield, Jane Brooks-Brannon, Elizabeth Ann Early, Peggy Daniel-James, Catherine Daniel-Tulloch, Otis Daniel, Jr., Lacy Daniel, Nelson Daniel, Rachel Meadows-Barker, Ruby Meadows-Grimes. The group had a Brunswick stew and cleared \$88, which they purchased the lovely cross which is a part of the pulpit furniture at the present time. Many of these young people are leaders in Bethel Church and in the community today, others have moved into other areas and we hope are serving in their church and community.

Mrs. Daniel Jeffress served as a leader after Mary Ethel Sakellaris. At this time Frances Ann Williams was teaching in the Cobb Memorial School, she assisted Mrs. Jeffress as leader with this group. Officers serving at that time were: Marie King and Irvin King, they served as presidents alternating each year. Marie also served as pianist and Irvin as secretary. Willard Gatewood, Jr., was president at one time and secretary at another time. Jack Strader and Brack Dameron were active in the work and are today among Bethel's most faithful leaders.

For a period of time Mrs. Jeffress was not able to serve as she had another little girl, Carolyn Sue, to enter their family and Miss Williams became Mrs. Ira Bracken Dameron. Frances continued to work with the M.Y.F. and help in the re-organization of the M.Y.F.

During the period between 1960-63 the youth were under the leadership of Mrs. Lemma Hooks, Anna Ruth Conway, Helen Jeffress and Barbara Hodges. They were very active, selling candy to earn enough money to take a trip to the beach as a group. Every week they had some form of recreation planned as to keep all members interested, such as, swimming, bowling, hayrides, picnics, weiner roast and playing ball. They had about 23 members and some of their projects were to paint the assembly room and Sunday School room. Some of the members are as follow: Sandra Strader, Eddie Strader, Sue Astin, Jimmie Neighbors, Mary Carolyn Daniel, Mary Lee Howard, Margaret Jeffress, Jane Nethery, Betty Gunn, Nancy Crumpton, Mary Katherine Jones, Christina Tilly, Kay Jeffress, Ralph Shreves and Belvin Smith.

After these leaders, the youth died down, with no activity for a number of years and in January 1974 the Methodist Youth Fellowship was reorganized with fifteen present. The Adult advisors were Frances Dameron, Betty Strader, June Jeffress and Lemma Hooks. Starr Strader was elected president, George Gunn vice-president, Teresa Thompson, sec. and Cathy Dameron as treasurer. They meet the first Sunday night of the month at the church. They have a program for each meeting stressing Christian activities. This group sold flavoring and car kits, cards and other things to raise money to buy the Parament sets for our church altar. At Christmas they go caroling in the homes of shut-ins, sick and neighbors carrying a gift of cookies or candy as a gesture of Christmas spirit.

In March of 1976, they participated in the Parish Walk-a-thon, raising a sum of \$156 for missions. In December of 1975, they sponsored the watch night service at Bethel Church, with the help of their pastor Rev. Eakins, this was a most inspiring and meaningful service, to our young people and to the community. A candle light service was arranged by Rev. Eakin and it was a picture to behold by those that were present. The attendance was real good, both youth and all other members of the church.

Membership Roll: Starr Strader, Gil Strader, Penny Strader, Liza Carroll, Felicia Creighton, Susan Atkinson, Cathy Dameron, Donna Fuqua, Armstead Hodges, Johnny Hodges, Jane Hooks, John Hooks, Teresa Thompson, Shana McGee, Brent McGee, Sonya Hooks and Johnny Dameron.

The interest shown by these young people prove what leadership can do to form the ground work for future adults. Young people aren't any different now than years past. It is giving them a chance to prove themselves that they want. Not many leaders in the past, or young people either, would have walked the Walk-a-thon last March as these did, but you can be sure God was walking with them along with their pastor, Rev. Eakin. The Paraments in our Sanctuary are a reminder each Sunday of one of their achievements and on Christmas, it is a

joy to have them come and sing Christmas Carols. May God Bless our young people, who will all too soon be the Adults of Bethel Church.

Bethel's Choir

No written record was found of the choir before the 1950's, but some of the members remembered that Mrs. Lillie King was pianist for many years.

In the 1940's Mr. and Mrs. C.L. Price came from Yanceyville and organized a choir with Margaret Blackwell as pianist. After Margaret, Jean King was pianist for a number of years before going away to college. Then Marie and Irvin King were pianist until Brownie Gatewood came in 1952 and re-organized the choir and served as choir director and pianist faithfully. When Brownie came to Bethel she saw the need of a choir, having been involved in several large choirs, she felt she could render some service.

Many different ones had given of their talents to the music program, naming a few, Mrs. Annie Cobb Badgett, Annie May K. Glass, Mrs. Lilly King, Mrs. Elizabeth Watkins, Mrs. Lucy K. Watlington, Mrs. Janie G. Park, Miss Ola King, Miss Jeane King, Miss Marie King, Miss Irvin King, Miss Margaret Blackwell, Mrs. Lucy G. de le Bretonne, Mrs. Frances Dameron, Miss Mary Lilly Watlington, Mrs. H.R. Ashmore and Mrs. Lambert assisted also. There may be others and all their services have been truly appreciated.

Beginning in 1950 the choir met at Mrs. Brownie Gatewood's home until 1952, then they would meet in homes of members that had a piano. The average attendance, 22 with 8 or 9 men present. They mostly began with prayer and scripture. They would have a fellowship dinner once a month which was one of the highlights of the choir aside from singing. Everyone involved loved to sing and though there was only a few that could read music they did a good job. This choir served the community very well, singing at Shady Grove, Locust Hill, Yanceyville and Bethesda on special occasions. They made white robes with the help of Frances Dameron and Brownie Gatewood.

Mrs. Mary Swann had been successful in getting an organ for Pelham Church and since Bethel decided they wanted one, she said she would help them get one. Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Gatewood worked diligently on this project and in 1958 Bethel Church was the proud owner of a Hammond organ. By June of 1959, with the generosity of her members and friends the organ was paid for and dedicated to the Honor and Glory of God.

After many years several members moved away and others lost interest, but Lemma Hooks and Barbara Hodges were always loyal. When Mr. Conway came, the church purchased a tape recorder, they taped all special services and some funeral services for members of the families that could not attend.

On several occasions the recorder was carried to the county home in Yanceyville, the patients were delighted to hear a service as some had not had the privilege for a long time, they would join in with the singing. Some of the members going on these trips and taking refreshments were Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Gatewood, Mrs. Eva Ragland and Mrs. Ethel King.

In 1966 new interest was shown in the choir and the purchase of new Methodist Hymnals with many given as memorials of loved ones was very inspirational. Mrs. Lemma Hooks played for the choir and Mr. Waller was director.

Rev. Pickett helped to direct the choir, not only could he preach but he could also sing.

Mrs. David Fields moved into the community and she was a talented musician, she agreed to direct the choir and they had lots of lovely music for a while. Then she gave up the choir. Mrs. Kay Satterfield is the present choir director and she is doing an excellent job. Lemma Hooks started playing the piano for the church when she was twelve years old. She has been faithful for 26 years and now is the present organist. Mrs. Sandra Crichton is assisting Mrs. Hooks and she is also very talented. Mrs. Brownie Gatewood has also served for 26 years in the ministry of music.

In 1971 we had the little junior choir. They sang their little hearts out and would sing whenever asked. Kathy Dameron, Penny Strader, Gil Strader, John Hooks, Jane Lee Hooks, Johnny Hodges and Donna Fuqua were members of this choir.



Bethel Junior Choir

Young Adult Class

In 1951, Brownie Gatewood agreed to try to reorganize the Young Adults. The first meeting was set for a Sunday night. Only three came, Marie King, Irvin King and Williard Gatewood, Jr., they were all in college and away most of the time so that was a good start, but not enough. They set another date and a good number attended. This class was extra special to Brownie as she had a great love for all of them and they seemed to respond in return. Many of them were choir members so they combined the two for our fellowship dinners. Most of these members are now active workers of Bethel and are carrying on the work of the church very well. Time doesn't wait for many and so many of the older members have passed away, each generation has to assume their responsibilities. Brownie is still very proud of these young people and ask God to help them guide them in every way.

Mrs. Daniel Jeffress replaced Brownie as teacher of the class in 1962 and is still their teacher.

Betty Jeffress Markham

Betty Jeffress-Markham had been a part of Bethel's congregation almost from birth, her mother brought her to Sunday School and Church as a baby, teaching a Sunday School class with Betty on her lap.

Betty was an unusual child always so loving and wanting to serve the Lord even at an early age. Miss Ola King remembers that when she taught in Sunday School she was always so concerned for others and wanting to reach all the children not in church with God's Word.

She was a member of Providence Baptist G.A.'s as a little girl and her leader Mrs. Connie Oakley, sensed even then that she would allow God to use her in some way in his work. She said, "Betty was the most missionary minded of all the girls." Mrs. Oakley worked with mission training.

On June 11, 1972, Betty married a county boy, Rick Markham, who was active in his



Rick and Betty Markham and daughter

church, Community Baptist Church, and also in a Christian witnessing group on the State University Campus in Raleigh, where he was attending college.

Betty had completed her nursing training in Winston-Salem and was working at Rex Hospital in Raleigh in the coronary department, always witnessing to her patients and their families of God's love.

Rick and Betty faced conflicting thoughts as the possibility of obtaining a higher degree in bio-chemistry presented itself to Rick, as Betty wasn't too keen on giving up her nursing career, but the Lord spoke to them definitely about forsaking all human ambitions to follow him. Through the scripture and their pastor, God led them to full time Christian service in Donegal, Ireland. They felt a burden for the people in Ireland, a land of church spires on every hill, but where many are without an opportunity to hear of God's ministry.

In Donegal, Ireland they have banded together with other Christian workers. God has greatly blessed these people by molding them into a group of Christians who share in the burden for Donegal and all of Ireland. The ministry of the Bible center-coffee bar in Letterkenny has become a focal point for the work of this group. These individuals work together and in their own area of the country. There are Bible study groups, home visitation, showing of Christian films in local towns and villages as well as children groups.

The latest news of their work tells us of forming a church in Creeslough, a neighboring community to the area they live in, also the publishing of an evangelistic paper "Signpost in Donegal" to be carried to the people through visitation. Betty and Rick took a group of young people to a Christian camp near Dublin for a week in July and felt a real joy from this effort.

They went to Ireland in 1974 and have been there two years, they are currently planning a furlough home the first of October for about three months. They ask constantly for our prayers for their work and for the ones who read this history to remember them in their prayers also.

One of the greatest joys happened to Rick and Betty while in Ireland has been the blessing of a baby girl, named Leslie Faith on October 3, 1975.

Needless to say Bethel is extremely proud and happy over the decision of one of their own dedicated young people to go into the mission field with her husband. They joined with Mission International.



Gifts To Bethel Church

- Old Pulpit Furniture—3 chairs—given by Mrs. Jack Cobb (old church)
Pulpit Railing—by Ella Williamson in memory of her father, John B. Farrish
Old Communion Set—by Henry Wellington Cobb in memory of mother, Mary Howard Cobb (used in old church, in present church in bookcase)
New Communion Set—in memory of Eugene A. Glass by children
Linen for Communion Service—by Mrs. L.J. King and Mrs. Eva Rayland (made by W.S.C.S. 1950)
Lighting Effects—July 19, 1953—in memory of John B. and Virginia C. Farrish by children
Book Case—1950 by Mame George
Railing at Front Door Steps—1971—Mrs. E.L. Gunn, Mrs. J.B. Watlington
Pulpit Furniture, 1920—Mrs. Pattie Johnson King
Mural—by Mrs. Annie Farrish Cobb in memory of Hugh Littleton Cobb (husband) who gave the Bible
Baptismal Cup—1949, by Mrs. Annie F. Cobb in memory of Miss Lizzie King
Bronze Flower Baskets, Piano in Assembly Room, Small Pulpit Stand, and Kitchen Cabinets—by Mrs. Annie F. Cobb
Electric Stove, kitchen—by Mr. and Mrs. R.G. Strader
Refrigerator, kitchen, 1971—by Mrs. Frances Gammon
Picture—by Gertrude Millner
Offering Plates, Candlesticks, Bookmark, 1957—by Henry A. Badgett, Jr., Nannie Cobb Badgett and Henry A. Badgett in memory of Alph Badgett
Picture of Christ—by Effie Weatherford in memory of husband Herman
Wooden Collection Plates—by Mrs. Mary Orr Wright (old church)

Cross on Alter—M.Y.F.

Andirons in Assembly Room—M.Y.F.

Old Carpet—W.S.C.S. (in church)

New Carpet, 1976—by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Strader, Mr. and Mrs. R.G. Strader, Jr., and friend in memory of Mr. R.G. Strader Sr.

Cemetery Fence, 1940—by Louise Dibrell

Sidewalk and Shrubby, 1943—(Mr. Horace Strader, Mrs. Bessie Gatewood and Mrs. Annie Cobb sold cow to pay for it)

Furniture in Sunday School Room—by Mr. Tom Law

The Volumes of Bible Books—by Mrs. John R. Bowles, Sr.

24 Hymn Books—by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Perkins in memory of Philip Thompson

25 Hymn Books—by Ethel King in memory of her husband Lemuel J. King

60 New Hymnals—by different families of the church in 1966—some in memory of loved ones



CEMETERY

7th day of June 1939, by C.J. Law and wife, Minnie Lee Law, to Irving King, A.S. Gatewood, C.H. King, T.B. Law, and J.A. Cobb, Trustees of Bethel Church, .71 of an acre, more or less. Recorded in Book 85, p 296

7th day of July 1964, by Josie B. Gatewood and husband, T.D. Gatewood, to Ira Dameron, and I.H. Jeffress, Trustee of Bethel Methodist Church, .8 acre, more or less, addition to cemetery.

7th day of April, 1972, by C.L. McGee, and wife, Annette Law McGee, to Irvin Jeffress, E. G. Strader, Ira B. Dameron, Raymond Strader, Jr., Dewey Hodges and William Atkinson, Trustees of Bethel United Methodist Church of Caswell County and State of North Carolina, a tract of land adjoining the present cemetery. The grantors reserve a portion of above property as set out by markers on the ground for the McGee family plot. Recorded in Book 165, p. 413

1966—addition to cemetery fence put up

CHURCH

14th day of March 1919, to J.D. Gatewood, A.S. Gatewood, A.R. Blackwell, J.B. Farish and J.A. Cobb, Trustees of Bethel Church, Yanceyville Circuit and their successors, 2 acres, more or less. Book 73, p. 6.

Old Church Land—March 28, 1885—Iverson M. and Bettie S. Glass—Trustees of Bethel Church. Book RR, p. 148.

Stained Glass Windows—August 1950—Mame Farrish George—by herself; John Archie, Bertie Howard Cobb, Lemuel James King—by Mrs. Ethel King and Mr. James C. Howard; John Dudley Gatewood and Rebecca Womack Gatewood—by children; Dora Emma Law and Thomas Badgett Law—by children; Pattie Johnson King and Junius Irvin King—by wife and children; Cary Howard King and Lillie Pinnis King—by children; Thelma Gatewood Fuqua—by sisters; Philip Fletcher Dameron, Lindsey Marshall Dameron, Maude Johnson Dameron—by themselves; Margaret Turner Blackwell—by children.

Hammond Organ—by the members of the congregation, community, and friends.

Parsonage Furniture, Folding Tables and Table Clothes for the Fellowship Hall—W.S.C.S. Bathroom, 1964—by members with most of the work being done by Crawford Hooks and Ira Dameron and others

Tape Recording, 1961—by members

Drapes, Painting Assembly Room and Fixing Floor January 1962—by Lelia Gatewood Circle

Curtains and Paint for Junior Room—by Maude Dameron

Light in Church Yard, March 30, 1965—by members

Painted Church Inside and Out, 1973—by members

Electric Candle Sticks, 1972—in memory of Daniel Bauert by sister Mr. and Mrs. T.D. Gatewood

Brass Flower Vases, 1974—in memory of Mrs. Ethel King by friends and relatives

Flags—W.A. Cobb and family

Parment Set, 1974—by M.Y.F.

PARSONAGE

20th day of March 1952, by I.H. Jeffress, E.L. Gunn, L.M. Dameron, Trustees of Bethel Methodist Church, .52 acres, more or less.



A Few of Our Devoted Members

Ralph Holmes—taught a Sunday Class for about 5 years.

Louise Neighbors—church secretary for a number of years.

Hugh Cobb—Stewart for about 5 years.

Ira B. Dameron—Superintendent of Sunday School, trustee, and chairman of committee on Finance.

Miss Ola King—taught Adult Class for 10 years.

Mrs. Daniel Jeffress—taught young adult class for 10 years.

Miss Margaret Blackwell—pianist, choir and M.Y.F.

Betty Strader—M.Y.F. advisor and president of W.S.C.S.

Jack Strader—Chairman of Board for 15 years, Chairman of pastor-parish relations, and served two different terms as Sunday School Superintendent.

Willard Gatewood—Sunday School Superintendent and looked after the cemetery for years.

Mrs. Willard Gatewood—member of W.S.C.S. and treasurer of Church for 10 years.

Miss Maude Dameron—Sunday School Superintendent of children's department, taught Junior and Primary classes, President of W.S.C.S., and chairman of Evangelism.

Mr. Lindsey Dameron—Trustee and Usher.

C.H. King—taught Sunday School for over 25 years.

Mrs. Lemma Strader Hooks—church treasurer, M.Y.F. advisor, choir, W.S.C.S., and organist for 26 years.

Mrs. Brownie Gatewood—W.S.C.S., Sub-District Leader, Sunday School teacher, choir and organist for 26 years.

Mr. T.D. Gatewood—choir, both husband and wife donated land for part of the cemetery, and steward.

Ira Dameron—trustee and worked on bathroom.

Irvin Jeffress—trustee and looks after cemetery.

Mrs. Irvin Jeffress—M.Y.F. advisor, Sunday School teacher and chairman of nominations and

Irvin King—treasurer for years.

Ira Strader—member of official board.

I.H. Jeffress—Superintendent of Sunday School, usher and trustee.

Mrs. I.H. Jeffress—W.S.C.S. President and choir.

Cabell Early—1 year treasurer of church.

Mrs. Helen Dameron—treasurer of church for 2 years.

Crawford Hooks—Superintendent of Sunday School and Sunday School teacher.

Mr. John A. Cobb—Superintendent of Sunday School for 32 years.

Mary Austin—president of Adult Class for about 8 years.

Mrs. Eva Ragland—contributed full cooperation to every cause.

Mrs. Ethel King—W.S.C.S. president and steward.

Mr. Lem King—Steward.

Mrs. Annie Cobb—W.S.C.S. and President of W.S.C.S.

Sam Thompson—Sunday School Superintendent and M.Y.F. advisor.

Mr. Lewis Gibson

Mr. Gibson became treasurer of Bethel in 1956, serving a total of 18 years. He was also an usher for a number of years. He rendered his church, his God and the congregation a great

service. It was told that he never wanted anyone working with his records but him, everything was always neat and in order. For all these years served and a job well done, many thanks to Mr. Gibson.

We hope no one has been over-looked, if so we are truly sorry. May we take this time to say to all members of Bethel, thanks to all of you for a job well done.

Superintendent of Sunday School 1892 - 1976

NAME	YEAR
Mr. J.A. Cobb	1892-
Mr. George P. Horton	1908-1910
Mr. J.A. Cobb	1910-1942
Mrs. John Bowles	1942-1943
Cary Gatewood	1944-
I.R. Michaels	1945-1946
James Austin	1947-1949
W.B. Gatewood	1950-1951
Howard Jeffress	1951-1952
Ira B. Dameron	1956-1958
Jack Strader	1958-1961
Crawford Hooks	1962-1964
Jack Strader	1964-1967
Daniel Jeffress	1968-1969
Gordon Satterfield	1970-1974
Sam Thompson	1974-1976

District Superintendents

DURHAM DISTRICT	YEAR
J.C. Wooten	1927-1930
H.C. Smith	1931-1933
H.B. Porter	1934-1937
A.J. Hobbs	1938-1941
F.S. Love	1942-1943
H.C. Smith	1944-1947
E.L. Hillman	1948-1952
W.L. Clegg	1953-

BURLINGTON DISTRICT

NAME	YEAR
A.P. Brantley	1954-1959
W.L. Clegg	1960-1961
T.B. Hough	1962-1966
E.B. Fisher	1967-1972
N.W. Grant	1972-1976

Bethel's Sons In Armed Services

WORLD WAR I

NAME	YR. ENTERED	PLACE SERVED	YR. DISCHARGED
T.D. Gatewood	1917	European Theater	1919
Lindsey M. Dameron	1918	France	1919
Philip F. Dameron	1918	France	1919
Ira Dameron	1918	Camp Jackson	1918
Berkley R. Daniel	1917	France	1919
Allen Gatewood	1918	U.S.	1919
Henry Pruitt	1917	France	1919
Howard Jeffress	1917	France	1919
James Edwin King		U.S.	1919
Alfred Badgett			
Jim Austin	1925	U.S. & China	1934

WORLD WAR II

NAME	YR. ENTERED	PLACE SERVED	YR. DISCHARGED
James Bethel Strader	1943	European Theater	1945
James Thompson	1944	Japan	1946
Johnny Thompson	1944	Japan	1946
William Atkinson	1942	U.S.	1946
Howard Daniel	1944	Germany	1946
Alvis Gatewood			
E.G. Strader	1944	Germany	1945
Irvin Jeffress	1942	European Theater	1946

KOREA

NAME	YR. ENTERED	PLACE SERVED	YR. DISCHARGED
Ira Bracken Dameron	1952	Korea	1952
Jack Kemp Strader	1952	Germany	1953
Otis Daniel, Jr.	1952	Italy	1954
Raymond Strader, Jr.	1953	Korea	1955

VIETNAM

NAME	YR. ENTERED	PLACE SERVED	YR. DISCHARGED
William Thompson	1953	Germany	1955
Calvin Shumate	1956	Germany	1958
James Lindsey Neighbors	1967	U.S.	1968
Pete Wray			

NATIONAL GUARDS

Eddie Strader
 Nelson Daniel
 Gordon Satterfield



Bethel's Chrismon Tree

The Ladies of Bethel decided to have a Chrismon Tree, in the year of 1967. They worked hard to make the symbolic decorations, that tell the story of Christ, His birth, His life and His death.

All decorations on the Chrismon Tree are made of white and gold—symbolizing the purity and the majesty of Christ. Many of the Chrismons are made from styrofoam, while others have pearls or gold beads as their medium. Small white lights are often used on the tree, too, to point to Christ as “the light of the world.”

Crosses, stars, Greek letters, crowns, shepherd's crooks, fishes, and butterflies all are forms of Chrismons. The circle, representing the eternal Lord, is frequently used also, and many Chrismons combine two or more symbols in their design. A tiny manger scene is often incorporated into the tree's decorations for children viewing the tree to see the baby Jesus.

Weddings Performed At Bethel Church

NAME	YEAR	PASTOR
Bessie Jeffress—William H. Best	April 2, 1916	S.F. Nicks
Evelyn Blackwell—John Stanly	June 7, 1941	J.V. Early
Betty Cobb—Raymond Strader, Jr.	Dec. —, 1951	H.L. Barham
Iona Brooks—Charlie Strader	Jan. 7, 1953	W.S. Lambert
Virginia Redd—Jack Strader	May 7, 1955	W.S. Lambert
Barbara Goodson—Otis Daniel, Jr.	Jan. 1, 1955	W.S. Lambert
Annie Laura Daniel—James Roberson	Dec. 1957	H.L. Harris
Virginia Austin—Roy William Nelson	May 29, 1959	H.L. Harris
June Laws—Kenneth Fuqua	April 16, 1960	H.L. Harris
Betty Dameron—Robert Satterfield	April 16, 1960	H.L. Harris
Jane Brooks—Glenn Hodges		H.L. Harris
Lemma Jane Strader—Crawford Hooks	June 23, 1956	H.L. Harris
Barbara Ann Millner—Dewey Hodges	Oct. 12, 1957	H.L. Harris
Elizabeth Chandler—Fred Wilson	Oct. 12, 1957	H.L. Harris
Margaret Crumpton—Calvin Shumate	Feb. 14, 1959	H.L. Harris
Carolyn Austin—Turner Harrelson	June 18, 1961	T.R. Conway
Jane Nethery—Wade Poteat	July 27, 1963	T.R. Conway
Linda Gunn—Ben Adam Daniel	May 27, 1968	Charles Hutchinson
Kay Jeffress—Gordon Satterfield	Nov. 18, 1967	Charles Hutchinson
Mary Carolyn Daniel—Billy Savage	June 13, 1964	Charles Hutchinson
Patsy Carlton—Kenneth Walker	March 7, 1970	Clyde P. Pearce
Rose Mary Hodges—Richmond Lee Sykes	Aug. 22, 1970	Harold Pickett
Nancy Sue Austin—Bernard Donald McMinnis	Feb. 6, 1971	Harold Pickett
Mary Joe Jones—Roger Henderson	Nov. 20, 1971	Harold Pickett
Betty Vernon Jeffress—J. Richard Markham	June 11, 1972	Harold Pickett
Billy Jean Jones—Alton Hodges	June 11, 1971	Harold Pickett
Wanda F. Strader—Dwight L. Searce	Oct. 7, 1972	Harold Pickett
Jo Ann Walker—Jimmy Neighbors	Nov. 11, 1972	Harold Pickett
Linda Carlton—David Wells	April 11, 1974	Harold Pickett
Debra Strader—Curtis Daryl Shaw	July 24, 1976	Charles F. Eakin
Sandra Strader—Thomas Pugh	Sept. 1, 1973	Harold Pickett



Church Directory

*Pastor	Charles F. Eakin
*Lay Leader	Jack Strader
*Chairman Council on Ministries	Mrs. J.D. Jeffress
*Chairman, Pastor-Parish Relations	Jack Strader
Chairman, Committee on Finance	Ira B. Dameron
Chairman, Nominations and Personnel	Mrs. Irvin Jeffress
Secretary of Enlistment	Mrs. James Austin
*Superintendent of Study	Sam Thompson, George Gunn
Membership Secretary	Miss June Jeffress
Church Treasurer	Mrs. Crawford Hooks
Chairman, Board of Trustees	Dewey Hodges
Health & Welfare Representative	Mrs. Jerry Wray
Delegate Annual Conference	James McDowell (SG)
*President United Methodist Women	Mrs. R.G. Strader, Jr.
*Youth Members	Miss Teresa Thompson, Miss Sonya Hooks
*Young Adult Members	Miss June Jeffress, Mrs. Edward Strader
*Recording Secretary	Mrs. Wade Poteat

WORK AREA CHAIRMEN

*Ecumenical Affairs	Mrs. Sam Thompson
*Education	Mrs. Gordon Satterfield
*Evangelism	Mrs. Lindsey Dameron
Mission	Mrs. Raymond Strader, jr.
Social Concerns	Mrs. W. Gatewood

AGE-LEVEL COORDINATORS

*Family Life	Mrs. J.W. Gammon
*Children	Mrs. Ira B. Dameron
*Youth	Mrs. Calvin Shumate
*Adults	Miss Ola King

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Mrs. B.M. Wray	Crawford Hooks	Miss Mabel Strader
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HONORARY MEMBERS

Phillip Dameron	Mrs. H.J. Daniel, Sr.
T.D. Gatewood	Mrs. Ralph Daniel
Mrs. J.B. Watlington	Mrs. J.S. Thompson
H.J. Daniel, Sr.	

*Denotes Council on Ministries Membership

Old Bethel Church



Built in Early 1800's



Picture of the new church before the oak tree was cut down.

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