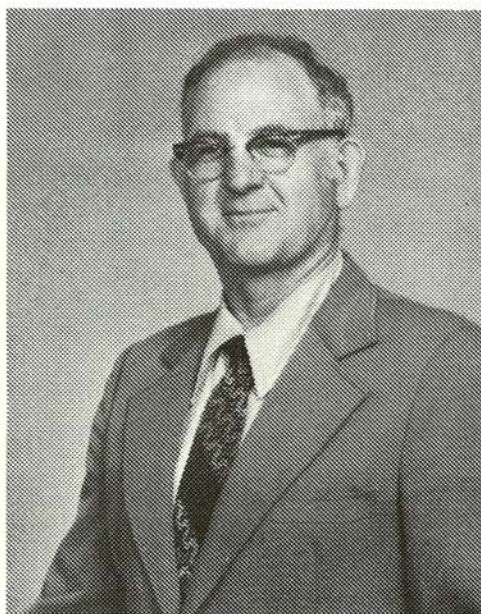


History of Bethlehem
United Methodist Church
1883 - 1978

BETHLEHEM METHODIST CHURCH
BOGUE, NORTH CAROLINA
1883 - 1978

ARCA
58

Vernon Taylor
'78



REV. GORDON E. ALLEN, JR.

**Dedicated to
Reverend Gordon E. Allen, Jr.
and
Charter Members of the First Bethlehem Church**

HISTORY OF
BETHLEHEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1883 - 1978
BOGUE, NORTH CAROLINA

SPONSORED BY
BETHLEHEM UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

WRITTEN AND COMPILED
BY
VIRGINIA M. TAYLOR

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Gratefully acknowledging the following people for the help they gave me in compiling this booklet, for without their assistance this booklet would not be.

Rev. Gordon E. Allen, Jr.
Mrs. Martha Arthur
Mrs. Doris Bamberger
Mrs. Hazel Dunn
Mr. Effron Smith
Mrs. Essie Smith
Mrs. Gertrude Smith
Mrs. Macie Smith
Mr. Vernon Taylor
Mr. Leon Weeks
Mrs. Lura Weeks

INTRODUCTION

It is regretted that no records made in the 1800's have been found. All information used was given to me by relatives of the first charter members. Therefore, if any contradicting records are found, this booklet stands corrected.

The Church will celebrate its centennial in 1983, and the first update of this history will be published at that time. We will use this time to continue to seek additional data regarding our Church history. Please contact me or any other member of the Church if you have any information which we can include at that time.

CHARTER MEMBERS

1. Dan Weeks
2. John W. Guthrie
3. Alex H. Dennis
4. John W. Sanders, M.D.
5. Thomas Washington Taylor
6. William Taylor
7. Joe C. Smith
8. Durant Taylor
9. Ferney Taylor
10. John Jones
11. Isaac Taylor
12. Benjamin Taylor
13. Walt Taylor
14. Wright Taylor
15. Perham Russell
16. Gray Weeks
17. Oddie Holland
18. Cicero Parker
19. George Dennis
20. Lycurgis Humphrey
21. Durant Morton
22. Ben Irvin
23. David J. Kelley
24. George Ennett, Ph.D.
25. Robert W. Humphrey
26. Eli Sanders
27. David Russell
28. John Weeks
29. Wright Weeks
30. Catherine Weeks
- * 31. Elizabeth (Beckey) Pigott

* First person buried in Church Cemetery

BETHLEHEM METHODIST CHURCH
1883 - 1978

The Bethlehem Methodist Church was organized in 1883, ninety-five years ago. In the sight of God, ninety-five years may be but the twinkling of an eye, but for His people, it spans almost a century. Except for their faith and their love of God, the men and women who gathered in that first church had little in common with our members today. But we who gather to worship at the Bethlehem United Methodist Church owe an immeasurable debt to those who established and served it faithfully through the many years of its history. One of the purposes of this booklet is to memorialize those members who have gone on before and to preserve some account of how the church came to be.

The Bogue Community of a century ago was quite different from the Bogue of today. It was linked to the outside world by deep sandy ruts that served as roads, horse drawn buggies, ox drawn carts and sailing vessels. Farmers drove their carts to Newport to trade or went by boat to Morehead City or Swansboro. A "free school" was operated at Cedar Point and at Week's Neck to teach the children in the surrounding neighborhoods. Most of the Bogue children attended classes in the old red school. This old building was used as a meeting house for community affairs and by the Circuit Riders who usually came about once a month. The local people were eager to go to church. They often walked to church, sat through the long sermons and walked home again.

Realizing that the Bogue-Ocean community was growing and that a place of worship was needed, the leading men decided to build the first Bethlehem Church. The church was organized in 1883 with J. W. Guthrie, Alex H. Dennis and Dr. John W. Sanders as the first trustees, as shown on the cornerstone of the present building.

Several prominent citizens of the late 1800's have been mentioned frequently in compiling this report. Probably the most often mentioned was Dr. John Sanders, a respected and well remembered citizen and the only physician Bogue ever had as far as is known. He was always on call day or night. He owned much land and no doubt furnished part of the timber that was used in the building of the Church. His two brothers, Frank and Jack, ran a sawmill, gristmill, and store.

Two acres, more or less, was given by Benjamin F. Taylor and his wife, Julia F. Taylor, for the purpose of the church building. (Register of Deeds' Office, Book LL, pages 44-45). Following is a copy of the deed:

"State of North Carolina, County of Carteret

"This indenture made this the 30th day of June 1883 between B. F. Taylor and wife of the aforesaid county of the first part and J. W. Guthrie, Alex H. Dennis, and J. W. Sanders, Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church South of the aforesaid county and state, of the second part, or to their successors in office, witnessed that the said parties of the first part for and in the consideration of the sum of one dollar to them duly paid by the

said parties of the second part, hath bargained and sold and by these presents doth grant and convey unto the said parties of the second part or their successors forever, a certain lot or parcel of land lying and being in the county of Carteret and State of North Carolina near Oak Grove School House near Bogue Sound, beginning at a stake at an oak tree at the main road running northward parallel with the sides of the church 150 yards, then west 70 yards, thence south 150 yards, thence eastward to the beginning containing two acres more or less and the said parties of the first part hereunto agree to warrant, secure, and forever define the above granted premises to the peaceable and quiet possession of the said parties of the second or their successors forever in trust that said premises shall be used, kept, maintained, and disposed of as a place of Divine worship for the use of the minister and membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church South subject to the discipline, usage, and ministerial appointments of said church as from time to time are authorized and declared by the General Conference of said church and the Annual Conference within whose bounds the said premises are situate.

"In witness whereof the said parties of the first part hath hereunto set their hand and affixed their seal on the day and year above written.

B. F. Taylor Seal

Julia F. Taylor Seal"

The size of that first Church is not known, but has been estimated to have been about 50 feet by 40 feet. Two aisles ran from the double oak doors at the front to the pulpit in the back of the Church. The pulpit was enclosed by a white railing and was covered with red carpet, including the kneeling bench. There was a window on each side of the pulpit and four large windows on each side of the building. Wide wooden steps led up to the double oak doors which were always open to a stranger or native who passed that way.

The first Bible was given by Dan Weeks and the Communion Set was given by Dr. Thomas Ennett. The pulpit stand was bought from donations given by members of the congregation as was the pulpit furniture. This furniture is now in the Church library.

The Church was built in the midst of a thicket of scrub pines and oaks. The members tied their horses and buggies to these scrubs. Often some man would have to leave the services to untangle his team. The Church was heated by a boxed wood stove which stood midway the Church. On hot summer days "funeral fans" were passed to the congregation, but when the weather turned colder, the first comers chose the pews nearest the stove. Mothers folded quilts and placed them on the floor, and their babies and younger children would sleep while their parents worshipped. Dr. Sanders had a special pew near the front of the Church. He often led in the morning prayers, kneeling on the floor. His exhortations of praise and thanksgiving could be heard inside and outside of the building.

It is interesting to note that the Civil War or War Between the States began in 1861 and ended in 1865, but in some parts of the South the war continued longer because of the lack of communication. It has been told that Mr. Alex Dennis, a former Confederate soldier, was attending services at church when word came that a Federal scouting party was in the vicinity. Afraid of being captured by them, Mr. Dennis jumped out of a window and escaped. He was the great grandfather of two of our members, Nash and Leon Parker.

In the early 1900's many of the community youth left Bogue to find work in the larger cities of the North. Some of them joined the Army or Navy and fought in the first World War, 1914 - 1918. After the war some of the young men returned home to marry their childhood sweethearts. They had their memberships transferred from Bethlehem to their new church home. Also in 1918 many of the people of the community left our Church to join the Church of God.

Years passed and the church was in need of many repairs. These were the depression years, and the people had difficulty even getting enough to eat. Then in 1943 Charles H. Mercer was sent to us and under his leadership a majority of the membership decided to raze the old church and use the best materials in building a new one. It was decided to build the new Church nearer the community it was attempting to serve and on a better road.

Gatlin and Martha Arthur gave a piece of land 100 feet by 175 feet near Highway 24 and Loop Road No. 1118 South. In 1946 with Harry L. R. Rogers as pastor, the old Church was razed. The cemetery that had been started behind the Church was the only

reminder of the days gone by. Ms. Becky Pigott was the first person to have been buried there. The cemetery has grown as time has passed. It is well kept and a fitting memorial to Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Taylor.

A marine barracks was bought from the U. S. Government at Bogue Field. Under the capable workmanship of Gatlin Arthur, Albert S. Taylor, Leon Parker, Leon Weeks, Effron Smith and others two rooms were removed, and this space was set up with the pulpit furniture, pews, and piano from the old Church. Rev. J. K. Worthington had replaced Rev. Rogers as Pastor, and he preached for us until the sanctuary was completed. Mr. Worthington was an elderly man, but one only needed to hear him preach and pray to know that he was on speaking terms with His Lord.

The remaining rooms in the barracks were used as classrooms, excepting one room which was converted into a kitchen. The kitchen was used then, as it is now, in the preparation of many church dinners.

Probably four years or more passed before the sanctuary was completed. With the Church School forming the north boundary, the sanctuary was built so that both of them together formed the shape of a "T". The structure was built of cinder blocks with a steep roof. A roofed cupola with a white cross reaching toward the heavens denoted the entrance to the northex and sanctuary. The window frames were specially made by Harold Wilton of Newport. The blue-tinted Cathedral panes of glass came from Goldsboro. The floor at first was of wood, but later was changed to a concrete one. The piano, pews, and pulpit furniture used in the old Church were used in the new one until new pews could be bought.

Rev. Worthington was with us from 1948 through 1952, and then we were put on the New Bern District, Swansboro Charge, with W. R. Johnson as Pastor, 1953-1955. It has been said that Rev. Johnson was tireless in his work for the Church. He was in and out of homes and business organizations asking for pledges, collecting pledges, and accepting donations. It was during his time with us that the new pews were installed. Many people who were not members of Bethlehem contributed to the Church when approached by Rev. Johnson.

We received financial help from the Duke Endowment. About 25% of the total cost was received from that source, leaving the balance to be raised by other means. The women of the Church did their bit by selling dinners and baked goods every Saturday night. Other projects entailed the selling of samples received from many business organizations, God's Little Acre, and ice cream suppers. Under the God's Little Acre project many farmers of the Church Community tended a money crop on their farm and donated the proceeds to the Church. Surplus vegetables were also sold from roadside stands.

While all of this activity was going on Rev. J. H. Bryant was replaced by Rev. John Casey. A parsonage had been started on the Midway-Bethlehem Charge when Rev. Bryant was here, 1956-1958. He had had an apartment with Mrs. Alice Guthrie. When Rev. Casey came to the charge he rented a house from Ira and Virginia Russell and remained in our community until the parsonage was completed.

Many good things happened to us in those years. We had a good choir. They were not only good singers but also active in raising money. The pulpit furniture had been installed, and the choir bought the candles, vases,

collection plates and Communion Service. Mrs. Rebecca Gentry was instrumental in the purchase of the organ, and with the help of all it was installed in time for the dedication. Mr. and Mrs. Ben Licko contributed the piano in 1958. A copy of the program used in the dedication of the new Church and organ follows:

BETHLEHEM METHODIST CHURCH
BOGWE, N. C.
HOMECOMING PROGRAM

June 4, 1960

Pastor Church School Supt.
Rev. John Casey Needham Dunn

Sunday School
10:30 to 11:30 AM

Morning Worship
11:30 to 12:30

Dinner
12:30 to 2:00 PM

Congregational Song "The Church's One Foundation"	Hymn No. 381
Prayer	Rev. Lewis Dillman
Welcome	J. O. Weeks
Recognition Time	Pastor
Church History	Mrs. Essie Smith
Dedication	Rev. W. R. Johnson
Presentation	Effron Smith

The Act of Dedication

(Effron Smith shall say to Rev. W. R. Johnson)

We present this building and organ to be dedicated to the glory of God and the service of men.

- Minister By what name shall this church henceforth be known?
- People It shall be known in its new location as in the old, the Bethlehem Methodist Church.
- Minister Beloved in the Lord, we rejoice that God put it into the hearts of his people to build this house to the glory of his name. I now accept this building to be known as Bethlehem Methodist Church, to dedicate it, and set it apart for the worship of Almighty God and the service of all men. Let us therefore, as we are assembled, solemnly dedicate this place to its proper and sacred uses.

(Then all standing, the minister shall say, the people responding)

- Minister To the glory of God the Father, who has called us by his grace; To the honor of his Son, who loved us and gave himself for us; To the praise of the Holy Spirit, who illumines and sanctifies us;
- People We dedicate this house.
- Minister For the worship of God in prayer and praise; For the preaching of the everlasting gospel; For the celebration of the Holy Sacraments;
- People We dedicate this house.
- Minister For the comfort of all who mourn; For the strength to those who are tempted; For light to those who seek the way:

- People We dedicate this house.
- Minister For the hallowing of family life;
For teaching and guiding the
young; For the perfecting of the
saints;
- People We dedicate this house.
- Minister For the conversion of sinners;
For the promotion of righteous-
ness; For the extension of the
Kingdom of God;
- People We dedicate this house.
- Minister In the unity of the faith; In the
bond of Christian brotherhood; In
charity and good will to all;
- People We dedicate this house.
- Minister In gratitude for the labors of
all who love and serve the church;
In loving remembrance of those
who have finished their course;
In the hope of a blessed immor-
tality through Jesus Christ our
Lord;
- People We dedicate this house.
- Minister In the Name of the Father, and of
the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,
we dedicate this Organ to the
praise of Almighty God.
- People: Praise God in His sanctuary;
Praise Him in the firmament of
His power. Praise Him with the
sound of the trumpet; Praise Him
with psaltery and harp.

and things under the earth, and
that every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord.

Minister Prayer of dedication

Leader and Guide
For Singing Groups
Leon Weeks"

The pianist up to the time the Church was moved was Mrs. Nellie Parker. She was stricken with polio in 1941, but returned to the church as soon as she was physically able. Mrs. Parker has never had a piano lesson and plays entirely by ear. She has played for the Church more than 35 years. In spite of her handicap, of which she seldom complains, her faithfulness has been an inspiration to everyone who knows her.

Three Church organizations have been prominent in the growth of our church. The Womans' Society of Christian Service was organized in 1952 by Mrs. Lillian Ray from the Oak Grove Methodist Church. Mrs. Nellie Parker was the first President; Mrs. Sidney Taylor, Secretary; and Mrs. Maggie Winberry, Treasurer. The membership was small then as it is now, but though small in number, they have been great in their accomplishments. They have played a vital and active part in the growth of Bethlehem Church for many years. Mrs. Geneva White is the President for '78, and our membership is 14. Every quarter we send contributions to missions and to the orphanage funds. They bought all of the tables and chairs for the recreation hall, furnished dishes and silverware for the kitchen, curtains for all of the windows, and a rug on the floor. They have helped

with the Bible School, kept the Church clean and furnished the flowers. In other words, the Womans' Society is to the Church like a mother is to her family.

Bill and Edith Cowan organized the Methodist Youth Fellowship while he was a Marine stationed at Cherry Point. Hazel Arthur, now Mrs. Lynwood Dunn, was the first President. The first membership numbered about twenty-five. The group was active and accomplished many projects over the years. As time passed the membership dwindled to about ten active members. Their contributions to the Church have been many. They worked and bought hymnals, contributed to the gas heaters fund, games and toys for the Nursery, tile for the recreation area, carpeting for the sanctuary, and an electric range and refrigerator for the kitchen. In 1977, with financial aid from the Methodist Men, they bought the Church bus. The Birthday Dinner honoring the Methodist Men is given by the Youth, and is an event highlighted each year. Among the guest speakers have been District Superintendent Harold Leatherman, Rev. Thomas Smith, Greer Garrick, Rev. Vance Lewis, and Rev. Stephen Young.

The Bethlehem United Methodist Men was organized in 1965 with Paul W. Evans as Pastor. Mr. Greer Garrick of Jacksonville organized the group with the able help of Mr. Cecil Hodges of Havelock. The group meets on the last Wednesday night of each month. After being served a very special dinner, they adjourn to the sanctuary to attend to the business of the Church. They have undertaken many projects such as repairs inside and outside of the Church building, painting the Church School Classrooms, storm windows, and instigated the installation of the air conditioning, heating and public address systems while Rev. Lewis was Pastor.

In 1969 the altar furniture was completed by a Baptismal Font given in loving memory of their parents by the children of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Taylor.

With these three organizations, the United Methodist Women, the United Methodist Men, and the Methodist Youth Fellowship, we pray that our Church will continue to grow in the Service of Our Lord and Savior.

In 1971-1975, Rev. Vance Lewis was our Pastor and while here he instigated the printing of a Quarterly News Letter entitled "The Voice of Bethlehem." It was hoped that "The Voice" would keep us all better informed about what our Church and its various organizations were doing. It did just that for the years that Rev. Lewis was with us for we carried on a program of Christian education for young and old that strengthened all who shared in it. We set up a Council of Ministeries with Ms. Debbie Harris as Chairman and Mrs. Linda Mason as Church School Superintendent. Both ladies have served the Church for four years and have done a fantastic job.

Under the guidance and enthusiasm of Rev. Gordon Allen, Jr. we are looking forward to continued growth and progress. It is in his plans for the future that this history of the Bethlehem United Methodist Church be updated every five years.

PASTORS OF
BETHLEHEM METHODIST CHURCH
FROM
1908 - 1978

List of Pastors prior to 1908 not found.

Wilmington District
Swansboro Circuit

1908	W. E. Brown
1909	D. C. Geddie
1910 - 1912	J. C. Whedbee
1913 - 1916	J. M. Lowder
1917 - 1918	Walter Benson
1919 - 1920	W. B. Humble
1921 - 1922	T. W. Siler
1923 - 1924	D. A. Futrell
1925 - 1926	L. R. Gains
1927	M. F. Hodges
1928	W. H. J. Winstead

Newport Circuit

1929 - 1931	R. W. Barefield
1932 - 1933	E. H. Measomer
1934 - 1935	Millard Warren
1936	F. E. Dixon
1937 - 1938	Clyde Boggs

Swansboro Circuit

1939 - 1941	Clyde Boggs
1941 - 1942	Warren Petteway
1943 - 1945	Charles Mercer
1946 - 1947	H. L. Rogers
1948 - 1952	J. R. Worthington

New Bern District
Swansboro Charge

1953 - 1955	W. Russell Johnson
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Midway - Bethlehem Charge

1956 - 1958	J. H. Bryant
1958 - 1964	John Casey
1964 - 1969	Paul W. Evans
1969 - 1970	David L. Gould
1970 - 1971	Harold Elliott
1971 - 1975	Vance Lewis
1975 - 1977	C. R. Etheridge
1977 - 1978	Gordon E. Allen, Jr.

DECEASED PASTORS
OF
BETHLEHEM CHURCH

Name	Year and Place of Death	Place of Burial
D. C. Geddie	1913 Raleigh, N. C.	Rose Hill, N. C.
J. C. Whedbee	1948 Sumter, S.C.	Sumter, S.C.
J. M. Lowder	1940 Rutherford College, N. C.	Norwood, N.C.
Walter C. Benson	1965 Clinton, N. C.	Wilmington, N. C.
W. B. Humble	1934 Durham, N. C.	Burlington, N. C.
T. W. Siler		
D. A. Futrell	1935 Wilmington, N. C.	Town Creek, N. C.
L. R. Gaines		
R. W. Barefield		
F. E. Dixon	1935 Newport, N. C.	Lenoir County, N. C.
J. K. Worthington		

DECEASED PASTORS (Continued)

Name	Year and Place of Death	Place of Burial
W. R. Johnson	1970 Alamance County, N. C.	Burlington, N. C.
John Casey	1971 Greenville, N. C.	New Bern, N. C.
J. H. Bryant	1977 Durham, N. C.	Waycross, N. C.
C. R. Etheridge	1978 Chapel Hill, N.C.	Wilson, N. C.

RETIRED PASTORS
OF
BETHLEHEM CHURCH

Name	Address
E. H. Measamer	P. O. Box 114, Pinetops, N. C. 27864
Milliard Warren	University Apt #B-1B, 1500 Duke University Road, Durham, N.C. 27701
Clyde Boggs	313 Wayne Drive, Wilmington, N. C., 28401
Vance Lewis	P. O. Box 142, Marshallberg, N. C. 28553

PASTORS ON
DISABILITY LEAVE

Name	Address
H. L. Rogers	Route 4, Box 445, Raleigh, N. C. 27606
Paul W. Evans	Box 133, Brook Valley Mobile Park, Rocky Mount, N. C. 27801

PASTORS STILL ACTIVE

Name	Address
Warren Petteway	Box 10955, Raleigh, N. C., 27605
Charles H. Mercer	1002 W. Knox Street, Durham, N. C. 27701
David L. Gould	He is now a Quaker Minister
Harold Elliott	1327 Hazel Avenue, New Bern, N. C. 28560
Gordon E. Allen, Jr.	P. O. Box 35, Stella, N. C. 28582

CHURCH OFFICERS FOR BETHLEHEM FOR 1979

The Administrative Board 1979

Chairperson - - - - -	J. O. Weeks
Vice-Chairperson - - - - -	Mrs. Raymond Mason
Recording Secretary - - - - -	Mrs. George Booth
Church Treasurer - - - - -	Leon Weeks
Church Typist - - - - -	Mrs. Joseph Bamberger
Financial Secretary - - - - -	Mrs. Leon Weeks
Membership Secretary - - - - -	Leon Weeks
Church School Superintendent - -	Mrs. Raymond Mason
Lay Leader - - - - -	J. O. Weeks
Choir Director - - - - -	Mrs. Linwood Dunn
Organist - - - - -	Mrs. Leon Parker
Asst. Organist - - - - -	Mrs. James Parker
Communion Stewardess - - - - -	Mrs. Ben Harris
Communion Stewardess - - - - -	Mrs. Ralph Russell
Chr. Pastor-Parrish Relations - -	Mrs. Raymond Mason

President United Methodist Women - Mrs. Raymond White
 President United Methodist Men - - J. O. Weeks
 President United Methodist Youth - Kevin Page
 Delegate To Annual Conference - - Mrs. Raymond White

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Mrs. Tom Smith	Tom Smith	Mamie Smith
Mrs. Neil Taylor	Mrs. Clarence Rose	
Mrs. Michael Walston		Mrs. Redford Rhue
Mrs. Gerald Guthrie		Mrs. Ira Russell
Curtis Taylor	Mrs. Nash Parker	Mrs. Okla Taylor
	Mrs. J. O. Weeks	

HONORARY MEMBERS

Mrs. Walter Smith	Mrs. Margaret Winberry
Mrs. Gertrude Smith	Mrs. Martha Arthur
Walter Benson	

COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES

Chairperson Of Council - - - - -	Debbie Harris
Ecumenical Concerns - - - - -	Mrs. George Booth
Education - - - - -	Mrs. Raymond Mason
Evangelism - - - - -	Mrs. Linwood Dunn
Missions - - - - -	Mrs. Virginia Taylor
Religion And Race - - - - -	Effrom Smith
Social Concerns - - - - -	Mrs. Raymond White
Stewardship - - - - -	Nash Parker
Worship - - - - -	Mrs. Leon Parker
Worship - - - - -	Mrs. Linwood Dunn
Worship - - - - -	Mrs. James Parker

(Age-Level Coordinators)

Children's Ministries - - - - -	Mrs. Leo Reece
Youth Ministries - - - - -	Mrs. Linwood Dunn
Adult Ministries - - - - -	Mrs. Ben Harris
Family Ministries - - - - -	Mrs. Leon Parker
Young Adult Ministries - - - - -	James Parker
Youth Member Council On Ministries	Sonny Mason
Youth Member Council On Ministries	Della Smith

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Leon Weeks, Chr. Mrs. Raymond Mason Debbie Harris
Mrs. Linwood Dunn Ralph Russell J. O. Weeks

TRUSTEES

79 80
Leon Parker, Chr. Mrs. Virginia Taylor
Nash Parker Mrs. Lura Weeks

81
Mrs. Elmo Smith
Raymond Mason

COMMITTEE ON PASTOR-PARRISH RELATIONS

79 80
Mrs. Raymond Mason Mrs. George Booth
Leon Parker Nash Parker

81
Debbie Harris

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

79 80
Mrs. James Parker Mrs. Virginia Taylor
Mrs. Linwood Dunn Randy Russell

81
Ralph Russell
Nash Parker

PARSONAGE COMMITTEE

Mrs. Lura Weeks, Chr. Mrs. Raymond White
Mrs. Tom Smith Ralph Russell
Mrs. Ben Harris J. O. Weeks Leon Parker

SPECIAL SUNDAY SERVICE

NOVEMBER 26, 1978

THE PRESENTATION OF THE HISTORY OF BETHLEHEM
CHURCH FROM 1883 to 1978.

ALL FORMER PASTORS AND THEIR WIVES WERE
INVITED TO BE PRESENT FOR THIS HISTORIC
OCCASION.

Bethlehem United Methodist Church
Bogue, N. C.

Gordon E. Allen, Jr., . . . Pastor
Hazel Dunn, Presiding

* congregation stand

A Special Worship Service, November 26, 1978.
The Presentation of Bethlehem Church History.

The Prelude	By	Nellie Parker,	Organist
* Lighting The Altar Candles			Acolytes
		Beth Parker & Leann Mason	
* The Processional			Choir
* The Call To Worship			Choir
* Hymn	"How Great Thou Art"		17
* The Affirmation Of Faith	<u>738</u>		Congregation
* The Responsive Reading "We Praise Thee, O God"			608
* The Gloria Patri			Congregation
The Silent Confession			Congregation
The Pastoral Prayer			Pastor
The Lord's Prayer			Congregation
The Anthem			Choir
The Presentation	Of	Our Tithes And Offerings	
* The Doxology			Congregation
Welcome	By Administrative Board Chairman,	J.O. Weeks	
Announcements	By	Hazel Dunn	

* Hymn "I Love to Tell the Story" 149

Recognition Of All Former Pastors & Their Wives:

A Special Presentation of Church History by
Virginia Taylor

A Special Award Of Appreciation:

* Hymn "My Hope Is Built" 222

* Benediction Pastor

Cover Dish Dinner To Be Served Outside:

WELCOME TO ALL: We are happy to have in attendance today as we gather in this historic worship service, all of the former members and pastors of Bethlehem Church, who were fortunate to come.

The United Methodist Women of Bethlehem Church were responsible for getting the church history written and printed. It cost a little to get this booklet together and the women will try to recover their expense in this endeavor by distributing the booklet for \$2.00 dollars each.

In five years Bethlehem Church will be 100 years old and she will be celebrating her centennial. This booklet on the history from 1883 to 1978 along with the updated history of Bethlehem Church, that will be given at that time will be a treasured possession of each member.

May God richly bless you this day as we congregate in cooperate worship, as we fellowship together and as we break bread together.

Please continue to remember Bethlehem Church and its membership in your prayers. MAY YOU HAVE A SAFE JOURNEY HOME. AMEN.

CONTINUED. LISTING OF THE ELECTED CHURCH
OFFICERS FOR 1979.

ASST. CHURCH SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

Leon Weeks

CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE REPRESENTATIVE

Mrs. Raymond White

HEALTH AND WELFARE REPRESENTATIVE

Mrs. Raymond Mason

COMMITTEE ON WILLS & LEGACIES

Nash Parker

SECRETARY OF CAREER PLANNING

Mrs. Raymond Mason

COORDINATOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. George Booth

TRIER OF APPEALS

Leon Parker

AUDITOR

Debbie Harris



REV. J. M. LOWDER

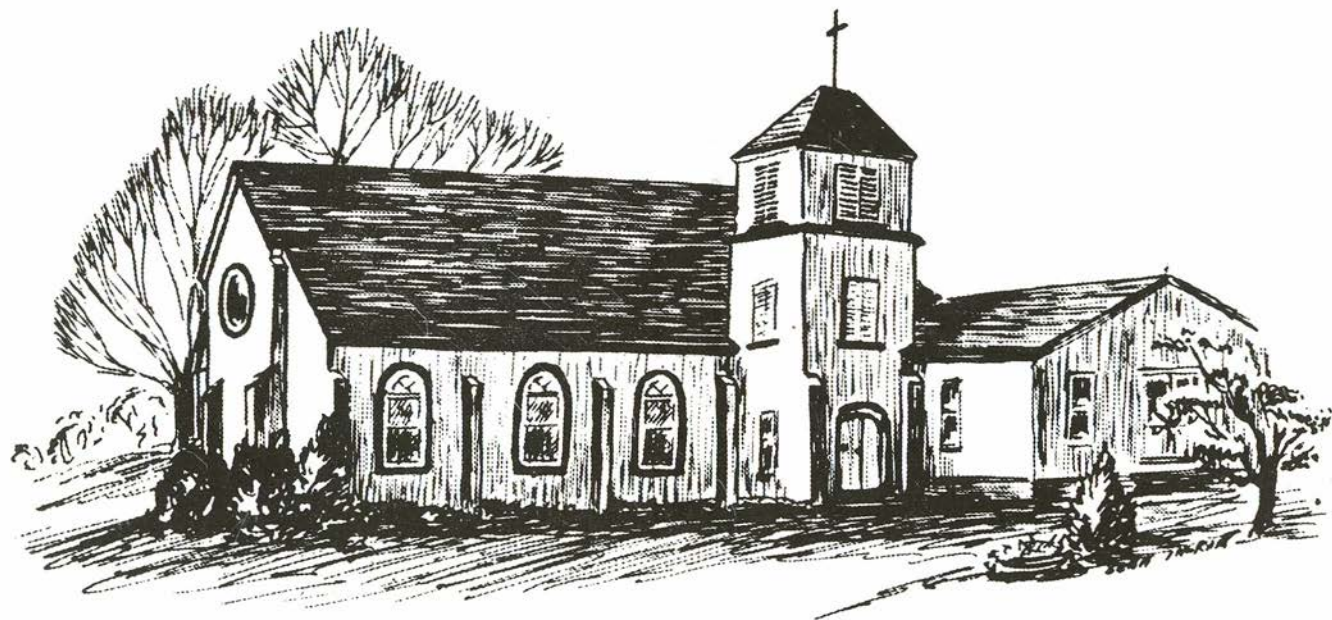


**REV. J. H. WHEDBEE
REV. J. H. WARREN
PROF. G. E. SANDERS
DR. K. E. TAYLOR**



OLD ROCKY RUN SCHOOL
**First Services of Bethlehem Church
were held in this School**

Bethlehem Methodist Church



1946 - 1978