

BEULAVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

In January 1958 Dr. Andrew Jarvis Hobbs, District Superintendent of the New Bern District; Rev. Horace Quigley, pastor of the Richlands Circuit; and Rev. W.B. Cotton, pastor of the Methodist Church in Richlands, met in the Richlands Methodist Parsonage for the purpose of making a preliminary survey of the Beulaville Community. On the basis of this survey it was determined that there was a good potential for growth of a Methodist Church in Beulaville.

Beginning on September 18, 1958 services were held in the Beulaville School Auditorium at 3:00 PM each Sunday. In November the Beulaville Masonic Lodge granted us the use of the Masonic Hall, rent free. Services were then changed to 9:00 AM. This early hour was necessary in order to have services each Sunday, as our pastor, Horace Quigley, served two other churches, Haw Branch and Gum Branch, who alternated Sunday services at 11:00 A.M.

On January 10, 1959 the church was officially organized with a special service attended by many officials of the North Carolina Conference; including New Bern District Officers, Benlaville Mayor, Gordon Muldrow, officers of the Gum Branch and Haw Branch Churches, and Dr. A. Jarvis Hobbs. The guest speaker was Rev. Thomas Collins, President of Wesleyan College. In 1959, at Annual Conference in Wilmington, we were officially accepted into the North Carolina Conference.

A building site was chosen on Lee Street, just west of Highway 111 and 2.76 acres were bought from Mr. S.H. Quinn and Mrs. Alda S. Sharp. In October, 1962 the last payment was made on the lots and final plans were made for construction of a church. Construction began the first week in May 1964. Rev. Foster Reynolds was our pastor at this time. We were helped in all our endeavors by the Ten Dollar Club and on December 17, 1972 a grant of two thousand dollars was received from the Duke Endowment which enabled us to pay the balance due on our building. Many businesses and members of the community helped with contributions and prayers.

We have remained a close family that worships together and works together. We are always happy to welcome new members into our Beulaville United Methodist Church Family.

Charter members: Beatrice K. Whaley, Mattie B. Sutton, Lucy E. Cattony, Dorothy Humphrey, Ray Humphrey, Letha J. Raup, Calvin L. Raup, Jr., Delores Raup, P.C. Shaw, Kathleen Shaw, Malcolm McWhorter, Mrs. A.H. Bynum, Blanche Hill, Temple Hill, Martha B. Hinson, Larry G. Hinson, Iris Bostic, Minnie Edwards, Ozell Craft, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Brown, Merle S. Cutler, William B. Cutler, Jenny K. Sanderson, L. Russell Sanderson and Jean C. Sanderson.