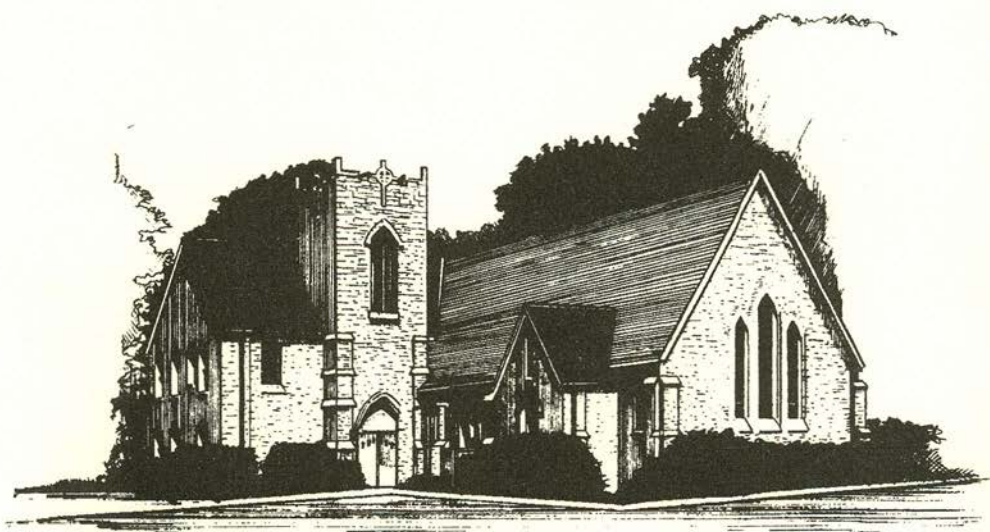


*Chadbourn United  
Methodist Church*

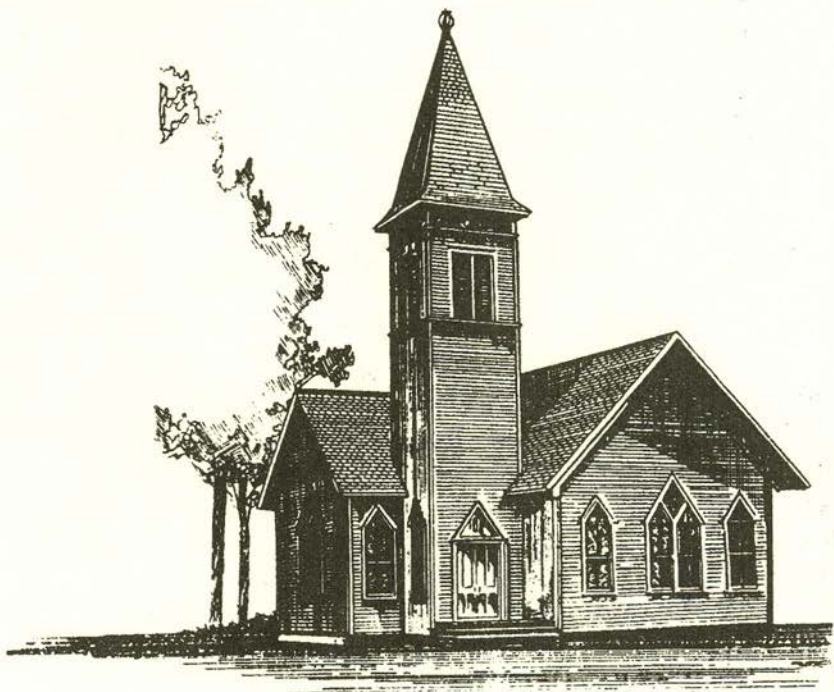


*Historical Data  
1887 - 1999*

Mrs. James B. Barden wrote the following "Historical Data of the Chadbourn Methodist Church" which was placed in the relics box in the cornerstone of the church on September 27, 1953.

The historical data is continued from that point until the present Centennial Celebration on October 10, 1999.

These historical facts, as well as those of Mrs. Barden, were gleaned from church and Conference records and from historical papers found placed in church records.



"HISTORICAL DATA OF CHADBOURN METHODIST  
CHURCH" TO 1953

The Chadbourn Methodist Church originated from what was known as the Peacock Methodist Church, which was located about two miles east of Chadbourn near where Mr. Fred Boege's home now stands. The few members left from this disbanded church worshipped in the Baptist Church of Chadbourn.

It was in 1897 that these few Methodists, together with a few Northern Methodists who came to Chadbourn with the Sunny South Colony organized the Chadbourn Methodist Church, having as their trustees J.T. Newland, E.A. Pifer and H. Cowan.

The first pastor was A.R. Raven, who preached at Whiteville, Cerro Gordo, Evergreen and Fair Bluff.

The Chadbourn Methodist Church was at first a part of the Whiteville Circuit. In 1904 the charge was called Whiteville-Chadbourn. Afterwards a new charge was formed called Chadbourn-Bolton. This change was made in 1907 when Chadbourn was taken off the Whiteville Circuit. It was changed again in 1910 to Chadbourn-Hallsboro, and it was not until 1912 that the charge was known as the Chadbourn Circuit, which included Fair Bluff, Evergreen, Cerro Gordo and Chadbourn.

In 1949 the charge was divided into two parts- Chadbourn and Fair Bluff. Now only Evergreen remained with Chadbourn. On July 1, 1957, Chadbourn became a station.

When the church was first organized, they did not have a building of their own, but services were held once a month in the Baptist Church. About the year 1901, two consecrated Presbyterians, Mr. And Mrs. J.A. Brown, donated the present lot on which the old church stood.

It was during the pastorate of Rev. A.S. Barnes the first church was erected and in the early part of 1902 it was dedicated by Bishop John C. Kilgo, with a very large congregation present.

The organization of the Sunday School followed soon after the organization of the church. The Sunday School superintendents through the years have been as follows.

First, Mr. M.F. Allen, then in succession came Mr. J.W. Louper, E.T. Usher, E.A. Pifer, Mrs. R.K. Moore, Dr. J.E. Koonce, Mrs. Tom Lewis, Mrs. W.K. Willis, Dr. J.B. Bardin, Mr. Clyde Elliott, Mr. Paul Avant and Mr. S.G. Koonce.

The old church stood for 52 years before being replaced by the present

building, which was designed by J. Whitney Cunningham, Architect.

This brings us to the point of our new church, the building Fund of which was started one Sunday morning during the ministry of W.L. Loy in the year 1942. He announced at the morning service that he had received a check for \$1000 from Mr. D.D. Bruton for the starting of the building fund for a new Methodist Church.

To this fund more was added. Shortly afterwards the Conference met and sent Rev. J.W. Lineburger to Chadbourn. Under his pastorate the funds were increased to over the \$30,000 mark.

Then began the pastorate of C.E. Vale. Under his guidance the church building was begun. The congregation became very interested and church minded. The members and friends opened their hearts and pocketbooks. We reached the point in our building program on a "pay as you go" basis until the church was so nearly completed and the pocketbooks of the membership so nearly depleted that the building committee decided to make its first debt. We borrowed \$5000 to complete the church.

The beautiful furnishing of the church were the project of the WSCS at a cost of nearly \$6000.

The memorial windows were sold to memorialize our loved ones who have lived and loved this church. These windows were put in at a cost of nearly \$6000.

The other memorials are as follows. The beautiful organ, the pews, the baptismal fount, collection plates, candlesticks, the Cross, altar vases, the Bible, the hymnals, choir robes, paraments, the communion set, and the lights. Each one of these memorials bears the name of those in whose memory they have been placed.

Members of the Building Committee were Mr. D.D. Bruton, Chairman; Dr. J.B. Bardin, Dr. J.E. Koonce, Mr. T.O. Goodman, Mrs. W.F. Yates, Mr. J.W. Mooney and Mr. W.D. Bullard, Treasure.

Present (1953) Trustees of the church are Dr. J.B. Bardin, Mrs. D.D. Bruton, Mrs. J.A. Baldwin, and Mr. J.W. Mooney.

C.E. Vale, II and his family, Mrs. C.E. Vale and Kathryn occupy the parsonage which by the way was being constructed during the pastorship of Mr. Vale's father, the Reverend C.E. Vale, the first, and his family. Two of the

prime factors in the construction of the original parsonage were Mr. C.D. Koonce and Dr. J.D. Koonce. Since then it has been moved and remodeled along modern lines. The money for this purpose was largely made available by a loan from D.D. Bruton, for which he has been reimbursed.

This (1953) is Mr. Vale's fourth year with us, and during the four years 70 members have been added and \$30,639 raised for the building now in progress; and the preacher's salary has been raised from \$3000 to \$3600. Besides two Methodist Men's fellowships have been organized.

The history would not be complete without stating the aid the women have given in raising the finances of the church. The Women's Society has changed three times since 1904. Rev. J.T. Draper organized the first under the name of "Ladies' Aid Society." Then in 1917 Rev. B.E. Stanfield organized the second under the name of "Women's Missionary Society". Which included both home and foreign missions. Finally we took the name now (1953) borne by all societies of the Methodist Conference. "The Women's Society of Christian Service." Rev. C.E. Vale, II organized the Society in the Evergreen Church in 1950. Our Chadbourn Society has (1953) two circles under the leadership of Mrs. W.F. Yates. In the last five years by

sheer hard work we have raised on the average about \$2000 a year and have contributed about \$4000 to the Building and Parsonage Fund.

The present (1953) Board of Stewards of the new church are: Mr. D.D. Bruton, Mr. Douglas Bullard, Dr. J.E. Koonce, Mr. Sammy Koonce, Mr. Clyde Elliott, Dr. J. Ben Ward, Mrs. W.F. Yates, Mr. J.W. Mooney, Mr. Preston Guyton, Mr. Frank Clark, Mrs. Lillian Eason, Mr. Alva Cole, Mr. J.W. Worthington, and Mr. Albert Thomas.

It would be fitting to say here that Mr. W.A. Thomas was an active member of this Board of Stewards until death deprived us of his services and to him we all owe our obligations for the invaluable assistance he rendered.



"HISTORICAL DATA OF CHADBOURN METHODIST  
CHURCH" FROM 1953 UNTIL 1999

Chadbourn remained on a circuit until it became a station church in 1957. This continued until 1968 when the church again joined Evergreen on the circuit. It was in 1968 that the Methodist Church joined with The Evangelical United Brethren Church and became the United Methodist Church. Thus the Chadbourn Methodist Church is now the Chadbourn United Methodist Church.

The original parsonage was supplanted in 1968 with the current home. The dedication ceremony by Pastor Allen Richardson and District Superintendent W.J. Neese in 1971 followed the actual construction begun during the ministry of the Reverend R.M. Gradeless.

Memorial and other gifts over the years have enhanced worship in our church. In the nineteen seventies, the piano in the sanctuary was dedicated. A sound system was installed and new choir robes were purchased.

An active Senior Citizens Group was begun by Mrs. Alice Richardson. This group included seniors from throughout the community. They enjoyed a strong fellowship and engaged in many varied activities and outings.

During this time, there was much interest in a Chrismon Tree. Many intricate and beautiful Chrismons were made by adults and youth of the church. They continue to be used each year and their beauty and significance are an integral part of the Advent season.

The new Rodgers organ was dedicated in 1983. Also in the nineteen eighties the pew cushions and the current hymnals were provided.

About this time, the membership was asked by the Boy Scout Council to sponsor the Cub Pack in Chadbourn. This sponsorship has continued and participation is strong.

From 1990 until the present, a new sound system has been installed, new choir robes have been purchased and a piano given for the Fellowship Hall.

There continues to be an ongoing effort to maintain and improve that which has been entrusted to us. Repairs have been made to the stained glass windows and they are now protected by an exterior covering. Classroom furniture and equipment and library shelves have been added. The addition of air-conditioning and the continued updating of it and the heating system have been part of our stewardship.

When the carpeting in the sanctuary became worn, it was replaced. New carpeting in all of the classrooms and new blinds for the windows throughout the church were provided by the United Methodist Women.

As the need arises, painting and upgrading of appliances for the Church and parsonage are provided. And through regular lawn care and landscaping, we maintain a pleasing exterior.

The Women's Society of Christian Service is now known as The United Methodist Women. This group continues its long history of service to the church and community here and abroad. Their fund raising efforts over the years have helped to supplement and enhance the needs of the Church. Over the past two decades, the United Methodist Women have derived the major part of their financial aid from a church-wide annual Bazaar each November.

The Methodist Men's Fellowship which was organized in 1953 by Rev. Vale was reorganized after the current merger with the Evergreen Church. Now they are the Chadbourn-Evergreen United Methodist Men and meet each month for breakfast, alternating between the two churches. They, too, have provided funds and support for the two churches as well as providing supportive care to the fellowship.

Throughout the years, the Church has tried to maintain a strong program of Christian education for its children and youth. This has included Sunday School, Youth fellowship, choir and Vacation Bible School. As with most small churches, the number of children has fluctuated. During the years with small numbers, we have joined with the Chadbourn Presbyterian Church for these activities. The church has also had successful Vacation Bible School programs with the Evergreen Church. The number of children at present is small but attendance is steady.

Chadbourn United Methodist Church remains a small church in a small town. The church population reflects the population and industry of the area. The current active membership, perhaps the smallest in its history, remain faithful stewards of God's gifts. They respond generously of their time and talents to the needs of the congregation and the community.

We pray for God's continued grace as we enter another century.

## PASTORS

- 1897 Alexander R. Raven  
1899 Albert Sidney Barnes  
1904 Jesse Thomas Draper  
1906 V.E. Wright  
1907 Charles Edward Vale  
1911 William C. Martin  
1914 D.L. Barnhardt  
G. Ray Gordon  
1917 Benjamin E. Stanfield  
1921 Benjamin O. Merrit  
1923 Linsay Frazier  
1924 Thomas Edward Davis  
1928 Cuyler Freeman Heath  
1932 Marquis Wood Lawrence  
1936 Frank Belton Joyner  
1938 Eli Carson Maness  
1942 William Lawrence Loy  
1944 James Worth Lineberger  
1948 Chester James Andrews  
1949 Charles Edward Vale, II  
1953 G.C. Kinlaw  
1954 J.E. Hodges  
1955 Robert Fullerton McKee  
1958 Auburn W. Lore  
1960 Wallace T. Green  
1962 Carlos O. Gardner  
1965 Frank Donald Salmon  
1966 Robert Marriner Gradeless  
1968 Allen Richardson  
1977 Joseph Wayne Forbes  
1983 Robert Eugene Rattz  
1987 John Neal Salter  
1990 William Thomas Clark  
1991 Vernon W. Brown, III  
1994 Warren Trall Heitzenrater  
1999 Albert Eugene Goldfinch, Jr.

