

Concord Methodist Church
Supply, N.C.



1908



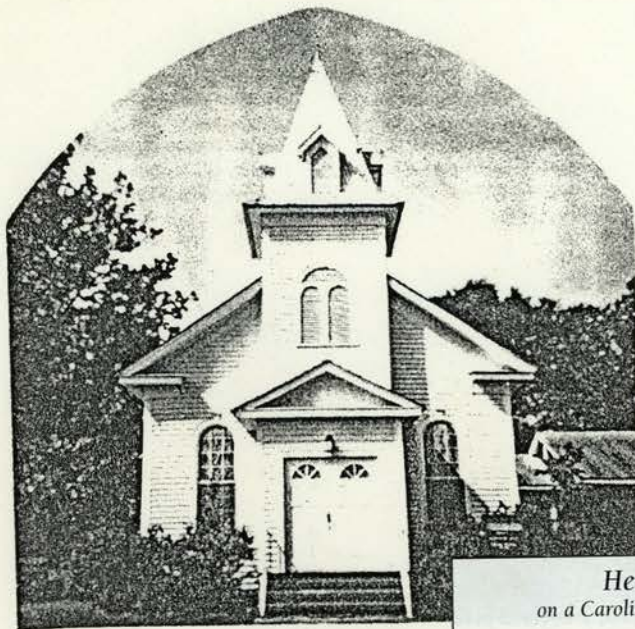
1958



1988

CONCORD

United Methodist Church



Supply, North C

REV. TRACIE VARNUM, P

SEE ALSO:

Heartening Heritage

on a Carolina Crescent by J.M.M. Holden

The publication of Mrs. Holden's book on the history of churches in the Brunswick County area comes at a very unique time in the life of Methodism. This hardback book is available at Alan Holden Vacations for \$17.00 plus tax. It can be mailed to you for \$21.00 incl. tax and mailing. Make your checks payable to Alan Holden Vacations and give an address.



Pages: 66, 137, 146, 147, 157, 159, 166, 182

A BRIEF HISTROY:

The history of Methodism in the Supply Community goes back to the time of the great American Methodist Bishop, Frances Asbury, who visited the Lockwood Folly community in 1785 and two years later began sending Circuit Riders from South Carolina to preach once a month in the old Brunswick County Courthouse. During a prayer meeting in 1798 several persons were converted and were formed into a class which in time became the charter members of the first Methodist Church in the Supply area. After the Courthouse was destroyed, the members met in a small building with the name "Macedonia" which stood across the Lockwood River. In 1876 the first new building was constructed on the present site and was given the name "Concord" which means "Peace and Harmony." The present sanctuary was built after 1900 and the educational building was added in 1957.

For more than a hundred years Concord has been a salient witness to the saving Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ. She has encountered many vicissitudes, overcome many problems, and withstood many hard and trying economic times, but during all her histroy she has remained true to her Lord and to her mission as a church. And today she stands as proudly as ever for the contributions she has made to the Christian cause and for the ministry and mission that has been hers in the extension of Christ's Kingdom in the hearts of God's people. Today, as she has done through the years of her histroy, she extends a warm heart, a friendly hand, and a kindly smile to all who will come and share her life and fellowship, her "Peace and Harmony" as she continues to make Christ known, loved, and followed by the people of her community and of her world.

Concord, like every Methodist church in Methodism, is a part of a connectional system which begins with the local church and reaches through different conferences to the General Conference which is the law-making body of the United Methodist Church. And like every Methodist church, Concord has a three-fold ministry of Pastor, District Superintendent, and Bishop. Its local, district, and conference leaders are:

RESIDENT BISHOP

Bishop Carlton P. Minnick, Jr. D.D.
Raleigh, N. C.

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

Doctor James H. Bailey
Wilmington, N. C.

PASTOR

Rev. Tracie Varnum
Supply, N. C.

Among all the denominations of Christendom, no church has a more stable and supervised ministry than does the United Methodist Church. One never hears of two or more Methodist preachers conniving, quarreling, or fighting over who shall be the pastor of a Methodist church. One never hears of a Methodist church splitting up into factions and becoming two Methodist churches. That is so because the pastors and district superintendents are appointed to their churches and districts by their bishop. And the office of bishop goes back to the time of the early church and is firmly grounded in the teachings of the New Testament. Furthermore, every United Methodist Preacher has to meet the moral and educational requirements of the church before he is ordained Deacon or Elder. Then, and only then, is he fully qualified to pastor churches within his conference.

THE PRESENT PASTOR:

The pastor of Concord is, like his wife, Clementine, a native of Brunswick County. They own and are living in their home in Varnumtown.

Reverend Varnum was licensed to preach in October, 1947, and for two years served a part-time work in Brunswick County. In November, 1949, he received a full-time appointment at Stumpy Point, N. C., and after leaving Stumpy Point, he was appointed to pastorates in Rocky Mount, Kinston, Marshallberg, Sneads Ferry, Shallotte, Rocky Point, and at Bolivia-Supply, the appointment he was serving when he retired in June, 1984. Altogether, he gave a total of thirty six years and eight months of active service to his Church. He accepted the present appointment in June, 1986.

In addition to Liberal Arts, he was trained for the Christian Ministry at Emory University, Atlanta, Ga., and at Duke University, Durham, N. C. He was ordained Deacon in June, 1958, and Elder in June, 1960.

One aspect of his ministry is probably unique for a traveling preacher who served 19 churches during his active ministry: No Pastor-Parish-Relations-Committee voted for him to leave their church nor asked his bishop to move him. All whom he has served as pastor say that he makes the Bible come alive and makes Christ real with his preaching.

SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES DURING 1987

1. CHURCH SCHOOL; 10:00 A. M. Each Sunday with devotional in Sanctuary.
2. WORSHIP SERVICE: 11:00 A. M. Each Sunday led by the pastor. (Exception) All fifth Sunday services led by Certified Lay Speaker, Cleo McCranie.
3. SPECIAL SINGING EACH SUNDAY DURING WORSHIP: First, third and fourth Sundays by choir members and individuals. Second Sunday by children's choir.
4. BIBLE-STUDY-PRAYER-MEETINGS: First and third Wednesdays at the church. Second and fourth Wednesdays open for home-cottage Bible-reading and fellowship meetings.
5. HOLY COMMUNION: During worship, first Sunday in each quarter.
6. MAUNDY THURSDAY LENTEN SERVICE: With Holy Communion.
7. SENIOR CITIZENS SPECIAL SERVICE: Fourth Sunday in July with lunch in fellowship hall.
8. VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: During month of August with work-craft period directed by Master Craftmen.
9. FELLOWSHIP MEALS AT CHURCH: Fourth Sunday in first month in each quarter.
10. VISITATION EVANGELISM WEEK: Second week in October. (Home visits, phone calls, personal contacts, ect.)
11. REVIVAL: Third week in October.
12. HOMECOMING: Fourth Sunday in October following revival.
13. SUPPLY COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE: Wednesday night before Thanksgiving. (Tri-Church service:, Supply Baptist, Mt. Olive Baptist, and Concord Methodist.)
14. CHRISTMAS PROGRAM: Day and time announced by Xmas program director.
15. ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETINGS: Second Wednesday in second month in each quarter.
16. CHOIR PRACTICE: Each Wednesday night. (Time for practice announced by choir leader)
17. SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES WITH MYF CHILDREN AND YOUTH DURING SUMMER MONTHS. (Also, special children's ministry each Sunday by the pastor)
18. DISTRICT MEETINGS: As announced by the District Superintendent.

CHURCH SCHOOL CLASSES AND TEACHERS

KINDERGARTEN CLASS:

TEACHER: Mrs. Alberta McCranie
ASSIST.: Mrs. John Holden

PRIMARY CLASS

TEACHER: Mrs. Vera Sermons
ASSIST.: Mrs. John Holden
And/or : Mrs. Alberta McCranie

INTERMEDIATE CLASS

TEACHER: Mr. Cleo McCranie
ASSIST.: Mrs. John Holden

ADULT BIBLE CLASS

TEACHER: Mr. Scott Anderson
ASSIST.: Mrs. Louise Coggeshall

ALL WHO TEACH AT CONCORD HAVE TAUGHT FOR SEVERAL OR MANY YEARS AND HAVE HAD A VITAL EXPERIENCE WITH CHRIST AND CONFESS HIM AS THEIR LORD AND SAVIOUR.

* The Adult Bible Class meets in the fellowship hall following the devotional service in the sanctuary.

CONCORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Supply, N. C.

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS AND PERSONNEL REPORT FOR 1987

ELECTED OFFICERS FOR 1987

<u>PASTOR</u> Tracie Varnum	<u>ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL</u> Cleo McCranie - Chairperson	<u>CHURCH SCHOOL SUPL.</u> A. B. Chestnut, Jr Scott Anderson, Assist.
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COMMITTEE ON PASTOR-PARISH RELATIONS

John Holden - Chairperson

<u>CLASS OF 1987</u> John Holden	<u>CLASS OF 1988</u> Mrs. Larry Holden	<u>CLASS OF 1989</u> Mrs. Alberta McCranie
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COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Cleo McCranie - Chairperson

<u>CLASS OF 1987</u> A. B. Chestnut, Jr. W. M. Sermons	<u>CLASS OF 1988</u> Cleo McCranie Keith Chestnut	<u>CLASS OF 1989</u> Mrs. A. S. Gunnerson Mrs. John Holden
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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Keith Chestnut - Chairperson

<u>CLASS OF 1987</u> Mrs. Erma Holden Mrs. Connie Chestnut	<u>CLASS OF 1988</u> Keith Chestnut W. M. Sermons	<u>CLASS OF 1989</u> Ted Coggeshall John Holden
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MEMBERSHIP SECT.

Mrs. John Holden

CHURCH LAY LEADER

Keith Chestnut

CHURCH TREASURER

Mrs. Alberta McCranie

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Mrs. Erma Holden
Demetri Clemmons
Charles Clemmons
Ennis Long

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS & PERSONNEL

1987 - Mrs Connie Chestnut
1988 - Wesley Chestnut
1989 - Erma Holden

BIBLE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Mrs. Larry Holden - Ch.
Mrs. A. S. Gunnerson
Demetri Clemmons

COMMITTEE ON MUSIC

Mrs. Larry Holden

COMMUNION STEWARD

Mrs. Connie Chestnut

AGE-LEVEL CORDINATORS

Children-Youth:
*Mrs. W. M. Sermons
Adult- Family:
*Mrs. Erma Holden

WORK AREA CHAIRPERSONS

EDUCATION: - Mrs. John Holden
EVANGELISM: - Keith Chestnut
STEWARDSHIP: - W. M. Sermons
YOUTH MEMBER: - Wesley Chestnut
WORSHIP: - Mrs. Larry Holden
CHURCH & SOCIETY: - Mrs A.S. Gunnerson
CHRISTIAN UNITY: - Cleo McCranie
MISSIONS: - Mrs. Vera Sermons

CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE AGENT

Mrs. Connie Chestnut

COMMITTEE ON AUDIT

John Holden
W. M. Sermons

SECT. OF ADM COUNCIL

Mrs. John Holden

POEMS AND SCRIPTURE VERSES FOR THOUGHT AND INSPIRATION

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another, and so much the more, as you see the day approaching, Heb. 10:25.

THE SECRET PLACE

There is a safe and secret place
Beneath the wings divine,
Reserved for all the heirs of grace:
O be that refuge mine!

The least and feeblest there may bide,
Uninjured and unawed;
While thousands fall on every side,
He rest secure in God.

He feeds in pastures large and fair
Of love and trust divine;
O child of God, O glory's heir,
How rich a lot is thine!

A hand almighty to defend,
An ear for every call,
An honored life, a peaceful end,
And heaven to crown it all!

—Henry F. Lyte.

If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches, Luke 16:11.

A PERFECT FAITH

O for a faith that will not shrink
Though pressed by every foe,
That will not tremble on the brink
Of any earthly woe!

That will not murmur nor complain
Beneath the chastening rod,
But in the hour of grief or pain
Will lean upon its God;

A faith that shines more bright and clear
When tempest rage without;
That when in danger knows no fear,
In darkness feels no doubt;

That bears, unmoved, the world's dread
frown,
Nor heeds its scornful smile;
That seas of trouble cannot drown,
Nor Satan's arts beguil.

Lord, give us such a faith as this
And then, whate'er may come,
We'll taste, e'en here, the hallowed bless
Of an eternal home.

—William H. Bathurst

The eternal God is thy refuge, and
underneath are the everlasting arms,
Deut. 33:27.

PRAYER

There is never a day so dreary
But God can make it bright;
And unto the soul that trust him
He gives song in the night.
There is never a path so hidden
But God will show the way,
If we seek the Spirit's guidance
And patiently watch and pray.

Jesus said unto her, "I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die," John 11: 25-26.

Said the robin to the sparrow,
Friend, I would like to know,
Why these earthly human beings
Rush about and worry so.

Said the sparrow to the robin,
Friend, I think it must be,
They have no Heavenly Father;
Such as cares for you and me.

FORMAL PRAYER

I often say my prayers,
But do I ever pray;
And do the wishes of my heart
Go with the words I say?

I may as well kneel down
And worship gods of stone,
As offer to the living God
A prayer of words alone.

For words without the heart
The Lord will never hear;
Nor will he to those lips attend
Whose prayers are not sincere.

— John Burton