

History of  
**Connally United Methodist Church**

MILTON, NORTH CAROLINA

ORGANIZED 1821



**HISTORICAL SKETCH**

**of**

**CONNALLY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**near Milton, North Carolina**

**CASWELL COUNTY**

**Organized 1821**

**Edited by Ophelia Barker, member Connally United Methodist Church**

**Published in 1969**

**Pastor, Rev. Clarence Garner**

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## I INTRODUCTION

### THE FIRST METHODIST SOCIETY

In November 1729 four young gentlemen of Oxford, Mr. John Wesley, Fellow of Lincoln College; Mr. Charles Wesley, a student of Christ Church; Mr. Morgan, Commoner of Christ Church; and Mr. Kirkman of Merton College began to spend some evenings each week together in reading chiefly the Greek Testament. This club was started by Charles Wesley during the second year of his student life at Oxford (1727). John Wesley was not at Oxford when the society was first formed. When he returned he immediately associated himself with the Society and was immediately recognized as its head. They met with both praise and harsh criticism. One of the college students said, "Here is a new sect of Methodists sprung up." The name "Methodist" stuck.

John Wesley organized a METHODIST SOCIETY in Georgia which was the forerunner of the METHODIST CHURCH in America.

In the evening of May 24, 1738, John Wesley went to a society meeting in Aldersgate Street where one was reading Luther's Preface to the Epistle to the Romans, about a quarter before nine, while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, Wesley felt his heart strangely warmed. We must not forget his home training, his education, his self discipline, his industry, his wonderful personality and ability.

The First Methodist Society was organized in London, in 1739. George Whitefield, while preaching in New Bern, N. C. wrote his friends that his preaching "was attended with uncommon influence", and spoke of himself as a member of the Church of England, not a Methodist, since he and Wesley did not agree on some matters of doctrine.

The cornerstone of the first Methodist Chapel was laid in Bristol, England on May 12, 1739.

The first Annual Conference in America at Philadelphia in 1773 showed no members from North Carolina and only 1160 members in all the colonies.

Carolina Circuit was organized at a Baltimore Conference in 1776. The first preachers were Edward Drumgole, Francis Poythress, and Isham Tatum. There were 683 members in North Carolina.



## THE FIRST YEARLY CONFERENCE

On June 25, 1744, Wesley called a few preachers together for a conference. They met in the Foundry Church, London England.

Robert Strawbridge, of Ireland organized the first Methodist Society in Maryland probably sometime during the year 1763.

Philip Embury also of Ireland organized the first Methodist Society in New York in 1766.

As the work in America grew Wesley sent other preachers to America. Among them was Francis Asbury who assisted greatly with the expansion of Methodism in America. He went into North Carolina 63 times and into many other states many times.

James O'Kelly was responsible for schism leading to the organization of Disciples of Christ denomination (the Christian Church) in 1791.

On May 10, 1939 representatives of THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH, and THE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH met in Kansas City, Missouri and decided to unite the three branches of the Methodist Church in America, known as THE METHODIST CHURCH.

The Methodist Church united with the Evangelical United Brethren Church in 1968, which is called THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH.

This union has resulted in other changes in the structure of the church; the "Quarterly Conference" is now called the "Charge Conference". The "Official Board" is now called the "Administrative Board".

## II CONNALLY METHODIST CHURCH LOCATIONS

From various sources of information it is quite evident that Connally Church has had three locations:

### FIRST CONNALLY CHURCH

"On October 1, 1821 one and one-third acres of land was purchased from John Pass of the County of Caswell and the state of North Carolina of the one part and Thomas Cannally, William Connally, John McCain, Samuel Smith, John Smith, Newman Durham, William Chiles and Merry Maynard; trustees appointed by the METHODIST SOCIETY of the other part witnesseth that the said John Pass for and in consideration of the desire he has of promoting the worship of God and for further consideration of one dollar to him in hand paid by the trustees aforesaid hath given, granted, bargained, and sold this land."

This one and one-third acres of land was on the road leading from the Red House to Milton. A nearby spring was to provide water for the church. Witnesses: Samuel Dunnaway and John H. McAdin (see book V page 286 in the Register of Deeds Office in Caswell County Courthouse).

According to other information obtained from the Register of Deeds Office in the Courthouse of Yanceyville, N. C. "one-fifth of an acre of land was purchased on June 28, 1824, from Charles Wilson and Jeremiah Dixon by John McAden, Jr., and John Giles, Merry Maynard, and Samuel

H. Smith, to add on to the land on which CONNALLY MEETING HOUSE already stood." (See Book W page 42 in Register of Deeds Office. Note that two of these trustees were trustees when the first land was purchased three years previously.)

According to information acquired from Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bray Barker, the FIRST Connally Church was a long log structure on the left side of the road near "Alec" Cobb's home on what was once Lindsey Moore land, but now is owned by Mr. Norman Barker. Mrs. Frank Barker says her grandmother, Mrs. Mary Brandon Tracey attended this church. Mr. Claire Taylor says he remembers hearing his father, Mr. Nat Taylor, and also his grandfather speak of this log Connally Church.

### SECOND CONNALLY CHURCH

From records in the Courthouse "one and one-half acres of land was purchased from Caleb Richmond by William Connally, David Elliott and others on March 29, 1855" on which to build the SECOND Connally Church. (See Book II page 102 in Register of Deeds Office.) It has been said that Mr. Buck Connally built the second Connally Church. It was located near where the Fred Brinkleys now live.

Mrs. Mamie Worsham Gillespie and Mrs. John McCann said they had attended services in the second Connally Church.

After a railroad was built so near this second church that the trains frightened the horses and caused them to break loose, the members decided they needed to move the church again. It has been reported by Mrs. G. W. Scott that thirty or more individuals were buried at this second church, however this cemetery has not been preserved. This land now belongs to Mr. Rainey Smith. (The second "church" was later used as a tobacco barn and burned.)

### THIRD CONNALLY CHURCH

On December 1, 1890 one and one-half acres of land was exchanged with Mr. Nat Richmond and his wife, Lizzie L. Richmond and Mrs. Ellen A. Ramseur, all of Caswell County, to Mr. William T. Connally, David T. Elliott, James E. Barker, H. T. Barker, Jasper Fleming, and Sidney Stephens, trustees of Connally Church, for two acres of land on which the THIRD Connally Church was built. (See Book W page 546 in the Register of Deeds Office.)

The THIRD and present Connally Church was completed in 1888. Mrs. George W. Scott (Lena Lea), as a child of about four, remembered hearing the carpenters work on the building from her near-by home. We have been told that this church was built by Mr. Nat Richmond and Mr. Bill Nichols.

Mrs. Helen Scott Taylor said thirty babies were christened in Connally Church on the first Sunday in August 1888 by Rev. J. H. Shore, the day the present Connally Church was opened for services. Among these babies were George Evans, Lewis Gee, Robert Nichols, and Ora Lee Reagan (Mrs. Will Phelps).



There is a rather large cemetery at the present Connally Church which is kept in fair condition.

### III CHURCH IMPROVEMENTS

Two Sunday School Rooms were added to the present church about 1940 making use of some assistance obtained from the Duke Endowment Fund. New windows and seats were installed in the Sanctuary at this time, a gift of Mrs. Herbert Pointer; daughter of Mr. J. T. Lea, a former Sunday School Superintendent.

A new charge parsonage, a seven-room brick building, was erected and paid for while Rev. Bill Meacham served the charge. Harvey Barker and his son, Harrell, contributed the land for this parsonage.

In 1959 Mr. Fred Brinkley offered to have electric lights installed in Connally Church, however other members assisted with this project. Also outdoor toilets were placed on the grounds in 1959.

In 1960 William Williamson offered to contribute hymn book holders to the church and asked Clyde Barker to make them, however Clyde made and contributed the necessary number of holders to the church for William. Howard Scott had previously made several holders, which were copied.

This church had foundation plants placed around it in 1960 and brick underpinning added in 1961. The piano was tuned and the roof and blinds were painted in 1962.

A communion cup holder was made and contributed by Clyde N. Barker to fit inside the altar rail in 1963. New linen Communion Table covers and an aluminum Communion plate cover were provided in 1963.

An aluminum awning was placed over the front steps in memory of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Scott in 1963, the year that Mrs. Scott died.

A new hardwood floor was installed in the church in 1964 and new carpet runners were added in 1965.

Gas heaters replaced the wood heaters during 1966.

The Church Sanctuary interior was made new in 1968. Sheetrock has been placed on the walls and celotex on the ceiling, with two coats of antique white paint applied, which was contracted by Mr. Graham Duncan.

Our altar was carpeted in memory of Mrs. Floyd Lea in 1968.

Recently we gave the two class rooms the same improvements that the sanctuary was given. We painted the walls ourselves. Friends contributed for refinishing the floors of the class rooms and venetian blinds for the four windows in these class rooms.

Mrs. Bessie Scott has given a coat hanger which is placed in the vestibule.

A new piano was purchased for the church in March of 1969.

### HARD SURFACE ROAD

A petition was gotten up about four years ago requesting a hard surface road by Connally Church. The Highway Department listed it as project number 21 at that time. At long last all land owners have agreed to this road and the road has been constructed. It is number 1543.

#### IV CONNALLY CHURCH CHANGES CHARGES

Connally Church was on the Leasburg Charge originally, but it has been on the Milton Charge since 1890, the year Milton Methodist Church was built. There were five churches on this charge for a number of years; MILTON, NEWHOPE, PURLEY, PROVIDENCE, and CONNALLY. Providence Church was discontinued some years later when some of its members moved near Semora, N. C. Semora Methodist Church replaced it in 1924.

For two years, 1961-63, two Duke University student preachers served the charge, Rev. J. F. Ameling and Rev. Sharpe. Mr. Ameling lived in the parsonage serving Milton, Semora and Connally and Mr. Sharpe lived in an apartment serving New Hope and Purley. (They have built a parsonage since then.)

Shortly afterwards the charge was divided by the North Carolina Conference and Rev. Van Crawford served as a full time preacher for Milton, Semora, and Connally. Rev. Howard Elam now serves New Hope and Purley churches.

#### V SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

Records and memory provide the present Connally Church with only three Sunday School Superintendents. Mr. H. Thornton Barker served as superintendent from its beginning until he moved from the community about 1897. Following him Mr. John T. Lea served as superintendent until his death September 1, 1917. Since November, 1917, Franklin Bray Barker has served as superintendent.

Jack Brinkley is assistant Superintendent now. He conducts the opening devotional on fourth Sundays.

Mr. Walter Oliver served as assistant superintendent for a number of years. After he moved to Milton, Mr. Howard Lea served as assistant superintendent until his death Jan. 8, 1925.

Many complimentary tributes have been paid to Uncle Thornton Barker. We remember Mr. John Lea quite vividly and considered him a most humble, devout, faithful christian worker of Connally Church. Many have complimented Frank Barker on his faithful contribution to the church. We are also grateful for the service of assistant superintendents and we still feel very sad that Howard Lea was taken to his reward so young.



## VI MINISTERS SERVING CONNALLY CHURCH

As far as information is available following is a list of the Ministers who have served Connally Church:

Rev. James R. Nicholson, 1845 - lived in Leasburg	Rev. B. O. Merritt - 1919-20
Rev. Solomon Lea, 1864	Rev. A. J. Hobbs, Jr. - 1920-24
Rev. Fobbs	Rev. J. B. Hurley - 1924-26
Rev. Earnhart	Rev. Cecil Jones - 1926-29
Rev. John H. Shore - 1888	Rev. H. E. Lance - 1929-32
Rev. L. L. Nash - 1890	Rev. M. F. Hodges - 1932-33
Rev. John H. Shore - 1890-94 (first to live in Milton)	Rev. Lacy Byrnes - 1933 (few months)
Rev. E. E. Rose - 1894-95	Rev. Robert Lough - 1933-36
Rev. J. R. Jones - brief time	Rev. A. M. Williams - 1936-40
Rev. W. M. Moore - 1895-96	Rev. D. I. Garner - 1940-41
Rev. E. W. Fox - 1896-98	Rev. Floyd M. Patterson - 1941-43
Rev. N. C. Yearby - 1900-02	Rev. Anderson - 1943 (few months)
Rev. J. A. Dailey - 1902-06	Rev. J. E. Carter - 1943-46
Rev. M. D. Giles - 1906-09	Rev. Martin Chambers - 1946-49
Rev. W. T. Usry - 1909-11	Rev. Bill Meacham - 1949-59
Rev. T. C. Ellers - 1911-12	Rev. Z. V. Cowan - 1959-61
Rev. S. F. Nicks - 1912-15	Rev. J. F. Ameling - 1961-63
Rev. J. E. Blalock - 1915-19	Rev. Van T. Crawford - 1963-64
	Rev. W. F. McMahan - 1964-66
	Rev. Clarence Garner - 1966-

## VII BRIEF REMARKS ABOUT OUR MINISTERS

Rev. Solomon Lea, son of William Lea and Sarah McNeil Lea, lived in Leasburg and served Connally Church.

Solomon Lea helped establish and served as first president of a celebrated Guilford County Institution known as Edgeworth Female College. Old Edgeworth metamorphosed into Greensboro College for Women, one of our present Methodist church Colleges. (This Lea family gave its name to Leasburg, Caswell County's first County Seat.)

Rev. L. L. Nash married Mr. Charlie Newman and Miss Minnie Elliott in 1890. (Parents of Mattie Newman.)

Rev. E. E. Rose left a namesake on the charge, Edward Rose Vernon, (grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Barker.)

Rev. J. R. Jones married Jacob Thomas and Sallie Scott in July of 1894. (Parents of Mrs. Willie Wagstaff.)

Lena Lea (later Mrs. George W. Scott) said she joined the church when Rev. W. M. Moore was pastor.

Rev. E. W. Fox boarded at Milton Hotel with the Elliotts. Rev. Fox married Ed Barker and Fannie L. Fullington, February 15, 1897, also Julian Brandon and Nannie Scott in 1897.

Rev. N. R. Nicholson lived in the Wilson house in Milton. He married Jim Barker and Virginia Riggs (2nd wife) on February 8, 1899.

Rev. James Adolphus Dailey served Milton Charge four years, 1902-06. He was dearly beloved, popular and influential. He left several namesakes on

the charge and returned for visits from time to time. He was the first to live in the charge parsonage in Milton. The present New Hope Church was built during his pastorate. His wife was very kind and helpful. His children, James and Amelia were quite young.

Ophelia Barker joined Connally Church August 7, 1903, George W. Scott joined Connally Church August 3, 1904. Helen V. Bray transferred to Connally Church in 1904; Franklin Bray Barker joined Connally in 1905; H. J. Bray and Thornton L. Bray transferred to Connally in 1905; Clyde Newman and Dailey Priscilla Barker were baptized August 5, 1905; all during Rev. Dailey's pastorate. Mary Caroline Scott was baptized by Rev. J. A. Dailey on August 10, 1911.

Rev. M. D. Giles married George Scott and Lena Lea November 27, 1907.

Rev. W. T. Usry baptized Hurley M. Barker and took Eunice and Clyde Barker into the church in August of 1910.

Rev. T. C. Ellers married Clarence Pointer and Willie Lea.

Rev. S. F. Nicks and his family were much beloved. He was a most understanding person and grateful for every consideration. He visited the charge a number of times after leaving. They had three sons and three daughters, John, Freeman and Robert, Mary Anna, Stella Lucille, (now Mrs. Bartlett) and Katherine Calista ( now Mrs. Puckett). Mrs. S. F. Nicks now lives in Hillsborough, N. C. She was 92 on her 1968 birthday.

Dailey Priscilla Barker joined Connally Church in 1914, while Rev. Nicks was pastor.

Rev. J. E. Blalock married Floyd Lea and Annie Brandon, also Frank Barker and Willie Brandon.

John Martin Scott was baptized June 4, 1916. Cornelia Howard Scott, Lena Catherine Scott, and John Thomas Lea were baptized August 3, 1919, all by Rev. Blalock at the home of Mrs. John T. Lea.

Rev. A. J. Hobbs, Jr. served Milton Charge as his first appointment and was well liked. He later served as District Superintendent. He baptized Margaret White Barker on April 3, 1921.

Rev. Cecil Jones, in addition to his duties as pastor, was the first editor of the "Caswell Messenger" established in 1926.

Graham B. Barker joined Connally Church and was baptized under Rev. Jones in 1926.

Rev. H. E. Lance was unusually good in visiting the sick and shut-in members and having prayer with them, also he was active with local schools. He and Mrs. Lance worked faithfully toward getting Murphey High School.

Rev. Robert Lough was faithful in visiting the sick and praying with them.

Rev. A. M. Williams was very active with the Bible School. He also was faithful in visiting the sick and was careful to include the inactive members.

Rev. D. I. Garner was a good pastor. He also was active with Bible School.

Rev. Floyd Patterson was an active worker with young people. He helped with various types of parties for them and was very faithful in visiting his members. He left us to serve our country, as Chaplain in the U. S. Army.

Rev. Anderson could quote many long passages of scripture and he preached good sermons.

Rev. J. Edwin Carter was a wonderful worker with young people in guiding their entertainment. He was faithful in visiting the sick and was very helpful to their families. He and Miss Johnnie Speas were married on June 27, 1943. He spent much time visiting members of the five congregations; holding vacation Bible School and Revivals. Mrs. Carter taught two years at Murphey High School. (The Carters adopted two children after they left our charge, Rachel and Jimmy.)

Rev. Martin Chambers spent three years on our charge. Mrs. Chambers taught at Murphey High School.

Rev. "Bill" Meacham served Milton Charge ten years, which is sufficient evidence that he and his family were much beloved by many. He has been called back to the charge a number of times to assist with funerals and weddings; and also a revival. His wife "Carrie" and children, Cheryl, Mabel Jean, and Eddie were much beloved too. Another son, Wade was born later. (We feel like this family belongs to us.)

Rev. Z. V. Cowan served the charge two years. He was an excellent speaker, however, his health prevented him from making very many home visits.

Rev. J. F. Ameling, who served Milton, Semora and Connally Churches, was a student at Duke Divinity School. He and his wife, "Jo" had three young children, Michael, Susan, and Stephen. Another daughter was born later.

Rev. Van T. Crawford served Milton, Connally, and Semora Churches as his first pastorate. He preached excellent sermons.

Rev. James McMahan served our charge two years. He was a Duke student. His wife, Susanne was very faithful in attending our circle meetings. They had two small sons, Steve and Michael. (We hear they now have twins -- a boy and a girl.)

Rev. Clarence Garner, a fluent enthusiastic and fervent preacher is now serving our charge a second year. He and his wife, Elgie have three children, Clarence Jr., Rosemary, and James Thomas. Mrs. Garner and Rosemary have been helpful with our choir. Mr. Garner is a Duke student but very ably takes care of his pastoral duties.



### VIII DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS

The following have served Milton Charge as Presiding Elders, now called DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS:

Dr. T. N. Ivey	Dr. Smith
Dr. E. A. Yates - 1893	Dr. A. J. Hobbs, Jr.
Dr. J. A. Cunniggins - 1894-1898	Dr. Smith
Dr. E. A. Yates - 1898-1900	Dr. Hillman
Dr. W. H. Moore - 1900-1902	Dr. W. L. Clegg (Durham District)
Dr. J. T. Gibbs - 1903-1907	Dr. Hillman
Dr. J. B. Hurley - 1907-1909	Dr. Allan C. Brantley
Dr. R. C. Beaman - 1910-1913	Dr. W. L. Clegg (Burlington District)
Dr. Harry M. North - 1914	Dr. Hillman (few months)
Dr. C. L. Cunniggins - 1915	Dr. T. B. Hough - 1963-1967
Dr. Jno. C. Wooten - 1919	Dr. Edgar Fisher - 1967-
Dr. M. T. Plyler - 1919-1920	(No doubt some have been omitted)

### IX BISHOPS

W. W. Duncan - 8/15/1893	Alpheus W. Wilson - 12/9/08-1910
A. W. Wilson - 1894-1897	E. R. Hendrix - 1911-1912
R. K. Hargrove - 1897-1898	McKay - 1913
W. A. Fitzgerald - 1898-1899	Waterhouse - 1914
E. R. Hendrix - 1899-1900	J. C. Kilgo - 1915-1919
H. C. Morrison - 1900-1901	U. V. W. Darlington - 1919-1920
R. K. Hargrove - 1901-1902	Walter W. Peele - 1920
A. Coke Smith - 1903-1907	Paul N. Garber; Raleigh, N. C. retired in 1968
Chas. B. Galloway - 12/4/07	William R. Cannon - 1968

(Recorded through 1920, in Milton Charge Record Book in Caswell County Register of Deeds Office.)

### X SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

According to available information the following individuals have served as Sunday School Teachers:

Mr. Tom Connally	Mr. John Lea
Mrs. Tom Connally	Miss Lena Lea (Mrs. G. W. Scott)
Mr. David Elliott	Miss Willie Lea (Mrs. C. W. Pointer)
Mrs. David Elliott	Mrs. W. H. Barker
Miss Julia Elliott (Mrs. J. A. Hurdle)	Mrs. Floyd Lea
Mr. W. R. Fullington	Miss Myrtle Lea (Mrs. Guy Walton)

(We are sure others have served as teachers and many have served as substitute teachers.)

### PRESENT SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Mrs. Tobe Phelps and Mrs. Norman Barker teach the Beginners. Mrs. John Scott teaches the Intermediates. Mrs. G. L. Scott and Ophelia Barker teach the Senior Youth Class.

### XI CHURCH MUSICIANS

Miss Myrtle Lea (now Mrs. Guy Walton) served as organist for a number of years. Following her Miss Caroline Scott (now Mrs. John Foote) serves as pianist. Mrs. G. L. Scott, Allie Barker, Mrs. John Scott, Miss Emily Scott and others have served as substitutes from time to time.

### XII MEMBERS SERVING IN WARS

#### Civil War:

J. E. Barker - Army  
H. J. Bray - Army

#### Korea:

Bert Scott - Army  
Flem G. Nichols - Army

#### World War I:

Harvey J. Barker - Army  
Howard Lea - Army  
Robert Nichols - Army  
Charles Wiles - Army

#### In Service Now:

Johnny Foote - Air Force  
Martin Scott - Army Air Defense

#### World War II:

Jack Pointer - Army  
Joe Pointer - Army  
George L. Scott - Army  
John Scott - Army  
John T. Lea - Army  
Jim Nichols - Army  
Leonard Gray Phelps - Navy  
Graham B. Barker - Navy

### XIII CONNALLY MEMBERS ENTERING VARIOUS PROFESSIONS

What is more important than the way children "turn out" that are "brought up" in our church? A number of members who grew up in our church have entered various professions:

John J. Barker entered the ministry and served several pastorates in the North Carolina Conference.

Lena Lea (Mrs. G. W. Scott), Willie Lea (Mrs. Clarence Pointer), Frank B. Barker, Eunice Barker (Mrs. W. J. Foster) and Cornelia Scott (Mrs. W. L. Strickland) taught school.

Ophelia Barker and Dailey Barker (Mrs. J. D. Sloan) taught school and were also County Home Demonstration Agents.

Mattie Newman and Lois Barker entered the nursing profession. (Mattie transferred to Milton November 3, 1901.)

Evelyn Lea and Ruth Barker (Mrs. H. B. Lester) were stenographers.

Jack Brinkley holds a responsible position at Dan River Cotton Mills.

A large percentage of our members has consisted of substantial farmers and their families.

#### XIV TIME OF CONNALLY SERVICES AND REVIVALS

The regular preaching Sunday at Connally Church for several generations was the first Sunday in each month at 11 a.m. We are delighted to have regular preaching at this time now. We also have an additional 10 a.m. service on third Sundays.

It was well understood for years that our annual revival was to be held the first week in August with two day-services and dinner served on the grounds. Large crowds were usually present for monthly services and for revivals.

In recent years our revivals are usually held earlier in the year with evening services only. Usually a visiting minister has assisted with the revivals. (I remember Rev. Raymond Browning assisted when he was quite a young minister, who later became an outstanding evangelist. Another year Uncle John J. Barker assisted. I also remember Rev. J. H. McCracken assisted once, John Vernon assisted with a revival several years ago, and so on.)

#### XV CHILDREN'S DAY

For many years an annual CHILDREN'S DAY program was presented by the youth of the church on a regular preaching Sunday in the spring or early summer. Sometimes our youth participated in a Children's Day Rally for the whole charge usually held in New Hope Church as it was rather centrally located.

#### XVI WOMEN'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Milton and Connally Churches have a joint WSCS. Five ladies of Connally Church are members of the Connally-Milton Women's Society of Christian Service which meets on Monday following the third Sunday each month, usually in the homes of the members. Our circle is helping to support a Korean Orphan at the rate of \$10.00 a month which provides food, clothing, shelter, schooling, and religious training for a once destitute child, through the Christian Children's Fund, Inc. with headquarters in Richmond, Virginia.

Among other Circle activities we have for several years annually visited the Caswell County Rest Home in December presenting gifts and fruit to the inmates. One year we visited Taylor Nursing Home in the county seat, presenting the inmates with gifts. Another year's project was to help a needy school girl in a local school. Still another year we provided



Christmas dinner for a family who had had several "set backs". One year we assisted the Veterans' Hospital in Durham, and last year in December we visited the Rest Home in Roxboro and gave the inmates a large basket of fruit. In 1968 we sent "diddy bags" and Upper Room booklets to servicemen.

Three missionary STUDY BOOKS have for years been presented in the circle each year, however for the last three years we have had church-wide studies for four sessions presented on the Sundays when we do not have preaching.

#### XVII METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

The Methodist Youth Fellowship, MYF, is an organization for the youth of the Methodist Church from ages 9 to 21.

In 1964 the Junior Youth Fellowship of Milton and Connally, led by Mrs. John Scott merged with the MYF of Semora, led by Mrs. Mabel Long. Both fellowships had members from all local churches; not just from the Methodist Churches.

At the present our MYF has approximately 25 active members and counselors, and is now charge-wide. Written By: Emily Scott

#### XVIII BIBLE SCHOOL

Connally Church for many years in the past has held an annual Bible School for its youth which was held for a week in the early summer with an average enrollment of approximately thirty-five.

#### XIX CHURCH MEMBERSHIP TRAINING

One Church membership training class with six sessions conducted by the pastor was held in the fall of 1961, and another in 1967, and still another in 1968.

#### XX FORMER STEWARDS OF CONNALLY

The following have in the past served on the board of Stewards of Connally Church:

John T. Lea  
Will H. Barker I  
George W. Scott  
John Mise  
Walter Oliver  
Howard Lea

Ralph Taylor  
James E. Barker  
Alfred Brandon  
Thomas Connally  
Milton Jones

(We are sure there were others.)

XXI CHURCH OFFICERS - ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD

Nominating Committee Report - Adopted 1969 - 1970

Lay Leader - Frank Barker

Elective Member of Annual Conference - Harvey Barker - 1969

Lay Member of Annual Conference - Frank Barker - 1970

Chairman of Council on Ministries - Jean Scott

Work Area Chairmen:

Ecumenical Affairs - Mary Agnes Barker

Education - Jean Scott

Evangelism - Caroline Foote

Missions - Ophelia Barker

Social Concerns - Mary Agnes Barker

Stewardship - Ophelia Barker

Worship - Mary Agnes Barker

Age-level and Family Co-ordinators:

Family

Youth

Adults - Caroline Foote

Children - Frances Barker

Recording Secretary - Bessie Scott

Secretary of Enlistment (Christian Vocations) - Ophelia Barker

Pastor Parish Relations Committee - Frank Barker, John Foote, John Scott.

Members at Large: Mary Agnes Barker, Audrey Phelps, Russell Barker, Carolee Scott, Rita Barker, Jack Brinkley, John Foote.

Committee on Nominations - Norman Barker, Caroline Foote, Jack Brinkley.

Committee on Finance Chairman - Jean Scott

Committee on Records and History - Ophelia Barker and Caroline Foote.

Church Trustees - 1970 - Norman Barker; 1971 - Tobe Phelps; 1972 - Russell Barker.

Parsonage Trustees - John Foote, Harrell Barker, and Hurley Barker.

Parsonage Committee - Mrs. Bessie Scott

Chairman of Administrative Board - John Scott; vice - chairman - John Foote.

Treasurer - Bessie Scott

Membership Chairman - Bessie Scott

Supt. of S. S. Study Program - Frank Barker and Jack Brinkley.

Elective Members of District Conference - John Poole and Halcott Newman.

Audit Committee - John Foote

Wills and Legacies - John Foote

Communion Steward - Caroline Foote

XXII CONNALLY CHURCH MEMBERS IN 1969

Barker, Ophelia	McCann, John Jr.
Barker, Frank B.	Mise, Dan
Barker, Graham	Nichols, Flem Jr.
Barker, Russell	Nichols, Doris Oldham
Barker, Lois	Nichols, Susie
Barker, Norman	Nichols, Mrs. Pearl
Barker, Mrs. Mary Agnes	Nichols, Mary Sue
Barker, Douglas	Oates, Barbara Ann Taylor
Barker, Mary Lou	Oldham, Melvin Jr.
Barker, Julie	Oldham, Ralph
Barker, Ray	Pointer, Mrs. Willie Lea
Barker, Mrs. Nelson	Pointer, John Joseph
Barker, Rita	Pointer, Mrs. Herbert A.
Barker, Pamela	Phelps, Mrs. Ora Lee
Barker, Valarie	Phelps, Tobe
Barker, Angela	Phelps, Mrs. Audrey
Barrow, Mrs. Mabel Phelps	Phelps, Lea
Bradner, Clarine	Phelps, Robert Calvin
Bradner, Mollie	Saddler, Mrs. Essie
Brinkley, Fred	Saddler, Curtis
Brinkley, Mrs. Fred	Saddler, Eunice Mae
Brinkley, Mrs. Mabel	Scott, Mrs. Bessie
Brinkley, Jack	Scott, George L., Jr.
Brinkley, Sue	Scott, Bert
Earp, Mrs. Annie Lee	Scott, John
Evans, George B.	Scott, Mrs. Jean
Evans, Mrs. Viola	Scott, Martin
Evans, Elizabeth	Scott, Emily
Foote, John A.	Scott, Carolee
Foote, Mrs. Caroline	Solomon, Mrs. Jean Brinkley
Foote, John A., Jr.	Snead, Mrs. Helen Phelps
Gee, Howard	Taylor, Freddie
Gee, Hazell	Taylor, Willie
Irby, Carol Stewart	Taylor, Mrs. Willie
Jordan, Mrs. Aubrey	Wiles, Clarence
Lea, Floyd J.	Wiles, Ruben
Lea, Evelyn	Wiles, Mrs. Charles
Lucas, Mrs. Carole Foote	Williams, Mrs. Mabel Wiles
McCann, Mrs. Rosa	Willis, Mrs. Minnie Bell Oldham

XXIII WEDDINGS IN CONNALLY CHURCH

Miss Margaret Ann Connally and Mr. Thomas James Jones were married in Connally Church on March 13, 1845 by Rev. James R. Nicholson. (This couple were the maternal great grandparents of our Mrs. John Scott.)

Mr. David T. Elliott and Miss Martha Ann Connally were married in Connally Church June 1, 1864 by Rev. Solomon Lea. (Mr. Elliott transferred his membership from Red House Presbyterian Church to Connally Church.)



He and Mrs. Elliott remained members of Connally Church as long as they lived. He lived until 1912 and she lived until 1919. They were the maternal grandparents of Mattie Newman.)

#### XXIV CONNALLY - A "MOTHER CHURCH"

As a branch of Connally Church the Milton Methodist Church was built in 1890.

A goodly number of the members of Semora Methodist Church, which was completed in 1924, was originally members of Connally Church, and a number of Calvary Methodist Church members was originally members of the first and second Connally Churches prior to the building of Calvary Church in 1882.

#### XXV BRIEF HISTORIES OF NEIGHBORHOOD CHURCHES

They are Calvary Methodist, Lebanon Christian, Milton Methodist, New Hope Methodist, Red House Presbyterian, Semora Baptist and Semora Methodist.

#### CALVARY METHODIST CHURCH

(Copied from church plate) "In 1882 the original Calvary Church building was begun. The members themselves donated logs and built the one room wooden structure which was to serve as sanctuary and Sunday School building for the next 65 years.

Plans for a new building were begun in 1944. With stews, box suppers, donations of money and tobacco crops, the needed \$15,280.00 was raised. Finally in 1949 the neat brick structure, with three class rooms and an auditorium of 120 seating capacity, was completed."

Mr. Lynn Williamson, father of the late Mr. George Williamson, was a member of the first and also the second Connally Church. This Mr. George Williamson was a member of the second Connally Church. These and others of Calvary Community, on account of the distance to the second Connally Church, decided to build Calvary Methodist Church which was erected in 1882.

Mr. W. Smith Brandon of Milton, N. C. said his grandfather, Mr. Smith Brandon, and Mr. John Lipscomb built the first Calvary Church.

#### LEBANON CHURCH (copied from church plate)

"Lebanon Congregational Christian Church was organized in 1845. In 1885 a new building was erected and in 1895 a recessed pulpit was added. In the year 1905 the church set aside the third Sunday in May for Memorial Day to honor its dead. In 1952 the church was remodeled and

class rooms added." This church had a heating plant installed when it was remodeled.

In 1962 a basement was added which provided one more class room and a recreation room. Water fountains were placed in the hall and rest rooms were installed too. About two years ago the pulpit and aisles were carpeted.

#### INTERESTING FACTS IN REGARD TO MILTON METHODIST CHURCH

Land for Milton Methodist Church was purchased on August 8, 1890, from L. H. Hunt and wife, S. T. Hunt by the following trustees: Jasper Fleming, Robert L. Dixon, S. L. Stephens, E. D. Winstead and George W. Burton. Witnessed on November 29, 1890 by: L. H. Hunt, S. T. Hunt, Lewis Walker, and J. A. Foster. (See book W. W. page 224 in the Register of Deeds Office in Yanceyville.) Captain William Farley built this church and also made the benches, etc.

#### Following is a list of the CHURCH SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS SERVING MILTON METHODIST CHURCH:

S. S. Lankford	L. Banks Satterfield
Robert Lee Dixon	David Sunderland
Marcus C. Winstead	J. Hunter Brandon
John L. Satterfield	Halcott T. Newman
C. B. Austin	Mrs. J. Hunter Brandon
John A. Newman	Mrs. Halcott T. Newman
	Mrs. W. L. Thomas III

#### Following is a list of SOME WHO HAVE SERVED AS SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS:

Mrs. S. S. Lankford	Martha C. Newman
Nan Lewis (from Texas)	Mrs. G. L. Lipscomb
Mrs. J. L. Satterfield	Herbert A. Ellis
Mrs. W. L. Thomas	Mrs. John A. Newman
Mrs. C. B. Austin	(Mrs. H. A. Ellis)
Mrs. J. A. Hurdle	Mrs. W. L. Thomas, Jr.
Mrs. C. R. Thomas	Mary A. Hall
Marcus C. Winstead	Jasper Flemming

#### PRESENT TEACHERS SERVING THIS CHURCH

Mrs. Hunter Brandon	Miss Ann Brandon
Mr. Halcott Newman	Mrs. Lee Thomas

#### MUSICIANS OF MILTON CHURCH

Mrs. H. A. Ellis, formerly Mrs. John A. Newman, served as pianist and organist for a number of years.

Mrs. Harrell W. Barker is now serving as organist.

### WEDDINGS IN MILTON METHODIST CHURCH

Mary Sue Griffith and Mr. Stroup  
Annie S. Dixon and C. B. Austin  
Maude N. Dixon and J. H. Pritchett  
Lillian C. Walker and Connally Corbin  
Roma Hyler and Cenroe Williamson  
Sally Louise Thomas and John Wallace Jr.  
Billy Hyler and Shirley Page

### NEW HOPE CHURCH

(As copied from a news article prepared by a member of New Hope Church, published about 1925, and provided by Mrs. C. W. Pointer.)

"History of M. E. Church in Milton Circuit New Hope, Oldest church of this group Milton Circuit of the Methodist Episcopal Church South Composed of five churches was cut off from Yanceyville and Leasburg circuits some thing more than 35 years ago. New Hope and Purley were then a part of the Yanceyville circuit and Connally then belonged to Leasburg circuit.

New Hope is the oldest church on this work, having been founded about 1779 by John Davis whose descendants donated a beautiful pulpit to the church when it was built anew some years ago during the pastorate of Rev. J. A. Dailey. The church was originally 150 yards or more north of its present location and was moved by the tedious process of rolling on skids by men before the modern way of moving buildings was known. The old church that stood for centuries before the modern one which now stands, had an annex where the slaves always attended worship and listened attentively to the sermon and could often tell a great part of the sermon they so much enjoyed and listened to.

The present church was built by Mr. Humble of Burlington who has several sons in the ministry and is himself a very fine Christian Character.

The first pastor of the Milton Circuit was John H. Shore, who preached four years beginning in 1890."

Some attractive memorial windows were installed in this church a few years ago.

### RED HOUSE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

(Prepared by one of its members and recorded in Caswell County Register of Deeds Office.)

"Red House Church was organized prior to 1755 and was first called Middle Hyco Chapel. During the year 1806 the name was changed to Red House. This house was painted red and was known to travelers as the "Red House".

Mr. Hugh McAden was the first regular pastor of this church that we have a record of. At the time of Mr. McAden's death this section of the country was overrun by two contending armies, for the country was in the throes of the Revolutionary War. The army of General Green was retreating



across Dan River closely followed by the army of Lord Cornwallis, the latter leaving destruction in its tracks. About two weeks after Mr. McAden's death the British encamped in the church yard and it is said that Lord Cornwallis had his headquarters in the church and the tradition is that so great was the hatred of the tories that they not only destroyed the property of his family and burned their home but they dug into his grave and mutilated his body.

There have been four houses of worship. During the year 1876 the church was repaired and modernized and used until 1913 when a brick building was erected.

After the war between the states the small children in the Sunday School were furnished Bible Primers and had lessons in them. Many of them studied hard and came with lessons well prepared every Sabbath. In this way they learned to read and write for there were no schools.

The first Sabbath was the regular appointment for services for many years. On third Sunday evenings there was preaching for the servants and the house would be filled to overflowing.

Following is a list of pastors of this church:

Mr. Hugh McAden	T. A. Faucette
William Moore	Mc. G. Shields
James H. Bowman	P. C. Morton
Hugh Shaw	James Evans
John McLean	E. H. Harding
A. D. Montgomery	N. R. Claytor
George W. Ferrell	Rev. Whitney served during the year 1945
N. H. Harding	Rev. William Hodgkin
John Paisley	Rev. John Boyd
S. A. Stanfield	Rev. Bill Wrenn (serving now)

(See Miscellaneous records I. page 183 and II. page 437 in Register of Deeds Office.)

#### EXCERPTS FROM THE HISTORY OF THE SEMORA BAPTIST CHURCH 1906 - 1968

Do you recall road conditions as far back as 1906? Then you will remember something of the roads when the winter snows and deep freezes, caused mud axle deep, with traveling almost impossible. Such a day occurred late in January of 1906 on a certain Sunday morning; when the T. M. Allen family, Mr. John B. Yarbrough, their two daughters, Mary John Yarbrough and Ella Yarbrough, and Dr. J. F. Swann, were ready to get seated in a two-horse wagon to make a trip to Shiloh Baptist Church, a distance of six miles from their homes at Semora, N. C., where they attended church and Sunday School for many years.

The day was dreary and snow was beginning to fall, so Dr. Swann said, "Why can't we have Sunday School here at Mr. Yarbrough's?" "Nuff said." Mr. and Mrs. Allen, The John B. Yarbrough family met in the parlor of the Yarbrough family and Sunday School was duly held.

The question of building a church at Semora, N. C. was first mentioned by Dr. Swann on this particular day. Mr. Thomas M. Allen said, "I'll give the building lot," Mr. Yarbrough being a contractor and builder said, "I'll put up the building, free of charge." Mrs. Yarbrough and daughter, Ella and Mrs. T. M. Allen were named a committee to solicit funds to buy the building material; thus the church was organized.

June 1907 was truly a great day for the newly organized church for the ten charter members, together with the many interested friends, assembles for the dedication of the Semora Baptist Church.

The charter members were: Mr. T. M. Allen and wife, Carrie Kersey (Mrs. T. M. Allen, Carrie Allen Holloman (Mrs. John Holloman), Willie Allen, Mrs. Sallis Hinton Grinstead, Dr. Joseph Fuller Swann, Ella Yarbrough McAden (Mrs. John H. McAden), Mary Harrison Yarbrough (Mrs. John B. Yarbrough), Mary John Yarbrough Taylor (Mrs. W. L. Taylor), and Mrs. John B. Yarbrough.

During the years from 1907 to 1968 the following ordained pastors have served the church.

D. W. Thomasson - 1907

J. K. Faulkner - 1907-1912

D. T. Putnam - 1912-1914

M. F. Hodges - 1915-1916

Paul Hartsell - 1916-1919

H. O. Miller - 1919-1921

L. V. Coggins - 1922-1948

Henry Crouch - 1948-1949

Theo Gaze - 1949-1950

Charles A. Stephens - 1950-1951

Richard McKay - 1952-1953

L. J. Morgan - 1953-1955

David Rogers - 1955-1960

Wayland Johnson - 1961-1964

Richard Bass - 1964

Gene Tully - 1964-1965

Paul W. Travis - 1965-1966

A. M. Johnson - 1966-1968

James F. Johnson - 1968

In June 1957, the church celebrated its fiftieth Anniversary, which was attended by approximately 200 people. Many were descendants of the Charter members and former pastors of the church.

The Church and Sunday School has always had regular services.

Ministerial Students, attending Eastern Seminary, have supplied as pastors; some more than two years at the time.

The church has always contributed to all Missions, sponsored by the Southern Baptist Associations.

Mrs. S. O. Garrett, Historian  
Semora Baptist Church

#### SEMORA METHODIST CHURCH

An increasing number of Methodist families had moved to Semora before 1920. Thirty charter members organized themselves into a Semora Methodist Church about this time and had services in the Semora Baptist Church twice a month at night.

The following paragraph was copied from the church plate:

"The Semora Methodist Church was organized in 1920 under the leadership of Rev. B. O. Merritt with about thirty charter members. Building funds were raised under the leadership of Rev. A. J. Hobbs. The building was completed during the pastorate of Rev. J. B. Hurley. It was dedicated April 8, 1924. To our former pastors and present pastor, W. F. Meacham we record sincere appreciation."

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