

**DIXON CHAPEL UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**



1977

**1921-2002**

*Harold and Lois [unclear]*

# **Short History of**

**Dixon Chapel United Meth. Church  
2002**

**Some of the enclosed information has been handed down by word of mouth by some of our Senior Members of Dixon Chapel Church. With the information we acquired over the years, we have tried to share with you as much as we know of the past History of Dixon Chapel.**

**Church Historian.....Jay White  
Compiled by: Marlene D. Varnam  
Lay Leader of Dixon Chapel**

*The Sunday School Mission came  
From an extension From  
Sharon UMC about 3 miles from here.*

**A Sunday School Mission was first begun on the front porch, home of Albert & Cornelia Dixon. In 1921 an old kitchen was converted into a Sunday School House. Mrs. Sarah Varnam, along with the Dixon's helped to organize Dixon Chapel Sunday School. Within a few years, it began to grow and Dixon Chapel Methodist Church was organized, becoming one of seven churches on the Shallotte Charge. Tom Galloway John Galloway and Albert Dixon were the first Church Trustees. A. L. (Shucky) Dixon was the first Sunday School Superintendent.**

**In 1936, a one room Sanctuary was constructed on the present property we worship on today. From 1922 - 1945, the members grew very slowly. In 1946 a great revival took place in Varnamtown, which added a good many members to our church. During the fifties until the late sixties, Dixon Chapel experienced some growth in membership. 1959, class rooms was added to the original 1936 building and also a steeple was erected on top of the building. This was a long time dream of some of our Senior members who had already gone to be with the Lord. It wasn't long before a church bell was ringing out every Sunday morning.**

**In 1970, the Fellowship Hall was added, and 1975 found such a growth that a new Sanctuary and more classrooms space was needed. In 1976, our new Sanctuary and classrooms was begun, with attendance overflowing and reaching as high as 150. We moved into the Sanctuary in the fall of 1977. In 1984 the Fellowship Hall had to be enlarged. Today 2002, we need twice the space we now have in our Fellowship Hall. The one room original 1936 structure is today encased within the walls of our present building.**

Dixon Chapel Church has become well known for our Annual Oyster Roast we have each year on the first Saturday in November. People from all over the United States come each year to enjoy the roasted oysters, Hushpuppies and the fellowship with one another. The roast has been going on for close to 48 years. It is the only fund raiser we have for our church each year. We do not have to advertise it much anymore, as people will began to call for information as to the time and day way before November. In the past few years we have had to add fish plates for those who want to come and don't eat oysters.

**The Lord really blessed Dixon Chapel with the land of which our church stands on today. June 16, 1923, Albert S. Dixon and wife Cornelia deeded and gave 1/2 acre land. The kitchen that was first used for a Sunday School house was moved to the property. On Nov. 24, 1939 the church deeded the property to the Board of Extension of the United Methodist Church. The Trustees at that time were A. S. Dixon, Tom Galloway and W. B. Varnam. On June 30, 1970, 1.7 acres were given and deeded to Dixon Chapel by the A. L. Dixon heirs and wife Ava Dixon.**

**Trustees at that time was Roxie Varnam, Wilson Lancaster, W. G. Robinson and Ronald Varnam. In Sept. 1976 a small parcel of land on the West side of the Church Building was given by Ennis Swain, his wife Marilyn and his mother Lola Swain our good Baptist neighbors. Again in the late 90's we were needing more parking area and out of the goodness of their heart, Ennis and his wife Marilyn gave yet another parcel of land on the west side of the Church. It was a prayer answered as we were praying about some needed property for a parking lot. God does answer prayer.**



**Dixon Chapel was at first on a 7 point charge known as The Brunswick Circuit. In the late 40's we became a 5 point charge known as the Shallotte Circuit Charge. We were on a Charge with Sharon, Concord, Village Point and Andrew's Chapel. We would only have Worship maybe two times a month. In the early 60's we became a 4 point work losing Concord to another Charge. In the 70's Sharon left our charge and went Station, leaving only three churches on the charge. We were on the Shallotte Charge up until June of 2001.**

**Then finally in 2001, Dixon Chapel was experiencing a new thing. We finally had our very own pastor. Jeanne Ray, a retired minister became our new pastor. On Dec. 28, 2000, we purchased our very own Parsonage and for the first time we had our Pastor living in our very own Community. It was a dream come true. It happened so fast that we all stand in awe at what the Lord is doing at Dixon Chapel. We finally have a Pastor for our very own Church living in our very own Community. God is so Good.**

**Pastors who have ministered at****Dixon Chapel Church :****William J. Underwood****William L. Freeman****William G. Lowe****Chaplain Bronstien****James (Jim) Carroll****Jesse Fisher****wife Mable****Travis Owens****wife Margaret****William R. King****wife Molly****Harold Pigott****W. B. Gregory****Walter Weaver****Tracie Varnam****wife Clementine****Edward C. Batchelor****wife Grace****Robert Rudd****wife Shelby****Murice Lancaster****wife Helen****Robert Hargrove****wife Aletha**

Robert Tilley      wife Jean  
Roger Armistead   wife Dianne  
Martha Edgerton....Hus. Glenn  
Jeanne Ray.....Hus. Valton

*Ben Horton Present Pastor 2004*

**OTHER MINISTERS** who ministered  
during our revivals:

Jesse James Rushing, Vernon Tyson,  
Donnie Davis, Vance Hardison, Ekie  
Lancaster, Robert Rattz, John  
Hobbs and Landis Lancaster and  
many more whom we love dearly.

**OTHER MINISTERS** who have  
attended Dixon's prior to their  
calling: Tracie Varnum, Weston  
Varnum, Landis Lancaster, R. C.  
Dixon, Bobby Norton and Jearld  
Kirby.

**DIXON CHAPEL Pastor & Leaders:**  
**Pastor.....Jeanne Ray**  
**Lay Leader.....Marlene Varnam**  
**SS Superintendent-John D.Dawson**  
**Council Chairman- Ada McDonald**  
**Trustee Chairman- Carson Varnam**  
**PPR Chairman....Harvey Champion**  
**Parsonage Cha....Luellen Norris**  
**Secretary -Treasurer..Judy Galloway**  
**Finance Chairman- David Dawson**  
**Cemetery Co. Cha...Edsel Norris**  
**Lay Member to NC Annual**  
**Conference.....Marlene Varnam**  
**Alternate Lay Member to NC**  
**Annual Conference.. Harold Dacus**  
**Assistant Lay Leader. Tony Varnam**  
**Assistant to the Superintendent...**  
**...Tony Varnam and Jay White.**

**CHAIRMAN OF MINISTRIES****Youth.....Jencie Varnam****Family.....Mary Ellen Varnam****Children.....Mary Dawson****Missions.....Sue Galloway****Worship and Communion: Bea G.****Varnam & Shirley Thompson****Ten Dollar Club.....Edith Newsome****Membership and Record. Secretary,****.....Lori Varnum****Historian.....Jay White****Communities in School Coor.****.....Tonya Hager****Publicity Chairperson Gaye Fulford****Music/Program Director. Jan White****Stewardship.....Ester Varnam****Acolytes Coordinator: Josh Varnum**

**Leaders of Special Ministries:**  
**Kicks for Jesus-----Doug McDonald**  
**Eagles-----Jill Dixon**  
**Children's Choir-----Jeanne Ray**  
**Children's Church----Mary Dawson**  
**Kicks for Jesus Chorus-Gaye Fulford**  
**Youth (Young Men)-John D.Dawson**  
**Restless Hearts Choir---Jan White**  
**Dixon Chapel Drama Team:**  
    **Doug and Ada McDonald**  
    **Tony and Lori Varnum**  
**Sound Technicians : Tony Varnum**  
**& Mike Fulford.**

**We also would like to acknowledge**  
**"The Tracie Varnum Library"**  
**which was dedicated this past May**  
**2001 at our Homecoming Services.**

**Worship-----11:00 AM**

**Sunday School-----10:00 AM**

**Bible Study & Prayer Meeting**

**each Wednesday Night--7:30 PM**

**Kicks for Jesus-Fridays-----7:00 PM**

**Kicks for Jesus Chorus**

**Thursday -----7:00 PM**

**Eagles-----Sunday -----6:00 PM**

**Youth Group (boys) Sun. 7:00 PM**

**Choir Practice-----Sun. 6:00 PM**

**Children's Choir Practice**

**2 Sundays each month 5:00 PM**

**Ladies Club meets on the**

**first Monday each mo. 7:00 PM**

**Dixon Chapel Basketball team**

**in play, January through March.**



**Our Mission here at Dixon's is to first of all, win souls for Jesus.**

**Study His word and implement programs that will bring Glory to His name.**

**Enjoy Worship and fellowship with one another.**

**Pray for the needs of our Church and Community.**

**Extend a helping hand to all those in need.**

**Extend a warm welcome to anyone who would like to become part of our Church family.**

**See to the needs of our Elderly, Youth and Children.**



1959



1936