

# Englewood United Methodist Church

300 Circle Drive  
Rocky Mount, North Carolina



## A History 1955 - 1980

by Mrs. J.C. (Barbara) Barnes, Jr.

## A FOREWORD

*This foreword is being written on March 30, 1980, exactly 25 years to the date of the official organization of Englewood United Methodist Church. This is a great privilege to share with you in this celebration.*

*My sentiments for these first twenty-five years can be taken from a quote of a former pastor, Ben Musser, as he described the new sanctuary . . . "I would like to think that it represents a spiritual strength and grace which resides in the hearts and minds of the people of this church and community".*

*Having been the pastor here only a short while I cannot refrain from stressing the importance of building upon that which we have received from the previous years. Englewood Church still possesses one of the greatest potentials for spiritual growth, physical improvements in more facilities, and a larger membership. Let us resolve on this Palm Sunday, March 30, 1980, that under God's guidance we shall do His bidding in these days that are at hand.*

*Let me thank Mrs. Barbara Barnes for her very great effort and magnificent "job well done" in writing this history and the compilation of the church scrapbook. Indeed we really can't thank her enough. Also, thanks to Mrs. Kay Williams for the final preparation of the copy submitted to the printers and to all who have helped supply the materials from which this history has been written.*

*Again, may God truly bless us as we seek to do His will through the ministry of Englewood United Methodist Church.*

*Sincerely,*

*Paul W. Boone  
Pastor*

## A DEDICATION

Dedicated to Reverend Paul W. Boone whose idea this history and the corresponding scrapbook was.

He came to Englewood United Methodist Church in June of 1979 realized the 25th Anniversary was just around the corner, and started searching for a history of the Church. There was not a complete one anywhere, so he planned this to go along with the Anniversary and Homecoming Celebration.

Mrs. Barbara Barnes  
Historian for the Church

## FACTS

### DID YOU KNOW?

1. First Meeting of Steering Committee ..... January 18, 1955
2. Woman's Society of Christian Service Organized ..... January 30, 1955
3. Men's Club Organized ..... January 30, 1955
4. Church School Organized ..... February 20, 1955
5. First Worship Service ..... February 6, 1955
6. Where ..... Overton's Dining Room
7. Church Officially Organized ..... March 20, 1955
8. First Minister ..... Frederick W. Still
9. District Superintendent, 1955 ..... Dr. J.F. Herbert
10. Bishop over N.C. Conference, 1955 ..... Paul Neff Garber
11. Number of Charter Members ..... 155
12. Present Number of Members ..... 782
13. Number in first Church School ..... 119
14. First Church School Superintendent ..... Charles Schubart
15. Number Charter Members of W.S.C.S. .... 54
16. First President, W.S.C.S. .... Mrs. Louise Felmet
17. Number Charter Members in Men's Club ..... 40
18. First President, Men's Club ..... Lee Chapman
19. First Chairman Official Board ..... Dr. H. Boone Grant
20. First Chairman, Board of Trustees ..... Paul E. Mallison
21. First Building Committee Chairman ..... Will Wyatt
22. First Parsonage (rented) ..... 904 Nash Street
23. First Church-owned Parsonage ..... 301 Forest Hill Avenue
24. Architect's Drawings first shown ..... May 29, 1955
25. Groundbreaking, Educational Building ..... March 27, 1956
26. First Service in New Fellowship Hall ..... March 17, 1957
27. Groundbreaking for Sanctuary ..... January 5, 1964
28. First Service in new Sanctuary ..... December 20, 1964
29. First Delegate to Annual Conference ..... Vera (Jack) Mallison
30. First Adult MYF Leader ..... Harriet & Sam Taylor
31. First MYF President ..... Kenneth Phelps
32. First Choir Director ..... Dot Brown
33. First Pianist ..... Dot Brown
34. First Church Lay Leader ..... Jim Creasy, Jr.
35. First Secretary-Treasurer, Church ..... Joe Brown
36. First Secretary-Treasurer, Church School ..... Flora Clayton
37. Present Pastor ..... Rev. Paul W. Boone

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### MINISTERS

1. Frederick W. Still ..... 1-1-55 to 1957
2. Dewey Tyson ..... 1957 to 1961
3. Ben Musser ..... 1961 to 1965
4. A.F. McClung ..... 1965 to 1966
5. Reginald Ponder ..... 1966 to 1970
6. Norwood Jones ..... 1970 to 1974
7. Ralph Epps ..... 1974 to 1979
8. Paul W. Boone ..... 1979



Presidents of the Woman's Society, Englewood Methodist Church, over the 25 years.

- |                         |                          |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Louise Felmet        | 10. Charlottee Abernathy |
| 2. Elizabeth Grant      | 11. Jeanette McIlwean    |
| 3. Anita Morgan         | 12. Frances Guill        |
| 4. Vera (Jack) Mallison | 13. Barbara Batts        |
| 5. Flora Clayton        | 14. Nancy Taylor         |
| 6. Hazel Davis          | 15. Marie Lewis          |
| 7. Barbara Barnes       | 16. Janie Mears          |
| 8. Pat Combs            | 17. Norma Knight         |
| 9. Ruth Cooke           | 18. Ellen Brent Boone    |

Presidents of Men's Club, Englewood Methodist Church, over the 25 years.

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Lee Chapman      | 12. Leon Henderson  |
| 2. Jim Creasy       | 13. A.B. Creasy     |
| 3. Al Oettinger     | 14. Jack Conley     |
| 4. Doak Worsley     | 15. W.J. Arthur     |
| 5. Charles Williams | 16. William Bobbitt |
| 6. Bill Currin      | 17. Steve Smith     |
| 7. Bobby Mears      | 18. Henry Roberson  |
| 8. Everette House   | 19. J.L. Mears      |
| 9. Leroy Jackson    | 20. Dan Vaughan     |
| 10. George Tyler    | 21. Harold Winstead |
| 11. Curtis Register | 22. Fred Combs      |

Names of People in the very first Choir, Englewood Methodist Church.

- |                                  |                     |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Frances Bryant                | 8. Joe Brown        |
| 2. Perry Bryant                  | 9. Marjorie Still   |
| 3. Frances Heath                 | 10. Frances Rackley |
| 4. Sarah Cobb                    | 11. Lee Chapman     |
| 5. Elizabeth Grant               | 12. Don Clayton     |
| 6. Elizabeth Batchelor           | 13. Jim Creasy, Jr. |
| 7. Dot Brown, Director & Pianist | 14. Claudia Creasy  |

The following have been Adult Leaders of the MYF over the 25 years.

1. Harriet/Sam Taylor
2. Pat/Fred Combs
3. Mr./Mrs. Frank Grayiel
4. Norma/Dan Knight
5. Joyce/Stephen Bennett
6. Debbie Mears
7. Janice/Larry Stump

Names of those in our Chancel Choir today:

- |                       |                     |                            |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Barbara Batts      | 11. Sadie Coley     | 21. Ben Elliott            |
| 2. Sharon Dunn        | 12. Debbie King     | 22. Crayton Overton        |
| 3. Ruth Jones         | 13. Wilma McClure   | 23. Bobby Mears            |
| 4. Kathleen Wright    | 14. Mary Hensley    | 24. Scott Carter           |
| 5. Betsy Bobbitt      | 15. Steve Thomas    | 25. Ruby Hearne            |
| 6. Louise Tharrington | 16. Woodrow Wright  | 26. Bill Pollard, Director |
| 7. Joy Carter         | 17. Doak Worsley    |                            |
| 8. Derenda Smith      | 18. LeRoy Davis     |                            |
| 9. Janice Roberson    | 19. William Bobbitt |                            |
| 10. Doris Reeves      | 20. Lee Chapman     |                            |

A little over 25 years ago, a survey was taken in the Englewood area under the guidance of Bishop Paul Neff Garber, to ascertain an approximate number of people who would be interested in becoming affiliated with a Methodist Church in the area. Thirty-nine families said they would join immediately, and others said they would join after certain commitments were fulfilled at their present churches. An option was taken on a building site (two acres) by a conference committee. The land belonged to Mr. Z.B. Bulluck, whose home was just across the road. Mr. Bulluck proved to be a very good friend, indeed, to the young church. He gave the church a very reasonable price on that first piece of land, he reserved adjoining land for potential growth of the church, he allowed the church free use of a small stone house on his property (where the MYF, the W.S.C.S. and other groups met often) and, later, Mr. Bulluck reduced the price of the land down from the first low figure. His daughter and her family were charter members of the Englewood Methodist Church which stimulated his interest.

A young minister from Tennessee, Frederick W. Still, was sent to this area to organize the new church. His lovely young wife, Marjorie, and their little daughter, Sheila, then just four months old, came with him. A small house on Nash Street was rented by the Conference as a temporary parsonage for the Still family. He visited in the homes of potential members and encouraged an interest in building the church.

The first meeting of the Steering Committee was held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Mears. The second meeting was held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Brown. Dr. H.B. Grant was selected Chairman of the Steering Committee. Probably the most instrumental family in those early months and years was the J.B.W. Overton Family. From the first, they freely offered the use of the dining room in their restaurant as a meeting place for all church activities. So it was there

that church services were held for over two years plus Church School, Bible School, Woman's Society Meetings, Men's Club Meetings, and others. Overton's Barbecue Restaurant was exactly where it is now -- on the corner of Forest Hill Avenue And Sunset Avenue -- only, at that time, Sunset Avenue was called the Nashville Highway or Highway 64. The first Church service was held there on February 6, 1955. Mrs. Joe Brown was the first choir Director, and she also played the piano. Lee Chapman and Charles Schubart worked diligently together to organize the first Church School, and the first classes were held on February 20, 1955, at Overton's with 119 people in attendance. It was not long before the numbers overran Overton's ample space, and three classes were placed in the Englewood Steak House which was then just across Nashville Highway. (It was later torn down for a service station).

On the night of January 30, 1955, at Overton's, a meeting was held of all men and women in the area interested in forming a Men's Club and a Woman's Society. A fellowship hour with refreshments was held before dividing into two groups for the purpose of electing officers. Lee Chapman was elected first President of the Men's Club, and Louise Felmet was elected first President of the Woman's Society. The books were left open in the W.S.C.S. until Easter for Charter Members, at which time there were 54 names. It was decided not to have Church Circles until at least June, 1955.

Meeting at Buck Overton's Barbecue Restaurant accomplished something that nothing else had been able to accomplish over all the years; it forced them to close for business on Sunday mornings! Mrs. Overton was quoted as saying that she had been after her husband to close on Sunday mornings for years, but he just never got around to it. And then, when she had about given up, church plans started formulating, and he volunteered the use of his restaurant with no prodding at all from



her! The entire Overton Family was unbelievably cooperative and gracious. It might be mentioned here that not all of them were Methodists either! But that was beside the point. Every member and every visitor was made to feel at home. The Church continued to meet in Overtons's Dining Room from February 6. All this time, people were joining. On March 20, the church became officially organized, with Dr. J.F. Herbert presiding. When the Charter Membership was closed on Easter Sunday, April 10, 1955, there were 155 members. During that very first very summer (1955) the additional tract of land was purchased.

On Sunday, May 29, 1955, the official kickoff of the Building Fund Campaign was underway. Architectural plans of the Educational Building and of the future Sanctuary Building were presented. Dr. J. Lem Stokes, President of Pfeiffer Junior College flew his own plane to Rocky Mount and spoke at that historic meeting, and then the sketches and plans were presented by Jim V. Creasy, Jr., Lay Leader.

Dr. Robert Whitley was Promotion and Finance Committee Chairman, and was ably assisted by D.F. Williamson and Charles Loftis.

When the Church was only two months old, it assumed most of the pastor's salary, and pledged \$300.00 annually for World Service. The Conference gave \$15,000.00 to the Church through the "\$10.00 Club" which was a wonderful help. But the Fellowship and Educational Building was to cost nearly \$100,000.00, and much more was needed. Many money-making projects were developed by the congregation, from the youngest to the oldest, including penny banks, multiplying of talents, bake sales, bazaars, ice cream suppers, pancake suppers, fish fries, etc. A large sum came in from selling tiny bricks for \$1.00 each, which the Men's Club started. The largest amount came in, and is still coming in, from a project started by the Grant Family with the \$5.00 talent money. They pooled their \$5.00 bills and

bought bags of shelled peanuts. The family, consisting of Dr. H. Boone Grant and his wife, Elizabeth, and their five children, hushed the peanuts, fried them, put them in jars, and sold them for 50¢ a jar. They were so good that they became known far and wide; and today, 25 years later, Englewood Methodist Church still sells peanuts! The price has increased to \$1.50 a jar. The other differences are that after a church kitchen became a reality, the peanut business was moved there, and the Men's Club adopted it as their project. Over \$1500.00 annually comes into the church budget from the peanuts!

The Overtons were responsible for another Godsend. When there was talk of buying the adjoining land from Mr. Bulluck for expansion of the Church, Mr. J.B.W. Overton told the congregation that if they would raise the first \$9,000.00, he would donate the next \$1,000.00. Which they did, and he did!

There were other money-making projects which come to mind. The ladies in the Church on Easter Sundays did without Easter corsages; and, instead, put the price of their corsage into the Church Building Fund. There were White Elephant Sales, and Bazaars every other year, and there were Brunswick stew cookouts. The Men's Club sponsored a birthday calendar showing the anniversary dates and birth dates of every member of the Church in 1961.

All these money-making projects served a dual purpose actually. The money, of course, was vital to get the building off the ground, but the greatest purpose was that they gave enthusiasm, incentive and impetus to the congregation and to the community. The people of this community are mostly non-natives of Rocky Mount, and most did not know each other. Through these common goals, they came to know each other and love each other, and enjoyed working and worshipping together.

'Phenomenal' was the word used in describing the progress of the young church by Dallas Mallison on writing about it in the "N.C. Christian



Advocate" of May 24, 1956. He went on to say that the church was well on its way to full maturity as a progressive and responsible congregation.

The church continued to grow. At the end of the first year, there were 211 members; and at the end of the second year, there were 240.

Early on in the life of the church, Jim Creasy started helping Reverend Still put out a monthly newsletter. Jim was transferred from Rocky Mount, and shortly thereafter, Doak Worsley started getting out the monthly church letters singlehandedly. For over three years, Doak was Editor, Reporter, Printer and Mailman. Everyone looked forward to his letters, and I've often wondered if Doak ever realized just how much.

The first Bible School held by our Church was that first summer, 1955. We used the American Legion Hall which was then next door to Overton's. It has since been torn down to make room for yet another service station! Barbara Barnes was the Director of the Bible School, and other workers were Frances Bryant, Flora Clayton, Jane Ellis, Eliabeth Grant, Marguerite Fountain, Anita Morgan, Caroline Pernell, Martha Broughton, Faye Outlan, Frances Rackley, and Ann Overton. The three high school helpers were Kay Davis, Betty Jo Langley and Becky Overton. Seventy-five boys and girls attended. We started with a weiner roast Saturday afternoon, followed by a session in Sunday School the next morning. Then, each day during the week, and ended at Sunday School the following Sunday with a sharing session during the Church Hour with the adults. It was a most rewarding experience. Not having the proper facilities can offer many challenges, and it all fell into place perfectly.

#### **ABOUT THE PARSONAGE**

The first Parsonage was a small rented house at 904 Nash Street. About a year later, a house at 237 Briarcliff Road became available for rent. The church decided to rent it as it was much easier on the minister as well as on the

congregation to have the parsonage near the church. When Reverend Dewey Tyson came to our church, he moved into the house on Briarcliff Road. Then, the church found a larger house for rent, 307 Charlotte Street, and the Tyson family moved again. Then, about six months before Mr. Tyson's four years were up, the church bought 301 Forest Hill Avenue as its parsonage, and the Tyson family had yet another move to make. They must have been so weary when they moved from here!

#### **FIRST GROUNDBREAKING**

On March 27, 1956, the Ground-breaking ceremony for the Education Building was held. It was on a Tuesday afternoon, and both Bishop Paul Garber and Dr. J.F. Herbert, District Superintendent, attended. In addition to them, Reverend Still; Will Wyatt, past Building Committee Chairman; Paul Mallison, Chairman of the Board of Trustees; J.B.W. Overton, Sr., Honorary Steward and restaurant owner; Dr. H.B. Grant, Chairman of the Official Board; and H.W. Broughton, present Chairman of the Building Committee, participated.

From the day the church was officially organized, March 20, 1955, to the day of the groundbreaking ceremony, approximately one year had elapsed. And then, from the day of the groundbreaking until the day the Educational Building was completed, approximately one more year elapsed, to March 17, 1957. This totaled a little over two years of meeting at Overton's! What would we have done without the Overtons?

The Educational Building consisted of nine classrooms, the Fellowship Hall, a kitchen, a library which was also the Pastor's Study, etc. It was wonderful to get into our own building, of course; but there was still much work to be done. The Woman's Society under took the furnishing of the kitchen. We needed not only several large appliances; but china, crystal, and flatware. With God helping a bunch of willing workers, it was accomplished.

One thing that continually impresses



people is the willingness throughout the congregation to help each other. The Woman's Society has pitched in to serve the Bible Schools, the MYF Groups, the Men's Club, and any group. The Men's Club cooks the peanuts, they built the Bath House at Camp Kerr; they have never failed to assist the women when there is a Bazaar by having a pancake supper or an auction or to build things of wood to sell. The young people have never let us down. They've been called upon to act as waiters or waitresses at various meals; they are called on to help at Bible School and at Sunday School or to keep the nursery during Church, and many other things.

Another thing the men worked so hard at was laying all the tile for the Educational Building. They did all the painting and staining. They built all the cabinets and shelves in the kitchen and elsewhere. Did you remember that it was Mr. P.A. (Pug) Moore who built the walnut altar in the Fellowship Hall? And that Mr. Lee Chapman built the walnut pulpit?

The Women used to get together two or three times a year to give the church a good cleaning. They would come armed with buckets, rags, brooms and ladders. They scrubbed and waxed the floors; they cleaned the windows; they cleaned all the closets and the kitchen cabinets. They would wear old clothes, bring a sandwich for lunch, and stay all day! Again, hard work, but rewarding!

I remember how faithful Annie Ruth Tharrington has been about the altar committee and putting flowers in church; and her daughter, Gwen, playing the piano in Sunday School for so long. And I remember Claudia Creasy starting a Children's Choir in her own home. She taught school, and would let all the children come to her house after school once a week to practice. And that was before Englewood had paved streets, so there was a lot of mudtracking going on!

And I remember that Mary Clay was the first of the Charter Members to die. Mary was Paraleigh Clay's sister. The two sisters married brothers, and lived

side by side in identical houses on Nashville Highway.

And the church continued to grow. Reverend Tyson served as pastor from June, 1957, to June, 1961. He helped our church so much. His wife, Ruth, completed her college education while here, and started teaching school. That wasn't easy - being a preacher's wife, having three children, and going to college. Their son, Eugene, is studying at this time to follow his father into the ministry.

We had many fine revivals during Mr. Tyson's years here. He was succeeded by Reverend Ben Musser who served until June, 1965. He was a good man, too. He and his wife, Hattie, had two small boys. It was during his time here that the second groundbreaking ceremony was held; this one for the Sanctuary!

This second groundbreaking represented the dream of nine years - finally realized! It had been a nine-year struggle; but in retrospect, it was a happy time. Struggling together to get the Educational Building paid for in order to start the Sanctuary and buy the parsonage made the congregation a close group.

The Reverend Jack Page, District Superintendent, delivered the Sunday Morning Worship Service on January 5, 1964. Then, he later led in the groundbreaking ceremony. The officials of the church who also participated were Reverend Ben Musser; J. Doak Worsley, Church School Superintendent; Mrs. J.C. Barnes, Jr., President of the Woman's Society; Leroy Jackson, Chairman of the Building Committee; Mr. J.L. Mears, President of the Men's Club; R.M. Bun, Church Lay Leader; C.G. Self, Chairman of the Board of Trustees; B.M. Dixon, Chairman, Official Board; and Jimmy Worsley, President of MYF. (Note father and son in same group.)

Bishop Garber was unable to be present, but he sent a message which was read aloud by Reverend Ben Musser. "I am proud of the Englewood Methodist Church and of having been present eight years ago at the first



groundbreaking ceremony held March 27, 1956, for the Fellowship Hall. I give my congratulations and best wishes upon beginning construction of the beautiful new Sanctuary. I regret I cannot be present for the service".

At that time, the membership was 373.

On December 20, 1964, not quite one year from the day of the groundbreaking, the first service was held in the new Sanctuary! Bishop Paul Garber delivered the sermon. Also participating in that first service were District Superintendent, Jack Page, and the Reverend Dewey Tyson, former pastor, and Reverend Ben Musser, the present pastor.

The new Sanctuary has architectural features of modern design, matching the Educational Building. There are stained wood paneling and inside brick walls. Pink and blue stained glass feature a cross design in the windows, and a huge wooden cross dominates the chancel area. Indirect lighting adds a glow to the interior with spotlights emphasizing the form of a cross. There is a wide center aisle and two side aisles. Carpeting covers the entire floor and chancel areas. Pews, pulpit, altar, kneeling rail, and choir rails are made of stained elm. The contractor was Isaac Smith whose entire family belonged to Englewood Methodist Church. They have all been a real blessing!

QUOTE FROM REVEREND BEN MUSSER: "the very existence of this new Sanctuary for the high purpose of worship of Almighty God along with whatever progress has been made in the work of Englewood Methodist Church can be attributed in the largest measure to the dedication, cooperation and enthusiasm within the membership of the congregation and the assistance and cooperation of our District Superintendent, the Reverend Jack Page, and our Conference and National Board of Missions of the Methodist Church. As we look upon this lovely Sanctuary, I would like to think that it represents an inward and spiritual strength and grace which resides in the hearts and minds of

the people of this church and community. I am sure it is the prayer of many that this church might truly be a center of Christian fellowship and hope for men of goodwill, and that we shall join with people of all faiths in seeking to build a better community and world for ourselves, our children, and all mankind".

FROM DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT JACK PAGE: "Only a few years ago, a number of interested Methodist men and women became deeply concerned about starting a Methodist Church in the new Englewood area of Rocky Mount. This devoted group of loyal men and women began to hold services in one of the dining rooms of Overton's Restaurant. The enthusiasm of this company was high, and as time passed, many new members were added. With love, work and sacrificial effort, a building site was procured and the first unit of this church - the Fellowship Hall and Educational Building - was erected. The N.C. Conference, through its Board of Missions and the Ten Dollar Club, gave \$15,000.00 to help this new and growing church. With this kind of help and encouragement from the Conference, the good people of Englewood intensified their efforts; and, Sunday, December 20, 1964, they enter their new Sanctuary for the formal Opening Service of Worship. Bishop Paul N. Garber will be present for the services and will bring the message of the hour. This is one of nearly one hundred new churches that have been started under the dynamic leadership of Bishop Garber.

As District Superintendent of the Rocky Mount District, I am very pleased to have a part in the opening service. The credit for this lovely new sanctuary must go to the good people of the church and to the Pastor, Reverend Ben Musser. I congratulate you on your wonderful record, and I challenge you to the future which is rich with promise for a great service to our Lord and to the good people of this area of Rocky Mount." QUOTE FROM LEROY

**JACKSON, CHAIRMAN OF BUILDING COMMITTEE:** "The challenge was to plan a new sanctuary (1) to serve as a community spiritual center for the Englewood area, (2) to represent the wishes for the congregation, (3) to satisfy the needs of the present congregation as well as future generations, and (4) to stay within a reasonable budget based on actual stewardship history of the present congregation." Jackson said, "to determine our needs now and for the years to come, we studied the growth history of the Englewood area. Consideration was also given to the population increase we expect over the next few years. The Building Committee visited other churches to learn more about the latest methods of construction and the most useful floor plan arrangements.

After the architect was hired, we went to work to turn these dreams into actual plans for a building that any community would be proud to have a chance to share. It is our hope and prayer that this sanctuary will become a center of Christian growth for this area, and that its influence will help other churches to be established!"

**QUOTE FROM D.O. SPIER, WHO WAS DISTRICT LAY LEADER AT THAT TIME:**

"The Rocky Mount District of Lay Activities is proud of the contribution of the Englewood Methodist Church to the overall program of the District and the Conference. Englewood Men's Club has actively participated in these broader fields as well as in local activities. It has provided leadership and inspiration to similar organizations throughout the Conference. The Church itself, in its comparatively short history, has provided a District Lay Leader and several Associate Lay Leaders. But the biggest contribution of the Englewood Methodist Church is the vitality and the dedication of its members. They prove to all the joy to be found in worshipping and working for our Lord."

When the sanctuary was being completed, and cash was getting scarce, the members were invited to purchase

memorials in the form of necessary furnishings. And, as always, the congregation came through. The following is a list of the memorials, which are also listed in the bronze book on the wall in the Narthex. The bronze book was given by Dr. Robert M. Whitley, Jr., in memory of his father, Robert M. Whitley, Sr.

Pulpit - Mrs. Wiley Clay  
 Communion Table - J.L. Mears  
 Baptismal Font - Mrs. Perry Bryant  
 Flower Stands - Floyd Scott  
 Communion and  
 Choir Rails - Men's Club  
 Chair - Miss Josephine Grant  
 Chair - Mrs. Donna Lea

Stained Glass - William H. Dove  
 C.C. Williams  
 Holt Felmet  
 Dr. R.M. Whitley  
 J.C. Barnes, Jr.  
 Young Adult Class

**Pews:**

1. J.J. Andrews
2. L.A. Bailey
3. L.A. Bailey
4. Mrs. Roger Batchelor
5. Henry Bell & Maggie Mason
6. John Bobbitt
7. William Bobbitt
8. Lee Chapman
9. Fred Combs
10. R.E. Currin
11. Ambler Davis
12. Leroy Davis
13. Hazel Davis
14. B.M. Dixon
15. L.H. Felmet
16. Mrs. K.C. Forrey
17. Dr. H.B. Grant
18. Paul and Ruth Haskins
19. William Hinshaw
20. William Hinshaw
21. Leroy Jackson
22. Sarah Langley
23. R.L. Mears
24. Robert Miller
25. M.E. and M.L. Morgan
26. Doug Myers
27. Doug Myers
28. Emory Rawlings



29. R. Teel Rawls
30. H.C. Roberts
31. Ralph Sheppherd
32. Isaac Smith
33. W.L. Staples
34. Jack P. Thomas
35. Dan Vaughan
36. Dr. R.M. Whitley
37. Dr. R.M. Whitley
38. B.A. Wilson
39. B.A. Wilson
40. Woodrow Wright

The addition of the sanctuary provided 6,000 square feet of floor space at a cost in excess of \$114,000.00.

The Reverend A.F. McClung served as Pastor from June, 1965, until June, 1966. He was succeeded by the Reverend Reginald Ponder who was here until June, 1970. They were good men, and they get back to Rocky Mount on occasion.

#### **COMPARE THE FOLLOWING!**

- The Budget for 1955-56 was \$4,377.50 (Church's First Year).
- The Budget for 1969-70, was \$45,300.00 plus a \$10,000.00 building fund (15th year).
- Church membership as of June 1, 1969 was 740.
- Sunday School membership as of June 1, 1969, was 545.

#### **OTHERS USES AND ENJOY THE FACILITIES:**

The physical facilities of Englewood Methodist Church have certainly proved to be a blessing to the town and to the community. Many groups have used, and do use, the buildings. The Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Brownies, Cub Scouts, Englewood Garden Club, Alcoholics Anonymous, our own Woman's Society, our own Men's Club, our own Choirs, the Conway Diet group, the Sub-Debs, Pilot Club luncheons; Nash-Rocky Mount Medical Auxiliary, and there is a kindergarten every day in the Church.

#### **MISSIONARY:**

The Church has helped support a Missinary over these years, the Reverend George Megill, in Brazil.

There is a letter in the scrapbook from Reverend Megill, and also a picture of him and his family. Please be sure to use and enjoy the scrapbook!

#### **ASSETS:**

A few years after the church started, a small building on Forest Hill Avenue became for sale. It had belonged to the Home Demonstration Club, and this was their meeting place. Englewood Methodist Church decided to purchase it for the use of the Boy Scouts. To the best of my memory, the price was \$5,000.00. The value has escalated considerably, and is now valued at \$21,000.00.

The Educational Building and all furnishings, plus the Sanctuary and all furnishings are valued at a total of \$707,000.00.

The Parsonage, including furnishings, is valued at \$64,500.00.

Total Assets: \$792,500.00 (There are still mortgages to be paid on Church Buildings).

Reverend Norwood Jones came in 1970 for four years. Things began to slow down in the area during those years, which had nothing whatsoever to do with Mr. Jones. There were many families who moved away that time. And the congregation had worked so long and hard to get the buildings done and things organized that they just simply stopped to rest! People joined with us, however, and we didn't do too badly! Mr. Jones excelled in his visitation programs, and it was because of him that we did as well as we did.

Budget in 1973 was \$62,000.00.

Church Membership was 842.

In 1974, Reverend Ralph Epps came to Englewood Methodist Church. Membership was at its greatest at that time. It was decided during his five years here that the membership rolls should be gone over, and many names were deleted. There had been many unreported deaths, etc., and though the number was great, it did not give a true picture. He visited a great deal, and is a good and dedicated man. It was he who planned and promoted the Homecoming



of May 27, 1979, which was also the day that the Memorial Library was dedicated.

### **THE ELIZABETH APPLEWHITE GRANT MEMORIAL LIBRARY:**

The Library in the Educational Building was a temporary Pastor's Study until the Sanctuary was completed. It was decided some time after to turn the library into a Memorial for Mrs. H. Boone Grant (Elizabeth Applewhite Grant) who died on February 17, 1978. She was a Charter Member of Englewood Methodist Church, and was instrumental in every phase of the Church. She taught Sunday School, and she sang in the Church Choir, and was an officer almost continually in the Woman's Society. She did menial things as well - from helping cook meals to helping clean and scrub the building. She was altogether a dear, sweet and charming lady. She was the mother of five children - Henry, Betty, Adrianna, Ann and James.

The Library in her memory was dedicated on May 27, 1979, which was also the day of Homecoming. Her son, Henry, who is studying to become a Minister, delivered the sermon that day. Donations of money or books suitable for a church library have been made to honor the memory of other loved ones by individuals. There are pictures of the Homecoming and things about the Dedication in the Church Scrapbook.

Henry, eldest son of Dr. H. Boone Grant and Eliabeth Applewhite Grant, is the only "church son" to go into the ministry from this Church. He taught school for several years before taking this step. He is married to the former Miss Georgia Lynn Barnes, also of Englewood Methodist Church. Mr. Ralph Epps, assisted by Henry's uncle, Reverend Nicolas Grant, married Henry and Georgia in 1975. They are the parents of two little boys, John Boone and James Applewhite Grant. His church is Union Grove United Methodist, Hillsborough, RFD.

### **ABOUT THE ENGLEWOOD METHODIST SCHOLARSHIP FUND:**

The Herman Edgerton Allen Scholarship Fund was established by friends and relatives of Eddie Allen upon his death on October 19, 1971. Mr. Allen was a young member of Englewood Methodist Church who, at the age of 25, died of a malignant brain tumor. He and his wife, Barbara, joined this church in 1969. His parents were Mr. and Mrs. Herman Allen.

The first scholarship was given to Mr. William Smith, then a student at Rocky Mount Senior High. He attended Appalachian State University for four years, and is now an outstanding art teacher at Edwards Junior High, and has been named "Rocky Mount Teacher of the Year". He has had several showings of his art work and has received numerous awards.

The Eddie Allen Scholarship has now been expanded to the Englewood United Methodist Church Scholarship so that others could honor special persons through this fund.

The second recipient through this fund was Brandon Boone McGee. He is presently attending Appalachian State University.

A Scholarship Committee was formed in 1972 consisting of Mrs. Allen (who is now Mrs. Barbara Batts), Joyce Colewell, Jimmy Armstrong, and Ruth Jones. They established the qualifications - which are: financial need, a "B" average, active in church, community and school; outstanding character, and be any Senior High in the Nash County area. The amount of each scholarship \$800.00, given at \$200.00 intervals at the beginning of the school term - providing the recipient maintains his status in college.

The future of the scholarship is uncertain. There need to be more contributions if more scholarships are to be given.

There are now 789 Church Members, as of this date, March 30, 1980. The budget for 1980 is \$92,483.00. There are 325 on Sunday School rolls.



Steve High is Superintendent of the  
Sunday School now.

Education Area Chairperson -  
Barbara Batts

Coordinator of Childrens' Work -  
Gail Jenkins

Coordinators of Youth Work -  
Jasper & Lucie Allen

Coordinator of Adult Work -  
Tim Smith

Coordinators of Family Life -  
Lawrence & Jeannie Gibbs

NOTE: We are trying to get pictures  
(preferably about 3x5 or 5x7) of all  
Pastors of Englewood Methodist  
Church for our scrapbook. We still need  
one or two, and will accept any size if you  
happen to have one you will share with  
us.

#### **A MEMORIAL:**

It was a shock to realize how many  
young people we have lost through death  
in the twenty-five years since  
Englewood Methodist Church was  
chartered. We have a page dedicated to  
their memory in the scrapbook. They  
would never be forgotten whether we  
have a page to their memory or not, but

because we love them, we have done this.

And so ends the very brief history of  
Englewood United Methodist Church!  
Naturally, there is more left out than is  
included. But an effort was made to get  
the highlights. Many names appear in  
the history and in the scrapbook; but  
more do not. Those whose names do not  
appear were the most important  
members, and there would have been no  
church without them. There were those  
who were not President or Director or  
Leader, but they did the work! And we  
know who they were. They may have  
been a secretary or a committee  
member or a telephone caller or an  
errand-runner. All were vital, and all  
were indispensable and all appreciated.

And I'd like to say 'thank you' to all  
who gave me pictures and information  
for the history and the scrapbook. There  
would have been neither without you! It  
has been a challenge and hard work -  
but a pleasure, too. Please take time to  
look at the scrapbook.

Mrs. J.C. (Barbara) Barnes, Jr.  
Historian