

HISTORY OF JONES CHAPEL METHODIST CHURCH

From old records and knowledge gained from older members of Jones Chapel Church, we have found it was first built prior to 1875. The land was given by Martin Jones on which the first old log building was built. He was a relative of Martha Clark, wife of George Smith, the late postmaster of Cumnock, N.C. Martin Jones was a devoted and loyal member of the community. He gave much of his time and service in the work of the church. He was one of the men who helped to build the old log church which stood about 400 yards North East of the present Church building. Jones Chapel was named in honor of Martin Jones. Records show that on Sept. 1, 1875 land was given to the church by Tavener Clark. Trustees at this time were: John A. Pattishall, Wright Pattishall, Calvin Watson, M.F. Harrington, William McAuley, Bennett Burns and John R. Pattishall. This tract of land contained one and one half acres, on which now stands the present church building. At this time this property was in Chatham County.

In 1881 Wesley Alston Wicker and W.T. Pattishall would ride horseback to Poplar Springs on Sunday morning and come back with Rev. Phillips who would preach at Jones Chapel at the old log church. The old log church was used as a school house after the new church was built. Later the log church was used as a workshop by Mr. Bennett Burns, who was the noted neighborhood blacksmith and horse shoer.

On the 20th day of July, 1894, Tavener Clark sold more land to the Trustees of Jones Chapel Church, Trustees at this time being: C.H. Culver, H.A. Bridges, W.T. Pattishall, J.W. Goldston and Wright Pattisahl. This land contained 1-1/16 acres at the cost of \$4.00.

The new church was built in 1895 - 6 by Jim Womble of near Bear Creek and Goldston. Helping in the work were W.A. Wicker, W.T. Pattishall, Minter A. Johnson, Jim Covert, Robert Lee Johnson, Horace Bridges, John Rhodes Pattishall and "White Head" Tom Wicker.

Frank Smith put large rocks under the church for pillars. Building instructions were given by E.M. Culver, a man from Pennsylvania who married Emily Pattishall.

John Als Pattishall, Wright Pattishall, W.A. Wicker, Charles Riddle, Jim Covert gave hand made shingles for the cover. Much time and labor was spent by the devout men of the community as money was very scarce at this time. . . Value of the church at this time was \$600.00.

The oldest record showing a member received by certificate was David Godfrey, August, 1888 and he died August 15th, 1901. Pastor A.J. Groves at this time. John A. Goldston taken by vows in 1897 - pastor A.J. Groves. Stanford Womble - baptism October, 1897 - pastor A.J. Groves, Lora E. Wicker by baptism June, 1898 - pastor A.J. Groves. Vivian McLean by baptism September, 1898 - pastor A.J. Groves. Emery Hurley by order of church 1904 - pastor unknown. Might have S.T. Moyle. Decie McNeill by vows August 30, 1907 - pastor Charles O. Durant.

The first church conference of Jones Chapel Church, Fayetteville District, North Carolina Conference of Methodist Episcopal South convened on January 9, 1904 - pastor S. T. Moyle, Secretary elected C.H. Culver. At this conference of Jan. 9, 1904 the record show by C.H. Culver that the assessment for the year was \$85.00.

In recent years progress has been made with additions of Sunday School rooms added in back of the old church and a wing on the left of the church building. More land was given for use as extra cemetery space by Mr. & Mrs. E.D. Smith on May, 1, 1957. This land was purchased by the E.D. Smith from Rob Smith and contained about 1-1/2 acres. Land for a new Education Building site was donated by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Riddle on June 15, 1959. A new building was erected through the efforts of the young people of the church and a great deal of work done by the adults also. The Methodist Youth Fellowship of Jones Chapel Church was under the supervision of Toddy Johnson, adult counselor at this time.

Purchased on August 23, 1963 was another plot of land, about 1-1/10 acres from Mrs. Catherine Smith, wife of the late J. Rob Smith.

A new parsonage was built for the four churches on the Moncure Charge, Buckhorn, Mt. Zion, Jones Chapel and Moncure.

At the close of the 1972-1973 Church Year, May 31, 1973, it was decided that the time had come to divide the charge. It was a reality that people had a desire for a pastor who could work more directly with each individual church. So June 1973 began a new Moncure Charge with Moncure and Buckhorn, Mt. Zion was placed with a church in Pittsboro and Jones Chapel decided to go on a one point. Rev. Orville E. Leonard and wife Mildred came this year.

Again this year we have enjoyed our homecoming and Children's Day which is traditionally held on the Fourth Sunday in July.

We now have again organized a Methodist Youth Fellowship, Men's Brotherhood and have a very active Methodist Women.

Our choir is under the direction of Harold Stell with our new pastor's wife bringing to us her talent in music and her Hammond Organ. We are enjoying progress in all departments.

