

MT. ZION METHODIST CHURCH  
AND  
HER PEOPLE  
1809 - 1978

(With Traditional Incidents)

Merdyth McCullers Lane (Mrs. George W. Jr.)

VOLUME II

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1809-1978

(With Traditional Incidents)

by

Merdyth McCullers Lane (Mrs. George W., Jr.)  
Historian and Custodian of Church Records

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Typist

VOLUME II

Rev. W.M. Jeffries, Present Pastor  
Rev. W.B. Petteway, Present District Superintendent  
Rev. R.M. Blackburn, Present Bishop

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## THE DEDICATION

This second volume of The Mount Zion Church History, as was the first, is dedicated to the Glory of God and to the honor and memory of the Mount Zion people who have labored in the Lord's work in the past, to those who labor in the present, and to those who will labor for countless generations to come.

The Author

"I have hallowed this house which Thou hast built, to put my name there forever; and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually."

(I Kings 9:3)

"For the Lord hath chosen Zion; He hath desired it for His habitation."

(Psalm 132:13)

## PROLOGUE

As we say in the Latin tongue, which we call our "mother tongue", "tempus fugit" (time flies). Yesterday is history; just as is true of almost two hundred years ago when God led John T. Leach and wife, Susan Parham Leach, with the help of many friends to establish Mt. Zion Church where it stands today. So, again, with the continuing help of God and of many Mt. Zion members and friends I will record many historical items of the past decade or so.

Of course, there have been found historical records of interest of about a hundred years ago which were not discovered and recorded in Volume I. Those found are recorded here in Volume II. Should others be obtained in the years to come, I trust that they will be recorded in future histories of Mt. Zion.

There have also been noted several errors in Volume I which will be rectified in this volume. I hope that I have been notified of all mistakes found. These mistakes were in error of copying, of knowledge, or lapse of memory. Also, one Court Record found in error is of mistaken generation.

I thank each one who has helped with this volume, especially Clara Raynor, my typist.

"We are compassed about by so great a crowd of witnesses,  
Let us run with patience the race that is set before us."

Hebrews 12:1



## PRAYER

“Tis not to those who stand erect,  
Or those who bend the knee,  
It is to those who bow the heart  
The Lord will gracious be;  
It is the posture of the soul  
That pleases or offends;  
If it be not in God’s sight right  
Naught else can make amends.”

unknown

## A TRIBUTE TO



Merdyth McCullers Lane

Our love and gratitude go to "Miss Merdyth" who gives herself to enrich the lives of others. She is our constant friend, our dedicated counselor, our faithful teacher, and adds a *touch of glory* to our lives. Along with the records she keeps of our Christian heritage for perpetuity, the influence of her life will always remain with us as a memorable afterglow.

Mt. Zion United Methodist Church Membership

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Merdyth McCullers Lane, daughter of the late William Edward and Leute Willis McCullers, was born in Johnston County on April 9, 1903.

She acquired the rudiments of "reading, 'riting, and 'rithmetic" at "Oakynook" private school located on the family farm, Panther Branch township, Wake County, North Carolina. Her present home includes this special one-room school house with slight alterations as her living room. She entered the tenth grade at Garner High School and upon leaving high school, she entered Woman's College at Greensboro (now University of North Carolina at Greensboro). After earning her B.S. degree, she for many years, taught Home Economics and other subjects in the North Carolina Public School system.

On July 21, 1936, she was married to the late George W. Lane, Jr.; and of this union, there were no children. However, she has many "adopted" children who love and respect her far more than can be expressed.

For sixty-five years she has lived a life dedicated to the glory of God. With devotion, dignity, and loyalty she has served her Master, her Church and her community. Having participated in all areas of work in the United Methodist Church, she continues to be active in all phases of the program of work in Mt. Zion United Methodist Church and its community where she has resided and continues to live a full and purposeful life.

Due to the author's modest approach in writing this volume and Volume I, her immense impact in our church life is not fully recorded.

(Compiled by order of the Administrative Board)

## MT. ZION

### A Dedication Hymn

"Oh Lord of Host, vouchsafe this day  
To look in tender mercy down,  
Accept this offering while we pray,  
And bless this temple for thine own.  
Christ is our pillar, rock and shield  
Our strong deliverer and our guide;  
Oh may our hearts rich incense yield;  
And peace and love with us abide.

"Here in this house Thy presence live  
Thy sacred love and truth and grace,  
Thy 'peace the world can never give',  
Dwell in this consecrated place.  
May all Thy saints that worship here  
Be filled with heavenly zeal and grace;  
And wisdom, truth and Godly fear  
Win heaven at last, their resting place.

"May sinners here Thy work receive  
Thy quickening power their hearts renew,  
'Till all by grace through faith believe--  
And sin and death and hell subdue.  
Come Holy Spirit, heavenly dove,  
With consecrating power enshrine,  
Accept this Temple of our love,  
Accept and crown it ever Thine."

Sarah McCullers Steadman - Ca 1885



Mt. Zion Church.



# HISTORICAL STATEMENT

## Some Characteristics of the Early Christian Church

Paul's conviction regarding the Early Christian Church was that the true descendants of Abraham -- the true Israel -- were not those who could trace their physical descent from Abraham, but those who had made the same venture of faith as Abraham had made. The true Israel, and the true Church, were not composed of any nation or race; it was composed of those who accepted Jesus Christ **in faith**. This constitutes the conception and membership of the Christian Church. One of the first things the Christian Church stressed was the idea that no man is useless--that every man is of use to God. The fact that each person was important and needed was stressed; in short, individuality was of prime importance. In the Early Christian Church there were no class distinctions, so to speak, each man was on the same "footing".

The Early Christian Church emphasized the fact that the Christian had a joy that no other man could express, and this belief has also been handed down to us through the years. The first question in the Catechism is, "What is man's chief end?", and the answer, of course, is "Man's chief end is to glorify God and **enjoy Him forever**".

The Early Church also demonstrated that no man was worthless because Christ died for all men.

The Early Church was:

**A Singing Church:** In Paul's description of the meeting of the Church at Corinth, we find singing as an integral part of the Church fellowship. They were well-versed in the singing of David's Psalms. Since the Fall of Jerusalem in AD 70, in the Orthodox Jewish Synagogue there has been no music for when they worship, they remember a tragedy. But in the Christian Church, from the beginning until this date, there have been songs of praise; for the Christian remembers an infinite love.

**A Healing Church:** The Early Church had a code which laid down the law that each congregation must appoint at least one widow to take care of women and children who were sick. (A present day example of this is the importance which the Mormon Church places on such matters).

**A Praying Church:** They knew that the proper preparation of their thoughts and prayers, which were numerous, gave the proper emphasis to their actions.

**An Unselfish Church:** The Early Christian Church taught its members that to live selfishly was "to pierce Christ again", and that to cultivate selfish and evil desires was not only the downfall of the Christian himself, but was the downfall of the whole Church, as well.

Development in the Church has been based on an early established fact: without right relationships between man and man, righteousness cannot exist, and all man's striving for righteousness is rendered ineffective and without reward.

The Early Christians knew, as you and I know, that it is man who **proposes**, but it is **God who disposes**, for the future is in the hands of God. Knowing these things, the mission of the Early Christians was, as ours should be, to create a right relationship first with God and then with our fellowman.

Barbara Taylor Ennis

July 1977

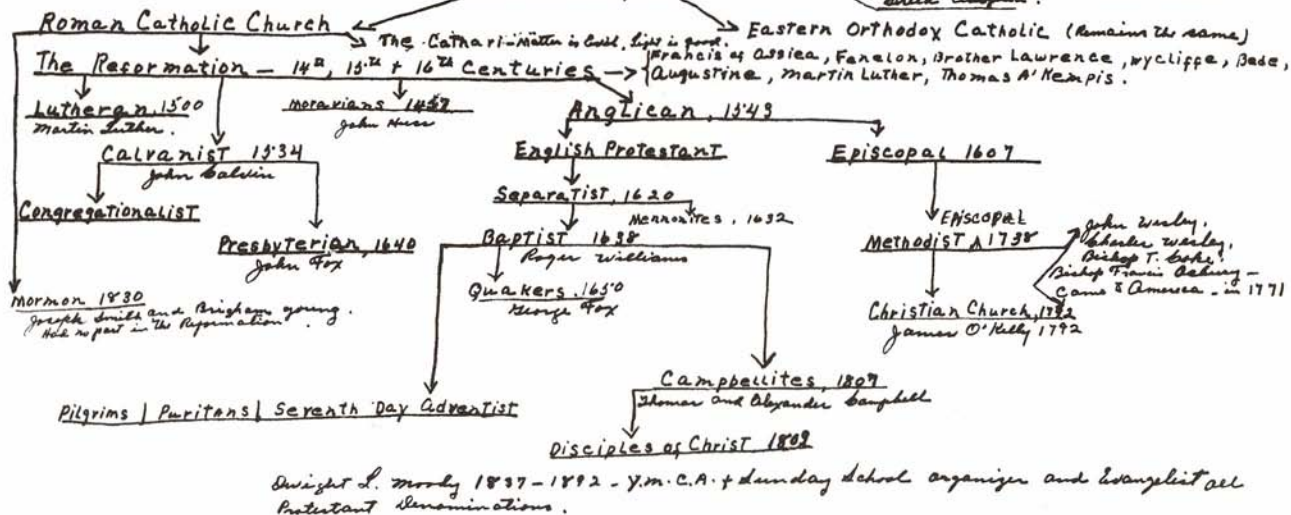
# CHRISTIANITY

The Disciples were called Christians first at Antioch - 40 years after Jesus ascended into Heaven.

Historic Catholic Church - (The Universal Church). 1st. world wide Ecumenical Meeting - 325 A.D.

The Council of Nicaea called by Constantine the Great. The Nicene Creed adopted.

1054 A.D. Split



Present Ecumenical Movement (World Council of Churches) 1910 - 1978

Many other denominations established from these since middle 1400s.



## MUSINGS OF MT. ZION

On one occasion when Jesus was relating a parable to His disciples, He said:

"This was the Lord's doing and it is marvelous in Our eyes."

Mark 12:11

Now that we have reached almost two centuries of Mt. Zion's service to God and the community, we too can say as did Jesus, "This is the Lord's work and it is marvelous in our eyes". It is truly amazing to remember the blessings of the past which inspire us to build for today and for the future.

We are told that "God works in mysterious ways His wonders to perform", and so it was with the establishing of our Mt. Zion.

When He was ready for a Methodist Church to be constructed in the north-western part of Johnston County, He led one of the young men of the community, who had settled here in the early 1800's, to fall in love with a Virginia lass from a Methodist family. He brought her home to this "wilderness community" and to satisfy her longing for her little Methodist "Meeting House" in Virginia, he set aside two acres of his plantation and built a little Church to the Glory of God and for her worship center. John T. Leach and wife, Susan Parham Leach, with the inspiration from God and help of friends named the Church for God's Holy Mount, "Mt. Zion". Our Church has continued to prosper in the Lord's work for untold years. As in the past, may Her people continue to serve in the leadership of the community to the Glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and to minister to those who need our love and encouragement.

There has been much joy and many blessings at Mt. Zion during the past years. We must follow Jesus' admonition to us, "To show what great things God has done for us". Luke 8:39

It is now time to begin again in recording the achievements of the people of Mt. Zion. These achievements are noted in the accomplishments of our organizations of which we have many; namely, the United Methodist Women, the United Methodist Men, the United Methodist Youth Fellowship, the Junior and Senior Choirs, the Boy Scouts, Sunday School, and, of course, the Administrative Body composed of the many committees which are drawn up by the North Carolina Conference.

We have been blest with the leadership of able pastors to inspire us on to success as well as that of our Sunday School Superintendents, Committee Chairmen, Sunday School Teachers, Choir Leaders, Musicians, and each working member of the Church.

We have planted many beautiful shrubs and flowers in God's Garden, which includes the entire Mt. Zion acreage, and hope to keep on with this beautifying of our Church grounds. "All things bright and beautiful, the Lord God made them all."

The Bicentennial of the Carolina Methodist Circuit was celebrated at Duke University in 1976 which brought much joy and thankfulness to those who could attend. "The best drivers keep a close watch in the rearview mirror", we are told; so, a true knowledge of the past helps us to plan better for the future.

Included in the 1977 Smithfield Bicentennial record of the Johnston County Churches as reported in the Smithfield Herald by Editor Tom J. Lassiter on April 26, 1977, we find this account of Mt. Zion:

"The oldest Methodist Church in the County - Mt. Zion in western Johnston, founded in 1809 - owes its origin to the Leaches of Leachburg Plantation."

We are thankful and proud that our Church has continued in the work of our Lord for so many years.



Christmas 1974 - Mt. Zion in the snow.

"Only fear the Lord,  
And serve Him in truth,  
With all your heart;  
for consider what great things  
He hath done for you."  
I Samuel 12:24

And from Psalms 48, Verse 2:

"Beautiful for situation,  
The joy of the whole earth,  
Is Mt. Zion - - -."

May we ever strive to reach this situation and joy.



## EARLY HISTORICAL ITEMS OF VALUE AND INTEREST

"Remove not the ancient landmark,  
Which Thy Fathers have set."  
Proverbs 22:28

Bits and pieces of very interesting references to Mt. Zion Church have been unearthed since Volume I was completed in 1966. So, again comes to mind the poem by G.H. Holland:

"Heaven is not reached by a single bound,  
But we build the ladder by which we rise  
From the lowly earth to the vaulted skies,  
And we mount to its summit, round by round."

One of these items is concerning a Masonic Lodge Meeting held near Mt. Zion in May 1873. The meeting was called to pay last tribute to Dr. John Sanders Leach who had died in January 1873. This meeting was held at the home of his father, Dr. James T. Leach. The forty members who were present were formed in "regular procession and marched to Mt. Zion Church, one-half mile away, where Rev. W.H. Bobbit of the Conference of North Carolina preached an able and interesting discourse". (The Rev. Mr. Bobbit was the Mt. Zion Pastor.)

The above recorded memorial service took place a hundred and six years ago and the account of this event was found in the Old Masonic Minute Book of 1870 - 1876. Mr. C.S. Coats reported this in a 1974 Smithfield Herald.

Another item of importance and interest was found in an 1887 copy of the Smithfield Herald concerning the "Johnston County S.S. Society". It is copied verbatim as follows:

"At the regular semi-annual meeting of the Johnston County Sunday School Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, held at Mt. Zion Church, October 29th and 30th, 1887, the following resolution was adopted: Resolved, 'that a copy of the minutes of this Conference be furnished to the Raleigh Christian Advocate and Smithfield Herald for publication.' In compliance with the above, I respectfully transmit the following:

"Conference called to order by Vice-President G.A. Turner. Music - 'Father While We Come To Thee'. Prayer by the President. C.E. McCullers appointed Secretary Pro Tem. The roll of delegates being called, it was found that there was not a quorum. On motion of J.M. Turner, the Brethern present resolved themselves into a Sunday School Conference. On motion, the Chair appointed Brothers J.M. Turner, B.W. Young, and C.E. McCullers a Committee on Programme. On motion, the Chair appointed Brothers A.D. Taylor and J.M. Turner to assign homes to delegates. On motion, Conference adjourned for one hour.

"Afternoon session opened with prayer by Brother A.D. Taylor, The Chair announced that there being only three schools represented owing to the inclemency of the weather that the receiving and reading of reports would be dispensed with, and the discussion of queries would be in order. On motion, the query, 'Is The True Spirit of Liberality Sufficiently Inculcated in Our

Sunday Schools?' was taken up and discussed at some length by Brothers Young, J.M. Turner, and A.D. Taylor after which the Chair made some very interesting and instructive remarks. On motion of Brother Turner, the subject was laid over for further discussion. On motion, Conference adjourned to meet at ten o'clock Sunday morning, October 30th, 1887.

"Conference convened pursuant to adjournment; President, G.A. Turner, in the Chair. Music - 'O, Worship the Lord'. Prayer by Rev. E. Pope, of Newton Grove Mission. Roll of schools called. Eight officers and delegates responded. On motion, the Chair appointed a committee of three on credentials and to receive reports. Only three schools reported. Query, 'Does the Subject of Missions Receive Proper Attention in Our Sunday Schools?' being called, elicited real soul stirring speeches by Brethren B.W. Young, Rev. E. Pope and A.D. Taylor which resulted in the adoption of the following resolution:

"Resolved, that the importance of missions receive greater emphasis and the Secretary of this Conference be instructed to procure from our Publishing House in Nashville, Tenn., leaflets and pamphlets upon this subject to supply this Conference."

"Corinth, on the Clayton Circuit, was elected as the place for holding the next Conference; fifth Sunday and Saturday before in April 1888. On motion, the Secretary was instructed to transmit reports from schools to the President of the Conference and suggest the importance of calling a meeting of the Conference on the fifth Sunday in January to elect officers for the ensuing year. On motion of B.W. Young, Conference adjourned with Long Meter Doxology and prayer.

G.A. Turner, President

C.E. McCullers, Sec'y Pro Tem"



Charles Edward McCullers.  
1844 - 1914

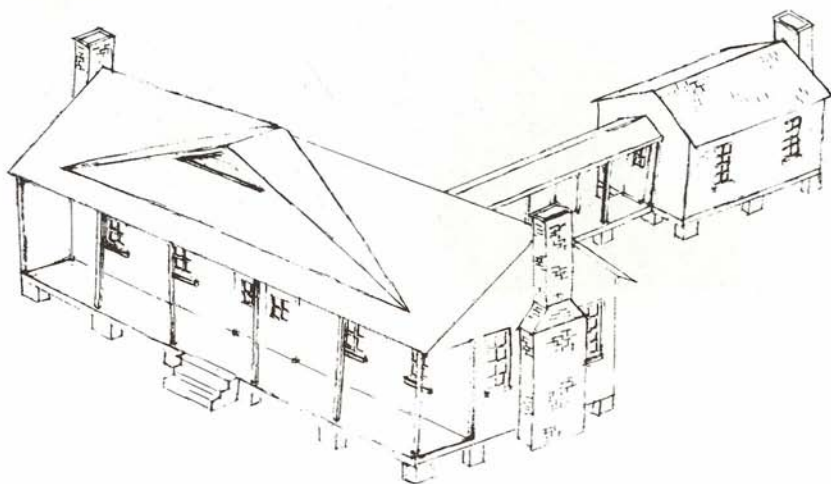


Alfred Dickerson Taylor.  
1843 - 1930

An article was found concerning the old Johnston Academy at Mt. Zion which was often called the "Mt. Zion Academy". This school was established prior to the Civil War and was built on land donated by Dr. James T. Leach just north of the Church. (This information was recorded in 1889 by Superintendent of Johnston County Schools, Mr. Mebane, in his "Historical Account



of the Academies in Johnston County Prior to the Civil War".) The newly found news article concerning the Academy was written by W.M. Sanders in 1924. Mr. Sanders states in the article that he, as a youth of sixteen years in 1875, lived in the home of Dr. James T. Leach, whom he considered an "exampler" of all men, and attended the Mt. Zion Academy. He also states, "An old lady by the name of Johnson endowed the Academy". This fund evidently helped deserving students to attend the Academy as did the Susan Leach Parrish Scholarship Fund as recorded in Volume I.



**JOHNSTON ACADEMY**  
"Called Mt. Zion Academy"

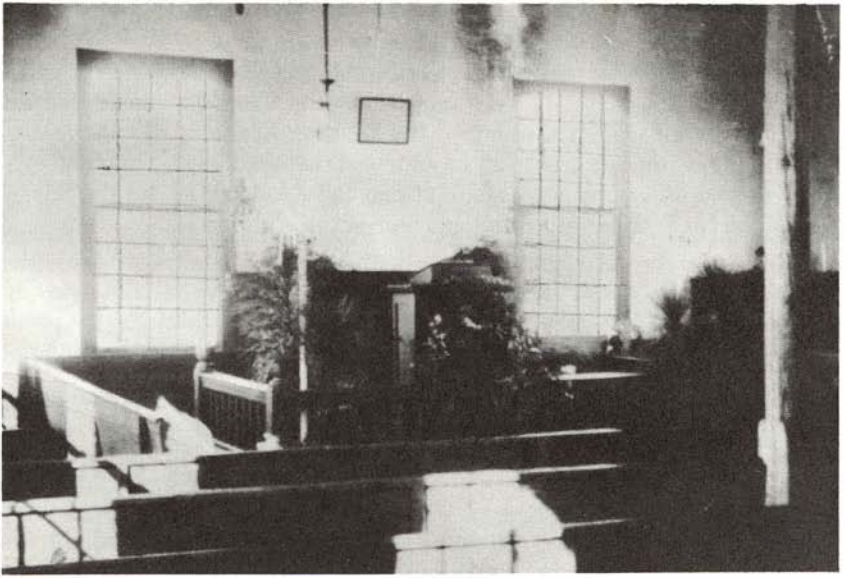
From description by Floy J. Leach: Sketched by W. A. Sherratt.

The old "Mt. Zion Academy" was torn down and the Mt. Zion Free School was built on the same site in 1910.

Mr. W.M. Sanders also relates his joy in attending Mt. Zion Methodist Church as well as attending Elizabeth Methodist, Oakland Presbyterian, and Shiloh Baptist Churches. He states, "Mt. Zion held services on first Sunday, Shiloh held services on second Sunday, Elizabeth held services on third Sunday, and Oakland held hers on fourth Sunday"; and then he added, "So, if the people were not quite so good as they should have been, it was not for the lack of good preaching".

I will add to Mr. Sanders' record that the schedule for services at Mt. Zion and our neighboring churches, Shiloh, Elizabeth, and Oakland, was the same when I was a small child, seventy years ago. And to me it was also a joy to gather with our neighbors at their respective churches and to join them in praise and thanksgiving to Our Lord.

There was also a small one-room school house across the road, west of the Church, in which the younger children were taught the three R's - "Reading, Riting, and Rithmetic" (the Grammar Grades) before entering the Academy. There has recently been found the record of a deed for the land on



Interior of old Church.

which this school was built. It was drawn by Miss Claudia Leach in the late 1800's, deeding the land on which the school was standing to Johnston County. (Record of Deeds Books W-10, Pg. 164, and X-7, Pg. 521) This small building was standing as late as the middle 1930's.

We, too, with God's help are privileged to "leave footprints on the sands of time" as penned by Longfellow.

Only One Life

We have only one life to live,  
Only this day our help to give,  
Only this moment our Lord to love,  
Only this time to look above,  
Only this hour our work to bear,  
And only this minute God's gifts to share.  
Help us, dear Lord, to do Thy will  
And ever in Thy presence dwell.

Merdyth McCullers Lane



## SPECIAL DAYS

“Remember Thy Congregation, (O’ Lord), which  
Thou has acquired of old,  
Which Thou hast redeemed as the tribe of  
Thy heritage.  
This Mount Zion, Where Thou art dwelling.”

Psalms 74:2 M.L.

We praise our Heavenly Father for dwelling at our Mt. Zion since it was established and we pray that we will always join hands in serving and honoring Him during our special days as well as every day.

Homecoming is a wonderful day which brings us together with many friends and loved ones bearing glorious memories and hearts filled with thankfulness. We always plan for this day in September after the crops are in and before the Fall work begins.

The first Homecoming I knew about was in 1905. We lived in Raleigh at the time and it was a very special “horse and buggy” trip out to Mt. Zion. My grandfather, Charles E. McCullers, playfully asked me where I was going. I answered, “I-go-‘om--Bam-Bam”. (Or so I was often told by those who were present) Hence, Mt. Zion was to be “Bam-Bam” until we moved back into the country and I became a young lady of five years. At that time I realized that “Bam-Bam” was Mt. Zion and was the most important part of my parents’, Ed and Leute Willis McCullers, lives and thus it became so for me. It has always been a glory to go home to Mt. Zion and may it always be to all those who grew up surrounded by God’s love for us and our love for Him and for one another.

Many of our former pastors, members and one District Superintendent have “returned home” to bring a special message to us on this day of days and to share with us its joys. Some of those who have blest us thusly during the last few decades are the Reverends J.G. Johnson, E.B. Craven, Dr. Edgar Fisher, E.R. Shuller, Charles E. Sparks, J.W. Garrison, E.W. Rogers, Dan E. Meadows, Dr. W.W. McIntyre, Berrie (Bobby) Barbour, W.E. Barber, and Lay Speaker Charles L. McCullers. Some of these have returned several times to add to the day.

We always serve a sumptuous meal and enjoy the fellowship to the fullest.

We ever join the Rev. John Wesley, who founded Methodism in 1729, in his Table Prayer:

“Be present at our table, Lord  
Be here and everywhere adored;  
These mercies bless and grant that we  
May feast in fellowship with Thee. Amen”

May our Heavenly Father answer this prayer for all of His children.

One of the most precious services of this day is a memorial to our loved ones who have gone Home to Heaven during the year.

Our Thanksgiving Service is a wonderful joint meeting with our community sister churches of all denominations. We meet with a different congregation each year and raise our voices in prayer and song to our Lord. We, also, have “a feast” with Him at this time and delight in our love for Him and our fellowmen.

## Grateful Praise

"For Thy Church, that evermore  
Lifteth Holy hands above,  
Offering up on every shore  
Her pure sacrifice of love;  
God of love, to Thee we raise  
This our song of grateful praise."

F.L. Pierpont

Then comes the blessed Christmas Season which is, to us, the special season for the little ones to show forth their praise to God through their programs and their love for Him and for each other. At Mt. Zion there is always a joyous occasion a few days before Christmas with first, the songs of joy and praise and then the "White Christmas" gifts for the needy, followed by the Christmas tree gifts and a visit from good old "Saint Nick". Each child receives a gift and everyone, old and young alike, receives a gift of fruit. We ever hold before our young ones God's greatest gift to us through His Son, our Lord and Savior. On Christmas Eve we receive Holy Communion at the altar in remembrance of this great gift of eternal life offered to us through the birth, death, and resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

### A Yuletide Quest

If truth and honor be our goal this joyous Christmas season,  
We each will search our heart and soul for honesty and reason.  
With conduct fair to all concerned, how wonderful 'twould be,  
And goodwill everywhere discerned - from sea to shining sea!  
Then better friendships would abound, with love and understanding;  
Peace and hope could then be found, and people less demanding.  
All this would beneficial be, to all the folks concerned,  
And glad contentment we would see, and happiness well earned.  
The Four-Way Test, applied each day, throughout the coming  
years,  
To what we think and do and say would banish doubts and fears.  
And once again throughout the land, all men could live like brothers  
And selfishness would then disband, as men think first of others.  
We send this little poem your way to wish you Christmas cheer,  
With hopes and prayers that every day throughout the glad New  
Year  
May bring you blessings from above, each day, each hour, each  
minute,  
The best of life, with thoughts of love, from us to you tucked in it.

Charlie McCullers

For New Year's Eve we meet again at Mt. Zion to pray for God's guidance throughout the New Year and are bound together more closely with Him and His children through song and repast. As midnight nears, we gather at the altar for the closing prayer.



At Easter we raise our voices in praise for the Resurrection Morning and our Living Savior. The word of God tells us that "very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun" (St. Mark 16:2). So we at Mt. Zion celebrate this day with the "Sunrise Service". We gather at the Church just as the sky is glowing with pink to give praise to God through congregational singing and scripture reading followed by an Easter Cantata. We then form a procession out to our cemetery and there we place flowers on the graves of our loved ones, sing "He Arose! Hallelujah, Christ Arose!", and our Pastor pronounces the benediction. After the ceremony at the cemetery, we gather together for a Love Feast in the Annex with all those who come from our community as a whole, including all the other churches who often come to worship with us.

The refreshments for this have, for many years, been donated by Robert and Lena Barbour Stevens.



Altar with Easter flowers.

Then, of course, we celebrate "Childrens' Day" with the young ones taking part in the entire service. This day ever proves a blessing to us and draws us closer together as a Church family. So, too, does our "Students' Day" services. Our older young people conduct this service and we thus get a glimpse into the future and realize that God's work will ever be carried on at Mt. Zion by their ability which is one of God's greatest blessing to us. May each one of our precious young ones and also we older ones say with the Apostle Paul: "I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me." Phil. 4:13

## ROLL OF MEMBERS

"Choose ye this day whom ye will serve."

Joshua 24:15

"Father, if I walk with Thee,  
 I know that I shall some day see  
 The Glory of Thy mansions bright  
 Where glows the angels Holy Light.  
 I know that I shall some day hear  
 Thy gentle voice saying, 'Enter dear';  
 So give me strength, dear Lord, I pray  
 That I may walk with Thee today."

Christine Waring Walker

We honor and love the memory of Christine Walker.

May we, the members of Mt. Zion Church, ever remember that we must walk with our Lord, if we are to truly serve Him and help our fellowman.

Those who have come into a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and joined in fellowship with us at our Church since Volume I was compiled in 1966 are:

Member	To Whom Married	Date Joined
*Jerry Lynn Horton	Mary G. Pedgram Horton	1966
*Joseph F. Rich	Josephine Meadows Jones Rich	1966
*Josephine Meadows Jones Rich	Joseph F. Rich	1966
Debra Jeanette Jones	Wyley L. Pender	1966
Danny Cleat Jones	Single	1966
*Elsie G. McIntyre	Dr. W.W. McIntyre	1967
**Carson D. Barbour	Single	1967
**Clarence B. Barbour	Virginia Staples Barbour	1967
*Virginia Staples Barbour	Clarence Barnes Barbour	1967
Teresa Jean Sorrell	Anthony M. Drake	1967
Steven Ray Sorrell	Single	1967
Terry Nathan Boone	Single	1967
*Glenda Hunt Dean Carroll	Daniel Rex Dean Tommy Earl Carroll	1967
Robert Casey Matthews, Sr.	Billie Rose Penny Matthews	1968
Helga Hammerle Utley	Thomas W. Utley	1968
*Bruce Young Hatcher	Genevieve Creech Hatcher	1969
*Genevieve Creech Hatcher	Bruce Young Hatcher	1969
*Seleta Tucker Morgan	Rev. Robert W. Morgan	1969
*Nancy Anne Morgan	Single	1969
*Seleta Wyette Morgan	Single	1969
Mary Gail Johnson	Mark Partin	1970
Sheila Dawn Boone	Single	1970

\*Transferred from other Churches

\*\*Rejoined



Member	To Whom Married	Date Joined
Cindy Mae Dean	Single	1970
Kathi Lynn Johnson	Single	1970
Donna Jean Tart	Single	1970
Ellen Gay Tart	Single	1970
Rose Marie Coats	Single	1970
Katheryn Ann Coats	Single	1970
Crystal Gay Dupree	Single	1971
Roy Max Raynor, Jr.	Single	1971
Keith Arvil Neil	Patricia Parrish Neil	1971
*Patricia Parrish Neil	Keith A. Neil	1971
Thomas Mitchell Langdon	Marsha Jean Grissom Langdon	1972
John Owen Boone	Single	1972
**Emily Taylor Henley	Rex Henley	1972
**Ruth Taylor Massey	Hilliard Massey	1972
**Charles Leonidas McCullers	Margaret Werner McCullers	1972
**Margaret Werner McCullers	Charles L. McCullers	1972
*Danny Avera Batten	Beverly Yvonne Grissom Batten	1972
Andrew Patrick Grissom	Single	1973
*Jane Nelms Barber	Rev. W. Ed Barber	1973
**Annie Powell Poole	Jesse W. Poole	1973
Brenda Parrish Penny	Darrell Penny	1973
George Harris Carroll	Single	1973
**Ronnie Barfield Myers	Shelby Stephenson Myers	1973
**Shelby Stephenson Myers	Ronnie B. Myers	1973
Parker Raphus Coats	LaVerne Bass Coats	1973
*Barbara Smith Penny	Raeford Penny	1973
Elizabeth Dianne Spence Johnson	Donald Johnson	1974
Dexter Frank Tart	Single	1974
Donald Ray Penny	Single	1974
Timothy Dale Grissom	Single	1974
**Joseph F. Rich, Sr.	Josephine Meadows Jones Rich	1974
**Josephine Meadows Jones Rich	Joseph F. Rich, Sr.	1974
**Daniel Cleat Jones	Single	1974
Joseph Frederick Rich, Jr.	Single	1974
*Edward Philo Cunningham, III	Marilyn L. Cunningham	1974
*Marilyn Lony Cunningham	Edward P. Cunningham, III	1974
**Leamon Eugene Myers	JoAnne Ogburn Myers	1975
*JoAnne Ogburn Myers	Leamon E. Myers	1975
*JoAnne Lee Jeffries	Rev. William M. Jeffries	1975

\*Transferred from other Churches

\*\*Rejoined

Member	To Whom Married	Date Joined
*William Kalon Jeffries	Single	1975
*Thomas Lee Jeffries	Single	1975
Robert Mark Dupree	Single	1975
*William Jackson Honeycutt	Etheleen Johnson Honeycutt	1975
James Edwin Creech, Sr.	Delia L. Powell Creech	1975
James Edwin Creech, Jr.	Single	1975
Ronda Lou Penny	Tony Lee Barbour	1976
Lesla Anne Penny	Single	1976
Clyde Fenton Hurst, Jr.	Mary Jane Britt Hurst	1976
**Steven Ray Sorrell	Single	1976
Scherie Lynn Dupree	Single	1976
Eugene Daryl Myers	Single	1977
Barry Lee Myers	Single	1977
James Raeford Tart	Janice Penny Tart	1977
John Eric Raynor	Single	1977
April Foy Raynor	Single	1977
Cynthia Lynn Gulley	Single	1977
Painterson (Pete) Calva	Single	1977
Fred E. Martin	Alfreda K. Martin	1977
Alfreda K. Martin	Fred Martin	1977
William Marvin McLendon	Ruth Anderson McLendon	1978
Ruth Anderson McLendon	William M. McLendon	1978
Denise Ruth McLendon	Single	1978
Robert Wayne McLendon	Single	1978
Susan Leone Matthews	Single	1978
Gary Wayne Jackson	Single	1978

At the present time we have one affiliate member and 10 associate members as follows:

Affiliate member: James Wrenn of Raleigh

Associate members: Jessie and Doris Dry, Carol Earley, Craig and Jennifer Ennis, Tommy and Marcella Crocker, and Bonnie Godwin, and Dave and Susan Cranfill. These dear ones are a great help to us in many phases of our work for the Glory of Our Heavenly Father and in service to our fellowman.

\*Transferred from other Churches

\*\*Rejoined

### Are All The Children In?

"I wonder if when the shadows fall  
On the last short earthly day,  
When we say good-bye to the world outside  
All tired with our childish play,  
When we step out into the other land  
Where mother so long has been,  
Will we hear her ask, just as of old,  
'Are all the children in?'"

Blanche Manor

We are blest to have many living members who have been with Mt. Zion and busy with the Lord's work for more than half a century.

Mrs. Ritta Blalock Johnson, who is now **eighty-eight**, has been a member for seventy years and Mrs. Charlotte Stephenson Johnson, who is ninety-three and is our oldest living member, has been a member for sixty-nine years.



Mrs. Ritta Blalock Johnson, oldest in membership - 89 years.



Mrs. Charlotte Stephenson Johnson, oldest member - 93 years.

It is of interest to list those who have been members for more than fifty years; so here they are:

Member	Years	Joined
Nancy McCullers Ferguson	65	1913
Merdyth McCullers Lane	65	1913
Vera Godwin Windham	59	1919
Violet Johnson Zettelmaier	59	1919
Cecil T. Hobby	59	1919
Lena Barbour Stevens	56	1922
Durwood C. Johnson, Sr.	56	1922

Member	Years	Joined
Annie Williams Utley	56	1922
Foy Johnson Powell	56	1922
Mildred Barbour Carroll	55	1923
John M. Barbour	54	1924
Robert A. Stevens	54	1924
William (Bill) Godwin	54	1924
Ruby Johnson Thigpen	51	1927
D. Hudson Austin	51	1927
Lillie Godwin Franks	51	1927
Lynn Johnson	51	1927

“Age is the top of a mountain high;  
The air so rare, the sky so blue,  
A long hard climb, a bit of fatigue,  
But, oh, what a wonderful view.”

Unknown

And many others for four decades and more are:

Garland Penny	46	1932
Mabel Grissom Penny	45	1933
Delphia Penny	45	1933
Lizzie Penny McElveen	45	1933
Claude Carroll	44	1934
Virginia Messer	42	1936
Ellie Carroll	42	1936
Pearl Godwin	42	1936
Dorothy Britt	41	1937
Pauline Soldritch	41	1937
Doris Ellington	40	1938
Pansy Blalock Johnson	40	1938
D.C. Johnson, Jr.	40	1938
Elgie Powell Etheridge	40	1938
Ernest D. Penny	40	1938
Mary Lou Johnson	40	1938
Maynard C. Johnson	40	1938

May many more dear ones serve the Lord at Mt. Zion for as many years as those listed from 1908 to 1938.

“Open unto me the gates of righteousness;  
I will go into them, and I will praise the Lord.”

Psalms 18:19

The following members are those of today who have not been previously listed in Volume II, and are listed chronologically in Volume I:

Eunice Penny Chappel	Larry Neil Williams
Dabney Walker	Ruth Johnson Walker
Edith S. Penny Conyers	Odell McGee Penny
Delia Powell Creech	Ruth Thornton Williams





Church Interior

Janice Penny Tart  
 Ethleen M. Johnson Honeycutt  
 Lorene Wood Grissom  
 Gladys Penny McDaniel  
 John W. Myers  
 Norosa Richardson Myers  
 Robert Lee Myers  
 John F. Harper  
 Mildred Lee Harper  
 Mary Hocutt Taylor  
 Lula Hathaway Penny  
 Paul J. Johnson  
 Clara Powell Raynor  
 Jerry Sauls Boone  
 Charles E. Utley  
 Veta Thompson Godwin  
 Nancy W. Garrison  
 Helen Jordan Walton  
 Helen Hobby Britt  
 Betty Jean Stevens Sorrell  
 Irene Johnson Coats  
 Catherine Hettie Cox  
 Mozell Godwin Cox  
 Della Mae Cox Crisp  
 Calvin McGee Penny  
 Mamie Penny Grissom

Myrtle P. Thornton Davis  
 Rachael Grissom Tart  
 Evelyn G. Pendergraph  
 Edna Mae Clark Dawson  
 Lousie Grissom Dean  
 David Ray Jones  
 Douglas Grissom  
 Brantley R. Walker  
 Cattie Parish Barbour  
 Edna Earl Brady  
 Barbara Taylor Ennis  
 Marshall Grissom  
 Billy M. Grissom  
 Mable Johnson Hicks  
 Janice Myers Williams  
 Addie Bridges Jordan  
 Ellen Herrenberg Grissom  
 Don Richardson Myers  
 Martha McDaniel McCabe  
 June Penny Evans  
 Pansy Smith Carroll  
 Roy Max Raynor, Sr.  
 Mallie A. Penny, Jr.  
 Betsy Cannady Penny  
 Ethel Massey Jones  
 Linda McElveen Branning



Christopher C. Penny  
Mary Elizabeth Hall Penny  
William Lester Crisp  
Irene Williams Stanley  
Alfred T. Taylor, Jr.  
Joe G. Carroll, Sr.  
Mary Myers Council  
Maylon Johnson Jordan  
Blanche Johnson Hobby  
Richard G. Johnson  
Gemess Frank Tart  
Onnie L. Boyette Barbour  
James Otha Barbour  
Elmo P. Broughton  
Mary Johnson Broughton  
Bobbie Sauls Blalock  
Donald C. Blalock  
Harold J. McElveen  
Bettie Lou S. McElveen  
Dorothy Britt Penny  
Vernon Grissom  
Margarete Morris Jordan  
Ella Dawson Alcorn  
Rex M. Dean  
Daniel Rex Dean  
Jane Dean Barnes  
Shirley Coats Grissom  
Beverly Grissom Batten  
Marsha Grissom Langdon  
Christine Jones Crayton  
Alice Crayton  
Billie Penny Matthews  
Clyde J. Jordan  
Joan Thea Jordan  
Elsie Gordan Hall  
Roger C. Hall  
Timothy L. Penny  
Darrell L. Penny  
C. Newton Penny  
Ethel Johnson Johnson  
Janet Johnson Parrish  
Bobbie J. Stephenson Williams  
Frances Mae Gulley  
Freddie H. McDaniel  
David Neil Broughton  
Mabel Langdon Penny

Larry E. McElveen  
Jerry K. Penny  
Paulette Johnson Britt  
Rachael Johnson Godwin  
Carolyn Johnson Jones  
Barbara Roselli Hartley  
LaVette Cooke Boone  
Vilas Norwood Ennis  
Mae Belle Carroll Gulley  
Joan Myers Morge  
Stella Grimes Allen  
Bonnie Grissom Stephenson  
Joseph G. Carroll, Jr.  
David Morris Jones  
Martha Broughton Hawley  
Richard Glenn Johnson, Jr.  
Charles Lee Myatt  
Susan Grimes Edmonson  
Amanda Gulley Carroll  
Arthur Stanley Penny  
William R. Bridgers  
Leo Thornton  
LaVerne Bass Coats  
Jane Britt Hurst  
Wilbur T. Britt, Jr.  
Kirby Felton Jordan, Jr.  
Connie Eugene Jordan  
Sam McDaniel  
Bea Young Carroll  
Shelby Stephenson Myers  
Ronda Grissom Johnson  
Donna Grissom Stanley  
Sandra Johnson Hines  
Thomas Howard Lewis  
Katherine Lewis Johnson  
Julia Barefoot Penny  
S. Gay Dean Stanley  
David Earl Crisp  
Billy Macon Grissom, Jr.  
Michael Ray Jones  
Robert Earl Dupree  
Allen Ross Penny  
Barilla Sue Roberts Dupree  
Randy K. Penny  
Maynard F. Penny

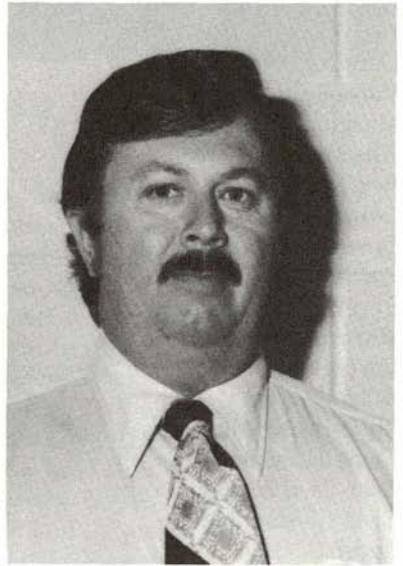
## Jesus and We

"We are the only Bible the careless world will read;  
We are the sinner's gospel; we are the scoffer's Creed.  
We are the Lord's last message given in deed and word.  
What if the line is crooked? What if the type is blurred?  
What if our hands are busy with other work than His?  
What if our feet are walking where sin's allurements is?  
What if our tongues are speaking of things His lips would spurn?  
How can we hope to help Him unless from Him we learn?"

Annie J. Flint



Charles L. McCullers  
Board Chairman



Roy Max Raynor, Sr.  
Lay Leader

## The Most Wanted Man

A man who can stand alone and  
always be strong  
And wear a smile when the whole  
world goes wrong,  
A man who will trust and  
never despair  
For deep in his heart he knows  
Jesus is there,  
A man who will always be honest  
and true  
In all things in whatever he  
tries to do,  
A man who can live his life, knowing  
his reward  
Can only come by trusting all things  
to the Lord.  
A man who is willing to live  
without greed  
Knowing that there are many others  
in desperate need.  
A man who will labor, in toil  
or in strife  
And know that God will give what is best  
for his life,  
A man who is willing, no matter  
what the odds  
To leave everything in the  
hands of God,  
A man who with Christ's help does the  
best he can--  
This, my friends, is God's  
most wanted man!

Robert Argo Stevens



## OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

"There's a sweet old story translated for man,  
But writ in the long, long ago --  
The Gospel according to Matthew, Mark, Luke and John --  
Of Christ and His mission below.

Men read and admire the Gospel of Christ,  
With its love so unfailing and true;  
But what do they say, and what do they think,  
Of the Gospel according to you?

'Tis a wonderful story, that Gospel of love,  
As it shines in the Christ life divine;  
And, oh, that its truth might be told again  
In the story of your life and mine!

Unselfishness mirrors in every scene;  
Love blossoms on every sod;  
And back from its Vision the heart came to tell  
The wonderful goodness of God.

You are writing each day a letter to men;  
Take care that the writing is true;  
'Tis the only Gospel that some will read --  
That Gospel according to you."

Anonymous

Contributed by Clara Raynor

God's word tell us, "Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God". Isiah 40:3. Our Sunday School is one of our tools for making God's highway straight and spreading His gospel to all people.

Daniel Webster, one of our most learned Americans and a great Christian stated in 1843 a great truth that we all need to remember: "If we abide by the principles taught in the Bible, --- our country will prosper. But, if we and our posterity neglect the instructions and authority in this Book, (the Bible), no man can tell how sudden a catastrophe may overtake us and bury our glory in profound obscurity." So let us strive to increase our knowledge of the Bible and our obedience to God through our Sunday School. Let us continue to teach to our young people God's Word. This will enable them to lead the future young ones in the "paths of righteousness for His name sake" throughout the years to come. It is the duty of each of us, young and old, to set the right example for the younger ones to follow.

Our Mt. Zion Sunday School has been prosperous in the Lord's work since the year it was organized in the early eighteen hundreds. In fact, for many years, our Sunday School was our chief worship service and was led by men of great character, filled with the love of God and their fellowman. Our pastors served several other churches and came to us only once or twice a month. However, since 1965 we have been a "Station Church" and our pastors have helped us to continue the promotion of the Lord's work and we are ever thankful for their leadership.

Those who have served us as Sunday School Superintendents since Volume I was published are: Jerry Boone, Robert Dupree, Frank Tart, Casey Matthews, and Robert Dupree again at the present time. They have each served well and have been splendid leaders.

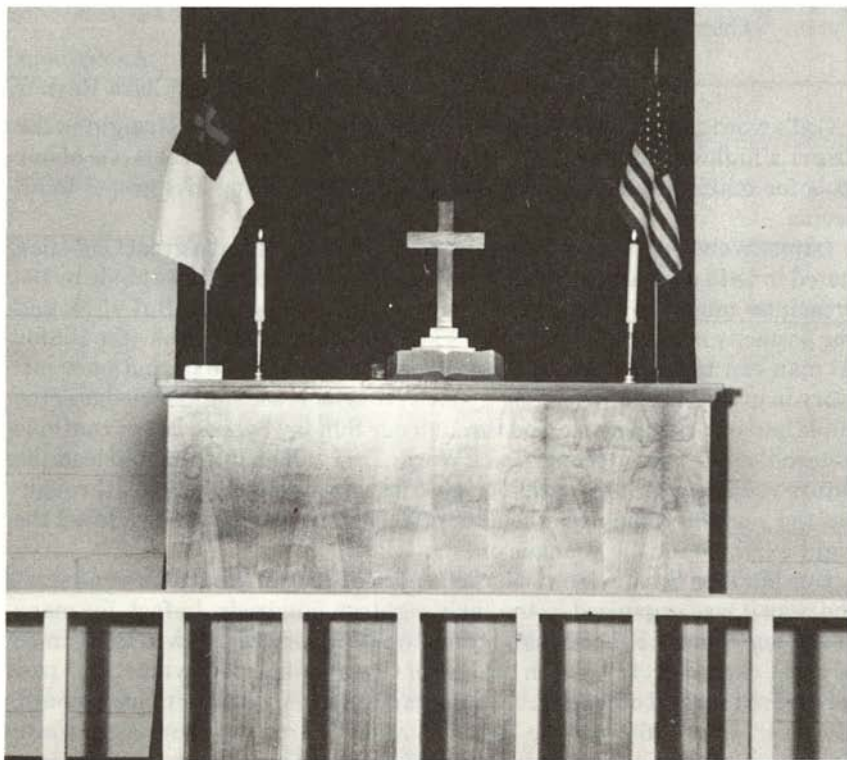
Our music leaders are the same for Sunday School as for the entire Church program and are a great blessing to us. Those for the piano are Frances Gulley, Pansey Johnson, Rose Coats, and Cindy Gulley. Those for the organ are Lou Johnson and Julia Penny. Robert Stevens is the song leader and has been for many years; in fact, for thirty-five years. He followed my father, "Mr. Ed" McCullers who died in 1943 and had been a wonderful leader in all phases of the Church work for more than half a century.

#### We've A Story To Tell

"We've a story to tell to the nations,  
That shall turn our hearts to the right;  
A story of truth and sweetness,  
A story of peace and light.

"We've a Savior to show to the nations,  
Who the path of sorrow has trod,  
That all of the world's great people  
Might come to the truth of God."

Colen Stern



Children's Chapel in Annex.



The Sunday School teachers have been many since 1965 and they have been faithful in leading those in their classes in the admonition of the Lord when He tells us to "study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth". II Timothy 2:15.

The Teachers who have worked with the young ones in the Nursery, Kindergarten, Classes I and II, III and IV, V and VI, VII and VIII for the past several years are as follows: Odell Penny, Janice Tart, Ethel Myers Wall, Maylon Jordan, Lorene Grissom, Louise Dean, Shirley Grissom, Ethel Jones, Callie Jones, Clara Raynor, Betty Jean Sorrell, Barbara Penny, Mary Elizabeth Penny, LaVette Boone, Pansy Carroll, Marie Godwin, Rachael Tart, Gladys McDaniel, LaVerne Coats, Mary Gail Partin, Mark Partin, Mary Council, Billie Matthews, Casey Matthews, Sue Dupree, Shelby Myers, Beverly Batten, Danny Batten, Ellen Tart, Donna Tart, Jane Barber, Dianne Johnson, Amanda Carroll, Cindy Gulley, Crystal Dupree, Carolyn Early, Thomas Jeffries, Scherie Dupree, Mark Dupree, Dexter Tart, and Jennifer Ennis. They have done a wonderful work and ever keep in mind the "Child's Thought" as expressed thusly: "I am a child; you hold in your hands my destiny. You determine, largely, whether I shall succeed or fail. Give me, I pray you, those things that make for happiness. Train me that I may follow Jesus and be a blessing to the world".

The classes attended by the older ones are as follows: The Neil B. Johnson Memorial Class, The Robert Dawson Memorial Class, The Ed McCullers Memorial Class, The Share and Care Class, and the Senior or "Golden Age Class".

"A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsel", Proverbs 1:5.

The teachers of these classes for the past decade or so have been Mary Taylor, Christine Walker, Mabel J. Hicks, Lorene Grissom, Elmo Broughton, Barbara Ennis, Maebelle Gulley, Margaret McCullers, Clara Raynor, Charles McCullers, Julia Penny, Roy Max Raynor, Sr., JoAnne Jeffries, and Merdyth Lane.

We also conduct yearly, in connection with our Sunday School, a Vacation Bible School. This, too, furthers our neighborhood work for the Lord. Many young ones from several of our neighboring churches attend these classes, and many of the older ones bless us with their help.

Practically all of our Sunday School teachers are involved in this work. Other than the above mentioned teachers, those who have worked with the Bible School are: Cathy Carroll, Marguerite Jordan, Pansy Johnson, Lena Stevens, Mabel Penny, Maylon Jordan, Ethel Jones, Mozelle Cox, Catherine Cox, Pearl Godwin, Ellen Grissom, Valerie Ennis, Seleta Morgan, June Evans, Marsha Langdon, Mary Ruth Penny, Cindy Dean, Shirley Grissom, Rose Coats, Kathi Johnson, Cathy Coats, Ruth McElveen, Roy Max Raynor, Jr., Timmy Grissom, Randy Penny, Terry Boone, Andrew Grissom, Tommy Crocker, Ricky Rich, and our pastors.

We always close this school with a formal commencement. Each class displays its work and gives an inspirational message. We are ever blessed when our young ones take part in the Lord's work.



“He prayeth best who loveth best  
All things both great and small;  
For the dear God who loveth us,  
He made and loveth all.”

Samuel T. Coleridge

John Wesley, who was the founder of Methodism in 1729, wrote:

The Marks of a Methodist

- “1. A Methodist has the love of God shed abroad in his soul by the Holy Spirit given unto him. He loves the Lord his God with all his heart, soul, mind and strength.
- “2. A Methodist is happy in God, as having in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life, . . . overflowing his soul with peace and joy.
- “3. A Methodist’s heart is ever lifted up to God at all times and in all places. He prays without ceasing, not in church only, nor in set forms, but in the moment by moment encounters of every day.”

He also defines a Methodist as “simply a sincere, deeply committed Christian, and not really distinguishable from any other sincere Christian”. May the people of Mt. Zion ever be true Christian Methodists!

## I WOULD BE TRUE

I would be true, for there are those who trust me;  
I would be pure for there are those who care;  
I would be strong, for there is much to suffer;  
I would be brave for there is much to dare,  
I would be friend of all the foe, the friend-less;  
I would be giv-ing, and forget the gift;  
I would be hum-ble, for I know my weak-ness;  
I would look up, and laugh, and love, and lift.



Robert E. Dupree  
Sunday School Department

## MT. ZION'S MUSIC

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord all ye lands.  
Serve the Lord with gladness;  
Come before His presence with singing".

--Psalms 100:1-2

Our Mt. Zion people have, for many years, thrilled with joy in praising our Lord and Savior through song and instrumental music. We feel as did Henry W. Longfellow when he expressed it thusly: "God sent His singers upon the earth with songs of gladness and of mirth, that they might touch the hearts of men and bring them back to Heaven again".

The voices of those who sing praises to God often give others a desire for the joy and love of Christian fellowship. In 1978, Bobby Best paid the following tribute to the memory of William Edward McCullers. Mr. Best joined Mt. Zion while a very small boy about fifty years ago, and in recalling his conversion, he expressed it this way: "Mr. Ed McCullers' singing voice led me into a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ". Bobby's parents, Mr. and Mrs. L.B. Best, also, joined with us and remained active members until they moved to a new community and transferred their membership to their Church there.

We have had two dedicated and capable choir directors during the past three quadrenniums, and we have been blest by their work. They are LaVette Boone and Louise Johnson. Our instrumentalists are Frances Gulley, piano; and Louise Johnson, organ, assisted by Julia Penny, Rose and Cathy Coats, Cindy Gulley, and Pansy Johnson. "Dear" Pansy was our pianist from 1940-1972, and continues to "fill-in" beautifully when needed. Our newest piano was dedicated to her honor and in memory of A.T. Taylor, Sr. several years ago. As recorded in another chapter of this volume, Robert Stevens has been song leader for thirty five years.

Those who have been members of the senior choir for the past decade or so, and many who are still members, are as follows: Pansy and Durwood Johnson, Lena and Robert Stevens, Louise and Jack Johnson, Norosa Myers, Doris Dry, LaVette and Jerry Boone, Brenda Broughton Sneed, Seleta Morgan, Jane Barber, Ellen Grissom, Jane Barnes, Mabel J. Hicks, Betty Jean Sorrell, LaVerne Coats, Ethel and David Jones, Maybelle and Frances Gulley, Bea Carroll, Catherine Cox, Josephine Rich, Catherine Lewis Johnson, Shelby Myers, Charles McCullers, Clyde (Shorty) Jordan, Joe Carroll, Danny Batten, Steve Sorrell, and Merdyth Lane. Three of our pastors have joined us in song. They are Dan Meadows, Bob Morgan, and Bill Jeffries. Barbara Norris and Jim Hicks have helped us in the Easter Cantatas.

"Sing praises to the Lord, which dwelleth in Zion". (Psalm 9:11)

For extra special commemorative days, such as Easter and Christmas, we rejoice in using seasonal cantatas. We have done this for many years at Easter and several times at Christmas. Many members of our youth choir join with us on these joyous occasions.

On December 22, 1974, we presented the Cantata, "Love, Joy, and Peace", and our precious young ones who joined with us for this rendition were: Rose



#### SENIOR CHOIR

First row, left to right, Shelby S. Myers, LaVerne Coats, Norossa Myers, Bettie Jean Sorrell, Frances Gulley, Lou Johnson, Jo Rich, Pansy Johnson, Lena Stevens, Merdyth Lane;

Second row, left to right, Robert Stevens, Jack Johnson, Bill Jeffries, Durwood Johnson.

Coats, Kathy Johnson, Cathy Coats, Cindy Gulley, and Ricky Rich. What a blessing it was!

Ruskin has expressed for us a beautiful thought, to wit:

“All of ones life is music, if one touches the notes rightly and in tune”.

For a few years we were happy to have a group of men known as “The Seedsmen” render for us many beautiful and inspiring hymns of praise. They were an inter-denominational group, comprised largely of Mt. Zion members. “They were organized for the ministry of sowing seeds of Christian love, hope and joy through music to people in hospitals, sanitoriums, retirement homes, prisons, convalescent centers, and many churches”. (Related by LaVette Boone, director of the group). Members of the group were Durwood Johnson, Sr., Joe Carroll, Clyde Hurst, Jr., Jerry Boone, Steve Sorrell, Jack Johnson, Bob Morgan, Harry Carroll, Danny Batten, and Terry Boone. The pianists were Pansy Johnson and Barbara Sauls. (As previously mentioned, LaVette Boone (Mrs. Jerry) served as director.

“I will praise the name of God with a song and will magnify Him with Thanksgiving”.

--Psalms 69:30

We now have a wonderful inter-denominational quartet of men known as, “The Crusaders”. They are Jimmy Guy, Walter Jones, Danny Batten, and



Jack Johnson. Steve Batten plays the guitar, and Pansy Guy, the piano. This group is a blessing with song to those who are away from home and lonely. Danny Batten is the leader of these devoted ones.

Also, the "Share and Share Class" of our Sunday School and the "United Methodist Youth", sing for the shut-ins and those who need love and cheer. The beautiful carols they render on special occasions, especially at Christmas when they present gifts of fruit, add very much joy and many blessings to the lonely ones.

We are extremely happy with a choir made up of our little children. They join in song to the Glory of God and for the joy of the congregation at least once a month, and we ever receive a blessing from the blending of their voices in songs of praise.

Those who have led them for the past few decades are Odell Penny, Louise Johnson, LaVerne Coats, Rev. Ed Barber, Mary Council, and JoAnne Jeffries; assisted by Anne Godwin and Merdyth Lane. The pianists for these precious young ones have been Pansy Johnson, Lou Johnson, Frances Gulley, Rose Coats, and JoAnne Myers.



#### CHILDREN'S CHOIR

First row, left to right, Kevin Carroll, Joel Mryes.

Second row, left to right, Robin Johnson, Ronnie Matthews, Ricky Council, Crissy Penny, Vanessa Godwin, Penni Matthews, Meredyth Penny, Jonathan Jeffries.

Third row, left to right, Dennis Tart, Robbie Matthews, Kevin Myers, Lee Council, Barry Myers, Jim Creech, Stephen Dupree;

Fourth row, left to right, April Raynor, Jenny Bea Carroll, Ronda Carpenter, Carol Batchelor, Bennie Tart. Todd Myers, Eric Raynor.

The present members of this choir are: Lee and Ricky Council, Barry and Kevin Myers, Todd and Sherri Myers, Christy Carroll, April and Eric Raynod, Jenny Bea Carroll, Lisa Penny, Christy Penny, Jonathan Jeffries, Bennie and Dennis Tart, Rhonda Carpenter, Robbie and Penni Matthews, Wayne McLendon, Jimmy Creech, Vanessa Godwin, Ronald Matthews, Kevin Carroll, Joel Myers, Robin Johnson, Merdyth Penny, Stephen Dupree, and Carol Batchelor.

#### God's Work

"All things birght and beautiful,  
All things great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful,  
Our Lord God made them all".

--Mrs. C.F. Alexander

Our young ones do not cease singing praises to God and for the joy of others when they become older. They, with the help of their leaders, form still other singing groups. So far, three have been organized: the "Youth Choir," "New Believers", and "The One Truth".

Many of the members of these groups often help with the Sunday morning anthems, as well as to render special programs for us at Mt. Zion and for many of our "sister" churches.

On June 6, 1971, at 6 p.m., the "Youth Choir" presented a program of sacred music which brought a great blessing to all who were present. The members of this group were:

Sheila Boone	Terry Messer
Cathy Coats	Nancy Morgan
Rose Coats	Wyette Morgan
Cindy Dean	Debbie Strouse
Macon Grissom	Sheila Strouse
Rhonda Grissom	Dexter Tart
Cindy Gulley	Donna Tart
James Gulley	Ellen Tart
Kathi Johnson	Brenda Tucker

Several of these young ones were members of "sister" Churches. Louise Johnson directed, with Laverne Coats as assistant; and Pansy Johnson and Frances Gulley as pianists.

These young ones also rendered anthems once or twice a month for Church services. Further still the majority of these participants of the "Youth Choir" serve in other choral groups of the Church.

The second group was formed in 1971, and was called, "The New Believers". Those who were members of this wonderful chorus were as listed:

Sheila Boone	Kathi Johnson
Harry Carroll	Donna Marshbanks
Valerie Ennis	Vonna Marshbanks
Macon Grissom	Nancy Morgan
Ronda Grissom	Randy Penny
Frances Gulley	Ellen Tart
James Gulley	Dexter Tart
Johnny Johnson	Brenda Tucker
Wayne Johnson	

Louise Johnson was again the Director, with Frances Gulley as pianist; Macon Grissom, drummer; and Wayne Johnson, lead guitarist.

These young people presented to us a special program in February, 1972, after which a reception was held for them with the congregation in the Church Annex. The name of this chorus was, "It's All About Love". They also presented this to several of our neighboring Churches. Then at Christmas, they presented to us at Mt. Zion, "It's the Lord's Thing". This, we know, is true of all His creation, and we rejoice in His great love for us.

"God is at the organ,  
We can hear  
A mighty music echoing  
Far and near".

--E. Sanford

The third group was organized to present a musical worship program with the title of, "One Truth". This was begun in June, 1976, and has been a wonderful blessing for many people for many months.

The first presentation was to us at Mt. Zion on August 22, 1976. This performance was coordinated and narrated by Steve Sorrell and directed by Louise Johnson. The cast was made up of:

David Arch	Jimmy Guy
Ronald Arch	Susan Penny
Yvonne Arch	Ronda Penny
Johnny Boone	Kalon Jeffries
Terry Boone	Thomas Jeffries
Cathy Coats	Peggy Johnson
LaVerne Coats	Lou Johnson
Rose Coats	Jo Rich
Andrew Grissom	Ricky Rich
Timmy Grissom	Eddie Rowland
Frances Gulley	Steve Sorrell
Donna Tart	Tony Barbour

The piano was played by Frances Gulley, lead guitar by Johnny Boone, bass guitar by Terry Boone, flute by Kalon Jeffries, drums by Eddie Rowland, and the electric technician was LaVette Boone.

This musical teaches us of God's Commandments given to Moses on Mount Sinai which is the Old Covenant. Then greatest of all, it tells us of the New Covenant which God gave to us through His Son, our Lord and Savior, at Mount Zion in the Holy Land. Jesus Christ is the Mediator of the New Covenant, and He dwells in our hearts and helps us to lead others to Him.

This musical has been rendered, not only at our Mt. Zion, but has blest many other Churches in this area as follows:

August 29, 1976	Mt. Zion U.M., Elm City
September 12, 1976	Kipling U.M., Kipling
September 26, 1976	Winstead U.M., Wilson
October 3, 1976	First Baptist, Garner
October 10, 1976	Fellowship Baptist, Garner
October 17, 1976	Erwin U.M., Erwin



November 19, 1976  
November 26, 1976  
December 19, 1976  
March 27, 1977  
June 26, 1977

Carter's Chapel Baptist, Micro  
Stone's Creek Advent Christian, Four Oa  
Kinton's Rest Home, Fuquay Varina  
Holland's U.M., Garner  
White Plains U.M., Cary

Helen B. Emmons has said, "God's music is in our ears everywhere in His beautiful world".



**ONE TRUTH CHORAL GROUP  
YOUNG PEOPLE'S CHOIR**

First row, left to right, Susan Penny, Kathie Coats, Yvonne Arch;  
Second row, left to right, Peggy Johnson, La Vette Boone, Jo Rich, Rose Coats,  
Frances Gulley, Lou Johnson, Cindie Gulley, Ronda Penny;  
Third row, left to right: Kalon Jeffries, Terry Boone, Ricky Rich, Steve Sorrell,  
Johnny Boone, David Arch, Jimmy Guy, Thomas Jeffries, Eddie Rowland.

Submitted by Lou Johnson and Bettie Jean Sorrell

In the olden days, before organs and pianos were plentiful, the tune for the Mount Zion music was "histed" by the use of a tuning fork. This item of interest was related to us by our grand-parents who were active in the church more than a hundred years ago. This sketch of the tuning fork is an exact replica of those used at that time.



Tuning Forks used in the 1800's.

The first organ for Mount Zion was obtained in the late eighteen hundreds, Miss Cleo Wrenn was the organist in the early nineteen hundreds. She was a blessing to all the Mount Zion people for many years.

He'll Understand and Say Well Done

"Music: yes, music is my hobby.  
It is beautiful. I love it very much.  
Even though I know I am far from the **best**.  
I try very hard to be as good as the **rest**.  
But be that as it may, I am sure  
He'll understand and say well done.

"Music: I think it is great.  
Our choir meets once a week and has a lot of **fun**.  
And with our good leaders we **get the job done**.  
And some way I am sure  
He'll understand and say well done.

"The choir at Mt. Zion is very old.  
There have been many to come and **go**.  
And the good it has done, only God will ever **know**.  
But I am sure  
He'll understand and say well done.

"Our pianist and organist are real good.  
I love each of them very **much**.  
And as you see them do their job  
It is easy to see they have the **touch**.  
And when it is all over and done, I am sure  
He'll understand and say well done.

"So now as I near the end of my journey,  
With hands sore and scarred from the work I have **done**,  
And by the help of God the final battle is **won**,  
I'll take up my cross and run quickly to meet him.  
And I **know**  
Jesus will understand and say well done."

Robert Argo Stevens  
"Choirmaster"



## THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

“Work for the night is coming,  
Work through the morning hours,  
Work while the dew is sparkling,  
Work mid springing flowers;  
Work when the day grows brighter,  
Work in the glowing sun,  
Work for the night is coming  
When man’s work is done.”

Annie L. Coghill

There is truly work to be done and we need ever to keep in mind that our Heavenly Father has commissioned us “to be about His business”.

During the past decade the name of our “Woman’s Society of Christian Service” has been changed to “The United Methodist Women”. We are still trying to grow in “Christian Service” and it is very good to be “United” so that every woman who is a member of the Church and those who join in the future automatically become a member of the Society.

The Mt. Zion Society, as was recorded in Volume I, was first organized in 1913 and has both flourished and waned under several names for sixty-five years. The members have always had a strong hand in furthering the work of our Lord at our small rural Church. We endeavor to follow Jesus’ admonition to us to feed the hungry, give water to the thirsty, take in the stranger, clothe the naked, and to visit those who are sick and in prison; not only those behind bars, but also those who are in the prisons of sin, loneliness, and sorrow.

Those who have served as Presidents of the Mt. Zion United Methodist Women since 1965 are as follows: Louise Johnson, Barbara Ennis, Helen Britt, Margaret McCullers, Julia Penny, and Rachael Tart who is serving at the present time.

Three of our dear members have been called home by our Heavenly Father during the past few years. They added much joy to our work and we cherish their memory. These loved ones are Luna Penny Grissom, Christine Waring Walker, and Stella Brady Godwin. One other dear one who helped to organize our first Society in 1913, also, recently died. She was Ruth Taylor Massey. She ever loved our Lord and His work.

“We know, O’ Lord, so little what is best;  
Wingless, we move so slowly;  
But in Thy calm all knowledge let us rest -  
O’ Holy, Holy, Holy!”

John Charles McNeil

Much of our work has been done locally; however, we do a great deal to help further the work of our Lord in other communities as well as in other lands.

We have honored many of our members with “Life”Time Pins”. The greatest percent of the cost of these pins is sent to Foreign Missions, for which we are thankful. Those of us who have been thusly honored through the years are as follows: Christine Walker, Mabel Penny, Odell Penny, Lena Stevens, Helen Britt, Pansy Johnson, Mable Johnson Hicks, Jean Meadows, Elsie McIntyre, Rachael Tart, Mozell Cox, Barbara Ennis, Louise Johnson, Seleta

Morgan, Jane Barber, Blanche Hobby, Margaret McCullers, Lousie Dean, Julia Penny, JoAnne Jeffries, LaVerne Coats, and Meredyth Lane. May we ever strive to live up to the perfection of this honor.

We, as a Society, have placed memorials in the Sanctuary to the Glory of God and in memory of our members who have recently died. They are an altar bud vase honoring Luna Grissom, a vestibule pen set honoring Christene Walker, and a hymn book honoring Stella Godwin.

Two of our deceased members have been honored at our District Conference thusly; a carnation placed in the memorial vase at the 1962 Conference in memory of Sallie Smith Brady and a candle burned at the 1973 Conference in memory of Luna Penny Grissom. Two of our living members have been honored during the Conference candle burning. They are Pansy Blalock Johnson, 1976, and Mabel Grissom Penny, 1977. The money for the placing of the flowers in the memorial vase and candle burning during the Annual Conference goes to missions; so, as we honor our own, we are helping others.

We, as a group, have been sending a quarterly offering to our former Pastor, J.W. (Bill) Garrison, who is a missionary in Brazil, to aid in his work. He is doing a splendid work there and we are thankful to be able to help.

We have been quite busy for the past few years in improving our Church grounds. We raised the money through a "bake sale" to buy the shrubs and plants. Ernest Penny, one of our Methodist Men, did most of the work with the help of our Pastor's wife, JoAnne Jeffries. We hope to continue beautifying our Lord's Garden down through the ages.

#### A Garden

"He who owns a garden  
However small it be  
Whose hands have planted in it  
Flowers or bush or tree;  
He who watches patiently  
The growth from nurtured sod  
Who thrills at newly opened bloom  
Is very near to God."

Katheryn Edelman

We do feel very near to God as we view His creations in the growth and beauty of His garden.

We have continued with the bake sales on several occasions and have raised money to recarpet the Sanctuary. Our Church is much improved for God's Glory. We have, also, raised funds to refinish the pews with the help of many others.

We ever lend a hand when there is much to do in carrying on the work of the Church such as preparing for homecomings, weddings, showers, receptions, all Church meetings, and in times of bereavement. We also arrange flowers for the Sanctuary as well as for the Children's Chapel and Church Vestibule. Many of the flowers for these arrangements, which add so much beauty, are grown by Mary Broughton, Lena Stevens, Pansy Johnson, and Mabel Penny.



"Blossoms from Heaven are sent down to earth's sod,  
To keep before mortals the presence of God."

D.M. Cahoon

We often take food to the needy, the sick and bereaved, and send clothing to those who are in need at home and abroad. May we ever strive to labor more fully in the work for our fellow man as God has planned for us.

Several of our capable women have taken, and are now taking, leadership in the high finances of our Church. Those who have been treasurers of our United Methodist Women since 1966 and the one who is treasurer now are: Odell Penny, Billie Matthews, LaVerne Coats and Jane Hurst. Helen Britt was treasurer of the Church for many years and Barbara Ennis has been for the past several years and serves at the present time. Mable Johnson Hicks was Charge Treasurer and Merdyth Lane, Church Treasurer when we were a member of The Garner Charge.

Our Lord has told us to "bring all our tithes and offerings into His storehouse and He will open the windows of Heaven and pour us out a great blessing". (Taken from Malachi 3:10) We are thankful!

"Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God hath shined."

Psalms 50:2

We are told by the Poet Keats that "A thing of Beauty is a joy forever; its loveliness increaseth". We Methodist women join hands in keeping our Sanctuary and classrooms clean and beautiful so that the "loveliness" of Mt. Zion may increase.

The following list of these workers for the past several years has been compiled by a group of ladies thusly: Christine Walker, Alice Johnson, Stella Godwin, Luna Grissom, Bet Barber, Mary Taylor, Annie Utley, Cattie Barbour, Blanche Hobby, Pansy Johnson, Mabel G. Penny, Lena Stevens, Foy Powell, Lousie Dean, Margaret McCullers, Irene Stanley, Mary Broughton, Callie Jones, Helen Britt, Barbara Ennis, Delia Creech, Clara Raynor, Bea Carroll, Katie Myatt, Elgie Etheridge, Mozelle Cox, Gladys McDaniel, Ethel Jones, Odell Penny, Mabel L. Penny, Annie Poole, Irene Coats, LaVerne Coats, Catheryn Cox, Pansy Carroll, LaVette Boone, Doris Dry, Ethleen Johnson, Ethel Johnson, JoAnne Myers, Betty Jean Sorrell, Lou Johnson, Jane Hurst, Mary Elizabeth Penny, Josephine Rich, Seleta Morgan, Dixie Barbour, Onnie Lee Barbour, Margarete Jordan, Mary Council, Marcella Crocker, Shelby Myers, Sue Dupree, Rachael Tart, Janice Tart, Mabelle Gulley, Jane Barber, Julia Penny, Billie Matthews, Lorene Grissom, Della Mae Crisp, Shirley Girssom, JoAnne Jeffries, Ruth Walker, Dianne Johnson, Glenda Dean, Amanda Carroll, Barbara Penny, Evelyn Stevens, Hazel Lee, Linda Ingram, Jennie Ennis, and Merdyth Lane. (Many of our men and youth have also helped with the cleaning.)

The women are responsible for the church floral arrangements to show honor to God and add beauty to the Sanctuary.



### Who Put It There?

“Who put the sweet perfume into the flowers?  
Who put the beauty into every rose?  
Who gave the birds, ever singing,  
The power their songs to compose?  
Who gave grace to the morning glory,  
And yellow to the golden rod?  
Who put majesty into the mountains?  
I’m sure you will say it was God.”

Ernest C. Durham

We were honored in November 1977 to have the Raleigh District of the United Methodist Women meet with us at Mt. Zion. Thirty-three churches were represented and much work was reported. Also, many plans were made for future work. It had been almost two decades since the District Churches met with us and it was a joy to have them with us again. We trust that God’s plans for us were carried forward and ever will be during our future meetings.

God’s word tells us that we are “laborers together with Him --- and in all things to abound in all good works”. 1 Corinthians 3:9, II Corinthians 9:8.



Mary Jeanne Blackburn, (Mrs. R.M.)  
1922 - 1977

Mrs. Blackburn, who was our Bishop’s wife, did much to inspire us with our Women’s Work.

## THE METHODIST MEN

“Four things a man must learn to do,  
If he would make his record true  
To think without confusion clearly,  
To love his fellowman sincerely,  
To act from honest motives purely,  
To trust in God and Heaven securely.”

Unknown

May the Methodist Men of Mt. Zion ever observe, not only these four requirements, but all those laid down by the teachings of our Lord and Savior.

The Mt. Zion Chapter was first organized in 1957 and flourished for a decade or so accomplishing many good works. It then closed down for a short while and was rechartered as United Methodist Men in 1973 and, since then, has been very busy about our “Father’s business” up to the present time. They know that “The fields are white, already, unto harvest”. John 4:35

Those who have served as president since the new beginning are: Robert Dupree, Mitchell Langdon, Frank Tart, Casey Matthews, and Danny Batten. Leamon Myers serves at the present time with Jessie Dry, Vice-President; Robert Dupree, Secretary and Treasurer; Tommy Crocker, Project Chairman; Raphus Coats, Publicity Chairman; Jack Honeycutt, Devotional Chairman; and Raeford Tart, Attendance Chairman. Billy Grissom, Marshall Grissom, C.J. Jordan, Charles McCullers, and Roy M. Raynor have also served as officers.

Since the rejuvenation, they have excelled in the Lord’s work for Mt. Zion. They have purchased a movie screen for the Annex; an outside disposal unit for the Annex kitchen; raised money for the Sanctuary pew cushions and chancel kneeling pads, to repair the plaster and to repaint the walls and re-finish the woodwork of the interior of the Sanctuary. They also take leadership for the Boy Scouts; help with Methodist Youth Fellowship; the Vacation Bible School and help to raise funds for every need of the Church. We are blest to have as members electricians, brick masons, carpenters, mechanics, businessmen, horticulturists, and farmers. The majority of the members have farming interest and love the rural life.

### Out In The Fields With God

“The many cares that fretted me,  
I lost them yesterday,  
Among the fields above the sea,  
Among the winds at play,  
Among the lowing of the herds,  
The rustling of the trees,  
Among the singing of the birds,  
The humming of the bees.

“The foolish fears of what may happen,  
I cast them all away,  
Among the clover scented grass,  
Among the new mown hay,

Among the rustling of the corn,  
Where drowsy poppies nod,  
Where ill thoughts die and good are born,  
Out in the fields with God."

The Grange Handbook

We know from God's word that Jesus walked the countryside and did most of His teaching and healing "out in the fields with God". He taught much through His references to the rural life concerning the trees that bear good fruit, the sower of seeds, the fruit of the vineyards, the still waters, the shepherd and the sheep and the fishermen, all of which are familiar words to those who live in the peace and quiet of the countryside.

Each member has had a great part in furthering God's work at Mt. Zion. To mention a few: Jack Honeycutt placed a beautiful concrete urn beside the entrance steps in which to discard "unseemly" objects before entering the Sanctuary. Robert Stevens has for many years kept the Church lawn mowed and in beautiful condition as well as helping with every phase of the Church work, especially the music. Durwood Johnson, as mentioned in another chapter, keeps the Cemetery in perfect condition. Ernest Penny has used his great talent in horticulture in adding much beauty to the Church grounds. Roy Max Raynor, Sr. is a wonderful Sunday School teacher. Charles McCullers, who was Conference Director of Methodist Men for several years has returned home and has enjoyed getting back into the swing of things at Mt. Zion. He has given impetus to the devotional programs. Leamon Myers heads the flourishing Boy Scout troops aided by Vic Council and Tommy Crocker. Casey Matthews has for the past few years been director of the United Methodist Youth group, and is now Cub Scout Leader. Jessie Dry has been busy with the plastering, and painting the Sanctuary interior and re-finishing the pews.

Each one of the men has used his talents and abilities in making repairs and improvements to the Parsonage and Church buildings and has joined hands in donating his time, money, and prayers in furthering the work. The others who have done so much to keep this work going are Collin Grissom, David Jones, Garland Penny, Joe Carroll, Ed Barber, Norwood Ennis, Jimmy Creech, Douglas Grissom, Jerry Boone, Hudson Austin, R.G. (Jack) Johnson, Paul Johnston, Calvin Penny, John Myers, Phil Cunningham, W.M (Bill) Jeffries, Ronnie Myers, Otha Barbour, Clyde Hurst, Harry Carroll, Stanley Penny, Mac Poole, Mark Dupree, and Thomas Jeffries.

These men excel in cooking their own Sunday morning breakfast once a month.

One of these devout members has been called home by our Heavenly Father recently. This dear one is Collin L. Grissom and we herewith pay great tribute to him for his help throughout the years. May his good example ever be followed by others.

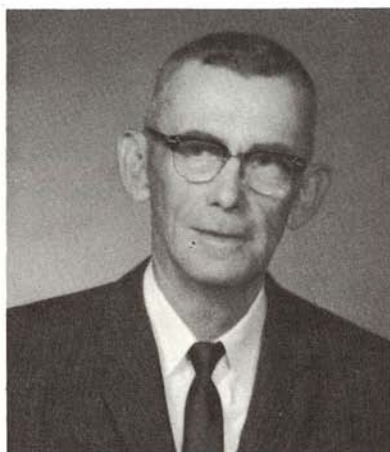


J.H. Newman has given wonderful thoughts to contemplate as we work:

Among The People

"I sought to hear the word of God  
And climbed the topmost steeple,  
But God declared, 'Go down again  
And dwell among the people'."

May we ever do our utmost to dwell and work in peace and harmony with our fellowman.



Collin L. Grissom  
1898 - 1976

Historically, Methodist Men has served a vital need in the ongoing of our Church and, with the combining of Evangelical United Brethren and the Methodist Church in 1968, and the name-change to United Methodist Church, this phase of Methodism has taken on new impetus. More than 150 of the leading churches in North Carolina Annual Conference currently have active United Methodist Men organizations. As has been referred to herein, Mount Zion's record of service and achievement has been above average. First and foremost in the hearts and minds of United Methodist Men, at Mount Zion, as elsewhere, is the adoption and application of its Pledge as written in The Objectives of United Methodist Men.

1. To engage daily in Bible study and prayer.
2. To bear witness to Christ's way in daily work and in all personal contacts through words and actions.
3. To engage in some definite Christian service.
4. To engage in personal evangelism especially among men and boys.
5. To seek committment to discipleship.
6. To study and become familiar with the United Methodist Church, its organization, doctrine, and beliefs.
7. To cooperate with all units of United Methodist Men in obtaining these objectives through district conferences and church-wide goals.

"Be ye doers of the Word and not hearers only"

Charles McCullers



Robert Casey and Billie Penny Matthews.



Danny A. and Beverly Grissom Batton.

## MARRIAGES

“What God hath Joined together,  
Let not man put assunder.”

Matt. 19:6

The Bride and Groom Speak:

“Everyday I love you more and more  
Today more than yesterday and less than tomorrow,  
I will not mind the wrinkles of your face  
My love will be deeper and more serene.  
Think of all the Springs which will fill our hearts.  
My own memories will also be yours,  
These common memories will entwine us more  
And constantly between us other ties will interlace.  
It is true, we will be old, very old,  
Weakened by age  
For, as you know, I love you more and more  
Today more than yesterday and less than tomorrow.”

Rostand

*(Contributed by Margaret McCullers)*

Members and friends Married Before Mt. Zion's Altar and by the Pastor since May, 1966:

Everett D. Lassiter and Sandra Johnson Bennett	1966
Jerry G. Williams and Thelma Doris Coats	1967
Kenneth W. Morg and Joan Elaine Myers	1967
Donald G. Maynard and Patricia Anne Johnson	1967
John E. Wetherington and Ethel Franks Myers	1967
Sam S. Clark and Shirley Langdon Ryles	1967
Robert C. Matthews and Billie Rose Penny	1968
Greshmon D. Jackson and Linda L. Messer	1968

Bruce Y. Hatcher and Genevieve Creech Pollard	1968
Wilbur T. Britt, Jr., and Paulette Johnson	1969
Clyde F. Hurst, Jr. and Mary Jane Britt	1969
Danny A. Batten and Beverly Yvonne Grissom	1970
Prentice T. Dupree and Audrey Coats Bass	1970
Newton C. Penny and Beverly Daniel	1970
Thomas M. Langdon and Marsha Jean Grissom	1970
Ronnie H. Blanchard and Teresa Star Hall	1970
Donald E. Paul and Julia Florence Carroll	1970
Christopher R. Allen and Janet Lynn Boone	1970
Vicky E. Tart and Bettie Joyce Dawson	1971
Eugene B. Collins and Mary Jo Ashby	1971
Marcus W. Partin and Mary Gail Johnson	1971
Lawrence W. Terry and Frances K. George	1971
Glenn David Stephenson and Bonnie Lorene Grissom	1971
Lawrence E. Zettlemaier and Donna Marie Hinnant	1971
Michael L. Carroll and Amanda Lee Gulley	1972
Anthony M. Drake and Teresa Jean Sorrell	1973
Ricky E. Barnes and Jane Dean Hayes	1973
James L. Stanley and Susan Gay Dean	1973
Darrell L. Penny and Brenda June Parrish	1973
Robert T. Draughan and Kathy Anne Penny	1973
Johnny D. Johnson and Ronda Lee Grissom	1973
Hubert C. Stanley and Donna Lynn Grissom	1973
Curtis Beasley and Debra Annette Davis	1974



**Wilbur T. Jr., and Paulette Johnson  
Britt.**





**Clyde F. Jr., and Mary Jane Britt  
Hurst.**

David J. Rowe and Debbie Dawson DeWolfe	1974
William Jack Honeycutt and Ethlene Medlin Johnson	1974
Dwight S. Johnson and Wanda Gay Etheridge	1974
Charles E. Truelove and Yolanda Hocutt	1975
David W. Johnson and Catherine Jo Lewis	1975
Charles Norton and Lois Kirkland Ward	1977
Thomas S. Hitchcock and Madonna K. Stephenson	1977
Tommy Earl Carroll and Glenda Hunt Dean	1977
Tony Lee Barbour and Ronda Lou Penny	1977
Robert Earl Ray and Rosa Lee Walker Ring	1977

Members married in other churches by other Pastors (One before 1966):

Berry O. Barbour and Dixie M. Walls, Pleasant Grove Baptist	1957
Daniel R. Dean and Glenda Ruth Hunt, Hollands Methodist	1966
Vernon H. Grissom & Lillian M. Montague, Longview Methodist	1968
Richard L. Hayes and Mary J. Dean, Bailey Methodist	1969
William R. Bridgers and Bonnie Barbour, Clayton	1969
Paul A. Matthews and Phyllis Maye	1969
Charles L. Myatt and Dianne Carter, Cary Methodist	1969
David E. Crisp and Sylvia L. Pierce, Dunn (Home of Bride)	1972

The following prayer was presented at the marriage of one preparatory member by infant baptism:

W. Craig Ennis & Jennifer C. Edwards, Stone's Creek Christian	1977
---	------

A Wedding Prayer

“Solemnly they take their marriage vows;  
Kneeling at the altar, they entrust  
Their futures to each other.  
Lord protect these children  
From the cruel, bitter thrusts of life  
That cut the strongest loves in two.  
Let their quarrels clear the air and never  
Settle into deep resentments.  
Teach them patience;  
Grant them love that lasts forever.  
“Let them learn together how to keep  
The vows they make so confidently here.  
In this troubled world  
Let them find strength within each other,  
And refuge from their fears.  
Let them hold love tightly,  
But without the twists of jealousy  
That burn and smother.  
Let them laugh,  
And grant they never lose faith in Thee  
Nor trust in one another.”

L.J. Stout

## OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

"Give of your best to the Master  
Give of the strength of your youth,  
Clad in Salvation's full armor  
Join in the battle for truth."

Mrs. Charles Barnard

The young people of Mt. Zion have always taken an active part in the Lord's work and have prospered because they are ever mindful of God's admonition to them to ---

"Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth." Ecclesiastes 12:1

An organization for the young people of Mt. Zion was first formed in the late eighteen hundreds as the "Epworth League". Then in the nineteen forties it was changed to the "Methodist Youth Fellowship" and is now the "United Methodist Youth Fellowship".

For the last decade or so, those who have been most instrumental in the work are as follows: Billie Penny, Amanda Gulley, Jane Dean, Paulette Johnson, Jane Britt, Beverly Grissom, Nancy Morgan, Brenda Tucker, Marsha Grissom, Pat Johnson, Frances Gulley, Randy Penny, Ronda Grissom, James Gulley, Donna Grissom, Gay Dean, David Earl Crisp, Roy Max Raynor, Jr., Sheila Boone, Timothy Grissom, Wayne Grissom, Wyette Morgan, Teresa Sorrell, Terry Boone, Macon Grissom, Ellen Tart, Johnnie Boone, Cindy Dean, Rose Coats, Steve Sorrell, Johnnie Johnson, Valerie Ennis, Crystal Dupree, Donald Penny, Cathy Coats, Dexter Tart, Andrew Grissom, Sheri Dupree, Ricky Rich, Ronda Penny, Eugene Myers, Kathi Johnson, Susan Penny, Donna Tart, Thomas Jeffries, Harry Carroll, Karen Massey, Rodney Coats, Mark Dupree, Eric Coats, Eugene Myers, Donna Childers, and Karen Pierce Johnson. The present counselors are Casey and Billie Penny Matthews and the officers are: Ricky Rich, President; Rodney Coats, Vice-President; Susan Penny, Secretary; Terry Boone, Treasurer; Andrew Grissom, Sergeant-at-Arms; Dexter Tart, Recreation Chairman; and Mark Dupree, Program Chariman.

These young people have excelled in raising money for Church projects. Several years ago, the M.Y.F. raised the money, with help from the older ones, to purchase the organ for the Sanctuary. This project is recorded in Volume I. Their next large project was to raise money to carpet the classrooms and study. This they did by organizing Saturday "car washes" and selling homemade trinkets at auction sales. For many years they have served lunch for "Harvest Day" sales and have raised a goodly sum of money thereby. They purchased a movie projector to present inspirational pictures for their services as well as for other Church assemblies. They put on a "yard sale" to help raise money for our "Victory Sunday" this past year and are now raising funds to place an awning over the annex kitchen door.

One of the most delightful services they render is visiting Retirement Homes and giving joy to the elderly through gospel songs and laughter. This they have accomplished many times and it gives joy to them as well as to others. They have also engineered programs and banquets for the "Golden



Age" ones of Mt. Zion. Words cannot be found to express our ecstasy on these occasions.

For their own pleasure they have been on several camping trips to Camp Rock Fish and Kerr Lake Camp for young people. Their counsellors have always accompanied them on these trips to the lakes. The "high light" of all their journeys was an Appalachian Ski Trip. They were accompanied by their current counsellors as well as former ones. They also invited young ones from the Methodist Orphanage in Raleigh to take part in the trip. Those who participated in this joy were as follows: Bus Driver Vic Council and wife, Mary; our Pastor and wife, Rev. and Mrs. Ed Barber; Counsellors Casey and Billie Matthews and Robie Matthews; Garland and Odell Penny; Lou Johnson; Kathi Johnson; Raphus and LaVerne Coats; Rose Coats; Kathy Coats; Timothy Grissom; Andrew Grissom; Donna Tart; Clyde and Jane Hurst; Danny and Beverly Batten; Roy and Clara Raynor; Randy Penny; Cindy Dean; Karen Massey; Mary Barefoot; Harry Carroll; Bobby Seagroves; and Anthony Driver. They will ever cherish the memory of this trip to "The Land of The Sky".



Ski Trip. Sketched by Roy Max Raynor, Jr.

Those who have served as counsellors for the past decade or so are as follows: Roy Max and Clara Raynor, Bob and Seleta Morgan, Lou Johnson, Beverly and Danny Batten, Vic Council, LaVerne and Raphus Coats, LaVette Boone, Josephine Rich, Ed and Jane Barber, Casey and Billie Matthews and our present Pastor, Bill Jeffries. Many of the young ones have held office through the years. Other than the ones who hold office at present time the following have been thusly honored: Amanda Carroll, Beverly Grissom, Nancy Morgan, Frances Gulley, Marsha Grissom, Rose Coats, Timothy Grissom, Cindy Dean, Cathy Coats and Johnny Boone.

It is wonderful for our young ones to further God's work on earth in the morning of their lives before the drudgery and the toils of life begin. Ralph Creshman expressed it so very meaningfully in the following poem:

### The Secret

"I met God in the morning  
When my day was at its best;  
And His Presence came like sunrise  
With a glory in my breast.

All day long the Presence lingered,  
All day long He stayed with me;  
And we sailed in perfect calmness  
O'er a very troubled sea.

So I think I know the secret  
Learned from many a troubled way;  
YOU must seek Him in the morning  
If you want Him through the day."

One of our precious young people of twenty years ago, Berry O. Barbour, met God in the morning of his life, entered the ministry and received his final Ministerial Order in June of 1977. He truly is a wonderful preacher and we are ever blest at Mt. Zion when he returns to bring us a message.

Let It Be Known to All Men That

Berry Otha Barbour

has been ordained

*Deacon*

in

*The United Methodist Church*

Having been deemed as well qualified to be entrusted with this sacred office, this person was elected thereto by the North Carolina Annual Conference.

Under the providence of Almighty God and in recognition of His Eternal Glory, I, a bishop of The United Methodist Church, have, by the imposition of my hands and by prayer, set apart for the work of a Deacon, to read the Holy Scriptures in the Church of God, to preach the word of God, and to perform other duties in accordance with the Discipline of the Church, so long as this person continues to be a faithful servant of Jesus Christ and to adhere to and teach the Gospel of our Lord and the doctrines of the Church.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of my office this twenty sixth day of August in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty nine in Fayetteville, North Carolina  
Bishop William R. Cannon



Let It Be Known That

**BERRY OTHA BARBOUR**

has been ordained

*Elder*

in

*The United Methodist Church*

Having been judged as well qualified to be entrusted with this sacred office, this person has been elected thereto by the \_\_\_\_\_ Annual Conference  
**NORTH CAROLINA**

Under the providence of Almighty God and in recognition of His Eternal Glory, I, a bishop of The United Methodist Church, and several elders have, by the imposition of our hands and by prayer, set this one apart for the work of an Elder, to read the Holy Scriptures in the Church of God, to preach the word of God, and to administer the Holy Sacraments in the congregation, so long as this person continues to be a faithful servant of Jesus Christ and adheres to and teaches the Gospel of our Lord and the doctrine of the Church.



In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of my office this SIXTH day of JUNE in the year of our Lord Nineteen Hundred and Seventy-Seven in Fayetteville, North Carolina  
Bishop Robert M. Blackburn

The very small children of our Church are the youth who steal our hearts. A "Children's Sermon" before each Sunday Morning Service was started by our former minister, Ed Barber. This has continued and each Sunday morning they, as well as we, are blest with their upturned bright little faces to receive the message from the "Children's Sermon". They gather and sit in front of the altar for this impressive part of the Worship Service.

Noted by Clara Powell Raynor

Reverence and beauty are added to our services by our young ones who desire to be acolytes. They find great joy in serving the Lord through lighting the altar candles for all worship services.

The lighted candles show us that Jesus is "the light of the world" and they remind us to follow His admonition to us to "let our light so shine that men may see our good works and glorify our Heavenly Father".

Those who have served thusly in service to God for the past decade or so are as follows:

Randy Penny  
David Earl Crisp  
Dexter Tart  
Terry Boone  
Ricky Rich  
Mark Dupree  
April Raynor

Macon Grissom  
Roy Max Raynor, Jr.  
Andrew Grissom  
Johnnie Boone  
Whit Morgan  
Eric Raynor  
Jennie Bea Carroll



Timmy Barber	Barry Myers
Steve Dupree	Kevin Myers
Jimmy Creech, Jr.	Bennie Tart
Dennis Tart	Lee Myers
Todd Myers	Robin Matthews
Karen Pierce Johnson	Ronda Carpenter
Wayne McLendon	

Those who have been faithful in filling in when needed are:

Susan Penny	Thomas Jeffries
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The young ones have been a blessing to us and have delighted in taking part in furthering our Lord's work at Mt. Zion.

“Who so draws nigh to God one step  
 Through loving Him,  
 God will advance a mile  
 In blazing light to him.”

This poem pictures an ideal and wonderful young person.

#### Somebody's Mother

“The woman was old and ragged and grey,  
 And bent with the cill of the winter's day.  
 The streets were wet with a recent snow,  
 And the woman's feet were aged and slow.  
 She stood at the crossing and waited long,  
 Alone, uncared for, among the throng  
 Of human beings who passed her by,  
 Nor heeded the glance of her anxious eye.  
 “Down the street with laughter and shout,  
 Glad in the freedom of 'school let out',  
 Came the boys like a flock of sheep,  
 Hailing the snow piled white and deep.  
 Passed the old woman so old and grey,  
 Hastened the children on their way,  
 Nor offered a helping hand to her  
 So meek, so timid, afraid to stir,  
 Lest the carriage wheels and horses feet  
 Should crowd her down in the slippery street.  
 “At last came one of the merry troop,  
 The gayest laddie of all the group.  
 He paused beside her and whispered low,  
 'I'll help you across, if you wish to go'.  
 Her aged hand on his strong young arm,  
 She placed and so without hurt or harm  
 He guided her trembling feet along  
 Proud that his own were firm and strong.  
 “Then back again to his friends he went,  
 His young heart happy and well content.  
 'She's somebody's mother, boys, you know,

For all she's aged and poor and slow;  
And I hope some fellow will lend a hand  
To help my mother, you understand,  
If ever she's poor, and old and grey,  
When I am a man and far away.'

"And somebody's mother bowed low her head,  
In her home that night, and the prayer she said  
Was, 'God be kind to the noble boy,  
Who is somebody's son and pride and joy'."

Anonymous

"You young men and maidens, you old and young together,  
let them praise the name of the Lord; for His name  
alone is supreme! His majesty is above earth and Heaven."

Psalm 148:12-13

(Modern Language)

Our Mount Zion young people, the teenagers as well as the little ones, render special honors to their mothers on Mother's Day in both song and poem. This fills our hearts with joy and for us older ones brings many precious memories, expressed so well in this poem.

#### My Wonderful Mother

Dear wonderful Mother, how can I say  
The things that are thrilling my heart today?  
Back over the years my eyes can see  
Your lovely face as it brings to me  
Love and truth and a gentle smile,  
A hope that nothing can beguile,  
A faith secure in the midst of wrong,  
Courage bold, and true, and strong.  
All of this you gave to me,  
Dear wonderful Mother, so tenderly.  
Your voice rang out on the morning air,  
As you talked to Jesus in simple prayer,  
"Wonderful Words of Life", you sang  
As all the day, their beauty rang  
Within my heart. It seemed to me  
That all my life was glad and free.  
And I know, wonderful Mother of mine,  
That you touched my heart with love divine,  
And gave me faith that through the years  
Has calmed the tumult of my fears.

Christene Waring Walker

## OUR BOY SCOUTS TROOP 64

### The Scout Oath

"ON my honor I will do my best  
To do my duty to God and my country;  
And obey the Scout laws,  
To help other people at all times,  
To keep myself physically strong,  
Mentally awake and morally straight."

May each precious young man keep, with God's help, his Scout oath all through his life.

The Mt. Zion Methodist Men decided to further our Lord's work by sponsoring Scout Troop 64 in the Fall of 1976. Hence, in January, 1977 a scout meeting was held again at Mt. Zion after more than a decade. In fact, one of the most loyal scouts of that time, Leamon Myers, whose father, Sandy Myers, was the excellent scout leader, is Scout Master of this troop. He is a wonderful worker with the young people.

Those who helped Leamon Myers to get a troop established again at Mt. Zion were Assistant Scout Masters Shepherd Byrd and Bobby Harrelson, Jr.; the Cub Master, Brant Allen Johnson, Jr.; and the Den Mothers, Peggy Johnson and JoAnne Myers. Several members of this committee have resigned.

The 1978 leaders are Leamon Myers, Scout Master; Vic Council, Assistant Scout Master; Webelos Leader, Tommy Crocker; Cub Scout Master, Casey Matthews; Den Mothers, JoAnne Myers, Mary Council, and Billie Matthews; Den Assistants, Marcella Crocker and Brenda Abbott.

The present Scout Committee is made up of Charles McCullers, Chairman, with Roy Max Raynor, Sr., Danny Batten, Robert Dupree, Casey Matthews, Tommy Crocker, and Clyde Hurst as members.

On January 10, 1977, the Court of Honor was held in the Church Sanctuary and Rodney Coats was awarded the Eagle Badge. Also, several progress awards were presented. Those who took part in the ceremony and presentations were Eagle Scouts, Casey Phillips and Tim Parrish (the flag ceremony); Leamon Myers (Progress Awards); Scout Tracy Hargis (candle lighting); and the Eagle Ceremony was performed by Danny Batten, Roy Raynor, and Leamon Myers who presented the Eagle Badge.

The Blue and Gold Banquet was held in the Church Annex in February of 1977. Brant Allen Johnson, Jr. was Master of Ceremonies and several awards were presented. All those who were present were thrilled with the Troop's achievements.

Leamon Myers was honored by the presentation of the "Wood Badge". This was awarded to him by Mr. Marvin Coats, Master of Troop 660. We were honored to have Mr. Coats with us.

The current membership is made up of the following: Scouts - Robert Creech, Robin Grimes, Todd Myers, Barry Myers, Eugene Myers, Tracy Hargis, Tommy Hargis, Eddie Stanley, Dwight Oliver, James Barbour, David Baucom, David Cox, Eric Raynor, Jack Barbour, Rodney Coats, Mark



Harris, Eric Coats, James Monday, Howard McLaurin, and Greg Byrd; Webelos - Joey Barbour, Richie Boyd, Lee Council, Jim Creech, Kevin Coats and David Early; Cub Scouts - Phill Byrd, Jr., Jerry Byrd, Robert Stephenson, Marty Godwin, Don Wells, Kevin Myers, David Wells, Jeff Harris, Stan Powell, Eddy Gentry, Mike Lassiter, Jay Abbott, James McLamb, Barry Andrews, Robbie Matthews, Wayne McLendon, Daryl Holland, Donnie Adams, Bryan Parrish, Michael McLamb, and Wells Hayes.

We are happy to have these young ones, many from neighboring churches, as well as our own Mt. Zion ones, carry forth the banner of good works and love for their fellowman. The scouts are dedicated to life's highest ideals which help to make them exceptional young men.

On December 8, 1977, the annual Recognition Banquet of the Neusiok District of the Tuscarora Council of Boy Scouts of America was held at the Smithfield, North Carolina, Moose Lodge. Many of the leaders and committee members of our Troop 64 attended this meeting and received numerous honors for their work, their achievements, and their advancements for the year of 1977.

The following report of this meeting was submitted for this volume by JoAnne Ogburn Myers (Mrs. Leamon).

"The evening began with an opening ceremony by Scouts from Troop 21 and an invocation by Rev. John Ryberg. This was followed by the banquet, introduction of special guests, roll call and the presentation of awards.

"The Awards received by our Troop 64 are as follows: A second coffee mug for recruiting ten new members into Cub Scouting - Casey Matthews, Cub Master, received this for the Pack. A ribbon for having the greatest number of members present at the meetings was presented. The troop was presented the National Scouting Award for fulfilling ten necessary obligations during the past year. The Troop also received the District Honor Unit Award for recruiting the largest number of new members. The National Camping Award was presented to the Troop for having more than twelve days and nights camping during the year, as well as attending summer camp. The troop was presented a gift for having the largest percentage of leaders and committee members present. A gift was also presented to Troop 64 for the best table decoration (made by Vic Council), Assistant Scout Master. Leamon Myers, Scout Master, was presented the National Unit Award for attending the most 'Round Table' meetings of the year and he was also presented the Scouter's key for completing the Leadership Development Plan and the Woodbadge and Cornerstone Courses."

What a wonderful report for our Troop 64 and the leaders!

It is with a feeling of gratitude to note that Larry Hamilton, a member of Troop 21, received the Medal of Honor for saving the life of his friend by rescuing him from drowning.

For many years the Cub Scout Pack has held a "Pinewood Derby". This is a contest in which the Cub Scouts vie with each other in carving and assembling small cars from blocks of pine wood and adding wheels and other necessary parts. Of course, the most perfect carving and assembling and, also, swiftness determine those who win the contest awards.

The latest Derby was held in the Church Annex on Saturday, January 28, 1978. Those who excelled in the following categories are:

## 1. Over All Performance

Mike Lassiter - - - - Trophy and Goal Medal  
Robbie Matthews - - - - Silver Medal  
Lee Council - - - - Bronze Medal

## 2. Webelos

Lee Council - - - - Blue Ribbon  
Joey Barbour - - - - Red Ribbon  
Jim Creech - - - - Green Ribbon

## 3. Cub Pack, Den #1 and #2

Robbie Matthews - - - - Blue Ribbon  
Marty Godwin - - - - Red Ribbon  
Wayne McLendon - - - - Green Ribbon

## 4. Cub Pack, Den #3

Mike Lassiter - - - - Blue Ribbon  
Kevin Coats - - - - Red Ribbon  
Ray McLamb - - - - Green Ribbon

## 5. Overall Looks and Originality

Robert Stephenson - - - - Trophy and Gold Medal  
Joey Barbour - - - - Silver Medal  
Marty Godwin - - - - Bronze Medal

## 6. Webelos

Joey Barbour - - - - Blue Ribbon  
Lee Council - - - - Red Ribbon  
David Early - - - - Green Ribbon

## 7. Cub Pack, Dens #1 and #2

Robert Stephenson - - - - Blue Ribbon  
Robbie Matthews - - - - Red Ribbon  
Marty Godwin - - - - Green Ribbon

## 8. Cub Pack, Den #3

Mike Lassiter - - - - Blue Ribbon  
Jay Abbott - - - - Red Ribbon  
Richie Boyd - - - - Green Ribbon

This Derby was a delight to both young and old alike.

The birthday of the Boy Scout organization is the eighth day of February. However, Troop 64 celebrated the 1978 day at Mt. Zion on Sunday, February the 12th. All those present received a blessing from their participation in the Service.

The Annual Cub Scout Blue and Gold Banquet was held in the Church Annex on February 24, 1978. A wonderful feast was enjoyed by all.

Our guests were the Scout Committee members, the Roundtable leader, Mrs. Susan Lee, the District Executive of the Neusiok District, Mr. Jim Miles and the District Advisor of th Order of the Arrow, Mr. Arnold McLain.

Awards were given to David and Don Wells, Wayne McLendon, Jay Abbott, Kevin Coats, Lee Council, David Early, Richie Boyd, Jim Creech,

Daryl Holland, and Joey Barbour. Kevin Coats was promoted to the Webelos.

For entertainment, Den 1 and 2 sang "I've Got That Cub Scout Spirit". Den 3 gave us a brief history on how Cub Scouting began. The Webelos gave us their oath, motto and law.

The Dance team of the Order of The Arrow did their ceremonial dance and tapped Joey Barbour for Boy Scouts.

The meeting was closed with all singing "My Country 'Tis of Thee".

Reported by Mary Council (Mrs. Vic)



Cub Scouts

"Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the Believers in Work, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, and in purity."

I Timothy 4:12



Leoman Myres,  
Scout Master





Heather Dawn Barber, daughter of Rev. & Mrs.  
W. E. Barber, our first parsonage baby.

## OUR BABIES

"Lo, children are the heritage of the Lord." Psalms 127:3

"There just isn't anything  
That can make life more complete  
Than a precious little baby  
Adorable and sweet."

May we ever bring our young ones up in "the nurture and admonition of the Lord". Ephesians 6:4

Those who have been dedicated to God and baptized before Mt. Zion's sacred altar since 1966 are as follows:

Baby	Parents	Date
Joseph Frederick Rich, II	Joseph F. & Josephine M. Jones Rich	1966
Bennie Lee Tart	G. Frank & Rachel G. Tart	1967
Jeffrey Powell Raynor	Roy M. Sr. & Clara P. Raynor	1968
Robert Casey Matthews, Jr.	Robert C. Sr. & Billie P. Matthews	1968
Shirley Ann Utley	Thomas W. & Helga H. Utley	1968
Patricia Dorothy Utley		
Dennis B. Tart	G. Frank & Rachael G. Tart	1970
Penni Caroline Matthews	Robert C. & Billie P. Matthews	1971
Thomas Mitchell Langdon, Jr.	T. Mitchell Sr. & Marsha G. Langdon	1972

Alicia Jane Alcorn	Jimmy R. & Ella D. Alcorn	1972
Christopher Paul Partin	Marcus W. & Mary Gail J. Partin	1972
Traci Michelle Langdon	T. Mitchell Sr. & Marsha G. Langdon	1974
Heather Dawn Barber	Rev. Mr. W.E. & Jane N. Barber	1975
Kelli Danielle Batten	Dannie A. & Beverly G. Batten	1975
Charlotte Melody Cunningham	E. Philo III & Marilyn L. Cunningham	1975
Michael Lane Crisp	David E. & Sylvia Pierce Crisp	1976
Daniel Bryan Penny	Arthur Stanley & Terry P. Penny	1976
Wendi Michelle Britt	Clyde F. Jr. & M. Jane B. Hurst	1976
William Robert Alcorn	Jimmy R. & Ella D. Alcorn	1977
Edward Philo Cunningham IV	E. Philo III & Marilyn L. Cunningham	1977
Frederick E. Martin Jr.	Fred & Alfreda Martin	1977
Rebecca Fay Martin	Fred & Alfreda Martin	1977
Rodney Keith Martin	Fred & Alfreda Martin	1977

The following young ones were baptized in other sanctuaries and placed on our preparatory roll when their parents came to us as Church leaders:

John Whittelsey Morgan	Rev. Mr. Robert W. & Seleta T. Morgan	1964
(Carr Methodist Church, Durham, N.C. - Placed on Mt. Zion roll in 1975)		
Jonathan David Jeffries	Rev. Mr. W.M. & JoAnne L. Jeffries	1971
(New Garden Friends' Meeting House, Greensboro, N.C. - Placed on Mt. Zion roll in 1975)		

One of our members is wife of a United States Naval Officer. They had their son baptized on board ship. He is recorded as follows:

Kenneth Warren Morg, Jr. Lt. Cmdr. K.W. & Joan M. Morg 1970  
(On board the USS Kitty Hawk, Anchored at Coronado, Calif.)

From "The Baby" by George MacDonald:

"But How did you come to us, you dear?"

"God thought about you, and so I am here."

We place rose buds on the altar announcing the birth of our new babies and in honor and gratitude to God.

Edith Daily has said:

"The miracle of one pale rose is proof enough of God."

We know that our precious little ones are God's greatest gifts to us and our greatest responsibility is to follow God's charge to us to lead them into a saving knowledge of His grace.

Those who have been honored thusly since 1970 and their dates are as follows:

Mary Margaret Maynard	December 14, 1970
Meredyth McGee Penny	December 29, 1972
Christopher Paul Partin	May 11, 1973
Julia Dandridge Taylor	August 14, 1973
Wayne Glenn Williams	September 13, 1973
Traci Michelle Langdon	April 20, 1974
Kevin Michael Carroll	June 21, 1974
Leamon Joel Myers	June 29, 1974
Stephanie Jane Britt	September 5, 1974
Christine Elane Taylor	September 17, 1974
Paris Dawn Penny	October 18, 1974
Heather Dawn Barber	November 15, 1974
Kelly Danielle Batten	December 17, 1974
Missy Renee Barnes	July 15, 1975
Daniel Bryan Penny	August 16, 1975
Michael Lane Crisp	September 17, 1975
Charlotte Melody Cunningham	September 20, 1975
David Scott Gurganus	October 6, 1975
Rebecca Anne Penny	November 8, 1975
Melissa Gail Partin	November 19, 1975
Valerie Lynn Britt	March 16, 1976
Wendi Michelle Hurst	April 6, 1976
Christopher Paul Barbour	April 15, 1976
Angela Denise Johnson	April 30, 1976
James McCullers Bonner	February 2, 1977
Matthew David Dawson	February 9, 1977
Dennis Lee Carroll	March 17, 1977
William Robert Alcorn	May 5, 1977
Karen Dawn Johnson	July 11, 1977
Edward Philo Cunningham IV	August 6, 1977
Katherine Elizabeth Harris	September 17, 1977
Elizabeth Anne Johnson	September 17, 1977
Rodney Keith Martin	November 12, 1977
January Nicole Jones	January 5, 1978
Roland Stony Jones	February 8, 1978
Danny Ray Dupree Jr.	February 11, 1978
Matthew Ervin Braswell	February 16, 1978
James Michael Penny	April 14, 1978
Michael Clinton Stanley -	May 24, 1978

“Train up a child in the way he should go;  
And when he is old, he will not depart from it.”

Proverbs 22:6

And, too, it has been said that “A parent’s life is a child’s copybook”; so, may each parent of the Mt. Zion children set a true copy of love and service for them to follow.



## DEAR SISTER CHURCHES

“God cannot be found only  
in one place,  
One day or one person.  
God is truly in all people  
All places, all creatures  
And all creation.  
We feel His presence  
Wherever we go,  
And whatever we do  
Because  
God is everywhere.”

Anomyous

“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!”

Psalms 133:1

Because we know that God is everywhere and with all people, the Churches of our community gather together on many occasions to worship Him with one heart and one voice; not only to “rejoice”, but also to “weep with those who weep”, as God’s word tells us to do.

The joyous occasions which bring us together are Easter Sunrise Services, Community Thanksgiving Services, Revivals, Weddings, singing groups of young people, and the “Golden Age” and “Young at Heart” groups.

The Choirs of several of the Churches sing special anthems at the revivals of their sister churches, and the pastors of the churches fill the pulpits of other denominations for the Community Thanksgiving Services.

The young people and the adult ladies and gentlemen have recently organized softball teams made up of members from several of the churches. This, of course, brings us closer together and gives to us much joy and comradeship.

The Boy Scouts from several of the churches meet at Mt. Zion weekly; thus bringing our young boys into brotherhood with one another. They also hold their Devotional Award Services in Mt. Zion’s sanctuary and hold their banquets in the annex. This is a great joy to us each one.

Those meetings of sadness are, of course, the funerals of our beloved neighbors and families. We, also, visit with the sick and shut-ins of all our neighbors as well as those who are in need and are distressed.

These Sister Churches are of several denominations and are as follows:

Mt. Zion United Methodist  
Turner Memorial Baptist  
Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian  
Pleasant Grove Baptist  
Holland’s United Methodist  
Shiloh Baptist  
New Bethel Baptist  
Providence Presbyterian

Plymouth Christian  
Black Creek Baptist  
Middle Creek Primitive Baptist  
New Hope Presbyterian  
Johnson Memorial Baptist  
Berea Presbyterian  
Wooten’s Chapel Freewill Baptist

St. Marys Freewill Baptist  
Oakland Presbyterian  
Benson Grove Baptist  
Elizabeth United Methodist  
Wildwood Baptist

White Memorial Presbyterian  
Garner United Methodist  
Garner First Baptist  
First Presbyterian Church of Garner  
Plain View Presbyterian

May we, as Christian brothers and sisters, ever join hands in serving our Lord and emphasizing those things which bind us to the total Body of our Lord and Savior. "Let brotherly love continue." Hebrews 13:1

"Jesus said unto them: 'Peace be unto you. As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.'" John 20:21



**Holland's United Methodist Church**  
Our dear companion Church  
1914 - 1966

## MEMORIALS AND SPECIAL GIFTS

"There are songs and wings  
 Every garden brings,  
 And the scent of pink  
 And rose - - - -  
 But, 'Remembrance'  
 Is the sweetest flower  
 That in a garden grows."

Anonymous

Our memorial gifts are made to the Glory of God and in memory of our loved ones. These gifts always prove a blessing to those who love Mt. Zion and serve our Lord.

The memorials that have been presented since those recorded in Volume I was published are as follows:

Gift	In Memory Of	By
Pew	Sie D. Coats	Mrs. Irene Johnson Coats, wife
Pew	Luna Penny Grissom	Collin Grissom, husband, & friends
Pew	J.F. & Florence Crocker Batts	Mr. & Mrs. Lonnie C. Batts
Pew	Ruth Taylor Massey	Friends and Relatives
Pew	J. Van Harrington	Mr. & Mrs. I. Ed Simpson
Pew	Collin L. Grissom	Mr. & Mrs. Rex Dean
Pew	Amos C. Grissom	Mrs. Mamie Penny Grissom, wife, & family

There are two Sunday School classes named in memory of two of our deceased members who were wonderful workers for the Lord; namely, the Neil B. Johnson Memorial Class for the Youth Group and the Ed McCullers Memorial Class for those of all ages who choose it as their class.

We also have one class named for one of our Sunday School members who was killed in service for our country. It is the Robert C. Dawson Memorial Class. Robert was killed in action in Vietnam June 18, 1970. The class was organized by the young married couples.

A lovely bed of azalias has been planted in the Church garden in memory of Joseph M. McCullers, given by the family, planted by Ernest Penny, and cared for by JoAnne Jeffries up to the present time.

Many items needed to further the Lord's work in our Church have also been given in memory of the following:

Gift	In Memory Of	By
Registry Stand in Vestibule	Claud D. Taylor	His wife, Grace Brown Taylor & daughter, Dorothy Taylor
Brass Baptismal Font for the Altar	Virginia Staples Barbour	Sister, Mrs. B.L. Rose & Friends
Cash	Gertrude P. Dore	John and Mildred Harper



Choir Lights and Outside Lights for Annex	John Henry (Jackie) Pyser III	Mother, Dorothy Boone Pyser Staunton
Brass Altar Cross and Candle Sticks	Glenn E. Cox	Family & Alice Turner Purdee
Brass Bud Vase for the Altar	Luna Penny Grissom	United Methodist Women
Portable Communion Set	Luna Penny Grissom	Mr. & Mrs. Frank Tart
Vestibule Light and Brass Vase for the Vestibule Console Table	Willie L. Carroll	Friends of Julia Carroll Paul & Friends of the family
Christian Flag and United States Flag	Ida Carroll Penny	Grandchildren & friends
Church Bell	R.F. Coats	Dedicated to the Glory of God by his wife, Mrs. Addie Coats
Pen Set for the Vestibule Registry Stand	Christine Waring Walker	United Methodist Women
"Random Thoughts" by Christine W. Walker for the Church Library	Christine Waring Walker	Her Children
"All the Prayers of The Bible" by Lockyer for The Church Library	Clarence B. Barbour	Garey M. Cooper Family
Folding Table for the Annex	Bernice B. Johnson (and in honor of his wife, Charlotte S. Johnson)	Larry & Violet Johnson Zettelmaier
Pulpit Light	Collin L. & Luna Penny Grissom	Their Children
Lights for Piano and Organ	W. Page & Elsie Barber Taylor	Mt. Zion Friends

The memorial Hymn Books are as follows: Mrs. Myrtle Rich, R. Lewis Lane, Joseph E. Broughton, D.A. Austin, Roy Hobby, Martin Sherrill, D.E. Coats, Mrs. Macie Stancil Martin, Mrs. Bertha Jordan, Mrs. Malina J. Johnson, Laurie McEachern, Roger Rowe, Joe Roberts, Mrs. Nannie Tucker, Carson D. Barbour, Lonnie Langdon, Mrs. Sudie Lane Crisp, Paul Jordan, Mrs. Alice Creech Johnson, Kenneth Williams, Mrs. Penny Elizabeth Tart, Robert C. Dawson, J. Brack Penny, Eppie A. Johnson Jr., Mrs. Naomi Blalock, Elton Penny, Mrs. Margaret Wright Fierstein, Mrs. Hilda Grey Holland, Sie D. Coats, Mrs. Froncy B. Penny, C. Fletcher Carroll, Mrs. Josephine Wright Lewis, T. Benton Young, Mrs. Minnie Blalock Turner, Baby Girl Batten, Mrs. Effie McGee Blalock, Roy C. Cannady, Mrs. Geneva Dawson Godfrey, Worth Messer, Mrs. Pauline S. Smith, Wilbur Crisp, R.F. Coats, Mrs. Ester Sanders Hinton, Glenn E. Cox, Mrs. Elizabeth Watkins Johnson, W.E. Johnson, Baby David Thomas Britt,

Willie L. Carroll, Mrs. Luna Penny Grissom, Mrs. Susie McGee Harper, George Thomas Dawson III, Mrs. Annie Stancil Parrish, Wyatt Parrish, Mrs. Ida Carroll Penny, Joseph Andrew Broughton, Baby David Clarence Stevens, Durwood Penny, Mrs. Carolyn Williams Whitley, Mrs. Eva Parrish Barber Eason, Sherrall Bradford Barbour, Mrs. Delphia Johnson Moore, James Johnson, William Jones, Mrs. Alma Penny Jones, Sandy B. Myers, Mrs. Lucy C. Myers, Bain Franks, Mrs. Clara L. Craven, Hubert H. Powell, Erastus Eli Powell, Dexter D. Penny, Bobby L. Penny, Mrs. Rena Meadows, E. Street Jones, Sr., Mrs. Billy Staples Rose, Dr. W.W. McIntyre, Mrs. Josephine Lane Moreadith, Burke Carroll, Mrs. Gladys Taylor Cannady, Collin L. Grissom, Mrs. Elsie Barber Taylor, W. Page Taylor, Mrs. Clara W. Autrey, Mrs. Stella B. Godwin, Burke H. Taylor, and Reuel Smith.

Other than memorials these special gifts have been presented to Mt. Zion to be used in the Lord's work.

The bell to call the people to worship was presented by Mr. and Mrs. R.F. Coats and was dedicated to Mr. Coats after his death. This has proven a great joy to us. As Albert Schweitzer expressed it:

“When I heard  
The Church Bell ring,  
I thought I heard  
The Voice of God.”

May it ever be thus with us!

Other gifts are as follows: A wall-to-wall carpet for the Neil B. Johnson Memorial Classroom by Durwood C. Johnson, Jr. in honor of his niece, Kathi Lynn Johnson, on her sixteenth birthday; one thousand dollars willed to Mt. Zion to be invested and the interest to be used for the upkeep of the cemetery by Bertie Taylor Gower; a new electric range for the Church Annex by Irene Johnson Coats; window shades for the Annex in honor of Heather Dawn Barber by Mr. and Mrs. Durwood Murray; a new electric refrigerator for the Annex by Callie Johnson Jones; the carpet and furniture for the Parsonage den by the Rev. and Mrs. R.W. Morgan; a wall-to-wall carpet for one of the Parsonage bedrooms by the Rev. and Mrs. W.E. Barber; a movie projector by the United Methodist Youth Fellowship; a movie screen by the United Methodist Men and they also raised money for the pew cushions and painting the Sanctuary; several shrubs, flowering trees, and plants were given for the Church and Parsonage grounds by Ernest Penny and wife, Betsy Pagan Penny.

A piano has been presented to us by Valeigh Austin Narron. It is placed in the Ed McCullers Memorial Classroom for the choir to use on Sunday morning before entering the choir loft. This has been a great benefit to the singers as well as a blessing to all.

We have a beautiful permanent Advent Wreath presented to the Church by Ethleen and Jack Honeycutt. This Season is in preparation for the advent of the Redeemer of mankind, the birth of Christ, our Savior. It is also the season of looking forward to His second coming according to His promise.

Two of our ladies, who have been Mt. Zion members since babyhood, have dedicated lovely Christmas wreaths for our Sanctuary doors. These wreaths are a symbol of God's encircling love and proclaim to us that Jesus Christ is born. These were given in memory of David Stevens by Bettie Jean Stevens

Sorrell and Doris Stevens Ellington.

Cash was given in memory of Leroy Messer and Stella Godwin by relatives.

Many necessities for the Church and Parsonage have been purchased with the income from the Thomas Lane McCullers legacy.

May these memorials and gifts, for which we are most grateful, ever be used for the Glory of God and to bless the people.

"As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same  
One to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."

I Peter 4:10



Ritta Blalock Johnson,  
(Mrs. N.B.)  
1889 - 1978

A memorial in cash was presented to Mt. Zion in her memory and to the Glory of God on May 13, 1978 by C.M. Mitchell.



Christene Waring Walker  
(Mrs. B.C. Sr.)  
1893 - 1975

A memorial in cash was presented to Mt. Zion in her memory and to the Glory of God on Mother's Day 1978 by her children.



## THE CEMETERY

"Be thou faithful until death, and  
I will give thee a Crown of Life."

Rev. 2:10

Our Mt. Zion Cemetery is a very sacred and precious memorial garden to each one of us. Many of our loved ones are sleeping there "safe in the arms of Jesus", and in the years to come many more of us will be laid to rest beside those awaiting the great day when "the last trump will sound and we will be raised up in the twinkling of an eye to meet Jesus in Glory". This, we read in the Bible. May we always say with the Apostle Paul, "But thanks be to God, Who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." I Cor. 15:57

### There Is No Death

"There is no death, the buds and flowers,  
Are hidden neath the winter's gloom.  
But Spring will wake to life again,  
The sleeping flower, and make it bloom.

"There is no death, the immortal soul,  
Freed from this tenement of clay,  
Will soar aloft on wings of love,  
To live in joy through endless day.

"There is no death, this weary frame,  
Will sweetly sleep beneath the sod,  
Then wakened by the trumpet sound,  
Will live again, at home with God."

T.S. Hitchcock

(Contributed by Evelyn McC. Sherratt)

Those who have been entombed at Mt. Zion since 1966 are as follows:

Name	Born - Died
Edna Wilkins McElveen	1913 - 1967
Baby Girl Penny (Parents: Jerry and Elaine)	1967 - 1967
Roy V. Hobby	1903 - 1967
James E. Godwin	1889 - 1968
Bertie Taylor Gower	1889 - 1968
Virginia Staples Barbour	1892 - 1968
Eula Jones Wrenn	1882 - 1969
L. Bain Franks	1887 - 1969
Carson D. Barbour	1887 - 1969
Braxton J. Penny	1892 - 1970
Robert C. Dawson	1947 - 1970
James P. Jordan	1895 - 1970
Kenneth E. Williams	1901 - 1970
Froncy Byrd Penny	1881 - 1971
Fletcher C. Carroll	1893 - 1971
Margaret Wright Fierstein	1909 - 1971

George T. Dawson, Jr.	1914 - 1971
Josephine Wright Lewis	1919 - 1971
Baby Girl Batten (Parents: Danny & Beverly)	1972 - 1972
Troy Benton Young	1889 - 1972
Worth T. Messer	1918 - 1972
Fred P. Bridgers	1901 - 1972
Glenn E. Cox	1902 - 1972
Baby David T. Britt (Parents: Billy & Paulette)	1972 - 1972
Luna Penny Grissom	1901 - 1972
Willie L. Carroll	1896 - 1972
Baby Lawrence Carroll (Moved to Mt. Zion 1973)	1926 - 1928
Louise Wrenn Matthews	1907 - 1973
Ruth Taylor Massey	1886 - 1974
Bobby L. Penny	1928 - 1974
Linda Williams Evans	1922 - 1975
Clarence Barnes Barbour	1885 - 1975
Fannie Johnson Walton Williams	1891 - 1976
Collin L. Grissom	1898 - 1976
Irene Poole George	1901 - 1977
Baby Boy Ellis (Grandmother: Pearl Londy)	1977 - 1977
Amos C. Grissom	1904 - 1977
Ritta Blalock Johnson	1889 - 1978

Other who are sleeping at Mt. Zion are listed in Volume I.

Our first lesson ends with death and we know that we have a new beginning waiting for us at the "open gate" to Heaven.

Our cemetery is beautiful and is well kept by Durwood C. Johnson, Sr. He has been a faithful member of Mt. Zion for fifty-six years, has been Sunday School Superintendent and Chairman of many committees, as well as Chairman of the Board of Stewards. We are grateful to him for his service in keeping "God's Acre" beautiful in sacred memory to our loved ones and to God's glory.

Mrs. Bertie Taylor Gower, widow of Dr. Floyd Gower, willed a goodly sum of money to the Church for the interest to be used for the upkeep of the cemetery. For this, we are also grateful.

The "sage" Haskins has said:  
 "Go out into the darkness and put your  
 Hand into the hand of God.  
 That shall be to you better than light  
 And safer than a known way."



Mr. Zion's Cemetery.



## OUR MT. ZION PASTORS SINCE 1966

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

Mark 16:15

We at Mt. Zion have always been blessed with pastors who were true disciples of Christ. They have guided us in paths of righteousness and we honor them and cherish their memory.

Those who have served us since we became a station Church are as follows:

The Rev. Mr. Dan E. Meadows	1964-67
Dr. William W. McIntyre	1967-69
The Rev. Mr. Robert W. Morgan	1969-73
The Rev. Mr. W. Edward Barber	1973-75
The Rev. Mr. William M. Jeffries	1975-

These dedicated men have proven a great blessing to us.

Mr. Meadows and his wife (Nee, Jean Bullard) were the first to occupy our own Mt. Zion Parsonage and have returned to visit with us many times since they were called to another Church.

Mr. Meadows was a great help to us during the time we were building our parsonage and in guiding us into many programs as our first "station" pastor.

His daughter, Josephine M. Jones Rich, and her family are still members with us and are very active in all phases of our work, especially so in music and work with our young people. We count the Meadows family very dear to us.

Dr. McIntyre came to North Carolina Conference after his retirement from the Virginia Conference in 1965; having served forty-six years in the ministry. His first pastorate here was in Apex and then in June 1967 we were blest to have him come to us. Since Bishop Garber was Bishop of both the Virginia Conference and ours, he knew that we needed Dr. McIntyre and he, "Dr. Mack", was truly a help to us. He retired from our Conference and returned to Virginia in June 1969. He and his lovely wife, (Nee, Elsie Griffin), returned to worship with us several times before his death in 1973, at age 78. He preached our Homecoming Sermon in September 1971 to one of the largest congregations ever to assemble at Mt. Zion. What a blessing!

Dr. McIntyre was a great leader in the Virginia Conference. He was a member of the Bishop's Cabinet, was District Superintendent of two Virginia Districts, was co-founder of the Patrick Henry Hospital in Portsmouth, Virginia, and was trustee of the hospital at the time of his death. Also, he was President of the Pell Foundation of the United Methodist Church, was a former chairman of the World Service Board of Virginia, was a member of the United Methodist Conference and was a former co-chairman of the Tide Water Chapter of the American Cancer Society. He was truly a servant of the Lord and may we at Mt. Zion ever strive to reach his goals in Christian service.

We are blest that Mrs. McIntyre continues as a dear friend and supporter of our Church.

Mr. Morgan brought with him to our parsonage a lovely family of young people. Mrs. Morgan, (Nee, Seleta Tucker), and the children, as well as our



pastor, were a great joy to us and added much to the interest and enthusiasm to our Church life. They were a very musical family and thereby brought growth to our "singing Church", as Mt. Zion has been called down through the ages.

The young people needed more parsonage room, so we decided to enclose the "port-co-chere-- and thus add a "den" for the young ones to enjoy. Our pastor and Mrs. Morgan furnished the "den" themselves as a gift to our Church for which we will ever be grateful.

Mr. Morgan did much to help us grow and encouraged us in many ways. We are thankful that we were privileged to have them with us for four years.

Mr. and Mrs. Barber, (Nee, Jane Nelms), came to us as "Bride and Groom" just beginning a wonderful life together. They were both precious and he was filled with a young man's enthusiasm and love for the Lord's work. While he was with us, we renovated the Sunday School rooms on the east side of the sanctuary and in the north and south transepts. These five rooms were carpeted, the ceilings lowered and walls repainted, thus improving the 1840 section of the Lord's house.

A most precious, "Blessed Event", took place the second year they were with us: Heather Dawn Barber was born on November 15, 1974, and was baptized on March 16, 1975, at Mt. Zion's sacred altar by Bishop Robert M. Blackburn. Heather was our first Parsonage baby and she will ever remain a "first" with us.

Mr. and Mrs. Barber gladly took into their home, while they were with us, a precious "red headed" boy of five years who needed a home. They later legally adopted him, hence he is now Timmy Barber and is dear to us all.

Mr. Barber worked enthusiastically with the young people and we were blest during his tenure with us.

Our current pastor is our own capable "Bill" Jeffries and he is one of our most thoughtful and concerned pastors. He brought with him a wife, (Nee, JoAnne Lee), who abounds in enthusiasm and love, and three precious boys.

Since Mr. Jeffries came to us, we have continued to grow and make improvements. A Boy Scout Troop has been transferred to us and the Methodist Men have raised money for pew cushions and other improvements for the sanctuary. Also, much has been done to beautify the Church grounds.

The family needed more parsonage room so we moved the Pastor's study from the Parsonage to the south transept of the Sanctuary instead of using that for a classroom.

Mr. Jeffries has encouraged us to continue work in all the Conference Committees and organizations and to abound in the Lord's work.



**Rev. & Mrs. W. M. Jeffries, and sons, Kalon, Thomas,  
and Johnathan.**

"I shall pass through this life but once.  
Any good, therefore, that I can do  
Or any kindness that I can show to  
Any fellow creature,  
Let me do it now.  
Let me not defer or neglect it,  
For I shall not pass this way again."

Etienne de Grillet

## OUR DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS

“Make me to understand the way of Thy precepts;  
So shall I talk of Thy wondrous works.”

Psalms 119:27

Our superintendents help us to understand God's wonderful works and to carry out His plans for the people of His Church.

We have been blest by the following men since Volume I was begun in 1964:

“The Reverend Doctor Nicholas W. Grant served our Church, as Raleigh District Superintendent during the period 1964 - 1968 and demonstrated his recognized ability as an outstanding administrator, as well as a devout friend and Christian leader. Dr. Grant and his lovely wife, Ruth Henderson Grant were loyal helpers and leaders in the ongoing of Mount Zion and won the lasting friendship and admiration of its members and neighbors during the four-year period.

“Following Reverend Grant, The Reverend Leon Russell and his sweet wife, Alta Stone Russell came to the Raleigh District. They left their mark in Christian influence and leadership with Mount Zion and, following a distinguished career in God's ministry, with service as pastor to eight leading charges and superintendency at both Goldsboro and Raleigh, left us at Mount Zion and the Raleigh District to enter into a well-earned retirement in 1969.

“Jack Ward Page became Superintendent of our Raleigh District following Mr. Russell's retirement in 1969, and emulated well the splendid examples set by his predecessors. The Reverend Page and his lovely helpmate, Frances Foster Page, gave stimulating encouragement and consecrated direction to the work of his district in general and to Mount Zion Church in particular. The occasions that brought the Pages to our Church were memorable indeed and left us better prepared. He was the first of the list of five great superintendents to answer the call to Glory and we shall miss his presence and his unusually dedicated direction of administrative affairs. He served us for almost four years.

“Though of short duration, as interim District Superintendent during the 1974-1975 conference year, combined with his duties as Conference Director of Ministeries, The Reverend Charles H. Mercer served our District well and to the satisfaction of all his charges, including Mount Zion. Charlie and Florrie Smyth Mercer made indelible and lasting impressions on all who had the good fortune of knowing them. Their work with us will be remembered and cherished through the years to come. The Mercers continue their discipleship as important leaders at the Methodist Building in Raleigh.

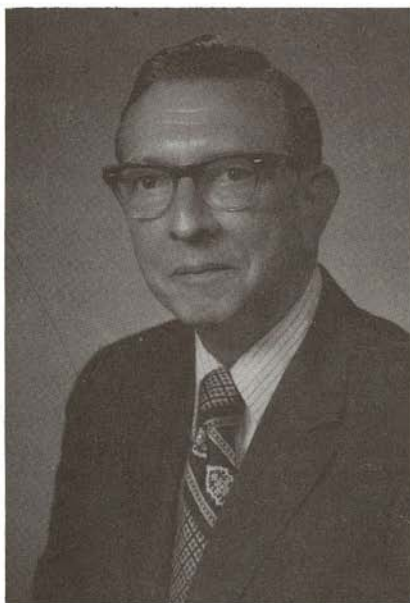
“Brother Warren B. Petteway, our incumbent District Superintendent, has ‘for such a time as this’ brought continued dignity, profound respect and inspiring leadership to the Raleigh District and all its charges and churches. Warren and his lovely Harriett Fleming Petteway grace our District Parsonage in Raleigh and are regarded widely as typical of our most capable and distinguished leaders in North Carolina United Methodism. Ours is a better and richer Christian sojourn because of the Petteways. Our abiding



gratitude to them and to our Heavenly Father for their presence and discipleship.”

Compiled by Charles L. McCullers

These servants of the Lord have proven a great blessing to us at Mt. Zion.



Rev. W. B. Petteway.

## OUR BISHOPS

"This is a true saying;  
If a man desire the office of Bishop,  
He desireth a good work."

I Timothy 3:1

Our bishops have truly been a great inspiration to us and have done "a good work".

Bishop Paul N. Garber was very precious to us. He came, many times, to Mt. Zion from the year of his election to the Bishopric in 1944 up to the time he went to Switzerland to serve the Lord there in 1968. He blessed us with a wonderful Dedicatory Sermon for our present sanctuary in 1951. Dear Bishop Garber was called home to Heaven in 1972.

Bishop William B. Cannon was elected Bishop in 1968 and was assigned to us at that time. He was a great Disciple of Jesus Christ and we loved him. He was transferred to Atlanta as Bishop of that area in 1972.

We, at Mt. Zion, felt honored as Bishop Cannon was honored, when President-Elect Jimmy Carter requested him to give the invocation at his Inauguration in Washington, D.C., on January 20, 1977.

Bishop Robert M. Blackburn was elected Bishop in 1972 and became our succeeding Bishop. He has served this district in a wonderful way up to the present time and has been to Mt. Zion on several occasions. His visits are always a great inspiration to us. He was instrumental in helping us to get a long-standing mortgage, which had been satisfied, canceled on the County books. For this we are thankful. He conducted our revival in October 1977. This proved a great blessing to Mt. Zion and to our community made up of churches of several denominations. The Baptist Choir from Pleasant Grove



Rev. R. M. Blackburn Bishop.

blessed us with several inspirational songs on the final evening of the revival. Two precious young people gave their lives in service to God during the week. They are John Eric Raynor and April Foy Raynor, twin brother and sister, children of Roy Max, Sr. and Clara Powell Raynor and great, great, great grandchildren of one of our Circuit Rider Pastors, Thompson Garrard. We praise our Heavenly Father for His gift to us through these young ones and we pray His greatest blessings for them.

Bishop Blackburn's precious wife, Mary Jeanne Everett who died in May 1977, came to Mt. Zion several times to help with our women's work. We do cherish and honor her memory and have made a contribution to the "Mary Jeanne Blackburn Scholarship Fund". This Fund will be a great blessing to many young people who need help in order to gain a thorough education and to live a more bountiful life of service.



**Bishop Paul N. Garber  
1899 - 1972  
Our Wonderful Leader.  
From  
1951 - 1968**



## THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE CAROLINA CIRCUIT OF METHODISM

"Lord, Thou has been our dwelling place in all generations."

Psalms 90:1

We, as Carolina Methodists, have been blessed with two hundred years in which to serve our Lord and fellowman; and we know that God is still "our dwelling place". May we at Mt. Zion ever grow in service to Him and to those with whom we come into daily contact.

On April 3, 1976, the Bicentennial of the "Carolina Circuit" was celebrated at the Cameron Indoor Stadium at Duke University. Those of us from Mt. Zion, who attended, were thrilled with the history and the record of our achievements through the years and of our efforts to do God's bidding.

Almost eight thousand people from all over the State attended, many in colonial costumes and with their Church banners.

The Duke University Chapel Choir led the music and rendered several inspirational anthems during the Service.

The celebration began with an invitation to the "whole world to join in praising God". We then responded with, "We invite the sky to thunder His Word, the earth to rumble in His praise and the sea to swirl in song".

This was followed by numerous hymns of praise sung by the assembly and the choirs from many universities and colleges. Mingled with the music there were addresses by our Bishop, Robert M. Blackburn, and the Bishop of the Western North Carolina Conference, Earl G. Hunt. The President of Duke University, Terry Sanford, made the introductions and engineered the program through to a grand finale.

There were references to God's great Creation and the establishment and growth of Christianity with all races of people throughout the eons of time.

An American Indian prayer was quoted as follows:

"May the sun always be warm on your shoulders,  
May the spirit of the wind blow gently across your face,  
May the light of the moon and stars always guide your paths,  
May the moisture of the dew always fill the thirst of your life,  
From the rising of the sun to the setting of the moon,  
From today until tomorrow, and from this moment to forever."

Dean Thomas Langford of Duke University led the assembly in the symbolism of the rock upon which Jesus established His Church through faith like Peter's when He said, "Thou are Peter and upon this rock I will build My Church". Matthew 16:18. Each person was presented a bit of stone taken from the quarry near the university. (Stones from this quarry were used in constructing Duke University and the beautiful Duke Chapel)

The Editor of the Christian Advocate, James C. Stokes, had this to say about the continuation of our work for the Lord;

"We are gathering new strength for the tests of tomorrow.  
We are not going to death under the burdens of these times!  
Rather we are rising with Christ out of the tomb to a larger life,  
A more meaningful servanthood, and a more glorious destiny."

## CORRECTIONS FOR VOLUME I

Errors and omissions found in the first volume, of course, were not made intentionally. "To err is human", we are told; and to find those errors and make amends is a God given achievement. The errors and omissions found so far are as follows:

1. On Page 26, concerning those who helped raised funds for the Church during the depression days of 1929-33, is stated that two of those who helped in addition to many others were "Lenwood Wrenn and wife, Edyth Wrenn". **Correction:** It should have read Lenwood Wrenn and wife, Julia G. Wrenn.
2. On Page 32 is stated that Ransom Bridgers and Adeline Thompson were parents of Mary Bridgers Taylor, wife of A.D. Taylor. The record of Ransom Bridgers and wife, Adeline Thompson Bridgers, having sold land to a Mr. Gower in the eighteen hundreds was found in a Johnston County Book of Deeds. However, it has been brought to may attention that Ransom Bridgers and wife, Adeline Barber Bridgers were the parents of Mary Bridgers Taylor. The Ransom Bridgers and wife, Adeline Thompson, are not recorded in the Bridgers-Taylor family record.

3. Page 68	<b>Member or Friend</b>	<b>To Whom Married</b>
Recorded:	Mark Myatt	Unknown
<b>Correction:</b>	Mark Myatt	Mary Speight

4. Page 69		
Recorded:	Elizabeth Willis Sanders	Dr. John Thomas Leach
<b>Correction:</b>	Elizabeth Willis Sanders	Dr. James Thomas Leach

5. Page 76			<b>Date Joined</b>
<b>Add:</b>	Lonnie Batts	Ruby Payne Batts	1917
Page 78			
Recorded:	Edward Wrenn	1. Jackie Elliott 2. Alice Vester	1926
<b>Correction:</b>	Edward Wrenn	Alice Vester Wrenn	1926
Page 81			
Recorded:	Doris Carroll	Johnnie Johnson	1938
<b>Correction:</b>	Doris Carroll	Charles M. Johnson	1938

6. On Pages 92 and 94 in the chapter on Marriages the dates of two of our members' marriages were miscopied:

**Recorded:** William Lester Crips & Della Mae Cox - 1853

**Correction:** William Lester Crisp & Della Mae Cox - 1953

**Recorded:** Ernest D. Penny and Betsy Jane Pagan - 1949

**Correction:** Ernest D. Penny and Betsy Jane Pagan - 1946

Also, on page 94 the marriage of one couple was omitted due to lack of knowledge at the time.



"it is human to err - but to forgive is divine."



## L'Envoi

When earth's last picture is painted and  
the tubes are twisted and dried,  
When the oldest colors have faded and the  
youngest critic has died,  
We shall rest; and, faith, we shall need it  
— lie down for an aeon or two,  
Till the Master of all good workmen  
shall set us to work anew!

And those that were good shall be happy:  
they shall sit in a golden chair;  
They shall splash in a ten-league canvas  
with brushes of comet's hair;  
They shall find real saints to draw from  
— Magdalene, Peter and Paul;  
They shall work for an age at a sitting,  
and never be tired at all!

And only the Master shall praise us, and  
only the Master shall blame,  
And no one shall work for money, and no  
one shall work for fame;  
But each for the joy of the working, and  
each in his separate star,  
Shall draw the thing as he sees it for the  
God of things as they are!

— Kipling.



## EPILOGUE

“They that trust in the Lord shall be as Mount  
Zion which cannot be removed but abideth forever.”

Psalms 125:1

How wonderful it is to know that God's Mount Zion will abide forever and that they who trust in Him shall also abide forever. May our Mt. Zion, which, too, is God's Mt. Zion, continue in His work down through the ages as long as He wills. And may those who do His will in the work of the Church ever find joy in serving Him and others.

It has been a joy to compile this Volume II of Mt. Zion's History. I have received aid from many members and friends in recording interesting facts concerning much of the Church's service to the community. May the membership grow in numbers and ever labor to the Glory of God and for the joy and peace of those who follow.

May God's richest blessings rest with each one.  
Merdyth McCullers Lane (Mrs. Geo. W.)

### The Church

“The Church's one foundation  
Is Jesus Christ her Lord;  
She is His new creation  
By water and the Word.  
From Heaven He came and sought her  
To be His Holy Bride.  
With His own blood He bought her  
And for her life He died.

Samuel Wesley 1810-1876



Psalm 23.

## SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND HELP

Many of the Mt. Zion members have helped me with suggestions and information. I have searched the Church records and have received help from articles found in the Johnston County Library and Court House. I have, also, read articles concerning the work of the Church reported in the Christian Advocate and have received inspiration from reading the Bible and books of "good works".

Those who have helped me are: Clara Powell Raynor, Barbara Taylor Ennis, Mary Hocutt Taylor, Louise Johnson Johnson, Charles L. and Margaret Werner McCullers, LaVette Cooke Boone, Robert A. and Lena Barbour Stevens, Cecil and Blanche Johnson Hobby, Roy Max Raynor, Sr., Roy Max Raynor, Jr., Beatrice Young Carroll, Durwood C. and Pansy Blalock Johnson, Mabel Grissom Penny, Susan Penny, Arch and Evelyn McCullers Sherratt, Rosa Lee Walker Ray, Robert Dupree, Garland and Odell McGee Penny, Emily Taylor Henley, Vivian Mitchell (Bishop Blackburn's Secretary), Rev. Ed and Jane Nelms Barber, Vic and Mary Myers Council, Casey and Billie Penny Matthews, Bettie J. Stevens Sorrell, Evelyn Knott Stevens, Otha and Onnie L. Boyett Barbour, Rev. William and JoAnne Lee Jeffries, Dexter Tart, Nancy McCullers Ferguson, Louise Grissom Dean, Danny Batten, Mozelle Godwin Cox and Catheryn Cox, Frank and Rachael Grissom Tart, LaVerne Bass Coats, Callie Johnson Jones, Mary Johnson Broughton, Pearl Johnson Londy, Edna Mae Clark Dawson, Leoman and JoAnne Blalock Myers, Shelby Stephenson Myers, Eric and April Raynor, Leona Blalock, Marylan Londy Cunningham, and Loraine Grissom.

The Holy Bible, Grange Handbook, World Almanac, Smithfield Herald, Christian Advocate, Guide Post, *Methodist Altars* by Arnett and Clark; *Songs Merry and Sad* by John Charles McNeil; *God Is Everywhere* selected by Harold Whaley; *Random Thoughts* by Christine Waring Walker; Johnston County Book of Deeds; *Songs for the Sunday School* by J.R. Pepper.