

History
of
Newland
Methodist
Church

1791 - 1991

DEDICATED
TO THE GLORY OF GOD
GIVEN
IN MEMORY AND HONOR
OF
PAST AND PRESENT MEMBERS
OF
NEWLAND METHODIST CHURCH

This is a history of Newland Methodist Church. It is a history of the works of the congregation as a part of the Body of Christ rather than the accomplishments of the individual members.

We give thanks to Almighty God for the members of the past and the present, all of whom, by their faith, their Christian deeds and their individual support, have contributed to the growth of Christianity and in God's Holy Name, have established and maintained Newland Methodist Church, in service to our Lord Jesus Christ, for two hundred years.

As we remember those of the past, may we also thank God for the opportunity He has given us, to serve Him here in Newland. May we continue to work as Christians and strive to be the church God has called us to be.

Laura S. Parker
Church Historian
April 1991

HISTORY OF NEWLAND METHODIST CHURCH

The Methodist movement began in early 1700 in England, under the dynamic leadership of John Wesley. By 1766 many Methodists had immigrated to America and would gather in various places for worship services lead by lay preachers. The lay preachers were not ordained, therefore, could not administer the Holy Sacraments, such as Baptisms, the Lord's Supper and others. Realizing the need, Wesley sent Richard Whatcoat, Thomas Vasey and Thomas Coke to America to ordain the Methodists ministers.

On Christmas Eve, 1784, all the lay preachers were called to a conference at Lovely Lane Meeting House in Baltimore, Maryland, where twelve were ordained and Francis Asbury was consecrated as Bishop. This was the beginning of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the first Christian denomination to be organized in America. "To reform the continent and to spread scriptural Holiness over these Lands", was the purpose stated by the leaders. In 1984, Methodists all over America celebrated the 200th anniversary of this historic event.

The preachers were appointed to a designated territory in which to preach, known as a Circuit. These areas were so vast, that the preachers spent much of their time traveling to the various "preaching places", they became known as "Circuit Riders".

Even before the organization of American Methodism in 1784, the Circuit Riders attended conferences. At a conference in Virginia in 1782, Rev. Jesse Lee was asked to "take a circuit", but refused, saying, "I was afraid of hurting the cause which I wished to promote; for I was sensible of my own weakness." After much prayer and with his heart filled with the desire to do God's will he consented.

Rev. Lee and another preacher, Edward Dromgoole, were then sent to North Carolina to "lay out" a new circuit. This great task began on 1 Dec. 1782, upon their arrival in Edenton, N.C. and ended sixteen days later, in Norfolk County, Va., as Lee writes in his journal:

18 Dec. 1782..."Our journey in the low lands from Norfolk County, Virginia to Edenton, N.C. and back again, has taken sixteen days, in which time we have had nineteen meetings, chiefly among people who were not acquainted with the Methodists; but the general wish was that we should return again; and we so far succeeded in our plan as to form a circuit, which was called Campden. I felt thankful to God for the privilege of visiting that strange people and I had no doubt but our labours were acceptable to God, and profitable to the people."

This circuit was referred to as either Camden or Pasquotank, in the early conference minutes. Some of the places Lee and Dromgoole preached in this circuit were; Edenton; Plank Bridge, which was the area near Camden Court House; Col. Williams' and Indian Town, in Currituck Co.; Gen. Gregory's and Sawyers, in Camden Co.; Yeopin Church; and River Bridge.

The preaching at River Bridge was possibly where the people of Newland first heard a Methodist preacher. Lee writes in his journal Sunday 15 Dec. 1782.."At River Bridge where we had a large company of well behaved people to hear the word of eternal life; it was a solemn but profitable time."

River Bridge was the area near the bridge that crossed the Pasquotank River, connecting Newland and South Mills. (On the Pasquotank side this area is located just beyond the First Citizens Bank at Morgans Corner down the path

the river.)

Some researchers assume the River Bridge Meeting was in Forke Chapel, which was on the same site as present-day McBrides Methodist Church in South Mills, but that area was often referred to as Joys Fork or Joys Creek.

Whether this first Methodist sermon was held on the South Mills side or the Newland side of the river, we can be sure that many prominent citizens of both areas gathered to hear God's word, which sparked an interest in the Methodist religion. Below is a list of people of Newland during that time, some of whom may have heard this sermon.

HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD 1784-1787
NEWLAND DISTRICT, PASQUOTANK CO.

Samuel Forhand ✓	Thomas Tempel	Jesse McPhasion
John Cright	Mordick Smith	John Gray
Jarves Jones	Caleb Koen	Eleazer Beth Varding
Elizabeth Sawyer	William Wormiston	Silvester Varding
Jessey Harrison	James Blunt	Abraham Harson
Solomon Sawyer	Willis Sixto(n)	David Forehand ✓
Patsh(or?;it?) Griffith	James Forehand (?)	Caleb McDaniel
Elisha Prichers	John Rich	Peter McDaniel
Joseph Drsor(?)	John Coalk or Coabk?	Joseph Tempel
James Spence	Demcey Sawyer	Isaac McDaniel
Renchey Spence ✓	Rabrt Gray	Isaac Burnham
Owen Williams	Timathy Burnham ✓	John Cartwright
Sarah Gray	Thomas Leake	Lot Sawyer
Jael (Joel?) Leake	Jasoph Spence	Thomas Richardson
Edward Halastred	James Spence ✓	John Sawyer
Samuell Halstead	Jacob Tempel	Letisha Spence
Frederick Davis	Adom Baume	Bethier Nickles
Anthony Davis	Thomas Hor(t?)on	Daniel Williams ✓
Josiah Sexton	Nancey Alson	William Sikes
Jeremiah Leek	John Jones	Malsey Cooper
Willess Varden	Danil ? Richardson	Peter Baum
Isaac Spence	Caleb Coop(er?)	John Walmslay
John Leek	Isaac Wood	Mark Sexton
Jarvis Halsted	Obediah Rich	Daniel Koen
David Williams *	Moses Vardin	John Koen
Richard Hastings	James Tempel	Bengamin Cartwright
Elisha Prichard Jr	David Spence	Caleb Koen
Lazarus Lufman	Edward Williams .	John Baum
Solomon Temple	William Caright	Nathanel Gray
Thamer Cherry	Lamell Forehand	Anthony Gray
William Hastings	Isaac Cartight	Cortne Cartwright
David Varden	Robard Cartright	Willes Cartwright
Jeams Jons	Caleb Cartwright	Simon Cartwright
	Mary Williams *	Mark Spence
	William Woard(?)	Joseph Stokley
		Samuel Spence .

The leading figure in the development of American Methodism was Francis Asbury. As Bishop, he traveled throughout the circuits, coming to this area in 1787. In his journal he tells of his visit here, as he leaves Virginia. Sat. 3 Feb. 1787..."Brother Poythress frightened me with the idea of the Great Swamp, the east end of the Dismal; but I could not consent to ride 60 miles round; so we ventured through and neither we nor our horses received any injury. Praise the Lord! Our passing unharmed through such dangers and unhealthy weather,... assures me that I am kept by the immediate interposition of His Providence. I preached in the new Chapel I hope not in vain. I am surrounded with water and hideous swamp, near the head of the Pasquotank River."

The "new Chapel" Asbury preached in was probably the Episcopal, Forke Chapel, on the site of McBrides Methodist Church. Many people from Newland probably came to hear this sermon further strengthening the Christian faith and the cause of Methodism, which they soon adopted as their religion and formed the first Methodist congregation in Newland, which is evident by the following deed:

(Pasq. Co. Deed Book M page 89)

"This indenture made this 21st day of April 1791 by and between Rencher Spence, Samuel Forehand, David Forehand, John Wood and James Spence of the one part and Lodie Williams of the other part..in consideration of Fifteen Dollars, I.. Lodwick Williams..do grant.. unto the aforesaid ..a certain parcel of land containing one acre, be it more or less, beginning at a cypress bush, running up a little valley to a pine bush, then towards a pine stump, then down the Swamp to a cypress bush, then along the said Swamp to the stationed cypress bush. To have and to hold the said..land, all other titles and benefits forever (for the use of the Methodist Society for a Meeting House)...." Signed by Lodowick Williams in the presence of Timothy Burnham and Tamer Avy.

This land was given for the use of the Methodist Society or congregation thus proving there was a Methodist congregation here even before April 1791. Even though a place name is not given on the deed, documented records, such as the 1790 N.C. Census, Tax lists and Pasq. Co. deeds, prove it is in Newland.

The oldest record that proves the existence of a Methodist Church building is an 1801 Pasq. Co. deed, Book Q page 81...16 Mar. 1801...Lodowick Williams sells to Rencher McDaniels.."a certain lot..situated near the Methodist meeting house...". Also that same year Francis Asbury, writes in his journal about his first visit to Newland:...

"20 March 1801...leaving Gates Co...."

"21 March 1801...We came to Newland Creek, 22 miles and lodged at James Spences. This is a most awful place and Satan triumphs. Sabbath day was cloudy and myself very unwell; but God enabled me to speak with uncommon function from John 3:19-21 "The Darkness of the World", in birth, education, dispensation, practice the contrary light of revelation; the inspiration of the Spirit; the experience and practice of God's people and ministries. They came to the Light to try thereby their conviction, conversion and santification; and as the touchstone of their justice, mercy, truth and love. Condemnation, they are condemned by the word of God, their own consciences by the people of God they shall be found guilty in the day of judgment and are condemned according to the Gospel privileges and light they have lived under and reject and they shall condemn themselves forever in hell."

After this sermon, he left Newland and "...came to M'birde...". This, most likely was a misspelling of McBride. He probably lodged with Elisha McBride, who was a prominent landowner in South Mills, and preached there before traveling on.

Following is a list of 1797 North Carolina taxpayers of Pasquotank County, Newland District, some of whom were the earliest members of our church.

TIMOTHY BURNHAM
GABRIEL BURNHAM
EPHRIAM BRIGHT
BENJAMIN BURROWS
PETER BEAUM
DAVID BROTHERS
JAMES BUTT
JAMES BLOUNT
RUTH BEEKS
FREDERICK BLOUNT
ABRAHAM BETTS
JOHN COOK
BENJAMIN COOPER
JOSEPH CARTWRIGHT
JOHN CARTWRIGHT
JOEL COOPER
JUDA CRIFFS
CALEB CHENY
JAMES CARVER
JOSEPH DRESSER
ANTHONY DAVIS
ADAM DEAL
MARY ETHERIGE
ANTHONY GRAY
JOSEPH GRAY
CORNELIUS GREGORY
NATHANIEL GRAY
ROBERT GRAY
JOSEPH GRAY, SR.
HENRY HEWITT
WILLIAM S. HINTON
JOHN HAMILTON
ISAAC JONES
JOHN JONES
THOMAS JENNINGS
JAMES JONES
SMITH JONES
JAMES SAWYER
ROBERT SEXTON
GARDNER TRAFTON
JOSEPH TEMPLE
JAMES TEMPLE
MOSES VARDIN
JAMES VARDIN
TULLEY VARDIN
WILLIS VARDIN
THOMAS VARDIN
BARNARD VARDIN
LOTT VENTERS

JOHN KOEN
WILLIAM LUFFMAN
ISAAC LECK
ARMWELL LOCKWOOD
JOEL LECK
ZADOK MILBY
ISAAC MACDANIEL
ELISHA PRITCHARD
HUGH PRITCHARD
ELISHA PRITCHARD, SR.
THOMAS RICHARDSON
LABENS RICHARDSON
DANIEL RICHARDSON
JOHN RICHARDSON
JACOB RICHARDSON
LEMUEL SPENCE
ASA SEXTON
MARK SEXTON
JOSEPH STOKELY
ISAAC STOKLEY
DAVIS SMITH
JOSEPH SPENCE, JR.
MARK SPENCE
ISAAC SAWYER, SR.
JOHN SEXTON
ABRAHAM SMITH
ROBERT SPENCE
ISAAC SPENCE
DAVID SPENCE, JR.
JOHN SAWYER
LOTT SAWYER
MORDECAI SMITH
EBENEZER SAWYER
FREDERICK SAWYER
JOSEPH SPENCE, SR.
JOEL SAWYER
JAMES SPENCE
SAMUEL SPENCE
JOHN WOOD
JOHN WILROY
HENRY WHITEHURST
DAVID WILLIAMS
JOSEPH WOOD
LODOWICK WILLIAMS, SR.
ABRAHAM WILROY
LODOWICK WILLIAMS, JR.
ABNER WHITNEY
OWEN WILLIAMS

The churches in the circuits were not individually named in the early conference records but in the Camden Circuit records for 1815-1817, "New Land" is listed as one of three churches in Pasquotank County.

Local history previously recorded that Newland Methodist Church was built and organized in 1837. Through further research we have documented our founding date as 1791. Evidently 1837 was an important date in our history and I have two possible theories as to that importance:

- (1) A new church building was built replacing the first ~~one~~ built prior to 1801. The history of McBrides Methodist Church, already mentioned in this booklet, gives us a clue to this theory as our church histories parallel as outlined below:

- 1782..Lee's sermon at River Bridge
- 1791..Deed for Newland Methodist Church
- 1792..Deed for McBride Methodist Church
- 1801..Asbury visits Newland
- 1801..Asbury visits McBrides
- 1837..Newland "organized and built" per local history.
- 1837..McBride church rebuilt
- 1882..McBride church remodeled
- 1886..Newland church rebuilt

- (2) Newland Methodist Church Sunday School was organized. In 1828, the General Conference made it the duty of every preacher to form a Sunday School so perhaps ours was not organized until 1837.

Whatever the reason for 1837 to be specially noted in the early written records, we know this was a time of newness in our service to our community and God as a congregation.

Few church records have been found before 1886. Our oldest membership list was copied from the "M.E. Church South" Register Book belonging to this district. Following is a list of Newland members from that book.

NEWLAND METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH
MEMBERSHIP LIST 1869-1871

EDGAR. L. HINTON	WILEY M. SPENCE
MARGARET HINTON	"VINEY" NANCY SPENCE
JACOB RICHARDSON	SUSAN CARVER
BRITTON JONES	ELIZABETH WILLIAMS
MARGARET SAWYER	PARTHENIA WILLIAMS
SARAH J. POOLE	REBECCA WILLIAMS
BARBARA WILLIAMS	MARY E. FOSTER
MARY FORBES	JOSEPH T. SPENCE
CLARKEY SAWYER	SAMUEL BROTHERS
ELIZA SPENCE	CATHERINE BROTHERS
MARY E. TEMPLE	ARMWELL L. TEMPLE
MARY JANE BRIGHT	FRANCES TEMPLE
D. A. SAWYER	SABRA BROTHERS
JOHN H. POOLE	WILLIAM JAMES WILLIAMS
WRIGHT BROTHERS	HOLLOWAY ROACH
WILLIAM R. MEPHERSON	MARK S. SAWYER
JOHN C. SPENCE	JOSEPHINE C. FORBES
VIRGINIA WILLIAMS	JOHN H. POOL
HENRIETTA TEMPLE	ELIZABETH BROTHERS
GEORGE M. WHITE	JAMES P. TURNER
DANIEL A. CARVER	WILLIAM H. DEAL
MARTHA NIXON	JOSHUA STOKELY
S. ROSSER SAWYER	JOSHUA STEWARD
JOHN WESLEY STOKELY	RHODA SPENCE
SUSAN F. ALBERTSON	GEORGE W. WILLIAMS
ELIZA BURGESS	WILLIAM CARVER
MARY ANN ROBERTS	FRANCIS BURNHAM
MARY ANN BRIGHT	DANIEL SAWYER
SUSAN C. BROTHERS	EMMA SAWYER
ELIZA ANN BUNDY	MARY STOKELY
MARY SUSAN TEMPLE	RENCHER SPENCE
WILLIAM S. TEMPLE	MARGARET V. FORBES
JAMES FORBES	MARTHA SPENCE
ISAAC GREGORY	CHARLOTTE SYKES
NEWTON R. EDNEY	MARGARET TEMPLE
ISAAC E. FORBES	MARTHA TEMPLE
SUSAN SPENCER	POLLY ROACH
JAMES JONES	MARY F. HINTON
MARGARET WILLIAMS	CORDELIA SAWYER
FRANCES T. LYNCH	MILLY A. JONES

1869-1871 MEMBERSHIP LIST CONTINUED

CLARKEY SPENCE
MARTHA F. HINTON
NANNIE E. JONES
CAROLINE TEMPLE
MILLE ETHERIDGE
WILLIAM C. FOSTER
SARAH COPPAGE
FLORENCE MULLEN
SALLY CASEY
LYDIA BROTHERS
LATITIA DEAL
KITTY M. HINTON
FRANCES LOU. WILLIAMS
JOHN M. HINTON
WILLIAM M. HINTON, JR
JOHN THOMAS WILLIAMS
JAMES GRANT CARVER
DANIEL A. CARVER
SARAH FORBES
MARTHA DOZIER
JULIAN NIXON
POLLY RADFORD
SALLY ANN FERRELL
WILLIAM H. FERRELL
JAMES MCKOY
MARTHA ETTA MCKOY
JOSEPH WILSON POOL
JOSHUA WILEY STOKELY
NEWTON SPENCE
JAMES T. SPENCE
JOSEPH N. BROTHERS
JAMES E. RADFORD
JOSEPH N. SPENCE
JOSEPH L. SHARBER
JAMES W. BROTHERS
REDDING SAWYER
JOHN W. BROTHERS
A. LOCKWOOD WILLIAMS

ELIZABETH WILLIAMS
SARAH F. WILLIAMS
BARBARA E. TEMPLE
JANE W. JACKSON
FANNIE SHARBER
EMMA WHITE
SARAH F. SAWYER
MARY E. HINTON
POLLY WHITNEY
CHARITY BROTHERS
NANCY SPENCE
SUSAN F. SPENCE
SUSAN E. EDNEY
MARY V. STOKELY
MARGARET V. CASEY
MARY A. COPPAGE
MARTHA SAWYER
BARBARA E. SAWYER
ELIZABETH SAWYER
MARY A. SPENCE
MARY E. SPENCE
ETHELBERT D. GRANGER
W. H. C. SYKE
BENJAMIN F. EDNEY
WILEY M. SPENCE
NATHAN MORGAN
STEPHEN D. BAGLEY
SARAH SUSAN WILLIAMS
SCENE CONSTANCE TEMPLE
ANN ELIZA WILLIAMS
SARAH FRANCES ONLY
WILLIAM SMITH HINTON, JR
JOHN F. WEEKS
WILLIAM OSCAR TEMPLE
CALEB ROSSER EVANS
JAMES MADISON BILLUPS

The circumstances of the conclusion of worship in the Meeting House on this first site is unknown, but by 1886 there was a need for a new building and possibly a better location. In 1886 Dr. Wilson Spence Temple sold 3 1/2 acres of land to the trustees of Newland M. E. Church South, on which to build a church. This deed, as follows, was recorded on 10 Feb, 1887 in Book 8 Page 292, in Pasq. Co.

"This indenture made this 29th day of Dec. 1886, between Dr. W. S. Temple.. of the first part and D. A. Sawyer, W. C. Foster, J. L. Sharber, M. S. Sawyer and W. S. Temple, trustees in trust..witnesseth that..in consideration of the sum of one dollar to Dr. W. S. Temple in hand paid..doth give..unto them..and their successor trustees..a certain..piece of land situate..in..Pasquotank County and butted as follows ..commencing at the mill stream bridge on the Upriver Road, thence down said road to the Newland road thence up said road to the Whitney lead ditch, thence down said ditch to the Mill Stream, thence down said stream to place of beginning, containing 3 1/2 acres, more or less, together with all..houses, woods, waters, ways, privileges..thereunto belonging to..above mentioned..piece of land..that they (the trustees) shall erect..thereon a house of worship for the use of the members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, according to the rules and discipline which from time to time may be agreed upon and adopted by the ministers..of the said church at their general conferences and in further trust..that they shall, at all times forever,..permit such ministers..to preach.. God's Holy Word, therein, and the said Dr. W.S. Temple, by these presents, warrant and forever defend the..described..piece of land..."

Signed...Wilson S. Temple

This church, the first built on the present site, was a one-room building, surrounded by large trees. It had a steeple atop a high-pitched roof and the front double door was crowned by a fan-shaped glass window. The center aisle lead from the front door to the altar with simple pews on each side. Dedication services for this new church were held 16 Jan. 1887 lead by Rev. J. W. Whilley.



Newland Methodist Episcopal Church South

(PHOTO TAKEN ABOUT 1895)

On the following page are the names of some of the members in this old picture. With the help of different members during the past several years, many have been identified but not all were known.

1895 PICTURE

Jim Harris	Ollie Brothers
Tello Temple	Bettie Mullen
Will Sawyer	Mariah Mullen
Joseph L. Sharber	Maggie Kight
John Gehue Sharber	Ethel Sharber
Elizabeth S. Jones	Florine Williams
Gertrude Jones (baby held by mother)	George T. Williams
Charlie Stokley	Goldie P. Williams
Edith Brothers (baby held by mother)	Louisa Brothers
Mary Brothers	Bob Edney
Addie Sharber	
Eunice Williams	
W. David Sharber	
Parthenia (Tenie) Williams	
Susan T. Carver	
Charlie Brothers	
Mary C. Stokley	
Fannie S. Brothers	

As years passed, the church needed repairs as well as more room so in 1913 the planning began for a new church. At the Quarterly Conference Meeting held 15 May 1913, Rev. A.W. Price named a "committee on building the church at this place..". On this committee were: William Nelson (Nels) Brothers, Ethelbert Beasley (Thel) Granger, William Pritchard (Bill Pritch) Williams, John Gehue Sharber, Leonidas Robert (Lee) Sawyer, Job Nelson Willaims, William Able Foster (Bill), Joe James Brothers and William James (Jim) Williams. Almost three years later, at the Quarterly Conference, 18th Feb. 1916, Rev. E.L. Stack, made a motion we go at once to build a new church..". He then appointed, Bill Foster, J.J. Brothers, Jim Williams and himself, to draw up plans for a new church for the 1913 committee to approve. After several months of planning, it was decided to build our new church by the same plans as Wesley Methodist Church in Old Trap, Camden Co. Wesley Methodist Church has since been destroyed by fire.

In Aug. 1916, the old white church on the hill, was torn down. Job and Jim Williams bought some of the old boards and the fan-shaped window which were used to build a barn. The lumber to build the present church came from Job William's saw mill. In a Masonic ceremony the cornerstone was laid on 30 Nov. 1916 and dedication services were held in Jan. 1917.

The original church building consisted of the sanctuary and the four rooms across the front of the church, which were used as the vestibule and three classrooms. There was a chimney in the center of the sanctuary and a wood stove on both sides of the room.

In 1949 more rooms were built onto the back of the church and in 1965 a classroom, kitchen and social hall were added.

Since 1916 there have been numerous improvements and changes made and memorials given to beautify our church which have made this building a wonderful place to worship and serve the Lord on Sundays and throughout the week as the members attend various church activities.



Newland United Methodist Church

CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS

Throughout the years there have been many Christian organizations and church activities for members and visitors of all ages.

In the early 1900s several missionary societies were organized in our church; but lasted only a short time. They should not be considered a failure for they helped to spread the love of God through Christian fellowship and in giving to those in need.

One of the short-lived societies was listed in the church minutes of April 1911 as the "Layman's Missionary Movement" and another was a Children's Missionary Society.

In Quarterly Meeting Reports of 1910, the Pastor reported on the Missionary Societies of the South Mills Charge, including Newland. Early in 1910 he reports.. "Our Missionary Societies are contributing something through the Sunday Schools..". In June 1910 he reports.. "The cause of missions is presented from some standpoint in many sermons..and some literature is being distributed..". In Oct. 1910 the report states.. "Our missionary interests are being looked after. The early crop was almost a total failure financially and we will have to collect almost entirely from the cotton crop and that has just begun to open..."

The Rosebud Missionary Society was organized in our church by Rev. John O. Moss, 20th April 1884. According to the minutes of the "Newland Rosebud Missionary Society of Earnest Workers", from 1920-1947, the meetings were held on the second Sunday of each month. The President would open the meeting with Scripture reading, a hymn was sung and a prayer said. The secretary then called the roll and each person would put their offering on the altar. Dues during that time were 1¢, then 2¢ and then 5¢. Money collected was sent to missions.

In the Quartly Conference records of Nov. 1911, the pastor reports that he has organized a "Woman's Home Mission Society..at Newland... with 16 members." A few months later, Feb.1912 the report reads, We have no special mission work to report. Our Woman's societies are moving along in their quiet but sure way..I am using every opportunity to improve the duty and obligation of the church to give the gospel to the whole world.." This society lasted about a year.

Sometime between 1913 and 1927 the Newland Ladies Aide Society was formed. The meetings were held once a month, usually on Saturday afternoon at homes of members. Dues were 5¢ a month. For a while after 1939 two women's societies were active in our church and they were the Ladies Aide and the Womens Society of Christian Service. But by 1941 the Ladies Aide was disbanded and there were 29 members of the Newland W.S.C.S. In July 1973 the society's name changed again and became the Newland United Methodist Women. Over the years the women of our church have worked for missions, whether through the Ladies Aide, W.S.C.S. or the present UMW. They have come together as a society to help others. Each member contributes in their own special way to this organization to help fulfill the mission of spreading Christianity by helping others.

The Newland United Methodist Men was organized in Sept. 1983. Their meetings are held on the second Sunday of each month at 7:30 A.M. in the church social hall. A delicious breakfast is prepared and served by the members before their meeting and the special program presented. Their dedicated members have worked together to help the church in many ways as well as giving yearly to several mission projects.

Since 1941 there has been an organization for the youth in our church. The Newland Epworth League was formed in 1941 and continues today as the Newland United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF). For fifty years, under the faithful leadership and guidance of their leaders and with the help and interest of the pastors, the youth of our church have enjoyed this Christian fellowship. The Epworth League of yesterday and the MYF of today have contributed to many church projects. Today's programs, as those of the earlier years concentrate on the spiritual growth of the youth of the church and try to teach them how to deal with today's problems through Christian living.

The children of our church have always been an inspiration and continue to be our hope for the future. The present children's organizations; Children's Church, since early 1980s and Vacation Bible School, since the early 1950s, have been a great source of Christian education and fellowship enjoyed by our children and visitors alike. The children today take part in the worship service as Bulletin Helpers and Acolytes and are included in the service through the Children's sermon. They are active in various church programs and help in their own special way in Christian mission. As in the past, with the guidance and leadership of dedicated leaders, and support and interest of pastors as well as church members the children will grow in God's love and continue to enjoy being a part of our church family.

Singing has always been an important part of our church and through the Adult Choir and the Children's Choir and their directors, we rejoice and are inspired by God's message in song.

MINISTERS OF NEWLAND METHODIST CHURCH

Following is a list of ministers that have served our church. The list from 1791 to 1957 was copied from "McBride: Mother In Methodism", by Hershey E. Spence, which was published in 1892 by Dr. P.A. Peterson of the Virginia Conference, who named the minister that served in this area.. During these early years we were in the Virginia Conference then the North Carolina Conference after its formation in 1894. Our church has been included in different districts and charges throughout the years, though some records are uncertain if we were with Pasquotank charge or Camden charge. Since 1956 we have been NEWLAND-GRACE CHARGE, ELIZABETH CITY DISTRICT, NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.

1791-Jesse Richardson	1809-Robt. Thompson
Thomas Easter	William Murphy
1792-Archer Davis	1810-Humphrey Wood
William Hunter	Jacob Hill
1793-Benj. Blanton	1811-Joshua Lawrence
Anthony Sale	Henry Holmes
1794-Joel Tucker	1812-HenryHolmes
Wm. Wilkinson	1813-Wm. Elliott
1795-Edward Hardy	1814-Thomas Cooper
1796-William Wells	William Hyatt
1797-James Rogers	1815-Samuel White
1798-John Bonner	Benj. Stevens
1799-Wm. Brittain	1816-C.S. Mooring
James G. Martin	Sam Wills
1800-Joseph Rimmell	1817-John F. Brame
1801-Jeremiah King	1818-David Browder
1802-James Smith	1819- W. H. Starr
1803-Nathaniel Walker	1820-J. Lane
1804-C.S. Mooring	1821-Allen Ormond
W. Atwood	1822-Moses Brock
1806-William Steward	1823-Jacob Hill
Richard Lattimore	1824-25 Benton Field
1807-James Jennings	1826-Samuel Harrell
1808-Benj. Devaney	1827-Thomas Garrard
John Early	1828- Simeon Norman

MINISTERS OF NEWLAND METHODIST CHURCH CON'T.

1829-Thomas V, Webb	1878-79 Wm. P. Jordan
1830-Jonathan Williams	1880-83 Alex. M. Hall
1831-Simeon Norman	1884-85 John O. Moss
Abner Waddell	1886-89 J.W.SewellRobins
1832-George A. Bain	1890-Joseph E. Potts
H. Kelly	1891-92 Charles Taylor
1833-J. Goodman	1893-94 C.D. Crawley
J. Williams	1895-Johnathan Sanford
1834-35 Alfred Norman	1896-Solomon Pool
1836-W. E. Pell	1897-James Y. Old
1837-38-George M. Kassie	1898-99 A. J.Parker
1839-George Langhorne	1900-W.J.Crowson
J. L. Rhen	1901-04 W.E. Hocutt
1840-Robert Scott	1905-06 R.L. Davis
1841-James M. Lewis	1907-D. L. Earnhardt
1842-Humphrey Billups	1908-L.M. Chaffin
1843-A.H. Steward	1909-12Condor Jerome
1844-William M. Kane	1913-14 A.W. Price
1845-William Reed	1915-18 E.L. Stack
1846-John S. Briggs	1919-J.L. Smith
1847-Thomas W. Haynes	1919-20 Daniel Lane
1849-50 Humphrey Billups	1920-21 Robt.Edwards
1851-Stephen Jones	1921-23 L.M. Chaffin
1852-George Trimyear	1923-25 A.B.Crumpler
1853-THomas Diggs	1925-29 W.F. Walters
1854-Benj. Spillar	1929-33 James M. Jolliff
1855-H.P. Helms	1933-36 L E. Sawyer
1856-Thomas Williams	1936-40 E W. Downum
1857-Francis Boggs	1940-43 W. N. Vaughn
1858-59 J.D. Lumsden	1943-47 L. T. Singleton
1860-61 J. J.Edwards	1947-52 Carl Johnson
1862-Jeremiah McMullen	1953-56 Key Taylor
1863-No preachers sent	1956-58 J.r. Couchman
1864-65 J.W.Honeycutt	1958-59 W. F. Medlin
1866-James D. Lumsden	1959-63 Nathan Byrd
1867-Joseph Amiss	1963-66 A.L. Reynolds
1868-James L. Fisher	1966-69 Leo Thompson
1869-George Nolley	1969-76 Graham Nickens
1870-72 T.L. Williams	1976-78 Charles Mewborn
1873-75 J.W. Compton	1978-82 James Hicks, Jr
1876-Joshua Garrett	1982-84 Jerry Jackson
1877-Benj. Tennille	1984-85 Charles Herring
	1985-89 Dubois Schutt
	1989- Allan Gibson