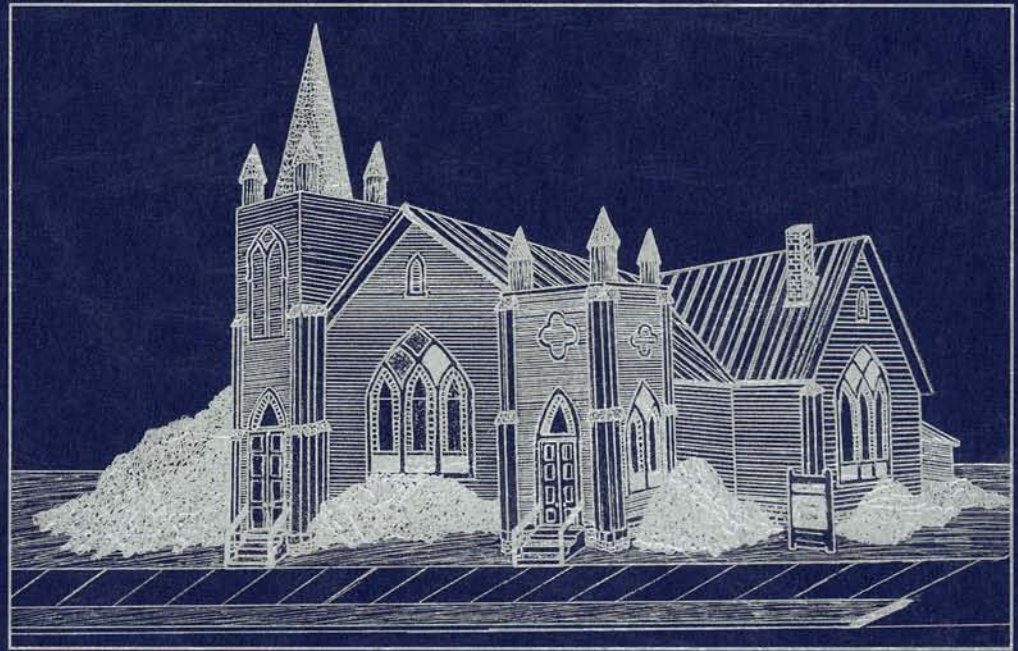


# *Rae ford United Methodist Church*

*Rae ford, North Carolina*

Founded 1900

1903



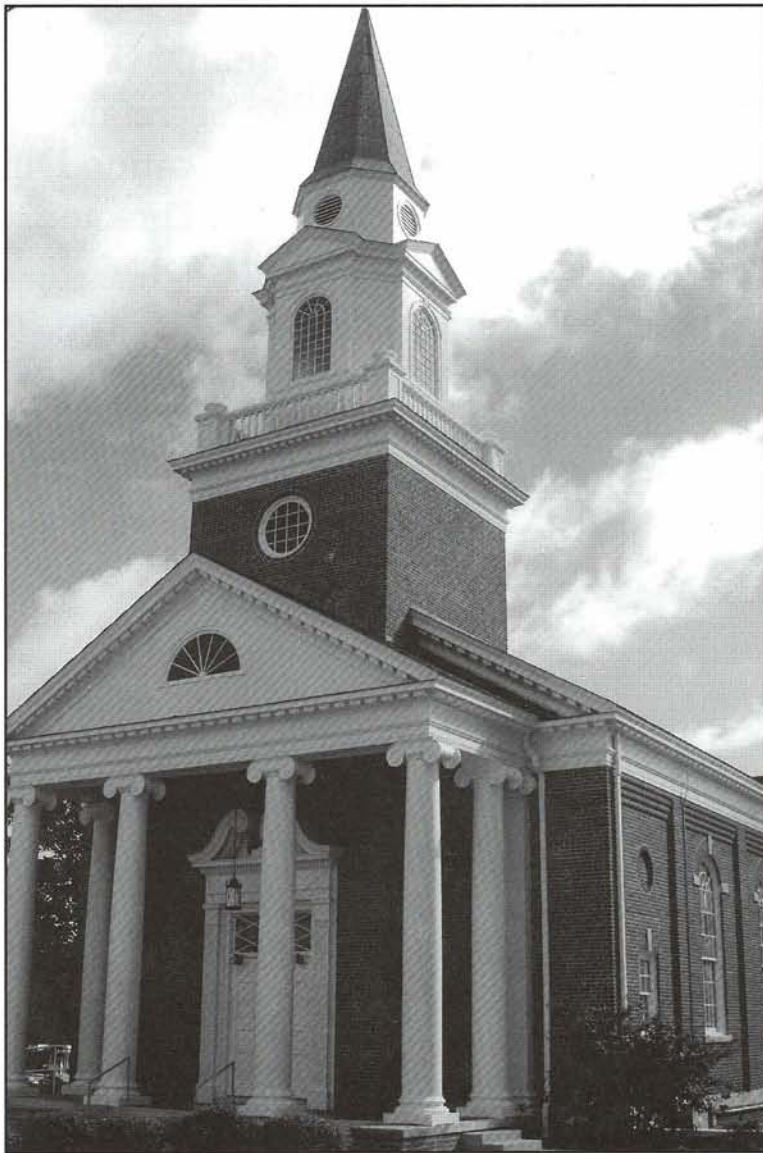
1950



*“An Old Church with Tradition - A Young Church with Vision”*



*Centennial History  
of the  
Rae ford United Methodist Church*



*1900 - 2000*

*Raeferd United Methodist Church Staff*

*November 5, 2000*

Reverend Richard C. Vaughan, Minister

Mrs. Dona McMEnamin, Secretary

Mrs. Judith Phillips, Christian Education Director

Mrs. Virginia Rauch, Music Director

Mrs. Jane Hale, Organist

Mrs. Jackie Hargrove, Nursery Director

Mr. Tony McLaurin, Sexton

## *Our Journey*

*In these next pages is the story of a dream, a ministry, and a mission. For the last one hundred years in a special place, Raeford, the people who are Methodist have worshipped, worked, and won people to Christ. In the pages that follow you will meet pastors who came to share Christ, lay people who responded, and together, built a church that has made a difference.*

*It is a story of visions, of love, and of real people and real life in this town. It is the story of a grand old church that we call Raeford United Methodist, the people, and pastors who have been part of the journey. Enjoy the journey, celebrate the tradition, and share the vision, as we head into the twenty-first century.*

*Reverend Richard C. Vaughan, Pastor*

*"O where are kings and empires now  
Of old that went and came?  
But, Lord, Thy Church is praying yet  
A thousand years the same."  
Bishop Arthur Coxe*





## HISTORY

The Raeford Methodist Church was founded in 1900 with the following members: John C. Adams, W.T. Covington, J.D. Glisson, Arch Graham, John F. McPhail, B.F. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Moore, Miss Patsy McDowell, William Norton, J.C. Thomas, T.B. Upchurch, W.J. Upchurch, and W.F. Walters.

At this time the church was placed on the Red Springs circuit; and the first pastor, Reverend Erskine Pope, came over from Red Springs. For about two years, services were held in the old Presbyterian Church in Raeford.

On June 4, 1902, the Board of Trustees met with the following members: J.W. Moore, J.C. Thomas, T.B. Upchurch, W.T. Covington, and J.F. McPhail. Visitors present were B.F. Moore and J.C. Adams. J.W. Moore was elected chairman and J.F. McPhail, secretary.

This is a photograph of part of the minutes of this first meeting in the handwriting of J.F. McPhail.

The Board of  
Trustees of the  
Methodist Church  
at Raeford N.C. met  
June 4<sup>th</sup> 1902  
Members present  
J.W. Moore  
J.C. Thomas  
T.B. Upchurch  
W.T. Covington  
J.F. McPhail  
Visitors present  
B.F. Moore  
J.C. Adams  
The Body Organized  
by electing  
J.W. Moore Chairman  
and J.F. McPhail Secretary

These men decided to build a Methodist Church in Raeford. T.B. Upchurch was to secure option on a lot. The remaining trustees divided up the territory around Raeford into sections for the purpose of securing donations for the building fund. By July 4, 1902, \$1330 had been secured, and a contract was awarded to M.W. Dew for all labor on the new building for \$570.00. The church was completed in 1903 and dedicated in 1905 by Dr. J.C. Kilgore.

From 1903 to 1908 while the church was on the Red Springs circuit, Reverend Z.T. Harrison, Reverend S.E. Mercer, and Reverend R.H. Broom served as ministers in addition to Reverend Erskine Pope. In 1908, the Raeford Methodist Church became a separate charge with Reverend J.W. Bradley as the first minister. Rev. Bradley helped to hold the people of the new

church together and was followed by Reverends C.W. Smith, E.B. Craven, S.T. Moyle, and J.C. Draper. Under the direction of these men, the growth of the church continued; and in 1917 when our beloved Reverend B.P. Robinson came to Raeford, the membership had reached approximately one hundred. Following Reverend Robinson, Reverends J.H. Frizzelle, N.C. Yearby, W.F. Trawick, B.H. Houston, and E.R. Clegg rendered wonderful service. In 1939, with the world on the verge of World War II, Reverend E.C. Crawford took over the church that had grown to about 350 members. The building was now inadequate; and under Reverend Crawford's direction, a building fund for a new church was created. Under Reverend W.L. Maness, the years of 1943 to 1947 brought further growth and the building fund reached a goal of \$40,000. This money became the nucleus of an even larger building fund, as the old church burned on December 26, 1948, slightly more than a year after Reverend P.O. Lee came as our eighteenth minister.

For the greater part of the next two years, while the congregation was meeting at Hoke County High School, Reverend P.O. Lee inspired the membership to heights of unity previously thought impossible.

In the early part of this period, plans began to take shape for the new church. With C.L. Thomas as chairman of the Building Committee, L.M. Upchurch heading the Plans Committee, and R.B. Lewis leading the Finance Group, the beautiful new church began to rise from the foundation. On October 15, 1950, Reverend P.O. Lee held the first service in the new church before a congregation which filled the church to capacity. The fine new pipe organ which the ladies of the church had purchased, through their untiring efforts, gave great significance and luster to the hymns and special music. People in the congregation were sincerely thankful and justly proud of their beautiful new church.

Under the continued leadership of Reverend Lee, the first two years in the new church were highly rewarding with a continued growth in membership; and on November 8, 1953, Reverend J.H. Miller became our nineteenth pastor. By this time the church debt had been reduced to \$8,000. On the annual ingathering night of October 19, 1954, an elated group of faithful members contributed slightly more than the amount necessary to retire the debt, thereby preparing the way for the wonderful day of dedication.

*(Excerpts reprinted from The News-Journal, Raeford, N. C.  
published on Thursday, December 9, 1954)*

## **BISHOP PAUL N. GARBER WILL BE AT METHODIST DEDICATION**

*Four years and two months after holding their first service in it, members of the Raeford Methodist Church have paid for their fine new church building and will have its formal dedication on Sunday, December 12. Bishop Paul N. Garber, resident bishop of the Richmond area, will be present to preach the sermon of dedication.*

*The church organ will be dedicated at the morning service, also. On Sunday afternoon Bishop Garber will dedicate the new parsonage on North Main Street in a service there.*

*Participating in the dedication service Sunday morning, in addition to Bishop Garber, will be Reverend J. Herbert Miller, present minister, and Reverend O.L. Hathaway, Fayetteville District Superintendent. Also taking part in the service will be former ministers: Reverend E.C. Crawford, Reverend W.L. Maness, and Reverend P.O. Lee.*

*Reverend J.W. Bradley, minister here from 1908 to 1912 when the church was first made a separate charge, is expected to be here with his wife. The wedding of Mr. Bradley to Miss Betty Lentz was the first wedding in the old church building which was built in 1903 and which burned on December 26, 1948.*



# DEDICATION SERVICE

Sunday, December 12, 1954

Morning Worship – 11:00 a.m.

Prelude – “In Dulci Jubilo” .....Bach

Processional – Hymn No. 1 – “Holy, Holy, Holy” .....Heber

Call To Worship

Minister: *Serve the Lord with gladness.*

**People: Enter into His gates with Thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise.**

Minister: *O Come, let us bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker.*

**People: He is our God; and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.**

Choral Response

Invocation .....Rev. W.L. Maness

Hymn No. 381 – “The Church’s One Foundation” .....Stone

Affirmation of Faith

Silent Meditation – “Sweet Hour of Prayer” .....Walford

Morning Prayer .....Rev. O.L. Hathaway

Choral Response

Organ Interlude

Anthem – “Chorus of Praise” .....Wilson

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Gloria Patri

Scripture Lesson – Hebrews 11:1-10 .....Rev. P.O. Lee

Offertory – “Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” .....Bach

Choral Response

Announcements

Solo – “Open The Gates of The Temple” .....Crosby

Mrs. R.S. McCleskey

Organ Meditation – “Break Thou The Bread of Life” .....Lathbury

Sermon – “Our Church” .....Bishop Paul N. Garber

## The Dedication of The Church

Presentation of Building ..... R.B. Lewis

**We present this building to be dedicated to the glory of God and the service of men.**

## The Dedication of The Organ And Chimes

Presentation of Organ .....Miss Jessie Bright Ferguson

**We present this organ for dedication, the gift of the women of the church, for the glory of God.**

Presentation of Chimes .....C.L. Thomas

**We present these chimes for dedication, the gift of Mr. and Mrs. C.L. Thomas for the glory of God, and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. James Crawford Thomas.**

Prayer of Dedication

Hymn No. 416 – “Blest Be The Tie That Binds” .....Fawcett

Benediction .....Rev. E.C. Crawford

Choral Response

Postlude – “Postlude In D” .....Rolle



In 1976, churches in the conference were challenged to enter a banner contest, displaying a memorable event in the history of churches. The most vivid recollection the congregation held was the destruction of their church by fire on December 26, 1948, during the eleven o'clock service.

This banner, designed and hand-drawn by Mrs. Bonnie Niven, depicted the old wooden church and the present magnificent brick church. Dates of the demise of the old and the completion of the new were shown under each church. Between the two churches were the lines: "The old is in the new contained, The new is by the old explained." This banner won the contest!

In the fall of 1999, as a committee met to make plans to celebrate the centennial for our church in 2000, it was decided a second banner should be made in honor of this milestone. Linda Richards and Maxine Colston created this banner portraying the symbol of the United Methodist Church which is the cross and the flame.

In preparing for our centennial celebration, the Mission – Action – Discussion Group, one of our UMW circles, agreed to keep a scrapbook representing the preparations for this event. It will include the events on our anniversary day, as well as picturing the planning sessions leading up to the celebration.

The fire in 1948 that destroyed the wooden building was not the last fire that occurred in our church. On January 19, 1988, a fire was intentionally set in the nursery that was on the lower floor of the building. Extensive smoke damage was done in the sanctuary and throughout the second floor. While repairs were being done following the fire, the congregation met in J.W. McLauchlin School for both Sunday School and worship services.

In 1965, J. W. McLauchlin School was totally destroyed by fire. The Methodist church, along with other local churches, allowed the classes from this school to meet in their buildings.

On May 15, 1988, our congregation returned to our church building. A new organ was installed because of smoke damage to the pipes of the previous organ.

In 1996, a fire broke out outside of the church kitchen which was caused by a faulty coffeemaker. Damage was contained in that area of the building.

The parsonage was built in 1953 and is located on North Main Street, several blocks from the church. At the time of the renovation of the parsonage in 1984, Reverend Arthur Winstead was minister, and he and his wife Margaret were relocated temporarily to a house on East Donaldson Avenue. The renovation took several months.

A mission of the Raeford United Methodist Church has been to minister to its members and to the community. The church has reached out in various ways. During the years of 1954 through 1957, the church sent the North Carolina Christian Advocate into the homes of members.

In 1967, this church contributed \$10,000 for a parsonage to Parkers and Sandy Grove Methodist churches which were Charge Churches.

In 1975, a new Sunday School class was formed for young couples. Room for this class to meet could not be found inside the church building at that time. Graciously, Dr. and Mrs. Bob Townsend offered their home as a place for this group to meet every Sunday morning during Sunday School hours. This home was used as a "classroom" for many months.

From the Discretionary Fund and food items given by Sunday School classes, circles, and individuals, the church established a pantry at the church in 1984. This, along with the Discretionary Fund, continues to help persons in need in the community.

The Benevolent Fund was created in 1988 for the sole purpose of aiding members of the church on a regular basis when financial help is needed. This fund was begun from funds left from the previous year's budget of the church. Individuals also made contributions to this fund. In 1990 the Benevolent Fund was included in the church budget.



A tape ministry was begun in 1985. This ministry delivers a tape of the previous Sunday's sermon by the minister to our shut-ins.

In 1986, an after-school program was started which was to keep children when their school was out for the day and until their parents were finished with their workday. Mrs. Catharin Brown Shepard was the first director of this program.

In 1986, Wednesday night suppers were offered for a nominal fee. The suppers were served prior to Bible Study. In 1988 the Wednesday night church supper was expanded to include carrying meals to shut-ins and the sick.

In 1999, the congregation presented a new automobile to our minister, Reverend Richard Vaughan. This was a first for our church, and something the members were excited and happy to be able to do.

From the Raeford United Methodist Church four persons have entered the ministry. They are Zane Grey Norton, who served in the Western Conference of North Carolina; Wallace Ellis, who served in the North Carolina Conference; Eve Jones Hook, who served churches in North Dakota; and Vernon Brown, Junior, now serving in the North Carolina Conference. Charles Spivey, who was a member of this church until he was a junior in high school, was ordained in 1960 and served in the Virginia Conference.

Two ministers reached their retirement at the end of their tenure at the Raeford United Methodist Church. These were Reverend Arthur Winstead in 1985 and Reverend Carson Tyson in 1998. On each of these occasions, the pastor was honored with a banquet, followed by a program, demonstrating his dedication to the ministry. Also, each retiring pastor was presented a monetary gift by the congregation.

The Raeford United Methodist Church, beginning with a membership of fourteen in 1900, has 550 members in 2000. This is "a church old in tradition and young in vision."

## *SUNDAY SCHOOL IN THE OLD CHURCH*

When Mr. L.E. Reaves was superintendent of the church school, he and his sons, L.E., Jr. and Hallie, built fires in the heaters in all the Sunday School rooms and in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings. The reward that his sons received was the ringing of the church bell; there were fond memories of ringing the bell before Sunday School and between Sunday School and church.

Before going to individual classes on Sunday mornings, the members assembled in the sanctuary for the singing of hymns. Mr. W.F. Walters was the secretary of Sunday School for many years.

Some of the early teachers who served faithfully were Miss Pattie McDowell (Aunt Pat), who worked with little children; Miss Lizzie Niven and Mrs. J.L. McLeod, who taught a Young People's Class; Mrs. J.D. Niven (Aunt Sallie), who taught a Women's Class; Mrs. A.R. Morris, who taught the Sallie Niven Class for women; Mr. I.H. Shankle, Mr. J.M. Norton, Mr. J.M. Downer, Mr. W.P. Hawfield, Mr. Roland Covington, and Mr. R.B. Lewis, who taught the Men's Bible Class.

In the fall, one Sunday was Promotion Day; and each child received a Promotion Card with his name, the date, and the superintendent's name.

From Sunday School came the conception of Vacation Bible School in the summer time. Mrs. Younger Snead, Sr. and Mrs. Crawford Thomas, Sr. organized and directed the first Vacation Bible School.





## *Remembrances Of A Minister's Daughter*

*by Lib Trawick McKeithan  
March, 2000*

*I hold each memory and special moment of life in the Raeford parsonage as the child of a special minister. My father, Reverend W. F. Trawick grew up in the Bowmore Community and attended Bowmore Methodist Church, and later served the Raeford Church from 1928 – 1932.*

*How well I remember the first day we arrived in Raeford and saw the parsonage located between the beautiful white church and the school. To me, it was so exciting to know we would be living in a two-story house! That was a new experience. We entered the side door of the parsonage. I could not wait to see the upstairs, so I ran into the hall to see the stairs! My first vivid memory of that moment was seeing Mrs. H. A. Cameron and Mrs. A. R. Morris struggling to drag an old mattress down the stairs!*

*One of the most exciting events that happened during our life in the parsonage was the birth of my only brother, William Floyd Trawick, Jr. I was eleven just a few days before he was born.*

*My father and mother loved the church and all the people with whom they worked in Raeford and Parkers' churches. When my father's time in Raeford was over and we moved to the Biscoe Charge, we were sad to leave; but we had wonderful memories to take with us.*

*The time in Biscoe was a marvelous experience for all of us until the horrible blow that hit my father at age fifty. He had a massive stroke that left him unable to walk or talk for many months. The Biscoe Charge received permission for him to stay another year and to have a Duke Divinity student preach and work for him.*

*After my father's retirement in the fall of 1937, we moved again to Raeford. Money-wise, my family could not have survived without the love and generosity of the people in the church. A dear family in Biscoe took me in so I could graduate with my class.*

*We rented a small house near the location of the present post office. Then one day a house on East Donaldson Street was auctioned for "back" taxes. My mother bid for it and no one bid against her.*

*My father slowly recovered enough to walk, talk, drive a little and preach some. He usually drove, accompanied by his dog Jack, and my younger brother.*

*My mother worked with the WPA and walked to the Mill Village to teach adults to read. In the fall of 1938, with the help of borrowed money, working, and generous help, I was able to attend and graduate from Flora Macdonald College in 1942. In that year I began teaching in Mt. Gilead where my father preached earlier in his career. In February of 1943, my father performed my wedding ceremony in the Raeford Methodist Church. Mrs. J. C. Thomas directed the wedding. What a wonderful lady!*

*On April 15, 1945, my wonderful father passed away when he had another stroke. My brother was twelve. How difficult it was for Bill and me to understand why our father, who was doing God's work, died at age 58. He touched so many lives in his short stay on this earth! I am sure he is looking down on Raeford United Methodist Church at this special historical time in our church.*

## *Homecoming Remembrances*

*by Reverend Zane Grey Norton*

*September 28, 1997*

The following excerpts are from the remarks made by Reverend Zane Grey Norton before his sermon at the Homecoming Service on September 28, 1997.

*"The old Raeford Methodist Church was a large, rambling, frame structure, with taller and shorter towers on the front, and it sat only a few steps from the sidewalk on Main Street. Between the two towers was a large stained glass window. Each tower had a door through which the people entered the church. Behind the pulpit was a long hallway that ran to the rear of the church. Along that hallway were doors that opened into rooms that were used for Sunday School classes. In those classrooms were cast-iron heaters that could be fired with coal.*

*"During this time, the church was served by four pastors. Reverend E.R. Clegg was a great sportsman and bird hunter. Reverend E.C. Crawford was a good artist who could draw a soldier, his dog, and a building with only three lines. Reverend W.L. Maness spoke in unctuous tones; and Reverend P.O. Lee cast many of his sermons in the form of stories. Reverend Lee was pastor when the new church was built and spent his retirement years in Raeford.*

*"A humorous incident that happened in the old church was one Sunday morning when we had communion. Most of the young people were seated together on a pew toward the back of the church. When the time came for the folks on the pew in front of us to go, they stood and started moving to their left. It seems that some man had put his felt hat under the pew in front of them. In moving out toward the aisle, somebody brushed against the hat, causing it to spin out*



into the area between the pews. Before anyone was aware of what was taking place, a leading man of the church ended up with his left foot in the crown of the hat. Because of the press of the people behind him, all he could do was to keep walking. As he moved along, the hat was slapping against the floor, going 'flop, flop, flop.' About halfway down the aisle, he scooted off to his left, on his right foot and with some effort, pulled the hat off his shoe and rolled it off to one side.

"Everybody believed that the old church building needed to be replaced. A building fund had been set up. A large, freestanding billboard had been placed at the front of the sanctuary between the pulpit and the choir loft. On it was painted a large image, like a thermometer. One color showed the money that had been raised to date, and another color showed the money that needed to be raised before construction could begin on a new building.

"December 26, 1948, was a clear, cold, and windy day. Preacher Lee was off enjoying the holiday season with his family. The young people had charge of the morning worship service. Since I was a senior at Duke and studying for the ministry, I was given the sermon part of the service. Others presided, read the scripture, and had the prayers. Looking back, I must say that we were like a bunch of frightened kids. So, as you could imagine, it didn't take us long to wind down the service. At about twenty minutes of twelve, we were into the closing hymn. All of a sudden, from across the street, the town's main fire siren sounded forth at full volume. After the benediction, Mr. Ed Smith came up and thanked us for 'doing a fine job.' Then he said, 'You'll have to excuse me; I've got to go fight a fire.' In a matter of seconds, he came running down the aisle shouting at the top of his voice, 'The church is on fire! The church is on fire!'

"At first it was thought that the fire was around a flue from one of the stoves in a Sunday School classroom. I can still see our local druggist, Mr. Walter Baker, running through the choir loft with a coal bucket full of water. Little did we realize that the fire had been burning in the attic of the church while the worship service was in progress. Several of us set about getting a piano out of a Sunday School classroom. Even though we were in a panic situation, that proved to be a difficult undertaking. The door was barely wide enough, and there was a board on the floor that ran across the bottom of the doorway. While we were trying to get the piano out into the hallway, we looked up and saw fire between the boards in the ceiling; and resin from those hot ceiling boards was dropping all around us. We did manage to get the piano into the hallway, through the sanctuary, and out of the church. Somebody ran out with the pulpit Bible and a few other items. Before twelve-thirty, it had caved in and we were left with ashes and memories.

"It was a sad day - - a day I will remember forever, but the Lord blessed it because it prompted the congregation to do something quickly, that otherwise it might have been slow to do - - to build a new church."



## ***INTERESTING FACTS***

Building Committee of the old church was J.W. Moore, T.B. Upchurch, and J.C. Thomas.

First wedding in the old church was that of Reverend J.W. Bradley to Miss Betty Lentz on September 1, 1909. Miss Lentz was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L.A. Lentz. Reverend Bradley was the first pastor of the church after this was made a separate charge.

First funeral in the old church was that of Marie Upchurch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T.B. Upchurch, in September 1904.

The old church was a small frame building located on the lot where the new brick church now stands. The old frame church was situated on the south side of the lot next to the county courthouse.

The old parsonage, which was built and paid for in 1910, was situated on the northern part of the lot. It also was a frame building and did not burn when the church burned, but it was torn down to make room for the new church.

Committees for the new church:

### **Building Committee**

C.L. Thomas, Chairman; E.E. Smith, Secretary; L.M. Upchurch, R.B. Lewis, R.A. Matheson, W.P. Baker, A.V. Sanders, B.P. Robinson, and G.C. Lytle.

One unusual thing about the building committee was that C.L. Thomas was the son of J.C. Thomas, who was on the building committee of the old church. Both of these, father and son, occupied the same position on the building committee - - that of general supervisor of construction. L.M. Upchurch was the son of T.B. Upchurch, who was on the building committee of the old church. Both of these men, the son and his father, occupied the same position - - that of buying and placing the material on the ground for construction. This seldom ever happens - - two sons doing the same work their fathers did after forty-seven years.

### **Plans Committee**

L.M. Upchurch, Chairman; W.P. Baker, A.V. Sanders

### **Finance Committee**

R.B. Lewis, Chairman

### **Publicity Committee**

E.E. Smith, Chairman; A.H. McPhaul, Younger Snead

The first service in the new church was October 15, 1950.

The cost of the new church was about \$145,000. As of December 1, 1953, all of this had been paid, with the exception of about \$8,000; and during 1954, this amount was raised.

The cost of the organ was about \$10,000. This debt was assumed by the ladies of the church and was paid in full by the end of 1951.

The Methodist parsonage was completed on North Main Street in 1953. A new home in every respect, it was donated by Mrs. Florrie U. Cameron, Mrs. Maude U. Lewis, Mrs. Bennie Lee U. McGee, C.E. Upchurch, T.B. Upchurch, Jr., and L.M. Upchurch as a memorial to T.B. Upchurch and Mollie Johnson Upchurch. It was furnished by other members of the church under the supervision of the Woman's Society of Christian Service. Mrs. H.A. Cameron was chairman of the Parsonage Committee for fifty years.

First funeral in the new church was the service of Julius Frank Niven, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Alexander Niven, on November 4, 1950.

The first babies christened in the new church on November 26, 1950, were Jerry Robert Hendrix, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Hendrix, Jr.; Betty Sue Hendrix, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Hendrix; and Delrose Louise Morrison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles (Rosa Brown) Morrison.



First wedding in the new church was the ceremony of Miss Phyllis Baker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Baker, and Mr. James Luther McNeill, son of Mr. and Mrs. John K. McNeill, on December 28, 1950. Mr. McNeill is the nephew of Mrs. J.W. Bradley, who was the first bride married in the old church.

Nursery for the worship service hour was begun in 1957. Mrs. Jackie Hargrove has served as director since 1990.

The first women who served as stewards were Mrs. C.L. Thomas and Mrs. James L. (Ruria) Warner, Sr. in 1966.

The first newsletter was published in 1968.

Acolytes were organized in 1968.

The first pictorial directory was published in 1976.

A single floral arrangement for the altar, instead of using flowers for two brass floor urns, was introduced in 1977.

The first women to usher were Evelyn Ashburn Myers, Maxine Colston, Linda Richards, Helen Sellars, and Lorenna Upchurch on "Laity Sunday" in 1979.

Dot Winchester Moss became the first full-time secretary in 1980.

The first church van was purchased in 1981.

First woman chairperson of Administrative Board was Edith Sanders Best for the term 1991 – 1993.

## ***BOWMORE METHODIST CHURCH***

Bowmore Methodist Church, located on Highway 401 south, was started perhaps in a brush arbor, and the first wood structure was built in 1890-1895 by a small group of people.

Marcellus Gainey was secretary and treasurer of the building fund, which consisted of timber, a keg of nails, or anything they could use. Small donations of money, plus men with hammers, saws, other tools and ambition built the church. Not only Methodists, but all the people in the community, gave a helping hand.

Reverend C.W. Smith performed the marriage of Mr. Robert Hendrix and Mrs. Agnes Blue Hendrix there in 1896.

This church was grouped with Red Springs for many years until it became a part of the Raeford Charge.

One Methodist minister came from this church, Reverend Floyd Trawick, son of Mr. and Mrs. Teter Trawick. Reverend Trawick later served the Raeford Church 1928 – 1932.

In 1921, while Reverend B.P. Robinson was pastor, the congregation decided to merge with the Raeford church and the building was sold. It was replaced with a block building on the same lot.

## ***MINISTERS***

### RED SPRINGS CIRCUIT

Erskine Pope	1900 –	Saul E. Mercer	1904 – 1907
Zackery T. Harrison	1900 – 1904	Robert H. Broom	1907 – 1908

### A SEPARATE CHURCH

J.W. Bradley	1908 – 1912	B.P. Robinson	1917 – 1921
C.W. Smith	1912 – 1913	J.H. Frizzelle	1921 – 1924
E.B. Craven	1913 – 1914	N.C. Yearby	1924 – 1928
S.T. Moyle	1914 – 1915	W.F. Trawick	1928 – 1932
J.T. Draper	1915 – 1917	B.H. Houston	1932 – 1935

## A SEPARATE CHURCH

E.R. Clegg	1935 – 1939	Herman Winberry	1970 – 1974
E.C. Crawford	1939 – 1943	Kelly J. Wilson, Jr.	1974 – 1981
W.L. Maness	1943 – 1947	Arthur Winstead	1981 – 1985
P.O. Lee	1947 – 1953	Frank I. Lloyd, Jr.	1985 – 1989
J. Herbert Miller	1953 – 1957	Joseph W. Forbes	1989 – 1994
K.R. Wheeler	1957 – 1962	Carson Tyson	1994 – 1998
R.E.L. Moser	1962 – 1968	Richard Vaughan	1998 –
R.C. Mooney, Jr.	1968 – 1970		

## DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Ethelynde Ballance, Deaconess 1959 – 1979

## *DIRECTORS OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES*

Alan Benson	Greg Wilkes
Mrs. Patricia Edwards	Mrs. Barbara Jackson
(Assistant to Frank Lloyd)	Mrs. Judith Phillips
Joel Perry	

## *SUPERINTENDENTS OF CHURCH SCHOOL*

1. J.W. Moore	7. A.H. McPhaul	13. J.I. Hubbard
2. L.E. Reaves, Sr.	8. J.E. Tillman	14. Joe Upchurch
3. W.P. Hawfield	9. J.I. Hubbard	15. Billy Colston
4. H.L. Meacham	10. C.E. Morrison	16. Hank Richards
5. Thomas Cameron	11. Edwin Hasty	17. Gary Brigman
6. E.E. Smith	12. Carroll Scarboro	

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Miss Jessie Bright Ferguson, Organist

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J.E. Tillman, Superintendent of Church School  
Mrs. T.B. Upchurch, President of Woman's Society of Christian Service  
T.B. Lester, Jr., President of Methodist Men's Club  
Mrs. C.E. Upchurch, Sr., Choir Director  
Miss Jessie Bright Ferguson, Organist

## THE MUSIC

The music ministry of Raeford United Methodist Church has always played a vital and important part in the worship services and life of our church.

We have had so many who have lovingly and faithfully given of their time and talent to the glory of God by expressing themselves through music.

We are deeply grateful to Miss Jessie Bright Ferguson, Mrs. Clyde E. Upchurch, Sr., Mrs. T.B. Lester, Jr., Mrs. Lewis Upchurch, Jr., and Mrs. Gilbert Bernhardt for sharing their general knowledge of our musical history. We especially thank them for their warm memories and recollections of the music.

Miss Jessie Bright Ferguson recalled that she was five years old when she moved to Raeford and remembered Miss Ollie Lentz (Bennett) playing the pump organ, Miss Beulah Lentz (Mrs. John K. McNeill, Sr.) singing, and Mr. Looper choosing the hymns for communion. Others who had a part in music were Miss Frances Hodges (Mrs. J.A. McGoogan) and Mrs. Maude Upchurch Lewis, who played the piano for church services. Those she mentioned who directed the choir were Bennie Lee Upchurch (Mrs. Allen McGee), Dixie Reaves (McLeod), Mrs. H.C. McLauchlin, and Mrs. J.H. Austin, Jr. Lawrence B. Skinner, a professor from Flora Macdonald College, also directed and brought his wife and two students with him every week.

On another occasion, Miss Jessie Bright recalled that when Bryan Miller was choir director, the Call to Worship one Sunday morning turned out to be a three-part round - - the men, the women and the organist. The men began and kept singing and for some reason the women became stuck on the first word, and Miss Jessie Bright hated to leave them and slowed down for them to catch up. The men finished, the organist finished next, and the women finally finished, ending by themselves.

Miss Jessie Bright Ferguson, with great dedication, served the church for many years at the piano and organ. A new piano for the sanctuary was purchased in the spring of 1976, bought with gifts and memorials. The piano was dedicated and given in honor of Miss Ferguson and bears a plaque that states: "Honoring Jessie Bright Ferguson Faithful Organist 1949 - 1976."

Mrs. T.B. Lester, Jr. provided us with a list of the choir directors whom she divided by means of the old church that burned and the new building that is our present church.

### ADULT CHOIR DIRECTORS IN THE OLD CHURCH

Mrs. Jim Thomas

Mrs. Marshall Thomas

Mrs. T. B. Lester, Jr.

Mrs. Clyde E. Upchurch, Sr.

Miss Jessie Bright Ferguson, Pianist

### ADULT CHOIR DIRECTORS AND ORGANISTS IN THE NEW CHURCH

#### CHOIR DIRECTORS

Mrs. Clyde E. Upchurch, Sr.

Mrs. T. B. Lester, Jr.

Mr. Larry Parlor

Mr. Larry Skinner

Miss Polly Yow

Mr. Bryan Miller

Mrs. Lewis Upchurch, Jr.

Mrs. Ralph Huff

Mrs. Gilbert Bernhardt

Mr. Alan Benson

Mrs. Diane Upchurch Guthrie

Miss Ellen Heidenreich

Mrs. Lewis Upchurch, Jr.

Mrs. Melanie Leslie

Mrs. Glenda Clendenin

Mr. Tim Lloyd

Mr. Ralph Mills

Mr. Greg Wilkes

Mrs. Cissy Moses Wood

Mr. Mel Luther

Mrs. Carolyn Cooper

Mrs. Virginia Rauch



## ORGANISTS

Miss Jessie Bright Ferguson  
Mrs. Nancy McNeill  
Mrs. Lewis Upchurch, Jr.

Miss Janice Best  
Miss Janice Benner  
Mrs. Teresa Moser

Mr. Tim Lloyd  
Mrs. Teresa Moser  
Mrs. Jane Hale

## JUNIOR CHOIR DIRECTORS AND PIANISTS

Mrs. P.O. Lee  
Mrs. T.B. Lester, Jr.  
Mrs. John Potter  
Miss Kaye Lindsey  
Mrs. William Moses

Mrs. Jack Scarborough  
Miss Phyllis Moser  
Miss Caroline Niven  
Miss Debra Scarboro

Mrs. Lewis Upchurch, Jr.  
Mrs. Ralph Huff  
Mrs. Gilbert Bernhardt  
Mrs. Billy Colston  
Mrs. David Warren

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH CHOIR DIRECTORS

Mrs. Gilbert Bernhardt  
Mrs. Diane Upchurch Guthrie  
Mr. Alan Benson

Mrs. Rita Williamson  
Mrs. Tammie Hendrix Ellis  
Mrs. Barbara Jackson

Miss Heather Scarboro  
Mrs. Judith Phillips

## SENIOR HANDBELL DIRECTORS

Mrs. Lewis Upchurch, Jr.  
Miss Sharon Currie

Mrs. Jane Barnes Davis  
Mrs. Gay Ivey Barnes

Mrs. Surrie McNeill

## JUNIOR HANDBELL DIRECTORS

Miss Jane Sellars  
Mrs. Gilbert Bernhardt

Miss Surrie McNeill  
Mrs. Cissy Moses Wood

Mrs. Tammie H. Ellis

## ADULT HANDBELL DIRECTORS

Mrs. Carolyn Cooper  
Mrs. Virginia Rauch

## CHILDREN'S HANDBELL DIRECTORS

Mrs. Alyce Singletary

The following paragraphs contain excerpts from an account given by Mrs. Clyde Upchurch, Sr., who was lovingly known as "Miss Alice."

"In the fall of 1940, the minister called and asked me to please come to the church. I went and he, with the pianist, and several choir ladies, met with me and asked me to be choir leader, as Lorena Lester was leaving to go to Texas with her husband who was in service. I took over for about ten years.

"We had outstanding voices that gave solo, duets, or trio renditions and all were female voices. We did choir anthems and cantatas at Christmas and Easter. I asked for male voices from the Presbyterian and Baptist churches to help. Our choir had ten to fourteen voices. They were called on to sing at funerals, in homes, at Parkers and at Sandy Grove Methodist Churches. The high school young ladies took part in the cantatas. The adult choir sat in the pulpit part and the children in the choir part. We decorated the old church with greens for the occasion. I never stood up to direct but sat in front of the choir at the communion rail hidden by foliage. One person in the choir is reported to have said, 'Mrs. Upchurch looked like a hunter sitting in a duck blind; she was so camouflaged.' Later in the new church, I always sat by the organ and directed."



Mrs. Upchurch remembered ordering black choir robes and most members paying for their own robes. She said that was the day of wearing hats, so she made black caps for their heads. She recalled that they saved the choir robes, except for a few, when the church burned.

Choir practice was held each week in Mrs. Upchurch's music room in her home during the time between the old church burning and construction of our new church. Hymnals and extra robes were kept at her home, but each member was responsible for her robe. She said the voices sounded good in a small room. Occasionally three or four men helped, but it was the ladies who were faithful.

Talk of getting a new organ began. Money was made in every way possible, including having fish fries because the men loved to cook the fish. Mrs. Upchurch gave credit to the women of the church who really raised most of the money for the organ. Mrs. H. A. Cameron worked particularly hard in raising money for this fund.

A Catholic friend was visiting in Mrs. Upchurch's home and gave her a check for \$100 for the organ fund. She said that she was so proud to receive that donation.

Mrs. Maude Lewis, Mrs. Helen Barrington, Mrs. Agnes Thomas, Mrs. Rethea Cole, Mrs. Dixie McLeod, and others were the faithful choir members. Mrs. Upchurch said they all sang for the glory of God and their work was all-gratis.

Friends called Mrs. Upchurch and said, "There is a fellow who has a marvelous voice and will sing if you need him," and the choir always did. She had, not one, but usually two or three for Sunday dinner. The mother of a soldier from Oregon who sang for us visited Mrs. Upchurch in 1974 and kept in touch with her.

Mrs. Lewis Upchurch, Jr. provided invaluable information. The music ministry of Raeford United Methodist Church took on a new dimension in August 1971 with the purchase of twenty-five Schulmerich handbells at a cost of approximately \$1,200. Much of the money was given through memorials, especially to the memory of Mrs. Rosemary Cameron Wray and Miss Kaye Lindsey.

The first bell choir was organized and directed by Mrs. Lewis M. Upchurch, Jr. Reverend Herman Winberry was our minister at that time. The first year was very exciting with the choir consisting of ten ringers: Missy Upchurch, Dwan Upchurch, Julia Anne Gibson, Evelyn Brown, Cathy Currie, Cissy Moses, Susan Townsend, Margaret Postel, Julia Barnwell, and Linda Kaye Teal.

The choir was invited to ring at "R&R" at Methodist College, Fayetteville, in the summer of 1972, at which our newly appointed Bishop Robert Blackburn was present. In the fall of 1972 twelve additional bells were added to the set, making a total of thirty-seven bells. This made three chromatic octaves and the new bells were added at an approximate cost of \$800. The Bell Choir rang for many churches in the area and also rang for the "Singing Christmas Tree" at Cumberland Memorial Auditorium, Fayetteville, in 1973 and again in 1974. The choir rang for church services every four to six weeks, except during the summer, and also for local civic organizations and schools.

One of the highlights for the choir was ringing from the balcony for the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Rod Guthrie. Mrs. Guthrie is the former Miss Diane Upchurch.

The choir participated in the state Baptist Bell Festival in Charlotte in 1975 and in Greensboro in 1976, receiving a rating of superior in Greensboro.

Mrs. Gilbert Bernhardt kindly added her recollection of our chancel choir in the year of 1975-1976. She noted that the choir grew in number to twenty, but they still lacked a tenor and had to sing mostly soprano, alto, and bass anthems. Although on occasions some of the women sang the tenor part.

The choir enjoyed a Christmas gathering at Mrs. Bernhardt's home and frequently had coffee and doughnuts after choir rehearsal.



Mrs. Bernhardt recalled an amusing incident. One choir member, Hank Richards complained to his wife that his son came home from children's choir practice with a package of M&M's and that the chancel choir never received any candy. After being told about this, Mrs. Bernhardt purchased enough M&M's for choir members and presented them at the next practice. Hank was embarrassed but a good sport about it.

Since 1976, three of our choir directors have held additional positions on our staff. Mr. Alan Benson was also Minister of Education, and Mr. Greg Wilkes and Mrs. Barbara Jackson were Directors of Children and Youth Ministries.

The heritage of Mrs. Diane Upchurch Guthrie in the music of this church is outstanding. Mrs. Guthrie, along with her husband Rod, accompanied the Youth Choir to Camp Rockfish for a retreat to work on the musical, "Celebrate Life." The Youth Choir also had fun presenting the musical, "Cool in the Furnace," complete with sets and costumes.

Playing the guitar, Miss Ellen Heidenreich accompanied the choir or small groups from the choir on special occasions.

During the time our church met in J.W. McLaughlin School Cafeteria in 1988, Mrs. Melanie Leslie directed an Easter pageant. She also directed plays.

Mrs. Jane Barnes Davis recalled that the Handbell Choir she directed went to the Handbell Festivals, sponsored by the American Guild of Handbell Ringers. The Handbell Choir played at a Methodist church in Durham and several churches in our area: Campground Methodist Church, Lake Waccamaw, and the Lumber Bridge Presbyterian Church.

When Miss Janice Benner resigned as organist, Mrs. Teresa Langdon Moser, a church member and pianist, graciously consented to learn more about playing the organ and became our organist.

Mrs. Glenda Clendenin invited guest musicians who played harp, drums, and other instruments. She also traveled with mission teams to foreign countries to build and repair houses. She gave an informative program on her mission work to an All-Together meeting of the Raeford United Methodist Women.

Providing high sacred music, Mr. Ralph Mills played the organ and led the choir.

With Mr. Greg Wilkes, Choir Director, playing the piano and Mrs. Jane Hale, Director, playing the organ, they performed a duo to accompany the choir. Mrs. Cissy Moses Wood and Mrs. Jane Hale substituted for Mr. Wilkes while he recovered from injuries received in an automobile accident.

Always beginning choir practice with a devotional and prayer, Mrs. Carolyn Cooper incorporated contemporary and traditional music. Some members of the Youth Choir sang in the Chancel Choir also. Mrs. Cooper emphasized that the music of the choirs was a ministry to our church.

As well as serving as Director of Children's Ministries, Mrs. Judith Phillips directs our Children's Choir from ages four through the fifth grade. The children lift spirits and encourage others with the "Good News" of the gospel in song by singing on Wednesday nights, during Sunday morning services, at our Christmas celebrations, in nursing homes, and to shut-ins.

"Angels in Motion," the name of the Children's Handbell Choir which Mrs. Alyce Singletary, Director, gave to the choir, is for second through seventh graders. Mrs. Singletary began directing this choir in August of 2000.

Singing her first solo in our choir, Mrs. Virginia Rauch, who was a member of the church choir during her high school and college years, became our music director on August 1, 2000. Mrs. Rauch also directs the Adult Handbell Choir.

Music is an integral part of our worship of the Lord, and it is threaded through the history of our congregation from its beginning to the present.



## THE WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

The Woman's Missionary Society of Raeford was organized in February 1906, by Mrs. S.E. Mercer, wife of Reverend S.E. Mercer, pastor of Raeford Methodist Church. Miss Pattie McDowell was the first president, Mrs. J.W. Moore was recording secretary, and Mrs. T.B. Upchurch, Sr. was the corresponding secretary and treasurer, a position she held for thirty-eight years.

Around 1910, the parsonage was built. The Ladies' Aid was organized as a part of the Missionary Society to raise money to help finance the parsonage. This group served many suppers to make money. The following ladies served as presidents after Miss McDowell: Mrs. J.C. Thomas, Mrs. D.C. Knibbs, Mrs. J.D. Niven, Mrs. J.L. McLeod, and Mrs. A.R. Morris.

During the 1920s, the membership was approximately thirty-five members, and the regular attendance was approximately sixteen. Dues were ten cents a month; pledges were twenty-five cents a month. This money was sent to Home and Foreign Missions work.

Our seventh president was Mrs. A.A. Quick. The following ladies served as presidents while we were still a Woman's Missionary Society: Mrs. W.M. Thomas, Mrs. H.A. Cameron, Mrs. T.B. Upchurch, Sr., Mrs. W.F. Trawick, Mrs. W.C. Harlee, Mrs. B.H. Houston, and Mrs. Jesse Gibson.

In 1940, we became the Woman's Society of Christian Service with Mrs. Jesse Gibson serving for sixteen years as president. During Mrs. Gibson's terms, much was accomplished, especially the number of Life Memberships. We had on record seventy-eight Baby Life Memberships and one hundred and seventy-five Adult Life Memberships. The money donated for these memberships went to missions.

The following ladies have served as president since Mrs. Gibson's tenure: Mrs. C.L. Thomas, Sr., Mrs. T.B. Upchurch, Jr., Mrs. Younger Snead, Sr., Mrs. R.A. Matheson, Mrs. W.T. Gibson, Mrs. Clyde Upchurch, Jr., Mrs. J.A. Niven, Mrs. James Warner, Mrs. John Pecora, and Mrs. W.L. Howell.

The Wesleyan Service Guild had the same purposes as the Woman's Society of Christian Service but formulated its own plans and programs. As the membership was made up of gainfully employed women, all district meetings were held on weekends.

Mrs. B.B. Cole was the first president of the local Guild. She was unable to serve her entire term due to the illness of her mother. Mrs. Paul Livingston finished her term and served an additional year, 1957 – 1958. Other presidents were as follows: Mrs. A.H. McPhaul, 1958 – 1960; Mrs. Robert L. Cox, 1960 – 1962; and Mrs. J.L. Warner, 1962 – 1964. Mrs. Tommie Upchurch was coordinator of the Guild from its organization in 1956 until 1962. Mrs. R.A. Matheson served from 1962 – 1964. Mrs. Upchurch served again from 1964 – 1967.

In June 1964, the forty-two members of the Guild divided into two groups, hoping that in smaller groups they would accomplish more for the glory of God. Mrs. Jack Pope and Mrs. Esther Teal served as presidents from 1964 to 1966. Mrs. Hubert Cameron and Mrs. Ransom Baucom were presidents in 1966 – 1967.

During the years of the Guild, Mrs. Cole personally began and completed the Dossal cloths and curtains that grace the altar in the sanctuary. Mrs. Cole and the Guild also made the Chrismons and decorated two trees with these ornaments in the sanctuary at Christmas.

At the April meeting in 1967, the members of the two Guilds voted to combine and have one Guild. The groups thought that one strong Guild was more effective in carrying out the purpose of the Guild. The presidents were Mrs. B.B. Cole in 1968 – 1969, Mrs. Ransom Baucom in 1970 – 1971, and Mrs. Bonnie Niven in 1972 – 1973.

On April 2, 1973, our Woman's Society of Christian Service and Wesleyan Service Guild became the United Methodist Women with Mrs. J.L. Warner, Sr. serving as our first president.



Mrs. Hank Richards was president from 1974 – 1976 and Mrs. R.G. Townsend was president from January, 1977 – 1980.

The organization of United Methodist Women supports world missions, as well as local missions. Various circles, each with a leader, make up the UMW, and primarily the work of UMW is carried out in and through these circles. Missions are supported by the pledge to the North Carolina Conference, Cultivation and Love Offering, Call to Prayer and Self-Denial, as well as other special offerings and projects.

College students and special persons in the church are remembered regularly by the circles as are the local rest homes. Each year the UMW presents graduating seniors in the church a gift. In the past, contributions have been made to the Hoke Literacy Council, the Children's Center, the Sandhills Youth Center and to Share Your Christmas. More recently, contributions have been given to the Raeford Woman's Club to aid in sending a child to summer camp. Also, an annual contribution is given to Camp Rockfish.

Additional financial support for United Methodist Women has been raised through various projects: the publication and sale of cookbooks; the sale of baking pans; and one of the more successful projects, the Poor Man's Luncheon, which was introduced in 1996 by the Ways and Means Chairperson, Joan Baker.

An All-Together Meeting of Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian women in the county was first held March 13, 1988. This is now an annual affair.

The Raeford United Methodist Women, in the year 2000, is composed of 114 members. This organization has enjoyed capable leadership from its inception. Since Mrs. R.G. Townsend's term as president for 1977 – 1980, the following ladies have served in this office:

Mrs. Clyde Upchurch, Jr.	1981 – 1982	Mrs. Frank Baker	1991 – 1992
Mrs. Frank Richards	1983 – 1984	Mrs. Clyde Register	1993 – 1995
Mrs. John T. Haire	1985 – 1986; 1987 – 1988	Mrs. Lacy Hendrix	1996 – 1998
Mrs. Paul Livingston	1989 – 1990	Mrs. Jimmy Conoly	1999 – 2001

## *THE MEN OF THE CHURCH*

One could say that after our church burned, the Methodist Men got off to a "flying" start toward raising funds for the new church, increasing enthusiasm among the membership and creating a delightful fellowship among young and old alike. A flying start was possible because Lewis Upchurch and Arch Sanders gave their hanger at the old airport for a meeting place. A complete kitchen was available; and with delicious meals prepared and served by the Rev. Elbert "Preacher" Bethea, a long-time black friend and minister, attendance reached 150 active Methodist men. The strength of the Methodist Men's Organization carried over to the Sunday School and on Easter Sunday, 1952, the all-time high of 152 men heard their teacher, Colonel R.B. Lewis, teach the Sunday School lesson. This large class was made possible by the membership contest captained by Crawford Thomas, Sr. and Younger Snead, Sr. The winners were entertained at a huge fish fry and a great time was had by all.

The class had many outstanding presidents, such as Alfred Cole, Crawford Thomas, Jim Tillman, T.B. Lester, and many others. Yet, the work of L.M. Upchurch, Sr. will be remembered because it was his weekly bulletins or newsletters that really put the class into the hearts and lives of its members. Colonel Bob Lewis served continuously as a teacher from 1946 until his untimely death in 1976. He received assistance in latter years from other men, but he always took his regular turn.

The Men's Bible Class was re-named the Bob Lewis Bible Class in honor of Colonel Lewis shortly after his death in April of 1976.



The Methodist Men contribute money to many worthwhile projects in both the church and community. Shut-ins and the less fortunate are remembered especially at Christmas. Assistance for medical bills is given by cash grants to numerous families in time of need, and scholarships have been provided to a number of young people for higher education.

For years, the Men of the Church have prepared breakfast on Easter morning for the ones who attend the Sunrise Service on the lawn of the church. They also entertain the ladies of the church at a dinner in May.

Several satellite classes were formed from the nucleus of the Men's Bible Class; but when a major project arises, the men of the Raeford United Methodist Church rally to the cause and get the job done.

## *THE YOUTH OF THE CHURCH*

Since the opening of the Methodist Church in Raeford, opportunities other than the regular Sunday School have been provided for the young people for learning and fellowship. The women of the church sponsored the first group called the Bright Jewels. Possibly, this group included a younger age than the Epworth League, which followed a few years later. The name of Miss Lizzie Niven is affectionately remembered by the Bright Jewels, in addition to mite boxes for Africa and some social activities. One social activity in the basement of the church was so lively that one of the fellows went through the beaverboard partitions.

The Epworth League provided an evening meeting for learning and fellowship for the teenage group who met on Sunday evenings in the choir section of the old church until 1940. The youth section of the quarterly was used for program material, dues were five cents per week, and the money was used for missions. On occasions, extra money was made to put curtains in a Sunday School room. For many years the piano playing was the duty of Eleanor Brown and then Martha Lytle. Social activities remembered were games in the basement of the church or on the front porch of a member's home.

In 1940, the Epworth League became The Methodist Youth Fellowship. All of the young people met as one group until the summer of the polio quarantine. At this time, only the older group could gather for evening meetings. The next fall the youth began the evening fellowship in two age groups. Programs were planned with the Methodist Youth Planbook as a guide. Each quarter, the young people brought a sandwich for a Sunday night snack, and they searched the youth program materials in order to put together the programs on their chosen topics. Offerings were made at each meeting, but extra money was made by feeding the Kiwanis Club occasionally. The youth gave of their time, gifts, and enthusiasm to the church gatherings. Homes were used as meeting places after the church burned and until the new church was built. The group always made plans to attend sub-district meetings. On a Sunday New Year's Eve, the young people opened the fellowship hall to the public for refreshments to be followed by a program in the sanctuary. This meaningful program was planned to close just as the time came to ring in the new year.

For two summers the youth of the Methodist and Presbyterian churches planned a week of study and fellowship which was open to all of the young people of the town. Outstanding teachers were asked to teach the classes and to lead the discussions. Special recreation was planned for each evening. Again, favorite outings seemed to be picnics, hayrides, wiener roasts, swimming, and outdoor games. Saturday rummage sales provided money to paint and decorate the youth room at the church. In the middle fifties, the average attendance almost doubled. Also, the meaningful service of the Sacrificial Meal on Good Friday was begun for all interested members of the church.

September 15, 1959, marked a very important day as Miss Ethelynde Balance, our "Miss B," came to the aid of all young people (and all others too) in our church. Much learning,



studying, and fellowshiping have been enjoyed by two and sometimes three youth groups through her hard work and direction. During a few summers, some of the youth were so fortunate to get to go "down home," Englehard, North Carolina with 'Miss B' for enthusiastic planning and fellowshiping. As chaperones, Sarah Howell, Joanne Hendrix, Edith Best, Sharon Currie and Kaye Lindsey enjoyed these trips. Camp Rockfish was often used for planning, special mission studies, and the fun of being together. From the suggestion of our "Miss Donnie" (Mrs. Lacy McFadyen), the youth of the Methodist Church joined with the Presbyterian Church to carry out a town-wide UNICEF program. After collecting the money, refreshments were served in one of the churches.

In the 1960s, the youth chose the month of February to decorate the fellowship hall as a dining room with red-checked table covers, candlelight, and music. With much planning and work on their part, along with donations from the women of the church and parents in the kitchen, the youth served a good spaghetti supper to the public. The fellowship was rewarding and the proceeds were used for their projects. One of the youth groups tried a "dog wash" as a moneymaking and fun (very wet) project. The Christmas season brought special plans for programs, giving, and caroling. After caroling, the special treat was to go by "Miss B's" apartment to taste her homemade goodies and share the spirit of Christmas.

Betty Upchurch (Hasty), Sarah Cole (Jordan), Diane Upchurch (Guthrie), Reba Best, and Hubert Wooten were counselors during the summer at Camp Don Lee. Wayne Wooten joined the staff at Camp Rockfish for a summer. Julia Anne Gibson (Tucker), Kathy Currie, and Diane Upchurch (Guthrie) joined the staff for the mentally retarded at Camp Don Lee. Five of our young people joined the European Youth Caravan for a summer. They were Sue Upchurch (Alexander), Florence Cameron (Weaver), Jenelle Snead (Goller), Eve Jones (Hook), and Hubert Wooten. Betty Pope (Nalwasky), Reba Best, Ernie Sutton, and Vernon Brown went on the United Nations - Washington study tour. Youth fellowshipers employed on the summer staff in the Raeford church were Linda Hendrix (Metcalf), Julia Anne Gibson (Tucker), Sharon Currie (Barnett), and Sharon Wood (Balfour).

Linda Hendrix (Metcalf) worked for a few years as a DCE in a Charlotte Methodist church. Before her untimely death, Kaye Lindsey served on the staff of the Odum Home in Pembroke. She also volunteered her services to short term missions in Fayetteville and Florida. Missy Upchurch (Godfrey) and Dwan Upchurch (Turner) gave their services in Sunday School and music in a community Indian church. Dale Jones returned after college to serve as a youth counselor in our local church. Many of our young people, too many to name, have given numerous hours helping with Vacation Bible School, choirs, nurseries, and other tasks in our own church.

Some of our young people have given their time and used their talents in special ways after leaving the local church. Zane Grey Norton, Wallace Ellis, Eve Jones (Hook), and Vernon Brown, Jr. became ordained ministers.

In 1968, when the Methodist Church became the United Methodist Church, the Methodist Youth Fellowship (MYF) became the United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF).

In the late 1970s, two of "Miss B's" former youth became youth counselors, James (Bubba) Warner with the Junior Highs, and Ann Ross with the Senior Highs. Spaghetti suppers, UNICEF, and Christmas caroling continued, along with helping with Vacation Bible School, choirs, and nursery in our church. The big youth outing was a beach retreat weekend at the Holden Beach home of Crawford and Kay Thomas. Lock-ins came during this period when the UMYF members were locked in the church fellowship hall overnight and enjoyed fun, fellowship, games, devotion, and a worship service at midnight.

In the 1980s, the UMYF began doing the entire Sunday eleven o'clock morning worship service once a year. Youth Sunday is an expression of appreciation to the church for its support of the UMYF throughout the year. The youth shrank to one group and Ann Ross became youth



coordinator and counselor. In 1984, our youth received the "Governor's Volunteer Award" for a church/religious group. Under the direction and planning of Reverend Arthur Winstead, the UMYF worked and raised money for over a year to go to Nashville, Tennessee. The youth toured the Methodist Publishing Company, the Upper Room where communion was served, and visited OpryLand and the Hermitage. The highlight of the trip was a foot-washing event by Reverend Winstead on the last night. Our youth participated in the Halloween Carnival at Upchurch School for the trainable mentally handicapped children with a booth for two years and received the Best Booth Award in 1985.

Ron Ellis became the youth coordinator. The youth participated in the CYFL Softball League in Fayetteville and were awarded the Sportsmanship trophy in 1986. The youth lost every game but had a great time and impressed the officials. Ron Ellis and Charles Crowder were the coaches/leaders. Teresa Langdon Moser led a youth choir. Throughout this time period, our youth worked at the N.C. Turkey Festival by selling drinks at the tennis tournament, assisting the announcer on the Saturday stage events, and racing a turkey. The youth's turkey won the Slalom Race and was the Grand Gallop Champion. The youth sponsored a "shave or not shave the beard" contest to raise money for the Youth Service Fund and more than \$400 was raised. The youth went snow skiing at Sugar Mountain and stayed at Hebron Colony.

Ruth Anne Warren and Ann Ross became youth coordinators. The UMYF sponsored the Turkey Olympics, the Keenager Dinner to honor our seventy-five and older church members, and the Sweetheart Dinner to honor our parents. Happy Hobby Harvest fund-raising projects included car washes and doughnut sales.

In the 1990s, the UMYF used a monthly rotation of youth-led program, recreation, special project, guest speaker and/or video. The UMYF chose a theme or focus for the year which included sibling rivalries, relationships, different religions, Methodism, and the seven deadly sins. The youth coordinators were Kathy Leandro and Ann Ross. The UMYF participated in the Hoke County Clean Up event. The rich tradition of the youth program continued. The youth have gone tent camping to Camp Kerr Lake, Morrow Mountain State Park, Lake Junaluska, and the Outer Banks. At the Outer Banks the youth saw "Worthy is the Lamb," "The Lost Colony," and "Elizabeth II." Chaperones on these camping trips included Frank and Joan Baker, John Richards, and Ann Ross. The camping experience led to the Family Living Retreat at Camp Rockfish where the youth were "married" with a bracelet of yarn and given a raw egg to look after while camping in the treehouses (no electricity or running water). Morning and evening worship services centered on family and family values. The baby (egg) went canoeing, swimming, hiking, and working; and no egg has ever been broken! For the children, the UMYF began a Fall Festival as an alternative to trick or treating. The youth decorated the fellowship hall and had a variety of games: bowling, basketball, sponge toss, apple bite, and dart toss.

A Mothers' Morning Out was sponsored by the UMYF for several years to give mothers a chance to complete any remaining Christmas shopping. An Easter Egg Hunt has also been sponsored by the UMYF. The beach retreat was revived, and was made possible by the use of the beach home of the Bakers and the condos of the Leandros and the Steeds. The snow skiing retreat to Sugar Mountain became the big special youth event, and they were "snowed in" for two days on one trip. Chaperones included Frank and Joan Baker, Gary Brigman, Steve Connell, Ron Ellis, Rev. Joe and Pat Forbes, John and Kathy Leandro, Faye Lippard, Ann Pate, Sandy Potter, John Richards, Ann Ross, and Rev. Rich and Debbie Vaughan. The UMYF began having dinners after church as a fund-raising project for the ski retreat. The youth, volunteering at Camp Rockfish on the annual workday for several years, have picked up trash, scrubbed mattresses, piled wood, and cleared trash out of a power line right-of-way.



In 1998, the UMYF allowed sixth graders to attend (in keeping with the grade structure of the schools). In 1999 the UMYF was divided into two groups again, with Steve and Robin Connell and Ron Ellis as leaders with the Junior Highs (grades 6 – 8). Ann Ross worked with the Senior Highs (grades 9 – 12). The Junior High special project was to clean the brass window plates and hardware in the sanctuary.

In the year 2000, the Junior High counselors are Robin Connell and Dona McMenammin, and the Senior High counselor is Ann Ross. The UMYF continued its spaghetti supper, UNICEF, snow skiing retreat, community service projects, and participating in various areas of the church: choir, Vacation Bible School, Children's Church, and Wednesday night supper.

Several of our youth, Ann Richards (Woods), Jeff Baker, and Doug Baker, have held offices in the Fayetteville District and at the conference level. Scott Leandro and Kimberly Potter (Hunt) were Fayetteville District Youth officers. Ann Richards (Woods) went to the United Nations-Washington study tour. The Annual Conference Session for Youth (ACS) has been attended by many, including Ann Richards (Woods), Jeff Baker, Doug Baker, Kim Colston (Hilliard), and Carol Colston. Ann Ross has been an adult staff member at ACS for nine years, was Fayetteville District Youth Coordinator for five years, and has served on the Camp Rockfish Local Committee for many years holding several offices.

Several of our youth have worked in the camping ministry. Ann Richards (Woods) worked at Camp Rockfish and Jeff Baker worked at Camp Don Lee two summers as a lifeguard and sailing staff instructor.

Ashley Steed, while attending Duke University, a Methodist institution of higher learning, received merit scholarships from the N.C. Conference of the United Methodist Church and also from the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church.

The youth in this church have been blessed in many ways, and the church has been blessed by their ministry.

## *“MISS B”*

No history of Raeford United Methodist Church would be complete without explaining the influence of Miss Ethelynde Ballance. “Miss B,” as she was affectionately known, came to our church on September 15, 1959, as the Director of Christian Education. This day marked the beginning of a long and dedicated devotion to the youth of the Raeford Church until her retirement in December 1979.

“Miss B” was born in Hyde County, North Carolina, on October 28, 1917. Her early life had a great influence on her which she shared with our youth in many ways. They enjoyed trips “down home” where they enjoyed her home near Pamlico Sound. Visits were made to Manteo to see “The Lost Colony” and Hatteras to see the Hatteras Lighthouse. Great memories were made during these trips for the fortunate youth who were involved. They learned to love and respect “Miss B” and her devotion to them and to God.

Miss Ballance stressed a well-balanced program of Christian Education for her young people. They experienced Sunday night programs, a variety of communion services, outdoor worships, Watch Nights, UNICEF drives, and other special services. In order to broaden the Christian scope of the lives of the youth, special events were conducted including: hayrides, dances, cookouts, movies, suppers, bowling, putt-putt, swimming, and other recreational activities. During her twenty years of guidance, the Methodist Youth learned first-hand the values and joys of Christian fellowship and friendship.

The youth under her influence went on many trips to Camp Rockfish for planning retreats and weekend excursions. She believed in hard Christian work. They always attended the Methodist Youth Fellowship Workshops at Rocky Mount on the North Carolina Wesleyan



College campus. Miss Ballance was always a part of the program at these workshops sponsored by the North Carolina Conference.

Miss Ballance's influence was not only felt by the youth of Raeford United Methodist Church but by many others as well. Raeford United Methodist Women was another group that was special to her. During 1974, a need was seen for a new group of United Methodist Women. It was thought that we needed a group to attract young women. "Miss B" was the perfect leader of this group. The first group met under her guidance to discuss the mission of this group in relation to the United Methodist Women. After careful thought, this group decided they wanted to study missions, participate in action projects, as well as have discussion programs. Thus, the name, MAD Group was chosen to represent Mission – Action – Discussion. During the early years, "Miss B" was there explaining the importance of the work of United Methodist Women. She kept the group going in the right direction, training them to become valuable members of the Raeford United Methodist Women. Even though she was much older in years than the women she served, she provided the anchor for good Christian work and fellowship. Each year the Christmas meeting was held at her "retirement home" on Stewart Street. She always had a fire in the fireplace and goodies to eat, including her "famous fudge." The program for Christmas was always her job and she did it well, sharing with us on every opportunity the love of Jesus and His place in our lives. She was a cheerleader for our little group always telling us what a good job we were doing, as well as what we needed to do. She worked hard to instill in us the importance of our members attending the All-Together meetings of RUMW. She would say in her deepest Hyde County accent, "now girls, we know what a good job you are doing, but those other women will not know if you don't show up for the group meeting!" You better believe that we believed her and began attending the group meetings. The MAD Group, especially its early members, will always be indebted to "Miss B" for her love, support, and dedication to us and to United Methodist Women.

When Miss Ballance retired, our church members honored her with an "Ethelynde Ballance Night," October 27, 1979, in the Fellowship Hall. Bishop Robert M. Blackburn of the N.C. Conference gave the invocation, and Reverend Paul Carruth, Fayetteville District Superintendent, led in prayer. Many of her friends and co-workers participated in the presentation, "This Is Your Life – Ethelynde," written by Sarah Howell, Anne Upchurch, and Ann Ross.

Miss Ballance lived in Raeford after her retirement, until her death, May 25, 1990. Her death was a great loss, but the memories she left us will live forever.

## *HAPPY HOBBY HARVEST*

In 1978 Reverend Kelly Wilson asked Don Steed to chair a bazaar for our church. Reverend Wilson suggested we have it in October or November and pattern it after one which our Christian Education leader, Miss Ethelynde Ballance, had attended.

Mr. Steed accepted and immediately asked our congregation to come up with a name for the bazaar. We had two names that were tied for first place. Billy Colston submitted the name, "Methodist Hobby Harvest," and Ruria Warner submitted "Happy Methodist Festival." Reverend Wilson and Mr. Steed decided to consolidate the two names and use the name of "Happy Hobby Harvest."

Our goal was to raise \$5,000. The first priority for the proceeds was to pay a portion to our missionary and to use the rest of the funds for special projects designated by the Administrative Board. Funds were not to be placed in the general fund to pay for current expense debts.



# Memorials, Honors, and Gifts

## LARGE MEMORIAL WINDOWS

### DONOR

Mrs. A. R. Morris and children  
Mrs. A. J. Fuller and children  
Mrs. B. L. Cox and children  
Daughters of Mrs. H. A. Cameron  
    In honor of Mrs. H. A. Cameron  
Mrs. I. H. Shankle and children  
Mrs. Irene Downer Thrower  
L. E. Reaves, Jr.  
L. A. Lentz, Jr.  
J. B., C. L. and W. M. Thomas  
Children of Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Upchurch

### IN MEMORY OF

A. R. Morris  
A. J. Fuller  
B. L. Cox  
  
H. A. Cameron  
I. H. Shankle  
Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Downer  
Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Reaves  
Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Lentz  
Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Thomas  
Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Upchurch

## SMALL MEMORIAL WINDOWS

### DONOR

Mrs. Carl Freeman  
Children of Mr. and Mrs. M. Gainey

### IN MEMORY OF

Mrs. W. C. Harlee  
Mr. and Mrs. M. Gainey

## CHURCH PEWS

### DONOR

Miss Jessie B. Ferguson  
Harvey and Alfred Cole  
Mrs. Agnes U. Johnson  
Miss Ila Graham  
Rev. and Mrs. P. O. Lee  
Edward Langston, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Moore and daughters  
Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Warner  
R. L. Carter and family  
Mrs. Aganora Andrews and Mrs. D. S. Jones  
Dr. and Mrs. R. A. Matheson  
Mr. and Mrs. Carlton Niven  
Mrs. Hinton McPhaul

### IN MEMORY OF

J. M. Ferguson  
Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Cole  
Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Upchurch  
J. D. Graham  
Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Buck  
E. H. Langston  
B. F. Moore  
Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Warner  
Rev. and Mrs. W. F. Trawick  
Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Jones and D. S. Jones  
Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Matheson, Sr.  
M. D. Gentry  
A. D. McPhaul and W. P. Mooneyhan

### DONOR

Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Williamson  
Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Lytle's children  
Mr. and Mrs. Younger Snead, Sr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Younger Snead, Sr.  
Younger Snead, Sr.  
Mrs. Younger Snead, Sr. and children  
R. B. Lewis  
Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Robinson

### IN HONOR OF

Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Williamson  
Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Lytle  
Miss Jenelle V. Snead  
Younger Snead, Jr.  
Mrs. Younger Snead, Sr.  
Younger Snead, Sr.  
Mrs. R. B. Lewis  
Rev. and Mrs. B. P. Robinson

## CHURCH PEWS

### DONOR

J. R. Hendrix  
 Mrs. D. W. Brown  
 Frank Culbreth  
 Rev. J. W. Bradley  
 Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Stephens  
 Mr. and Mrs. A. M. McGee  
 Mr. and Mrs. N. A. Maxwell  
 Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Sanders  
 Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Williamson  
 Mrs. H. A. Cameron  
 Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Giles

*The following special articles appeared in the church bulletin October 15, 1950:*

One set Maas Cathedral Organ Chimes given by Mr. and Mrs. C.L. Thomas in memory of Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Thomas.

Altar Set with Cover given by the children of S.A. Snead in memory of S.A. Snead.

Two Brass Floor Vases given by the children of Mrs. S.A. Snead in memory of Mrs. S.A. Snead.

Kneeling Pad given by the children of Mr. and Mrs. W.L. Floyd in memory of Mr. and Mrs. W.L. Floyd.

Materials and furniture for chapel and Men's Bible Class given by family of T.B. Upchurch, Sr. in memory of T.B. Upchurch, Sr.

Dossal Curtains given by Children's Division of Church School in honor of Rev. B.P. Robinson.

Pulpit and Lectern Scarf given by Mrs. R.A. Matheson, Jr. and Miss Alice Sutton Matheson in honor of the Building Committee.

Offering Plates given by Mrs. Younger Snead, Sr., Miss Jenelle Snead, and Younger Snead, Jr.

Kilgen Pine Organ given by ladies of the Methodist Church.

Frigidaire electric range given by Baucom Appliance Co.

Services of bulldozers furnished by Truman B. Austin and T.B. Upchurch, Inc.

ITEM	IN MEMORY OF	BY
Holy Bible	Margaret Mitchel Poovey	Mr. and Mrs. M. T. Poovey
Baptismal Font	Mollie Cameron Tuttle and David Millard Tuttle	Mrs. H. A. Cameron and Family
White Dossal Curtains	Mrs. Elizabeth Stewart Miss Jessie Bright Ferguson	Family (Gentrys) Memorials
Red Dossal Curtain	Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Hendrix, Sr.	Bob Lewis Bible Class
Green Dossal Curtain	Richard Norris	Family and Memorials
Altar Cloth	Tom Cameron	Hoke Oil and Fertilizer Co.



<b>ITEM</b>	<b>IN MEMORY OF</b>	<b>BY</b>
Music Stand	Mrs. Grace D. Morgan	Family
Hymnals	Individuals	Individuals or Families
Wedding Kneeling Bench Brass Wedding Candelabra	Mrs. R. A. (Murriel) Matheson	Mr. & Mrs. Fred Stanbeck and children
Flags for Sanctuary	Jessie McFadyen Hubbard	Irvin Hubbard Miss Jessica Hubbard
Acolyte Candlelighters	Carlton Niven David Warren Mrs. H.W. (Mildred) Ellis	Memorials Family Family
Altar Renovation	Mrs. R. G. Townsend, Sr.	Memorials
<u>Good News Bibles</u>	Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Ellis Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Hendrix, Sr.	Ron and Tammie H. Ellis
Guest Register Stand	Crawford L. Thomas, Sr.	Miss Polly Yow
Memorial Stand and Memorial Book	Mrs. Aganora Andrews	Mr. & Mrs. T.B. Lester, Jr. Miss Andrea Lester
Mirror and Curio Cabinet	Their Parents	Mr. and Mrs. Frank Baker
Redecorating Room off Narthex	R. L. Carter	Memorials
Furnishings for Pastor's Study	Mrs. A. R. Morris	Jack Morris
Draperies for Fellowship Hall	Jessie McFadyen Hubbard Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Cole	Irvin Hubbard Miss Jessica Hubbard Family
Piano for Bob Lewis Bible Class	John Thomas Haire	Bob Lewis Bible Class and Memorials
Round Tables for Fellowship Hall	Ransom Baucom	Bob Lewis Bible Class and Memorials
Tablecloths for Fellowship Hall	Glenn Maxwell	Mrs. Glenn Maxwell
Clock for Bob Lewis Bible Class	Ransom Baucom	Mrs. Ransom Baucom
Memorial Stand in Pearl S. Cole Class	B. B. Cole	Family

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>IN MEMORY OF</b>	<b>BY</b>
<u>Good News Bibles</u> for Pearl S. Cole Class	Mrs. G. C. (Mattie) Lytle	Family
<u>Cokesbury Worship Hymnal</u> for Pearl S. Cole Class	Mabel Vincent Hill	Hill Memorial Fund
<u>Cokesbury Worship Hymnal</u> for Fidelis Class	Mrs. A. R. Morris	Jack Morris
<u>The Beginners Bible</u> and <u>Devotional</u> books for Kindergarten	Pauline S. Coward	Mr. and Mrs. George King
<u>Holy Bible</u> Contemporary English Version for First through Fourth Grades	Sam Hendrix	Mrs. Sam (Betty) Hendrix
Table in Pearl S. Cole Class	Mrs. J. L. (Ruth) Warner	Fidelis Class
Furnishings for Nursery	Mrs. Mary V. Autry	Memorials
Furnishings for Choir Practice Room	Mrs. Clyde (Alice) Upchurch, Sr.	Memorials
Furnishings for Sunday School Classes (4 and 5)	Sam Hendrix	Mrs. Sam (Betty) Hendrix
Furnishings for Reception Area (back of church)	Mr. and Mrs. Younger Snead, Sr.	Family
Picture, <u>Offer Them Christ</u> , in Reception Area	Mrs. Jim (Kathleen) Hendrix	Koinonia Class
Linen Communion Cover for Altar	Wayner T. Biggs	Mrs. W. L. Biggs
Linen Communion Element Cover	Mrs. William L. Poole	John Scott Poole
Framed Pictures of The Old and New Churches	Mr. and Mrs. A.V. Sanders	Edith Sanders Best
Portable Communion Set	Mr. and Mrs. T. Colon Scarborough	Mr. & Mrs. Lacy Koonce, Jr. and Family Mr. & Mrs. Larry Newsome and Family



<b>ITEM</b>	<b>IN MEMORY OF</b>	<b>BY</b>
Chalice	Sarah and Bill Howell and in honor of Rev. Carson Tyson	Family
Stoles	Kaye Lindsey	Edith Best, Kaye's mother
Choir Robes	Lorena Lester Maude Upchurch Lewis David Warren	Memorials Memorials Memorials
Maas-Rowe Carillon	Miss Lillian Fields Moore	Her Estate
Yamaha Keyboard	Joe Upchurch	Family
Funeral Pall	Cecil Bernhardt and Mrs. Irvin Rockhill	Memorials
Furnishings for Parsonage	Neil Townsend	Memorials
Projector, Viewing Screen, Cassette Player - Recorder	Neill A. Maxwell	Family
Outdoor Bulletin Board	Mrs. J. R. Hendrix, Sr.	Family
Handicap Entrance at Front of Church	Mrs. R. L. (Mary) Carter	Memorials
Sound System	Earl Floyd	Memorials
Overhead Projector	Jessie McFadyen Hubbard	Irvin Hubbard Miss Jessica Hubbard
Computer System	William L. Howell, Jr.	Memorials
Dogwoods	Kay McNeill Thomas	Memorials
Custom-made Metal Gas Cooker	Joe Upchurch	Bob Lewis Bible Class and Memorials
Refurbished Two Brass Floor Vases	Martha Lytle Miller	Ruth Lytle Phillips
Brass Advent Wreath and Liquid Advent Candles	Helen Morgan Sellars	Memorials

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>IN HONOR OF</b>	<b>BY</b>
Communion Set	Reverend and Mrs. P. O. Lee	Men's Bible Class
Piano for Sanctuary	Miss Jessie Bright Ferguson	Friends
Brass Cross for Altar in Sanctuary	Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Hendrix, Sr.	Miss Ann Ross Lacy Hendrix
Purple Dossal Curtain	Reverend and Mrs. Arthur W. Winstead	Pearl S. Cole Class
White Parament Set and Dossal Curtain	David Warren, Jr. and Billy Colston's Families	Miss Alma Ferguson
Hymnals	Individuals	Individuals or Families
Choir and Acolyte Stoles	Chancel Choir Acolytes Mrs. Bill (Helen) Sellars	Dr. and Mrs. Bob Nelson
Acolyte Robes	Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Upchurch, Jr.	Dr. and Mrs. Bob Nelson
Collection Plates to Pearl S. Cole Class and Bob Lewis Bible Class	Mr. and Mrs. Harold Brady on 50th Wedding Anniversary	Family
Framed Poem in Fellowship Hall	Miss Ethelynde Ballance	Mission-Action-Discussion Group
Portrait of Mrs. B. B. Cole in Pearl S. Cole Class	Mrs. B. B. Cole	Pearl S. Cole Class
<u>King James Bible</u>	Pearl S. Cole Class	Mrs. Pearl Shaw Cole
Botanical Prints In Reception Area	Reverend Carson Tyson	Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Thompson
<u>King James Bible</u> to Bob Lewis Bible Class	Harold and Mary Brady (Christmas 1997)	Harold and Cynthia Brady



**GIFTS**

Furniture in the Room off the Narthex

Candlelighter

Offering Plates

Chairs for Fellowship Hall

Hand Railing - Front of Church

Table for Koinonia Class

Picture in Pearl S. Cole Class

**BY**

Mrs. Clyde Upchurch, Sr.  
Miss Jessie Bright Ferguson  
Mrs. Jesse Gibson

Mr. and Mrs. James Irvin Hubbard  
Miss Jessica Hubbard

Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Norris  
J. R. Hendrix, Sr.

Mr. and Mrs. Lacy Hendrix  
Miss Ann Ross

Lacy Hendrix

Mrs. T. B. Upchurch, Jr.

Mrs. Tom Cameron

**ENDOWMENTS**

Mrs. Maude Upchurch Lewis  
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Cameron  
Miss Lillian Fields Moore

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Ethelynde Ballance Scholarship  
The Pearl S. Cole Scholarship  
The Hendrix Scholarship  
The United Methodist Men's Scholarship  
The T. B. Upchurch, Jr. Scholarship for N. C. State

# CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

*Linda Steed, Chairman*

## DINNER

Jimmy Conoly, Vernon Hubbard

## DECORATIONS

Dot Nelson, Sarah Maxwell, Isabelle McDougald

## HISTORY

Sarah Baucom, Dwan Upchurch, Co-chairpersons  
Connie Ellis, Wanda Ingram, Charlotta King, Ann Ross, Don Steed

## LIVING HERITAGE ROOM

Steve Connell, Chairman, Kitsy Bundy, Frank Bundy, Ernestine Currie, Ron Ellis  
Bob Hawker, Ann Pate, Joan Scarboro, Carroll Scarboro

## MEMORABILIA

Edith Best, Chairperson, Norma Connell, Alice Ellis

## RESEARCH

Earl Hendrix, Bob Nelson, Bill Sellars, Reverend Richard Vaughan

## HERITAGE SUNDAY

Mina Townsend, Nancy Conoly, Jimmy Conoly

## SALES

Bob Hawker, Men of the Church

## PUBLICITY

Carroll Scarboro, Alma Ferguson

## PHOTOGRAPHY

Avery Connell, Mina Townsend

## VIDEO

Luke McNeill

## ART

Line Drawings for history book cover, Art Department - Hoke County High School

## CATERER

Dowless, Clarkton, North Carolina



## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The committee that wrote the history of our church for its centennial updated "A Short History of Raeford United Methodist Church," printed in 1976. The following members of this committee who are responsible for this updating are Dwan Upchurch, History and Women of the Church; Charlotta King, Music; Ann Ross, Youth; and Sarah Baucom, Memorials and Gifts. Wanda Ingram submitted the information given on Miss Ethelynde Balance, and Don Steed provided the "Happy Hobby Harvest" material. Special thanks go to Connie Ellis, assisted by Diane Bowers, for typesetting this history for printing.

We wish to express appreciation for the work of Lewis M. Upchurch, Sr., who compiled a booklet for the Church Dedication Sunday, December 12, 1954; for the records of the Charge Conference from 1954; for bulletins and newsletters; and to the members of this congregation who have given their personal records and their time in preparing this document. Our gratitude also goes to Dot Winchester Moss, a former church secretary; Dona McMenamin, our present secretary; and Tony McLaurin, our sexton since 1983, for their assistance.

The committee realizes that some information may have been inadvertently omitted, and we regret the oversight.



*To the glory of God and in memory of Ransom Baucom,  
the printing of this centennial history is given  
by Sarah Hamer Baucom.*