



**History
of
Rowland United Methodist Church
1903 - 2003**

Rowland, North Carolina



Rowland Methodist Episcopal Church South
Built in 1905

Rowland Methodist Parsonage
(in background)
Built in 1907

HISTORY
Of
ROWLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1903 – 2003

We are indebted to Rev. J. W. Bradley for the origins of the Rowland Charge and records of the initial organization of the Rowland Church. We are further indebted to Mrs. B. A. Edens for the "Brief History of Rowland Methodist Church" printed in the April 27, 1941 bulletin for the dedication of the new church

Reverend Bradley's information data and Mrs. Edens' history became the background for the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary publication by Miss Josie Pate entitled, "Historical Sketch, Rowland United Methodist Church, 1903-1978."

The 1978 publication of Miss Pate's has been supplemented and updated for the church's 100th Anniversary Celebration by Richard N. Smith, Jr. and Mrs. Iola Burns Winesett. We are indebted to Betty Jean Caveness Edens and her husband John Clarence Edens for preparing this history for the printer.

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Connie M. Stutts, Pastor

January 26, 2003

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ROWLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The North Carolina Conference in annual session at Wilmington, North Carolina, December, 1902, Bishop A. C. Smith in the chair, at the suggestion of Rev. W. S. Rone, Presiding Elder of the Rockingham District, created the Rowland Charge. It was originally a four-point work, consisting of old Centenary Church, four miles southeast of Rowland, taken from the Robeson Circuit; Purvis, practically a new church, five miles north of Rowland, taken from the Red Springs Charge; Oak Grove, an abandoned church, twelve miles northwest of Rowland, formerly belonging to the Maxton Charge; and Rowland, a new town as the geographical center of the work, without a Methodist organization, but with a few scattered Methodists, as the fourth point. Subsequently, Oak Grove was discontinued.

In 1911, Asbury Church was transferred to the Rowland Circuit from the Robeson Circuit. This Historic Church at Raynham, founded in 1861, was the offspring and successor of old Providence, formerly located in the same community. Providence was already built and in use before the deed was made in 1811. Asbury was discontinued in 1926, but still observes an annual Homecoming Day on the 3rd Sunday in October.

Rev. W. S. Rone, Presiding Elder, anticipating the need of an additional preacher, visited the Western North Carolina Conference in session at Monroe, N. C. in November. He secured Rev. J. W. Bradley, an undergraduate of the Conference, to transfer and become the first pastor of the proposed Rowland Charge.

Rev. Bradley arrived in the little town of Rowland on Sunday afternoon following Christmas, 1902, having driven from back of Black Mountain on the Tennessee line in an open buggy, on a sheepskin cushion.

On January 31st, 1903, The Rowland Methodist Episcopal Church, South was organized at the First Quarterly Conference, conducted by Rev. J. N. Cole, Presiding Elder, at the home of William B. Thompson, great grandfather of John Hugh and Henry McArn, with eighteen charter members as follows: W. B. Thompson, Mrs. W. B. Thompson, Miss Willie Thompson, W. H. Graham, Mrs. W. H. Graham, Robert F. Graham, Thomas Graham, Sallie Graham, H. M. John, J. W. Webster, J. D. Webster, Mrs. J. D. Webster, Robert L. Rogers, Mrs. Robert L. Rogers, Mrs. Lola Bracy, Mrs. Kate Smith, and Marcus Smith, the uncle of Paul, Elizabeth, Bill and Ruth Smith.

The first members to join the church on profession of faith were Willie W. Webster and his sister, Miss Linnie Webster.

The Baptist Church was used by the early Methodists for almost two and a half years, while preparations were being made to build a church of their own.

In the Spring of 1905, the first church building was completed, furnished and paid for. It was a large one-room frame structure. In May of the same year, after three services had been held, a storm swept through the town and wrecked the church, lifting it off its pillars and placing the rear of the building well over into the street. A wrecking crew was called from Charlotte, N. C. Within

nine weeks the church was restored, all repairs paid for, and a revival was being held in the building.

The first minister, Rev. J. W. Bradley, lived at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry K. McCormic for three years until he was married. The second minister, Rev. J. M. Ashby and wife, also lived at the McCormic home until the first parsonage was completed in 1907.

The present new church had its inception in a bequest of \$5,000 by Mr. Frank Edens, a bachelor uncle of Mr. Carl C. Edens. Mr. Frank Edens, a loyal and devoted member, died in 1922.

(The above early and authentic data of Methodism in Rowland was generously furnished to Mrs. B. A. Edens by Rev. J. W. Bradley, first pastor of Rowland Charge.)

ASBURY CHURCH TRANSFERRED TO ROWLAND CHARGE

In 1911 the Asbury church in Raynham was transferred to the Rowland Charge. Asbury descended from a non-denominational meetinghouse built around 1755. A new building was built in 1811 as Providence Methodist Church. A monument erected in front of the present church in 1955 by Miss Mabel Townsend reads as follows:

ASBURY METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH
RAYNHAM, NORTH CAROLINA
ORIGINALLY ORGANIZED BY BISHOP ASBURY
AS PROVIDENCE METHODIST CHURCH
LOCATED THREE MILES WEST OF THIS SITE
1811
THIS BUILDING ERECTED HERE ON LAND
GIVEN BY REV. JACKSON TOWNSEND AND
NAME CHANGED TO HONOR BISHOP ASBURY
1861

In 1861, the Asbury church was built with timbers that were floated down the Lumber River from Argyle, now Alma, and hauled by wagon over land to Raynham. When the new church was completed, the old Providence Methodist Church structure, which was built in 1811, was given to the colored persons of the original congregation.

The Asbury church was active until 1926 when its members joined the Rowland church and other churches in the area. In 1927, Miss Dora Thompson suggested the idea of an annual homecoming and Asbury Homecoming Association was formed. The Rev. P. D. Woodall of Rowland preached the first homecoming sermon on May 15, 1927. The homecomings are now held annually on the third Sunday of October.

In 1970, under the leadership of the late David Townsend of Rowland, the church deed was acquired from the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church. It was presented to the Asbury Memorial Association by the Rev. Don Lee Harris on their behalf. The name was

changed to Asbury Memorial Church. A trust fund was set up for the maintenance of the church and a separate trust fund was established to maintain the cemetery across the road.

This background of Asbury church has been summarized from a more detailed history in the 322-page "*Asbury Memorial Church Book of Memorials*." This book was compiled by Mabel Agnes Townsend and Allyne (Rusty) Townsend and published in 2001 by Earle and Hazel Townsend of Greenville, SC.

CENTENARY CHURCH UNITED WITH ROWLAND

Centenary Methodist Church was organized in 1882 by Rev. W. S. Chaffin, a Methodist Circuit Rider assigned to the Ashpole Mission. This church was an outgrowth of services previously held at a brush arbor in the Stuart/Ayers area near the North Carolina/South Carolina line, about two miles south of the present church site. After the arrival of Rev. Chaffin, church services were held in an unfinished building owned by Mr. Alex McCormic. This newly organized church was called Cotton Valley.

On August 11, 1882, Duncan A. McCormick and wife Mary, deeded one acre of land for the purpose of erecting a church building to the following trustees: Rev. Jesse R. Gaddy, J. C. Faulk, J. R. Burns, Archibald Stuart, J. D. Crawford, John Hammond and Charles H. Wyche.

In 1884 while Rev. J. A. Hornady was serving as pastor of the Ashpole Mission, the church building was started and the name of the church was changed from Cotton Valley to Centenary. At the annual session of the North Carolina Conference in 1885, the now completed Centenary Church was transferred to the Robeson Circuit. On May 9, 1886, Centenary Church was dedicated by Rev. Jonathan Sanford, Pastor of the Robeson Circuit. When the Rowland Circuit was formed in 1902, Centenary was transferred to it.

Centenary United Methodist Church remained active until June 13, 1971 when it was officially united with Rowland United Methodist Church and merged with the Rowland congregation. The Rev. Don Lee Harris, pastor of the Charge, led in the act of merger. James R. Pate, trustee for Rowland United Methodist Church, on its behalf, responded and acknowledged the church merger. Carl C. Edens, trustee for Centenary United Methodist Church, acknowledged on behalf of the church, the merger and declared it so, in a brief litany, and pledged their loyalty and support. The two churches celebrated the observance of the Lord's Supper, which followed a meditation delivered by one of Centenary's minister sons, The Rev. Madison W. Maness.

The former members of Centenary Church under the leadership of Rev. Don Lee Harris organized the Centenary Memorial Association. On July 1, 1971 the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church deeded the Centenary Church property to Robert F. Stuart, John C. Edens, James Gaddy Ward, Jr., H. D. Burns, Jr., and Jack Hammond, Trustees of Centenary Memorial Association. Annual Homecomings are held each year on the fourth Sunday in August.

A complete history of Centenary Church is found in the 225-page "*Centenary Memorial United Methodist Church, A History and Pictorial Directory 1882 – 2000*." Compiled by Betty Jean Caveness Edens, John Clarence Edens and Elaine Burns and published in 2001.

PURVIS CHURCH UNITED WITH ROWLAND

When the Rowland Charge was created in 1903, Rev. Bradley tells us that the Purvis church was "practically a new church" taken from the Red Springs Charge. However, we find in the 1895 deed that the lot was "the same land on which the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, now stands."

This deed was dated July 16, 1895 between Z. V. Pate, his wife Sallie McN. Pate, Charles T. Pate, and A. W. Pate to the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South at Purvis, NC. The trustees were D. A. Paul, Wm Stubbs, R. W. Bullard, Jas. W. Holcomb and John Bridgers. While this 1895 deed was not recorded in the courthouse, a similar deed was recorded on March 6, 1903 in Deed Book 4-9, page 149, with Z. V. Pate and his wife and A. W. Pate and his wife as grantors and the same trustees of the Purvis Church as grantees.

The last Purvis church report to the Annual Conference in 1973 listed 56 members. In 1975, the Purvis church united with the Rowland church. By 1985, fourteen of former Purvis members were still on the Rowland Church rolls.

Mrs. Robert Frank (Edna) Pate is the only member from Purvis remaining in the current Rowland congregation. Charles M. Norment of Lumberton is perhaps the oldest living member of the Purvis church. His father, Lindsay Norment, taught the Adult Sunday School Class "forever." According to Mrs. Lewis (Doris) Moore, Norment was excellent and may have been the only adult class teacher they had.

On June 1, 1975, Purvis United Methodist Church united with the Rowland United Methodist Church congregation with the purpose and intent, led by the pastor, Rev. Don Lee Harris, to join together in Christ into one congregation, with both congregations responding: "Thus it is done: We pledge to you our love in Christ. We are one worshipping body. May Jesus Christ be praised!" The two churches observed the Lord's Supper followed with singing "*Bless Be the Tie That Binds*," and closed with the benediction.

The Purvis church was officially closed by the Annual Conference in June 1975. Some time thereafter the Purvis Memorial Association was formed and the building was rented. In May of 1991 the building was leased for two years at fifty dollars per month with the option to purchase for \$8,000. On May 23, 1993 the building was deeded by the trustees of the Rowland United Methodist Church to the trustees of the Purvis Independent Baptist Congregation of Purvis, NC. The deed is recorded in Robeson County deed Book 795, page 213.

The trustees of the Rowland church were Susan Lee, Bill Ward, Lewis Moore, Robert McLean, Olivia Anne Smith and Jack Watson. The trustees of the Baptist church were Robert Oxendine, Jr., Johnnie Locklear, and James Earl Oxendine.

Presumably when the Baptist re-roofed the old Purvis church they removed the steeple but preserved the bell. The church bell is mounted in front of the church. The Baptist congregation has prospered and has since added a new sanctuary beside the original building.

OAK GROVE CHURCH

Rev. Bradley tells us that "Oak Grove, an abandoned church, twelve miles northwest of Rowland, formerly belonged to the Red Springs Charge" and was brought into the newly created Rowland Charge. The Oak Grove church was taken from the Rowland Circuit at the Annual Conference of 1912 and placed on the Caledonia Circuit.

According to Rev. Bradley's records, six members were transferred to Centenary in January 1906 and one was transferred to Purvis the same month.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The women through the years have played a vital part in the life and development of the church. They were first organized by Rev. J. W. Bradley as a Ladies Aid, on November 8, 1904, at the home of Mrs. J. W. Webster. The charter members of this society were: Mrs. W. W. Webster, Miss Linnie Webster, Miss Myrtle Muse, Miss Kate Hamer, and Rev. Bradley. These staunch women and a few others, who were not present for the charter meeting, contributed much towards the building of the first church.

The Ladies Aid continued to grow and soon became a real force in the church, both in a material and spiritual way. In 1910, when the Woman's Board decided to unite the two branches of the work - Home and Foreign - into one society, the members of this society voted to change the name of the organization to the Woman's Missionary Society. With this broader vision of the great woman's work, the members put forth even greater efforts. In 1912, the young people were organized into a society, also the children into a Bright Jewel Band. In 1925, the society adopted the circle plan, there being enough members for two circles, which were named The Ruth Merritt and The Elizabeth Lamb. The Adult, Young People's, and Children's Societies were each placed on the Honor Roll for 1928, the Jubilee Year. Mrs. T. W. Carmichael was the Jubilee President. Mrs. J. McN. Smith was a great leader of the Youth Work in the late Twenties, which included Methodist and Presbyterian youth.

During the years of the Twenties and Thirties, the women worked faithfully serving turkey dinners and ice cream suppers, selling chickens, brooms and silver polish, picking cotton, and publishing The Tried & True Cook Book made up of their favorite recipes. Twenty-five hundred dollars was raised and contributed by the women for the new church building and furnishings.

In 1939, the names of the Circles were changed to Mary McCormic and Mollie Graham, honoring two early members.

In 1940, the Woman's Missionary Society changed the name to Woman's Society of Christian Service.

On Monday night, February 21, 1966, the Woman's Society of Christian Service celebrated its Twenty-fifth Anniversary at the church, with a program entitled "Twenty-Fifth Anniversary...Memoir Of An Era". This was led by Mrs. Robert Frank Pate and opened with the hymn "*Now Thank We All Our God*". History of the local society, dating to its organization in 1904 and written by Mrs. W. W. Webster for the Jubilee Celebration in 1928, was read by the president, Mrs. James Pate. All ladies present who had been members since 1940, when the society went

under its present name, were honored with white carnation corsages. Twenty-five year members were: Mesdames Fletcher Pate, Blue Pate, G. M. Pate, John Rogers, Sr., Frank Holcomb, Charlie Holcomb, Lindsey Norment, M. E. Stanton, Leon Ammons, F. W. Currie, Marvin Currie, Hensley Miller, Ernest Currie, W. L. Loy, L. R. Edens, J. McN. Smith, Homer Ward, Edens Ward, Andy Hasty, Ernest Ward McKenzie, B. A. Edens, Hamer McCormic, J. Burns Ward, J. C. Crawford, J. C. Ward, and Mrs. Asa Ammons. Mrs. Charles Blue Pate, the youngest member, and Mmes. W. Z. and John B. Pate, who were in their twenty-fifth year of marriage, were also honored with corsages.

In 1967, The Methodist Cook Book was published, compiled by the Mamie Pate Circle.

In 1973, the name of The Woman's Society Of Christian Service was changed. They officially became The United Methodist Women in a service of celebration, "Sing Unto The Lord A New Song". As part of the remembrances of the past, Mrs. J. McN. Smith, Mrs. Charles B. Pate, and Mrs. Mitchell Walker reviewed various stages of women's work under the old titles - from the days of Ladies Aid Society until the present time. The "NOW" was represented by the reading of the UMW pledge - "The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church."

A look toward the future was made in 1974 with possible changes and extensions of service, and with some action groups to be formed with emphasis on study, aid to shut-ins, and some type of recreation for the lonely and senior citizens. Mrs. John C. Crawford, president, was leader of the litanies and prayers, and through her efficient and great leadership served four years (1973-77) as president of the Society. Mrs. Crawford, in 1973, promoted a cookbook "Tested & Tasted Recipes", compiled by the UMW.

In 1978, the United Methodist Women are organized into four circles: The Graham-McCormic, The Edith Edens, The Mamie Pate, and The Alpha & Omega, with a total membership of sixty-four members.

Many worthy causes have been supported by the Society through the years: an overseas orphan, an orphan at The Methodist Home in Raleigh, rolling bandages for The Cancer Home at Lumberton, free school lunches, Love Offering at Christmas for needy families, observing the Week of Prayer and Self-Denial each year with offerings going to Missions, and establishment of a Student Loan Fund in 1953 for college students.

The Society has held bazaars in November each year from 1969 to 1977, a total of nine bazaars, with profits of \$17,895.87 going to the Building Fund for the new Educational Building or improvements to the church. The capable leadership through the years of the many wonderful presidents (too numerous to list) is responsible for the great progress of the Society.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN 1978 - 2002

Over the years 1978 to 2002, the United Methodist Women were served by the leadership of many excellent presidents:

1978-79 Mrs. Elizabeth (James) Pate

1980-81 Miss Halene Crawford

1982-83 Mrs. Helen (Charles Blue) Pate	1992 Mrs. Olivia Anne (Dick) Smith
1984-85 Mrs. Frances (Jack) Page	1993 Mrs. Elizabeth (James) Pate
1986-87 Mrs. Olivia Anne (Dick) Smith	1994-00 Mrs. Iola (Bob) Burns (Bill) Winesett
1988-91 Mrs. Grace (Jack) Watson	2000- Mrs. Helen (Charles Blue) Pate

For many years Mrs. Sara Lib (Bill) Pate served as Vice-President and Program Chairman, Josie Pate as Secretary and Mrs. "Boots" (Mitch) Walker as Treasurer.

During this period the UMW was very active in every respect. They held bazaars, yard sales, fed the Lions Club each month, served BBQ, chicken bog and turkey dinners. Monies from these activities were used to support missions both home and abroad and to make improvements in the church and parsonage including draperies, carpets and kitchen supplies.

Health kits were sent to the Home for Battered Women, canned food and clothing were collected for the Church and Community Center, Bibles were supplied for the Prison Ministry, radios were sent to men during the "Desert Storm" conflict, and blankets were sent to Afghanistan. Campbell soup labels were collected to help buy supplies for the Methodist Home for Children which we also supported with the Match program.

At Christmas we were responsible for decorating the Christmas Tree with Christmons that we made and for presenting the Candlelight Service. We took food baskets to needy families and poinsettias and candy to our shut-ins in Rowland and in the retirement homes.

Our latest project has been the "Hand In Hand Program" which consists of volunteer tutoring and teacher support at the Ashpole-Southside Elementary School. Thirty-one teachers are supported with our prayers, cards and notes of encouragement and small gifts on special occasions. This program is under the direction of Mrs. Helen Pate. Currently there are six tutors for eight children. The tutors are Mrs. Susan Lee, Mrs. Lois McCormick, Mrs. Edna Pate, Mrs. Helen Pate, Mrs. Mary Richardson, and Rev. Connie Stutts.

Each year Mrs. Frances Page presented a very interesting "Call to Prayer and Self Denial" program followed by a delicious luncheon in the Fellowship Hall.

In 1980 Mrs. Sara Lib Pate organized a "Tribute to our Octogenarians" program and dinner. She composed and read a poem honoring them. The fifteen honorees were presented a corsage. Mrs. Pate was later named "Lay Person of the year" from the Rockingham District. In 1991 Mrs. Iola Burns was named 2nd runner-up in the district.

Since September 2002, Mrs. Fran Aycock, Mrs. Susan Lee and Mrs. Edna Pate have been serving in the prison ministry in Lumberton. From September through May of each year, they are teaching one book of the Disciples Bible Study to inmates.

Until the Pink Restaurant closed, we enjoyed a monthly luncheon there. This social was organized by Mrs. Sara Lib Pate who did many extras to make it a special time for us.

Our UMW has been recognized as a 7-Star Unit in Mission since 1990. We hosted the Sub-District meeting in 1994 and again in 2001.

Sadly, our unit has lost so many members to relocation and death, and has gained so few new members, that our membership of twenty-five is too small to continue the four circles we had at one time. Beginning in 2002 all UMW members are meeting together four times a year for breakfast and an inspirational program. Meetings are on Saturday to give working mothers an opportunity to attend and to include the men. We still pledge to Conference and will fulfill as many mission obligations as possible.

UMW LIFE MEMBERS

Life Membership Pins and Certificates have been awarded by the UMW to the following members for their loyalty and devotion through the years:

Mrs. Asa Ammons	Mrs. Blue Pate	Mrs. M. E. Stanton
Miss Sarah Frances Barker	Mrs. Charles T. Pate	Mrs. Robert Stuart, Sr.
Mrs. J. H. Carper	Mrs. George Lewis Pate	Mrs. Mitchell H. Walker
Mrs. M. R. Chambers	Mrs. George M. Pate	Mrs. Edens Ward
Mrs. B. A. Edens	Mrs. George Reed Pate	Mrs. Homer Ward
Mrs. Carl Edens	Mrs. James R. Pate	Mrs. J. Burns Ward
Mrs. Lawrence Edens	Mrs. John Blue Pate	Mrs. J. C. Ward
Mrs. R. F. Graham	Miss Josie Pate	Mrs. A. E. Watson
Mrs. Andrew Hasty	Mrs. W. Z. Pate	Mrs. W. W. Webster
Mrs. Monroe Johnson	Mrs. John Rodgers, Sr.	Mrs. Ben Williams
Mrs. Hal McCormick	Mrs. W. W. Singletary	Mrs. P. D. Woodall
Mrs. Hamer McCormic	Mrs. John McNeill Smith	
Mrs. Jack Morrison	Miss Olivia Anne Smith	

In 1946, a Life Membership Pin was given at the Zone meeting in loving memory of Mrs. T. W. Carmichael.

UMW MISSION RECOGNITION AWARDS

Mission Recognition Pins have been awarded in the following years:

1974 Mrs. John C. Crawford	1984 Mrs. Russell (Pamela) Stone
1975 Mrs. J. Leon Ammons	1985 Mrs. David Pearce, Sr.
1976 Mrs. J. Gaddy Ward, Sr.	1986 Mrs. J. A. Barrow
1977 Mrs. G. Fletcher Pate	Mrs. Robert Frank Pate
Mrs. Sam McLean	1987 Mrs. Leon Stuart
1978 Mrs. Charles Blue Pate	1988 Mrs. Hal Burns
Mrs. Jack Watson	Rev. David Francis
1979 Mrs. Zula Currie	1989 Mrs. Lewis Moore
1980 Mrs. John Hugh McArn	1990 Mrs. Pope Lee
1981 Mrs. B. O. Burns	1991 Mrs. Herman Rogers
1982 Mrs. Edwin M. Price	1992 Mrs. E. B. Cozart
1983 Mrs. Clifford Hammond	Mrs. Clifford Stubbs

1993 Mrs. Keith Kinlaw
 Dr. Mary Anne Masters
 1994 Mrs. Jack Ward Page
 1995 Mrs. June Nygaard
 1996 Miss Halene Crawford

1997 Rev. Audrey Holmes
 1998 Mrs. Pope Lee
 1999 Mrs. W. Z. Pate
 2000 Rev. Connie Stutts
 2001 Mrs. Red Bethea

**NC CONFERENCE - UMW ANNUAL MEETING
 CANDLE BURNING**

Candles were burned at the UMW Annual Conference in Honor or Memory of the following:

1976 Mrs. J. C. Crawford	1991 Rev. David Francis
1977 Mrs. W. L. Loy Rowland UMW	1992 Mrs. Ben Williams
1978 Rowland UMW	1993 Mrs. Floyd Currie Mrs. W. L. Loy Mrs. Adrian McRae Mrs. John McNeill Smith All 90 – 99 years old
1979 Miss Josie Pate	1994 Rowland United Methodist Men
1981 Mrs. James R. Pate Mrs. W. Z. Pate	1995 Mrs. Everette Bass Rowland Church Choir
1982 In Memory of Mrs. Carl Edens	1996 Mrs. Paul Smith
1982 In Memory of Mrs. Fletcher Pate	1997 Mother's Day and Father's Day
1983 In Memory of Miss Ora McCormick	1998 Circle Chairpersons: Mrs. Jack Watson, Mrs. Hal Burns, Mrs. Robert Frank Pate and Mrs. Lewis Moore
1984 Mrs. W. Z. Pate	1999 Mr. Robert Watts
1985 Mrs. J. Leon Ammons Mrs. Mitchell H. Walker	2000 Mrs. Charles Blue Pate
1987 Mrs. Richard N. Smith, Jr.	2001 Rev. Connie Stutts
1988 Mrs. James R. Pate	2002 Mrs. W. W. Singletary
1989 Mrs. Jack Ward Page	
1990 In Memory of Mrs. Jack McCormick In Memory of Mrs. Edwin Price Mrs. Bob Burns Mrs. Jack Watson	
1991 Mrs. Robert Frank Pate	

UNITED METHODIST MEN

The Men of the Church, through the years, have had important roles serving as superintendent of the Sunday School, president of the Men's Bible Class, M. Y. F. counselors, teachers, stewards, trustees, Pastor-Parish Committee, and maintenance of the church. They supported many worthy causes through the Men's Bible Class, served on Financial and Building Committees, and have spent many hours materially and financially in the progress of the church.

In February 1993, the men of the church received the United Methodist Men charter from the General Conference. For several years before and after 1993, the men offered programs monthly at the Pink Restaurant.

UNITED METHODIST YOUTH

The Youth of the Church have been well organized through the years, with very capable counselors who have exerted a great influence in the spiritual development of the youth. The Youth Groups have had many special and outstanding Christmas Programs, participated in U.N.I.C.E.F. drives, bikethons, and many worthy causes. The Youth have raised money for many special trips.

In 1968 a Teen Center was organized and met at the American Legion Hut. It was supervised by their parents and was a product of their work and needs.

In 1978, the Youth Fellowship functioned very effectively under the leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Watts.

Since 1987 the Rowland Church has hosted a work team from the Senior High UMYF of First UMC Graham, NC for one week each summer. This summer work, primarily in repair of residences in the county, is directed through the Robeson County Church and Community Center. In 2002 we also hosted a work team from Indiana. Our youth have assisted with various work team projects.

Our youth are currently an ecumenical group with members also from Rowland Presbyterian, First Baptist of Rowland and Mt. Moriah Baptist Churches. Leadership is provided by Mr. and Mrs. Tim Harper.

In 2002 Jessica Stutts from the Methodist Church and Beth McLean from the Mt. Moriah Church traveled to Costa Rica on a mission trip with a group from the NC Conference.

CHURCH MUSIC

Our church, through its early members and closely connected friends, has left talented offspring, who through the years have lent their musical ability at the piano, organ, and vocal selections, enhancing the worship services. In the very early years, when the pump organ was used, Misses Bess and Ruby McCormic and Miss Sallie Graham served as organists. Later a piano was used for services. We recall in the late twenties and early thirties, Mrs. J. C. Ward and Mrs. J. McN. Smith were two of our faithful pianists. In the early forties, Mrs. Andy Hasty (Willie Mae McLean), Mrs. A. C. Jackson (Evelyn Ammons), and Mrs. Alton Price (Mary H. Pate) served as pianists.

In 1945, our Hammond electric organ and chimes were installed, and Miss Ruth Smith (Mrs. Joe Neal Sinclair, Jr.) served as our first organist. Organists through the years have been: Miss Sara Marie Pate (Mrs. Bob Chambers), Miss Joyce Pate (Mrs. Tom Ward), Miss Dianne Singletary (Mrs. Liston Bethea, Jr.), Miss Jackie Ward, Miss Sarabeth Pate, Wes Ward, Miss Linda Ammons, Miss Debbie Walker, Mrs. Don Ballard, Mrs. Lewis Parker, Jim Ward, Mrs. Aletha Jackson, Miss Mary Alice Burns, Miss Ruthie Wallace, Mr. Bill Skinner, Mrs. June Nygaard, Mrs. Peggy Bullock, Mrs. Everette Bass, Mrs. Stephanie Sox, Mrs. Sandy Brady and Ms. Judith Greene.

For the past thirty years, our church has had two very talented choir directors, Mrs. Paul Smith (Jean Graham) and Mrs. Jack Watson, Jr. (Grace Carmichael), and under their directorship, the choirs have rendered many beautiful anthems.

The Adult Choir during 2002 included Fran Aycock, Ginger Bethea, Susan Lee, Mary Ann Masters, Lois McCormick, Doris Moore, Edna Pate, Mackie Pate, Mary Richardson, Dick Smith, Rev. Connie Stutts and Stephanie Stutts.

The Youth Choir in 2002 consisted of Emily Bracey, Megan Brady, Ian Eckman, Cory Lannod, Steven Oxendine, Mary Beth Richardson, Kara Stutts, Jessica Stutts, and Stephanie Stutts.

The Children and Bell Choirs in 2002 included Amanda Bass, Sara Bass, Lindsay Carlyle, Hailey Harris, Dusty Lannoo, Lauren Lee, Brittany Powell, Zachary Sissler, Matthew Stutts, and Marley Walters.

A NEW CHURCH

The members began to discuss building a new church on the original site at the corner of Bond and Church Streets. However, no plans materialized until early in 1937, when the Rev. J. B. Hurley, pastor, appointed a building committee, as follows: B. A. Edens, chairman; Mrs. T. W. Carmichael, secretary; Dr. G. M. Pate, treasurer; Dr. J. McN. Smith and Dr. R. F. Graham. The following were named on the finance committee: T. C. Rogers, Chairman.; W. Z. Pate, Asa Ammons, Mrs. W. S. Alexander, Mrs. H. B. Ward, Mrs. A. E. Watson, Mrs. J. Burns Ward, and Mrs. J. M. Johnson.

The old church went to the highest bidder, Charles Thomas Pate, Sr., for the sum of \$500.00 and was torn down in 1937. Materials from the old church were carried to River Dale Plantation on Big Pee Dee River near Lilesville, N. C., for farm buildings - the old home of Mrs. Charles T. Pate (Mary B. Ingram). The arched windows have been stored in a barn at the Pate home in Rowland for the past forty years. An arch of the brilliant blue glass pane of the windows has been restored and framed to hang in the vestibule of the present church.

The plans for the new church were drawn by Mr. N. H. Haines, architect for the Duke Endowment. Construction on the new building was begun on September 18th, 1937, on the same site as the old church. W. S. Griffith of Rockingham, N. C. was the contractor. On February 24th, 1938, the church was completed and paid for at an approximate cost of \$18,000. An unpaid balance on pews and heating plant was liquidated during the fall of 1940. An appropriation of \$2,750.00 was granted by the Duke Endowment.

Worship services were held in the high school building while the church was being built. The pews from the old church were given to the Negro Baptist Church in Rowland. The pulpit and pulpit furniture were given to Rowland High School. The relics from the old church consist of the pulpit Bible, Communion set, Communion table, and collection plates, which are in the library of the church.

In 1938, the name of Rowland Methodist Episcopal Church, South was changed to Rowland Methodist Church, but not before pledges had been obtained and the cornerstone of the new church was laid. The name change resulted when the Methodist Episcopal Church, the Methodist Protestant Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South reunited in 1939 as The Methodist Church. The southern church had split off in 1844 over the issue of slavery and constitutional powers within the denomination.

DEDICATION OF ROWLAND METHODIST CHURCH

On April 27, 1941, the Trustees of the church, Dr. G. M. Pate, Dr. R. F. Graham, George L. Pate, T. C. Rogers, and Dr. J. McN. Smith, presented this building to be dedicated as a church for the worship and service of Almighty God.

"Bishop Clare Purcell and the congregation dedicate this house to the Glory of God our Father, by whose favor it has been built; in the honor of Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God, our Lord and Saviour; to the praise of the Holy Spirit, the source of light and life. Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it.

"We, the minister, W. Carleton Wilson, and the people of this church and congregation, compassed about so great a cloud of witnesses, do here and now dedicate ourselves anew to the worship of God in this sanctuary and to the establishment of His Kingdom among men everywhere."

From 1939 until 1944, we recall the wonderful ministry of Rev. W. C. Wilson and his Red Cross activities as he was designated Home Service Officer. The War Bond Rallies were held under his supervision, from 1942 until 1944. The results of each drive exceeded the quotas as called for, increasing from \$1500.00 in 1942 to \$2600.00 in 1944.

WORLD WAR II HONOR ROLL

The service men and women of our church in World War II are recognized for their bravery, their courage and their devotion to duty, which helped to win the victories for our Country. The World War II Honor Roll from the Rowland Methodist Church is as follows:

Leon Ammons	Jack S. McCormick	Mack Straughn
Walter C. Averette	Luther McLean	J. C. Ward, Jr.
Joe Bullock	Murphy McLean	Leroy Watson
Thad Carmichael, Jr.	Ray McLean	Dorothy Watson
John Howard Carper, Jr.	Stacey McLean	Richardson
Robert Durham	Lewis D. Moore	Clyde Webster
Reeves Edens	W.Z. Pate	Howard Webster
Jack Ellwanger	Herman Rogers	Maurice Webster
Allie McQueen Jones	Ashley Royal	George C. Wilson, Jr.
Lee Jones, Jr.	John McNeill Smith, Jr.	Leonard T. Wilson
Malcolm Jones	Paul Smith	William C. Wilson, Jr.
Spencer King	Richard N. Smith, Jr.	Burwell Woodall
Henry McArn	Bill Stanton	Preston Woodall, Jr.
John Hugh McArn	Paul Stanton	

The World War II Honor Roll from the Purvis Methodist Church is as follows:

Horace Britt	James Holcomb	Charles Norment
Alton Holcomb	Robert Holcomb	Robert Frank Pate
Benjamin Holcomb	Wilton Justice	Edwin Price

The World War II Honor Roll from Centenary Methodist Church is as follows:

Benjamin O. (Bob) Burns	Ashby Hammond	Preston Page
Hal D. (Pete) Burns	Bruce Hammond	William (Bill) Page
Jim Crawford	Douglas Hammond	Robert F. Stuart
Carl C. Edens, Jr.	William Henry McLellan, Jr.	Frank Watts
John Clarence Edens	Cole Page	
Luther M. Faulk	Frank Page	

We recall the sad loss of five Gold Star Boys - Marion Paul Stanton served in the Army Air Corps and died in a Japanese prison camp in Luzon, Philippine Islands in 1942. William Carleton Wilson, Jr. served in the Air Force and was killed on his first mission over Yugoslavia on October 14, 1944. Benjamin Franklin Holcomb served in the Army and was killed on Okinawa June 6, 1945. His brother, Robert Pierce Holcomb, served in the Marines and was killed on Iwo Jima February 27, 1945. The Holcombs were from Purvis Church. From Centenary Methodist Church, we also recall the loss of William Henry McLellan, Jr. who served in the Army and died September 19, 1951 in Korea.

KOREAN WAR HONOR ROLL

The Korean War Honor Roll from the Rowland Methodist Church is as follows:

Sykes Lee	Lewis D. Moore	George Reed Pate
Mitchell H. Walker		

The Korean War Honor Roll from Centenary Methodist Church is as follows:

William Henry McLellan, Jr.	James Gaddy Ward
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VIETNAM WAR HONOR ROLL

The Vietnam War Honor Roll from the Rowland Methodist Church is as follows:

David Ransome	Robert Watts
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DEDICATION OF HAMMOND ORGAN

In 1945, the Hammond organ and chimes were installed. Many generous members of the church contributed to its cost of \$5,242.

Bishop Walter W. Peele of Richmond, Virginia dedicated the organ at the Sunday morning service on May 18, 1947. Our pastor, Rev. W. Lawrence Loy, was assisted by the District Superintendent, Rev. W. Lemuel Clegg. The music was under the director of Mrs. Jack Watson with Miss Ruth Smith, organist.

Mr. W. Z. Pate, chairman of the Board of Trustees, offered the organ in an Act of Presentation. Bishop Peele offered the Act of Dedication:

"We dedicate this organ to the cultivation of a high art, to the interpretation of the message of the masters of music, to an appreciation of the great doxologies of the Church, and to the development of the language of praise which belongeth both to earth and heaven.

"We dedicate this organ to the wedding march, to thanksgiving on festal occasions, and to such inspiration in the service of song that all people may praise the Lord.

"We dedicate this organ to the healing of life's discords, and the revealing of the hidden soul of harmony, to the lifting of the depressed and the comforting of the sorrowing, to the humbling of the heart before the eternal mysteries, and the lifting of the soul to abiding beauty and joy, by the gospel of infinite love and good will."

On Sunday afternoon at 2:30 pm an organ recital on the new organ was presented by Mr. J. Milton Panetti, organist and Mrs. Marjorie Grayson Panetti, soprano soloist, of Charlotte. Mr. Panetti offered selections from Mozart, Schubert, Dubois, Beethoven and other notable composers. Mrs. Panetti sang O'Hara's "*I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked*" and Morris' "*The Stranger of Galilee*."

DEDICATION OF THE NEW PARSONAGE

On November 22, 1964, the Methodist Parsonage for the Rowland Charge (Rowland, Centenary, and Purvis) was dedicated by Rev. Barney L. Davidson, District Superintendent, and Frank D. Salmon, minister. Rev. Davidson delivered the morning message, and W. Z. Pate, chairman of Parsonage Building Committee, presented the building to be dedicated to the Glory of Almighty God and to the purpose of a home for the minister and his family of the Rowland Charge. Rev. Davidson dedicated this home to the deep affections of the family circle, and to all friendly hospitalities, to courage, patience and self-control, which make life cheerful and serene. The building committee was: W. Z. Pate, chairman; B. O. Burns, Henry Crawford, George C. Wilson, Sr., Leon Ammons, Lindsey Norment, Frank Holcomb, Mesdames James G. Ward, Sr., Edens Ward, Miss Sarah Frances Barker, and the minister, Frank D. Salmon.

The old parsonage was torn down in 1962. The pastor, F. D. Salmon, resided at the John Crawford home in the country, until the parsonage was completed.

ROWLAND UMC SCOUTING

Our minister, Frank D. Salmon (1961-1965) was leader of the Rowland Boy Scout Troop # 310 until he suffered a heart attack in October, 1962. Subsequently James Gaddy Ward was leader of the troop. Under his leadership and the leadership of Coble Adams, Eagle Scout rank was attained by the following scouts: Hal D. Burns, November 12, 1968; Johnny Burns, June 10, 1969; David Pate, October 1969; Worth Burns June 6, 1976. The God and Country award was awarded to Hal D. Burns May 18, 1968, and to Johnny Burns and David Pate September 8, 1971. More recently Jack Pate has been the leader of the Boy Scout and Cub Scout troops.

SANCTUARY IMPROVEMENTS

1945 - The Hammond organ and chimes were installed at a cost of \$5,242.00, given by contributions of members, and dedicated by Rev. W. L. Loy.

1956 - Rev. Martin Chambers was instrumental in arranging the divided chancel, the three steps representing the Trinity: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost.

The carved Altar, with retable and throne, in front of the Maroon Dossal Curtain, with the IHS Brass Cross and candlesticks, and brass collection plates complete the Altar arrangements. The two candles on our Altar stand for the divine and human sides of Christ. Christ is the light of the world. The Cross is a sign of God's suffering love and His plan of redemption. This is the Latin Cross with the three steps indicating faith, hope, and love, and the IHS on the front signifying the first three letters of His name. The Altar is raised to indicate that Christ reigns over us. We use flowers upon the Altar to symbolize the beauty of God and the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The hardwood pulpit and the Lectern match the Altar.

1957 - Rev. John H. Parrish inspired our new personalized Bulletin with the church's architectural sketch and an invitation by the church in the name of Christ, its Head, to all who feel the need of spiritual blessing, and the church's official directory for the ensuing year, on the back.

1964 - The Baldwin Organ was installed and dedicated.

1966 - The Altar Cloths, pulpit antependium, and Bible Marker of matching material serve as visual aids to the congregation, keeping us aware of the seasonal moods of the church, and bearing symbols, which indicate the current Gospel emphases, were promoted by Rev. Warner R. Heston to support our observance of the Church Year, and given as a memorial to Mrs. Charles T. Pate, Sr. by her family.

The church is especially grateful to Mrs. A. Blue Pate, Chairman of The Altar Guild, who supervised the work of making the Altar Cloths and gave tireless attention to the countless details. The impeccable craftsmanship revealed in the needlework is unusual, and we are also grateful to Mrs. Lawrence Edens, Mrs. Pearl Johnson, Mrs. H. A. Porker, Mrs. Angus Pate, Mrs. George Lewis Pate, and Mrs. L. W. Wallace.

1967 - The Yamaha piano and hymnals, which were given by members, were dedicated by Rev. Warner Heston, with a Litany of Dedication:

" Almighty and everlasting God, who hast set a song in our hearts, we give Thee thanks for the gift of melody. May Thy Holy Spirit dwell in our hearts richly as we dedicate this piano and these hymnals to Thy service."

1967 - The Sanctuary sound system was dedicated.

1968 - The name of Rowland Methodist Church was changed to Rowland United Methodist Church. The name change resulted from the union nationally of the Methodist Church with the Evangelical United Brethren Church.

A NEW FELLOWSHIP HALL

March 26, 1972 (Palm Sunday) - Rowland United Methodist Church celebrated the groundbreaking and the beginning of the construction of their new addition to the church. It was W. Z. (Bill) Pate who said, "Let's cut the tree down and start building." Before he died (Feb. 2, 1972), the old tree had been cut down and the ground broken. The construction consists of a Fellowship Hall, two classrooms, kitchen, two restrooms, utility room, and dividing the Old Fellowship Hall into two rooms for the Ladies Class room, Library and hall. The cost of the new building was \$80,000.00.

The Building Committee was: James H. Adams, Chairman, L. J. Watson, Mr. and Mrs. W. Z. Pate, J. Leon Ammons, Mrs. Edens Ward, and Mrs. Robert Frank Pate. The Building Fund Committee was: B. O. Burns, Chairman, George R. Pate, John Rogers, Jr., James R. Pate, M. H. Walker, and Miss Sarah Frances Barker, treasurer. Snowden & McVicker of Laurinburg were the architects and engineers. Smith Construction Company of Whiteville was the general contractor.

The service for the beginning of the new construction began in the sanctuary and closed at the site of the new construction.

Rev. Don Lee Harris, pastor, passed the soil to the committees and led the Dedicatory Litany: "That here a church building might serve as a spiritual beacon to guide our lives, inspire our community, and be a witness of our faith to our children"; with the congregation responding: "We dedicate this ground and glorify God."

On September 23, 1973, a service for the consecration of the Rowland United Methodist Church Educational Building was held by Dr. J. V. Early, District Superintendent; Rev. Don Lee Harris, minister; M. H. Walker, lay leader, and C. C. Edens, Chairman, Board of Trustees.

Mr. Walker: "The congregation will stand that we may join together in the service for the consecration of our new building. Will the Chairman of the Board of Trustees present to the District Superintendent the key to the new building." Mr. Edens: "Sir, this key is symbolic of our new building to be consecrated to the glory of God and the service of His people." Dr. Early: "For the teaching and study of God's Holy Word, and for the Christian nurture of all who may gather here"; the people, responding: "We consecrate this building." Dr. Early (to the Minister): "Take this key, symbolizing the new building; give it back to the people and with it your Christian leadership, your blessings and your prayers." Rev Harris: "I take this key in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, and I charge this congregation to accept it and use it for Christian purposes" - gives key to Mr. Edens, which he accepted with the responsibility on behalf of the Rowland United Methodist Church.

Our church is most grateful to Rev. Harris who spent many tireless hours during the construction of the new Fellowship Building, and who worked long and faithfully to unite the Centenary and Purvis churches with the Rowland church.

From 1969 until 1976, Rev. Don Lee Harris, our minister, for seven years, led our church with a leash of love. His sincere dedication and love of the Lord was an inspiration to us ALL. Our trust and confidence grew as we watched him perform his duties with an ever-present reverence.

SPIRIT OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Crisis of a snow storm - On February 9, 1973 when the gentle white flakes began falling, no one expected more than one or two inches, but on arising on Saturday morning, we found ourselves in a blizzard of fourteen inches of snow. It was breathtaking, with the winds getting stronger by the minute. Soon the radios were calling for help to get the stranded tourists off Highways 1-95 and 301. The response was immediate. Farmers came with big tractors to rescue the almost-frozen tourists from a distance of about five miles, north and south.

The Rescue Squad Commander, Bill Hodge, with his efficient helpers, directed the operation. Farmers continued their life-saving work until Sunday, working in relays. The National Guard and the Red Cross units from Fort Bragg were alerted and arrived to assist in the noble efforts of taking care of those who might be sick or unable to withstand the bitter cold.

While all this was happening, others were calling motels, residences, and grocery stores, to take care of the plight of the snow-bound tourists in the Good Old North State.

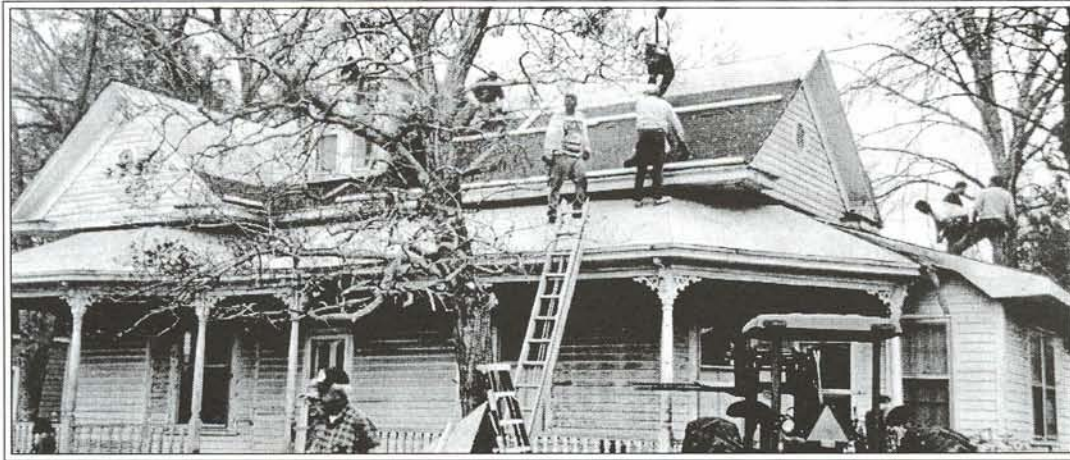
Churches were opened and heated to help take care of between five and six hundred tourists, while some were placed in homes. At least one hundred were taken care of at the Methodist Church.

Many lessons were learned from this storm, which is a rare happening for the Carolinas. Among these we can name: teamwork, congeniality, courage, fearlessness for danger, when your fellowman is in need - wonderful hospitality in opening homes and churches to complete strangers - all of which are Christian service in action. Perhaps the greatest lesson we learned is that Rowland in reality is indeed a town of "A Thousand Friends."

Assistance in a train wreck – Early one morning a northbound Amtrak passenger train had its way blocked at the Church Street crossing by a low-boy trailer stuck on the tracks. The engine and cars derailed near the Rowland depot. For the church's assistance, a plaque was received from Amtrak inscribed:

"In grateful appreciation to Reverend Amos Stone,
Pastor and the congregation of the UMC, Rowland for
your extraordinary efforts assisting the passengers and
crew of Amtrak's Silver Meteor on August 25, 1983"

Raise The Roof – In January of 2001 members of the Rowland UMC were joined by the members of the eleven-church Native American Cooperative Ministry to "raise the roof" of Nancy Pargoe's 100-year old house on West Main Street. Inspired by Mary Lee, Doris Moore, Rev. Marshall Locklear, and Rev. Connie Stutts, some thirty-five volunteers applied the much needed roof and paint to this old dwelling.



Volunteers "raise the roof" of the Pargoe home

Mission to Bolivia – Under the sponsorship of Volunteers in Missions and the Agency for Native American Ministries, Mrs. Susan (Pope) Lee offered her services in a medical clinic in Bolivia, South America during weeks in 2001 and 2002. The mission's continuing efforts have been in replacing mud houses in poverty areas, working on school buildings and starting churches.

COLONIAL BICENTENNIAL OBSERVANCE

January 18, 1976 - The Council on Ministries of the church appointed a Bicentennial Committee to commemorate the 200th year of the birth of our Nation. The committee was composed of Miss Josie Pate, Chairman., Dr. Boyd Ayers, Mrs. Terry English, Mrs. John C. Crawford, Lucy Burns, and Rev. Don Lee Harris. The committee made out a list of Bicentennial Messages to be presented during the worship services: January 25th, Dr. Boyd Ayers presented a message on Human Relations; February 22nd, Mrs. George Parks, a message on George Washington; Feb. 29th, Mrs. Terry English, a message on Moore's Creek Battleground; March 21st, Intermediate S.S. Class, a message on Patrick Henry; April 11th, Men's Bible Class, a message on Thomas Jefferson; April 18th, Ladies S.S. Class, a message on Paul Revere.

For the Bicentennial Services, the American Flag and the Christian Flag flanked the Altar on each side. The flags were brought into the sanctuary each Sunday by the Acolytes, marching down the middle aisle to patriotic hymns and placing them in the flag stands, which was very impressive.

April 25, 1976 - Historic Ashpole Church was the setting for the Methodist - Presbyterian Colonial Bicentennial Service. It was a return to the past for the 180-year-old church, as the Senior Youth Group of the local churches presented a bicentennial worship service. Members from the Rowland and Presbyterian Youth Groups, under the direction of Ministers Don Lee Harris and Russell Park combined efforts to enact a complete worship service as would have been held in the area 200 years ago. The congregation was called into the historical Ashpole Church for the 11:00 A. M. service by a church bell. Many members of the congregation were dressed in replica outfits from the Colonial period. There were no musical instruments used during the service, as history reports the conservative Presbyterians did not allow them, there being no mention of instruments in the New Testament. The congregation remained seated during the songs, which were led by a precentor, Mrs. Robert O. Bridgers. The precentor would sing the first verse, and the worshippers

would join in afterwards. There were no hymn books in the Colonial days, and only those families that could afford their individual volumes had access to them.

Rowland High School Seniors, Worth Burns (Methodist) and David Townsend III (Presbyterian), delivered the morning sermons, each based on excerpts from authentic worship services. Burns spoke from the text of Jonathan Mayhew, a Congregational minister from Boston, from a sermon delivered on January 30, 1750, and centered on the rights of rebellion. Townsend represented John Witherspoon, a Presbyterian minister, who was the only clergyman to sign the Constitution. The excerpt used was originally delivered on May 17, 1776.

Prayers were another form of extended worship, and the congregation stood while the minister prayed, often for more than thirty minutes. Tithing bags, placed on long rods, were held under the nose of the family head, until a "sufficient" amount of money was donated. The tithing men also served as watch guards during the service and tickled or poked any member who happened to nod or be inattentive.

Tithing men during the service were ministers from Rowland Methodist and Presbyterian Churches, Don Lee Harris and Russell Park, assisted by Joey Shackelford and Bill Ward. They were dressed in Colonial costume replicas.

DEDICATION OF THE NEW FELLOWSHIP HALL

September 19, 1976 - Dedication service for the Rowland United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall and Classrooms - The congregation of the church was charged to be "People with a vision", as they celebrated dedication services of the new facility.

The new addition joins the building which was dedicated in 1941. The insight and challenge of the service was from the writing of Leslie D. Weatherhead: "The modern man stands between two worlds - one dead and the other not born. And he stands there empty, for meaning has dropped out of life. He could stand anything if there were meaning, purpose, goal worthwhile, worth living for and worth dying for. But he sees no such worthwhileness at the heart of things. Life is like the tale of an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing - unless there is a vision to bring God's Kingdom to Earth as it is in Heaven - unless we reach out to do the Gospel of Love towards each other.

Rev. Don Lee Harris of Grifton, N. C., former pastor, delivered the morning message. Rev. Clyde G. McArver, Dist. Supt., of Rockingham, led the dedication, assisted by our pastor, Rev. Al Morris. "In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, to the Holy Ministry of Christian Education, to the Spiritual enrichment of all who shall come here in pursuit of Christian knowledge and fellowship, to the loyal service of those whose training and devotion have prepared them to lead their fellowman toward the Truth, to that ministry of administration upon whose ability and fruitfulness depends the wise conduct of its affairs"; (the congregation responded): "We dedicate this building, and we dedicate ourselves anew to that service of our fellowmen wherein can best be performed our true service of God, in obedience to the Spirit of the Master when he said 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and your neighbor as yourself.'"

1978 - Our present minister, for the past two years, Rev. Al Morris, has inspired a wonderful ministry to many shut-in members by taping his sermon, each Sunday, which is being carried from home to home by Mrs. Bill Long, and is now reaching fifteen families, which keeps them in touch with the church. Rev. Morris has a children's message each Sunday, which every child looks forward to, and always has "a good moral" to each message, which affords wonderful training for the children.

For the Lenten Season, Rev. Morris presented each member with a daily devotional and an aluminum CROSS, to carry in their pocket, as a simple reminder of the fact that you are a Christian-"no matter where you might be."

In 1974, Rev. Morris was named "Outstanding Young Minister", and under his capable leadership, our church continues to grow, both spiritually and numerically.

75th ANNIVERSARY

The combination of the 75th Anniversary and Homecoming produced a splendiferous occasion Sunday September 24, 1978 for Rowland United Methodist Church of which the Rev. Al Morris is pastor.

Appropriately for the anniversary, histories of the church were on sale. These were compiled by Miss Josie Pate who also was over-all chairman for the celebration.

Many who grew up in the community, other former members and several former pastors were in the crowd of about 300 which participated in 11 a.m. worship and a bountiful meal spread on long tables on the grounds. Each family contributed dishes made from some of their favorite recipes.

The worship service featured a varied musical program for which the choir wore for the first time handsome robes of maize and red stoles. Mrs. Jack Watson was choir director, Mrs. Ruth Sinclair organist. Pianists were Mrs. Lewis Parker and Mrs. Paul Smith.

Former pastors, all retired, who were on hand (several with their families) and participated were: Rev. John Carper of Lake Junaluska, Rev. Madison Maness of Fayetteville, Rev. Frank Salmon of Shallotte, Rev. Carleton Wilson of Roxboro, Rev. N. P. Edens of Clinton and Rev. Jesse Lanning of Lexington.

"The Plan of Action and Action on the Plan" was the sermon subject for the Rev. Wilson. He called attention to the audacity and courage of the handful of first Christians whose commitment passed the Christian message on to the world. "Signs followed", the preacher suggested because "the Lord was working with them". "Let us tell the world about Jesus", Wilson asked.

Rev. Carper gave the call to worship; Rev. Morris the welcome and announcements; Rev. Maness concluded his morning prayer with "Thanks be to Thee for those who led me into Thy house, for I am glad that they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!" In Christ's name.

Amen." Rev. Salmon read the Scripture; Rev. Edens pronounced the benediction; and Rev. Lanning said grace.

Mrs. Ronnie Carlyle was soloist for an anthem. Mrs. Jimmy C. Pate, soprano, and Mrs. Robert O. Bridgers sang a duet.

There were numerous handsome massive floral arrangements largely of chrysanthemums in gold and bronze. These were given in memory of and by the following:

Honoring the memory of Mr. and Mrs. George Lewis Pate and given by Mr. and Mrs. George Reed Pate and family and Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Chambers and family; honoring the memory of Dr. John McNeill Smith by Roberta A. Smith, John McNeill Smith, Jr. and Olivia Anne Smith. The memory of J. Burns Ward was honored by Ethel B. Ward and Mary Kate Ellwanger.

The memory of Mrs. John Rogers, Jr. (Vista Pittman Rogers) was honored by the Rogers family. Gaddy Ward and family gave flowers in memory of Mrs. Ethel Crawford Ward and the Carl Edens and relatives so honored the memory of Frank Edens.

J. H. Royal flowers were given by Mr. and Mrs. James Ashley Royal. The grandchildren of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard A. Edens, who were Tommy and Ashby Byrum, gave flowers in the memory of them and Mrs. W. L. Loy honored the memory of Rev. Loy.

Members "who have this church at heart" gave the flowers in the Ladies Parlor in honor of all deceased members of the church.

(taken from an article by Courtney Sharp-Ward, *The Robesonian*, Lumberton, NC, September 27, 1978 and the Rowland Methodist Church bulletin)

ROBESON COUNTY BICENTENNIAL 1787 – 1987

Homecoming and Loyalty Day were observed at Rowland United Methodist Church on Sunday, September 27th with additional bicentennial theme in keeping with Robeson County's two hundredth anniversary. Rev. Don Lee Harris, former pastor of Jacksonville, NC portrayed John Wesley, founder of Methodism, wearing clothes of that period. Rev. David Francis, pastor of the church, was Joseph Pilmore, an early theologian, also in eighteenth century attire. The ushers and many of the congregation wore vintage clothing, as was worn in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Rev. Harris spoke on "From Whence We Come," using the scripture from the Book of Acts "I did not disobey the vision." Margaret Pate, soloist and the chancel choir rendered special music accompanied by Mrs. Paul Smith, who also directed the choir, Mrs. June Nygaard, organist and Mrs. Donald Ballard, pianist.

Mrs. Jack Watson "lined out" the hymn "*O God Our Help in Ages Past*" for the congregation and choir to sing, using a tuning fork. Mrs. W. Z. Pate read a poem "From Aunt Bella's Scrapbook" describing dissension in an early church over the decision to purchase an organ for the church.



Left to right: Rev. Don Lee Harris, Tim Bell, Bill Smith, Jack Pate, Paul Smith, McQueen Jones, David Francis, and Jimmy Pate

A picnic lunch was served on the grounds following the service, with a time of games for the children and congregational singing for the adults. "The Circuit Riders" composed of David Francis, George Reed Pate, and Jack Pate sang several songs accompanied by Mrs. W. Z. Pate on the dulcimer, Randy Johnson and Robert Watts, on the guitars and Mrs. William Price, at the piano.

Approximately 225 members, former members and guests enjoyed the day's activities.
(Source: Robco News, October 25, 1987, page 8)

ROWLAND CHRISTIAN DAY CARE

Planning for a church sponsored day care was begun in the summer of 1996 under the pastorate of the Reverend Audrey Holmes. In September of 1997, Lisa Kinlaw from the Day Care Committee made a formal presentation to the Administrative Council. It was proposed that the day care be operated by the church in the Education/Fellowship hall. The day care would be self-supporting and no financial support would be required from the church's General Fund.

Initial grants were obtained from Duke Endowment for \$12,000 and from the North Carolina Conference for \$1,000. Individual contributions by members were supplemented by a yard sale, hotdog sales and chicken bog sales. In the following two years the Duke Endowment grants amounted to \$10,000 and \$7,000.

Primary operating funds are from weekly fees. Food has been provided through the USDA Child and Adult Food Program. Playground equipment and other assistance have come from the state's Smart Start program.

Revisions were made to the day care rooms, which were former classrooms, and an outdoor play area was fenced in. Rowland Christian Day Care opened for operation on June 1, 1998. It has operated near its authorized capacity of twenty-nine children for some time.

The Day Care Committee initially consisted of the following: Fran Aycock, Nancy Bass, Randy Carlyle, Rev. Gene Goldfinch, Tim Harper, Mandy Harris, Lisa Kinlaw, Susan Lee, Doris Moore, Helen Nygaard, Helen Pate, Lib Pate, Dick Smith, Stephanie Sox, and Joy Watts. The current director is Mrs. Suzi Inman.

WILD WEDNESDAY

In 2001, under the leadership of Rev. Connie Stutts, a new program called "Wild Wednesday" was designed especially for young working mothers. A dinner is provided at 5:30 followed by Bible study for adults. While the adults are in Bible study, the children are separated into two age groups and have choir practice and Bible study as well. This has increased our involvement in Bible study, as well as allowing us to add another choir. Our Cherub choir has fourteen members and our youth choir has eight members

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

For many years a Vacation Bible School has been held in the Rowland UMC Fellowship Hall and Sanctuary. It has usually been held the week following the close of school. For the youth, it was a time for Bible study, fellowship, and various singing and recreational activities. More recently adult classes have been taught and were well attended. The Methodist have been joined by the Baptist and Presbyterian churches which sponsor the Bible School in alternate years. In 2002 approximately 60 children and 30 adults attended classes at the Rowland Presbyterian Church.

CELEBRATION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY

This is the year, 2003, for our 100th year anniversary and we start the celebration with a kick off catered dinner on Saturday night in the church fellowship hall. This will be a time for out-of-town guests and members of the Rowland church to visit, catch up and reminisce.

Along with the Saturday night dinner, there will be entertainment from local talent.

On Sunday, January 26th, Bishop Marion Edwards will deliver the morning worship service. District Superintendent Ed Morrison will also be in attendance. The music for the morning service will be provided by Wes Ward, Organist, and Margaret Pate McLeod, soloist, both former members who were christened and nurtured in this church. There will also be special music by the choir.

Recognition of former pastors and out-of-town members will be observed.

Mrs. Lisa Powell has provided pewter memorial castings for the occasion that can be used as Christmas tree ornaments. Copies of this 100-year history of the church will also be available.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

A list of the eighteen charter members who organized the Rowland church in 1903 were furnished by Reverend Bradley in his historical sketch at the beginning of this history.

Under Rev. Don Lee Harris the Charge consisted solely of the Rowland church. By 1978, the membership had peaked at 333, but under successive pastorates, the membership declined to 119 by the end of 2002.

The decline in recent years has been attributed in part to the decline in rural farming occupations and to a decline in employment and educational opportunities for younger families in the Rowland area.

To the extent that membership records are available, the numbers in full membership are given in the following table.

Number of Full Members

	Asbury	Centenary	Purvis	Rowland	Total Charge
1903		103		18	
1915	(a)	58			353
1925	(b)				404
1935					417
1970		44	67	233	344
1971		(c)	64	268	332
1973			56	262	318
1974			(d)	256	256
1978				333	
1979				303	
1980				275	
1985				223	
1990				177	
1995				150	
2000				125	
2002				119	

- (a) Asbury transferred to Rowland Charge in 1911.
- (b) Asbury became a dormant church by 1926
- (c) Centenary united with the Rowland Church in 1971.
- (d) Purvis officially united with the Rowland Church in 1975

PASTORS WHO SERVED THE CHURCH

J. W. Bradley	1902-1906	J. C. Whedbee	1933-1935	Don Lee Harris	1969-1976
J. M. Ashby	1906-1908	J. B. Hurley	1936-1939	Al Morris	1976-1979
F. B. McCall	1908-1911	W. C. Wilson	1939-1944	Orville Watson, Jr	1979-1980
J. A. Lee	1911-1915	W. L. Loy	1944-1949	Amos Stone	1980-1986
A. J. Groves	1915-1919	W. A. Tew	1949-1952	David Francis	1986-1992
W. C. Merritt	1919-1922	M. R. Chambers	1952-1957	Wayne Thomas	1992-1993
P. D. Woodall	1922-1927	J.H. Parrish	1957-1961	Audrey Holmes	1993-1997
C. A. Jones	1927-1928	F. D. Salmon	1961-1965	Gene Goldfinch	1997-1999
J. H. Lanning	1928-1930	W. R. Heston	1965-1969	Connie Stutts	1999-
D. A. Petty	1930-1932	R. C. Flynn	Jan-June 1969		

MEMBERS WHO BECAME MINISTERS

Nurtured by the word of God as expounded from the pulpits of Rowland and Centenary Churches, have been these six men who became ministers:

Rev. Nelson P. Edens from the Rowland Methodist Church - 52 years in active ministry in Eastern N. C. Conference - retired at Clinton, N. C.

Rev. John Howard Carper, Jr. from the Rowland Methodist Church - served in the Western N. C. Conference, Supt. of Thomasville District and was Chairman of Homeowners for Lake Junaluska.

Rev. Lacy Edens from Centenary Methodist Church - served in the Western N. C. Conference.

Rev. Madison W. Maness from Centenary Methodist Church - 45 years in active ministry in the Eastern N. C. Conference – retired at Fayetteville, NC.

Rev. Jack Ward Page from Centenary Methodist Church - served forty years in the ministry; was District Superintendent of Rocky Mount and Raleigh Districts in the Eastern N. C. Conference – retired to Rowland, NC.

Rev. Everette Franklin (Chip) Bass, Jr. from Rowland Methodist Church – has served as part time local Pastor of the Asbury UMC, Lumberton since 1995

During its colorful history, Rowland United Methodist Church has observed many special programs, contributed to all causes of the church, participated in Vacation Bible Schools, held revival services, served Lions Club suppers, Family Night suppers, held bazaars, observed "Annual Harvest Days" of farm produce (the name being changed to "Loyalty Day" in 1952) , and sent numbers of young people to summer camps. Baptisms, marriages, and funerals, too numerous to list, have taken place in her sacred, time-honored walls. The Church reached out through the years and cared for hundreds. .

When the last goodbye is sounded, may the members of the church, through prayer, pause to give thanks for one hundred years of blessings and progress.

May this memorial day live forever in the hearts and minds of all.

MEMORIALS HONORING DECEASED MEMBERS

Many memorials that enhance the beauty of the sanctuary, fellowship hall, and ladies parlor have been given honoring deceased members.

1937 - Memorial Church Windows in memory of:

Rev. J. M. Ashby	Homer and Lena Ward
William B. Thompson	Ella Cornelia Burns Ward
Mollie Townsend Graham	Dr. Robert Fulmore Graham
William Haywood Graham	Henry K. McCormic and Mary Thompson McCormic
Mary Frances Graham	Frank Edens
Dr. John McNeill Smith	Willie W. Webster
Allen and Letilla Edens	John Thompson Williams and Mary Braswell Williams
Rev. Wesley Thompson	Rev. R. W. Townsend
Hassie Smith	

1938 - A Hardwood Pulpit presented by William Henry McLellan, Jr. in memory of his father, William Henry McLellan, Sr.

1938 - A Large Pulpit Chair presented by Charles T. Pate, Sr. in memory of Charles T. Pate, Jr.

1938 - Two Side Pulpit Chairs, gifts of Sam Adcock, Elias Kheirella, E. H. McKinnon, Sr., and L. A. Wilson.

1938 - A Communion Table presented by Mr. and Mrs. J. Burns Ward in loving memory of Evander Bullock and Mrs. Hamer Bullock, which is now in the Ladies Class room.

Two Communion Table Side Chairs, one presented in memory of Ella Frances Hedgpeth by L. Z. Hedgpeth, and one, a gift of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Ward, which are in the sanctuary on the sides of the Altar.

1943 - On January 31, a Baptismal Font, in memory of Dr. Robert Fulmore Graham, was presented by A. E. Watson, trustee, as a gift from members and friends of the family, with the minister, Rev. W. Carleton Wilson, dedicating the Font to the memory of the faithful and devoted servant of the church.

1948 - An Automatic Chimes-player and Amplifier, as a memorial to Tommy Rogers, was presented by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas C. Rogers, Sr. to the church and to the Glory of God. W. Z. Pate, Chairman. of the Board of Trustees, accepted the gift as a sacred trust in honor of the short and beautiful life to whose memory it was dedicated.

1950 - A Record Player, in loving memory of Mrs. J. R. Andrew, presented by Dr. and Mrs. J. McNeill Smith.

1950 - A Pulpit Bible, a memorial to Joseph Roger Harrington, presented by the Men's Bible Class.

1951 - The Communion Set, dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Mrs. Lelia Lunsford Cozart, by the family of her son, E. B. Cozart, Jr.

1952 - The Lectern, a memorial to Mr. and Mrs. Lee Jones, Sr., given by their children.

1953 - Brass Collection Plates, a memorial to John C. Crawford, presented by his wife and children.

1956 - The Brass Cross, Candlesticks, and Vases, a memorial to Bernard Ashby Edens, given by his wife, Edith Ward Edens, and daughter, Cornelia Edens Byrum.

1956 - On October 7, Bishop W. W. Peele, of Laurinburg, retired Bishop of the Methodist Church, dedicated gifts to the church:

A large print of Sallman's "Head of Christ", presented by Gaddy Ward, Sr., given in memory of Joseph Ward Sr. by his brothers and sisters.

A carved altar, complete with Retable and Throne, presented by Miss Josie Pate and given in memory of Charles Thomas Pate, Sr. by his wife and children.

A Dossal curtain, fifteen feet in height, presented by W. Z. Pate and given in memory of Dr. George M. Pate by his wife and children.

1964 - A Memorial Plaque of Bishop Francis Asbury was presented to the church from the Methodist Youth Fellowship in memory of Joe Julian Bethea. The plaque is in the vestibule.

1964 - On February 2, the Baldwin Organ was dedicated by The Rev. Jack Ward Page, Supt. of Rocky Mount District, to the healing of life's discords, and the revealing of the hidden soul of harmony; to the lifting of the depressed, and the comforting of the sorrowing, in loving memory of John Wesley Ward, Jr., given by his wife and children.

1967 - The Sanctuary Sound System was presented to the Glory of God and in memory of Mrs. J. H. Carper, Sr. (Annie Rogers Carper) by her children.

1972 - The Howard Grand Piano, in the Fellowship Hall, was given to the Glory of God and in memory of William Zebulon Pate by his many friends.

1972 - The kitchen was given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of W. Z. Pate by his family for constant devotion to his church and community.

1974 - 25 Hymnals were given by Mr. and Mrs. Gaddy Ward, Sr. in memory of loved ones and in honor of relatives and friends.

1975 - Hymnal bookshelves were given in loving memory of Allen Edens Ward, Sr. by Mrs. Jack Morrison.

1976 - 25 Hymnals were given by Mr. and Mrs. Gaddy Ward, Sr. in memory of loved ones and in honor of friends.

1976 - Two seven-branch brass candelabra, given to the Glory of God and in honor of Rev. and Mrs. Don Lee Harris for their devotion and commitment in their ministry to the Rowland United Methodist Church from 1969 to 1976, for the sanctuary; presented by Mrs. Adrian B. McRae, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis D. Moore and family, Mr. and Mrs. Sykes Lee and family, Dr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Rowan and family.

1976 - Brass flower stand and picture, in the Ladies Class room, a memorial to Mrs. G. M. Pate, presented by Mr. and Mrs. James Pate.

1978 - Cushioned sanctuary pews and chancel pads, a memorial in loving memory of Mrs. G. M. Pate by her family.

1978 - A rose table lamp, in the Ladies Class room, a memorial to Mrs. B. A. Edens, presented by Mrs. Jack Morrison and given by the Edith Edens Circle.

1978 - On August 13, the Christian flag and the American flag were presented by Mitchell H. Walker, to be dedicated to the Glory of Almighty God and for service in this church, in loving memory of Madeline Harris Walker (his mother). "May they serve to remind all people that it was upon God and Country that this land was founded"; (with the congregation responding): "We accept this gift as a sacred trust, and shall guard them reverently, in honor of the faithful and devoted life in whose memory it is given. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we dedicate these flags to the Glory of God, and in memory of His servant, Madeline Harris Walker."

1985 - Sound system – In memory of James R. Pate – Given by his family

1989 - Pew Bibles – In memory of Bill Singletary – Given by Mary Kate Singletary

1989 - On March 29, 1989 bells tolled Easter Sunday for the first time. The bells were a memorial to both Charles Blue Pate and daughter Marie who lost their lives in a tragic boating accident two years ago. Members of the Fellowship Circle and the church raised the funding for the taped carillon system.

1996 - Sanctuary Stained Glass Window Restoration.

In Memory Of

Sara G. Barker & E. J. Barker
Mr. & Mrs. James William Crawford
Clifford H. Hammond
Mr. & Mrs. David Mills, Sr.
James R. Pate
Mr. & Mrs. Charles McD. Smith
Mr. & Mrs. James Gaddy Ward, Sr.

Benjamin Oliver Burns
Mr. & Mrs. H. W. Graham
Jeffrey Jackson
Dr. & Mrs. George M. Pate
Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Price, Sr.
Ella Burns Ward
Mr. & Mrs. A. E. Watson

In Honor Of

Deborah K. Walker

Michelle H. Walker

Wendy, Charles, Mary & Michael Lee

Laelia Pate McRae

Roberta Andrew Smith

In Appreciation Of

All the Families & Friends Whose Devotion to the Church
Is Exemplified by their Generosity in Making Possible this Restoration

2000 - Painting by Willie K. Parham – Given by the Young At Heart Club in memory of its founder, Anne Pate.

2002 - Choir Stoles – Given in memory of Jean and Paul Smith by William Ernest Watson

2002 - Chancel Stained Glass Window – The chancel window has been made possible by a gift of the Singletary family in memory of Mary Kate Singletary, by a gift of William Britt in memory of his parents Clem and Dora Britt, by a gift of Mary Ann Masters in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Inman, by a gift of Elizabeth Holmes in memory of Scotty Pate, by a gift of Lewis D. Moore in honor of his family, and by gifts of Mrs. Pope Lee and Mr. Gilbert F. Pate.

2002 - Sanctuary Collection Plates – Given in memory of parents Charles McDuffie and Frances Paul Smith and sister Elizabeth Smith by Bill and Patsy Smith

GIFTS AND IMPROVEMENTS

1948 - Maroon Choir Robes, given by the Circles of the church.

1950 - The Sanctuary was painted at a cost of \$150.00.

1951 - The Aisles of the Sanctuary were carpeted with green carpet, contracted with Belk Brothers Co. of Charlotte, N. C., at a cost of \$1,560.75.

1952 - Electrolux Vacuum Cleaner, given by the Young Ladies Circle.

1953 - The Choir Robes Closet was built at a cost of \$91.85.

1955 - 15 Hymnals were given by an anonymous member.

1958 - Punch Bowl and Cups, given by the Mollie Graham Circle.

1958 - Six Folding Tables for the Fellowship Hall, given by the Edith Edens Circle.

1959 - The church was central Air-Conditioned through contributions of members.

1964 - Picture of Christ, in the Fellowship Hall, given by the Mamie Pate Circle.

- 1965 - A Speaker's Stand given in honor of Mrs. M. H. Walker, by M. H. Walker.
- 1965 - Summer Choir Robes (white with green stoles), given by the Circles of the church.
- 1967 - Movie Projector and Screen, given by W. S. C. S. and M. H. Walker.
- 1970 - 45 Folding Chairs for the Fellowship Hall, at a cost of \$250.20 from the Bazaar Fund of W. S. C. S.
- 1972 - Book Shelves, designed and built by Leon Ammons, for the Pastor's Study.
- 1973 - The Baldwin Piano, in the Ladies Class room, was given by an anonymous person who has this church very much at heart.
- 1973 - A Cedar Wardrobe for storage of Altar Cloths and Communion Set, given by Mrs. E. B. Cozart, Sr.
- 1973 - The Beautiful Draperies in the Ladies Class room, given by Mrs. John C. Crawford.
- 1973 - Pine Table in the Kitchen, given by Mrs. Abe Howell.
- 1973 - Three Credences, Chair, Glass Curtains, cement Lawn Furniture and Statue of Rebecka, and Fruit Urns for Fellowship Hall, given by Mrs. A. B. McRae, Mrs. Sykes Lee, and Mrs. Lewis Moore.
- 1973 - A Church Pew (from Kentyre Presbyterian Church), in the hall of the Fellowship Hall, given by Mr. and Mrs. Sikes Lee.
- 1974 - A large Pine Table for the Fellowship Hall, given by Mr. and Mrs. Carl Edens.
- 1975 - Air-Conditioner for the Pastor's Study, given by the Men's Bible Class.
- 1975 - A Turner Cardroid Microphone for the Pulpit, given by M. H. Walker.
- 1975 - Automatic Electric Heater for the Pastor's Study, given by Ella Bethea.
- 1976 - Painting the Sanctuary at a cost of \$1,716.72.
- 1977 - Love Seat and two Companion Chairs in the Ladies Class room, presented by Mrs. Fletcher Pate and Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Pate.
- 1977 - Remodeling, Painting, replacing Draperies, Carpeting S. S. Classrooms upstairs, and church Vacuum Cleaner at a cost of \$3,100.65.
- 1977 - Carpeting, Draperies, Cornices, and Chairs for the Pastor's Study, at a cost of \$588.171 by the Graham-McCormick Circle.

1978 - Carpeting Fellowship Hall at a cost of \$1,616.50.

1978 - Plumbing and Electrical Repairs in the church at a cost of \$508.44.

1978 - Portable Communion Set, given by M. H. Walker.

1978 - Choir Robes (ivory with convertible stoles of red and purple), given through Memorials.

1979 - Couch and Chair for Parsonage, given by Mr. and Mrs. Herman Rogers.

1994 - Choir music folders and roof of the Fellowship Hall – A bequest of Mr. Bob Burns

1995 - Hymnals for the Marie Pate Sunday School Class – Given by Miss Halene Crawford

2000 - Heat pumps for the Fellowship hall and the Education Building – A portion of the \$36,000 bequest of Sara Frances Barker

2002 - Draperies for the vestibule of the Educational Building given by Mrs. Mike McCormick and Mrs. Lewis Moore.

2002 - Twelve table cloths for Fellowship hall given by Mrs. Sarah McRae Rowan.

2002 - Church Sign on Bond Street – Given through the generosity of members, their families, and friends.

Gift in memory of Hal W. McCormick by Harriette B. McCormick.

Gift in memory of Mary Kate Singletary by Dr. and Mrs. Pope Lee, Mr. and Mrs. John Masters, McRae Farms, Mrs. Doris Moore, Mrs. Sara E. McCormick Pate, Patsy and Bill Smith.

Gift in honor of Mrs. Helen Pate by Mrs. Susan Lee.

Contributions from the following:

Mrs. Iola Burns Winesett	Mrs. June Nygaard
Tim, Rose and Walt Harper	Lewis A. Parker
Charles M. Lee	Gilbert F. Pate
Mary McRae Lee	Jill Powell
Mary Kathryn Lee	Robert and Linda Price
Michael and Jamie Lee	Rev. Connie Stutts
Dr. and Mrs. Pope Lee	Thomas and Joyce Ward
Wendy M. Lee	Mrs. Audrey Williams
Mr. and Mrs. Jack B. McGirt	

2002 - Credenza – Given by Mrs. Mary Ann Masters.

CHURCH ORGANIZATION AND OFFICIAL DIRECTORY - 1941

TRUSTEES: Dr. G. Pate, Chairman; Dr. R. F. Graham, Geo. L. Pate, T. C. Rogers, Dr. J. McN. Smith.

BOARD OF STEWARDS: Asa Ammons, Chairman; H. B. Ward, Secretary; B. A. Edens, Treasurer; J. C. Ward, J. H. Royal, A. E. Watson, W. H. McCormic, W. Z. Pate

WOMAN'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE: Mrs. B. A. Edens, President; Mrs. J. C. Ward, Vice-President; Mrs. W. C. Wilson, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Asa Ammons, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. R. F. Graham, Treasurer.

Mrs. G. M. Pate, Chairman of Mary McCormic Circle.

Mrs. T. W. Carmichael, Chairman of Mollie Graham Circle.

CHURCH SCHOOL: Dr. R. F. Graham, General Superintendent; Asa Ammons, Superintendent of Adult Division; Mrs. W. S. Alexander, Superintendent of Young People's Division; Mrs. J. C. Ward, Superintendent of Children's Division; Spencer King, Secretary and Treasurer; Miss Willie Mae McLean, Pianist.

Class Teachers: *Children's Division* - Cradle Roll, Mrs. Geo. L. Pate; Beginners, Mrs. J. H. Harrington and Mrs. Walter McPhail; Primary, Mrs. Lawrence Crawford; Juniors, Mrs. T. W. Carmichael. *Young People's Division* - Intermediate Boys, H. B. Ward; Intermediate Girls, J. C. Ward; Seniors, J. H. Royal; Young People, Mrs. W. S. Alexander. *Adult Division* - Young Adults, Mrs. Hamer McCormic; Ladies' Bible Class, Mrs. W. C. Wilson; Men's Bible Class, Asa Ammons. *Young People's Division* - Mrs. W. S. Alexander, Superintendent; Mrs. Dannie Morrison, Adult Counselor; Miss Josie Pate, Associate; Miss Mary Kate Ward, President; Miriam McCormic, Vice-President; Secretary, Dell Webster; Treasurer, Bill Stanton; Pianist, Lee Anna Johnson.

CHURCH MUSIC: Mrs. J. McN. Smith, Chairman of Music Committee; Mrs. Brown Bullock, Director of Adult Choir; Mrs. R. H. McMillan, Director of Young People's Choir.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Dr. R. F. Graham, Chairman; H. B. Ward, Secretary; Asa Ammons, Mrs. W. S. Alexander, Mrs. J. C. Ward, Mrs. G. L. Pate, Bill Stanton.

BOARD OF MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION: Mrs. B. A. Edens, Chairman; Dr. R. F. Graham, J. H. Royal, Mrs. T. W. Carmichael, Mrs. G. M. Pate, Mary Kay Ward.

GOLDEN CROSS COMMITTEE: Mrs. J. McN. Smith, Chairman; Mrs. Walker Martin, Mrs. Angus Pate.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP ROLL - 1941

Adams, James	Edens, Reeves	Pate, G. M.
Adams, Mrs. James	Graham, R. F.	Pate, Mrs. G. M.
Alexander, W. S.	Graham, Mrs. R. F.	Pate, W. Z.
Alexander, Mrs. W. S.	Graham, Jean	Pate, Mary Hammer
Ammons, Mrs. Ella	Harrington, J. R.	Pate, James
Ammons, Asa	Holt, Mrs. Ina W. Royal	Pate, George L.
Ammons, Mrs. Asa	Jackson, Mrs. A. C.	Pate, Mrs. George L.
Ammons, James Leon	Johnson, Mrs. J. A.	Pate, Josephine
Ammons, Bertha Mae	Johnson, J. M.	Pate, Corinne
Angel, R. G.	Johnson, Mrs. J. M.	Pate, Mrs. Blue
Angel, Mrs. R. G.	Johnson, Lee Anna	Pate, Mrs. Angus
Angel, Adele	Jones, J. Lee	Rogers, John M.
Angel, Gilbert	Jones, Mrs. J. Lee	Rogers, Mrs. John M.
Averette, W. Clarence	Jones, J. Lee, Jr.	Rogers, John M. Jr.
Barker, Mrs. S. G.	Jones, Malcolm	Rogers, Hazel Brown
Barker, E. J.	Jones, McQueen	Rogers, Herman Pearson
Barker, Sara Frances	Jones, Mary Isabel	Rogers, Annie Marie
Bethea, Charles	King, Spencer	Rogers, Thomas C.
Bethea, Mrs. Charles	King, Arthur	Rogers, Mrs. Thomas C.
Bethea, Miss Flora	King, Mrs. Arthur	Royal, J. H.
Bracey, Mrs. Clarence	Martin, Mrs. Walker	Royal, Thomas Irvin
Bracey, Miss Pattie	Morrison, Dannie	Royal, Ashley
Bryant, J. W.	Morrison, Mrs. Dannie	Royal, Dorothy
Bryant, Mrs. J. W.	McArn, Mrs. J. H.	Singletary, Mrs. Mary K. W.
Bullock, J. Walter	McArn, Mildred	Smith, J. McNeill
Bullock, Mrs. J. B.	McArn, John Hugh,	Smith, Mrs. J. McNeill
Bullock, Joseph	McArn, Henry	Smith, J. McNeill, Jr.
Bullock, Ruby Mae	McArn, Madelyn	Smith, Olivia Anne
Bullock, Charlotte	McCormic, W. Hammer	Smith, Charlie McD.
Butler, Mrs. I. D.	McCormic, Mrs. W. Hammer	Smith, Mrs. Charlie McD.
Byrum, Mrs. Cornelia Edens	McCormic, Mary Thompson	Smith, Charles Paul
Carmichael, Mrs. T. W.	McCormic, Doris	Smith, Billy
Carmichael, Grace	McCormic, Miriam	Smith, Mrs. Lelia B.
Carmichael, Thad W., Jr.	McCormic, Allie Rebecca	Stanton, M. E.
Carper, Mrs. J. H.	McCormic, Helen Hamer	Stanton, Mrs. M. E.
Carper, C. B.	McCormic, Joyce	Stanton, Marion Paul
Carper, Mrs. C. B.	McKellar, Mrs. Mary L. W.	Stanton, Bill
Coleman, Mrs. Lura Wallace	McKay, Mrs. J. A.	Straughan, H. H.
Edens, B. A.	McKay, J. Will	Straughan, James McGirt
Edens, Mrs. B. A.	McKay, Mary	Thompson, Mrs. Leon
Edens, L. R.	McLean, Willie Mae	Wallace, J. Henry
Edens, Mrs. L. R.	McLean, Luther	Wallace, John W.
Edens, Christine	McLean, Ray	Wallace, Ethleen
Edens, Evelyn	McPhail, Mrs. Walter	Wallace, L. W.

Wallace, Mrs. L. W.	Watson, Mrs. A. E.	Webster, Dell
Wallace, Gladys	Watson, William Ernest	Webster, Guy
Wallace, Audrey	Watson, Mrs. F. C.	Williams, Mrs. Audrey Rogers
Wallace, Ruby Lois	Watson, Dorothy	Wilson, George C.
Ward, J. C.	Watson, Roy	Wilson, Mrs. George C.
Ward, Mrs. J. C.	Watson, Charlotte	Wilson, George C., Jr.
Ward, J. C., Jr.	Watson, Angelia Bethea	Wilson, Elizabeth
Ward, Henry William	Watson, A. B.	Wilson, L. A.
Ward, Homer B.	Watson, Mrs. A. B.	Wilson, Mrs. W. Carleton
Ward, Mrs. Homer B.	Webster, Mrs. W. W.	Wilson, Mary Earle
Ward, J. Burns	Webster, Charles Cecil	Wilson, W. Carleton, Jr.
Ward, Mrs. J. Burns	Webster, Howard	Wilson, Ted
Ward, Van	Webster, Maurice	
Ward, Mary Kate	Webster, Eugene	
Watson, A. E.	Webster, Clyde	

Children of our church families, not yet affiliated with church, but enrolled in Church School:

Walker Martin, Jr.	Larry Crawford	Carol Wallace	George Reed Pate
James Hubbard Adams	Thomas Rogers	Joyce Pate	Ira Butler, Jr.
Brown Morrison	Betty Joe Harrington	Benjie Williams	Patsy Crawford
Charles Blue Pate	Bert Alice Butler	Sara Marie Pate	Ruth Smith
Jean Webster	Mary Hill Rogers	Martha Ann Morrison	Charles McLean
Mary Ann Bethea	Joe Charles Bethea	Catherine Edens	Lucile Watson

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS - 2003

Chairperson.....Tim Harper	Lay Leader.....Susan Lee
Lay Member to AC...Susan Lee	Treasurer.....Rose Harper
Alt. Lay Member.....Iola Winesett	Secretary.....Joy Watts

Chairpersons

Pastor/Parish Relations....Helen Pate	Worship.....Doris Moore
Nurture & Education.....Lorie Carlyle	Family & Fellowship..Edna Pate
Mission & Outreach	Finance.....Bill Smith
& Evangelism.....Jim Adams	Trustees.....Lewis Moore

Special Areas

Historian.....Nancy Powell	Youth Director.....Tim & Rose Harper
Communications.....Lisa Powell	Trustees.....Lewis Moore
Disaster Preparedness.....Randy Carlyle	Building Committee....Jimmy Pate
Senior Adult Ministries....Iola Winesett	UMYF President.....Stephanie Stutts
UMW President.....Joy Watts	

At Large Members

Lib Pate	Patsy Smith	Sara Lib Pate	Grace Watson
Fran Aycock	Olivia Anne Smith	John Aycock	Dick Smith
Mary Richardson	Ginger Bethea	Elaine Burns	

Committees, Boards and Positions

Trustees:

2003	2004	2005
Jack Watson	Jimmy Pate	David Ransome
Elaine Burns	Lewis Moore	Iola Winesett
Jim Adams	Lois McCormick	Robert Watts

Pastor/Parish Relations

2003	2004	2005
Iola Winesett	Mandy Harris	Helen Pate
Robert Watts	Pope Lee	Mary Richardson
Edna Pate	Lisa Powell	Ed Price

Building Committee

Jimmy Pate, Chairman	John Aycock	Mary Lee
Randy Carlyle	Robert Watts	Lois McCormick
Tim Harper	Pastor Connie Stutts	

Nominations

2003	2004	2005
Iola Winesett	Tim Harper	Faye Carlyle
Nancy Powell	Doris Moore	Jim Adams
Joy Watts	Fran Aycock	Lora McInnis

Finance Committee

Bill Smith, Chairman	Susan Lee, Lay member to NC Conference
Susan Lee, Lay leader	Jack Watson, Trustee
Tim Harper, Admin Co.	Helen Pate, Chair. PPR
Dick Smith	Rose Harper, Treasurer

Family and Fellowship

Edna Pate, Chairman	Jan Jones	Lois McCormick
Patsy Smith	Faye Carlyle	Mary Richardson
Gayle Adams		

Worship

Doris Moore, Chairman	Grace Watson	Ginger Bethea
Audrey Williams	John Aycock	Mary Lee
Sandy Eckman Brady	Stephanie Stutts	Pastor

Outreach and Missions

Jim Adams, Chairman
Frances Page
Susan Lee
Edna Pate
Jessica Stutts

Helen Pate
Lib Pate
Fran Aycock
Elaine Pate
Walt Harper

Jack Watson
Grace Watson
Mary Richardson
Pastor

Education and Nurture

Lori Carlyle
Suzi Inman

Lisa Powell
Lora McInnis

Mary Lewis Walters
Mandy Harris

100th Year Celebration Committee

Susan Lee, Chairman
Sandy Brady
Randy Carlyle
Tim Harper
Mandy Harris

Doris Moore
Edna Pate
Helen Pate
Jimmy Pate

Lisa Powell
Dick Smith
Rev. Connie Stutts
Iola Winesett

Organist and Choir Director

Sandy Brady

Auditor

Sylvia I. Pate

\$10.00 Club

Rev. John Aycock

CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS – 2002

Toddler Class

Lora McInnis
Lisa Powell

Youth Class

Mary Ann Masters
Mackie Pate
Nancy Powell
Joy Watts

Kindergarten & First Grade

Mandy Harris
Stephanie Stutts

Adult Class

Fran Aycock
Elaine Pate
Helen Pate
Sara Lib Pate
Dick Smith

2nd - 5th Grade Class

Lois McCormick

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP ROLL - 2002

Adams, James, Jr.
Ammons, Martha
Aycock, Fran
Bass, Nancy
Bass, Samantha
Bass, Trey
Bethea, Ginger
Bethea, Red

Boyer, Sara Mac
Bracey, Emily Elise
Bracey, Hazel
Brewer, Deborah Pate
Britt, Allie R. McCormick
Britt, Charles
Britt, Michelle
Britt, Mike

Burns, Elaine
Burns, John Richard
Carlyle, Faye Bullock
Carlyle, Lorie
Carlyle, Randy
Carlyle, Ronnie
Carpenter, Angie Ballard
Cozart, Bernard

Cozart, Nannie Mae	Moore, Doris McRae	Rogers, Valerie
Dixon, Wanda Watts	Morrison, Maggie Ward	Smith, Bill
Eckman, Ian	Norton, Kenny	Smith, Dick
Hammond, Carolyn	Norton, Jerry	Smith, Mitzi Walker
Harper, Tim	Nygaard, Grant	Smith, Olivia Anne
Harper, Walter	Page, Frances	Smith, Patsy
Harris, Mandy Watts	Pate, Edna Earl	Sox, Robert
Hill, Ethel Ward	Pate, Elaine	Sox, Stephanie
Inman, Melissa Sue	Pate, George Angus	Straughan, Peggy
Jackson, Patricia	Pate, George Reed	Stutts, Jessica C.
Johnson, Anne Pate	Pate, George Scott	Stutts, Kara Elizabeth
Jones, Jan	Pate, Helen Britt	Stutts, Stephanie M.
Kinlaw, Keith	Pate, Jack	Vincent, Ann Marie
Lee, Adrienne McRae	Pate, Jimmy	Walker, Boots
Lee, Charlie	Pate, Josie	Walker, Debbie
Lee, Mary	Pate, Lib	Walker, Mitch
Lee, Mary McRae	Pate, Mike	Walters, Mary Lewis Pate
Lee, Michael	Pate, Sara Lib	Ward, Alice
Lee, Pope	Pate, Sylvia Inman	Ward, Bill
Lee, Ralph	Pate, Sylvia Mitchell	Watson, Grace
Lee, Susan	Pate, Vance	Watson, Marty Bethea
Lee, Sykes	Pate, Victoria	Watson, William Ernest
Lee, Wendy	Powell, Brad	Watts, Joy
Love, Georgia Anna Pate	Powell, Lisa	Watts, Paul
Masters, Mary Ann Moore	Powell, Nancy Pate	Watts, Robert Harrison
McCormick, Jack	Powell, Tony	Whittington, John
McInnis, Lora	Price, Shannon House	Whittington, Rose Mary
McLeod, Margaret Pate	Ransome, David	Williams, Audrey
Meadows, Anne	Richardson, Mary Beth	Williams, Benjie
Miller, David Allen	Richardson, Mary E.	Winsett, Iola
Moore, Lewis	Rogers, John	Young, Vickie Rogers
Moore, Lewis D., Jr.	Rogers, Johnnie Gray	

MEMBERS TRANSFERRED OUT SINCE 1988

1988	McCullough, Suzanne Talbott Smith	1991	Britt, Tommy
	Usher, Mary Alice Burns		Herndon, Teresa Jo Bethea
1989	Ballard, Don		Peterson, Olivia Mallery Smith
	Ballard, Sarah Frances	1992	Francis, Belinda
1990	Ballard, Elizabeth Lynn	1993	Daniels, Wade
	Bauguess, Roy		Parker, Bettie Ruth
	Bell, Tim		Thomas, Nancy
	Bell, Sharon		Thomas, Charles P.
	Holmes, Lisa Pate	1994	Bethea, Beverly Ann

- | | | | |
|------|--|------|--|
| 1994 | Green, Beth
McLean, Helen Britt Pate
Boggs, Carol Wallace
Daniels, Wade
McPhail, Walter
Ayers, Boyd
Grooms, Edgar
Nygaard, June | | McLean, Jennifer |
| | | 1997 | Price, Robert
Price, Linda
Graham, Cynthia |
| | | 1998 | Ward, James Gaddy |
| | | 1999 | Nygaard, June
Rogers, Herman
Rogers, Mary Sue |
| 1995 | Webster, Guy
Hardin, Jane
Hardin, Mike
McLean, Lois
Webster, Chip | 2001 | Pate, Adam Blue
Bass, Peggy Pate |
| | | 2002 | Stuart, Leon
Stuart, Emily
Kinlaw, Lisa
Pate, Breck |
| 1996 | McLean, Robert
McLean, Angie
McLean, Julia | | |

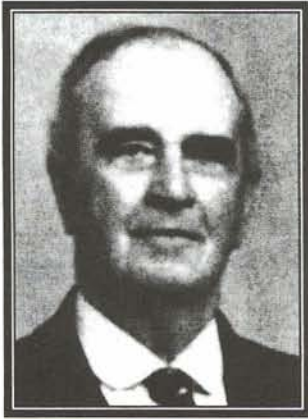
MEMBERS WHO DIED SINCE 1988

- | | | | |
|------|---|------|---|
| 1988 | Webster, Eugene
Williams, Ben F.
Singletary, Bill
Ivey, Inez
Webster, Howard
Bracey, Floyd | | Britt, Horace |
| | | 1993 | Ammons, Leon
McCormick, Maxie |
| | | 1994 | Hasty, Andy
Chance, Elizabeth
Burns, Bob
Hammond, Cliff
Pate, Ruby Adams
Wallace, Pearl |
| 1989 | McCormick, Mary
Edens, Blanche Reeves
Bethea, Belvin
McQueen, George M. "Mack"
McQueen, Allene
Pate, Artemus Ward
Webster, Florence | 1995 | Byrum, Ashby
Loy, Anne
McRae, Laelia
Smith, Roberta |
| | | 1996 | McArn, John Hugh
Webster, Dorothy
Barker, Sarah Frances |
| 1990 | Hasty, Willie Mae McLean
Price, Jimmie Ruth
Dew, Joe Robert
McCormick, Lib
Norton, Bill | 1997 | McIntosh, Mamie
Adams, Louise
Crawford, Halene
Ayers, Carl |
| | | 1998 | Barfield, Jesse
Ellen, Carrie Holcomb
McLean, Grace
Webster, Ann
Carmichael, Thad
Pate, Scotty
Pate, Robert Frank |
| 1991 | Ward, Beulah
Jones, McQueen
Holcomb, Vara
Britt, Clem | | |
| | | 1999 | Bell, Virginia
Crawford, Estelle |
| 1992 | Pearce, Edna
Ivey, Hamer
Straughan, Aretha
Currie, Nell
Britt, Katie Glen Grooms | | |

Jones, Betty
Price, William Joseph
2000 Bell, Ronald
Stubbs, Margaret
2001 Pate, Ann
Smith, Jean Graham

Barrow, Eloise
Ward, Fannie Sue
Smith, Paul
2002 Singletary, Mary Kate

MINISTERS WHO HAVE SERVED ROWLAND METHODIST CHURCH



James William Bradley
1902 - 1906



J. M. Ashby
1906 - 1908



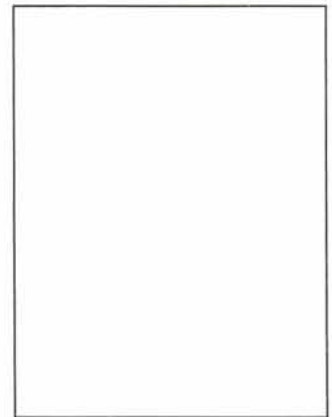
F. B. McCall
1908 - 1911



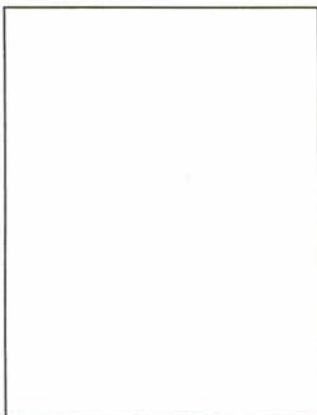
J. A. Lee
1911 - 1915



Andrew James Groves
1915 - 1919



William Calhoun Merritt
1919 - 1922



P. D. Woodall
1922 - 1927



Charles A. Jones
1927 - 1928



Jesse Herbert Lanning
1928 - 1930



Dwight A. Petty
1930 - 1932



James Carson Whedbee
1933 - 1935



John Bascom Hurley
1936 - 1939



William Carlton Wilson
1939 - 1944



William Lawrence Loy
1944 - 1949



William Alton Tew
1949 - 1952



Martin R. Chambers
1952 - 1957



John Henry Parrish
1957 - 1961



Frank Donald Salmon
1961 - 1965



W. R. Heston
1965 – 1969 (Jan)



R. C. Flynn (supply pastor)
1969 (Jan – June)



Don Lee Harris
1969 - 1976



Al Morris
1976 – 1979



Orville William Watson
1979 – 1980



Amos Stone
1980 – 1986



David Francis
1986 – 1992



Wayne Thomas
1992 – 1993



Audrey Holmes
1993 - 1997



Gene Goldfinch
1997-1999



Connie Stutts
1999-present

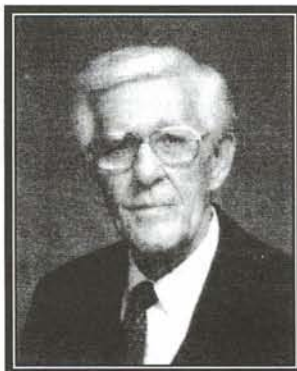
**MEMBERS OF CENTENARY AND ROWLAND CHURCHES WHO WENT FORTH TO
SERVE AS METHODIST MINISTERS**



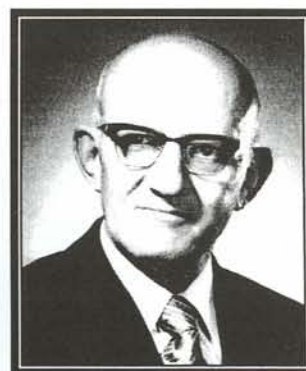
Rev. John H. Carper



Rev. Lacy Thomas Edens



Rev. Madison Ward Maness



Rev. Jack Ward Page, Sr.

Not pictured: **Rev. Nelson P. Edens**

Rev. Everett Franklin Bass, Jr.



Asbury Methodist Church

1861 - 1926

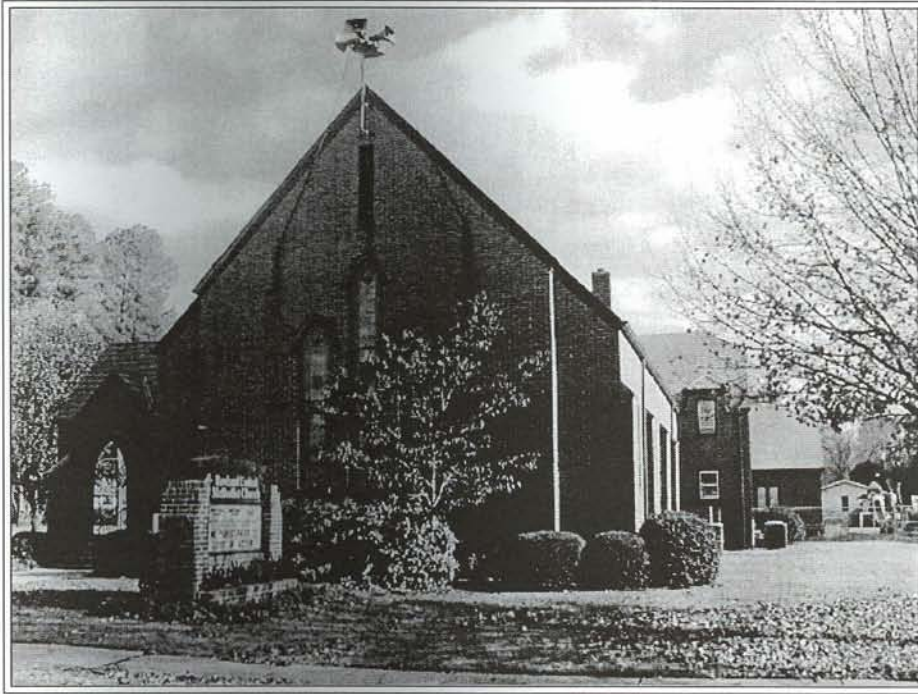
Centenary Methodist Church

1882 - 1972

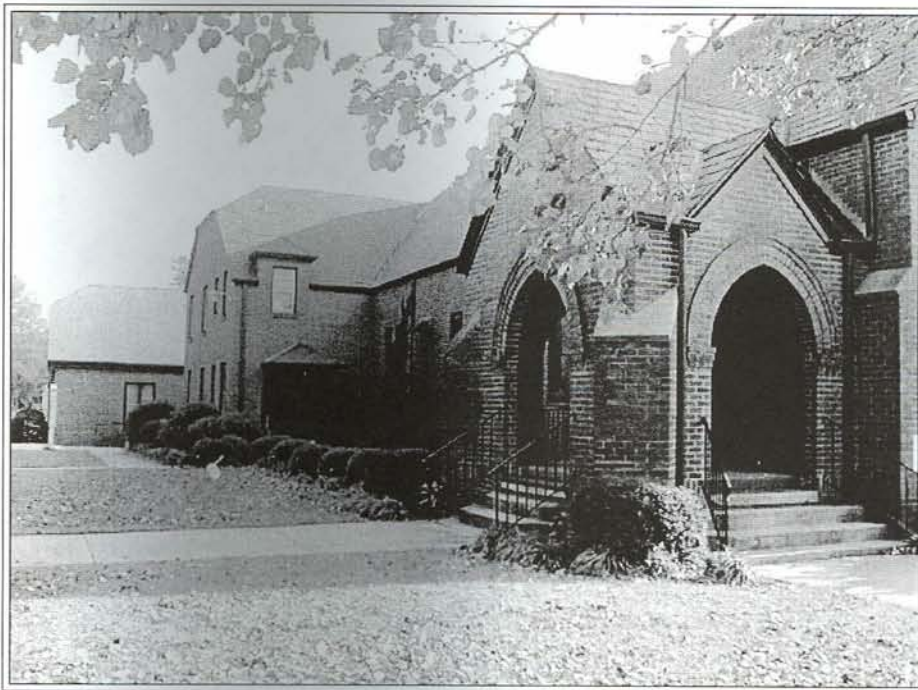


Purvis Methodist Church

Circa 1895 - 1975



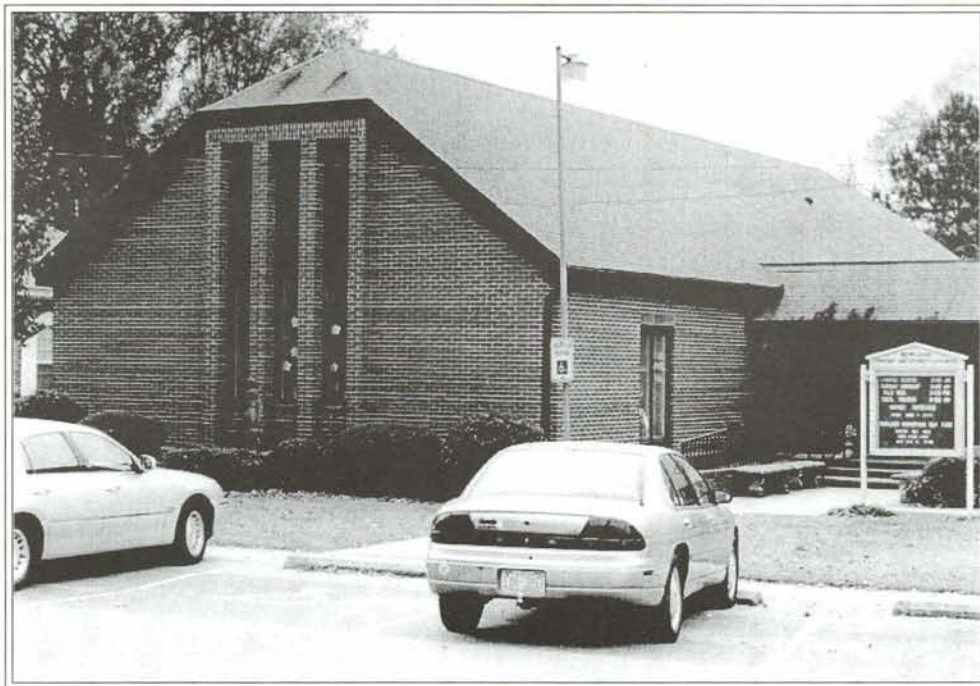
**Rowland United Methodist Church
2002**



Side View of Rowland Methodist Church



Sunday School Building and Church



Fellowship Hall – Built in 1972

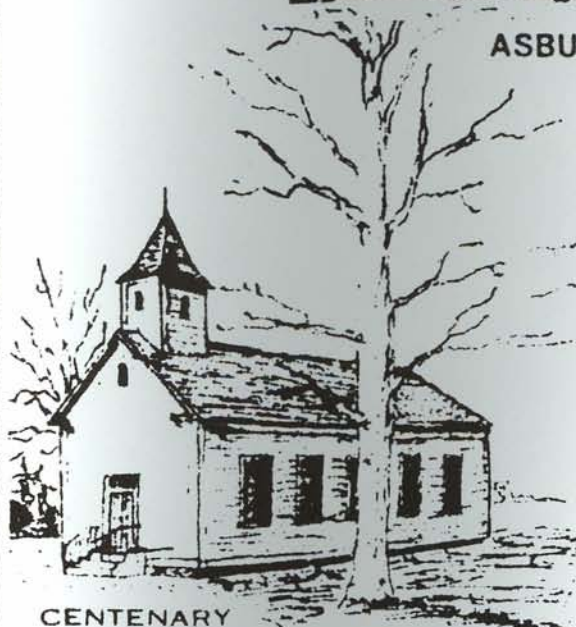


**The Methodist Parsonage
Built in 1972**

*The Rowland
United Methodist Church*



ASBURY



CENTENARY



PURVIS



ROWLAND FROM MANY ONE!