



# St. Paul's United Methodist Church

Saunders and Florence Streets  
Maxton, North Carolina



## PREFACE

It was Dr. Lloyd Ogilvie who told of the time he crossed the Atlantic on the Queen Elizabeth II. Only recently, while in California, he went to the harbor to see this once mighty ocean liner lying permanently moored and stripped of its powerful engines and navigational equipment. Painted, shined, and polished, it remains a museum for all to see "the mightiest ship ever put to sea."

Dr. Ogilvie told of a lady in his congregation who gave this explanation of why she had come to see the great ship. "I love to remember the great things that happened here so many years ago." Dr. Ogilvie asks if the Church has become that kind of museum for all to behold. At Pentecost we understand the Church needs the power of the Holy Spirit to be relevant. We recognize that it is Jesus upon the cross, who died for the Church, to give His redemption, eternal life, and His spirit to empower us. Otherwise, we have only a hollow shell for people to look on and reminisce on what used to be.

The history of the Christian Church is a forward movement. The past serves only as evidence of how God has worked and will continue to work in the lives of His people. The following pages represent the work of God's Spirit in the life of St. Paul's Church. This volume is not intended to be the worship of the past but a reflection of the vitality of a congregation that has served God and its community for over a hundred years and looks to the future with a determination to continue in light of its great heritage.

We are indebted to Miss Ruth Cottingham for her great effort in presenting this historical sketch. May God continue to bless us as we endeavor to serve Him in the present age.

William M. Presnell  
Pastor  
Pentecost 1985

ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
SAUNDERS AND FLORENCE STREETS  
MAXTON, NORTH CAROLINA, 28364  
1884 - 1987

BY  
RUTH W. COTTINGHAM

DEDICATED TO  
THE GLORY OF GOD AND THOSE STALWART  
SOULS WHO PIONEERED THE ORGANIZATION  
AND EARLY HISTORY OF OUR CHURCH.



## FORWARD

The community of Shoe Heel, now known as Maxton, was settled mostly by people from Scotland between 1750 and 1800. Just when the Methodist Church was organized is not really known. However, we do know that services were held by itinerant preachers from time to time. Whether the date later established was based on the first Sunday School held or possibly some other type of service is not known. But the date isn't important. The important thing is that it was organized. And the date of organization on the cornerstone of our present church was 1876.

The first records available show that Shoe Heel Methodist Church was a part of what was known as Red Banks Circuit. Red Banks was a thriving village with a large lumber plant, stores and a good farming center. This was in the year 1884.

At that time there was no church building in Shoe Heel, so when there were services they were held in a carriage or buggy shop which was owned by the Burns Brothers. This shop, which was the garage of its day was located near the spot where Bob Burns Garage now stands, but further up towards Main Street.

From having heard my mother speak of those days, I'm sure that Sunday School was held on a regular basis. But of course Shoe Heel had to take its turn when it came to Church services, as did the other churches on the circuit.

The services held in the carriage shop were conducted by Rev. Daniel May, who resided in Red Banks. Rev. May's daughter, Sallie, married Dr. William L. Burns and they were the parents of Eugene Lane and Charlie May Burns. They and their families were members of St. Paul's for many years as the older members will remember.

Mr. Fraley came to Maxton as our pastor on June 13, 1976. After several months he asked me if I'd write a history of our church. Ofcourse I'd never done anything like that before but I'd always liked to write so I told him I'd try.

At first I was the "eager beaver." I wrote to all of our former pastors, asking for information regarding their families and also for a picture to go along with the write-up. There were some few from whom I never received an answer but most of them were very obliging, not only sending the picture but also bringing me up to date on their families. This information has been included in the history.

Some of the write-ups are very scanty as there were practically no records available on them. I have been told that some of the records (about twelve years) had to be thrown out during Mr. Brown's tour because they had deteriorated so badly. I can well believe that because in the spring or summer of 1983 we had twelve feet of water in the church basement where the records that Mr. Fraley gave me had been stored. And this was not the first time the basement had been flooded.

The early records were very good and written in detail, as you will see. I thoroughly enjoyed doing this History and believe it or not there were very few names that I wasn't familiar with, having heard my mother speak of them. She came to Shoe Heel in 1880 at the age of five and always attended Sunday School and Church from that time on. My father came before she did but died when I was quite young, so I can't remember having heard him speak of many of the early settlers.

They say that something good comes out of everything so I'm really glad that I didn't rush to get this history finished. You see if I had, Bill Presnell wouldn't be in it - or our new minister, Rev. John D. Aycock. And that would be a great loss to the future members of St. Pauls United Methodist Church. Ofcourse, if there is a later edition of the history, Rev. Aycock will be written up in more detail than is possible now.

Ruth W. Cottingham  
Historian

July 31, 1987



## EARLY HISTORY OF METHODISM IN THE MAXTON AREA

Prior to the year seventeen hundred and eighty three Methodism as such in organized form was not known in this part of the country. However, a sketch of the Methodist Churches of Marlboro County, S.C. (approximately twenty-five miles from Maxton) properly begins with the Beauty Spot Church, the mother of Methodist Churches in this area. The first house of worship was built in 1783 on land given by Turbitt Cottingham who had come South with his family from the Virginia-Deleware-Maryland area. It was built of logs, covered with long boards held in place by weight poles and the seats were split pine logs.

That primitive church may have been inconvenient and uncomfortable but the day of small things should not be despised. The zeal and devotion there displayed by those early Methodists has perhaps been an inspiration to those coming after them.

The first itinerant preachers who visited Beauty Spot were Jeremiah Mastib and Hope Hull in the year 1783. They at first preached in the private homes of the neighborhood till the church was finished. The first quarterly conference was held at Beauty Spot on 23rd February 1788. Bishop Asbury presided and preached from Isaiah 36: 1-6.

(The above from history of Marlboro County in Library at Bennettsville, South Carolina.)

The next portion of this history has been taken from that of the First Methodist Church in Laurinburg, which was written by Mr. Maxcy L. John in 1942. Inasmuch as he was one of the elder citizens who had lived in both Johns and Laurinburg, I'm sure the information therein is authentic. Also, it's quite appropriate that we should use this. Most of you will probably be as surprised as I was to learn that at one time in our early days we were a part of both the Caledonia and the Laurinburg Charge. Mr John was also the brother of Rev. R.B. John who was a member of our church while serving as president of Carolina College, which was located in Maxton. Other than that, it gives us a wonderful background of the early days of Methodism in our general area. Inasmuch as all of our old-timers who would know about the early years have passed away, I consider us quite fortunate to have the privilege of using this history. And for that privilege, we hereby offer our heartfelt thanks to the Laurinburg Church. The wirter has personally thanked the pastor, Rev. Troy Barrett.

As late as 1835 Methodism in organized form still was not known in that portion of North Carolina extending from Fayetteville to the state line bordering what is now Scotland County on the South. There was one Baptist Church, Spring Hill, ten miles north of Laurinburg, and one Presbyterian Church, Laurel Hill, four miles north of Laurinburg. From Laurinburg to Fayetteville there were several churches, all Presbyterian, in Robeson, Hoke and Cumberland Counties but no Methodist Church until we reach Fayetteville.

However, Methodist itinerant preachers traveled this way occasionally, and wherever they went there was sure to be some preaching along the way. It is definitely known from his journal that Bishop Asbury preached in the area, and even held a sèssion of the South Carolina Annual Conference, A.D. 1814 in Fayetteville, and that he also preached at Beauty Spot Church near



Tatum on the Fayetteville and Bennettsville road which passes by Caledonia Church. It is not definitely known that the good bishop preached at Caledonia, but others did stop there and hold services at Thompson's blacksmith shop, which stood on what later became property of Caledonia Church, some fifty yards N.E. of the community building now on church property. Neill Thompson owned a farm and blacksmith shop and sold out to his neighbor, Roderick McRae, who sold from that farm four acres (for \$8.00) to the "Governors, Overseers, Managers, Trustees and Directors over a certain Episcopal Methodist Church erected and established...at the "Thompson Place" stating that the land had been purchased from Neill Thompson and that the spring on the land was named Thompson. The deed bears no date, but it was probated the first Monday in January, 1836, before the County Court in Rockingham, and recorded in Book "O" (owe), page 418.

As late as 1871 there were distinct evidences of the old blacksmith forge remaining on the land, and the old log church, then falling down, was still on the land, It had evidences of a chimney on the south end, but this is to be accounted for by the fact that for some years before the war of 1861-1865 it had been used for school purposes. Heating facilities in a church of that day did not exist in this section, being considered soft, if not sinful indulgence. The fact that the deed was evidently taken in the latter part of 1835 and at the time of its execution there was on the land a "church and a spring," is taken as proof that the church was in existence as a Methodist organization before the close of the year 1835.

Allen McCorquodale, a native of Argyllshire, Scotland, a member of the South Carolina Conference, was assigned to Bennettsville circuit, which embraced Caledonia Church, in this state. He was the first pastor of Caledonia, and because of his great love for his native Caledonian Hills, he immediately renamed Thompson Place Methodist Episcopal Church - Caledonia M.E. Church. Rev. McCorquodale often preached in Gaelic, and the surrounding Scots came for miles to hear the gospel in their native tongue.

Caledonia was promoted and organized by Methodists from South Carolina, and as all this section of the state was at that time within the confines of the South Carolina Annual Conference, Bennettsville Circuit supplied the pastors for the church, through the year 1872.

South Carolina Methodist seem to have been more progressive, or more possessive, or both, if we are to judge by the fact that South Carolina organized Methodism in the southern tier of counties of North Carolina and even penetrated into the state so efficiently that their interests on this side of the state line drew the South Carolina Methodist Annual Conference to Fayetteville, presided over by Bishop Asbury. And this is not all. Other sessions were held in this state from time to time, extending through 1867. Three sessions of the South Carolina Conference were held in Wilmington, one in Lincolnton, three in Fayetteville, one in Wadesboro, three in Charlotte, one in Morganton - in 1867 - and being the last of the twelve sessions held in North Carolina. From this record it is fully manifest that the state of South Carolina held all the southern tier of counties crossing to the Blue Ridge Mountains and almost to the center of the state, as it reached Burke County, halfway across to Virginia, from the South Carolina line.

Then came the Conference in Cheraw, S.C. in 1869, which was the last session of the South Carolina Conference in which the North Carolina territory representatives sat as members. Before the next session met in Charleston, in 1870, all the territory in North Carolina, excepting Caledonia and Saint



John Churches, had been taken over by the North Carolina Conference. To understand what that really meant, it will be necessary to cite the statistics in part of the 1869, and the 1870 sessions of the South Carolina Conference, and compare them. In 1869 there were reported for the whole joint territory as members of the South Carolina Conference, 42,926 white members and 26,884 colored members. At conference next year in Charleston, S.C., 1870, being restricted to territory in South Carolina, statistics reported only 32,371 white members and 1,334 colored members; a drop in white membership of 10,555 lost to the North Carolina Conference. The colored had reduced rapidly and by 1878 they disappeared from the record entirely. (For further statistics see - "Early Methodism in the Carolina." A.M. Creitzberg, D.D., 1897.)

It may surprise some of the younger people that the colored members were in such numbers. All Southern Protestant denominations carried colored members on their church rolls until the close of the war in 1865, or longer. But few of this day are prepared for the disclosure that in 1860 there were 9,839 more colored members than there were white members, or really almost ten thousand more negroes than white members the last session held before the war between the states.

The transfer already mentioned took effect in 1870, as stated, and at the Conference in 1870 the North Carolina Conference organized that unoccupied territory southwest of Fayetteville already referred to, throwing a large circuit together, known as Cumberland Circuit. This extended from near the city of Fayetteville to the bounds of the Caledonia and Saint Johns congregations, almost on the South Carolina line.

These churches were too poor to stand alone and there being no other churches near enough to form a pastorate, it was necessary for them to remain under the South Carolina Conference for support.

The North Carolina Conference in 1870 created the Fayetteville District and assigned all the area between Fayetteville and Caledonia and St. Johns to the Cumberland Charge. This area, including Laurinburg, Snead's Grove, and other struggling groups was facetiously called the "Calf Pasture." It was given this designation because it was customary to assign young ministers in their first year of service to this large, low-paying assignment rather unproductive of Methodists.

Into the Calf Pasture in 1871 came Rev. Hiram P. Cole riding the range hunting for Methodists and those with Methodist inclinations, and even mavericks having no brand as yet. It was his duty to corral them and get them herded together where he could preach to them. He came to Laurinburg to live, and found ten members of Caledonia congregation living in and near the village, unincorporated, that was to become, two years later, the incorporated town of Laurinburg. He arranged for preaching once a month in the Laurinburg Masonic Hall; but the Presbyterians generously and cordially invited him and his congregation to worship in the Presbyterian Church the Sundays they had no preaching. The invitation was gratefully accepted.

Mr. Cole was relieved of his arduous duties at the close of 1871 and another young preacher, Rev. R.F. Bumpas, a first-year man, was assigned to Cumberland Circuit.

The records show that Thomas W. Guthrie was appointed the first Pastor of a new Circuit which was formed and named the Laurinburg Circuit. He served for four years, 1872-76, as its pastor. The churches being Laurinburg, Caledonia and Saint Johns which made up the Circuit. To follow him were Baxter C. Phillips, 1876-79, and John W. North, D.D., 1879-83. Daniel May was the pastor for one year 1883-84. He probably was then assigned to the Red Bank Circuit as other records show that Reverend May was pastor there in 1884. The Red Bank Circuit included the churches at Red Springs, Red Bank and Hebron. Mr. May was reported as living in the thriving lumber town of Red Bank.

The church at Shoe Heel was organized in 1884 from a series of Camp Meetings held by traveling evangelists, and the name given to the mission church was Ashpole Mission. Reverend May is listed as the pastor of the newly-organized church. In about 1887 the name of the church was changed to Shoe Heel Mission.





## THE FIRST CHURCH

1884 - 1907

The following is an excerpt from an article that was published in the Lumberton Argus, dated Friday, July 28, 1905:

The Methodists began the erection of their church building in the year 1884, but it's completion was two or three years later and was due to the indefatigable energy of Rev. Daniel May whose life has been a perfume in memory not unlike precious ointment poured forth from Mary's alabaster box. The building is centrally located upon a lot which was the generous gift of Mr. Frank Henderson, who is at present a member of the church.

The above was written by Rev. Euclid McWhorter, a later pastor of the church.

Mr. Frank Henderson was one of the earliest settlers of Shoe Heel. He lived in what is now called the oldest house in town, which is located on the oldest street in town. The name of the street was ofcourse - Main Street - now McCaskill Avenue. The house is presently occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Barnes.

Mr. Henderson and his wife were the father of Mr. Walter Henderson, said to have been the first white child born in Shoe Heel. He was born March 19, 1870. They also had a daughter, Anna Glass, whose grandson, Conrad Glass Jr., is presently a Methodist minister in the North Carolina Conference.

The church was located where the present Mobilgas Station now stands on the corner of Saunders and Patterson Streets, facing Main. I remember the church as a warehouse after it had been moved further up towards the present church. The following description has been given by some former members:

It was a large, one room frame building, facing East, with several high windows on each side. The pulpit was in the West of the building with windows on both the right and left. It had the usual high steeple for those days above the vestibule as you entered.

My friend, Marguerite McQueen told me that there were high steps in front where the young folks of the town used to gather to watch the crowds go by. One thing that she especially remembered was the day around 1904 or 1905 when who should ride by in a Cadillac, no less, than Henry McKinnon - driving his dad's new car. They, ofcourse, as who wouldn't in that day hailed him and got their very first ride in an automobile. By the way, Cadillacs were the order of the day it seems, as that's all I've heard mentioned about that time in Maxton.

I had really given up hopes of finding a picture of the old church but in October 1983 I received a letter from Ruth Lee Edwards, Bernice Carter's niece saying she'd found one in an old album of Bernice's.

The vestibule that was on the front like the pulpit on the back, and the steeple had been removed before this picture was made. We'll just have to draw on our imagination a bit to visualize how it really looked. \*

\*See page 4



DAVID ARVILLE PIERCE

1861 - 1940



David A. Pierce, known throughout the Southern Methodist Church as "Uncle Dave" the children's friend, came to Shoe Heel in 1887. I presume, because he joined Shoe Heel Methodist Church on March 30, 1887. Knowing Uncle Dave, he wouldn't have stayed any place long without becoming affiliated with his church.

I suppose Uncle Dave performed every job in our church at one time or another, but his real love was the Primary Department.

The following written by Rev. Ed Earnhardt, Presiding Elder of the Fayetteville District at the time we celebrated Uncle Dave's Day on August 30, 1936, really gives a true picture of Uncle Dave:

"Over at Maxton there is a situation that is not duplicated anywhere in the world. Uncle Dave Pierce has charge of the Primary Department at the Methodist Church and has had charge of it ever since departments were first invented. The experts could not question the advisability of it, for Uncle Dave's department is the liveliest thing in town. I do not know the age of this old bachelor prince, but I judge that there are years behind him because no man could develop such a lovely character and such authoritative winsomeness in a short time." Uncle Dave was born on August 22, 1861.

Uncle Dave's Day was attended by more than 500 former pupils and friends from far and near.

He was "Uncle Dave" to the children of the other churches just the same as the ones from his own church, and his annual Easter programs and egg hunts were participated in with as much joy by all the children in the community as by those in his classes.



Uncle Dave also loved to take long walks on Sunday afternoons, and of course the children went along. He was almost like the Pied Piper because the longer he walked the more children joined him..

Uncle Dave was also a great favorite with the Carolina College students. He loved to make pictures and I'm sure he used many, many a roll of film during those years. The "girls" still talk about him when they get together at Methodist College.

We always had a Jewelry Shop in town while Uncle Dave was here. He was a Jeweler by trade and working on watches was his specialty.

Perhaps a year after "Uncle Dave's Day" he suffered a severe attack of typhus fever and never fully regained his strength. Having been an ardent Mason for years, he decided it was time for him to make his home at the Masonic Home in Greensboro, which he had always planned to do anyway. He was very happy at the home and on occasion returned to Maxton for a day or so. He had planned to come Christmas of 1939 with one of his former pupils who was living in Greensboro, but the day before he called to say he didn't feel up to the trip. So right after the New Year came in he passed away - on January 8, 1940.

Ofcourse he was brought to St. Paul's where the services wer conducted by Rev. T.R. Jenkins who was our pastor at the time, and the pastors from both the Presbyterian and Baptist Churches assisted. Many of his friends and former pupils attended the service and he was laid to rest where he'd always wanted to be, in the same plot with two of his much-loved pupils. One was a little girl who had died at the age of eight, and the other had played the old organ in his Sunday School class for several years.

Uncle Dave's only family was an elderly sister, Mrs. Jessie Marshall of Durham, and several nieces who he hadn't known very well. So a former pupil who had sung in his Easter Exercises since she was five, and also at "Uncle Dave's Day" took over the duties of the family, which I'm sure would have made him quite happy.

After Uncle Dave's death a former pastor, Rev. W.L. Clegg, honored him by naming his son "David Pierce Clegg." Later, when the Cleggs were visiting our church, I made the remark that I wished Uncle Dave could know that. Mr. Clegg replied, "I think he does."

As you know, we have a beautiful Baptismal Font which was placed in our church in memory of Uncle Dave. I hope that it will always be a reminder of what a wonderful part Uncle Dave played in the life of this church and especially the influence he had on all the children.



UNCLE DAVE AND  
CHILDREN



SALLIE LOU MCKINNON

1889 - 1973



Sallie Lou McKinnon was born in Maxton, North Carolina, on October 27, 1889, the oldest child of Mr. and Mrs. A.J. "Sandy" McKinnon, and was reared in St. Paul's Methodist Church. She attended the private schools then in Maxton and in 1911 graduated from Randolph-Macon Woman's College. She also held a Master's Degree from Duke University and did graduate work at Scarritt College.

In 1915 she volunteered for foreign service to the church and went in 1917 to her first appointment at Virginia School, Huchow, China. Her second term was as principal of McTyeire School in Shanghai. In 1932 she became Administrative Secretary of Foreign Works, Women's Section of the Board of Missions. With responsibility for Women's Missionary Work, she traveled extensively in China, Japan, Korea, Brazil, Cuba, Poland, Mexico and the Belgian Congo, gaining first-hand knowledge of the missionary enterprise all over the world.

After unification of the Methodist Church, she served the Women's Division as Executive Secretary for China and Africa during 1940-1944 and for Africa and Europe from 1944 until her retirement in 1955. After retirement she lived first in Nashville, Tennessee, and later in Asheville, N.C. at Brooks-Howell Home for Retired Missionaries and Deaconesses until her death on March 26, 1973.

At her retirement, a resolution of the Board of Missions stated: "Miss McKinnon has looked at every task to which the church has assigned her with world vision and understanding. Her service to her church has been unique in the literal meaning of that word. So, too, is the place she holds in the affections of those who have known and worked with her."

On March 2, 1965, Maxton Methodists had a special service honoring a distinguished former member, Miss Sallie Lou McKinnon.

Miss Sara Bennett, former Missionary to Brazil, spoke at the service along with Miss Barbara Lewis, Miss McKinnon's companion and secretary. Mrs. Katie Lee McKinnon Thorne, Sallie Lou's sister, shared some of the intimate qualities that made Sallie Lou a person who would become a Missionary. Mr. John Hasty, Chairman of the Administrative Board, spoke on behalf of the congregation.

A beautiful porcelain plaque has been placed on the wall in the Sanctuary of St. Paul's in Miss Sallie Lou's memory.

LIST OF PASTORS WHO SERVED ST. PAUL'S UMC

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
Daniel May	1883-1884
B.B. Culbreth	1884-1885
J.A. Hornaday	1886-1888
W.S. Hales	1888-1889
J.W. Jones	1889-1890
S.V. Hoyle	1890-1892
W.H. Willis	18920+(Six months)
C.W. Cain	1892-1894
M.W. Bradshaw	1894-1895
J.A. Lee	1895-1896
M.W. Bradshaw	1896-1900
N.H.D. Wilson	1900-1904
E. McWhorter	1904-1908
M.V. McRae	1908 (Associate)
A.P. Tyre	1908-1912
S.E. Mercer	1912 until June
M.V. McRae	1912-1914
A.L. Ormand	1914-1918
J.A. Hornaday	1918-1922
J.L. Rumley	1922-1924
A.S. Parker	1924-1925
R.F. Munns	1925-1928
J.B. Hurley	1928-1930
W.L. Clegg	1930-1935
P.O. Lee	1935-1939
T.R. Jenkins	1939-1943



LIST OF PASTORS cont'd

C.P. Womack	1943-1945
C.J. Andrews	1945-1948
H.G. Cuthrell	1948-1951
R.I. Epps	1951-1952
W.E. Atwater	1952-1954
K. Beane	1954-1955
K. Glover	1955-1957
E.E. Edmonds	1957-1960
C.D. Roettger	1960-1962
R.M. Drew	1962-1966
A.F. McClung	1966-1967
G.W. Cook	1967-1969
H.D. Stanley	1969-1971
C. Tyson	1970-1971 (Assi
S.H. Brown	1971-1976
F.W. Fraley	1976-1979
B. Tyson	1979-1981
W.M. Presnell	1981-1985
J.D. Aycock	1985-

REV. B. B. CULBRETH

1884 - 1885

In the former brief history of our church is a paragraph that reads as follows: After the Reverend Mr. May, other early pastors were Reverend B.B. Culbreth, Reverend J.A. Hornaday, (who also served a later term), and Reverend W.S. Hales, under whose leadership the "Maxton-Caledonia" charge was formed.

The only other place that I have found any reference to Rev. Culbreth was in the Laurinburg History. Here he is shown as their pastor for one year, 1884-1885. Inasmuch as Maxton was a part of the Laurinburg Circuit at that time, he, ofcourse would have been our pastor also.





REMINISCENCES OF MY FIRST PASTORATE AS A METHODIST ITINERANT

NO. 3



The North Carolina Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, held it's forty-ninth session in Tryon Street Methodist Church of Charlotte, N.C., November 25th to December 2nd, 1885, with Bishop John C. Keener presiding. To this conference this writer carried up his second report from Ashpole Mission, and it was an improvement on the one he carried up a year prior to this.

At this conference the question of asking General Conference to divide North Carolina into two Conferences came up. It was a question of vital interest to every member of the Conference, and to every intelligent Methodist in the state. In the Conference, the interest was so intense that there was quite a good deal of excitement, especially among the leaders of the Conference. Dr. W.M. Robey led the forces for division, and Dr. N.H.D. Wilson led the forces against division. Several members of the Conference spoke for and against division, but the greatest speeches I have ever heard on the floor of the conference were made by Drs. Robey and Wilson. The vote was close, but the measure was defeated for the time, but every one saw very plainly that it was only for a short time.

At the Charlotte Conference several important changes were made in Ashpole Mission. Centenary Church was taken from this charge and put on Robeson Circuit, and old Horeb Church was taken from the Robeson Circuit and put on this charge. Centenary Church had developed into the best church on this charge, while Horeb was weak and unpromising, Shoe Heel Church (never mind, that was it's name at that time) was taken from Laurinburg Circuit and put on this charge, and it's name changed from Ashpole Mission to Shoe Heel Mission. At that time Methodism in this section was very weak. At this point the congregation worshiped in an old hall north of the S.A.L. Railroad. A church building had been begun, weather boarded and covered, but the floor had not been laid, the windows and doors were open and it could not be used. Nothing had been done on this building in more than a year, and the small congregation discouraged. The year prior to it's transfer from the Laurinburg Circuit to this charge it paid the pastor \$44.00. There were, however, some heroic and consecrated men and women in the little band, and when called upon responded to the extend of their ability.



About the middle of December 1885, this writer moved his family from "Ballahoolish" to a small house owned by Col. E.F. McRae situated just outside the corporate limits of the town, South. Early in the year work on the church building was resumed, and completed except the blinds and painting, which enabled the congregation to use it and development was more pronounced and rapid from that time. Later in the year blinds were placed to the windows and the building was painted. There is an interesting bit of history connected with the placing of blinds to the windows, but it is rather lengthy and complicated to get in shape for publication. Ask me about it and I will tell you.

(Rev. Hornaday's wife was a McCall and I'm sure was a descendant of the family that built the historical Scotland County home, "Ballachulish" which Rev. Hornaday spelled "Ballahoolish." This home was named for the old home in Appin, Argyleshire, Scotland from which the family emigrated in the fall of 1790. This home was written up in the Laurinburg Exchange of October 29, 1980.)

At the first Quarterly Conference held at Oakgrove in January 1886, with Rev. S.D. Adams presiding, the Stewards held a meeting and fixed the salary of the pastor at \$300.00. The Missionary Board had continued it's appropriation of \$150.00 to the charge, paid all they promised, and something over, so the pastor received this year a salary of \$475.00.

But the people of the town did not like the name "Shoe Heel" for their pleasant little city, so a mass meeting was held, several names discussed, and finally the name "Tilden" was chosen. This name was given the town in honor of the great Democrat who had been elected President of the United States and then cheated out of it. But the Post office Department of the Government refused to name the Post office "Tilden," so another mass meeting was held and name "Mackstown" - Maxton - was chosen. This name "stuck" and Maxton prospered, so did Methodism in the newly named town and the pastoral charge was destined to bear that name in the then near future, but of this we speak in our next letter.

J. A. Hornaday

NOTE: The above was copied from "The Scottish Chief," our local paper dated September 5th, 1919. At the time Rev. Hornaday was again pastor of our church. I have searched diligently for the letters that went before and after this one, with no success. I also checked with Bernice Hornaday Carter but she said all of his papers had deteriorated after being placed in a storage house. If we only had them most of the many questions we have about the beginning of our church would be answered accurately.

The first official records available for our church are for the year 1886 and are shown verbatim. You will notice that several dates go back to 1879, which I presume was the date on which those persons originally joined the church elsewhere, inasmuch as they were received by certificate.

This first listing was unique due to the fact that the male and female members were listed separately. Be sure to check these lists carefully and don't be surprised if you find the names of some of your near relatives among them.



REGSTR. OF SHOE HEEL CHURCH  
FATETTEVILLE DIS. NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE

1886, Rev. J.A. Horaday P.C.  
Rev. S.D. Adams P.E.

ROLL OFFICIAL MEMBERS  
SHOE HEEL M. E. CHURCH SOUTH  
FOR 1886

W.F. Steed - Std. & Trus.  
S.W. Parham -  
Rev. S.R. Trawick - Local Elder  
J.P. Smith - Trustee  
J.F. Bishop - DO  
J.W. Carter - DO  
H.M. Jackson - S.S. Supt.  
O.H. Blocker - Trustee

ROLL OF MEMBERS FOR MALE MEMBERS

No.	<u>MALE MEMBERS</u> <u>NAMES</u>	<u>WHEN JOINED</u>	<u>HOW</u>
1	J.F. Bishop	Jan. 11th, 1879	Certificate
2	A.J. Burnes	DO	Presbyterian
3	Frank Henderson	DO	Certificate
4	J.P. Smith	DO	
5	W.F. Steed		Certificate
6	S.W. Parham		Certificate
7	Joseph S. Bishop	Dec. 16th, 1883	Prof
8	W.F. Henderson	"	"
9	Jno. A. Henderson	"	"
10	Hugh R.T. Henderson	"	"
11	H.R. McKinney	"	"
12	Jno. A.P. McKinney	"	"
13	J. Luther Smith	"	"
14	Geo. A. Smith	"	"
15	W.O. Byrnes	"	"
16	Frank McL. Bishop	"	"
17	Geo. D. Bishop	"	"
18	Charles W. May	"	"
19	Joseph A.M. Mechum	"	"
20	J.J. Cosey	"	Certificate
21	Rev. S. R. Trawick	Feb. 1st, 1885	"
22	Jas. B. Sealy	Feb. 9th, 1886	"
23	Alx Tolbert	Feb. 16th, 1886	"
24	Hampton M. Jackson	Mar. 28th, 1886	Prof.
25	S.S.B. Thompson	Mar. 28th, 1886	"
26	W.B. Summerset	Sept. 1, 1886	"
27	Jno. W. Carter	Sept. 1, 1886	"
28	J.A. McRackin	Sept. 5, 1886	"
29	H.C. Meacham	Sept. 6, 1886	"
30	Charles A. Holland	Sept. 6, 1886	Certificate
31	O.H. Blocker	Sept. 6, 1886	"

<u>NO.</u>	<u>NAMES</u>	<u>WHEN JOINED</u>	<u>HOW</u>
32	Pleasant H. Burns	Sept. 25, 1886	Prof.
33	W.A. Lowe	Oct. 29, 1886	Certificate
34	S.O. Thompson	Nov. 10, 1886	"
35	W.W. Lowe	Nov. 14, 1886	Prof.
36	James O. Danil	Nov. 14, 1886	"
37	J.G. McCormac	Nov. 14, 1886	Certificate
38	David A. Pearce	Mar. 30, 1887	"
39	Dugal Jones	Jan. 15, 1887	"
40	Albert Cowan		"
41	George A. Ray		"
42	A. Cameron Ray		"
43	E. Louis Ray		"
44	Capt. Wesley Ray		"
45	J.B. Gibson		"
46	Alex J. Cottingham		"
47	Luther T. Cottingham	Aug. 25, 1886	Prof.
48	Conner J. Cottingham	Aug. 25, 1886	"

NO.    FEMALE MEMBERS

1	Virginia F. Bishop	Jan 11, 1879	Certificate
2	Adeliza Henderson	Jan 11, 1879	"
3	Annie M. Croom	Jan 11, 1879	"
4	Annie E. Cottingham	Dec. 16, 1883	"
5	Claudia Burns	"	"
6	Jennie L. McKinnon	"	"
7	Louise McKinney	"	"
8	Virginia L. Evans	"	"
9	L.V. Thompson	"	"
10	M.J. Patterson	"	"
11	Louise E. Parham	"	"
12	Sarah McKay	"	"
13	Flora W. Henderson	"	Prof.
14	Jimmie M. Croom	"	"
15	Mary F. Croom	"	"
16	Mary C. Currie	"	"
17	Katy Thompson	"	"
18	Sallie J. Thompson	"	"
19	Mollie E. Smith	"	"
20	Mollie Wright	Sept. 21, 1884	Certificate
21	Bettie V. Trawick	Feb. 15, 1886	"
22	M.B. McLean	"	"
23	Mary W. Good	"	"
24	Mary A. McGraw	"	"
25	Eva H. Jewell	"	Prof.
26	Adia Steed (Ada)	"	Certificate
27	Willia Tolbert	Feb. 16, 1886	"
28	M.B. Sealey	Mar. 10, 1886	"
29	Maggie J. Aydlett	July 1, 1886	"
30	Adia M. Aydlett	Aug. 25, 1886	"
31	Lella Cottingham	"	Prof.
32	Maggie Summeratt	Sept. 1, 1886	"
33	Hattie Yancy	Sept. 5, 1886	"
34	Sallie V. Burnes	"	Certificate
35	Ella J. Burnes	"	Prof.



<u>NO.</u>	<u>FEMALE MEMBERS</u>	<u>WHEN JOINED</u>	<u>HOW</u>
36	Laura Henderson	Sept. 6, 1886	Prof.
37	A.M. Holland	"	Certificate
38	E.J. Mecham	Sept. 9, 1886	Prof.
39	Parthenia Burnes	Sept. 21, 1886	"
40	D.J. Lowe	Oct. 29, 1886	Certificate
41	Agnes Buford	Apr. 11, 1887	"
42	Nancy Jones	June 15,	"
43	Julia S. Hales	Jan 8	"
44	Laura Bell		
45	Ann Eliza Ray		
46	Judith Ann Gibson	Feb. 8, 1888	"
47	Martha J. Gibson		"
48	Eliza Jane Gibson		"
49	Della Francis Gibson		"
50	Lulla A. Ray	July 29, 1880	"

The following has no date but as it pertains to the Sunday School I think it's very interesting.

Report A: "On number and state of the Sunday Schools, and of the Pastoral instruction of children:

At Shoe Heel we have an interesting Sunday School, with about 70 names on the roll, and a good percent of this number are regular in attendance. We unhesitatingly pronounce the School at Shoe Heel in good condition.

At the other churches, I do not think the schools are doing much at this time owing to the fact that they have no arrangements for heating the buildings

As to the children in my charge, I embrace every opportunity that offer to talk to and instruct them, and try to interest them in the Sunday School.

Respectfully Submitted  
by J.A. Horaday, P.C.

My mother moved to Shoe Heel from Asheboro in 1880 at the age of five. She told me that most every one in town went to Sunday School at both the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches. At that time the Methodist had Sunday School in the morning and the Presbyterians in the afternoon, or vice versa. I also remember that Katie Lee McKinnon who was my teacher in the third and fourth grades told us that she did the same thing when she came along, which was some years later of course.

An interesting sidelight of the early history of our church is that the Charleston earthquake which occurred August 30th, 1886, during Rev. Hornaday's pastorate, was strongly felt here. It happened about nine o'clock at night when nearly everyone in town was at prayer meeting at the Methodist Church. My mother who was eleven at the time was present and she told me it was a terrifying experience. I've been told by others that many people were so frightened they jumped out the windows. I also heard that Bernice Hornaday Carter, whom most of you remember, was present in her mother's lap. Bernice was born August 11, 1886 so you see she was just a tiny baby when it happened.

Record of Adults baptized at about the same time were: Lela Cottingham- August 25, 19886. Pleasant Henderson Burns, Parthenia Bullad Burns and William P. Burns - Sept. 25, 1886. Record of infant Baptisms were: Bernice Hornaday, Mary Louisa Burns (Lou) who was my mother, Florrie Burns, J. C. B. Burns, Walter Scott Burns and Ada May Burns. All of the above were members of my mother's family except Bernice. They were baptized by Rev. S.D. Adams, Presiding Elder.

Please note below the last record shown under the name of "Shoe Heel" and the first under the name of "Maxton."

Maxton, N. C., Jan. 31st, 1887

Shoe Heel Church Conference  
For: Shoe Heel M.E. Church. Dec. 31, 1887

Opened by Rev. J. A. Horaday with religious worship.

- - - - -

Singed: W. F. Steed

Maxton Church Conference  
at Maxton

Maxton, N.C.  
Jan. 10, 1888

After religious services by Rev. W. J. Hughes ---the ladies were requested to meet at Bro. S.W. Parham's to reorganize the Ladies Aid Society.

/s/ J. F. Bishop  
Secty.

REV. W. J. HALES

Rev. W. J. Hales was the next pastor of our church but the dates of his term here are unknown, and there is very little information about his pastorate on record. We do know however, that the following persons were received into the church by letter: Sallie J. Stewart, Fannie F. Cashwell and Wm. M. Smith.

REV. JOHN W. JONES

DEC. 4, 1889 - DEC. 14, 1890

The Charge known as "Maxton and Caledonia" was formed at the session of the North Carolina Conference held in the City of Greensboro Nov. and Dec. 1889, Bishop Hargrove presiding and John W. Jones was appointed P.C. on Dec. 4, 1889 and served one year.

The following children were baptized by Rev. Jones: Alice Evaline Hasty - April 19, 1890; Sallie Lou McKinnon - April 21, 1890; Amantha Smith - June 1, 1890; Ida Lucille Henderson - Oct. 25, 1890 and Jimmie Prince Covington - Dec. 7, 1890. I'm sure Alice was born in Hasty and baptized at Caledonia but later joined our church and we all know that Sallie Lou was our very own missionary.

Members received into the church during Rev. Jones tenure were as follows: W.J. Carter and Mary C. Carter, Jan. 1890 by Cert. Others on which no date was shown were Mabel S. Gibson (Lyde), Eugenia Gibson (Steed) Donald Gibson, Annie Bell Fore, Anna Henderson (Glass), Neill McLaughlin, H.C. Meacham. Others on which dates are shown were as follows: O.E. Crowson - April 1890, J.R. Rouse - May 29, 1890, H.C. Boykin - Aug 2, 1890; Mary Lucy Jones - Aug. 11, 1890, Fred G. Andrews - Sept. 20, 1890; P.S. Steed - Nov. 8, 1890 by Certificate and Loula Boykin - Nov. 23, 1890.



REV. SAMUEL V. HOYLE

DEC. 15, 1890 - SPRING 1892

Rev. Hoyle was appointed as our pastor on Dec. 15, 1890 and served for one and a half years, at which time he died. The exact date of death is not known but he took his last member into the church on April 14, 1892, and a new pastor was appointed on June 1st 1892 and served for one-half year. So it had to be sometime between those two dates.

Members taken into the church by Rev. Hoyle were as follows: Neil A. Thompson, Parsons E. Thompson, R.W. Knight, Ellem M. Knight - Jan 10, 1891 all by Certificate; Ruth L. Jennings - Oct 11, 1891 by Profession; Blanche Kinsey - Nov. 1, 1891; Ida M. Aydlotte - Jan. 26, 1892; Mrs. W.E. Miller - Jan 26, 1892; G.B. McClenahan, Matie May McClenahan - Jan. 26, 1892 by Profession; Mrs. Florence A. Pace, Sallie P. Betts, P.M.D. Betts and Marriatt Betts - Feb. 7, 1892 by Certificate; Florrie Burns, Mary Lou Burns - March 9, 1892 by Profession; and Rev. James R. Betts, L.E., Apr. 14, 1892 by Certificate of Location.

The only record of Maxton members being baptized is of Ralph Loyd Henderson, child of W.F. and Claudia Henderson, Jan 26, 1892 and this was performed by Rev. A.D. Betts prior to the time he became a member of our church on April 14, 1892.

MARRIAGES

John C. Ray and Mary A. Jones - July 5, 1891. These were members at Caledonia but inasmuch as they were the parents of Sara Ray Hamer of our church, I listed them here.

JOHN A. McCORMAC and LELIA COTTINGHAM - January 13, 1892

CHARLES J. LYDE and MABEL GIBSON - February 10, 1892

All of the above were married by Rev. Hoyle.

REV. W. H. WILLIS

On June 1, 1892, Rev. W.H. Willis was assigned to the Maxton-Caledonia charge to complete the year begun by Rev. Hoyle.

During his short term of service as our pastor he took the following members into the church: J.F. Edwards and Mary A. Parish, June 26, 1892 by Certificate, Harrison Price and James Clinton Price on July 1, 1892 by Profession, Rev. S.R. Trawick, L.E. and B.V. Trawick, July 9, 1892 by Certificate and Lilly Smith and Martha Huckleby on Sept. 18, 1892.

There were quite a few baptisms during Rev. Willis' stay here but they were done by the Rev. A.D. Betts who was a member of the church in Maxton and also by Rev. J.R. Betts, that I presume was a brother of Rev. A.D. They, by the way were relatives of Thelma Betts, Harold and Wiley Steed. You see that's where Thelma Betts got her name. However all baptisms done by them apparently belonged to Caledonia except for Walter A. Jones, son of Alex L. and Loula A. Jones who were long time members of our church along with all of their other children.

REV. CHARLES W. CAIN

In December 1892 Rev. Charles W. Cain was appointed as our pastor and remained for two years.

Rev. Cain reported that there were two good Sunday Schools on this charge, one at each church.

From some notes written by John Pace in 1962 I have found the following: "At the District Conference in 1894 the pastor, Rev. C. W. Cain stated in his report that the church had a Women's Foreign Missionary Society."

On March 11, 1894 George C. Taylor, Rachel A. Taylor, John J. Taylor, Carrie and Georgia A. Taylor all joined the church by certificate. I remember that Miss Carrie and Georgie were still members after I came along. On May 13, 1894 Joseph S. Betts also joined by certificate. Will McLaughlin and Mary B. Newton were taken in by Profession of Faith on June 24, 1894.

Baptisms during this period were as follows: Walter A. Jones, son of Alex L. and Loula A. Jones on Aug. 10, 1892 by A.D. Betts, Henry A. McKinnon, son of A.J. and Jennie L. McKinnon, Mary Betts Steed, daughter of W.F. and Ada C. Steed on Nov. 30, 1893 by Charles W. Cain and Charles Linwood Cain, son of Charles W. and Sallie A. Cain on April 29, 1894 by J.F. Gibbs.

The following was found on a slip of paper among the old records:

REPORT ON THE GENERAL STATE OF THE CHURCH - 2nd Q. CONF.

The general state of the church on this pastoral charge is, we think, very encouraging. The congregations are good at both appointments, and the word preached is heard for the most part with pleasure and I trust with profit. With an appreciative, cooperative people by his side, the pastor looks for good results. During the quarter there have been three removals, Mary W. Brady, L.H. Stogner and Sarah E. Stogner; two deaths, John Cranford and Adeline Hasty - no accessions, withdrawals or expulsions.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charles W. Cain. P.C.

May 6, 1893

THE FOLLOWING MARRIAGES WERE PERFORMED DURING THIS PERIOD

Jno. W. Brady and Mary (Molly) Smith - Jan 18, 1893 by A.D. Betts.

Jno. H. O'Brien and Della F. Gibson - Jan 25, 1893 by C.W. Cain

Paul S. Steek and Eugenia Gibson - April 1893 by Jonathan Sanford

- - Robinson and Maggie Smith - June 1893 by James R. Betts

Alexander J. Cottingham and Mary Louiza Burns - Aug. 23, 1894  
by Charles W. Cain.

DEATHS

Mrs. Annie Jackson Cottingham - November 26, 1893.



REV. MIKE BRADSHAW

DEC. 20, 1894 - DEC. 1895

On Dec. 20, 1894 Rev. Mike Bradshaw was assigned to the Maxton Church where he served one year. However he came back at a later date which shows how very much he was liked. Every since I can remember I've heard of Mike Bradshaw.

I found no records whatsoever regarding conference etc. for this one year. However the following members were taken into the church: Mrs. Alma Frostick - March 21, 1895; Miss Katie Carter, July 23, 1895; Janie McLaughlin, Mary L. Ray, Maggie Graham McLean, Rachela Steed (Ela) and Lucy Aydlotte Currie on Oct. 20, 1895; A.J. McKinnon, W.A. Lowe, James F. Ray, May Burns, Bessie Smith and W.O. Burns on November 24, 1895 - all on Profession of Faith.

Children baptized were as follows: Frank Wesley Henderson, son of W.F. and Claudia Henderson - May 19, 1895; Katie Lee McKinnon, Nov. 15, 1895 - Dau. of A.J. and Jennie L. McKinnon; Frank Winfred Carter, John Wesley Carter and Janie McKay Carter, Nov. 19, 1895, children of J.W. and Lena Carter. Rev. Bradshaw baptized the Henderson child alone but was assisted in the others by Rev. Wm. Black. Rev. Black was a Presbyterian Evangelist from Maxton I presume as he had many relatives in Maxton and he himself is buried in Oakgrove cemetery.

REV. J. A. LEE

DEC. 1895 - - DEC. 1896

A continuation of John Pace's notes regarding past preachers' tours of duty follows: "1896 saw us have a new preacher, Rev. J.A. Lee. At the District Conference he reported two active missionary societies, here and at Caledonia."

Members received at the Maxton Church were: Sarah C. Lee, Ada V. Lee, Ida May Lee in Dec. 1895 by Certificate. William C. Smith and Goldie Welch in June 1896; George W. Smith on July 17, 1896; William I. and Ella L. Gaitley in July 1896, all by Certificate. Samuel A. Penn by Profession of Faith. Mr. Penn was received by Rev. S.R. Trawick and the others by the pastor.

The following is taken from the Robesonian, Wednesday, Jan. 29, 1896, Maxton Department by W.B. Harker, Manager:

We have had the pleasure of hearing a sermon Sunday afternoon at Caledonia, by Rev. J.A. Lee, Maxton and Caledonia's new preacher. We were very much pleased with him and believe that he is fast gaining a hold upon the affection of the people whom he has the honor to serve. -- Laurinburg Exchange.

"Christians, the Light of the World" was the subject of Rev. J.A. Lee's discourse last Sunday morning. A sermon which received commendation."

Dr. Hill discussed "The Power of Jesus' Words" in the afternoon. A discussion of great power.

Next Sunday morning being the time for the first sacrament of the year at the Presbyterian Church, there will be two morning services, both there and the usual service at the Methodist Church.

From private letters received here we gather that Rev. M. Bradshaw is pleasantly located in a nice town where there is plenty of work. We think he will like his people; and if they are not satisfied with the preaching they get it will be evidence that there is something wrong with their ears.

As you can see from the above, Maxton churches were still taking turns having services as they had done, seemingly, since there were churches in town.



REV. MIKE BRADSHAW

DEC. 1896 - DEC. 1900

At the conference held Dec. 14 through 16, 1896, Rev. Mike Bradshaw was returned as pastor of Maxton and Caledonia Charge, where he was to remain for four years. I'm sure the people were very pleased to have him and I wouldn't be surprised if it wasn't at their request that he was returned. At the time he was still a bachelor but in April he brought a bride to Maxton.

The District Conference for that year was held in Maxton. At this conference the pastor reported that there was one Missionary Society and one Parsonage Aid Society in Maxton. Evidently the Parsonage Aid Society must have gotten busy immediately because soon the Wilkes house as we now know it on South Patterson Street was bought for a parsonage and the Bradshaws moved in. This information also came from John Pace's notes.

I found no records of quarterly conferences or otherwise during this tenure of Rev. Bradshaw. However there were quite a few accessions to both the Maxton and Caledonia churches. Members taken into the Maxton church were as follows: J.F.A. Armfield, Mrs. Hannah Betts O'Brien, Mrs. M. Bradshaw, Mrs. M.J. Bishop, Daniel Barnes, E.B. Christian, John B. Gibson, Judith Gibson, Pattie Gibson, James B. Pace, Juanita Graham Morrison, Ione Clyde Morrison, Katie Benoist, Edgar Benoist, Florence E. Curtis, Katie Cottingham, Gains Winningham, Miss S. Maggie Barnes, (Margaret McNeill), Miss Leila Barnes, Mrs. Sara A. Curtis and Asa H. O'Brien. These members were taken in during the period Feb. 27, 1897 and April 23, 1900, some by Certificate and others by Profession of Faith.

Baptisms were as follows: Anna Dell Henderson, Mary Whitehurst Bradshaw, Margaret Stockard Bradshaw, Arthur James McKinnon, Mildred Vera McLean and Gladys Hamer. These took place between August 8, 1897 and March 25, 1900. All of the children were baptised by the pastor except his two who were baptised by W.H. Moon. Gladys Hamer belonged to Oak Grove Church but as she belongs to us now she was shown here.

REV. N. H. D. WILSON

At the conference held on Dec. 10, 1900 Rev. N.H.D. Wilson was appointed to the Maxton and Caledonia Charge where he remained until Dec. 5, 1904.

Rev. Wilson was another of the ministers before my day that I've heard much about. I'm quite sure that he was one of our most outstanding ministers. Later he went on to prove this by becoming a Presiding Elder, as the District Superintendents were then known.

Mrs. Wilson was received into the Maxton Church on December 23rd 1900 as Mrs. Mary Mangum Wilson. I have always heard her called Minnie Mangum Wilson and I believe the Missionary Society went by that name for some time. You might wonder why I'm so sure of this since I wasn't even around at the time. However, when I did make my appearance my parents considered naming me Minnie Wilson. However, I was christened Ruth Wilson instead.

Many years later after Rev. Wilson has passed away my friend, Carrie Gaitley, who'd been a long time favorite of the Wilsons was living with Mrs. Wilson in Chapel Hill. One Sunday while Mrs. Wilson was away on a visit, Carrie



invited me over from Raleigh where I was working at the time. So, even though I never had the pleasure of meeting the folks for whom I was named, I did visit in their home. I especially enjoyed seeing the house as they had purchased it from Betty Smith, author of a best seller, "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn."

Many members were both baptised and received into the church while Rev. Wilson was here. For the sake of brevity only the names will be shown as to show dates of baptism and joining the church would entail a hardship, both on the writer as well as those reading this history. The list of names follows:

1901: Mark Wayne Cole, Sallie M. Morrison, Thomas O. Evans, Myrtle Elmira Evans, Mrs. Susan Jane Burns, Mrs. Florence Bruner Burns, Mrs. Ella J. Peacock, Mrs. M.A. O'Brien, Mrs. Della F. Gibson, Mrs. Gertrude Myers Covington, Mrs. Ellen E. Cook, Mrs. Lilly Curtis Steed, Miss Mollie McPherson, Miss Nettie Pace, Miss Mollie Lee Peele, Sallie Lou McKinnon, Katie Sinclair Cottingham, Ida Lucille Henderson.

1902: Hugh Barnes, W.J. Davis, Mrs. Katie Louise Davis, John C. Curtis, Bascom Conrad Glass, William L. Burns, Walter Scott Burns, John Franklin McLean Murdock Alexander McLean, Annie Blue Cottingham, Mrs. Sara Elizabeth Aydlotte, Joseph E. Avent, Mrs. Rosa Utley Avant.

1903: James J. Barrow, Miss Kate Inez Bruner, Mrs. Ida L. Evans, Mr. John J. Evans, Charles J. Lyde, Mrs. Mabel G. Lyde, Asa O'Brien, Mrs. Martha A. O'Brien, Mrs. Della F. Gibson, Miss Annie Lula Betts.

1904: Alexander W. Morrison, Carrie Gaitley, Ethel Gladys Gaitley, Katie Parrish, Mary Belle Cottingham, Henry Alexander McKinnon, Blanche Christian Fore, Philip Winfrey Fore.

Infants baptised during this period were as follows:

1901: Marvin McRae, Laura Elizabeth Henderson, Otis Betts O'Brien and Howard Winfred O'Brien, John W. and Wilhemina Hamer.

1902: James Coit Whitlock.

1904: Landis Gray Burns, Lois Peacock, Nelsie Lee Peacock, Willie Burns Peacock, Mattie Belle Jones, Emma Pearl Jones, Carrie Lou Jones, Lilly May Jones.

#### REGISTER OF MARRIAGES:

Allan J. Steed and Lily May Curtis - December 25, 1900 - Residence of Mrs. Curtis - by N.H.D. Wilson.

Alexander Canaday and Rosa Belle Robbins - Residence of Mr. Robbins - Jan 29, 1901 - By N.H.D. Wilson

Bascom C. Glass and Anna Henderson - Residence of W.F. Henderson - July 31, 1901 - By N.H.D. Wilson

Charlie Burns and Kate Cottingham - Residence of A.J. Cottingham - December 10, 1903 - By N.H.D. Wilson

William B. Harker and Mrs. Fannie Shepherd Jowers - Jan. 14, 1904, Parsonage, Maxton - By N.H.D. Wilson

William B. McKenzie and Willie May Bruner - May 4, 1904 - Residence of Mrs. Bruner, Maxton - By N.H.D. Wilson



During Rev. Wilson's term Oak Grove Church which was situated between Maxton and Rowland was "Transferred from Sneads Grove Circuit to Maxton and Caledonia at the Conference of 1901. "This church was quite small, having a membership of only sixty-owo. Evidently this didn't work out very well for the people. At any rate there is another entrance in the Register which reads: "This Church was transferred from the Maxton and Caledonia Charge to the Rowland Circuit at the Conference of 1902."

One of our present members, Mrs. Gladys Hamer Steed told me that she joined the church at Oak Grove when she was a young girl.

DEATHS: Mrs. P.H. (Parthenia Bulla) Burns - August 2, 1902

Mattie Eileen Steed - August 7, 1902

REV. EUCLID McWHORTER

JAN. 1904 - DEC. 1908

Euclid McWhorter was assigned to the Maxton Church at the Conference of Dec. 5, 1904 and assumed his duties on January 1. 1905. During his first year Rev. McWhorter continued the work of Rev. Wilson by bringing many new members into the church in the Maxton and Caledonia Charges.

There are no records such as quarterly conferences etc. during this first year but evidently Rev. McWhorter was letting no grass grow under his feet.

By this time the Maxton congregation had outgrown their church on Main Street and began making plans for a new building. Sometime during 1905 Mr. A.J. McKinnon very generously donated a lot for this purpose which was situated on the corner of Florence and Saunders Streets. "Mr. Sandy" as he was known was married to Miss Jenny McKinney and they were the parents of our own missionary, Sallie Lou McKinnon as well as Henry, Katie Lee and Arthur. This family as a whole were wonderful members and contributed much to the growth and spiritual life of the church for many years.

A continuation of the excerpt from the Lumberton Argus dated July 28, 1905, written by Mr. McWhorter, which was shown in part under the pastorate of Rev. Daniel May, 1884 - 1885 follows:

"This denomination has steadily grown from the beginning. An important movement is now under consideration for the erection of a new, handsome church building and parsonage, which when finished will be a credit to the denomination and an ornament to the town."

Although the following does not particularly concern our church, it was written by Mr. McWhorter and published in the same paper shown above dated July 28, 1905. I believe it will be interesting to all as it was to me.

"This thriving, bustling little city is beautifully and most fortunately sitting in the extreme western portion of the county and nestles like the angel of Siloam's Pool as a central gem in the midst of waving fields, some of which are the most productive in the "good Old North State."

There is a tradition, frequently related by the old heads of the community that in the 17th or 18th century there roamed through this wild section a gigantic native, who was an enemy to the early settlers. He was bloodthirsty and continually watching for the opportunity to commit some new depredation. He had



one large foot and one small foot, and could be easily located. Many a timid settler trembled with fear and sometimes retraced his steps without running his mission, when he detected the imprint of the small foot and the large foot, for which his eye continually looked, in the path. The name of the giant was Shoe Heel. After his death the creek which so long afforded him a place to live and fish was known as Shoe Heel Creek, and is so called to this day."

Several other items from the Argus which I jotted down might add a bit of spice to what might otherwise become a boring epistle to some. I hope you'll approve.

This first one happens to be from the Robesonian dated October 13, 1905.

Work on the METHODIST AND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES has begun.

The Robesonian dated Jan. 3, 1905 has an editorial by one Rev. S.E. Mercer, Editor. Rev. Mercer was later the pastor of our church for a short while before becoming the President of Carolina College.

5/14/05 - Mrs. B.C. Glass (Anna Henderson) spent several days at Pates last week, the guest of Mrs. W.F. Steed.

Capt. A.J. McKinnon and family are now occupying their beautiful new residence on the corner of Graham and Florence Streets. 5/9/05

5/9/05 - The protracted meeting being conducted by Rev. Mr. McWhorter and Dr. Hill is still in progress at the Methodist Church and well attended. Several additions to the church and a continued deep spiritual interest is prevailing the entire town. May great good be accomplished. (As most people know Dr. Hill was a Presby.)

5/16/05 - Robesonian - by George K. McNeill and Neill Smith. Progressive Rowland - May 19th - The Methodist Church was almost a total loss due to a tornado.

5/3/05 - Maxton Commencement was held on Thursday and Friday. The graduating class was as follows: Mattie Brown McLean, Sallie Lou McKinnon, Emma Bell McRae, Jessie Burns, John Allen McLean Jr. and William Parrish. Jessie Burns was given a scholarship to Elizabeth College Professor Avent resigned as principal to go to Spring Hope. (Sallie Lou, William Parrish were Methodist.)

November 21, 1905: The Jewish Massacre in Russia was reported.

5/8/05 - The Board of County Commissioners has ordered election for District #1, Maxton Township and District #3, Britts Township, to decide the question of levying special taxes for the support of graded schools in the District. The elections will be held Jan. 20, 1906.

12/22/05 - Three Big Banks Fail in Chicago.

As expected Rev. McWhorter was returned to the Maxton church for another year when conference convened in December 1905. To the best of our knowledge Maxton was made a station about the same time which meant that it could now stand alone.

Evidently the new church was the main order of the day, not only in church meetings but also among the membership. To substantiate this belief a bona-fide copy of the contract for our present church follows:



NORTH CAROLINA

ROBESON COUNTY

Whereas, the Methodist Episcopal Church South at Maxton, said County and State is desirous of erecting on a lot belonging to said Church, fronting on Saunders and Florence streets in said town, a church building, and whereas, the Quarterly Conference having jurisdiction over said church has constituted and appointed a "Building Committee" for said proposed church, the members of the said committee being Rev. Euclid McWhorter, Chairman, J.W. Carter, L.T. Cottingham, T.O. Evans, W.I. Gaitley, A.L. Jones, A.J. McKinnon and D.R. Barnes, the said chairman being authorized and empowered to execute a contract for the erection of said Church, and whereas, John A. Nicholson, a contractor of , has signified his willingness to construct, build and erect said Church.

Now Therefore, for an in consideration of the agreement, covenanos and stipulations hereinafter made by ohe said Euclid McWhorter, Chairman of, and acting for, the said Committee, as aforesaid, party of the first part, and said John A. Nicholson, party of the second part, hereby contracts, stipulates, and agrees that he will at his own expense, save for material hereinafter mentioned, construct, build and erect the said proposed Church in conformity to and in accordance with drawings and architectural designs in blue prints, plans and specifications, and the amendments thereto, heretofore agreed upon and adopted by said building committee, the said drawings and architectural designs, plans and specifications having been outlined and prepared by H.E. Bonitz, architect, and revised by Chas. McMillan represented by E.V. Richards, all of Wilmington, North Carolina, which said drawings, architectural designs, plans and specifications are hereby reffered to, Incorporated in and made a part of this contract, for the sum of Ten Thousand dollars to be paid in amounts and installments as hereinafter agreed upon, less Seventeen Hundred dollars for concrect blocks sufficient to complete the Church, the said blocks now belonging to and are to be furnished by party of the first part, and less also the price or amount hereinafter to be determined of one car load of granite spalls already delivered and such further granite spalls as may be necessary, according to aforesaid plans and specifications.

For and in consideration of the agreements and stipulations hereinbefore and hereinafter made by John A. Nickolson, party of the second part, the said E. McWhorter, party of the first part contracts, stipulates and agrees that the party of the second part shall have, receive and be paid for performing his part of this contract the sum of Ten Thousand dollars, less Seventeen Hundred as aforesaid, for necessary concrete blocks to be used in the erection of the said church and less the amount or price of the carload of granite spalls as may be necessary and as provided for the building of said church. the said consideration of Ten Thousand dollars, less the deductions as aforesaid, to be paid in by-monthly installments in such amounts as E.V. Richards, the supervising architect as aforesiad, representing Chas. McMillan, who is hereby made, agreed upon and constituted Supervising Architect in the erection of said church, shall determine and declare is justified..... by the progress made in the building of the said church at any given time, less ten per cent and the amount, price or value of such concrete blocks and granite spalls as shall have been used in the said building at any such given time.

It is further contemplated under this contract, and is hereby stipulated and agreed between the parties hereto, that the party of the first part shall furnish all concrete blacks necessary for the building of the said church,







Paul says he remembers how as a small boy he hauled sand in a wheelbarrow to help his grandfather make the blocks. Elizabeth Burns, also a present member told me that all of the children in the congregation saved their money, (which wasn't much in that day) to put in Sunday School. Then half of what they gave was used to buy the concrete blocks, which as she remembers cost twenty five cents each. Can you imagine that in these days of outrageous prices?

From the contract we found that the total cost of our beautiful church was ten thousand dollars, less the cost of the blocks and granite spalls which were furnished by the congregation. This didn't take into account the unusually lovely windows which were given by the members whose names appear thereon. At the present time they would be so - o - 0 expensive as to be completely prohibitive in our congregation - or most any other that I know about.

To appreciate the true beauty of these windows one must see them inside by day, with the sunlight streaming through or outside by night when the church is illuminated by artificial light. These windows have truly been an inspiration to all who have seen them in the past and I'm sure they'll continue to be for generations to come - or as long as the church stands.

We also read in the contract that the building of said church was to begin Aug. 1st, 1906 and be ready for occupancy by Jan. 1st 1907 - unless unavoidably delayed. So naturally when Conference met in Dec. 1906, Rev. McWhorter was returned for another year. Evidently things went well with no holdups and according to a write up from the paper dated Oct. 18, 1907 the first service was held on Sunday, October 27th, 1907.

The article also stated that perhaps the greatest pulpit orator in the United States would preach the opening sermon but he failed to say who this great orator was. I've wondered if perhaps it was Rev. N.H.D. Wilson, a former pastor of the church. If you remember, Rev. Hornaday described him in a similar manner in one of his writings. Also, the church was described as a very unique edifice and that there was nothing like it in architecture in North Carolina.

Mr. W.B. Harker, Editor of the Scottish Chief in which the article appeared had been a member of our church since the very beginning and had held many offices from Sunday School Teacher on up the ladder, including Secretary, Steward and Trustee. I can still see him in my minds eye, already whiteheaded as he sat each Sunday on the right hand side of the church, always in the same pew. Perhaps I remember him so well because he's been our next door neighbor all my life.

The CORNER STONE of our church was laid by the Grand Lodge of Masons of North Carolina on November 27th 1906 and the MINUTES read as follows:

The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina convened in Special Communication in the Auditorium of the Graded School Building in the Town of Maxton, N.C., Tuesday morning at 10:30 o'clock, Nov. 27th, 1906, and was opened in ample form, it appearing that a constitutional number of Lodges were represented.

The following regular and appointed Grand Officers were present:

M.W. Francis D. Winston		Grand Master
O.C. Nicholson	as Deputy	Grand Warden
W.H. McLaurin	as Senior	"
J.M. Pope		Grand Warden
E. McWhorter		Grand Treasurer
A.S. Webb		Grand Secretary



J.W. Robbins		Grand Tyler
Neil Smith	as Senior	Grand Deacon
P.N. McCormick	as Junior	Grand Deacon
L.M. Cook		Grand Marshall
Frank Currie		Grand Steward
J.W. Currie		Grand Steward
I.E. McDavid		Grand Chaplain
B.W. Hatcher		Grand Lecturer
M.G. Hall		Bearer of the Great Lights
J.T. Pool		Grand Sword Bearer
H.W. McNatt		Grand Pursuivant

The following Lodges were represented: Charty #5; Red Springs \$501; S.C. #77; Archer \$185; Ashpole #335; Dublin #266; Laurinburg #306; Passarie, N.Y. #67; Hiram #40; Maxton #417; Lebanon #5891; Phoenix #8; McColl. S.C. #48.

The Grand Master announced that the Special Communication was called for the purpose of laying the corner stone of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, now in the course of construction at this place.

The procession was formed by acting Grand Marshall, L.M. Cook. The procession was led by the Maxton Guards, followed by the Graded School Children and citizens of Maxton. They proceeded to the building and there performed the beautiful Masonic Ceremony of laying the Corner Stone.

On returning to the Auditorium, Grand Master Francis D. Winston delivered a learned and beautiful address to the large audience there assembled. Grand Lecturer, B.W. Hatcher, being introduced made an able address.

The Lodge and audience were invited to partake of a bountiful repast, spread on the Campus.

There being no further business the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Francis D. Winston, Grand Master

A.S. Webb. Acting Grand Secretary

Paul Steed said that he and many of the children deposited letters in the cornerstone when it was laid. That should be interesting reading if they ever come to light, which I hope won't be in our day. (Thanks to Paul for furnishing the above. He got it from the present Masonic Lodge.)

I have found no mention anywhere of the parsonage which we knew as the old parsonage. Ofcourse we all remember that it was where our new Educational Building now stands. I presume that it was built at approximately the same time as the church. Considering the cost of the church, I should think the cost would have been a negligible sum. (Much later I find this mentioned in the fifth paragraph of this write-up).

At the conference held in Dec. 1907, Rev. McWhorter was returned as pastor for another year. Prior to this time conference had decided to establish a college in Maxton to be known as "Carolina College." According to a letter from W.V. McRae to John Pace dated Feb. 17, 1962, Rev. McWhorter was given leave to be a full time agent for Carolina College in the spring of 1908, and he, Rev. McRae was sent to Maxton to fill in until conference met again in the fall. Evidently the conference was much impressed with the way Mr. McWhorter had handled the building of St. Pauls and therefore chose him as a man capable of directing the building of the college.

A listing of the many members who were taken into the church under Rev. McWhorter follows:

Lucius McLean and Mrs. McLean in Dec. 1904; Katie Lee McKinnon, Jan. 1905, Theodore C. McLean, Cleo E. Strickland, Ruffin H. Strickland, Robert Thrower, Emma K. Thrower, Lacy McL. Thrower, Ira Thrower, A.S. Webb, Mrs. A.S. Webb, Mrs. S.C. Carter, Rachel Estelle Steed, Walter Jones, Emma B. Jones, Bessie Pool, Lois Peacock, Mahala Parish, Eliza Treece (Burns), Mrs. Willie Talbott, Mary Talbott, Sarah Talbott, Ralph L. Henderson, Anna Dell Henderson, Frank Henderson, M. Inez Lyde, Otis Betts O'Brien, Hubert Steed all in April 1905.

Miss Ina Eubank, J.W. Davis, Mrs. J.W. Davis, J.E. Avent, Mrs. J.E. Avent, B.T. Maness all in Jan. 1906.

Josie Maness, Henry Carter, F. Winfred Carter, Ben S. Barnes, O.C. Spaulding, Mrs. O.C. Spaulding, Olive Glass (Edwards), C.H. Whitlock, Miss Georgia Taylor, Mrs. Lillie T. McQueen, Wm. D. Reynolds, Mrs. Ethel Mercer, D.A. Pierce (Return), Mrs. A.C. Covington, Mrs. Rachel Hughes, Cyril Mclean, all in 1907, May.

Also 1907: May - Arthur J. McKinnon, Ollie B. Renn, F.C. Thrower, Marshall J. Renn, John B. Cottingham, Archie Cottingham, Thomas P. Pace Jr., Harry B. Ashley Jr., Carl Pace, Byron McCallum, Andrew J. Cottingham, Mildren McLean, Mary M. Cottingham, Julia E. Pace, Audrey Joyce, Mrs. Ellen Cook, Mrs. M.A. McCallum, Mrs. Flora Robbins, Mrs. E. Gertrude Gibson, Dr. Milton R. Gibson, Rora T. Musselwhite, Mrs. R.T. Musselwhite, Mrs. Charles Caddell.

Mrs. Kate Thompson McLean, Margaret Louise Davis, Lillie Parish, Nelsie Lee Peacock, Allie Joyce, Euclid McWhorter Jr., Dewey Evans, Luther T. Cottingham, Jr., Emma P. Jones, Francis M. Carter, Paul S. Steed (Jr.), John L. McLean, Annie Laura Jones, Rufus B. Jones, Mrs. Annie J. Whitlock, G.H. McCallum, Sadie Morrison, Miss Juanita G. Morrison, W.C. Newton, A.C. Covington, Mrs. Betts, Miss Hattie Betts, all in 1908.



REV. ANDRES P. TYRE

DEC. 1908 - DEC. - 1912

Rev. tyre was assigned as pastor of St. Pauls at the Conference held in December 1908 and served until December 1912. I found no records in the church papers but I accidentally ran across some Scottish Chiefs, a Maxton paper, that has several articles regarding Rev. Tyre. They are as follows:

Date: Friday, September 15, 1911.

Rev. A.P. Tyre, Pastor of St. Paul's Methodiso Church will assist the pastor of Haystreet Methodist Church, Fayetteville, in revival services beginning the 24th instant.

Messrs. Will Tyre, Thomas Pace and Henry McKinnon; and Miss Katie Lee McKinnon, left Tuesday morning to enter upon their studies at Trinity College, Durham. Master Roy Wooten went with them to enter Trinity Park High School. (All of the above young folks were members of the Methodist Church except Roy Wooten who as a Presbyterian.)

CAROLINA COLLEGE

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of Carolina College was held here Tuesday night. Among those from a distance in attendance were: Rev. J.E. Underwood, Warrenton; S.E. Mercer, Weldon; G.T. Adams and W.B. Cooper, Wilmington. Rev. A. McCullen of Rockingham was elected a member of the Board.

The situation was thoroughly discussed and steps taken to let the contract for covering the Administration Building as soon as a satisfactory bid shall have been made. Representatives of Causland & Co., and Ray & Co., Charlotte, a Carolina Cornice & Skylight Co., Greensboro, were here Wednesday and got information to enable them to file bids. Rev. S.E. Mercer was elected president, and Mr. O.C. Spaulding, treasurer.

Twenty thousand dollars are available from Maxton; ten thousand being offered by Mr. J.W. Carter, and five thousand by Major A.J. McKinnon; and five thousand by other citizens. This is in addition to the amount before paid in which exceeded the amount offered by Maxton when the college was located in our town.

A mass meeting in the nature of an educational rally was held in St. Paul Methodist Church Wednesday morning, over which Rev. J.E. Underwood presided. Encouraging speeches were made by Revs. S.E. Mercer, J.E. Underwood, A. McCullen and A.P. Tyre and others. It is now understood that the college is to be completed and it is hoped that Methodists and friends of education outside of this immediate section may become interested in the enterprise, and of course all of our home people will enlist in the struggle to the end.

DEATHS:

Pleasant Henderson Burns - May 20, 1911

Vernon Cottingham - October 11, 1910

Frederick Merritt Hornaday - June 1, 1908



REV. S. E. MERCER

DEC. 1912 - JUN - 1913

In December 1912 Rev. S.E. Mercer was assigned as pastor of our church to replace Rev. Tyre. As we read in the article dated Sept. 15, 1911, Rev. Mercer had previously been elected as president of Carolina College so he was evidently already living in Maxton.

There were really no records covering this period but I did find where Mrs. Mercer joined our church in 1912 and was transferred out in April 1917. I presume that would have been about the time that Rev. Mercer completed his tour as President of the College.

Mrs. Mercer was practically an invalid due to rheumatism. To the best of my knowledge she was never able to get out very much. They had several sons and a daughter. One of the sons, S.E. Jr. was in my grade and he later on also became a Methodist minister.

In June of 1913 the presidency of Carolina College became so demanding that it was necessary for Rev. Mercer to devote his full time to that duty. Therefore conference sent in a pastor to take over until the next session met in December.





REV. W. V. McRAE

JUNE 1913 - DEC. 1914

When Rev. Mercer was released for full time work as President of Carolina College, Rev. M.V. McRae was again returned to Maxton to take over until Conference convened in December.

Rev. McRae was evidently a very promising young preacher as he always seemed to be able to go in, take over the reins where the last pastor had left off, and make a success of the job.

In addition to his ability, I'm sure he was also very popular and, if I'm not mistaken, he was quite a ladies' man during that time. Of course he was single at the time and also quite handsome, I've been told!

Per Rev. McRae's much quoted letter he was returned to Maxton for the year 1914. He kept very good records and some of the high-lights will be shown here. They are mostly from Quarterly Conference notes.

The first quarterly conference brings back memories of some of our most faithful members of the past. They were as follows: A.L. Jones, B.T. Mannes, T.O. Evans, Sr., D.A. Pierce, Ben S. Barnes, P.S. Steed and A.J. McKinnon.

The statistical report shows that we paid our Presiding Elder \$120.00 per year; the preacher - \$1,200.00 p.a.; Bishop's Fund was \$19.00; Foreign Missions - \$95.00; Education - \$105.00; and Loan Fund \$5.00. D.A. Pierce was elected Lay Leader.

There was no Epworth League at that time.

Rev. McRae stated that the Sunday School was doing good work and marked interest was being shown in it - but there was room for large expansion. This was during his tour in 1913.

There were four missionary societies: Home, Foreign, Young Ladies and Bright Jewels, and good work was being done in all.

Of special interest was an excerpt from the quarterly conference of March 29th, 1914, which reads as follows: "Our Sunday School is in a flourishing condition. The attendance averages around one hundred and eighty-five! Our teachers are workers and are efficient. Can you imagine one hundred and eighty-five at Sunday School? We'd be happy to have one hundred now, I'm sure! Perhaps we can use this as an inspiration to try to build our Sunday School back up to what it was in by-gone days.

In the same report, a Missionary Committee had been appointed by the pastor and confirmed by the church conference. It consisted of the following members: W.F. Carter, Sec. & Treas.; Howard Hasty; Dr. D.W. Harris; Murdock McLean; and J.C. Curtis. The members had in view an every member canvass of the congregation for a freewill offering for missions. It seems that every member canvasses have been around for quite a long time.

A report of trustees for the same year showed the value of our church as \$20,000; parsonage - \$1,500.00; and insurance carried \$9,800.00. In later records it was shown that the deed and insurance policy were in the safe at the J.W. Carter store in Maxton. The deed was recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds at Lumberton, N.C., the original deed in Book 50, page 383, after deed of Book SP, page 424.

Signed: W.B. Harker, A.J. McKinnon, J.W. Carter, T.O. Evans - Trustees.



The writer met Rev. McRae in the Spring of 1977 while he was living at the Methodist Retirement Home in Durham. This was my first remembrance of him and, though he was 98, his memory was as clear as a bell. When I asked him if he remembered the Cottingshams he said "Yes, how's Denver?" Then he proceeded to tell me how Denver, my brother, got his name way back in 1911! I thought that truly remarkable. Only a short while after that he passed away and the following write-up was in the Durham paper:

REV. WILLIAM VOGEL McRAE

Durham, N.C. Rev. William Vogel McRae, 98 years old, retired Methodist clergyman, died Thursday night, June 16, 1977, in Durham County General Hospital after an extended illness. A native of Anson County, he was graduated from Trinity College in 1906 and did graduate work at Boston University. He was a member of the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church and served as pastor of many North Carolina Methodist Churches. He also had served as district superintendent and was a former member of the executive board of the Methodist Home. After retiring from active ministry in 1947, he was instrumental in founding the Methodist Home in Durham, assisting in finding the site, location, and raising funds for the building. He was a veteran of W.W. I, serving as a Chaplain. Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Pearl Andrews McRae of the Methodist Home; a son, William V. McRae, Jr., Anaheim, Calif.; a daughter, Eleanor McRae Snyder of Martinez, Calif; and four grandchildren. Funeral services will be held Saturday at 3:00 P.M. in Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church in McFarlan, N.C. by Dr. Joseph F. Coble and the Rev. Michael O. Buckner. Burial will be in the church cemetery. The family requests in lieu of flowers that memorials be made to the Building Fund of the Methodist Retirement Home. Rev. McRae has been taken to the Miller-Rivers Funeral Home in Chesterfield, S.C. and will remain there until the hour of the service.

Members taken into the church during Rev. McRae's pastorate were as follows:  
1st Qtr. of 1913-14: Mrs. J.A. Clifton and daughter, Miss Mabel Clifton; Howard Hasty; Gus Hasty and Mrs. James A. Jones.

2nd Qtr. of 1913-14: Mr. Charles B. Tysor; Mr. and Mrs. R.M. Wicker; Mrs. C.A. Holland; Miss Glennie McGregor; Mr. and Mrs. W.J. Smith; Mrs. Roberta Stanton Wright; Mr. E.C. Davis; Mrs. D.H. Smith; Mr. & Mrs. W.M. Wade.

The following died during the quarter: Mr. Hannibal Stanton (Margaret Stanton's father).

The following were removed by letter: Mrs. Lillie Ammons; Mr. & Mrs. Harold Carter; Dr. M.R. Gibson; Mrs. Inez Lyde Breeden; Mr. & Mrs. George W. Malpass; Mr. & Mrs. D.F. Thomas and children, Nell, Ada and Phil; W.E. Utley.

The following received during the third quarter: By vows and baptism: Thomas, Suzie, Hattie and Charlie Walker; By certificate: Mr. & Mrs. Jessie Adams; Mrs. J.W. Hicks; Miss Julia Culbreth; Mrs. Cyril McLean. Removed by Certificate: Mr. & Mrs. R.B. Wadell and Robert Waddell.

Received fourth quarter: Mr. & Mrs. C.V. Robeson; Miss Mamie H. Robeson; Mrs. Ellen Cook and Mr. Charlie Caddell. All came by letter except the last two who came from the Baptist Church on statement of faith.

Removed by letter: Mr. & Mrs. W.J. Smith and Mrs. Carrie Lu Jones Allen.



REV. A. L. ORMOND

DEC. 1914 - DEC. 1918



Rev. Ormond was assigned to St. Paul's at the Conference held in Dec. 1914. He is the first minister that I remember and it was during his stay that I joined the church.

Rev. Ormond kept excellent records throughout his pastorate here. In his first quarterly conference report he stated: "I always try to do what I can to interest the children and gain their love. I am going to preach once each month to the children and have them to take charge and let the grown people assist."

At the quarterly conference held Aug. 22nd, 1915, I found the following notation: "Some few of our people are attending our college. They are Estelle Steed, Lula May Cottingham, Lillian Britt, Katie Parrish, Katie Lee McKinnon, Edith, Ophelia and Myra Ormond."

In a previous report before Rev. Ormond's arrival, the report of Trustees showed that the church owed \$5,000.00 on the church and \$1,000.00 on the parsonage. The 2nd Quarterly Conference held May 28th, 1916, carries a notation as follows: "We have been notified that the General Board of Church Extension has offered to lend us \$2,000.00 and the Home Board \$1,000.00. And now it is up to this congregation to raise \$2,000.00 in order to get the loan from them and lift the mortgage and place it in the hands of the Extension Board. The members have the proposition under consideration and we hope in some way to be able to meet the conditions."

One very interesting entry in the Quarterly Conference report for Sept. 15th, 1916, reads as follows: "The Sunday School is well organized and doing good work. The attendance will be right much increased now as the College has just opened."

Actually Carolina College opened in 1912 but this is the first reference I've seen to the girls coming to church. I well remember how the group from the college marched into church every Sunday and I imagine, much to their chagrin, always sat on the front pews. A requirement of course! And when they went shopping they were always herded along like school kids, accompanied by one or two teachers as chaperones. I, as a member of Caroline College Alumnae Association have heard the "girls" say in recent years that they were practically prisoners. And in comparison with this day and time, they were! Well, it just might be a blessing if we could go back to those days - at least so far as discipline and morals are concerned.



Also I heard one of the "girls" say a year or so ago that they had such fabulous teachers at Carolina College, that she had no trouble whatsoever when she entered Duke. I think that speaks well for the small college that Carolina was. What a shame that the conference was unable to keep it going.

In his report of Aug. 22, 1915, Rev. Ormond stated there were no Epworth Leagues in the Charge.

In the quarterly conference report for Nov. 27, 1915, the church was authorized to borrow the money previously mentioned in order to make payments on the church and the parsonage. In order to do this it was necessary to take out a mortgage payable to the Board of Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Rev. Ormond reported in his minutes of the 4th quarterly conference, dated Nov. 5, 1916 that two Epworth Leagues had been organized - one Sr. League and one Jr. League. He stated that they had made a right good start and hoped to gather momentum as they proceed.

In the same report Rev. Ormond made the following statement: The first of October God gave us a most gracious revival of religion in the church and out of the church. I do not know how many were saved but I think about 25 gave their names to the different churches and nearly all who attended were blessed, and we give Him all the praise.

In the report for the first quarterly conference dated Jan. 28, 1917, I note that B.S. Barnes was Sunday School Superintendent and D.A. Pierce was Assistant. It seems to me that Mr. Ben Barnes was S.S. Superintendent during most of the years I can remember back in the "olden" days, and of course Uncle Dave was always there not only for Sunday School but for any other place that needed him. At this same time he was Lay Leader.

At the same time as the above, Rev. R.B. John's name appeared as one of the members present at quarterly conference. Many of you know that he was also a minister and the then newly elected President of Carolina College.

In the report dated Jan. 28, 1917, was the following notation: "Little progress has been made with the Epworth League but hope to get it to work a little later." In the second quarterly conference dated April 1st, 1917, it stated that there were no Epworth Leagues. They really didn't last very long but they did make a comeback sometime later.

The third quarterly conference held Sept. 9, 1917, was the last one held by Rev. Ormond. In this report he stated that we were planning to begin a meeting the 7th of October and were praying and expecting God to do much for us during these days that many souls might be saved.

At this time Mary and Lucy Snead who had recently moved to Maxton with their family were added to the list of those attending Carolina College.

Rev. Ormond always made mention of the children in his reports and this last one is no exception. What he said is certainly very true. It reads as follows: "I am very fond of children and try to interest them wherever I find them. I feel sure the neglect of the children has been one of the defects in church work in the past, and it is time every one was waking up on this most important question." In a later notation he stated that he'd been unable to get anyone to hold Children's Day exercises.

Members taken into the church in 1915 were as follows: Mrs. Lessie McLean; John A. Jones; Rufus B. Jones and Eida Joyce, 1st Quarter: Lula Yarborough and Mrs. Kenneth Jones, 2nd Quarter: Mrs. Ellen Cook. 3rd Quarter: C.B. Woltz



(School Supt.); J.P. Stansel, V.B. Shoop; Mrs. M.A. Shoop; Reginald Carter; Abraham Fine; Madge Maness; Fannie Maness; Cora Steed; Lawrence H. Jones; Cecil Wright; Sarah E. Jones; S.E. Mercer, Jr.; Pauline Sullivan; Mary Louise Thompson (Meddie); Edna Sprague; Margaret Gurley; Walter H. Sullivan; Ella Hicks; Bradley O. Thompson; Lillie May Jones; David Lee Fine; Almon Mercer; Victoria Little; Mary Jones; Lena Carter; Nellie Carter; Florence Cottingham; Annie White; Elizabeth Clifton, 4th Quarter.

Members lost in 1915 were: H.B. Ashley; Mrs. H.B. Ashley, C.A. Bobbitt; Mrs. Ellen E. Cook and Mrs. Flora Robbins by Certificate. Also J.E. Hale; F.A. and Mrs. F.A. McCallum removed by Certificate.

Mrs. A.H. O'Brien died during the year. Also Mrs. A.C. Covington passed away. Mr. A.L. Jones, a long-time member, also died during this period.

Members received in 1916 were: R.F. Matheson, Clarence Johnson, Mrs. Fred Cashwell, Bill Matheson, N.A. Watson, William Walker, S. May Saunders, Anna Saunders, Frank Walker, William Walker, Jr., Robert Walker, Duncan Watson, Charlie Watson, Roy Smith, Joncie Cashwell, Minnie Duncan, John Duncan, Ira Duncan, Charlie Duncan, Daisy Duncan and Julia Johnson. 3rd Quarter: None.

4th Quarter: Mattie Covington, Mabel Lyde, Margaret Hancock, Bessie Hancock, Alice McQueen, Margaret Stanton, Christine Harbour, Mildred Love Harbour, Donnie Thompson, Conrad Glass, Carlton Evans, French Bristow, Jeddy May Bristow, Ruth Cottingham, Glenn B. Cottingham, Irene Joyce, J.B. Lyde, Doshie Gurley, Mrs. Eva Sue Wright, Leon Carter, Mrs. Pauline Woodley, and Mary Woodley. (by Certificate and otherwise during the year we have received 52.)

Members lost in 1916 were: Mrs. Ellen Cook, Mrs. A.H. Currie, A.M. Norton, Mrs. A.M. Norton, Mr. & Mrs. O.C. Spaulding, Annie White, Minnie Duncan, John Duncan, Ira Duncan, Charlie Duncan, Daisy Duncan and Julia Johnson.

Members received in 1917 were: Mr. and Mrs. E.P. Drennon (not sure of name), Mr. & Mrs. S.A. Snead, Mary B. Snead, Lucy D. Snead, Sallie Jewel Snead, Mr. & Mrs. P.H. Lipscomb, Mrs. N.A. Watson and Mrs. Florina W. John.

Members lost in 1917 were: Mr. & Mrs. W.H. Gurley, Ernest Gurley, Foster Gurley and Margaret Gurley.

OTHER DEATHS not previously shown were as follows: Mrs. A.C. Covington (Betty Wall), May 4, 1915. Mary Alice Wicker, five year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wicker who moved away years ago, died September 11, 1915. Walter Johnson, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. T.H. Johnson, died October 15, 1918; Alton Johnson, young son of Mr. and Mrs. T.H. Johnson. Mrs. Eliza Gibson McLean, wife of Lucious J. McLean, died September 11, 1918.

#### WEDDINGS

Mabel Clifton and John P. Stansel - August 17, 1917 at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J.A. Clifton, by Rev. A.L. Ormond.

Lula May Cottingham and Mark Wayne Cole - December 19, 1917 at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. A.J. Cottingham, by Rev. A.L. Ormond.



REV. J. A. HORNADAY  
JAN. 1918 - DEC. 1922

The following letters by Rev. Hornaday will tell you better than I can the state of our church during his second tour of duty in Maxton.

Dear Brethren:

I came to this charge the first of January with a glad heart and high hopes. It was on this same charge that I began my career as an itinerant Methodist preacher, and many of the most sacred memories of my life stand connected with my four years pastorate of this, my first charge. When I came back to Maxton, after the lapse of thirty-two years, I had planned to enter upon the work with all the energy I possessed, and do the best work of my ministry, but as you know my conflict with rheumatism resulted in a victory for that dread disorder, and about the middle of February I was compelled to seek relief in a Richmond hospital. This kept me away from the charge for about four months. During a part of this time Rev. C. C. Alexander supplied the charge, and Rev. R. B. John very kindly preached for our people several times. I had confidently hoped to be able to resume work the first of June, but in this hope I was disappointed, and arrangements were made with Rev. J. W. Hoyle, Jr. to supply the charge until the first of September. In case I am able to take up the work the first of September, I shall do so with a glad heart, but if not I have arranged with our P. E. to take care of the interests of the charge without any reference to me personally.

Since we came back to Maxton the first week in June, I have conducted prayer services twice, and officiated at the funeral of the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Burns.

Brother Hoyle has been in Maxton since the first week in June, and has been preaching and looking after the interests of the charge in a very satisfactory manner.

June 22nd, 1919

Respectfully submitted,  
J. A. Hornaday, P. C.

Dear Brethren:

During July, August, and September the Baptist, Presbyterian and Methodist churches united in all the evening services in first one and then another of the churches. I believe that this arrangement was a blessing to the three congregations. I believe that more people attended the evening services than would have if all the churches had been open. Then it served to draw the people closer together and make them better acquainted with each other.

As you know, Bro. Hoyle was with us until the first of September, doing all the preaching Sundays, while the pastor conducted all the mid-week prayer services. Since the first of September, your pastor has been doing all the work of the charge except visiting the members in their homes. This, as you know, he is unable to do.

We have arranged for a series of evangelistic services to be held in this church from the fourth Sunday in this month, continuing through the first Sunday in November. Rev. H. M. North, our Presiding Elder is to be with us from Monday after the fourth Sunday to the close of the series. The great Head of the church will be disappointed if we fail to do all in our power to make these meetings a success.

October 5, 1919

Respectfully submitted,  
J. A. Hornaday, P. C.



In his letter dated Feb. 8, 1920 Rev. Hornaday called upon each member to render all possible aid to the Evangelistic Campaign that was going on through the entire church.

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Dear Brethren:

All regular appointments for services in the Church have been met by the pastor since our last Church Conference, and some pastoral visiting has been done.

Our people seem to be united in their love for the Church, and their effort to further the interests of the kingdom of the great Head of the Church. I know of no special discord among our people, and I do not believe there is any.

As has been announced here in the Church, and through the town newspaper, Rev. Raymond Browning, one of the general evangelists of the Southern Methodist Church, is arranging to conduct a series of meetings here in Maxton, beginning June 20th, two weeks from today, and continuing through July 11th. The meetings are to be conducted under Mr. Browning's big tent, which is to be located in some convenient part of the town. Bro. Browning comes to Maxton on his own responsibility, but of course all our people who are interested in eternal things will co-operate with him and his co-workers as far as possible. Mr. Browning will have with him a young Presbyterian preacher and his wife, and probably one other person. Of course we are hoping for gracious results.

Respectfully submitted,

June 6, 1920

J.A. Hornaday, P.C.

In his report for Feb. 13, 1921, Rev. Hornaday stated "This Church sent up to the Annual Conference held in Rocky Mount in November a most excellent report."

In his letter of Feb. 12, 1922, Rev. Hornaday asked all the people to unite with him in an earnest effort to make that the best year of his pastorate. This was to be his last year in the ministry and at the close of the year they moved into a home that he'd bought on Elm Street. Maxton was most fortunate to have this lovely family settle here for their declining years. Mrs. Hornaday was a godly woman and Mr. Hornaday was such a jovial fellow that he was a joy to be around in spite of the pain he endured.

His daughter Bernice lived with them and some time after they came to Maxton she married Mr. A.B. Carter. After the death of her husband, her brother Mr. Cliff Hornaday retired and came to Maxton to live with her. He wasn't a preacher but he certainly could and did preach on occasion to fill in for the minister. He also taught the men's Bible Class and I've heard my brother say what a wonderful Sunday School teacher he was.

There probably aren't many ministers who end their career where they began but this is what Mr. Hornaday did. He and Mrs. Hornaday as well as Bernice and Cliff are all buried in our Maxton cemetery. Cliff had been married but his wife was buried quite a distance from here so he decided this was a good place to rest along with the other members of his family.

#### INFANTS BAPTIZED

Sunday afternoon, Feb. 20th, 1921, Richard Clark Reid and Edwin McCluer Reid, infants of W.E. and Bessie C. Reid, Leonard Gradon Baker, Julia Inez Baker and Geneva Powell Baker, infants of J.R. and Belledonia Baker.

March 9th, 1921: The following persons were united with the church by Certificate: Gladys Hamer Steed. March 10, 1921: Leila Bryant Smith and Robert M. Morgan.

I feel sure there must have been others who joined our church during Rev. Hornaday's pastorate but none have been found.

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In a report dated Feb. 12, 1922 I found the following: The Secretary of the League made verbal report stating that the League is growing, new numbers being added at each meeting. However I found nothing as to when it was re-organized.

#### MARRIAGES

James Edgar McCormick and Glennie Virginia McGregor - Residence of Mr. & Mrs. A.M. McGregor - Oct. 22, 1919 - By Rev. J. S. Hornaday.

Maude Lee Cottingham and Hal Thompson - Residence of Mrs. A.J. Cottingham Dec. 22, 1919 - By Rev. J.A. Hornaday.

#### DEATHS

Miss Lilly Parish - January 29, 1919

Mr. J.W. Carter - March 12, 1919

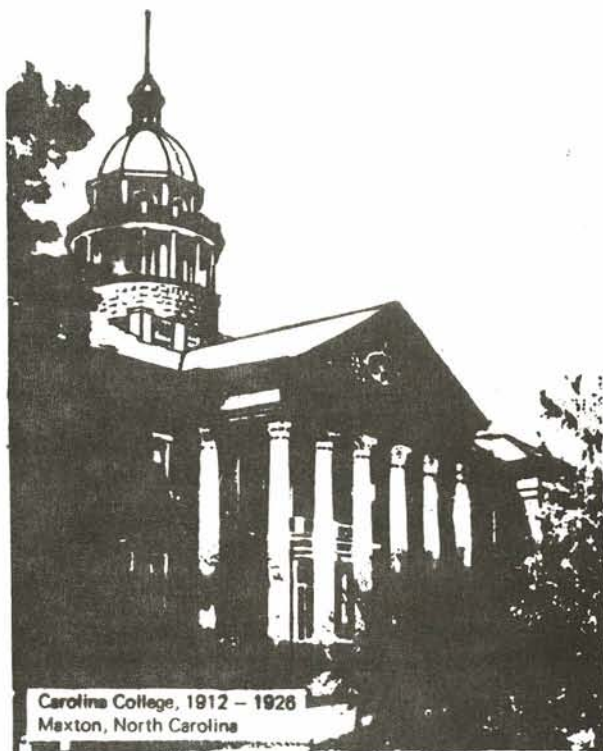
Mr. A.J. Cottingham - September 3, 1919

Mrs. Judith Sanford Gibson - April 12, 1920

Mr. A.J. (Sandy) McKinnon - 1922

Mrs. Eugenia Gibson Steed - September 19, 1922

Mr. Luther McCormick - November 29, 1922





REV. J. L. RUMLEY

DEC. 1922 - DEC. 1924

At the Conference held In December 1922, Rev. J.L. Rumley was assigned as pastor of St. Pauls. His wife and four children, Julian, Dinard, Charles and Mary Frances made up the family.

Mrs. Rumley was a portly lady and along with that very jolly. She was a great favorite, especially with the young people. I well remember once she walked to the millpond with a group of us. And believe me, that was a feat in those days. No paved road existed at that time but only deep sand in which you seemed to take one step forward and back up two!



At the first Quarterly Conference in 1923, the following members were present: Rev. J.L. Rumley, Ernest J. Green, the newly elected President of Carolina College, and also the last one, T.O. Evans, B.T. Maness, J.C. Curtis, H.A. McKinnon, W.J. Pace, H.F. Carter, P.S. Steed, Ch.H. Whitlock, D.A. Pierce and A.J. McKinnon.

A general statistical report followed which showed a present membership of 240. This was about the same as the previous year as there had been about an equal number of additions and removals by death and certificate. A financial report was also included in this, as well as valuation of properties and insurance thereon.

Reports of Leagues - Jr. and Sr., Sunday School Missionary Societies and Church services were all very encouraging and the pastor stated that the outlook for all of the above was very promising. Altogether it appeared that interest was growing among all phases of the church.

At the second Quarterly Conference held April 23, 1923, Christine Harbour was shown as President of the Epworth League, which office she'd apparently held for some time inasmuch as Catherine Burns was confirmed as President soon thereafter.

In Rev. Rumley's report he stated that the Sunday School was fully alive and attendance and interest inspiring to the greatest degree. Of special interest was the following: The Bright Jewels and the Missionary Society has a total membership of sixty. Twenty of these are in the Baby Division. We have an average attendance of twenty-five and we are planning on a good year. The report of Bright Jewels was signed by Mrs. Wallace Allen, Supt. of Bright Jewels.

In the report of the 3rd Quarterly Conference was the following remark: Together with the other pastors of the Town we are arranging for courses in the study of the Bible to be taught in the Public Schools.

Members of St. Paul's attending Carolina College at this time were: Elinor Haywood, Catherine Burns and Gladys Wright. Others away at college were Boyd Steed, Owen Evans and Conrad Glass.

A report of the Young People's Missionary Society was made by Eglah Wright, Sec. and Treas., in which she reported a total of seventeen members enrolled.

The report for the last Quarterly Conference for the year was extremely good from all standpoints. The pastor gave credit for this to a revival service



which had been held. The following statement is quoted regarding the services: "The preaching was of such character as to reach the people at all needed points and was adapted to all ages and conditions. Men, women all children dedicated themselves anew to the service of God, and there were scenes of a touching nature that came as a result of the old time gospel power. The good effect of the revival is still individual in the Sunday School and Church and has entered into the activity of the Church life."

The last entrance in this report stated that the Deed to the Church property contains the trust clause and is kept in the safe at the J.M. Carter Co., Maxton, N.C. The Title papers are also kept in the same place. It also stated that the deeds are recorded in the Offices of Register of Deeds of Robeson County, N.C. in Book 5, page 24. This report was submitted by F.W. Carter, Chairman of the Board of Trustees at that time. The other Trustees were A.J. McKinnon, B.S. Barnes, W.B. Harker and T.O. Evans. Sr.

The above report also stated that the Men's Class was sending one girl to Carolina College and another was being sent by an individual.

In 1924 the reports continued in the same vein as for 1923. Everything seemed to be going well in all departments.

Sometime thereafter Miss Bertha Smith, a student at Carolina College. was elected as the new President of the Epworth League.

Students attending college were as follows: Joncie Cashwell, Greensboro College; Leslie and Emerson Thompson, Trinity College (Now Duke); Alice Hasty, Mabel Lyde, Ruth Cottingham and Daisy Duncan, Carolina College. All of the above colleges were under the Methodist Church. Students attending other than Church schools were Lena Carter, Queens College; Owen Evans and Boyd Steed, N.C. State College.

A report made for the Methodist Young People's Society was made by Glenn Cashwell, in which she stated there were 19 members.

Seeing this report brought to memory the fact that Glenn had passed away at a very early age, and also the grief that was felt by her young friends as well as the entire church family.

About the time the 4th Quarterly Conference was held on Oct. 19, 1924, or shortly before, Rev. Rumley became ill and was no longer able to perform his duties. The church was quite fortunate that Rev. Hornaday was still residing in Maxton. He was called by the Presiding Elder, Rev. J.H. Shore, to fill in for the remainder of the Conference year, which he did.

When Conference was held in Dec. 1924, Rev. Rumley was superannuated and the family returned to Farmville, N.C. where they'd lived prior to coming to Maxton.

Rev. Rumley's health continued to decline and he passed away a short while after they left Maxton.

On a recent visit to the Methodist Retirement Home in Lumberoon, I met Miss Deanie Haskett. During our conversation I learned that she was a sister of Mrs. Rumley. I was sorry to hear that all of the family has passed away except the one daughter, Mary Louise. She is now Mrs. G.E. Moore and still lives in Farmville.



MEMBERS RECEIVED INTO THE CHURCH BY REV. HORNADAY WERE:

October 10, 1923, by Letter: Mrs. J.L. Rumley

October 21, 1923, Baptism and Vows: Leila M. Thomas

October 10, 1923, Baptism and Vows: Lynwood Jones, Barbara Jones, DeWand Baker, Alfred Jones, Richard Reid, J.A. Peacock, William Gray, Charles Rumley, Eugene L. Burns and Eugene Baker.

October 23, 1923, Baptism and Vows: Virginia Harbour, John Euell Harbour, Tracy Watson and Sarah Virginia Watson.

October 28, 1923, Received by Letter: Grace McMillan Steed.

DISMISSED BY LETTER: Abe Fyne, September 18, 1923; Mrs. Lillie Stanton and Margaret Stanton, October 15, 1923.

INFANTS BAPTIZED: Henry Alexander McKinnon, Jr., April 15, 1923 by J.L. Rumley; Mary Barnes McNeill, Sept. 2, 1923 by JAH & JLR; Eileen Gibson Taylor, Oct. 10, 1923, by J.A. Hornaday; Meddie Diane and Virginia May Jones on Oct. 28, 1923 by J. L. Rumley.



1925  
**McKinnon-Hornaday**  
*nday School Class*

REV. A. S. PARKER

DEC. 1924 - DEC. 1925

At the Conference held in December 1924, Rev. A.S. Parker was assigned to Maxton. The family consisted of himself and his wife. She was a lovely lady, very quiet and dignified as I remember her. At the same time, Rev. C.L. Read was assigned as Presiding Elder over the Rockingham District. Rev. J.A. Hornaday was again listed among the official superannuates.

In Rev. Parker's first Quarterly Conference report dated Jan. 25, 1925, he made the following statement: "Our Sunday School is in need of more room for the classes to meet, but steps are being taken to meet this need, and we hope that in the near future every class will have the necessary equipment for the best work. We have recently adapted a program of work for a Class C. School and are making some progress in attaining the standard set by this program" We see our need for more Sunday School space began more than fifty years ago.

Rev. Parker also reported that the Missionary Society had recently had the parsonage worked over on the inside.

The following are excerpts taken from the 2nd Quarterly Conference held on May 24th, 1925. "The general state of the Church is good. Our people are vitally interested in the advancement of God's Kingdom and evidence that interest by their presence, programs and gifts.

Both Eqworth Leagues, Junior and Senior, are meeting regularly and are doing fine work.

Our Sunday School has for the last quarter been especially good. More numbers are in regular attendance each Sunday, and the interest is good.

Our wide-awake Woman's Missionary Society is doing good work.

We have recently closed a good revival which I think did much good inside the church.

A committee elected by the Church Conference has greatly beautified the parsonage property by the liberal use of paint, the cost of which was \$138.50."

Members received into the church under Rev. Parker were as follows: 1st Quarter by Vows: Russell Manson, G.C. Tice, Grover Charles Tice, Jr., Franklin Duncan Wright, Janet Steed, Lois Johnson, Mary Duncan. By Certificate: Mrs. A.S. Parker, Elizabeth Burns and Dr. Carlisle Morris.

Second Quarter by Certificate: Mr. and Mrs. D.M. Clarkson, S.C. Howell, L.S. Townsend, Mrs. Sallie Townsend, Miss Marguerite Townsend, James H. Townsend, Mrs. Agnes Townsend Burrell, Henry J. Rogers, Robert Burns, Mrs. T.M. Brigman, Lucy Brigman, May Brigman, Ira and Charlie Duncan, Mr. & Mrs. Thede Johnson and Mr. and Mrs. C.P. Newton.

Losses during the First Quarter by Certificate: Mr. and Mrs. Walter A. Jones, Mrs. Mamie H. Rumley, Julian, Dinnard, Charles and Mary Frances Rumley and Mark Wayne Cole.

Losses during the 2nd Quarter by Certificate: Eleanor Haywood & Mrs. Della Gibson.

No other records were found of Rev. Parker's stay in Maxton. At the end of the Conference year he was assigned to some other church. The next entry will give what I believe to have been the reason after having served only one year. As well as I recall they were well liked and were doing a good work in our church.



Sometime after the above was typed the following program of an annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Society was found. I thought it should be shown, mainly because Miss Elizabeth Lamb was listed as being on the program. She was a sister of a former good member, Anne Lamb Carpenter, and more importantly, she was a former missionary to either South America or Brazil from a Methodist Church in Fayetteville, which was her home.

#### DEATHS

Mr. Thomas B. Pate - 1924  
Mr. Samuel O. Thompson - July 4, 1924  
Mrs. Annie Hamer Whitlock - July 24, 1924  
Mr. A.C. Covington - September 30, 1925

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ROBESON COUNTY  
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH, MAXTON, N. C.  
WEDNESDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 14TH, 10:30 O'CLOCK

#### PROGRAM

Hymn 654	
Worship led by	Rev. A.S. Parker
Address of Welcome	Mrs. D.M. Clarkson
Response to Welcome	Mrs. J.C. Lentz, St. Paul
Minutes of last meeting and Roll Call	Miss Bessie Covington Red Springs, N.C.
Message of County Chairman	Mrs. L.T. Townsend, Lumberton
Violin Solo	Miss Frank
Greater Scarritt	Miss Elizabeth Lamb, Fayetteville
Report County Officers	
Report Charge Chairman	
Young People and Children	Mrs. W.R. Royal, Laurinburg
Talk by New Director	Mrs. B.C. Thompson, Mt. Gilead
Bible Study	Mrs. P.D. Woodall, Rowland

#### AFTERNOON SESSION

Devotional	Mrs. J.L. McLeod, Raeford
Vocal Solo	Mrs. George Stone
Mission Study	Mrs. John F. McLean, Red Springs
Social Service	Mrs. Daisy Jenkins, Lumberton
Report from Auxiliary	
Report Nominating Committee	
Place for next meeting	
Hymn 386	

#### USHERS

Miss Alice McQueen	Miss Mabel Lyde
Miss Eglah Wright	Miss Ruth Cottingham
Mrs. Johnnie Steed	Mrs. R.B. Bullard

REV. R. F. MUNNS  
DEC. 1925 - DEC. 1928

At the conference held in Dec. 1925, Rev. R.F. Munns was assigned to Maxton.

As stated previously, Rev. Parker was moved away from this church after only one year. I think I am correct in stating that this was because Rev. Munns had two daughters, Irene and Pauline, who were ready for college. Inasmuch as Carolina was a church school the Methodist ministers were given special rates. So, as we all know, in those days especially, salaries were not sufficient for many luxuries, and of course that applied to the salaries of Methodist ministers. This being the case, many young people would have been denied higher education had it not been for the concessions made by the Conference for this purpose. Although this was wonderful for those concerned, I've heard it said that probably was one of the main reasons that Carolina College folded. One of the older graduates of the college told me recently that a goodly number of the girls were from parsonage homes and therefore remuneration was considerably lower than it would have been otherwise.

I found no records during the period the Munns were in Maxton but I remember them quite well. The family consisted of Mrs. Munns, a frail little lady, who as I remember was quite a homebody. This was probably due to necessity as well as health inasmuch as there were five children - or perhaps six. I'm sure of Irene, Pauline, Lois, Robert and Annie and I think possibly another little boy, Alton.

Mr. Munns was a very good preacher as well as a good mixer. I remember that he did quite a bit of visiting and being a very down to earth person he was always welcomed into the home.

After leaving Maxton, he was assigned to Fairmont Methodist Church in Raleigh and I remember visiting the church during that time. He also served a tour in Laurinburg some time after he left here.

MARRIAGES:

William Wade Thompson and Florence Parthenia Cottingham, November 24th, 1927, - Residence of Mrs. Mary L (A.J.) Cottingham.

DEATHS:

Rev. John A. Hornaday - Member of N.C. Methodist Conference for 39 years. I have fought a good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith. (This verse on his marker.) - Died: May 20, 1926.

Lucius A. McLean - April 29, 1927.

Walter F. Henderson - September 15, 1928.



REV. J. B. HURLEY

DEC. 1928 - DEC. 1930

Evidently Conference was held early in December - or possibly before, as the first Quarterly Conference was held on December 2nd. The Rev. H.D. Smith was then Presiding Elder of the Rockingham District and Rev. Hurley had just been assigned to St. Paul's. The parsonage family was very small again as he and his wife were alone in the parsonage except when their daughter, Helen, came home from either college or teaching, and when a married daughter visited them on occasion.

I note that the preacher's salary at that time was \$2,100.00. That sounds very small to us but it was quite a jump from the \$480.00 that Mr. Hornaday received in 1886.

The pastor stated in his first report that the family had been graciously received and that the other churches closed their services on his first Sunday night here in order to worship with us. As long as we had night services, this had been the custom throughout the town.

He also stated in his report that all phases of the church were working well, and particularly the Women's Missionary Society.

His next report stated that more than \$600.00 had been spent on the church and parsonage grounds and that we have as beautiful a church and grounds as there is in the District.

On Jan. 7, 1930, Rev. Hurley stated in his report that we needed a new system of heating, new gutters, and a new arrangement of our church auditorium. (The auditorium was rearranged some time later but I have seen no record as to when it was done.) He also stated that the Epworth League was doing fine, that the Sunday School had improved over last year and the Woman's Missionary Society was doing a splendid work.

In his report of April 30, 1930, the pastor stated, and I quote, "I know of no way of obtaining the spiritual state of the church except the lives and spiritual activities of the membership of the church. By that criterion I would say the Spiritual Condition of St. Paul's is status quo. Now if you know what that means it is more than I do. Our folks are good, clean folks. They never enthuse over anything. I can't see that they are enthusiastic about their church in any fashion."

As you can see from the above, our pastor must have been terribly discouraged at the time. However, the above report was in direct contrast to one he's made soon after his arrival, which was not shown above. A portion of it is quoted here: "A few evenings ago the church gave us a delightful reception at which time we had many of our people. So we are beginning to feel very much at home, and feeling also that we are in the midst of a community of warm christian hospitality."

The last report that shows Rev. Hurley as our pastor was dated September 21, 1930. Although he answered the roll call, he didn't have a written report for the meeting as he usually did. Only the printed format was completed, and I think possibly it was done by someone else.

Mr. Hurley was an elderly man when he came to Maxton and during the last part of his tenure, his health failed quite appreciably. If I remember correctly he retired at the Conference held in December, if indeed he was able to attend.



In regard to the report of April 30th, from which I quoted, I like to think that in part at least the picture he painted of the state of the church was possibly more gloomy than it would have been had he been in his usual good health.

Members received into the church in 1929 were as follows: Mrs. J.B. Hurley, Miss Helen Hurley, Mr. Neil D. Smith.

Received in 1930: Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Bowen, W.P. Bowen, Mrs. J.P. Bowen, Edgar Bowen, Mrs. Grace Bowen, Mr. and Mrs. B.S. Hodges, Billie Hodges, Mrs. N.L. Seabolt, Mrs. C.E. Glenn, Miss Lillie Lockety, Mrs. Ruth Hasty, Miss May Jones, Miss Lillian Haymore.

Infants Baptized: Winfred Carter, daughter of Bro. and Sister F.W. Carter.

Losses 1929: Mrs. Susan Clarkson by Certificate.

Deaths: Mr. B.T. Maness (D.A. Pierce and C.H. Whitlock were appointed a committee to draw resolutions of respect for Bro. B.T. Maness.) Mr. Maness had been very active in all phases of the church for many years and this was quite a loss to the church.

F.W. Carter (Winfred) - June 3, 1930

Daisy Duncan Ross - February 16, 1929

Mrs. Walter F. (Claudia) Henderson - February 11, 1929

Charlie May Burns, Sr. - March 19, 1929

Mrs. John M. McCall - November 18, 1930

William B. Harker - June 3, 1930



*1920's*



REV. W. L. CLEGG  
DEC. 1930 - DEC. 1935



At the Conference held in December 1930, Rev. W.L. Clegg was assigned to our church. They had one little boy, Billy, and I think their daughter, Dorothy L., was born while they were here, but I could be wrong about that.

The first quarterly conference was held on January 4, 1931 with Rev. H.E. Smith, Presiding Elder, in the chair. The pastor's report was very good concerning the different departments of the church but he was much impressed with the Woman's Missionary Society, stating that it was a wideawake organization.

At the second quarterly conference Rev. Clegg stated that the church seemed to be improving along all lines.

Included in the fourth quarterly conference was a report by the McKinnon-Wesley Bible Class, which is now called the McKinnon-Hornaday Bible Class. The report read as follows:

1. Number members on roll, 31;
2. We have a Business and Social Meeting once a month which is well attended.
3. One member looks after Home Department;
4. Class looks after the preparation of Communion each month;
5. This year made and quilted four quilts for the Orphanage, and two for the parsonage.
6. Clothe an orphan and send two boxes each year valued at \$15.00 or more;
7. We do what our hands find to do willingly.

Respectfully, McKinnon-Wesley Bible Class

Also, a report of the Women's Missionary Society was as follows:

Cash to Mrs. McKinney, Conference Treasurer for Missions.....	\$152.00
Local money paid out.....	70.18
Room and Board for Mr. Brown (10 weeks).....	77.00
Total.....	\$299.18

Visits to the sick - 161 times.  
Trays sent to sick - 125 times.  
Flowers sent to sick - 102 times

Clothes to needy.....15 times.  
Groceries to needy.....15 times.  
Books and magazines sent to jail.

Mrs. J.J. Evans, President



I agree with Mr. Clegg that the Women's Missionary Society was really on the ball. Also, the Ladies Sunday School Class was always busy. I well remember when they had those quilting parties, as my mother was among the group who made them. Others were: Mrs. C.J. Lyde, Mrs. Olive Hall (later Mrs. Edwards), Mrs. Lilly Steed, Mrs. Mary Blue McLean, Miss Maggie McLean, Mrs. John Wright, Mrs. W.D. Kiser, Mrs. N.L. Seabolt, and others that I don't recall at the moment. Oh yes, Miss Carrie Lee Shaw was one of that faithful group which we shall not forget.

At the first quarterly conference held Feb. 7, 1932, Rev. Clegg gave the following report:

The total membership last year was 302. There were 15 additions by profession of faith and by Certificate. There were 20 removals by death and otherwise. Adults baptized - 10; Infants baptized -3. Rev. J.C. Wooten was Presiding Elder at this time.

In the report for Feb. 7, 1933 which was in the midst of the terrible depression our country was undergoing, Mr. Clegg wrote as follows: "The pastor would like to commend the interest and loyalty on the part of a number of our people. It is this spirit of cooperation and devotion that enables the church to carry on even in the midst of difficulties. All are managing to stay hopeful and optimistic. All in all, when everything is considered, the church is doing well.

Mr. B.S. Hodges was, and had been, superintendent of the Sunday School for four years and in 1934 resolutions of appreciation to him were adopted.

On August 5, 1934 the following report was made: This community has had the unusual advantage of having the Bible taught in the public schools for the past several years. An intensive effort is being made to continue this.

Our Bible teacher was Miss Lavelle Alexander from Ft. Worth, Texas and she became a member of our church when she came to Maxton. She also taught in the Laurinburg and Red Springs schools. She was a wonderful asset to our communities as she really knew the Bible. Later she married Mr. Arch Campbell and moved her membership to Centre Presbyterian Church where it remained until she returned to Ft. Worth some time after her husband's death. It was a real loss to the entire community when she departed.

Beginning with the Dec. 4th 1934 quarterly conference, Rev. D.E. Earnhardt was the Presiding Elder.

On May 28th, 1935, there seems to have been a slump in the church generally, with the exception of the Young People and Women's Society. The children were advised to stay at home during this period due to the prevalence of Infantile Paralysis in the State.

However, more than \$3,000.00 was secured to remodel the church, repair and paint the parsonage, and install a new heating plant - \$800.00 of which was a conditional donation from the Duke Endowment Fund.

In Sept. 1935, T.O. Evans, Jr. was elected Sunday School Superintendent so he resigned as Steward and was replaced by Mr. R.B. (Bob) Bullard.

One amusing incident happened during Mr. Clegg's tour of duty that I believe everyone who was present will remember. Billy, his young son, was all boy! One Sunday Mr. Clegg was preaching away when suddenly the Hymnal Board (for lack of a better word) began to move slowly up and down on the wall. Believe me, that looked really spooky! One of the men hurried down to the basement to see what was going on. There he found Billy manipulating the weights



that controlled the Board. His dad said later he knew something was going on from the expression on the faces of the congregation, but he couldn't imagine what. That Billy was a real individualist! Later, when they were living in Durham, he had a terrible accident that cost him his life.

Mr. Clegg stayed in Maxton for five years and was one of the most popular ministers that ever served our church. We hated to see him leave, as well as his family, but of course that's the life story of a Methodist minister. He went on to become Presiding Elder and also to other larger churches before his death.

After they left Maxton, and after Billy's death, they adopted a little boy and named him David Pierce for Uncle Dave Pierce who's been such a favorite in our church for so many years. One Sunday they were visiting the church and I remarked to Mr. Clegg that I wished Uncle Dave could know that. His reply was, "I think he does!"

A card received from Mrs. Clegg in 1978 said that Dorothy Louise married a Methodist minister and had three children - two in college and one in Sr. High. They live in Baltimore. David Pierce is also married and has one little girl. He lives at Elon College.

Mrs. Clegg herself was living at the Methodist Retirement Home in Durham at the time. However, she left there and at the time of her death on October 16, 1980, was evidently staying with the children. Her funeral was held at Epworth United Methodist Church in Durham and interment was in New Maplewood Cemetery, also in Durham.

A write-up of Mr. Clegg's death follows: Burlington (no date is shown here but it was some time before the death of Mrs. Clegg.)

Dr. William Lemuel Clegg, superintendent of the Burlington District of the Methodist Church, suffered a fatal heart attack today while attending the Duke-Carolina football game at Durham.

Dr. Clegg, 58, was one of the most widely-known ministers in the North Carolina Conference. He served four years as pastor of Raleigh's Hayes Barton Church, leaving about 18 months ago for Burlington, where he had at one time been pastor of Front Street Church.

Prior to his Raleigh assignment he had been Superintendent of the Durham District, and at one time served as pastor at Asbury Church there.

Dr. Clegg's father was a Methodist minister in what is now the Western North Carolina Conference.

Funeral services will be held 2:00 P.M. Monday at Front Street Methodist Church by Bishop Paul N. Garber, Bishop of the Richmond area of the Methodist Church, The Rev. E.R. Clegg, retired Methodist minister of Pittsboro, and the Rev. Leon Russell, pastor of Front Street Methodist Church. Interment will be in New Maplewood Cemetery in Durham.

ADDITIONS 1st Quarter 1931: Mrs. O.L. Russ, Mr. & Mrs. John Hamer, Mrs. Josephine Hodges.

Third Quarter: Frank Henderson Glass, Eleanor Florine Cottingham, John B. (Jack) Cottingham, Robert Otho Johnson, John Stansel, Jr., Mack Reid, Harold Steed, Adeline Steed, Henry Alexander McKinnon, Jr., Ann Lamb Carpendter, Virginia Burns, Luther McNeill, Jr., and Alexander Cottingham. All of this group were received on Profession of Faith, following a meeting that had just been held in the church. Mr. and Mrs. J.M. Adams, Sara Adams and John G. Lockey. Received by Certificate.

Fourth Quarter 1932: Carolyn Stansel, Eunice Burns and Mary McNeill  
On Profession of Faith. By Certificate: Mr. and Mrs. L.J. Lea and Eleanor  
Lea. Second Quarter 1932: Mrs. H.F. Carter - By Certificate.

REMOVALS - First Quarter 1931: Miss Lucille (Kate) Umstead - by Certifi-  
cate. (Miss Umstead had been one of the teachers at Carolina College). Fourth  
Quarter 1930/31: Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Haymore and Lillian Haymore - by Certificate.  
Fourth Quarter 1932: Mr. Dozier Drinkard. (Mr. Drinkard had been one of the  
first teachers at Presbyterian Junior College and was a most faithful member of  
the church. I don't think he ever missed a service if he was in town. He was a  
member of the choir and, at the time of his departure, was President of the  
Epworth League.

DEATH: Mrs. J.D. Williams.

Additions 1933: Mrs. O.C. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. C.H. Phillips and  
Evelyn Phillips, By Certificate; Mr. C.H. Lyles on Profession of Faith.

DEATHS:

Mrs. Elizabeth C. Cashwell	1931
Hubert F. Steed	June 20, 1932
James Steed	May 1, 1933
Thomas Owen Evans, Sr.	May 7, 1933
Mrs. S.O. Thompson	October 25, 1933
Hugh A. Barnes	November 21, 1933
Roy Smith	July 24, 1935
Alonzo Biron Carter	November 11, 1935
Bascom C. Glass	December 20, 1935



DEC. 1935 - DEC. 1939

Rev. P.O. Lee was assigned to St. Paul's at the Conference held in Dec. 1935. Rev. Lee's family consisted of his wife and two sons, Robert and Charles. Rev. D.E. Earnhardt was re-assigned as Presiding Elder.

The total membership at this time was 293 - 21 having been added and 19 removals by death or otherwise.

On March 25, 1936, the pastor reported the Sunday School was getting over the "flue" and attendance in the Men's Bible Class had increased over 300%; the attendance at the League was fine and they were taking over the choir at the night service. All in all this was a very encouraging report.

In his July 1936 report, he stated that all phases of the church were good. His comment of the Missianary Society was, "It has a standing report - 'Efficiency'."

The young people in college from our church at that time were: Ben Taylor, Morrison McKenzie, John Stansel, Mac Reid, Buster McNeil, Virginia Burns, Carlton Evans and Helen Speros.

Miss Evelyn Phillips and Miss Mary McNeill were appointed to assist the pastor in the circulation of Christian Literature.

It was at this time that the Envelope Budget System was adopted for financing the work of the church for the conference year.

T.O. Evans, Jr., was elected Church School Superintendent; D.A. Pierce for the Children's Division (as he had been for years); Miss Ava Lee Evans, Superintendent of Young People's Division and John L Pace, Superintendent of Adult D:

It was in 1936 that the Board decided to present Mrs. J.P. Stansel with a suit of vestments. I presume this was a first for our choir. Of course we know that Mrs. Stansel was our organist at the time, as she was for many years.

In 1937 a motion was made and approved to buy special music for the choir of the general fund. The Board also decided to write Mrs. W.A. Webb, Choir Director, thanking her for the splendid work she had done and was doing with the music for the church in directing the Christmas Program. Mrs. Webb was well deserving of this recognition as she was truly outstanding in her work as our choir director for many years.

At the meeting held on November 30, 1937, special prayer was offered for Brother Pierce (Uncle Dave) as he's been sick for several days. This must have been the time he had a terrible bout with Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. This was the first time I ever remember Uncle Dave being ill and having to miss church and Sunday School, and the whole town was very concerned about him.

About this same time, the Board decided that Alice Hasty should have an Assistant Treasurer so I was elected to that office and served for some time.





Rev. J.H. Shore had replaced Rev. Earnhardt as Presiding Elder at the beginning of the church year.

In May, Miss Emma Fyne among others was elected a member of the Church Board of Christian Education. Emma and her sister, Mrs. Eva Writht, were some of the finest members, and especially Bible students, our church ever had. They both served as teachers in the Sunday School until they moved to Raleigh to make their home. Emma later married a Baptist minister, Mr. Bernheim, and they did missionary work in New York until his death. After that she taught music in Raleigh until she became disabled. She is presently in a nursing home in Raleigh. She later died, date unknown.

Mr. L.T. English, better known as "Red" was elected as Superintendent of the Adult Division. He too was a loyal member until his death.

At the first Quarterly Conference in 1938, Rev. M.V. McRae, as former pastor of our church at two different times, was present as the new Presiding Elder.

In mid 1938, Rev. Lee reported that our church seemed to be on the upward trend in every way except financially. We have to remember that the entire country was still in the throes of the terrible depression of the 30's. He stated that all phases of the work were the best they had been since his tour of duty began.

After Mr. Lee retired, he stayed in Raeford which had been his last appointment. Some time after his retirement he and Mrs. Lee were in an automobile accident and after several months she passed away as a result of it. She was a lovely lady and we all mourned her passing.

A note from Mr. Lee gave us a report on the family. Robert is presently County Superintendent of the Moore County Schools and Charles is in the Insurance business and resides in Goldsboro. He didn't say but I take it for granted they're both married. Mr. Lee sent a picture of himself and his new bride. Sometime later I met her and I feel sure he's still in good hands.

When I think of Mr. Lee I always remember that he was a great hunter. I truly believe that was his way of reaching out to certain people to bring them into the fold that he might not have reached otherwise.

Members taken into the Church during Rev. Lee's tour of duty were as follows:

July 1936 - Received by Vows: Mary Elizabeth Carter, Winfred Carter, Sara Carter, Lena Carter, Mary Frances Tice, Sara Ellen Johnson, John McNeill, Dewey Evans, Evelyn Bullard, Thelma Betts Stee, Howard Hasty, Jr., Harris Tice, Louise Leggett, Joe Mac Covington.

Received by Certificate: Mrs. J.E. Baker, Mr. and Mrs. James Gibson.

August 1937 - Received by Certificate: Mr. W.A. Webb. Mr. and Mrs. L.B. Robbins, Mrs. Annie Southerland, Jap Gainey and Mrs. Sarah Duncan. Received by Vows: Bela Carter, Billy Robbins, Gene Robbins, Fred McFadyen and Dot Hornaday.

Mid-1938 - Received by Certificate: Dr. and Mrs. W.F. Herndon, Mr. and Mrs. John Steed, Mr. and Mrs. R.E. O'Brient, Wilbur O'Brient, Mrs. G.B. Cottingham, Mrs. W.A. Webb, Edison Bracey, Bryant Caddell, and G.L. Easterling. Received by Vows: Elizabeth English, J.Y. Southerland, Robert Neill Caddell, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Williams, Mrs. Edison Bracey, Mrs. Bryant Caddell and Mrs. James Duncan. Received by Baptism and Vows: Gladys Caddell, Sarah Neal Hamer, Louise Duncan, Alton Johnson, Roland Seals, David Phillips and Ethel Bracey.

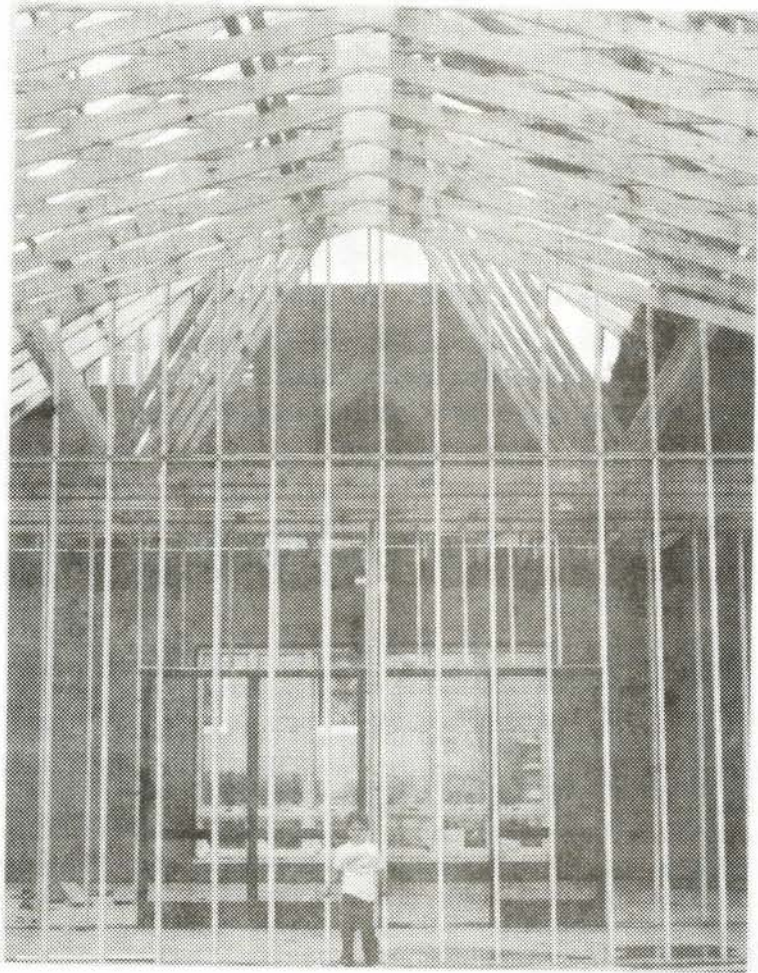
January 1939 - Received by Certificate: Mrs. Lawrence Jones and Julius Rogers.

January 1939 - Loses - by Letter: Alexander Cottingham and Mrs. Eva Wright, Mr. and Mrs. John Steed.



DEATHS

Miss Florence Jane (Florrie) Burns - March 16, 1936  
William Isaac Gaitley - April 11, 1936  
Mrs. Lucretia Ellen McCall, Wife of Rev. J.A. Hornaday - December 22, 1936  
Frederick Merritt Hornaday -  
Thomas H. Johnson, Sr. - January 2, 1937  
Wiley F. Steek - October 23, 1937  
Mrs. Luther (Hattie) McCormick - January 14, 1938  
Arthur James McKinnon - February 20, 1938  
James Calvin Bulla (Jim) Burns - June 13, 1938  
Mrs. A. J. (Jenny) McKinnon - 1939  
Mrs. Beulah E. Graham Franck - September 16, 1938  
Mrs. Donald McQueen - (Lillie Taylor) - March 14, 1937  
Asa H. O'Brien - July 10, 1938 - Former member





REV. T. R. JENKINS

1939 - 1943



In December 1939, Rev. Jenkins was assigned as pastor of our church. The Jenkins had one small daughter, Ormah Jean, when they came. During their stay in Maxton they had another little girl who died at birth. They were lovely people and very much liked by the congregation.

During the first year of Mr. Jenkins' tenure, he reported the following: Vacation Church School has been held with an enrollment of seventy-three certificates awarded and eight children taken into the church. Six delegates were sent to the Louisburg Assemblies. It really sounds like the young people were at an all time high when it comes to interest, judging from these reports.

On the evening of April 19, 1940, the congregation met for a wonderful Fellowship Barbecue Supper. In spite of rain there were approximately one hundred people present. Without a doubt the barbecue was a great success as the following remark in the report shows: "It is impossible to estimate what the fellowship meant to us."

A report on the church property shows that the church value had climbed to \$20,000 and the parsonage was still at \$5,000.00. The title papers were being kept by John L. Pace at this time.

A list of elected officials for the ensuing year was as follows: DISTRICT OFFICIALS: Lay Leader: Dr. M.L. Matthews; Missionary Secretary: Rev. T. R. Jenkins; Director of Children's Division: Miss Bertha Baxley; Secretary of Woman's Societies of Christian Service: Mrs. D.C. Lawrence; Treasurer District Work Fund: Rev. M.V. McRae; Director of Adult Division: Rev. J.W. Lineberger; Director of Young People's Division: Rev. D.L. Fouts.

LOCAL CHURCH: District Steward: J.L. Pace; Reserve: C.H. Whitlock; Lay Member of Annual Conference: J.L. Pace; Reserve: Mrs. F.C. Frostick; Recording Steward: Mrs. F.C. Frostick.

Communion Stewards: Mrs. C.A. Hasty, Mrs. Tom Caddell.

Church Treasurer: Mrs. J.L. Pace

COMMITTEES: Membership: W. Howard Hasty, C.H. Whitlock, R.B. Bullard. Finance: J.H. Taylor, Mrs. J.L. Pace, Gus Hasty; Pastoral Relations: J.L. Pace, Mrs. F.C. Frostick, C.A. Hasty, Billy Wade McKenzie; Trustees: T.O. Evans, Jr., Chmn. J.L. Pace, C.A. Hasty, W.D. Kiser, J.P. Stansel; Nominations: J.H. Taylor, Mrs. C.A.



Hasty, T.O. Evans, Jr., Audit: C.H. Whitlock. W.J. Pace, L.T. English; Records: R.B. Bullard, Mrs. Tom Caddell, L.T. English; Hospital and Homes: Ava Lee Evans, Mrs. R.B. Bullard, Mrs. T.O. Evans, Jr.

STEWARDS: J.H. Taylor, J.L. Pace, Mrs. C.A. Hasty, Mrs. Tom Caddell, Mrs. F.C. Frostick, R.B. Bullard, C.H. Whitlock, W.H. Hasty, L.T. English, Murdock McLean, T.O. Evans, Lyon Jones. Chairman, Board of Education: C.H. Whitlock; Church School Superintendent: W. Howard Hasty; Supt. of Children's Division: Mrs. Tom Caddell; Supt. of Young People's Division, Mrs. T.R. Jenkins, President of Young People: Billie Wade McKenzie; Supt. of Adult Division: L. T. English; Chmn. Boards of Missions and Church Extensions: Mrs. D.H. (Mamie) Evans; President of Woman's Societies of Christian Service: Mrs. Luther McNeill Golden Cross Director: Ava Lee Evans.

Early in Mr. Jenkins' tour in Maxton we began the regular use of church bulletins. This added much to the dignity and worshipful atmosphere of the service.

Also a Committee on Placement had been appointed. The duties of this Committee were to see to it, as nearly as possible, that every member had some definite responsibility in the church.

The Pastor's Report for the Fourth Quarterly Conference dated October 29, 1940 was as follows:

This year has been one of real profit together. Evidences point to some progress in all activities of the Church program. We have had our discouragements, but the joys we have gained from certain accomplishments have largely made up for them.

The church school has been reorganized, we believe for a more effective work; we have sought continually to improve the effectiveness of our services of church worship; the financial system has shown some improvement; the membership roll has been revised and brought up to date; the general morale of the membership seems in better shape.

A new class for meeting the needs of the young adults of the church has been organized. There has been placed by one of the circles of the Women's Society for Christian Service an outside church bulletin board in front of the church. Our new Women's Society for Christian Service was organized during the first of September. Sixteen members have been added to the church roll - seven by certificate and nine by profession - every financial obligation for the year has been paid in full. The results of our labors together now give us great joy.

T.R. Jenkins, P.C.  
May Frostick, Rec. Sec.

October 19, 1940

I received a letter from Mr. Jenkins dated July 6, 1978 in answer to one I wrote him. So you can see that this history has been a long time in writing. The following is taken from his letter:

"We were there during the years of 1939 - 1943. Yes Ormah Jeanne was, and our only child - except for the one we lost while we were there. Ormah Jeanne was 2½ years old when we moved there. She has been married twenty years now and has four children - three girls and a boy (15,14,11, and 6). Ormah and I will celebrate our fiftieth wedding anniversary on August 30 - my, it's hard to believe.

Please give all our friends there our love, and accept a whole lot for yourself and your family. Thank you again for your card. Please let us know how you get along with the history and please send us one."

Best Wishes, and,

Sincerely,  
/s/ T.R. Jenkins

The Jenkins were living at 917 Lakecrest Avenue, High Point, N.C. 27260 when I received this letter and I'm sure they're still there.

I only found records for the year 1940 from which the above has been written; however, I have run down records on two weddings and quite a few deaths. The deaths came from the cemetery which I covered from one side to the other.

#### ADDITIONS

1940

By Letter: Mrs. T.R. Jenkins, Mr. and Mrs. E.B. Bowman, Levion Hampton  
Harold Leggett.

By Profession of Faith: Katherine Carter, Henry Carter, Jr., William Frostick,  
Rosa Gibson, Sara Lee Duncan, Nina Lynn Givson, Dorothy Gibson, Robert B.  
Bullard, Jr.

#### WEDDINGS

Miss Mabel Gibson Lyde and Mr. Preston Bundy were married on March 20, 1941,  
at the Methodist Parsonage by Rev. T.R. Jenkins.

Miss Carolyn Adele Stansel and Mr. George Grimsley Jones were married on  
in St. Paul's United Methodist Church by Rev. T.R. Jenkins.

#### DEATHS

1939

Mrs. Jennie Lee (McKinney) McKinnon - 1939

1940

David Arville Pierce (Uncle Dave) A Friend of Children - Jan 8, 1940

Allen J. Steed - January 21, 1940

Dannie Hugh McCall - October 27, 1940

Mrs. W.I. Gaitley - November 4, 1940

1941

Miss Glyn Cashwell - 1941

Mrs. Mary Blue McLean - June 27, 1941, Husband John F. McLean - 1856

Thomas D. Franck - August 8, 1941

Mrs. Dick Reid (Bess Clark) - November 7, 1941

Charles J. Lyde - 1942



CARLOS P. WOMACK

1943 - 1945

Carolos P. Womack was assigned to be our minister at the conference held in the fall of 1943. His family consisted of his wife, Jane, and two sons, Carlos Jr. and John. They were a nice family and well liked by the congregation.

Mr. Womack's health wasn't the best before, and while, they were in Maxton and though I don't know the date, he passed away not too many years after they left Maxton. Mrs. Womack is presently living in Southern Pines. Her youngest son, John, also lives there and is the Administrator at Moore County Memorial Hospital.



Lolita Webb, who lived at Southern Pines for some time, said that Mrs. Womack was a frequent visitor to the nursing home there, thus continuing the good works of a minister's wife.

I have one bulletin of Mr. Womack's dated August 19, 1945. As you remember, World War II was just over and the Laurinburg-Maxton Army Air Base was still open. Excerpts from this bulletin follows:

CHAPLAIN AMOS L. BOREN, base chaplain of the L-M Airbase, will preach in this church on next Sunday morning. Chaplain Boren is a Methodist minister, member of the Indiana Conference. He has recently returned from two years' oversea duty. In the absence of the pastor, Mr. Tracy Watson will preside at the service.

ARE YOU BEGINNING YOUR OWN PERSONAL PLANS for our meeting? Have you begun to ask yourself what you can do to make this revival a success in your life and in your church?

THE REVIVAL WILL START ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16.

TODAY, BY PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION, is a day of prayer in our country. May you be guided in your praying to express deep gratitude for the blessings which have come to you and to your nation, to seek for Divine guidance for the confused present and the uncertain future, and to ask God to use you in the reconstruction of a torn and bleeding world. The lines of our closing hymn form a prayer. As you sing, let the hymn be YOUR prayer:

"Dear Master, in whose life I see  
All that I would, but fail to be;  
Let Thy clear light forever shine,  
To shame and guide this life of mine.

Though what I dream and what I do  
In my weak days are always two,  
Help me, oppressed by things undone  
O Thou, whose deeds and dreams were  
one."

At this time W. Walter Peele was our Bishop and W.L. Clegg, a former pastor, was District Superintendent.

The Officers of the church were as follows:

BOARD OF STEWARDS

R.B. BULLARD, Chairman  
MRS. F.C. FROSTICK, Secretary  
MRS. JOHN L. PACE, Treasurer

C.H. Whitlock            W.H. Hasty  
J.H. Taylor              Mrs. Tom Caddell  
John L. Pace             L.T. English  
Mrs. C.A. Hasty         J.P. Stansel  
Lyon Jones              T.O. Evans, Jr.  
John Deaver             R.E. O'Brient  
                             B.F. Taylor

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

John L. Pace, Chairman  
T.O. Evans, Jr.            C.A. Hasty  
J.P. Stansel              Tom Cadell

CHURCH SCHOOL

C.A. Hasty, Superintendent  
C.H. Whitlock, Secretary-Treasurer

WOMAN'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Miss Maggie McLean, President

INTERMEDIATE FELLOWSHIP

John C. Hasty, President

PIANIST

Mrs. J.P. Stansel

Janet Hord told me that Mr. Womack loved to hunt quail on her Daddy's farm about ten miles from Maxton near where Paul Steed still lives.

Tracy Watson told me about an incident that happened when Mr. Womack was here that would have made his complete tour of duty in Maxton a success had he not accomplished anything else. He was going to be out of town one Sunday and asked Tracy to take over for him. Tracy says that he refused vehemently, saying he wasn't capable! Whereupon Mr. Womack asked, "Will you read the sermon if I prepare it?" Well, we all know the answer to that because Tracy has been "preaching" ever since. And how thankful we are to Mr. Womack for starting Tracy on the road to being such a wonderful Lay Leader!

MARRIAGES

Sara Katherine Carter and Warren Crapon Sibley, Jr. - Married June 27, 1944 in the Post Chapel at Napier Field, Dothan, Alabama by the Post Chaplain.

Mary Elizabeth Carter and James Norton Donovan - Married December 6, 1944 at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Maxton, N.C. by Rev. Carlos P. Womack.

Winfred M. Carter (Jakie) and Charles Montgomery Castevens, Jr., at the Methodist Church, Sanford, N.C. by Rev. Carlos P. Womack, 1944 or 1945.

DEATHS

Paul S. Steed, Sr. - December 15, 1943

Mrs. C.J. (Mabel Gibson) Lyde, 1944

J. John Evans, September 7, 1945

Richard Edward Townsend, Jr. 1st Lt., U.S. Air Force, September 24, 1923 - March 12, 1945. Buried in Cambridge, England. Edward was a nephew of Miss Marguerite Townsend, a long-time first-grade teacher in Maxton, and he lived with her after the death of his father.

Robert E. O'Brient - April 9, 1945



REV. CHESTER J. ANDREWS

1945 - 1948

At the Annual Conference held in Goldsboro, November 7-11, 1945, Mr. Andrews was appointed to serve our church. We welcomed him along with his lovely wife, Ethel, and their two small sons, James and Norman. A letter from Mr. Andrews said that both boys are married. James lives in Greensboro and has two children, and Norman lives in High Point with his wife and one child.



I have just learned as of March, 1983, from Mrs. Andrews' brother-in-law who lives in Maxton, that she hasn't been well from the past three years and is presently residing in the Methodist Retirement Home in Durham. Mr. Andrews continues to live in Hillsborough where I believe they have been since his retirement. We are indeed sorry to hear this sad news and our best wishes and prayers are with both of them. I will always remember how faithfully Mr. Andrews visited my mother during her illness and how much it meant to all the family.

As I remember, Mr. Andrews was one of our most popular ministers and I regret very much that records are not available for a more extensive report on his tour of duty in Maxton.

At the Conference held November 3-7, 1948, he was assigned to the church in Chadbourn.

I found no records of any marriages during this period and none were turned in upon my request.

DEATHS

James M. Gibson - January 16, 1946  
William Howard Hasty, Sr. September 9, 1946  
Miss Martha Ann (Pat) Gibson - January 3, 1947  
Benjamin F. Taylor, Sr. - March 10, 1947  
Roy H. Bailey - April 2, 1948  
Murdock A. McLean - July 4, 1948  
Mrs. J.A. Clifton - July 18, 1948  
Miss Carrie Gaitley - March 1, 1946

REV. HAROLD G. CUTHRELL

DEC. 1949 - DEC. 1951



In December of 1949, Harold G. Cuthrell was assigned as our pastor. His wife, Mary Decie, and one young son, Glenn, Jr., made up the parsonage family, which was welcomed with open arms.

Mr. Cuthrell attended Duke University and received his ministerial education at Emory University, entering the ministry in 1942.

Prior to coming to Maxton, Mr. Cuthrell had served in Marshallburg where he was quite popular.

He was also affiliated with the Masons and during the few years of this activity he became known over the State as a foremost orator.

His work in Scottish Rite Masonry was recognized in 1949 when he was elected to receive the investiture of the rank and decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honor for meritorious service to Masonry and to mankind.

What a bright future this good man had before him. In 1951 he lost the one thing by which he was best known and by which he was so well served - his golden voice, which so eloquently spoke the noble thoughts of a great intellect and a great soul. He threw off his feeling of frustration and despair and never lost faith in his Lord and Master. He learned to speak all over again, and was able to and did fill preaching and speaking engagements from time to time. He wrote for Masonic and Church publications, and wrote speeches for others. For a time he edited a paper and operated a news stand and book shop, always giving voice to and proof of his great and abiding faith in his God. He often quoted from Whittier's poem, "The Silent Sea."

"I know not where his islands lift  
Their fronded palms in air,  
I only know I cannot drift,  
Beyond his love and care."

Probable his favorite quotation came from Martin Luther's hymn:



"A mighty fortress is our God  
A bulward never failing,  
Our helper he amid the flood  
Of mortal ills prevailing."

On April 3, 1959, he was delivered from the great suffering he had undergone for eight years when he passed away at his home in Maxton. Of course his funeral was in the Methodist Church he had loved so much and he was laid to rest in Oakgrove Cemetery in Maxton.

An excerpt from a letter of Mr. Cuthrell's published in "The Scottish Chief" dated August 15, 1951, is so beautiful that I think it should be included in this history. It reads as follows:

"I find great comfort in the following lines written by Dr. Russell L. Dicks, the Chaplain of Duke University Hospital:

Suffering Teaches Us: To care for others, because they care for us. Until we become ill, many of us do not know the beauty of friendship, the strength of family affection, the devotion of skilled workers to their tasks. It is said that Jesus bathed the feet of his disciples. I wondered why until I became ill; then I understood the meaning of his words, "That ye love one another." His mere commandment that men should love one another was not sufficient; wise teacher that he was, he knew they would soon forget his words. He knelt and bathed their feet; that they never forgot. When we are sick and are bathed and made comfortable, when family and friends are thoughtful of us, then we understand the words, "That ye love one another."

Mr. Cuthrell's family remained in Maxton where Glenn Jr. grew up, finished college, and entered the Army of which he made a career. Mary Decie by this time, or perhaps before her husband's death, had gone back to teaching in Laurinburg where she remained until her retirement. She also had a music class at home. Of course all the while she was an important part of our church.

No records were found or turned in to me of any marriages.

#### DEATHS

George B. Hall - July 27, 1949.

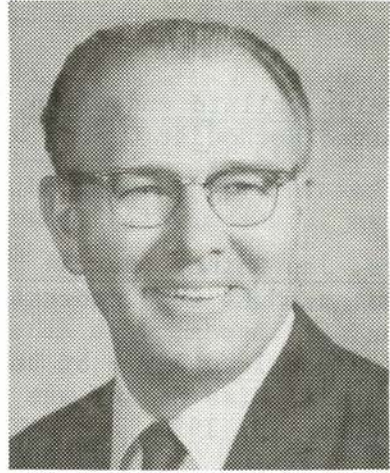
Mrs. Florence (T.B.) Pace - 1949

Robert Burns Bullard - July 12, 1950

Mrs. Ada (W.F.) Steed - May 27, 1951

REV. RALPH I. EPPS

1951 - 1952



At the Conference held in the fall of 1951, Ralph Epps was assigned to St. Paul's as our pastor. They were a lovely family and we were delighted to have them in the parsonage. However, much to our sorrow, they were with us only one year. A letter received from Mr. Epps gives the explanation for the short tour of duty, as follows:

"We consider Maxton one of the finest appointments we have had. We allowed ourselves to be moved because the District Superintendent wanted to put another preacher there who wanted full time work, not as an associate pastorate which he had been serving. Some of the dearest people we have ever known are the folks at St. Paul's. We regret we have been away so far through the years.

The family consists of my wife, Pat (Pinear Mae Windley Epps); Children - Barbara Ellene Epps Tuttle (Mrs. Paul Charles Tuttle), Ralph Isaac Epps, Jr. (Ike), and Ella Karen Epps.

Hope picture is what you want.

Be sure we are on your list for a copy of your Church History."

In His Love,

/s/ Ralph Epps

P.S. Our love to you, Gainneys and others who remember us.

At the time the above letter was received, the Epps were in RockyMount at Englewood United Methodist Church but since have been in Raleigh. In a recent copy of the Laurinburg Exchange, I saw a picture of their youngest daughter, Ella Karen, announcing her engagement. Later on an invitation was received asking our pastor to get the word around. This came from Washington, N.C. where Mr. Epps is presently serving.

The write-up of the wedding sounded lovely. All of the family participated including many other relatives and friends. After a wedding trip to Jamaica the couple will live in Raleigh. Following the ceremony, the United Methodist Women hosted a reception in the church fellowship hall. An after rehearsal dinner was hosted by the groom's father at the Washington Holiday Inn. A brunch was held the morning of the wedding at the bride's home for the bride and bridesmaids.

The following items have been taken from two Bulleting I found that I had saved over the years:

NEW YEAR'S EVE WATCH NIGHT UNION  
SERVICE, MONDAY, 11:30 P.M. UNTIL MIDNIGHT  
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N.C. Annual Conference - Wednesday, October 22 - Sunday,  
October 26 - Burlington, N.C. - W. L. Clegg, host pastor  
Our delegates: W.A. Webb and John Pace.



### MARRIAGES

Evelyn Bullard and Glenn Flack were married on March 8, 1952 in St. Paul's United Methodist Church by Rev. Ralph I. Epps.

### NEW MEMBERS

Mrs. Jap Gainey (Bertha Byrd) - by transfer from First Baptist Church, Maxton, N.C. - December 1951.

Miss Pearl Motley - by transfer from St. Marks Methodist Church, Atlanta, Georgia, Miss Motley was the librarian at Presbyterian Junior College. October 19, 1952.

### DEATHS

#### 1951

Jap Gainey - November 4, 1951, Funeral conducted by Rev. P.O. Lee.

#### 1952

Eugene L. Burns - January 6, 1952.

Walter Scott Burns - February 15, 1952

Mrs. A.J. (Lou) Cottingham - June 29, 1952 - Funeral conducted by Rev. Ralph I. Epps and Rev. P.O. Lee.

Elijah N. Henderson - August 29, 1952.



REV. W. EASTWOOD ATWATER

OCT. 1952 - OCT. 1954

At the Conference held in October, 1952, Rev. Eastwood Atwater was assigned as our pastor. He was a nice, young, unmarried man - our first since the days of 1912-1914 when W.V. McRae was our bachelor pastor. Prior to this time he had been an associate pastor and wanted full time work, as per a letter from Mr. Epps whom he replaced.

I thought Mr. Atwater was also here only one year but from the meager records available it appears he was here during the dates shown above. I also have two bulletins dated March 29, 1953 and September 12, 1954, which also verifies that.

At that time we still had Youth Fellowship at 6:30 P.M. on Sunday and Evening Worship at 7:30 P.M. We were also having mid-week Service at 7:30 P.M. on Wednesday.

During the same period, our Circle Leaders were as follows: Mrs. H.G. Cuthrell, Mrs. Hugh McCall, Mrs. W.H. Hasty, Sr. (Flora Belle), Mrs. Jack Carter (Beth), and Mrs. Maizelle Jones Williams. At the same time, the Methodist Youth Fellowship Officers were: Neill Duncan, President; Carolyn Smith, Vice President; and Morrison McKenzie, Treasurer. This was evidently Morrison, Jr.

The President of the then Woman's Society of Christian Service was Mrs. W.A. Webb and the Vice President, Mrs. George Stearns, whom we all knew as Jimmie. We have just recently received the sad news that Jimmie passed away at her home in Charlotte in April, 1983. She and her husband, George, were both faithful members our our church for fifteen or more years and our sympathy goes out to the family.

Mr. Atwater was transferred at the Conference held in the fall of 1954. The following article is taken from THE SCOTTISH CHIEF, a long-time Maxton paper:

MAXTON - Reverend Eastwood Atwater, pastor of St. Paul's Methodist Church, will leave on Tuesday, October 26, 1954, to take up his duties as Chaplain of Methodist Students at Duke University.

Mr. Atwater who graduated from the Seminary in 1952, came here from Haymount Methodist Church in Fayetteville where he had been assistant pastor.

In addition to his help and cooperation with the Women's Society of Christian Service and the Methodist Men's Organization, Mr. Atwater has devoted considerable time and interest to work with the Methodist Youth Group. Since he has been in Maxton he has served as Counselor for the Youth Group's meeting at Louisburg College and also at Duke University.

While acting in the capacity of Chaplain at Duke, Mr. Atwater plans to take advanced work in the psychology of religion. He will be greatly missed by his many friends in the Maxton community.

I have heard that Mr. Atwater transferred to the Episcopal Church and had been in Charlotoe at one time. I tried to locate him there in order to get more information about him but he was not listed in the phone book.

In the same paper that the above article was in were the following Maxton Personals that will bring back old memories:

"Corporal Roland Seals and Cpl. Pete Hasty spent Sunday with their families and returned to Ft. Jackson, S.C. Sunday night.



Friends of Mrs. J.W. Carter will be glad to know that she is back home and much improved.

Miss Betty Evans who is studying in Richmond, Va. spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. T.O. Evans. (Martha Lee and Owen.)

I'm sure everyone who was around at that time remembers Hurricane Hazel which passed through Maxton at about the same time - October 15, 1954, to be exact. A write-up also from the Scottish Chief follows:

#### HAZEL LEAVES DEVASTATIONG TRAIL

Hurricane Hazel hurried through the Robeson County area on Friday carrying in her wake limbs of trees, roofs of houses and barns and in some instances automobiles. Void spaces appear where once were lovely plate glass windows. An example of this may be seen at Marion Moser's place of business on the Laurinburg highway. A tenant house belonging to Miss Bessie McLean, on the Red Springs road, was completely demolished. Falling trees cause untold damage. One large tree fell on the kitchen of the John Sellers home crushing it in. Damage in Maxton is estimated between \$50,000 and \$100,000. The communication system was disrupted to the extent that only a few telephones were in service and electric service was nil for hours. Residents dependent upon electricity for cooking and heating homes had to make the best of an annoying (to say the least) situation.

Chief of Police, Bob Fisher, had WEWO broadcast the seriousness of the hurricane, asking that people stay off the streets. There were quite a number of live wires down and Mr. Fisher was directing those in cars so that they would not cross the wires. With all the damage, not one life was lost in the area which was indeed much to be thankful for since the school children in some places came and went on schedule. In other places the children were kept in school until the storm abated.

Tree crews have been busy clearing the debris away and things begin to look normal.

#### DEATHS

Robert Otha Johnson - December 28, 1953  
Frederick L. Cashwell, Sr. - 1954  
Mrs. Katie Cottingham Burns - March 28, 1954

#### MARRIAGES

Lena Alford Carter and William Edwin Rogers - married May 8, 1954 by Reversed W. Eastwood Atwater.

REV. KENNETH BEANE  
OCT. 1954 - JUNE - 1955



When I first began work on this history I wrote letters to some of our former pastors. Kenneth Beane was among those written and he very promptly answered. But instead of mailing the letter, which was already stamped, he delivered it in person. And what a nice surprise it was when he appeared at my door on a bright Saturday morning! The letter follows:

Dear Ruth: So very nice to hear from you!!!

Five years ago I retired from the U.S. Air Force. We have been living in Fayetteville a little over four years. Ken Jr., who was six years old in Maxton, lives in Laurel, Maryland. Richard, age 23, lives in Fayetteville. Margaret, my wife, and I were born in Siler City.

Sandwiched between military tours of duty was our year at Maxton. We were there the short conference year, October '54 - June 55. That was the year the conference changed meeting dates from October to June. All of you at Maxton were so very nice we have very fond memories of the Maxton year.

After we left Maxton, we lived in Duluth, Minnesota; Swepsonville, N.C., San Antonio, Texas; Izmir, Turkey; Camarillo, California, Misawa, Japan; Tampa, Florida, and now Fayetteville.

Starting this conference year I am providing Sunday services at the Parkton Charge: 9:45 at Buie and 11:15 at Parkton and visit in that area a couple of days each week. We reside in Fayetteville.

The picture I'm sending is one made about the time period I was in Maxton.

Thanks for remembering us. Come see us.

Prayers,

Kenneth Beane

I believe he was only helping on a temporary basis at that time, but since then he has become a regular member of conference and is, if I'm not mistaken, still serving the same churches.

DEATHS

Mrs. Charles (Margie D.) Castevens - February 23, 1955







There will be a choir rehearsal immediatley following Prayer Meeting.

BUILDING FUND CANVASS COMMITTEE - Mr. W.A. Webb, Chairman of the Building Fund, has called a meeting of the Committee on Sunday night, September 2, at 8:15 p.m. The following persons are members of this committee and are urged to attend the meeting:

W.A. Webb, Wiley Steed, Lawrence Jones, David Singley, Mrs. J.G. Gainey, Howard Hasty, Mrs. J.B. Hord, J.L. Pace, Roland Seals, George Stearns, Rufus Smith, Fred Welch, Morrison McKenzie, Tracy Watson, Mrs. W.H. Hasty, C.M. Castevens, Jr., Mrs. F.C. Frostick, C.A. Hasty, Henry Carter, Wade McArthur.

NEW OFFICERS ELECTED

Mr. Carl Sinclair has been elected to serve on the Board of Stewards for the ensuing year. Mr. Halbert Jones is the newly-elected General Church School Secretary. He will succeed Neill Duncan, who will be attending the University of South Carolina this fall. We are happy to have Mr. Sinclair and Mr. Jones serve in these official capacities.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE, SUNDAY, AUGUST 16: 88

Classes were as follows: Nursery, Kindergarten, Primary, Junior, Intermediate, Senior, Fellowship, Couples, McKinnon-Hornaday, Men, Officers.

USHERS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

Morning: Rufus Smith, J.B. Hord, W.A. Webb, C.A. Hasty  
Evening: Tom Carrowon and C.M. Castevens, Sr.

THE SAINT PAUL METHODIST MESSENGER

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VOL. II, NO. 11

Maxton, North Carolina

October 19, 1956

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Dear Friends,

I am "The Messenger." I am now one year old. I have been coming into your home each week since October 6, 1955, bringing a message about your church, its program and its purpose. Please allow me to celebrate my first birthday in a rather unusual way - by saying a few things about myself.

First, how do I come into being? I begin early in the week when ideas about the program of the church are being jotted down. When reports come in on the activities of the WSCS, the MYF, the Methodist Men, Sunday School and other groups, they are recorded and become a part of the story I tell. Then through a process of typing, cutting stencils, mimeographing, folding, addressing, and stamping, I am actually brought into being. Then I am ready to be turned over to the mail man to be delivered into your home at an expense to the church of about three cents.

Where do I go? Each week I go with the story of our church into about 125 homes and to out-of-town members and friends in several states and foreign countries. College students and servicemen keep in touch with their home church and community through the message that I bring to them.

What is my purpose? What is the reason for my existence? What do I hope to accomplish? Let me say first of all that anything I accomplish depends largely on what happens to me after I am delivered and the response that is made to the message that I bring.



I was created to carry news - some of it good news, some of it bad news. Because the story that I tell is about people, part of it is the story of success and part of it is the story of failure. Many times I have to report unfaithfulness, indifference, self-satisfaction and unachieved goals. But I also have the privilege of reporting the high ideals of victorious living which come through a combination of faith, love and loyalty.

Although much of my task is to inform, my basic purpose is to inspire. I tell the story which is the only cure for the world's deadly sickness - to tell the story which makes us aware of our sinfulness, but at the same time offers forgiveness of sin and the power to overcome.

Here is, in short, the story of myself and my purpose. My success and effectiveness depends largely upon YOU. The question I ask of myself, and of you, is: "Am I worth three or four cents and three or four minutes of your time each week? You are a part of the report I make. Your share in the life and work of our church either helps make it a story of victory and good news of salvation, or it will help make it a story of defeat and "mission un-accomplished." Which will it be?

Yours in His Service,  
"The Messenger"

The Sunday School Attendance for Sunday, October, 14: 101  
Attendance a year ago. 94.

LAYMAN'S DAY SERVICE: On Sunday, October 21, we will observe Laymen's Day in our church. Mr. T.W. Watson, our Charge Lay Leader and Associate Lay Leader of the Fayetteville District, will be in charge of the Morning Worship Service. - - - The impact which the Church makes upon the world is mainly in the hands of the laymen - (what they do in political, social, and economic life make the difference.)

Let us make Laymen's Day a time when the power of the gospel to build character is manifest in our church.

JUST SUPPOSE . . .

Suppose you had to run for church membership as any candidate runs for political office, would you win or lose?

Suppose the membership were good for one year only, and that re-election depended upon the good you had done in the church during that time. Would you be re-elected or not?

Suppose there were a long list of those waiting to get in. Would you be more alive to your duties as a Christian?

Suppose you were called upon to explain just why your church should keep your name on the roll. Have you a record of helpful service to offer in your defense?

Suppose every member in the church did as much for the church as you are doing. Would more seats be needed, or would the doors be shut half of the time?

Suppose you were to set the pattern of giving. Would your church receive a token or a tithe?

--- Fields.

GREATNESS: "Not everyone can do great things, but everyone can do small thing in a great way."

"The only justification for change is improvement."

If there were any marriages during this period, I have not received any reports of them although I have asked for any such information.

#### DEATHS

Miss Leila R. Barnes - March 29, 1956

Talmadge W. Gentry - August 7, 1956

James A. West - 1957

On April 21, 1957, which was Easter Sunday, a vesper service was held at our Church at 5:00 in the afternoon. Among the group present were Mr. David M. Singley, Mrs. Singley and their three small children, Louisa Ann, David Morris, Jr. and Michael Austin.

Immediately after the services they rode up towards Aberdeen to show the children a turkey farm they wanted to see. On the way either there or back they had a terrible accident and the three children's lives were snuffed out like a candle.

What a terrible thing this was! The funeral was held at our church which overflowed to fill the church yard. I well remember as I was outside with the crowd.

Our minister's wife, Frances Glover, had a lovely voice and she sang "Jesus Loves Me." which was one that all the children had loved.

Mr. Singley was the Superintendent of our schools and they were wonderful members of our church until they moved to Clinton. Some time later after the death of the children they adopted a boy and a girl who were brother and sister and they too grew up to be a good members. I remember quite well that Ricky had a beautiful voice as a little fellow and used to sing for us on occasion.





REV. ERNEST E. EDMONDS

JULY 1957 - JULY 1960

Rev. Edmonds was assigned as our pastor at the Conference held in June 1957. He was a rather elderly gentleman and quite stately in appearance, with snow-white hair. Mrs. Edmonds was a lovely lady, very dignified and always dressed in the best of taste. They had two children - a married daughter and a son who was a colonel in the service at the time - so they were alone in the parsonage.

It was the first meeting held on July 8, 1958 (first records available) that the official board passed the following Motion: That a family night supper be held each quarter; that a planning committee composed of the President of the W.S.C.S. as Chairman and Leaders of the Circles, be responsible for setting up a regular date and time for the supper. They were to notify the pastor so it could be put in the bulletin and final arrangements be made for tables, etc. for serving the supper. This proved to be a very successful over the years as it has been a means of bringing our people together in much closer fellowship.

At this time Rev. Edmonds expressed appreciation to the Official Board for their work during the past year. He urged them to continue to work together as a group for the good of God's Kingdom during the coming year and to show brotherly love to one another.

W.A. Webb presented a plan to the Board in a most interesting manner, calling it the PLAN FOR FINANCIAL ACTION. Mr. Webb stressed the need of a pledge from every member of the church, emphasizing that the amount of the pledge from every member was singular compared to the idea of a definite pledge to be paid weekly or otherwise on a regular basis. Inasmuch as the church had fallen short on finances the past year, I'm sure that was an excellent idea. And, of course, that's still our plan of action.

On Sept. 9, 1958, Tracy Watson and Paul Gentry were elected as Lay Speakers. Of course Tracy is still with us and Paul went on to become a Methodist minister. Curtis Gentry was also appointed to help with the correspondence which he did for quite some time. Sometime later the official board sent the following letter to Curtis:

Dear Curtis: At our last official board meeting a motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried that I, as Secretary of the Board, write you a letter and try in some small way to thank you for the unselfish work you are doing for our church in handling our correspondence. ---- I do want to convey to you our heartfelt thanks and to let you know that your work, your life and your wonderful spirit is an inspiration to our entire church. God bless you and again thanks.

George B. Stearns, Secretary, Official Board.

Curtis is one of our shut-ins and is presently in a Veterans Hospital, where he has been since the death of his mother, Mrs. Beatrice Gentry. I'm sure he would appreciate a note from any of our members. His brother, Bassil, will be glad to give you his address.

A motion was also made and carried that Sunday night services be held beginning at 7:30. I've been unable to determine when night services had been discontinued, unless possibly for the summer. However, on October 15, 1958, the question came up again and it was decided to put it to a standing vote the next Sunday and if twenty-five or thirty stood, indicating that they would attend, the services would be continued.

At the meeting of November 11, 1958, the following statement was shown: Mr. Singley, speaking for the Bazaar Committee, stated that everything was set and ready. The Bazaar date was set for November 14, 1958. This is the first mention



I've seen of the Bazaar, so evidently this was the first of many that we have had. Thelma Betts Gwinn, who was a close friend of the Edmonds, told me that the Bazaar was definitely begun during his years here.

At the December 9, 1958 meeting there is a P.S. which says simply: "The Church collected \$828.00 profit on the Bazaar." I can't imagine why they did not elaborate on this because it was one of the most enjoyable and successful affairs that our church has ever undertaken. We either had it, and the ones that followed for some years in the Community Building or the Carolina Military Academy Cafeteria, and they were always well attended by the entire community. I believe the Bazaar was discontinued for several years but I truly believe it is back to stay now. True, it's a lot of work, but then there's also a lot of profit and pleasure to be derived from it!

The "Building Fund" was also mentioned in the report for December 10, 1958 and it was decided that the money already on hand should be transferred to some concern such as Building & Loan so that it would earn more interest. It was also suggested that Jones Gwinn and Mrs. Webb give a concert some Sunday at which a free-will offering would be taken and applied to the building fund. This was put in the form of a motion which was seconded and carried; however, I can't remember that the concert ever took place.

Soon thereafter \$4,500.00 of the Building Fund was deposited with the Home Federal Savings and Loan Association in Fayetteville, N.C., bearing interest at 3½%. That doesn't sound like much but we didn't have the inflation then that we do now. By the way, the Building Fund at that time was to be used for a new parsonage which was sorely needed.

Under new business, Mr. W.A. Webb made a motion that four new choir robes be purchased and the motion was carried. I've tried to determine when the original robes were purchased but the nearest I came was that they were in use in 1954 when Mrs. O.B. McCall (Sallie) joined the choir.

Mr. Webb also stated that a meeting would be held in Fayetteville on January 16th and 17th to make plans for beginning a camping program at Camp Rockfish. As we know, this was a successful project and is a real asset and joy for our District. St. Paul's has a yearly outing there on a Sunday in June. A lake-side service is held after which a bountiful picnic is spread under the open-sided building equipped with tables and chairs. There are boats available for those who wish to paddle down the lake (or river) and others engage in horse shoes or just plain sitting around visiting. All in all it's a very pleasant way to spend a Sunday in this beautiful spot where one feels really close to nature and to God who made it all.

Mr. Webb and Mr. Hasty previously agreed to get a bulletin board for the honor roll and at the meeting on March 10, 1959, Rev. Edmonds reported that the board had been completed.

Mr. Singley, reporting for the Building Committee, stated that \$4,500.00 had been raised toward the building of a new parsonage and there had been some concern about going ahead with the building project although one-half of the money hadn't been received. After some discussion, it was decided to wait until \$7,000.00 had been raised before starting the building.

The preacher's salary at this time had been set at \$3,900.00 plus \$300.00 traveling expenses, and that he pay his own utilities. As you can see, the salary had gone up considerably over the years even though it was still quite low. This was at a meeting held on March 10, 1959.

At a meeting held July 14, 1959, a group discussion was held regarding the appointment of a building and grounds committee which would be given authority



and responsibility for looking after all church property.

On September 8, 1959, Mr. Singley reported that preparations were being made for the Bazaar to be held again. He also reported approximately \$5,000.00 in the Building and Loan for the new Parsonage Fund. He was instructed by the chairman to write Rev. O.L. Hathaway, Executive Secretary of Extension Service to invite him to meet with the Building Committee in October to see if he could help us get some construction help. On September 27 this letter was written and on October 9, 1959, Rev. Hathaway answered saying he would be glad to help in the name of the Board of Missions in securing this parsonage. He suggested that Rev. M.C. Dunn, the District Superintendent, be invited to talk over plans because he would have to approve them along with the District Committee on Buildings and Locations.

At a meeting held on October 13, it was reported that Miss Motley, a former member of the faculty of Presbyterian Junior College and also a member of our church during the time, had sent a \$25.00 donation which the Committee voted to place in the Building Fund. This was quite a sizable gift at that time and I'm sure very much appreciated!

For some time Jones Gwinn had been our assistant organist, as well as a member of our church. So when he received a call to be permanent organist at the Methodist Church in Red Springs, he naturally accepted. Then after several years he changed over to the Presbyterian Church here in Maxton and thereby we lost a wonderful member. Along with him went Thelma Betts, his wife. However, her name is still on our roll and she attends the Methodist Circle meetings. I can only say that our loss was a great gain for the Presbyterians.

At the November 10, 1959 meeting, Dr. Edmonds reported that the Thanksgiving service would be held at the Presbyterian Church and he would be bringing the message. This procedure has been followed for years in Maxton and is indicative of the fellowship that exists among the churches of the town.

On December 8, W.H. Hasty, Jr. was reported to be seriously ill. This news was received with much sadness in our church because he had served long and faithfully in many capacities. Dr. Edmonds requested that a card or letter be sent to him at the hospital in Chapel Hill.

Dr. Edmonds was transferred to another church when Conference met in June of 1960. It seemed too bad that he couldn't have stayed another year in order to see the work completed that he had worked so hard to accomplish. However, his three years had been very fruitful!

I presume that he has passed away inasmuch as a card sent to his last known address in Lakeland, Florida, requesting a picture for this history was returned to the writer showing "Unknown." I have checked with several people but no one has heard anything more than I.

#### WEDDINGS

Mrs. Mary Ring Rogers and Mr. Charles M. Castevens, Sr. were married on November 24, 1959 by Rev. Ernest E. Edmonds.

Charlotte Austin and John Prentice Stansel, Jr., were married in 1959 at the First Presbyterian Church, Maxton, N.C.

DEATHS

Mrs. Nancy Lloyd Carter - July 22, 1957  
Dewey Evans, Sr. - December 21, 1957  
Kevin Max Singley - January 27, 1958  
Miss Maggie G. McLean - December 18, 1958  
Henry A. McKinnon, Sr. - March 22, 1959. Former member of St. Paul's.  
Member at Lumberton Methodist Church at time of death.  
Rev. Harold Glenn Cuthrell - April 3, 1959  
Mrs. Flora Bell Currie Hasty - June 12, 1959  
Howard Hasty, Jr. - April 29, 1960  
Miss Ethel Gaitley - September 25, 1958  
John M. McCall - December 20, 1959  
Mrs. Howard Taylor (Mary Edna) - January 28, 1959  
Mrs. Temple Stanton - January 11, 1959 - Wife of Mr. Temple Stanton,  
belong to Baptist Church.





REV. C. C. ROETTGER  
JUNE 1960 - JUNE 1962

The arrival of the Roettger's to the parsonage ushered in an entirely different scene to the one just passed. They were a young couple with four little girls, stairsteps really, possibly one to four or five. You can well see how this had been changed to a very lively spot!

Plans for the new parsonage were well under way when Mr. Edmonds left. Therefore on Aug. 29, 1960, the following was made a permanent record.

St. Paul Methodist Church  
Maxton, North Carolina  
August 29, 1960

Realizing the need for the facility, and having inquired into the ability of the church to meet the financial obligation involved, we grant written approval to the St. Paul Methodist Church of Maxton, North Carolina to authorize the building of a new parsonage, as provided in the Discipline, Sec. VII, Par. 180 part #1. This authorization to be made a part of the permanent record contained in the minutes of the Quarterly Conference.

/s/ C.D. Roettger, Pastor

/s/ Millard C. Dunn,  
District Supt.

The next thing available is a "Report of Pastor" covering the period 4/30/60 - 2/12/61. This report shows a total of 241 members on roll and includes a listing of members. Just out of curiosity I checked through this list and found that of those members 85 have been lost, 64 by death and 21 by other reasons. That amounts to a great percentage of our present membership and it really shows how important it is that we continue to obtain new members. It's also very sad as it shows how quickly life passes.

On the 19th of May a report of Audit was sent to M.C. Dunn, Dist. Supt. from Paul S. Steed, Church Auditor and Mrs. J.L. Pace (Alice Hasty). I mention this in order to say that for many years Paul and Alice were faithful to the church in these same offices and we really owe a debt of gratitude to both of them. Alice is no longer with us but Paul is still around still going strong. His wife Grace, was also a much loved and useful member of our church until her death in early 1980.

Judging from the following menu, the men were apparently quite formal at that time.

MENU

Methodist Men Meeting June 15, 1961

Feed Committee

D.M. Singley, Chm., George Stearns, C.D. Roettger, Glenn Cottingham, John Pace

Ex-Officio Members

Alice Pace                      Mary Jane Hayes

Roast Turkey	Dressing	Rice	Gravy
Carolina String Beans	Hot Rolls	Butter	Pickles
Iced Tea	Alice Pace Cake	Tracy Watson Ice Cream	



In the same audit report a total of \$7,740.06 was shown in the Parsonage Building Fund.

A report dated July 11, 1961 by John C. Hasty, Chmn. of the Official Board and also by the heads of different commissions, stated that the year 1960-61 had been a very successful one.

The every member canvas was a great success according to this report. It stated that due to this, 5% of the membership were then pledging about \$300.00 whereas prior to this time there were no pledges this large. Also the percentage of our membership not pledging had fallen from 32-8/10% last year to 21% this year, which indicated that more people have been reached by the every member canvas.

I presume that the church let it be known about this time that it was ready to receive bids for the new parsonage. On Sept. 14th, 1961, Mr. David Singley, Chmn. of the Bldg. Committee received a bid from Schell Bros. Construction Co. for \$16,800.00; on Sept. 19th, one from J.B. Stearns, Contractor, for \$15,673.95 and also on the 19th one from Spero Construction Co. for \$15,840.00. The lowest bid was accepted. I imagine the fact that George Stearns was a very active member of our church and also the son of the contractor was probably responsible for the low bid. Also, George was affiliated with his father in the business. On Sept. 26th, 1961 a Standard Form of Agreement between Contractor and Owner for Construction of Buildings was drawn up between the Contractor and St. Pauls Methodist Church Board Committee. This showed the type of house, "Lancaster #6" prepared by Standard Homes Company. Also to begin at once and to be substantially completed in approximately 8 months - weather permitting, the amount subject to additions and deductions provided therein in current funds as follows: \$15,673.95. Progress of payments was also shown and upon substantial completion of the entire work a sum sufficient to increase the total payments to 100 per cent of the Contractor price, \$15,673.95. Final payment shall be due ten days after substantial completion of the work provided the work be then fully completed and the contract fully performed.

Witnesses to the contract were as follows: David M. Singley, Chmn., St. Pauls Methodist Church, George B. Stearns, Manager, J.B. Stearns, Contractor, George Wright and Jimmie S. Stearns.

Also attached was a complete description of the materials to be used and the cost of same.

Though no date is shown, I'm sure the groundbreaking and dedication of the land at 205 Elm St., Maxton, took place immediately thereafter. This was done by Dr. Dunn, District Supt. and the pastor, Rev. Roettger. As a part of the service two songs, "ALL PEOPLE THAT ON EARTH DO DWELL" and "WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN" were used. A goodly number of the congregation were present for this most impressive service.

Evidently the weather and everything else cooperated inasmuch as on December 15, 1961 Mr. Singley received the following letter from Millard C. Dunn, District Supt., 1019 Hay St., Fayetteville, N.C.

Dear Mr. Singley:

Thank you for your letter of December 8. I apologize for not answering it sooner but I was out of the office when it came.

It was certainly a great thrill to learn that the parsonage was completed, and that you were ready for your preacher to move in. I think it is wonderful that you were able to get in before Christmas.

The \$250.00 that I promised you will be forthcoming as soon after the first of the year as it is made available through churches who give to our benevolent



program and the \$750.00 requested from the Conference Board of Missions was deferred until the next spring meeting which will be held some time after the first of the year and as soon as it is approved we can expect a check soon thereafter.

I just want you to be assured that the money was promised and that you will receive it. Just be patient until the process is worked out.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Millard C. Dunn

At this time the following program was planned:

1. Visitation Chain-Have every member in the church visited on Sunday, Dec.10, '61.
2. Support Sunday-Try to get 100% of members at Church Service Dec. 17, 1961.

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1. Visitation Chain:

- (a) Have all Stewards meet at the Church at 2:00 P.M. Sunday, December 10, 1961 for refreshments and instructions.
- (b) Have each Steward visit in two members homes with instructions for both homes to visit two more homes. This way, each member will be visited by some member of the church for a visit only.

2. Support Sunday (or other appropriate name)

- (a) While each member is being visited on Sunday, Dec. 10, 1961, purpose will be to invite all members to Church service, Sunday, December 17, 1961. (Special purpose will be that each home will be entered before Christmas also to find out if any members would like to serve in the church.)
- (b) Nursery will have to be arranged with notice given to young parents.

In the report of the Annual Audit for the period 1 July 1961 - 31 March 1962 was the following item regarding the Bible teacher in the Maxton Schools:

Donation for Bible School Teacher - \$476.50. It was mentioned previously under Rev. Munns tour of duty what a wonderful asset Miss Alexander, later Mrs. Campbell was to our church and the entire community. However, I don't believe that report included the fact that her salary was paid entirely by the churches of the community. That I'm sure was one of the most worthwhile things the people of Maxton ever contributed to the education of it's children.

The last report available by Rev. Roettger was dated April 12, 1962. It reads as follows: We have completed a new parsonage with only \$5,000.00 indebtedness, we are in the 7th week of our second Every Member Visitation, and we have active participation in all activities. We have been severely hampered during the past winter with sickness, and much remains that we had planned to do. However, we are proud of our attendance, our participation, and the dedication of our people. We have participated in all district, sub-district, and conference programs and meetings, and trust the Lord to show us an even more fruitful work through our church in the remaining months of the year.

Additions - By Transfer: Mr. & Mrs. C.C. Morrison from Reigelwood, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Sinclair from Trinity, Red Springs, Mr. & Mrs. James Hall, Trinity, Wilmington

Losses by Transfer: Mrs. Martha Hamer Morgan.

Losses by Death: Mrs. Henry Carter (Kate)-April 23, 1961, Joseph P. Stansel, Sr. - Aug. 24, 1961, Howard Foard Taylor - Dec. 12, 1961, John Robert Deaver - Dec. 27, 1961, Mrs. J.J. Evans - Feb. 10, 1962, Mr. H.H. (Habo) Williams - Mary Charles daughter of Roland H. and Tweedie T. Seals - June 2, 1962, Dewey H. Evans, Jr. - July 20, 1960.

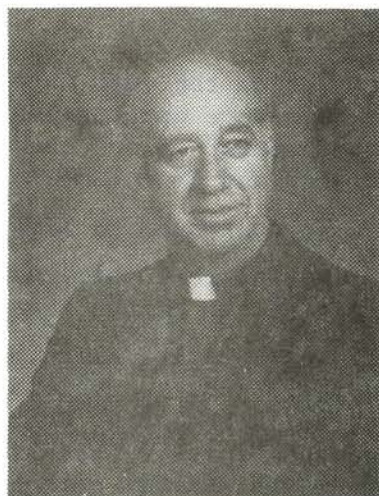


REV. ROBERT M. DREW  
JUNE 1962 - JUNE 1966

Mr. Drew was assigned here in June 1962. He brought with him a wonderful wife, Joanne and five nice children.

During his first year he reported a net gain of twenty-two members. The financial report was extremely good, showing a small surplus. The proposed budget was \$16,059.29 and for the first time in it's history as far back as most members can remember, this had not happened.

A report by Mrs. Howard Hasty (Rose Alice) dated May 28, 1963 stated that attendance had more than doubled since last year. All reports from various departments were equally as good.



Reports for 1963 and 64 were still quite glowing.

In 1964 Mr. Drew stated that he had been called on by many people, both Methodist and otherwise for counseling. He also said that one of the most fruitful fields of his ministry during the year had been to the shut-ins. They especially enjoyed the Tape Recorded Church Services he'd furnished them.

Emphasis had been placed on the liquidation of indebtedness on our parsonage. Three yearly payments had been liquidated plus interest leaving a balance due of only \$3500.00.

At this time the old parsonage by the church was being used for Sunday School Classrooms.

A report by Trustees showed the total value of Church Property including the new parsonage to be \$90,673.95

In July 1964 Mr. Drew reported that by using \$800.00 from the Bazaar and drawing on a parsonage savings account and our church budget, we had paid all but \$500.00 on the parsonage!

On May 2nd 1965 Mr. Drew reported that there was a possibility that we might sell our present church property and relocate. So, I presume this was when the hassel began over whether or not we'd keep our old church or build a new one.

The Methodist men were very active at this time and under the leadership of Tracy Watson, Church Lay Leader, our church won the attendance award for churches of under 400 members at the District Lay Rally in Fayetteville.

The Women of the Church have always been workers and this year was no exception. They held several Mission Studies and Cottage Prayer Meetings and participated in World Day of Prayer among other things. During the year they raised \$696.94 per Mrs. Joe Hord who was President at the time.

A report dated Oct. 3, 1965 contained the following notation: "We paid our parsonage indebtedness in full last spring and our Board of Trustees is now making long range plans for a major building program for the church itself.



The District Supt. was sent a report on Jan. 16, 1966 which showed a total membership of 277 and present church school enrollment 175!! I wonder what happened to all of those Sunday School members. The pastor's salary was \$6000.00 including travel expense. That't not too much but quite a jump from \$480.00 in 1886.

During the year Carolina Military Academy was open and from time to time the boys were entertained. Their president, Colonel Leslie A. Blankenship was a good member of our church while in Maxton. In fact he was a Methodist minister and from time to time filled the pulpit when the pastor was away.

We continued to have family night suppers once each quarter..

During this year the church again contributed to the Bible Teacher's Salary in the Maxton Schools.

In 1963 Mrs. Alice Hasty Pace had served as the church Treasurer for thirty one years and the Official Board drew up a resolution which read in part: "That St. Paul's Methodist Church extend to Mrs. Pace our heartfelt commendation and gratitude for her Christian character, her faithfulness in the performance of her duties and her personal sense of dedication." It was also resolved that a copy of the resolution be placed in the permanent records of St. Pauls Methodist Church and that a copy be presented to Mrs. Pace. Copies were also sent to Dist. Supt. Millard C. Dunn, Thomas Caddell, Secretary of Official Board and to the North Carolina Christian Advocate in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Also in 1963 Mr. Clarence Whitlock and Mr. John Pace passed away.

Mr. Whitlock had served as Sunday School Supt. member of the choir and many other offices during his many years membership and so had Mr. John Pace served in many capacities. Therefore resolutions of love and respect were placed in the permanent records for both of them.

During the same year Mr. Charles Castevens also passed away and resolutions of respect were recorded in the permanent records of the church in his memory.

The Commission on Education of the St. Paul's Church congratulated the following members of the 1966 Graduating Class from Maxton High School: Robert Mitchell Drew Jr., James Marcellus Gainey, Halbert Lyon Jones, Arthur Epting Lloyd Jr., Millard Smith Singletary, Jr., Harold Swain Steed, Jr.

In one of Mr. Drew's last reports he made the following statements: "As we complete our fourth and final year at Maxton we express our sincere appreciation to the Conference for appointing us to this fine church to serve a wonderful congregation and to the people themselves for their love and support."

## DEATHS

Luther Thomas English (Red) - April 23, 1962  
Henry F. Carter, Sr. - August 30, 1962  
Frank McCallum Shepherd - November 19, 1962  
Mrs. A.J. Steed (Lillie Curtis) - April 16, 1963  
Clarence H. Whitlock - January 9, 1963  
Miss Ava Lee Evans - November 14, 1963  
J.H. Taylor (James Henry) - June 4, 1964  
Mrs. Myrtle Evans (T.O.) - June 23, 1964  
Charles Montgomery Castevens, Sr. - September 5, 1964  
John L. Pace - September 8, 1964  
Mrs. J.H. Taylor - August 25, 1965  
Clifford Lee Hornaday - February 20, 1966. Dr. Hornaday was a Christian Educator with a PH.D. Degree. He was the son of one of our former pastors, Rev. J.A. Hornaday, and he preached for us at times. He was also the teacher of the Men's Bible Class for a long time.

RECEIVED BY TRANSFER: Russell Cotton, Mrs. Russel Cotton, M.C. Herring, Dr. Fred Ford, Mrs. Fred Ford, Mr. W.C. Warwick, Mrs. W.C. Warwick, James Boyd Smith, Jr.

LOST BY TRANSFER: Amos Biles, Betty Gray Webb, Mrs. Wells.

## WEDDINGS

Betty Jean Cottingham McKenzie and Cecil McCullen Weeks Jr. were married on April 30, 1965 at St. Paul's United Methodist Church - by Rev. Robert M. Drew.





REV. A. G. McCLUNG

JUNE 1966 - JUNE 1967



Rev. McClung was assigned to St. Paul's at the Conference in June 1966. He brought with him his wife, a son, and a daughter.

In his first report, Mr. McClung stated that we now have a total of 278 full members. He also stated that our major emphasis this year will be CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND A BUILDING PROGRAM.

In January 1967 he reported \$902.67 had been raised for church and parsonage building repairs and debts. He also reported a quota of \$9,150.00 towards College Development Crusade. This would have been for Methodist College in Fayetteville and the one in Rocky Mount.

On May 13, 1967, Rev. McClung stated: "The Church is well organized. The greatest need is perhaps for the support by every member of the church school and new life in this area could well revitalize the entire church."

The Treasurer's report showed total receipts for the year to be \$14,125.87 plus a balance from last year of \$1,812.40, making a total of \$16,125.27. The Trustees reported the total value of church property now to be \$139,000.00. The Woman's Society reported total cash receipts from all sources to be \$735.16 and a membership of 50.

A Children's and Junior Choir was organized during the year. This always adds much interest to our church services.

At the Conference in June of 1967, Rev. McClung asked to be transferred back to the Virginia Conference. We had enjoyed the family during the one year they were with us but could understand their reason for wanting to return.

#### DEATHS

Donald Howard McQueen - November 25, 1966 - Former member

REV. G. WAYLON COOK

JUNE 1967 - JUNE 1969

Rev. Waylon Cook and family were assigned to our church at the conference held in June 1967. He was a very young preacher with a most attractive wife and one child.

During their stay here Mrs. Cook started a kindergarten in the Annex of our church which she operated during their two year tour in Maxton. This was very successful and when they left Maxton it was taken over by Mrs. Mary Castevens, a retired school teacher and also a member of our church.

A report on the state of the church by Mr. Cook three and one half months after their arrival stated that the family was graciously received into a well kept and orderly parsonage, and the Lay Leadership was blessed with energetic and progressive members. He also called attention to the condition of our present buildings and thought we should get along with the improvements that have been planned. Neither was he pleased with our Sunday School attendance, saying that was pitifully small for the size of the church. However, he stated that the program of Christian Education was in the hands of capable leadership and he thought that probably more adequate and attractive church school facilities would go a long way in remedying this situation.

REV. TYSON  
DR. BETHEA  
REV. FRALEY





REV. HAROLD D. STANLEY

JUNE 1969 - JUNE 1971

At conference in June 1969, Rev. Stanley was assigned as our pastor. He had a lovely wife and a young son and daughter.

Mr. Stanley really had a way with words and I'd say that his sermons were tops in my estimation, and everyone else agreed. Really, I don't think I've ever heard better.

Sometime during the year Carolina Military Academy was closing down under the leadership of Col. Leslie Blankenship and Mr. Stanley decided to take it over. Inasmuch as he would not be able to carry on the work of the Church and the Academy alone, it became necessary that he have an assistant pastor for the next year. Therefore when conference convened in June 1970, Rev. Carson Tyson was appointed as his assistant pastor. Of course the two of them also planned to work together at CMA. So, for a year we had two pastors, both of which were eloquent speakers. However this didn't work out too well for the church inasmuch as even with two pastors, there wasn't time enough to take care of the affairs of the church and the academy properly. Therefore it was deemed necessary for the church to revert to one FULL TIME PASTOR, when conference met in June of 1971.

While Mr. Stanley was President of CMA, St Pauls purchased a 5 acre lot adjoining the Academy, from Mr. Stanley for the sum of \$12,000.00. It was planned at that time to give up the present church property and rebuild a modern church there.

DEATHS

Mr. Walter J. Pace - 1970. Mr. Pace was one of the most generous people that ever belonged to our church. In addition to that he was a true Christian Gentleman.

Luther McNeill Jr. - April 14, 1971. A former member and son of Mrs. Margaret Barnes McNeill. He was a Presbyterian after he married.

Caradine A. Brown, Sr. - 1970

MARRIAGES

Martha Byrd Gainey and William R. Grundmann were married on August 31, 1969 in St. Paul's United Methodist Church - By: Dr. Graham Eubanks.



REV. SAMUEL H. BROWN

JUNE 1971 - JUNE 1976

Rev. Brown moved into the parsonage at the end of June 1971, along with his lovely wife, Beverly, and two nice children, Carlene and Keith.

From the beginning of his ministry in Maxton it was evident that Sam Brown didn't believe in letting any grass grow under his feet, and it wasn't long before he had everyone else feeling the same way.

In the early part of Mr. Brown's ministry a clothing closet was established for the local school from which many children were furnished badly needed clothing.

In October 1972, Roland Seals and Henry Carter were elected as co-chairmen of the Bazarr. This proved to be a great success, as usual.

Also, in 1972, a much-needed light was installed in the church sign in front of the church building by Cecil Weeks.

In connection with the budget set for 1972-1973, an information dinner was held on May 9. The budget for the coming year was set at \$24,644.00. Along with this brochure was a picture of Paul Steed and Kelly Wicker, one of our oldest and youngest members. Under this picture was the following: "What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?" St. John 6:28.

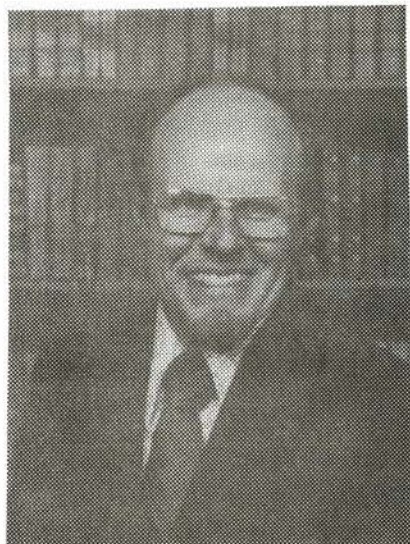
Mr Brown had been working for some time to have a Lay Witness Mission in our church. So on March 18, 1973, the following announcement was in the bulletin: "THIS IS NOT A TYPICAL WEEK!!!!!! Indeed it isn't. And it can be one of the most unforgettable times of your life! And SO MUCH depends on how you take part and enter into the spirit of it. PRAY that it will be a spiritually growing experience for all of us and PLAN to take the time to put self into everything. GUESTS ARE COMING to tell you what has happened in their lives ...at their own expense, using a weekend of their time FOR US...YOU...each and all."

The above was not exaggeration! There were thirty-two Christian Lay Witnesses who came for the weekend from North and South Carolina to share their Christian experiences with us.

I truly believe that all who attended these meetings were blessed for having been there. In the bulletin for March 25 was the following by Mr. Brown: OUR HEARTFELT THANKS TO OUR VISITING FRIENDS WHO HAVE INVESTED SO MUCH IN OUR FAITH. We have come to love you as Christian Brothers/Sisters and hope to see you again.

In May 1973, the name of the Missionary Society was changed to "THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN." A very impressive service was held at Wilson, North Carolina, which was presided over by Bishop Robert M. Blackburn. Our church was represented by the president of our society, Mrs. Mary Castevens and Miss Ruth Cottingham.

On September 11, 1973, the Breaking of Ground for the Methodist Retirement Home at Lumberton, North Carolina was held. This was a most impressive service, even though the area was really a patch of weeds with just enough cut down to enable the crowd to get in.





PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS were as follows: Rev. James W. Bailey, Minister, Chestnut St. United Methodist Church, Lumberton, N.C.; Bishop Robert M. Blackburn, Resident Bishop, The Raleigh Area, The United Methodist Church, Raleigh, N.C.; James B. Cheek, President of the Fund Raising Committee, The Methodist Retirement Home, Lumberton, N.C.; Dr. Russell Cherry, Minister, First Baptist Church, Lumberton, N.C.; Dr. Joseph F. Coble, Administrator, The Methodist Retirement Home, Durham, N.C.; The Rev. James F. Cummings, Minister, Mt. Olive United Methodist Church, Lumberton, N.C.; Dr. Joyce V. Early, Superintendent, The Rockingham District, The United Methodist Church, Rockingham, N.C.; Mrs. Margaret Harper, Southport, N.C., Member Board of Trustees of the Methodist Retirement Homes, Inc.; Dr. T.B. Hough, Retired Methodist Minister, Rockingham, N.C. Area Coordinator, The Methodist Retirement Home, Lumberton, N.C.; The Rev. Harvey Lowry, Minister, Prospect United Methodist Church, Pembroke, N.C.; Earl Musselwhite, Mayor, The City of Lumberton, Lumberton, N.C.; The Rev. William J. Neese, Superintendent, The Wilmington District, The United Methodist Church, Wilmington, N.C. and Sam R. Noble, Chairman of Robeson County Board of Commissioners, Lumberton, N.C.

Rev. Brown, Mrs. Lena English became a resident of the home where she stayed until her death in 1981.

Also in 1973 Mr. Brown went with a group from the North Carolina Conference to Bolivia for a period of three weeks. This team went for the purpose of building a church in Lapaz, which was made up of extremely poor people. On May 9, a Prayer Service was held for this group of friends which was conducted by Jimmy Seals, Mr. W.A. Webb and Mr. C.C. Morrison. For the benediction, the Youth choir sang "Let there Be Peace On Earth."

After Mr. Brown left Maxton he went to Bolivia again and at that time he was the leader of a group.

On March 31, 1974, Religious Heritage Sunday was held. This was in connection with Maxton's Centennial Celebration.

Among the messages from our past were short talks by two former members who had grown up in the church. They Lula May Cottingham Cole and Katie Lee McKinnon Thorne. Lula May reminisced about various ministers she had known in the early 1900's and related many interesting incidents that had occurred during those years. Katie Lee told us mostly about her family and especially Sallie Lou's young days, which of course we were glad to hear.

Among former ministers who were present were Rev. P.O. Lee and Rev. C.J. Andrews. They each spoke briefly about their years at St. Paul's and expressed their pleasure in being here for this occasion.

A notation in the bulletin read "VISITORS, YOU HAVE MADE OUR DAY by your coming and we hope you will stay as long as you can. We are honored that this church and its people meant enough to bring you back. Your friendship is part of the treasure we share. Dinner will be served in the Annex at 1:00 and you are to be our honored guests. Please get a name tag and on this please also show the year you left our church."

Many of our membership were dressed in their centennial costumes that were a big part of our week's celebration.

The flowers in the church were provided to Memorialize the lives of our honored dead who still have a cherished place in our heritage and in our memories. Other events taking place in town on this date were an Art Exhibit, "The Twenty-Third Psalm" by one of our former Maxtonians, Robert Doares, who had made quite a name for himself in the world of Art. Also at 4:00 P.M. a combined service of worship by the various churches in the community was held at the Maxton Athletic Field.



All in all, this was a wonderful day in the life of our church and town.

The following week the entire town celebrated our Centennial year by either taking part in or attending our pageant, which was produced by a Hollywood Company. Many visitors came from far and near to join in the fun and really enjoy an old home week. Maxton will probably never have another time that can compare with the week of April 1-7, 1974!

During this period the "Over 40 Club" was very active and many interesting places in surrounding towns were visited. Many various types of entertainment were also enjoyed in the home of the members.

Sometime during the Brown's tour, Mrs. Brown (Beverly) and Betty Hasty organized the YACATS which was a group made up of young folks from not only our church but others which included Centre and the First Presbyterian in Maxton. This group did many interesting things including a trip to St. Andrews in February 1975. Members of this troupe were as follows: Carlene Brown, Keith Brown, Flora Anne Hasty, John Hasty, Jan McCaskill, Mike Prevatte, Billy Mallard, Gloria Prevatte, Elaine West, Lynn Seals, Tommy Vaughn, Debbie Weeks, Paul White and Mrs. Beverly Brown, Counselor. The Musicians were: Brad Arnold, Brian Bailey, Billy Chestnut, Chris Chestnut, and Mrs. Betty Hasty. The instruments used were Box Guitar, Piano. Base guitar and drums.

About this time there was much interest afoot in regard to plans for the new building. Also much interest was being manifest in a new organ, and in this connection various churches were visited to see and hear different makes of organs. Of course all of this time, money was being added to both funds via memorial gifts, etc.

In the spring of 1975, a Memorial Carillon was installed in memory of Mrs. Mabel Lyde Bundy who passed away on March 2, 1975. This was given by her husband, Mr. Preston Bundy, and it has really afforded much pleasure, not only to our church members but also to the whole community.

A VOTE ON BUILDING PLANS on October 19, 1975, was 74 to 17 to DROP THE PLANS TO BUILD ON OUR NEW LOCATION. Most of the suggestions made were to build an Educational Building on our present site. So the Building Committee voted on Oct. 29 to ask authorization to hire an architect and develop a plan for a building costing between \$100 and \$150,000.00.

On November 2, 1975, New Choir Robes which had been purchased at a cost of \$841.00 were dedicated. These were the first new robes in over twenty years and they are beautiful. A special service was prepared by Mrs. Lolita Webb, Choir Director, and Mrs. Mabel Stansel, Organist, to celebrate the occasion.

About this same time a workshop was held which was headed by Pat Hamer and Helen Speros Moser, for the purpose of making CHRISMONS to adorn a Christmas Tree that was to be put in the sanctuary. Many people, including some very young children, took part in this project and when Christmas came around we had a gorgeous tree with lots of beautiful decorations. And we still use these same decorations every year. By the way, Helen Moser grew up in our church even though she is a Presbyterian now, and we do appreciate her help so much in this way.

On the first Sunday in the New Year of 1976, 80 people were present at church and those who were members renewed their vows of Faith and again pledged their support of the church with prayers, presence, gifts and services. This was a wonderful way to begin again as a Christian.

Also on this first Sunday the congregation was asked to submit any suggestions they would like to make to the building committee.



The Architect suggested that the BALCONY in the Sanctuary be rehabilitated. Mr. Brown stated that this could be done more cheaply if done by our own people and ask for volunteers. This plan was followed headed up by Cecil Weeks, Chairman of the Board of Trustees and our other faithful members including Dumpy Foxworth, Mac Hoffman, Bryant Wicker, Larry Walker, John Blue and of course Mr. Brown himself.

In February 1976 a sketch for the Educational Building was submitted to the Building Committee and after much discussion they recommended that the fellowship hall be enlarged and that we build a \$150,000.00 plant rather than the \$125,000.00 one which was inadequate for our needs. In March new plans were submitted and the committee was well pleased with them.

Also, at this time, we were \$5,000.00 short of the amount needed for the new organ to be installed.

In the March 1976 Newsletter was the following statement: ORGAN COMMITTEE: We have retained Dr. John Williams of St. Andrews College to advise us about the technical aspects of choosing wisely and installing properly. Our old dream of a good pipe organ is about to come true.

Also in the March 1976 Bulletin was the following: There has been some discussion among the men who worked on the balcony about re-finishing the Sanctuary floor and starting a project (led by the men) to raise \$1,000.00 for re-carpeting the Sanctuary.

In the April 1976 Bulletin was the following: BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT: We met with the Architect March 30. We saw some revised plans and decided to recommend these to the Administrative Board and then with the Board's approval, present them to the congregation on April 25 at 11:00 a.m.

We are about ready to go! I'm excited!

On April 3, 1976 a Youth Mission Work Team from Albion, Michigan arrived in Maxton to work for a week on homes of poor folk here. Our young folks were hosts and co-workers as much as possible with school in session. The Michigan schools were on Easter break. A Sunday evening cook-out was held at the Chestnuts. These visitors had about twenty minutes of our Sunday morning worship.

These young people brought along everything they needed including food, and all they asked of us was that we furnish them a place to stay. Inasmuch as the annex had all the needed facilities, we were happy to have them use it as their home away from home.

Hearing aids were installed in the Sanctuary by Fred Cashwell and an assistant in March. This was a great help for the hard of hearing folk in our congregation.

Our old Glass Front Cabinet was re-done in the spring of 1976 to be used as our Memorabilia Display Cabinet. It's made with cut nails and wooden pegs and is perfectly beautiful.

In the Bulletin for May 9, 1976, was the following: THE ORGAN CONTRACT WAS SIGNED THURSDAY NIGHT! We need \$2,300.00 to have all the funds.

We have chosen a SHANTZ ORGAN. The total cost will be \$17,871.00 for the organ; estimated maximum cost for preparing the chamber \$1,200.00; cost of integrating the existing chimes into the new console \$378.00; and tax will be around \$650.00; totaling \$20,099.00. Delivery is promised around late December. The Shantz Company is very old and has a good reputation. They will custom build the organ with 389 pipes with the pipes exposed in a way that the John P. Stansel Memorial Cross will be centered. This is a very fitting place for his memorial and a tribute to Mrs. Stansel's many years as our organist.



Also on May 9 the YACATS presented a program "Down Memory Lane" at 7:30 p.m. directed by Beverly Brown who had organized the group, along with the help of others previously named. This was enjoyed very much by the young as well as the congregation.

OUR GRADUATES FROM VARIOUS SCHOOLS THIS YEAR WERE: Carlen Brown, Chris Chestnut, Mark Foxworth, Jimmy Jones, Billy Mallard, and Mike Prevatte. Theresa McCabe finished Pembroke State in December and will receive her degree at the June graduating exercises. CONGRATULATIONS to all these young people. May God continue to bless your bright hopes for the future.

As Conference drew near we knew that Mr. Brown would be leaving us as he had then completed his fifth year in Maxton. In the Bulletin for June 6, 1976, was the following:

"Words are inadequate to express our deep feelings of love and gratitude toward the people of St. Paul's. Our years here have been fruitful and satisfying, even if frustrating sometimes. We've had our ups and downs, but we have all grown in our knowledge and understanding of God's will and love in our lives. It is our prayer that you will support the next pastor and family and that you will continue to grow in your faith.

With love,  
The Browns

Mr. Brown was particularly loved by the elderly of our church. I'm sure he never visited any one of them without offering, and most likely repairing, anything that was in need of it at the moment. This also applied to the not so elderly, As someone said after he left, "There'll never be another Mr. Brown!"

It seemed a shame he couldn't stay to see his two pet projects—the Organ and the New Educational Building - completed. But he had worked faithfully for both and will always be remembered for his hard work on these and many other projects which were to materialize in the not too distant future.

#### NEW MEMBERS

Mike Prevatte - Transferred from First Baptist Church, Maxton, N.C. on January 19, 1975.

Mrs. Ronald Jones (Anne) and Bobby Caulder were baptized and joined the church on Profession of Faith on January 19, 1975

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Moore (Jim and Jenny) and their two small daughters, Pam and Kim, transferred from the Methodist Church in Rockingham, N.C. on January 26, 1976.

Mr. Hamrick McLean (Mary Ann Morrison's husband) transferred from the Baptist Church in Wagram, N.C. on January 26, 1976.

Mrs. William West (Sarah) transferred from Centre Presbyterian Church, Maxton, N.C. on June 1, 1975.

#### BAPTISMS

Leigh West, Three year-old daughter of William and Sarah West in November 1975

Jennifer Ann Smith, daughter of Howard and Pat Smith, on March 19, 1976.



### WEDDINGS

Sara Emily McCall and William Jinks Wethington were married on Sunday, February 2, 1975 By: Rev. Samuel H. Brown in the St. Paul's Methodist Church, Maxton, N.C.

Jo Ann Holcomb and Woody Gentry were married on February 14, 1976 in the First Baptist Church, Laurinburg, N.C. By: Dr. Lamar Brooks.

Nancy Morrison and Ken Nance were married on April 4, 1976 By Rev. Samuel H. Brown in the St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Maxton, N.C.

### DEATHS

Miss Marguerite Townsend - January 17, 1972

Mrs. Luther McNeill - March 26, 1972

Mr. Henry McKenzie - September 1972

Mrs. Fred Frostick - October 4, 1972

Joe Mack Covington - November 7, 1972

Mr. Sanford P. Lyde - 1973

Mrs. T.H. Johnson - March 1973

Mr. Temple Stanton - February 7, 1973

Miss Sallie Lou McKinnon - March 16, 1973

Mrs. Emily Pearl McCall - August 23, 1973

Tom Speros - August 1974 - Mr. Speros was not a Methodist but his wife was a loyal member.

Frank Henderson Glass - November 16, 1974

Mrs. Henry McKenzie - January 1975

Mrs. Preston Bundy (Mabel Lyde) - March 2, 1975

Mr. Glenn Bradshaw Cottingham - April 20, 1975

Mr. William Eugene Webb - April 27, 1975

Mr. Jarvis West - Spring 1975

Mr. James Thomas West - 1975

Harold S. Steed, Jr. - June 1, 1975

Mrs. Eugene (Eliza) Burns - December 4, 1975

Mrs. Sarah Smith - December 4, 1975

Mrs. T.W. Gentry - January 16, 1976

Miss Pansy Gaitley - December 20, 1972

Mrs. E.E. Edmonds, wife of former pastor, Rev. E.E. Edmonds, died on December 19, 1975 in Florida. A Memorial was placed in the Church Bulletin on January 4, 1976 in her memory.

FLETCHER W. FRALEY

JUNE 13, 1976 - SEPTEMBER 30, 1979



In June of 1976 we welcomed the Fraleys to the Parsonage. On the first Sunday, the following note was in our Church bulletin:

"We are happy to be here with you at St. Paul's. Our hope is to be an effective parsonage family and your friends. Our family consists of my wife, Jean, son Brian. We have four other children - all married - and five grandchildren. My earlier career covers twenty-two years as an Army Officer, then as President of a Corporation, followed by my call to the Ministry in 1964. I have served in the South Carolina and North Carolina Conference since that time."

On July 4, 1976, Independence Day was observed in our church followed by a picnic in the Annex. Flowers were placed on the Alter in loving memory of all deceased members of St. Paul's United Methodist Church by the membership.

On September 19 we were welcomed to the Parsonage where an Open House was held for the membership. This was well attended and most enjoyable.

We all know that during Mr. Brown's tenure we were busy with plans for our new Educational Building. So, on October 17, 1976, a Progress Report was in the bulletin which read as follows:

"The Building Committee has brought their plans to the final state. It is expected that the completed plans will be in hand the latter part of November. ---We need a plan on a very substantial commitment from each family."

On October 24, 1976, St. Paul's celebrated 100 years of Methodism in Maxton. A note in the bulletin by the pastor read as follows: By the most conservative appraisal, it can be said our celebration of 100 years of Methodism in Maxton was a resounding success. The persons who worked long and hard can feel gratified by the response of those who came. We now need to set our goals to match the memories and challenges raised during the event.

Early in Mr. Fraley's tenure the Administrative Board approved:

1. The re-wiring of the Sanctuary at a cost of \$4,340.00. This money was borrowed from the Building Fund, to be repaid in the near future.
2. The installation of carpet in the Sanctuary and vestibules. Payment was made from funds earmarked for carpet, and using about \$1,000.00 from the Building Fund. This last was to be replaced by additional funds being raised for the carpet. One thousand dollars from the Memorial Fund was also used.
3. Approved the sale of the five-acre tract of land owned by the church. All proceeds were placed in the Building Fund.

The Administrative Board felt this was the best and most expeditious method of completing these most worthwhile projects.

At Thanksgiving this year the offering was sent to the American Bible Society.



On May 1, 1977, we were honored to have as our distinguished guests, Bishop Robert M. Blackburn and Reverend and Mrs. Clyde McCarver. To our knowledge this is the first time a Bishop had preached in our church. Rev. McCarver was our District Superintendent at the time. A large group of our membership went out to lunch at the Holiday Inn in Laurinburg with the Frayleys and our guests.

During the month of May 1977, the Trustees were very busy as follows: Getting the choir loft ready for the new organ; installing carpet in the church office and choir room; working on the shrubbery in the church yard; getting prices for refinishing the church doors; and they have finished painting the church parsonage.

In the Newsletter for May 1977 was the following notation: "We are anticipating our new organ being installed the week of May 9. We will probably be able to use it by May 22. Be sure to listen for the music of this new organ."

We were not disappointed by the above statement. Our local paper carried the following announcement soon thereafter:

#### ON NEW ORGAN

On May 29, St Paul's United Methodist Church will sponsor an organ recital by John E. Williams, associate professor of organ at St. Andrews Presbyterian College and organist of the Laurinburg Presbyterian Church. Mr. Williams will perform on the church's new Schantz pipe organ. The program of music and song will begin at 7:30 p.m. and the public is cordially invited.

On Sunday, June 5, 1977, a very impressive dedicatory service was held for the organ.

Also on June 5, congratulations were extended and gifts presented to our graduating seniors. They were as follows: Gloria Prevatte, Elaine West, John Hasty, Brian Hagler, Alton Gentry and Harvey Mallard.

At this same time, Conference was held and Mr. Fraley was sent back to us for another year, for which we were quite thankful.

On July 17, 1977, Mr. Fraley put out a church letter which he headed "Get Together". From this is the following quote: "When I came to St. Paul's I discovered that you had been planning an educational wing for over a decade ----- you as a church - - - expressed your ideas for a new plant altogether; you even purchased more land for this purpose. Your corporate wisdom later dictated that you build at this location.

I am saying to you right now, we are going to build this building in one way or another. I am not letting you off the hook. And if it is within my power to convince you to do this, I am not letting up until it is completed."

A newsletter dated August 18, 1977 listed the names of our first Acolytes. They were Kelly Wicker, Pam Moore, Beth Floyd, Brian Hoffman, Dockery Steed, Ernie Britt and Johnny Walker. An installation service was held on September 11 for all Acolytes and families. We were happy to know that Mrs. Lynn Hoffman would serve as robe mother. New robes were ordered for them at that time. The addition of Acolytes has added much to the services of our church and we appreciate the children taking part in this program.

On September 11, 1977, our revival began with Dr. Joyce V. Early, a former District Superintendent, and Reverend Ray Sparrow as our visiting ministers. Those who remembered Dr. Early were delighted to have him here, knowing what a wonderful speaker he was. Rev. Sparrow was also quite good.



Our Newsletter dated October 2, 1977, read in part as follows: Your Church Administrative Board has authorized an "Every Member Commitment Program" to underwrite the operating budget for 1978. In every venture such as this, the key is in the acceptance of the people and securing enthusiastic workers. Of course the type program has much to do with the success. We believe that all these conditions have been met for our Annual Commitment Program.

The program is called "The Pony Express." In keeping with the history and tradition of that elite group of men in our nation's history, our workers will be carrying the same titles as found then: General Manager, Station Agents, Trail Bosses, Chief Cook, etc.

Of course the Pastor and Chairman of the Finance Committee played a big part in this new venture, as well as the General Manager, Jimmy Moore. However for the success of the program, full cooperation and work of all workers was required. And...everyone involved in the program entered into it with great enthusiasm! As a result ... well, I believe the following pictures and the write-up in the Laurinburg Exchange dated November 4, 1977, will tell the story better than I can! It really was a tremendous success!

Our newsletter from the pastor in December 1977 was an inspiration to the complete congregation. In it he listed our many accomplishments during the year - not the least of which was the fact that our proposed budget for the next year was over-subscribed by 3%! He also stated that this was the first time in memory that this had occurred in this church, and that we can attribute this to an awakening of our people to God's demand upon them as professing Christians.

Now it must be said that much planning and work by both the Council on Ministries and the Administrative Board preceded these events and, as a result, they can be joyful over the successes.

The pastor wishes to take this opportunity to thank each of you individually and corporately for your fine support - -. Shortly we will install new officials for 1978 and we will turn over the direction of the church to them. We ask God's wisdom be theirs as they struggle joyfully in the service of this church and for His Kingdom, that all may know the true and living Father."

The Pastor

In the fall of 1977 a Prayer Group was held each Wednesday morning at 9:00 a.m. It continues to the present time but is called a Prayer Group and Bible Study. They would welcome any who wish to join them..

In December of 1977 the District Conference was held in our church in Maxton. The pastor stated in his Newsletter that our United Methodist Men and others are to be commended for an outstanding job in arranging the church and parking the cars for the occasion. He stated that there were many kind remarks on the smoothness in which it was carried out.

Also, in December, the United Methodist Women installed their officers for the new year at a Church Fellowship Supper where the entire congregation enjoyed good food and fellowship followed by the singing of Christmas carols. Officers installed by Betty Hasty were as follows: President, Janet Hord; Vice-President, Claudia Floyd; Secretary-Treasurer, Jean Gainey.

In May of 1978 we celebrated "Heritage Sunday" on May 21, throughout all Methodism. At this time we were asked for a special collection to be made for the restoration of Wesley Chapel in London.



Also in May the following events took place: Mrs. Janet Hord, President of our United Methodist Women, circulated a petition asking for our support in denying success to Madolyn O'Hair's campaign to eliminate all religious broadcast in America. I presume she had already been successful in getting prayer out of our schools.

High School Seniors were honored on May 11 at 7:30 p.m. at an ice-cream social followed by musical entertainment. Our seniors were: Flora Ann Hasty, Vicky McCabe, Lynn Seals, Stephanie Steed and Debbie Weeks. Miss Cecilia Roth, who was our music director for the summer, and Mr. Charles Watkins of Raeford, presented a program at the time.

It was time again for our regular outing held at Camp Rockfish each year. Our Building fund balance as of April 30 was \$27,197.62.

Also in May, the Trustees reported work being done on the windows of the Sanctuary. Cost proposals were secured as to repair of the stained glass and perhaps storm windows. Plumbing repairs were made at the parsonage and new doors had been purchased for the serving counter in the Annex and a kitchen exhaust fan had been bought and installed by the United Methodist Men.

The Howard Hasty Class had bought flags for the Sanctuary, secured costumes and lights for the Christmas program, and co-sponsored the beginning of our Church Library with book cases and volumes. Gene Sheppard did the carpenter work involved which was the building of book cases and shelves.

In the bulletin for Sunday, May 21, 1978, was the following: Today throughout all Methodism we celebrate our Heritage of two hundred years or more to God and Man. May the inspiration of the millions who lived and loved it be ever held high by us here today and generations to come. On this occasion we recognize one of the many ministers who have served this church, the Reverend Harold Glenn Cuthrell, and Mrs. Mary Decie Cuthrell for her long and devoted service. Mary Decie will be retiring from her teaching profession and possibly leaving us for another area. We wish her all joy and peace.

During the Church service on the above date tributes were given to the Cuthrells in the form of a Memorium to Mr. Cuthrell and In Honor to Mary Decie. Harold Steed presented the one for Mr. Cuthrell and Lula Steed the one for Mary Decie. The tribute to Mr. Cuthrell was shown under his own write-up. Mary Decie's honorarium told what a loyal wife, mother, and church leader she had been during her time in Maxton. She had been educated in music, graduating from Meredith College in Raleigh. In 1939 she married Mr. Cuthrell and they served their first pastorate in Marshallburg from 1943-1948 after which they were sent to Maxton where they served from November 1948 until 1951. While in Maxton, Mary Decie served our church in many capacities: Teacher in Primary, Youth and Adult Divisions; President of WSCS; Counselor for Methodist Youth Fellowship; Teacher for Vacation Church School; Pianist for Church School; Member of the Choir and Secretary-Treasurer of her circle. Mary Decie was truly a dedicated lady and we were most fortunate to have had her in our midst for so many years. It was with deep regret that we saw her leave to make her home in Apex, North Carolina.

Members welcomed to the ranks of Acolytes on September 10, 1978 were: Gary Graves, Myra McCabe, Eric Hoffman and Chris Stocks.

In early September, Dr. and Mrs. Brokhoff held a three-day Preaching Mission in our church. They were former friends of Mr. Fraley and were both ministers - I believe one Lutheran and the other Methodist. Everyone was so impressed with them that it was planned for them to return at a future date.



On October 1, a notation in the bulletin stated: Our Pony Express II is getting off to a good start according to Jimmy Moore, General Manager. Personnel are in place and running. You will note your first insert (in the bulletin) this morning, later on you will be getting more information through the mail. Let's generate enthusiasm...talk it up, and pray to God that He will help us in our decisions.

We will observe Laity Sunday next week with Mr. Tracy Watson speaking and Mr. Wiley Steed assisting. The pastor will be preaching in Bennettsville, S.C. Please support these dedicated Lay Members as they bring their own unique ministry.

Please note that there will be a reception for Bishop Blackburn and his new bride at the First United Methodist Church in Laurinburg on Thursday evening, October 19, at 7:00 p.m. in the Ed Guest Building. All persons interested are urged to attend.

Several of us, including the Fraleys, attended. There were many from all over. The Rockingham District present. The new Mrs. Blackburn was most attractive.

At a call meeting of the Administrative Board on October 1, Mr. William Chestnut was elected as Building Committee Chairman. You will be hearing from him frequently in the future. Please give him your encouragement and support. (And we did. Bill did an excellent job.)

In October, The Memorial Fund donated \$2,500.00 to be used in repair of the church roof. The remaining balance was \$1,084.45.

In the bulletin for December 3, 1978, was the following: You will be handed a pamphlet as a gift from the Pastor titled "About Being United Methodist" as his Christmas gift to you. It is his hope that you will be able to get a better understanding of our church and its beliefs through this informative booklet.

In the same bulletin was the following: At our Charge Conference on December 10, you will be asked to approve a loan to build our Educational Wing - so long in planning. Please give this very important decision your prayerful consideration as your decision will long effect this church, even perhaps its future. We have reached the now or never point in our deliberations.

On December 17, 1978, a Pageant "The Holy Night" was presented in our Church. This Pageant was written by Mrs. Lolita Webb, Chairman of the Worship Committee. It was adapted from the second chapter of the Gospel According to St. Luke. The Division of Worship wishes to express their appreciation to the cast, the various committees, and others who helped in anyway to make this a very colorful and lovely presentation of a nativity play. Our beautiful Chrismon tree was decorated by the Howard Hasty Class.

Also, on December 17, 1978, a report to the Church reads as follows: At the Charge Conference last Sunday, its members voted unanimously to borrow up to \$100,000.00 to build the educational facility. The Building Committee will meet today to formulate a program to raise additional cash on hand to keep the loan under the amount authorized. The church needs a total and united commitment in this endeavor.

On December 31, 1978, was the following: Please note that next Sunday, Miss Rebecca Seifert will begin her tenure as Youth Director and will be meeting with the youth groups as indicated above. Please support this in every way possible.

Also, we will install our new officials next Sunday. It would be appropriate for every new official to be present for this ceremony.



In the Lamplighter for January 1979, the pastor stated: There are several things over and above the normal aspirations of the church's ministry that are before us this year that I wish to lift up and share with you.

First and foremost is the construction of our new Educational Wing. We will begin construction in the latter part of February and should complete it within six to seven months. We will be launching a fund-raising drive shortly to raise funds over the next three years.

Second, our church will be involved (hopefully) in a "Bazaar" and other fun-raising projects in the fall of the year.

Third, and perhaps most importantly, a program of recommitment on the part of all our membership.

Our Conference has embarked upon a "Pension Funding Crusade" approved at the last Annual Conference in June 1978. The purpose is to raise funds.

On January 31, 1979, Mr. Lawrence Jones passed away. He had been a faithful member of our church for many years and on February 4, 1979 the following note was in our bulletin:

TO OUR FRIEND, NOW GONE BEFORE US:

We meet today in our Men's Bible Class, diminished by the loss of a dear friend and fellow student, Lawrence Jones. Your cheerful and light humor and your contributions to your class has been a blessing to each of us ... we grieve our loss but not without hope of another reunion in that eternal scheme of things.

From your friends

Sometime after the first of the year, Rev. Fraley was stricken with a serious heart attack and was hospitalized for quite some time in the hospital at Ft. Bragg. During his absence the pulpit was filled by Dr. Lea Harper and I believe Dr. J.V. Early supplied a time or so.

On April 1, 1979 Mr. Fraley was able to be back with us. I rather think he made a special effort to be there on that date inasmuch as the Breaking of the Ground for our new Educational Building took place that day. Dr. Joseph Bethea, Rockingham District Superintendent officiated at the service and Dr. Harper was also present. The picture taken on that occasion shows the three ministers, Tracy Watson, Finance Committee Chairman; Larry Walker, Chairman of the Trustees; and three youth of the church.

In the same bulletin, Mr. Fraley expressed his appreciation for the many kindnesses that he had received during his illness. Of course he didn't preach on the above date but was more or less a spectator; however he was expected to be back in the pulpit on April 29.

The kitchen and the annex were painted during this time and we hereby express our thanks to Mr. Charlie McArthur for the gift of paint that was used, and also to our faithful trustees for the exemplary job they have done - this includes both past and present trustees.

Recently the sad news was received in town that Rev. Robert Drew had passed away. He was our pastor for four years and had many friends in Maxton who mourn his passing.

On April 29, 1979, the day that Mr. Fraley returned to the pulpit, we had a CELEBRATION DAY WORSHIP SERVICE. The following notation was in the bulletin: As we celebrate the culmination of an intensive campaign for funds to complete our new educational wing, we wish to extend to each our joy over reaching this mile-



stone. We know of the effort and joyful sacrifice of all who have made this possible, and are thankful for your contribution. We want to express our THANKS to the leaders who have made such a commitment of time and effort that it now is a reality. After our worship service, there will be "Dinner-on-the-grounds" for all. Please plan to be with us and share further in this joyful occasion.

About this time Mrs. Lawrence Jones gave the beautiful Red Carpet for the Library in memory of her husband who had passed away in January.

The Administrative Board met on Sunday, May 13, 1979 at a special called meeting to consider the retirement of Mrs. Stansel and the hiring of Mr. Gerald Heersma as Director of Music and Organist, effective June 16, 1979. Both motions approved unanimously. Mr. Heersma will meet with the choir for practice June 13. (Lawson McCabe, Chairman, Administrative Board)

On June 10, 1979, the following was in our bulletin: Today we honor Mrs. Mabel Stansel upon her retirement from the church after many years as our Organist. We wish her well in the years ahead and hope that she will continue to be active in the church. We know as the years rush upon her she will look back upon this unique experience and find a great deal of pleasure in having had such an impact upon the church. The church wishes her health and happiness. She served as our organist for 32 years.

We wish to lift up this day all students who have reached the milestone of graduation, especially those of this church, Brian Scott Fraley, who graduated from Robeson Country Day School and is enrolled at NCSU for the fall semester.

In the June Newsletter was the following regarding our new building: Many exciting things are happening in our church for which we can be thankful. Our Educational Building is fast being completed. The builder indicates that it will be finished in late July or August. The funds raised by the Special Committee were more than \$48,000.00. This added to the \$50,000.00 we had aided in keeping the loan down to a minimum. We owe Betty Hasty a special debt of gratitude for a fine job in motivating our people to give so sacrificially. Also, we are grateful to the Building Committee for their patience and understanding over the long delay in getting approval from the church to begin the construction.

Our Vacation Bible School which is held each year, was headed up by Don Mallard for 1979. Don reported that even though there was not a large attendance things went quite well and those who did attend enjoyed it very much.

In The bulletin for June 17, 1979, was the following: We are delighted to have Mr. Gerald Heersma, our new Director of Music, and his family, Janice and Sundi with us. We expect great things from Gerald and we will need to support him in ways that will enhance the music program of our church. Gerald comes to us highly recommended and we are fortunate to have secured his talents. Gerald attended the Eastman School of Music, Rochester, N.Y., Sandhills Community College, Curtis Institute, Philadelphia, Pa. for Composition, St. Andrews Presbyterian College where he graduated with a B.M in piano performance. Presently he is tutoring at Sandhills College. He will have complete responsibility for the music program of the church, for choirs (both adult and youth), and any other music function that is needed and traditional. We welcome you and your family.

In the bulletin for July 1 was the following: "I wish to extend my very deep appreciation for the many courtesies shown me since my retirement as Organist at St. Paul's. The many years of service have been a rewarding experience and made the church a vital part of my life.

Mabel Stansel



The Administrative Board has authorized Jerry, our Music Director, to use the facilities for music lessons on Wednesday afternoon. Jerry has invited parents and others who wish to receive lessons to contact him.

As a matter of information to the congregation, we have received ninety (90) squares of shingles as a gift from Johns-Manville Company for our Educational Building. We express our thanks to them for such a generous gift and to the person responsible for acquiring that gift.

When Mr. Fraley returned to work after his heart attack and also when he returned as our pastor, we knew that he was still not really well. Therefore, possibly in July, he decided with the Administrative Board's approval that it would be to his best interest from a health standpoint to retire for disability - possibly by the last of September.

On September 19, 1979, a letter went out from Betty Hasty, Chairperson of the Finance Committee for the New Building, from which the following was taken:

Dear Members:

"St. Paul's United Methodist Church's Educational Building is a reality at last. - - -

The Consecration Service of this New Building will be held on September 30 at the 11:00 a.m. worship service and followed by a covered dish dinner. We are hoping that each member and many past members and friends can be present ----- Don't miss this Red-Letter-Day in our church. - - -

As Chairperson of the Finance Committee and in behalf of the church, let me extend most profound thanks for your generosity and support in this endeavor, and for your prayers in the future."

Sincerely,  
Betty Hasty

In the bulletin for September 23, 1979, was the following: "On the last preaching Sunday as the Pastor of this church, may I take a moment of your time to express my gratitude and thanks to everyone of you who have made my years with you ones that will long be highlighted in my life. As always, it is hard to leave friends, but the good memories will carry me over the rough spots as I recall fond years of being your pastor. - - - May God bless you and yours in the years ahead. Thanks for letting me be your pastor and friend."

- - - - -

EDUCATIONAL BUILDING DEDICATED IN MAXTON

By: Courtney Sharpe-Ward

A spirit of thankfulness permeated all that was done Sunday at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Maxton, which dedicated a new Educational Building.

District Superintendent Joseph Bethea preached on Christian Fellowship and conducted the consecration service.

The new \$182,000 Educational Building is of light tan brick, single story, and only a few steps away from the sanctuary, on the right. It has 5,300 square feet divided into a fellowship hall, up-to-the-minute kitchen, foyer and classrooms. Bill Chestnut was chairman of the building committee.

The pastor, Rev. F.W. Fraley, is retiring and being succeeded by Rev. Bobby P. Tyson. Both were prominently present for the dedication.

A pewter tea service was given to the Fraley's from the church in appreciation of their consecrated leadership. The presentation expressed the loving gratitude of the congregation.



Flowers in the church were given in memory of Mrs. Mary Speros by her family. Ushers for the service were: Larry Walker, James Smith, Gene Gentry and Tracy Watson.

The unison congregation prayer included these words: "Grant that all who come within these portals shall every make right use of it, and that the splendor of God's presence shall be manifest therein."

The final words for the consecration service as shown on the bulletin were as follows:

Since words are inadequate to express our feeling, we of St. Paul's will simply say "Thank you Lord" for all your bounteous blessings, not only for this church and its people, but for the fine and practical Educational Building that we consecrate to His service. May it ever be one in which the fruits of the spirit will be taught and lived.

We welcome Dr. Joseph Bethea, our District Superintendent, and all other visitors and friends for this special occasion.

We are delighted to have with us Rev. Bobby Tyson, the new Pastor of this church. Rev. Tyson and family will be moving into the parsonage this week.

#### ADDITIONS

Mrs. Jean Fraley and Brian Fraley - By Transfer from Cool Springs United Methodist Church - July 11, 1976.

Mr. and Mrs. Campbell Stocks - By Transfer on June 8, 1978 as follows: Gail from Mishop Springs Methodist Church, Whiteville, N.C. and Campbell from Bethesda Methodist Church, Nakina, N.C.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene T. Sheppard - December 19, 1978. The Sheppards were members of our church many years ago and now have moved back to Maxton. We're happy to restore them to our rolls and welcome them into our fellowship.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter D. Jones - By Transfer from First United Methodist Church, Laurinburg, N.C. - September 30, 1979. Donnie was raised in this church and we know the two of them will be a great asset to our church just as Donnie and her family were in days gone by.

#### BAPTISMS

We are happy to share in the Baptism of Kristine Issadore Dormagen, child of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dormagen, Friends of St. Paul's on Sunday, October 23, 1977 by Rev. F.W. Fraley.

David Christopher McLean - son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe McLean, Baptized on May 7, 1978 by Rev. F.W. Fraley.

Chris and Chad Stocks - sons of Mr. and Mrs. C.W. Stocks, Baptized on June 8 1978 by Rev. F.W. Fraley.

Krissy Ann Jones - daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Jones, Baptized on December 17, 1978 by Rev. F.W. Fraley.

We have the rare opportunity of Baptizing into the Christian Faith, both Mother and Child, Mrs. Pat (Howard) Smith and daughter, Jaime Lynn Smith and accepting into the fellowship of this church by Profession of Faith, Mrs. Pat Smith, on April 29, 1979. We welcome them and ever support them in this new relationship. by Rev. Fraley.

Graham Shaw Duncan - son of Mrs. and Mrs. Neill Duncan, Baptized on Sunday, September 16, 1979 by Rev. F.W. Fraley.



## WEDDINGS

Miss Denise Foxworth and Mr. George E. Yager were married on Sunday, August 7, 1977 at 3:00 P.M. in St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Maxton, North Carolina by Rev. F.W. Fraley.

Miss Katherine Britt and Mr. Alton Gentry were married on August 21, 1977 at 3:00 P.M. in the First Presbyterian Church, Lumberton, North Carolina by Dr. Robert Sloop assisted by Rev. F.W. Fraley.

Miss Ivey Mallard and Mr. Jimmy Tighpen were married on Saturday, April 29, 1978 at 5:00 p.m. in St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Maxton, North Carolina by Rev. F.W. Fraley.

Miss Sandi Chestnut and Mr. Knight Chamberlaine were married on Saturday, July 21, 1979 at 2:00 P.M. in St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Maxton, North Carolina by Rev. F.W. Fraley.

Miss Sharon Clark and Mr. John Hopkins were married on Saturday, August 11, 1979 at 7:00 P.M. in St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Maxton, North Carolina by Rev. F.W. Fraley.

## DEATHS

### 1976

Judge Tom Pace - Brother of Miss Nettie Pace-former member and a Judge in Oklahoma - June 1976.

Mrs. Olive Glass Hall Edwards - September 1, 1976

Mrs. Ela Steed Ashley - October 1976-former member and early organist in our church.

Mrs. Lula May Cottingham Cole - November 2, 1976 - former member. Funeral in Raleigh by her pastor from Edenton Street Church, Graveside services in Maxton assisted by Rev. Fraley.

Daniel M. Watson - December 16, 1976.

### 1977

Mr. William Marcucci - January 1977-Father of Mrs. Beverly Brown-Lived in New York.

Captain William McKenzie - April 17, 1977

Mrs. Alice Hasty Pace - May 16, 1977

William A. Webb - July 25, 1977

Mrs. Mattie Temple - July 24, 1977-Sister of Rev. F.W. Fraley.

Joseph Beach Hord - August 1977.

Mrs. James H. Townsend - December 8, 1977.

### 1978

James H. Townsend - July 2, 1978

Boyd Curtis Steed - January 6, 1978. Former member. Funeral service by Rev. Fraley.

Miss May Jones - April 12, 1978

Mrs. Tom (Mary) Speros - April 26, 1978

Mrs. Ira Duncan - Baptist - Wife of Ira Duncan - April 7, 1978

Miss Nettie Pace - May 3, 1978

Miss Julia Elizabeth Pace - September 11, 1978

Mrs. Fannie May Shepherd - November 13, 1978

Mrs. B.F. (Helen) Taylor - December 19, 1978

### 1979

Mr. Lawrence Jones - January 31, 1979

Mrs. Bernice Hornaday Carter - July 5, 1979

Mrs. Libby Clifton Marsh - August 1979 - Former member

### 1980

Mrs. Paul (Grace) Steed, Jr. - February 9, 1980, Mr. Fraley conducted the services assisted by Mr. Tyson.

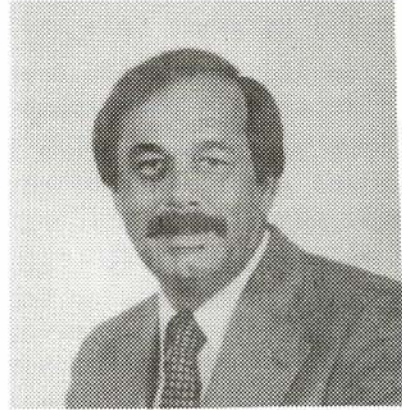


REV. BOBBY TYSON

OCTOBER 1, 1979 - JUNE 14, 1981

Although September 30 was a day of great rejoicing at St. Paul's Church, there was also a touch of sadness in the air because the Fraleys were leaving us that week. However, knowing that it was for his health's sake, we wouldn't have had it otherwise.

Of course the Tysons came in as the Fraleys went out and we welcomed them with open arms. The family consisted of his wife, Jetta, two daughters - Alice and Sharon - and a son, Bobby, Jr. They also had a married daughter and one grandson who lived elsewhere.



On October 7, 1979, when Mr. Tyson preached his first sermon, the congregation was practically spell-bound. His delivery was wonderful and if he used any notes at all, it wasn't apparent. He really was a marvelous speaker!

On May 28, 1980, a bulletin to the congregation titled "ST. PAUL'S LETTER" covered the happenings of the church so well for the first nine months of Mr. Tyson's pastorate that I told him I was going to use it for the history. So, here it is!

FROM THE PASTOR

May 28, 1980

Traditionally, Annual Conference time is check-up time; a time for counting God's blessings in our midst as a community of faith, and a time of looking forward to the challenges in the future. Please reflect with me upon some of the highlights of the past year.

A change in leadership is sometimes difficult, especially when that change comes during the year between sessions of the Annual Conference. St. Paul's Church seems to have adjusted very well, and the program of the church has continued unimpaired. This speaks well for your former pastor, and the strong layleadership of this church. The excitement of the membership of this church about its shared life suggest that it knows what the church is about in this community and in the world.

Our New Educational Building reflects the excellent planning, and the willingness to rise to a great challenge by the Maxton Methodists. While it is exceptionally beautiful, it is as useful and practical as it is beautiful. We are using it often!

The Annual Bazaar was successful, beyond our expectation. A great deal of hard work by the men and women of this church, and the response of the people of the community of Maxton was rewarding. It was our biggest and best Bazaar ever!

Proclaim The Word week was timely for our Church. Enthusiasm was evident by our large attendance at each service. Again, the community supported our efforts.

Holy Week Services were helpful, as the churches of the community joined together Wednesday evening through Sunrise Easter morning. Easter worship in our sanctuary was the highlight of our worship experience since October for many of us.

The United Methodist Women have been faithful in carrying out their program. They have met regularly, and have ministered effectively during three deaths with Christian sympathy and understanding, and plenty of food for the families



The United Methodist Men have gone from victory to victory: (1) Excellent attendance at regular breakfast meetings (2) The Fish Fry (3) Ladies Night (4) Hardware Sale and an unsurpassed spirit of togetherness in all they do.

The Administrative Board and Council on Ministries have been both efficient and effective in planning and carrying out the program of the church.

The Board of Trustees is a "Working Board" in every respect. From the regular and simple task of cutting the grass, to painting and maintenance, "Nobody does it better!"

"Sunday School is a growing thing" is more than a slogan here. We have weaknesses in the Sunday School, but we are working on it. Any weakness we have in this area is not weakness in leadership, it is primarily weakness in attendance. (The following poem followed):

#### DOES DADDY GO?

Daddy had a little boy,  
His soul was white as snow  
He never went to Sunday School,  
"Cause Daddy wouldn't go.

He never heard the Word of God,  
That thrills the childish mind,  
While other children went to class  
This child was left behind.

As he grew from babe to youth,  
Dad saw to his dismay,  
A soul that once was snowy white,  
Become a dingy gray.

Realizing that his son was lost  
Dad tried to win him back;  
But now that soul that once was white  
Had turned an ugly black.

Dad even started back to church,  
And Bible Study too,  
He begged the preacher, "Isn't there  
A thing that you can do?"

The preacher tried, failed, and said,  
We're just too far behind;  
I tried to tell you years ago,  
But you would pay me no mind."

And so another soul was lost,  
That once was white as snow;  
Sunday School would have helped  
But Daddy wouldn't go.

There are many good things that can be said about our stewardship and finances. We paid in full our 1979 budget, while raising a large amount of money for the building. We pledged and accepted a budget for 1980 which is up from \$44,000 to \$52,000. We are currently behind in paying our pledges as a Church, but I know, and am sure, according to its history that the Maxton Methodists will do what they say! It will be brought up to date!

With such an exciting program, and the most gracious people in North Carolina to minister to, you can easily see why I am very grateful to be your pastor.

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Among the seniors graduating from Maxton High this year, St. Paul's had five members. They were Christine Floyd, Randy McArthur, Laura Mae Jones Snead, Bobby Tyson, Jr. and Sharon Tyson.

The United Methodist Women sponsored a spaghetti supper on May 30, 1980, in the Fellowship Hall, This was in connection with raising money for the new building.

Our pastor held revival services Sunday through Wednesday evening, June 8-11, in Johns United Methodist Church, Johns Station. This was his first pastorate and his old friends were delighted to have him, and he of course was delighted to be there with them.

As usual, our services were held at Camp Rockfish on Sunday, June 1. A bountiful picnic was enjoyed as well as swimming and boating for those who cared to participate. Others just sat around and enjoyed nature and the company of their fellow members.

At Conference held in June, Mr. Tyson was returned to us for another year for which we were very thankful.

During the first two weeks of July 1980, our minister and family took their vacation. Many times like this our pulpit is filled by our very efficient Lay Members. This time Chalmers Morrison and Tracy Watson let the services, with Tracy doing the preaching.

On July 13 the Methodist Men had their monthly breakfast in the Educational Building. They take turns preparing the meals and from all reports, this is a very special part of their church life.

During the summer the congregation was asked to choose hymns to be used for the services. These were called "Singspiration Hymns", mostly old, familiar ones, and were used consecutively. This became a highlight of our services!

Sometime prior to this the United Methodist Women and the Men of the Church had agreed that each would contribute a sum of \$1,000.00 each year toward the payments on the Educational Building. The payments are approximately \$1,000.00 per month. In order to do this, the Women came up with the idea of a Cook Book, in which all ladies of the church (men and children also) would have a part by contributing their favorite recipes. This idea originated with Bertha Byrd Gainey and she, along with the following, made up the Cook Book Committee: Mac Mallard, Sandra Graves, Myrtle Watson, Lula Steed, Alice Gentry, Janet Hord, Katherine Carter, Elma McLean and Sue Blue.

In our bulletin for August 24, was the following: Beginning Wednesday evening, September 3, at 7:30 we will have a weekly Bible Study that will be known as "The Wednesday Night Praise The Lord." To help your remember, you will be given a "Praise The Lord" pin today at worship. Please wear it to remind you, and others, of our Bible Study.



# St. Paul's United Methodist Church

STUDY PHONE  
844-3792

(Organized 1884)

SAUNDERS AND FLORENCE STREETS  
P. O. BOX 489  
MAXTON, NORTH CAROLINA 28364

PARSONAGE  
205 ELM STREET  
844-5463

September 1, 1980

Dear Members:

There are several important events in the life of St. Paul's Church that I want to call to your attention, and that is the purpose of this letter. I hope you have had a good summer with time to reflect upon the things which are happening in your life, and some plans to adjust your schedule in the future to give you more time for the higher priorities of your life. I hope that St. Paul's Church is among those higher ones. More folks are lost to regular attendance at church during the summer than any other time. They do not intend to quit church, but because of summer schedules, church attendance sometimes tapers off to nothing, and they find it difficult to get started again. Please know that if this has happened to you this summer, that we have missed you at church, and want and need for you to return. Also, I'm sure that you know that you need us too. Therefore, please accept this letter as a personal invitation and challenge to "Come back home."

Several members of St. Paul's Church have expressed a need to have a mid-week Bible Study. So, beginning Wednesday, September 3rd, and each Wednesday at 7:30, we will have a Bible Study-Sharing-Prayer Meeting simply called "Praise The Lord!" It's format will be formed by those who participate. Naturally, it would be helpful for you to be there at the first meeting to have input into what we shall study-share.

The Administrative Board felt that a "Week-End Revival" would be just the shot in the arm we need as we go into our fall program at St. Paul's. So, our Revival will be held Friday and Saturday evenings at 7:30, and Sunday morning at 11:00; Dates: September 5-7! The preacher for this Revival will be The Rev. John W. Hobbs, Evangelist of the North Carolina Annual Conference. John, in his late thirties, has been pastor of some of our larger churches of this conference, is a very able communicator of the Gospel, and is just the person who can challenge us in a renewal of our commitment to Jesus as Lord. I hope you will give him your support for this Revival.

There will be a "Covered-Dish Supper" in our Fellowship Hall Sunday evening, September 7th, at 6:00. We have not had one since our Bible School in June, and I hope you are ready for this kind of fellowship and good food. Our Nominations & Personnel and Finance Committees will have business to present to the Administrative Board, which will meet following the supper, at 7:30. Everyone is invited to attend this meeting.

Dr. Joe Bethea, Superintendent of the Rockingham District, will be here to preside over our Charge Conference Sunday evening, September 14th, at 6:00. All church members are invited to attend this conference, Administrative Board members are expected to attend!

Please put these dates on your calendar, and prayerfully consider your support and attendance.

Your Pastor,

Bobby



On September 7, 1980, the "FINAL REPORT" for the BUILDING COMMITTEE was received. I'm sure all of our people were much interested in that, and those to come after us will be also, just as we were in regard to our beautiful Church. It was as follows:

A. SOURCE OF FUNDS

Prior to 1978 - Donations & Interest	\$25,178.54
1978 - Donations and Interest	7,463.38
1978 - Land Sale (Less Expenses)	15,959.00
1979 - January-April Donations & Interest	1,769.30
1979 - July - June 1980 Donations & Interest	47,762.74
1979 - Loan - Board of Missions	85,000.00
Total	\$183,132.96

B. COST OF BUILDING AND WALKWAYS

Construction	\$182,446.41
Inspection (Architect)	840.00
Banking expenses	21.85
Insurance Expenses (Builders Risk)	356.00
Interest Paid on Loan & Recording Fees	597.41
Sub-Total	\$184,283.52
Return from Sales Tax (est.)	2,000.00
Total Cost	\$182,283.52

C. BALANCE ON HAND

849.44

Given to Unified Budget for Building Needs.

On October 10, 1980, the MEN'S FISH FRY was held. This was one of the projects the men had devised to help supplement our budget for the new building. And a great idea it was! This usually draws people from all the other churches in town, as well as Laurinburg and surrounding areas.

On November 9, the following notices were in the bulletin:

1. OUR ANNUAL BAZAAR will be held Friday, November 10. Plans have been made which should make this year's one of our best ever!

2. The ST. PAUL'S COOKBOOK will be available for the Bazaar!

The District Conference was held on Sunday, November 23, at Laurel Hill United Methodist Church with Bishop Cannon as guest preacher.

The annual Maxton Community Thanksgiving Worship Service was held in our church on Wednesday, November 26, at 7:30 p.m. As is the custom in Maxton, this service is held in a different church each year with the ministers of those churches participating. This year, Rev. Daniel Hill of Calvary Baptist brought the message. For this service, Alice Gentry prepared a very attractive cover for the bulletin which was in keeping with the Spirit of Thanksgiving. Last year Mr. Tyson preached at the Pentecostal Holiness Church.

After the Bazaar the following notice appeared in the bulletin: "We are grateful to all who worked so hard to make our 1980 Bazaar the most successful ever. The excellent planning, the hard work, and the beautiful spirit of cooperation has become a trademark of St. Paul's Church."

Each Sunday after "The Moments of Fellowship" Mr. Tyson had what he called "Sharing with the Children." He would sit down in front of the railing and the children would gather around him on the floor. I don't know who enjoyed it most -



the congregation or the children. And I'm sure Mr. Tyson got a kick out of it too. There was onething sure, you never knew what would come forth, as they say "from the mouths of babes."

In December our Methodist Women had their annual covered dish supper with the enire church as our guests. Also, On December 21 our annual Christmas Pageant was held, with all the children taking part. As usual food and clothing was under the Chrismon tree for needy families and was delivered afterwards.

On February 15, 1981 we observed "THE DEDICATION OF MEMORIALS." Miss Pat Hamer of the Gifts and Wills Committee presented them to the Church as follows:

- (1) PEW CUSHIONS in loving memory of Mr. Roland Seals, given by Mrs. Roland Seals and Family.
- (2) BOOK CASE for the Library in loving memory of Mrs. Ira Duncan, given by Mr. and Mrs. W.G. Shaw, Wagram, N.C.
- (3) CARPET FOR THE LIBRARY in loving memory of Mr. Lawrence Jones, given by Mrs. Lawrence Jones and Family.
- (4) A MIRROR FOR THE PARLOR in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Wade McArthur, given by Mr. and Mrs. Charles McArthur and Family, to be dedicated to the glory of Almighty God and for service in this Church.

Mr. Charles Hoffman (Administrative Board): "We accept these gifts as a sacred trust, and shall guard them reverently, in honor of the faithful and devoted lives in whose memory they are given."

Rev. Tyson (Pastor): "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we dedicate these memorials to the glory of God and in memory of his servants. The memory of the righteous is ever blessed. Give unto the Lord the glory due His name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness...Let us pray. Almighty God, our heavenly Father, without whom no words of works of our hands have meaning but who dost accept the gifts of our hands as the tokens of our devotion: Grant they blessing upon us as we dedicate these gifts to thy glory. May these memorials which we now dedicate be an enduring witness before all thy people of the faithful service of they servants. May our lives, being consecrated into they service, be joined with the faithful ones into that building which groweth unto a holy temple in the Lord. Amen."

For a while, in the winter of 1981, a doughnut breakfast was held in the Fellowship Hall in an effortto generate interest in Sunday School. This was at 8:45 a.m. on Sunday mornings.

On March 22, 1981, the following announcement was in our bulletin:

A CALL TO PRAYER AND SELF DENIAL  
(ALL WOMEN OF ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH)

TIME: April 1st, 2nd and 3rd at 10:00 A.M. Annex  
April 5th at 5:00 P.M. - Sanctuary

PURPOSE: Prayer and Self Denial. Be much in prayer during the Lenten Season  
Deny yourself a meal and bring an offering.

PLAN: Let's go on a 10 day Spiritual Journey. Read one chapter daily in  
the Book of John, beginning March 26 - April 4.

Bertha Byrd Gainey  
Christian Personhood, U.M.W.

On April 19, 1981, the following notice was in the bulletin: Next Sunday will be the first day of Daylight Saving Time! Be sure to set your clock forward by one hour on Saturday Night!



I really had a hard time remembering whether to turn the clock forward or back until I learned the following: Spring Forward in the spring and Fall Back in the fall. Perhaps there are some of you whom this might help. It looks like it's here to stay!

It was decided at our Board Meeting that our new Educational Building was too nice to just sit there when there was a need in our community for a place to hold various types of meetings. A ruling was passed that it could be used, for a fee to cover expenses with the understanding that it was to be left clean so that it would always be ready for our use or for the next group. Since we have had many organizations to use it such as Mormax Club, Teachers Meetings, Church Groups, Bloodmobiles, etc.

By this time it was June and Conference was upon us again. We all know that the decision as to appointments rests with this ruling body headed by the Bishop. Their decision this year was not to return Mr. Tyson to Maxton for another year. As always, there's a feeling of sadness when this happens, but of course we must abide by it.

Mr. Tyson's last Sunday was on June 14, 1981. Instead of his usual wonderful sermon we celebrated the Lord's Supper. Our hymn of dedication was "God be with you till we meet again." This was quite fitting but it was also quite sad.

#### NEW MEMBERS

- March 30, 1980 - Robert Waldron and Beverly Waldron, Donald Paynter and Virginia Paynter, Jetta Tyson, Alice Tyson, Bobby Tyson, Jr., Sharon Tyson.
- May 3, 1981 - We Welcome Lloyd and Doris Smith, 116 Cameron Way, Maxton, N.C. into the fellowship of this church. They come to us from St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Defiance, Ohio.

#### WEDDINGS

- Miss Eve Marie Cottingham and Mr. Thomas Lee Smith were married at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, October 19, 1979 in St. Paul's United Methodist Church by Rev. Bobby Tyson.
- Miss Alice Tyson and Mr. William Kirkland were married on Saturday, May 17, 1980 at 12:00 Noon in St. Paul's United Methodist Church by her father, Rev. Bobby Tyson.
- Miss Stephanie Steed and Mr. Steve Thigpen were married at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 13, 1980 in St. Paul's United Methodist Church by Rev. Bobby Tyson.
- Miss Sharon Tyson and Mr. Jody Russ were married during the worship service on Sunday, November 2, 1980 in St. Paul's United Methodist Church. Her father Rev. Bobby Tyson gave her away and she was married by her cousin, a former minister of our church, Rev. Carson Tyson.

#### DEATHS

- Mr. Roland Seals - November 21, 1979  
Mr. Thomas Carrowon - November 24, 1979  
Mr. Charlie Watson - September 1980  
Mr. Robert (Bob) Burns - A former member - October 1980  
Mrs. James Gibson (Ina) - October 13, 1980  
Miss Laura Jones - December 1980  
Mr. C.A. Hasty (Gus) - A former member - January 29, 1981  
Mrs. Dewey Evans (Mamie) - March 4, 1981  
Mr. Bill Chestnut - April 1981  
Mr. Thomas Owen Evans - May 27, 1981



REV. WILLIAM M. PRESNELL

JUNE 1981 - JUNE 1985

At the Conference held in June 1981, Rev. William M. Presnell was assigned as our pastor. He was quite young and, being single, had only himself to move into the parsonage.

From the article published in the Laurinburg Exchange, we gathered that he was a very outstanding young minister - and very soon thereafter we knew that he was!

The article from the Exchange follows:

PREACHES FIRST SERVICE AT ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST.

William Michael Presnell will preach his first service at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Maxton Sunday.

Presnell was born in Fredericksburg, Virginia, on July 31, 1948 to Mr. and Mrs. W.C. Presnell. He was raised and educated in the public schools of Colonial Beach, Virginia.

Presnell graduated from Methodist College in 1971 with a B.A. degree in Religion. After graduating he was called to St. Luke United Methodist Church, Goldsboro, N.C. as Minister of Education.

While he served in Goldsboro, he was chairman of the Wayne County Hospital Chaplain Program and active in the Goldsboro District Council on Ministries. During this time he also received the 32 Degree in Masonry.

In the summer of 1973, Presnell was appointed pastor of Rock Creek United Methodist Church, Snow Camp, N.C. and began his studies at the Divinity School of Duke University, Durham, N.C. While at the Divinity School he was president of the Student Pastor's Association.

He received the M. Div. Degree in May 1977. After graduation from Divinity School he was appointed as pastor of Riverside United Methodist Church, Elizabeth City, N.C.

As pastor of Riverside Church he was very active in the community. He has been guest speaker throughout the area and served as secretary and president of the Elizabeth City Area Minister's Conference. He represented the Elizabeth City District of the United Methodist Church on November 1, 1978 at the reopening of John Wesley's Cahpel in London, England.

Presently he is a member of the North Carolina Conference Division of Missions, the Board of Directors of the Circus Tent, Inc., an interdenominational ministry at Nags Head, and the North Carolina Annual Conference Commission on Equitable Salaries.

At the June 1979 session of the North Carolina Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, Presnell was elected as a delegate to the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.

Presnell is one of the youngest ministers ever elected to serve as Minister in Residence at Methodist College, Fayetteville. On July 14, 1980, The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners elected Presnell to the Nursing Home Advisory





Committee and the Pasquotank Home Health Care Service Agency. On March 12, 1981, he was elected the first president of the newly-formed Elizabeth City District Board of Missions.

On March 21, 1981 Presnell was elected to the Board of Directors of the Albemarle Parenting and Childbirth Education Association of Pasquotank County. It is a volunteer organization of parents and professionals who promote family-centered maternity care and choices for parents in the childbearing experience.

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Bill, as we soon began to call him, has continued to be as active in the life of the community in and around Maxton as he was in Elizabeth City. He is held in high esteem not only by his congregation but by the entire surrounding area.

In June, or early July, a clean-up day was held at the church. A special word of appreciation was given to all who participated and especially to James and Sandra Graves who prepared supper for the group.

On August 2, 1981 the newly organized class known as the "Spares and Pairs" Young Adult Fellowship Class met in the Library of the Church with Bill as their teacher. Of course he was responsible for the formation of this class.

Around the last of August 1981, Mrs. Malcolm Gillis (Fern) was employed on a part-time basis (Tuesday and Thursday mornings) as secretary to the pastor.

On Tuesday, September 15, 1981, Bishop Cannon visited with our minister at the parsonage.

On Sunday, September 27, 1981, Rally Day was celebrated. This was a time of celebrating the Sunday School, the backbone of Methodism. There was a special program during the Sunday School hour and the worship service in the form of an old Camp Meeting. Members of the Sunday School came dressed in the manner of the first students some 200 years ago. After church a picnic lunch was held on the grounds.

The new paraments on the pulpit and Communion Table for this service were presented to the church by the United Methodist Women.

For a period of several months about this time, Connie and Eddie Ivey sponsored an Exercise Class in the Fellowship Hall. Many of the young, and some not so young ladies, took advantage of this wonderful opportunity.

On October 25, a pumpkin carving and hotdog supper was enjoyed at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This afforded much fun for the young folks as well as the rest of us.

At 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 1, 1981, we had our Circuit Gathering Covered Dish Supper in support of our 1982 Financial Program. We have always had good attendance for this meeting as we should, since so much depends upon it.

On December 20, our church pageant was held at 7:30 p.m. This was the same one we'd had for several years; however, the Christmas Story never changes so it was enjoyed as much as ever. Also on Christmas Eve we had a Candlelight Communion Service which was very impressive.

The following was among the notices in the bulletin on January 3, 1982: You are invited to attend our two prayer groups. One is held on Tuesday evenings at 8:00 p.m. and the other on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. Come be a part of these vital groups! All who attend these groups have been blessed for having been there.



On January 17, 1982, the following notation was in the bulletin: A special word of appreciation to the United Methodist Women for the beautiful new carpet in the parsonage.

On February 7, it was announced in the bulletin that all children nursery age through 6th grade were invited to the United Methodist Children's Valentine Party to be held on Sunday, February 14, at 4:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Each child was asked to bring a "Sunshine Gift" for one of our shut-ins. Don't forget that each Sunday evening at 6:00 p.m. the "Kids of the Kingdom" Children's Choir meets for fun and fellowship: See you there.

On February 14, our youth were invited to attend a Youth Rally in Lumberton with the youth of the First Presbyterian Church. Inasmuch as there are such a few of this age in both churches, these young people meet together - first with the Presbyterians and next with the Methodists. Isn't that a great idea!

On February 21, 1982, the flowers were given to the glory of God and in gratitude for their 39th Wedding Anniversary by Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Smith.

A special Ash Wednesday Service was held in our church on February 24 at 7:30 p.m. After the sermon "The Offense of the Cross" THE CALL TO OBSERVE A HOLY LENT was given as follows: "At this time the congregation is asked to come to the Communion Rail for a period of silent prayer, asking God to walk with us during these next forty days of preparation for the Easter event. While you are at the rail the pastor will present to each person a small cross as a reminder of the sacrifice of Jesus for our sins.

The following poem was also in the bulletin:

THE CROSS IN MY POCKET

I carry a cross in my pocket  
A simple reminder to me  
Of the fact that I am a Christian  
No matter where I may be.

This little cross is not magic  
Nor is it a good luck charm  
It isn't meant to protect me  
From every physical harm.

It's not for identification  
For all the world to see  
It's simply an understanding  
Between my Savior and me.

When I put my hand in my pocket  
To bring out a coin or key  
The Cross is there to remind me  
Of the price He paid for me.

It reminds me too, to be thankful  
For my blessings day to day  
And to strive to serve Him better  
In all that I do and say.

It's also a daily reminder  
Of the peace and comfort I share  
With all who know my Master  
And give themselves to His care.

So, I carry a cross in my pocket  
Reminding no one but me  
That Jesus Christ is Lord of my life  
If only I'll let Him be.

- Verna Thomas

On March 28 at 2:30 p.m. the United Methodist Children of St. Paul's held their second Annual Kite Flying Contest. This is always a lot of fun for all in attendance.

On Easter Sunday, an Easter Lily was given to the glory of God and in honor of Bill Presnell by Donnie and Pete Jones.

On April 11, the following announcement was in the bulletin: The pastor will be in New York City this coming week attending a Conference on World Peace at the United Nations. He will be returning Friday evening.

On May 9, Kelly Wicker received his Eagle Scout Award during the Worship Service. The flowers on the Communion Table were given to the glory of God and in honor of Kelly by Shirley and Bryant's Sunday School Class.

During the spring, the United Methodist Women presented a new projector to the Sunday School. They will also be sending two lucky children to camp this summer.

During April 1982, STORM WINDOWS were placed over the beautiful windows in the old building. This was made possible by the gracious gift left to the church by Mamie Evans upon her death. These windows have stood the storms of time, approximately seventy-seven years to be exact, without any of them having been broken! We feel sure that with this added protection they'll be here many more years for everyone to enjoy. Mamie had attended our church since her college days at Carolina and of course had been a member since she and Dewey were married. She has been greatly missed since her death several years ago.

On May 30, 1982, the following members were honored upon their graduation as follows: Flora Anne Hasty and Lynn Seals from college, and Elizabeth Hasty, Debbie McArthur and Alison Steed from High School.

The pastor and Pete Hasty attended Annual Conference the week of June 6, 1982 at Methodist College, Fayetteville, N.C. THANK GOODNESS Bill was returned to us for another year!

Family Vacation Church School was held Sunday, August 1 through Thursday, August 5 from 6:45-8:45 p.m. Again this year all ages were involved and it was well attended. This got off to a good start with an ice cream social, our thanks to Virginia Paynter, V.B.S. Director!

The pastor and Brain Hoffman attended Senior High Workshop at Louisburg College the week of July 25, 1982. Mr. Presnell was the guest preacher for this week-long event.

On Sunday, August 1, 1982, we welcomed to the pulpit of St. Paul's the Rev. William (Bill) Lowdermilk, Vice President of Methodist College, Fayetteville, N.C. It was a great honor to have this distinguished Methodist leader to bring our morning message. Rev. Lowdermilk also works with the Carolina College Alumnae Association and has endeared himself to the group that attends the reunions at Methodist College each April.

The following was taken from the church bulletin for August 29, September 12, and September 26, 1982:



## LEARNING TO SERVE

It's tough to get ahead these days. People pushing, shoving, climbing their way to the top, stepping on others as they go. Looking out for Number One. It wasn't any different in Jesus' day. Even the closest friends wanted to be on top -- wanted to be the greatest in His Kingdom. Jesus wasn't surprised. He simply ties a towel around his waist, washed their grubby feet, and said the greatest in the kingdom is the servant of all. Serving? Hardly glamorous! But it's the mark of greatness.

On September 12, 1982, parents were reminded that on the third Sunday of each month "Children's Church" would be held in the Educational Building during the sermon for a special learning experience. Various members will lead this service. Connie Ivey led the first one and Virginia Paynter was also one of the leaders.

## STEPPING OUT IN FAITH

The various committees are currently involved in writing the church budget for the coming year. They always take the risk of trusting in God and believing in our members and friends to support the ministry of the church. Let us show our faithfulness with good stewardship.

The budget of our church is more than a set of figures or a list of expenditures. It is actually the very ministry and mission of the church. It is the pastor preaching, visiting the sick, comforting the bereaved, sharing the faith. It is the Sunday School teaching the word of God to the multitudes. It is the organ playing and the choir singing to the glory of God. It is the church building, standing as a lighthouse in the midst of a dark world. It is the missionaries sent to foreign lands to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Most of all, perhaps, the budget of our church is the expression of our love for Christ, our compassion for a lost world, and our realization that God holds each of us accountable for our stewardship.

In September the pastor was guest minister at St. Luke's United Methodist Church, Goldsboro, for several days.

Also in September the pastor met with the Conference Continuing Education Committee in Raleigh. In October he spoke at Trinity Church in Red Springs.

October 3, 1982 was World Communion Sunday. We were asked to leave a gift at the rail to be used to supply scholarships to Methodist students and also to help the Division of Chaplains.

On October 10, 1982, which was Laity Day, our services were led by Tracy Watson, John C. Hasty and Don Mallard. We are quite fortunate to have such capable Laymen in our church.

On September 2, 1981, the following letter was sent out by Bill to the congregation:

Dear Church Family:

The Administrative Council of St. Paul's Church has set aside October as Evangelism month. Under the direction of the pastor and Miss Patsy Hamer, our Evangelism Chairperson, plans have been made to try to encourage a deeper Commitment to Christ and His church by our people. In order to accomplish this goal, and with a concern for the spiritual vitality of our churches, St. Paul's United Methodist and the First Presbyterian Church will be sponsoring together "Life Abundant Services." Our theme will be the words of our Lord Jesus when He said, "I have come that you might have life and have it more abundantly." Claiming the



promise of our Lord, our schedule of services will be:

Sunday, October 10, at St. Paul's, 7:30 p.m. "Life Through Jesus Christ: Mr. Tippens - (A covered dish supper will be held at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of St. Paul's)

Monday, October 11, at First Presbyterian, 7:30 p.m. "Life Through God's Word": Mr. Presnell

Tuesday, October 12, at St. Paul's, 7:30 p.m. "Life Through the Church": Mr. Tippens

Wednesday, October 13, at First Presbyterian, 7:30 p.m. "Life Through Service": Mr. Presnell

(The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated)

A Nursery will be provided each evening, and both church choirs and musicians will be joining together for these services.

In preparation for these services, there will be a joint prayer meeting on Wednesday, September 29, at 7:00 p.m. and on Thursday, October 7, at 7:00 p.m., both to be held at First Presbyterian Church. On Thursday, October 7, after the prayer meeting, the officers of both churches will visit families to extend a special invitation to attend our "Life Abundant Services."

You can begin now to prepare for these services by praying daily for God's blessings upon them. Through these services our desire is to see each person re-commit his or her life to Christ and His church.

Sincerely,

William M. Presnell, Pastor

WMP/fg

To say that the above meetings were a success in putting it mildly. They were SUPER, from every standpoint! We in our church already knew what a treasure we had in Bill and we found that the Presbyterians were equally blessed by having Ron as their pastor.

The music was provided each night by the two choirs with Jones Gwinn at the organ for the Presbyterians and Jerry Heersma at the piano for our church. Each night Jerry performed separately on the piano in his inimitable manner. We in Maxton don't need to look elsewhere for special talent - we have it right here at home!

Everyone in attendance at these meetings felt they had really been blessed for having been there- and we all hope for a repeat performance next year!

In the bulletin for October 17 was the following notation from the pastor: "A word of appreciation to all those who helped to make our "Abundant Life Services" a success."

On October 24, 1982, at 2:00 p.m., our Financial Drive for 1983 was held. Also our Bazaar was held on November 12 and was a great success, as usual. As we know, it's a great part of our financial drive.

On Thursday, November 18, The Maxton Historical Society met in our Educational Building. Fred Frostick, better remembered as Freddy by us older members, was the guest speaker for this meeting. He has always been very interested in everything about Maxton and I think he was an excellent choice for this honor.

The Community Thanksgiving Service was held at the First Presbyterian Church this year. The following is copied from our church bulletin of November 14:



## THANKSGIVING OR THANKSLIVING?

"Every year at this time, we are reminded of the difference between Thanksgiving and Thanksliving.

Thanksgiving maybe thought of as a dot -- a moment in time to say thank you to God, as we do at mealtimes and on Thanksgiving Day.

Thanksliving is the continuous line that connects the dots -- a way of life that acknowledges that every moment, every event, every gift comes from God."

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The following notations were in the bulletin for November 28, 1982:

"Don't forget our Church-Wide Dinner sponsored by the United Methodist Women to be held on Monday, December 6, 7:00 p.m.

Katherine Carter and the pastor are in charge of the Christmas program this year.

Christmas is just around the corner! In preparation for the birthday of Jesus Christ, our congregation is planning a special celebration where we will give you the opportunity of giving a birthday present to Jesus! After all, it is His birthday, so shouldn't He receive a gift ... think about it and then respond by setting aside an offering to be presented at our Christmas Eve Vesper Services."

At Christmas we always have gifts under our tree in the Sanctuary for needy families. They were distributed after the pageant was presented. I'm sure the children especially enjoyed this pageant as they represented all of the animals who had come to worship the baby Jesus.

On December 24 a Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service was held to which the other churches in town were invited. In the bulletin was the following: We welcome all who visit with us this evening. It is our hope that this service will help each of us to receive the greatest Christmas gift .... the coming of the Christ Child into our lives.

On January 2, 1983, our first Sunday of the New Year, the following was in the bulletin:

### ON BEGINNING THE NEW YEAR

Thou Lord of Heaven and earth, prosper Thou us this year even as our soul prospereth. Let Thy presence go with us. Be Thou the Companion of our way.

In our home, grant that we may cheerfully welcome Thee as our daily Guest. In our relationships with others, teach us to practice the Golden Rule.

In all our seekings, grant that we seek first Thy Kingdom and righteousness.

A 17th Century Prayer

The pastor taught at the January 13th Workshop in Fayetteville.

On March 15, Rev. Ron Tippens of the Presbyterian Church led our Morning Prayer Group and Bible Study. The topic of discussion was Predestination. It was most informative.

On March 25 the Methodist Men held their annual Fish Fry. As usual, they did a good job. This is one time when the men do all the work, and the ladies really enjoy that!

At 7:00 p.m. on the 27th, the joint choirs of the Methodist and Presbyterian churches presented their Easter Cantata, "No Greater Love" at the Presbyterian Church.



By action of the Administrative Board, beginning this quarter, Financial Statements will only be sent to those members who are behind in their pledges. A year-end statement can be received by contacting Mac Mallard. This will help save our church valuable postage.

This is taken from our March 27 bulletin: "God has written the promise of the Resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime."

-Martin Luther

It is the tradition of St. Paul's Church to receive a sacrificial offering at Easter to go to the United Methodist African Mission Project. We received that offering at the morning service, April 3, 1983.

In the bulletin of the same date was the following: "Christianity is the only religion in the world which can triumphantly point to an empty tomb. Every other religion has a dead leader. But Christ is alive."

On the 10th of April the United Methodist Women, North Carolina Conference, Rockingham District, Robeson Sub-District Annual Meeting was held at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Maxton, North Carolina. The Call to Celebrate was made by Mary Anna Gray, Sub-District Leader. Katherine Carter gave the welcome from our church. The response was made by Yvonne Nichols of Chestnut Street United Methodist Church, Lumberton, N.C. The program "Committed to Missions Tomorrow Building on Yesterday" was given by Mollye Briley, Mount Olive; Linda Hunt, Ashpole Center; Eva Hardin, Bethesda; and Carrie Mabel Jones, Prospect. After the Prayer, Offering and Dedication, Recognition of Officers, etc., the Benediction was given by Dr. Joseph Bethea, our District Superintendent. There were approximately 100 in attendance. After the program a Fellowship Hour followed in the Educational Building where delicious refreshments were served.

On May 1 we welcomed to the pulpit Rev. Michael W. Safley, Associate Director for Youth and Young Adult Ministries for the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church.

On Mother's Day there was an insert in the bulletin in memory of and in honor of many of our mothers. A contribution was given by each person whose mother was honored in this way to be sent to the Methodist Home for Children in Raleigh.

Also the following: "No gift that you give your mother can compare with the gift that your mother gave you."

On the same Sunday congratulations were extended to our 1983 graduates as follows: Jimmy Jones and Cindy Walker from High School, and Meg Wicker from Peace College, and Tommy Smith from Pembroke State.

#### WHAT ATTRACTS PEOPLE TO CHURCH

Why do people select a church? A convenient location? Yes. a good speaker in the pulpit? Yes. Inspiring music? Yes. An attractive building? Yes. But a more essential element in attracting visitors, newcomers, and prospective members is FRIENDLINESS -- both in the pew and throughout the community. Where there is a warm, dynamic congregation with an enthusiasm that is contagious, visitors will usually be found, and will return. FRIENDLINESS comes from the hearts of dedicated people who love God and enjoy helping others feel at home in their church.

On Sunday, May 29, 1983, Dr. Joseph Bethea, District Superintendent of the Rockingham District for the past eight years was honored with a reception at the First Church in Laurinburg. At conference in June, Dr. Bethea was assigned to the office of Administrative Assistant to the Bishop and Director of Ministerial



Relations. It is thought that he himself will be made a Bishop in the not too distant future. Dr. Bethea was quite popular in our District and we were sorry to lose him - but happy for him at the same time.

The Reverend William W. Sherman, Jr., was assigned as Dr. Bethea's replacement in our District.

Of course our pastor was at Annual Conference while it was in session at Methodist College June 5-9. He was accompanied by our Alternate Lay Member, Donnie Jones, inasmuch as Pete Hasty was still in Raleigh at the Legislature. It goes without saying that we were delighted that Bill was returned to us for another year! But we just want to be sure that HE KNOWS IT!

Our men recently did a fine job on cleaning and painting our Educational Building.

This year Vacation Bible School was held from July 31 through August 5. Classes were conducted for each age level of our congregation and also included children from other churches in the community. Ron Tippens, the Presbyterian Minister, assisted by leading the singing each night, and he also taught a class of young people. As for the adult class, I truly wish that everyone of you reading this could have been present. Bill was our teacher and the topic was "The Holy Spirit." It was a subject that I don't think too many people really understand - but Bill was a super teacher - and everyone was glad to be there. I'm sure that everyone present went away with a better understanding of The Holy Spirit than they had when they came.

As I said above, July 31 was the first night of Bible School but it was also something else really important! It was BILL'S BIRTHDAY! If you know Bertha Byrd, you know that she's the one who always thinks up something special to do on all occasions. This was no exception. She got the idea of giving Bill a huge box in which all the members of the church had deposited birthday cards. The little children made their own, which made it all the nicer. While we were enjoying an icecream supper, Lolita Webb got Bill up front and sang "Just Plain Bill" to him. So you can see that Bible School really got off to a great start this year! The last night we had a covered dish supper in the Fellowship Hall. After that we all went into the Sanctuary where our commencement was held. To begin this, Bill and Jerry played a duet with Bill at the organ. That alone made it worthwhile. After all the different classes had performed, we returned to the Educational Building to view the handiwork of all the children. It was really interesting to see the various things they had made during the week. In the meantime, Bill was passing out certificates which concluded Bible School for this year. This, I believe, was considered our most successful Bible School so far, and certainly it was from the standpoint of attendance.

Did you know that the United Methodist Church gives \$176 Million Dollars in benevolences a year? This is what they do with it: Support 13 Seminaries; 133 Schools and Colleges; 650 Missionaries; 100 Radio and T.V. Programs a week; Leadership for 33,682 local churches; 565 conversions and 1,268 new members each day. Isn't it good to know that your money is well spent? The above is in comparison to what Mass Media Ministries (nine to be exact) do with \$338 Million: Provides 3 churches, 5 schools, 1 hospital, television and radio ministry and some mission work.

Soon after Bill came to town, the Maxton Development Commission was organized to analyze Maxton's future, predict changes that will come about, and plan for those changes with the community's economic well-being in mind. From the beginning Bill has taken a very active part in this organization. Recently its second anniversary was celebrated with an all-day affair up town. From all reports, much good has come out of this organization which effects all races.



In September 1983, the following notice was in our church Bulletin:  
"The United Methodist Women are receiving a Love Offering in memory of Miss Sallie Lou McKinnon, our former missionary. The ATETELIA TRIBE named her Mbo Yo Ngamji, meaning "Blessing of Love." This offering will go to the United Methodist High School named for her."

In a recent copy of the Christian Advocate they gave the amount that had been collected for the above from all over the District. As I remember, it was approximately \$1,000.00

On Tuesday, September 20, 1983, the Senior Citizens of Maxton met at First Presbyterian Church to organize a Senior Citizens group. This is headed up by Rev. Bill Presnell and Rev. Ron Tippens of the Presbyterian Church. Other ministers from the various churches were also present, as well as their members. A devotional was given by a visiting minister, Reverend Mark Scott from Wagram, after which officers were elected and discussions as to future activities of the club took place. It is set up for each church to host three consecutive meetings, and that the host church will furnish the meat for a luncheon that follows. Members of the other churches will supply all other foods. It is also planned to take short trips to various places of interest on occasion. As of now the Club has no name. However, a number of suggestions were turned in at the October meeting, from which one will be selected. A large-print Bible will be presented to the winner.

On Sunday, October 25, 1983, a reception was held at First Church, Laurinburg at 3:00 p.m. to welcome our new District Superintendent, the Rev. William Sherman.

On January 24 and 25, 1984, a photographer was at the church to make pictures of all families and members to be included in a Directory of St. Paul's. Everyone was most cooperative in this project and the Directory will be a precious memento for all the church families for many years to come.

In the bulletin for February 5, 1984 was the following: "It is not good for all our wishes to be fulfilled. Through sickness, we recognize the value of health; through evil, the value of good; through hunger, the value of satisfaction; through exertion, the value of rest."

On February 19, 1984, St. Paul's celebrated its 100th Birthday. The write-up from the Laurinburg Exchange follows:

MAXTON CHURCH OBSERVES 100th

(The Laurinburg Exchange - Monday, February 20, 1984)

St. Paul's United Methodist Church celebrated its one hundredth anniversary Sunday, February 19, with a special morning worship service and a dinner on the grounds following.

The stately church was filled to overflowing Sunday as members of the church, former members, former pastors, relatives and visiting dignitaries gathered to commemorate St. Paul's centennial. Bishop William R. Cannon, President of the World Methodist Council, delivered the sermon. He is from Raleigh. Bishop Cannon, the Reverend William Presnell, pastor of St. Paul's and honored clergy, processed into the church as the congregation sang its opening hymn, "O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing."

Crucifer was Bill Duncan. Mark Fleming was Bishop's acolyte, and Catherine Paynter was acolyte. The Methodist College Chorus, led by Director Alan Porter, led the choral call to worship and sang several anthems. Opening prayers were



led by the Rev. William Presnell. "The day which we have been preparing for and looking forward to has finally arrived," said the Rev. Presnell. "God has given us beautiful weather and all of our guests have arrived and all of you are here."

The Reverend Ernie Porter, director of the N.C. Conference Council on Ministries, read the Ministry of the Word. Dr. Thomas Yow, III, vice president of Louisburg College, presented the heritage of Carolina College.

Mrs. Lula Steed, chairperson of St. Paul's administrative council, delivered the reading of the church history. Representative John C. "Pete" Hasty gave the welcome.

Prayers for the church were led by the Reverend Joseph B. Bethea, assistant to the Bishop. The closing hymn sung by the congregation was "The Church's One Foundation." The blessing was given by Bishop Cannon.

The church was first organized in February of 1884 from a series of revival meetings held by traveling evangelists in this vicinity. The name first given to the congregation was Ashpole Mission. The church's first minister was the Reverend Daniel May. He was pastor of the Red Banks Circuit which included Red Springs, Red Banks, Hebron and the Ashpole Mission. By 1885, the Ashpole had completed its first building on a lot given by Mr. Frank Henderson. It was a "proud, frame building" with a high steeple and high windows on the corner of Saunders and Patterson Streets. The congregation first met in a buggy shop near where Burns Garage is now. The church's name was changed to Shoe Heel Mission around 1887. Some 20 years later, the congregation launched a building project and built the present building on a lot donated by Mr. A.J. McKinnon. Construction went on for about three years with hired labor and mostly volunteers. Paul Steed remembers helping roll the sand in his wheelbarrow as a small boy. Even the cement blocks were made by volunteers. The church was completed in 1907 and was then recognized by the Annual Conference and received its own pastor. About that time the name of the church was changed to St. Paul's. 1984 marks the one-hundredth anniversary of the beginning of St. Paul's Church and the bi-centennial of Methodism.

The flowers were given by the Women of the Church in honor of their pastor, the Reverend Presnell, and the altar flowers in honor of Paul Steed by his fellow Masons.

"May this Centennial year be not just a time of remembering our past, but may it be a time of renewed commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ and His Church."

Needless to say, February 19, 1984 will always be one of our most cherished memories.

During the year 1984 the Women of the Church sold commemorative plates and note paper as a money-making project. The plates are very beautiful and will be a real treasure in the years to come.

In February 1985 our pastor was away for two weeks on a wonderful trip to the Holy Land and Rome, Italy. On his return he showed us slides he had made while there. I especially enjoyed them, having visited those places in 1960.

About this time Jerry Heersma, our wonderful organist for the past several years, resigned. We really miss Jerry and his wife, Janice who sang in the choir, and their two little girls, Sundi and Jenny. We wish them God speed in the future, wherever it leads.

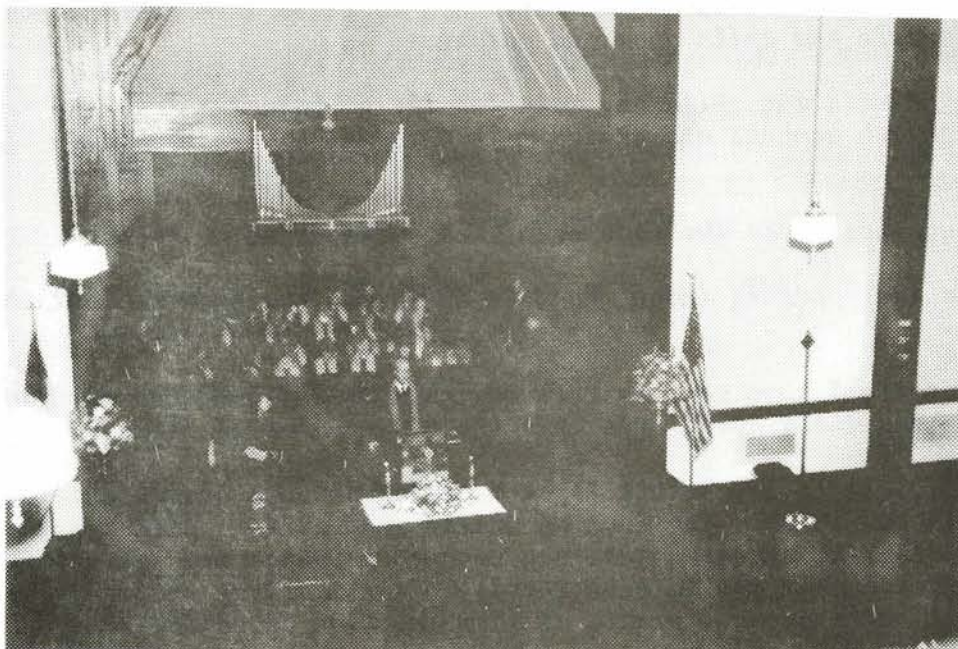


Mrs. Elaine (Croston) Brooks, Choir Director at First Presbyterian, filled in for six weeks and then Mrs. Jan Cooke from Laurinburg filled in temporarily until we were able to secure a permanent organist. They were most capable musicians and we appreciated their coming to our rescue.

On Easter Sunday, April 7, 1985, our new organist began her tour of duty. She is Mrs. Linda Threadgill from Laurinburg. From all reports we are expecting great things to happen in our church in the near future insofar as the music is concerned.

When Bill left for conference we knew that he would not be returning to us because he's completed his allotted time here - four years in most cases. However that didn't make it any the less sad at his going. And we were very flattered that he felt the same way!

For his last sermon on June 9th he used a sort of make shift sermon because he was unable to say what was really in his heart. Instead he had typed copies for everyone to pick up on the way out of church that really expressed his true feelings. With that letter I will close this write-up.



AT CENTENNIAL - FEB. 1984

BISHOP CANNON - Seated  
BILL PRESNELL - At Pulpit  
METHODIST COLLEGE CHOIR



June 9, 1985

"For I am certain that nothing can separate us from the love of Christ!"  
(Romans 8:38)

This is one of the greatest passages in the Bible. St. Paul simply affirms all that you and I have come to experience in our pilgrimage of faith. For we have come to know and to experience that special love as we have tried to be the Church together ... pastor and people. It will always be a source of joy ... knowing that you have allowed me to minister among you in the name of Jesus. You have allowed me to share with you the great experiences of life ... not just as a pastor but as a member of your families.

I have tried to represent Jesus as I have performed the marriages of your daughters and as they have begun their new families.

I have seen these couples and new couples who have become a part of our church watch expectantly for the coming of their first child.

I have baptised your children and asked God to bless them and the parents as both the young couple and child grow and mature.

I have worked with the children, watching their character form and later confirmed them as church members and shared with them the saving knowledge of Christ Jesus.

I have prayed for those who have been sick or troubled.

I have held the hands of those who were dying and saw them go on to be with our Lord.

And then finally I have come to this church with the families of those who have died to commend their loved ones into the loving arms of Jesus.

So you see ... it is impossible to be a pastor and not become emotionally involved with those you serve. The love of Christ that calls a pastor and people together ... is also the strength that can empower a pastor and his people with the courage to face change and to give thanks in the midst of that change. "For I am certain that nothing can separate us from the love of Christ!"

It is difficult to come to a moment such as this without some feeling of regret ... a pastor cannot help but ask the question ... "Have I done all that I could to lift up Christ?" My father once told me that if I would do my best it would be acceptable to God. I have made many mistakes but have always done all I have known to do. Therefore, I make no apology this morning for the work I have done among you, because what I have done has been a sincere effort of love.

My testimony is a simple one ... all that I have accomplished or ever hope to accomplish is due to the grace of my loving heavenly Father who has empowered me by His Holy Spirit to be His minister. God has blessed me with a supportive and loving family and I continue to give thanks to God for my mother, father, and brothers who have stood with me in my effort to serve God and the United Methodist Church.

An old minister friend of mine once told me that the task of a minister was to: "Comfort those who grieve ... and to grieve those who are too comfortable." I believe this to be true. I have grieved some but I must be honest in saying that I felt it necessary to be a voice of truth in obedience to Christ. For as Jesus said concerning his own ministry:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has chosen me to preach  
the Good News to the poor. He has  
sent me to proclaim liberty to the  
captives, and recovery of sight to  
the blind; to set free the oppress-  
ed, and announce the year when the  
Lord will save his people."

Luke 4:16-19

Any minister worth his salt must claim this purpose as his purpose and this I have done!

Next Sunday you will have a new pastor ... John Aycock. My prayers will continue for you and your new pastor. I will look to this congregation to continue the great work and to be as loving and supportive of John as you have been of me.

Now it is time to say "So long" ... I say "so long" because there is never a "good by" in the Christian faith. WE WILL MEET AGAIN!

Pray for me and God bless each of you!

Bill Presnell  
St. Paul's UMC  
Maxton, NC



### NEW MEMBERS

- Mr. James Stanley, Letter of Transfer from Westfield Baptist Church, Dunn, N.C., November 8, 1981
- Brian Hoffman, Gary Graves, Dockery Steed, Chris Stocks - CF, April 25, 1982
- Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Reep (Skip and Frances), CT, First UMC, Laurinburg, N.C.
- William Rodney Chestnut, CF, June 13, 1982
- Mr. and Mrs. Gerald A. Heersma, Jr. (Ferry and Janice) CF, Gerald from Eureka Presbyterian Church, Carthage, N.C. and Janice from Lakeview Presbyterian Church, Lakeview, N.C. - October 17, 1982
- Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Harrell (Ken and Ginny) CT, Ken from Grace United Methodist Church, Clinton, N.C., Ginny from First UMC, Laurinburg, N.C.-April 1, 1983
- Mr. and Mrs. Russell Cotton (Sandy and Russ) CT from Farmville United Methodist Church, Farmville, N.C. - November 13, 1983
- Mr. and Mrs. Walter White (Walter and Sharon) CT - Walter from First UMC, Elizabeth City, N.C., Sharon from Haymount UMC, Fayetteville, N.C. April 8, 1984
- Mrs. Terry Brooks, Marlysa, Morris and Suzanne, CT from Calvary Baptist Church, Maxton, N.C., April 8, 1984
- Duncan Blue, Bill Duncan, Eric Hoffman, Laura Reep, Eric Singletary - CF - April 8, 1984
- Mr. and Mrs. Donald Fleming (Don and Linda) CT - Donald from Oak Ridge Baptist Church, Kittrell, N.C. and Linda from First United Methodist Church, Henderson, N.C. - April 8, 1984
- Mrs. Sandra I. Ward - CT from First Baptist Church, Maxton, N.C.
- Kim and Rusty Cotton - CT from Farmville UMC, Farmville, N.C. - July 1, 1984
- Mr. and Mrs. Bevin Grice (Bevin and Leigh Anne) - CT from First Baptist Church Sanford, N.C. - October 7, 1984. They have two children, Edward and Brackett
- Deborah Stone Chestnut - CF - October 28, 1984
- Mr. and Mrs. Edward W. Jolly (Edward and Carolyn) and Michael W. Jolly - CT from Grace Presbyterian Church, Lancaster, S.C., December 2, 1984
- Catherine Elizabeth Paynter - CF - May 5, 1984

### BAPTISMS

To honor the birth of a child, Bill places a pink carnation on the Communion Table in honor of a girl and blue one for a boy.

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- Kristin Ann Yager - October 25, 1981, daughter of Denise and George Yager and granddaughter of Betty and Dumpy Foxworth
- April Carrie Gentry - April 18, 1982, daughter of Jo Ann and Woody Gentry and granddaughter of Bassil and Alice Gentry

Sunny Melissa Gentry - April 18, 1982, Daughter of Jo Ann and Woody Gentry and granddaughter of Bassil and Alice Gentry

William Rodney Chestnut - June 13, 1982 - Adult

Emily Ruth Thigpen - December 26, 1982, daughter of Ivy M. and Jimmy Thigpen and granddaughter of Mac and Don Mallard

Marlyssa Brooks - April 4, 1984 - Youth

Mark Fleming - April 4, 1984 - Youth

John Stuart Harrell - April 15, 1984, son of Ken and Ginny Harrell

Deborah Stone Chestnut - October 28, 1984. Adult

Katherine McKenzie Thigpen and Mallory MacNair Thigpen - December 23, 1984. Twin daughters of Ivey and Jimmy Thigpen and granddaughters of Mac and Don Mallard

Justin Edward Yager - February 3, 1985, son of Denise and George Yager and grandson of Betty and Dumpy Foxworth

Jonathan Edward Ivey - November 19, 1984, son of Eddie and Connie Ivey

Ronda Lourin Jones - December 17, 1984, daughter of Ann and Ronald Jones

#### WEDDINGS

Miss Debra Jean Weeks and Mr. Billy Ray Blackburn were married on Saturday, September 5, 1981 at 4:00 P.M. in St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Maxton, North Carolina by Rev. William M. Presnell.

Miss Joan Hagler and Mr. George Cox were married on Saturday, May 1, 1982, at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Maxton, North Carolina by Reverend William M. Presnell.

Miss Flora Anne Hasty and Mr. James Roy McCook, Jr., were married on Saturday, August 20, 1983, at 8:00 P.M. in St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Maxton, North Carolina by Rev. William M. Presnell.

Miss Lee Ann Bailey and Mr. Mark Benjamin Foxworth were married Saturday, November 12, 1983, at Glenwood Baptist Church, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, by

Miss Sandra Jean Ivey and Mr. Thomas Carl Ward were married on Saturday, December 17, 1983, at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Maxton, North Carolina by Rev. William M. Presnell.

Miss Gloria Grubbs and Mr. Randy McArthur were married during the 11:00 A.M. worship service on Sunday, May 20, 1984 at the St. Paul's Methodist Church, Maxton, N.C. by Rev. William M. Presnell.

Miss Deborah L. Stone and Mr. Christopher F. Chestnut were married on September 22, 1984 in St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Maxton, North Carolina by Rev. William M. Presnell.

Miss Katherine Scott Read and Mr. Ashley Steed were married October 27, 1984 at the First United Methodist Church, Laurinburg, N. C. by Rev. Ben Wilson.

Mrs. Evelyn O. Cottingham and Mr. Preston B. Bundy were married on Saturday, April 6, 1985, at the home of the bride on McCaskill Avenue, Maxton, N.C. by Rev. William Presnell.



## DEATHS

Mrs. Lena English - July 2, 1981

Mrs. May Brigman McClelland - October 3, 1981 - Former member and sister of Mrs. Lucy Webb.

William (Bill) Butler - November 1981

Mrs. Lomie Gilbert (Corinne) - June 4, 1982

Mrs. Louise Wicker - April 19, 1982

Mr. Frank Steed - June 1982. Former member and brother of Paul Steed and Janet Hord.

Mr. Rufus Smith - July 23, 1982

Mrs. Doris Cashwell Kirkpatrick - October 9, 1982. Former member and sister of Fred and Joncie Cashwell.

Mrs. Mary Wesley Carter - April 4, 1983

Mrs. R. B. (Georgia) Bullard - April 14, 1983

Mr. Denver B. Cottingham - July 19, 1983. Former member and brother of Ruth Cottingham.

Miss Margaret Dixon McCall - April 21, 1983

Mrs. C.A. Brown, Sr. (Mabel) - October 2, 1983

Mrs. Emma Fyne Bernheim - October 1983. A former member

Mr. Lomie Gilbert - August 12, 1984

Miss Joncie Cashwell - October 29, 1984

Mr. Ralph Patrick Gentry - November 20, 1984

Mr. Morrison McKenzie - March 31, 1985

Mrs. Ida West - April 2, 1985

REV. JOHN D. AYCOCK

JUNE 1985 -



I think we Methodists have the best system of any denomination for obtaining our ministers. We all know that as one departs another arrives. This happened again in Maxton on the 13th of June 1985. Bill left the parsonage in the early morning after having breakfast with Donnie and Pete Jones at six o' clock - and before nightfall our new minister and his wife had moved in. They are Rev. and Mrs. John D. Aycock and came to us from Fremont United Methodist Church in Fremont, N.C.

Rev. Aycock has served as Associate Minister and Education Director at First Church in Rocky Mount, Scotland Neck, Lumberton Charge, Ellerbe, Saxaphaw, West End, Winstead in Wilson, Snow Hill, First Church Havelock and Warsaw. He has served as the Goldsboro District Mission Secretary for the past five years.

Rev. Aycock is a native of Littleton and is a graduate of High Point College and Duke Divinity School.

His wife, the former Frances (Fran) Thompson of Rowland attended Averitte College In Danville, Va. and is a graduate of Columbia Bible College and Atlantic Christian College.

They have two children, Sarah Katherine (Kathy) who was married on May 11th to Henry Tyler (Ty) Jones, and John Charles.

We immediately discovered that Fran has a lovely voice so of course no time was lost in getting her into the choir. I think he also has a nice voice and I believe he could replace Bill in that capacity also.



Several interesting things have happened at the church since the Aycocks arrived. On the first Sunday, June 23, the District held a FETCH RALLY at Laurinburg which is a program of Church School evangelism and growth. This was led by Rev. Herman Winberry, District Superintendent of the Fayetteville District: Dr. Grant Shockley of Duke University and the Rev. Robert O'Keef.

I don't know whether the Sunday Schools in general have gone down as much as ours has since I first attended as a child but I gather they must have. If you have read all of this history you know what I mean. Our attendance used to be in the neighborhood of 150 to 200 each Sunday. Of course part of the explanation is that our families are much smaller than they were in those days. Won't you, who are reading this (if it applies to you) make a resolution to go back to the ways of your childhood by attending Sunday School and Church each Sunday when possible? And if you have children, take them with you, of course! They'll love it! By the way, WE HAVE EXCELLENT TEACHERS!!!

On Sunday afternoon July 7th the children of Bertha Byrd Gainey gave a reception in the Educational Building from 4:00 to 6:00 o'clock in honor of her seventy-fifth birthday. This was a lovely occasion and was attended by approximately two-hundred guests.

At the morning church service the chancel flowers were placed in loving honor of Bertha Byrd and in loving memory of Jasper Gainey by their children.

I've spoken about the McKinnon-Hornaday Sunday School Class several times earlier in this history. It is made up of both men and women and has been a wonderful class before and since the Men's Class combined with the Ladies Class. Our wonderful teachers are still Tracy Watson and Bertha Byrd Gainey.

One of the men that we inherited along with the others was Fred Cashwell. He has been Secretary and Treasurer every since he's been with us I believe - and it would be impossible to have a more loyal and dependable member and officer. He hasn't been well for several years but he still comes if he can possibly do so!

One morning in May of this year I received a telephone call from Fred's daughter, who was visiting her folks. She asked if she could come up to see me. This was a very pleasant surprise and even more so after she told me the reason for her visit.

She said that her father loves his Sunday School Class so very much that she wanted to give a gift to the class in his honor to be used for the publication of the Church History. SO SHE GAVE ME A CHECK FOR \$500.00! With what we already had I feel sure this History will have been published entirely by THE MCKINNON-HORNADAY SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS.!

We hope that the present, past and future members of St. Paul's will get as much enjoyment from the reading of this History as our class has had in presenting it to you. IT WAS A REAL JOY!!!

Ruth W. Cottingham

### DEATHS

Miss Elizabeth Burns - Sunday, September 8, 1985

Mrs. Flora McIntyre Caddelle - Thursday, November 14, 1985

Mr. Ira W. Duncan - April 4, 1986

Mrs. Lawrence (Rachel) Jones - November 29, 1986

### WEDDINGS

Miss Theresa Ann McCabe and Edward Herndon Alexander were married Sunday, November 10, 1985 at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, By Reverend John D. Aycok.

Miss Mary Margaret Wicker and John Jay Covola - March 15, 1986

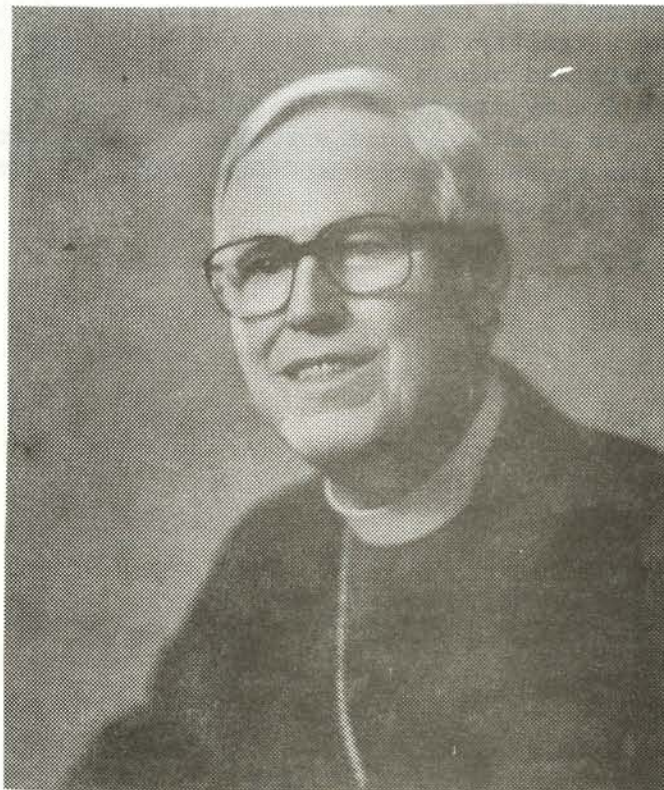
Miss Christine Marie Floyd and Mr. William Edward Barnes - March 30, 1986

Ms. Catherine Watson Evans and Mr. Ernest Hall Frye, Jr. - May 24, 1986

Ms. Mary Ann Langley and Mr. Robert Niles Luttrell - November 23, 1986

Miss Vickie Elaine McCabe and Mr. Troy Kyle Oakley - December 7, 1986

BISHOP CANNON





May 1986

DREAMS OF THE FUTURE

John D. Aycock

While today, because of financial woes, we are concerned with staying alive and keeping our church going, we dare not dream of the future.

One of the things that impressed me in the St. Paul's Church was the beautiful stained-glass windows. These stand out as one enters the church sanctuary. There has been some talk of restoring the sanctuary to its original beauty. I think there are great possibilities to do this! My first thoughts were - what a big mistake not to have moved to a new location and built a more economical church to maintain. But this is behind us now -- there are good points on both sides -- to have remained, and to have moved. Since we have decided to stay, we must look toward the future as a time to restore the present sanctuary and get it in good shape.

I dream of using plexiglas to close off the balcony to save on heat and air -- yet for this section to still be visible, allowing light to shine through the windows in this area; to enhance the altar and choir area; to consider exposing the beams in the ceiling of the sanctuary; and to replace the old annex with a more convenient office and study area, a choir room a library, and a general meeting room. Thus, the area under the balcony could be ready to be opened for instant use. The middle section needs to be left open to expose the beautiful stained glass window in this area anyway.

While these things may be in the future, we need to dream some dreams and to plan in that direction. We must continue the tradition of St. Paul's being a servant Church. To do this we need an attractive and beautiful place to worship, with office and meeting places in which to work. It doesn't hurt to do a little dreaming so long as these dreams are practical and have a chance of becoming a reality. Someone must sow the seeds (even if they are only dreams at first) and others in later years will come along and cultivate and harvest. These are my dreams for the sanctuary of St. Paul's United Methodist Church. For them to become a reality we must work together and give our best to the cause of Christ and His Church as our forefathers and mothers have done in the past.