



HISTORY of

**TRENTON UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH**



THE HISTORY OF THE TRENTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
TRENTON, NORTH CAROLINA

We know that Methodism can be traced back to February 10, 1788 in Jones County through the Journals of Bishop Francis Asbury. He records that he had come from "Cox's on Neuse River" (Lane's Chapel) and he continues, "We then had to move on toward Trent." Asbury went to the Trent River area around the present town of Trenton in Jones County. The Trenton Circuit was formed from part of the New River Circuit in 1792. However, Trenton was not recognized by Asbury as a town in 1788. Then, on January 24, 1791 Bishop Asbury visited the area. Quote: Monday 24. I had a most dreary ride to Trenton. Here I met with Lewis Bryan, brother to the late general. End of quote. He preached in what he called the chapel. At this time Asbury calls our town, Trenton. The chapel spoken of was not a Methodist Church. It was probably an interdenominational chapel. These chapels were known as "Free Churches."

Bishop Asbury's last visit to Jones County was in January 1815. He had been in and out of our area many times. He met in homes and free meeting places, thus, spreading the gospel and initiating the ideas and beliefs of John Wesley. About 1838 the Methodist Protestant Church became officially organized.

1844 - the Southern Churches pulled out of the Methodist General Conference and became the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

After the brief history of Methodism in the entire area we shall now go to the COMPLETE QUARTERLY CONFERENCE RECORD BOOKS embracing the period 1879 and on to the present-1972. This first Record Book was written according to the revisions made in the Discipline by the General Conference of 1878. The book was published by the Southern Methodist Publishing House, Nashville, Tenn. in 1879, for the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

According to the minutes of the fourth quarterly Conference for the current year, Jones Charge, New Bern District, North Carolina Conference, the Conference was held at Lee's Chapel, October 11, 1879. Dr. William Clop, Presiding Elder, in the Chair. Dr. Clop held the religious service then Thos. J. Whitaker was elected Secretary. The Roll was called and the following members were present:

Geo. W. Koonce, Steward	Daniel Stanly, Exhorter
Joseph Dixon, Exhorter	F. Foy, Steward
Thos. J. Whitaker, Steward	Edward Scott, Steward
W. H. Scott, Trustee	Wm. H. Puckett, Preacher in Charge

Seventy Dollars and eighty-five cents was raised for the present quarter for the support of the ministry. Thos. J. Whitaker was elected Recording Secretary and also Superintendent of the Trenton Sunday School for the ensuing year.

The spiritual condition of the church is "tolerably good and we think is getting better all the while. And as evidence of this the members of the



church are more punctual in the attendance upon the worship of God. They seem to enjoy to a greater extent the benedictions of Heaven, and we believe they are striving to live nearer to God, and are more devoted to His cause. There have been four deaths, all of whom we learned died in the triumphs of the Christian faith. None were withdrawn, removed or expelled during the quarter. There have been one hundred and nineteen accessions to the church, one hundred and four on profession of faith and fifteen by certificate."

The Sabbath School Report: "Dear Brethren, There are three Sabbath Schools in operation on the circuit under Methodist supervision, each having a Superintendent, four teachers and an average attendance of 20 scholars. And so far as we know they are being made very profitable, we trust, and so believe that great good is being accomplished by them. And we pray God that our people may become still more awakened on the subject and manifest deeper interest in the Sabbath schools in the future than they have in the past. May God bless the efforts that are being made for the promotion of His Kingdom, to the good of souls." Respectfully Submitted  
William H. Puckett, P. C.

At the first Quarterly Conference-April 3, 1880 Rev. Puckett was the Preacher in Charge and Dr. Clop was the presiding elder. Thos. J. Whitaker was elected Secretary. The Trenton Church paid for the support of the ministry, \$1.00. Thos. J. Whitaker was elected delegate to the District Conference for the Trenton Church.

Brother G. Wood Koonce made the following resolution:

Preamble to Resolution

Whereas the plan that has been followed heretofore on this circuit for the support of the ministry by voluntary contributions is not in keeping with the most approved and advanced ideas of our ablest thinkers. Be it resolved by this conference that we adopt the assessment plan and be it resolved further that we urge all stewards at their respective churches on this circuit to urge with all proper diligence and discretion the assessment of each individual member.

Respectfully submitted by your humble servant,

G. Wood Koonce

Sept. 29, 1880- Rev. Wm. H. Puckett, preacher in charge, Rev. Wm. Clop, presiding elder and Thos. J. Whitaker, secretary, presiding. Trenton Church paid for the support of the ministry, \$8.00. Joseph Dixon applied for license to preach. He was examined by the presiding elder and duly licensed to preach by the presiding elder, Dr. Clop.

Rev. Wm. H. Puckett applied and was unanimously recommended by the Conference for admission to the Annual Conference for ordination.

Thos. J. Whitaker was elected Steward for the ensuing year for the Trenton Church.



Miscellaneous business: On the suggestion of Bro. Barker, Hopewell Church, it was found to be the unanimous desire of the Quarterly Conference that Bro. Puckett be returned.

The first quarterly conference for the year, 1881, met at the Trenton Church meeting place with Rev. Wm. H. Puckett, preacher in charge, Dr. Wm. Clop, presiding elder and Thos. J. Whitaker, Secretary, presiding. Trenton Church paid for the support of the ministry, \$8.25. The Board of Stewards appointed a Committee on Parsonage, with instructions to report at the second Quarterly Conference.

At the third Quarterly Conference held at the Hopewell Church, May 20, 1881 Trenton Church paid for the support of the ministry, \$7.50. The total for the charge for the quarter was \$22.10. "A Parsonage Committee, Building Committee of five, with full powers to all that is necessary to building a parsonage." Thos. J. Whitaker represented Trenton.

The fourth Quarterly Conference-October 15, 1881. Trenton Church paid for the support of the ministry, \$1.00. The total for the charge was \$67.85. We note there were six Sunday Schools in operation on the circuit under Methodist supervision. These schools have thirty teachers and officers and one hundred thirty-one scholars. There are four Sunday School libraries with two hundred volumes, valued at twenty-five dollars.

The first Quarterly Conference in 1882 was held in Trenton, Feb. 4th. Rev. J. E. Monn in the Chair and Rev. L. L. Johnson, preacher in charge. Trenton Church paid for the quarter, \$16.50. The total from all churches (7) was \$29.54. Under miscellaneous business a motion was made that the brethren appoint a committee and build a Parsonage. Trenton Church representative on this committee was Thos. J. Whitaker. There were no Sunday Schools in operation during this winter quarter. The state of the church was very good. The amount assessed by the Stewards present to be raised by the circuit for the year was \$575.00. Trenton's apportionment was \$85.00. The seven churches on the charge were: Lee's Chapel, Trenton, Shady Grove, Cypress Creek, Oak Grove, Woodington, Hopewell.

The second Quarterly Conference held at Lee's Chapel, May 6, 1882 with the Rev. J. E. Monn in the Chair and Rev. L. L. Johnson, preacher in charge. Rev. Johnson reported that Trenton Church had paid for the support of the ministry \$13.50. Total for the charge \$93.91. Seven men were elected as trustees for the Parsonage for the Jones Circuit, North Carolina Conference. Thomas J. Whitaker was elected a delegate to the District Conference. The pastor reports the Sunday Schools are back at work. "The general work of the church, we think, is reasonably good. The attendance on public worship by members is generally good. This work we think very capable of fine progress, both spiritually, numerically and financially."

August 5, 1882. Rev. J. E. Monn in the Chair, Rev. L. L. Johnson, preacher in charge. Trenton Church paid for the support of the ministry \$5.00. The total for the charge, \$41.49. The committee appointed to buy the Parsonage report that they have purchased from Mrs. Susan King of Kinston her property for said purpose. Report was adopted.



Nov. 11, 1882-The Trenton Church paid for the support of the ministry \$15.25. The total for the charge, \$144.08. For the cause of Missions they raised \$27.84. A Church Register belonging to the charge has been faithfully kept. The Parsonage subscriptions were to be collected and forwarded to Thos. J. Whitaker.

March 7, 1883-Presiding Elder-Rev. J. E. Monn. Rev. L. L. Johnson, preacher in charge. Trenton Church paid into the charge treasury, \$15.25. The total for the charge was \$49.45. The amount paid for the Parsonage fund was \$18.00. Bro. Johnson reported that the Sunday Schools and the church are in tolerably good condition. "We are cleansing our Church Register and looking after our members spiritually and financially. Attendance at public worship has been very good considering the unfavorable winter." At the meeting of the Stewards, the Circuit was assessed \$600.00 to be raised for the Preacher in Charge and the Presiding Elder and divided among the churches. Trenton's assessment was \$88.00.

May 12, 1883-Rev. Monn and Rev. Johnson, presiding. The amount raised for the support of the ministry by the Trenton Church was \$15.00. The total amount for the seven churches was \$39.10. Thos. J. Whitaker was elected delegate from Trenton to the District Conference. "The five Sunday Schools are in good working condition and progressing. The spiritual condition of the church is seasonably good and gradually improving."

August 13, 1883-Rev. Monn, P. E. and Rev. L. L. Johnson, P. C. Trenton Church raised for the support of the ministry \$20.25. Total for the charge, \$79.25. Six Sunday Schools are not in as good condition as the preacher desired. The state of the church "is tolerably good." The general interest of the church is making some progress. Sylvanus Barker was taken into the Trenton Church during this quarter.

September 29, 1883-Rev. Monn and Rev. Johnson presiding-Trenton Church raised \$16.00 for the cause of the ministry during the quarter. Total \$28.12 for the charge. Thomas J. Whitaker was elected to the Board of Stewards for the Trenton Church. He was also elected Recording Steward and Sunday School Superintendent for the ensuing year. A motion was made and adopted that the debt of the Parsonage be divided among the churches.

Feb. 16, 1884-Rev. John E. Monn, PE and Rev. A. D. Betts, PC, presiding. Thos. J. Whitaker was Trenton's Steward and he also served as Secretary to the Jones Charge Quarterly Conference. Trenton Church reported having raised \$16.75 for the support of the ministry, for the quarter. The total for the charge was \$77.55, for the seven churches on the charge. The Presiding Elder was paid \$15.00 and the Preacher in Charge \$62.55. Some of the Sunday Schools were discontinued for the winter. Bro. Betts transferred all of his family to the charge.

June 21, 1884-Rev. Monn, PE and Rev. Betts, PC-For the support of the church Trenton paid into the treasury \$14.75. Total for the charge \$70.16. Sunday Schools were conducted at six churches. Trenton one of the six. Infant baptized: Benjamin Ernest Windley-Trenton Church.



August 16, 1884-Rev. Monn and Rev. Betts-The Trenton Church paid for the support of the ministry \$10.25. Total for the charge, \$41.92. \$10.00 was paid to the Presiding Elder and \$31.92 to the preacher in charge.

October 13, 1884-Rev. Monn and Rev. Betts, presiding. Trenton Church paid for the support of the ministry, \$7.00. Thomas J. Whitaker was elected Trenton's steward for the ensuing year. He was also elected Recording Steward. Adult baptized: Indiana Windley. Received by ritual-Trenton Church.

February, 1885-Rev. Monn and Rev. Betts, presiding-The Trenton Church paid for the support of the ministry, \$12.15. Total for the charge, \$59.60. Thos. J. Whitaker was elected to the District Conference as delegate. Pastor's Report: The entire Woodington Church was removed by certificate. Trenton has a good Sunday School, but the others were discontinued during the winter.

May 25, 1885-Rev. Monn and Rev. Betts, presiding-Trenton Church reported \$11.00 having been paid for the support of the ministry. Total for the charge, \$45.91.

Pastor's Report to the Conference:

I, A. D. Betts, P.C. Jones Circuit, hereby complain of the action of the Stewards of the Circuit on Feb'y, 28, 1885.

By vote they allowed the pastor enough to feed and clothe his family. But even faithful pastors need more than food and clothes for his family.

As he has no time to lay up money or funds for his children, he ought to be enabled to educate them! That vote ignored the educational wants for this Pastor's children.

Every Pastor ought to spend several dollars a year for religious papers and Reviews and New Books; but that vote did not provide for this Pastor in that direction.

As this Pastor's horse is 19 years old, he may live to need another. But that vote said he should not save a dollar to meet such contingency.

Our minutes show that most of our preachers receive a comfortable living; but that vote says this one is not worthy of such support as other Pastors enjoy.

Kindly and sadly submitted,

A. D. Betts

July 25, 1885-Rev. A. D. Betts reports that Trenton raised for the support of the ministry \$4.00. Sunday Schools were conducted at all the churches and that he catechized a little each Sunday.

October 24, 1885, the Jones Charge met in the Trenton Church meeting place. Rev. Monn in the Chair and Rev. Betts, preacher in charge. Trenton Church had raised \$29.55 for the support of the ministry. The total for the charge



was \$81.21. T. C. Whitaker and W. H. Rhodes of the Trenton Church were elected Stewards for the ensuing year.

The Stewards were instructed to take action to raise the Parsonage debt. The Pastor reported that the Trenton Church Sunday School had 7 teachers and 43 scholars in regular attendance.

March 6, 1886-A new Presiding Elder: Rev. J. G. Harris-Preacher in Charge-Rev. A. D. Betts. Trenton Church raised for the support of the ministry, \$9.00. In the Pastor's report he said that "Bro. Wm. Costin died in peace, Jan'y 22, 1886. Rev. H. Gray took him into the church 40 years ago."

Some Sunday Schools had re-opened. "Trenton runs a good Sunday School all the year."

June 6, 1886-Trenton Church paid for the support of the ministry, \$1.25. The Sunday School at Trenton is still being conducted.

Sept. 25, 1886-Rev. J. G. Harris, PE, Rev. A. D. Betts, PC. The Trenton Church paid for the support of the ministry \$3.95.

FROM THE ABOVE REPORT UNTIL THE FIRST QUARTERLY CONFERENCE IN 1891 THE RECORDS ARE MISSING. We do not have the exact date for the building of the present Trenton Methodist Church, but it is thought to have been built in 1887 or 1888.

Mr. Ivy Andrews built the Methodist Church and Mr. Ezra Pridgen built the Parsonage.

The deed conveying land from Circuit trustees to parsonage trustees is dated November 5, 1887, from Thomas J. Whitaker, F. A. Whitaker and F. Foy, trustees of Jones Circuit Parsonage to Dr. R. A. Whitaker, William Coble, M. F. Smith, F. H. Foy and S. Barker, trustees of Trenton Methodist Church.

March 28, 1891-Rev. W. S. Rone, PE and Rev. R. B. Gilliam, PC. Trenton Church paid for the support of the ministry, \$25.88. Miscellaneous business says that a "Parsonage well comes up, and needs repairs. Repairs for house needed. Motion made that a committee of three be appointed by P. C. at each church as a Parsonage Committee to collect funds for payment of debt and repairing Parsonage, unless the trustees can have a new Parsonage built, etc." The Pastor, Rev. R. B. Gilliam, reports that on the Jones Circuit the Trenton and Pollocksville Sunday Schools have kept up a very well attended school. These schools under the management of the superintendents and teachers are doing a good work. The general state of the church is fairly good. When weather permits congregations are always good.

At the Quarterly Conference, Bro. Gilliam was authorized to collect \$12.00 from the Jones Circuit to pay for the Parsonage well.

June 13, 1891. We note that the Trenton Church did not pay anything for the support of the ministry during this quarter. "There is evidently an



an increasing interest in religion and the outlook for Methodism is encouraging. There is nothing in the way of prosperity for Methodism, but a lack of full consecration on the part of our people."

August 10, 1891-Rev. Rone, PE and Bro. Gilliam, PC-presiding. Trenton Church reported for the support of the ministry, \$20.67. Bro. Gilliam reports: "We have on the charge five regular Sunday Schools and three Mission Schools now have been regularly taught. It is to be devoutly hoped that these Sunday Schools are doing good."

"Our Sunday School Convention was held at Lee's Chapel last Friday and Saturday. It was a complete, and to the Pastor, a most mortifying failure. Only one church in the district represented and out of the seven or eight Sunday Schools on the charge only one Superintendent present. No cause on earth can ever prosper where such negligence is allowed. We have a good membership. But it seems our people literally fail in the proper interest and appreciation of this work-most important work of the church. The Pastor would kindly suggest that this quarterly conference take some decided steps for an important and development of the Sunday School cause on the Charge, lest God in His anger for our neglect of a plain duty, let true and vital religion die out among us."

Respectfully, Rob. B. Gilliam

November 7, 1891-Rev. Rone, PE, Rev. R. B. Gilliam, PC. For the support of the ministry Trenton Church paid \$19.45. The Pastor reported "Church property at Trenton out of debt."

First Quarterly Conference for the year 1892-Trenton Church paid for the support of the ministry, \$14.54. Bro. Gilliam reports that for Missions the charge is taking collections and organizing the ladies into Missionary Societies. "The Pastor takes pleasure in stating that the Sunday School interest is quite good. We have seven Sunday Schools, nearly all of them have continued during the winter. The general state of the church is fairly good. During the inclement weather of the winter but little more could be done than meet appointments which all things considered have been well attended."

May 7, 1892 Brother R. B. Gilliam reports that the Trenton Church has paid for the support of the ministry, \$18.72. "The Pastor is gratified to be able to report our Sunday Schools are in good condition. They are growing in useful work and in favor with the people."

"The Pastor takes pleasure in reporting that the circuit is moving on very well. There is a good religious interest among our people. This is largely evidenced by the large and appreciative congregations we always have unless the church and people are providentially hindered from turning out."

"Our church at Trenton is now out of debt-and we are making arrangements to have it painted. So far we have raised about \$45.00 to do this work."

"There is a small debt agt. the Parsonage. If all things go well, we hope under the providence of God to lift this debt during the fall."



August 5, 1892-Rev. R. B. Gilliam reports: Trenton Church paid for the support of the ministry, \$3.61. The General Rules of the church have been read at each church. The Pastor proposed to order Registers for each church. The general condition of all the Sunday Schools and churches is good and the work is progressing favorably.

October 29, 1892-Bro. Gilliam states the Trenton Church paid for the support of the ministry, \$25.31. The Churches and Sunday Schools are moving on fairly well. The services are well attended.

February 18, 1893-Rev. F. D. Swindell, PE-Rev. R. B. Gilliam, PC  
The Stewards for the ensuing year-Trenton Church: W. H. Rhodes and J. W. Wooten. Trenton Church paid for the support of the ministry, \$15.00. Under miscellaneous business-W. H. Rhodes, Steward, resignation was accepted. Dr. R. A. Whitaker was appointed to fill the vacancy.

June 3, 1893-W. B. Lee, PC states:

"Trenton Church paid for the support of the ministry, \$7.78. Attendance upon public worship is good, at some points unusually good. Socially I have rarely met a better people. We have a membership of 625. Financially the Charge is strong, but it is not aware of it."

Sept. 23, 1893-Rev. W. B. Lee states Trenton had paid for the support of the ministry \$6.48. The charge paid \$52.00 for the District Parsonage. "The schools at Shady Grove and Trenton are in good condition. The general state of the church throughout the circuit seems to be spiritually aroused."

November 25, 1893-Fourth Quarterly Conference met at Trenton Church. Rev. W. B. Lee, PC-Rev. F. D. Swindell, PE. Trenton Church paid for the support of the ministry, \$48.91.

Statistics to be reported to the Annual Conference:

Members: 575	Members last year: 549
Number of churches: 6	Number of Parsonages: 1
Value of churches: \$3,000.00	Value of Parsonage: \$700.00
Number of Sunday Schools: 6	
Total amount raised from all sources during year: \$780.94.	

"The church is not developing the means of grace known as giving, to any considerable extent. There are, however, some notable exceptions to this fact. The church stands greatly in need of a new Parsonage."

Rev. Lee reports: Trenton Church paid for the support of the ministry, \$11.25. \$5.00 was raised for the Parsonage fund. Trenton Sunday School was held all the winter and was in very good condition. I am able to say that the spiritual condition of the charge is not any better now than at the last conference. There are many pious people in the charge, but many are pious according to the season, and the prevailing influence."

June 15, 1894-Rev. Lee states: "Trenton Church paid for the support of the ministry, \$6.55. \$50.00 was paid for the Parsonage. The Sunday School at Trenton is in a flourishing condition. The roll shows that the Trenton Church is the best it has been in about four years. Bro. T. C. Whitaker makes a very efficient superintendent."



Reported by Rev. Lee at the third quarterly conference-1894: The Sunday Schools and church condition are very well. "The spiritual condition of the charge is not very flattering at this time although I do not know that it is any worse than it has been. There is among the members sin of almost every type from worldliness to wife beatings." He turned out one member for his sins but if he had to do this over he would not do this again.

1894-Fourth Quarterly Conference-Rev. Lee states: Trenton raised for the support of the ministry \$23.34. "I cannot say that there is any such work on the Jones Charge as pastoral instruction of children. I have come to believe that I can do more real pastoral work among the mass of children with five cents worth of candy, than by all the questions I may ask."

THE NEXT QUARTERLY CONFERENCE BOOK IS MISSING:

Feb'y 25, 1899-Rev. J. M. Benson-PC

Statistics:           Local Preachers - 1  
                          Total members for the year - 590  
                          Total members last year - 590  
                          Number of houses of worship - 6  
                          Value of houses of worship - \$4,000.00  
                          Number of Parsonages - 1  
                          Value of Parsonage - \$800.00  
                          Presiding Elder Assessed - \$75.00       Paid \$70.50  
                          Preacher in charge Assessed - \$500.00   Paid \$470.00  
                          Number of Sunday Schools - 7  
                          Number of teachers - 45  
                          Number of scholars - 319  
                          Amount collected for Sunday Schools - \$38.92

Trenton raised for the support of the ministry - \$16.01.

Sept. 2, 1899 - Rev. J. M. Benson reporting: Trenton Church has paid for the support of the ministry, \$14.35. "The spiritual condition of the church will compare favorably with other churches. We find a great many of our people who know nothing about experimental religion. I try to impress the importance of this upon our congregation." Rev. Benson also states: "We have a good school in Trenton under Prof. W. H. Rhodes and most children in the county who attend a high school attend this school."

November 11, 1899-Rev. Benson-Preacher in charge: Trenton paid for the support of the ministry-\$32.25. Elected for the ensuing year for the Trenton Church Stewards: W. H. Rhodes, A. C. Burt, J. W. Wooten. Superintendent of Sunday School: T. C. Whitaker

Feb'y 17, 1900-Rev. J. M. Benson-Preacher in charge.

Statistics for the year: the same as last year with a few exceptions:

Money expended for churches and parsonages-\$10.00

Paine Institute - \$2.00

Orphanage - \$13.00

Total amount raised from all sources: \$15.18

Trenton paid for the support of the ministry - \$20.50



Question: What is being done for 20 Century Thank Offering?

Answer: Plans being laid and literature secured.

May 5, 1900-Rev. J. M. Benson-Preacher in Charge. Trenton Church had raised for the support of the ministry-\$17.87. The total for the charge for the quarter was \$70.49.

Children's Day was observed in some of the churches.

"There are no students attending our church schools. The reason for this is perhaps because we have a very fine school in Trenton under the supervision of Prof. W. H. Rhodes, a layman of our church, who is doing fine work in the education of our boys and girls and preparing them for college."

Nov. 10, 1900-Rev. J. M. Benson Reporting: The statistics reported to the Annual Conference are about the same with one exception. We note that the total amount raised from all sources was \$1,085.18. Trenton Church for the support of the ministry, \$18.07. Total: \$166.23.

Stewards elected for the ensuing year for the Trenton Church:

J. W. Wooten, A. C. Burt, W. H. Rhodes

Sunday School Superintendent: T. C. Whitaker

July 20, 1901-Rev. D. C. Geddie reports:

Trenton Church has raised for the support of the ministry \$23.59. "The Sunday School at Trenton is still well attended."

Report on Education: "We have advised our people to educate their children. We have an excellent school in Trenton."

October 12, 1901-Rev. D. C. Geddie reports: For the quarter Trenton Church raised for the support of the ministry-\$27.15. Total for the charge \$120.77.

Trenton Stewards for the ensuing year: A. C. Burt, W. H. Rhodes, J. W. Wooten, Superintendent of Sunday School: T. C. Whitaker

Confirmed as officers of the Epworth League:

F. M. Ellerbee - President

W. H. Rhodes - First Vice-Pres.

Mrs. I. Windley - Second Vice-Pres.

Miss Birdie Koonce - Third Vice-Pres.

Miss Estelle Murray - Sec. & Treas. Trenton League

The condition and value of churches about the same as last year

A. C. Burt was elected to serve on the Parsonage Committee.

December 28th. 1901-Rev. D. C. Geddie, Preacher in Charge reports: The membership, Baptisms and Church property are about the same as reported last year. The financial report to the Annual Conference as Assessed was paid in full in every instance.



April 5, 1902-Rev. Geddie reports: Trenton Church paid for the support of the ministry, \$23.76. Total for the charge \$78.81. Delegates to the District Conference from the Trenton Church:

J. W. Wooten                      A. C. Burt, alternate

"We have one Epworth League doing surprisingly well." (at Trenton)

July 12, 1902-Rev. Geddie states:

For the support of the ministry Trenton Church paid \$3.73.

Confirmed as officers of the Epworth League:

President: A. C. Burt

1st Vice-Pres. - Miss Birdie Koonce

2nd Vice-Pres. - Mrs. Indiana Windley

3rd. Vice-Pres. - Miss Estelle Murray

Sec'y. - Miss Julia Jarman

Treasurer - C. C. Perry

"Our Epworth League at Trenton is doing good."

"We sometimes catechize the children, make little talks to them and privately give them advice."

"Children's Day was observed at Trenton."

12 and perhaps others are receiving their education abroad, such as, Chapel Hill, Oak Ridge, Medical College, Richmond, etc. The following within the bounds of the Trenton charge have attended schools abroad: E. A. Hammond, Chapel Hill; Frank Hammond, Medical College, Richmond, Va.; Macon W. Foscoe, Oak Ridge; John R. Barker, Trinity College; W. M. Whitaker, Trinity College; Lee Hammond, Kinston Graded School, Miss Caroline Koonce, Greensboro Normal.

October 4, 1902-Rev. Geddie, pastor. Trenton Church raised for the support of the ministry, \$39.34. Stewards for the Trenton Church:

A. C. Burt, T. A. Windley, J. W. Wooten

T. A. Windley was elected Recording Steward

J. W. Wooten elected District Steward

T. C. Whitaker elected Superintendent of Sunday School

"The Epworth League at Trenton is popular and useful."

"The Missionary Fund is increasing. The children and young people are using missionary barrels to good advantage."

"Trenton Church deed has not been found. Don't know whether it is recorded or not." (Referring to the Report of the Trustees on Church Property..) We know of no deed for the Parsonage."

Rev. D. C. Geddie officiated at the wedding of Miss Virginia Windley. She married Rev. L. L. Johnson, Sept. 10, 1902. This was the first wedding in the Trenton Church.



March 21, 1924:

S. Barker and J. S. Hargett were elected delegates to the District Conference.

The superannuate Fund has been paid in full.

The Woman's Society seems to be in a prosperous condition.

Sept. 27, 1924-Rev. K. F. Duval reporting:

Trustees for the Church property: T. C. Whitaker, L. A. Haywood, S. Barker

The elected Stewards for the year: F. Brock, J. S. Hargett, Mrs. Pennie

Foscue, W. W. Barker, Mrs. Mabel Dixon

Superintendent for the Trenton Sunday School - T. C. Whitaker

Church Lay Leader - J. S. Hargett

"After three years of continuous service as pastor of your charge it will be encouraging and illuminating to mention a few outstanding things we have been able to accomplish.

The church at Trenton has been rebuilt and two Sunday School rooms added at a cost of over \$2,000.00. The church is now double its former seating capacity.

The first receipt written at the treasurer's office for the New Bern District for the Superannuate Endowment Fund was made to the Jones Circuit. 110 members added to the church on profession of faith, in the last three years-40 in 1922, 44 in 1923, 26 in 1924.

A more loyal and sacrificing people I have never met anywhere. Their endeavor is to bring up a clean sheet each year and they do it."

Trustees Report: 1 Parsonage-expended on it \$40.00  
6 churches-expended on them \$2,500.00  
Value listed for Trenton Church-\$4,400.00

Education Report: Furney Brock, Jr. is attending State College; Cecil Hargett and W. H. Hammond, Jr. are attending Trinity College; Susie Hargett and Louise Dixon are attending N.C.C. for Women; Frances Dixon is attending Greensboro College.  
Respectfully submitted, K. F. Duval P.C.  
August 2, 1924

Jan. 7, 1925-H. L. Davis reports:

Members last year: 641 Members this year: 683

Value of parsonage - \$3,500.00

1 Missionary Society - Number of members - 18

Grand total of disbursements for the year: \$7,241.00

Trenton Church paid for the support of the ministry - \$80.00

"There is a Woman's Society at Trenton. It seems to be doing good work. The services are well attended and there seems to be an interest in the Master's work."

May 2, 1925-H. L. Davis reports:

For the support of the church Trenton Church paid \$209.50.

Repairing the Parsonage - \$21.44



J. K. Dixon was elected delegate to the District Conference. One Epworth League. It has been organized at Trenton since the last Quarterly Conference. Much interest is being manifested, and most of the more than fifty members seem anxious to be active, taking part in the devotional services and other work. Lillian P. Hammond is the President. A training class has been organized. The text used: THE SMALL SCHOOL. We are making plans to entertain the District Conference at Trenton May 25-27.

The third Quarterly Conference-1925: H. L. Davis reporting: Only one League on the charge. It is at Trenton. The President attended the Conference at Louisburg. New Members are being added each month to the League and interest is growing. Sunday School Day has been observed.

November 30, 1925-Rev. H. L. Davis states:  
Trustees of the Trenton Church: F. Brock, S. Barker, T. C. Whitaker  
Stewards for the year: Mrs. Pennie Foscue, Mrs. Mabel Dixon, F. Brock,  
J. K. Dixon, W. W. Barker, J. S. Hargett

Sunday School Superintendent: T. C. Whitaker  
Elected District Steward: F. Brock  
Elected Charge Lay Leader: J. S. Hargett  
Trenton Church raised for the support of the ministry-\$301.32.  
The League at Trenton is still active but there is room for improvement.  
The Woman's Missionary Society is carrying on its work. Mrs. D. J. Dixon, Treasurer of the Society, reports for the society:

15 members on roll  
They paid \$80.00 on the piano.  
They paid \$24.25 to the Parsonage.

First Quarterly Conference - 1926-Rev. J. C. Whedbee-Preacher in Charge  
Members reported last year: 683  
Present membership: 678  
Trenton Church raised for the support of the ministry - \$63.00  
Epworth Leagues: One at Trenton - One at Oak Grove

Second Quarterly Conference: Rev. J. C. Whedbee reports:  
Appointed to examine Church Records and Registers: F. Brock and J. S. Hargett

Trenton paid for the support of the ministry - \$130.75.  
Miscellaneous business: Resolution ordered Rev. C. T. Rogers to send J. C. Whedbee money left from sale of Comfort Church, same to be used in repairing parsonage.  
Elected delegates to the District Conference: Manly Fulcher & J. K. Dixon  
Six Sunday Schools, two Epworth Leagues, one Woman's Missionary Society.  
"The spiritual state of the church seems to be improving, however, it is not what we hope to see it."

3rd Quarterly Conference-J. C. Whedbee states:  
For the support of the ministry-Trenton Church paid \$201.15.  
The spiritual state seems to be about like the average.  
One Missionary Society at Trenton.  
One Epworth League at Trenton. Six Sunday Schools.



October 26, 1926-J. C. Whedbee-Preacher in charge:  
Trustees of church property: Trenton Church: F. Brock. T. S. Whitaker,  
L. A. Haywood, S. Barker  
Stewards for the year: F. Brock, J. K. Dixon, Mrs. Mabel Dixon, Mrs.  
Pennie Foscue, W. W. Barker  
Sunday School Superintendent: Trenton - T. C. Whitaker  
Charge Lay Leader: F. Brock  
For the support of the ministry: \$358.25  
Trustees Report: Value of Trenton Church - \$2,500.00  
Value of Parsonage - \$2,500.00  
Titles Recorded: Trenton-Book 30-Page 470  
Parsonage - Book 52-Page 188

January 23, 1927-Rev. E. L. Stack-Preacher in Charge:  
The amount for the support of the preacher in charge for the current year  
\$2,000.00.  
Trenton Church raised for the support of the ministry \$162.25.  
Other business: Resolution to insure Parsonage and Church at Trenton.  
R. D. Dixon elected Superintendent of Sunday School at Trenton M. E. Church  
One Epworth League doing fine work.  
One Missionary Society-Trenton-doing splendid work.  
The churches have placed a living room suit in the parsonage and have added  
other necessary things.

April 30, 1927-Rev. E. L. Stack reporting:  
F. Brock on the Superannuate Endowment Committee for the charge.  
All Sunday School teachers are appointed to assist the pastor in the  
circulation of Christian literature.  
W. W. Barker was appointed to examine the Church Records and Registers  
J. S. Hargett was confirmed as Director on the Golden Cross Society.  
Trenton Church raised for the support of the ministry \$143.00.  
A motion was made and carried to have a charge wide Sunday School rally  
at the next quarterly conference.  
The Woman's Missionary Society at Trenton is doing fine work.  
The Epworth League is doing good work and the Sunday Schools are showing  
progress.

November 2, 1927-Rev. E. L. Stack-Preacher in Charge  
Trustees for church property: T. C. Whitaker, L.A. Haywood, S. Barker  
Stewards for the ensuing year: J. S. Hargett, F. Brock, W. W. Barker,  
J. K. Dixon, Mrs. Pennie Foscue, Mrs. Mabel  
Dixon  
Superintendent of the Trenton Sunday School: R. D. Dixon  
Charge Lay Leader: J. S. Hargett  
Church Lay Leader: F. Brock  
Trenton paid for the support of the ministry - \$550.00  
Chairman of the Stewardship Committee: Mrs. Pennie Foscue  
The Sunday Schools are doing good. The Epworth Leagues have dropped.  
The Missionary Society is doing fine work.



January 22, 1928-Rev. T. W. Lee Reporting:

Members last year - 660

Value of church buildings - \$15,000.00

Number of Missionary Societies - 1

Number of members - 21

Amount of money raised - \$220.00

Preacher on charge paid - \$2,000.00

Trenton paid for the support of the ministry - \$1,300.00

"All the church work is progressing nicely."

May 5, 1928-Rev. T. W. Lee states:

J. S. Hargett was appointed to examine the Church Registers and Records

Trenton paid for the support of the ministry, \$76.40

1 Junior League; 2 Missionary Societies; 6 Sunday Schools, all doing well

October 20, 1928-Rev. T. W. Lee in charge

Mrs. Pennie Foscue elected Chairman of the Christian Stewardship Committee

Trustees of Church property: T. C. Whitaker, S. Barker, L. A. Haywood

Stewards for the year: F. Brock, J. K. Dixon, W. W. Barker, Mrs. Mabel Dixon

Mrs. Pennie Foscue, J. S. Hargett

Recording Steward - Mrs. Pennie Foscue

District Steward - J. S. Hargett

Sunday School Superintendent - J. D. Messick

Charge Lay Leader - J. S. Hargett

Church Lay Leader - F. Brock

For the support of the ministry-\$213.00. All church work doing well.

Trustees Report: 1 Parsonage - Value: \$2,000.00

6 Churches - Value \$14,500.00

All deeds contain the trust clause

November 23, 1928-Rev. T. W. Lee, Preacher in charge

Trenton raised for the support of the ministry \$1,261.00.

Junior Epworth League at Trenton

6 Sunday Schools

1 Missionary Soc.

All departments are doing good work.

March 9, 1929-Rev. T. W. Lee-Preacher in charge

A Missionary Committee was appointed in Trenton

J. S. Hargett appointed to examine the Church Records and Registers

For the support of the ministry Trenton raised \$41.00

\$61.98 was paid to repair and help the parsonage.

Delegate to the District Conference: S. Barker

Sunday School Institute, Wednesday, April 24th. 1929 to be held in

Trenton.

Missionary Program 5th Sunday night in March in Trenton

J. S. Hargett, W. W. Barker, F. Brock be and are hereby elected committee to sell church lot Comfort, N. C. Funds to be turned over or used in repairing Cypress Creek M. E. Church and are authorized to deed as trustees.

The Woman's Society is doing well in its work and it is planning to put on a Pie Contest to raise funds for the Parsonage. The 5th Sunday night in March the Missionary Society plans to put on a pageant, "The Vision." Program will be free to the public.



May 19, 1929-Rev. T. W. Lee-Precacher in charge:

J. S. Hargett appointed to examine the books of the charge treasurer of the Superannuate Fund

Trenton raised for the support of the ministry \$318.20.

Bro. J. K. Dixon was nominated and elected Supt. of Sunday School for Trenton.

All departments are doing fine.

Sept. 20, 1929-Rev. T. W. Lee reports:

Recording Steward: Mrs. Pennie Foscue

Charge Lay Leader: F. Brock

Church Lay Leader: W. W. Barker

Raised for the ministry - \$98.00

6 Sunday Schools; 1 Missionary Society; 2 Young People's Societies all doing fair work.

Proceeds from the play netted \$176.00. The money was turned over to the Parsonage for its improvement

The Missionary Society organized a Bright Jewels Band and a Young People's Missionary Society.

December 14, 1929-Rev. T. W. Lee-Precacher in charge

Stewards: J. S. Hargett, F. Brock, J. K. Dixon, W. W. Barker, Mrs. Mabel Dixon (Recording Steward) and Mrs. Pennie Foscue

Christian Stewardship and Missionary Committee: Mrs. Pennie Foscue, Mrs. Mabel Dixon, Mrs. Bertha Barker, Mrs. Jane Page

Trustees: T. C. Whitaker, L. A. Haywood, S. Barker

Parsonage Committee: F. Brock, W. W. Barker, J. S. Hargett

Trenton raised for the support of the ministry \$1,313.00

All departments are doing well.

March 16, 1930-Rev. T. W. Lee reports:

J. K. Dixon appointed to examine Church Records and Registers

Trenton raised for the support of the ministry \$29.25.

District Conference Delegate: S. Barker

Parsonage Insurance reduced from \$1,800.00 to \$1,500.00

All departments are doing well.

June 1, 1930-Rev. T. W. Lee preacher in charge

"Our work is going fairly well. Our congregations have been fair but our people do not attend upon the Sacraments very well. We succeeded in getting the insurance on parsonage reduced to \$1500.00. Premium of which is \$24.78.

The church register has been gone over and we tried to correct it.

October 12, 1930-Rev. T. W. Lee-preacher in charge

Chairman of the Christian Stewardship Committee: Mrs. Fannie Wilson

Stewards: J. S. Hargett, F. Brock, W. W. Barker, Mrs. Mabel Dixon, Mrs. Pennie Foscue.

Church Lay Leader: W. W. Barker

Sunday School Superintendent: J. K. Dixon

Charge Lay Leader: F. Brock

For the support of the ministry Trenton raised \$194.24

All work is getting along fairly well.



December 28, 1930-Rev. T. W. Lee reports:  
Stewards: J. S. Hargett, F. Brock, W. W. Barker, Mrs. Mabel Dixon,  
Mrs. Pennie Foscue  
Missionary Committee Chairman: Mrs. Ida Herritage  
Trustees: L. A. Haywood, S. Barker, F. Brock, T. C. Whitaker  
Parsonage: W. W. Barker, F. Brock, J. S. Hargett  
Paid for the support of the ministry-\$25.00  
All Sunday Schools "doing right good work for the winter season."  
1 Missionary Society at Trenton

July 11, 1931-Rev. T. W. Lee preacher in charge  
For the support of the ministry Trenton raised \$56.00  
Under miscellaneous business Mrs. Pennie Foscue was elected trustee  
for the Trenton Church.  
All the work is getting along very well.

October 4, 1931-Rev. T. W. Lee preacher in charge:  
Sunday School Superintendent: J. K. Dixon  
Elected Recording Steward: Nelson S. Barker  
Charge Lay Leader: J. S. Hargett  
Church Lay Leader: F. Brock  
For the support of the ministry - \$112.56

July 3, 1932-Rev. J. D. Young reports:  
Two renewals and 7 subscriptions to the Advocate have been sold.  
For the support of the ministry-\$68.00  
All work is getting on real well.

Sept. 24, 1932-Rev. J. D. Young preacher in charge:  
Elected Recording Steward: Nelson S. Barker  
District Steward: F. Brock  
Sunday School Superintendent: J. K. Dixon  
Charge Lay Leader: J. S. Hargett  
For the support of the ministry-\$43.50  
Chairman of Christian Stewardship Committee: Mrs. Ida Herritage  
Trustees of Church property: T. C. Whitaker, F. Brock, S. Barker  
Trustees of the Parsonage: W. W. Barker, J. S. Hargett, F. Brock  
Missionary Committee Chairman: Mrs. B. W. Page  
Sunday School Superintendent: J. K. Dixon  
Charge Lay Leader: J. S. Hargett  
Church Lay Leader: F. Brock  
Golden Cross Director: Nelson Barker  
Stewards: A. C. Holland, F. Brock, Mrs. Mabel Dixon, J. S. Hargett,  
J. K. Dixon, Mrs. M. W. Foscue, N. S. Barker

December 25, 1932-Rev. J. D. Young reports:  
"There was a small attendance due to special Christmas service being held  
at each church." N. S. Barker, Secretary

March 5, 1933-Rev. J. D. Young reports:  
For the support of the ministry \$71.60  
The Sunday Schools are doing a fine work in spite of the bad weather.



Financial report of the Charge:

Amount paid to the Presiding Elder: \$10.00

to the pastor: \$112.00

to the orphanage: \$22.76

Nelson S. Barker Recording Steward and Secretary

December 31, 1933-Rev. J. D. Young reporting:

The Board of Stewards elected to raise the Preacher's salary-\$300.00

The Stewards were elected to help the pastor distribute Christian literature

For the support of the ministry \$10.00 for the Trenton Church

Rev. J. D. Young preacher in charge: Rev. T. M. Grant Presiding Elder for the year 1934. No report.

January 20, 1935-Rev. J. D. Young states:

For the support of the ministry Trenton Church raised \$35.00

Delegate to the District Conference: F. Brock

Secretary: N. S. Barker

NO RECORD FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE YEAR.

January 19, 1936-Rev. F. B. Brandenburg reporting:

736 members last year

Value of buildings, equipment and land-\$18,000.00

Value of Parsonage-\$2,000.00

Trenton Apportioned for the Church for the year-\$914.00

Trenton Church paid for the support of the minister-\$80.00

Sunday School Superintendent-Wm. Whitaker

"The spirit of the people seems to be high."

March 22, 1936-Rev. F. B. Brandenburg reporting:

R. L. Edwards appointed to examine Church Records and Registers

To finance the work of the church: the pastor asked the Stewards to collect Salaries and Benevolences but separate the Pastor's salary from the rest.

The Sunday School and the committee raised the Orphanage and the district fees

For the support of the ministry-\$35.00

Delegate to the District Conference: R. L. Edwards

July 5, 1936-Rev. F. B. Brandenburg, preacher in charge

THE ADVOCATE AND THE UPPER ROOM are being distributed

For the support of the ministry - \$74.00

November 1, 1936-Rev. F. B. Brandenburg reports:

Stewards for the year: Mrs. W. M. Foscoe, Miss Zelle Pollock, R. L. Edwards, J. K. Dixon, A. C. Holland, N. S. Barker

Recording Steward: R. L. Edwards

District Steward: F. Brock

Missionary Committee of the Congregation: Mrs. Wade Mallard

Golden Cross Director: Tiny E. Hammond



For the support of the ministry - \$268.00

"The spirit of the people seems to be fine. All departments doing well."

Trustees Report: Trenton Church - \$3,000.00 Parsonage - \$3,000.00

January 17, 1937-Rev. F. B. Brandenburg reporting:

Members reported last year: 749

Value of land, equipment, buildings-\$18,000.00

Value of Parsonage-\$2,000.00

Methodist Families: 244 for the charge

Apportionment for the Trenton Church-\$813.00

Paid for the support of the ministry-Trenton Church-\$68.00

Delegate to the District Conference-F. Brock

"The spiritual life of the church is good. Church attendance very good.

The preacher on his return for the second year has been received very warmly."

October 31, 1937-Rev. F. B. Brandenburg preacher in charge

Trustees of church property: W. M. Whitaker, F. Brock, S. Barker, W. W. Barker, Sr.

Stewards: R. L. Edwards, J. K. Dixon, A. C. Holland, Sylvanus Barker, Mrs. M. W. Foscue, Miss Zelle Pollock

Recording Steward: R. L. Edwards

District Steward: F. Brock

Missionary Committee of the Congregation: Mrs. Wade Mallard

Golden Cross Director: Tiny E. Hammond

For support of the ministry: \$238.25

Sunday School Superintendent: W. M. Whitaker

"The general spirit of the church seems to be improved. We have had four meetings of all the stewards. We served supper. The suppers were enjoyed by all."

January 23, 1938-Rev. F. B. Brandenburg preacher in charge

Members reported last year: 636

Total present membership: 607

Value of property: \$18,000.00

Value of Parsonage: \$3,000.00

Methodist families: 184

Apportioned for the preacher's salary: \$763.00

Paid for the support of the ministry for the quarter: \$78.00

Delegates to the District Conference: R. L. Edwards, F. Brock, Rogers Pollock

"The work of the charge seems to begin with a good start."

March 13, 1938-Rev. F. B. Brandenburg, preacher in charge

For the support of the ministry-\$102.00

"The spiritual life of the church is very good. All departments are working well."

The Missionary Society entertained March 11th the ladies in the Missionary Zone.

July 10, 1938-Rev. F. B. Brandenburg preacher in charge

For the support of the ministry-\$83.00

Sunday School Superintendent-W. M. Whitaker

The spiritual life of the church is good. The attendance is as usual.



October 31, 1938-Rev. F. B. Brandenburg preacher in charge  
Trustees for Church Property: W. M. Whitaker, F. Brock, S. Barker  
W. W. Barker Sr.  
Stewards: R. L. Edwards, A. C. Holland, S. Barker, W. W. Barker, Sr.,  
Mrs. Pennie Foscue, Miss Zelle Pollock  
Recording Steward: R. L. Edwards  
District Steward: F. Brock  
Elected for Missionary Committee of the Congregation: Tiny E. Hammond  
Golden Cross Director: Miss Catherine Dixon  
For the support of the ministry: \$168.00  
Sunday School Superintendent: W. M. Whitaker  
"The spiritual life of the church for the year is very good."

Feb. 5, 1939-Rev. F. B. Brandenburg preacher in charge  
Members reported last year 607  
Total membership: 586  
Value of buildings equipment and land: \$19,000.00  
Value of Parsonage: \$3,000.00  
Methodist families: 176  
Apportioned for the Trenton Church: \$813.00  
Retirement Fund for the Charge-1% of the preacher's salary  
For the support of the ministry-\$61.00  
Delegates to the District Conference: F. Brock, R. L. Edwards  
"The year's work has started off very encouraging. The preacher and  
family were graciously pounded before Christmas of which we were  
most grateful."

April 21, 1939:  
Rev. F. B. Brandenburg reporting:  
Paid for the support of the ministry-\$102.00  
"The work is moving forward and showing improvement in interest. Plans  
are made for vacation schools, the first to be held in Trenton in  
May. The Missionary Society at Trenton is doing very well."

July 2, 1939-Rev. F. B. Brandenburg reporting:  
1 vacation school held in Trenton-average attendance 69  
For support of the ministry - \$17.00  
Delegate to the District Conference: R. L. Edwards. Alternate: F. Brock  
Elected Sunday School Superintendent: W. Murray Whitaker  
"The general state of the church is very good."

October 5, 1939-Rev. F. B. Brandenburg reports:  
Trustees of church property: W. M. Whitaker, F. Brock, S. Barker, W. W.  
Barker, Sr.  
Value of churches: \$19,000.00  
Value of Parsonage: \$3,000.00  
Elected Stewards for the year: R. L. Edwards, A. C. Holland, W. W.  
Barker, Sr., S. Barker, Mrs. Pennie Foscue,  
Miss Zelle Pollock  
Recording Steward: R. L. Edwards  
District Steward: F. Brock  
Missionary Committee of the Congregation: J. K. Dixon, Annie Laura  
Brandenburg



Golden Cross Director: Tiny E. Hammond  
Paid for the support of the ministry: \$55.00

In 1939 all branches of the church joined and became the Methodist Church

February 4, 1940-Rev. W. G. Lowe reporting:

Members reported last year: 586

Total present membership: 589

Trenton was apportioned \$795.00 for the year by the Stewards

To assist the Pastor in the circulation of Christian literature: Tiny E.  
Hammond

Elected to examine the Church Records and Registers: R. L. Edwards

For the support of the ministry \$115.00

Building, repairing or furnishing the Parsonage - \$275.00

Council of Missions and Church Extension: Catherine Dixon, Annie Laura  
Brandenburg, Mrs. Ebb Barker, Mrs. Mabel Dixon, Mr. Murray Whitaker  
A. C. Holland, R. L. Edwards, Tiny E. Hammond

"We are delighted with our field of labor. The charge is composed of a fine type of folk. An improved parsonage, a most bountiful supper, a big pounding of good eats, and a large amount of men, women and children and young people from the whole charge greeted us upon our arrival. The church seems to be well organized and in very good shape."

The METHODIST ADVANCE will be kept before the church during the year.

April 21, 1940-Rev. W. G. Lowe reporting:

Appointed to examine Church Records and Registers: R. L. Edwards

Raised for the support of the ministry - \$52.20

Held a charge wide get together at Cypress Creek to make definite plans for activity for the year. A bountiful meal was served.

Vacation Bible Schools will be held during June and July.

July 14, 1940-Rev. W. G. Lowe reporting:

"We have tried to get the ADVOCATE and THE UPPER ROOM in each home."

For the support of the ministry \$67.00

Recording Steward: R. L. Edwards

Secretary: Vance Spence

"Attendance upon the activities of the church is good. The church school is well organized as our physical equipment will permit. A Vacation Church School was held in Trenton. The Woman's Missionary is well organized in Trenton. There is a fine spirit of loyalty throughout the charge."

4th Quarterly Conference-1940-Rev. W. G. Lowe reports:

Appointed to examine the Church Records and Registers: R. L. Edwards

Trustees not given:

Recording Steward: R. L. Edwards

District Steward: F. Brock Alternate: R. L. Edwards

Elected Missionary Committee of the Congregation: Mrs. Pennie Foscue

Golden Cross Director: Catherine Dixon

Raised for the support of the ministry: \$213.78



"The Stewards of the church held their regular fellowship meeting at Foy's Thursday night, October 3rd. A well prepared meal was enjoyed by all the members. Slides showing Rural Missions Around the World were enjoyed."

Evangelistic services have been held in all the churches. A Cokesbury Training Course has been held in five churches.

The Woman's Missionary Society at Trenton has had one missionary study and will begin another this week. One Society of Christian Service has been organized at Trenton with 31 Charter Members.

#### THE WOMAN'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE

The year beginning in September-1940

Officers for 1940-41:

President - Mrs. S. H. Haywood  
Vice President - Mrs. J. R. Burt  
2nd Vice President - Mrs. R. D. Dixon  
Recording Secretary: Mrs. E. B. Barker  
Corresponding Secretary - Mrs. M. E. Hines  
Treasurer - Mrs. W. S. Hill  
Supt. Missions and Education: Mrs. A. C. Holland  
Supt. Social Relations and local church activities - Mrs. J. K. Dixon  
Secretary of Supplies - Mrs. R. D. Dixon  
Secretary of Student Work - Mrs. Lula Pollock  
Secretary of Literature and Publications - Mrs. Wilbur Smith

#### CHARTER MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE:

Mrs. E. B. Barker, Miss Annie Laurie Brandenburg, Mrs. Frank Brock, Mrs. J. R. Burt, Mrs. Major Dawson, Mrs. J. K. Dixon, Miss Frances Dixon, Mrs. R. D. Dixon, Miss Catherine Dixon, Mrs. Pearl Hammond, Mrs. S. H. Haywood, Mrs. J. S. Hargett, Mrs. Lassiter Henderson, Mrs. D. H. Harritane, Mrs. M. E. Hines, Mrs. W. S. Hill, Mrs. A. C. Holland, Mrs. P. F. Hoffman, Mrs. A. B. Johnson, Mrs. Paul Koonce, Mrs. John Larkin, Mrs. W. G. Lowe, Mrs. W. W. Mallard, Mrs. Clyde Meadows, Mrs. Walter Moore, Mrs. E. W. Page, Miss Zelle Pollock, Mrs. Lula Pollock, Mrs. Alfred Reynolds, Mrs. Wilbur Smith, Miss Bessie Whitaker

1st. Quarterly Conference for the year-1940-41 - Rev. W. G. Lowe reports:

Members of the church last year - 648

Total members now - 603

Total paid for the year - \$2330.00

Every member canvas will be held in each church

The envelope system will be used

One charge wide Stewards meeting has been held

The Woman's Society of Christian Service meets monthly with a well planned program. A fine spirit of oneness prevails through the charge.

Second Quarterly Conference - 1940-41-Rev. W. G. Lowe, reporting:

Attendance has increased upon the activities of the church

The whole charge is using the envelope system



A charge get together of the stewards was held at Maple Grove.  
Bro. Cooke from the Duke Divinity School will be with us again this year.  
He was with us last summer also.  
The Woman's Society of Christian Service at Trenton meets once a month  
with a well planned program..  
"We are conducting a mission study for the whole church at Trenton,  
METHODISM'S WORLD MISSIONS by Dr. Van Dusan

RECORDS FOR 1942-43 LOST

Jones Circuit became the Trenton Charge in 1948. Rev. W. E. Howard, Pastor

RECORDS FROM 1943 to 1953 LOST.

1953 Rev. J. J. Grimes first pastor of the 3-Point charge: Trenton,  
Oak Grove, Maple Grove

QUARTERLY CONFERENCE RECORDS TO THE TRENTON METHODIST CHARGE CONFERENCE  
YEAR 1954-1955

February 13, 1955-Rev. J. J. Grimes reporting:  
Delegates to the District Conference: W. M. Whitaker, V. L. Pollock  
Lay Speakers: J. C. West, Jr., & Robert J. Chinnis  
Recording Steward: J. C. West, Jr.  
Lay member elected by the charge for the Annual Conference: J. C. West, Jr.  
Motion made by Oak Grove seconded by Trenton that Parsonage be insured  
for \$7,500.00. The motion was carried with no opposition.

Report of the Pastor-Rev. Lewis A. Dillman for the period beginning  
July 1, 1956 and ending Sept. 23, 1956.

Gross total membership - 283

"This has started off to be a good year. My preaching schedule is as  
follows:

Trenton - 2nd - 4th Sundays

Oak Grove - 1st Morn. - 3rd. Evening

Maple Grove - 3rd Morn. - 1st Evening

Two organized W. S. C. S. meeting monthly

Two organized M. Y. F. weekly - Active

"We follow the traditional pattern of paying the minister first and then  
making special drives to raise the balance. We, of course, raise the  
budget but it is sort of nerve wracking." "It is hoped that soon we will  
make quarterly payments and that half the budget will be raised by  
District Conference."

Trenton Church has been painted on the outside.

The pastor gave a six hour service to Jones Central High School in the  
teaching of the Bible-no remuneration.

Report of the Pastor-Rev. Lewis A. Dillman for the period beginning  
September 1956 and ending April 1957:

"This is another fine year in the ministry of the Methodist Church and one  
of the finest in my ministerial career. The people have been good to us  
and have given us every consideration that is due the minister."



A new adult division has been organized in the Trenton School with much renewed interest generated.

Bro. Wade Goldston preached the revival services in the Trenton Church. Building monies raised without much difficulty.

Every member canvas at Trenton

"A deep stirring of the spirit in our midst."

1957-Rev. L. A. Dillman reports:

Three good Sunday Schools with devoted teachers and officers.

Organized a college age group at Trenton

Two strong WSCS groups

Plans for church wide study-prayer group at Trenton

Clinic on Declining Churches held at Trenton

1958-Rev. Lewis A. Dillman reports:

Property in good shape - \$30,000.00 worth in improvement in last four years. All but about \$3,000.00 paid for.

Morning Worship-Sunday, March 8, 1959 at Eleven O'Clock

An Order for the Dedication of A CHURCH was held for the Trenton Church. Rev. Lewis A. Dillman, Minister in Charge

1959-Rev. Walton N. Bass-Preacher in Charge:

Ladies from the three churches bought furniture for the Parsonage prior to the arrival of the pastor's family

The Fellowship Class at Trenton bought porch furniture. The Parsonage is in good repair.

"Trenton Church seems to be in excellent repair and to be adequate."

"Financially the churches seem to be doing as well as usual for the time of year. The pastor's salary has been kept up to date. Trenton has been able to pay current expenses and to send \$35.00 to the Conference Treasurer. Trenton is working on an every member pledge system.

Laymen's Retreat was attended by: Charlton West, Jimmie Franck, Nelson Conway, Marvin Thomas. Charlton West made a report to the church later.

February-1960-Rev. Walton N. Bass reporting:

Mrs. M. E. Hines and Mrs. W. S. Hill secured 23 new subscribers in Trenton for the publication TOGETHER.

5 new subscribers for the NORTH CAROLINA CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE

Many observances: Worldwide Communion Sunday, Layman's Day, Christian Advocate Sunday, presentations of life memberships for the WSCS, Watchnight Service, Student Recognition Day, WSCS Annual Conference, and Methodist Home for Children

At Trenton an Altar Cloth was donated by the Barker family and it was dedicated along with the baptismal font. The boys working on the God and Country Award in Scouting are doing good work in their services and in their service projects.

November 13, 1960-Rev. Walton N. Bass reports:

We held a Day Camp at Trenton. It was highly successful.

We held a singing week at each church at which time we spent learning hymns.



We held a Youth Activities Week at Trenton

Don Lewis from Mississippi assisted us in our work. He was a Duke Endowment student.

Eutch Huffman and Jimmy Pollock attended Camp Don Lee Summer Camp.

At Trenton we have a system which will play chimes. They will be heard all over Trenton.

Pat Huffman attended the Youth Annual Conference. When she returned she made a report on the work of the conference.

Mrs. Bass and Mrs. W. S. Hill attended the WSCS School of Missions at Durham

Five of the Methodist Men attended the Laymen's Retreat at Duke:

Marvin Thomas, Nelson Conway, Charlton West, Jimmy Franck, Rogers Pollock

The year's study course was held in Trenton, "Stumbling Block."

Rev. John Cline finished the revival services - 11-13-1960

Trenton's Certified Lay Speakers: Charlton West, Jimmy Franck & David L. Nance. They hold a monthly service at Trenton thus giving Trenton a service each Sunday.

The pastor has written a small book, "A Brief History of Methodism in Jones County." The venture was not monetarily profitable but has been immensely rewarding nevertheless."

April 3, 1961 - September 20, 1961 - Report of the Pastor-Rev. Walton Bass  
A Daily Vacation Bible School was held in Trenton. Two full days of camp at the Cliffs of the Neuse.

Margie Shepard and Carol Nance attended the new camp at Efland.

Tony Parker and Ronnie Pollock attended the camp at Don-Lee

Al Capehart, Jr. was our Duke Endowment student.

Marvin Thomas, Charlton West and Bill Parker attended the Laymen's Rally at Duke.

Mrs. W. S. Hill attended the WSCS School of Missions at Duke.

September 21, 1961 to April 15, 1962-Rev. Walton N. Bass reporting:

Revival at Trenton-Rev. C. E. Vale visiting minister

Study Course: "Latin Americans."

Lay Speakers very active, local preacher active, WSCS, MYF and Men's Club doing very good work. The church schools are doing very well.

May 5, 1963-Report of Pastor-Rev. Walton N. Bass:

Lay Speakers: Jimmy Franck, J. C. West, Jr., David L. Nance

Revival at Trenton: Rev. Willis R. Stevens visiting minister

Rev. J. E. Wood-Pastor in Charge-reporting for the period beginning

June 8, 1964 and ending September 23, 1964:

Total full membership: 302

An every member canvas is being conducted by the Commission on Stewardship and Finance in the Trenton Church.

Present membership for the Trenton Church: 169

J. R. Franck, J. C. West and Marvin Thomas attended the Laymen's Retreat at Louisburg.

Mrs. S. D. Mallard attended the District Training Session for Local Lay Officers at Newport.



COMMISSION ON MEMBERSHIP AND EVANGELISM: The purpose of this report is to indicate the progress of the Trenton Methodist Church over a period of 5 years:

	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	Present
Total membership at the beginning of the year	182	185	190	191	195	174
Received on Profession of Faith or restored	4	2	7	4	3	
Received by transfer from other Methodist Churches	3	6	2	4	3	
Received from other Denominations				4	1	
Removed by transfer to other Methodist churches			5	5	14	3
Removed by Quarterly Conference or by withdrawal						2
Removed to other denominations				1	6	
Removed by death	4	1	3	2	5	
Total Membership at end of year	185	190	191	195	174	169

Total loss of Membership over five years - 13

Total gains of Membership over five years - 0

The report given September 23, 1964

Membership Cultivation Superintendent: Mrs. Marvin Thomas

Attendance is about 4% above last year's attendance

Total raised for all purposes - Unified Budget-\$494.40

March 23, 1965 - Rev. J. E. Wood, Pastor reports:

Recording Steward: J. C. West, Jr.

Treasurer: M. W. Thomas

Total disbursements: \$3,371.30

Balance on hand: \$250.81

Rev. Ivy Wall-Pastor-1967 and part of 1968

Rev. Paul Oldaker-Pastor-1968-1970

Rev. L. Ray Sparrow-Pastor-1970 - 1971

Rev. James Coile - Pastor - 1971-----

In 1968 The Evangelical Brethren Church merged with the Methodist Church and the name became THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH.

In 1968 the Woman's Missionary Society changed its name to the Women's Missionary Society.



During this period the Trenton United Methodist Church added to its church an air conditioning system. Improvements were made to the heating system, also.

100 new Hymnals were added to the sanctuary, with the name in gold:  
TRENTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The above facts concerning the work of Methodism for the Trenton United Methodist Church were taken from the Minutes Books of the many Quarterly Conferences since 1879 to the present using the phraseology and punctuation as exactly recorded in the books; from letters written by Mrs. Jennie Ipock; from the book, A BRIEF HISTORY OF METHODISM IN JONES COUNTY by Walton N. Bass and certain statistics taken from the Annual Conference Records presented by Rev. James Coile.

The facts were compiled by Miss Tiny E. Hammond, assisted by Mrs. Julia P. Harriett, Mrs. James R. Franck and Rev. James Coile.

October and November, 1972



REGISTER OF PASTORS OF THE JONES CHARGE,  
JONES CIRCUIT AND NOW THE TRENTON CHARGE

According to the Report of Bro. A. D. Betts:

Bro. Wm. Costin died in peace Jan'y 22, 1886. Rev. Henry Gray took him into the church 40 years ago. (1846)

Thus the first known Minister of the Church was Rev. Henry Gray.

<u>Name of Preacher in Charge</u>	<u>Date of Appointment</u>	<u>Date of Removal</u>
John M. Gunn	1858	1859
F. J. Eatman	1860	
G. G. Hines	1861	1862
William M. Walsh	1863	
R. P. Bibb	1868	
E. A. Howland	1869	
J. J. Carden	1870	
James Wilson	1871	(Received for his living \$311.00)
W. H. Cunningim	1873	(Received for his living \$242.00)
N. A. Hooker	1874	
Jeremiah Johnson	1877	
William H. Puckett	1878	1881
L. L. Johnson	1882	1883
A. D. Betts	1884	1886
J. F. Washburn	1887	1887
L. O. Wyche	1888	1888
I. A. White	1889	1889
Robt. B. Gilliam	1890	1893
W. B. Lee	1893	1894
H. E. Tripp	1895	1896
J. M. Benson	1897	1900
D. C. Geddie	1900	1904



<u>Name of Preacher in Charge</u>	<u>Date of Appointment</u>	<u>Date of Removal</u>
F. S. Becton	1904	1906
John M. Wright	1907	1908
Philip Greening	1908	1910
R. D. Daniel	1910	1911
Charles E. Vale	1911	1914
C. T. Rogers	1915	1918
Charles A. Jones	1919	1923
H. L. Davis	1924	1925
J. C. Whedbee	1925	1926
E. L. Stack	1926	1927
T. W. Lee	1927	1930
P. O. Lee	1931	1932
J. D. Young	1932	1936
F. B. Brandenburg	1936	1939
W. G. Lowe	1939	1941
E. G. Cowan	1941	1944
John R. Poe	1944	1946
W. E. Howard	1946	1950
C. B. Long	1950	1953
J. J. Grimes	1953	1954
Lewis Dillman	1954	1959
Walton N. Bass	1959	1963
John E. Wood	1963	1967
Ivey J. Wall	1967	1968
Paul E. Oldaker	1968	1970
L. Ray Sparrow	1970	1971
James H. Coile	1971	