

THE
HISTORY OF
WAKE FOREST
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

By
Mary Hartsfield Jones
Chairman of Historical Committee
Wake Forest United Methodist Church
July 1977

DEDICATION

To my great, great grandfather, the Rev. Andrew Hartsfield, who founded Hartsfield Meeting House, which later became Wake Forest United Methodist Church, this work is lovingly dedicated.

Mary Hartsfield Jones

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

To the Rev. C. Franklin Grill, I am deeply indebted. He found the deeds for Hartsfield Meeting House, Antioch and Rolesville Churches. He, also, helped me in my research by giving me information from old issues of Conference Journals.

To the Rev. Charles Pollock for allowing me to use the Rolesville Register, which he had found; also, for filling me in on dates and events since he became pastor.

To Lee Wellman for typing the manuscript and making arrangements to get it printed.

To my sister and co-member of the historical committee, Nina H. Grimes, and her husband, Rufus N. Grimes, for babysitting with my grandson, buying copies of the deeds for me, proofreading and moral support.

To Mrs. L.D. Gill and to Mrs. Leon Walters for minutes of the Official Board that they took while serving as secretary.

To each, I offer my sincere thanks.

Mary Hartsfield Jones

HISTORY OF THE WAKE FOREST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The history of Wake Forest United Methodist Church dates back to July 20, 1829, when Andrew Hartsfield, who was a minister of the Gospel of the Methodist Society, called a meeting and received subscriptions for the building of what was to be called Hartsfield Meeting House. There were forty-one present and they subscribed a total of \$213. Andrew Hartsfield made a contribution twice the size of any other. Present at this meeting were his sons, James and Wesley, and his four sons-in-law who made generous contributions. Contrary to the belief that the building was near Forestville, the deed (which was recently found, Book II, Pages 354 and 355) places the site on the road from Raleigh to Halifax. This road passed near Andrew Hartsfield's home.

The deed reads: "Granted from Andrew Hartsfield to the trustees of Hartsfield Meeting House..." Trustees: Robert Ray, John Scarborough, William Edwards, Benjamin B. Smith and Ezekiel Ellis. The date of the deed was November 5, 1829. Grantors were: Andrew Hartsfield, James Wiggins and Jesse Jones.

Note: James Wiggins was Andrew Hartsfield's son-in-law.

Following is copied from a photostatic copy of the founders of Hartsfield Meeting House.

Wake County, July 20, 1829

A subscription for the purpose of raising money to build a Meeting House for Divine Worship at the place called Hartsfield Meeting House on the Lot of ground laid off for that purpose. When the House is finished according to contract we the subscribers promise to pay the sum anext to each of our names.

OUR NAMES	D	S	OUR NAMES	D	S	NAMES	D	S	NAMES	D	S
Andrew Hartsfield	50	-	John Ligon	5	-	William Bell	1	-	Samuel Green	1	00
William Jeffreys	25	-	Daniel Scarborough	2	-	Jesse Fason	1	-	A. Hester	2	00
Bryan Green	10	-	William Ray	3	-	Joseph Fowler, Jr.	2	00	Barney Jones	2	00
William O. Green	10	-	Robert Ray	10	-	Newton Wood	5	00	Abraham Jones	2	00
James Hartsfield	10	-	John Scarborough, Sr.	5	-	Dempsey Powell	5	00	Mary Jones	2	
Robert Jeffreys	10		John Fason	2	-	Daniel Jones	3	00	Maryan Ray	1	
James Wiggins	10		Hiram Scarborough	1		Samuel Scarborough	2	00	Maryan Jones	1	
John L. Terrell	2	00	David Pace	2	-	Benny D. Simms	2	00	William Edwards	2	
Doc Montague	3	00	Hiram Bell	1	-	Benjamin Williams	1	00	Wesley Hartsfield	2	
William Roles	5	00	L. Berry Tant	1	-	Wm. D. Dyer	1	00			
William Green	5	-		174	00	William Burk	1	00			

39 00
174
total 213

Between November 5, 1829 and September 9, 1858 the name of Hartsfield Meeting House was evidently changed to Antioch, because a deed, Book 27, Page 563, made by the trustees of Antioch Church, sold the church property to Joseph Fowler. The boundary lines on the deed are the same as for Hartsfield Meeting House. The trustees were: Wesley Hartsfield, Bryan Green, John Fleming and Amos Scarborough.

According to deed, Book 23, Page 103, land was conveyed from John M. Fleming to Wiley D. Jones, Wesley Hartsfield, Bryan Green, Henry C. Ligon, Charles H. Horton and Amos Scarborough, trustees of Rolesville Methodist Church. The date of the deed was November 21, 1859. Wesley Hartsfield, the son of Andrew, who was then a prosperous physician, gave the lumber and furnished the slaves for the building of the church. He was superintendent of the Sunday School, a position he held throughout his life.

Since Andrew Hartsfield was pastor of Hartsfield Meeting House and Antioch, we feel sure that he was the first pastor of Rolesville. He died December 17, 1862, at the age of 97.

Unfortunately most of the records of Rolesville were destroyed by fire when the parsonage at Millbrook burned during the pastorate of the Rev. W.F. Elliott.

Pastors of the Rolesville Methodist Church, Raleigh District, Wake Circuit:

1867 H.H. Gibbons

1868 James J. Hines

The Rolesville Circuit was formed in 1869. Appointments were made at Annual Conference. (Source: N.C. Conference Journal.)

1869-1871 J.J. Renn

1871-1873 A.D. Betts — His daughter, Marriott was born at Rolesville and married the Rev. R.L. Davis, first cousin of Mrs. N.A. (Laura Davis) Hartsfield.

1873-1874 J.E. Thompson

1874-1875 T.B. Reeks

1875-1877 L.J. Holden

1878-1880 Lemon Shell — Grandfather of my husband, J. Craige Jones.

1881-1882 L.L. Nash — He wrote a book, "Early Morning Scenes in the Bible." I have a copy.

1833-1834 J.D. Buie

1885-1887 Philip Greening

1888-1891 B.C. Alred and J.B. Bobbitt — According to the Conference Journal, at least two ministers were serving the six churches during this period.

1892-1895 K.D. Holmes

1895-1898 J.M. Ashby

The last listing of the Rolesville Circuit in the Conference Journal was 1895. There were six churches on the Circuit — Rolesville, Millbrook and four other churches — but their names are not given. J.M. Ashby was pastor. In December 1896 the name of Rolesville Circuit was changed to Millbrook Circuit. It had six churches and J.M. Ashby was pastor.

A Rolesville Register has been found. The first listing is J.J. Renn, 1869-1871, and it continues through M.M. Walters, 1938-1942. Between 1885 and 1914 the bishops and presiding elders are also listed.

Pastors of Millbrook Circuit:	Dec. 1909-Dec. 1910 J.M. Marlowe
1896-1898 J.M. Ashby	1910-1913 Philip Greening (his second pastorate here)
1898-1899 M.M. McFarland	1913-1914 J.W. Martin
1899-1903 N.L. Seabolt	May 1914-Nov. 1914 A.S. Parker
1903-1905 G.R. Rood	1914-1917 L.E. Sawyer
1905-1909 George T. Simmons	1917-1921 John C. Williams

Between 1896 and 1917, when Rev. J.C. Williams became pastor, the Millbrook Circuit added another church. Then there were seven churches: Millbrook, Oaky Grove, Pleasant Grove, Andrews Chapel, Soapstone, Knightdale and Rolesville.

During the pastorate of the Rev. J.C. Williams, the ladies of the church organized The Ladies Aid, which through changes in name, finally became the United Methodist Women. They were: Mrs. C.G. Horner, Mrs. N.A. Hartsfield, Mrs. J.L. Seawell, Mrs. J.A. Hartsfield, Mrs. W.H. Wall, Mrs. R.P. Hunt, Mrs. Frank

Shearon, Mrs. Norris Rogers, Mrs. A.M. Harris and Mrs. L.D. Gill. Mrs. Gill is the only surviving member of that group that is still a member of the United Methodist Women. The faithful and dedicated ladies accomplished many things that others thought were impossible.

Even though the Rev. Williams had seven churches, when he was asked to hold services every first Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock in the Forestville School, he graciously consented and continued the remainder of his pastorate at Rolesville. Forestville Baptist Church was without a pastor then and they invited the Rev. Williams to hold a revival in their church, which he did. Fifteen made professions of faith. My brother, Richard Hartsfield, and I were among the number. Of course, we joined Rolesville Church.

Following the Rev. J.C. Williams:

H.H. Mitchell 1921 (about six months)

M.G. Ervin 1922-1923

W.R. Harris 1923-1924

S.J. Starnes 1924-1928 Note from Conference Journal, November 1927: "Take Andrews Chapel and Soapstone from Millbrook Circuit and place in new Circuit called Andrews and Massey in the Durham District."

W.F. Elliott 1928-1932

T.B. Hough 1932-1934

L.B. Pattishall 1934-1936

H.A. Chester came to Rolesville November 23, 1936, after the Quarterly Conference had voted to move the church to Wake Forest. He gave this project his loyal support.

The following was taken from the historical sketch of the church, given by Mrs. J.A. Hartsfield, when Wake Forest Methodist Church was dedicated: "At the Quarterly Conference in the fall of 1936, the matter of moving the church to Wake Forest was discussed and was about to be dismissed with no formal action taken, when Mrs. J.A. Hartsfield suggested that the Conference not only vote to build a church at Wake Forest, but at that meeting made plans to raise money for the purchase of the site. Definite action was taken and Wake Forest Methodist Church was born."

When it was decided to move the church to its present site, the heirs of Mr. Fleming, who had maintained a loyalty and devotion to the old church and had contributed to its support, though their membership was elsewhere, waived their claim to the land, and let the money derived from the sale of it go into the present building.

A deed, Book 735, Page 332, made November 16, 1936, by Mrs. Minta R. Holding Et Al to C.G. Horner, J.W. Hollowell and E.W. O'Neal, trustees of Rolesville Methodist Church (for the sum of \$540) conveyed to us the lot of our new church. The Rolesville property was sold August 27, 1937 to the Wake County Board of Education.

Excerpt from The News and Observer, April 19, 1937: "Ground was broken here today for the new Fleming-Hartsfield Memorial Methodist Church. Construction of the brick building will be completed in the early fall and the new church will be the town's first of a denomination other than Baptist.

"The new church will absorb the congregation of and replace the nearby Rolesville Church, more than a century old (actually 78 years old) and said by historians to be among Wake County's oldest churches. The Rolesville Church will be discontinued next month.

"In the meantime, before the new Fleming-Hartsfield Church is completed, Methodists in this vicinity will use the auditorium of a local theatre for their Sunday services.

"At the ground-breaking ceremonies today, the Rev. H.A. Chester, who will be pastor of the new church, turned the first spade of earth in a simple ceremony. The Rev. Dr. J.H. Barnhardt of Raleigh, presiding elder of the Raleigh District of the North Carolina Methodist Conference, presided at the exercises.

"The Rev. Allen Easley, pastor of the Wake Forest Baptist Church, led in prayer at the exercises. Dr. William Louis Poteat, president emeritus of Wake Forest College and president of the State Baptist Convention, and Dr. Thurman

Kitchin, president of the college, also took part.”

Charter Members of Wake Forest Methodist Church:

John M(oses) Williams	Richard Hartsfield	David Harris
Harriet L. Reid	Mary P. Hartsfield (Jones)	Mary Harris
Martha C. Faison	Mrs. Lewis (Ora Lee) Gill	Prentice Yarborough
Sarah Cooley	Minnie W. Macon	Mrs. C.L. Jackson
Susan H. Harris	Pearl C. Seawell	Lucy J. Douglass
Aurelia H. Jones	Franklin Shearon	Billy Wall
Nonie E. Hunt	Faustina Shearon (Spell)	Jake Hartsfield
Connie A. Shearon	Lucy Hartsfield	Mabel Hartsfield
Laurie R. Wall	Dorothy Shearon (Becton)	Zuda Shearon
Laura D. Hartsfield	John Hartsfield	Cameron Shearon
Nina Hartsfield (Grimes)	Madge Yarborough	William Homes Jackson
Eva May Jones (Privette)	Helen C. Hollowell	Marshall Hartsfield
Archie Yarborough	Harold Wall	Alice Wall
Charles G. Horner	Burkette Purnell	Luther D. Belangia
Hattie H. Horner	Burkette Purnell, Jr.	S.D. Nester
Susie M. Hartsfield	Blanche Purnell	Mrs. S.D. (Nell) Nester
E.W. O'Neal	Ruth A. Purnell	Garnett Nester (Guest)
Wallace Shearon	Jack White	Mrs. F.M. (Merle) Swett
Allen Shearon	Leslie W. Hewitt	Mrs. W.R. (Ruth) White
W.H. Harris	Mrs. Emily Becton	Mrs. G.L. (Madge) Winders
J.W. Hollowell	Inez Becton	Elizabeth Seawell (Converse)
Donald Honer	Cary Becton	Kenan Seawell
	Macon Becton	

The Rev. H.A. Chester preached the first sermon in the new church, September 5, 1937, less than six months after he had broken the ground for the building. At that service he christened Barbara Hollowell and Beverly Shearon.

When the Rev. Chester left the Circuit, the debt had been reduced to about two thousand dollars, and the membership had grown from 67 to 94. He had served as pastor of both churches.

We were on the Millbrook Circuit with the parsonage at Knightdale. Almost from the beginning we went full time by having church at 10 o'clock and using a Duke student one Sunday morning a month. The following churches composed the Circuit: Knightdale, Millbrook, Oaky Grove, Pleasant Grove, and Wake Forest.

Note from Conference Journal, November 1938: "Take Pleasant Grove from Millbrook Charge and place with Jenkins Memorial Charge, Raleigh. Put Youngsville on Millbrook Charge."

The following was taken from the historical sketch given by Mrs. J.A. Hartsfield: "There has been a fine spirit of unity and cooperation among the entire membership; but special mention should be made of the generous contributions, both spiritual and material, of the people of Wake Forest. Mention should be made, also, that from the date of the church's birth to the present day the Hartsfields and their descendants have been contributing members, all three churches having been built at the instigation of this family." Note: R.D. Hartsfield, Jr. is the sixth generation of the family to be connected with the church.

I must say a few words about the women of the church, who have played a major role in the life of the church since their organization as The Ladies Aid during the pastorate of the Rev. J.C. Williams.

In September 1925 these ladies and others reorganized and became the Hattie Horner Missionary Society, naming the society for the one member who had never missed a meeting — a record she maintained for years.

When the church moved to Wake Forest, the membership increased and these ladies, by their rummage sales, bake sales, dinners and other projects, raised over \$6,000 for the building. This was in addition to overpaying their pledge to missions, and other charitable projects.

Following the Rev. Chester was:

M.M. Walters 1938-1942

The Missionary Society continued through many changes. Records show that our progress was due to our prayers, which have sent money around the globe. October 13, 1949, the Missionary Society became the Women's Society of Christian Service. Among the chartered members were Mrs. N.A. Hartsfield and her daughter, Mary, the only mother-daughter combination in the group.

Charter Members were:

Mrs. J.E. Anderson	Mrs. B.H. Hobgood
Mrs. Emily Becton	Mrs. H.O. Ross
Mrs. Kent Barbee	Mrs. J.W. Hollowell
Mrs. J.A. Bunn	Mrs. C.L. Jackson
Mrs. J.A. Hartsfield	Mrs. C.G. Horner
Mrs. L.D. Gill	Mrs. H.B. Moses
Mrs. Mary Hartsfield (Jones)	Mrs. S.D. Nester
Mrs. W.K. Nelson	Mrs. W.E. Shearon
Mrs. W.M. Satterwhite	Mrs. George Woodard
Mrs. W.S. Fort	Mrs. Madge Winders
Mrs. N.A. Hartsfield	Mrs. J.A. Brown
Miss Lula Dunn	Mrs. H.M. Cooper
Mrs. W.H. Wall	

The name of the church was changed from Fleming-Hartsfield Memorial to Wake Forest Methodist Church before dedication.

After the building was dedicated September 7, 1941, they decided to buy an organ, which cost \$2,700.

The following was taken from The North Carolina Christian Advocate, September 11, 1941. "Church at Wake Forest Dedicated by Bishop Purcell last Sunday. Sunday, September 7, 1941, was a high day for the Methodists at Wake Forest. Bishop Clare Purcell added his presence and blessing to the consummation of the building enterprise of the new church.

For four years the congregation had worked faithfully and gave liberally of their time and limited means to make possible this day. Rev. M.M. Walters, the pastor, and his committee had made careful preparation for this day of dedication. The bishop was at his best and pleased the waiting crowd. District Superintendent H.I. Glass and Editor M.T. Plyler and Dr. J.M. Ormond, along with the pastor, had part in the services of dedication.

Following the delightful luncheon served in the basement of the church, the window dedication service took place under the direction of the pastor.

The dedication of windows were to:

The Rev. C.A. Chester

The Building Committee composed of J.W.

Hollowell, C.G. Horner, W.E. Shearon, J.L. Reid and Burkette Purnell

The Hattie Horner Missionary Society by Rev. M.M. Walters.

The reading of memoirs by Mrs. Laurie Wall, Mrs. Lucy Hartsfield and Wallace Shearon.

The dedication of windows to Mrs. Connie Shearon, Mrs. Nonie Hunt and Mr. and Mrs. Ethan Cameron Allen by Rev. M.M. Walters.

The memorial address was by Rev. S.J. Starnes. This was a most impressive service and well done by all who had a part in it. Rev. S.J. Starnes, one of their former pastors, received a royal welcome."

Chairman of Dedication Committees:

Music, Miss Faustina Shearon

Dinner, Mrs. Macon Becton

Parking, G.F. Woodard

Ushers, Macon Becton

Historical, Mrs. Lucy Hartsfield

Publicity, J.T. Thomas

Hospitality, Mrs. Ora Lee Gill

Finance, W.K. Nelson

Buildings and Grounds, Wallace Shearon

Flowers, Mrs. J.W. Hollowell

We had an active Epworth League during the pastorate of Rev. Walters. Mrs. J. Y. Phelps was the leader.

Rev. H.B. Baum, 1942-1946, was our next pastor. He and Mrs. Baum gave the church a communion table. Prior to that we had used the little table brought from Rolesville. This table is now in the hall back of the sanctuary and is used to display religious literature. Since the sanctuary was renovated the communion table, given by the Baums, has been moved to the Fellowship Hall.

H.L. Harris 1946-1947

H.H. Cash 1947-1949

Note from the North Carolina Conference Journal, November 1948: "Abandon Oaky Grove Church on the Millbrook Charge, leaving the property in the hands of the Millbrook Quarterly Conference."

M.W. Warren 1949-1953

Note from the North Carolina Conference Journal, 1952: "Take Millbrook from Millbrook Circuit and make Millbrook a station. Change Millbrook Circuit to Knightdale Circuit. (Three churches: Knightdale, Wake Forest and Youngsville.)"

May 1953 the Rev. Warren organized the Methodist Men. Charter Members were: Leby S. Jackson, Leon T. Walters, Graham O'Neal, Roy Powell, William H. Wall, Sr., Wallace Shearon, Jesse W. Hollowell, H. Grady Lyon, J. Bruce Keith, Maxwell P. Bridge, Macon Becton, Dr. Nash H. Underwood, William R. LaNier and Hal B. Moses.

Note from North Carolina Conference Journal, 1953: "Take Wake Forest and Youngsville Churches from the Knightdale Circuit, making the Wake Forest-Youngsville Charge."

W.W. Sherman, Jr. 1953-1955

The need for a parsonage was acute. First steps were taken to meet this need, May 17, 1954, when a conference was called to divide the interest in the parsonage at Knightdale.

The following was taken from minutes given me by Mrs. L.D. Gill: "The following churches on the Millbrook Charge having an interest in said parsonage property were represented by the following committees:

Wake Forest Methodist Church, W.E. Shearon and Mrs. L.D. Gill

Millbrook Methodist Church, William T. Hatch, L.T. Jones and J.B. Green

Youngsville Methodist Church, Mrs. W.H. Hight and Mrs. W.S. Preddy

Pleasant Grove Methodist Church, J.R. Ferguson

Knightdale Methodist Church, L.W. Allen, Mrs. Josephine Southall and

L.A. Doub

Judge William T. Hatch was elected chairman of the meeting and L.A. Doub was named secretary.

Rev. H.F. Leatherman presented the report of the appraisers appointed by the District Superintendent to appraise the parsonage property which was as follows:

Parsonage lot \$1,000.00

Parsonage Building \$3,000.00

Parsonage Furnishings \$365.00

After discussion it was moved by Mrs. Josephine Southall and seconded by J.R. Ferguson that the appraisal be accepted and used as a basis for settlement of the interest of the churches. Motion carried unanimously.

Further discussion was had on the question of the interests of the churches in the property, after which, it was moved by L.T. Jones and seconded by W.E. Shearon that the division of the house and furnishings in the value of \$3,365.00 be divided on the following percentages to the respective churches.

Knightdale Church — 25% value of share \$841.25

Wake Forest Church — 25% value of share \$841.25

Millbrook Church — 25% value of share \$841.25

Youngsville Church — 15% value of share \$504.75

Pleasant Grove Church — 10% value of share \$336.50

Total \$3,365.00

Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Mrs. L.D. Gill, seconded by L.T. Jones, that the Knightdale congregation bought the lot originally on which parsonage is located and that no other churches have any interest in said lot. Namely, Millbrook Church, Wake Forest Church, Youngsville Church and Pleasant Grove Church. Motion carried unanimously.

Knightdale Church requested time in which to make settlement to other churches of interests as set out above. It was moved by J.R. Ferguson and seconded by W.E. Shearon that Knightdale Church make every reasonable effort to settle for said interests by November 1, 1954. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by L.W. Allen, seconded by Mrs. W.H. Hight, that the respective churches quit claim unto the Knightdale Church all right, title and interest in said parsonage property upon the payment of the amounts set out to the several churches. Motion carried unanimously.”

R.C. Hastings 1955-1957

On August 10, 1956 the Raleigh District Board of Location and Building Committee met at Wake Forest Methodist Church and reviewed plans for the new parsonage for the Wake Forest-Youngsville Charge, and inspected the lot on which to build it. The Board was well pleased with the plan and gave it unanimous approval.

According to deed, Book 1273, Page 200, on March 1, 1957, W.W. Holding and wife, Josephine H. Holding, conveyed to W.E. Shearon, R.D. Hartsfield and Leon Walters, trustees of Wake Forest Methodist Church, the lot on which our parsonage is built.

Much free labor was contributed by different members. Youngsville furnished one room. The study was furnished as a memorial to Luther Belangia, who had been a faithful member and Sunday School teacher. The mirror in the living room was given in memory of Mr. and Mrs. J.A. Hartsfield, Sr. The fireplace ensemble was given in memory of Mr. and Mrs. N.A. Hartsfield.

The parsonage was completed August 1957, and the Rev. and Mrs. L.C. Brothers, Sr. were the first occupants.

L.C. Brothers, Jr. 1957-1961

We had a very active MYF and a good youth choir. One year we sent eight of our young people to Camp Don Lee for a week. Laura Jones and Anne Wood Hartsfield attended the Annual Conference session at Duke one year. The next year Helen Boal and Ruth Ann Walters represented the Charge, and the third year Margaret Ann Jackson and Mary Lowie were our representatives. The young people were also active in Sub-District MYF. Laura Jones served as vice-president of the group.

The dedication of the Choirs was a very impressive service. This was held December 7, 1958. Mrs. M.S. House was director and Mrs. H.R. Cockran was organist.

James S. Marion 1961-1963

The Marions were very much interested in our young people and accompanied them on many trips and to many meetings.

It was during his ministry that the first step toward erecting an educational building was taken when Mrs. J. Craige Jones gave a check for \$5.00 to establish a building fund for an educational building. It was 1965 before any more contributions were made to this fund.

L.W. Ross 1963-1966

It was during the ministry of Rev. Ross that the congregation became interested in constructing an educational building and began contributing to the fund.

October 13, 1965, the Woman's Society of Christian Service observed their 25th anniversary. Mrs. W.M. Bryan, President, Raleigh District, gave the devotional. Mrs. D.K. Fry, Conference Secretary of Christian Social Relations, brought the message, "A Look at the Past and Future." Mrs. L.D. Gill, President of the local society, gave "Highlights of Wake Forest Woman's Society of Christian Service." Mrs. J.D. Lyon presented the honors. The group sang "Blessed Be The Tie That Binds" and Rev. Leon Ross gave the benediction.

E. Russel Stott 1966-1968

It was during his ministry that the debt on the parsonage was paid off and the dedication was held. On Easter Sunday, 1967, special lenten coin folders were brought by children and adults with enough money to complete the debt on the parsonage, a debt that had been met in the past through rummage sales, serving suppers, donations and regular budget.

October 29, 1967 was a great day for the Wake Forest-Youngsville Charge, for on that day, after years of hard work and prayer, we dedicated our parsonage.

Bishop Paul Neff Garbor brought the sermon and dedicated the parsonage. The Rev. N.W. Grant, District Superintendent, was present and participated in the service.

The following committees helped plan the service:

Trustees

George W. Barnes

G. Harold Wall

Kenneth Tisdale

Guy H. Hill

James E. Hendrix

Leon T. Walters

James F. Pearsall

Mrs. B.G. Mitchell

J.W. Weathers, Jr.

Parsonage Committee

Mrs. Mary F. Hight

Mrs. Guy G. Hill

Mrs. J. Bruce Keith

Mrs. B.G. Mitchell

Mrs. W.T. Moss

Mrs. E.B. Roberts, Sr.

Mrs. Frank O. Timberlake, Sr.

Dedication Committee

J. Bruce Keith, Chairman

H. Macon Becton

Mrs. Lewis D. Gill

Mrs. Mary F. Hight

Mrs. Frank Timberlake

Leon T. Walters

J.W. Weathers, Jr.

Note from Bulletin, October 22, 1967: "Our thanks to Mac Bridge and the shop boys for work on the parsonage and church grounds and shrubbery."

The following was copied from the minutes of the Board meeting, October 2, 1957. My thanks to Mrs. Leon Walters, for this information was in some minutes she had taken while serving as secretary.

Income:	Cash Donations	\$ 7,837.81
	Received from Knightdale Parsonage	877.73
	Received from Woman's Society of Christian Service	1,000.00
	Received from Wake Forest Building & Loan	6,947.00
	Received from Youngsville Church	1,050.00
	Total Income	\$17,713.04
Total Disbursements:	Lot	\$ 2,000.00
	Insurance	39.00
	Payments Building & Loan	140.00
	Total amount spent on building and yard	14,344.78
	Total amount spent on furnishings	1,149.15
		\$17,672.93
Total Income		\$17,713.04
Total Disbursements		17,672.93
Balance on hand		\$ 40.11

Donations other than cash:

House plans	\$ 21.00
Allen Lumber Company	50.00
Little River Fuel Company	60.00
Little River Fuel Company — use of truck to haul materials from Fuquay	
Bryan Rock and Sand Company — gravel	46.08
Albert Height	50.00
Stay Rite Tank Co. — septic tank	5.00
Johnnie Knight — labor for pouring basement floor	27.75
R.R. Hill	7.00
Cherokee Brick Co.	39.00
Donald Gulley — searching title	25.00
Frank Timerlake	\$111.11
Smith Furniture Co.	Table

The above report was actually the treasurer's (Macon Becton's) report to the Board. He furnished the secretary with a copy. Thanks, Macon.

It was during the ministry of Rev. Stott, 1968, that the General Conference met. At this time, the Methodists and United Brethren merged and we became Wake Forest United Methodist Church.

Ivey J. Wall, Jr. October 1968-June 1974

When the Rev. Wall saw our need for an educational building, he put his heart and soul in the project. There was less than \$5,000 in the building fund and it seemed to grow slowly.

Following are some notes from bulletins, which I have saved over the years, showing the growth of the fund and some of our projects.

On March 1, 1970, we had on hand, for the Building Fund, \$5,984.33, but on this date \$1,000 was donated, making a total of \$6,984.33.

March 29, 1970: "Pork barbecue and chicken barbecue plates were served for both lunch and supper, at the Community House. Proceeds to go to the Building Fund."

April 26, 1970: "Amount in Building Fund, \$7,051.37"

May 3, 1970: "Building Committee reported they met with architect; preliminary plans will be ready in two weeks."

May 24, 1970: "New Education Building sketch is now on display."

June 28, 1970: "Building Fund is \$7,132.76. We started a fund to memorialize or honor our loved ones or friends, for the benefit of the Building Fund."

In 1970 the family and friends of the late Jesse W. Hollowell renovated the sanctuary in his memory. The dedication took place October 11, 1970 at our homecoming. The Rev. M.W. Warren, Sr., a former pastor, brought the message.

October 11, 1970, Building Committee: "The Building Committee, chaired by Macon Becton, has been busy during the last year. An architect has been hired; the Building Committee has looked at two blueprints. The second blueprint is on display today. The Building Fund has now reached \$8,000."

November 15, 1970: "On November 21, 1970, we will have a Bazaar at church. Lunch will be served and the proceeds will go to the Building Fund."

November 22, 1970: "Proceeds from the Bazaar reached \$700.56; the architect's third drawing is on display near the front entrance of the church. Please look at it and offer your suggestions."

March 7, 1971: "Building Fund was \$10,659.95."

Sunday, March 7, 1971 was a red letter day for Wake Forest United Methodist Church. A business meeting was called of the church members at the close of the morning worship service. The congregation voted to accept the basic plans for a new educational building and to give the trustees authority to secure funds not to exceed \$60,000, and to enter contract for the building. Mrs. Craige Jones made the motion, R.D. Hartsfield seconded.

July 11, 1971 showed a balance brought forward (6-1-71) of \$11,071.71.

Deposited during June 1971 \$ 734.00

Second Quarter interest 139.00

Balance on hand 6-30-71

\$11,944.71

At the meeting of the Administrative Board on August 4, 1971, Mrs. J. Craige Jones (Mary H.) made a motion that if we have \$17,000 in the Building Fund by September 1, 1971, we proceed with plans for construction. Leonard

Kilian asked her to amend the motion to \$15,000, which she did. Eleanor Olson seconded the motion and it carried.

September 1, 1971, taken from minutes of Official Board: "Macon reported for the Building Committee. The Committee met August 30, 1971 and decided to start construction of the building. He reported \$14,871.43 on hand. He received checks at the Board Meeting (September 1, 1971) making a total of \$16,221.43. Macon Becton resigned as Chairman of the Building Committee." Richard Hartsfield was appointed chairman.

October 10, 1971, Homecoming: The Building Fund has grown by \$9,494 since homecoming last year. At this service, Mrs. J. Craig Jones presented to the Building Fund \$1,000 from the Hartsfield Memorial Fund. Following are her remarks. "Friends, today is a great day for me because on July 20, 1829, my great, great grandfather, the Rev. Andrew Hartsfield, organized the Hartsfield Meeting House which, through the following years, has become Wake Forest United Methodist Church.

On July 27, 1970 approximately forty of his descendants met in the Wake Forest Community House and organized the Hartsfield Clan. In October 1970, for homecoming, Jennie Mae Hartsfield Baker sent a check for \$10.00 to be used as we saw fit. After discussing the matter with Rev. Ivey Wall, our pastor, we decided to establish the Hartsfield Memorial Fund to go to the Building Fund. In December I (Mary Jones) sent letters to the members of the Clan, telling them of our plan and asked if they wished to honor or memorialize a loved one. As a result of this, today on behalf of the Hartsfield Clan, I am able to present to the Building Fund of Wake Forest United Methodist Church \$1,000."

October 19, 1971: "Ground breaking at 2 PM for Educational Building."

November 3, 1971: "Rev. Ivey Wall, reported at Board Meeting that our building plan had been approved by the District Building Committee."

November 8, 1971: "Richard D. Hartsfield, Sr., Chairman of our Building Committee, died."

November 28, 1971: "Bazaar sales have amounted to \$1,738.75. Building Fund balance, \$20,909.95."

December 1, 1971: "Guy Hill elected Chairman of Building Committee."

January 9, 1972: "Building Fund balance, \$22,177.58."

March 19, 1972: "Building Committee to meet with Dr. Wilson Nesbitt of Duke Endowment, March 22, 1972 at 7:30 PM."

Guy Hill, Chairman

Mrs. J. Craig Jones

Bob Snow

Mrs. Leon Walters

Russell Olson

L.A. Kilian

Jim Pearsall

K.W. Tisdale

Mrs. J.W. Hollowell

Bruce Keith

September 24, 1972: "Building Fund is \$24,956.85."

Construction started January 2, 1973!

March 11, 1973: After a week of steady rain. "Please pray for ten consecutive days of sunshine." Note: We got the sunshine and the outer walls of the Educational Building were completed.

January 28, 1973. Building Fund News: "Total cost of the project \$80,000; contract signed with Sparrow Construction Company in Raleigh, N.C. Terms: We pay Sparrow \$3,000 per month for a foreman on the job. This amount also includes Sparrow's profit. Loan secured with Fidelity Bank in the amount of \$55,000. Mortgage only on new building and the ground on which it rests. Terms: We are to pay one-half percent above prime interest rate on money borrowed. Loan renewable each year for eight years. Interest will compound yearly according to prime rate on renewable date."

March 11, 1973: "Charge Conference for Wake Forest United Methodist Church to consider a resolution endowing the trustees to accept a donation from Duke Endowment."

April 29, 1973: First Sunday in our new building!

March 6, 1973. Note in Bulletin from pastor: "A word of thanks to all who have helped with the building. I wish to express my appreciation for our young people who have worked so hard. First, to the seniors—Danny Watkins, Jim Pearsall, Bobby Allen and Mandy Broome—who have painted their room; second, to the boys who helped clean up—George Brown, Doyle Andrews, Charlie Pearsall, Jim Pearsall and Bobby Allen."

May 20, 1973: "There will be a meeting of the Building Committee May 23, 1973, with Dr. Wilson Nesbitt from Duke Endowment. Report on bake sale, \$129.00 for kitchen fund—making a total of \$369.00 in fund."

From the minutes of the Building Committee: "The Building Committee met May 23, 1973 in the Fellowship Hall of the Educational Building.

"Dr. Wilson Nesbitt of the Duke Endowment met with us. Others present

were: Guy Hill, Chairman, Bruce Keith, Grady Stephens, Mary Jones, Ruth Walters, Helen Hollowell, Russell Olson, Ivey Wall and Anne Hartsfield. Ivey opened the meeting with prayer. Guy turned the meeting over to Helen, who gave her financial report.

Drawn from loan	\$31,000.00
Spent in May	\$16,659.40
Spent in April	\$16,616.78
Spent in March	\$13,385.74
Spent in February	\$16,741.98
Spent prior to February	\$ 1,100.00

Dr. Nesbitt explained the partial grant and the basis on which it is made. The building must be nearing completion, and we owe no more than half of the cost of the building (\$42,750.00). He was very much pleased with the progress we had made.

We asked for \$10,000 and they gave us \$14,000. He will present it, formally, to the church, Sunday, March 27, 1973.

We will be able to complete our building and owe no more than \$30,000. If we have not been taken into the city limits before we pay the \$30,000, we may apply for a final grant to make the final payment."

June 3, 1973, Building News: "Our hearts rejoiced to receive \$14,000 from Duke Endowment!"

Excerpt from minutes of Board: "The Building Committee met June 1973. Present were: Guy Hill, Bruce Keith, Helen Hollowell, Ivey Wall, Russell Olson, Anne Hartsfield and Mary Jones. Guy Hill suggested that we apply the \$2,000 gift from the architect to our loan and cut it to \$29,000 and pay \$416.41 interest due July 1, 1973.

Bruce Keith put this in the form of a motion, Mary Jones seconded the motion and it carried.

Ivey Wall reported that we had \$1,000 in Building Fund in Savings and Loan. Bruce amended this. Motion to include this \$1,000, thus cutting our loan to \$28,000. Mary seconded and the motion carried."

July 22, 1973, Building News: "The sidewalks have been put down. The carpet has been installed. Mr. Olson has built the floor cabinets in the Nursery and Elementary I-III rooms."

July 27, 1973, Kitchen News: "An 80-place setting of stainless steel has been acquired with funds given for the kitchen."

The Administrative Board met October 3, 1973. Ivey Wall, pastor, reported that we paid \$2,000 on our loan October 1, 1973, which reduced the principal to \$26,000. Our interest was \$455.00. We paid \$410.00. (The bank owed us \$45.00 as an adjustment to principal.)

April 7, 1974: "Our thanks to the 38 families, who made possible our loan payment. We were able to pay \$381.88 interest and \$1,500 on the principal. This reduces the indebtedness to \$22,000. Our thanks to the Hartsfield Clan for their memorial check for \$500.00"

When Conference met June 1974, Rev. Ivey Wall was transferred to Riverside United Methodist Church, Elizabeth City, N.C. and Rev. Charles Pollock became our new pastor. He immediately joined us in our effort to liquidate our debt.

Bulletin, July 7, 1974:

Amount of the original Building Fund loan was	\$31,000.
Paid on principal through June 30, 1974	\$ 9,000.
Paid on principal July 1, 1974	\$ 1,631.23.
Paid on interest on loan July 1, 1974	\$ 357.50
Total principal paid to date	\$ 9,300.00
Balance of original loan	\$21,700.00

Excerpt from minutes of Administrative Board: "The Conference Board of Missions paid our note for Building Fund at Fidelity Bank and arranged for us to repay them at a lower rate of interest. Our monthly payments were set up and we are to pay them \$1,000 per quarter."

October 6, 1974: Amount of original building fund	\$31,000.00.
Paid on principal through September 30, 1974	\$ 9,300.00.
Paid interest on loan through September 30, 1974	\$ 1,988.73.
Paid on principal October 1, 1974	\$ 1,825.00.
Interest paid on loan October 1, 1974	\$ 360.46.
Total interest to date	\$ 2,347.19.

January 5, 1975, Building Fund News:

Paid on principal January 1, 1975	\$ 3,875.00.
Paid interest on loan January 1, 1975	\$ 320.48.
Total interest paid on loan to date	\$ 2,667.67.
Balance of second Building Note	\$16,000.00.

March 2, 1975.

Balance on loan from Board of Missions	\$14,631.00.
Amount of principal paid March 1, 1975	\$ 420.00.
Amount of interest paid March 1, 1975	None
Balance on loan	\$14,211.00.

March 23, 1975: "Monday night at 7 o'clock Duke Endowment representative, Dr. Wilson Nesbitt, will be here to discuss the final grant. The entire church membership and friends are urged to attend."

April 6, 1975: "Balance on loan, \$13,347.82."

May 4, 1975:

Amount of Building Loan Fund, April	\$13,347.82.
Amount paid May 1 on principal	\$ 1,663.58.
Amount paid on interest, May 1	\$ 83.42.
Balance on loan, May 1	\$11,684.24.
Less Duke Grant	\$ 8,000.00.
Our local balance	\$ 3,684.24.

May 18, 1975: "Charge Conference is scheduled for Friday, May 30 at 8 PM. Rev. Charles Mercer will be here to lead the meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to approve the final grant from Duke Endowment. Everyone needs to be present."

June 1, 1975:

Amount of Building Fund Loan, May 1	\$11,684.24.
Amount paid June 1, on principal	\$ 1,329.98.
Amount paid June 1, on interest	\$ 73.02.
Balance on loan, June 1	\$10,354.26.
Less Duke Grant	\$ 8,000.00.
Our local balance	\$ 2,354.26.

September 28, 1975:

Amount of Building Fund Loan, July 1	\$ 9,415.98.
Amount paid on principal, August 1	\$ 1,415.98.
Amount paid on interest	None

Balance on loan \$8,000.00, which was paid by Duke Endowment Grant.

Less than fourteen months after Rev. Charles Pollock came to serve Wake Forest-Youngsville Charge the Educational Building was paid for and ready for dedication. After thirteen years and four months our dream became a reality! Attaining our goal was accomplished by much prayer and hard work.

Some of our projects were: barbecues, Bazaars, ballgame with WKIX Cagers, we sold calendars, place mats, stationery, peanuts and candy. We also compiled a cookbook and are now selling our third printing.

From Bulletin, September 21, 1975: "We congratulate our women for 50 years of sincere work in this church. We burn the gold candle on the altar in memory and honor of those who have participated in this great ministry, both local and foreign."

We received our final grant from Duke Endowment, a check for \$8,000.

In preparation for Homecoming and Dedication, October 12, 1975, we paved our parking lot.

The following is quoted from The Wake Weekly, October 16, 1975:

"Bishop Blackburn dedicates Methodist Educational Building. Homecoming Sunday had special significance for members and friends of Wake Forest United Methodist Church this year.

The new Educational Building was dedicated by Bishop Robert M. Blackburn, resident bishop of the Raleigh area, and the fully-paid note on the Educational Building was burned.

Taking part in the ceremony were the pastor, Rev. Charles Pollock, R.C. Dickerson, Church Lay Leader, Mrs. J.W. Hollowell, treasurer of the Building Committee; Rev. Warren B. Petteway, Raleigh District Superintendent; Rev. Albert Fisher, assistant director of Duke Endowment; Rev. C. Franklin Grill, executive secretary of the Board of Missions; and the Rev. Ivey J. Wall, pastor of the church when the building was built and now of Elizabeth City.

The \$88,000.00 debt was paid off in two years and seven months after construction started. Duke Endowment gave \$14,000.00 as an outright grant and then added an additional \$8,000.00 this fall. A \$1,000.00 grant was given by the North Carolina Conference Board of Missions.

That left \$65,000 to be raised by the church through various fund raising events and contributions from members.

An overflow crowd of over 200, including many former members, was present for the occasion.

Announcement was made of a public address system, gift for the Nursery and Fellowship Hall. It was given in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Shearon — long-time active members of the congregation, by their daughter and son-in-law, Rev. and Mrs. Carlton F. Hirschi, Sr.

Following the service, dinner was served in the Fellowship Room of the new Educational Building."

Excerpt from Wake Weekly, October 30, 1975:

"Methodists Name Robl Associate.

A Southeastern Seminary student has been appointed associate pastor of Wake Forest-Youngsville United Methodist Charge.

Charles J. Robl, III will have as his primary duties serving the Youngsville Church. He was hired through the District Superintendent.

Robl is a first year student, a native of Ferndale, Maryland and a graduate of Sandhill Community College and The University of North Carolina, Wilmington. He is married to the former Barbara Graham of Smithfield and they have two children, Laurie, who is 6, and John, 2. They live on Route #2, Wake Forest.

Robl said this week he would like "to see services at Youngsville go on a much more regular basis with the hope there will be room for growth and development."

Although Rev. Robl's primary duty was to Youngsville, he made valuable

contributions to Wake Forest; among the greatest was organizing and directing the choir.

Having attained our goal in our project to build and pay for an educational building seemed to increase our faith and gave us courage to undertake other projects. Under the leadership of the Rev. Charles Pollock, we have continued to grow.

We have a very active youth group led by Sylvia and John Shepherd.

In February 1976, we put central heat and air conditioning in the parsonage, and in December 1976, we put central heat and air conditioning in the sanctuary. In July 1977, we purchased a new organ and a new piano for the sanctuary.

In the past three years the basement of the sanctuary has been completely renovated, only one of the many projects Russell Olson has done for our church. Our sincere thanks, Russ!

Our membership has shown steady growth. We have added 76 new members since June 1975, making our total membership 248.

You have probably noticed that some ministers are only listed. I do not mean to imply that these men did not contribute to the life and growth of our church. If records were kept during their pastorates, I have not been able to find them.

It is impossible to list all the contributions of individual members, but I cannot forget our faithful organist, Dorothy Shearon Becton, who for the majority of the past forty years has served as a "labor of love." Only in recent months has there been any monetary reward. Thank you, Dorothy!

We do not know what the future holds for us but let us remember what Minnie L. Haskins said: "I said to the man who stood at the gate of years: 'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown,' and he replied: 'Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be better to you than a light, and safer than a known way.'"

The original copy of this history is being placed in the safety box of Mr. and Mrs. R.N. Grimes at Central Carolina Bank, Wake Forest, N.C.