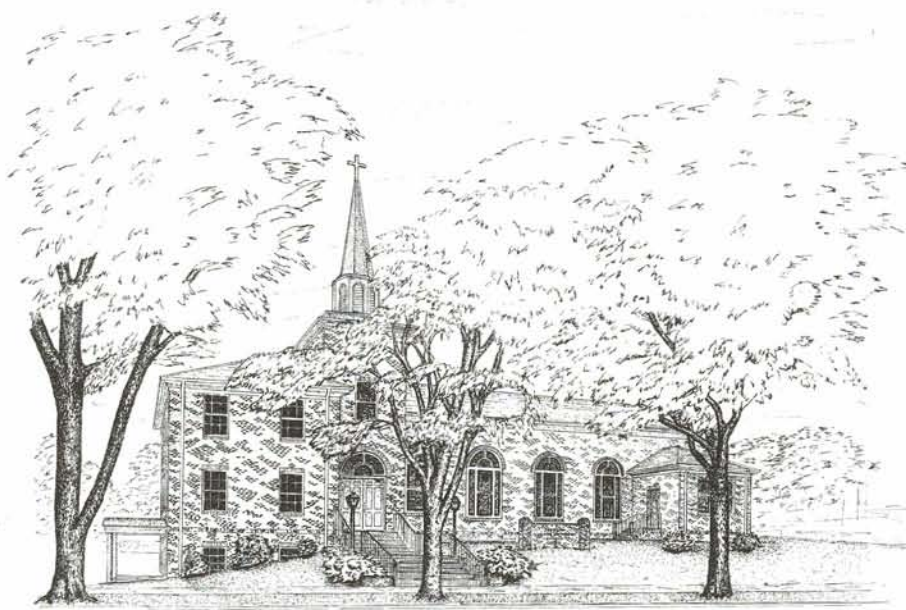


Zebulon United Methodist Church

1907-2007

The Tenth Decade 1997-2007



Zebulon United Methodist Church
Established 1907

by Ann Veazey Davis

This project would not have been possible without the help and cooperation of the Centennial Committee, chaired by Ruth Joyner; the various Committee Chairmen, past and present; Donna Ipock, who has been either on staff or a volunteer for the entire decade; Pam White, Director of the Pre-School from its beginning until this year; Judy Bailey for sharing her pre-school pictures; Patricia Roberson, chair of Wednesday Night Live; and Pat Tarbell for compiling the memories section; and MaryAnn Powell for her technical expertise. I'd also like to thank Pastor Todd for sharing his digital photographs and his vision for this church as we begin our second century. Last but certainly not least is Jim Chamblee of Chamblee Graphics for his continued support of ZUMC publications.

The Tenth Decade of the First Century

Zebulon United Methodist Church

The Council on Ministries of the Zebulon United Methodist Church accepted a list of Goals for 1997 and presented them at a meeting of the Administrative Board in September of that year. These goals had been developed by many meetings of a Vision Team and recommended to the COM. Among the goals listed were the continuation of "Work Teams" involving adults, youth, and children to various locations and the continuation of the Hinton Work Team. Another important goal was to study the feasibility of a "Mothers' Morning Out" or children's program.

Ten years after the fact, it is reasonable to acknowledge that both of these goals have been fulfilled. Other goals were added and accomplished during the tenth decade of life of the Zebulon United Methodist Church. Among the goals set in 1997 were the establishment of a Methodist welcome wagon; the revitalization of the lay shepherding program; the establishment of a fellowship program or Sunday School Class for college age young adults; and to develop a program of marriage renewal.

At that time it was noted that members preferred that the physical plant remain at the corner of Gannon Avenue and Church Street. It was noted that the present sanctuary could accommodate 224 persons per service. Adding worship services could accommodate two or three times that number.

The Fellowship Hall of ZUMC is used by a number of community groups in addition to on-going church activities. The Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts meet in the building. Alcoholics Anonymous, Weight Watchers, the Little River Historical Society, a local garden club and Conference Ministers have also used the fellowship hall for their meetings during this decade.

Pre-School

One of the major accomplishments of the Zebulon United Methodist Church over the past decade has been the operation of a daily Pre-School for any child in our community. The pre-school has served members of this church as well as many children in the community at large. This fulfills the dreams of those who worked to establish the pre-school as well as those who worked for the new educational building in the 1980s. For without the facility, there could be no pre-school.

The pre-school began in the Winter of 1998 with discussions about a “Mothers’ Morning Out” program. A committee of Gay Barnes, Ruth Joyner, Patricia Roberson, Judy Bailey and Pam White met with Margaret Ann Bittle of the Methodist Conference. They discussed why the church should be involved in a weekday ministry and what is required for a weekday ministry to children and their families.

First they determined that it was the belief of the Methodist Church that each child is a child of God, and as such should have every opportunity to develop physically, intellectually, emotionally, socially, and spiritually to the fullest potential. Children in the Zebulon United Methodist Church needed these services, as did other community children who were not being served. They also found that the church facilities were adequate for sharing space with the Sunday School department. Children shown below are in the first class in 1998 and in 2006.



The pre-school program began in three classrooms downstairs with the church offices. They held an open house on Oct. 24, 1999. In September of 1999 the pastor's study and church offices were moved to the Richardson House, which had been acquired for this purpose.

The first program was five days per week, three hours per day. Some children attended all five days and some came for three days, while others came for two days. In this way space was shared to serve a larger number of children. The pre-school program has served an average of 75 to 85 children per year since the beginning. Some children attend for four years straight while others come for only the year before they begin school.

There is an Advisory Board consisting of three members appointed by the Nominations Committee, one each from the Nominations Committee, the Pastor-Parish Committee, and the Finance Committee. The Nominations Committee also appoints three members from the membership-at-large and the Chairman. The Chairman and Director recommend three parent representatives, one of whom does not have to be a church member.

A number of bilingual children as well as those with special needs have attended the pre-school. A good number of students have been the grandchildren of church members. Many students attend for the full four years. One of the first classes in 1998 is pictured below.



High Reach Learning Curriculum is used so that the learning is consistent throughout the four years. The curriculum is theme oriented and helps the teachers with planning activities and keeping them age appropriate.

Students participate in devotions, music and movement, and library as well as a lot of art. Classrooms are set up as learning centers.



A scholarship program was established during the 2000-2001 school year to allow children to participate whose family could not afford the tuition. This program has served two or three students each year since that time. Pam White, former director and present teacher, tells of one neighborhood child who was the recipient of a scholarship whose grandmother walked him to school each day. What made this so outstanding was that the grandmother had a limp.

Pam White has been the director of the pre-school from its beginning until the 2006-2007 school year. Jan Carpenter is the director for the current year. There are nine teachers on staff working with one toddler class (under 2 years old), one two year old class, one three year old class, and two four year old classes. Nine teachers are on staff.

The Zebulon United Methodist Church gave the pre-school \$1,500 in start-up money and the UMW gave them a toy shower (shown below). Judy Bailey kept the books for the pre-school on a volunteer basis. The pre-school purchased necessary shelving, manipulatives, art supplies and room decorations. Furnishings purchased by the pre-school are the property of the church.



The Family Matters group hosts a Pancake Breakfast with Santa Claus in December, with proceeds benefiting the Scholarship Fund for the Pre-School. Gina Windley handles scholarship funds. If there are not enough funds to cover all scholarships, the pre-school absorbs the difference.

Currently (2006-2007 school year), there are two children on scholarships whose father is serving a second tour of duty in Iraq.



The 1998 graduating class is shown above. Director Pam White is shown below left with Ruth Joyner and Patricia Roberson, two original committee members. Judy Bailey is shown below right with the 1999 graduation cake.



Playground

With the new pre-school, it became even more obvious that the church needed a secure and safe play ground for the children of the church and now of the pre-school as well. A fenced playground was necessary to operate the pre-school. Patricia and Elton Roberson gave the fence for the new playground, which would serve all the children of the church family. This facility was given September 28, 1998, in memory of their granddaughter Whitney Brooke Griswold (July 11, 1996-March 20, 1998).



Children's Programs

Christian Kids – ZUM Kids

Our children's programs have evolved first from Christian Kids on Thursday afternoons and then on Sunday afternoons, to ZUM Kids meeting on Wednesday nights at present. These children have heard Bible stories, learned new songs during their music sessions, and participated in puppet ministry, hand chimes and elementary hand bells. They have planted pansies on the church grounds and visited Senior Citizens on special occasions, among other projects.

The children of the church began the Heifer Project, originally during Vacation Bible School, and eventually involved the entire church. When contributions reached the \$5,000 level they received a plaque indicating that they had made contributions that would fill up an Ark. This is an on-going project for the children and other members of the church.

The children are shown here with pansies they had planted between the church parking lot and the office building (as seen in the background).

Heifer International
Gift Ark Award
Is Given in Recognition to
Zebulon United Methodist Church
Zebulon, NC
December 2003
For fighting hunger two-by-two
A Heifer International Gift Ark
Provides Livestock and training that
Offer a sustainable earth-friendly
source of food and income while
transforming the lives of hungry
families.



Operation Christmas Child has also been an on-going project of the children's ministry of the Zebulon Church. Each child is asked to bring a shoebox (or boxes) filled with specific items for a child that will be sent overseas to the mission field for Christmas gifts. They bring these boxes for dedication the Sunday before Thanksgiving and each year they contribute between 80 and 100 boxes, with help from the congregation.



There has been a strong Vacation Bible School each and every year during the 10th decade serving not only children of members of Zebulon United Methodist Church but also, serving other children in the community. Children shown at the right are Bible School students during the 2006 session.



The children lead a Children's Sunday worship service, with scripture reading, prayers, and music once every year. They even provide the artwork for the bulletins. They also participate in the Christmas program each year.

Children at right are participating in a music and lights program. Below is the Christmas program in 1997. Beginning of a new decade.



Acolytes

The Acolytes Program for children and youth has continued since its beginning in 1971 by Rev. Tommy Smith. A total of 165 Acolytes have served since that time. In 2007, there are 26 active acolytes, two of whom serve each Sunday. Mrs. Ruth Joyner has been the coordinator of this program since its inception.

During the ministry of Rev. Henry Lovelace, a special annual recognition began with the acolytes receiving certificates of appreciation, an acolyte pin for three years, and a wooden cross necklace after four years service. Many young people continue to serve for eight or nine years.

An annual dinner, given by the families, is held in the fellowship hall to honor the acolytes. Memorial gifts to the church in memory of Sarah and Janet Eaton were used in 2006 to purchase new acolyte robes. Two new candle lighters were purchased with other acolyte contributions. Jimmy and Ruth Joyner gave a wooden and brass candle lighter stand in honor of all the acolytes, past and present.

Acolytes from 2002 are pictured on the left below and from 2006 on the right.



United Methodist Youth Fellowship

The youth of the Zebulon Methodist Church have been to many places over the past decade as well as having weekly meetings at the church. Jerry Lipscomb, Gay Barnes, Debbie Pittard, Frankie and Teresa Pulley and Judy Bailey have been their leaders during this decade.



The youth have an annual lock-in at the church and the picture to the left shows this occasion in 2005. They went to midnight bowling before one lock-in and stopped for just one more Krispy Kreme donut below.

They attend the Annual Conference Youth Rally Day every year including the year it was held in Rocky Mount, as shown below.



UMYFers have participated in the UMCOR projects of making flood buckets and health kits for hurricane victims. They have participated in gleaning potatoes for the St. Andrews gleaning project.



Our youth have also participated in the Annual Conference Kaleidoscope program that is held in the Spring each year at Camp Don Lee on the Neuse River near New Bern. In 2006, they also visited Tryon Palace while in the area for this event, shown at left. Zebulon Youth are shown on the pier at Don Lee in the picture below.

They volunteer for the Litter Sweep program of keeping Zebulon and area clean of trash. And they participate with 6,000 NC youth in the annual Pilgrimage, held at the Crown Coliseum in Fayetteville each year.



Summer Camps are held at all of the Conference campgrounds, Don Lee, Chestnut Ridge, Rockfish, etc. Anna Maria Pulley is shown here to the left at Chestnut Ridge Camp in 2006.

Junior Youth enjoy a Christmas Gathering within the past decade in the picture at the right.

UMYFers also celebrate Valentine's Day by having a spaghetti dinner fundraiser for church members and friends. They have earned \$500 or more at these annual events.



A group of UMYFers from the early 2000's are pictured above. How many can you name?



Here is a final "sign off" from a group of youth at Camp Don-Lee. We need to sign off with a commercial and let everyone know that there are camping opportunities at Camp Don Lee for folks of all ages. There is a one-week Family Camp in the middle of the summer when entire families can enjoy that tranquil restful setting.

FAMILY MATTERS GROUP

About five years ago, a group of young families with children began getting together for social activities and to work together on mission projects. Working together over this period has led to many close friendships being formed. As new members joined the church, they also joined the Family Matters Group. They enjoy pool parties, trips to Mudcats ball games, Luaus and bowling.

Some of their Mission Projects have been to paint the youth room at the church. They have also provided gifts for the children at the Freewill Baptist Children's Home in Middlesex. Their annual fundraiser is a Pancake Breakfast with Santa Claus! Proceeds from this activity benefit the Pre-School Scholarship Fund. Jennifer Windley serves as the coordinator for this group.

...Jennifer Windley



ZUMC Christian Kids

Senior Fun Lovers

Bob and Dot Barry began the Senior Fun Lovers group in 1997. Bob accepted the position of Coordinator of Older Adult Ministries and they, along with Rev. Tommy Privette, invited a group of senior adults to a luncheon. Rev. Privette provided homemade soup and a sandwich lunch to a large group. Alma Privette made the sandwiches and Gay Barnes provided entertainment. Emma Boccock, Dot Barry and Rochelle Pulley made the tea.

Thirty-one members attended that first meeting: Lib and Leaman Pearce, Archie and Blanche Ray, Eunice Wall, Louise Gaddy, Frances Croom, Jean Wall, Winton Rankin, Jane Hill, Quinton and Vera Haskins, Rochelle Pulley, Jean and Lawrence Liles, Marie Finch, Bertha Alford, Ginny Armstrong, Aldona Pate, Joe and Jewel Vinson, Barbara and Lowell Pulley, Mitch Hilliard, Corina Wilson, Dot and Bob Barry, Jimmy and Ruth Joyner, Emma Boccock, and Clyde Tucker.

The group went to the NC State Fair in October of 1997 and had a Valentine Party in February. Gay Barnes provided the program and entertainment. In April, they went to the Museum of Art to view an exhibit on Rodin. They ate lunch at Ballentine's Cafeteria in Cameron Village. That same month they organized the Food Pantry to help those in need. Winton Rankin and Corrina Wilson helped! In about a month they took their vows then they were both Rankins! And by December of that year Clyde and Margarita had tied the knot.





On June 2, 1998, Rev. Tommy Privette took the picture above of the Senior Fun Lovers before they left for lunch at Shoney's at the Tower Shopping Center. This group includes Jean Wall, Rochelle Pulley, Bud Wrage, Virginia Armstrong, Emma Bocock, Aldona Pate, Dot Barry, Bertha Alford and Bob Barry.

This group went to the *American Jubilee* in Selma had took an outing to the State Farmer's Market for lunch and shopping. Early in 1999, they experienced the *Butterfly House* in Durham. And let's not forget the Meadow Christmas Lights and dinner out.

On March 2, 1999, they took a trip down to Bailey to tour the Country Doctor Museum. The picture below shows the group taking it all in.



They celebrated Older Americans Month with a trip to the Kerr Scott Building at the Fair Grounds. They also made a trip to the Cliffs of the Neuse State Park and shopped in Rocky Mount with a side trip to Gardner's Bar B-Q. Their 2000 Mystery Trip was to Chamblee Graphics where our own Jim Chamblee explained the printing business!

The Senior Fun Lovers had a covered dish Christmas Dinner at the church where Rev. Judi Smith accompanied their singing Christmas carols. After Rev. Smith was appointed the District Superintendent of the Durham District, the Seniors paid a visit to Judi and Joe. This picture shows that outing and the Smith's parsonage in Durham.





James Nixon and Bud Wrage (in left picture), Bobby Lee, Mary Moss, and Dorothy Morgan work at M. E. R. C. I. (Marion Edwards Recovery Center Initiative). This center site is in Goldsboro and our Seniors enjoyed making bags for disaster relief.



The Senior Fun Lovers enjoyed a Christmas outing at the home of Sam and Donna Ipock in 2002. L to R: Sam Ipock, Dot Barry, Jean Wall, Pam Wrage, Bud Wrage, Donna Ipock, Louise Gibbons, and Martha Plautz.

Chuck and Lois Kennemur were coordinators from 2002 through 2005. During this period many trips of two to four days were enjoyed by a large group of Senior Adults.



In May of 2002, they took a trip to the Amish County of Lancaster, Pennsylvania. They toured the countryside, visited an Amish village, and shopped in the stores there. They took a ride on the Stasburg Railroad around the area. They ate at the Good 'N Plenty Restaurant. Before returning to Zebulon, they visited the chocolate factory in Hersey, Pennsylvania. They are shown in front of the Chocolate World Sign to the left.

In May of 2003, members of the group took a trip to Savannah, Georgia. They had dinner while cruising on a riverboat one evening. They took the historical grand tour of the city and visited the historical waterfront in downtown Savannah. The group is shown in the picture to the right.

In October of 2003, they visited historic Williamsburg, Virginia. They took a ferry across the James River to Jamestown on their way to Williamsburg. Tours of the historic Williamsburg buildings were on their itinerary as was a carriage ride on the cobblestone streets. They had dinner in Yorktown and attended a show at a Music Theater.



The picture below shows the group as they prepared to tour the Shirley Plantation. The smiles on their faces show what a good time they were having.



October of 2004 found the Fun Lovers touring Charleston, South Carolina and Kiawah Island. They can be seen in the photo below taking the historic carriage tour of historic Charleston. They visited the Maritime Center and took a tour of the Charleston Harbor. And they didn't miss the Aquarium and the IMAX theater.



September of 2005 found the Fun Lovers in Nashville, Tennessee. They enjoyed a General Jackson showboat lunch cruise and show. They visited the Country Music Hall of Fame and had 4th row seats for the Grand Ole Opry. They were able to tour Nashville and visit the Ryman Auditorium, original home of the Grand Ole Opry. Emma Boccock is shown below on the stage of the Ryman.



During these years, the group made several trips to Myrtle Beach where they enjoyed an ocean view condo. They attended a number of shows and shopped until they dropped. They enjoyed “country breakfasts” cooked by their own Jimmy Joyner.

In February of 2005, the Seniors enjoyed a Valentine Covered Disk Luncheon at the church. Thirty-five seniors attended this lunch. Some of them are seen in the photo below left. “The Dancing Grannies” entertained them. Christmas of 2005 is shown below right.



Donna Ipock, as Senior Adult Ministries Coordinator, has assumed the responsibility for the Fun Lovers in the Zebulon Church. Note the word "Senior" has been dropped.... in other words anyone is welcome!

On April 11, 2006, they climbed aboard the church van and headed to Duplin County and the Duplin Winery. The group is pictured below and then the van full of Fun Lovers.



New Church Offices

The Zebulon United Methodist Church office complex was once the home of Edwin and Thais Richardson. The Richardsons purchased this house from the late R. H. and Kathryn Bridgers, former church members. The house is over 75 years old and was purchased by the church in May of 1998.

The original house was built of hardwood and has many features, which take us back in history. The coal chute is still in place in the cellar where coal was once stored to heat the house. The front porch has ornamental workings at the top of each column, which add to the beauty of the house. On May 25,



1999, a permit was issued allowing the structure renovations to change a family dwelling to an office building. Handicap requirements had to be met also. Douglas Y. Perry, a local architect, volunteered his services by providing blueprints, site plans, and required structural certifications, which enabled us to receive the building permit.

One of the major changes that took place involved removing the tub, shower, commode, vanity, and tile walls in the bathroom. The bathroom door had to be widened and a handicap sink and commode, and grab bars had to be installed. David Troutner at Hughes Supply, Inc. donated the sink and commode. Several interior doors had to be added, the hallway door and front doors had to be widened. Ken Griswold with Lowe's Contractor Yard assisted with special doors and keying locks.

The entire house had to be rewired in order to meet code. Circuits were installed to accommodate the copier and several computers. Gene May with Bellsouth helped rework our telephone

system to handle several offices and faxing. A new gas heat and air conditioning system was installed. Mrs. Stanley Dail of Knightdale donated a newly constructed handicap ramp to our church. The ramp had to be dismantled, transported, and reassembled to meet the requirements of the building code.



Steel handrails were added. Tommy Massey designed and provided the beautiful brick walkway connecting the ramp to the handicap parking on the street. Steve Porteous of Diamond Enterprise Signs made the yard sign.

Our interior decorators were Alice Menltewshi and Lee Fowler. The paint, wallpaper, and carpet were chosen to offer a warm inviting feeling as you enter our new office complex. Reverend Smith and her husband Joe provided the wallpaper.

In addition to the work done by the carpenters, plumbers, electrician, and painters, much of the labor was done by Odell Tant, Elton Roberson, Bobby Turnage, Jimmy Joyner, Robert Pulley, Kenneth Barnes, and Ben White. Barbara Liggins detailed the kitchen. Debbie Beavers and Donna Rutter made monetary contributions to pay for the sidewalk that connects the new complex with the parking lot.

Debbie Beavers, Faye Perry and Martha Vinson made a contribution for the repair-replacement of the overhang on the storage shed. Patricia Roberson and Odell Tant coordinated the renovation project. Special contributions from church members and friends financed the majority of the cost for relocating our church offices. Our new complex is used for administrative duties, meetings, workshops, and consultation.

MISSIONS

The Zebulon United Methodist Church has earned Rainbow Covenant Status several times during the 10th decade. We have participated in or supported one or more projects in each of the five lanes of mission service. Chairpersons of this committee have been Chris Tew, Kenneth Barnes, Jean Liles, Cindy Privette and Jeremy Stroud.

#1 World Lane

The Chile Connection

Near the beginning of this decade, our church formed a Sister Church relationship with the Methodist Church in Punta Arenas, Chile. From 1957 until 1968, Rev. Clyde Tucker and his family served this church as part of a larger circuit of the entire region. The church grew during this time, expanding its ministry and becoming a strong influence in the city. Since that time, its history has been uneven until 1995, when Pastor David Orellana was appointed.

Pastor David was a very able minister and had an incredible ministry there. Members returned to the church and new members were added. Programs were begun and buildings restored. Even with their heroic efforts, their resources were very limited. The Zebulon Methodist Church was given the opportunity to be in mission and become a covenant church with this church in Punta Arenas (Sandy Point), Chile.

Pastor David had some health problems a few years ago and retired from this church, but our sister church connection continues. Our church continues to send support to the church in Punta Arenas and also to send love offerings to Pastor David in his new station.

Our church also participates in a children's Christmas Party for twelve of the poorest churches in Peru.

#2 National Lane

Hinton Work Teams *Hinton Rural Life Center*

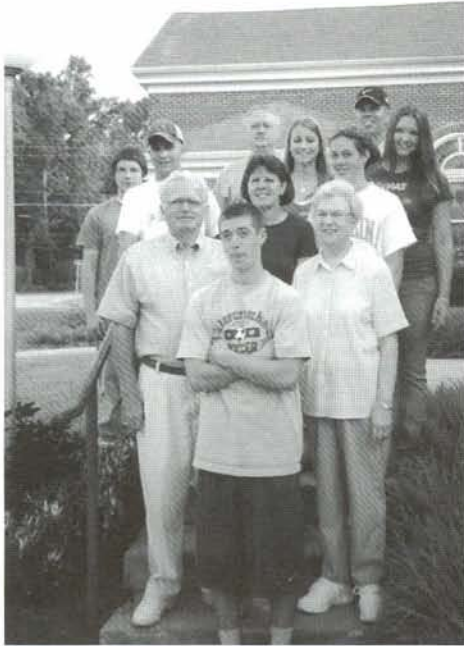
While this program was begun before 1997 by Jerry Lipscomb and followed by Gay Barnes, it has continued throughout the decade with the enthusiastic leadership of Jimmy and Ruth Joyner. They were first introduced to Hinton when their daughter, Nancy, went to work there in 1992. Although Nancy is no longer employed there, her husband, Rev. Clay Smith, is the director of the *Hinton Rural Life Center*.

The Hinton Rural Life Center is a mission agency of the Southeastern Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church. Hinton was formed in 1961 as a resource and advocate for rural and smaller membership churches in the Southeast. It is located in the Appalachian mountains of southwestern North Carolina, 100 miles west of Asheville, 100 miles east of Chattanooga, and 100 miles north of Atlanta.



Leadership training, Spiritual Retreats and a ministry of hospitality has been the focus of this center since 1961. In addition, they practice sharing by mission outreach in the local community. Hands-on mission work is a large part of Hinton's summer ministry.

The Zebulon United Methodist Church has sent intergenerational work teams annually since 1994. Our 14th team is preparing to go for a week in the summer of 2007. Over the past fourteen years 76 different people have been work team members. Many of them have been



several times. Our teams have worked at 31 work sites, making repairs and improvements at 21 homes and one church. They have helped build two new homes and two buildings at the expanded Hinton Center, a new Commons Building, which will also be used by the surrounding community, and the Johnson Retreat House. Pictures show the workers gathering fresh vegetables from Hinton's garden. The picture at left is from the 2006 work team. Twenty ZUMC members have signed up to make the trip to Hinton in 2007.

Cost for the week is \$375 for each team member, which includes lodging and all meals, and some assistance in the purchase of building supplies. Their efforts are supplemented each year by at least four Brunswick stew cookings by Jimmy Joyner, several cookie walks and bake sales by Ruth Joyner and team members. Other fund-raisers such as dinners, walk-a-thons and rock-a-thons assist with expenses for the youth team members. Donations from individuals, the United Methodist Women, United Methodist Men, Youth Group, and Missions Committee help to defray team expenses.

Ground was broken in 2006 for Hinton's Mutual Self-Help Housing program located on 32 beautiful acres named Wesley Meadow. The community will eventually have 22 homes built by volunteers and families. Currently seven families have qualified and will work on each other's homes until finished and move in at the same time. The Hinton Center received a \$308,019 USDA-Rural Development grant, which was presented at a ceremony last summer. The seven families were announced and participated in the groundbreaking. Workteam members attended, representing the volunteers.

Some of the various work teams are pictured below. Youth members are shown on the right with a recipient of their labors.

Lynn & Jackie Williams are shown below with youth members.



James Trantham is shown below working with youth.



Planting garden in Spring.....



Picking in the Summer.....





1999 Hinton Work Team



2006 Team works on local home



**Team members in chapel in 2005
Gregory Pittard sang for closing
worship service.**



Team members in 2003

**Youth learn how to nail
shingles on a roof (right).**



Red Bird Mission Beverly, Kentucky

This mission in our country has received support from our church for several years of the past decade. Francis “Bud” Wrage and daughters have spent time in mission at Red Bird. Becky Wrage Mana and her sons had been to Red Bird Mission on several youth trips and one year Bud and Pam Wrage accompanied them. Our church has sent contributions to this place several times over the years.

#3 UMCOR

Disaster Response enables UMCOR to respond to persons in need after natural disasters in the United States. Our church has also supported the *Four Homes of Mercy* that provide medical care for handicapped persons, homeless persons, the elderly, and expectant mothers. These homes are located in Jerusalem.

Perhaps one of the largest endeavors that our church has undertaken has been covered under the Children’s Ministry, but bears repeating here. The *Heifer Project International* provides animals to families in rural areas. In turn the family agrees to pass on the first-born female offspring of their animal to someone else in need. This project was first undertaken in 1999 by Vacation Bible School. Eventually the project was opened to the entire church. In December of 2003, the Zebulon United Methodist Church was awarded the Ark Award, indicating total gifts since 1999 of \$5,000. At present we are working on our second Ark Award. The picture at right shows the actual Ark Award that hangs on the wall in the Fellowship Hall.



#4 Missionaries

Some time ago our church sent support to Nara Melkonuan, the director of Project Armenia and coordinator of relief efforts in Armenia. This ministry includes food, medical supplies, and medication. Nara worked with the American Church to provide a holistic ministry in pastoral care, education, healthcare, agriculture and economic development. There was also support for the Lachin Home for children. A Covenant relationship enables the missionary to receive needed prayer and financial assistance.

#5 Conference

The youth of the Zebulon United Methodist church have participated with Society of St. Andrews Potato Project for several years. More than two million pounds of produce have been saved and distributed in North Carolina at a cost of just three cents per pound.

Members of the Zebulon United Methodist Church volunteer with the Food Bank of North Carolina that distributes food at a minimal cost to hunger ministries throughout eastern North Carolina.

Prison Match for mothers and their child or children is an interfaith program that provides mothers and their children with the support and resources necessary to maintain family relationships and to help break the cycle of children following their parents to prison. Our UMW usually coordinate this program.

Raleigh Rescue Mission has also received support for their ministry from the Zebulon United Methodist Church.

The Zebulon United Methodist Church has also practiced home missions by assisting local residents and church members with home repairs.

Wednesday Night Live

A catered fellowship dinner has continued throughout the tenth decade of Zebulon United Methodist Church activities. Currently Mrs. Patricia Roberson is coordinator of this weekly meeting. It was begun during the pastorate of Rev. Tommy Privette with help and encouragement from Jerry Lipscomb.



Rev. Judi Smith conducted a Wednesday Night Bible Study after the meal on Wednesday nights. Over the years speakers have been featured after dinner on Wednesdays, and some days Mrs. Roberson plans games for everyone to enjoy. We remember how faithful Emma Bocock was to collect the supper fee every Wednesday.

They have visited Guardian Care Nursing Home over the holidays on several occasions. The one on the left below was a 2003 party. The one on the right was from the 2005 Christmas party.





A Decade of Activities for the United Methodist Women

In the last 10 years, the women of the Zebulon United Methodist Church have been busy supporting activities of our church, our conference and our world. Many of our activities are on going, while others are “as-needed” projects. We have luncheons, bake sales, flea market/yard sales and sell Danny Duzits and knives to raise funds to support our many activities. Listed below are some of the many projects we contribute to or fund.

At our home church we have donated to: UMYF, Christian Kids, the Hinton Work Team, the handbells, college student goodie boxes, fall festival, camperships to NC Conference summer camps, the trailer fund, food pantry, paper products, choir hymnals, organ repairs, parsonage mortgage payment, pre-school scholarships, etc.

The KITCHEN is a special project itself. We have donated an ice machine, the double door refrigerator, flatware, cutting boards, etc. We purchase and deliver funeral hams and provide a meal for the deceased’s family. Gifts to Missions are made in honor of births and graduates (graduates are also treated to a luncheon).

We have pen and ink prints of our church, which were drawn and donated by Don Davis of Hillsborough, for sale, as well as church cookbooks and inserts. We purchased Christmas trees for the sanctuary and arranged for the poinsettias (lilies at Easter, too). We had curtains made for Sunday School classes and have tablecloths for our long tables.

In the community, we donate to the Red Cross, the Middlesex Children’s Home, the Dorothea Dix Volunteer Guild, the Methodist Home for Children, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, the EWHS baccalaureate service, and the Hunt Chorus by arranging for them to visit and sing yearly.

We reach out further with our gifts to the Raleigh District and NC Conference by donating through seven avenues of giving making us a Seven Star Unit. The MATCH program for a mother's day luncheon is just one example.

We support three girls yearly in Haiti by providing money for them to attend school every year. We have donated money for medical needs, a well in Gallet Chambon, etc. Through our donations to Peru, we have sponsored a "Breakfast of Love" and children's Christmas parties. UMCOR has received funds and we have made flood buckets. We have contributed to the Bethlehem Center and Race for Grace.

Zebulon United Methodist Women are alive and making a difference here and everywhere!

...Debbie Beavers

An on-going project mentioned is that of making baskets of supplies, comfort food, etc. for our college students at exam times. Students have had many positive comments about how much these remembrances mean to the young people. It certainly lets them know that the home folks at church are thinking of them and wishing them well as they prepare themselves for the future.



UNITED METHODIST MEN

The United Methodist Men meet for breakfast on the first Sunday of each month at 7:30am. The men take turns cooking breakfast. This replaces an old tradition of UMW Circles rotating this chore. There may not be an improvement in the food, but the women appreciate being relieved of this chore. Following breakfast the men have timely and informative programs to begin their day of worship.

Their musical program at Thanksgiving time of 2005 featured music by Clyde and Serena Ray Pearce. They are shown here receiving a “thank you.” Serena is the daughter of Blanche and Archie Ray, members of our church, and is a music teacher at Zebulon Middle School.



The Methodist Men are mission oriented and give monies to several projects. Among these projects that the men have supported in recent years are the Pre-School Scholarship program and the Heifer Project. They recently replaced the folding divider in the fellowship hall to close off the kitchen area, allowing programs to continue uninterrupted in the Fellowship Hall. It looks much better, too!



Sam Ipock (shown left) served as President of the group last year. Elton Roberson is currently serving as President of United Methodist Men.

For several years the UMM have sponsored a golf tournament, clearing approximately \$5,000 in 2006. One of the foursomes is pictured below. There is a cookout dinner with these tourneys. Carl and Thomas Pulley and Charles Corbett are among the cooks for these events.



The men also sponsor a softball team. The 2006 team is shown below.



Fall Festivals

Fall Festivals have been a major undertaking for the entire church since October of 1984. It has continued successfully during the 10th decade of our history. Working together in fellowship and bonding with each other are major outgrowths of this project. Several years, this endeavor has made \$25,000 to \$30,000 for various church programs.

There are crafts made by the United Methodist Women and



other individuals for sale, a bakeshop with homemade goodies, a yard sale or flea market, a Country Store featuring home canned goods, and a plant sale. For fun there is a Moon Walk for the children and face painting and don't forget the popcorn! There is a silent auction and a live auction.

This event is a positive outreach to the community with lunch and dinner plates sold.

Friends of the church can come and "eat in" or "take out." At lunch the young people also serve hot dogs. And the two Jimmys (Joyner and Spivey) cook fresh pork shoulders over wood chips, taking prior orders. Jimmy Joyner also has an ample supply of his famous brunswick stew for sale. And for those hardy souls who come out early a breakfast menu is available.



We have had entertainers over the years from square dancers to students from the Massey School of Dance, courtesy of Debbie Massey Driver.



Our take-out serving line is outside under tents. Do you recognize the two workers shown above?



Our country store is shown at left with a visitor come back home for a visit. And the square dancers are shown above entertaining the crowd.

Ministers Of the Tenth Decade

The Rev. Tommy Privette was serving the Zebulon United Methodist Church at the beginning of the tenth decade. Donna Ipock came on board as church secretary while Rev. Privette was serving in Zebulon. Rev. Privette was instrumental in the origins of the Senior Fun Lovers with hosting the very first organizational luncheon. Wednesday Night Live was also begun during his tenure with support from Jerry Lipscomb when he was on the staff. Mrs. Thais Richardson died Feb. 14, 1998, and her home was made available to the church. The closing for the purchase of this adjacent property to the church was May 8, 1998.

In June of 1998, the Rev. Judi Smith was appointed to Zebulon. She helped move the church office into the “information age” with the purchase of new computers and software. For the first time the church was “on-line” with the Conference. She was serving this church when the Richardson home was renovated for the church offices and when the Pre-School welcomed its first class in the Fall of 1998.

Rev. Dr. Everett France was appointed to serve this charge in 2001 and served until 2004. He began the *Open Heart, Open Minds, Open Doors* Program recommended by the N. C. Conference. This led up to the Spanish Class and the *Door to Door Evangelism Visitation*. He taught two classes of Disciple Bible Studies I and II to members of our congregation, providing an opportunity for spiritual growth (Disciple II group in May 2003 pictured). The church also participated in the *Arts in the Park* of Zebulon and the UMC Weekly Golf League that included the local area churches.



Rev. Todd Krueger was appointed to serve this charge in 2004. His thoughts are looking to the future of this church: "For the past twelve years this church has been either heading toward or in the midst of transition. A strong and faithful past has been in the process of transitioning into a bright future. All this has been taking place in a community, which has been in the midst of dramatic change. During the last three years, people who have begun attending in the last 10 years have become a majority on the average Sunday. In an average week, many of the congregation will have had new neighbors move in. During an average year, it has become less likely that we know the people we see at the grocery store. And Zebulon United Methodist Church has been working to figure out how to make a difference to the people of this changing community.

"Part of this ongoing transition has been the commitment of approximately 20 people to study, learn, discuss and pray about the future of ZUMC. The Vision Team has been working intentionally to 1) Identify the basic pieces we need in place to live into a God honoring future; 2) Develop a vision statement that can be embraced across different segments of the congregation while leading us into the future; and 3) Identifying and working the processes that will enable healthy transition within the larger congregation.

"During the past three years, Preschool and Scouting programs, along with drop in visitors, have been significant entry points for new members. Most of those coming into the church are now taking a Christian foundations class called Faith 101/102, resulting in faster integration into the life of the congregation and early experience with a commitment to spiritual growth. During the past three years, small group studies have increased, Children's ministries have been revamped and worship has become more dynamic. Staff has also increased with the creation of two new positions: Coordinator of Children and Youth Ministries, and Minister of Shut-in Visitation.

“As we look to the future the challenges of meeting the spiritual needs of the current congregation and reaching out to meet the spiritual needs of the growing community are daunting. But with the transition that has taken place in this congregation over the past twelve years, the intentional work of the Vision Team, the passion of the people in the church and the grace-filled power of God, ZUMC will meet that challenge to the glory of God. The next 100 years will be exciting!”

...Todd Krueger

Jane B. Jennings Handbell Choir

The Jane B. Jennings handbell choir, having been begun in 1988, has continued throughout the tenth decade of the Zebulon United Methodist Church. The first director was Gay Barnes, our Director of Music for several years. The second director was Brenda Byrd Powell, our Minister of Music. In addition to her music ministry in this church, Brenda was also a member of the Raleigh Ringers, a prestigious hand bell choir. The current Director of Handbells is MaryAnn D. Powell.

In 2001, Bunn Elementary School dedicated its “Relay for Life” as “Lights Of Love” in memory of Jane B. Jennings. The handbell choir of the Zebulon United Methodist Church that is named for Mrs. Jennings, played for this occasion as pictured below with their first director, Mrs. Barnes.





Handbell Choir in Christmas Concert with director Gay Barnes



Bell Choir with Brenda Byrd Powell



Bell Choir with MaryAnn D. Powell

Staff

Serving with Rev. Smith were Donna Ipock as Secretary; Gay Barnes as Director of Music and Christian Education; Susan Masters, as Organist and Pianist; Sarah Tant as pianist; Jeanne Youngstrom in Education; Pam White, Director of Pre-School and Bobby Turnage as Church Custodian.

Serving with Rev. France were Susan Barron as Secretary; Donna Ipock as Special Ministries; Brenda Byrd as Minister of Music; Mary Lib Evans as Organist/Pianist; Sarah Tant as Pianist; Pat Tarbell coordinator of the Nursery; Pam White as Pre-School Director; and Odell Tant as Custodian.

Serving with Rev. Krueger is Pat Tarbell as Office Manager and Bookkeeper; Rev. Edwin Hedgpeth as Minister of Shut-in Visitation; Constance Corbett, Organist; MaryAnn D. Powell as Handbell Choir Director; and Jan Carpenter as Pre-School Director.

WOMEN OF FAITH

The Women of Faith Association is an interdenominational women's ministry committed to helping women of all faiths, backgrounds, age groups and nationalities. They hold 30 different conferences all over the US each year. It is a way for women to stay connected and share their joys and sorrows, and recognize that they are not alone when it comes to dealing with the situations that arise in their lives – whatever they are. The Association believes in the spiritual unity of believers in the Lord Jesus Christ and in the importance of church for worship, service and missions. "We understand that denominational ties are important to many people, however, we've found that it's best to focus on our common beliefs in Jesus and His saving grace rather than our differences." The speakers are really

exceptional, often funny, always caring and willing to share their own life stories – and obviously very committed to spreading the good news of the gospel.

Our group of Firm Women from ZUMC has been to the Women Of Faith Conference three times. Todd and Martha Krueger first brought this event to our attention, since Martha had attended when they were still at the church in Burlington, and they both felt we would find it well worth our time. The first year there were 18 of us, and it was an unforgettable experience. Todd gave each one of us a sweatshirt to wear that had our church name and bible verses imprinted on it related to being “firm in your faith.” The rally was held in the Charlotte Coliseum, and the impact of 18,000+ women together in one place, singing, worshiping, laughing, crying and just “being” was really mind-boggling. Donna Ipock has done the lion’s share of organizing the trip every year, and each year the number of participants has grown. Our group last year was 58 strong, including people from various churches around here and in Raleigh. Of course, there are always frustrating issues involved in organizing such large events, and we will probably not go back to Charlotte until they find a larger place to hold the event. The rally for the upcoming year was already sold out of places to sit anywhere but in the nosebleed section by the end of the event last year! Donna is looking into the rally to be held in Philadelphia next September. Thanks, Donna – we appreciate all of your effort. The rally is definitely worth it. Come join us if you can!

.....Grace Hawke

RELAY FOR LIFE

The Relay for Life brings people together from all over the community to celebrate those who have survived cancer and to raise money for research and other programs of the American Cancer Society. It represents the hope that those lost to cancer will never be forgotten, that those who face cancer will be supported, and that one day cancer will be eliminated altogether. During the over-night event, teams of people gather at East Wake High School in Wendell and take turns walking or running laps on the track at the athletic field. Members of the teams solicit support from their friends and co-workers by asking them to donate money based on the number of laps they complete, selling luminaria bags that will have the name of a loved one on it, and in some cases selling jewelry and other items that remind people of the fight against cancer. The 'Survivors' present walk the first lap of the night – and share their personal stories; it is an amazing witness to the indomitable courage of the individual and how God works in all things for good.

The Zebulon United Methodist Church has participated as one of the teams in this event for the last three years. Anna Corbett and Sue Kiryluk were the co-chairmen for the first year, and our church raised the second highest amount for a new group that year. Since that time Alice Harris has joined them to help chair the event, and many members of the congregation have participated. Our church – like any other group you could name – has many families who have been touched by this disease; this event gives us the opportunity to DO something. Cancer is not just a medical issue. It is also a psychological, social and economic issue, and fighting cancer is not just an individual issue....it is a team effort. This year the Youth are planning an overnight "lock in" at the field. They will be selling baked goods and raffling theme baskets to help raise money. It is an unequalled opportunity to communicate your love and concern for those who "have been there and done that," who have lost someone who was the world to them, or who are fighting that fight right now.

...Grace Hawke

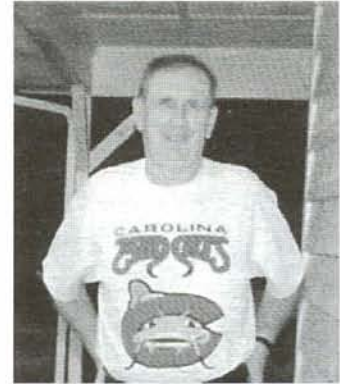
Memorials



The Advent wreath was given in memory of Mary E. and J. Maylon Temple, and Helen B. and J. Roy Joyner, by their children Jimmy and Ruth Temple Joyner.



A Communion Set was given to the church in memory of Mr. Bob Barry (1923-1998), pictured at right, by his friends and family.



An altar candelabra using liquid candles given in memory of John Walter "Jack" Belcher by his wife, Grace was dedicated December 3, 2000. His picture is shown at right on a visit. The "For Thee We Sing" hymnals were also given in his memory.



The Cross and Flame symbol of Methodism was installed and dedicated to the church in memory of Frank B. Wall on June 17, 2001. He is pictured at right attending a Fall Festival.



Playground fencing given in 1998 in memory of Whitney Brooke Griswold (1996-1998), by her grandparents, Patricia and Elton Roberson.



An ewer, a pitcher for filling the baptismal font, was given in memory of James Leaman Pearce, by his family and friends at the time of his death. Leaman's picture is shown at right.



A pall to be used by church members was purchased with a number of memorial gifts in memory of several deceased church members, by their friends, relatives and other church members. A pall is a covering for a casket in the sanctuary that signifies that "all men are equal in the sight of God."



Chairpersons of the Memorial Committee during this decade include Linda Chamblee, Jessica Rigouard, Russell "Chip" Hawke, and Carol Weeks.

Memories

Memories

Remembering Methodism in Zebulon United Methodist Church

By Celia Hales Mabry

I am T. E. (Ed) and Joyce Hales' daughter. My years with the Zebulon United Methodist Church span from 1950 (when I was four years old and started attending Sunday School) to the present (I have never moved my membership).

My Sunday school teachers made a strong impression on me. A very youthful Becky Spivey taught the preschool class; her love of children showed, and I enjoyed my time there. Mrs. Terry (Jack's mother) followed for the primary grades. One day Mrs. Terry held up a large picture of Jesus, and asked if any of the little girls present would like to grow up to marry Jesus. I raised my hand. Mrs. Page taught the fourth through sixth grades. She was a master teacher who also taught first grade at Wakelon School, and she knew how to keep our attention with a gentle manner. Lowell and Barbara Pulley taught the junior high years. I have rarely felt so reverent as in the presence of Barbara's soft voice during Sunday School. Only Duke Chapel has elicited memories so heartwarming, and Barbara was conducting class in the church basement, which at the time was not noted for aesthetics. Mrs. Ihrle (John's wife and Jane's mother) taught high school students. One morning she asked us what we thought our biggest sin was, and I named "not keeping the Sabbath," because I did homework on Sunday evening. I attended Sunday school sometimes in later years, the adult class, and this at that time was taught by Bobby Turnage, who was taking a correspondence class for the ministry. He was thought-provoking, and I found him to be a very sincere teacher.

I remember four ministers well. Rev. William K. (Bill) Quick was a man of great talent, blessed by God, and he moved on eventually to one of the largest congregations in a United Methodist church in the United States, which was located in Detroit; Mr. (now Dr.) Quick is currently a professor in Divinity School at Duke University. Communion was served on Mr. Quick's first Sunday, and the organist, Mrs. Frances Massey (Robert Daniel's wife and Guy's mother), had to stifle a laugh as she thought of how "quick" the new minister was serving – bread in one hand and grape juice in the other. My dad got the ball rolling for a new parsonage after Mr. Quick confidentially described that parts of the house were exceedingly cold in the wintertime. Rev. Pearce Layfield was a man of faith, called by God to the ministry in mid-life, and he answered that call. Rev. Tommy Smith counseled me during a low period of my life, and I introduced him to automatic writing, which he did not keep a secret (though one might wonder what the Bishop would say). In 1992, Rev. Jack Benfield faithfully visited my dad every day for five weeks in the hospital in Raleigh, and, without prompting, gave me a cassette recording of my dad's funeral service.

Mr. Quick has remained a family friend over all the years, and we exchange Christmas cards each year. He flew from Detroit at my parents' request to marry my husband, Paul Mabry, and me in a garden ceremony in 1986. My husband and I kneeled on a bench during a portion of our wedding, and, heads bowed, we felt Mr. Quick's large, firm hand upon our heads in a blessing. Paul says, only half in jest, that now he knows that the "descending hand of God" feels like. At the time, I remembered my baptism, which Mr. Quick performed when I was 13, and the only difference in his hand during our wedding was that there was no water.

Although I was baptized at 13, I did not feel "saved" until a particular moment at a Methodist youth conference (ACS) at Duke University when I was 16. In MYF, Mr. Quick had taught a history of Methodism, especially about our founder, John Wesley. At the youth conference, during an evening session, I felt my heart "strangely warmed," just as John Wesley had written of himself.

My closest friends in MYF were Jane Irhie Hayes and Priscilla Bercik (I do not know her married name). They were one and two years ahead of me, and they were role models for me. Each had been chief marshal in high school, and I aspired to that, and did make it also. Other friends were Freddie Clark Dent, Connie Hepler Hedgpeth, Charles Pulley, Angie Pulley, Henry Andrews, Debbie Massey Driver, and Pou Ihrie.

Favorite adults, when I was growing up, included Mrs. Magel Irhie (John and Pou's mother and Jane's grandmother); Mr. Moser, who taught the men's Bible class; Eleanor Massey, cafeteria manager who charged 25 cents per lunch for all of my 12 years at Wakelon; Frank and Jean Wall (Mr. Wall, like my dad, was a Zebulon merchant); Dr. and Mrs. Perry Grogan (Dr. Grogan was an optometrist that Mr. Quick brought to town by a chance encounter); and Wayne and Ann Davis, who did a big favor for me in a low period for which I have never properly expressed thanks.

Methodism gave me a solid foundation on my spiritual quest. I was the religion librarian at the University of Minnesota for ten years of my 19-year tenure there. As a librarian, I would like to close by recommending books: *Mysticism*, by Evelyn Underhill; *A Search for the Truth*, by Ruth Montgomery; and *A Course in Miracles* (Viking Press). The last book, although not recognized by the United Methodist Church because of the book's debt to Gnosticism, has been a godsend to me.

May our centennial celebration be a success and bring you much joy, and, just perhaps, a renewal of faith.

I Remember

By Mary F. Finch Monson

Although I was married in the present sanctuary and my four children were all baptized there, my real memories take me back to the little white church on the corner.

The men's class (Mr. Moser, teacher) met in the section to the right as you entered the church. There may have been folding doors to close it off, I'm not sure. There were only four separate rooms for classes. The ladies' classroom was the closest to the parsonage. The youngest of the children started out in Aunt Margaret's (Margaret Finch) class, later being promoted next door to Mrs. Page's class, then next door again to Mrs. Terry's class - - - the room I remember as being the hottest on the face of the earth! At the age of eleven or twelve, we moved out into the sanctuary to a class taught by Mrs. House. At some point later, we moved across the sanctuary to a class taught, I think, by Elsie Privette and Lucy Massey. When we outgrew that class, I guess we just stopped going to Sunday School!

In the summer, there was always Bible School where I remember making waste baskets and bird houses and having lots of cookies and lemonade. Then there was the yearly picnic in Pullen Park where we looked forward to the swimming pool and the carousel.

Papa (my grandfather, John D. Finch) was very hard of hearing. He could hear very little, if any, of the preacher's words but he was there every Sunday in the same place up front on the left. Though he had trouble hearing it himself, others did not when his hearing aid decided to "sound off!" I was always so glad when he would finally hear it and reach up and turn it off. That and an occasional stomach growl kept us children entertained.

I did one bit of entertaining myself and it proved to be one of life's most embarrassing moments! For some reason unknown to me, Laura James Sexton and I were asked to sing a duet at some church function. "Ivory Palaces" it was and the first two verses went well as we offered our version of harmonizing. About half way into the third verse, we hit a wrong note and got tickled. The more we tried to regain our dignity, the funnier it became (to us) and finally we just gave up and sat down. I'm sure our parents were mortified!! I don't remember ever being asked to sing again.

I was away in college when the building was torn down. I remember coming back for the dedication of the new church and how proud we all were of our new brick building. I think of all the cooking those ladies did feeding the Rotary Club and Lions Club men to make money for their new kitchen. My mother (Alma Finch), Mrs. Sexton, Mrs. Flowers, Mrs. House, Mrs. Pearl Massey, Mrs. Eleanor Massey, Sarah and Janet Eaton and many more served many a memorable meal. And their tradition of delicious food lives on! And on a more personal note, of course my memories would have to include thoughts of my mother, as a young woman, living in the parsonage when my grandfather (G. W.

Fisher) was the pastor. Although I never knew him, I used to pretend I could see him behind the podium. Long before the days of UMW, the first women's group in the new church, the Ida Fisher Missionary Society, was named for my grandmother.

Today the pictorial directory contains more pictures I do not recognize than those that I do but since I have moved back closer to Zebulon after many years and am able to attend funerals and other church functions, I find that some things have not changed. Friendly, caring people are still here to make me feel welcome and make me remember that "we are Methodists!"

I Remember.

By Rev. Harold and Sue Salmon (now Rev. Fish, not Mr. Fish as the kids called me)

We both have loving memories of the church we were members of from 1987 to 1993. You selected me to be your Lay Leader, an honor and privilege I still cherish today.

Your pastor at that time, Jack Benfield, encouraged me, allowing me to preach my first sermon as a Lay Speaker from your pulpit. It still took me a few years after we left to respond to God's call on my life to be in full-time ministry, but it was Zebulon United Methodist Church that nurtured that call and convinced me that God was calling ordinary people. In 1996, I responded to God's call and declared my candidacy and began the track to ordained ministry. I completed Duke Divinity's (Course of Study) a five-year program while serving a church full-time. Today I serve as pastor of St. John-Gibson United Methodist Churches in Scotland County. Two historical churches, rich in history and having beautiful stained glass windows that people travel for long distances to see.

Sue is retiring next month and we both continue to thank God for the bounty of his grace and blessings for sending us your way for the six years that we were nurtured by you in our faith walk. May God continue to use Zebulon United Methodist Church.

I Remember . . .

By: Robert Brodie

I would like to make sure the old couple, the Pulleys, are remembered. What a sweet old couple who were very special old farm people. Mr. and Mrs. James Pulley, Angie's grandparents. It seems like they lived at the end of a lane at the end of a paved road off to the far left. Mr. Pulley brought us watermelons and other vegetables on occasions and we went to their house some also. Their kindness is most of my memories of Zebulon. Zebulon was my home of record while I was in the army during the Viet Nam war. Our oldest son, Bob Brodie, III, born at Ft. Ord, CA, was christened there before I left for Korea in April 1970.

I Remember . . .

By Angel Branoff Mansberger

I am thankful Zebulon United Methodist Church was part of my spiritual journey. What I treasure is not the church building, but the church family. My abiding memories are of the people who touched my life and encouraged my faith journey. I have fond memories of Sunday School with Dr. Zyba Massey, confirmation classes with Rev. Aills and UMYF with Nancy Joyner, Susan Green and many other friends. I remember watching godly women of faith take care of the hurting families who just lost loved ones. I remember those same ladies showering young brides and mothers-to-be with gifts to begin a new chapter in their lives. I remember men of faith carrying their Bibles to Sunday School each week seeking to be strong leaders in their homes. I remember kneeling at the altar with my church family to receive the Lord's Supper.

My husband is a chaplain the United States Air Force. I have worshipped in churches in many states and countries. I have learned that the biggest and most beautiful church can be breathtaking to look at, but can be empty without the love of Christian people. The church building has changed over the years, but the love of the people has remained the same.

I Remember . . .

By Rose Turnage

I can't believe all the memories that began to come back to me when I read the article, I Remember When. My memory goes back to the little white wooden church that I attended as a little girl. I remember the sanctuary most of all and the Men's Sunday School Class in the back. They had so much trouble closing the long row of doors.

I remember by sisters, Shirley and Barbara Lou, telling my parents how much I had embarrassed them by answering Preacher Vale's question. He asked, "Would a father sell his child?" None of the adults answered, so I answered for them. I said, "No." And he said, "You see – even a child knows that."

We were having an Easter play and I had to learn a speech about Pontius Pilot. I pulled my baby sister around and around the block in a wagon until I had learned my part of the play.

I remember every Sunday morning Jim Pine would go to the church and ring the bells.

I remember how much I loved by Sunday School teachers, especially Mrs. Page and Mrs. Terry. Mrs. Page had a semi-round table. She sat in the middle and we sat around her in a semi-circle. I especially remember how upset I was to learn I had to be promoted

out of Mrs. Terry's class. They were two special ladies and were loved by all the children. I remember Jean Flowers (Wall) walking down the aisle of the old wooden church as a beautiful bride.

There are memories still of Bible School in the summer and the wonderful refreshments out on the lawn, under the tree. I believe the minister at this time was Rev. Mercer and he had the sweetest wife, named Ruth. Rev. Mercer had arthritis real real bad and they said when it was bothering him really bad he would whistle. I remember his whistling a lot.

On Saturday night we had to make sure our shoes were polished for Sunday School – and when we got home from church we had to change clothes – we couldn't play in our Sunday clothes.

As much as I loved the white wooden church, I believe our current church has one of the most beautiful sanctuaries in the area. It makes me think of the "little old ladies" who were the backbone of our church – they built the church – with their bake sales and fundraisers. When I say "little old ladies," I have the greatest respect and love for them. Having just turned 70, I guess I'm one of the "little old ladies" now, though I believe I added or subtracted wrong somewhere along the way!

Some of the "little old ladies" whose names always bring a smile to my face are Miss Alma (Finch), Mrs. Sexton (Laura), Mrs. House (Mary), Mrs. Carter (Urtrice), Mrs. Pulley (Lala), Mrs. Tippet (Myrtle), Miss Bertha (Alford) and my own mother Carolyn Chamblee.

The ministers I remember the most and have the fondest memories of are Rev. Quick, Rev. Mercer, Rev. Benfield, Rev. Tommy Smith and Rev. Judi Smith.

Standing now in the old fellowship hall in the basement of the church, I don't know how we were able to clean up after all the meals we had there. That is the tiniest kitchen and at times it seems there were 15 to 20 women in there working at one time. I remember our "circle" feeding the "Methodist Men" and Becky Spivey's mother-in-law (Julia Spivey) making the most wonderful homemade rolls, they were heavenly. We didn't feed them on paper plates either, we used the real thing. I have done my share of washing dishes in that little cubbyhole of the kitchen.

All of my brothers and sisters grew up in this church; Durwood, Zeke and I were members of the choir. My mother was a Sunday school teacher. My father attended sometimes. And who can forget the beautiful voice of Jim Powers when he sang "Jerusalem" and when Tommy Smith sang "Birthday of the King" in one of the Christmas Cantatas.

I remember one Christmas we went over to the church for communion. It was the first time that only candles were used for lighting and it was breathtakingly beautiful. It truly felt as though we were walking into Holy and hallowed ground. It is a sight I will never forget.

My husband, Bob, and I were married in the church as was our daughter Gail. Both our daughters grew up in the church and they have their own special memories as well. At that time, there was an 11:00am worship service and a service at night. One Sunday while listening to the choir sing, I noticed my youngest daughter Nancy directing the "choir" in the pews behind us! I made her stop and sit down but was told after the service how much everyone enjoyed her "direction".

More recently, my grandsons, Andrew and Christopher, have made their own memories of the church, helping with the Fall Festival. I was very proud of their willingness to help, and even more proud to learn how much they were appreciated by the organizers and volunteers over the years.

I have many more memories but will save those for another time. I am looking forward to reading the memories of other members.

I Remember . . .

By Patricia Brantley Roberson

I remember sitting with my teacher Mrs. Eva Page at the big table in Sunday School. This table had a cut out in the middle where the teacher could sit and teach several children at a time. Over the years this homemade, heavy oak table received many coats of paint. When our church was getting rid of "old furniture", I begged to take this unusual table to my first grade classroom at Zebulon Elementary School (former Wakelon School). I had reading groups around this table until a new Zebulon Elementary School was built in 1983. I was not allowed to carry this "old piece of furniture" to the new school, but I did find a home for it. Joe Chamblee stored the table for several years and then Robert Pulley was the keeper of the table. The table is gone now but the memories of Sunday school still linger.

My Memories

By Mary Ann Wheless Eakes

I remember my cabin counselor at Camp Don Lee, Robbie Barrett, wife of Pastor Troy Barrett. This was the first time several of us had spent time away from home without our parents. I was very homesick? In order to help us forget our homesickness, Robbie would recite nursery rhymes and fairy tales in "pig Latin." For example: The Lion and the Mouse became the Mion and the Louse. Robbie also had some meaningful vesper services with us.

Another memory I had was when Duke Divinity School sent us Conrad Glass to be youth minister one summer. The families of the church took turns preparing meals for him. My mother, Undine Wheless and Robert, Lowell Ray and Charles Pulley's mother

decided to prepare meals together at the Pulley home. Merle Sue had asked Conrad about his likes and dislikes. He did not like game animals such as squirrel, rabbit and deer. Mother and Merle Sue had prepared several meat dishes, vegetables and fruit dishes and desserts. Merle Sue asked if Conrad like meat salads like chicken salad and ham salad. He said he did. She began passing food around. When he finished eating, he complimented the ladies on the whole mal, especially the chicken salad. Merle Sue smiled and said, "Correction, rabbit salad." Conrad nearly choked when she said that and all present had a good laugh. I remember the circumstance of Pastor Troy Barrett's leaving our church. I was 12 or 13, I believe. Standing in line to say good-bye with tears streaming down my face, I became aware of the person standing in front of me. It was Robert Pulley and he was also crying.

I Remember . . .

By Jean Wall

I will never forget the day I joined the Zebulon United Methodist Church. I was not alone; Zyba Massey and Theda Privette were with me.

The phone rang in the Massey, Privette and Flowers houses. It was Saturday during the summer, Mr. Reade, our minister, called and asked our Mothers if we could be at the church at 3:00 pm to join the church. It was thought that a report should go in showing some new members.

I can't remember whether our parents were there or not, but we stood up in front of the altar and Mr. Reade sprinkled us after saying a few words and asking us a few questions. All of ten minutes and it was official.

Zyba and I would discuss that situation quite often and figured we were probably a member of an "elite" group who became Methodists in a private ceremony on a Saturday afternoon.

I Remember . . .

By Debby Massey Driver

I remember... Sunday school class at "pint" size table with the sweet Mrs. Becky Spivey... Bible school and the smiling, kind faces of the ladies who always served our refreshments... sitting in the back of the church as a teenager so that mother could get my brothers' attention not "if" but "when" they started to "cut-up... MYF on Sunday night with Mr. & Mrs. Sutton... and Aunt Zyba and her dedication to our church.

As a young adult, I have especially fond memories of Rev. and Mrs. Aills and the youth group that developed under their leadership. This was my introduction to gospel

music and as Eddie and I served as youth leaders, we saw these young people minister to others and share their love of music and of Christ to strangers young and old. Never in my life have I felt more like we were serving our Lord.

There have been many times that I have been undecided about being Methodist. As a child, I wanted to go to the Baptist Church with my friends. Then I married a "Southern Baptist" young man and, over the years, other circumstances have drawn me away from Zebulon United Methodist Church. But I will always love the Zebulon United Methodist Church, the people who have – in the past – and who now fill the church with love, and I am ever grateful for my family, especially my grandmother, Pearl Jones Massey – whose faith led her to become a Charter Member of a new church now celebrating 100 years!

I Remember . . .

By Mary Lib Joyner Brannan

My first memory of church is of my Sunday school classes with Mrs. Jean Wall and Mrs. Becky Spivey. They smiled, spoke softly, and we had fun. Many Sunday school teachers followed. I admired Mrs. Page's beautiful bracelets. Mrs. Jewel Vinson took our pictures which we used in arts and crafts projects. Dr. Zyba let us decorate real eggs with magic markers at Easter. In my mother's class (Ruth Joyner), we took turns reading aloud. If we remembered our Bibles, Barbara and Lowell Pulley gave us bubblegum to chew during Sunday school class as we discussed the lessons. I looked forward to being with my friends (Gina Pulley, Paula Green, Emma Lewis, Kim Murphy) on Sunday mornings.

I remember being an acolyte and singing in choirs. Ken Griswold and I especially liked being an acolyte during Advent because there were more candles to light. In the children's choir, we wore white robes with big red bows while Betsy Green played the piano and Ruth Joyner directed our singing. At Christmas, we went caroling. I loved going to Mrs. Minnie Finch's big, white house. The Young Disciplines, the youth choir, traveled with Barbara Aills (director) and Sarah Tant (pianist) to many churches in the area. We were also accompanied by Tim Tippet (guitarist) and Mike Wrenn (drummer).

I also remember sitting on the back pews of the sanctuary on Sunday mornings with my teenage friends. I could see my grandfather, Maylon Temple, sitting on the left side of the sanctuary near the front. My great aunts, Sarah Eaton and Janet Eaton usually sat on the pew behind him. Mrs. Estelle Terry and Mrs. Bertha Alford were always there too sitting towards the back of the sanctuary. Zebulon United Methodist Church was a wonderful place to worship on Sunday mornings with family and friends.

I Remember . . .

By Donna Branoff

We moved here from Michigan in 1978. My daughter, Angel was the key reason we chose ZUMC (along with Jack and Grace Belcher). Angel attended other area churches with her friends for Bible school. When I walked in to the sanctuary of ZUMC on Sunday to see the children present what they had done all week in Bible school, I knew I was "home."

The church I had grown up in, in Detroit, had been sold to another congregation. Young people moving to the suburbs and the older generation dying were mainly the cause. My mother had always wanted us to be in a church together, so even though she lived in Michigan, she, my sister and my niece all joined ZUMC. I taped the church service every week and mailed it to my Mom. It was a special joy when she came to visit us and we went to church together. I will always be grateful for the love and kindness the congregation showed to my Mom.

I have always worked with the Altar Guild, and I learned the basics from Ann Dent who was the head of the Altar Guild when I joined the church.

My children, Ted, Bill and Angel, enjoyed the youth group and all the activities they shared with Zebulon Baptist Church.

I have fond memories of working in our old "tiny" kitchen before our new and wonderful fellowship hall, kitchen and classrooms were built.

I have received so many special blessings from our previous ministers. My deepest thanks to Rev. Lovell Aills, Rev. Henry Lovelace, Rev. Jack Benfield, Rev. Tommy Privette, Rev. Judi Smith and Rev. Everett France. The church has been my rock and my foundation in the deaths of my husband, Jim, and my mother, Leona, also in the marriage of my three children and my marriage to Steve Rutter.

My Circle and UMW friends are a very important part of my life. We are women working together and sharing the glory of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

I Remember . . .

By Frankie Pulley

My memories of ZUMC start at a very early age. It is becoming more and more rare that an individual stays at the church they were raised up in and continues on to raise their own family there also. This church has been the home of many of my relatives which made it tough in some times in my life or should I say the formative years. As a child, I was very active during worship. This was monitored very closely by my Aunt Merle Sue Pulley, Aunt Hattie Pulley, Aunt Bertha Alford etc... The results of their findings were relayed to my

father (Jesse Pulley) who would take the appropriate action in the home. It was there that I discovered that God had given the world a "switch tree". They are rarely seen now days. This was hard on me back then, but are vital areas in my life that have molded me to the man I am today. Most everything is done out of love in this church. Being in a family that were all living on the same dirt road was like having a whole lot of second fathers and big brothers such Lowell, Robert and Charles, Carl, and Thomas Pulley. I best not forget the big sisters of Alma Gray Medlin and Dorothy Morgan. This caused me to feel very secure and also stay on the straight and narrow.

This church is also filled with mentors in my life outside the Pulley family. These are my coaches and teachers. The most influential person outside my parents has got to be W.G. Griswold. Every Sunday that I could, I would be sitting beside him wondering what he would do next that would make me laugh. I would always look for Connie Mac Bunn after church who would get me in a bear hug. He never knew how strong he was. Then there was Elton and Barbara Roberson, Charles Corbett, and Billy Bunn to name a few that really taught teamwork and 100% effort would take you far in life. They made you feel like you could and had to do anything.

One memory that sticks in my mind is the Young Disciples Youth Choir. It was comprised of many teenagers from the entire Zebulon Community. Through the direction of Barbara Aills, we were led to witness through song and touch the lives of our congregation and many others across the state.

After high school graduation, I met the girl of my dreams and was married in her church in Knightdale. Some time later we visited ZUMC where she was welcomed with open arms. So we made this our church to raise Justin and Anna-Maria in. This church has so much talent and so many leaders, past and present that it makes inviting a newcomer, seeker, or troubled soul second nature. I am definitely proud to be a part of this church and I know my family is too.

I Remember . . .

By Jack Terry

It was 1942 – the war had begun, most young men were going into the service, and gas rationing was in effect. You could only buy the amount of gas you were allotted by your ration stamps. Government agents allotted these stamps on an individual basis. If you made your living on your car, you were allowed to have a little more gas than others. We were living in Raleigh at the time, and my father had a route in the Zebulon area selling life insurance. He was not allotted enough gas to go from Raleigh to Zebulon and back each day, so we had to move to Zebulon. Our house in Zebulon was across from what would later be Gill Buick, between two churches – one a fine brick structure with a spindled steeple, similar to the church we went to in Raleigh. The other was what looked like a one-room wooden structure that was anything but impressive. I remember asking my father which church was ours. Of course I knew, it was that brick church with the nice

steeple. He pointed to that wooden church – and I was shocked. But it was our church, and despite the humble façade, it contained some of the finest people in Zebulon: Mr. & Mrs. M. Alford and Sue; Dr. & Mrs. G. S. Barbee; Mr. & Mrs. R. H. Bridgers, Bobby and Linda; Mr. & Mrs. Vance Brown, Bob and Ruth; Mr. & Mrs. Wilber Campen; Mrs. Urtrice Carter and Betty Lou; Mrs. Whitley Chamblee, Shirley, Barbara and Rose Marie; Mrs. Fred Clark and Becky; Dr. & Mrs. Jesse Coltrane; Mr. & Mrs. Foster Finch; Mr. & Mrs. Waylon Finch and Mary Fisher; Mr. & Mrs. S. G. Flowers, Jean and S. G. Jr.; Dr. & Mrs. Charles Flowers; Mr. & Mrs. Roy House and Jocelyn; Mrs. Dewey Massey and Linda; Mr. & Mrs. Early Moser; Mr. & Mrs. Fred Page; Mr. & Mrs. Albert Pulley and Lowell Roy; Mr. & Mrs. James Pulley; Mr. & Mrs. Garland Richardson and Jean; Mr. & Mrs. M. J. Sexton and Laura James; Mrs. Jethro Stell; Mrs. Maylon Temple and Ruth; Mr. & Mrs. Cloyd Wade and Cloyd, Jr. and of course, Mr. & Mrs. John Terry and Jack; and others. I grew to love that little church and its members.

It was a cold winter, either 1943 or 1944, when our preacher, Mr. Charles Vale, was bringing his wife home from Rex with a newborn girl, Kathy. The parsonage was located immediately south of the church, and was a big two story wooden house, with no insulation, and, as I remember, did not totally block out the wind, which was not all that unusual at the time. The stoves were inefficient space heaters in each room. On this particular day it was especially cold. Mr. mother and father and Mr. & Mrs. House, with me tagging along, went to the house, got a good fire going in the heater, got the bed nice and warm and inviting, and prepared a nice meal. When the Vales arrived, Mrs. Vale must have dreaded coming to a cold house with a new baby. When she saw what was prepared, she was relieved and overjoyed. What took place that day was normal for the members of the church, as each person pitched in to help each other where needed, as well as helping others in the community. This church made a difference.

I Remember . . .

By Hazel Ihrie Horner

One of my fondest childhood memories is always attending Sunday School and church in the Zebulon United Methodist Church. My mother, Mabel Ihrie and daddy, John Ihrie, always saw that we got there. I can remember attending Sunday School at the Wakelon School for a time.

The first minister I remember very vividly was Rev. S. E. Mercer, who was crippled. When he got into or out of a vehicle, it pained him so much, he hummed a tune. I really believe his handicap impressed me spiritually knowing that through it all, he kept the faith.

Another person in our church was Mrs. Eve Page. She always wore an armful of bracelets and the love on her face was constant. She became my first grade teacher. Your first teacher, whether it be first grade, Kindergarten or Pre-K sets the tone of life almost. She was always loving and kind. How blessed we were to have Mrs. Eva Page as a mentor.

Then we were fortunate to have Grace Coltrane Kilkelly who became my “music appreciation” teacher. I can visualize the old “Victrola” in the Wakelon Elementary School and the many classes of music we listened to, especially opera. I grew to love opera and to this day, that is my very favorite. I love it all. Music has been a large part of my life, singing in a trio in Zebulon and then in Raleigh, also, singing in the Zebulon Methodist Church Choir, the Bailey Methodist Church Choir and the 1st Presbyterian Church Choir in Raleigh.

Now the class of '53 has its class reunion at the Zebulon Methodist Church and that is really “coming home.” We become the sum of the many people who cross the paths of our life and I have been richly blessed to have begun in the Zebulon Methodist Church and I thank the Lord above for the journey he has given me – both good and bad because we grow nearer to him through every trial.

I Remember . . .

By Jean Richardson Liles

When I was about eight years old I started to attend the Zebulon United Methodist Church. Sunday School was special. I will always remember our teacher, Mrs. Foster Finch. She was so pretty and always wore a hat to church. We had a special "U" shaped table that we gathered around. This table was special to all the children and it was later moved to the new church. Mrs. Finch's classroom also had a glass bookcase there was always a bird nest in the bookcase, along with other nature items. Mrs. Finch was a good teacher.

When I was fourteen, I had my first pair of stockings and I remember going to church on Easter Sunday and it was a special day. Notice I refer to "stockings" and not "hose".

All the memories we hold dear from the beautiful white frame church on the corner moved with us into our new brick building. I remember all the pastors we have had that helped us to grown in spirit.

I Remember . . .

By Lawrence Liles

I joined the church when Jean and I were married. One of my favorite memories is of Mr. Mercer, one of our past ministers; he was loving and caring and he would "hum" a tune as he walked. He was in constant pain, but never complained. There was always a smile and a tune.

I Remember . . .

By Gina Leigh Pulley Bryant

As we approach the one hundredth anniversary of our church, I realize I have been a part of it and it has been a part of me for almost half of its existence (46 years). I was baptized as a baby and joined our church when I was 11 or 12.

The verses I learned and memorized for my confirmation so many years ago are still a comfort to me. I loved learning about the stories behind each of our beautiful stained glass windows and the meaning of the Chrismon ornaments. I was married in this church, had my son baptized and was a part of laying to rest several beloved people. I have made lifelong friendships in this church that I will continue to cherish. This church and its members have always been a part of the momentous occasions in my life.

Our church has always given me the spiritual essence that I needed and still need to face the challenges of a busy, hectic, but wonderful life. Our church from a very early age helped to nurture my love for learning with special Sunday school teachers like "Miss Becky," "Miss Jean" and "Dr. Zyba" just to name a few.

The music of the church has always comforted my soul and I have always been proud of the fact that there has always been a "Pulley" in the choir-Granddaddy, Charles, Jesse, Frankie, Robin, me. I have loved being a part of the church choirs from the young age of nursery choir, to our teenage group the Young Disciples, to the wonderful music of the adult choir. The cantatas and wonderful old songs that bring tears of joy to my eyes and make me feel the never-ending message and love of GOD.

Our church has seen lots of changes, it will see many more, but the sweet and happy memories that God has allowed me to have of the Zebulon United Methodist Church will never change. They will remain in my heart forever. May God continue to bless us and our church forevermore.

I Remember . . .

By Ruth Temple Joyner

My earliest childhood memory of "church" is walking into the small entrance hall of the white frame church on Mother's Day and seeing beautiful baskets of roses. Each person could select a rose to wear, red in honor or white in memory of their mother. I remember thinking that was very special.

Another early memory is one I have recalled many times when teaching a Sunday school class for children. We had classes of various ages together then and I was one of the youngest, unable to read aloud very well. Mrs. Margaret Finch was my teacher. When one

of the older boys laughed at me, I do not remember what she said but I do remember how she made me feel – accepted and loved. I also remember Mrs. Terry and Mrs. Paige.

I was blessed to be born into a Christian family who was also a part of a caring church family. My grandfather, G. W. Temple, was a charter member of our church. My father, Maylon Temple, became a member and my mother, Mary Eaton, joined when they married. I was baptized as an infant and later confirmed while we were still in the white frame church.

During my teen years, we were in the new brick church and I remember our minister, Rev. Mercer, making a strong impression of faith on all of us. He was in constant pain but hummed and smiled as he walked. He encouraged me to attend ACS for youth (a week in the summer) and that experience was an important part of my early spiritual journey.

I remember when Jimmy and I moved back to Zebulon in 1971, after twelve years away and attend a dinner in the basement fellowship hall. There in that tiny kitchen were the “older” women of the church preparing the food. I should not have been surprised. They always set a powerful example of how to get things done.

My church has been there for me all of my life. I remember those special people who shared the personal times of joy – from my wedding to the baptisms of our three daughters and their marriages to the births of our two grandchildren and their infant baptisms. Likewise, they gave help when our home burned and comfort at the deaths of our parents. Those ministers who led and served like shepherds have been a blessing to me and my family. I also remember the children and youth that I’ve seen grow up and those who touch our hearts today.

I Remember . . .

By Barbara Brantley Pulley

I was “raised” in the Union Hope Baptist Church in a little community called Murray-Town, about five miles East of Zebulon; therefore, I do not have early childhood memories of the church. I do remember, however, why I became a Methodist instead of continuing to be a Baptist. When Lowell and I were married in 1957 by the Reverend Troy Barrett and Reverend Groce Robinson in the Baptist Church, some assumed we would attend that church. My mother said, though she would love for Lowell to become a Baptist, she believed we should attend the church in the community in which we lived. Little did she know that the Pulley family had been members of the Methodist church in this area since its beginning, and that I, too, was destined to be a Methodist by marrying Lowell, a decision I have never regretted.

My most vivid memories of the church are the warm welcome I received the day I joined the church soon after we were married and how quickly we were assigned to teach

the Junior High Sunday School class. We taught this class until Gina was born in 1960 and taught another class at a later date.

I remember one homecoming day before the new fellowship hall was built. The food was spread out on tables in the basement, which is now used as part of the Preschool. It was then used as our kitchen and fellowship hall. There was not much room to sit and eat. Lowell and I, E. B. and Nancy Pulley, and Jimmy and Becky Spivey went upstairs to the children's classroom in which Becky Spivey taught for many years. I still remember some of the conversations of that day.

I remember going to United Methodist Women with Mrs. Merle Sue Pulley, my mother-in-law. The meetings were held in the old parsonage next to the church. These women encouraged me to become more active in the church by belonging to this organization.

The Zebulon United Methodist Church has been my church for soon-to-be 50 years. It's pastors and members have nurtured me through many events in my life – some sad but most joyous!

My faith has grown by being a member of this church.

I Remember . . .

By Lowell Ray Pulley

I remember going to Bible School, which began at 8:30 a.m. We had to walk to church because we did not have a car. My brother, Robert, and Mother, Merle Sue Pulley, and cousins, E. B. Pulley and Carl Pulley, all walked together, along with other cousins. I can't remember Charles, my other brother, walking with us. He must not have been born then.

Some of the Bible School teachers that I remember were Mrs. Margaret Finch, Beginners Class. Mother helped her with this class. Mrs. Eva Page was the Intermediate Teacher and Mrs. Estelle Terry was the Primary teacher.

We would have Assembly and then go to classes. After classes, we would go out the back door of the church where we would have some games. Some of the ladies of the church would have a table set up under the shade trees next to a building (garage or storage building) adjoining the parsonage. We would have refreshments of drinks and cookies there.

Then it would be time for us to walk back home – not quite as fresh and energetic as when we came.

I also remember Uncle Jim Pulley walking by our house really early on Sunday to build fires in the pot-bellied stoves that were used to heat the church. The best I remember there were three of these stoves. The Men's class was at the side of the church next to Church Street and they had one of the stoves in their class. Some of the members of that class were my grandpa, Mr. Alex Pulley; Uncle Jim Pulley; my daddy, Albert Pulley; Mr. Foster Finch; Mr. Clويد Wade; Mr. Waylon Finch; Dr. Coltrane; Dr. Flowers and Mr. M. J. Sexton. I know that there are more than those mentioned, but these are the ones that I remember.

During the building of our present church, we held Sunday School and Church in the old Wakelon School. I remember well attending school Monday through Friday and Sunday School in the same class room. We appreciated the use of the school building, but we were glad to get in our new Church building.

In 1955, when the Reverend Troy Barrett was our Pastor, we had a summer program that was very inspiring. We had a Youth Counselor named Conrad Glass who assisted Mr. Barrett with this program. We also went to Camp Don Lee that summer. I have pictures of that summer that were taken with my Brownie Hawkeye camera.

I Remember . . .

By Linda Bridgers Johnson

I was introduced to the Zebulon Methodist Church when I was a baby, when the structure was a stately wooden structure and the welcoming ring of the bell was done by hand. The parsonage was next door and I was born in what is now the church office. My family was always close to the assigned preacher since our back yards joined. I remember that when my pet dog died, the Reverend Boone even came over for the burial and prayed for the service.

Some of my earliest memories include going around and picking roses, red and white to be given out for Mothers' Day. Several of us would stand at the door on Mothers' Day to pin the roses on anyone who did not already have one. I remember all of my Sunday School teachers starting with Margaret Finch, Eva Page, Estelle Terry and Mrs. House. Mrs. Finch never let me forget that I spoke out in class saying that the Good Samaritan looked a lot like Tarzan. Mr. Moser taught the men's class and you could hear him throughout the building. Dr. Coltrane was the Sunday School Superintendent and we gathered after classes to hear about attendance and to do promotions. I was christened in the old church and joined at age 12.

These are great memories. Many of you may not know that my dad, R. H. Bridgers built the present church. While he did not claim to be a great speaker, I remember the times he spoke to the congregation about the plans, the cost and the time frame. During the construction, we held church in the auditorium of Wakelon School. (That part of the Wakelon campus was torn down.) When they got ready to put the cross on the top of the

new church, there was much discussion on whether or not it should be flush with the building or turned so it could be easily seen when riding by. As I remember, someone in the Methodist Conference settled this.

The first wedding I can recall in the new building was that of my sister, Lorraine Bridgers when she married Monroe Jones. Lorraine was a Sunday School teacher and so a lot of her attendants were her students. I have many memories as I think about our church. I, too, was married here, my only daughter christened here. Both of my parents, R. H. and Kathryn Bridgers are deceased and their services were held in our sanctuary, as was the service for my husband, U. R. Johnson.

As we reflect on the history of our church, it makes you remember with love the people who have contributed to the richness in each of our lives. After many years as the church's youth director, I look around at the young people with whom I worked and marvel at how well they have done. It doesn't make me too happy to see the gray in their hair and their children old enough to finish high school and college. It reminds me of my own age. These reflections may not mean a lot to our new members, but to those of us who remember the many who have helped this church remain a viable part of Zebulon, we know how their lives have richly contributed to the life and love that permeates our church today.

I Remember . . .

By Dorothy Morgan

"Little White Church on the Corner." When I was growing up I remember our Mother would make our dresses out of chicken feed bags that were real pretty. We would be so proud to go to the Little White Church with our new dresses on. Of course, we had to walk, because my daddy never had a car. Our Uncle Jim was the janitor there. He would walk every Sunday and have the church warm. Those were the good old days.

I Remember . . .

By Becky Clark Spivey

Zebulon United Methodist Church has always meant a great deal to me. It has been there for me for 75 years in good times and bad to support me and encourage me.

I have made some wonderful friends over the years in the choir, our United Methodist Women and the kindergarten class I taught for many years. Jimmy and I were married there and celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in the fellowship hall. Both of our children were christened there and our Susan was married there in 1997.

Our sorrows when we lost family members were shared by our church family. Their love and support has always been so special to me. Church friends are the best kind and I am truly thankful for mine.

I remember...

By Ann Veazey Davis

On our first Sunday in July of 1959, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Sexton met us in the parking lot. After their welcome Mrs. Sexton took Mark's hand and took him to the three-year-old Sunday School Class. Very shortly, Becky Spivey paid a visit to welcome the newcomers to Zebulon. She invited me to join her Circle AND offered to pick me up for the meeting! And when dear Miss Alma Finch learned that her niece had married my 2nd cousin, I was invited to pick in Miss Alma's turnip patch!

A few years later, I remember getting a rather frantic phone call about lunchtime one Tuesday from Bobbi Quick, who was also in the same circle with Becky and I. She had somehow remembered that our circle was supposed to feed the UMM that very night. Becky was at work at J&M Chevrolet and Bobbi didn't have a car at home. She called me with a menu in her mind and asked me to go to the Piggly Wiggly and get a ham and cook it. I have forgotten the rest of the menu, but she had everything she needed for the rest.

One of us called Becky at work, and after her initial heart attack we asked that she call Jimmy's mother and ask for some of her delicious yeast rolls. (There was plenty of time for them to rise!) Now the only little problem I had was a baby sitter at this late date - no time for my folks to drive down from Durham. So Mark and MaryAnn went to Methodist Men that night, sat at the table in that tiny kitchen while we prepared the plates to serve. If either of them let out a peep, Becky handed them a roll. We didn't count how many hot yeast rolls those two kids ate that night. Where there is a will there is a way!

I remember Carolyn Chamblee being Spiritual Life Chairperson of the Methodist Women and what beautiful devotionals she could bring to us at our monthly meetings. I also remember asking Mrs. Myrtle Moser to accept that job in later years. She shocked me and said "No." When I asked her why, she said she could not walk to the church in the winter months. Well, I could take care of that little problem and stop by the corner as I drove to church and give her a ride. This led me to come to really know and appreciate Mrs. Moser. We had to check the house when we returned from a meeting to make sure no one had broken in while we were gone.

I also remember the thrill in seeing ground broken for the new educational building. It had been such a long struggle and so many obstacles had been overcome to reach this point. And when I look at all the facilities in that building and how they have served not only this congregation, but also the community for the past twenty years, I am proud of the decisions that were made at that time.

I remember...

By Wayne Davis

The Lay Witness Mission that was held at our church in the Fall of 1969. Dr. J. Ed Legates and his wife, Betty, were the coordinators for the event. Dr. Ed was the Dean at NCSU at that time and until he retired. This was one time that the congregation of this church came together spiritually during a special weekend of witnessing and worshipping together. The sanctuary was filled about to capacity for each of the services. I feel that this event was a high spiritual moment in the life of the church.

I also remember the election for president of Methodist Men (we weren't "united" in those days), when I had finished my year of service as president. Prof. Early Moser spoke up and said, "Well, Wayne, you have made such a mess this year that I think we ought to give you a second year to straighten it out." What could I say?

I remember...

*By Mark W. Davis, Rio, Wisconsin
(Still a member of ZUMC)*

The time that my sister and I went to visit Mrs. Estelle Terry after she had been ill. Someone had brought Mrs. Terry a pineapple upside down cake and she insisted on sharing some with us. I didn't care for pineapple and begged off saying it was too near dinnertime and it would spoil our appetite. Not to be outdone, Mrs. Terry insisted on fixing two servings for us to take home for our dessert after dinner. We ate our evening meal, and then Mom was asked when I wanted my pineapple upside down cake. I said, "Now Mom, you know I don't like pineapple." Then she asked what would I do in a similar situation if I couldn't get out of eating something I didn't like. I thought about it for a minute, and then said, "Well for a sweet little old lady like Mrs. Terry, with pretty white hair, I would eat a mud pie and tell her it was good!"

I also remember going to United Methodist Men with Dad on the occasion of their oyster stew, which was an annual custom. I wasn't so sure about that raw oyster, but thought it was the manly thing to do. When I got it in my mouth, it went down so quickly I didn't have time for a second thought.

I also remember the Sunday School basketball league in the early 70's. I think Jimmy Harris was our coach, Elton Roberson, W. G. Griswold and Billy Green officiated, MaryAnn kept the score, Mom took up 10 cents admission at the door, and Dad swept the floor. The second year we had a banquet in the basement of the church and handed out trophies to all the teams. I remember that after the games, Chris Jenkins would come over to our house and we would rehash the plays around our kitchen table.



I remember...

Betsy "Beaver" Brodie Roberts
Southport, NC

Our first day in Zebulon. Ann and MaryAnn Davis (Powell) brought a meal for us on moving day. By the end of the week, I had found the pool down the street and met other rising 7th graders, including Riggy Massey and Vicki Poole.

The Brodie family is shown above left, ca. 1969. Rev. Stewart and Helen are seated. Back row, left to right are: Eddie, Bob, Sylvia (Bob's wife), and Betsy "Beaver" Brodie.

My first Sunday School teacher was Miss Alma Finch upstairs. I thought she was "ancient" but I bet she was not more than 65 or so. In my later years there, Linda Johnson was our MYF leader and also Sunday School teacher. I have referred to her Sunday School Class a lot (held in the old parsonage right there at the church) since at least three people paid me a nickel one Sunday not to talk ANY MORE in class!

This MYF threw me a surprise 16th birthday party before we moved that same month. I have only one other surprise party and that was age 30, when I was trying to surprise a girl with the same birthday and they surprised me!

I do remember that the first few days I was at the pool a few people were giving me strange looks. They thought I looked so much like Debbie Niswonger and she was at 'Caswell' for the week. (Debbie was the daughter of the Rev. Jerry Niswonger, pastor of the Zebulon Baptist Church at that time.) I think a few called 'Debbie' and I didn't answer. I met Betsy Olive at the pool and the other 7th graders asked if I had a nickname since there would be two Betsys in 7th grade. Yes, some folks call me "Beaver" so it stuck at that point.

Beaver sends copies of clippings from The Zebulon Record, beginning with the interview when they first arrived, and one of Bishop Garber coming for the dedication of the parsonage on Glenn Street. There was also a published picture of her brother, Eddie, who was posing as a jailbird and Windell Perry was locking him up, when he worked for the town. Ever the prankster, Eddie also posted a sign in the front yard saying that the grass did NOT need cutting until Mom gets back. Well while they were away, who should stop by and leave a note in the door but District Superintendent Grant and Bishop Garber! Must have been about the time the parsonage on Glenn Street was going to be dedicated.

Until Mom gets home!

**THIS GRASS DOES NOT
NEED CUTTING**

OK... OK... I remember...

...when we first came to Zebulon. In the first place, we are here because Ann Davis found Jack his house on Bunn Lake - he had been looking out here for ages... and Ann found it. Of course she did. Ann always does what she sets her mind to. Never think otherwise! And of course Ann brought us to church.... this was back in 1986.... we weren't very good about attending regularly back then.... we were both still working in Raleigh, and had kids in school all over the place - some here in Zebulon at what is now the Middle School, some in Raleigh at Enloe, and Chip at UNC in Chapel Hill. Ann didn't give up on us, even though we sure didn't make it easy on her. I never did join a circle.....who had time? I did eventually join the choir - music is my abiding love....my favorite memories of the choir in those days revolve around Louise Gibbons (who knows every hymn ever written and what page its on in the hymnal - and didn't mind telling you exactly what she thought about anything) and Becky Spivey - who says she can't read music, but knows the alto part to anything you drag out and loves to sing as much as anyone I ever knew - I sat between them, which was definitely an experience! - and Gay Barnes and that gorgeous voice of hers, and her wonderful personality. I can still hear her...."ok, now - lets hear the women....and the altos"....."well - fine then"....

Jack allows as the first time he came to Zebulon Methodist Church was in 1970, when he was a candidate for US Congress, and Wayne Davis asked him to speak to the Methodist Men. He said it was a pretty good-sized crowd as he remembers it.

Jack also remembers that Wayne and Ann originally went to the same Methodist Church that we attended in Durham when Jack was in law school at Duke....Bethany Methodist....small world.

I remember very well "the other Jack and Grace" - who were also from Pennsylvania.....the Belchers. What a wonderful couple. Jack still has a cowboy hat of his that he bought at the Church Auction ages ago...They always had something funny to say about the similarity in our names.....They were "the real Jack and Grace".....

Chip remembers that when we first came it was often so crowded that they had to open up the doors to the Wesley Fellowship Class and seat people back there for the service. He also remembers that Elton Roberson and Robert Pulley and Charles Corbett were young enough that they were good softball players and could move around with agility without moaning and groaning when they got out of the pews. (what a smart aleck....he'll learn, won't he?) Betsy Green played the organ.

Julie remembers Tommy Privette - going through confirmation with him, and what a positive experience that was - and him helping her with a psych project she had in college...and he came to the hospital when Tyler was born. She really thought a lot of him. [She wanted him to perform her wedding, but Tommy had left by then and we couldn't find him]. Julie also remembers that we sat in the back room a lot [we never did get there early!]. She also remembers youth group with Gay and Kenneth Barnes. They were always really happy to see her when she came, even though she wasn't real faithful about attending regularly. She remembers getting the care packages from the UMW when she

was in college and how welcome they were. (Julie has a terrible memory - so therefore this is amazing.)

By Grace Hawke

I remember...

...lots of things. Playing with the cardboard blocks in the nursery when the nursery was UPstairs! Sitting with my first "boyfriend," Foster Finch, and his wife! Foster would find all the hymns in the Cokesbury hymnal, because he didn't like to hold that big book with his arthritic hands. He and I would draw on the bulletin during the sermon until Margaret separated us because we were misbehaving. I remember going with Mom to Women's Society meetings (now UMW) and then taking Mrs. Moser home and checking under her bed to make sure the "boogie man" wasn't under there lying in wait for her. Of course, she always said if he got her, when daylight came and he saw what he had, he'd let her go! I remember having covered dish dinners in the old fellowship hall, where the old basement is now. The kids would get our plates filled and go sit on the front steps and watch the traffic go by. We got a huge thrill when we got the semi trucks to blow their horns. And I remember Sunday night worship services, where as a teenager, Laurie Moss and I would sit flanking Frankie Pulley and tease him mercilessly. He was just enough younger that we could intimidate him. We called out hymns we wanted to sing, and "The Old Rugged Cross" was always one of our favorites. I remember always feeling like I had a church family who watched me grow up, loved me and was proud of me.

By MaryAnn Davis Powell

I remember...

By Jose Antonio Rey-Barreau

In August of 1962, my mother Georgina, my father Jose Luis, and I arrived in Zebulon with the assistance and support of the Zebulon Methodist Church. The Rev. Bill Quick and Dr. Ben Thomas had made contact with the Cuban Refugee Center in Miami, and this led to my father becoming the Spanish teacher at Wakelon High School. I was ten years old at the time, and we had just experienced the traumatic process of becoming refugees as a result of Fidel Castro's overthrow of the Cuban government. After leaving Cuba, we spent five months in Miami, and from there moved to Zebulon.

To a young boy that did not know how to speak one word of English, you might imagine that this would be a traumatic experience. Instead, what I remember most about Zebulon Methodist Church, and the people of Zebulon in general, was an extraordinary warmth and friendship where every home was open to us and everyone made us feel totally welcome and a part of their family. Ann and Wayne Davis became immediate friends with my mother and father, and they made our transition to this new place a uniquely wonderful experience.

In retrospect, it is difficult to imagine that our traumatic experience of moving to a new country and a new culture could have been more fortunate than the amazing circumstance that led the Zebulon Methodist Church to sponsor my family's move to Zebulon. The church and Dr. Quick assisted us in every imaginable way, and I have nothing but amazing memories of feeling like this was the most friendly place on earth.

My father used this opportunity to begin his studies at UNC where he earned a Master's degree. After three years in Zebulon we moved to Misenheimer, North Carolina where my father became a professor at the Methodist Church affiliated Pfeiffer College. My father continued his studies at UNC working towards a Ph.D. In 1967, we moved to Louisville, Kentucky where my father began working as a professor at the University of Louisville and he completed his Ph.D. at the University of Kentucky. Ultimately, I acquired a degree in Architecture from U. of K. and a Master's from the University of Louisville. I married and had two wonderful daughters, Michelle and Angela. Michelle is married to a wonderful young man whose family are immigrants from Lebanon. They have two children, Jack and Eli. Angela is a third grade teacher in Lexington, Kentucky where I live.

My mother and father are now deceased. I know that they were extremely grateful to the Zebulon Methodist Church for the generosity, warmth and friendship that was extended to us at a very traumatic time. They discussed this often, and from a personal perspective I want to extend my own gratitude for the extraordinary opportunity that the Zebulon Methodist Church extended to me and to my mother and father.

I Remember . . .

By Rev. William K. Quick

The appointment process in 1959 landed the Quicks happily in Zebulon! Getting here was not a "sure thing" since my district superintendent in Durham insisted to the Bishop and Cabinet that I should be appointed to Wendell – not Zebulon! The Raleigh district superintendent, Graham Eubanks, convinced Bishop Paul Garber that Zebulon offered a young pastor a better opportunity!

My predecessor, Troy Barrett, led the congregational effort enabling each of the two churches to become "station" appointments. My wife and I arrived here surely on what must have been the hottest day of the summer. We came with a four year old son, Stephen, and a one-year-old daughter, Kathryn. The Church was not air-conditioned and when we went to dinner our first Sunday at Foster and Margaret Finch's home, it was a welcomed relief from the heat.

The following Thursday we moved into the old parsonage, built in 1911. (The family of the Rev. George W. Fisher, including Miss Alma Fisher Finch as a young woman, had lived in this house from 1917-1921.) The two-story house was quite airy, especially in

the winter, but the D.S. had told us – prior to coming – that the church wanted to build a new parsonage. Upon inquiry of the Trustees, I learned they had no such plans. The first Saturday we were here, young Kathryn was in a playpen in the front of the house and the inside of the chimney fell in--barely missing her! It was a good omen, an event which moved Mayor Ed Hales, Pat Farmer and Thurman Hepler, members of the Town Council, Foster Finch, Clويد Wade, Frank Wall, Dr. Charles Flowers and Mike Sexton to begin thinking about providing better housing for the parsonage family! It was a day of rejoicing when the new parsonage became a reality!

Quickly did I learn the Methodists took a “back seat” to the Baptists in town. As a matter of fact, a Baptist lady boldly offered the suggestion during my first week that we might like to worship with them during the summer Sundays since we were fewer in number and beside they had an air-conditioned sanctuary.

During my four years here, I believe the Methodists and Baptists came closer together. When their pastor, Rev. Arnold Smith, resigned I was privileged to build a bridge which led to 5th Sunday night worship services being shared between the two congregations. His successor, the Rev. David Daniel, became one of the closest friends I would ever have in the ministry. Dr. Ben David Thomas, a “true son of the Great Physician,” was our family doctor. His contributions to the town and surrounding area, his wisdom and generosity, went far beyond his practice of medicine. Among the many contributions of Dr. Ben to Zebulon during those years was to enable the re-settling of Dr. Jose Rey-Barreau, a Cuban refugee and his family, to teach at Wakelon High, and to bring the surgeon, Dr. J. Lee Sedwitz, and his family to our local branch of Wake Memorial Hospital.

Zebulon was a community of about 1,800 souls when I became pastor and some of the finest folks I would ever know in my 54-year ministry lived there. Our church grew as I became active in the community and the town opened its arms to receive a 26-year old pastor. Zebulon had a vision for growth and while many in Wendell, Rolesville and Wake Forest found us a bit “parochial” on the issue of a new combined high school in East Wake County, there was a pride here in Wakelon School with its long standing academic reputation. The highly respected Zebulon Baptist merchant, C. Vaiden Whitley, chairman the Wake County Board of Education aligned with the Wake County School Superintendent, Fred Smith, to push for a consolidated high school. It became the hottest political issue during my pastorate. It divided the community! Mr. Smith was a member of our Church and the son of a Methodist preacher but many became alienated over the proposal. Tragically, Fred was driving in Franklin County to his Zebulon home on a dark winter’s night when a frightened deer crashed through the windshield killing him instantly.

Perhaps the town’s most famous son Clifton Daniels, Jr., brought Zebulon its greatest publicity when he married the only daughter of President Harry and Bess Truman. The former President’s visit became one of the memorable events of those years. Daniels became editor of the New York Times and Margaret Truman Daniels would become a writer of note on her own following her husband’s death.

Journalism in Zebulon flourished. The Rev. Theo Davis's sons, Barrie and Ferd, made us proud with one of the best weekly papers in eastern North Carolina, *The Zebulon Record*. Always eager to carry church news, *The Record*, often gave front-page publicity to the activities of the Methodists. Scott Brown, their key reporter, always had the curiosity of a good journalist – ever on the lookout for a good story. Barrie Davis, the editor, gave me the opportunity to write a weekly sports column, *Quick Kicks*.

The new radio station, WETC, came on air in July 1959 and its manager, Bill Kirby, opened the door to our radio ministry. "Think On These Things," heard twice daily morning and at signoff. WETC also broadcast our Sunday morning worship service allowing the Zebulon Methodist Church message to be heard by a wider Wake-Johnston-Franklin County audience. Actually, my radio ministry had its genesis during those years in Zebulon and would, over time, include national and global broadcasts through "The Protestant Hour" and "Day One" – continuing through 2005.

I am indebted to Zebulon and the congregation I was privileged to serve here as pastor. It is a debt I could never repay. This church helped prepare me for ministry at St. James in Greenville, Trinity in Durham, and finally, almost a quarter century at Metropolitan in Detroit. Memories here run deep. Whatever was accomplished in those years was due more to the laity and the pastoral leadership that preceded me. I merely built on the foundation they laid. In truth, it was all due to the blessing of Jesus Christ upon the faith and good works of devoted followers of our blessed Savior. And the glory belongs to Him.

As we gather for the 100th anniversary of the seeds planted here a century ago by Dr. A. D. Wilcox and his dear wife, Adelaide, (a pastor, incidentally who preceded me by 47 years at Trinity Church in Durham), we rejoice in the continuing witness of this church. But the only way we can pay our debt to the past is to put the future in debt to us!