

Antioch Baptist Church History

Antioch Baptist Church was organized on April 28, 1858, at Old Hollow and was first known as Union Hill Baptist Church. Elder John Robertson, L.F. Dawson and Nathan York was elected pastor and the church met in the homes of the members for some time. On September 5, 1859, the church moved to a meeting house on the Dobson road and joined the Yadkin Association. In 1863, the church sent nine dollars for mission work in the army. Records indicate that slaves were members of the church and in 1866 many black members were received. The church adopted strict rules of personal conduct and violators were dealt with regularly.

On September 5, 1876, the church moved to its present location, a building was erected, and the name was changed from Union Hill to Antioch Baptist Church.

In 1939, because of a need for additional Sunday School space, a new wing was added. At this time the properties were valued at \$3600.00 and had 182 members on roll. Twenty different pastors served Antioch from 1858-1959.

On April 16, 1959, under the guidance of Rev. Clarence Marshall, the church voted to build a new and larger building at the cost of approximately \$35,000.00. This was paid for in approximately three years. In 1961, the church voted to build a parsonage for the use of the pastor and his family. Rev. John D. Bowman moved into this building in 1964 and served as pastor for 5 years.

In 1970, the parking lots were paved and the grounds improved under the direction of the pastor, Rev. Bailey Elmore, who served as pastor from 1969-1975.

In 1976, the sanctuary was renovated, with all new furniture, pews, pulpit, carpet and lighting. A baptistery was also added and a central air system was installed. In 1977, a picnic shelter was completed with furnace and lights. These improvements were guided by Lincoln Faulk who served as pastor from 1975-1978.

In 1979, the basement of the church had a new face-lift with new carpet, drapes, and each room painted.

Rev. I. Tommy Johnson became pastor on June 2, 1979, and served competently until August, 1986. Under his leadership, the plans for an educational building, a renovated entrance, and a larger sanctuary was voted on by the church upon seeing need for the growing community. Rev. Johnson guided this project and instilled in the people a challenge to work through the program, "Together We Build," to raise the necessary monies to begin the project. Through this program, the goal of \$100,000.00 was met and exceeded.

Groundbreaking for the educational building was led by a former pastor, Lincoln Faulk, on Sunday, March 17, 1985. Construction and renovation began and was completed for the dedication on Sunday, October 19, 1986. Rev. Richard T. Howerton, serving as interim pastor, led in the dedication and served as pastor through July of 1987.

Rev. Boyd Lattimore became pastor in July of 1987 and served until October of 1992.

In May of 1993, the church called the Rev. Quentin Madden as pastor. Under his leadership a Church Council was formed, a discipleship training program started, Wednesday night fellowship suppers began, renovation of the nursery and preschool departments, and an active visitation program was initiated. He is serving faithfully at this time to further the church's growth and development.

Out of Antioch's doors have gone charter members to organize Mt. Airy First, New Bethel, Pine Ridge, and Calvary Churches. Records show that Antioch has also ordained the following ministers: W.H. Beamer, R.H. Herring, J.L. Vipperman, Hobert Johnson, Clarence Hill, and Lonnie Gunter.