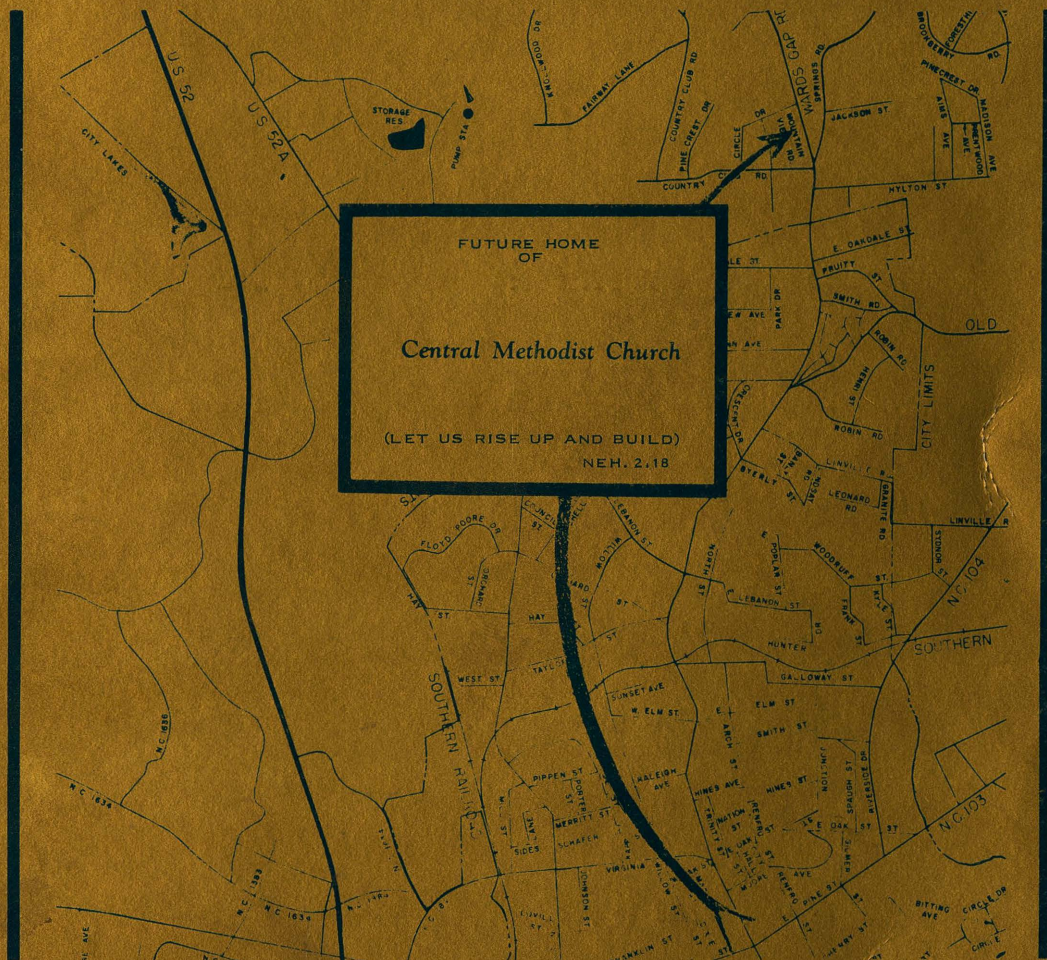


Central's Greatest Move

In A

CENTURY



"And behold we purpose to build an house unto the name of the Lord our God"
—I Kings 5:5

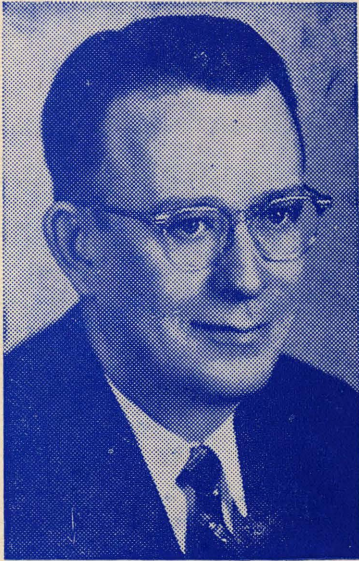
BUILDING FOR ETERNITY

Central Methodist Church

MOUNT AIRY, NORTH CAROLINA

ca. 1960

gift given from the estate of Ruth Minick



A Message From Our Pastor

Dear Members and Friends:

Only once in a lifetime, for most of us, does the opportunity come to have a part in the building of a new church that will last for generations.

Our congregation has enjoyed a church for 135 years which was built by the sacrifice and self-denial of others who lived before us. In the providence of God we have been called to build a new church in a rapidly growing section of Mount Airy.

Someone has said that a collection letter is a good deal like a proposal of marriage. You can beat around the bush and take up a whole evening with the "girl of your dreams", when actually all you want to say is, "Will you marry me?"

None of us will be tricked by clever words. We need \$250,000 over and above our regular budget during the next three years. This is our chance to provide the best facilities for the training of our children and youth. This is our chance to present to a growing number of people the living Christ. The details of the project have been, or will be, explained to you.

The idea is — WILL YOU DO YOUR PART? .

Sincerely yours,

Earl H. Brendall, Pastor

EHB:pjb

are many errors here. DM

By Faith

Central Has Met The Challenge of Her Hour, Year After Year

Methodism in the Mount Airy Area had its beginning as a mission congregation founded by the circuit riding Bishop Asbury who rode through these parts in the early 1780's. Two congregations sprang up as a result of the Bishop's preaching in this section—Salem Church on the Ward's Gap Road and old Lebanon Chapel located on Lebanon Hill in Mount Airy.

OLD LEBANON CHAPEL

Lebanon Chapel was built about 1825. According to the records in the church office, it was located in the thousandth block of North Main Street. The church grounds extended north from Dr. John Ashby's home to the area of the Catholic Church and Mr. Lindsay Holcomb's home and all property included therein. Many camp meetings were held in the area. During the days of the Civil War soldiers were mustered for home guard on the grounds of old Lebanon Chapel. This spot was chosen because of the clearing in the wooded forest.

MOUNT AIRY METHODIST CHURCH

Immediately following the Civil War the community and business life of Mount Airy began to grow south of Lebanon Church about a mile and a half. The church fathers, under the leadership of the Reverend Miles Foy, a doctor-preacher, built a new Methodist church in south Mount Airy behind the present Cockerham Florist and on the site of the now Wesleyan Methodist Church. This new church was known as the Mount Airy Methodist Church. It was erected about 1865. The land was given by a Mr. Elisha Banner. Mr. Merlin Sparger gave the lumber. Mr. Hugh Gwyn built the church. Then the old Lebanon Chapel congregation moved to the new church in South Mount Airy.

The new church on South Main Street was a plank painted white. The inside consisted of one large room and balcony. The balcony was used by the Negroes. It was the custom then for the women to sit on the right hand side of the church and the men on the left hand side. There were two front doors for their "proper exit." The new church purchased a reed organ which was played by Herbert Lowery. The organ music was often "drowned out" by joyous singing and shouting in the revival meetings. Many were added annually to the roll of this new church. Leading up to the church which sat rather far back from the road was a path lined by two rows of trees. At the side and back was the graveyard which is still there and is known as the old Methodist Cemetery. In this cemetery is buried the Reverend Miles Foy. Other prominent leaders buried there were the Banners, the Ashbys, and Jesse Moore.

CENTRAL METHODIST CHURCH

In 1892 the Reverend Mr. Blair preached a challenging sermon on the subject "Methodism Should Go Forward in Mount Airy". The implication was that it was time for the Methodists to move to a new location and build a greater Methodist Church. After much discussion, some revolting, and a good revival the Methodists decided to build in the center of the city on the land donated by Mr. J. H. Sparger. It is now known as the corner of Dixie and Franklin Streets. The new name of the church was to be Central because it was to be located in the center of the town and was to remain in the center of their hearts forever. The cornerstone was placed in 1894 at which time the Methodists started worshipping in the new church.

The ground breaking on the new property for Central Church was a great religious experience. Father Needham led the prayer. The Reverend Miles Foy turned the first

shovelful of newly broken ground. The joyous singing of the assembled Methodists could be heard for over a mile.

Men prominent in the new building were: T. B. McCargo, J. R. Paddison, Joseph Ashby, G. W. Sparger, A. D. Smith, E. C. Foy, Dr. T. B. Ashby, J. H. Prather, J. L. Ashby, J. H. Joyce, T. P. Lowery, J. A. Yokley, G. O. Graves, and B. F. Sparger. The new church was of brick using pseudo-Gothic architecture which was popular at that time. The building consisted of the sanctuary and two Sunday School rooms. The present educational building was added in 1924.

In 1913 a pipe organ was installed. Miss Mary Creveling was the first organist. Miss Creveling had studied organ in New York City. When she played Bach and Beethoven the "good saints" were not sure about this young lady's musical "learning", for she played what they called theatre music while the stewards took up collection. But there was one thing sure, the singing Methodists never drowned the organ out again.

The beautiful memorial windows in the church are in memory of the Rev. Miles Foy, the Reverend James Needham, the Reverend Z. Vance Price, and the beautiful picture window of Jesus was placed in the choir loft in memory of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Paddison.

THE FIRST WEDDING

Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Sydnor were the first couple married in the present church.

THE PASTORS OF CENTRAL

Many pastors have come and gone, each leaving the church stronger and better for his having been there. The following pastors have served Central Church since 1894: The Reverends Mr. Barnett, H. K. Boyer (Two terms), F. H. Townsend, W. E. Winecoff, J. E. Abernethy, Z. Paris, D. Vance Price, J. F. Kirk, G. D. Herman, W. H. Willis, W. B. West, W. A. Newell, R. H. Daugherty, A. C. Gibbs, C. S. Kirkpatrick, J. T. Mangum, M. T. Smathers, W. J. Miller, C. N. Clark, Frank Jordan, A. C. Wagoner, Walter Lee Lanier, and Earl H. Brendall.

NEW PARSONAGE

During 1956 Central Methodist Church completed and paid for a beautiful eight-room parsonage at 215 Robin Road in the Burkewood Development. The architecture is modified colonial. The total cost including lot, furnishings, and construction of building amounted to \$47,173.20.

Members of Central Methodist Church are justly proud of the home which they have provided for their ministers.

NEW CHURCH SITE

At a special session of the Quarterly Conference February 21, 1958, the church voted to purchase approximately five acres of land, known as the Inman property, on the corner of North Main Extension and Country Club Road, as a future building site. At a second special Quarterly Conference on January 27, 1960 it was unanimously decided that the entire congregation would build a new church plant on the above Inman site.

The following committees have been appointed with Robert M. Smith, General Chairman: Fund Raising Committee, Building and Planning Committee, Publicity Committee, and Memorials & Special Gifts Committee.

History will continue to write its story. With a great heritage Central Church will continue to live in the lives of its members, challenging the youth, comforting the aged, and facing the issues of the day with the courage and compassion of Christ.

There are many errors here, B/M

The Challenge Of The Present

Our Heritage

Central Church has served well this area for many years. The rich heritage of our forefathers has been ours for strength. Our Church has met a real need and has served a noble purpose. Now the time has come to recognize the new need of Central Church. Life depends upon changing our location. Let us hear the word of God and rise up as Abraham did so that Central Church may become a greater blessing to many people.

Let us go forth with the "Faith of Our Fathers" to meet the challenge of the new day and raise the necessary funds for a new and wonderful Central Church.

Immediate Action

Our Church cannot hope to gain many new members in the present crowded location. We will be losing ground to stay here. Though Central has sacred traditions and hallowed memories, these alone are inadequate tools with which to meet today's compelling needs and opportunities. A large part of our membership is now living in close proximity to our beautiful new site so it is the part of wisdom to re-locate our church now at this opportune time. The Official Board has unanimously voted to move to the new location. Now we have but to lend our support to the Financial Crusade authorized by our Board and led by competent leaders.

Our opportunity is NOW. Our challenge is to plan and provide for the present and for the future. Hundreds more people can be won for Christ if we will move ahead with courage and faith.

Central Church now faces unlimited, unprecedented opportunities. What will we do about it?

Let us now

RISE UP AND BUILD FOR ETERNITY

WHEN WILL WE BUILD?

Just as soon as sufficient funds are in hand and the other necessary requirements are met, we expect to begin construction. We earnestly hope and sincerely expect this to be not later than March 1, 1962. Can we do this? With the enthusiastic and loyal support of our many fine members and friends, we believe this can and will be done.

To this end we urgently request everyone:

To pledge as generously as he possibly can.

Our goal is large. It will require everyone of us to pay sacrificially and generously to reach it. The tithe is the Christian's minimum standard of giving.

Faith is the watchword. Prayer is the source of power. Consecrated hard work is the approach. Sacrificial, generous giving is the tool. All of these combined will enable us, by God's grace, to accomplish this worthy goal.

Banquet and Calls

During the period of September 13-16 you will have the privilege of attending a "Forward Step Banquet" in the interest of the Crusade. Those members and constituents who are unable to attend will be called upon by representatives of the church soon thereafter.

Schedule For The Week

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| Sunday, Sept. 11 | 11:00 A. M. Worship; Prayer of Dedication for all Crusade Organization members. No Special offering today. Brief checking conference for entire organization. |
| Sunday, Sept. 11 | 2:00 P. M. Meeting of the Steering Council. |
| Sunday, Sept. 11 | 7:00 P. M. Grand Coaching Conference for the Entire Organization. 90 minutes. |
| Tuesday, Sept 13 | 6:30 P. M. FORWARD STEP BANQUET for all members and other Friends, and for the complete organization at the Armory. |
| Tuesday, Sept 13 | Brief Steering Council Meeting immediately following the Banquet. |
| Wednesday, Sept. 14 | 6:30 P. M. Workers' dinner at the Church, assignments, and Visits. |
| Wednesday, Sept. 14 | 7:00 P. M. Steering Council Meeting |
| Thursday, Sept. 15 | 6:30 P. M. Workers' dinner, Reports, Assignments, Visits. |
| Friday, Sept. 16 | 6:30 P. M. Workers' Dinner, Reports, Assignments, Visits, and Final Check-Up. |

FINANCIAL STATEMENT ESTIMATES

Total Needed for Buildings, Furnishings, and Site	\$531,000.00
Site already Paid for	\$31,000.00
Cash on Hand	8,000.00
	\$39,000.00
	\$492,000.00
Minimum Goal of Present Crusade	250,000.00
To be provided otherwise	\$242,000.00

(1) From sale of present property

(2) From additional gifts

THESE ESTIMATES are projected on the best judgement our committee could make at this time. The architects, Design Associates of Statesville, N. C., have been secured to draw our plans. Their work for us has just begun so it is impossible this early to make accurate cost estimates. It has however, been estimated according to the best information available that we will need at least the minimum amount indicated in the above statement. On this basis we are therefore launching our challenging financial crusade for the minimum amount which is quite certain to be needed. The congregation will be kept informed just as soon as additional data are available.

Our Plans Is Simple and Straightforward

We ask every member and friend of Central to set aside a generous and sacrificial portion of his or her income each week for a period of 156 weeks (3 years), and that each one give the church first place on all contributions during that time. Some of course will be able to contribute out of accumulated wealth. However, payments may be made to suit the contributor in weekly, monthly, or optional installments, beginning October 1, 1960. Such pledges have proved many times to be the best way for most subscribers to make sacrificial gifts.

The subscriber may take advantage of four income tax periods.

What Is Sacrificial Giving?

As Christian people we must accept the principle of sacrificial giving to the Lord's work because it is an essential part of the Christian way.

WHAT IS SACRIFICIAL GIVING? It is giving requiring that we must give up something we want in order to make the gift. It is giving that means sacrificing something of our worldly wants or pleasures and even some of our financial security. For those who have faith in His promise, this kind of giving will be done cheerfully and eagerly.

WHAT IS SACRIFICIAL GIVING? For most of us it means giving an amount that we cannot possibly pay off all at once—an amount that will take 156 weeks to pay.

WHAT IS SACRIFICIAL GIVING? It is the kind of giving we do for those we love. We ask ourselves "How much can I give?" Token giving is selfish giving and asks "How little can I get by with?" Token giving brings only token spiritual reward. The greatest spiritual blessing will come to those who sacrifice.

WHAT IS SACRIFICIAL GIVING? It is giving made in the full realization that all of our Christian blessings have come to us because of Christ's sacrifice on the cross to redeem us.

WHAT IS SACRIFICIAL GIVING? Pray, and you will find the answer in your heart.

LET US REMEMBER THAT SACRIFICIAL GIVING BEGINS AFTER THE TITHE (ten percent) HAS BEEN PAID.

"TAKE HEED NOW; FOR THE LORD HATH CHOSEN THEE TO BUILD AN HOUSE FOR THE SANCTUARY: BE STRONG, AND DO IT."—I Chronicles 28:10.

How Can I Help?

Robert M. Smith, General Building Council Chairman

Knowing that varying family circumstances exist, the following table was prepared by the help of a large group of members and officials of our church. It indicates the degrees of sacrifice we must make if we are to complete successfully our present program.

The table shows the minimum number of contributions in each bracket that must be made if our goal is attained.

Most of the pledges will have to be paid out of current income. It is also expected that a number of members will make their gifts out of accumulated wealth rather than out of current earnings. Each individual will have to make his own decision in the light of what his resources are, what his responsibilities are, and what his conscience dictates.

The following Weekly Commitments will underwrite our goal:

No.		Per Week
2	at	\$36.00
1	at	33.00
3	at	27.50
6	at	25.00
5	at	20.00
11	at	17.00
5	at	13.50
12	at	11.50
19	at	10.00
17	at	7.00
19	at	6.00
29	at	5.00
41	at	4.00
81	at	3.00
8	at	2.50
9	at	2.25
52	at	2.00
18	at	1.75
37	at	1.50
18	at	1.25
266	at	1.00
9	at	.75
34	at	.50

INTERESTING INFORMATION

The following table prepared by Howell and Paterno, Certified Public Accountants, represents the actual cost of your contribution after tax saving.

If Your Taxable Income IS—	Your Contribution AND Is	If You Are Single It Will Cost You	If You Are Married It Will Cost You
\$ 3,000.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 468.00	\$ 480.00
4,000.00	800.00	624.00	640.00
5,000.00	1,000.00	740.00	780.00
10,000.00	2,000.00	1,320.00	1,480.00
15,000.00	3,000.00	1,670.00	2,100.00
20,000.00	4,000.00	1,940.00	2,640.00
25,000.00	5,000.00	2,110.00	3,050.00
30,000.00	6,000.00	2,340.00	3,340.00
35,000.00	7,000.00	2,570.00	3,620.00
40,000.00	8,000.00	2,720.00	3,880.00
50,000.00	10,000.00	2,920.00	4,220.00

"You can give without loving," BUT "You cannot love without giving."

What Can You Do?

Everyone Can Pray

God answers prayer.

Everyone Can Work

Action must accompany prayer.

Everyone Can Give

The only way we can have this New Building is for every member of the Church and Church School to give cheerfully, liberally, and sacrificially. It is not what you keep that brings happiness, but what you give.

Your Church will be dear to your heart, only as you make sacrifices to her.

REMEMBER: We are not building for ourselves alone, but for our children, and their children. We are building for time and eternity. • "Therefore when we build," said John Ruskin, "let us think we build forever. Let it not be for present use alone. Let it be such work as our descendants will thank us for: and let us think as we lay stone upon stone, that the time is to come when these stones will be held sacred because our hands have touched them, and that men will say as they look upon the labor and the wrought substance of them. 'See! this our fathers did for us'."

"Take heed now; for the Lord hath chosen thee to build an house for the sanctuary; be strong, and do it."—I Chronicles 28:10.

FINANCE CRUSADE ORGANIZATION

Rev. Earl H. Brendall, Minister

Rev. Rollin P. Gibbs, Director

Robert M. Smith, General Building Council Chairman

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Raymond A. Smith, Chairman; E. H. Brendall, Ex-officio; Robert M. Smith, Ex-officio; Howard Foy, Building Fund Treasurer; Ben Graves, John Lockhart, Hugh Merritt.

MEMORIAL & SPECIAL GIFTS COMMITTEE: Hugh Merritt, Chairman; O. H. Yokley, H. O. Woltz, Sr., Lindsay Holcomb, Robert M. Smith, Ex-officia; J. Raymond Smith, E. H. Brendall, Ex-officio.

PLANNING & BUILDING COMMITTEE: Ben Graves, Chairman; C. W. Cockrell, Bowman George, Jack Greenwood, Oscar Merritt, Sr., Raymond A. Smith, Ex-officio; Mrs. T. Jim Vaughn, Buck White, H. O. Woltz, Sr., Hale Yokley, Ex-officio: E. H. Brendall.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE: John Lockhart, Chairman; Mrs. Ben Graves, Bruce Tharrington, Mrs. Robert Smith, James H. Cox, Ex-officio: E. H. Brendall.

FUND RAISING COMMITTEE:

Raymond A. Smith, Chairman; Howard Foy, Bowman George, Ben Graves, Lindsay Holcomb, Hugh Merritt, W. J. Miller, Jr., Dr. Charles Sykes, W. S. Wolfe, Howard Woltz, Jr., Oscar Yokley, Ex-Officio: E. H. Brendall, T. Jim Vaughn, E. T. Clark.

DIVISION I

Howard Woltz, Major

Captains

Bowman George
Jack Greenwood
Bruce Tharrington
Jim Hadley

DIVISION II

Jim Miller, Major

Captains

James Cox
D. T. Joyner
A. B. Macon
Ed Clark

DIVISION III

Hale Yokley, Major

Captains

Frank Smith
Norris Hatcher
Fletcher Harris
Clay Hauser

DIVISION IV

Dr. Robert George, Major

Captains

Fred Lambert
Ed Worrell
W. A. Pearce
John Hamilton

TEAM MEMBERS

Mrs. Clarence C. Belton
James B. Davis
Mrs. Jack Greenwood
Richard Wimbish
Lindsay Holcomb, Jr.
William L. Holcomb
Earl Watson
George C. Wright
Mrs. R. F. Collins
Mrs. A. B. Macon
Eugene W. Paddison
Mrs. C. B. Shelton
Mrs. G. E. Brown
Miss Louise Foy
W. Hugh Holcomb
John E. Mills
Ernest Callaway
Friel M. Clark

Dr. Charles L. Sykes
Renner Vaughn
Mrs. Charles C. Crutchfield
George E. Rives
Ed Sparger
Mrs. Charles L. Sykes
Fred Folger, Jr.
Smith Holcomb
W. A. King
Jack Cox
William H. Cooper
Harvey P. Hartman
Lacy Jones
J. Parker Martin
E. Q. Benbow
Carroll F. Chauncey
E. H. Early
Marvin F. Sparger

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James E. Griffin
Mrs. J. R. Hamilton
Mrs. Vena Harris
Mrs. C. W. Cockrell
Mrs. William H. Cooper
Jack L. Leach
Mrs. Renner Vaughn
Mrs. E. Q. Benbow
Rossie J. Callaway
Mrs. Robert M. Smith
Edward C. Foy, III
Walter D. Leonard, Jr.
John E. Woltz
Dr. John Ashby
Mrs. Frank Smith
Mrs. B. H. Tharrington
Sam Vaughn

MEALS-BANQUET COMMITTEE

Mrs. T. Jim Vaughn, Chairman

There Are Two Seas In Palestine

There are two seas in Palestine. One is fresh and fish are in it. Splashes of green adorn its banks. Trees spread their branches over it and stretch out their roots to sip of its healing water. Along its shores the children play.

The River Jordan makes this sea with sparkling water from the hills. So it laughs in the sunshine. And men build their houses near it, and birds make their nests; and every kind of life is happier because of it. It is called the Sea of Galilee.

The River Jordan flows on south into another sea. There is no splash of fish, no fluttering leaf, no song of bird, no children's laughter. Travellers choose another route, unless on urgent business. The air hangs heavy about its waters and neither man nor fowl nor beast will drink. What makes the difference in these neighbor seas? Not the River Jordan. Not the soil in which they lie; nor the country round about.

This is the difference. The Sea of Galilee receives but does not keep the Jordan. For every drop that flows into it, another flows out. The giving and receiving go in equal measure. The other sea is shewder, hoarding its income jealously. It will not be tempted into any generous impulse. Every drop it gets, it keeps. The Sea of Galilee gives and lives. The other sea gives nothing. It is named the Dead Sea.

There are two kinds of people in the world. There are two seas in Palestine.

Bruce Barton.