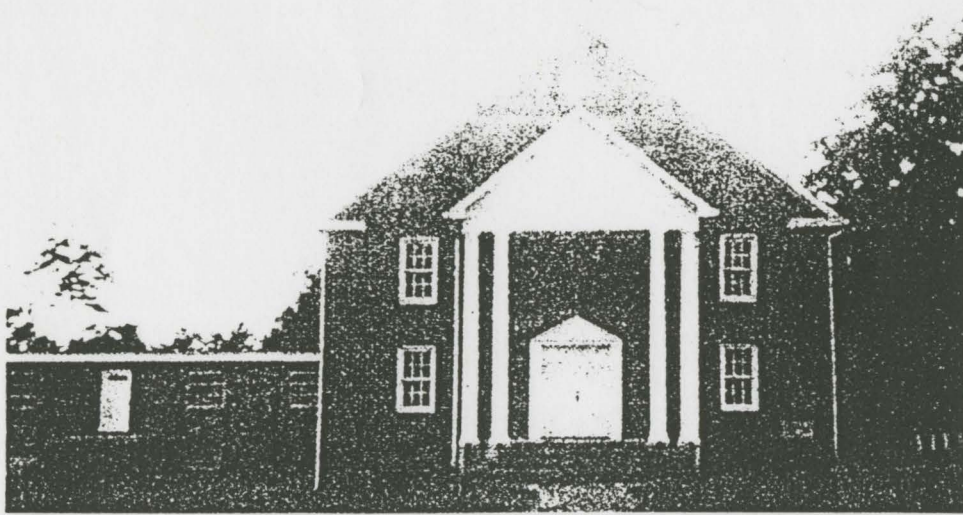


F/Westfield Friends



Bicentennial of Westfield Friends



Bicentennial of Westfield Friends

History of Westfield Friends Monthly Meeting

Westfield Monthly Meeting of Friends is the oldest church in the general area of the state next to the Moravians of Old Salem. The meeting was established as an off-spring of the historic New Garden Monthly Meeting at Guilford College in 1772. Since it was located west of Guilford College, it was referred to as "The Western Field" and thus came the name of Westfield. Before that it was called "Toms Creek."

The Westfield Friends would send representatives all the way to New Garden seventy miles every month, the Western Quarterly Meeting records show this. Travel between Guilford and Westfield in 1770 was through a gap in the Sauratown Mountain range, which to this day bears the name Quaker Gap.

The meetings first clerk was Boatwater Sumner. Westfield Friends has always realized the need of good schools. The meeting conducted one of the first schools in this part of the country. The meeting provided the teachers before public schools were known in this area. The school committee in 1872 included Sandy Cooke, William Henry Pell and Benjamin F. Davis. Among the teachers was Ellen Minthorne of West Branch Iowa, sister of President Herbert Hoover's mother, who later married Merlin Marshall of White Plains.

According to the records found in the superintendent's office of Surry County Schools, all the people who received their education at Westfield and entered the teaching profession made the highest grades on the teachers examination, which was given to ascertain the kind of certificate to be issued.

Some 36 families moved Westward during the period of the great migration and the monthly meeting was discontinued in 1832 until 1868. One Sunday 4 daughters of Joseph Jackson were married and all loaded up their buggies and left for Indiana never to return. Records of the meeting at New Garden show that many of the Carsons, Jessups, Pells and Cookes were in this Quaker migration (Luther N. Byrd).

The oldest record of a marriage certificate is Jacob Jackson and Ann Beals recorded in 1774 with 37 names listed as witnesses. This couple left for Ohio. One of their ancestors Albert Jackson of Whitliner Calif. sent this to our church. This family is still Quaker.

The first meeting house and school were located across the road where the cemetery is now. Later a building was placed where we have the boxwood and planter. We call this our memorial to Lewis McFarland who was our beloved pastor in the thirties and forties. Mr. George E. Edwards and his brother Dr. Edwards placed our granite marker on the meeting house grounds telling of our church history in memory of their mothers family the Davis' who lived here and were Quakers.

Pinson was the father of the
fruit industry in this portion
of the country. He had 20 varieties of fruits brought
from England by Anne Lloyd Jessup 1792
He established his nursery on his farm and
his father Richard Pinson's farm
N. of Westfield -

The early Friends introduced many varieties of grass seeds.
Abijah Pinson was a leader in this bringing in cultivated fruit and such
grass seed as Timothy, and English millet.

Hannah Jessup a Quaker Missionary from England brought the
first alfalfa seed to this country. They first grew down near the old
spring that is called George Fox Spring.

This is in
near
higher

The present pastor is Wayne Johnson who took Hershel Hills
pastorate when Hershel was appointed Executive Secretary of the N. C.
Yearly Meeting of Friends.

This is just a small amount of history about our meeting. We are
greatly indebted to the past saints who labored so hard in God's work
here at Westfield. As we start on the third century may we with all
Christian love and fellowship look to God for help and guidance in
everything we do as we labor in His vineyard.

Raynor Pell Wilson

Elders who have served our meeting in the past who are still living.

Rebecca Collins (our oldest living member)

W. R. Pell (Roy)

Robert Gammons

Isom Owens

Harvey Hunter

Carl Inman

James Tandy Pell, Sr. (J. T.)

Woodrow Smith

Jennie Simmons

Claudia Lynch

Don Fulk

Frankie Cooke Fulk

Clerks of the meeting of this century who are still Friends:

John Chilton — deceased

Amanda Cooke Pell — deceased

Bertie Dix Carroll — deceased

J. Wesley Pell — deceased

Nannie Inman Johnson

Annie Marshall

Raynor Pell Wilson

Elizabeth Johnson Smith

Jennie Collins Simmons

Judy Vaughn Johnson

Claudia Jessup Lynch — Present Clerk



CHURCH OFFICERS

1972-1973

Presiding Clerk
Recording Clerk
Treasurer
Assistant Treasurer
Elders

Claudia Lynch
Janie Moss
Eula Mae Vaughn
Sam Lynch
Raynor Wilson
Jennie Simmons
Malbert Johnson
Sam Lynch
Radford Hiatt
Elmer Collins
Nannie Johnson

Trustees	Sam Lynch Carl Inman Erastus Vaughn Radford Hiatt Don Fulk
Finance Committee	Don Moss Carl Inman Sue Hiatt Frankie Fulk
Cemetery Committee	Robert Gammons Josephine Collins Vadie Hall Erastus Vaughn Raynor Wilson Elizabeth Smith
Plot Man	Isom Owens
Assistant	Elmer Collins
Nominating Committee	Judy Johnson Don Fulk Nannie Johnson Lucy Jessup Woodrow Smith

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFICERS

1972-1973

Superintendent	Donald Fulk
Assistant	Carl Inman
Secretary	Denise Smith
Assistant	Joy Collins
Adult Class Teacher	Judy Johnson
Assistant	Raynor Wilson
Young Adult Class Teacher	Don Moss
Assistant	Radford Hiatt
Young Peoples Class Teacher	Janie Moss
Assistant	Frankie Fulk
Junior Class Teacher	Claudia Lynch
Assistant	Lucille Jessup
Beginner's Class Teacher	Elizabeth Smith
Assistant	Pam Hundley



STANDING COMMITTEES

Christian Education	Frankie Fulk (Chairman) Eula Mae Vaughn, Sue Hiatt, Rachel Jessup, Elizabeth Smith
Public Morals	Gary Leftwich
Stewardship	Sue Hiatt
Peace	Lucy Jessup
Literature	Elizabeth Smith
Young Friends	Denise Smith, Sandy Hiatt
Missions	Claudia Lynch
Evangelism	Donald Fulk



(Evidently from a newspaper article)

CHURCH MOVES IN NEW HOUSE NEXT SUNDAY

Westfield, March 18, 1939

The historic old Westfield Friends Church, one of the oldest seats of religious worship in Curry County, will be the scene of an interesting program on Sunday, March 26, when the members of the church, with the help of Friends leaders from all over the state, will formally dedicate the handsome church building that has recently been built.

The Westfield church dates back to Revolutionary War days, the Westfield meeting having first been set up under the care of the New Garden Meeting about 1770, and the dedication of the rebuilt church the fourth Sunday in March marks another milestone in the almost two centuries of denominational growth and service in this community.

The plans of the dedication services have been mapped out and announced by Rev. Lewis M. McFarland, pastor of the church, who stated that the dedicatory exercises will be held as a feature of an all-day program.

A number of outstanding leaders in the Friends Church will be present and take part in the program, among them Dr. Clyde A. Milner, president of Guilford College, Murray C. Johnson, general secretary of the North Carolina yearly meeting; and Rev. Joseph Peele, well known minister of Guilford College.

All Day Meeting

The "all-day meeting" will get underway at 11 o'clock with the devotionals, after which an interesting historical account of Westfield Friends Church will be given by Re. Joseph Peele, who is especially fitted for the role, due to the fact that his father, Rev. Albert Peele, was very active in re-establishing the meeting here after the close of the Civil War.

There will be dinner served picnic style on the grounds at the noon hour followed in the afternoon by an educational gathering.

The principal address in the afternoon meeting will be delivered by Dr. Milner and in connection with this educational program the school work of the Friends up-