

Our most precious charges are always offered to God if we truly love Him. This has been expressed so beautifully by an unknown poet - but as I remember, having been recited by Sarah Lane McCullers at Mt. Zion when she was three years old.

*"What shall I give Him as poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I'd give Him a lamb,
If I were a wiseman, I'd do my part;
What shall I give Him?
I'll give Him my heart."*

And truly our babies are our very hearts.

ALL THINGS BEAUTIFUL

All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful—
The Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings—
He made their glowing colors,
He made their tiny wings.

The purple-headed mountain,
The river running by,
The morning and the sunset
That lighteth up the sky;

The tall trees in the greenwood,
The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden—
He made them every one.

He gave us eyes to see them,
And lips, that we might tell
How great is God Almighty,
Who hath made all things well.

—*Cecil Frances Alexander.*

THE CEMETERY



Mt. Zion Cemetery

“The Good Shepherd’s Care”

*Through the Valley of the Shadow,
Their Good Shepherd was nearby,
As they kept their main engagement,
Man’s appointment once to die.
His staff and rod were comforting
As they felt His gentle bold
And followed Him to safety
In the shelter of the fold.*

(See the 23rd Psalm)

Rachael Dryden Sherratt

Very dear to our hearts is the sacred earth in which our loved ones are laid to rest. The Cemetery is often called “God’s Acre” and to us it really is. As the above poem by Mrs. Sherratt expresses, their Shepherd takes their hands and leads them there. Mrs. Sherratt, who is remembered by many who are living today and is now sleeping her “Sleep in Jesus”, often came to Mt. Zion and always read one of her lovely poems as part of the Memorial Service on Home Coming Day. Her home was in Philadelphia and she was the wife of William Sherratt. (Their only son, William Archabald Sherratt, came down to Raleigh to school and met and married Evelyn Edward McCullers, one of Mt. Zion’s daughters. Evelyn is the daughter of William Edward and Leute W. McCullers.)

After the gift of the additional land by the Rev. and Mrs. Autry, the Cemetery was enlarged and fenced. The Cemetery Committee leveled the plots and planted grass which improved the appearance of our Memorial Garden a great deal. However, as yet, there has been no land-

scaping done. We hope that in the near future much planting and beautifying will be planned.

Many of the members of the by-gone years have been borne up the aisle of Mt. Zion to lie amid myriads of flowers before her sacred altar as the beloved pastor dedicated their vacated bodies to God and commended their departed souls into His Holy keeping. They then have been brought down again and laid to rest in the Hallowed plot just east of the Sanctuary. In God's good time, we, each, who are here today will also pass down the aisle to our final resting place.

The people of Mt. Zion have never said "No" when a neighbor from another church wanted to place his loved one in our Sacred earth and may the time never come when we have to refuse due to lack of space. Always, when the need arose there was more land available and may it ever be so.

In the early years, the plantation owners usually established a family cemetery near their mansion houses and there are many of these old cemeteries within a few miles of Mt. Zion. There, awaiting God's summons on the final day, are resting many of our illustrious fore-fathers.

The first member to be laid to rest in the Mt. Zion Cemetery was William Westley Pate in 1896 and since then many others have been entombed there. They and their dates are as follows:

	Born - Died
William Wesley Pate	1821 - 1896
Brady, Baby Boy (twin)	1896 - 1896
Brady, Baby Boy (twin)	1896 - 1896
Margaret Avera Pate	1838 - 1898
Johnethan Kennetus Smith	1865 - 1899
Rachel F. Bradley	1838 - 1903
Anderson Gower	1832 - 1906
Sibyl Avera Smith	1841 - 1909
Baby Mary Christine McCullers	1909 - 1910
William Connie Batts	1877 - 1911
Bessie Barbour Seagroves	1877 - 1911
McCullers, Baby Boy (twin)	1911 - 1911
McCullers, Baby Girl (twin)	1911 - 1911
Mavis Christine Stevens	1911 - 1912
Samuel Walton Smith	1836 - 1912
Baby Hollis Battle Wright	1913 - 1914
Baby Prince	1914 - 1914

Baby Thomas W. Lee	1916 - 1916
Mary E. Smith Sanders	1863 - 1916
Baby Nora Christine Williams	1912 - 1916
Elizabeth J. Barnes Batts	1840 - 1917
Ada Frances Gower Wright	1878 - 1919
Lucie Anderson Wright	1899 - 1920
Baby Son of R. Y. & Lillie Penny	1920 - 1920
Robert Y. Penny	1883 - 1920
Arthur A. Godwin	1869 - 1921
Alma Barbour Lee	1872 - 1922
Amey N. Bost Williams	1895 - 1924
John J. Lee	1845 - 1924
Baby son of Bain & Lillie Franks	1924 - 1924
Bythan Bernice Johnson, Sr.	1850 - 1925
Baby Joseph Allen Moore	1923 - 1925
Bythan Bernice Johnson, Jr.	1881 - 1926
Baby Charlotte Frances Johnson	1925 - 1927
Katheryn Jane Brady	1903 - 1927
Mary E. Williams Lee	1842 - 1927
Baby Clarence David Stevens	1926 - 1927
James Edward Batts	1840 - 1927
Baby Charles Williams	1926 - 1928
Baby William Harold Wrenn	1924 - 1928
George Wilbur Wright	1912 - 1929
Sarah Coston Smith Willis	1841 - 1930
Virginia Lucille Penny	1923 - 1930
Marcus C. Batts, Jr.	1919 - 1930
Baby Graham F. Franks, Jr.	1931 - 1931
Baby Virginia Williams	1927 - 1931
Henrietta R. Jones Johnson	1859 - 1931
Willis A. Sanders	1855 - 1934
Johnethan Kennetus Brady	1899 - 1935
Bertie Dixon Godwin	1896 - 1935
Lucy Lee Sanders Bain	1895 - 1935
Sarah Sybil Brady	1903 - 1936
Henry Bernard Brady	1862 - 1936
Bettie J. Bridgers Gower	1855 - 1938
Donnie R. Godwin	1893 - 1938
Baby Harold Franks	1935 - 1937

Ernest L. Gower	1874 - 1940
James Tom Penny	1873 - 1940
Baby Boney	1942 - 1942
William Edward McCullers	1874 - 1943
Baby Warren Thornton	1943 - 1944
Charles C. Williams	1867 - 1944
Baby George T. Dawson, III	1944 - 1944
Baby Penny, child of Wiley Penny	1944 - 1944
Rev. Neil B. Johnson	1887 - 1944
Sherrall Barbour	1938 - 1945
Van Stephenson	1891 - 1946
Paul B. Godwin	1901 - 1946
Earl Creswell Brady	1894 - 1947
Willis Vance Sanders	1898 - 1947
Leute Willis McCullers	1877 - 1947
Milton A. Barbour	1899 - 1947
Baby Francis Salton Violet	1947 - 1947
Charlie M. Williams	1906 - 1949
John T. Wrenn	1874 - 1950
Baby Morgan	1951 - 1951
Hettie Barbour Godwin	1886 - 1951
John H. Penny	1885 - 1951
Nannie Elizabeth Leach	1878 - 1952
Sallie Gordon Carroll	1892 - 1953
Delphia Jane Johnson Moore	1895 - 1954
Elizabeth K. Hobby	1943 - 1955
Martha Elizabeth Sanders	1885 - 1955
George Arlington Wright	1874 - 1955
Bettie Lee Godwin	1871 - 1956
Norma B. Gower	1890 - 1956
Nora Johnson Williams	1868 - 1956
Kittie Overby Penny	1890 - 1956
Baby Timothy W. Penny	1956 - 1956
John B. Penny	1923 - 1957
Earl McElveen	1939 - 1958
Infant of Mr. & Mrs. D. C. Johnson, Jr.	1959 - 1959
Needam Whitley Jones	1914 - 1959
Alma Penny Jones	1890 - 1959
John Utley	1900 - 1957

Mary Ella Lee Barbour	1875 - 1959
Ava Mae Honeycutt Bridgers	1896 - 1960
Mallie A. Penny	1893 - 1960
William C. Jones	1889 - 1960
William Bert Rue	1873 - 1960
Howard A. Godwin	1903 - 1960
Elizabeth Suit Hobby	1908 - 1960
Joseph Matthew McCullers	1917 - 1960
George Washington Lane, Jr.	1901 - 1961
Sarah Smith Brady	1868 - 1961
Rainey Albert Moore	1893 - 1961
Salton A. Williams	1892 - 1961
Baby Michael Lee	1961 - 1961
Samuel M. Gordon	1887 - 1961
Catheryn Hall	1908 - 1961
Willard Brinkley Williams	1910 - 1962
Thomas Ruden George	1874 - 1962
Dexter D. Penny	1899 - 1962
Sandy B. Myers	1909 - 1962
Thomas Lane McCullers	1877 - 1962
James M. Stephenson, Jr.	1943 - 1962
Maggie Stephenson Williams	1891 - 1962
Erma Godwin Stephenson	1896 - 1962
Clyde C. Williams	1890 - 1963
James Melvin Stephenson, Sr.	1916 - 1964
Lois Watkins Young	1896 - 1964
Charlott A. Penny	1877 - 1964
Sie D. Coats	1910 - 1964
Thomas William Utley	1941 - 1964
Dr. Floyd Galloway Gower	1887 - 1965
Baby Kitty Christine Johnson	1965 - 1965
William Howard Penny	1913 - 1966

*"Twas not in anger, not in wrath,
The Reaper came that day;
Just an angel visited the green earth,
And took our flower away."*

Poet unknown

*And Jesus said, "Because I live,
Ye shall live also."*

St. John 14:19

OUR BELOVED PASTORS

Three of our early pastors



Rev. William A. Smith

Rev. B. C. Alread

Rev. G. W. Fisher

Mt. Zion and her people owe so very much to those who have led us spiritually that words are inadequate to express our gratitude. They, with God's help, and the aid of the lay leaders of Mt. Zion, have laid a foundation so deep and strong that the passing years and many changes have but proven their faith and God's power. We do honor them and ever love their memory. They have baptized us as infants and converts, taken us into the fellowship of the Church, administered the Lord's Supper to us, pronounced our marriage vows, comforted us when we were brokenhearted, visited us when we were sick and distressed, counseled us in spiritual truths, eulogized our loved ones and commended their souls into God's keeping, and have brought to us great sermons from God's Holy Word. They have truly been our earthly Shepherds and have led us "by the still waters and into the green pastures." Their greatness marches on through the years and inspires us on to more blessed labors.

As has been previously stated, the earliest preachers of Mt. Zion were the itinerant Circuit Riders and could not hold regular services at the Church. Some of the earliest ones for whom the exact date is unknown were William Anderson, William N. Crompton, J. Pervis, J. W. Floyd, W. H. Barnes, P. W. Archer, Daniel Culbreth, and J. W. Wilson. Those for whom the dates have been determined as nearly accurate as possible from old records and journals are as follows:

William Anderson (again)	1825 - 1829
William Abbington	1829 - 1831
Bennett T. Blake	1831 - 1832
H. Speck	1832 - 1833
John A. Miller	1833 - 1834
Bennett T. Blake (again)	1834 - 1836