

blessed us with several inspirational songs on the final evening of the revival. Two precious young people gave their lives in service to God during the week. They are John Eric Raynor and April Foy Raynor, twin brother and sister, children of Roy Max, Sr. and Clara Powell Raynor and great, great, great grandchildren of one of our Circuit Rider Pastors, Thompson Garrard. We praise our Heavenly Father for His gift to us through these young ones and we pray His greatest blessings for them.

Bishop Blackburn's precious wife, Mary Jeanne Everett who died in May 1977, came to Mt. Zion several times to help with our women's work. We do cherish and honor her memory and have made a contribution to the "Mary Jeanne Blackburn Scholarship Fund". This Fund will be a great blessing to many young people who need help in order to gain a thorough education and to live a more bountiful life of service.



Bishop Paul N. Garber
1899 - 1972
Our Wonderful Leader.
From
1951 - 1968

THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE CAROLINA CIRCUIT OF METHODISM

"Lord, Thou has been our dwelling place in all generations."

Psalms 90:1

We, as Carolina Methodists, have been blessed with two hundred years in which to serve our Lord and fellowman; and we know that God is still "our dwelling place". May we at Mt. Zion ever grow in service to Him and to those with whom we come into daily contact.

On April 3, 1976, the Bicentennial of the "Carolina Circuit" was celebrated at the Cameron Indoor Stadium at Duke University. Those of us from Mt. Zion, who attended, were thrilled with the history and the record of our achievements through the years and of our efforts to do God's bidding.

Almost eight thousand people from all over the State attended, many in colonial costumes and with their Church banners.

The Duke University Chapel Choir led the music and rendered several inspirational anthems during the Service.

The celebration began with an invitation to the "whole world to join in praising God". We then responded with, "We invite the sky to thunder His Word, the earth to rumble in His praise and the sea to swirl in song".

This was followed by numerous hymns of praise sung by the assembly and the choirs from many universities and colleges. Mingled with the music there were addresses by our Bishop, Robert M. Blackburn, and the Bishop of the Western North Carolina Conference, Earl G. Hunt. The President of Duke University, Terry Sanford, made the introductions and engineered the program through to a grand finale.

There were references to God's great Creation and the establishment and growth of Christianity with all races of people throughout the eons of time.

An American Indian prayer was quoted as follows:

"May the sun always be warm on your shoulders,
May the spirit of the wind blow gently across your face,
May the light of the moon and stars always guide your paths,
May the moisture of the dew always fill the thirst of your life,
From the rising of the sun to the setting of the moon,
From today until tomorrow, and from this moment to forever."

Dean Thomas Langford of Duke University led the assembly in the symbolism of the rock upon which Jesus established His Church through faith like Peter's when He said, "Thou art Peter and upon this rock I will build My Church". Matthew 16:18. Each person was presented a bit of stone taken from the quarry near the university. (Stones from this quarry were used in constructing Duke University and the beautiful Duke Chapel)

The Editor of the Christian Advocate, James C. Stokes, had this to say about the continuation of our work for the Lord;

"We are gathering new strength for the tests of tomorrow.
We are not going to death under the burdens of these times!
Rather we are rising with Christ out of the tomb to a larger life,
A more meaningful servanthood, and a more glorious destiny."

CORRECTIONS FOR VOLUME I

Errors and omissions found in the first volume, of course, were not made intentionally. "To err is human", we are told; and to find those errors and make amends is a God given achievement. The errors and omissions found so far are as follows:

1. On Page 26, concerning those who helped raised funds for the Church during the depression days of 1929-33, is stated that two of those who helped in addition to many others were "Lenwood Wrenn and wife, Edyth Wrenn". **Correction:** It should have read Lenwood Wrenn and wife, Julia G. Wrenn.

2. On Page 32 is stated that Ransom Bridgers and Adeline Thompson were parents of Mary Bridgers Taylor, wife of A.D. Taylor. The record of Ransom Bridgers and wife, Adeline Thompson Bridgers, having sold land to a Mr. Gower in the eighteen hundreds was found in a Johnston County Book of Deeds. However, it has been brought to my attention that Ransom Bridgers and wife, Adeline Barber Bridgers were the parents of Mary Bridgers Taylor. The Ransom Bridgers and wife, Adeline Thompson, are not recorded in the Bridgers-Taylor family record.

3. Page 68

Member or Friend	To Whom Married
Recorded: Mark Myatt	Unknown
Correction: Mark Myatt	Mary Speight

4. Page 69

Recorded:	Elizabeth Willis Sanders	Dr. John Thomas Leach
Correction:	Elizabeth Willis Sanders	Dr. James Thomas Leach

5. Page 76

Add:	Lonnie Batts	Ruby Payne Batts	Date Joined Church
			1917
Page 78	Recorded:	Edward Wrenn	1. Jackie Elliott
			2. Alice Vester
	Correction:	Edward Wrenn	Alice Vester Wrenn
			1926
Page 81	Recorded:	Doris Caroll	Johnnie Johnson
			1938
	Correction:	Doris Carroll	Charles M. Johnson
			1938

6. On Pages 92 and 94 in the chapter on Marriages the dates of two of our members' marriages were miscopied:

Recorded: William Lester Crips & Della Mae Cox - 1853

Correction: William Lester Crisp & Della Mae Cox - 1953

Recorded: Ernest D. Penny and Betsy Jane Pagan - 1949

Correction: Ernest D. Penny and Betsy Jane Pagan - 1946

Also, on page 94 the marriage of one couple was omitted due to lack of knowledge at the time.

"it is human to err - but to forgive is divine."



L'Envoi

When earth's last picture is painted and
the tubes are twisted and dried,
When the oldest colors have faded and the
youngest critic has died,
We shall rest; and, faith, we shall need it
— lie down for an aeon or two,
Till the Master of all good workmen
shall set us to work anew!

And those that were good shall be happy:
they shall sit in a golden chair;
They shall splash in a ten-league canvas
with brushes of comet's hair;
They shall find real saints to draw from
— Magdalene, Peter and Paul;
They shall work for an age at a sitting,
and never be tired at all!

And only the Master shall praise us, and
only the Master shall blame,
And no one shall work for money, and no
one shall work for fame;
But each for the joy of the working, and
each in his separate star,
Shall draw the thing as he sees it for the
God of things as they are!

— Kipling.

EPILOGUE

"They that trust in the Lord shall be as Mount
Zion which cannot be removed but abideth forever."

Psalms 125:1

How wonderful it is to know that God's Mount Zion will abide forever and that they who trust in Him shall also abide forever. May our Mt. Zion, which, too, is God's Mt. Zion, continue in His work down through the ages as long as He wills. And may those who do His will in the work of the Church ever find joy in serving Him and others.

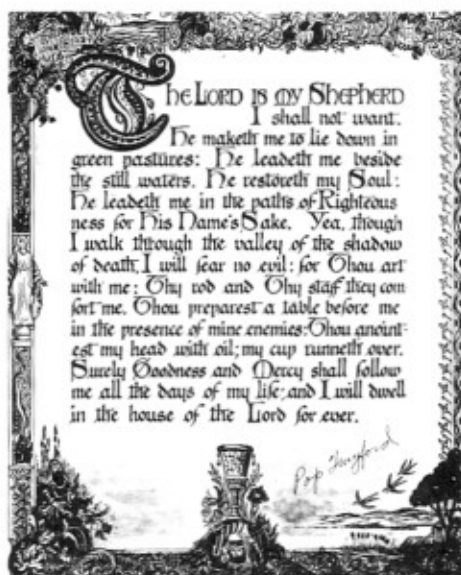
It has been a joy to compile this Volume II of Mt. Zion's History. I have received aid from many members and friends in recording interesting facts concerning much of the Church's service to the community. May the membership grow in numbers and ever labor to the Glory of God and for the joy and peace of those who follow.

May God's richest blessings rest with each one.
Merdyth McCullers Lane (Mrs. Geo. W.)

The Church

"The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation
By water and the Word.
From Heaven He came and sought her
To be His Holy Bride.
With His own blood He bought her
And for her life He died.

Samuel Wesley 1810-1876



Psalm 23.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND HELP

Many of the Mt. Zion members have helped me with suggestions and information. I have searched the Church records and have received help from articles found in the Johnston County Library and Court House. I have, also, read articles concerning the work of the Church reported in the Christian Advocate and have received inspiration from reading the Bible and books of "good works".

Those who have helped me are: Clara Powell Raynor, Barbara Taylor Ennis, Mary Hocutt Taylor, Louise Johnson Johnson, Charles L. and Margaret Werner McCullers, LaVette Cooke Boone, Robert A. and Lena Barbour Stevens, Cecil and Blanche Johnson Hobby, Roy Max Raynor, Sr., Roy Max Raynor, Jr., Beatrice Young Carroll, Durwood C. and Pansy Blalock Johnson, Mabel Grissom Penny, Susan Penny, Arch and Evelyn McCullers Sherratt, Rosa Lee Walker Ray, Robert Dupree, Garland and Odell McGee Penny, Emily Taylor Henley, Vivian Mitchell (Bishop Blackburn's Secretary), Rev. Ed and Jane Nelms Barber, Vic and Mary Myers Council, Casey and Billie Penny Matthews, Bettie J. Stevens Sorrell, Evelyn Knott Stevens, Otha and Onnie L. Boyett Barbour, Rev. William and JoAnne Lee Jeffries, Dexter Tart, Nancy McCullers Ferguson, Louise Grissom Dean, Danny Batten, Mozelle Godwin Cox and Catheryn Cox, Frank and Rachael Grissom Tart, LaVerne Bass Coats, Callie Johnson Jones, Mary Johnson Broughton, Pearl Johnson Londy, Edna Mae Clark Dawson, Leoman and JoAnne Blalock Myers, Shelby Stephenson Myers, Eric and April Raynor, Leona Blalock, Marylan Londy Cunningham, and Loraine Grissom.

The Holy Bible, Grange Handbook, World Almanac, Smithfield Herald, Christian Advocate, Guide Post, *Methodist Altars* by Arnett and Clark; *Songs Merry and Sad* by John Charles McNeil; *God Is Everywhere* selected by Harold Whaley; *Random Thoughts* by Christine Waring Walker; Johnston County Book of Deeds; *Songs for the Sunday School* by J.R. Pepper.