

B. Watson	1836 - 1837
John E. Edwards	1837 - 1840
William W. Turner	1840 - 1844
John E. Edwards (again)	1844 - 1846
Thompson Garrard	1846 - 1849
E. E. Freeman	1849 - 1851
Peter H. Joyner	1851 - 1853
Philmer W. Archer	1853 - 1856
Junius P. Moore	1856 - 1859
William A. Smith	1859 - 1860
R. C. Maynard	1860 - 1863
T. P. Ricaud	1863 - 1867
J. B. Bobbit	1867 - 1871
A. R. Raven	1871 - 1872
T. B. Reeks	1872 - 1875
J. E. Thompson	1875 - 1879
J. B. Bobbit (again)	1879 - 1881
B. B. Culbreth	1881 - 1882
R. C. Beamon	1882 - 1883
A. M. Lowe	1883 - 1884
H. E. Wiley	1884 - 1886
B. C. Alread	1886 - 1888
R. W. Bailey	1888 - 1889
R. A. Raven (again)	1889 - 1891
J. J. Barker	1891 - 1893
J. M. Ashby	1893 - 1896
M. M. McFarland	1896 - 1897
J. T. Draper	1897 - 1900
S. A. Cotton	1900 - 1902
G. W. Fisher	1902 - 1905
J. V. Williams	1905 - 1906
G. B. Starling	1906 - 1910
C. W. Robinson	1910 - 1913
J. H. Buffaloe	1913 - 1914
E. B. Craven	1914 - 1918
M. B. Cox	1918 - 1920
J. G. Johnson	1920 - 1922
J. D. C. Stroud*	1922 - 1923
G. W. Starling**	1923 - 1925
G. W. Fisher*** (again)	1925 - 1926
W. G. Pratt	1926 - 1928
W. L. Clegg	1928 - 1931
B. B. Houston****	1931 -
E. R. Shuller	1931 - 1933

T. B. Hough	1933 - 1937
B. H. Black	1937 - 1939
D. D. Traynham	1939 - 1943
E. B. Craven (a second time)	1943 - 1944

(Mr. Craven was ill for several months and died while on the charge; therefore, M. R. Chambers and A. R. Bell supplied during 1944 - 1945)

N. P. Edens	1945 - 1947
R. G. L. Edwards	1947 - 1950
J. W. Garrison	1950 - 1953

(Mr. Garrison entered the Mission Field and was replaced by a layman, Mr. Kale Burgess, until the meeting of the conference - 1953)

E. W. Rogers	1953 - 1956
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(Mr. Rogers transferred to the South Carolina Conference, and the pulpit was supplied by J. H. Overman and W. A. Cade - 1956)

Charles E. Sparkes	1956 - 1960
Wesley S. Jones	1960 - 1963

(Mr. Jones transferred to the Georgia Conference; thusly the pulpit was supplied by various lay speakers until conference)

Robert B. Ward	1963 - 1964
Dan E. Meadows	1964 -

Two young student preachers, namely The Reverends Forest Headen (1928 - 1929) and Earl Cunningham (1932) worked with the young people during their vacation and helped in the Vacation Bible School and summer activities of the Epworth League.

Our clergymen have been a great blessing to us, and we cherish each one in a very special way. May the influence of their good works ever remain in force throughout all the generations of Mt. Zion.

*Mr. Stroud died while on the charge

**Mr. Starling also died while here

***Mr. Fisher was our third pastor to die in succession on our charge.

****Mr. Houston became ill and was followed by Mr. E. R. Shuler

OUR PRESIDING ELDERS AND DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS

During the early years of American Methodism, John Wesley realized that the young organization in America needed to be supervised more closely than he was able to do while steering the work in England; therefore, he sent several assistants to oversee the Lord's work here. One of these was Francis Asbury, who was later consecrated Bishop. While an assistant, he traveled in North Carolina and did much to strengthen the congregations already established by the itinerant preachers.

The first superintendent to be appointed solely to North Carolina as far as can be determined was Francis Poythress in 1785. (The term "presiding elder" was first used in 1789). Those who followed him after Mt. Zion was established and before 1828, were T. L. Douglas, L. Pierce, and John Burton.

Found in the *Conference Journals* dated from 1828, and from the Mt. Zion records, those who served in this District are as follows:

Moses Brock	1828 - 1830
Joseph Carson	1830 - 1833
James Reid	1833 - 1837
Hezikah P. Leigh	1837 - 1841
James Jamerson	1841 - 1844
Peter Doub	1844 - 1846
D. B. Nicholson	1846 - 1850
Hezekiah P. Leigh*	1850 - 1854
William Closs	1854 - 1860
Robert O'Burton	1860 - 1864
William Barringer	1864 - 1868
L. L. Herndon	1868 - 1872
W. H. Bobbitt	1872 - 1874
J. P. Moore	1874 - 1876
R. M. Brown	1876 - 1879
N. H. D. Wilson	1879 - 1880
M. C. Thomas	1880 - 1882
S. D. Adams	1882 - 1884
N. H. D. Wilson*	1884 - 1886
F. L. Reed	1886 - 1888
W. S. Black	1888 - 1891
J. A. Cuningim	1891 - 1892
G. A. Oglesby	1892 - 1894
E. A. Yates	1894 - 1898

J. T. Gibbs	1898 – 1903
W. H. Moore	1903 – 1907
R. B. John	1907 – 1910
W. L. Cuninggim	1910 – 1912
J. H. Hall	1912 – 1916
J. E. Underwood	1916 – 1920
J. C. Wooten	1920 – 1923
M. T. Plyler	1923 – 1927
M. Bradshaw	1927 – 1930
H. M. North	1930 – 1932
S. F. Love	1932 – 1935
J. H. Barnhart	1935 – 1939
H. I. Glass	1939 – 1943
H. B. Porter	1943 – 1950
E. B. Fisher	1950 – 1951
R. E. Brown**	1951 – 1952
W. A. Cade	1952 – 1953
Grady Dawson	1953 – 1958
Graham Eubanks	1958 – 1964
N. W. Grant	1964 –

These Godly men have served our District with deep spiritual leadership and have always proved a blessing to the Mt. Zion people.

*Served a second time

**Mr. Brown died while serving this district



Rev. Nick Grant

OUR BISHOPS



Bishop Francis Asbury

The Earthly Head of the Church is, of course, the Bishop. When the Church was first established in America, John Wesley remained the Leader of Methodism under God until after the Revolutionary War. In 1784, the Reverends Messrs. Thomas Coke and Francis Asbury were appointed the first Bishops of America. Mr. Asbury served in North Carolina as the first Bishop. He was called to his eternal rest in 1816. The North Carolina Conference was created in 1837, and prior to that date several of the Bishops of America had jurisdiction over the North Carolina churches. The exact dates which these first bishops served this area is not known, but it is certain that they served in North Carolina.

Francis Asbury - early 1800's;

William McKendree - after 1808 and again in 1829-1834.

Between the years that Mr. McKendree served, there were T. L. Douglas, L. Price, and John Burton. From 1835 to 1855, the bishops were Elija Heading, Robert R. Roberts, Joshua Soule, James O'Anderson, John Emory, Beverly Waugh, Thomas A. Morris, William Capers, and Henry Bascom.

Between 1855 and 1872 there were John Early (1862-1865), Calvin Kingsley, Enoc Marvin, Holland N. McTyeire, H. H. Kavanaugh, D. S. Doggett, and George Pierce.

Isaac Wiley and Robert Paine	1872 - 1882
John C. Keenen	1882 - 1883
Linus Parker	1883 - 1884
John C. Keenen (again)	1884 - 1886
Joseph Key	1886 - 1887
John C. Granberry	1887 - 1888
Robert K. Hargrove	1888 - 1889
John C. Keenen (again)	1889 - 1890

Charles B. Galloway	1890 – 1891
William C. Duncan	1891 – 1894
A. W. Wilson	1894 – 1897
Robert K. Hargrove (again)	1897 – 1901
A. Coke Smith	1901 – 1903
Warren A. Chandler	1903 – 1904
A. W. Wilson (again)	1904 – 1907
Charles Galloway	1907 – 1908
A. W. Wilson (again)	1908 – 1909
Eugene Hendrix	1909 – 1910
E. E. Hoss	1910 – 1911
Collin Denny	1911 – 1913
J. H. McCoy	1913 – 1920
John C. Kilgo	1920 – 1923
Collin Denny (again)	1923 – 1933
Edward Mouzon	1933 – 1936
Clare Purcell	1937 – 1939
W. W. Peele	1939 – 1945
Paul N. Garber	1945 – until the present time



Bishop Paul N. Garber

Methodism has grown mightily under the guidance of these consecrated men and we ever honor them.

As far as can be affirmed, only six native North Carolinians have entered the Episcopacy. They were Robert Pain, a native of Person County, consecrated Bishop in 1846; Oscar Penn Fitzgerald, a native of Caswell County, consecrated Bishop in 1920; Robert Elijah Jones, a native of Greensboro, consecrated Bishop in 1920; William Walter Peele, a native of Scotland County, consecrated Bishop in 1938; Costen Jordan Harrell, a native of Gates County, consecrated Bishop in 1944; and Robert N. Brooks, a native of Hollis, consecrated Bishop in 1944. Bishops Robert Pain and William W. Peele served in this area. We are honored that these native sons of North Carolina were called into the highest order of the Church.

A SONG UNTO THE LORD

Oh, come, let us sing unto the Lord;
Let us make a joyful noise to the rock
of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with
thanksgiving;

Let us make a joyful noise unto him with
psalms.

For the Lord is a great God,
And a great king above all gods.

In his hand are the deep places of the
earth;

The heights of the mountains are his,
also.

The sea is his, and he made it;
And his hands formed the dry land.

Oh, come, let us worship and bow down;

Let us kneel before Jehovah our Maker,

For he is our God,

And we are the people of his pasture and
the sheep of his hand.

—*Psalms* *XCV*.