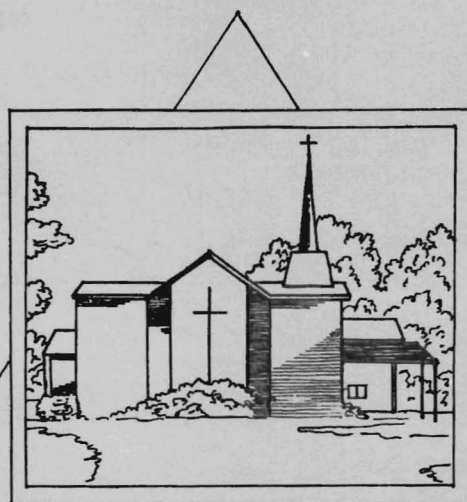


# *History of* **TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**



**1961**



**1873**



**1910**



THE  
HISTORY  
OF  
TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1873 - 1984

Prepared by:  
Mrs. Hoyt Haynes



## THE HISTORY OF TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

### Beginnings:

The exact date of the beginning of Trinity Church seems to be lost to history. The general opinion is that the church was started about the year 1870.

Recorded in the Clerk's office, Hall County Book "K", Page 111, we find a deed from Z. B. Thomason and M. W. Finger made on May 12, 1873 of four acres more or less.

The area in which the church was located was not without Methodist people and Methodist churches before Trinity came into being. In fact, there were two churches which merged to form Trinity Church. The two churches were Sunshine Church and Williams Chapel.

The two churches agreed to consolidate and build another church. The new church was to be located halfway between Sunshine and Williams Chapel. Thus, the way was paved for erection of the first house of worship to be known as Trinity.

These two churches were both log buildings much smaller than the proposed sanctuary.

Williams Chapel was west of the proposed church on the left of Ransom Free Road on William Hovie Chambers' farm. The Williams Chapel graveyard can still be found on Chambers' farm.

Williams Chapel was sold by trustees Oscar E. Floyd, D. Turner Quillian, and P. Lonnie Gailey on April 7, 1913 to R. Homer Haynes for forty dollars for the three acres more or less.

Sunshine Church was East of the proposed church on Skitts Mountain Road. It was also known as Campground Road. The congregation at Sunshine was composed of Methodist and Baptist who joined together because of similar tragedies. A church named Holly Springs Baptist burned, and before another structure was built the congregation met with the Methodist at Sunshine. The Methodists who formed Sunshine used to worship in a two-story house called the Polkesville

Church; however, it burned also. Since both congregations were without a place to worship, they formed Sunshine. Later, the Baptists built another sanctuary and called it Holly Springs. Some of the Methodists also built another sanctuary and called it Clemons Chapel. Both of these churches are still in existence today.

The rest of the Methodists from Sunshine combined with Williams Chapel Methodists in forming Trinity.

Rev. David L. Anderson was the pastor when Trinity was built in 1873. He helped to erect the new church. Later he became a missionary to China.

Trinity became a charge of the Hall Circuit, Gainesville District, North Georgia Conference, in 1875. Rev. John R. Parker was the Presiding Elder, and J. H. Mashburn was the pastor.

#### Expansion:

Another deed was made to Trinity Church of three-fourths acre more or less from John Wesley Haynes on July 1, 1885. The next couple of decades were to bring growth. A church record of September 5, 1909 states, "An informal church conference was held and authority given the building committee to proceed to erect a new church on present site or near thereto at the earliest date practicable."

Just a little more than a year later the people had a new sanctuary. Rev. J. O. L. Morgan was pastor at the time of construction. The new church was dedicated on October 2, 1910. Rev. W. C. Lovet, the Presiding Elder, preached the dedication sermon. Rev. M. J. Cofer conducted the dedication services. He was the pastor of Trinity between 1877-1878.

The present sanctuary has a curio cabinet within the chancel area, left of the pulpit, made out of an antique bed lamp table. This was made by Mr. W. J. Maier with money donated by F. Joe Haynes, Jr., "In memory of Hoyt T. Haynes," his brother. Inside is a communion set presented to Trinity Methodist Church on June 12, 1888, by the A. G. Jennings family. It was later resilvered by Mrs. Charles Allen. The communion set includes two chalices, two plates, and one flagon. The flagon is engraved "Trinity M.E. Church S. June 12, 1888." At that time the name of our denomination was Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and that is what the "M.E. Church S." represents.

On top of the curio cabinet is an original letter in a frame given to Trinity by Broughton and Hazel Rider in 1980. This historical document records the church of 1910 which was dedicated October 2, 1910. Dr. W. C. Lovett preached and Rev. M. Cofer conducted the dedication service. Rev. J. O. L. Morgan was the pastor at that time. "The house was filled to its capacity," according to the document. Also identified were the members of the building committee. There were: Mr. D. T. Quillian, Chairman, Mr. O. E. Floyd, Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. P. L. Gailey, Mr. J. F. Haynes, and Mr. T. T. Haynes.

A most interesting story is told that a collection taken the day of the 1910 dedication finished paying for the church. Rev. W. M. Barnett was the first pastor assigned after the new church building was completed.

The old church building was sold to Tom N. Hulsey, a church member. He used the lumber in the ceiling and floors of two bedrooms in the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Chandler. Mrs. Chandler was Mr. Hulsey's daughter.

The same year, 1910, Mr. R. M. Haynes deeded to Trinity one-four acre more or less.

Technological progress brought its improvements in the way of electric lights, gas heating system, and the addition of six church school rooms in the early forties under the direction of Mr. S. G. Hulsey with Mr. Ben C. Haynes as treasurer.

Trinity met the needs of the community by being used as a public school for grades 5-8 when the Brookton School house burned on December 12, 1950. Rev. Dewey E. Bailey, a teacher at Brookton that year, was acting principal at Trinity.

Trinity Church was definitely a rural church in a rural setting surrounded by trees, farmland, dairy farms and a church cemetery.

The church was not pretentious in architecture, but its size was adequate for the needs of the community it served.

#### Growth:

1952-1956 was the first time in the history of the church that Emory University students, Rev. Billy J. Cox (1952-1954) and Rev. John R. Brabham (1954-1956), served as pastors.

During these years (1952-1956) a number of organizations were formed; as, the Methodist Men's group, the commissions, official board and nursery for worship service. Long before these organizations were formed, the women of the church had been organized as the WMS.

The Woman's Missionary Society, as it was called, was organized by Miss Bert Winters on February 8, 1915, with 18 members. She was a rural worker paid by the North Georgia Methodist Conference. In 1941 the name was changed to Woman's Society of Christian Service (WSCS) and in 1968 it became the United Methodist Women, or UMW. The ladies organization has always been a strong support group of Trinity Church.

Another group of individuals has always shared in the support of the church. This group is the youth. While they may have been small in number at times, they remained active. They were organized as the Epworth League. Later they became the MYF or Methodist Youth Fellowship; and after the merger of the United Brethren denomination with the Methodists in 1968, the youth organization became the United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF).

Development within and outside the church continued. The road to and around the church was graded and graveled through the endeavors of Mr. John E. Quillian and Mr. O. O. Stringer in 1954.

An organ was given in 1955 to the church by Mrs. Mongah Young and her mother, Mrs. F. Joe Haynes, Sr., in memory of Mr. F. Joe Haynes, Sr. It was dedicated on May 20, 1956.

While development was occurring in the church, it was not limited to just the church.

In the early twenties land had been purchased in two lots. One from Mr. R. M. Haynes (40' x 200') and one from J. C. Quillian Bros. (60' x 200') on March 1, 1921. Rev. F. G. Spearman, pastor (1910-1921), received funds from North Georgia Conference to build a parsonage. A parsonage was built approximately one-half mile south of Trinity Church on the west side of Clarksbridge Road. That home still stands there today.

A unique feature of that home was the fact that it was built on a main survey line. An often told story is told that when surveyors had to do some surveys, the front and rear doors of the house would be opened so the surveyor could sight through the house to the marker.



The parsonage trustees were Messrs. P. L. Gailey, R. M. Haynes, E. A. Maynard, A. B. Gilstrap, and Elmer Miller, in 1921. When that parsonage was sold on September 12, 1953 to Mr. J. Henry Haynes, the trustees were Messrs. John E. Quillian, Jim Hughes, Claude Roark, J. O. Gilstrap, and Clyde E. Waters.

In 1952, while an Emory student, Rev. Billy J. Cox, was serving as pastor, the church decided to sell the existing parsonage and build a new one when the need arose.

On February 5, 1956, a church conference was called to discuss building a new parsonage.

The Quarterly Conference authorized Trinity Church to build a parsonage for use of pastor and his family on a lot given to Trinity Church by Mr. Broughton G. Rider. The lot was located just a few hundred yards north of the church on Clarksbridge Road.

Trustees of the new parsonage were Mr. John E. Quillian, Mr. James F. Haynes, Mr. William T. Chandler, Mrs. Broughton G. Rider, and Mrs. George T. Haynes, Jr.

The building committee was Mr. Broughton G. Rider, Mr. S. Gordon Hulsey, builder, Mrs. Ben C. Haynes, Mrs. Frank Gailey, and Mr. Frank H. Glover.

In 1957 Rev. and Mrs. J. Alton Johnson moved into the new parsonage, but it was not dedicated until July, 1959, when Rev. and Mrs. Charles Dennis were pastoring.

In addition to the development of the sanctuary, Sunday School classrooms and parsonages, there were still other symbols of growth.

In the early months of 1954 a unanimous vote was made to build a church annex for socials and recreation for the youth people.

The annex was completed, and on May 25, 1955 the Woman's Society of Christian Service (WSCS) hosted a District Meeting. Madame Induk Pahk brought the message. A homecoming luncheon on June 5, 1955 was held in the building. The building was dedicated December 18, 1955 by Rev. Zach C. Haynes, District Superintendent.

#### Formation of a Station Church:

Rev. Dewey E. Bailey was the pastor in 1960. It was then when Trinity became a station church and had its own full-time pastor. Before 1960

Trinity's pastor served South Bend, Bethel in Hall County, Peck's Chapel in Lumpkin County, Bethel and Mossy Creek in White County.

Several improvements were made between 1960 and 1970 under the pastorates of Rev. Dewey Bailey, Rev. Truman Thomas, and Rev. Paul Davis. The church went to full-time services, two wings were added with eight church school rooms (1961), the inside of the church was renovated, a new entrance into the church was made, and the outside of the church was bricked and a cross was erected on the front of the church. A new piano and pulpit furniture were bought in 1963. New light fixtures, heating, and air conditioning systems were installed in 1964. The floors were sanded and refinished in 1965.

The church was carpeted in the 1970-1980 years, and a new altar rail installed. New sanctuary stained glass windows were installed in 1973 in memory or in honor of loved ones.

The need for more bedroom space in the parsonage arose, so in October 12, 1980, Mr. Chester Haynes donated a lot for a new parsonage in memory of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George T. Haynes, Sr. The lot is just south of the church where the existing parsonage is located. The Rev. Jimmy Moor moved into the new parsonage in June, 1980.

In January, 1983 the parsonage was completely paid off, and on August 14, 1983 the parsonage was dedicated by Bishop Joel McDavid officiating. The old parsonage was sold to Mr. Broughton Rider.

The church has come a long way from 1873, with its old one room boxed sanctuary to the existing house of worship complete with Sunday School classrooms, fellowship hall and parsonage.

While Trinity is still located in a rural setting, the area is rapidly changing as the population swells.

Not much has been recorded about the members of this church in this historical summary, but it goes without saying that its people have grown continuously as indicative of its physical growth. Ministers, teachers, Christian parents and workers have known Trinity as the church of their childhood. There are many people throughout this state and other states who call this community "home." Trinity has been like a spring sending its youth, like

water, into the river of life. At the same time Trinity has welcomed and continues to welcome those new to its community. Growth and development have been its history and surely are a part of its future.

Hazel M. Haynes, Historian Chairman  
Carol Quillian, Co-Chairman

Sources of information:

1. Rev. Bill J. Cox, Pastor (1952-1954)
2. Minutes of Quarterly Conferences for Trinity charge
3. Mrs. J N. (Vallie) Irvin
4. Members of Trinity congregation and friends of the church
5. District Superintendent Rev. William A. McKoy
6. The 1915 Woman's Missionary Society record book



# TRINITY'S PASTORS

David L. Anderson	1873	J. W. Brinsfield	1915-1916
J. S. Embry	1874	R. T. Harrison	1917-1918
J. H. Mashburn	1875	F. G. Spearman	1919-1921
C. L. Patillo	1876	W. B. Hughes	1922-1923
M. J. Cofer	1877-1878	E. C. Swetman	1924
N. E. McBreyer	1879-1880	S. A. Dailey	1925
Q. B. Quillian	1881	N. A. Parsons	1926
R. P. Martin	1882-1883	L. M. Davidson	1927
F. F. Reynolds (s)	1884	T. E. Sherwood	1928
B. E. Ledbetter	1885	H. L. Gurley	1929-1930
Sanford Leake	1886	P. H. Stokes	1931
H. L. Edmondson	1887	M. M. Brackman	1932-1934
Geo. K. Quillian (s)	1888	Marvin L. Warwick	1935-1937
J. N. Myers	1889	E. W. McDougal (s)	1938-1940
C. P. Marchman	1890	J. W. Eberhart	1941-1942
Col. H. H. Perry (s)	1891	Claude Patterson	1943
S. H. Braswell	1892	H. G. Garrett	1944
T. P. Graham	1893	J. H. Smith (s)	1945-1946
W. A. C. Baker	1894	W. E. Atkinson (s)	1947-1949
A. F. Nunn	1895	Doc Patterson	1949-1952
A. M. Pierce	1896	Billy J. Cox	1952-1954
C. E. Hartman	1879	John R. Brabham	1954-1956
J. W. Austin	1898	J. Alton Johnson	1956-1958
John R. Jones	1899-1900	Chas. Dennis	1958-March 1960
W. E. Venable (s)	1901	J. d. Ferguson	March, 1960-June, 1960
J. H. Farr	1902	Dewey E. Bailey	1960-1962
G. W. Tumlin	1903	Truman Thomas	1962-1968
"To be supplied"	1904	Paul Smith	1968-1970
W. H. Clark	1905-1906	Dan Welch	1970-1971
G. M. Davis	1907	Paul Davis	1971-1974
W. A. Wells	1908	Gary Blain	1974-1979
John L. Franklin	1909	Jimmy Moor	1979-February, 1983
J. O. L. Morgan (s)	1910	Roger Bourgeois	February, 1983 -
W. M. Barnett	1911-1914		

Note: Pastors identified with an "(s)" were supply pastors. Supply pastors were not connected to the Methodist Conference as ordained pastors.

TRINITY'S DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS

J. R. Parker	1873-1877
J. F. Mixon	1877-1881
W. A. Parks	1881-1885
A. G. Worley	1885-1889
J. T. Gibson	1889-1892
M. J. Cofer	1892-1896
M. L. Underwood	1896-1900
Walker Lewis	1900-1901
W. L. Pierce	1902-1905
J. R. King	1905-1909
L. G. Johnson	1909-1913
S. R. Belk	1913-1916
J. W. Quillian	1916-1920
W. T. Hamby	1920-1924
J. G. Logan	1924-1928
H. C. Emory	1928-1932
B. H. Smith	1932-1934
J. F. Yarbrough	1934-1938
Claude Hendrick	1938-1942
J. Foster Young	1942-1946
McLowery Elrod	1946-1949
A. B. Elizer	1949-1953
Zach C. Hayes	1953-1958
Haskell C. Stratton	1958-1964
Y. Allen Oliver	1964-1970
Cullen B. Jones	1970-1975
Robert E. Bridges	1975-1980
William A. McKoy	1980-1984
Robert Kerr	1984-