

THE STORY OF THE BELL

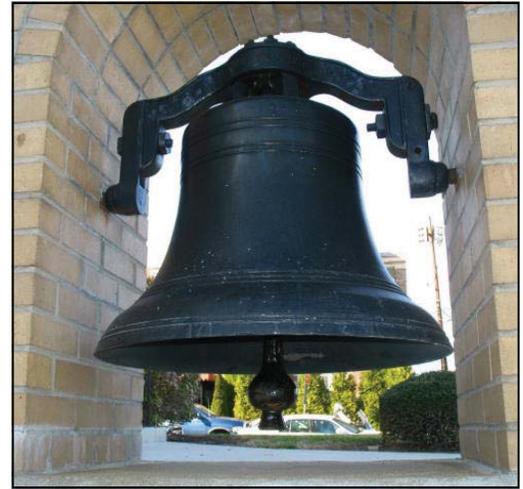


Above left, our church bell – without its clapper – as it had languished for the past 90 years. One side of the clevis support, from which the clapper is suspended, was fractured and broken off, presumably when the bell was lowered to the ground from the steeple of the old church, below, in the 1920s. (Inset shows detail with date.) The complete inscription reads:

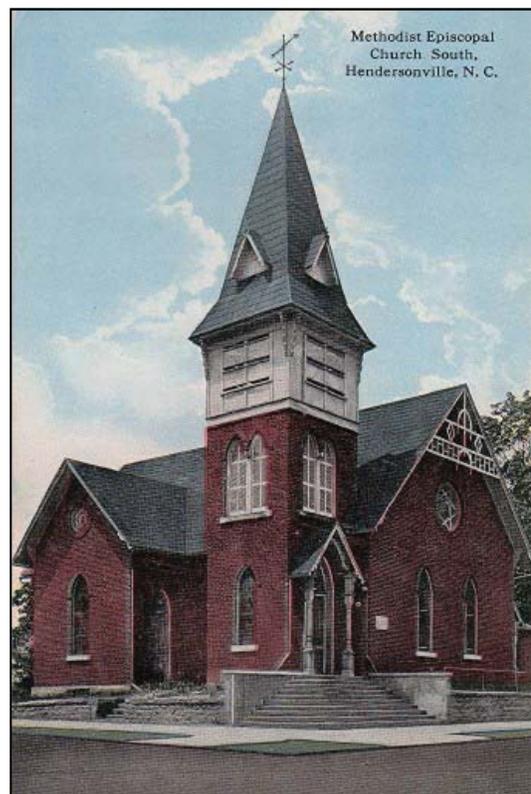
MENEELYS' WEST TROY, N.Y. 1860

Center, repairing the bell in March of 2011.

Right, the restored bell today. The bell is made of bell-metal bronze (80% copper and 20% tin) and weighs about 550 pounds; its fundamental pitch is the second C-sharp above middle C. In the steeple of the 1896 church, the bell could be heard clearly some five miles away. No longer in service, the bell today is on display at the main entrance to the present sanctuary.



P Alexander 2011



First United Methodist Church archives

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH, HENDERSONVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

The first church, a wooden-frame structure, was erected on the present site circa 1852. It was replaced by a brick structure, above left, in 1896. (Note the trolley tracks on an unpaved 6th Avenue, which was eventually paved circa 1912; the cross street is Church Street.) The photo, above right, was taken sometime during World War I and shows steps from a now lowered street level. In 1925 this structure was replaced with the current sanctuary. The Education Building and the Brunson Chapel were added in 1957, the Barber Christian Life Center in 1999.



METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH, HENDERSONVILLE, N. C. H-5.

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MORE MUSIC AND BETTER MUSIC^{1,3}

The Methodist Church of Hendersonville has decided to place an order for a \$2,000 pipe organ within the next few days.

Rev. A. L. Stanford, the pastor, has been corresponding with Andrew Carnegie for some time as a result of which the latter has consented to donate \$1,000 to the church on the purchase of an organ, provided the church raises an additional \$1,000 for the purpose.

After considering the matter the church has decided to take advantage of Mr. Carnegie's proffer and will place the order immediately.

¹This article appeared in an April 1912 issue of the *French Broad Hustler*

HENDERSONVILLE METHODIST CHURCH^{2,3}

The Hendersonville Methodist Church was organized about 65 years ago. It was merely one of the preaching places on a large circuit with monthly visits from the pastor, sometimes on Sunday and sometimes during the week. This charge was known as the Mills River circuit until 1888, when Hendersonville and Shaw's Creek were organized into the Hendersonville station.

As early as 1852 the Methodists had a small church building here and it was enlarged and improved in 1856. This building accommodated the congregation until 1890, when the present attractive and commodious structure was erected. The following year a parsonage was added.

Several years ago the growth of the congregation had reached the point where increased accommodations were absolutely necessary, and a large annex was erected. Last year a fine pipe organ was installed.

The present membership of the church is about 400. The Sunday school has a very large enrollment, and steady growth is shown in all departments of church work. The pastor is Rev. A. L. Stanford.

²This article appeared in a May 1913 issue of the *French Broad Hustler*

³Thanks to Chat Jones for providing these historical newspaper accounts.
August 18, 2011