

1967-68 OFFICERS OF THE
NEW HOPE METHODIST CHURCH W. S. C. S.

President	Mrs. Beulah Morse
V. President	Mrs. Janelle Graham
Secretary	Mrs. Vennie Rawls
Treasurer.	Mrs. Frances Livingston
Campus Ministry	Mrs. Lurlene Graham
Christian Social Relations	Mrs. Minnie Graham
Membership and Cultivation	Mrs. Jeanie Rawls
Missionary Education and Service.	Mrs. Ruby Mae Graham
Missionary Personnel	Mrs. Zelma Rawls
Program Material	Mrs. Bonnelle Yarborough
Spiritual Cultivation	Mrs. Willie Mae Hentz
Supply Work.	Mrs. Tillie Crooks

OTHER MEMBERS

Mrs. Lunette Barrett	Mrs. Nell Graham
Mrs. Marie Bowles	Mrs. Annie Mae Johnston
Mrs. Magie Cox	Mrs. Mary Kinard
Mrs. Elizabeth Graham	Mrs. Vera Livingston
Mrs. Ethel Graham	Mrs. Geneve Morse
Mrs. Frances Graham	Mrs. Annie Senn
Mrs. Ida Graham	Mrs. Dorothy Smith
Mrs. Lucy Graham	

PASTOR: Rev. Albert Cox, Pomaria, South Carolina, 29126
Tel. 276-4200

THE HISTORY OF NEW HOPE METHODIST CHURCH

The early history of the Methodist Church in Newberry County has not been preserved with any degree of accuracy, except in a few instances, because Methodism was not introduced into the States by immigration from Europe, as in the case of the Lutheran and Presbyterian Churches but by the labors of itinerant preachers who organized churches in private houses and who served large numbers of preaching places and moved annually. Then the early churches had no record except classbooks for societies; hence we have lost much of the valuable history of Methodism in the first half century of its existence in this county.

The first Methodist society in Newberry County could not have been organized sooner than 1784. For the next 36 years the upper part of the state was served by the Board River Circuit (extending from Dutch Fork to Pacolet); Saluda River Circuit (attending churches on the Saluda Side); Bush River Circuit, and Enoree Circuit. In 1820 the Newberry Circuit was formed. From the beginning in 1784, Newberry had enjoyed the ministerial service of such leading preachers as James Foster and Stephen Johnson. Bishop Asbury often preached in Newberry District, as did Bishops Coke and Whatcoat.

According to George L. Summer Sr. in his book "Newberry County, South Carolina Historical and Genealogical" New Hope Church was organized about the year 1795. It is probably one of the oldest Methodist Churches in the central portion of the state. The church is located about 5 miles north of Pomaria in Newberry County. It is said that the first meetings were held near Billy Lakes' Spring under a large pine. The first building was a small cabin which was on a site about 2 miles from where the present church stands. Later the group moved to the present site where a frame church was built in 1831. Steps hewn from a large rock where the ladies climbed onto their horses still stand on the church property. In the year 1799 or 1800, Salem Methodist Church on Second Creek was organized near the home of the late Felix Asbury Graham (now Earl Graham). Salem and New Hope Churches merged in the year 1835. (Some records differ and say the merger took place in 1801 or 1809, but Mr. Summer and Mr. O'Neal in his "Annals of Newberry" say about 1835). Family names connected with the early church were: Cromer, Kinard, Graham, Adams, Hughey, Crooks, Sligh, Hentz, Hatton, Lane, Glymph, Wicker, Setzler, Wood, Lake, Bishop, Thompson, and others.

New Hope Church was organized by the Rev. Nathan Boyd, son of John Boyd of Union District, (a Revolution War Patriot and soldier). Rev. Nathan Boyd, a leading spirit in the early history of the church, lived in the community where he has married in this county. He and his wife were of the old-time Methodist type. Rev. Nathan Boyd's son, Mark M. Boyd, from the New Hope Community exerted a great influence on the moral and spiritual life of Newberry County. His record was without a blot or stain and he was proud of the fact that he had three sons who were members of the South Carolina Conference. So as preachers, the name BOYD continued for a whole century in Newberry County.

Dr. J. W. Lee went out into the ministry from New Hope Church. He labored a number of years, first in the South Carolina Conference and later in the North Carolina Conference. Newberry County has given the church many Methodist preachers in the old days. Some who were connected with New Hope Church at some time or another were: J. W. Lee, J. M. Boyd, G. M. Boyd, D. P. Boyd, J. B. Traywick, H. W. Whitaker, D. D. Dantzler, and M. M. Brabham.

On July 22, 1890 J. M. Wicker, surveyer, at the request of Job L. Hughey and Silas Cromer, laid off a lot containing 2 acres of land owned by Mrs. Rebecca Cromer on which New Hope Church now stands. On August 12, 1891 Mrs. Rebecca Cromer, in consideration of \$5.00 paid by S. J. Cromer, W. H. Setzler and J. L. Hughey, Trustees of New Hope Church of Prosperity Circuit of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, sold and released to the trustees of New Hope these two acres bounded on all sides by land owned by herself. The property was to be used, kept, maintained and disposed of, as a place of divine worship for the use of the ministry and membership of the Methodist Church. The property surrounding the church today is owned by Mrs. Bernice Suber.

It is not known what happened to the New Hope Church building of 1831, but the present church building was erected in 1901 or 1902.

At the Conference of 1889 Prosperity Circuit was set up, consisting of Prosperity Church, Zion, Mt. Pleasant and New Hope. J. B. Traywick was appointed pastor for 1890-92 and D. D. Dantzler was appointed for 1893.

In 1892 there were fourteen Methodist Churches in the county, divided into four pastoral charges, and four parsonages, one located in the town of Newberry, one at Ebenezer, one at Prosperity (where New Hope's preacher lived) and one at Kinards. At that time there were 1500 members in the white churches.

In the year 1895 an Anniversary Service was held in the New Hope Church. It was a form of Centennial Celebration and several of the Ruling Elders were present.

As far back as the records show that I can find these were ministers serving our area, COKESBURY DISTRICT:

- 1870 - A. J. Cauthen, Pastor's salary for the Newberry Circuit was only \$1,323.00
- 1871 - A. P. Avant
- 1872 - H. W. Whitaker
- 1873 - D. D. Dantzler
- 1877 - M. M. Boyd
- 1878-79 - W. P. Meadors - the 93rd Session of the S. C. Annual Conference was held at Newberry at the Methodist Episcopal Church, South on Dec. 11-16.
- 1880 - J. W. Kelly, J. S. Porter
- 1881 - Appointments: A. J. Stokes, Thomas M. White, J. C. Counts - Supply
- 1882 - A. J. Stokes, J. W. Neely, J. C. Counts - Supply
- 1883 - M. Brown, W. H. Hodges
- 1884 - M. Brown, G. R. Whitaker for Newberry Circuit (included Zion, New Chapel, Trinity, Mt. Pleasant, New Hope, Ebenezer, Lebanon, Prosperity.)
- 1885 - Manning Brown, G. H. Waddell (New Hope has 111 members and was at one time the largest Methodist church in the community).
- 1886 - M. M. Brabham, J. M. Steadman
- 1887-88 - M. M. Brabham, A. W. Attaway
- 1889 - M. M. Brabham, H. C. Mouzon
- 1890 - J. B. Traywick - We came under a new circuit, Prosperity Circuit, which included Mt. Pleasant, New Hope, Zion, and Prosperity.
- 1891-92 - J. B. Traywick
- 1893 - D. D. Dantzler
- 1894-95 - D. Tiller
- 1896-97-98 - E. G. Price (Members at New Hope in 1896 were 99)
- 1899-1900 - W. H. Arial
- 1901 - W. B. Wharton
- 1902-03 - G. R. Shaffer - On Dec. 3-9, 1902 Annual Conference was held at Newberry at Central Meth. Church
- 1904-05 - J. K. McCain (New Hope has 96 members)
- 1906-07-08-09 - H. W. Whitaker
- 1910-13 - S. C. Morris (Prosperity and Zion pulled out - New Hope went to Broad River Circuit). On April 15, 1914 D. W. Kinard, R. P. Cromer, John W. Kinard, J. P. Adams and F. A. Graham, Trustees for New Hope and Broad River Circuit and G. A. Cromer and M. J. Smith Trustees for Mt. Pleasant jointly and severly accepted \$500 as payment in full for their part out of the Prosperity Circuit Parsonage.

On Sept. 18, 1914, Mrs. Eva J. Shealy of Pomaria sold to the trustees of New Hope, Mt. Pleasant and Morris Chapel M. E. Churches, South (Morris Chapel having been organized around the year 1913) of the S. C. Conference, Broad River Circuit, Cokesbury District, a lot of land in Pomaria containing 1/2 (one half) acre more or less fronted on Folk Street on the East and bounded on all other sides by land owned by Thomas A. Setzler, James Setzler and Ben Setzler for parsonage property for \$1200. Mrs. Eva Shealy bought this property on April 22, 1913 when it was sold or auctioned in court for \$850. It has before belonged to Pomaria Oil and Manufacturing Co.

Dec. 1913- Dec. 1915 - D. Pettus Boyd

In 1914 the South Carolina Conference was divided into S. C. and Upper S. C. Conferences. We came under the upper S. C. Conf. which held its first annual session in Spartanburg on November 24, 1915.

Dec. 1915 - Dec. 1917 - W. A. Duckworth - At the 1916 Conference Lexington Fork Circuit was changed to Irmo

Charge and Capers' Chapel was put on the Broad River Circuit with Chapin, Mt. Pleasant, Morris Chapel and New Hope. So at one time the charge consisted of five churches. At the 1917 Greenville conference the Broad River Charge was changed to Pomaria Circuit of which New Hope was a part.

Dec. 1917 - Dec. 1918 - J. E. Strickland - In Nov. 1918. Capers Chapel and Chapin churches were removed to the Irmo Circuit.

Dec. 1918-1920 - J. M. Mason

Nov. 1920 - Nov. 1921 - D. C. Gregory (Supply) In Nov. 1921 Capers Chapel and Chapin Churches moved back to Pomaria Circuit.

Nov. 1921 - Nov. 1922 - H. H. Merritt (Supply) Other family names connected with the church in the early 1900's particularly from 1922 records: Livingston, Fowler, Eargle, Ruff, Myers, Boland, Richardson and one Lominick family (W. W. & Mrs. Effie)

Nov. 12, 1922 - Nov. 1923 - R. L. Doggett

Nov. 5, 1923 - Nov. 1, 1926 - J. H. Montgomery - On Jan 9, 1926 E. J. Adams, Oscar Graham, M. H. Kinard, F. A. Graham, A. W. Adams, W. J. Hentz and J. F. Cromer, trustees of New Hope Church paid \$5 to J. B. Cromer who gave as a free gift a lot between present 2 acres and the road a strip of land 35 ft. in width and 355ft. in length bounded by New Hope lot on one side, road on the other and on each end land belonging to J. B. Cromer. (Given so church lot can extend to new road). On Jan. 9, 1926 at the 1st Quarterly Conference a Resolution of Thanks was given to J. B. Cromer, who had deeded to New Hope Church this piece

- of land in front of the church as a free gift. During 1925-26 Epworth League was organized with Miss Mary Hentz as president, but it was disbanded during the year.
- Nov. 1, 1926 - Nov. 1929 - C. R. Anderson (Supply) - In 1926-27 it was interesting to note that New Hope which had most members was paying highest percent of the pastor's salary, which has \$1,250 yearly. It was divided in this way: New Hope \$425; Mt. Pleasant \$325; Capers Chapel \$250; Chapin \$125; and Morris Chapel \$125. At the conference of 1929 Pomaria Charge was changed from Cokesbury District to Greenwood District.
- 1929-1930 - A. O. Sutton served part of the year, but was dismissed because of his conduct and George Duffle completed the year.
- Nov. 1930 - Nov. 1933 - T. D. George
- Nov. 1933 - Nov. 1934 - J. F. Ford
- Nov. 1934 - Nov. 1937 - C. N. Potts - At 1935 Conference Pomaria Charge was placed in the Columbia District. The present pulpit Bible was donated by Mrs. Viola Adams Richardson on Dec. 8, 1935.
- Nov. 1937-38 - W. F. Johnson
- Nov. 1938 - June 9, 1940 - A. E. Smith - In Dec. 1938 some improvements were made at the parsonage and shrubbery donated by Mrs. Mamie Wilson beautified the front yard. Third Quarterly Conference on May 21, 1939 - New Hope ladies have organized the Ladies Aid Society and are doing many worthwhile things including improving parsonage. Last conference reported by A. E. Smith was on March 24 1940.
- During this period was the reuniting of the Methodist Church and Morris Chapel Church went to the Southern Methodist, leaving Capers Chapel, Chapin, Mt. Pleasant and New Hope Churches. Rev. A. E. Smith was transferred from Pomaria Circuit to Turbeville, S. C. by the Provisional Annual Conf. of Southern Methodist Church on June 9, 1940. This caused quite a struggle in the group of churches among families and particularly in New Hope, but it rose up in its strength to re-establish the work it was set to do.
- 1941 - Nov. 1950 - Q. E. Gunter - New Hope began slowly to make its comeback under the loving and faithful care of this preacher who served longer than any other pastor during its history. Rev. Gunter served ten years and became loved as one of the community.
- Looking at pastor's salary in 1949-50 during Gunter's time - \$1900 divided as follows: Mt. Pleasant \$675; New Hope \$600; Capers \$400; and Chapin \$225.
- Nov. 1950 - Oct. 1953 - A. E. Becknell - METHODIST ADVOCATE
May 15, 1953 - Pomaria Charge News - New Hope Church

underwent a great change this summer, when the trustees and membership entrusted direction for the work in the hands of Daniel Graham, who worked diligently at his job. The entry to the church was changed placing double-doors in the center of the inside wall of the vestibule, and the enlarging of the areas on either side of the vestibule to form two classrooms. The old gallery or balcony (served the slaves - Cannons, Glasgow, others - who were compelled to attend services with the families of their owners) was dismantled and rebuilt to make two classrooms in that space making a total of 4 classrooms. The entire inside of the church was covered with sheet-rock on the walls and celotex on the ceiling, which was painted ivory. The congregation rejoiced when services were held in the newly renovated church on Sunday, July 27. In the Summer of 1952 the MYF bought 2 dozen school chairs.

Nov. 1953-1956 - T. E. Derrick - With the help of Rev. Derrick the church grew considerably. In Jan. or Feb. 1956 the MYF purchased brass alterware for the church.

Sept. 1956 - Aug. 27, 1957 - Weston Stevens

Sept. 1957 - June 1960 - Thomas P. Poston - In Sept. 1957 the church was underpinned with brick. In the Fall 1958 the church sign was erected of brick. The erection of such signs at all four churches was a desired accomplishment for Rev. Poston. While serving the charge he was completing his studies at Newberry College. The first choir robes were purchased around 1958. In the summer 1959 the church was refloored with oak floors and in Oct. 1959 the aisle and around the alter was carpeted with a light pink carpet.

July 1960 - June 29, 1966 - John P. Griffith formerly of Saluda, S. C. - His first real pastorate - It was under the leadership and winning personality of this man that New Hope made its greatest progress up to this point in its history. In May 1961 new church pews were donated by Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Hentz. Every Sunday Church School began in 1961-62 and the first attendance pins were given in July 1962 which continues. On January 13, 1963 the church voted to build an educational building which was surveyed off on January 28, 1963. Carol Hipp of Newberry was the contractor with Bobby Morse supervising the work. The building itself, of white frame construction to match the church was completed in June 1963 at \$7,851.90 and was first used on June 20, 1963 for a MYF Subdistrict meeting. It consisted of a large assembly area (to be divided later into classrooms by folding doors), a kitchen and two rest rooms. The Dedication Service was held on Sept. 22, 1963 with Dr. Francis Cunningham Dist, Supt. presiding over the dedicatory service. Dur-

ing the next couple years the congregation worked faithfully to furnish the building with tables, chairs and the kitchen equipment increasing the value considerably. Many individual donations were made. A Hammond Organ was installed on Nov. 9, 1963 donated by Mr. & Mrs. H. M. Hentz and the Dedication Service for the organ was held on January 26, 1964 with Mrs. Vernon Epting, Prosperity S. C. as guest organist. Hubert Graham donated to the kitchen a coffee urn on Dec. 15, 1963 and the Jacob Waites donated an organ light also on this day. O. Z. Kinard donated a brass bell, church clock, pulpit stand light in Feb, 1964. In the spring of 1964 the church began the All-Family Plan to send advocates to each church family. On June 29, 1964, a barbecue pit and shed was built on the church grounds. Another meaningful and important service to the church was

THE PRESENTATION AND DEDICATION OF

MEMORIALS AND GIFTS on Sunday, August 23, 1964.

Bishop Cyrus B. Dawsay of Columbia, former missionary to Brazil, was guest speaker. The children of the late J. B. and Ella L. Rawls presented the brass cross as a memorial to their parents. The children of Mrs. Lula K. Wicker presented the pair of brass candlesticks as a memorial to their mother. Four of the children (Bernice, Beulah, Thomas, and Henry) of Mr. & Mrs. Hilliard Livingston presented the pair of brass vases as a memorial to their parents.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Graham presented the pair of brass offering plates as a memorial to their parents.

Daniel Graham, son of Felix A. Graham presented an engraved-plated lectern as a memorial to this father. The J. F. Yarboroughs and Daniel Grahams presented a blond-colored oak Altar in the educational building. The MYF presented the brass Bible stand for the Altar in the educational building.

On May 10, 1964 Miss Mary Helen Graham and Mrs. Annie Dickert had donated a Bible as a memorial to William A. Hentz for the Altar in the educational building.

On Feb. 26, 1965 O. Z. Kinard completed the punching of a 159 foot well on the church property on which he donated \$190 - Total cost was \$640. Hand rails were installed at church entrance on Feb. 25, 1965.

On Nov. 4, 1965 the WSCS purchased beige colored draperies for the educational building at a cost of \$300. In October, 1965 the church roof was redone. On March 31, 1966 the installation of new frosted-glass windows in the church was completed at a cost of \$1,143.56.

Many of these were donated by individuals: The MYF:

the Lester Rawls; the Jacob Waites; one honoring the Daniel Grahams by the Daughter Bonnelle G. Yarborough; one honoring Mr. & Mrs. H. M. Hentz by the church; one in memory of M. Brabham Crooks by his wife and children; one in memory of Arie C. and Albert G. Crooks by their daughter, Lula C. Bundrick; one in memory of Thomas P. Crooks by his wife; one in memory of Eddie, Maggie and O. B. Graham and in honor of Lucy Graham by their children; one in memory of Oscar and Lucy Graham by their children; one in memory of Felix A., Lula W. and Daisy C. Graham, by their sons, Daniel and Earl Graham; one in memory of James Claude and Henry Middleton Hentz, Jr. by their parents.

The congregation also made contributions to the window project. The church outside was given a coat of new paint at a cost of \$653 in April 1966.

The first church cemetery Committee was appointed on June 5, 1966 consisting of O. Z. Kinard, Henry Livingston, Sr. and Jacob Waites. A cemetery is near the present church. Also, it is said there are some graves near the site of the first church.

On June 26, 1966 the congregation honored the Griffith family and presented to them a chair as a farewell gift. The MYF presented him with a desk pen and pencil set engraved "New Hope MYF 1966". Rev. Griffith had spent 6 years at New Hope, the second longest stay for a preacher at our church. In addition to his other accomplishments he received into the church 30 persons, 18 were transferred by letter and 12 by confirmation. He also baptized 26 persons in the New Hope congregation. June 29, 1966 was moving day for the Griffiths to Blythewood, S. C. and quite a loss was felt among the New Hope folks.

June 29, 1966 - June 21, 1967 - Charles M. Rector, formerly of Whitmire, S. C. On July 10, 1966 window fans were purchased for the church. One of Rev. Rector's accomplishments was starting every Sunday Worship services at New Hope in December 1966. On March 20, 1967, the Official Board unanimously voted to unite with Capers Chapel and Chapin churches and become known as the Pomaria Methodist Charge, releasing Mt. Pleasant who desired to go station in June 1967. On June 18, 1967 Rev. Rector preached his final sermon preceded by lunch at the church where the congregation gave him and Mrs. Rector a George Washington bedspread as a farewell gift. The Rectors moved to Mt. Pleasant to become their pastor.

June 21, 1967 - Albert L. Cox, native of Hemingway, S. C. came from the Honea Path area churches to begin his pastorate here. With his coming New Hope begins morning services at 11:30 a. m. every Sunday. On Sept. 23, 1967 a painter completed an outside painting job to the educational building. In Nov. 1967 two additional drives were constructed by the highway dept. - pipe being furnished by Earl Graham.

In January 1968 the WSCS purchased the first complete parament set using all the liturgical colors for the church year seasons. We have had a very active MYF in the church since 1960 when it was reorganized. They have received recognition not only in our church but in the Newberry County Subdistrict for several years. Today the pastor's salary amounts to around \$5,500. The charge now consists of New Hope, Capers Chapel, and Chapin Churches, known as the Pomaria Methodist Charge in the Columbia District, with Dr. Francis Cunningham as Dist. Supt. and Dr. Paul Hardin, Jr. as Bishop of the S. C. Conference, Southeastern Jurisdiction.

We, at New Hope, do not have a beautiful modern structure, but we are proud of its very historic meaning and value - for it holds many enjoyable memories for the eldest of our congregation.

Compiled over a period of seven
years by
Mrs. Bonnelle G. Yarborough