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Bethany Saluda History and Property Records

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The Geography of Bethany Church

The Reverend Billy Harmon

Bethany church of the Methodist Episcopal Church South is situated about three miles south of Big Saluda River, the county of Edgefield and state of South Carolina.

The early history and the exact dates of its rise cannot be accurately ascertained owing chiefly to looseness of the record in keeping its records. But in examining the list of preachers, as found the old church registry, and bits of recollections gathered from the oldest inhabitant we think we can safely affirm that it was built and organized about the year 1827 or 28. Like all other churches of its sect it owes its origin to the zealous laborers of the Methodist itinerant systems who counted not their lives dear unto themselves but in obedience to their master's command.

The wilds of this now illustrious country enduring the sneers and derision of the wicked toils born strife and suffering in dreamed of by their success and sowing the good seed of the kingdom the result of which is the rising of churches in every nook and corner.

The firm hold and steady growth of Methodism through the broad land. The original church was a red log building (structure) so characteristic of Methodism in its primordial days was built about fifty yards below the present building. It was doubtless at the suggestion of these strange traveling preachers and was presented (land given) by Reuben Blalock (to build church on) who in all probability was a member of Zoar and Benjamin Perry ESQ. who though of Methodist persuasion was never formerly connected with the church.

Both have shared the fate that's common to all their race. The dust of the former rest in graveyard just above the church. The latter in quiet repose near the homestead. Both waiting the summon of the resurrection morn.

The church grounds were also the free will offering of Reuben Blalock, in consequence of which it was originally called the Blalock Meeting House. It was not until it was thoroughly organized and dedicated to the service of God that it received its present name.

The dedication services were performed by Rev. Billy Harmon, a local preacher who lived across the river in Newberry County above Old Town Ferry near unto what is now called the turn out on the C & G Railroad.

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The year of 1839 marks a new epoch in not only the history of universal Methodism but in that of Bethany Church.

These strong preachers so famous as being instrumental in revolutionizing not only the church but this whole country had come hither also stirring up the people so much so that large and uncommon crowds gathered here.

New Pulpit ^{purchase} Page

The Bible stand was given
by the George Hipp family one chair was given by
Hamp Berry for the other two chairs we have no record

The communion table was given in memory of

Herwin Hewitt ~~Heist~~ by his family. the two chairs was given

By Harvey & Ruby Lee Gibson

The baptism font was given in memory of ~~Herwin~~ Keren H. Perry

By Relatives and Friends

New Pew was bought in 1950. some was in memory of loved ones

Others was bought by other members of the church.

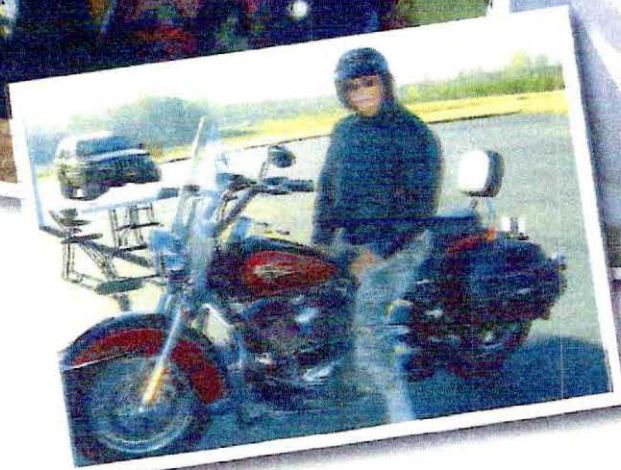
Dan Bradley 1989 - 1997
Tony Rowell June 1997 - May 2002
Pat McCain June 2002 - May 2004
Michael Hood June 2004 - June 2008
Kerrie Plump July 2008 - June 2010
Mike Written July 2010 - June 2012
Kenneth Freeman July 2012 - June 2018
Hillary Taylor July 2018
Tim Jones - Sept 2022
Mark English Jan. 2023 -



by Jackie Perrone

Preacher John

Preacher John and his twin sister, Joyce Griffith Arthur.



John and Priscilla Griffith

A church with no choir, pipe organ, pews or expenses? What planet would this be? Right here on God's own earth, where Saluda and Lexington counties come together on the shores of Lake Murray. In the unlikely surroundings of a convenience store with a bar and grill, a loyal group from the Lake Murray community has been meeting for 12 years with Rev. John Griffith, to hear him preach the Gospel and invite people to give their lives to Christ.

"God uses people!" exclaims the enthusiastic evangelist. "I gave 57 years to full-time ministry in the United Methodist church. Now I'm 81 and high mileage! I go to places where people who would not attend a mainline church will meet with me to praise God and find salvation. It's all in the name of Love." Little River Marina became headquarters for Preacher John's unorthodox ministry through his connection with Duane Shealy, owner and operator of the lakeside service center.

"Duane is the oldest son of Big Man Shealy, the original owner of the marina,"

explains Griffith. "He called me three times asking about a relationship with Christ, but would back off from a commitment. Finally, after the third call, we met outdoors under a big tree and prayed together, and he accepted Christ. He said his family would spend Sunday mornings at the marina, having coffee and socializing, while other people were headed for church. We decided to ask Big Man Shealy if we could hold some prayer services there, and he said, 'Of course! Come on!' That was 12 years ago. We've been at it ever since." (Big Man Shealy does have an official first name, Paul, but no one including himself uses it.)

These days, around 40 or more regulars attend Preacher John's services. They come by boat, car, motorcycle or bike, and in casual dress, to the marina on Highway 391 near the traffic circle at 378. In early August of this year, a special Homecoming observance marked the 12th anniversary of the marina worship service, as well as Pastor Appreciation Sunday for Preacher John, who was undergoing cancer treatments. An overflow crowd of more than 100 turned

out to mark the occasion. A lot of hugging and love was exchanged that day.

John's wife Priscilla is always at his side, and has been known to fill in for the preaching assignment when he's unable to be there. She says their group does not engage in quibbling or arguing; they just pray and praise the Lord. "We love God, and we love each other," is her simple explanation.

John and Priscilla now live in Saluda, where he was born. He attended Wofford College and Duke University, and served in the U.S. Air Force from 1951-55. Then he began ministry with the United Methodist church. Now he calls the marina his Wayside Ministry. Four years ago, he began riding a Harley-Davidson motorcycle; he meets sometimes with his "Tattoo Boys" for ministry at a motorcycle shop in Ninety-Six.

"Lake Murray is not the River Jordan, but it serves just fine for baptism," says Preacher John. This dedicated Christian believes that God will pull him through the current cancer ordeal, and expects to keep spending Sunday mornings at Little River Marina as long as he is drawing breath. ■

HISTORY OF BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Compiled by Ruby Lee Gibson with excerpts taken from Saluda County in Scene and Story by Saluda County Tricentennial Commission. and The Geography of Bethany Church is by Rev. Billy Harmon.

In the Year 1809, the land where Bethany Church stands belonged to one Reuben Blalock who in all probability was a member of Persimmon (Zoar United Methodist Church). Mr. Blalock along with Mr. Benjamin Perry, Esq. who was of strong Methodist belief, although never affiliated with any church, felt a strong need for one. A crude log building was erected and given as a free will offering by Mr. Blalock along with the land where the present church stands.

It was the custom it seems that when a family settled in a certain area this area became known by the last name of the family. For many years the log building was known as the "Blalock Meeting house". It was in 1827 or 1828 that it was formally dedicated to the Methodist circuit of Edgefield County. After the dedication to the circuit the name Bethany was given to this church. Services were held once a month. It was one of nine churches on circuit. Rev. Lewis Meyers was appointed presiding elder.

During the Civil War the Ladies Aid Society from Bethany was instrumental in securing necessary supplies for the men of this area and shipped them to where they were serving. Such items as: foods, clothing, medicine, bandages, and tobaccos, which they considered very important to the moral of the men.

This circuit has had many fine Elders and Ministers. Today a great many of the family names associated with this early church are still members.

About 1898 the present building was erected, additions and improvement have been made periodically through the years. These improvements were made possible by the spiritual interest and dedication of the people who love Bethany and are grateful for those first people who felt the need for a church and fulfilled this need. John Bradley preached some in this building.

Mr. Blalock's remains rest behind the present building just above where he erected the first log building.

In a 1989 interview, Ruby Lee Gibson stated, "There was a brush arbor before the log structure. Mr. Harvey Gibson's father always said the straight up white building was begun in 1899 and finished in 1900 and most of the work was done by church members.

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Chronological History

- 1809 First church was organized; land donated by Reuben Blalock. One room building built of logs; services held once a month. Rev. Lewis Meyers appointed presiding elder, church one of nine
- 1899 New building begun
- 1900 New building completed (present day sanctuary)
- 1939 W.S.C.S. (United Methodist Women) organized under leadership of Rev. L. C. Turbeville
- 1960-
 - 61 Front porch, education building, fellowship hall built
- 1968 The Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church (EUB) merged to become the United Methodist Church
- 1974 Construction of parsonage begun
- 1975 Bethany "goes station"
- 1976 23 months from beginning of construction debt of \$49,500.00 was retired. with all furniture purchased and everything completed Untold hours of volunteer help made this possible
- 1979 First steeple erected

1986 Bethany and Zoar form charge

1987 Steeple replaced

2000 Addition to fellowship hall finished in summer of this year????????????

2001 New carpet and pew cushions recovered

2003 New chairs and tables placed in fellowship hall

IMPROVEMENTS AND ADDITIONS

Between 1937-41, when Rev. L. Carl Turbeville was on the circuit, the sanctuary was made smaller for classrooms to be added to the front of the church with four classrooms—two on the bottom floor with stairs leading up to two rooms over the two on the first floor.

Under the leadership of Rev. T. A. Inabinet (1941-1945) the church was moved forward to give room to build the rooms behind the pulpit. At this time the large window was put behind the pulpit. It was a beautiful window In Memory of Rufus Gibson by his daughter, Mannie Gibson Stewart. The window frame was crafted by Newberry Lumber Company and originally there was nothing but clear glass in the frame. Through the tireless efforts of Rev. T. A. Inabinet and wife, Martha, Wilbert & Willie Mae Hipp, Mrs. Annie Coleman, Mrs. Mary Annie Berry, and Mrs. Ruby Lee Gibson hundreds of pieces of colored paper were painstakingly glued to the glass to produce the wonderful stained glass effect that the church enjoyed for so many years. The scene was of Jesus with outstretched arms. For over fifty years the window served the church well. As time moved on however the beautiful work slowly faded until the time came to replace it with a new window. This window was replaced in April 2000 and was consecrated on December 24, 2000 in memory of Rufus Gibson. This window, as did the one before it, stands in honor of those whose tireless work produced the first window as well as those without whom the current window would have never come to pass.

Toilet facilities were added in 1961 when fellowship hall was built. Before this or in earlier times and as late as the early 1900's the woods were used. Men went to one side of the church and women to the other in order to relieve themselves.

Under the leadership of Rev. William C. Reid (1957-61) the fellowship hall was begun but Rev. Reid was moved before it was completed. Under the leadership of Rev. Wilbert Waters (1961-1965) the fellowship hall was completed with bathrooms on both floors and five classrooms above fellowship hall.

The porch was built in front of the church—which was a wooden building at that time—and the entire structure was bricked and stained glass windows were added in memory or honor of someone. The block retaining wall was removed from front yard of church at this time.

From its inception until June 1975, Bethany had served as one of four churches on the Butler Circuit. Other churches on the circuit included Butler, Emory and Zoar—all rural churches in Saluda County.

In September, 1974, Rev. Ed Jenkins, Columbia District Superintendent, granted approval for Bethany to borrow \$40,000 to erect the new parsonage. Nine months later—in May 1975, Bethany had its own parsonage. Though largely built by an outside contractor many hours of volunteer work helped make the parsonage a reality. In the building process, one Bethany layman had a finger mashed off when a steel beam crashed down from the ceiling. The same accident laid open the finger of another layman. Yet another Bethany member lost a finger when a skill saw slipped. When the church was granted station status in June, 1975 its first full time pastor was Rev. John Griffith. By August 1, 1976, only 23 months from the time construction began on the parsonage—Bethany members had retired the total debt of \$49,550.56 required to build and furnish their new pastor's home. In September, 1976 leaders of Bethany gathered for the mortgage burning on the new parsonage. Those present were: Rev. John Griffith, minister; Rev. Chad Davis, Columbia District superintendent; Bethany laymen: Heyward Hipp, James Henry Bledsoe, Frazier Riley, Kenneth Miller, Carl Gibson, Avery Hightower, Hammond Buffington, Harvey Gibson and Mrs. Dot Bradley.

The first steeple was erected on December 29, 1979. The steeple was supposed to arrive in June, but a fire at the factory delayed the shipment. Rev. John Griffith and some Bethany members posed by the steeple before installation. Those identifiable in picture copied from The Saluda Sentinel were Harvey Gibson, Charles Rollins, Avery Hightower, Herman Berry, Alvin Berry Cauthen Riley, J. W. Bradley, Hoyt Gibson, E. G. (Eb) Tennant, Rev. John Griffith, Bobby Hipp???? and an unidentified child.

CHURCH FURNISHINGS

In 1950 new pulpit furniture was purchased. The Bible stand was given by the George Hipp family.

One pulpit chair was given by Hamp Berry and there is no record of who gave the other two chairs.

The Communion Table was given in memory of Gervais Huiett ??????by his family. The two communion table chairs were given by Harvey & Ruby Lee Gibson.

The Baptism Font was given in memory of Keren H. Perry by relatives and friends.

New pews were also bought in 1950. Some were given in memory or honor of loved ones and others were given to the Glory of God by members of the church.

The Communion Cloths being used at Bethany in the year 2000 were made and hemstitched by hand by Lucy Gibson Lever around 1920. There was a three piece communion serving set which consisted of a bread plate, pitcher and goblet which were used when the church was built in 1900 and are still being used today at times. In the early days after the bread was passed the cup was passed from one to another and everyone took a sip from the cup. Later a tray with individual small glasses was used. Many years later a new tray with cups was given in memory of Mrs. Annie Etheredge Coleman by her sister, Elesee Altman which is still being used at present (2000).

When Rev. T. A. Inabinet was pastor he gave a wooden cross and candleholder set which are now used in the Prayer Room.

In the late 1970 a brass cross and candleholder set was given in memory of William (Will) and Ellee Jones by their family.

In 1980 a set of brass offering plates was given in honor of Harvey and Ruby Lee Gibson by their children.

MINISTERS AT BETHANY METHODIST CHURCH BEGINNING IN 1900

(Some of this information was copied from Emory United Methodist Church History)

J. C. Counts 1900-1903 Born Jan. 12, 1849; Died in 1924 Married (1) Carrie Oxner and (2) Sunie Waters

J.R. Copeland 1903-1904 Born June 6, 1859; Died in 1923 Married (1) Mary E. Lee (2) Dolly Yarbrough

Foster Spears 1904-1906 Born Feb. 15, 1874, Died _____ Married Henrietta Augusta Pooser

Olin L. Durant 1906-1907 Died in 1912

W. P. Way 1907-1910 Born Nov. 20, 1880; Died 1956 Married (1) Ella Stockman (2) Leila Stockman (3) Athena Mellette

J. T. Miller 1910-1911 Born Feb. 18, 1851; Died in 1930 Married: Emma S. Whitlock

F. G. Whitlock 1912-1913 Born Nov. 30, 1874; Died _____ Married: Florida Wilder

A. M. Gardner 1914-1915 Born Nov. 8, 1887; Died in 1937 Married: May L. Davis

(1st) W.P. Meadows 1916-1918 Born Dec. 18, 1868 Married: Jessie Coatts Darnell

A.H. Best 1919-1920 Born Oct. 10, 1861; Died 1940 Married: Lillie Andrews

A. E. Smith 1921-1922 Born April 24, 1886; Died _____, Married: Iris Donnan Cooper

(2nd) W. P. Meadows 1922-1925 Died 1933

M. A. Cleckley 1926-1929 Born 1881; Died 1936

D. E. Jeffcoat 1930-1933 Born March 31, 1881; Died 1945 Married: Annie L. _____ ?

John Frazier 1934-1937 Born Dec. 30, 1889; Died _____ Married: Minnie Louise Whitten

L. Carl Turbeville 1937-1941 Born June 6, 1899; Died Apr. 2, 1964 Married: Lettie Dennis who was Born Apr. 25, 1900, Died Feb. 25, 1985. Two Children: Carleen and Betty.

O. H. Hatchett 1941-1942 Born Feb. 7, 1895; Died _____ Married: Myrtle Harvey

Thaddens A. Inabinet 1942-1946 Born Oct. 13, 1896; Died _____ Married: (1)Lillie Belle Inabinette (2) Martha Virginia Lewis

Russell A. Hughes 1946-1949 Born Feb. 23, 1893; Died Aug. 25, 1978 Married: Leetie Dennis who was born Sept. 20, 1898; died Dec. 14, 1988.

H. Felder Banknight 1949-1955 Born Nov. 17, 1913; Died June 13, 1984 Married: Margaret Ellen Derrick who was born on July 13, 1914. They had 10 children: Felder (died Sept. 27, 1988), Willodene, Lenora, Marian, Arlene, John, Dow, Susannah, Naomi, and David.

Peter Stokes 1955-1957 Born Jan. 23, 1901; Died _____ Married: Josephine Guess

William Charles Reid 1957-1961 Born April 6, 1934, Died April 28, 1997 Married: Harriett Evelyn Wactor. They had four children- ??? Cynthia, Leslie, Charles.

Wilbert T. Waters 1961-1965 Born Dec. 14, 1910 Died _____ Married: (1) Lucile Carolyn Kelly (2) second wife ??????????

James M. Prater 1965-1972 Born June 7, 1924; Died July 21, 1987 Married: Grace Perry

John P. Griffith 1972-1988 Born August 16, 1931 Married: Priscilla Grant Children: John Mark, Maurice, Rhonda and Patrick

Reese M. Massey June 1988-Oct. 1988 In Oct. 88 was placed on leave of absence and later retired.. Born April 8, 1932 Married: (1) Barbara Hill Smith who died Dec.21, 1995. Three children, Kory, Julie , Marty. His mother, Katherine resided with them in parsonage. Second wife-Daisy Lee Gibson.
Roy Pryor Oct. 1988-June 1989 served as supply pastor until new appointments in 1989

Daniel S. Bradley 1989-1997 Born March 11, 1948 Married: Dianne Taylor
Children: Valerie and Joseph Daniel (Joe)

Anthony S. Rowell 1997- 2002 Born Married: Mary
Kaye Rabon Children: Sarah Maria Rowell, Joshua David Rowell, Hannah
Caroline Rowell

Patricia C. McCain 2002-2004 Born 1-12-40 Married: Gary Clifton McCain
Children: Joy M. Cleary, Cynthia M. Hamrick and Curtis Clifton McCain who died Nov. 1999

METHODISM

No church history would be complete without some history of Methodism. The following information is copied from an article titled "Celebrating Our Methodist Heritage".

THE HIGH COST OF CIRCUIT RIDING:

Of the 650 preachers who joined the Methodist ministry by the beginning of the 19th century, about 500 had to "locate", a term used for those too worn out to travel further. Of the first 737 members of the Conferences to die, nearly half died before they were 30 years old. 199 died within the first five years. Long rides through rain and snow, nights in the open, risks of sickness and privation were all parts of the day's work. Peter Cartwright gave this pictures of the dangers of frontier work: "Several times the western preachers had to arm themselves in crossing mountains to the east and guard Bishop Asbury through the wilderness...at the imminent risk of their lives." Facts taken from the book: **ENDLESS LINE OF SPLENDOR.**

FRANCIS ASBURY landed in America in 1771. There was only a total of 600 American Methodists. When he died 45 years later, there were 214,235 American Methodists. 28 years after his death the total had risen to 1,139,587 Methodists. In 45 years Asbury traveled over 275,000 miles by either horseback or on foot. He preached more than 16,000 times. In 1771 there were only 6 Methodist preachers in the colonies. At his death there were 700 preachers. In 1816, Francis Asbury died sitting in a chair, leaning against a young preacher who was traveling with him. He left America as he arrived: penniless! For 30 years he labored at a salary of \$30 a year.

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE RULES JOHN WESLEY LAID DOWN FOR THE EARLY MEMBERS OF THE "UNITED SOCIETIES", LATER TO BECOME METHODISTS. THESE RULES CAME TO BE KNOWN AS THE GENERAL RULES OF METHODISM.

There is only one condition previously required of those who desire admission into these societies: "a desire to flee from the wrath to come, and to be saved from their sins." But wherever this is really fixed in the soul it will be shown by its fruits.

It is therefore expected of all who continue therein that they should continue to evidence their desire of salvation,

First: By doing no harm, by avoiding evil of every kind, especially that which is most generally practiced, such as:

The taking of the name of God in vain.

The profaning the day of the Lord, either by doing ordinary work therein or by buying or selling.

Drunkenness: drinking spirituous liquors, unless in cases of necessity.

The buying or selling of men, women, and children with an intention to enslave them.

Fighting, quarreling, brawling, brother going to law with brother; returning evil for evil, or railing for railing; the using many words in buying or selling.

The buying or selling goods that have not paid the duty.

The giving or taking things on usury—i.e., unlawful interest.

Uncharitable or unprofitable conversation; particularly speaking evil of magistrates or of ministers.

Doing to others as we would not they should do unto us.

Doing what we know is not for the glory of God, as:

The putting on of gold and costly apparel.

The taking such diversions as cannot be used in the name of the Lord Jesus.

The singing those songs, or reading those books, which do not tend to the knowledge or love of God.

Softness and needless self-indulgence.

Laying up treasure upon earth.

Borrowing without a probability of paying; or taking up goods without a probability of paying them.

It is expected of all who continue in these societies that they should continue to evidence their desire of salvation.

Secondly: By doing good; by being in every kind merciful after their power; as they have opportunity, doing good of every possible sort, and, as far as possible, to all men:

To their bodies, of the ability which God giveth, by giving food to the hungry, by clothing the naked, by visiting or helping them that are sick or in prison.

To their souls, by instructing, reproofing, or exhorting all we have any intercourse with; trampling under foot that enthusiastic doctrine that, "we are not to do good unless *our hearts be free to it.*"

By doing good, especially to them that are of the household of faith or groaning so to be; employing them preferably to others; buying one of another, helping each other in business and so much the more because the world will love its own and them only.

By all possible diligence and frugality, that the gospel be not blamed.

By running with patience the race which is set before them, denying themselves, and taking up their cross daily, submitting to bear the reproach of Christ, to be as the filth and offscouring of the world; and looking that men should say all manner of evil of them *falsely*, for the Lord's sake.

It is expected of all who desire to continue in these societies that they should continue to evidence their desire of salvation.

Thirdly: By attending upon all the ordinances of God; such are:

The public worship of God.

The ministry of the Word, either read or expounded.

The Supper of the Lord.

Family and private prayer.

Searching the Scriptures.

Fasting or abstinence.

These are the General Rules of our societies; all of which we are taught of God to observe, even in his written Word, which is the only rule, and the sufficient rule, both of our faith and practice. And all these we know his Spirit writes on truly awakened hearts. If there be any among us who observe them, not who habitually break any of them, let it be known unto them who watch over that soul as they who must give an account. We will admonish him of the error of his ways. We will bear with him for a season. But then, if he repent not, he hath no more place among us. We have delivered our own souls.

TO BE A METHODIST IN WESLEY'S DAY WAS A SERIOUS MATTER:

In Wesley's journal under the date of March 12, 1743, Wesley gives the results of his investigation in the society at Newcastle on how many were expelled and why. Here is the accounting:

The number of those who were expelled from the Society was sixty-four:

Two for cursing and swearing.

Two for habitual Sabbath-breaking.

Seventeen for drunkenness.
Two for retailing spirituous liquors.
Three for quarrelling and brawling.
One for beating his wife.
Three for habitual, wilful lying.
Four for railing and evil-speaking.
One for idleness and laziness. And,
Nine-and-twenty for lightness and carelessness.

Laymen with a zeal for communicating the gospel were sent out by Wesley with these strict admonitions:

1. Have no set salaries and only enough money for the expense of their travels;
2. Travel by foot, rather than by horse or carriage;
3. Rise before five o'clock and until noon spend time in prayer, reading, and writing;
4. Visit prospective converts, the sick and bereaved from noon until five o'clock;
5. Pray from five until six o'clock.

DOCTRINES WESLEY PREACHED

Here let us sum up very briefly the doctrines that John Wesley preached:

- (1) The doctrine of the authority and inspiration of the Holy Scriptures.
- (2) The doctrine of the depravity of human nature and inability of persons to turn to God without the aid of the Holy Spirit.
- (3) The doctrine of the atonement of Christ, made through his vicarious sacrifice for the sin of the world, which is the sole meritorious cause for human acceptance with God.
- (4) The doctrine of the universality of that atonement, whereby "whoever believes....shall not perish but have eternal life."
- (5) The doctrine of justification by faith alone as the instrumental cause of a person's salvation.
- (6) The doctrine of new birth and absolute need of a conscious conversion or regeneration.
- (7) The doctrine of sanctification by the cleansing power of the Holy Ghost through faith in Christ.
- (8) The doctrine of the witness of the Spirit, bearing witness with the spirit of a regenerated person that he or she is a child of God.

The End



Bethany United Methodist Church

**BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
BETHANY CHURCH ROAD, SALUDA COUNTY**

The beginnings of Bethany United Methodist Church in Saluda County started nearly 200 years ago in a brush arbor, where people gathered to worship among the trees in the woods. The church is located on the same site where a log building—the first church—was erected in 1809. According to an account in *Saluda County in Scene and Story*, the land for the church was donated by Reuben Blalock and the log building was erected as a freewill offering in 1809.

Sandra Harmon, the church historian, said that for years, the building was known as the Blalock Meeting House. Blalock's gravesite is in the cemetery behind the church. He died in 1827. In 1827 or 1828, the church was formally dedicated to the Methodist Circuit of Edgefield County and the name, Bethany, was given to the church.

Through the years, many changes have taken place and the church has grown from a sanctuary to include other facilities. And now, the church is enlarging the fellowship hall, adding bathrooms and storage space.

The congregation of about 220 people needs more space for such activities as family reunions and church functions, said the Rev. Tony Rowell. Last year, new heating

and air-conditioning systems were added, and when this year's project is completed, there will be three bathrooms in the fellowship hall. The project is to be completed this month (November).

Rowell said that a gift of money from a lady in the community was a "godsend thing. We were going to have drives [for the building project] but we didn't have to. We didn't have to borrow money or have drives."

A spirit of giving, working together and volunteerism always seems to have thrived at the church.

Harmon said that all the improvements have been made through the years because of spiritual love and dedication. This community has always pulled together as one, especially in times of need or tragedy, Harmon said.

Harmon, who grew up in the community and whose mother, Ruby Gibson, 85, has always been a member of the church, is putting together a history of the church.

Harmon found that during the Civil War, the ladies of the church—the Ladies' Aid Society—were instrumental in getting supplies for the men of the area and shipped to them where they were serving. Supplies included food, clothing, medicine, tobacco and bandages.

In 1898 or 1899, the present building was erected of wood. (Later, in the 1960s, it was bricked over and stained-glass windows added.)

The white wooden church was finished in 1900 and church members did most of the work, Harmon said.

Classrooms were added to the church between 1937 and 1941.

Harmon said that a story, believed to be true, has been passed down about the moving of the sanctuary in 1942 or 1943 to provide space for rooms behind the building. As the story goes, Coke Bradley was in charge of moving the church forward with a mule. The mule died. Also about that time, a big arched window, given by Mamie Gibson Steward, in memory of her father, Rufus Gibson, was donated to the church. Ruby Gibson, along with the Rev. and Mrs. T.A. Jambinet, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert Hipp, Annie Coleman and Mary Annie Berry put together pieces of colored paper stuck on glass like pieces of a puzzle, so that the window looks like stained glass, Harmon said. The

window is behind the pulpit; the scene is of Jesus with outstretched arms. Gibson is the only surviving member of that group, Harmon said.

In 1960 or 1961, the front porch was added to the sanctuary and the two-story education building and social hall was added.

A new parsonage was built in 1974 and in 1976, the debt for that building was retired, Harmon said. Again, volunteers helped make that possible, she added.

In 1975, Bethany went "station," which means that Bethany became a church by itself instead of part of a circuit, she said. In 1991, a new steeple was added.

In 1986, Bethany and Zion United Methodist Church were put back together to form a "charge," Harmon said.

Rowell, who also is pastor of Zion United Methodist Church, about eight miles away from Bethany, said that Bethany's activities include church services, Sunday school, United Methodist Youth Fellowship, and youth and children's choir. There also is the "Dora"—a group of folks from college age to middle age, and the "Antique Teenagers," retired folks from the community who meet for fellowship, take

Rev. Tony Rowell
Bethany United
Methodist Church



trips and the like. The United Methodist Men and United Methodist Women groups meet monthly and the church participates in mission trips. In January, members of the congregation will go to Costa Rica with other Methodist churches to do construction work. Rowell actually got into the ministry several years ago through doing volunteer construction work in the Philippines two or three weeks each year. Before his ministerial studies, Rowell had been a cabinetmaker and was in construction for 10 years. He owned Anthony S. Rowell Construction.

"This little community is interesting," Rowell said, with plenty of different denominations and churches, including Pentecostal, Baptist, Methodist and Lutheran. Once every fifth Sunday, all the churches get together, rotating the worship services and gathering for meals. The congregations also gather together for Easter sunrise services.

Obviously, a lot of cooperation and sharing has been necessary to make the circuit system work, and the system has worked well on the Butler Circuit.

However, circuit ministers have often been stretched very thin in their outreach to several churches.

It was a bold step forward when members of Bethany decided in early 1974 that they would consider "going station," hiring their own minister and providing him a parsonage.

The challenge was tremendous. There was the question of clearing plans through the church district administration, obtaining land for the parsonage, funding their own full-time preacher, and most of all, making it work in the end.

Yet, more than 90 per cent of those Bethany members who voted on going station said "yes."

The Rev. Dr. Ed Jenkins, then Columbia District superintendent, saw the resolve of Bethany members and appointed the required district board to review the site and plans for the new Bethany parsonage. When this board granted their approval (in January, 1974) for the building, it was full speed ahead for Bethany members.

In September 1974, Dr. Jenkins granted approval for Bethany to borrow \$40,000 to erect the new parsonage. Construction began immediately at a site just down the road from the church.

Nine months later in May, 1975 Bethany had its own 4,000-square-foot parsonage.

The modern brick home, though built largely by an outside contractor, is the product of a lot of sacrifice by Bethany

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mortgage burned Aug 15 '76



BURNING THE DEBT—It was a happy occasion recently when leaders of Bethany U.M.C. gathered to celebrate retiring the debt on their new parsonage and furnishings. Present were, on front row from left: the Rev. John Griffith, Bethany minister; Bethany laymen Heyward Hupp and James Henry Medcoe; and the Rev. Chad Davis, Columbia District superintendent. Behind them are Bethany laypersons, from left: Frazier Riley; Kenneth Miller; Carl Gibson; Avery Nighthawer; Hammond Buffington; Harvey Gibson; and Mrs. Dot Bradley.

However, it was all worth the effort for the laymen of Bethany when their historic country church was granted station status in June, 1975. The church then received its first full-time pastor, the Rev. John P. Griffith, himself a Saluda County native.

What happened next was what might have been expected to happen -- Bethany members began to pull together to pay for the parsonage and make their station conversion successful.

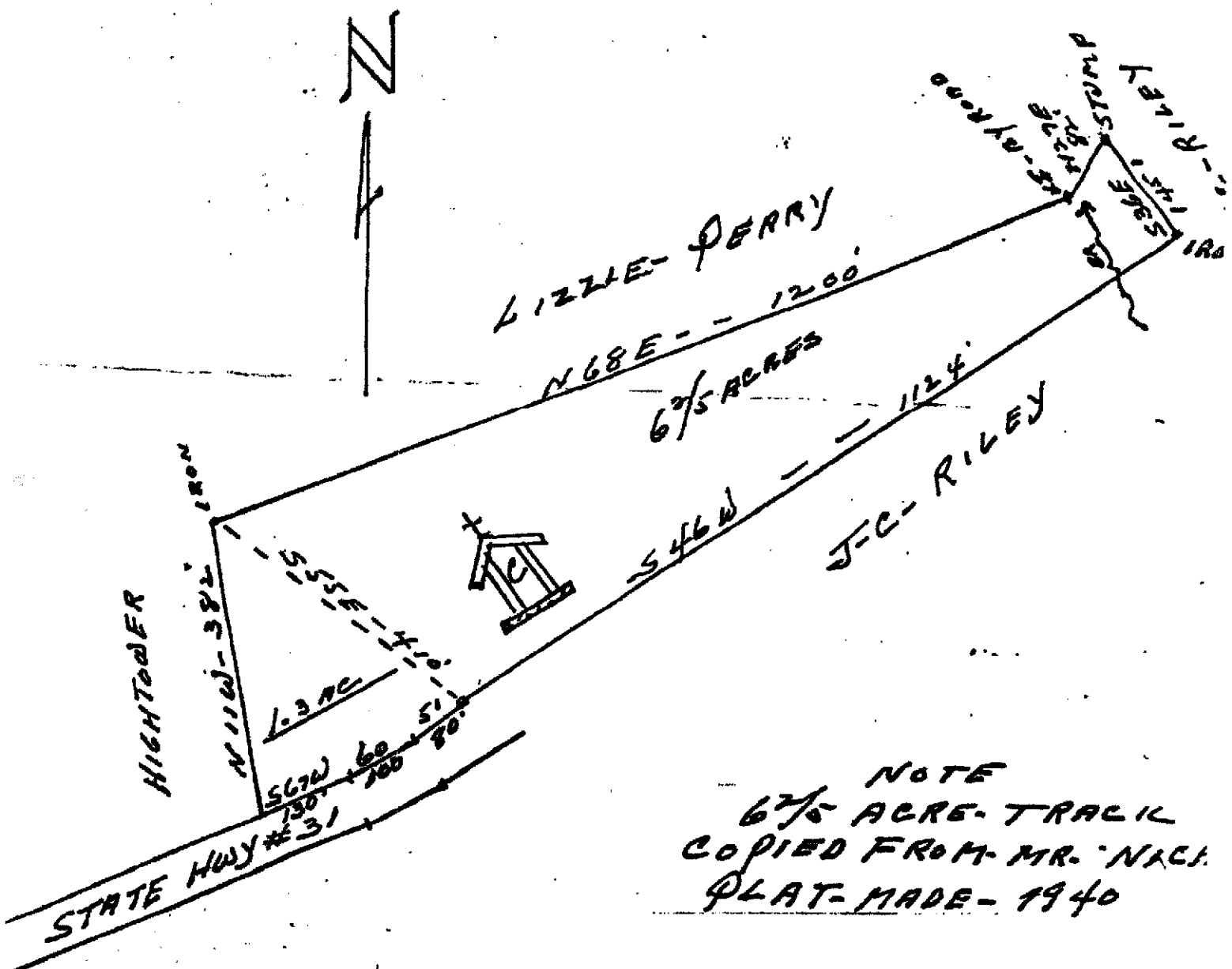
By August 1, 1976, only 23 months from the time construction began on the parsonage, Bethany members retired the total debt of \$49,500 required to build and furnish the pastor's home.

Bethany members are just proud of what they have achieved. They don't assess their success in dollars and cents. They're proud to have broadened their total ministry now preaching services from their parsonage every Sunday morning, evening, more flexibility to plan church programs, more time for individual ministry by their pastor, and more.

With the pioneering spirit of their forefathers, they have seen a calling and reached out to answer it.

(Power, who works for the Office of National Education, S.C. Department of Education, is a member of Mt. Hebron U.M.C., Columbia. He was graduated from the University of South Carolina School of Journalism.)

see also ...

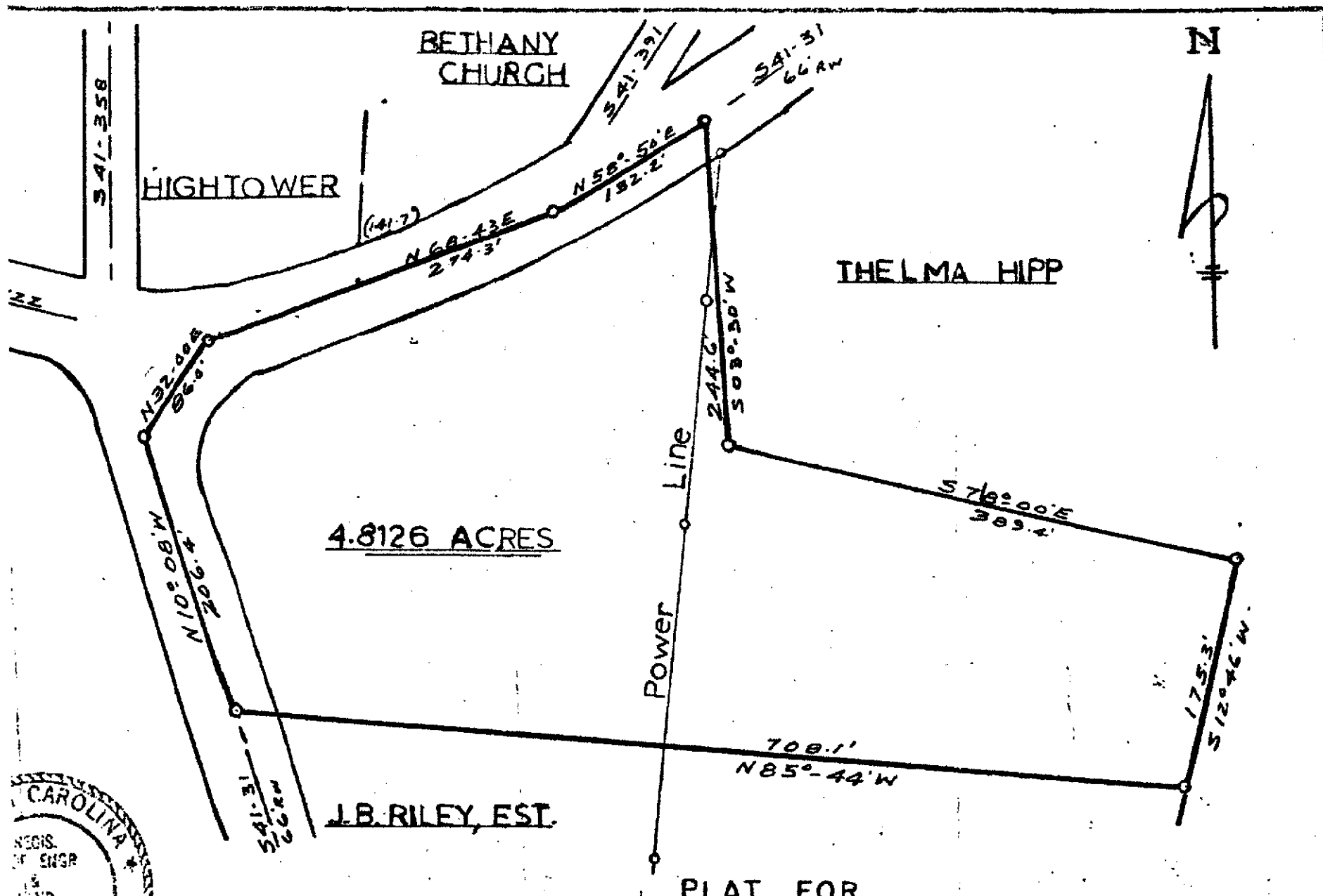


NOTE
 6 2/5 ACRE TRAIL
 COPIED FROM MR. NACH.
 PLAT-MADE-1940

SOUTH-CAROLINA
 SALUDA-COUNTY
 PLAT-SHOWING-PROPERTY-OF
 BETHANY-METHODIST-CHURCH
 LYING-ABOUT-11-MILES-N-EAST-OF-SALUDA

DATE-11-20-63
 SCALE 1"=200

[Signature]
 5-C-REG 1403



SALUDA COUNTY
SOUTH CAROLINA

PLAT FOR
TRUSTEES OF

DATE 7-27-74
SCALE 1"=100'

BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Recorded July 29 1974 Plat Book 16 Page 33 1:45 P.M.

NOTE: 4.8126 AC



Installed Dec. 29 - 1979

NEW STEEPLE - The new steeple for Bethany United Methodist Church arrived recently. The steeple was supposed to arrive in June, but a fire at the factory delayed the

shipment. Rev. John Griffith and some Bethany members pose by the steeple before the installation. (Standard-Sentinel photo by Chris Keeler)

*Meeting Confirmed
October 22, 1984*

7:00 PM

BETHANY CHURCH HISTORY

In the year 1809 the Bethany Church was organized. Reuben Blalock gave the land on which the first church was built of logs. Bethany was one of the nine churches that made up the Saluda Circuit. The mode of transportation limited services to one per month. The log building was used until 1899 when a new building was begun and completed in 1900 with the members doing most of the work. The 1900 structure is the present building with new classrooms added. In 1960-61 - *Franklin* an educational building with 5 classrooms and a social hall was completed. The sanctuary was bricked at this time and stained glass windows added. *New Pews - 1951* with pews, carpet and a public address system have been added over the years.

In 1974 Bethany was one of four churches on the Butler ~~ELSHINE~~ Charge. It was impossible for all churches to have their own evening services. Many members of Bethany felt the need for a station church with their own minister. In early 1974 more than 90 percent of the Bethany membership voted to meet the challenge of securing land and building a parsonage and supporting a minister. The District Superintendent granted approval for Bethany to borrow \$40,000.00 after reviewing the parsonage site and plans with the board he had appointed. Immediately, September 1974, construction began. Nine months later Bethany had its own 4,000 square foot parsonage. By August 1, 1976, 23 months from the beginning of construction, the \$39,550.00 loan was retired. No monetary value was placed on volunteer man hours or materials for plumbing, wiring, driveways or grading the parsonage site.

A steeple was erected on December 29, 1979. Since their station status on June 1975 Bethany members continue to be thankful for this productive step and still exercise the pioneering spirit of their forefathers who saw a higher calling and reached out to meet it.

Burial site of Mr. Blalock is in the cemetery near the site of the first church.

over

Four classrooms and stairway built in 1939.

Stained glass windows in altar and two side
rooms (prayer room & choir room) were built in
1943 or 1944. ← also chancel built

BETHANY CHURCH

HISTORY

In the year, 1809, Reuben Blalock saw a great need for a church in the community in which he lived. So he gave the land for the church to be built on. The first building was built with logs. It was a one room building. At this time, Bethany Church was on the Saluda Circuit. There were nine churches on Saluda Circuit. The Minister was able to have only one service each month. This was due to the mode of transportation. The Rev. Lewis Myers was serving as presiding Elder.

This building was used until about 1899 when the members saw the need for a new building. The new building was completed in 1900 with the members doing most of the work.

The 1900 building is the present structure, to which new class rooms have been added. In 1960-61, a new Educational building was built with five new class rooms. Brick veneering and stained glass windows in the Sanctuary were added also. *at this time*

* * * *

THE WOMAN'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE

PURPOSE

The purpose of this service shall be to help women grow in the knowledge and experience of God as revealed in Jesus Christ, to challenge them to respond to God's redemptive purpose in this world, to unite them in a Christian fellowship to make Christ known throughout the world, and to develop a personal responsibility for the whole task of the church.

Toward the realization of this purpose, the Woman's Society of Christian Service shall promote opportunities and resources to meet the needs and interests of women, to increase their knowledge of concerns and responsibilities of the church in the world and to share in Christian witness, service and missionary out-reach. (Continued)

-A-

Saluda, S. C.

(Continued)

The Woman's Society of Christian Service shall enlist workers and secure funds for the fulfillment of their responsibility in the mission of the church at home and overseas.

One of the most inspiring meetings of our Society was the celebration of the tenth anniversary. The members of the Bulter Church Woman's Society were invited to meet with us for the occasion.

The theme of the evening was, " Let Your Light Shine. " It was planned and carried out beautifully. After a very inspiring devotional of songs, talks, Scripture reading and prayer, all were invited to the rear of the church, where a bountiful and lovely surprise awaited. A table spread for both body and soul! As we placed ourselves around the table, we discovered in front of each person, a small candle. Down the center of the table, there were large candles. The room was darkened and a talk was given by the President. Her subject was, "The light shineth in darkness, " after which each small candle was lighted as an emblem of individual light. The large ones were then lighted, making the light much stronger and brighter. Very plainly as we stood there could we contrast the difference. "In unity, there is strength. "

At the end of the table was a huge cake with ten candles, representing the tenth birthday of the Woman's Society of Christian Service. Long will this scene remain in each of our memories, encouraging us to let our light shine brighter every day.

* * * * *

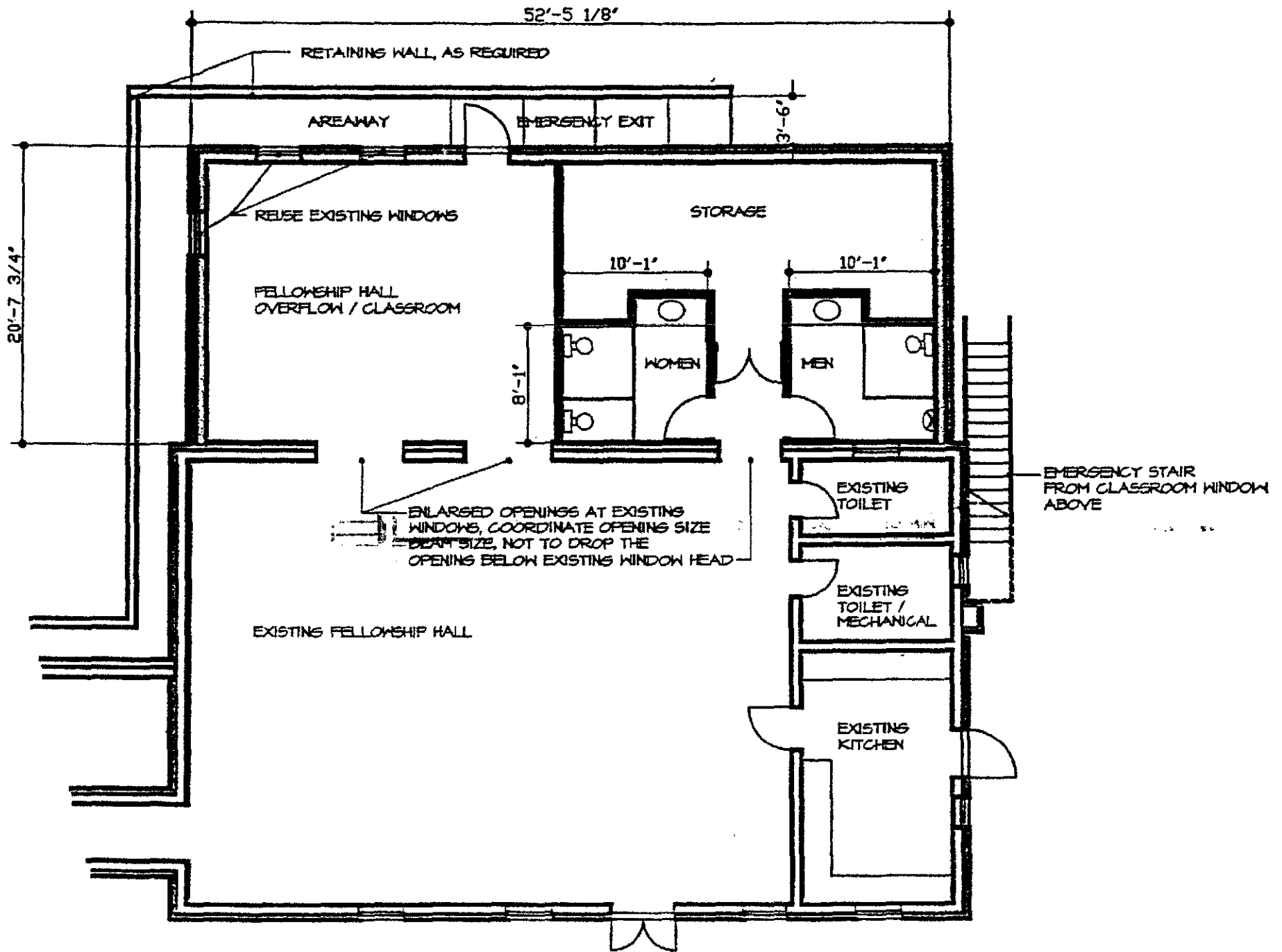
The Woman's Society of the Bethany Methodist Church was organized about 1939, under the leadership of the Pastor, Rev. L. C. Turbeville. The society was not very large nor active at that time. In 1942, the society was re-organized under the leadership of the Rev. T. A. Inabinet. He and his wife, Mrs. Martha Inabinet, worked faithfully with the members of the society. The members of the society are still at work today. Those serving as presidents are:

Mrs. Willie Mae Hipp, Saluda, S. C., R-1
Mrs. Annie Coleman, Saluda, S. C., R-5
Mrs. Ellie B. Hipp, Saluda, S. C., R-1
Mrs. Ruby Lee Gibson, Saluda, S. C., R-1
Mrs. Dot Bradley, Saluda, S. C., R-1
Mrs. Nellie Riley, Saluda, S. C., R-1

Ruby Lee Gibson

-B-

Saluda, S. C.



PROPOSED LOWER LEVEL
FLOOR PLAN

Ruby Lee

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by Bill Power

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sale of house subject

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(Power, who works for the Office of Vocational Education, S.C. Department of Education, is a member of Mt. Hebron U.M.C., Columbia. He was graduated from the University of South Carolina School of Journalism.)

HONORARY BABY MEMBERS AT PRESENT

Rachel Naomi Banknight	Wanda Louise Bledsoe
Nathan Darrel Miller	Lacinda Dawkins
Ralph Nichols Riley	Wanda Dawkins
David Derrick Banknight	Amy Gray Riley
James Maxcy Caldwell	Sandra Faye Gibson
Dale Edwards Miller	Rhonda Cathrine Lake
Carrie Pearl Caldwell	Kennith Listen Hipp
Frazier D. Riley, Jr.	Julian Phillip Caldwell
Kenneth Norman Miller	Horace Rodger Harmon
Cynthia Evelyn Reid	Lesa Ann Miller
Patty Bledsoe	Nina Louise Riley
Rita Faye Caldwell	Tina Margaret Bledsoe

* * * * *

WOMAN'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE

LIFE MEMBERS

X Mrs. Annie Coleman <i>may 2 78</i>	X Mrs. Carrie Mae Cromer <i>78</i>
Mrs. Ola Bledsoe	Mrs. Sallie Mae Duffie
Mrs. Lorene Harmon <i>reed</i>	Mrs. Ellee Jones
X Mrs. Ola Farce Riley <i>78</i>	Mrs. Pearl F. Riley
Mrs. Willie Mae Hipp	X Mrs. Mary Annie Berry <i>75</i>
Mrs. Liza Cromer	Mrs. Sarah Sanders
Mrs. Ruby Havird <i>Hannon Berry</i>	Mrs. Thelma Hipp
X Mrs. Ruth Riley <i>78</i>	Mrs. Irene Duffie
Mrs. Grace Rollins <i>and Hill 82</i>	Mrs. Ruby Lee Gibson
<u>Honorary Youth Member</u> - Judith Roberta Hipp	<i>78</i>

Dot Bradley 79 -C-

Saluda, S. C.
Nathan Gibson

We the members of the Bethany Woman's Society of Christian Service, dedicate this page to the loving memory of the life members who have been called to their Eternal Home. They were very faithful in their service to the society. We miss them. But our loss is God's gain. Namely they are:

DAISY

JURA

GIBSON

SALLIE

ELIZABETH

SANDERS

GENNIE HARMON

SALLIE RILEY

EUNICE GOODMAN

ELLIE B. HIPPI

(One Baby
Member)

CAROLYN

PEARL

CALDWELL

Bethany Church History

IN THE YEAR 1809 the land where Bethany Church stands belonged to one Reuben Blalock who in all probability was a member of Persimmon (Zoar Methodist Church). Mr. Blalock along with Mr. Benjamin Perry, esq. who was of strong Methodist belief although never affiliated with any church, felt a strong need for one. A crude log building was erected and given

Located in → 86 • SALUDA COUNTY IN SCENE AND STORY

as a free will offering along with the land where the present church stands by Mr. Blalock.

It was the custom it seems that when a family settled in a certain area this area became known by the last name of the family. For many years the log building was known as the "Blalock Meeting House". It was in 1827 or 1828 that it was formally dedicated to the Methodist circuit of Edgefield County. After the dedication to the circuit the name Bethany was given to this church.

During the Civil War the Ladies Aid Society from Bethany was instrumental in securing necessary supplies for the men of this area and shipped them to where they were serving. Such items as: foods, clothing, medicine, bandages, and tobaccos which they considered very important to the moral of the men.

This circuit has had many fine Elders and Ministers. Today a great many of the family names associated with this early church are still members.

About 1898 the present building was erected, additions and improvements have been made periodically through the years. These improvements were made possible by the spiritual interest and dedication of the people who love Bethany and are grateful for those first people who felt the need for a church and fulfilled this need.

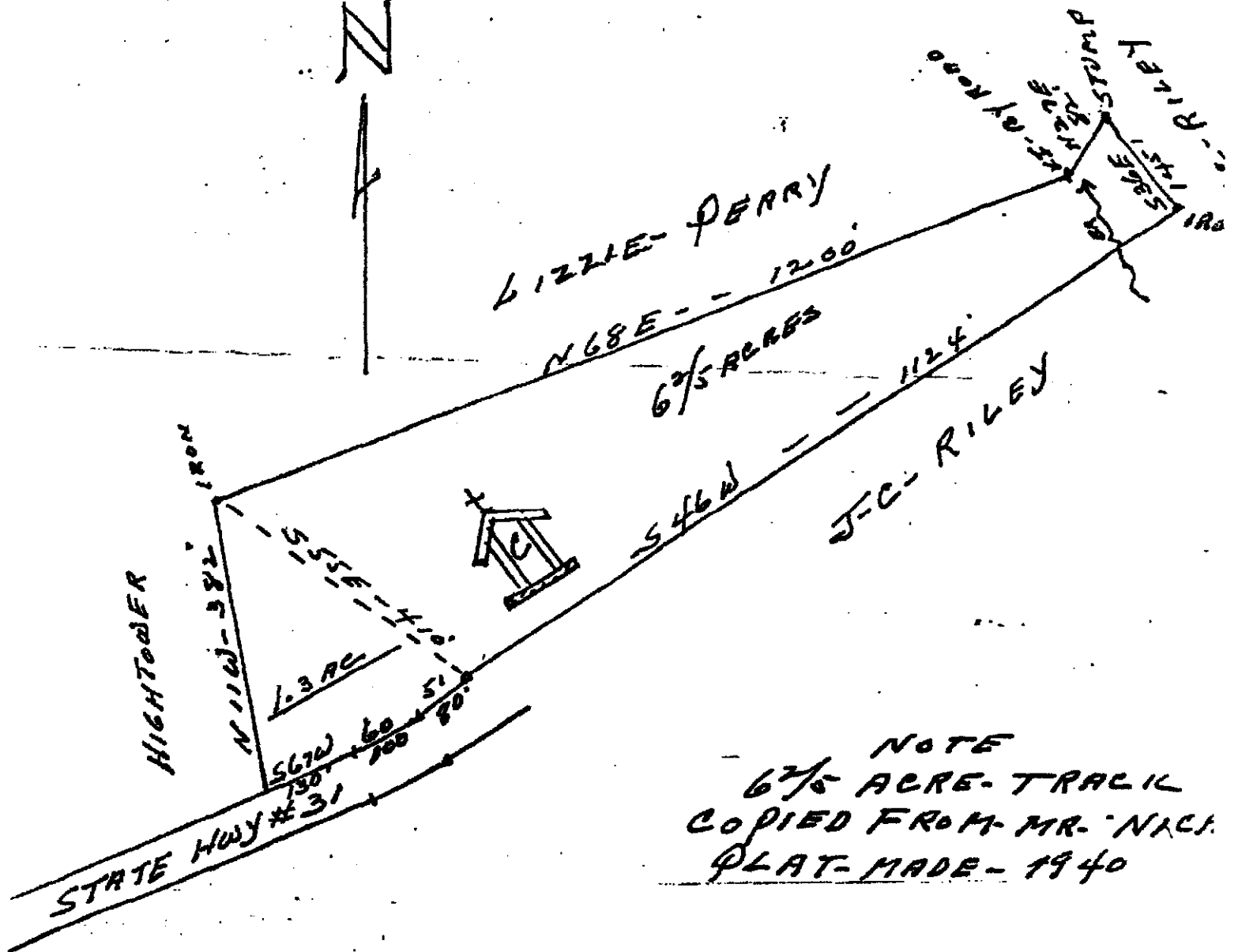
Mr. Blalock's remains rest behind the present building just above where he erected the first log building.



NEW STEEPLE - The new steeple for Bethany United Methodist Church arrived recently. The steeple was supposed to arrive in June, but a fire at the factory delayed the

shipment. Rev. John Griffith and some Bethany members pose by the steeple before the installation. (Standard-Sentinel photo by Chris Keeler)

1809 ~ The Blalock Meeting House was organized out of the vision and need of a church in the community. Reuben Blalock gave the land on which a one room log building was built. Mr. Blalock was probably a member of Persimmon Creek Church, now Zoar UMC. In this early history, travel limited the church to one service per month. In 1827 or 1828, the church was formally named Bethany & was dedicated to the Methodist Circuit Edgefield County. Major Events: 1899-1900 sanctuary & classrooms built; 1960-61 bricks & stained glass added & educational building / fellowship hall built; 1979 steeple erected; 1991 steeple replaced; 1990 fellowship hall addition built; 2005 playground built.



NOTE
 6 2/5 ACRE TRAIL
 COPIED FROM MR. NACH.
 PLAT-MADE-1940

SOUTH-CAROLINA
 SALUDA-COUNTY

DATE-11-20-63
 SCALE 1"=200

PLAT-SHOWING-PROPERTY-OF
 BETHANY-METHODIST-CHURCH
 LYING-ABOUT-11-MILES-N-EAST-OF-SALUDA

[Signature]
 5-C-REG 11/103

2018

May - 4 children joined Bethany one baptised
Karl Bradley - Allie Gibson

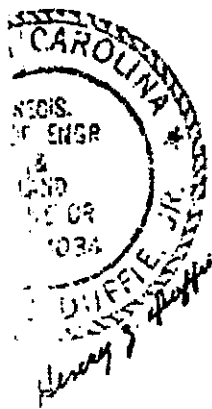
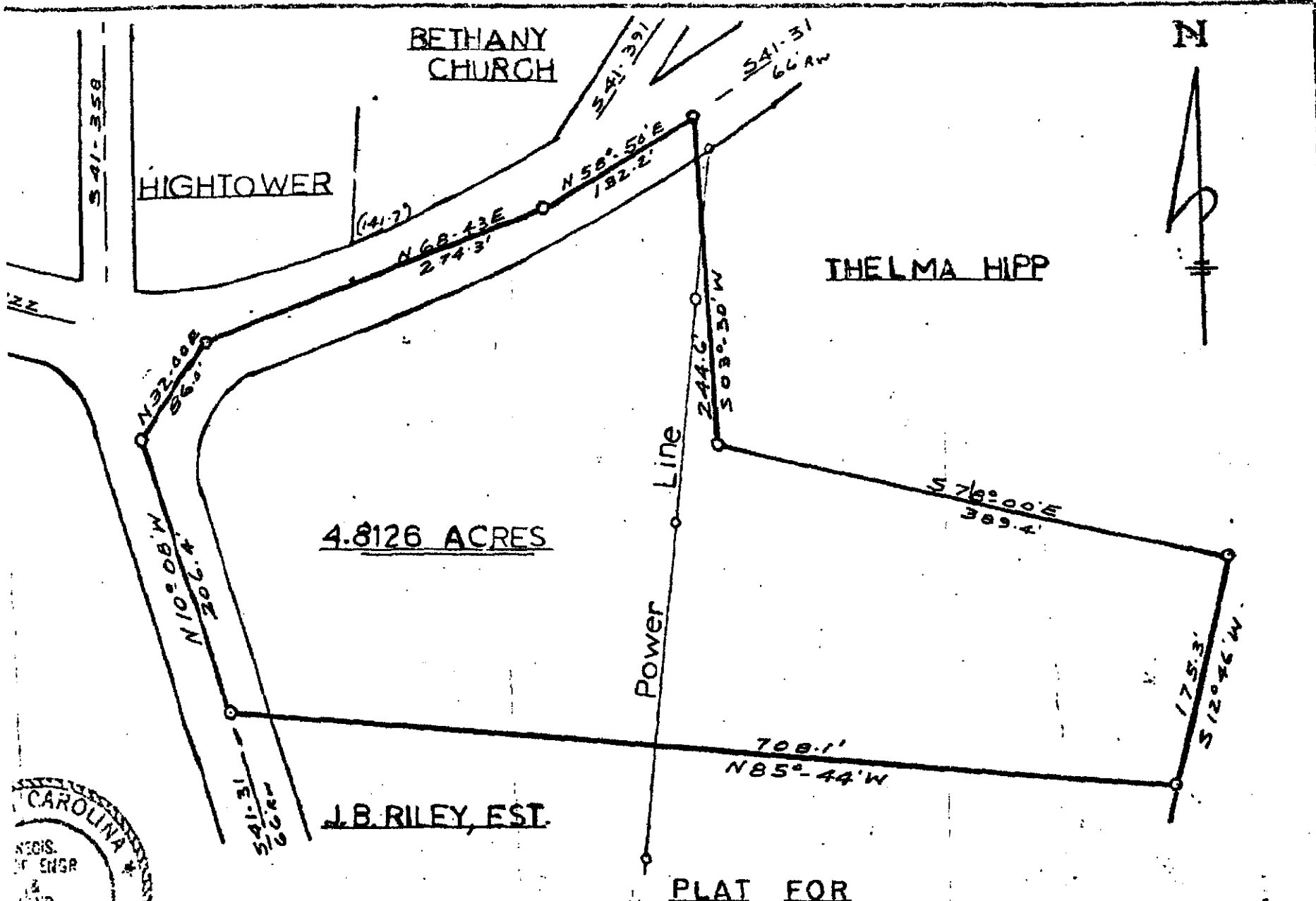
Daniel

June 27th pastor were reassigned churches
Aileen Taylor moved in the parsonage
as the new pastor for Bethany, Zach

Aug 5th - celebrated Homeing^{with} Pastor Hilary
Jessica Reyer / Fran Cisco Reyer
Holly Soy - special music

Jewey / Jackie - 3804 - ~~2018~~ year

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ ~~Daniel - 993-4287~~



SALUDA COUNTY
SOUTH CAROLINA

PLAT FOR
TRUSTEES OF

DATE 7-27-74
SCALE 1"=100'

BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Recorded July 29 1974 Plat Book 16 Page 33 1:45 P.M.

NOTE: 4.8126 AC

**You are invited to join us as we celebrate the
208th Homecoming on**

August 6, 2017 at 11:00 am

**Rev. Michael Hood will be bringing the
message. There will be special music. There
will be dinner on the grounds immediately
following the service. Please bring a side
dish to share with everyone.**

Bethany United Methodist Church

1809—2017

Maintenance to Parsonage (July 2018) (mostly July 16th-20th)

- Hallway and corner bedroom painted
- Ice machine motor repaired
- Discovered no hole between the vent and the HV/AC unit in the master bathroom
- Fixed elbow of HV/AC unit underneath the laundry room
- Repaired flood light by driveway
- Repaired front doorbell
- Fixed threshold by garage
- Cleared out storage shed

May 2001

Installed Church Carpet (Blue) \$12,502.⁰⁰
by Whitaker Floor Covering

Feb 11, 2009

Replaced Roof on Sanctuary 7,697.⁰⁰
by Carolina Roofing

RECENT IMPROVEMENTS TO CHURCH:

For Social Hall:

1 - 60" round table
1 - 60" round table
1 - 60" round table
1 - 60" round table
1 - 60" round table
11 - 8' rectangle tables
2 - 6' rectangle tables
27 - chairs
85 - chairs
5 - blinds
Shelves installed in storage
room (built by Donnie Hipp)...UMW

Donated by:

John & Judy Miller
James & Clara Caldwell
James & Clara Caldwell
The Hipp Family
Ruby Lee Gibson Family
Members
Members
Members
Church Treasure
UMW

In Memory:

Pearl Riley
Oscar & Carrie Mae Cromer
Heyward & Dorothy Hipp
Heyward & Dorothy Hipp
Harvey & Doyle Gibson

Sanctuary:

Large Chandelier

Elouese Miller & family

Joseph Talmadge & Naomi
Miller Duffie family

Small Chandelier

Money given to UMW
by 49er's

Church Treasure

Pew Bible Holders

Repainted Vestibule -
(K & M Contractors)

UMW

Up Stairs :

Bathroom -

Replaced vinyl flooring...

UMW

Installed vanity cabinet,
& mirror light fixture...

UMW

Repainted wall & put up
border...

UMW

Greenery /decorations ...

Member

Sunday School Classes -

Installed blinds in most
classes ...

UMW

Classes repainted &
completely re-decorated...

Members

14 - Cushion chairs for
Youth Adult (Caterpillar
class)...

UMW

Built cabinets in Nursery
(built by Donnie Hipp)

Member

Choir Room:

Replaced bookshelf with
cabinet for storing music
materials...

UMW

Built doors on cabinet for
sound system (built by
Donnie Hipp) ...

UMW

(over)

Adult Women & Men's Bible Class:

Repainted walls (K & M Contractors

Installed vertical blinds...

Installed ceiling fans with light...

Replaced door knobs...

14 - Cushion chairs...

1 - Cushion chair...

1 - Cushion chair...

1 - Cushion chair...

1 - Cushion chair...

1 - Cushion chair...

3 - Cushion chairs

Paint

Contribution for improvements...

Donated by:

UMW

Church Treasure

UMW

UMW

UMW Members

Harmon Reunion

Ricky, Kay & Jessie

Pam Riley

Kelly, Sandra & Pam Riley

Frazier & Nellie Riley

9 - Cushion chairs...

Women's Class Member s

UMW Member

Non-member

In Memory:

Jesse Riley

Ola F. Riley

Quence Hyler

Quence Hyler

UMW

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However, circuit ministers have often been stretched very thin in their outreach to several churches.

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The modern brick home, though built largely by an outside contractor, is the product of a lot of sacrifice by Bethany

BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PURPOSE AND VISION STATEMENTS:

Purpose: To Worship, Love, and Serve

Vision Statements:

1. To transform lives by sharing the saving grace of Jesus Christ
2. To experience God's movement and grow in faith through flexible worship, educational programs, faithful stewardship, and prayer
3. To reflect God's love by serving others in the community
4. To acknowledge both individually and collectively the worth of each member of the congregation



Established 1809

**BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
363 Bethany Rd.
Saluda, South Carolina 29138**

WORSHIP, LOVE, AND SERVE

BETHANY UNITED METHODIST HOMECOMING

AUGUST 5, 2018

11:00 A.M.

PASTOR HILLARY TAYLOR WILL PROVIDE THE MORNING MESSAGE.

SPECIAL MUSIC WILL BE PROVIDED BY:

HOLLY SOX

JESSICA REYES

FRANCISCO REYES

**MEATS AND DRINKS WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE CHURCH. PLEASE BRING YOUR
FAVORITE SIDE DISH.**

Sept 6, 2018

inel
50¢

Saluda
Standard
1900
Saluda County
Sentinel
1946

Detention Center Booking Report

The following have been booked at the Saluda County Jail Aug. 27-28, 2018. The following suspects are listed by name, hometown, and charge description.

Erick Sanchez-Gill, Saluda, DUS

Qushari Tyquan Bussey, Lexington, DUS 1st, simple possession of marijuana, failure to stop for blue light

Clinton Jerome Peterson, Batesburg, habitual traffic offender

Christopher Patrick Sample, Saluda, Family Court bench warrant

Jerry Lynn Spurlock, Batesburg, filing false police report

Gertez Marque Walker, Saluda, violation of probation (used by PPP only)

Anthony McCloud Abney, Saluda, DUI

Heather Nicole Malin, Hephzibah, GA, driving without a license, speeding

Brian Michael Wills, Gilbert, trespassing, malicious injury to personal property \$2000 or less

Joestasvia Dazarius Holloway, Saluda, reckless driving, open container of beer/wine, DUS, license

General Sessions Jurors Drawn

A term of General Sessions Court will convene on Mon., Sept 17, 10 am in the Saluda County Courthouse with the Honorable Eugene C. Griffith, presiding.

Petit Jurors are to report on Mon., September 17 at 9:30 am. They are as follows:

Calvin Abner, Kendell L Abney, Kimberly L Abney, Laronda W Abney, Judith A Adamick, Samuel C Adams, Cheryl K Albert, Alan W Aler, Chad L Alexander, Michael W Allen, Carl R Anderson, Dorothy P Anderson, Treymayne L Barnes, Mozella Barr, Unique Barrow, Christopher A Barstow, Derek V Bedengaugh, David Bennett, Earl L Berry, Janice C Berry, Hunter W Black, Meredith C Blease, James R Bodie, Jannie Mae Bonham, Laurie J Boozer, Jeffrey K Borne, Shirleen Bosket, James M Bradley Jr, Charles P Brown, Alicia L Buckner, Aaron T Buda, Brad L Bundrick, Erica F Burdett, Melissa D Burnett, Stacy H Burnett, Jerlmin D Burt, Damion K Burton, Maggie J Burton,

Jessica B Buzhardt, Alice D Cancer, Edgar Castro, Marvin H Caughman, Richard R Caughman Jr, Kimberly H Chariker, Shawntae N Clary, Mark A Cleveland, Antonio R Coleman, Dorothy P Coleman, Joseph R Coleman, Marvin R Colm, Billie R Corley, Mary B Corley, Daniel C Covell, Elizabeth D Crpas, Michael B Craps, Richard J Crooks Jr, Alicia J Crouch, Curtis R Crouch, Marshall E Crouch, Doris L Crowley, Artashia N Culbreath, Dashawnia R Daniels, Frances J day, Javier E De L Fuente, Trevor L Dean, Abu D Dennis, Stacey D Derrick, Fayth L Dickson, Melody C Dorn, Ronnie S Driggers, Andrea M Dublin, Jonathan L Edwards, Wickey D Elmo, Katie T Enlow, Maria F Esperanza, Julie C Esposito,

Carol A Etheredge, Tracey C Fincher, Charles E Foster, Theresa G Gantt, Tracy L Garnder, Ashley K Garris, Nytosha S Geiger, Stacey O Getson, Jeremy M Gilliam, George E Goldman, Brad A Gootee, Sam M Hackler II, Daniel Haggard, William S Harper, Michele S Harris, Stefani B Hartin, Darrell R Heath Sr, Nina

Tammy M Tuten, Carolyn T Tuten, Carolyn T Vines, Willie L Walker, Randall E Warren, Brittany A Waters, Georgia F Watson, Zetroit B Watson, Otis C Wells, Roger E West, Tommie N Wideman Jr, Preston N Wilkins, Don A Will Jr, James E Williams, Judy C Williams, Wynona E Williams, Lisa R Wootton, Corbin N Yon.



Hillary Taylor

New Pastor At Bethany-Zoar UMC

Hillary Taylor is the new pastor at the Bethany-Zoar Charge of the UMC in Saluda County.

She succeeds the Rev. Ken Freeman who remains in Saluda County at the Emory-Nazareth Charge.

Rev. Taylor grew up in Columbia in the Forest Acres area.

She graduated from Hammond School in 2008, attended Furman University afterwards and graduated with a B.A. in psychology in 2012. Most recently, she graduated from Candler School of Theology (Emory University) on May 14th, 2018 with my Masters of Divinity (M.Div.).

Between graduating from college and entering seminary, she served as a young adult missionary for three

reckless driving, open container of beer/wine, DUS, license suspended for DUI 1st

Nicholas Charles Ellison, Ninety Six, drugs/possession <1 gram of meth or cocaine base 1st

Tiffany Marie Ellison, Ninety Six, drugs/possession <1 gram of meth or cocaine base 1st.

Kendall Lamar Yarbrough, Saluda, Family Court bench warrant

Gregorio Joel Alvarez Jr., Johnston, public disorderly conduct

Christopher Ryan Beveridge, Leesville, open container of beer/wine, no proof of insurance, operating vehicle which is not registered/lic.

De'Kovean Dre'shawn Freeman, Saluda, possession of a weapon during a violent crime, armed robbery with deadly weapon

Justin Kyle Gilliam, Olar, moped licensing provisions violation 1st offense, failure to stop for blue light, impeding traffic

Johnathan Lopez, Saluda, simple possession of marijuana, DUS

Damian Shaud Mathis, Saluda, violation of probation (used by PPP only)

Nelson Maurice Padgett, Chappells, DUS

Wade Valdise Rouse, Trenton, simple possession of marijuana, prisoners/contraband, furnish, or poss., county or municipal prisons prohibited, possession of schedule V drug, possession of controlled substance

Kenneth Evan Williams, Edgefield, simple possession of marijuana, no signal, improper signal

Hackler II, Daniel Haggard, William S Harper, Michele S Harris, Stefani B Hartin, Darrell B Heath Sr, Nina J Hendricks, Kayla M Henry, Matthew G Hite, Malik D Holloway, Misty L Holsonback, Aaron M Hopkins, Jr, Carol M Hopkins, Dorilene C Hopkins,

Joy J Hyler, Shakeyma N Irving, John A Jackson, Ryan A Jackson, Jeremiah Jaramillo, Mamie T Jones, Pauline, H Jones, Will T Jones, Brandon S Jordan, Brenda G Joyce, William T Kidd, Pennie K Kinard, Samatha K Langord, Donna M Langley, Archie W Larrimore, Kayla D Lawson, Christopher S Logan, Dennis A Lear, Dwayne Lewis, James P Livingston, Dianne M Logan, Charles W Long, Shron D Long, Donnie L Longshore, Callie M Lopez, Xavier M Maddox,

Todd A Maricle, Shakeyla V Mathis, John M Mccarty, Brenta A Mccauley, Jillian L Mccauley, Kendall N Merrit, Lawrence S Michalee Jr, David J Miller, Dylan N Miller, James A Miller, Wilbur Mims Jr, Burton L Minick, Lou G Minick, Terry R Minick, Bradrick L Mize, Jacoby A Moon Jr, Arnaud M Myers, Tommy W Orr, Julian D Ouzts, Barbara A Oxner, Donna L Padgett, Charles D Parker Jr, John C Perry, John O Perry, Cassie N Peterson, Betty Jo Pinson, Christine G Pitts,

Amy R Price, Ellen Price, Ralph D Price, THomas J Price, Dechantel G Quattlebaum, Andrew B Reddy, Janet B Ricard, Justin P Ridgell, John C Rita Jr, Marcus M Robertson, Samuel Robinson Jr, Ida L Rodgers, Ryan E Rodgers, Ny'kel R Rolland, Jillian B Rosier, Linda D Rowe, Ricky L Rowe, Irene W Ruff, Mahalia K Russell, Kevin D Sandoval, Lisa M Seth, Kline B Shealy, Wenford G Shealy, John C Shore III, James L Shorter, Shaun W Smith, Thomas F Steele, Sandra A Sudduth, Kenny W Swann, Myra E Taylor, Joshua Temple, Norma J Thorsen,

(M.Div.)

Between graduating from college and entering seminary, she served as a young adult missionary for three years. Rev. Taylor served first in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, as the Field Education Program Coordinator for Seth Mokitimi Methodist Seminary (a school that trained ministers for the Methodist Church of Southern Africa).

After 1.5 years there, she was sent to work with the United Way Center for Financial Stability in Miami, Florida as a Financial Coach. These two jobs were very different, but taught her more about ministry that I could have ever expected. It helped her understand her calling as a bridge-builder and connector between people in our diverse world.

She is excited to be back in South Carolina, and look forward to doing ministry with the Saluda Community!

Her favorite thing about Souda County?

"The people, obviously! I've experienced such kindness from parishioners and community members alike. I'm grateful to be connected to so many wonderful people, and hope I can reflect that hospitality wherever I am sent as a minister. My next favorite thing is the beautiful fields along the country roads! It seems like every pasture is an instagram photo waiting to happen!"

"If you haven't yet, come and worship with us at Zoar UMC (226 Zoar Church Road) and/or Bethany UMC (963 Bethany Rd). The Zoar service starts at 9:30am, and the Bethany service starts at 11:00am. Find us on Facebook if you haven't already! We hope to see you Sunday! "

Standard-Sentinel deadlines for copy, photographs and display advertising - 3 P.M. MONDAY
Classifieds - 10 A.M. TUESDAY.

Saluda County Farm to Table Dinner and Honey Tasting



WHERE: 105 Ward Avenue, Ward, South Carolina

WHEN: September 29th, 2018 from 6pm

Tickets: \$60.00/single; \$100/couple; or \$400/table of eight

Come out and support the future of agriculture in our region!

for
17-
an



How I Got My Call to Ministry

by the Rev. Hillary Taylor

From trauma to witness

On Nov. 11, 2002, I attended a retreat at the Springmaid hotel in Myrtle Beach. The Rev. Ken Johnson, the chaplain for the Indianapolis Colts, was speaking that weekend.

I'll never forget how funny he was. He made me laugh more than I had in a long time with his jokes, life stories, and devotions on Scripture. I also felt extremely connected to him because of the trauma he experienced as a young person. As a newly minted 13-year-old, I was experiencing significant isolation and depression from my own family trauma, the origins of which began five years earlier.

My parents officially divorced in 1998. My mother (who had custody of me and my sisters) had persistent mental health issues, which began to manifest in alcoholism, reckless behavior and abusive relationships. My father, as the noncustodial parent, tried to make sure we were as safe as possible every other weekend. When he remarried, my stepmother did the same. They were finally able to gather enough evidence to win temporary custody in court. The whole experience was devastating. I didn't feel like I could trust anyone or anything.

The only stable thing in my life at the time was church. When my dad started dating my stepmom, she told him, "If you are serious about dating me, you will come to church with me. And I want you to bring your daughters every other weekend when they come and visit you." Obviously, when we moved in with them full-time, church became a part of our regular routine. The people of Shandon United Methodist Church didn't pry into our pain as a family. They simply made space for us to figure out how to be a family in the midst of complicated dynamics. Through this simple action, they wordlessly conveyed that they loved me, that God loved me and that they would repeat these words to me until I could internalize them for myself.

That's how I became involved in the youth group, why I was at Springmaid and how I came to identify so much with Ken Johnson.

When Rev. Johnson finished his own testimony, I felt hopeful. His faith in God helped him overcome his trauma and become a witness to the power of God's grace.

I sat in my seat with tears in my eyes, and for a split second, I wondered whether God could do something similar

Your call story wanted!

Call stories (how we heard or felt God calling us to ministry) can be powerful testimonies, as well as inspiring. Sometimes they are uplifting, sometimes they are painful, but they are all real ways the Lord speaks to us today. The Advocate invites you to share your "call story." We are also exploring using these stories in an upcoming book. Email your story (500-1,000 words in length) to jbrodie@umcsc.org. If you do not have access to email, mail to Advocate, Attn: Call Story, 4908 Colonial Dr., Columbia, SC 29203. Include name, whether you are clergy, your church and a photograph.

with my life.

At that moment, I felt my first call to ordained ministry.

There are many more experiences which have confirmed this call—Asbury Hills camping programs, Salkehatchie and Rural Mission projects, Furman Wesley Fellowship, study abroad trips, becoming a United Methodist missionary, just to name the big ones. All of these experiences helped deepen my sense of vocation, especially when it comes to helping others find purpose and identity in the life of the church.

It takes both the big, extravagant revival services and the tender mercies of communal life to help people answer the call to ministry.

So if you're in the local church, reach out to the lonely middle-schoolers in your community. You never know what they're going through, but they might just become your next minister.

Letters to the Editor

Saluda pastor launching gun buyback program in rural SC

BY TOM BARTON
tbarton@thestate.com

COLUMBIA, S.C.

As the country mourns those killed and injured in mass shootings in El Paso, Texas, and Dayton, Ohio — and as suicide rates climb — a South Carolina



Hillary Taylor and Zear United Metho-

pastor is launching a gun buyback program.

Rev. Hillary Taylor, a pastor at Bethany and Zear United Metho-

dist churches in Saluda, said she hopes to raise at least \$5,000 to help gun owners who have unwanted firearms to dispose of them safely.

A hunter and gun owner who said she has struggled with depression and suicidal thoughts, Taylor supports the Second

Amendment "but I also know that guns and mental health problems are not a good mix. Self-harm becomes too easy — and too easily fatal."

South Carolina's suicide rate increased more than 58% from 1999 to 2016, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control

and Prevention.

Suicide is the 10th-leading cause of death in the country, and firearms account for nearly two-thirds of suicide deaths, the CDC says.

"Suicide is the largest component to gun violence and it's something we're not talking about,"

said Taylor, who modeled her program after gun violence prevention efforts led by her favorite Christian activist and author, Shane Claiborne.

"(Gun buybacks) have not been done in a lot of rural areas," she said.

"Part of this is to see what the response is, and also to help people get access to suicide prevention materials and to make mental health resources in the area known. Hopefully, (we) will have some personnel on site to help

SEE BUYBACK, 6A



Ton of plutonium shipped out of SC following state's nuclear plant lawsuit

BY NOAH FEIT
nfeit@thestate.com

After a victory in court, 1 ton of plutonium has

the release.

The never-completed MOX facility has been a source of controversy for decades, as it is \$12 billion overbudget and years

SALES TAX HOLIDAY CONTINUES (THROUGH SUNDAY AUG. 11) GREAT \$1 MILLION RETIREMENT SALE

warning its people about the risks of traveling to countries that are at war, under terrorist threats, experiencing civil unrest or displaying significant anti-American sentiment.

The latest mass shootings have triggered a sharp role reversal, with three countries warning their citizens about the

noted U.S. gun violence, and at least one was laced with a dose of political payback.

Japan's consulate in Detroit issued a general warning to its citizens in the United States following the shooting in Dayton. It noted the potential for gun violence given the prevalence of weapons,

ings, such as amusement parks and sporting events "given the authorities' inability to prevent these situations" involving firearms.

Amnesty International, a human rights organization, issued its own travel warning in the wake of the weekend shootings.

FROM PAGE 3A

BUYBACK

provide resources."

Taylor said she is coordinating with local law enforcement and other local churches to host a gun buy-back event from 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. on Sept. 7 in Saluda, a rural town northwest of Lexington County. At the event, gun owners will receive Walmart gift cards worth \$100 to \$200, depending the make and model of the firearm relinquished.

A specific location for the event will be announced later.

Saluda County Sheriff's Office Chief Deputy Toby Horne said the department will provide security

and safety at the event.

"If it saves one life we'll be glad," Horne said.

And whereas weapons relinquished at most gun buyback programs are destroyed, Taylor said it is her intent to disable and repurpose the firearms as tools or artwork.

Gun buybacks are fairly common. For example, in 2017, a group of Upstate pastors held a gun buyback event at the site of a double homicide in Spartanburg and have held similar events in the past, according to GoUpstate.com

Conway and North Charleston police, along

with the Horry County Police Department, Horry County Sheriff's Department and the S.C. Highway Patrol, have also held gun buyback events in the past.

And, Democratic presidential candidates are embracing proposals to buy back military-style weapons and ammunition after three high-profile mass shootings killed more than 30 people last week. Former Vice President Joe Biden, U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders and former U.S. Rep. Beto O'Rourke of El Paso have said they're open to enacting a national buyback in recent days, according to the Associated Press.

Tom Barton:
803-771-8304,
@tjbarton83



Please join us in celebrating

the 100th Birthday of

John Daniel Harmon, Sr.

Sunday, September 29, 2019

drop in from 2:00 - 5:00

Windy Hill Barn

(aka Gaughman's Big Red Barn)

1616 Duncan Road, Ward, SC 29166

Your presence is his present.





Proverbs 27:23 (Passion Translation)

A shepherd should pay close attention to the faces of their flock and hold close to their heart the condition of those they care for.

*In Memory
of*



*Doris Lee "Dot" Barker Bradley
July 21, 1926 - April 7, 2021*



Doris Lee "Dot" Barker Bradley

July 21, 1926 - April 7, 2021

Doris Lee "Dot" Barker Bradley, 94, passed away Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at her residence.

Born July 21, 1926 in Greenville, South Carolina, she grew up exploring the hills near Saluda Hill Road in Pickens County. Foundations of her firm faith in Christ Jesus grew from family, teachers, and members of the community and Pleasant Grove Baptist Church.

Dot was a graduate of Pickens High School, Columbia Commercial College, and Greenwood Vocational School of Nursing. She completed the UMC lay speaking program and participated in Emmaus Walk. She was a member of Bethany United Methodist Church, choir, UMW, Antique Teenagers, WOW, and, SCFCL. She enjoyed music, laughter, crossword puzzles, and reading. She loved people, God, her mountain roots, and America.

During her lifetime she cherished titles of daughter, sister, wife, mother, grand and great-grandmother, aunt, great, great-great aunt, and friend. Her caring, giving nature reached further to include roles of volunteer/mentor at Greenwood Female Juvenile Justice Facility, Cub Scout Den Mother, Girl Scout Leader, MYF Counselor, Sunday School teacher, Bradley House-Moving Bookkeeper, local country store manager, farmer, and Saluda Nursing Center LPN. She diligently cared for anyone she knew to be in need and "watched well over her flocks and herd."

She was predeceased by parents Vestal Barto and Bertha Almeida Leach Barker, stepmother Eva Galloway Barker of Pickens, husband J.W. Bradley, son John H. Bradley, daughter Nina M. Bradley of Saluda; siblings James Barker, Lila BR Ashe (Leroy), Angeline Fortner (Gene), V.B. Barker II of Pickens, Juanita B Sheppard (Vernon) of Ninety-Six, and Charles Barker (Arletha) of Travelers Rest. She is survived by sister Louise B Hendrix (Geroy) of Marietta, children Jean Gibson (Keith) and JW "Brother" Bradley, Jr (Vara-), grandsons Ian Gibson (Crystal) and Luke Gibson, and great-granddaughters Ainsley, Layne, and Halle Gibson all of Saluda.

A graveside service will be held 4 PM, Sunday, April 11, 2021 at Bethany United Methodist Church Cemetery with Rev. Hillary Taylor officiating. The family will receive friends following the service.

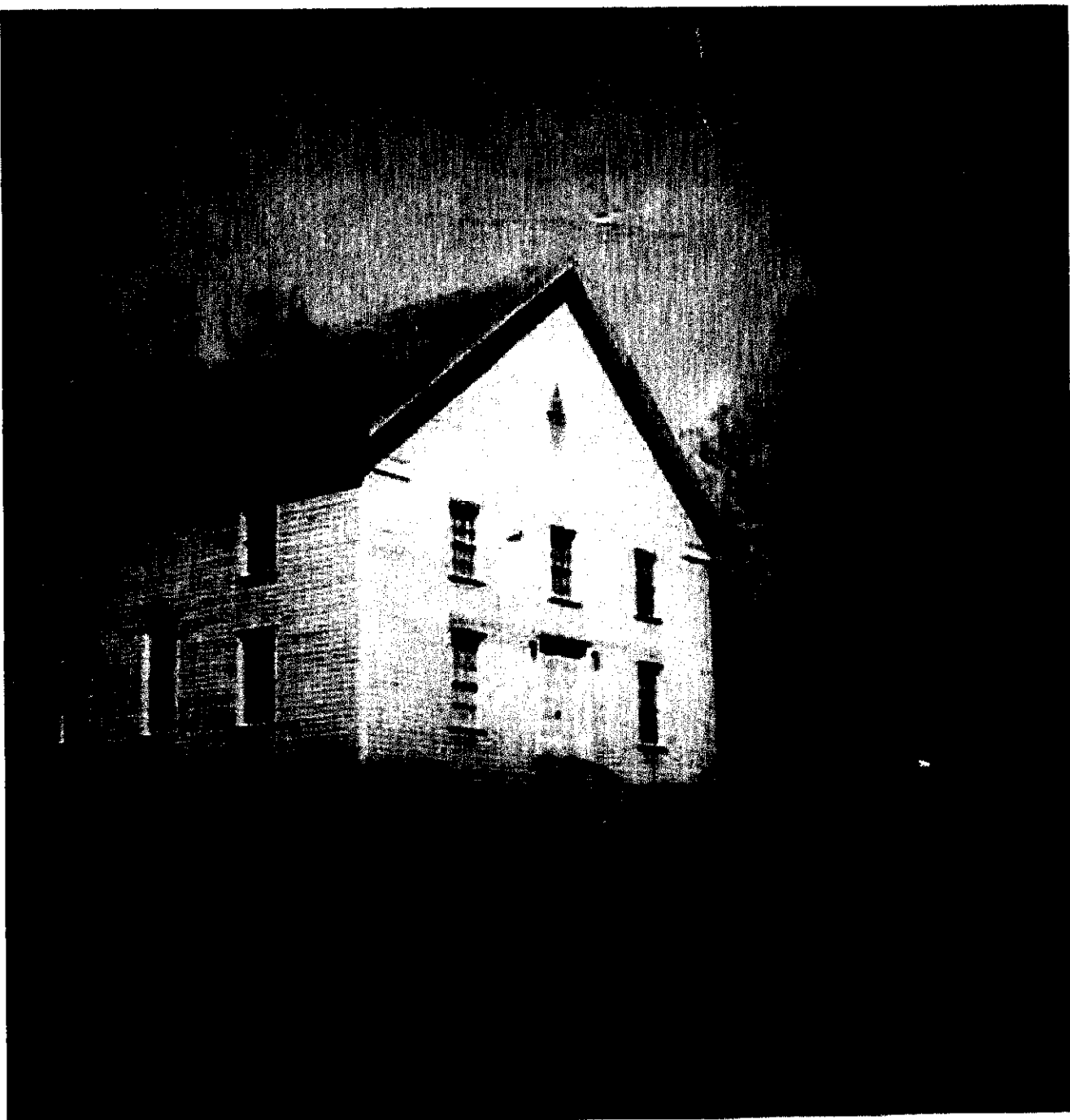
In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Jude Children Research Hospital, PO Box 50, Memphis, TN 38101, Bethany UMC Cemetery Fund, c/o Clara Riley, 242 Bethany Road, Saluda, SC 29138, or a charity of your choice.







1st row - Mr. Wilbur Hupp, Mrs. Willie Mae Hupp, Mrs. Eliza
 Crocker, mama, Mr. Matt Berry, Mr. E. L. Tennant,
 Mrs. Karen Tennant, 2nd row, Mr. Hamp Gibson, Mattie
 Hupp, Leona Gibson, Charles Rollins, Rollins' brother, in-
 law - from Vermont -, Grace Rollins, Rollins' sister,
 3rd row - Mack Berry, Ruby Berry, Carrie Mae Bradley,
 mama Blidson, Evelyn Blidson, Lillian Goff,
 Standing - Mr. Thurmond Jones, Mark Duffie, Maude
 and Jim Bridges, Rene Duffie, Aunt E. Lee Jones,
 Georgia Jones, Harold Bradley, Dottie Mae &
 Press Duffie, Jess Riley, Ruby Lee & Harvey
 Gibson, Danell, Letrope, Helma Goodman,
 Pearl Riley, Helma Hupp, Eugenia Wheeler,
 Clarence Goodman, Leeway Goff, Reister Riley,
 Rev. John's mother, Priscilla Griffith, Sara
 Sanders, Rev. John Griffith -



Bethany Church
Methodist
Savannah, SC.

Came from Mrs. Annie
Miller pictures

from Edward Miller
March 2009

Birthday, Anniversary

LAST Name

Wife

Children

Oldest to youngest

Holmes, Benjamin, Birthday, Anniversary
Karship

Church member

Bethany

United Methodist Church

Rt. 1 Box 460

Saluda, S.C. 29138

445-2294



JOHN P. GRIFFITH Minister

SINCLAIR LEWIS District Superintendent

ROY C. CLARK Bishop

BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Organ Prelude	Organist
Lighting of the Altar Candles	
Call to Worship	Choir
Gloria Patri	Congregation
Hymn of Praise and Adoration	Congregation
Affirmation of Faith	Congregation
Pastoral Prayer	Pastor
Anthem	Choir
Welcome and Announcements	Pastor
Giving of Tithes and Offerings	
Doxology	Congregation
Hymn of Preparation	Congregation
Children's Sermon	Priscilla Griffith
Morning Sermon	Rev. John Griffith
Hymn of Dedication	Congregation
Invocation	
Postlude	Organist

+++++++

WELCOME

May each of you find here a sense of God's presence and christian love. If you are a visitor, we bid you welcome. Please identify yourselves to the minister and members of the congregation.

ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday - 10:00 Church School
11:00 Morning Worship
6:30 MYF
Monday - 7:00 Adult Choir practice
Wednesday - 7:00 Youth Choir practice

We will have an Administrative Board meeting Wednesday, December 9 at 7:30. We had good attendance last month, I hope we can have a repeat Wednesday night.

December 6, 1987

Communion

A congregation that loves God and wants fellowship with him in doing his blessed will can receive vital spiritual nutrition in the Lord's supper experience. The church is beginning to discover the value that both scripture and tradition place on encountering God through the use of actions and physical things. John Wesley put such great emphasis on the Eucharist in his ministry that he served the Holy Communion weekly.

In the past many church people thought of the Lord's supper as merely a commemoration of the dead Christ, but now the emphasis is on the Holy Spirit working to prepare us for feasting at Christs' heavenly banquet.

District Celebration of Mission and Ministry

District celebration of mission and ministry is scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 7, 1988, 3:00-5:30 pm at Main Street UMC in Greenwood. A special offering will be taken for the Ministry to the Deaf program of Central UMC, Lourens. You are urged to bring the key leaders of you congregation. However, please extend an invitation to all who might want to participate.

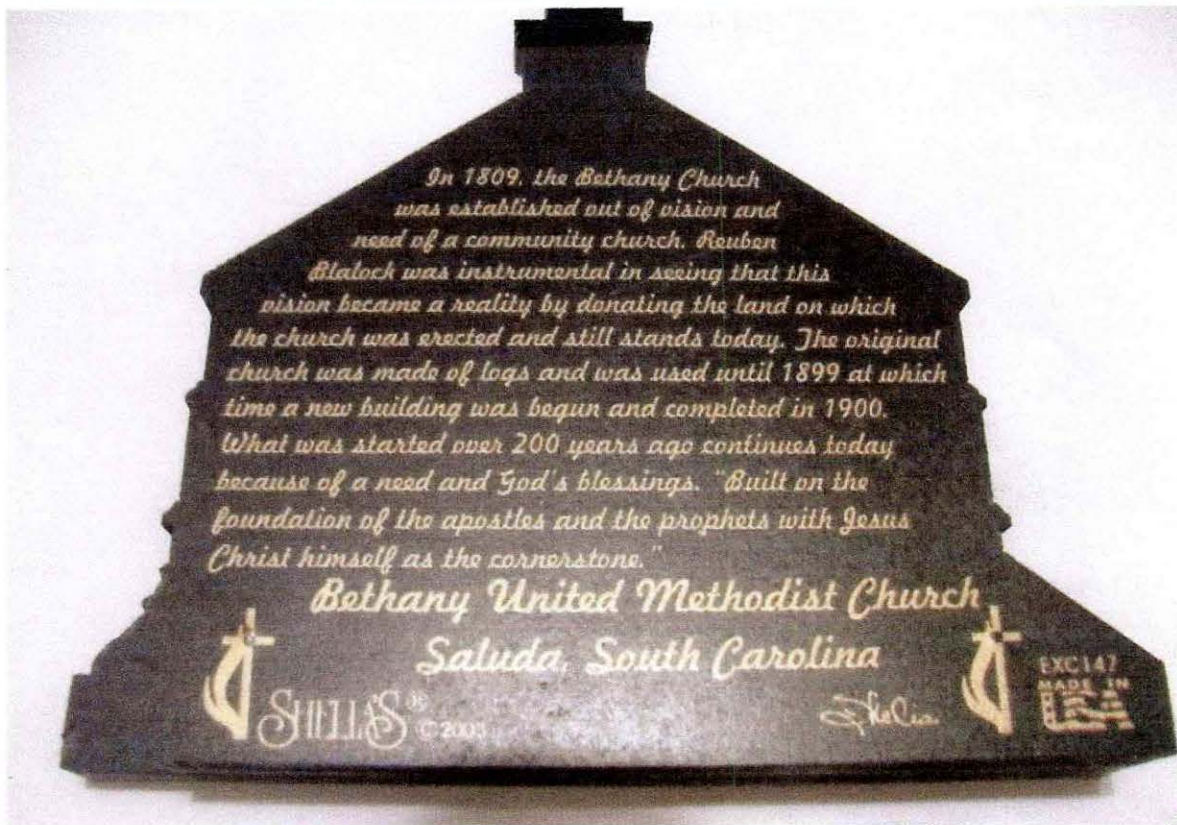
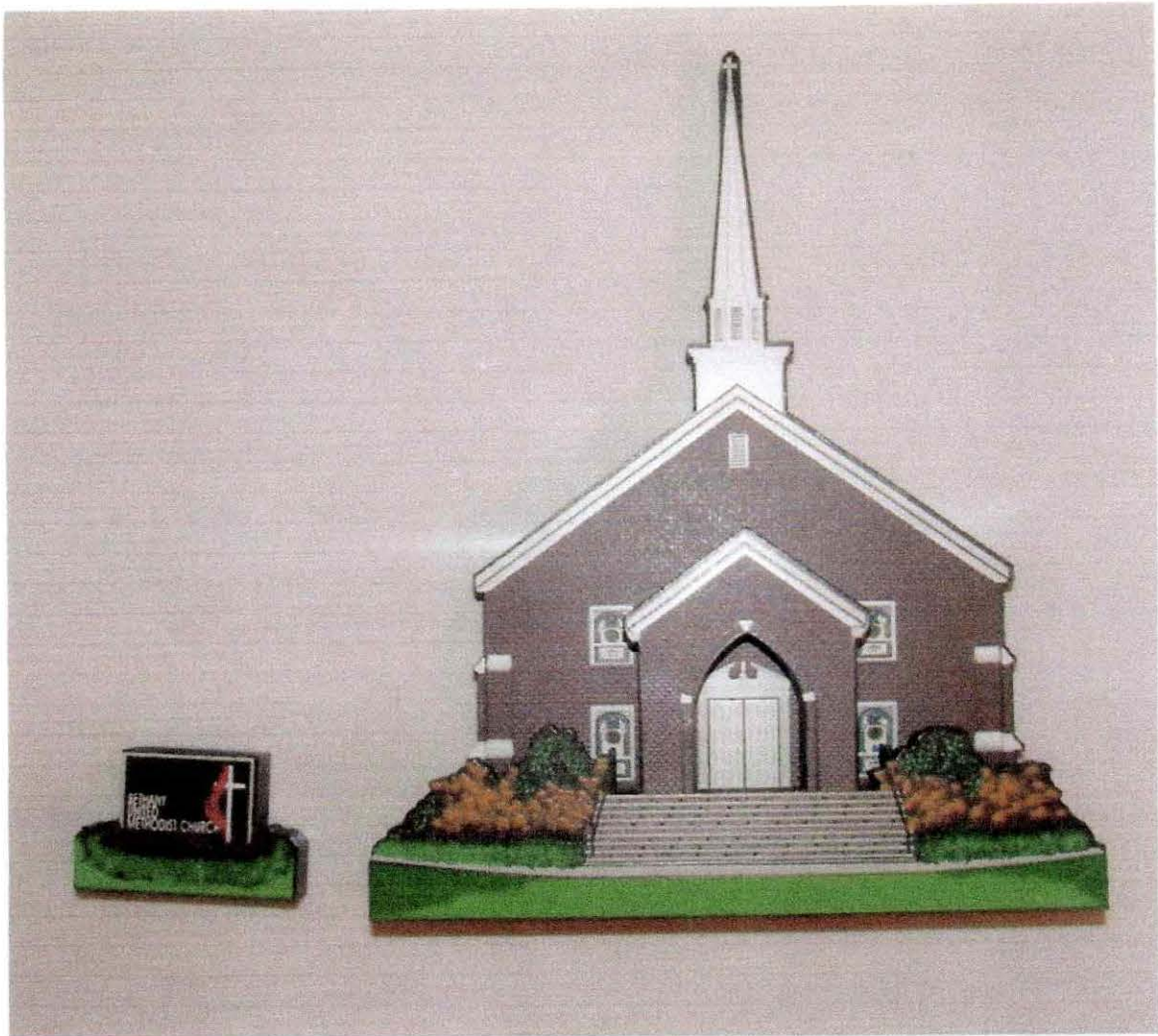
Note: There will be a meeting of the local church Lay Leaders immediately following the celebration to elect a District Lay Leader and two Associate Lay Leaders for the 1988-92 quadrenium.

REMEMBER THE SICK

Quence Hyler is a patient in the Providence Hospital in Columbia.

Derrick Bradley ask me to thank the members of Bethany church for the love offering amounting to almost \$400. I purchased much needed clothes with the money.

The congregation of Bethany Church is invited to the wedding of Roger Harmon and Sally Bartley on December 12 at 4:00.







**Our
Celebration
Continues**

1809 - 2009

**BETHANY
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH**

**Saluda,
South Carolina**



**Open Hearts,
Open Minds,
Open Doors**



The Geography of Bethany Church

Bethany Church of The
Methodist-Episcopal Church
South is situated about
three miles south of Big Saluda
River, The County of Edgefield
and State of South Carolina.
The history and the exact date
of its rise cannot be accur-
ately ascertained owing chiefly
to looseness of the records in
keeping its records, but
in examining the list of
preachers, as found in the
old Church Registry and
Bits of Recollection gathered
from the oldest inhabitants
we think we can safely
affirm that it was built

and organized about the
 year 1827 or 28 like all
 other churches of its sect
 it owes its origin to the
 zealous labors of the Method-
 ist itinerant System, who count
 not their lives dear unto
 them selves but in Obedience
 to their Master Command
 The Wilds of this now
 illustrious Country endure
 The sneers and derisions of
 the wicked, toils born strife
 and suffering undreamed
 of by their Success and
 Sowing the good seed of the
 Kingdom the result of which
 is the rising of churches
 in every nook and corner
 The firm hold and steady
 growth of Methodism through

The River in Newberry
County about Old Town
ferry near unto what is
now called the turn out
on the C & G. R. R.

After which it became
attached to the Edgfield
Circuit of the Church
with which it was
organized. No one here
has definite account probably
about ten or twelve of the
preachers deserves to rank as
important factors in its
spiritual building we
mention the names of Harman
Cromer Spryggins, as
located in 1859 it became
organized by appointment of
the Edgfield Circuit being
served that year by

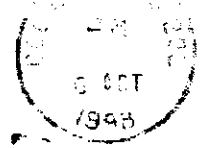
6
J. Stockdale and
J. W. Kelly from this
date up to 1839.

It was served since
by Stockdale and Walsh
Townsend and Oaker Towne
Thomley & Moore & Frinton
& Robert son Thomason
Chapel and Nettles & Legget
and Arm Strong Townsend &
William & Townsend and

Apur & Moore & Junner mo
The years of 1839 mark
a new epoch in not only
the history of numerous
Methodists but in that
of Bethany Church;
there strong preachers so
famous as being instrumental
in Revolutionizing not only
the Church but this whole

Country had come Hither also
stirring up the people so much
so that large and uncom on crowds
gathered Here

Rick & Joy Holston
118 Sandy Beach Dr.
Prosperity, S.C. 29127



Mamma's hand-written
copy of the Harmon
letter was in this
envelop - who may or
may not have been
the sender of the
letter —

Det Bradley
Hickory Grove Church Rd
SPALDING, SC
29134

29132/9999



WILL of Reuben Blaylock pg2

[The following text is extremely faint and largely illegible due to low contrast and scan quality. It appears to be the main body of the will document.]

WILL OF REUBEN BLAYLOCK Page 2
Recorded at 1883 Book 107 Page 200
Recorded at 1883 Book 107
In Abbeville Co. S. C.
See to Page 199

Geo. Pope
C. C. P.

MM

Geo. Pope etc + 12.11.60

John Hewitt & wife
to
G. D. Hewitt & others

Deed. This Indenture made this fifth
-nth day of December, One thousand
-sand, eight hundred and thirty eight
between John Hewitt & Thady Ann L. W.
Hewitt of the one part, in the State of South Carolina, Edge-
field District, & G. D. Hewitt, Littleton Smith, Isaac Riley (Jr)
John G. Berry, James Marchant & others (Trustees) in trust for
the uses & purposes hereinafter mentioned, all of the Dis-
trict of Edgefield and State of South Carolina, of the other
part, Witnesseth that the said J Hewitt & L. W. Hewitt, for and
in consideration of the sum of Ten dollars in hand paid
upon the sealing & delivery of these presents, the receipt where-
of is hereby acknowledged, have granted, bargained, given,
sold, released, confirmed, and conveyed, and by these presents
do give, grant, bargain, sell, release, confirm, and convey unto
the said G. D. Hewitt, Littleton Smith, Isaac Riley (Jr), John G. Berry
James Marchant and others, and their successors (Trustees) in
trust for the uses and purposes hereinafter mentioned.

and declared, all the estate, right, title interest, property, claim,
 and demand whatsoever, either in law or equity, which we the said
 J. Hewitt and S. A. L. W. Hewitt, have into or upon all & singular, a
 certain lot or piece of land, situate, lying & being in the State, &
 District aforesaid, upon the head waters of Indian Creek, waters
 of Little Saluda River. Bounded and butted as follows, to wit:
 Beginning at red oak corner, on the hill above the spring, from
 thence to maple in branch, from thence to pine, from pine to
 sassafras, thence to pine, thence to red oak corner, this line
 running nearly west, from red oak corner to persimmon, thence
 to pine, thence to red oak, from thence to pine corner, above the
 grave yard, this line supposed to run a little south of west
 from the pine corner, to Red oak corner, this line supposed
 to run nearly south from Red oak corner to Post oak, thence
 to persimmon, thence to Dogwood, thence to dogwood, from thence
 to sassafras, thence to pine, thence to pine, to dogwood, thence
 across the branch to white oak corner, this line running nearly
 east, from white oak corner to red oak station, near the spring
 and thence to red oak corner at the beginning, this line
 supposed to run nearly North, supposed to contain about
 100 rods, these boundaries surround the Spring, but it is
 not intended to be a boundary and agreed between parties that the

The Land around known as the Blackland of which this is a part, shall never be debarred nor hindered from making and having free use and access to the Springs together with all and singular the houses, woods, waters, ways, privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging or in any wise pertaining. To have and to hold all and singular the above mentioned and described lot, or piece of land, situate, lying, and being, as aforesaid together with all and singular the houses, woods, waters, ways and privileges thereto belonging, or in any ways appertaining, unto them the said G. D. Huier, Littleton Smith, John W. Berry, Isaac Riley, Jas Marchant, & others, and their successors in office forever in trust that they shall erect and build, or cause to be erected, and built thereon, a house or place of worship for the use of the members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America, according to the rules and discipline, which from time to time, may be agreed upon and adopted by the ministers, and preachers of the said Church at their general Conference in the United States of America; and in further trust, and confidence that they shall at all times forever, hereafter permit such ministers, and preachers belonging to the said Church, as shall from time to time be duly authorized, by the general Conferences of the Ministers, and preachers of the said Methodist Episcopal Church, or by the Annual conferences authorized, by the said

general conference, to preach and expound Gods holy word therein. And the said J. Hewitt & S. A. & W. Hewitt, do by these presents warrant and forever defend all and singular, the before mentioned, and described lot or piece of land, with the appurtenances thereto belonging unto them the said G. J. Hewitt, Littleton Smith, Isaac Riley (P) John G. Berry James Marchant & others, and their successors chosen and appointed, according to the rules & discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in the United States of America from the claim or claims of them the said J. Hewitt, & S. A. & W. Hewitt, their heirs and assigns, and from the claim and claims of all persons whatever. In testimony whereof the said J. Hewitt & S. A. & W. Hewitt, have hereunto set their hands and seals, the day and year aforesaid.

Signed, sealed, & delivered

in presence of

J. G. Ready

John Maffey

Daniel Wheeler

South Carolina

Edgefield District

Summers

J. Hewitt (P)
S. A. & W. Hewitt (P)

Personally made oath John Maffey before me that he was present, and saw the above Deed or instrument of writing, signed, sealed, and delivered, and the other witnesses was present and witnessed the due execution of the same.

J. G. Ready
John Maffey
Daniel Wheeler
South Carolina
Edgefield District

Summers

v. Quiet (H)
S. A. S. N. Quiet (H)

Personally made oath John Maffey
& before me that he was present, and
saw the above Deed or instrument
of writing, signed, sealed, and delivered, and the other
witnesses was present and witnessed the due execution
thereof. for the uses and purposes therein mentioned
I swore to before me the 2³ day
of November 1839

Giles Martin J. P.

Summers

John Maffey.

Recorded 21. May 1841.

Geo. Pope Clerk

W. R. M. C.

John Kinchard
to
Callet Inabinet

Summers

Deed: South Carolina Know all men by
Edgefield Dist these presents that
I John Kinchard, of the State & Dist aforesaid
for and in consideration of the sum of Two
Hundred Dollars, have granted, bargained, sold, and released,
and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell & release unto
Callet Inabinet, of the State & Dist aforesaid, all that tract
or parcel of Land, situate in the State & Dist aforesaid, con-
taining One Hundred & Forty seven acres, more or less being

State of South Carolina,

County of SALUDA

Roscoe Hightower,
Karen Hightower, Lynwood High-
tower, Avery Hightower and
Edna Faye Witt

BETHANY METHODIST CHURCH

TITLE TO REAL ESTATE

I hereby certify that the within Deed was filed for
record in my office at 3:45 M. o'clock on
the 25 day of August,
1964, and was immediately entered upon the proper
index and duly recorded in Book 54

of Deeds, page 221
[Signature]
Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions
[Signature] County, S. C.

I hereby certify that the within Deed has been
filed for record on the 25
day of August,
A. D. 1964, Recorded
in Book 54
of Deeds, page 4

[Signature] Auditor
County

Columbia, S. C.

TITLE TO REAL ESTATE

The R. L. Bryan Company, Columbia, S. C.

State of South Carolina)

COUNTY OF SALUDA.

1881 being seized and possessed of the lands hereinafter de-

WHEREAS, William Hightower, late of the County of Saluda, State of South Carolina died intestate on or about the 21st day of

WHEREAS, the said William Hightower left as his sole heirs at law and next of kin, his widow, Karen Hightower and the following children: Edward Hightower, Avery Hightower, Edna Faye Witt and Sylvia Jean Hightower and Robert Dale Hightower, and Roscoe R. Hightower

WHEREAS, the said Hightower, Avery Hightower, Karen Hightower and Edna Faye Witt have assigned their undivided interests in the lands hereinafter described into Bethany Methodist Church, NOW THEREFORE

Know All Men by These Presents, That we, Karen Hightower, Avery Hightower, Edna Faye Witt and Roscoe R. Hightower

for and

in consideration of the

cash, and other valuable consideration

to the said Kenneth D. Miller and Robert E. Crouch Trustees of Bethany Methodist Church

do grant, bargain, sell and release unto the said Kenneth D. Miller and Robert E. Crouch, Trustees of Bethany Methodist Church, their successors and assigns forever, all our and assigns the following described lands so long as the same shall be used for free burrial plots for members of Bethany Methodist Church and in that event said real estate shall revert to us, our heirs and/or assigns.

A certain parcel or tract of land, situate in the School District, Saluda County, South Carolina, containing 1.3 acres, more or less, the same being bounded on the North by lands of Bethany Methodist Church; on the East by lands of Bethany Methodist Church; on the West by lands of R. S. Clark, and on the South by more particular description as shown on plat of R. S. Clark, to be recorded in the Public Records of Saluda County, South Carolina

Trustees of the said church, their successors and assigns...

Harvey Gibson, Kenneth Miller, and Robert E. Crouch, Trustees of Bethany Methodist Church, their successors.

Witness my hand and seal...

we ourselves and our... Kenneth D. Miller and Robert E. Crouch, Trustees of Bethany Methodist Church, their successors.

Witness my hand and seal... 30th June

Witness my hand and seal... Sixty-four

Witness my hand and seal... Both

Handwritten signatures and names: Lynwood Hightower, Roscoe Hightower, Karen Hightower, Patsy Witt.

SOUTH CAROLINA

the undersigned

Karen Hightower, Lynwood Hightower, and Roscoe Hightower

Witness my hand and seal...

30th

(L.S.)

Handwritten signature: Patsy Witt

RENUNCIATION OF DOWER

County of South Carolina

Lynwood Hightower, Mrs. Avery Hightower and Roscoe Hightower

...separately examined by me, did declare that she does freely... of Miller and Robert E. Crouch, Trustees of Bethany Methodist Church, their successors and

Reuben Blalock



Elijah Riley → sold lots of land w/ brothers



Jacob Hewitt

↓ (1836-1849, book 48, # 80)

J. P. Mackler ? ←

John

↓
Joseph
Elliott

↓
David
Perry

↓
George D.
Huiet.

↓
Elizabeth
Huiet

FORM 16-TITLE TO REAL ESTATE
The R. L. Bryan Co., Printers, Binders, Stationers, Columbia, S. C.

State of South Carolina,
COUNTY OF SALUDA.

Know All Men by These Presents, That J. C. Riley

in the State aforesaid, Saluda County

in consideration of the

sum of Five Dollars and the love and affection which I have for Bethany Church,
to me paid by Harvey Gibson, Phillip and J. C. Riley, Trustees of Bethany Church, Butler Charge of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Saluda County,

do hereby bargain, sell and release, and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell and release unto the said
Harvey Gibson, Phillip and J. C. Riley, as Trustees of Bethany

Church and unto their successors in office and assigns forever a certain tract of land in Hollywood School District (formerly Hollywood District), Saluda County, South Carolina, known as Parcel "A", which was prepared by E. C. Nicholson, Surveyor, dated February 1899, and adjacent to the original lands of Bethany Church, and adjacent to other lands of the grantor herein, J. C. Riley, and adjacent to the lands of Bethany Church, the east by the original lands of Bethany Church (known as Parcel "A"); South and West by other lands of the grantor herein, J. C. Riley.

Said parcel conveyed is more particularly described according to a plat prepared by J. C. Nicholson, Surveyor, referred to above, and in which said parcel is designated as Parcel "B", thereof. It is adjacent to a larger parcel known as Parcel "A" and Parcel "A" represents the original lands of Bethany Church and which according to Warren's History of Saluda County, South Carolina, 1899, was donated in the year 1809 by Bethany Church. The body of the said parcel lies buried in Bethany Cemetery.

The combined area of parcels A and B is Six and Two-Fifths (6 2/5) acres. The combined area of parcel B is a plat of the combined area, which was donated by Reuben Bialock and the part of the combined area of the two parcels are designated on the plat as Parcel "A". This plat is on record in the Clerk of Court's office.

The premises shall be used, kept, maintained, and enjoyed for the purposes of civil worship of the Methodist ministry and for the use of the Church subject to the discipline, usage, and customs of said Church as from time to time determined by the General Conference and by the annual conference of the said premises are situated.

...all and singular, the rights, members, hereditaments and appurtenances to the said premises belong-
...incident or appertaining.

...to Him all and singular the premises before mentioned unto the said Harvey Gibson,
...Riley, as Trustees of Bethany Methodist Church, and unto
...in office and

...do hereby bind myself and my Heirs, Executors

...and forever defend all and singular the said premises unto the said
...and J.C. Riley, as Trustees of Bethany Methodist
...cessors in office

and my Heirs and against every

...claim, the same or any part thereof.

...and Seal this **18th** day of February,

...and **Forty**

...fourth

year of the Sovereignty

...of America.

J.C. Riley [SEAL]
[SEAL]

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,
Saluda COUNTY.

PERSONALLY appeared before me, ^{Rev.} H. O. Farbrother
and made oath that he saw the within named J. O. Riley
also, and as ^{his} act and deed, deliver the within written Deed for the uses and purposes therein mentioned,
and that he, with H. J. Farbrother, witnessed the
execution thereof.

SWORN to before me this 21st
day of February, 1940.
[L.S.]
Notary Public of S.C.

L. C. Farbrother

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,
Country.

RENUNCIATION OF DOWER

Carolina,
a Notary Public for Southdo hereby certify

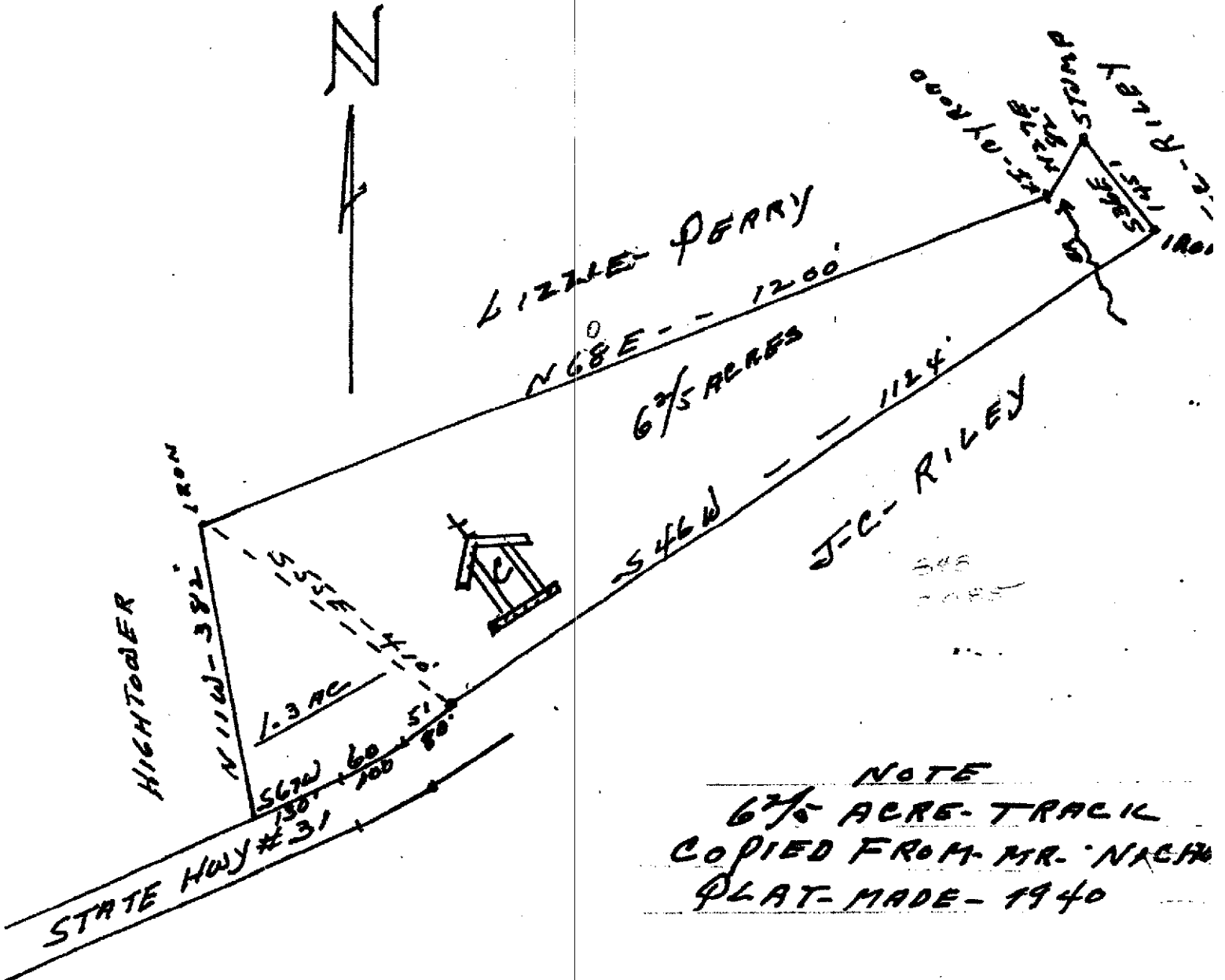
that Mrs. Thelma Riley
named J. O. Riley
and upon being privately and separately examined by me, did declare that she does
know any compulsion, dread, or fear of any person or persons whomsoever, renounce,
the within named Harvey Gibson, ... and J. O. Riley, as
Church, and unto their successors in office.

x

also all her right and claim of Dower of, in or to all and singular the

Mrs. Thelma Riley

[L.S.]



NOTE
 6 2/5 ACRES TRACIL
 COPIED FROM MR. NICHOL
 PLAT MADE - 1940

SOUTH-CAROLINA
 SALUDA-COUNTY
 PLAT SHOWING PROPERTY OF
 BETHANY METHODIST CHURCH
 LYING ABOUT 11 MILES N-EAST OF SALUDA

DATE - 11-20-63
 SCALE 1" = 200'
 [Signature]
 S-C-REG # 102

... singular, the rights, members, hereditaments and appurtenances to the said premises belonging or
... pertaining.

... unto all and singular the premises before mentioned unto the said **Anthony M. E.**
... successor.

... subject, however, to the reversionary clause hereinabove set out
... myself and my **Heirs, Executors**

... defend all and singular the said premises unto the said **Anthony M. E.**
... Heirs

my **Heirs and against every**

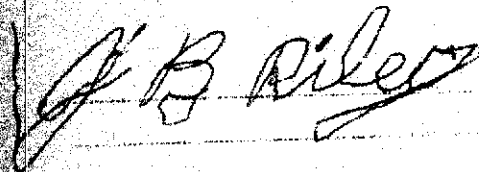
... the same or any part thereof.

and Seal *this* 16th day of May

one hundred and Seventy-four

year of the Sovereignty

of America.



(SEAL)

(SEAL)

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,
SALUDA COUNTY

Personally appeared before me
and made oath that I saw the within-named
sign, seal and, as act and deed, deliver the within written Deed for the uses and purposes therein men-
tioned and that he, with witness of the
execution thereof.

SWORN to before me this
Notary Public of S. C.

Walter D. Riley

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,
SALUDA COUNTY

RENUNCIATION OF DOWER

I, Billy C. Coleman, Notary Public for South Carolina, do hereby certify
to all whom it may concern, that Mrs. Vera Mae Riley
the wife of the within-named J. E. Riley
did this day appear before me, and upon being privately and separately examined by me, did declare that she does freely,
voluntarily and without any compulsion, dread, or fear of any person or persons whomsoever, renounce, release and for-
feiture of her right and claim of Dower of, in or to all and singular the premises

heirs

and also all her right and claim of Dower of, in or to all and singular the premises

Vera Mae Riley

State of South Carolina,
COUNTY OF SALUDA

Know All Men by These Presents, That I, Thelma R. Hipp,

do hereby convey, for and in consideration of the sum of \$1.00 and the exchange of real estate to the Bethany United Methodist Church, Route 1, Saluda, S. C. 29138

and I do hereby release, and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell and release unto the said Bethany United Methodist Church, its Successors and assigns forever, the following described land to-wit:

one parcel or tract of land in Bethany District, #1, Saluda County, S. C., designated as being triangular in shape on a plat of J. Duffie, Jr., RLS, dated July 27, 1974, recorded in Deed Book 23, at page 15, in the Clerk of Court for Saluda County, S. C.; containing 18,115 square feet and bounded by other lands of Thelma R. Hipp and other lands of Bethany United Methodist Church, being a portion of a tract of land conveyed to Hipp by J. G. Forrest, Master, recorded in Deed Book 44, at page 10, in the Clerk of Court for Saluda

TOGETHER with all and singular, the rights, members, hereditaments and appurtenances to the said premises belonging or in anywise incident or appertaining.

To HAVE AND TO HOLD all and singular the premises before mentioned unto the said **Bethany United Methodist Church, its Successors**

and Assigns forever.

And I do hereby bind myself and my Heirs, Executors, Administrators, to warrant and forever defend all and singular the said premises unto the said **Bethany United Methodist Church, its Successors**

against me and my Heirs and against every Heirs and against every person lawfully claiming, or to claim, the same or any part thereof.

Hand and Seal this 7th day of July 1980 year of the Sovereignty of the United States of America.

Thelma R. Hipp (SEAL)
Thelma R. Hipp (SEAL)

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
SALUDA COUNTY

PERSONALLY appeared before me the undersigned
and made oath that (s)he saw the within and the same
and as her act and deed follow
and that he, with Billy C. Coleman

[Signature]
Notary Public of S.C.
1979

[Signature]

SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY

RENUNCIATION OF DOWER

NECESSARY GRANTOR IS A WOMAN

being privately and separately examined by me, did declare that she does not
know or fear of any person or persons whatsoever, remainder, release and for

and claims of Dower of, in or to all and singular the premises