



*St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
Irmo, S.C.*

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church History

On May 15, 1983, 251 out of 414 voting members of Seven Oaks Presbyterian Church (60.6%) voted to join the Presbyterian Church in America. Congaree Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in the United States (PCUS) required a two-thirds vote for a local church to change denominations. Therefore, Seven Oaks Presbyterian Church remained in the PCUS.

Twelve of Seven Oaks Presbyterian's eighteen ruling elders, along with more than 300 members, also withdrew, and together formed the nucleus of Saint Andrews Presbyterian Church.

On June 4, 1983, at a meeting of Calvary Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in America, a petition signed by 99 individuals who desired to begin a mission church was presented. Saint Andrews Presbyterian Mission was established as a result of this petition. A trailer was rented and set up for the Church Office.

Saint Andrews Presbyterian Mission (PCA) met in the Little theater at Leaphart Elementary School September 11, 1983, for the purpose of being constituted as Saint Andrews Presbyterian church of Columbia (SC) in the Presbyterian Church in America. Attendance September 11, 1983: 223-Sunday School; 335 – Morning Worship and 417 at the organizational meeting – chartering service in the evening. That day's offering was \$5,106.43.

Eighteen months later a three-story brick traditional – style church was built atop a knoll with a tall steeple. It was the largest church in the Irmo area at the time. The first worship service was December 23, 1984 with a membership of about 420.

The Church in the year 1998 has around one thousand active members. Dr. Bill Barton is senior minister with the following staff positions: Assistant Minister, Minister of Youth, Minister of Discipleship, Business Manager, Director of Music, Music Administrator, Director of Youth Music, Director of Children's Ministry, Director of Nursery Ministry, Pianist, Organist, Counselor, Principal, Ben Lippen School (grades- Kindergarten – Sixth grade), Secretary (3) Mother's Morning Out Co-ordinator, and (2) Custodians.

Through our works in local missions, benevolence, and mission trips all over the world we are trying to be good disciples of the Lord. Missions Conference: Children-Missions poster extravaganza, Men in Church-Missions breakfast, Ladies and Daughters (WIC) Missions Luncheon, Congregation-International Dinner. 1998 Missions Trips: Junior High – Cherokee, NC; Senior High-Toronto, Canada, Singles – Columbus, Mississippi, Adult trips – Columbia, S.C., Belgorod, Ukraine, Northern Ireland, Miami, Florida, Patchakan, Belize,

Pucallpa, Peru, Genk, Belgium, Johannesburg, South Africa. “The Mission of Saint Andrews Presbyterian Church is to proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior to all the world; to nurture all who respond to the invitation to accept Jesus' offer of Salvation and to impact the community with biblical responses to spiritual and social concerns.



*St. Matthews Presbyterian Church
St. Matthews, S.C.*

HISTORY OF THE ST. MATTHEWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The St. Matthews Presbyterian Church had its inception in the hearts of a few Presbyterian Women. These women held bazaars, turkey suppers and oyster stews to raise money to organize a Sunday School and Ladies Missionary Society or Women's Aid. These two groups led the movement to organize the St. Matthews Church in 1906.

The Rev. John L. McLees, member of the Orangeburg Presbyterian Church, helped with the organization of the new church and was supply pastor until the Rev. David Iverson, a graduate of Columbia Theological Seminary, was called as the first regular pastor.

Organization was completed on December 16, 1906 by a commission of Charleston Presbytery.

Worship Services were first conducted in the sanctuary of St. Paul's Methodist Church. Later they were held in Able's Hall and Pearlstine's Hall until the present sanctuary was completed in 1916. In 1918, a manse was started and was completed in January, 1920. It was first occupied by the Rev. D. H. Corbett who had succeeded the Rev. Iverson and served until February, 1922.

In February 1924 the Rev. Cecil Brearly was ordained and installed as pastor. He served this church very successfully until 1928 when he accepted a call to Conway, S. C.

In 1928 the Rev. John McEachern came to serve the church only to leave that same year to resume his work with the Mission Board.

The Rev. T. F. Wallace, after serving as a student, became pastor in 1929, for a successful eight year stay.

Another young man succeeded Mr. Wallace in 1937, the Rev. M. G. Barron of Columbia, S. C. During his pastorate 25 members joined the church. This brought the total membership to 96. Mr. Barron was called to service in the U. S. Army in 1940. That same year the Rev. D. McL. McDonald served as supply pastor. On October 24, 1943, Mr. McDonald was installed as pastor. During

World War II the women of the Auxiliary were constantly at work making bandages and serving with the Red Cross. Mr. McDonald, whose contributions were most rewarding, served this church until he died March 1, 1954.

The St. Matthews Presbyterian Church and Eastover Presbyterian Church entered into an agreement to call the Rev. Palmer M. Patterson to serve both churches with the pastor living in the manse at Eastover since the St. Matthews manse had burned. He was installed October 9, 1955, and served this church until he resigned to accept a call to Bishopville, S. C. in March of 1960.

Realizing a need to have a pastor living in St. Matthews the congregation voted unanimously to purchase the D. J. Haigler house for a manse.

The Rev. Robert L. Temple from Columbia Seminary was called to this church and on July 8, 1962, was installed. During his stay the present sanctuary was remodeled, a fellowship hall was built, central heating and air-conditioning were added, and many other improvements were made. Mr. Temple served until April 1967, when he resigned to accept a call to Wade, N. C.

In August 1967, a call was issued to the Rev. W. A. Watson of Charleston, S.C. A native of Scotland, he was educated at a Baptist Seminary in Ireland. Upon being received in this church he attended classes with church support at the Lutheran Seminary in Columbia, S. C., in order to meet the requirements of Presbytery. In April, 1972, Mr. Watson resigned to accept a call in his native Scotland. Mr. Watson remained in Scotland one year and returned to this church to be installed once again, June 17, 1973. On June 1, 1974, Mr. Watson accepted a call to Clover, S.C. Mr. Alex Mitchell very kindly returned as supply pastor.

On May 25, 1975, a call was issued to the Rev. James R. Keezel, a graduate of Union Seminary in Richmond, Va., and on July 27, 1975 Mr. Keezel was installed. During his tenure many improvements were made. On Dec. 1980 Mr. Keezel accepted a call to Parkwood Presbyterian Church in Florence, S.C.

On June 28, 1981, the Rev. Charles C. Tyler, of the Reformed Theological Seminary, Jackson, Miss. was installed as pastor. Rev. Tyler resigned on Jan. 22, 1989 to accept a call to Covenant Presbyterian Church in Manning, S.C. Rev. Charles Patton Hart was ordained and installed on August 6, 1989. Late in 1992 Rev. Hart resigned to return to the business world.

On May 16, 1993 Rev. James F. Dallery was installed as our pastor and continues to serve the St. Matthews Presbyterian Church as of this date - January, 1998.

Many memorials are found within the church given by loyal and dedicated members and friends.

Today, St. Matthews Presbyterian Church, averaging around 100 members, continues to provide a place of worship, a Christian education program and opportunities for fellowship.

We look forward to further spiritual growth.



*Salem Presbyterian Church
Blair, S.C.*

Salem Presbyterian Church
Blair, S.C.

Church History

The present Salem Presbyterian Church is the third building to be erected on the same site, the land being a gift of the Means family.

The first church was completed in 1813. It was a wooden structure with a large auditorium and gallery. Typical of that day the Session Room was a separate building, used at one time as a schoolhouse.

The earliest record of this religious society was in 1812 when they applied to Harmony Presbytery to be taken under its care. A charter was granted in 1813. Rev. Samuel W. Yongue was the first supply pastor.

The second church, a larger wooden edifice which included a Session Room, high arched ceilings and a tall steeple was built in 1893. This building was struck by lightning and completely destroyed, August 30, 1927.

Following this destruction, the third church, a more spacious structure of brick and stone with adequate space for Sunday School rooms was completed in 1928 and is still being used today.

Pastors prior to 1920 were "Circuit Riders" who served several churches. Since 1921 until present time, eleven have served as pastor with Rev. R. R. Wallace, Jr. Being the first full-time pastor in 1954.

The highest membership of Salem was 205 in 1918 and in 1926, membership dropped to 148--that's when the exodus to the city began. The present membership is 134.

In 1973, Salem Presbyterian Church left the Presbyterian Church, U.S. and joined the Presbyterian Church in America.

On October 16, 1977, the officers voted to go forward with the construction of a Fellowship Building. After the worship service, December 3, 1978, a dedication service was held in the Fellowship Building, dedicating the building to God.

The first manse which burned in 1942 had been built in 1896. Rev. W. W. Sadler was the only pastor to occupy this residence. In 1949 another building to be used for a time as a Fellowship Building was built on the same site. In 1954, it was converted into a manse for Rev. & Mrs. Robert R. Wallace.

At the present time, Salem is supporting three missionary families with the WIC supporting one missionary family. The WIC which is composed of three circles with twenty active members is influential in the functions of the church.

Marian Dickey
Historian