



TIDINGS

Warners Chapel Church of Christ

8999 Lasater Lake Road
Clemmons, North Carolina 27012

MINISTER CLIFFORD SHAVER

Telephone 919-766-6078

A Cordial Welcome Awaits You At All Times.

January 6, 1980

WARNERS CHAPEL CENTENNIAL

1880 - 1980

At this time of year, most of us are reflecting on the old year and looking forward to the new. While we all realize that it is not good for people, individually or collectively, to dwell on accomplishments of the past; we feel, that as we anticipate the work of the church in 1980, it is fitting for us to take a glimpse of those first years at Warners Chapel.

According to records recently made available to the elders here at Warners Chapel, a small group from the Warners Community began meeting for worship in a one-room schoolhouse in the year 1880. This old log schoolhouse was located just three-tenths of a mile north of the present church building.

During the early years, the worship services were conducted by the elders or visiting preachers. In 1880 Richard Poindexter, a widely known preacher of the gospel, held a meeting for this small group who wanted to serve the Lord only after the New Testament order. Brother Poindexter, known to most people as Uncle Dick, was a blacksmith and native of Yadkin County. He held meetings for the church in the Warners Community for three or four years.

Elijah Hansbrough from Austin, Texas, came to North Carolina in September 1884, and as a result of his teaching, the church realized the commandment to meet on the first day of every week. Prior to this, the church in this community had met on the Lord's Day only once a month. In September 1886, Brother Hansbrough assisted the church in the appointment of four elders. They were: Martin Van Warner, Jonah Perry Binkley, Albert W. Lawrence, and William L. Warner.

The church, consisting of twelve members, in 1893 began construction of a frame building on property given by L. M. Harper and wife. The deed was recorded June 4, 1896.

Prior to 1921, in addition to Brothers Poindexter and Hansbrough, other pioneer preachers assisting in the work of the church here were: William Lucius Butler, M. C. Kurfees, Floyd Williams, D. J. Hellsabeck, D. W. Evans, J. Harding Noll, Luther Wilmon, W. L. Reeves, and W. J. Butler, Sr.

J. D. Tant held a meeting in May 1921, and as a result of his teaching, the elders realized the need for teaching in a class system. Although there were some objections, the elders decided in the interest of teaching the children, and for the spiritual growth of the church to begin Bible classes for the different age groups.

In 1936, Irby C. Pullias while in a meeting here assisted the church in the appointment of three to serve as elders. Those chosen were: John W. Warner, Robah H. Moser, and Aubrey P. Warner.

The original frame building was used as a meeting place for the church until 1937 at which time the present building was erected on the same site. About the same time, Elam Kuyendall came to work with the church as the first preacher on a regular basis. He was a great asset in the construction of the church building and also the benches which were used here until a few years ago. (These same benches are still in use today at the new church building in Yadkinville.)

In 1949, a preacher's house was built directly across the road from the church building.

Serving the church as elders in 1950 were: T. L. Moser, John W. Warner, Aubrey P. Warner, George T. Harper, and Parks Messick. The deacons were: Clarence Sheets, Furches Messick, and Andrew Harper.

More than twenty members and their families left Warners Chapel in 1957 to help establish the South Fork Church of Christ.

The church engaged in a \$50,000 expansion and remodeling program in 1966. The auditorium was enlarged and an annex was constructed to provide more classroom space. The auditorium now has a seating capacity of 325.

During 1977 the elders began discussing plans to establish the church in Yadkinville. These plans were fulfilled in January 1979 when the Yadkinville Church of Christ met for the first time. Fifteen of our dedicated members left to form the nucleus of the church there. Warners Chapel provides financial support for the preacher at Yadkinville. In addition to providing the necessary financial support for the Yadkinville church,

Warners Chapel provides partial financial support for churches in West Jefferson, Mt. Airy, Elizabethtown, and Rutherfordton. Also, monthly donations are sent to two homes for orphans. A considerable percentage of the contribution in 1979 was used for benevolence.

The church has sponsored a weekly 15-minute radio program on WTOB in Winston-Salem since April 1951.

Presently the following men serve the church as elders: T. L. Moser, Aubrey P. Warner, Clarence W. Sheets, Dewey C. Mock, and Norman W. Moser. The church is also served by seven deacons: Joseph W. Pegram, James C. Warner, Donald C. Minor, J. Ted Stewart, Roger A. Warner, Neal H. Harper, and Andrew G. Harper.

The preceding paragraphs briefly listed some of our historical highlights. Lack of space does not permit us to print excerpts from records and letters which tell of the struggle of the Church of Christ in North Carolina during the late 1880's and early 1900's. As early as the last half of the nineteenth century, doctrinal error in the form of the missionary society, instrumental music, and other innovations which resulted in apostasy were creeping into some churches in this area. During this time, the group which worshipped at Warners Chapel were small in number but strong in zeal and fervent in their determination to "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." (Jude 3) We owe those early members and the first elders appointed in 1886 an immense debt of gratitude for their loyalty and dedication to the truth.

When the small group started meeting in the Warner schoolhouse in 1880, there were already other churches of Christ in existence at that time in this area. One by one they were swept into doctrinal error and either became affiliated with the group known as the Christian church or permanently closed the doors of their meeting houses, until today Warners Chapel is the second oldest church of Christ still in existence in North Carolina.

Our charter members have gone on to their reward, and most of them, along with all those who formerly served as elders at Warners Chapel, now lie in the cemetery behind our church building awaiting the second coming of the Lord.

The challenge is now ours. In the past, many have sacrificed much for what we enjoy today as members of the church. With the cooperation of each member, we can show our gratitude by making 1980, our centennial year, the greatest yet in our work for the Lord.

- The Elders

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Bible Classes	10:00 A.M.
Morning Worship	10:50 A.M.
Evening Worship	6:30 P.M.

WEDNESDAY

Mid-week Service	7:30 P.M.
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Other classes and services as announced.

Nursery open for small children during all services.

Radio Program - each Sunday at 8:30 A.M. on WTOB, Winston-Salem

WARNERS CHAPEL CHURCH OF CHRIST

Route 1 - Lasater Road
Clemmons, N. C. 27012

ELDERS

T. L. Moser
Norman Moser
Clarence Sheets
A. P. Warner
Gary Harper

DEACONS

James Warner
Don Minor
D. C. Mock
George Ridings
Neal Harper
Andrew Harper
J. W. Pegram