

Celebrating
125 Years of Ministry



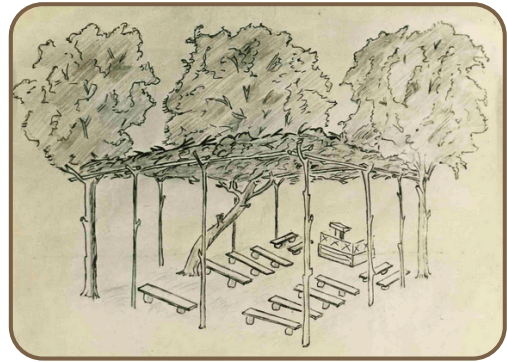
**HISTORY OF
FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
1899-2024**

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The Rev. Rob Crawford, Pastor

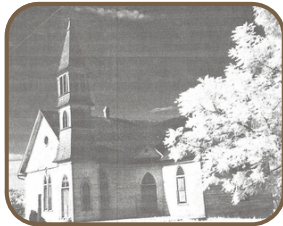
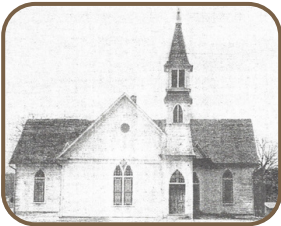
1899

On March 26, 1899: Fourteen men and women of faith met in Faith Alliance Hall with the Reverend R.L. Brown (1899-1901) to organize Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church. Divine worship was held in a Brush Arbor during the summer of 1899, until land was given by Mr. & Mrs. D.A. Wiley for the original church building.



14 Charter Members:

D.A. & Juliet Wiley - H.T. & Margaret Hess - William M. & Harriet L. Foil - Wiley S. & Nancy L. Earnhardt
P.A. & Frances Kluttz - G.W. Hoffner - John R. Ludwig - H.M.L. Agner - Henry W. Cauble



A 28x50 church building was erected and the cornerstone was laid on February 17th, 1900 (officiated by Rev. C.B. Miller, NC Synod President). Mr. D.A. Wiley built the altar, lectern, and pulpit. Dedication was held on October 5, 1902. Under the pastorate of Reverend C.P. Fisher (1903-1918), the first class was confirmed, the first personage was built, the first women's organization "Ladies Aid Society" was formed, the first children's organization "The Mission Band" was formed, the NC Synod held its annual convention at Faith Church in 1909, and Sunday School membership was 600, with an average attendance of 400 during Worship.



Faith Lutheran became self-sustaining in 1919. A Building Fund was launched in 1935, with an initial offering of \$29.60. The Reverend C.N. Yount became pastor in 1936. The next year, plans for the new church building were drawn and adopted. The original church building served until 1947, and was respectfully demolished in 1948. The groundbreaking service was held on January 16, 1949, and construction began on February 14th, 1949.



1950

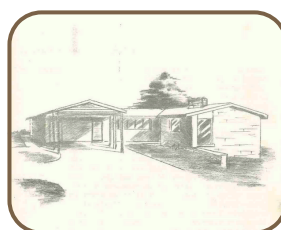
Services were held at Faith Public School and funerals at Shiloh Reformed Church until July 16, 1950, when construction had sufficiently advanced for services to be held in the basement Assembly Room. Mr. John Ludwig was the only surviving charter member at the time.



The first service in the completed church building was held on the First Sunday in Lent, February 11, 1951. A portrait of the organizer, the Reverend R.L. Brown, was presented to the congregation by his family. At 3:00pm that afternoon, a service for the Official Laying of the Cornerstone was conducted by Pastor Yount and the Reverend F.L. Conrad, D.D. (President of the NC Lutheran Synod). The completed project was \$190,000. Membership at the time was 450.



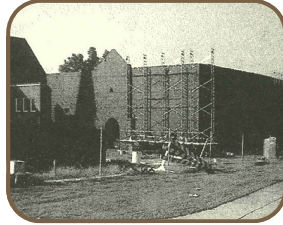
On April 30, 1956, the Reverend M. McDaniel (1954-1958) officiated the Dedication of the Church Building and Burning of the Mortgage. Assisting in the service were Rev. F.L. Conrad (Synod President), Rev. C.N. Yount (Pastor 1936-1953), and Rev. E. Fulenwider (Former Supply Pastor).



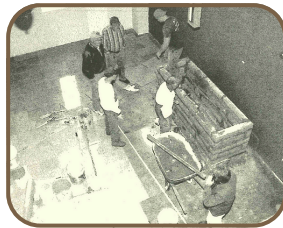
The current Parsonage was built in 1959. Groundbreaking and Service of Consecration (May 31, 1959) was officiated by the Reverend R.E. McCombs (1958-1965).

1999

In 1999, Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church celebrated 100 Years and began "A New Century of Faith". During the Centennial Celebration, members wore old clothing and demonstrated the activities of daily life as they would've practiced in 1899.



In the first decade of the 21st century, the 25,000-square-foot Family Life Center was constructed, a total cost \$1.9 million. The Dedication Service was held on June 19th, 2005 with the Rev. Loyd Ginn (2003-2008). Average attendance at the time was 250-300.



IN 2012, the church became a member of the North American Lutheran Church.



On December 24, 2017, it was announced that the Family Life Center debt had been retired. Under the pastorate of Reverend Randy Drafts (2016-2020), a formal Mortgage Burning and Church Rededication was held on February 11, 2018.



2020

On December 6, 2020, we welcomed our current Pastor, John Robert Crawford IV, at his Rite of Ordination and Installation. Average Worship attendance is currently around 120.



The Ladies Aid Society (or Women's Missionary Society in 1904) continues their work today as the Women of Faith. They celebrate the women of our church each year on International Women's Day.

The Lutheran Men of FLC began working on re-establishing their ministry in 2023 as the Lutheran Men in Mission. They are now in charge of our Annual Church Picnic.

The FLC Youth (originally known as the Mission Band, the Light Brigade, and the Children of the Church) remain active after the hiring of Amy Crawford in August 2023 as Youth Director. They led Youth Sunday this year, participate in VBS and Solid Rock Day Camp, and regularly attend Luther League (which was first organized in 1918).



2024

125 Years of Ministry

For 125 years this congregation has served in the Kingdom of Christ, and for all this service we are grateful. From the words of Reverend C.N. Yount on our 50th Anniversary, "We believe the heritage of the past era is being handed down to those who shall come in the second half of this century with confidence that they will do as well as their fathers and mothers did in the service of their Lord. May you who are members now, and all who will become members of our congregation in the years ahead, prove worthy of the trust that is being committed to you." This year, we celebrate with our brothers and sisters in Christ, the blessings that God has bestowed upon His ministry here at Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church.



HISTORICAL INFORMATION TAKEN FROM THE FOLLOWING:

40th Anniversary Bulletin - The Reverend Carrol N. Yount - March 26, 1939
Historical Sketch - Compiled by Miss Lillie Hess

Dedication Program - By Michael C.D. McDaniel - April 29, 1956

60th Anniversary Bulletin - The Reverend R. Earl McCombs - May 31, 1959

1970s Faith Lutheran Church Pictorial Directory - Pastor Alfred D. Rhyne

Family Life Center Dedication Program - June 19, 2005 - The Reverend Loyd Ginn

2010 Faith Lutheran Church Pictorial Directory - Pastor Clarence E. Sifford