

HISTORY OF  
BETHEL ASSOCIATE REFORMED  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF  
WINNSBORO, SOUTH CAROLINA  
1820 - 1980



Property  
Of  
Fairfield Genealogical Room

reported, "Saturday was a  
gation gathered in the beauti-  
s probably the most notable  
byterian ministers and elders  
addition, many of the most  
en of the church were to be  
ercises were opened with a  
ott." (Miss Eloise "Pat" El-  
the congregation sang with

*Jehovah,  
se his name."*

oration were Rev. J.C. Gallo-  
nization"; Rev. T.G. Boyce,  
e Synod and the Churches  
hill, "Scotch-Irish Presbyteri-  
iedy, "Associate Reformed  
. S.W. Haddon, "Associate  
s"; Rev. J.S. Moffatt, D.D.,  
rch Stands For"; Rev. W.L.  
, "The Hand of God in our  
eritage Our Fathers Left Us";  
ry Before Us".

United Presbyterian Church,  
ended the invitation from his  
Church to unite with them.  
y hours of discussion. There  
bodies disagreed, one being  
the A.R. Church.

Design Missions made the an-  
er, daughter of Mr. and Mrs.  
e planning to attend medical  
enary. Miss McMaster would  
Winnsboro congregation. Mrs.  
ad gone to Mexico in 1878  
an A.R.P. missionary to that

on Thursday, November 5,  
1903. The gathering of the  
was of great solemnity and  
pastor also said "we have  
J.E. McDonald was the  
"Also he stated,  
in looking after

This was the comment of a little six year old girl in whose home many delegates and ministers had been entertained during the session of the 1903 Synod in Winnsboro, "If they knew how much trouble they were, they ought to invite us to 'they' house." This remark was quoted in the church paper. (Lucy McDonald, later Mrs. J.H. Boulware).

On the Sabbath of Synod all the pulpits of the churches of Winnsboro were filled by A.R.P. ministers. Dr. E.P. McClintock preached at Sion Presbyterian Church; Dr. F.Y. Pressly at the Baptist Church; Rev. A.T. Lindsay at Calvary United Presbyterian Church; Rev. W.B. Lindsay at the Methodist Church.

The meeting of the Centennial Synod in our newly erected sanctuary was indeed an auspicious beginning for the life of Bethel congregation on the corner of Washington and Zion Streets. Some things from the old building on the hill had been brought to the new church: in the tall steeple was the bell from the old church. The pulpit furniture, which consisted of the three walnut chairs, the reading desk, and three small marble-topped tables fitted nicely in the new sanctuary. The large oval marble-topped table was placed in front of the reading desk. The little reed organ sat in the bay in the choir loft. There was also a reed organ in the Sabbath School assembly room.

One lasting effect of the Centennial Synod of 1903 was the publishing of the *Centennial History of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church* — Rev. C.E. McDonald was a member of the Committee which wrote and compiled this history. Dr. J.C. Galloway of Gastonia, N.C. was the editor of the volume which contains a brief history of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, a brief history of each presbytery, a sketch of the various boards of the church, a sketch of all the ministers and licentiates who have been in connection with the Synod, sketches of all the congregations, pictures of the ministers and of the churches. The addresses which were given at Synod are also included in the Centennial volume. This volume was printed, in 1905, in Charleston, S.C., by the presses of Walker, Evans & Cogswell Company.

The grief which had distressed the pastor and his family and the congregation when the pastor's wife and baby died in June 1903, five months prior to the meeting of Synod, did not divert the pastor from his obligations to the Lord's work. Rev. McDonald's ability and energy were everywhere evident in the Winnsboro church and the congregation was moving into the new century with great enthusiasm.

On July 28, 1907, Rev. McDonald offered his resignation to accept a call to the Chester Church. He said in part "For that love and support which you have so invariably given me as your