

HISTORY OF ST. LUKE'S, PROSPERITY

The Rev. John D. Scheck organized a congregation on Tuesday, July 3, 1827, in the Stoney Battery section of Newberry County. This was the beginning of St. Luke's. In November of that year, petitions were received at the Synod Convention from this congregation. By December 1828, the congregation had chosen Elders, and three acres of land at the present site had been deeded to St. Luke's by John Enlow, a charter member. In 1829 the Synod responded to St. Luke's request for ministerial services, and the Rev. John G. Schwartz was its first pastor. Since that time St. Luke's has not been without a regular or supply pastor.

The first church building was probably completed by 1830. In 1845 a new, spacious frame building was erected at the same location. This second church was renovated in 1883 and enlarged in 1915. It served the congregation well for 100 years. The present church was completed in September 1955 at a cost of approximately \$110,000. The mortgage was retired in July 1958. The first parsonage was erected in 1875 and a second in 1906. The present parsonage was completed in 1962 at a cost of \$18,630.07.

Four congregations have been established by an active St. Luke's pastor or as outgrowths of the congregation. Twenty sons of the congregation have gone into the ministry. In 1883 St. Luke's became the first rural church in the S. C. Synod to have the entire services of one pastor.

The church auxiliaries have always been well represented. By 1885 St. Luke's had an active Women's Missionary Society. The YMCA was organized in 1887, and the Luther League in 1896. A children's missionary society was established prior to 1883.

PASTORS OF ST. LUKE'S

John D. Scheck		George Steele Bearden	1895-1900
John G. Schwartz	1829-1831	Zaccheus Wright Bedenbaugh	1901 (supply)
Jacob Maser	1831-1838	Henry Julian Mathias	1901-1903
William Berley	1839	Dr. Andrew Jackson Bowers	1903 (supply)
William George Harter	1840	Samuel Patrick Koon	1903-1912
William Berley	1841-1850	Benjamin Wesley Cronk	1913-1917
Thaddeus Street Boinest	1851-1854	Willie Hardee Roof	1917-1922
John Phillip Margart	1855-1856	Edwin H. Seckinger	1922-1926
William Berley	1856-1859	Dr. Reuben Alonzo Goodman (supply)	1926-1928
J. L. Smithdeal	1860-1862	Julian Bachman Harmon	1928-1936
Thaddeus Street Boinest	1862-1870	Dr. R. A. Goodman (supply)	1936-1937
Jacob H. Hawkins	1871-1872	John Virgil Long	1937-1943
Henry Samuel Wingard	1872-1874	Charles Ernest Seastrunk, Sr.	1944-1950
John D. Bowles	1875-1881	Thomas Frank Suber, D.D.	1951-1962
Jacob H. Hawkins	1882-1888	Harry Weber (supply)	1962-1963
Monroe Jacob Epting	1888-1895	John Hilton Roof	1963-1977
Jacob H. Hawkins	1895	James Virgil Addy (supply)	1977
		Henry Newton Brandt	1978