

## *Corinth United Church of Christ* *As history would have it...*

The Corinth Christian Church was established in 1890 in the home of Brother Islam Hockaday Under the pastoral leadership of Rev. Wray. The home based ministry continued until 1907. It was this year that the first small log cabin structure was erected for better accommodations.



(Photo of the church as it looked from 1907 – 1932)↑

In the year of 1909 membership expanded leading to construction of a new building and a parcel of land was purchased from Fee Cooley. Various members and community partners contributed building materials. These major donors included Mr. Hines Scarboro and Mr. Crocker who contributed timber for building.

In the year of 1932 the church was renovated and the church continued for in spiritual as well as physical growth. In the year 1957 one of the pastors with twenty-five years of service decided to retire. The pastoral replacement was named in that same year and for several years, many glorious things transpired under his visionary leadership.



(Photo of the church as it looked from 1932 – 1958)↑



(Photo of the church as it looked from 1958 – 1980)↑

The new denomination United Church of Christ (UCC) was born out of a combination of groups that existed as separate but similar denomination. The UCC became a united and a unified church. Corinth desired to be united with the recently organized union and joined the UCC denomination in October of 1960.

In 1974 remodeling was completed as a means of enhancing the beauty of the church. In 1977 the church purchased the land on which the existing building stands. In 1979 the decision was made to build a new church instead of remodeling and plans were underway along with much labor and volunteer work. To support the building endeavor the church members and community worked together and launched several successful fundraisers. The ground breaking for the

new building was held in that same year. The church building project was completed in August 1981. The church hosted an Open House Service in August as well. In 1982 the church decided to move forward with worship service every Sunday. There was quite a bit of activity that transpired during the transition and many years afterwards.



(Photo of the 1981 building project)  
(The Cornerstone Service was held in 1984)

In 1987, the church mission statement was instituted: *"To Acknowledge the Lord, To Love, To Have Unity and To Reach out In Worship, Work and Witness in A Nonjudgmental Way."*

In March 1992 the church hosted its' Dedicational Celebration of Christian Education Complex and ministries continued in spiritual growth. Down through the years, various ministries were added and/or reinstated. The church has continued in weekly, monthly, and annual events, special programs, and has continued its Christian journey by the power of God and the guidance of former Pastors, Assoc. Ministers, Deacons and Trustees and other great leaders. Today the church's mission statement is: *"We live to share the good news of Jesus Christ through generous service, passionate worship, biblical teaching and jubilant fellowship to bring about a transformation in you"*

**First members included:** Brother Islam Hockaday, Brother Henry Brodie, Brother Cal Richardson, Sister Helen Montague, Sister Carrie Ruffin, Sister Sally Upchurch, Mother Mattie Hartsfield and many more.

**Longest Living Member:** In the year of 1970, one of the church pioneers and matriarch, Mother Mattie Hartsfield passed away at the age of 103

**First Church Sexton:** Dan Scarboro

**First Usher Board President:** Alonzo Merritt

**First Choir Pianist:** Mary Holden

**First Secretary:** unknown for 1890-early 1940's : first recorded name In 1940 was Seretha Hartsfield

**Past / Present Pastors:** Rev. Wray; Rev. Blue; Rev. Smith; Rev. Jones; Rev. McPhatter; Rev. R. D. Bullock; Rev. Eli Burton; Rev. Louis Witherspoon; Rev. Benjamin Whitlock; Rev. William E. Simmons; Rev. Glenn Prince; Rev. Michael L. McCotter; Rev. Timothy A. Johnson, Sr. ~current Pastor as of July 2012

**Past / Present Associate Ministers:** Rev. Ceasar Lewis; Rev. Clino Harris; Rev. Michael Allen; Rev. Darlene Jones; Rev. Ruby Jenkins; Dr. Willie B. Jones; Rev. Janet Jones; Rev. Mary Holden; Rev. Emmanuel Bass; Rev. Larry Campbell; Rev. Barbara Jones; Rev. Marie Alston; Elder Michael Collymore; Min. Jessica Dunn; Min. Damien Jones; Evang. Tammie Turner; Rev. Merrick Turner; Min. Capathia Jones; Min. Chasity Godwyn; Elder Monica Rogers

**Past / Present Deacons:** Nat Scarboro; Islam Hockaday; John Hartsfield, Sr.; Carey Richardson; Henry Brodie; Will Simmons; Hazel Hartsfield; Joseph Dunn; John Hartsfield, Jr.; Omega Richardson; Hilliard Battle; Walter Woods, Sr. William Langley; Raymond Jones; Robert L. Jeffreys; Edward Jones; Ernest Harris; Herbert L. Jones; Willie B. Jones; Charles Jones; Hamp Burton, Charles Ferrell, Ervin Rogers, Raymond Earl Jones, Dwight Lancaster; Jeffrey Anderson; Joe Johnson, Cle H. Jones Theodore Jones; Lemuel Woods; Nicholas Ulmer, Curtis Daniels, DeMarcus Jones; Herman Jones, Jr.; Guy Jones, Joe Jones

**Past / Present Trustees:** Thomas Watkins; Alonzo Hartsfield; Willie Lee; Dennis Upchurch; Willie B. Jones; Herbert Jones; James Perry; Cle H. Jones, Tony Hartsfield;; Jimmy Snellings;

**Past / Present Trustees continued:** James Ray Hartsfield; Guy Jones; Lamonte Jones; Clifford Jones; James Perry; Steve Graham; Barry Temple; Ervin Rogers, Carl Jones; Victor Rivers; Aaron Walker; Richard Cotton; Melvin Carter; James Robert Jones, Michael Jones; Dwayne Jones; Cleven Dunn; Calvin Woods, Sr.; Raymond Earl Jones; Albert Jones; Hershal McCurn, Curtis Jones, Keith Jones, Patrick Crudup

**Past / Present Deaconess:** Seretha Hartsfield; Lizzie Woods; Bettie Langley; Ernestine Jones; Carolyn Jeffreys; Alberta Jones; Ruby Harris; DeLoris Jones; Barbara Jones; Darlene Jones; Mabel Jones; Concillia Lancaster; Ruby Jenkins, Gladys Woods; Renita Graham; Gretta Ferrell; Pidie Green; Hattie Merritt, Doris Jones, Laverne Daniels; Cynthia Jones; Ruth Ulmer; Patricia Jones

**Past / Present Sunday School Leaders:** Walter Woods, Sr.; William Langley; Raymond Jones; Edward Jones; Herbert Jones; Josey Faye Snellings; Emmanuel Bass; Laverne Daniels; Lemuel Woods; Tammy Jones; Gwen Minter; Charles Ferrell;; Nicholas Ulmer; Darrin Jones; Sis. Karen Kirby, Rev. Merrick Turner

**Past / Present Musicians:** Mary Holden; Vernie Lee Jones; Josephine Jones; Willa Dunston; Lena Harris, Julia Harris, Helen Townes; Ernest Steward; Silas Jones, Timothy Miller; Bernard Harris, Calvin Woods, Jr.; Rev. Ron Gilliam, Loren Mason; Lamont Becton; Eric Snellings; Angel Bruno; Quincy Dunston; Stacey Alderman; Cory Waldron; Jay DeVaughn; Keith Davis; Albert Lee; Rev. Robin Utley; Evehyn Collymore; Dante Holt; Lamarr Godwyn. Joell Dixon



**Our Mission:**

*"We live to share the good news of Jesus Christ through generous service, passionate worship, biblical teaching and jubilant fellowship to bring about transformation in you"*

Rev. 02.17.2015

# CORINTH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

(est. 1890)



## HISTORICAL INFORMATION

*At - A - Glance*

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