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ALL SAINTS PARISH

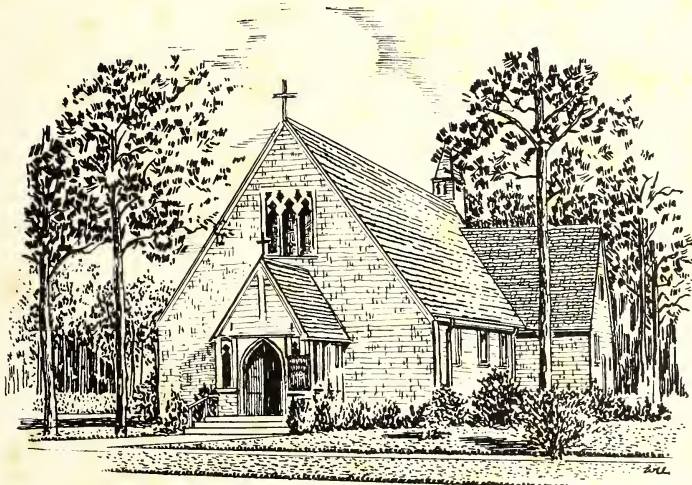
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# ALL SAINTS PARISH



All Saints' Episcopal Church

Roanoke Rapids, N.C.

By

Margaret Hewitt Martin

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## Preface

To all who read this record, let me say that I approached the task of writing it with grave misgivings as to my ability to do it justice. Nobody appointed me, and it was only because there seemed to be a need for it and that I am one of a small handful of people old enough to remember much of the past, that I was bold enough to undertake it.

The reader will not always agree with what I have set down as the truth. Even though I have consulted old records, minutes, and printed articles, and have engaged in numerous conversations on the subject, errors may have been made. Necessarily there are omissions because often there were stretches of time about which there was no available information. If some shining deed or some illustrious name has been left out, it was only because I was not made aware of it.

Some people very kindly supplied accounts of certain episodes; and if this history has any appeal, it is largely due to these.

Read it with charity, making allowances for the fact that it is a work of love, engaged in without training or talent.

## Acknowledgements

A very pleasant aspect of writing this history was the reception of a number of letters from people who so kindly responded to my queries. To Mrs. John E. F. Hicks, the sister of the Rev. Henry C. Smith, I owe much as she was able to supply early accounts from "The North Carolina Churchman," and "The Herald."

Valuable information was gleaned from "Northampton Parishes," written in 1951 by Henry Wilkins Lewis. His scholarly book is a fine model of what a history should be.

Encouragement, a priceless ingredient, was generously given me by the Rev. William Lee Williams and my husband, Alfred Newman Martin. Both gave constructive advice, and to this, they added patience.

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1973

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# ALL SAINTS PARISH

A church is many things to many people. It is a place for the corporate worship of God, a sanctuary and a building that have come into being through work and sacrifice on the parts of many. It is the scene of vital events in our lives and a retreat wherein we find comfort and refreshment to an immeasurable extent. So it has been with All Saints Parish. Since its inception, the noblest desires of its members and its dedicated priests have brought it to its present state of potency, vitality and beauty. As in all things, there had to be a beginning; and, as far as we know, the beginning was as follows:

In October, 1902, the Rev. Francis Joyner became Archdeacon of the Convocation of Raleigh, a position which he held for several years. At that time he was priest in charge of St. Alban's in Littleton, besides serving a church at Middleburg, but he did not consider himself too involved to answer the appeal of Dr. Augustus Hoyt to organize a Sunday School and hold services from time to time in the then-newly-begun city of Roanoke Rapids. The first few of these services were held over a drug store on the corner of Second St. and Roanoke Ave. In the beginning there were only seven confirmed adults and seven baptized children. Very soon after Mr. Joyner began ministering to this small flock, two more children were baptized.

According to a record left by Mr. Joyner, the following people comprised the early congregation:

Mr. William Mountford

His children: Mary

Ruth

Nellie

Rufus Tucker

Mr. John L. Patterson

Mrs. John L. Patterson

Miss Effie Waldo

Dr. Augustus C. Hoyt

Mrs. Lelia Lewis Saunders

Her children: Florence

Sallie

William Marion

Mrs. Mary Waldo Robertson

Her children: Frank Jr.

Mary

Mr. Joyner wrote an additional comment: "Membership grew slowly, but the Sunday School increased rapidly and so much interest was manifested that in the summer of 1903 we began a move for a building for a parish school. Within a year the money was raised and a house begun on a lot given by Mr. John Armstrong Chandler\* on Hamilton St., which was completed, and school opened Nov. 15, 1904, with eight pupils and Miss

Rubie Vinson of Littleton as temporary teacher. The building was also used as a chapel for services. After a permanent teacher was secured, the pupils came so fast that we soon needed two teachers, and later a third one was required." This building was in the 200 block. It had a double door at the front, flanked on each side by a window; and there were four windows in each side wall. Although it had only one room, it boasted a small steeple.

This is the John Armstrong Chaloner, member of a prominent Virginia family, who in a fit of pique changed his name, declaring that he no longer wished to share the name Chandler with relatives who had tried to have the courts declare him insane.

The late Rt. Rev. Joseph Blount Cheshire, Bishop of the Diocese of North Carolina, named the new congregation All Saints Mission, officially organized in 1905, with Augustus Coleman Hoyt as Warden and William Francis Joyner as Chief Clerk and Treasurer. In 1908 the Rev. Francis Joyner relinquished his work in Roanoke Rapids. Three years earlier he had accepted a call to the Church of the Saviour in Jackson, in addition to his duties at Littleton and Vulture, and he found the schedule too heavy. The Rev. George M. Tolson of Grace Church, Weldon, then served All Saints Mission until Deacon Arthur Taylor came. From 1908 until 1915 Bishop Cheshire and quite a number of priests came to hold services and administer the Sacraments. Among these were the Rev. N. C. Hughes, the Rev. William J. Gordon, father of the present Bishop of Alaska, the Rev. Thomas L. Trott, the Rev. J. J. D. Hall and the Rev. Albert New. A parish record shows that by 1917 Mr. Arthur Taylor had been ordained priest and that he returned to his former charge for the purpose of baptizing the six children of Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Vick.

Two young people arrived on July 1, 1915, who were to have a telling influence on the small ten year old mission. The Rev. Henry Clark Smith became priest in charge and Bishop Cheshire appointed Mr. Smith's sister, Mary, as a parish worker. Miss Smith is now Mrs. J. E. F. Hicks of Goldsboro, and, as she put it, was general handy girl until her brother left one year and three months later. They lived in a small cottage still standing on 3rd St., back of the site of the W. F. Joyner home.

An article that appeared in the Roanoke Rapids Herald, then a weekly, for May, 1916, had this information:

"The regular attendants of the Episcopal Church were delightfully surprised on Easter Sunday to see a thoroughly trained choir of twelve young ladies, vested in immaculately white cottas and uniform black caps and





**THE REVEREND HENRY C. SMITH  
MISS MARY SMITH**



**ALL SAINTS MISSION ON HAMILTON ST.**

1916

skirts, marching in procession for the opening hymn. Everybody wanted to know where all this talent had been buried so long. The full Easter music of the Episcopal Church was sung with a richness and sweetness that surprised all who heard it.

“For several weeks in addition to the work with the usual choir, Miss Smith, ably and faithfully seconded by Mr. Lehman with his clarinet, has been drilling some of the young ladies of her Sunday School class in the music of the Church. These girls have now added their rich young voices to the regular choir with most pleasing results. On Sunday they sang with the accuracy and composure of veterans. Those vested were Misses Lillian Graham, Sallie Saunders, Clyde Short, Jennie Short, Nannie Twisdale, Polly Cummings, Ruth Transou, Sallie Long, Mrs. John Saunders, Mrs. E. W. Lehman, Mrs. W. L. Long and Mrs. C. A. Webb. Vestments for the men have not been made but sitting near the choir, lending vigorous support to the ladies were Messrs. C. A. Webb, C. A. Lyerly and J. J. Strother.

“The choir is in no wise designed to take the singing out of the congregation, but to encourage them to sing with greater heartiness.”

Mr. Smith decided at once that the fast-dwindling Sunday School was being affected by the distance between the two sections of the community, namely Rosemary and Roanoke Rapids; so he organized Sunday Schools in both places, the one in Rosemary being held in a frame building on the corner of 10th and Henry Sts. and owned by the mills. On weekdays it was used as a kindergarten, a band practice hall and a library in its three rooms. It was a great problem to find teachers but somehow five were secured for each place. The Men’s Bible Class in Rosemary assumed the responsibility for making a success of it there. Mr. T. W. Mullen acted as superintendent and did so after the two branches were consolidated until the year 1938 when he asked to be relieved.

The little chapel-schoolhouse on Hamilton St., by the time that Mr. Smith arrived was in a worn state and he deemed it unsuitable for use as a house of worship. It had served its purpose but would necessarily have to be used a little longer until a more centrally located building could supplant it. The first steps toward the building of our present church on Roanoke Avenue were taken in 1916. The Rector proposed a building designed as a church but so arranged that the chancel could be curtained off and the nave used for meetings and activities of a secular nature when needed. The Roanoke Rapids Power Co., through the Roanoke Avenue Development Co., solved the problem of a site by deeding to the mission a plot of land, seventy-five by

one hundred and twenty-five feet on the corner of Roanoke Ave. and 7th Street.

A prospectus of All Saints Mission House appeared in the North Carolina Churchman for April, 1916, illustrating the plan and naming the cost. The amount of two thousand dollars was already subscribed locally and the sale of the old chapel would bring \$3,000.00 About \$4,500.00, raised by the Diocese was added by the Bishop, bringing the total amount to \$9,500.00. To meet the building cost, \$3,400.00 had to be raised. Mr. John L. Patterson was named treasurer of the building fund, and every member of the Mission was expected to pledge an amount to meet the required sum. As communicants numbered only fifty-two, and three fourths of these were mill operatives earning small incomes, the church at large was invited to subscribe. The subscription plan and appeal, as publicized was signed by the following :

Henry Clark Smith, Minister in Charge  
John L. Patterson, Chairman  
Dr. T. W. M. Long  
Willis Whitaker

Chas. A. Webb  
T. W. Mullen  
J. A. Moore

There is no record of money contributions made by the church families, but we know that the church bell was given by the young daughters of Mr. John L. Patterson, Peggy and Betty. A beautiful altar was made by Mr. J. H. Lyerly, replaced in later years by a larger one made by his son, James, and given as a memorial to him. Some time later the ancient organ, formerly used in Scotland Neck was replaced by a fine pipe organ, the gift of Mr. W. L. Long and Mr. Samuel F. Patterson. We cannot relegate the old organ to obscurity without noting that our venerable black sexton, "Uncle" Oliver Burton, hand-pumped it for years when his rheumatism would permit and when he was not exercising his talent for making the hottest barbecue in four counties. However, nobody was too dignified or too important to pump the organ if the need arose. It was especially good for the soul during Lent.

The Rev. Henry Smith did not stay to see the fulfillment of his hope for a new church. He had been engaged for some time to marry a young woman from Arizona, who visited Roanoke Rapids but found she did not care to make her home here. When he received a call to his fiancee's home state, he readily accepted, as Arizona was largely a mission field at that time and the work appealed to him. Miss Mary Smith went into public school teaching in Roanoke Rapids after her brother left but continued parish visiting, Sunday School teaching and playing the organ when she was needed to do so. An interesting footnote to Mr. Smith's ministry was a very early marriage he performed, that of James Butler and Della Briggs in 1916, some of whose descendants still attend All Saints. His first baptism was Maria Long, now Mrs. Frank Hunter, Jr.

The Rev. Lewis N. Taylor, a native of Oxford, succeeded Mr. Smith in April, 1917. He and his wife lived on the Northeast corner of Hamilton and 3rd Streets until a rectory was completed some years later on Roanoke Avenue. Three children were born to the young couple but one died in infancy.

When the cornerstone of the new church was laid in the spring of 1917, it was a time of great rejoicing for the many who had worked, sacrificed and donated so generously to make it possible. Bishop Cheshire and the Rev. Lewis Taylor conducted the appointed service asking God's blessing on the undertaking and assuring the small flock standing in the spring sunshine that He would approve "Our godly purpose for setting apart this place in solemn manner for the several offices of religious worship." All Saints was duly declared a parish in May at a meeting of the assembled Diocese at St. Timothy's in Wilson.

The church families that this writer can remember at that early time do not make a long list but almost every family was blessed with children so that attendance was larger than one might suppose. The list below is not complete yet it covers fairly well those who were members of All Saints when we were declared a parish.

## Families

T. W. Mullen  
M. R. Vick  
Dr. T. W. M. Long  
W. Lunsford Long  
John L. Patterson  
D. P. Allen  
J. H. Lyerly  
C. A. Lyerly  
Ben Cullom  
W. F. Joyner  
J. Augustus Moore  
Archibald L. Taylor  
James B. Batton  
Charles A. Webb  
E. W. Lehman  
W. H. Wirtz  
Mrs. K. Jenkins  
Mrs. Julia P. Hewitt (Watterson)  
Rufus Mountford  
James Butler  
John Fanney

## Others

Miss Ruth Transou  
Miss Ellen Bowen  
Miss Ruth Mason  
Miss Esther Marshall  
Miss Minette Marshall  
James Marshall  
Miss Sallie Long  
W. J. Long  
Lemuel McKinney Long  
George Carmichael  
Mrs. Lillian Short  
Mrs. S. F. Patterson

Probably the first wedding ceremony that the Rev. Lewis Taylor performed not long after his arrival was that of Miss Sallie Long and Dr. Fontaine Graham Jarman. In the ensuing years he married many couples who still attend All Saints and whose children and grandchildren have been faithful members.

Mr. Taylor was a warm, outgoing man who came to be greatly loved by the entire community. Besides All Saints, he served St. Luke's in Vulture.

During the year 1919, he held a record number of twenty-five services there. On Oct. 11, 1921, he presented six candidates to Bishop Cheshire for Confirmation, a noteworthy number for a congregation as small as St. Luke's. In 1923 a modest parish house was completed there, valued at \$1,500.00



**THE REVEREND LEWIS N. TAYLOR  
AND ALL SAINTS CHOIR 1918**

Even before Mr. Smith's tenure, there was an Episcopal parish worker-missionary in Roanoke Rapids named Miss Lillie Hill. Apparently the Vestry recognized the value of her work and of Miss Mary Smith's, as they called Miss Mary Duke of Charlottesville, Va., to serve in that capacity in 1919 or 1920. She was here about a year. Possibly her best work was with the girls of All Saints. There was talk of organizing a chapter of the Girls' Friendly Society, which may have been begun and allowed to lapse; but she was successful in helping to organize the Katherine Webster Chapter of the Woman's Auxiliary. For some years this was called the "Second Circle" (second to St. Mary's Chapter.)

Mrs. Katherine Webster succeeded Miss Duke in 1920 at the time that the Taylor family moved into the newly-built rectory beside the church. She was a woman of beauty and charm. Her gentle breeding and refinement appealed to people in all walks of life whom she met in going about her work. (There exists a delightful snapshot of her with a number of small children dressed as nurses and doctors busy with a doll hospital. This was taken during the First World War and evidently was a moneymaking project for the Red Cross.)

Hard financial times during the depression years must have made it inadvisable to employ another worker after Mrs. Webster resigned and moved away, as there was only one more who was here for any length of time. Deaconess Peet filled the role while the Rev. H. deC. Mazyck was here. She was a dedicated and able helper and was the only one to have worn a habit, evidently a requirement of her Order.



**MRS. KATHERINE WEBSTER  
AND "RED CROSS WORKERS"**

1918

The Rev. Lewis N. Taylor was canonically transferred to the Diocese of Upper South Carolina in 1925. With God's help he had built up a congregation and imbued it with a spirit to go forward. When the beautiful stained glass window in the chancel was dedicated, he returned for the service, by that time crippled by arthritis, an affliction which brought him to an early death, but not before some people were aware that he embodied the spirit and characteristics that might have made him a bishop.

Up to the present time the only person to become a priest from All Saints Parish was the Rev. Daniel W. Allen, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. P. Allen, one of the early church families several of whose children are members now. He was baptized and confirmed here and ordained to the Diaconate by the Rt. Rev. Edwin A. Penick, September 20, 1927. His ordination to the priesthood occurred in 1929, with Bishop Penick again conducting the service.

Mr. Allen attended grammar and high schools in Roanoke Rapids, being graduated later from DuBose Memorial Church Training School in Mont Eagle, Tenn. He served mission churches for a year under Bishop Penick, entering the Virginia Theological Seminary, in 1926. When he had completed the full course in the Seminary, he graduated with a Master in Divinity degree in 1929. He became priest in charge of several missions before being called to St. Mary's in High Point, where he served for two years. He also served as rector at Grace Church in Lexington and St. Thomas in Reidsville. In 1951 he accepted the position of Executive Secretary of the Diocese of Eastern Carolina, where he served effectively until his retirement in 1966. Mr. Allen was a potent force in the creation of Vade Mecum, a fine Episcopal camp for young people. As to All Saints, he still holds warm and loving memories for the parishioners whom he knew, sincerely feeling that they influenced his adult life in valuable ways. Of the Rev. Lewis Taylor, he had this to say in a letter to the writer: "I am sure you will agree with me when I say that I was most fortunate in having the wise counsel, sacrificial help and personal friendship of the late Lewis N. Taylor." Mr. Allen is married to the former Miss Evelyn Sadler of Roanoke Rapids.

From 1922 until 1928 records show that Bishop Cheshire and Bishop Coadjutor, Edwin A. Penick, alternated in coming to All Saints for Confirmation services. Bishop Cheshire, at his death, was succeeded by Bishop Penick, a man who, in every sense, was a true prince of the Church. Only once in all the history of All Saints was a wedding ceremony performed by a bishop and this was when Howerton Gowen and Priscilla Mullen were married in 1940. Bishop Penick officiated.

For approximately five months after Mr. Taylor left, the Rev. Morrison Bethea held morning services, but on Nov. 19, 1925, the Rev. Henry deChartignier Mazyck, who had formerly served at Mayodan, arrived to become rector of All Saints. Mr. Mazyck, his wife and two children, were here only a little over a year. It was our impression that he was not very strong physically, although with his Charleston background and gracious personality, he was an asset to the parish in many ways, faithfully performing all duties required of a priest.

There was an interim of nearly two years when there was no rector at All Saints, but many of the clergy came to supply during those months, among them the Rev. Daniel W. Allen. The vestry was happily guided to issue a call to the Rev. Joseph Nicholas Bynum, of the Eastern Diocese of North Carolina, who took charge in Roanoke Rapids and Vulture for a period of nine fruitful years. In the second year of his tenure, a two-week long mission was held by two members of the Church Army, Captain Bugg and Cadet Lewis. Only once since that time has the congregation had direct contact with this fine organization, this being when Captain Osborn Mauch made a valuable survey and reported his findings in 1968. Possibly the mission in 1930 was a forerunner and preparation for the "Forward Movement Campaign," an activity of the church at large. Mr. Mullen served as local chairman. He, Mr. W. F. Joyner, and Mr. Bynum attended a conference of laymen and clergy to inform themselves as to how it would be conducted. Mr. Mullen was serving as Senior Warden at the time, a position which he occupied with dedication and good judgment until his death.

Due to the depression, many people had found it impossible to fulfill their pledges and it became necessary to cut Mr. Bynum's salary, but evidently financial conditions improved by 1932 as there began to be talk of building a parish house. At a vestry meeting that year, the rector proposed putting a stained glass window above the altar, noting that Tiffany would make a special price if the offer were taken up immediately. A committee was named to select a design and two women wrote to many members of All Saints who had moved away, asking them for contributions, and informing them that it had been agreed to make the window a memorial to the Rev. Francis Joyner, founder of the parish. The window, when installed, added beauty and dignity to the chancel and was duly dedicated to the glory of God.

The Rev. J. N. Bynum, whom affectionate friends usually called "Joe Nick," was successful in bringing a lay evangelist from Washington, D. C., in December 1932, named Dr. Glazebrook. He held meetings in the daytime and in the evenings; and, although he was here only four days, he did an effective work in revitalizing the spiritual lives of many people.

Mr. Bynum's wife, Grace, with her intellect and good education, became a valuable influence both in the Church and in the community. It was largely through her efforts that the Woman's Club began a small library that years later grew to be the fine city library which Roanoke Rapids has today. She and Mrs. Bahnson Weathers, aided by one other committee woman member who was an Episcopalian, made the first modest list of books to be purchased.



The year 1938 brought sadness. Mr. Bynum due to failing health, tendered his resignation to the Vestry. So many looked upon him as a dear friend in addition to his being their spiritual pastor that the entire congregation was filled with consternation. The Vestry issued the following statement: "That the Vestry of All Saints Parish go on record as expressing its sincere regrets at the condition of our Rector, Mr. Bynum, with every wish for his speedy recovery; that we continue to retain Mr. Bynum as our Rector at the same salary but that he be inactive during the period of existence of his present condition." In March, payment of his salary was discontinued but only because he had disability receipts from the Clergy Pension Fund. In June of that year he wrote a letter to the All Saints Communicants terminating his official relationship but promising to keep friendship and affection for them intact. The Bynums had an adopted daughter, Lucy Wahab, who was a comfort to them through all of their vicissitudes.

The acceptance of the resignation of Mr. Bynum left All Saints without a rector, but Mr. Charles Upchurch Harris, a deacon under the supervision of the Bishop, was sent to fill the empty pulpit. By 1939 he had been ordained priest and was formally called to be rector pro tempore with the understanding that Mr. Bynum might recover and return. Mr. Harris' youth made him especially appealing to young people; and, although there had been a Young Peoples' Service League organized previously, he seemed to imbue it with new vitality. In June of that year a Vacation Bible School was held with the help of trained workers evidently employed by the Diocese. A report at a Vestry Meeting indicated that it had been very beneficial. During Mr. Harris' tenure, evening services with the Presbyterian congregation — with permission of the Bishop — were held during the summer months. It is possible that the custom we at present observe of Thanksgiving services with this denomination and the congregation of the First Methodist Church stem from this earlier practice.

The Rev. Charles U. Harris resigned in October, 1939, to the regret of a great many people who had grown to love him. He left the Diocese and went to Illinois where he eventually became Dean of Seabury-Western Seminary. This was in 1967. He is now retired.

It was known by this time that Mr. Bynum would not be able to return to Roanoke Rapids. Happily, some time later he was able to take up his work in less-demanding parishes, one in Summerton, S. C., and the last at St. John's Church in Battleboro, where he served until his death. He had triumphed over much adversity with a nobility of spirit and a sacrifice of self one rarely encounters.

In the fall of 1940 the Vestry issued a call to the Rev. Edmund Berkeley, who was then serving the parish at Buena Vista, Va. He was born in Mayodan, N. C., the son of the Rev. Alfred E. Berkeley, D.D., and Mrs. Berkeley. He was educated at the Episcopal School in Lynchburg, the University of Virginia and the Virginia Theological Seminary and holds B.A., M.A. and B.D. degrees. He came alone to visit the parish before making a decision and spent a night at "Long View," the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Long. It was probably Mrs. Long, the well-loved Caroline, who in the early morning directed him to the scuppernong grape vine while the dew was still on the fruit, an experience he still recalls with pleasure. It was not the succulent grapes, however, that made him accept the Vestry's call. He knew at once and without question that he wished to be rector of All Saints and his wife, Mary Louise said that she never questioned his decision for a moment.

The Berkeleys arrived December 1st, 1940, moving into a renovated rectory which they found pleasing and adequate. He was a man of unusual sensitivity and this ability to understand people brought him very close to young and old, but most of all, to those in trouble. He took an active interest in the Y.P.S.L., and the young people found him a congenial companion for tennis, horsebackriding and other activities. During his tenure, a very extensive survey and church census was taken of the area at his direction with the congregation visiting and investigating almost every family that had at any time had a connection with All Saints Church.

Almost no one was left untouched in some way by World War II, and in October, 1943, Mr. Berkeley announced at a Vestry meeting that he had volunteered as a navy chaplain. Fortunately he was never called. That same year, the Rev. A. S. Lawrence, already known and loved by many young people as the head of Vade Mecum Episcopal Camp, held a well-attended mission at All Saints.

The great need for a parish house became more and more apparent; and this was a project which Mr. Berkeley felt had priority over all others of a material nature. In August, 1945, on a warm night a supper was held in the old high school cafeteria for the purpose of starting a campaign to raise necessary funds. A committee of six men and three women, with Mr. T. W. Mullen as chairman, was named to begin the task. By October, Mr. Mullen asked to be released as chairman and Mr. Howerton Gowen replaced him. Generous pledges were made and the fund began to grow. The following May the Rosemary Manufacturing Co. and the Roanoke Mills Co. made substantial contributions. The friends and family of the late Mrs. T. W. M. Long ("Miss Minnie") gave \$600.00 in her memory. She was a beloved churchwoman who had met a tragic death earlier in the year.

In the ensuing months there accumulated enough to warrant making definite plans and Mr. Gordon A. Berkstresser was appointed chairman of the parish house building committee. At first a two-storied structure was considered but the final design was a brick building of one story whose estimated cost would be \$38,000.00.

Evidently this was thought to be too high a price as a decision was made to delay building for a little while, hoping the cost could be reduced to \$25,000.00

By May, 1948, All Saints had a parish house at last. The Vestry and the parish house committee held a joint meeting with the following people in attendance: The Rev. Edmund Berkeley, W. J. Long, W. J. Long, Jr., John B. Dunn, Howerton Gowen, Alfred N. Martin, Gordon A. Berkstresser, W. H. Proctor, M. Scott Benton, Charles L. Wills, Mrs. F. G. Jarman, Mrs. W. J. Long, and Mrs. M. Scott Benton. The time had come to provide furnishings. Richard M. Taylor, Gordon Berkstresser and Mrs. Berkstresser undertook most of the planning and purchasing of these, greatly assisted by people who gave time, money and labor to complete the task. Besides the much-involved congregation, Leggett's Department Store, the late Dr. Bahnson Weathers, the late Mr. J. E. McGhee, and others contributed funds.

Mr. T. W. Mullen, after a life of true Christian stewardship, died in 1948. The Vestry drew up a meaningful resolution as a memorial to one who had served so long as Senior Warden and Superintendent of the Sunday School. A lounge in the parish house was named in his honor. Mr. M. Scott Benton succeeded Mr. Mullen as Senior Warden and served in that capacity until 1967.

A daughter was born to the Berkeleys. They named her Mary, and three members of All Saints congregation were honored to become her god-parents. They were Mrs. M. S. Broun, Mrs. M. S. Benton, and Alfred Martin. The Rev. Alfred E. Berkeley, D.D., came from Roanoke Va. to perform the christening.

Many baptisms were performed by the Rev. Edmund Berkeley while he was rector of All Saints but the first one was that of Dr. John R. Dunn, then an infant, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Dunn. Almost the last one was Thomas Benton, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. Scott Benton. Both, now adults are dependable churchmen.

Life would lose some of its zest without humor and even the life of a church is not without it. There was an occurrence at a morning service which has been told and retold until, like most folklore, it has become over-embellished. It will be best to let Edmund Berkeley tell it in his own words:

“I remember the day when Carl and David Thompson were playing cowboys and Indians around the church from their home in the rear of the church and David saw the doors open and his ‘friend’ in the pulpit preaching, and came right in off the street, walked up the aisle, gun in hand and unself-consciously gave his ‘friend,’ the minister a quick hug around the knees before an usher got hold of him and took him outside, where I am sorry to say, his father gave him a spanking for leaving his nurse without permission. The Associated Press got hold of this incident and blew it up a bit and said that David had “stuck” me up and that I told the congregation, ‘Be not perturbed!’ Actually Mr. Berkeley did not say those words but only announced that the service would be continued after the interruption.

Galilee Church in Virginia Beach called Mr. Berkeley in May, 1949, and he announced to the Vestry that he had accepted. Minutes of the meeting at which this news was heard state that he was strongly urged to reconsider and remain at All Saints. To quote from the record: “It could be said that Mr. Berkeley received the greatest vote of confidence by the Vestry that could be accorded a rector.”

The Rev. Marshall White-Hurst, pastor of the Rosemary Baptist Church, wrote an editorial, which appeared in the Roanoke Rapids Herald, evaluating Mr. Berkeley’s work in the community and expressing regret at his departure. A part of it follows: “While active in his own parish, he (Edmund Berkeley) was often invited by the Episcopal Churches in Weldon and Halifax to assist them as visiting rector. He believed that one of the ministries of the clergyman was found in active civic service. As a result, Mr. Berkeley, the citizen was as widely known as Mr. Berkeley, the parish priest. He has served as leader in the Lions’ Club, official in the Community Chest, supporter and speaker of the various P.T.A.’s throughout the city schools and a champion of youth of Roanoke Rapids. He will be missed in the Boy Scouts Program in which he served as member of the Council and leader of Cubs. Not the least of his work with youth lay in his leadership of the Teen-Age Club and his active participation on the newly-formed recreation commission which he served with all of the zeal of his interest in young people. In all of his endeavors he has made the place of the minister important in civic as well as religious affairs.”

One cannot complete an account of Mr. Berkeley’s ministry at All Saints without a comment about Mrs. Berkeley, whom almost everyone called “Mary Louise” so readily, due to her warmth and vivacity. She was a dedicated helpmeet, giving support whenever she could in the Church and helping to organize the Francis Joyner Chapter of the Woman’s Auxiliary for the residents of the Belmont area.

The Berkeleys now live in Amelia, Va. where Mr. Berkeley serves three historic churches in the Powhatan-Amelia-Cumberland Cure Parish.

Fortunately, only six months elapsed before the Rev. Marshal M. Milton came to fill the vacancy left by Mr. Berkeley. Mr. Milton was a native of Hagerstown, Md. but had Virginia antecedents and was strongly identified with that state. His education was acquired in Richmond public grammar schools and in Christ Church High School. He is a graduate of the Virginia Military Institute, holding a degree in civil engineering. His three years at Virginia Theological Seminary earned him a B.D. degree, which has been upgraded to a Master's in Theology. A two year course in Education at Duke University qualified him to teach in Florida which he does at present besides operating a civilian airport.

Mr. Milton was ordained in 1938, immediately after graduation, to the Diaconate by Bishop Tucker in a service held in the Seminary Chapel. He was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Goodwin in 1939 at Herndon, Va., in St. Timothy's Church. He served as rector of hisotric Brandon Parish for two years, a quiet spot where any young man would have felt he was in a backwater while the whole outside world was becoming involved in a war. No doubt he gave a lot of thought to his decision before volunteering for the R.A.F. The years 1941 through 1944 saw him serving as a ferry pilot in the British Isles.

With his war record and high number of flying hours, the students at the Episcopal High School in Lynchburg must have looked upon him as an exciting character when he arrived there to be their chaplain in 1944. He remained through 1946.

In November, 1949, plans were made to welcome the Rev. Marshall Milton, his wife, Belle, and their three children with a luncheon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Berkstresser. The Vestry, their wives and the Sunday School teachers were invited. He preached his first sermon at All Saints Church on Dec. 4th.

The new parish house was fulfilling its purpose by this time. A teen-age club met there on Saturday nights and a Boy Scout Cub Pack, sponsored by the Church, used it also. At Mr. Milton's instigation, a parochial school was begun for small children. A fashion show, sponsored by the Woman's Auxiliary, was put on by Miss Fannye Marks with lovely gowns modeled by Mrs. Milton, Mrs. Frank Meacham, and others. The proceeds were allocated for Church use. All parish organizations held their regular meetings in the new building.

It seemed feasible to discontinue the parochial school in 1952. This school had been ably taught by Mrs. D. W. Johnson and a group of mothers who volunteered to help. Attendance had dropped sharply and as a result financial support dwindled. In that same year Mr. Milton appointed a committee to work out a policy for a rotating vestry. Mr. W. J. Long, and Mr. Alfred N. Martin had this duty.

Time had taken its toll of the rectory next to the church on Roanoke Ave., and the need for a new one was apparent; but before its construction lots had to be acquired. Money was borrowed to buy a site on Henry St. between Fifth and Sixth Streets. Mr. W. H. Proctor served as chairman of a building committee whose other members were the Senior Warden, Mr. M. Scott Benton and Mr. Charles L. Wills with Mrs. Marshall Milton and Mrs. W. J. Long serving in an advisory capacity. A brick house containing four bedrooms and two and one half baths was built at a cost of \$18,482.54 plus an additional cost for painting. The Thompson Coal Co. donated concrete blocks and made a special price on cement. After its completion, it was decided to renovate and rent the old rectory.

The Rev. Henry Rightor of Christ Church, Charlotte, conducted a mission from Oct. 31, 1955 through Nov. 4th. The theme was, "The Drama of the Bible." Mr. Rightor's handling of the subject was an inspiration to the many who heard him.

Mr. Milton announced his decision to leave All Saints Parish in September, 1957, and the Vestry went on record as accepting his resignation with sincere regret. Life had held some tragedy for him at times, yet his bearing was that of a Christian man, undaunted by trouble. He was generous to a fault, if such is possible, and willing to part with any possession if he saw another in need of it. He had the rare quality of being frank without giving offense. He was courteous but with a simplicity of manner that bespoke sincerity. One could say of him as was said of William Blake, "He was a man without a mask; his aim was single, his path straightforward and his wants few. So he was free, noble and happy."

Bishop Penick suggested to the Vestry that they ask the Rev. Frank Pulley of Louisburg to fill in while there was no regular rector. He was a former Protestant Chaplain at West Point Military Academy, where he had been for several years before moving South for his retirement. He drove the many miles to Roanoke Rapids every Sunday for morning service for approximately six months so that All Saints did not suffer for the want of corporate worship, sermons, and the celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

A delegation from this Parish visited Lancaster, S. C., in March, 1958, to hear the Rev. William Lee Williams, who was then Rector of Christ Church there, preach. A call to come to fill the vacancy at All Saints was issued promptly and accepted in May with the understanding that he and his family would come to Roanoke Rapids in June.

The Williams family stayed with the Senior Warden, Mr. M. Scott Benton and Mrs. Benton for a few days when they arrived. At that time they had three boys, Mark, Phillip and Paul. A daughter, Cecilia was born later. Someone remarked that Mrs. Williams impressed them as being endowed with every quality that a rector's wife should have. That soon became evident to everyone.

Before the Rev. W. L. Williams became rector of Christ Church in the Diocese of Upper South Carolina, he served two churches at Groveton, Va., namely St. Mark's and Sharon. For some time after arriving in Roanoke Rapids, he served St. Alban's and St. Anna's in Littleton. He still serves the latter church. His extensive education has stimulated his interest in several fields and enabled him to do valuable work in each, usually in an executive capacity. He holds an A. B. degree from William and Mary, a J. D. degree from the University of Virginia Law School, and M. Div. degree from Virginia Theological Seminary and since 1966 has been doing graduate work in the summers at the University of the South, Sewanee, Tenn. In addition, he attended the Yale School of Alcoholic Studies in 1956.

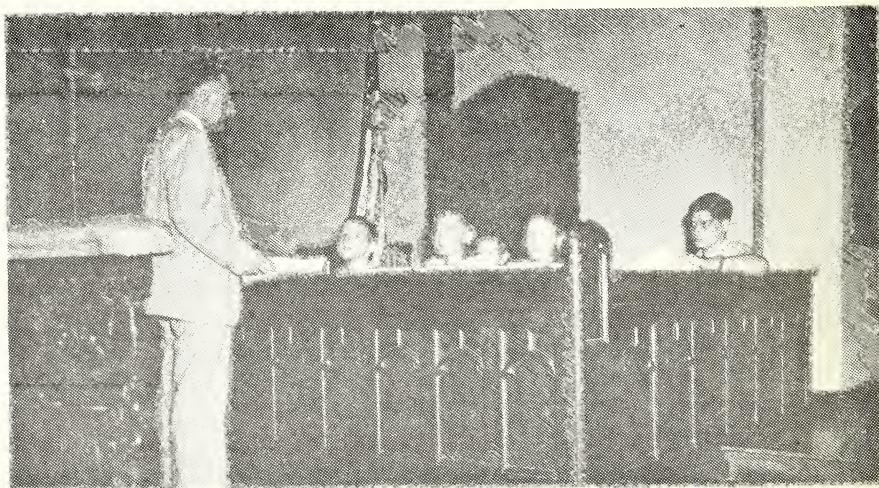
Mr. Williams served as Delegate to the Provincial Synod in 1960. He has held memberships on Boards of Directors for State Mental Health Associations both in North and South Carolina and has served as president of local boards in Lancaster and in Roanoke Rapids. In 1964 he was a member of the Community Services Commission for Halifax County. Since 1967 he has been resource person for the Halifax County Suicide Prevention Service. He has been chairman of the Children's Division of the Department of Christian Education for the Diocese. As vice-president and member of the Board of the Penick Home he is serving a term which began in 1968 and will terminate in 1974. In 1970-71 he was a member of the Drug Abuse Committee and was elected to a three year term on the Halifax County Board of Social Services. At present he is serving a three year term as a member of the Diocesan Council.

Mr. Williams' first Vestry meeting in June, shortly after he arrived, brought him abreast of important plans on the agenda. The Men's Brotherhood was investigating the cost of air-conditioning the church. Another financial

matter had to be taken care of also. All Saints Parish was asked to contribute \$500.00 toward the cost of a \$35,000.00 home for Bishop Penick to occupy upon his retirement, a property which would revert to the Diocese upon the Bishop's death. These two items were successfully dealt with.



**A CHURCH SCHOOL CLASS**



**MR. C. L. WILLS TEACHES BOYS**



That summer a well-run Bible School was held with an average attendance of forty-eight. Years later, in 1972, another one was held at the instigation of Mrs. Scott Barber and others. It was not only well organized but innovative and lively. Such schools were held many times in All Saints' history and entailed a great deal of endeavor, enthusiasm and ingenuity on the parts of many adults and young people who participated. It would not be an exaggeration to say that every child who ever attended one had something of value imparted to him that would remain for a lifetime.

In July, 1960, All Saints was saddened by the death of the Jr. Warden, Mr. William H. Proctor, who had served the Parish in many ways. His business experience and dedication to duty were only two of the many characteristics that made him a valuable churchman. Mr. Howerton Gowen was appointed Junior Warden in his place.

One of the outstanding features of Mr. Williams' work in the Parish has always been his ministry to the sick. His knowledge of medicine and of psychology in addition to his warm sympathy and (when appropriate) his ready wit have endowed him with much to give those undergoing physical or mental suffering. It was not altogether surprising that in the fall of 1963 he seriously considered a chaplaincy in a large hospital in a distant city and announced his intention to the Vestry. At a December meeting, however, he informed them that he had definitely decided to remain in Roanoke Rapids. At the same time he made a formal report on some things that had been done to improve the physical plant of the church since his tenure began. These included a new altar and reredos, carpeting, enclosure of the narthex and lights in the sanctuary.

Mr. Russell Buxton resigned as Treasurer in 1965, having served in that capacity for eighteen years. Mr. John B. Dunn, who had been Assistant Treasurer, became Treasurer. Both were commended by the Vestry for their efficient handling of the church funds.

The following year it became apparent that the pipe organ would have to be rebuilt, and that the cost would approximate \$1,100.00. Mr. W. J. Long, Jr., Mrs. John B. Dunn, and Mr. Charles L. Wills composed the committee whose task it was to raise this amount. For a task well done, they were thanked by the Vestry.

Over the considerable number of years since Bishop Cheshire's death, the Parish had been duly visited by Bishops Baker, Fraser and Moore who administered the Rite of Confirmation, consulted with the rectors and kept

members of All Saints abreast of the workings of the Diocese. Anyone who attended the Conventions, the Triennials or read Episcopal publications was aware that changes in the form of service and revision of the Book of Common Prayer were being contemplated. In 1968, every layman was given a four-page form to fill out, expressing his or her opinions about said changes; and, as was to be expected, there was a considerable divergence of ideas. The new liturgy was used for six months, its innovations in deep contrast with the older form. At the termination of the trial usage, one practice emerged that seemed practicable and pleasing. One of the two lay readers appointed for the purpose assisted the Rector at the Holy Eucharistic by passing the chalice. These were Mr. W. J. Long Jr. and Mr. Dolphus T. Clarke.

For years a reservoir of strength and good works has lain in the young married couples in the Parish. It was only natural and certainly beneficial that they should form a loosely knit group who met regularly for covered-dish suppers and called themselves "The Couples Club". It began early in 1969. Newcomers were welcomed, fellowship enjoyed and many good things happened as a result! At the present there seems to be a sort of merging of this group with the newly-formed Charismatic Group. They meet for study, for prayer, for healing and for letting the Holy Spirit work through them as He sees fit. Wonderful and exciting happenings are very likely to result when such earnest people join hands. All Saints has not had its like before.

Early in 1972 Mr. Charles L. Wills moved at a Vestry meeting that a memorial fund be set up for the late Dr. Matthew S. Broun, former Junior Warden, whose devotion to the Parish over many years had manifested itself in so many valuable ways. It was readily agreed that this should be done and that the Vestry would administer same. At the same meeting, Mr. Wills, as Chairman of Christian Education submitted eleven recommendations for improving the Christian Education program. He suggested that the Vestry give these due consideration. Many of the recommendations offered were implemented at the opening of Church School in the fall of 1972.

Easter, 1973 seems a logical date on which to conclude this record. No doubt All Saints has many more years in which to worship God and reach out to the community; and in the future, someone who loves the Parish will see fit to record them. If a tapestry might be used as a symbol of the years since 1902, many of its threads would be golden, many long and strong and many lost because all could not possibly be traced; but the whole is beautiful and, like the great tapestry hanging above the high altar in Coventry Cathedral, Christ has been and will be the central figure.

## MEN

Vestry minutes tell a great deal about the Christian stewardship of the men in All Saints Parish but not the entire story, by any means. Members of the Vestry are the ones who take responsibility for the budget, insurance, building, the outcome of the Every-Member Canvass, property maintenance, ushering, and, when the need arises, procurement of a rector.

Many men have served again and again as vestrymen, attending meetings faithfully, sacrificing time and effort to promote the well-being of the Church. It takes only a little perception to note how many of them have gone the extra mile with attention to the grounds and the physical plant, often doing the labor themselves. Many, as lay readers, Scout leaders, Church School teachers and counsellors have inspired others. Evidence of their dedication is on every side.

The men's organization, the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, was first mentioned in a written record in October, 1947, when presumably it was begun at the instigation of Mr. W. H. Crawford. The men have met and still do for suppers where they hear informative and interesting programs.

Mr. W. G. Long is at present Superintendent of the Church School. Before him Mr. T. W. Mullen, Mr. Russell Buxton, Mr. C. L. Wills and Mr. James Lyerly each held the office for several years.

## WOMEN

If it were possible to sum up or evaluate the loving, praise-worthy and useful works that have been done by the women of All Saints Parish, no volume could contain it all. In addition, or possibly as a result of their spiritual lives, they have cooked, cleaned, sewed, taught, raised money and reverently done the rewarding work required if they were Altar Guild members.

The successful Hospital Guild which has operated effectively in Roanoke Rapids for several years was organized in the Episcopal Parish House with Episcopal women supplying the leadership.

At one time there were four chapters of the Episcopal Church-women at All Saints. The St. Mary's Chapter was the earliest, followed by the Katherine Webster, the Frances Joyner and the Maria Burgwyn Long Chapters. The

Francis Joyner Chapter found it expedient to disband and its members joined whichever of the remaining three they found to be convenient.

Several women have held offices in the Convocation of Edgecombe over the years, but only one woman from this parish has served in a Diocesan or Provincial capacity. Mrs. W. J. Long, Jr. served on the Diocesan Council, filling an unexpired term as an E.C.W. representative in 1961-62 and again in 1970-73 by virtue of the office of President of the E.C.W. (Diocesan). She served as a delegate to the Provincial Synod for the E.C.W. at Pensacola in 1962. She was Legislative Chairman for the E.C.W. (Diocesan) 1962-65, E.C.W. Vice President 1966-69, E.C.W. President from 1970-73 but filled an unexpired term as Chairman of Education in 1969. She was a delegate to the Triennial in Seattle in 1967 and to the one in Houston in 1970 where she served on a Committee of Resolutions. She served as Diocesan delegate to the Provincial Synod in 1969-70 and as Chairman of Devotional Life in the District of Edgecombe in 1958-61. In 1970 she was appointed to the Board of Managers for the Child Care Services and is still a member of same.

With all this work of an executive nature, June Long has always participated enthusiastically in Parish affairs, inaugurating valuable programs and supporting all local leadership.

## YOUTH

There has never been a scarcity of young people in All Saints Church. A record of their activities performed in Christ's name accounts for a glowing chapter in the history of the Parish. Not only have they engaged in work that was valuable to the Church but many served humanity abundantly after they became adults. Some also served their Country in either the first or second World War.

A child's first experience of church life is the Sunday School, and too much cannot be said about the importance of his attendance. Many would be woefully lacking in knowledge of the Bible, the Catechism and the use of the Book of Common Prayer if such schools did not exist. Unfortunately, there seem to be no reliable records of those who have taught in our Church School. For years on end they have acquainted both children and adults with the verities that shape lives. Their self-preparation, faithfulness and unselfishness are qualities to be admired and emulated.

When a young boy or girl is privileged to serve as acolyte, a new dimension is added to his or her life. There have been a great many; and the custom

that the Rev. W. L. Williams inaugurated of making appropriate gifts to them in recognition of their activities at the morning worship service once a year is impressive. The congregation is told their names and length of service. Beauty and inspiration have been added to funeral services by a lone crucifer's presence in the chancel, quietly standing with the cross held before him. There were earlier crucifiers than Jack Wrenn (Mr. J. R. Wrenn, Jr.) but probably he performed this duty at more services at All Saints Church than anyone before or since. There were not only fewer boys to serve when he was at the age to do so, but there were both morning and evening services necessitating his presence.

The Episcopal Young People, formerly known as the Young Peoples' Service League, holds a charter affiliating it as Chapter No. 12 in the Diocese of North Carolina, dated Nov. 8, 1928, and signed by Bishop Edwin A. Penick and Mrs. Annie Hall Challen, Executive Secretary. It has had counsellors with exceptional qualities of leadership, and its young officers have been dedicated and efficient. Two members in the past have held Diocesan offices: William Crawford, Jr. and John R. Dunn. Bill Gordon, later to become the Rt. Rev. William J. Gordon, Bishop of Alaska, paid the All Saints League a visit about 1930. Much-coveted awards were earned over the years. In 1954 and 1955 a Progress Banner and Efficiency Shield were won. Delegates were sent to the League conferences at Vade Mecum every summer and money was contributed regularly to the Bishop's Scholarship Fund. In 1958 there seemed to be a need for a Junior League, and Mr. and Mrs. James Lysterly were responsible for its organization.

One of the early Service League projects that was a money-raiser was so successful that it was repeated year after year. Brunswick stew was made and marketed. Mrs. Russell Buxton, a former counsellor, tells of its having started in her back yard with fifteen quarts made in an iron pot. Production increased in time to three hundred quarts. The Rev. Edmund Berkeley remembers stirring the outdoor pot with a beautiful Canadian canoe paddle. The paddle was never the same again but apparently the stew was no worse for having absorbed a little shellac. In later years when the textile mills gave steam kettles which were installed in the church basement, things became much easier.

The Episcopal Young People cut running cedar and Christmas trees to sell at Holiday time. They also made wreaths of natural greenery. They frequently decorated the parish house sometimes providing a tree beautified with handmade ornaments. Several times Christmas or Epiphany pageants were produced. Quite a long list of worthy causes were

supported outside of the parish. It is possible that Bishop Gordon still remembers that a substantial contribution was sent to help pay for a much-needed outboard motor for his use.

Many times on Youth Sunday, the entire morning service has been conducted by young people. It has always been impressive and marked by devout and dignified participation. Adults found it a moving experience to hear some of the young men preach sermons which they themselves had written. Tom Benton and Berkeley Williams were two who did this very ably.

The "Coffee House" was begun at the suggestion of the Rev. W. L. Williams as something to fill the need of high school students for a place to spend the afternoon hours among their own kind and in a wholesome atmosphere. The young people arranged the decor which was contemporary and attractive. One or two adults were on hand but took pains to remain in the background unless their advice was required. This activity was carried on for a year and three months; but since it limited the use of the parish house facilities for other functions, it was discontinued. Short lived but a success, it received wide recognition throughout the Diocese.

There have been several young members of All Saints who rated the Eagle Scout Award, an achievement requiring perseverance and nobility of character. Dr. John R. Dunn, when a youth in 1954, was the first in Halifax County to attain the Boy Scout God and Country Award. It was necessary for the Church to approve him, deeming him a suitable candidate after he had fulfilled all requirements of a broad and demanding nature. Since then, All Saints proudly recognized two other young men who earned this badge, namely Mark Edward Williams and Walter Compton.

Young men all over North Carolina compete for the coveted Morehead Scholarship. It is not only prestigious but insures substantial financial help for a student at the University of North Carolina. Its requirements are high, and it is an achievement that is won only by dedication and superior scholarship during the high school years. Ideals and personality traits also play a part. Mark Edward Williams, Philip Carlton Williams and Ronald Hoyt Hunnings, all communicants of All Saints Church have earned this honor. Carol Ann Yates and Peggy Lee Rowbottom were recipients of the Johnston Scholarship at the University of North Carolina. This provides ample financial assistance for especially gifted students, who show qualities of leadership, academic promise, high moral character and promise of future contributions to the community, state and nation.

One of the most gratifying characteristics of the young people is that they continue to attend church services wherever they happen to be in college and often take leading parts in church activities. A church with such members can feel assured of its future.

## Music

A church service without music lacks a certain joyful dimension and thankfully, such occurrences have been rare at All Saints Church. In the very early days, Miss Mary Smith or Mrs. John Saunders played the organ, but beginning in 1916 Miss Ruth Transou became full-time organist, a duty she performed until 1940. She was usually accompanied by her brother-in-law, Mr. E. W. Lehman who played the clarinet. Both had had fine musical training, and Mr. Lehman had been a member of the famous Moravian Band in Winston-Salem. Miss Transou sometimes played for as many as five services on a Sunday. These were the early Communion service, Church School, the eleven o'clock service, an afternoon service at St. Luke's Church, Vulture, and an evening service at All Saints. There was no money to pay an organist then, and the congregation was fortunate, indeed to have so accomplished and faithful a person to do this important work.

Mrs. M. S. Broun followed Miss Transou as organist. Her talent, taste, and ability contributed something of beauty each time she played. She, too, served a long time, beginning in 1940 and continuing until 1954. A letter of appreciation from the Vestry was forthcoming when she resigned. It was only during the last three months of this period that Mrs. Broun reluctantly accepted a modest sum for her services.

Some others who played the organ after Mrs. Broun's resignation were Mr. James, a music teacher connected with the public school system, Miss Mary Evelyn Sandlin, Mrs. Edith Anderson, Miss Priscilla Lyerly, Miss Mary Kroncke, Mrs. J. B. Dunn, Miss Deborah Overton and Mrs. Bennett Stephenson. The present organist, Mrs. Anne Fanney Howard, grew up in the Church and fills a great need with efficiency and talent.

Few small churches have been blessed with the strong and dedicated choirs that have been the rule at All Saints for many years. It is also unusual for a choir to contain as many male voices. There have been exceptionally good singers of both sexes. The music at the festivals of Christmas and Easter has been soul-stirring and much of the credit should go to the competent choir directors who, with experience and training, were aware of what church music should be.

Mrs. Alice Miller was the first paid choir director, beginning in the late forties. Mrs. Sterling Blackwell Pierce of Weldon served for five years, and during the time that the choir was under her supervision, it received the accolade for the best singing group in an area-wide church music festival. Mrs. Pierce, who had a beautiful voice herself, had studied at three nationally known schools of music and was often a featured soloist. Mrs. J. B. Dunn succeeded Mrs. Pierce in 1956. She also had a broad musical background, having graduated in Public School Music at U.N.C., Greensboro, taught in the Roanoke Rapids schools and served for years as coordinator of music for the Roanoke Rapids Oratorio Society. Her love for the choir was evident in the many aspects of the work she did, such as rounding up members and taking full responsibility for finished performances at each service. Mrs. Dunn officially resigned in 1972 but still works faithfully with the choir in an unofficial capacity.

Mr. Patrick Fitzgerald of the Roanoke Rapids High School faculty was another able director but was with All Saints for only a short interval, being compelled by circumstances to give it up.

Our prayer is that the beautiful and traditional hymns will always be sung. Easter without "Welcome Happy Morning" and Christmas without "O, Little Town of Bethlehem" would deprive these great festivals of some of their meaning.

## Personal Memories

When one has attended All Saints Church for fifty-seven years, memories both happy and sad come crowding together like bits of color in a kaleidoscope. The most cherished of these concern people and the inspiration their lives have afforded. Nobody knows, nor would Mrs. Ben Cullom wish them to estimate, how many church suppers she has helped to cook and serve, how many pansy plants she took orders for and delivered, or how many visits she made to the sick and needy, and all for love. Then there are some who are gone who occupied places in our affections and always will. Mrs. T. W. M. Long, ("Miss Minnie") was a dedicated churchwoman and an example to all who knew her. She had a delicious wit that bubbled up and added fun to many a situation. Miss Ruth Mason, the aunt of all the Longs of "Longview", was blind from infancy but she enriched the lives of those around her by her unflinching cheerfulness, her faithful membership in the choir and her tireless use of the telephone when publicity was needed for any church project. She made her home with Dr. and Mrs. F. G. Jarman, Mrs. Jarman being a niece. Mrs. Jarman read to her, made



Braille books available to her and did much to brighten her days. To this little group I add my own mother, Mrs. Henry Watterson, who as Mrs. Hewitt was here in the early years and whose love of this parish gave joy to most of her life.

In 1917 our church being so new, needed warmth and decoration, but Christmas was a time when we made up for the lack and the same could be said of Easter. Pine, holly and trailing cedar were used in profusion; and one year, low Gothic arches were outlined in greenery across the chancel with care taken that they did not obscure the view of the altar. Just as effective were the masses of narcissi, spirea and dogwood that appeared at Easter. These touches of beauty made us forget the fact that our pews were old school benches and that we knelt on bare floor boards.

It became the custom for the choir and congregation to go to St. Luke's Church at Vulture one Sunday every summer to share their service and to partake of a delicious country dinner served out of doors. However, many a Sunday afternoon the year round, the Rev. Lewis Taylor took Miss Transou, Mrs. John Saunders or me in his early model Ford to St. Luke's to help with the music. Sometimes we drove across the old railroad bridge and sometimes we put the car on a flimsy raft to cross the Roanoke River. Whichever was done, it was frightening; but I always assured myself that God had work for Mr. Taylor to do and we would not perish then and there.

These reminiscences cover only a certain long-ago period in the annals of All Saints. The ensuing years have been of equal interest and produced a dazzling array of 'saints'. I pray that in time someone will write about them and that the task will give him or her as much pleasure as I derived from my effort.



# Memorial Gifts

ARTICLE	IN MEMORY OF	BY WHOM GIVEN
Case for Book of Remembrance	O. G. Cross	
Window over West Door	J. T. Horney	Mrs. J. T. Horney Mrs. Wm. H. Ballard
Hymn Board	The Rev. Lewis N. Taylor	
Lifany Desk	Lemuel MacKinnie Long Jarman	Mrs. T. W. M. Long
Chancel Prayer Book for Rector's Use	Lemuel MacKinnie Long Jarman Replacement of above:	Mrs. T. W. M. Long Mrs. F. G. Jarman
Church Flag	Col. Frank Patterson Hunter, Jr.	T. W. M. Long, Jr. and wife, Margaret
Floor Candlestick	Caroline Moncure Long	
Eucharistic Altar Candlestick	Mary Louise Taylor	
Altar Prayer Book	Infant Daughter of T. W. M. Long and Maria G. B. Long	
Prayer Book Stand	George Pollok Burgwyn	Emma Wright Ridley
Brass Alms Basin	Fontaine Graham Jarman	
Brass Altar Vases	Herbert Granville Lowell	
Brass Altar Vases	Caroline Moncure Long	
Altar	James H. Lyerly	Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Lyerly, Jr.
Altar Hangings	William H. Proctor	
Funeral Pall	Junius R. Wrenn	
Altar Hangings	Wiley Long III	Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bourne
Altar Hangings	Wiley Long III	Group
Silver Baptismal Bowl	Wiley Long III	
Ciborium	Julia Pool Watterson	
Ornamental Outside Lights	Mrs. Munro L. Boines	Munro L. Boines III Henry Walker Boines
Acolyte Benches	Lillian Dickens Lyerly	James Lyerly
Altar Cross		Gift of an Episcopal Church in Wilmington, N. C. Probably St. John's

# Gifts

ARTICLE	BY WHOM GIVEN
Font	Joseph Branch Bachelor & Wife Mary Carey Plummer
United States Flag	Mrs. Henry Watterson
Altar Candelabra	Second Circle                      Easter 1924 (Katherine Webster Branch)
Window in Memory of the Rev. Francis Joyner	Members of All Saints Church
Reredos	Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Wirtz
Chest for Altar Linens	Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Wirtz
Cabinet for Altar Hangings	Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Wirtz
Wafer Box	Ladies Guild                      Easter 1923
Ewer	Francis Joyner Circle              Christmas 1953



# Vestrymen of All Saints Church and Associate Vestrymen

1919-1973

Thomas Wilson Mullen	John R. Butler
John Augustus Moore	Nathan Frank
John Ledgerwood Patterson	Jesse Baird
Dr. Thomas Williams Mason Long	Mark Allen
Charles A. Webb	Nicholas Long
James H. Lyerly	James B. Batton
James H. Lyerly, Jr.	George Batton
George Carmichael	Richard M. Taylor
Daniel P. Allen	Dr. J. M. C. Covington
Archibald L. Taylor	W. Lunsford Crew
Mark R. Vick	M. L. Boineist
George Steele	Dr. F. G. Jarman, Jr.
William T. Councill	Joseph L. Hale
Eugene W. Lehman	William H. Crawford
Eugene E. Lehman	William S. Davis
William Francis Joyner	William G. Long
Junius R. Wrenn	Robert A. Musgrove, Jr.
Ellis H. Joyner	Junius R. Wrenn, Jr.
Henry W. Atkinson	Frank B. Meacham
Paul Heydenreich	Henry Best
W. Lunsford Long	E. C. Bain
Rufus Vick	Berkeley Williams
J. L. Cobb	Harry Harding
Robert W. Cordon	John McNeill
W. J. Long	Dr. Miles C. Gregory
W. J. Long, Jr.	Swain Stephenson
Howerton Gowen	William E. Haislip
John B. Dunn	O. B. Harris, Jr.
Alfred N. Martin	Thomas I. Stafford, Jr.
Gordon A. Berkstresser	Holt Hogan
M. Scott Benton	William E. Gibbons
Charles L. Wills	Tony Gowen
Russell Buxton	M. Scott Barber
Dr. M. S. Broun	John Burgwyn, Jr.
Byrd W. Davenport	Cary Whitaker
Edward Perdue	John Howard
Jack Fanney	William H. Kreckman
Claude Cannon	

## Senior Wardens

Thomas Wilson Mullen	Howerton Gowen
William H. Proctor	Dr. Miles C. Gregory
M. Scott Benton	Nicholas Long







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