



**The History of Halesford  
United Methodist Church  
1601 Lakewood Forest Rd, Moneta, VA 24121**



**In 1890, a few devoted Christian men and women came to a decision to build a log body church.**

**Mr. W.C. Mitchell and his wife gave one-half acre of land to build a church.**

**Mr. Byrd Gill and his wife, Elvira, were present at the ground-breaking ceremonies.**

**The church was built, and worship began in the late 1890s.**

**This church served the congregation and the community for 27 years.**

**Some of the ministers who served our first church were: Rev. S. M. Allen, Rev. W.R. Crawford, Rev. A.E. Robinson. These were just a few of our early pastors.**

**The Deacons were: J. W. Meadows, Willie Gill, and Henry Swain.**

**In 1917, more land was purchased, and a new framed church was built under the leadership of Willie Gill, Joe Saunders, Joe Edwards, Emmett Dudley, A.M. Starkey and John D. Jordan.**

**Ministers who served in this church building were:**

**Rev. B. E. Staten, Rev. L. H. Lawson, Rev. Buford Miller, and Rev. G.H. Boyd.**

**For the first 78 years of our existence, our church was a part of the Central Jurisdiction of the Methodist Episcopal Church.**

**When integration occurred, the old Carolina Conference, of which we were a part of, was disbanded.**

**Halesford then became a part of the Virginia Conference.**

**Rev. George W. Fowler was pastor at the time of integration in 1968 and served for eight years. During the time that Rev. Fowler was pastor, he led the church in the building of our present sanctuary which was completed in 1976.**



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**Officers were John L. Jordan, Roy Ferguson, William Dudley, Fougley Dudley, Robert Ferguson. Brother Roy Ferguson played a great part in the building of our present church.**

**In 1976, Rev. Luther G. Bond, Jr. came to pastor our church.**

**At that time, he remained with us for only seven months. When Rev. Bond was sent to Lynchburg to pastor, the conference appointed Rev. Connie Lee who came in 1977 and stayed until 1978 making his pastorate with us for fourteen months.**

**Rev. Lee and his family were beloved by our congregation.**

**Many great programs were completed during his ministry and a parsonage for our charge was built.**

**Rev. Bond returned in 1978 and stayed until his death until 1989. Many new programs were brought and introduced to the church because of Rev. Bond.**

**In June of 1989, Rev. Shirley Lancaster pastored the church for one year.**

**In June of 1990, Rev. John Miller became our pastor.**

**The church took new growth, and many young people became involved in the work of the church. Our membership grew and many new ideas were brought to the church.**

**In June of 1992, Rev. Miller moved to the Eastern Shore of Maryland.**

**In 1992, Rev. Ralph Harris of Chesapeake, Va. came to the Virginia Conference and to the Kelly charge. He was with us for two years.**

**After Rev. Harris left around 1994, Rev. Willie Smith, who served for a brief time approximately two years (1994-1996).**

**After Rev. Willie Smith, Rev. Dennis Moody was our pastor until 2006.**



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**From 2006 to June 26, 2022, Rev. Kelvin A. Edwards Sr. has pastored our congregation for 16 years. He and wife, Teresa Edwards, were instrumental in fostering joint church partnerships and relationships between Halesford and Epworth United Methodist Church.**

**Many joint services, community service projects, church picnics as well as other combined church events all stemmed during Pastor Edwards tenure at Halesford.**

**On July 3, 2022, Rev. Jeff White will serve as Pastor of Halesford United Methodist Church. Pastor White will continue in the fostering of joint relationships and partnerships between the two churches.**

**Over the years, we have suffered great loss.**

**Many of our leaders have passed away.**

**They were all great inspirations to our church during their lifetimes.**

**They are thought of often and missed dearly.**

**We give thanks as we continue to grow, worship and love in the way of those who paved the way, that helped to make our church what it has become today.**

**Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.**



Revised July 1, 2022, 7:00pm  
Previously Revised: August 4, 2021, 10:00pm  
Previously Revised 02-06-1994 7:03pm