

## History of Trinity United Methodist Church

1880 to 1930

Shortly after word of my appointment to Trinity, I made a trip to the Missouri Valley Room in the Kansas City Public Library to research the church's history. In the stacks, they found a vertical file containing the notes of Olive L. Hoggins, a religion reporter for the Kanas City Journal Post. She researched the history of nearly every church in Kansas City over a period of three years (1927-1930).

The Kansas City Post and its predecessors ran from 1854 to 1942 and was owned by a long list of notable Kansas City and national figures. When it folded, the paper was the oldest and last competitor to the *The Kansas City Star* founded by William Rockhill Nelson in 1880.

The following information is a compilation of the library's information. Sometime in the future I hope to locate further records that might be found stored in a closet in the church's basement. If anyone knows the whereabouts of further historical information, please let me know.

Pastor John

PS—scroll on down for some more interesting Trinity stuff!

Trinity Historical Matrix

Based on Articles Written by  
Mrs. Olive L. Hoggins  
Kansas City Journal Post (April 1927 to March 1930)

Churches in Kansas City Area (1880 – 1930)  
Located in Missouri Valley Room – Kansas City Public Library

Pastors	Churches	Size	Notes
W.T. Lewis - (appointed by Bishop) Mallalieu 1887. Also serving Liberty Street  C.J.W. Jones (1887-1891)  W.K. Collins, D.D. (1891-94)  H.M. Hackney, D.D. (1894-1896)  L.F. Roach (1898- 1901)  E.M. Drugger (1901-02)  G.W. Humphrey (1902-1903)	Howard Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church  - 1885(c) – 1903 (8 years in first location, starting in little store building, outside city limits (31 <sup>st</sup> Street – Westport, MO)  - First building at south east corner of Springfield Avenue (31 <sup>st</sup> St.) & Holmes, dedicated 1887.  - Organized March 17, 1887 at the Lamar, MO Annual Conference	14 Charter Members (1887)  20 (1888) 49 (1889)  160 (1896)  31 conversions (1901)	- Cost \$9,200, Donated by son of Mrs. Howard Tullis - Dedicated by Rev. James N. Thoburn, (later Bishop) from Calcutta, India (June 16, 1887) - Charge of the St. Louis conference - Basement, classrooms, 3 organs, and bell - Parsonage built (1888) - 8 pastors served church in first location, among them was Dr. Samuel Warner - Dr. J.W. McKee Sunday school superintendent (1887-1918) 31 yrs
John W. Stewert, D.D. (1903-06)  R.A. Jones, D.D. (1906-09)  W.F. Sheridan, D.D. (1909-12)  Chasteen Smith (1912-16)  A.W. Mills (1916- 18)	Howard Memorial Methodist Church - S.W. corner Linwood and Charlotte - 1903 (land purchase) - cornerstone laid 1904 - Hyde Park Methodist Episcopal (Merger 1916) - Armour and Kenwood (site purchased 1916)	664 (1909)	Dedicated by Bishop John W. Hamilton (March 5, 1905)  Celebration led by W.T. Wright, presiding elder  Plans made for new church under Rev. Smith.  Merger with Hyde Park M.E. under Rev. Mills and change of name to Trinity M.E. Church (1916)

<p>Fletcher Homan, D.D. (1918-24)</p> <p>Josiah Watson Abel (1924-25)</p> <p>John Benjamin McGee, D.D. (1925-28) (exchange of charges with Abel)</p> <p>George A. Fowler (1928 -</p>	<p>Trinity Methodist Episcopal (rename upon merger with Hyde Park M.E. – 1916)</p> <p>- Last pastor of Hyde Park was Dr. W.D. Britton (1915-16)</p>	<p>1369 (by 1930)</p> <p>1000 Children in Sunday School</p> <p>600 in weekday religious education program</p>	<p>Dedicated by Bishop William A. Quayle, September 14, 1919</p> <p>Tower chimes, gift of Mr. &amp; Mrs. Jacob L. Loose (dedicated 1923)</p> <p>Under Rev. McGee – James M. Bishop, director of religious education, from Boston University. Bishop was a professor at Park College, member of Lost Brigade in WWI. Preaches in August when pastor is on vacation.</p> <p>Monthly Publication – Trinity Chimes (50 cents per year)</p> <p>Rev. Fowler came from Stillwater, OK and formerly associated with Anti-Saloon League in New York.</p>
<p>Prohibition</p>			<p>Prohibition message in Order of Worship, October 2, 1932. The Parties and Prohibition. There was considerable said about the Prohibition issue around Convention time. Party leaders have grown rather quiescent. We are already coming to see that the salvation of our country does not center around a mug of beer. The candidates and their helpers are centering their fire upon economic issues. - What is difficult to understand is the failure of more of our people to see the economic value of a prohibition policy – a policy worked to the limit and not merely talked about. The coming election will not settle the Prohibition question. We do not want this issue to go by default. We should seriously talk about it. - The presentation here this morning by Mrs. George A. Fowler will furnish food for thought. May it also kindle the fires of enthusiasm again that we may really be crusaders for a cause which must bear near the heart of God.</p>