



Youngsters perform during the recent concert.



This historic marker was erected in front of the church several years ago.

Lloyd

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never made me feel odd as a white woman," said Spangler

Spangler said the church's storied past started in its early days when it was in the middle of the thriving heart of the black community. Formerly known as the Depot community, the area was once home to a historic African-American school and black businesses. The mighty church boasted more than 200 members in its glory days. Eventually, the area changed and people moved away but the church still stood.

It went on to become a meeting place for activists during the Civil Rights Era. In the 1980s, it became a rallying spot for the supporters of Darryl Hunt, a local black man who was wrongfully arrested, tried and convicted of killing a white woman.

Today, the congregation is only a fraction of what it once was, but it's better than it was when Spangler arrived. When she began preaching at the church a decade ago, it may have had 25 members, with only five attending services regularly. She's built that number up to an average of 25 attendees per service and a total of about 50 members. The small membership has never stopped the church from doing big things, she said.

"You know God can do anything with a small group that's faithful and this church has been faithful over time. When we get requests to do things, unless there's some other good thing going on, they always say 'yes,'" said Spangler.

Today, the church continues its active role in social justice issues says Spangler. Lloyd is a founding member of

groups such as the grassroots organization CHANGE and Vigils for Healing, which holds tributes for local people who are killed violently. The church plays host to meetings of the Presbyterian Interracial Dialog and World Peace Day services.

Its basement contains a homeless day shelter run by Ella Pomeroy that operates from Sunday to Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The shelter is a place where homeless people can spend the day or simply come in for a quick respite from the outside weather.

"We're not a wealthy church; we're not a big church but we're an open, hospitable church, and a church that reads the scriptures and they say that God is a God of justice. So it's basically just about being faithful," said Spangler.

Spangler said that so far the Lloyd Restoration Committee has raised more than \$50,000 towards restoring the church. She said they've applied for grants from various local foundations to help raise the rest. She said she expects the money to be raised in full and the restoration of the church to begin next year.

Donations may be mailed to the Lloyd Presbyterian Preservation Fund at 205 McDaniel St., Winston-Salem, NC, 27105.

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