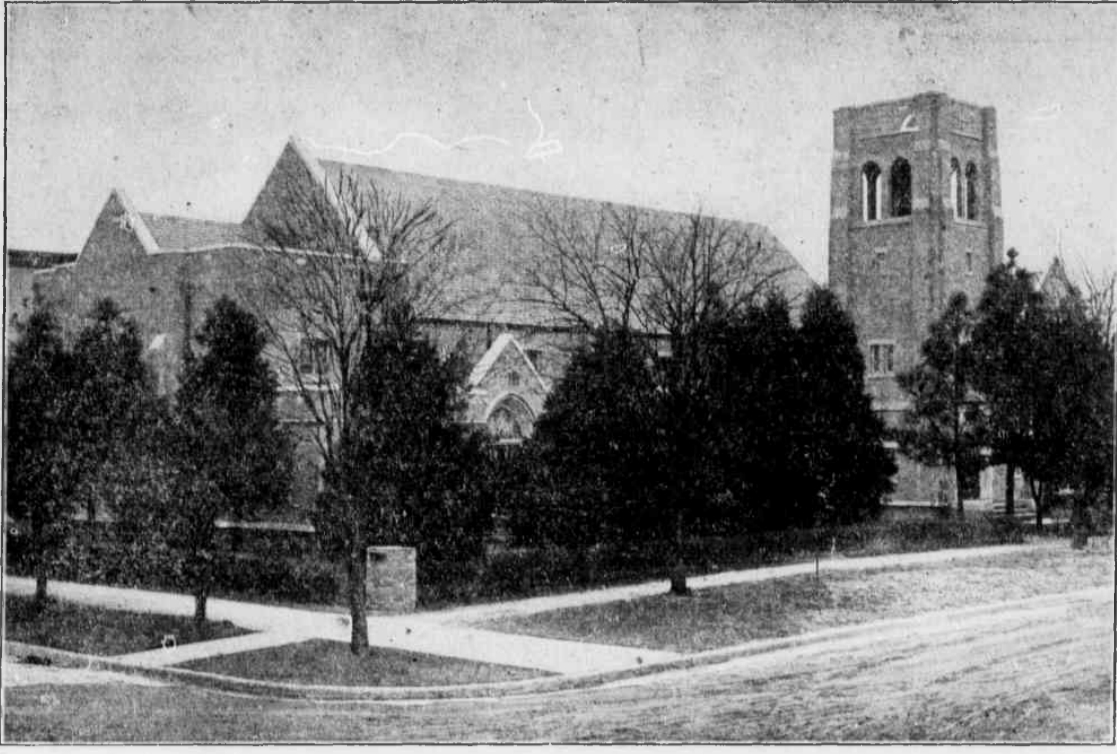


Churches of Many Denominations in Southern Pines



The Congregational Church of Wide Fellowship



St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church



Emmanuel Episcopal Church

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Church Services Here Date Back 50 Years

Worshippers Attended Bethesda and Union in Early Days of Southern Pines
(Continued from page 1)

Five in the work. Pastor Newhall continued his services with the church until 1895, being succeeded in the summer of that year by the Rev. F. P. Woodward. Union services were continued, the Rev. George H. Ransome, a Congregational minister accepting an invitation to occupy the pulpit during the winter of 1894-1895, and from time to time, Dr. Pittinger, an Episcopal clergyman from Raleigh conducted the service. During this period, and later, afternoon services were frequently held by ministers from Manly; the Rev. W. F. Watson, Dr. N. B. Cobb, the Rev. W. C. Newton, all of the Baptist church, and the Rev. Jesse H. Page.

Emmanuel Episcopal Church
From 1896 to 1910 the Rev. H. T. Gregory was rector, his home now 43 and 45 North Ashe street, was used for religious services and as a training school of home economics for the colored girls of Jintown. During his rectorship, in 1898, the church was consecrated to the Episcopal faith and received the name Emmanuel. From 1911 until his death in March, 1913 the Rev. W. L. Ogilby held the rectorship, followed by the Rev. O. H. Nash, December 1913 to 1918; the Rev. John Hartley, 1919-1923; the Rev. Charles P. Holbrook, 1924-1926; the Rev. Alaric James Drew from October, 1926 until his death on March 18, 1930. Under his rectorship the congregation sold the original church and in April, 1927 began the erection of a parish house on Massachusetts avenue, this to be the first unit of their church group of buildings. This handsome structure is now used for religious service. During this period the church, until this time a mission, became a parish, the rector holding services at stated times at Samarcand, at the State Sanatorium and at Pinebluff. The present rector, the Rev. F. Craig-hill Brown, B. A., D. B. succeeded Dr. Drew.

St. Anthony's R. C. Church
The second ecclesiastical building erected in Southern Pines was St. Anthony's Roman Catholic church, at first a rather small structure owing its inception to the Rev. Father Patrick Marion of Raleigh, aided in his effort by John T. Patrick, the town's founder. Built by S. N. Rockwell under the supervision of Father Marion in the autumn of 1893, the original structure is now a part of St. Anthony's church, Vermont avenue and Ashe street.

As a mission church from the time of its founding until September 23, 1906, its pulpit was supplied at stated times from Fayetteville and from Belmont Abbey, Belmont. Services were held by Father Patrick Marion until 1897, then by the Rev. Father Matthias Hau of Belmont Abbey from 1898 until 1900, he residing here at times. Father P. F. Marion was the visiting pastor from 1901 until 1905, the parish house adjoining the church being built in 1902 under his direction. On September 23, 1906, Father James A. Kavanagh was transferred from Fayetteville as resident pastor in Southern Pines, with a parish including Lee, Moore, Richmond, Scotland and Hoke counties.

In April, 1908 Father William B. Hannon became the second pastor of the church, and was succeeded in May of 1911, by the Rev. William J. Dillon, from Fayetteville. In the autumn of 1913, Father Dillon began the work of changing the rather small box-like structure to a beau-

tiful cruciform church. On October 8th this year the parish was divided, elevating Father Dillon to the charge of Pinehurst. (Sacred Heart Church, built 1915) and appointing the Rev. Thomas A. Williams as fourth pastor of St. Anthony's. Among the supply pastors of the church in former years were the Rev. E. J. Donnelly, 1933-1935; Father F. J. Morrissey, 1932-1933; the Rev. W. F. O'Brien, 1903.

Church of Wide Fellowship
The third church organization, the Congregational, now widely known as the Church of Wide Fellowship, owes its inception to the labors of the Rev. George R. Ransome, who, seeking a milder climate in the pines, during the winter of 1894-1895 was invited to conduct services in the schoolhouse. His congregation was recognized by the Council on April 25th, 1895, the first service being held in the recently completed Episcopal church, by Dr. F. P. Woodbury of New York.

Under the pastorate of Dr. Ransome members of the congregation, notably C. D. Tarbell, R. M. Couch, W. J. Stewart, I. L. Hamlin, Mrs. W. P. Swett, Mrs. A. M. Foster and Mrs. L. A. Young formulated plans for a home, actual construction commencing in June, 1897 and dedication of the church taking place on April 3, 1899, Dr. Ransome continuing his

pastorate for three years. During the summer of 1898 the Rev. H. M. Tupper officiated, and the Rev. D. W. Fox of Pinebluff was here during the 1899 summer.

Following the death of Dr. Ransome in March, 1900 the Rev. D. M. Breckinridge occupied the pulpit until June of that year. The Rev. G. R. Mente became pastor in July, 1904 and continued until November, 1903. Following him were the Rev. Alfred E. Ellsworth, November, 1903 to the summer of 1904; the Rev. H. E. Foss, October, 1904 until 1906; the Rev. F. B. Hyde from October, 1907 until October, 1908; then the Rev. E. W. Souders until June, 1911. The Rev. Samuel Holden served from that date until March, 1918 when he

lain, Pastor Holwa taking his place until June. In October of that year the congregation selected the Rev. Elmer Willis Serl who occupied the pulpit until March, 1934. Under his pastorate the church became widely known as the "Church of Wide Fellowship" and from the "Platform Hours" which on Sunday evenings throughout the winter season, introduced talent of a high order to the residents of Southern Pines. In the spring of 1927, work on the present church, a structure designed to retain all of the original building except the steeple, was commenced on lots given years before by Mrs. A. M. Foster. From 1923 until 1927 the Rev. Park W. Fisher was the pastor during the summer months, and in (Please turn to Page 8)

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