



## Date Prepared

September 16, 2020

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## Mission

Our mission as a parish church at the crossroads of Greenville and Spartanburg Counties is the gathering and perfecting of God's people through biblical worship, evangelism, and pastoral care.

*Antioch Presbyterian Church (PCA) is a Mission work of Calvary Presbytery.*

## Source

*History of the Presbyterian Church in South Carolina Since 1850*, Edited by F.D. Jones, D.D., and W.H. Mills, D.D., Published by The Synod of South Carolina, The R.L. Bryan Company, Columbia, S.C., 1926, Pages 693-95.

## Text

The original Antioch Presbyterian Church, an offshoot of Nazareth Church, Spartanburg County, was organized in 1843, with twenty-three members. Of these eleven were of the family of Denny Anderson, Sr., a soldier of the American Revolution, who donated ten acres of land near Cashville, S. C., for a church and cemetery. The church seems to have done good work until changed conditions following the Confederate War left a weak congregation barely able to hold a pastor. The organization, including the most of its membership, was removed to Reidville, four miles away, about 1883. "The Session met at the residence of Elder A. Coan, January 2d, 1884, and unanimously resolved to call Rev. R.H. Reid for one-half his time as stated supply." This congregation worshipped in the chapel of the old Reidville Female College until it occupied its own building on a corner of the college campus in 1889. This is now the flourishing Reidville Presbyterian Church.

As time passed the Cashville community changed. A number of new people came in; some to occupy their own farms. The old church building meanwhile was used for funeral services. About 1899, a Union Sunday School was organized. Summers this was conducted in the old church; winters, in the schoolhouse near Cashville. This soon enlisted the interest and sympathy of that zealous missionary preacher, the Rev. B.P. Reid. Old Antioch became "his last and greatest ecclesiastical love." With heart and hands already full, for four or five years he gave a Sunday afternoon each month to it. "He thought and worked and talked and prayed Old Antioch back to life again." In 1903, he conducted a several days' meeting in the old church, and an organization was effected the next year with nine members, including one elder and one deacon, and the name Old Antioch. While serving four or five other churches, Mr. Reid supplied this church with an afternoon a month, at a salary of \$25.00 to \$75.00 a year - and this he usually turned back into the activities of the church - until he was stricken with paralysis, 1912, while still in his prime. His lamented death occurred December 4, 1913.

Mr. Reid left a wide-awake, forward-looking organization of sixty-one members, with three elders and four deacons. In 1913, the Rev. A. H. Griffith was installed pastor, with a salary of \$180.00 for two afternoons a month. During his pastorate, which terminated April 3, 1916, the membership (largely recruited from a floating population after revival services) reached 124, with four elders and six deacons.

During the pastorate of the Rev. J. F. Ligon - two years ending November, 1918 - there were ninety-one resident members.

The next pastorate, that of the Rev. C. O'N. Martindale, March 1919, to March, 1924, was marked by the death of the senior elder and clerk of the Session, J. S. Kilgore.

Total contribution to all causes of the church reached \$1,065.00 in 1920.

June, 1924, the Rev. W. C. Copeland entered upon this pastorate for services two afternoons a month and fifth Sunday mornings with eighty-five members, five elders and four deacons. The church maintains a regular Sunday School, which is slowly adding to the church membership, a Woman's Auxiliary, a live organization of laymen, and the Palmer Reid Society of young children.

The following have served as elders of the church: J. S. Kilgore (1904-1921), W. P. Fowler (1904-), N. P. Anderson (1909-), N. R. Gaston (1914-), L. Leonard (1918-), W. B. Kilgore (1923-); as deacons, B. Wood (1904-), F. O. Dillard (1909-), T. R. Perry (1909-), F. D. Ellis (1909-), W. B. Kilgore (1914-1923), Thurman Fowler (1914-), A. W. Leonard (1914-), G. P. Fowler (1918-), J. H. Kilgore (1921-), J.T. Hayes (1923-).

Old Antioch is regularly grouped with Nazareth and Reidville. It is not located in a Presbyterian community, and absentee-land-ownership characterizes much of its environing territory. But with a generous number of children being reared in the church, the future looks brighter. In this confidence funds are being gradually but surely raised for a new building, which will be undertaken when all the necessary cost is in sight.