

# Archive Catalogue

*Preserving Our Heritage  
Yesterday – Today – Tomorrow*



St. Luke Christian Methodist Episcopal Church  
2008 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue North  
Nashville, TN 37208

Rev. Ronald Powe, Pastor  
Rev. Dr. Charles Winfrey, Sr., Presiding Elder  
Rt. Rev. William H. Graves, Bishop



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## ***Introduction***

The St. Luke CME History Committee and Pastor, Rev. Ronald Powe, humbly present this concise account of the contents in the Archive.

It is our hope that you will feast upon the rich heritage of the Christian Warriors, nourish the accomplishments of the present and help us to retain and replenish the fertile soil of the future.

Bernice Campbell, Chairperson  
History Committee  
September, 2004

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*St. Luke CME Church Archive*  
*Dedicated - Sunday June 27, 1999*

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**The Heritage Quilt (October, 2000, Brain child of Maxie Stuart and Mildred Allen)** - The quilt depicts land marks of church history covering specific places, people, and items of historical interest. Many church members crafted the quilt blocks, including: Susan Sawyer, Linda Bonner, Carolyn Washington, Jill Petty, and Mildred Allen. William Hayslett stenciled the cloth blocks, Warner B. Jenkins selected the frame and framing was done by Woodcuts. The General Missionary Society was in charge of this project during Anniversary 2000.

**The Live Nativity Scene (2001)** – In 1999, under the auspice of the Rev. Allie Cage and the Board of Evangelism and Missions, the first live Nativity scene took place. The Nativity scene is featured with live participants, dramatizing the birth of Christ on the church front lawn at Christmas time. Those participants included: Aqui Simpson, Crystal Miller, Derrick Reynolds, Robin Calloway Dean, Rev. Yolanda Ward, David Hill, Herman Charley, and Milton Dean.

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**Heroes and Heroines of the First Decade, 1915-1925**

**James Draper** – Trustee, Steward. His wife Annie, located the first church building on Heffernan Street (now Meharry Blvd.), 1916.

**Mattie Cox Stuart** – President, Stewardess Board No. I for 25 years. Member of the Missionary Society, Supervisor and Cook for church dinners (Cakes and pies her specialty).

**Henry David Stuart, Sr.** – Director of Metro Food Commodities Program handled by St. Luke, Church Treasurer, Trustee, Member of Steward Board, History Committee, Chapter “13”, Men’s Chorus, Board of Christian Education. Delegate to Annual Conference for many years. Board member of John L. Glenn Residential Center.

**Selma Adams Rivers Perry** – Member, Stewardess Board No. I, Missionary Society, Choir, Volunteer worker for St. Luke Day Nursery. Planned programs for Nashville Clarksville District Conferences, wrote the first history of St. Luke CME Church for the Annual Conference Program 1954.

**Willie Robert Allen, Sr.** – One of the first Volunteer Janitor’s of the Church, Past President, Usher Board, Member of Men’s Chorus, Steward Board and Sunday School Superintendent.

**Cosby Scott Allen** – President of Stewardess Board No. 2 for 25 years. Member, Missionary Society, Seamstress for uniforms and communion cloths.

**Nick Stuart, Sr.** – Church Treasurer for 37 years, Chairman of the Trustee and Steward Board simultaneously. Supervisor in charge of financing, planning and building every major construction project for St. Luke from 1926-1970.

**Eura Adams Jenkins** – Director of St. Luke Day Nursery for 24 years, Member of Stewardess Board No. I, Missionary Society, Choir, Class Leader program, Trustee Board.

**James E. Adams, Jr.** – Acclaimed musician and artist, drew pictures of the mission church (1<sup>st</sup> Church) from memory. This picture is displayed in the vestibule, replica placed in the Heritage case.

**Rosa Fields Johnson** – Member, Stewardess Board No. I, Chorister, Choir President, General Missionary Society, Pianist, Annual Conference Secretary of Young People's work. Distinct honor of the church library bearing her name.

**Habitat for Humanity Picture, Ecumenical Build 2002**  
(October 18, 2002, "*Blessing and Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Nashville area Habitat for Humanity*") - Thirty predominately African-American churches from Nashville and the surrounding area, along with one business sponsored this build. Rev. Allie Cage, St. Luke CME Church, was the Project Director of this build. The Ecumenical Build 2002 was the largest build in terms of the numbers of sponsors and the first African-American build. Habitat builds homes for people who could not otherwise afford a home.

**Heritage Case (1998)** – Designed and built by Warner B. Jenkins, displays hand crafted replica in miniature of each church location. The display is housed in a glass enclosed case with wood finish exterior. Three shelves showcase church locations. First church (Mission) 1915, a store front on 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue North and Booker Street second location, 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue North and Heffernan Street (now Meharry Blvd.) 1916, remodeled 1948, present location 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue North 1968.

**Two Door Hanging Filing Cabinet (2001)** – Laminated wood finish, used for brochures, pictures, historical materials and newspaper clippings.

**Original Oak Bookcase with Glass Doors (1935)** – One of a few items from the Meharry Blvd. location. Refinished and used to store books and other memorabilia. This is a treasured case of our heritage.

**Memorial Bronze Plaque (2004)** – Donated by the Stuart Family in memory of Cassandra Stuart Woods. Dedicated to members of the History Committee who were instrumental in the development of the first hand bound Church History Book 1915-1988. Also members of the Committee who have served in special areas of expertise beyond the call of duty. Names are engraved on the plaque.

**Display Cabinet (August, 1998)** – Designed by Warner B. Jenkins, constructed by Rev. Ben Sanderfur. The glass enclosed case contains plaques, trophies, artifacts, pictures and other memorabilia. Cabinets below the case are used for storage, historical records and materials.

**Special Display Frame (2001)** – This picture frame holds spaces for 28 snap shops of various church activities. Pictures may be removed and replaced as desired. Presently, it displays pictures of the 86<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet (Oct. 27, 2001) at the Banquet Hall of Nashville.

**Conference Table and Chairs (March 18, 2002)** – The Archive room is furnished with an elegant wood grain laminated black conference table with twelve black leather conference chairs. The furniture is used for Church meetings, the Missionary Sunday School Class and other gatherings.

### ***History Committee Officers***

President	Bernice Campbell
Vice President	Peggy Alsup
Secretary	Della Shute
Assistant Secretary	Janis Crutcher
Treasurer	Elizabeth Wortham
Chaplain	Betty Preston

### ***Members***

Stella Barber  
Jeremy Byars  
Ethel Corley  
Janice Hayslett  
Carolyn Hill  
Warner Jenkins  
Patsy Petway  
Nicole Pincham  
Olist Roberts  
Zepher Selby  
Maxie Stuart

### ***Brochure Committee***

Peggy Alsup  
Stella Barber  
Bernice Campbell  
Zepher Selby  
Maxie Stuart

***Compiled September, 2004***



