

# Holy Trinity Troutman

Organized: 1924

County: Iredell

Merged Congregation incorporating St.

Michael's and St. Martin's

Affiliation: NC Synod

Status: Active

When the United Lutheran Church in America was created in 1918, the North Carolina and Tennessee Synods became part of the same denomination. Their overlapping territories were resolved with the formation of the United Evangelical Lutheran Synod of North Carolina in 1921. In light of the mergers on the national and synodical levels, and prevailing economic and social conditions, the Rev. John L. Morgan, Pastor of St. Michael's Lutheran Church, proposed the merger of St. Michael's (NC Synod) and St. Martin's (TN Synod) to form Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church. The merger was effected January 5, 1924, with hearty cooperation from The Rev. D. L. Miller of the Tennessee Synod.

Rev. John L. Morgan continued as pastor of the merged congregation. He is also credited with providing the inspiration for the present church facility. Pastor Morgan made an intensive study of architecture, including carpentry, masonry, lighting, and heating. Mr. D. S. Clodfelter was foreman for the job and men of the congregation labored together to build the church. Wages for a team and driver were fifty cents per hour or \$5 a day. Common laborers earned thirty cents an hour or \$3 a day, and foreman received sixty-five cents per hour. Ground was broken for the new building September 3, 1925. The first shovel of dirt was removed by Augustus D. Troutman, who had been baptized in the congregation eighty years before. The first marriage ceremony performed was that of the Rev. Edwin F. Troutman and Miss Estelle Brown, both of whom had been children of the congregation. The first sermon was preached on the first Sunday in March 1927 by Pastor John L. Morgan. The text used was the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Gospel of St. Matthew. The cornerstone was laid April 3, 1927 with Dr. Jacob L. Morgan, President of North Carolina Synod, presiding. On Sunday, Dec. 1, 1935 a beautiful and churchly edifice stood complete, furnished, and paid for and was dedicated to the honor and glory of God. Groundbreaking for the new educational building was held in 1955 with Mr. J. M. Lippard, the oldest member of the congregation, shoveling the first shovel of dirt.

Holy Trinity began "preparing for the future" in 1994 when the Council approved committee guidelines for the project. In early 1995 the Restoration and Expansion Committee was formed. In June of that same year, Fuller Architectural was selected and preliminary drawings were made. The project took on the task of the first Capital Fund Appeal in 1996 with Donn Rosenauer from Kairos & Associates and our first goal of raising \$500,000 was established. Once accomplished we were ready for groundbreaking in August, 1999, with P. S. West as our general contractor. During the 14 months it took to complete, Holy Trinity realized the completion of the renovations to the church sanctuary, new Sacristy room, expansion to the Fellowship Hall, the Courtyard, elevator access to all three levels of the church, additional Sunday School rooms, new offices and an enlarged kitchen with commercial equipment. On September 24, 2000, Holy Trinity held a dedication service to commemorate the completion of this project.

## Pastors

1924-1927	John L Morgan, DD
1928-1936	PD Risinger
1936-1940	QO Lyerly
1940-1947	Edward Fullenwider, DD
1947-1968	Olin Swicegood
1969-1978	Harwood T Smith, Jr
1978-1983	Vernon A Frick
1984-1992	Thomas F Cogan
1994-2006	Tommy K Beaver
2007-2008	David Keck, interim
2008-	Matthew L. Miller