



A BRIEF HISTORY OF OUR CHURCH

In 1914, the Pittsylvania County School Board gave permission for the two-room Allen School to be used as the meeting place for a Sunday school. Meeting on Sunday afternoons, and taught by leaders from other Danville churches, this Sunday School was organized to attend to the spiritual needs of families with a Christian Church background who had moved into the area that is now North Danville.

In the summer of that year, Rev. S.B. Klapp of Elon College, NC, was asked to preach one Sunday each month. The growth of this Sunday School led to the establishment of Third Avenue Congregational Christian Church on October 25, 1914. In the autumn, a revival was used by God to kindle enthusiasm, and the congregation grew from twenty-eight members to a group too large for the school building to accommodate.

In January 1916, the church moved into the Chapel, consisting of a forty-by-sixty foot auditorium and three Sunday School classrooms.

In 1937, an open-air tabernacle was built with a sawdust floor and plank benches for seats. This was replaced in 1939, when the advent of winter inspired the building of an enclosed cinder-block tabernacle, which was used until 1962 when a new Sanctuary was built. It opened on November 11, 1962 and could seat over eight hundred.

Third Avenue Congregational Christian Church has had numerous men fill the role of pastor through the years, but since 1926, there have been just six:

September 1926-March 1954	Rev. M. T. Sorrell
July 1954-October 1958	Rev. Walter W. Hall
July 1959-April 1976	Rev. R. Eugene Tally
December 1976-October 1991	Rev. Darryl A. Bodie
October 1991-March 2015	Rev. Frederick J. Vicks
September 2016-current	Rev. Shevi S. Sloane

On January 26, 2020, and after a year of deliberate planning by the leadership team, Third Avenue Congregational Christian Church was reformed, replanted, and relaunched as Stone Creek Church with 40 Covenant Partners. The 215 Third Avenue property was sold to Compassion Church Danville and the proceeds were used to build a new facility adjoining the newly renovated pavilion on the 2664 R&L Smith Property.

