

## Center Grove

### Kannapolis

Center Grove Church is located in Kannapolis on Cannon Boulevard in Cabarrus County. This church was first located about three fourths of a mile east of this place, where the cemetery is. Services were first under a brush arbor, about where Mr. and Mrs. Flake Edminston's home is.

The church was organized September 9, 1876 with twenty-one members by Rev. Whitson Kimball. A lot for a church was purchased from Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Furr on April 6, 1878, where the old church stood. Soon a Building Committee was appointed; namely: Fred Cline, D. H. Winecoff, J. I. Patterson, W. H. Barnhardt, Peter Glass, and Joseph Chambers. The building was started right away. It was a frame structure 30 x 50 feet, but was later enlarged by adding transepts and Sunday School rooms, while Rev. C. A. Brown was pastor. The church was dedicated the first Sunday in April 1880, by Rev. W. H. Cone and Rev. V. R. Stickley.

In 1945, a lot for a new church was purchased on Cannon Boulevard, and on July 25, 1948, ground was broken for the new church. The service was by the pastor Rev. D. F. Swicegood, and President V. R. Cromer.

The church was completed in 1950 and was formally opened October 6, 1950, and the cornerstone was laid that same afternoon by Pastor Swicegood, President F. L. Conrad, and Dr. J. L. Morgan.

This is a beautiful brick church, with ample provision for the educational work of the congregation. It represents a cost of around \$135,000.00. The first and only air conditioned church in the Synod.

For most of the time this congregation was in a parish with Lutheran Chapel Church, but by 1945 the congregation had grown to where a fulltime pastor was called.

A new brick parsonage, near the new church was purchased in 1945.

### Pastors

1876-1878	Whitson Kimball	1900-1901	C. A. Brown
1878-1880	W. H. Cone	1902-1907	J. Q. Wertz
1881-1886	B. S. Brown, Sr.	1908-1924	C. A. Brown
1887	W. Kimball, Supply	1925-1928	E. F. K. Roof
1888-1889	J. L. Buck	1928-1945	C. E. Ridenhour
1889-1896	C. A. Marks	1945-1951	D. F. Swicegood
1896-1898	J. Q. Wertz	1951-1955	E. L. Misenheimer
1898-1900	W. B. Oney	1955-1961	Paul L Morgan
		1961-1964	Charles W Easley
		1965-1976	Lonnie W Karriker
		1977-1981	Roy T Wise
		1981-1994	Maurice E Stanley
		1995-1998	Matthew L Miller
		1999-2003	Zachariah Harris III
		2006-	Diane M Wales