

## History of St. John's Methodist Church

St. John's Methodist Church was organized in January 1954. Rev. A. M. Anderson was the first pastor. Rev. Anderson received his bachelor's degrees in art and divinity from Lincoln University and Drew Theological Seminary. Under his direction, a Friday evening and Sunday evening recreational program for young people was started.

In December of 1954 St John's Methodist Church, located at 815 Silver St. celebrated its first anniversary as a parish under the Central Jurisdiction, Lexington Conference of the Methodist Church. The reception was planned by Mrs. Redus Foxx, president of the Women's Society of Christian Service, Mrs. Horace McNair, Mrs. Arzell Thompson, Lloyd Johnson, president of the chartered Men's Club, and Horace McNair.

In May of 1955 Rev. Anderson left for a parish in Chicago. He was succeeded by Rev. Peter H. Fletcher of Evansville, Indiana.

In May of 1957 Rev. Fletcher moved to Newcastle, Indiana. He was succeeded by Rev. Delaney G. Smith of Owensboro, KY. Rev Smith was a graduate of Philander Smith College in Little Rock, Arkansas and Gammon Theological Seminary, Atlanta, Georgia.

I could not find any more information until the merger with Bethel in 1967.