

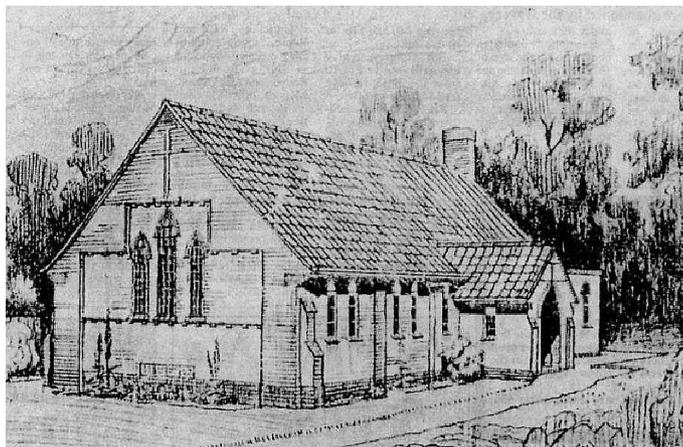
New Homes bring a New Church

by Tony Bowler

In 1927 it was brought to the notice of the Derby first circuit of the Primitive Methodist church, that building schemes were proposed for the Chaddesden Park Estate. A special committee was set up in the July to tour this area under the guidance of Mr Thomas Coleman. He explained that 750 homes were to be built and that he was prepared to offer a site for a church, offering a £50 donation towards the building of it. Many other people also gave donations of £50 to the new church. Mr N S Antliff was appointed architect, and a committee was set up to work on the plans. Mr M Basford was the builder and a board of trustees was appointed. The general missionary committee of Primitive Methodism also made a grant of £400 towards the £1,800 needed to construct the building.

The foundations were laid on 21 July 1928. Prior to the building of this new church, Sunday school and evening services had been held in a hut belonging to a Mr E Smith who lived in the bungalow next door. The church was completed and opened on Wednesday 17 October 1928. The ceremony was provided over by Mr J Potter. At 3pm Mrs A C Bonas unlocked the door and the assembled company entered the church for worship which was conducted by Professor A L

Humphries of Hartley College, Manchester. Tea was then taken and the Mayor of Derby, Councillor A Strugess presided. An organ was temporarily loaned by the Mount Street trustees. Mr and Mrs Nash made a gift of a pulpit bible and a hymnal. Services began on Sunday 21 October 1928, with the Reverend J Bradbury as the preacher. Many people began to register for church membership. Fellowship meetings, young people and women's bright hour were held as the church grew in stature.



Mayfield Road Methodist Church in 1928

Those who donated money to help in the building of the Primitive Methodist Church on Mayfield Road had their initials carved on a tablet. This tablet is in the vestibule which was previously the kitchen.



The church in 2010. The houses behind are on Northwood Avenue.

In 1932 came the union of the Primitive, United and Wesleyan Methodists. Mayfield Road church was now simply the Methodist Church,

By the 12th anniversary of the opening of the church, all debts had been cleared and a Thanksgiving Service was held. In 1940 an Extension and Improvement Fund was formed to make improvements to the building. By 1958 a small entrance hall was added along with a vestry, toilets and a kitchen. In 1965 a wooden extension was built by members of the church and was used for a Sunday School. The money was raised for the building, which opened on 19 June 1965 at 4pm. A Young Wives group was formed in 1967. The present organ was purchased in 1968 at a cost of £345.

It was in 1969 that St Andrew's church, London Road closed and its Sunday School children joined the Chaddesden church.

In 1977, the decoration of the church and its extension by volunteers was completed in time for the Golden Jubilee, which was held in October 1978. On Sunday 23 July 1978, a special service was held and was led by the Reverend Raymond Wright to commemorate the laying of the foundation stones.

Many activities are held in the church rooms including the Ladies Bright Hour, Young Wives Group (changed to Wednesday Group from 1977), Boys Brigade and Girl's Life Brigade.

