

# Lynchburg Episcopal Church Timeline

(Historical events are listed in chronological sequence.)

by Aubrey Wiley – 2008

## *Start - Closing*

### **Church of England –**

**Circa 1765 - 1776**

Anglican Church built on Court between 10 and 11<sup>th</sup> Sts., where 1007 Court Street stands today. [Chambers 284.] Lynchburg was not chartered as a town until 1786 so the community was called “Lynch’s Ferry” when this Church of England church was operating. It was surrounded by cemetery called “God’s Acre.” The church structure was wood, 18 by 24 feet, one story and it became “disestablished” from the Diocese of London during the Revolutionary War which was 1775-1781. The Diocese of Virginia was organized in May 1785 and consecrated by the Bishop of London in 1790. After being closed by the Church of England in 1776, the former church building on Court Street became a school which burned 1802. In 1806 some graves were moved to the new City Cemetery. As more houses were built along Court Street, more graves were moved 1879-1880. [Chambers, pages 164-165]

### **Episcopal –**

**1790**

Diocese of Virginia consecrated. In 1804, a visiting Methodist minister called Lynchburg the “Seat of Satan’s Kingdom!”

**1817, Sept. 11**

Bishop Richard Channing Moore visited Lynchburg and spoke at the Methodist Meeting House located on the sw side of Church Street between 10<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Sts. [Wiley p. 41]

### **St. Paul’s –**

**1822, Sept. 14**

Friends of the Protestant Episcopal Church met at Franklin Hotel to organize. [Baber]

**1822-1826**

Episcopalians met in the Mason’s Hall at northwest corner of 9<sup>th</sup> and Church Sts. [Baber]

**1826**

Services held in their new building on 7<sup>th</sup> Street between Church and Court Sts. Building still stands.” [Wiley p.42]

**1843**

Rev. William Kinckle comes to St. Paul’s.

**1851**

A new St. Paul’s is built on the southwest corner of 7<sup>th</sup> and Church Sts.(701 Church St.) Building still stands but with the original front 12 feet missing. The bell tower was in the back left corner, ghost images of the windows show on the 7<sup>th</sup> Street side.

**1895 – present**

New St. Paul’s finished and first service at 7<sup>th</sup> & Clay Sts (625 Clay Street).

### **Trinity –**

**1826 – present**

Trinity held first service on Coffey Rd., Bedford County.

- Grace –**  
**1859** Meetings held in private homes to discuss forming a new church on Diamond Hill.
- 1860** Construction started. The first name is Grace Church Moore Parrish.
- 1866** First service held at the church building on Campbell Courthouse Rd. (now Grace Street).
- 1902** New building on the same site, 16<sup>th</sup> and Grace Sts. (1601 Grace Street).
- 1926** Merged with St. Paul’s.
- September 1927** Meeting at Fort Hill Club to discuss moving to Fort Hill section.
- July 1927** Property purchased on New Hampshire Avenue from M. N. Moorman, Jr.
- 1928 – present** First service at New Hampshire Avenue location.
- Emanuel-**  
**1871- circa 1968** Building on Main St, Madison Hts., between 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Sts. (509 Main Street). It was a Mission of Grace Memorial.
- Christ –**  
**1877 – circa 1896** 217 Cabell St. Mission of Grace Memorial. Trustees of Grace bought the land 1877. Some years prior to being sold to Standard Notion Co., it was a “neighborhood mission.”
- Epiphany –**  
**1878 – circa 1910** Marsh and McKinley Sts. (501 McKinley, which became Fort Ave.1927).It was a mission of Grace Memorial (Beeland says the building was owned by St. Paul’s).
- 1892** Diocese of Southern Virginia formed.
- Chapel of the Good Shepherd –**  
**Circa 1905 – circa 1967** 1401 Wise St. Organized by Dr. Lloyd of Grace about 1905 to serve the African American population of the neighborhood.
- St. John’s –**  
**1912 – present** First service held in new building on Elmwood Ave. near Rivermont Ave.
- 1919** Diocese of Southwest Virginia formed.
- St. Barnabas –**  
**1959** First services held at Virginia Episcopal School.
- 1963 – present** First service held in new building on Mimosa Ave.