

Looking back at Holy Trinity

By Susan Exley

Holy Trinity was built by general contractor J. R. Tebeau. The gothic style brick structure was originally built with no central entrance. A double door corner entrance was located under each steeple. The custom of the day was that men and women entered through separate doorways and sat segregated on each side of the church by sex.

Sunday School was organized March 11, 1911, with about 50 enrolled.

During the 1920s a storehouse and outdoor toilet was added on the back of the church lot. Late in 1949 a building committee consisting of J. R. Tebeau, Hollis Tebeau, Otto Hart, Charlie Hinely and K. P. Ingram began plans for a two story educational building connected to the church. After health issues forced J. R. Tebeau to resign Hollis Tebeau became chairman of building operations. Otto Hart secured steel which helped to build a very strong building. J. M. Marchman became chairman of the building fund and financing. Begun April of 1950, the building was dedicated February 10, 1951 at a cost of \$26,000 leaving some of the inside upstairs unfinished. Construction was rushed so that the public school could use classrooms they needed because the school had burned.

In 1959, the Church Sanctuary and second floor of the educational building was remodeled at a cost of \$12,800. A central entrance was created into the church at that time. Many upgrades including central heating and air and upstairs bathrooms have occurred through the years. In 2000, adjacent property at 201 Madison Street was purchased at a cost of \$89,000 and is now used as a church office and Family Outreach Center. The most recent purchase for Holy Trinity is the empty lot across from the church on Laurel Street now used for parking.

Other pastors who have served Holy Trinity not mentioned last month are: Rev. Thomas H. Weeks, Rev. George S. Derrick, Rev. William B. Carr, Rev. Robert L. Swygert, Rev. William S. Morrison and Rev. Raymond L. Peters.