



**EVENING CHAPEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**GRAND PRAIRIE SIGNIFICANT LAND MARK**  
**Site Medallion No. 63**  
**1832 W.E. Roberts Street**

As we turn back the dim page of history, we find that Evening Chapel had a meek and humble beginning. The need for a Methodist communion in the Grand Prairie area became apparent after a survey was made by Rev. G.H. Baker, Cora Tallie and her sister, Katie Jordan. This need was met when they turned their report in to the Presiding Elder and made an appeal to the Bishop to send a minister to this field of labor.

On a bleak and cold day in December 1915, Evening Chapel embarked on the seas of time by a group of three determined women. These were God-loving women, fired by a burning zeal to establish a church in virgin territory and win errant lives to Jesus Christ. The traditional miracle performing wonders of the Holy Trinity became for them as it has down through the annals of time, an omen of good fortune.

The initial meeting was held in Sister Cora Tallie's home in a two-story farmhouse of Sam Robertson's farm about three miles south of Grand Prairie. The spirit of Christ dwelt among those present. The charter members were sisters Katie Jordan, Cora Tallie and Ocie Shelton. Those members present were as faithful as a bridge of stars and became self-appointed missionaries and disciples of Christ to seek and find unchurched Methodists and all others of the community to inspire them to become an integral part of the body.

The second meeting was held on December 12, 1915 at the Antioch Baptist Church. Ten were present: Ike Walker, Katie Jordan, Cora Tallie, Ocie Shelton, Fannie Combs, Hattie Jordan, Jocie Shelton, Allie Tallie, Henry Fish and Gentry Tallie. Trustees were elected: Mose Jordan, Sr., Allie Tallie and Henry Fish. Stewards appointed were Ike Walker, Gentry Tallie and Charles Dawson.

The church moved to the Masonic Hall after four months. Through a concerted effort and unwavering patience, a lot and building materials were purchased in Dalworth in 1916. The building of the first edifice was financed through contributions and loans made by the members. Men and women with unquenchable faith in God rolled up their sleeves, and with slow measurable progress framed and built the first House of Worship in 1920.

A new structure was bought under the leadership of Rev. J.W. Franklin in 1958. Much deserved credit goes to Rev. O.J. Spruiells for having paid out a seven year loan in two and one half years. Rev. B.H. Lucas with his dynamic, aggressive, inspired and skilled leadership brought out the hidden beauty with a penetrating vision by renovating this present structure from center to circumference.

In 1988 the structure was remodeled under the leadership of Rev. J.A. Peterson. The current pastor is Rev. Willie Timmons. Evening Chapel has stood the test of time and today stands as a beacon light pointing out to the people of this community a way of life that never faileth.