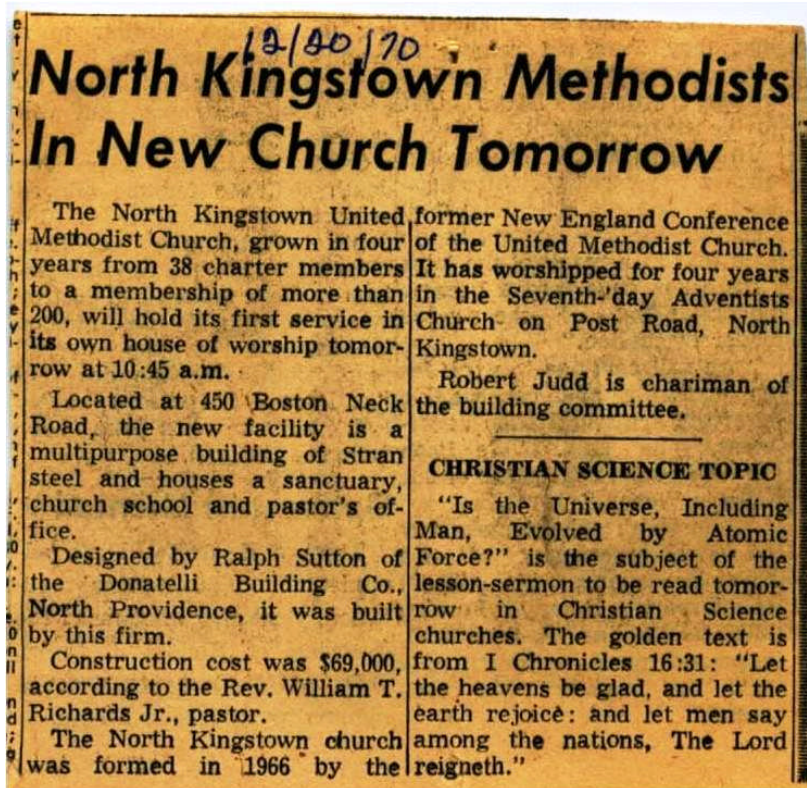


**North Kingstown UMC Re-Covenanting Service at 9:30 AM December 19<sup>th</sup> Will Mark 40 Years in Our House of Worship**

**The congregation of North Kingstown United Methodist Church, which worships each Sunday in two services at 8 and 10 AM, will gather as one in a single worship service on Sunday December 19 at 9:30 AM to re-covenant, celebrate and remember, almost to the day, 40 years of worship in our current church at 450 Boston Neck Road.**

While the historical roots of North Kingstown United Methodist Church date



back to 1965 when the first seeds for its birth were sown, we did not have a place of worship

to call our own until construction was completed on the current church on

Boston Neck Road and the first worship service was held at 10:45 AM

Sunday December 20, 1970. A newspaper story from Saturday

December 19, 1970 recalls that in the four years between its charter in 1966 and the opening of its new church building in 1970, the congregation had grown to more than 200. Four of those original 38 charter members are current members **Vivian Flade** and her late husband **Sam, Ida Green** and her late husband **Ken**, and the late **Eleanor Bourn**, who authored the

fascinating history of our church, published on our website at <http://www.nkumcri.com/nkumcri/msg3.html>.

From October 30, 1966—when the congregation first formally gathered as a church family to worship together—to that much anticipated day in December 1970 when the doors to our new church opened, services were held in the borrowed Seventh Day Adventist Church on Post Road in North Kingstown.

It was at a 1965 meeting of the East Greenwich, Rhode Island Methodist Church Mission Commission when the Reverend Richard Belcher, pastor at East Greenwich, related his dream of re-establishing a Methodist church in North Kingstown.

The old Methodist church at North Kingstown had disbanded in about 1915. Reverend Belcher felt it was time for a new beginning in North Kingstown.

A group of people interested in the project met in the Christian Scientist Church on Boone Street under the direction of The Reverends Morrill Martin, executive secretary of the New England Southern Conference, and Charles Nowlan, Sr., new church developer for the Methodist Church—two ministers who helped to organize new churches. The group was anxious to begin the work necessary to give birth to the new church. Among the founding members who attended that meeting were Eleanor Bourn and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fogg.

Nearly 50 North Kingstown residents attended the first service at the Seventh Day Adventist Church on Post Road on Sunday October 30, 1966. The Reverend Clifford Sargent, Superintendent of the Providence District of Methodist Churches, preached the first sermon. Church School started

promptly at 9 AM. After nearly 50 years, a Methodist church had returned to North Kingstown.

Three construction expansions and 40 years later, we have witnessed many celebrations and sorrows, good times and some very difficult trials and sacrifices, but we have sustained; And on December 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM, let us re-covenant and mark 40 years of faith together.

Come, worship and re-covenant our faith in joyous celebration on Sunday December 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM.

*Read more about our church history at*  
<http://www.nkumcri.com/nkumcri/msg3.html>.