

### **137 Road to Jericho**

**Quilter: Clara Webb Lindsay**

**Sponsor: Unfinished Objects Quilt Bee**

The Road to Jericho quilt block is designed from a quilt made from fabrics collected over several decades by Clara Webb Lindsay, in 1995. Clara, a longtime resident of Anderson County, attended Roberts until her death in 1998 at the age of 89. The cloth quilt now belongs to her niece, Judy Stevanovich, who is a member of Roberts and lives in Anderson. The quilt block was sponsored by members of the Unfinished Objects Quilt Bee who meet regularly at Roberts Church.

The quilt pattern is a deviation of the String Quilt pattern with the Road to Jericho running through the quilt. Over 250 hours were spent first mapping and then painting the block by a dozen church members along with the Anderson County Production Team. The Road to Jericho Quilt block now hangs on the cemetery side of the church sanctuary.

The Road to Jericho is infamous for the story of the Good Samaritan who journeyed on the 20 miles from Jerusalem to Jericho. It is a rocky and treacherous journey with a descent from Mount Olives to the Jordan valley below dropping about 4000 feet. There are many places along the road that allows for hiding places for robbers and murders.

A poor man was traveling along the road when robbers attack him. Because he was poor all they took from him were his clothes and left him beaten and bleeding. Two travelers came by, a priest and a Levite. Extending no compassion to the destitute and wounded man, they crossed to the other side of the road and went on their way. But shortly, a Samaritan happened by and extended help to the wounded man. The kind, generous benevolence paid to this poor stranger has been retold in every generation since. It will forever exemplify the Christian attitude toward those in need without respect for race, wealth, or standing in the community.

Roberts Church has been here for spiritual guidance to the community since 1789. It was named for a Colonel Roberts who was deeded land in the area in 1784. The whole area was known as the Roberts Community. There are still some member families who can trace their roots back to the founding of Roberts Church, or Simpson's Meeting House. It was also referred to as the "father of Presbyterianism in Anderson County." Similarly, it can be said that Roberts's church was the "mother church" to First Presbyterian and the "grandmother church" to Central Presbyterian, both in the city of Anderson. The main church building was rebuilt in 1824, 1857 and 1937. Major Renovations and additional facilities were completed in 1965, 1994 and 2000. Additional property was purchased in 1990 and 2010.