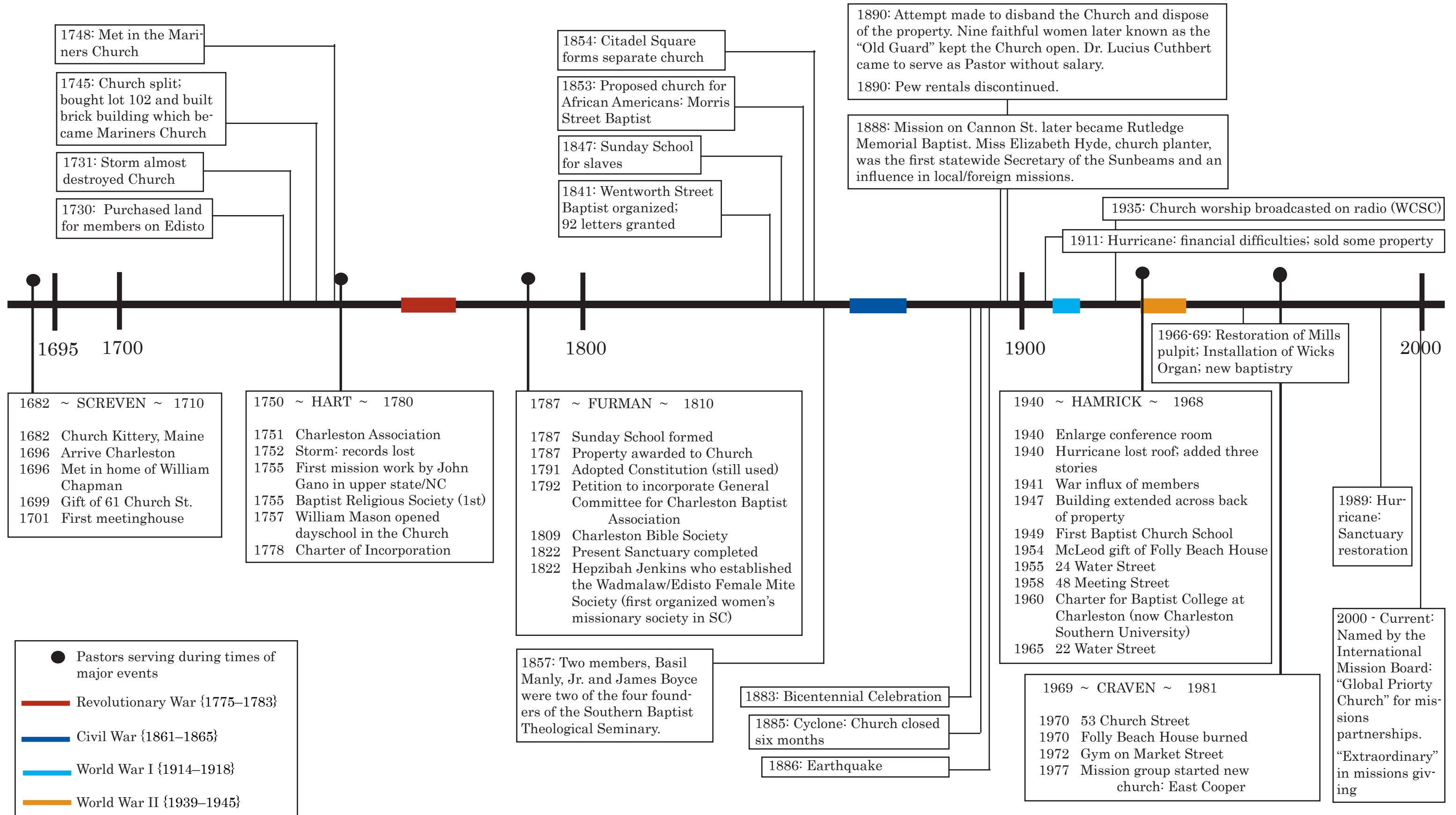


# Timeline FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA



# chronological timeline

## 1600

- 1682 Church began in Kittery, Maine
- 1696 Arrive Charleston
- 1696 Met in home of William Chapman
- 1699 Gift of 61 Church St. by William Elliott

## 1700

- 1701 First meetinghouse completed
- 1725 Members met on Ashley Road, also Stono
- 1730 Purchased land for members on Edisto
- 1731 Storm almost destroyed Church
- 1736 Ashley and Stono Churches form separate congregations
- 1745 Split - purchased lot 102 brick building built; down to three members
- 1746 Edisto formed separate congregation
- 1748 Church was held in Mariners Church
- 1751 Charleston Baptist Association (Oliver Hart - 1750-1780)
- 1752 Hurricane: house and all records destroyed
- 1755 Mission work by John Gano to upstate and NC
- 1755 Baptist Religious Society formed by Oliver Hart (first in America)
- 1778 Charter of Incorporation
- 1780 Revolutionary War: British seized meetinghouse for storage and salt beef; Oliver Hart forced to flee Charleston.
- 1787 Richard Furman called as pastor; Sunday School established
- 1787 Property of 63 Church was awarded
- 1791 Church accepted Constitution; amended 1824; still in use
- 1792 Petition to incorporate the General Committee for the Charleston Baptist Association; By-product: Mercer College, Furman University and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary



## 1800

- 1804 Charleston Bible Society
- 1822 Present Sanctuary completed
- 1822 Furman led to Christ Hepzibah Jenkins who established the Wadmalaw/Edisto Female Mite Society (first organized women's missionary society in SC)
- 1841 Wentworth Street Baptist organized; 92 letters granted
- 1845 Southern Baptist Convention (August, GA)
- 1847 Sunday School for Slaves
- 1853 Proposed church for African Americans (Morris Street Baptist)
- 1854 Citadel Square forms separate church
- 1857 Two members, Basil Manly, Jr. and James Boyce were two of the four founders of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.
- 1861-5 Civil War: met mostly at Citadel Square (Church Street under fire by Union ships)
- 1883 Bicentennial Celebration
- 1885 Cyclone: Church closed 6 months
- 1886 Earthquake: SS met at Circular Congregational Church
- 1888 Mission on Cannon Street begun by Miss Elizabeth Hyde, a church planter, who was the first statewide Secretary of the Sunbeams and an influence in local/foreign missions. After her death, the Sunbeams raised money to build a mission building on King Street which later became Hampton Park Baptist.
- 1890 Attempt made to disband the Church and dispose of the property. Nine faithful women later known as the "Old Guard" kept the Church open. Dr. Lucius Cuthbert came to serve as Pastor without salary.
- 1890 Pew rentals discontinued



1892 Cannon Street Baptist became Rutledge Avenue Baptist (now Rutledge Memorial Baptist).

## 1900

- 1911 Hurricane: great financial difficulties (sold some property)
- 1935 Worship service on the radio by Pastor, Vance Havner (WCSC)
- 1940 Enlarged the conference room
- 1940 Hurricane: roof of Church repaired with three stories.
- 1941 War: Navy Base brought large influx of members
- 1947 Building extended across back of property
- 1949 First Baptist Church School
- 1955 24 Water Street purchased
- 1958 48 Meeting Street purchased
- 1960 Charter for Baptist College at Charleston (now Charleston Southern University)
- 1965 22 Water Street purchased
- 1968 Renovations and Wicks Organ
- 1970 53 Church Street purchased
- 1971 Beach house burned, then rebuilt
- 1972 Property on Market Street purchased, gym constructed
- 1977 Mission group started new church: East Cooper Baptist
- 1989 Hurricane: Extensive renovation to Sanctuary



- 1995 Period of division culminates in the formation of Providence Baptist Church
- 1999 Property on James Island purchased (30 acres for school use)

## 2000 -

- Named by the International Mission Board: "Global Priority Church" for missions partnerships.
- "Extraordinary" in missions giving