## **Dulverton Congregational Church and its Development through the Years**

- 1662 On Aug.24th about 2,000 clergy of the church of England left the established church and formed 'dissenting' churches, of which Dulverton was one.
- 1685 It is recorded that the fellowship was meeting together 'in the most private manner', probably in the woods around the town.
- 1710 The fellowship now had around 200 members and a proper place of worship was built. Several of the members were, we read, 'of the first rank and fortune in the neighbourhood.
- 1750 -1800 From the middle of the eighteenth century numbers began to decline and by the year 1800 the church was almost at the point of extinction.
- 1827 In this year a full time pastor was again appointed with responsibility for both Dulverton and Brompton Regis.
- 1831 The old church had fallen into disrepair and a new church building was erected under the auspices of Rev.W.Standerwick.
- 1832 A Sunday School was started at the church the following year.
- 1877 Two cottages adjoining the church were bought for £175 and in their gardens, the Manse was built at a cost of £328 15 0.
- 1896 Sir George Williams, founder of the YMCA performed the opening ceremony of the newly built School Hall and Classrooms.
- 1929 Kitchen premises (known as 'the Bale') were donated by Mr.C.Bayle in memory of his wife, Louise.
- 1972 The two cottages purchased in 1877 were condemned as unfit for habitation and sold for development.