Rev. William A. Poole of Graham, North Carolina, will be guest at the Sunday Morning Worship service at the Mount Zion Baptist Church, February 7.

Mr. Poole is a graduate of Wake Forest College and the Southern Baptist Seminary of Louisville, Kentucky. He was pastor of Burgaw Baptist Church prior to his present pastorate, the First Baptist Church of Graham. Since 1960 he has served as General Superintendent of the North Carolina Baptist Homes for the Aged.
Minister's Mother Dies at 71

DUNN—Mrs. James A. Poole, 71, of Dunn, mother of the Rev. William A. Poole of 836 Ransom Road, Winston-Salem, died at 11 a.m. yesterday at Betsy Johnson Memorial Hospital after an illness of a month.

Her son is superintendent of N. C. Baptist Homes, Inc.

Mrs. Poole was born in Johnston County to the Rev. J. A. and Laura Dixon Hodges and was a member of First Baptist Church.

Surviving besides her husband and son are three grandsons and two brothers, Willie E. Hodges of Dunn, Rt. 3, and Melville Hodges of Falcon.

The funeral will be conducted at 3 p.m. Sunday at First Baptist Church by the Rev. Rom M. Freeman and the Rev. E. Norfleet Gardner. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery.
Baptist Pastor
In Four Oaks
Resigns Post

The Rev. William H. Poole, pastor of Four Oaks Baptist Church for the past five years, has resigned, effective October 1, to accept the pastorate of Central Baptist Church near Wendell.

No replacement has been called by the Four Oaks Church yet.

Mr. Poole, a native of Knightdale and graduate of Knightdale High School, received an A. B. degree from Wake Forest College in 1934 and attended Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., for three years.

He held the following pastorates before coming to the Four Oaks Church in late 1960: several rural churches in the Wendell area for nine years, Carrboro Baptist Church for seven years, Pisgah Baptist Church in Johnston County for five years, Franklin Heights Baptist Church in Kannapolis for four years, and Durham Memorial Baptist Church for four years.

Mr. Poole is married to the former Flontina Walker of St. Louis, Mo. They have two sons: Bill of St. Louis and Henry, a student at Campbell College following four years of service in the Air Force.
1st Baptist's Women Plan Meet Monday

The Women's Missionary Society of the First Baptist Church will hold a one day meeting at the church, Fifth and Market Streets, Monday.

The Rev. William A. Poole, general superintendent of the North Carolina Baptist Homes for the Aging, will be guest speaker.

He is slated to address the group at both the 10:30 a.m. and 8 p.m. sessions. His talks will be illustrated by colored slides, which will include two homes in Winston-Salem, the Albemarle Home and the Hamilton Home.

A native of Dunn, Mr. Poole is a graduate of Wake Forest College and of the Southern Baptist Seminary.

He served as pastor of the Burgaw Baptist Church for eight years and as pastor of the First Baptist Church, Graham for eight years, before becoming general superintendent.

Mr. Poole is married to the former Kate Teague of Fairmont and the couple have three sons.
Rev. William Poole, superintendent of North Carolina Baptist Homes for the Aging, will be guest speaker at both services Sunday, the 11 o'clock morning worship hour and the 7:45 p.m., evening hour of the Arlington Street Baptist Church.

Rev. Mr. Poole is a native of Dunn, having graduated from high school there and is a graduate of Wake Forest College and Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. He served as pastor of the Burgaw Baptist Church for eight years and the First Baptist Church of Graham for eight years also.

Since July 1, 1960 he has been superintendent of North Carolina Baptist Homes for the Aging and is currently serving as the president of Southern Baptist Executives of Homes for the Aging.

Mr. Poole is married to the former Kate Teague of Fairmont, and they are the parents of three sons, Bill, Bob and Barry.

Pastor H. C. Lowder urges all members of the church as well as friends to come and hear this speaker.
William A. Poole, Superintendent of the North Carolina Baptist Homes for the Aging, will be the visiting minister at First Baptist Church Sunday for both the morning and evening services. Mr. Poole, a native of Dunn, is a graduate of Wake Forest College and Southern Baptist Seminary. He has served churches in Burgaw and Graham.
The Rev. William A. Poole of Winston-Salem, superintendent of the North Carolina Home for the Aging, spoke to a large crowd at the First Baptist Church here Sunday morning.

One of the State's most popular Baptist ministers and officials, the Rev. Mr. Poole is in demand as a speaker throughout the State.

He was returning to his home church, the one in which he was ordained, and many of his boyhood friends and school classmates were in the congregation to hear him.

The Rev. Mr. Poole is the son of James A. Poole, well-known Dunn resident, and the late Mrs. Poole.

His work as head of the Home for the Aging has received praise and recognition among Baptist and others of the State familiar with his work.

The minister's son, Barry, has been seriously ill in Memorial Hospital at Chapel Hill for several weeks.

spread praise and recognition among Baptist and others of the State familiar with his work.

(Continued on Page 4)
Baptist Homes Leader Plans To Speak Here

Rev. W. A. Poole
1st Baptist
Guest Speaker

The Rev. William A. Poole of Winston-Salem will be the guest speaker at both the 9 and the 11 a.m. worship services at First Baptist Church today.

The Rev. Mr. Poole is now superintendent of North Carolina Baptist Homes for the Aging and has held this position since July 1, 1960.

Mr. Poole is a native of Dunn, and graduated from Wake Forest College and Southern Baptist Seminary, Louisville, Ky. His pastorates include eight years at Burgaw Baptist Church and eight years at First Baptist Church, Graham.

The public is invited to hear Mr. Poole speak at either of the worship services. The 11 o'clock service will be broadcast over WMIFD Radio.
The Rev. William A. Poole will be guest minister at the Sunday morning services of the First Baptist church on Greenwood street in the absence of the Rev. Harry D. Wood Jr., pastor, who will be in Roxboro, holding a revival service.

The Rev. Poole has served as superintendent of North Carolina Baptist Homes since 1960 and makes his home in Winston-Salem. He is a native of Dunn, and was graduated from Wake Forest college and Southern Baptist Seminary. Prior to his present ministry he served pastorates at First Baptist church in Graham and at Burgaw Baptist church.

Dr. L. H. Hance, a deacon of the First Baptist church, will preach at the evening service.
Rev. Poole To Speak Here

Rev. William A. Poole, superintendent of the North Carolina Baptist Homes, Inc., will speak at First Baptist Church, South Main Street, Sunday evening at 7:30. He will speak on the cooperative program as a major channel of mission giving.

The deacons of the church will meet following Rev. Poole's message.

A native of Dunn, Rev. Poole graduated from Dunn High School, Wake Forest College and Southern Baptist Seminary at Louisville, Ky.

He served pastorates at Burgaw Baptist Church and First Baptist Church of Graham; eight years at each. Since July 1, 1960, he has been superintendent of the North Carolina Baptist Homes for the Aging.

He is married to the former Kate Teague of Fairmont, and they have three sons.
The Rev. William A. Poole will be guest speaker in the morning worship service at the First Baptist Church.

Mr. Poole is a native of Dunn, a graduate of Wake Forest University, and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. He is superintendent of the Baptist Homes for the Aged and makes his home in Winston-Salem. He is married to the former Kate Teague.
We, the members of Central Baptist Church, are very regretful for the announcement made by our pastor this morning. We realize that this announcement came only because of his plans for retirement in May '72. His retirement is a great loss to our church and community. However, if any person has earned the right of retirement, our pastor has.

It was in March 1931, that William H. Poole, a 1972 anon of Central Baptist Church. Through these years he has carried the banner of his office with both dignity and honor. Across the state he has endeared himself to thousands of people. His ministry has enriched and blessed countless thousands of people. He is called upon week after week to return to a former pastorate to share in the hour of difficulty with friends. The young turn to him to share with them in their hour of joy at the wedding ceremony. He is constantly invited back homecoming services of former pastorates to relive with them the glorious memories of the past as well as share the joy of the present. Friends of former pastorates constantly follow the path that leads to his door to have fellowship with his family and express their gratitude for his ministry.

What are the basic qualities which bind the ties of such friendship? We would not attempt to list all of the. We give only the more outstanding ones. Our pastor has been a man of dedication to his call throughout these years. The need of people has always found first place in his life. Material and personal gain has always been secondary. He met his task, regardless of its difficulty, with a smile. Whenever and wherever you meet him, he meets you with a smile. To visit with him made you smile also. Throughout his ministry he has been a person of honesty, fairness, and personal respect for all people. He is truly a leader of people. His great strength has been to help people understand each other and labor together. Truly he is a friend of man. To each person, regardless of station, he had a responsive heart and a readiness of service.

We would be most unkind if we failed to pay tribute to his faithful comrade, Tina Poole. I feel that no pastor in our nation has been blessed more with an helpmate than our pastor. Tina Poole has labored in a tireless and dedicated manner in the church program, in community activities and in the home life. The door to their home has constantly been open at all times, to all people to share a meal, to stay over night, to unload their problems or to return people to share a meal, to stay over night, to unload their problems or to share their joys. Tina Poole has borne her mantle with honor and dignity. Much of the success of our pastor has been possible because of her efforts. Together they have made a great team. Together they have achieved great success.

Yes, William H. Poole has stood tall and straight in the ministry for these 41 years. He has always been first-class in his plans and efforts. In that he gave the last six years to us at Central in such dedication. In that he came to us at probably our greatest hour of need; in that he lead and directed us in such fruitful manner;

We, the members of Central Baptist Church want him to continue to travel first-class in his more leisure hours. So, we take pride in presenting our pastor and his wife these keys to a 1972 Mercury Marquis Brougham as our expression of love and appreciation.
The Spring Hill Baptist Church congregation at Wag­ram will hear the Rev. William A. Poole, Superintendent of Baptist Homes of North Carolina, Inc., during a special ser­vice Sunday morning, Oct. 23. His coming for the 11 o'clock worship service is in coopera­tion with the State Baptist Con­vention and its Cooperative Program emphasis.

A native of Dunn, Mr. Poole is a graduate of Wake Forest University and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville, Kentucky.

He has served the Burgaw Baptist Church and the First Baptist Church, Graham and entered his present work with the Baptist Homes in July, 1960.

Poole is married to the former Kate Teague of Fairmont and they are parents of three sons.
Poole has been superintendent of North Carolina Baptist Homes for the Aging since July 1, 1960.

He is a graduate of Dunn High School, Wake Forest University, Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville, Ky., and has served eight years as pastor of the First Baptist Church in Graham.

The Rev. Williams is married to the former Kate Teague of Farimont and they have three sons, Bill, Bob and Barry.

The Rev. Terry Jones, resident pastor at Meherrin, invites the public to attend this service.
Baptist Homes Head Learns About Life

By VIRTIE STROUP
Sentinel Religion Reporter

"When you rub elbows with people of strong faith and character—those people who helped to make this nation what it is—it teaches you about the warp and woof of life."

That's one of the benefits of working with older people, says the Rev. William A. Poole, executive director of the N. C. Baptist Homes for the Aging.

Poole said it didn’t take him long to learn—and they saw to it that he did—that he was working with the "aging" and not the "aged." "We are all aging," he said, and these people wanted to be in the same category with other people.

"They've also taught me a lot about the depth and strength of Christian faith. And another lesson I've learned from them is to take death calmly. They have a good view of death and life after life."

Soon after he joined the staff, Poole said, he saw an assistant go into the breakfast area to announce that one of the residents had just died. "I told her that wasn't the way to do that. Mealtime should be happy," Poole recalled, but his assistant replied, "But they have no problem with death. They only hope they are important enough to interrupt a meal. They want that news communicated to their friends as soon as possible."

Poole said it is a wholesome view of death and it has helped me."

Poole has been head of the six homes for the elderly sponsored by the Baptist State Convention for 18 years.

The Baptist Homes for the Aging were founded by the convention in March 1951 under the leadership of the late Rev. James M. Hayes Sr. of Winston-Salem as general superintendent. During his administration three homes and a central nursing facility were established: Resthaven, the Hayes Home and the nursing care unit, all in Winston-Salem, and the Albemarle Home in Albemarle.

The growth of the homes during Hayes' administration was very rapid and the success of this ministry became permanent.

Poole succeeded Hayes in July 1960, and during his administration the number of homes has doubled, the nursing care unit has expanded, and an apartment complex has been completed.

The additional homes are in Hamilton, Yanceyville and Haynes Home here are the most popular, Poole said, "but then I'd have to say our all-girl chorus, as we call them, over there at Resthaven is pretty popular. It has 16 ladies."

Poole said his greatest concern for the future is to provide care for as many people as possible. It is the philosophy of the convention, he said, to have smaller homes scattered across the state, based on the premise that the people could be nearer home.

Baptists, at the moment, Poole said, need to be building more facilities to care for people in crisis illnesses, but the governor has a hold on any new construction and so a "certificate of need" has to be given by the Piedmont Health Systems Agency in this area before new construction can be started.

He said there have been times "when we were running out of our ears" with nursing care people. "I see this as an acute need—to have quality nursing beds for older people and to help their families."

He said a study is under way to start another home in the Charlotte area. The Asheville area should be ready to open in mid-February, and "we've begun to hear voices from Southeastern North Carolina about a home. Really, the folks in that section are more removed from us than the people in the mountains."

His retirement was announced today at a meeting of trustees at Hayes Home on Reynolds Park Road.

The Rev. William Stillerman of Buies Creek, trustee chairman, said Poole's retirement will take affect just after Poole turns 65. Stillerman named the Rev. Gordon Conklin of Greenville to head a search committee to find a successor.

On retirement, Poole will have headed the homes for 25 of
Baptist Homes Head to Retire

Continued from Page 11

their 34-year history. He succeeded the founding superintendent, the Rev. Jimmy Hayes, on July 1, 1960. The ministry, the Baptist State Convention’s youngest institution, was founded in 1950 as the N. C. Baptist Homes.

To most N. C. Baptists, Poole is a man who moves among the retirement communities calling people by name, offering words of love and concern, hugging and unashamedly holding hands with residents and cajoling them to eat and take medicines.

He has been the go-between for families seeking care for parents; the patient one when residents wanted too much from home in their new home; the loving one when age catches up with tired bodies; the minister when the days come to an end.

As he reflected on his own initiation into senior citizenship, Poole said: “I am grateful to the Lord for the wonderful opportunity of loving old people in this special ministry of North Carolina Baptists. I have nothing in my heart but the deepest gratitude” to residents, staff and patients of the Baptist Homes.

He said he knows the homes’ future will be bright because of the “promises of God and the love and commitment of North Carolina Baptists.”

During his tenure, Poole has seen the number of homes increase from three to six and the resident population grow from 106 to 260. The homes’ operating expenses have jumped from $285,000 in 1960 to more than $3 million in 1983.

His current project is the first statewide capital funds campaign for $2.5 million; it will occupy much of his final 18 months.

When he arrived here, the Baptist Homes consisted of Resthaven, closed in December 1981, and Hayes Home — Hayes also serving as the administrative offices — and the Albemarle Home in Albemarle. Since then, units at Hamilton, Yanceyville and Asheville have been added.

The 56-bed nursing unit at Hayes Home was being completed in 1960. The York Wing was added in 1970, increasing the nursing bed capacity to 75. This unit provides intermediate and skilled nursing care for all the residents.

Funds from the current campaign will be used to update facilities at the Hayes Home and to convert one of the resident halls to a 10-bed intermediate nursing care unit.

Future plans call for a 70-bed addition to Hayes Home, an increase in the 16-unit apartment complex developed here by Poole, the addition of apartments and a nursing unit in Asheville, the addition of an administration building here and further renovations to Hayes Home.
Head of Baptist Homes To Retire Next Year

The Rev. William Poole will retire as the president of the Baptist Retirement Homes of N.C. Inc. on Oct. 1, 1985, the homes' board of trustees said yesterday at a meeting at Hayes Home.

The Rev. William Stillerman of Buies Creek, the trustees' chairman, said that Poole will retire soon after he turns 65. Stillerman named the Rev. Gordon Conklin of Greenville to lead a committee to find a successor.

When he retires, Poole will have been the president of the homes for 25 years. He succeeded the Rev. Jimmy Hayes, the founding superintendent.

Since Poole became the president in 1960, three new homes have been built, and the resident population has grown from 106 to 260. Annual operating expenses have increased from $285,000 in 1960 to more than $3 million in 1983.

Poole is now working on a state campaign to raise $2.5 million for improvements to the Hayes Home on Reynolds Park Road. Funds will be used to convert one of the resident halls to a 10-bed intermediate nursing care home.

The N.C. Baptist Homes, founded in 1950, has facilities in Winston-Salem, Asheville, Hamilton, Albemarle and Yanceyville. Resthaven, in Winston-Salem, was closed in 1981.
BAPTIST RETIRES — The Rev. Bill Poole, president of Baptist Retirement Homes of N.C. Inc., is retiring from his post, effective Oct. 1, 1985. When he steps down, Poole will have led the statewide Baptist retirement work for 25 of Baptist Homes’ 34-year history. He succeeded the first superintendent, Jimmy Hayes, in 1960.
Dunn Native Retires Position

Baptist Retirement Homes of N.C., Inc., Trustee Chairperson Bill Stillerman of Hillsboro Creek has announced that Holmes President William A. "Bill" Poole will retire effective October 1, 1985. The announcement was made during the Board's regular meeting held at the Hayes Home, Winston-Salem.

Poole will have led the statewide denominational retirement ministry for 25 years of the Homes' 34 year history. On July 1, 1960, Poole succeeded the Homes' first "Superintendent" Jimmy Hayes, who was instrumental in the Homes' beginning in 1950-51.

The retiring Rev. Poole is from Dunn and his family is well known here. His parents were part of the present First Baptist Church site was their homeplace.

Mr. Poole was ordained in Dunn church. Reflecting on a quarter century of ministry, Poole, commented, "I am grateful to the Lord for the wonderful opportunity of loving older people in this special ministry of North Carolina Baptist, to the trustees, the residents, patients, and staff for the enriching experience which has been mine. I have nothing in my heart but the deepest gratitude, and I know that the future of the Baptist Homes is as bright as the promises of God, and the love and commitment of North Carolina Baptist to this most worthy ministry on behalf of the older people in our state."

Gordon Conklin, Oakhurst church, Greenville, will head the Search Committee appointed by Board Chairman Stillerman, pastor of Memorial church, Buies Creek. During the coming months, Poole will continue to be actively involved in the Homes' daily operation while continuing to give direction to the Homes' first statewide Capital Funds Campaign. The results of the $21½ million "A Call To Remember" campaign are largely due to Poole's influence in putting together the Advisory Council and local leadership for the state-wide effort.

Poole's leadership. A Dunn, N.C. native, Poole graduated from Wake Forest College and earned the master of theology degree from Southern seminary. During the years 1944-60, Poole was pastor of Burgaw church and First church, Graham. In 1960, Poole and his family moved to Winston-Salem where they became members of College Park church.
The Rev. William Augustus Poole, a former director of the Baptist Retirement Homes of North Carolina, died yesterday at Baptist Hospital. He was 68.

Poole, of 2822 Windy Crossing, served as the director of the homes for 24 years of their 39-year history. He retired in 1984. When he was named director of the homes in 1960, Poole said that his pre-eminent qualification for the job was "an inborn love for old people."

Poole was known among most N.C. Baptists as a man who openly expressed his love for the retirement community. During his tenure, the homes' operating expenses increased from $285,000 to $3 million, and the population of the homes' residents more than doubled.

Poole was a member of College Park Baptist Church, where funeral services will be held Saturday at 11 a.m. The family requests that memorials be made to the Baptist Retirement Homes of North Carolina, 2900 Reynolds Park Road, Winston-Salem 27107.
Rev. William Augustus Poole, 68, 2822 Windy Crossing, died Thursday at Baptist Hospital. He was born in Dunn, N.C. to James Augustus and Dora Hodges Poole. He spent his early life in Dunn and graduated from Wake Forest University and the Southern Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. Prior to moving to Winston-Salem in 1960 he pastored the First Baptist Church in Burgaw and Graham, N.C. He was director of the Baptist Retirement Homes of North Carolina from 1960 until his retirement in 1984. He was a member of College Park Baptist Church. Surviving are his wife, Kate Teague Poole, of the home and three sons, William A. Poole Jr., Mocksville, Robert M. Poole, Arlington, Va. and J. Barry Poole, Greensboro. He was predeceased by a son, John Allen Poole in 1953. Funeral services will be 11 a.m. Saturday at College Park Baptist Church with Dr. Charles Edwards, Rev. Foy Martin and Rev. Mark Harris officiating with burial at Forsyth Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 7 to 9 p.m. tonight at Vogler's Reynolda Road Chapel. The family requests that memorials be made to the Baptist Retirement Homes of North Carolina, 2900 Reynolds Park Rd., Winston-Salem, N.C., 27107.
REV. WILLIAM A. POOLE
WINSTON-SALEM — The Rev. William Augustus Poole, 68, died March 23 at Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem. He was born in Dunn, N.C., to James Augustus and Dora Hodges Poole. He spent his early life in Dunn and graduated from Wake Forest University and the Southern Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. Prior to moving to Winston-Salem in 1960, he pastored the First Baptist Church in Burgaw and Graham. He was president of Baptist Retirement Homes of North Carolina from 1960 until his retirement in 1984. He was a member of College Park Baptist Church. Surviving are his wife, Kate Teague Poole of the home; and three sons, William A. Poole Jr. of Mocksville, Robert M. Poole of Arlington, Va., and J. Barry Poole of Greensboro. He was predeceased by a son, John Allen Poole in 1953.
Interim Pastor of Becks June - October 1970

Rev. William A. Poole was born August 24, 1920 in Dunn, N. C. the son of Mr. and Mrs. James A. Poole. He received his early education in the public schools of Dunn, graduating from Dunn High School. He holds a B. A. Degree from Wake Forest College and Master of Theology Degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

Rev. Poole served as pastor of the First Baptist Church, Graham, N. C. for almost 8 years, November 1952 - July 1960, before becoming Executive Director of N. C. Baptist Homes on July 1, 1960. He served Becks as Interim Pastor from June to October 1970 between the leaving of Rev. David Boaz and the coming of our present pastor, Rev. Paul Wonders. Rev. Poole endeared himself in the hearts of our people during this time.

Rev. Poole was married to Miss Kate Teague of Fairmont, N. C. on January 19, 1946. They have three sons; Bill, Bob and Barry. Rev. and Mrs. Poole live here in Winston-Salem.
Dedications

MARIAN HAZEL PHILLIPS
1928-1989

Marian Phillips was born on December 19, 1928 and was a graduate of Mars Hill College, UNC-Greensboro, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. After serving on a church staff in Santa Ana, California, for three years, she taught school in North and South Carolina until the time of her appointment in 1961 by the Foreign Mission Board to serve as a missionary in Nigeria.

Miss Phillips served faithfully in Nigeria until illness forced her retirement in 1974. She was actively involved in Clemmons First Baptist Church, the cancer support group at Baptist Hospital, and other volunteer activities. She was a member of the association’s Ordination Council.

The memories of Marian Phillips go back before she was a “real live” missionary. Marian was counsellor and chaperon for our church youth group at Caswell and Camp Retreat. As a young person and adult she continued to make an impact on my life. Marian had hope, faith, trust, love, confidence and could even rejoice in her suffering. One of my last memories of Marian was teacher of our Prayer Life group. A verse she especially liked and a song we sang described her life:

‘‘Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace’’ (II Thessalonians 2:16).

‘I’ll praise your name, Lord, and sing your song;
I’ll praise your name, Lord, my whole life long.
I’ll praise your name until I’m home;
I’ll praise your name, Lord, and sing your song.’’

Joyce Love
July 31, 1989

WILLIAM AUGUSTUS POOLE
1920-1989

The image of Bill Poole will remain with me. It is a good image, an image of a man of grace who loved people and blessed those whose lives he touched.

It is an image of a caring pastor as he nurtured his flock in the Baptist Retirement Homes as president over a ministry of 24 years. His first love was the personal contact as he spoke to each person by name. The image of his great frame bending over to caress the hand of a resident in a wheelchair will be his legacy to the Homes.

Bill has also left us an image of an encourager of others, whether singing in his church choir at College Park, teaching a Sunday School lesson, writing a letter to his pastor, or nurturing a young man in the ministry. Always sensitive to persons, he spread grace wherever he went.
Even in his retirement he wanted to stay close to people. He volunteered as a chaplain at Forsyth Memorial Hospital. He re-entered the world of weekly sermon preparation and visitation as he assumed interim pastorate. The new relationship energized him even while he blessed others by his gentleness and kindness. The need for physical self care led him to the YMCA, where the natural inclination for many is the anonymity of self preoccupation. Not for Bill, however. He quickly learned names and became an unofficial pastor to a whole new flock.

You see, Bill had an image, also. He had an image of a loving God who seeks to save his people. He lived that image and we have been blessed by the reflection of that loving God in the life of Bill Poole.

Charles Edwards, Pastor
College Park Baptist Church
April 6, 1989