Whitakers Baptists
Call R. A. Walker

Richard A. Walker of Nashville has been called as pastor of Whitakers Baptist Church. He will move to Whitakers Saturday.

The new pastor attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and graduated from North Carolina Wesleyan College with a B. A. Degree in religion in December of 1968. He will enter Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary at Wake Forest in the fall.

A 1963 graduate of Nashville High School, Walker is 24 years old. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John N. Walker of Route 3, Nashville.

Walker’s wife, the former Lynne Evans, is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. John T. Evans of Chesapeake, Va., formerly of Rocky Mount, where her father served as pastor of Calvary Baptist Church. Mrs. Walker is a second grade teacher at Nashville Elementary School.

Before being called to Whitakers, Walker was a member of Corinth Baptist church near Nashville, where he served as an active deacon, Sunday School teacher, Training Union leader and co-chairman of the church’s Youth Committee.

He has done supply preaching in the area and served as interim pastor at Bethlehem Presbyterian Church near Rocky Mount for over a year.

Licensed in October of 1965, plans are now being made for Walker’s ordination.

RICHARD A. WALKER

Murphy: Cherokee Scout
Nashville Graphic
Newland: Avery Journal
Newton Observer & News-Enterprise
North Wilkesboro: Journal Patriot
Oxford Ledger
Pilot Mountain News
Pittsboro: Chatham Record
Plymouth: Roanoke Beacon
Raeford: News-Journal
Raleigh: Carolinian

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The Rev. Richard A. Walker has been called as the new pastor of the Whitakers Baptist Church in Whitakers. Rev. Walker attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and is a recent graduate of North Carolina Wesleyan College. He comes to Whitakers from his home in Nashville, N. C. where he has been employed by the Nashville Graphic since his graduation from college.

Rev. Walker has served as interim pastor of the Corinth Baptist Church near Nashville, and the Bethlehem Presbyterian Church near Rocky Mount. He plans to enter Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest this fall where he will be studying for the Master of Divinity degree. He is married to the former Lynne Evans, daughter of Rev. John Evans, former pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church in Rocky Mount.
An ordination service for Richard A. Walker of Whitakers was held at the Corinth Baptist Church near Nashvillt on Sunday.

He recently accepted the pastorate at Whitakers Baptist Church, which requested the ordination.

Following an opening hymn, Rev. John E. Williams of Henderson, former pastor at Corinth, led in an opening prayer. After the recommendation from the North Roanoke Association’s ordaining council, Rev. John Privott, associational superintendent of missions, presented the charge to the churches.

After another hymn, Rev. Fred Smallwood of Newport News, Va., gave the charge to the preacher. After the two charges, Robert Leonard, chairman of the Board of Deacons at Corinth, presented Walker with a gift from Corinth his home church.

After special music entitled “Lead Me, Guide Me,” was presented by Mrs. Alice Sapp of Chesapeake, Va., Rev. John T. Evans of Chesapeake, Va., Walker’s father-in-law, offered the ordination sermon.

Following the ordination prayer offered by John N. Walker, father of the new preacher, the traditional laying on of hands was observed.
Minister's Calling Leads Him, Family, To Weisbaden, Germany

Dr. Richard Walker, a former pastor of Whitakers Baptist Church, will be moving to Weisbaden, West Germany, this month to become pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church.

Walker, the son of Mr. and Mrs. John N. Walker of Rt. 4, Nashville, was pastor of Whitakers Baptist Church from 1969 through 1972. Walker and his family moved to Covington, Va., in 1972, where until last month he was pastor of Trinity Baptist Church.

Dr. Walker did not come by the pastorate of the West German church through the usual appointment by the Foreign Mission Board. Instead, he was called directly by Immanuel Baptist Church.

Walker's name was given to the executive secretary of the European Baptist Convention by a woman whose family attended Walker's church in Covington. The European Baptist Convention's executive secretary passed his name along to the Immanuel Baptist Church in Wiesbaden.

Oldest Church

Immanuel Baptist is the oldest English-speaking church in the European Baptist Convention, according to Walker. The church building, the newest in the convention, partially was financed by the Lottie Moon Christmas offering for foreign missions, a special offering received each December in Southern Baptist churches.

Immanuel Baptist includes many military families, but Walker pointed out that its membership also includes German families. Immanuel Church is unique because a German congregation uses the same building, Walker said.

"This will give us a special relationship to the German people for which we look forward," Walker said.

Walker was in Nashville last week spending time with family and friends before the move to Germany.

Mrs. Walker is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John T. Evans, formerly of Rocky Mount and now residents of Norfolk, Va. Evans is the retired pastor of Calvary Baptist Church.

The Walkers have two sons, Chris, 6, and Bert, 3.

"We anticipate being in Germany at least three years, but we are not setting any time schedule now," Walker said. We will stay there as long as we feel confident that it is where God wants to use us."