By JOE McILHENNY
Times Church Editor

H. S. Yarborough, new minister of music and education at Emmanuel Baptist Church, says one of the real "learning experiences" of his life was a stint with an anti-poverty program in Western North Carolina.

Yarborough, then a student at Appalachian State College, joined the staff of WAMY (Watauga, Avery, Mitchell and Yancey counties) where he was a tutor for young men working in the reforestation program.

"Our program was not voluntary," Yarborough noted. "The men working with it had to take the classroom work to stay eligible."

"Of course, we taught the basic tools, reading, writing, spelling. But we wanted to do much more than that - give them a sense of civic responsibility and cooperation with others.

"I was real pleased with the work. It was an educational experience for me. It brought me face to face with the problems of the mountain people."

Appalachian was one of three institutions Yarborough attended while completing work for his bachelor's degree. At North Greenville College in Tigerville, S. C., he received an associate arts degree.

Met Spouse.

At North Greenville he also met his wife, the former Linda Fulmer of Conway, S. C., also his home town. Mrs. Yarborough is presently on the Emmanuel staff as organist.

Yarborough went to Campbell College from Appalachian, completing B. A. degree in music in June. He is now a first year student at Southeastern Seminary.

From Campbell, Yarborough put in many miles to serve a church in Conway. He commuted 140 miles there each weekend while he was pastor of the High Point Baptist Church.

He also served churches at North Greenville and Appalachian, was minister of music at Blowing Rock Baptist Church and minister of music at Crossroads Baptist Church near Tigerville, during his first three years of college.

The son of a Baptist minister, Yarborough during his youth lived in Roxboro, Battleboro and eventually Conway, where he attended high school.

There, he played on the basketball team and was a member of a male quartet that performed for area civic clubs and other organizations.

He received a musical scholarship to North Greenville. One course there gave him a working acquaintance with each instrument in a concert band.

Yarborough is not sure whether he will continue in the music ministry after graduation from the seminary or concentrate on the parish ministry. "Your ministry is a many sided thing," he said. "Any field in which your interest is the will of God - that is, the ministry you should be serving in."

Margaret News-Herald
New Bern Sun-Journal
Raleigh News & Observer
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