Morehead To Honor Pastor —

The members of Morehead Avenue Baptist Church will honor their pastor, Rev. B.A. Mack, Sunday for 19 years of dedicated services to the church and community, and his 50 years in the Gospel Ministry.

Rev. Mack pastored several churches in North Carolina before coming to Durham and is widely known as an evangelist and church builder.

The program will include a message by Rev. Percy Chase, pastor of Community Baptist Church at 6 p.m. He will be accompanied by the Community Baptist Church congregation.

REV. MACK:

Rev. Mack preached his first sermon at the age of 13 in a one room school building at Reynolda, (NC) on a Mother’s Day program on May 12, 1935. For two years thereafter, he carried on the worship services at his home church until the Conference assigned a pastor. This was the Saints Home Methodist Church of Winston-Salem. Wake Forest College now occupies the site on which the church stood.

The New Hope Baptist Church of Winston-Salem was organized from a Bible Class Rev. Mack started when he was a student at Atkins High School and attended by students of all grades.

Rev. Mack has written short sermons for several newspapers in North Carolina, including Charlotte, Thomasville, Newton, and The Carolina Times in Durham.
Rev. Dr. B.A. Mack To Retire in April

The Reverend Dr. Benjamin Alexander Mack plans to retire April 24 as pastor of Morehead Avenue Baptist Church. He assumed that post in 1967 following the demise of the Rev. Dr. C.E. McKenzie. The story of his ascendance into the ministry is indeed intriguing. Benjamin Mack was 13 years of age in 1935, when his home church pulpit became vacant, and without a pastor. In the absence of a minister, he volunteered to try to present a sermon. The excited response of the congregation and the encouragement of one of his school teachers, ultimately prevailed him into the ministry. Since that time, his ministerial pursuits have never stopped.

Rev. Mack is a native of Winston-Salem and a graduate of Atkins High School. He attended Winston-Salem State Teachers College, now Winston-Salem State University, and did further study at Morehead State College and the Seminary of Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte.

He holds a bachelor's degree in Theology, and a Doctor of Divinity degree conferred by Miller University School of Religion in Plainfield, N.J. He has also received a certificate in Pastoral Counseling, awarded in 1980 from the Bowman Gray School of Medicine and Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem.

Widely known as an evangelist, Rev. Mack has conducted revivals in several large cities in the Mid-West and Eastern United States, including Indiana, West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, New York, South Carolina, Georgia, Maryland, Washington, D.C., Nassau, Bahamas, and many counties in North Carolina.

The North Carolina NAACP awarded Rev. Mack its Minister of the Year plaque for Christian Leadership for Racial Justice. He is founder of New Hope Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, and has erected four new churches in the course of his ministry.

From 1970 to 1975, Rev. Mack served as historian for the Durham Ministerial Alliance. He is a trustee of the Unico Christian Bible Institute. He is proxy representative on the Board of the Ministers' Life Insurance Company of Missouri, a member of Doric Lodge #28, affiliated with the North Carolina Baptist State Convention, the Lost Carey Foreign Missionary Convention, the Progressive National Convention, and the New Hope Association.

He was elected "Minister of the Year 1982" by supporters of Edgemont Community Center and Durham residents.

Rev. Mack is married to the former Miss Ollie Grier of Winston-Salem; they have three children, Jennifer, Joyce and Janice; and two grandchildren, Angela and Kevin.
The Rev. B.A. Mack, retiring pastor of Morehead Avenue Baptist Church.

After 60 years, preacher gives up the pulpit

FLO JOHNSTON
The Herald-Sun

The Rev. B.A. Mack was 13 when he started preaching. For the past 60 years, he has never been without a church. Mack, who came to Morehead Avenue Baptist in 1967, is retiring. He will preach his final sermon as pastor on Sunday at 11 a.m.

His first sermon, when he was 13, was delivered to his home congregation at Saints Home Methodist Church in Winston-Salem. Two weeks later, the church's pastor left and the church asked Mack to fill the pulpit. It was two years before the conference sent another pastor to the church, but those who died have been replaced by new members, he said. When he came to the church, there were about 300 active members. Membership today is more than 500.

During his tenure, Morehead Avenue has grown not only in members but in influence and affluence. The church bought the four houses surrounding the church, tore down three of the houses and converted the space into parking. The church uses the fourth house.

The church also has expanded across the street into a church building on the corner. The building was converted into a meeting space for small meetings and gatherings.

Mack, who has always held a secular job, was trained in nursing at Rex Hospital. He worked in hospitals for 29 years and in the operating room at Duke Hospital for nine years.

He attended Winston-Salem State Teachers College, now Winston-Salem State University, and did further study at Piedmont Bible College and the seminary at Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte.

In addition to his work as a pastor, Mack has been involved in evangelistic work and revival preaching.

"It's one of my callings," he said. "I know I'm a good pastor. I care for the people, but I've always done a lot of revivals. I've held revivals in Indiana, Kentucky, West Virginia, New York and Washington, D.C."

After retirement, he plans to work part time in the church extension department of the Western North Carolina Conference of the AME Zion Church, the department that organizes new churches.

"I've got converts all over this state," Mack said. "I'm looking for a packed church on Sunday."
Greater Orange Grove to install new pastor

The installation service for the Rev. Bennie C. Torian, new pastor at Greater Orange Grove Baptist Church, 5542 Roxboro Road, will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday. The Rev. B.A. Mack, pastor of First Baptist Church in Louisburg, will preach the installation sermon.

Participants include the Rev. Glenn R. Davis of New Bethel Baptist Church, the Rev. Luther K. Brooks of St. James Baptist Church, the Rev. Jarvis Johnson of Cains Chapel Baptist Church, and the Rev. C.R. Mitchell.

Music will be provided by the choir of First Baptist Church, under the direction of Glendora Powell. A reception and fellowship hour will follow the service.

The Rev. Angela Harris, associate