REV. J.F. GADDY
1942-1946
NAME: Gaddy, J. F.

DATA: Photograph

SOURCE: Centennial Anniversary (1874-1974) New Hope Baptist Church, Whiteville, N. C.
Columbus B/A (NCCF)
Reverend Frank W. Gaddy was born January 5, 1880, in Union County, N. C. He graduated from Wake Forest College June 5, 1925. He received his Master of Theology Degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky, May 1, 1928. He married Dora Ellen Staton January 8, 1913, and they had four children. He was ordained in Louisville, Kentucky, November 23, 1930. A call was extended to Gaddy of Oakboro, N. C., as our supply pastor to serve one-half time at $50 per month. He started preaching January 1931. He resigned November 8, 1931, to go into effect the fourth Sunday in November.

Reverend Percy Bloxam was called as supply pastor December 13, 1931. He served until April 1932 when he was called by the church as a full-time pastor. He resigned June 1, 1934. Bloxam was born in England March 7, 1890, and was educated there. He was an architect and a Baptist minister. He came to the United States January 1920. He married Olive Wide, daughter of a Baptist minister. They had three children. He died in Ahoskie, N. C., in the early 1950's.

During the depression, it was impossible to meet all financial obligations, such as paying the pastor on time and making improvements to God's house; however, attendance began to soar. Calvary decided not to call another pastor until the present pastor, Bloxam, was paid in full. May 27, 1934, a pulpit committee was elected, and with the church's approval Bloxam was asked to supply until another pastor could be secured.

In the early 1930's a group of young ladies in the church organized what was known as the Helpers' Club. The main purpose was to help supplement the finances of the church and also work for the beautification of the church and grounds. Some of the activities that the group participated in were box suppers, hot dog sales, chicken stew suppers, cake sales, womanless weddings, "This Is Your Life," skits, selling greeting cards, etc. The biggest project was in building and furnishing a "hut" to serve as a place for church socials and was later used as a place for visiting youth directors to live. Youth directors began to refer to the hut as the "mansion." It was built across the road in front of the present church. The church gave the Helpers' Club permission to remove large pines in front of the church, and they landscaped the yard by planting shrubbery. Church members cooked and sold barbecue on the church property, and the money was used to bolster the finances of the church.

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