AREA MINISTER
DEATH VICTIM

CATAWBA - The Rev. Joseph Martin Abernethy, 89, of Route One, Catawba, died unexpectedly Thursday morning in an area hospital.

He was born March 20, 1908, in Catawba County, a son of the late John P. Abernethy and Mary Abernethy. He was pastor of Grace and Truth Baptist church in Burke Country, and had been a minister for 33 years in Lincoln and Catawba counties.

Funeral services will be held Saturday afternoon at three o'clock at Mt. Ruhama Baptist Church in Catawba County. The Rev. E.B. Elmore will officiate, and burial will be in the church cemetery.

The body was taken to the residence this afternoon from the Drum Funeral Home of Lincoln, where it will remain until taken to the church at the funeral hour.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Zanle Smith Abernethy, and two sisters, Mrs. Jane Bivens of Lexington, and Mrs. Mattie Wilson of Washington, D.C.