Concord Baptist Church
Concord Baptist Church of Telecom Drive has called Rev. Roger "Dale" Wallace as pastor. Rev. Wallace is married to the former Wanda Harding from Tennessee. He and Wanda have a son named Matthew. Rev. Wallace was licensed and ordained by Cloud Spring Baptist Church, Ft. Oglethorpe, Georgia.

Rev. Wallace received his Bachelor of Arts in Religion and Philosophy from Shorter College, Rome Georgia. He will receive his master of Divinity from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary this May 1993.

Rev. Wallace was the former pastor of Cloverdale Baptist Church, Rising Fawn, Georgia. He will begin his ministry at Concord Baptist on 6-13-93.

Rev. Dale Wallace
FIRST BAPTIST: Vacation Bible School at First Baptist Church on Branchview Drive will be 6 to 8:30 nightly Sunday through Thursday. Ages 2 through grade six should preregister 10:30 a.m. to noon Saturday.

7-26-91

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Larnell Harris concert

Larnell Harris, an award-winning gospel music singer, will present a concert in the auditorium of A.L. Brown High School at 7 p.m. Aug. 24.

Admission will be $7. Tickets may be obtained by calling the First Baptist Church, Chestnut St, Concord, or at Christian Supplies, Noah’s Ark, Kannapolis and the Baptist Bookstore, Charlotte.

Harris has received eight Gospel Music Association Dove Awards and a Stellar award for excellence in the black gospel field, along with five Grammy Awards, equalled by only two other gospel performers, Amy Grant and Sandi Patti.

The Kentucky native is increasingly recognized for his writing talent, as indicated by his 1988 Dove Award for Songwriter of the Year.

In 1984 Harris and Sandi Patti shared the Grammy Award for “More Than Wonderful” and in 1986 the pair won a second Grammy for their collaboration on “I’ve Just Seen Jesus.”

He and his wife, Cynthia, are the parents of one son and a daughter.
Church hosts risk management seminar

CHINA GROVE — Dr. Steven Klipowicz, professor at Cordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in Charlotte, will lead a risk management seminar at First Baptist Church at the corner of Franklin and Patterson streets Saturday afternoon.

Designed to help churches promote safety features, all area churches are invited to attend. The seminar will cover topics such as sufficient liability coverage, what happens in case of personal injury on church property, areas of liability, and other potential risk factors in dealing with social and legal environments.

Klipowicz is an associate consultant with Church Law and Tax Report and director at Pierce Center for Disciple Building. He received his doctorate in education from the University of Illinois and has earned a certificate in risk management for churches from Cambridge University. Before coming to Charlotte he worked in television programming as director of ministries for WCFC-TV38 in Chicago, Ill. He has served in various pastoral ministries for more than 16 years. Most of his ministry has focused on developing professional and educational training seminars for ministers, students and churches.

The seminar will be held in the Brinkley-Daniel Family Life Center at the church. The main seminar will be for all church family and leaders. It will be held for a minimal cost. Those interested can call 704-857-415.

Part two, from 6 to 8:30 p.m., will be for leadership training. It will be held in the church sanctuary. This training will include pastors, deacons, secretaries, Sunday school teachers, committee chairs, trustees, youth pastors, ministers of education and music and musicians.
First Baptist, Concord dedicates its media library

CONCORD - On Palm Sunday, April 8, Dr. Dave Holladay will present a formal dedication to God of the media library at First Baptist Church, 200 Branchview Drive.

The dedication will take place at 5 p.m. Light refreshments will be served afterward in the church fellowship hall.

The church nominating committee decided in 1999 to establish a media library and Frances Collins was named as library coordinating director.

Collins chose a theme for the library for the following year: "Come and See in 2000" using John 1:46 as a guide for the new ministry.

In February 2000, the congregation voted to approve the library's mission statement and selection policy. The room that houses the library was refurbished, painted and cleaned.

A computer and printer were donated to the library, as well as furniture, pictures, a display table, 950 new and used books and other media aids, including tapes, CDs and resources for teachers and the church family.

Internet access is currently being made available to staff rooms and to the library, and a web page is also being developed.

The media library's services include ministry to the church family's personal needs, support for the organizations and programs of the church and provision of a good selection of needed materials.

The media library is a ministry in itself, for all members of the church, and will serve as an outreach to the neighboring community.

The library is open from 9 to 10 a.m. and from 5 to 6 p.m. on Sundays and from 4 to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.
CONCORD — First Baptist Church on Branchview Drive has called Dr. F. Davis Holladay Jr. as its new pastor. He will begin his duties on Feb. 25.

"Words are simply inadequate to express the joy I felt when I received the call to be the pastor of First Baptist Church," Holladay said. "It was the answer to my prayers. My prayer was to find myself right in the center of God's will for my life as well as my ministry.

"Secondly, it was my prayer to pastor a prevailing church. A church that is burdened for lost sheep, precious souls and wayward sons and daughters. A church that believes that the ground at the foot of the cross is level and that we all stand there as equals in need of God's amazing grace.

"A church that is willing to step out of its own comfort zone to do whatever it takes to accomplish God's mission. A church that understands what it means to be God's people and part of the family of God.

"I believe to have found exactly that in the congregation known as First Baptist Church. I eagerly anticipate beginning my ministry there on Feb. 25."

Holladay most recently served as pastor of Union Baptist Church in Hayes, Va. Prior to that time, he served in churches in Tazewell, Va. and Pleasant Hill.

A native of Charleston, S.C., Holladay received his doctorate of ministry and master of divinity degrees at Southeastern Theological Seminary in Wake Forest. He completed his clinical pastoral education at North Carolina Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill and Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem.

Prior to coming to First Baptist, Holladay served with a number of professional organizations and boards, including the extension board of Virginia Baptist Resource Center and the executive committee of the extension board.

He and his wife, Deborah Irene Black Holladay (Debbie), have two daughters, Lisa, 26, and Tara, 19.

— Article submitted by Cherita L. Cromer.
First Baptist will host pianist Burger

Named one of the top five gospel musicians at age seventeen

Internationally-known pianist Anthony Burger will perform at First Baptist Church on Branchview Drive at 7 p.m. Friday, March 15.

Burger was awarded the Southern Gospel Music Association’s Musician of the Year Award in 1998, 1999, and 2000.

At age five, Burger was accepted into the University of Tennessee’s Cadek Conservatory of Music.

As an infant, Burger was severely burned on his legs, hands and face. Doctors had predicted he would never be able to move his hands.

Burger believes that God healed his injuries and allowed him to begin playing the piano.

He has performed in the Billy Graham Crusade and appears as a guest artist and pianist for the Gaither Vocal Band.

As a teenager, Burger joined the southern gospel quartet, “The Kingsmen.” At 17, he was named one of the top five gospel musicians by “The Singing News Magazine.”
Teacher Wilma Means

Kids find learning's a real 'trip'  

By GWEN NABORS  
Staff Writer

Wilma Means of Concord has been teaching Cabarrus County students for 17 years and now she is taking her teaching methods outside of the classroom.

This year, Means started taking students on educational field trips on teacher workdays. "I'd been thinking about it and on workdays I had to find something for my children to do," said Means. "I just ended up taking more children." Means has taken students to the Energy Explorium, the Real McCoy exhibit about black inventors and in May she will take a group to the Asheboro Zoo.

"In the summer, I get my workday schedule and call around and organize trips and call churches to see about borrowing buses," she explained. "Most of the museums and exhibits are free. You just have to get there. The kids only need to bring money for lunch if they don't pack one.

Means' program has been a success. In fact, she has to turn children away because the demand to go on the trips is so high. "That's the hardest thing," she said. "It's hard to turn them away." She is already making plans to involve more children next year by using her contacts with area churches to line up more transportation.

"It's important to add that we do more than going on trips," she added. "We also have workshops on preparing for CAT tests, science fairs and college. We also have craft workshops."

As if teaching school at A.T. Allen, raising three children and directing the field trips isn't enough, Means recently started a girls' club called Precious Stones.

"Our goal is to bring together girls from all over the county and learn from each other," she explained. "We will talk about things like manners, improving grammar, self-image and avoiding conflict."

Means founded the club along with Margaret Mathis, Zenobia Nelson and Cynthia Mathis. "We want to encourage good values in our young ladies."

Means said she couldn't do the things she does if it wasn't for all of the help she receives from churches, parents and friends. "First Baptist is so good to us and the Logan Ministries just took up a donation for us," she explained. "Our field trip program is sponsored by the Parks and Recreation, Logan Concerned Citizens and area churches."

And of course, Means is thankful of all of the help her husband Donnell has offered. "He gets roped into a lot of things," she said. "And he always comes through."
The 82 foot steeple is lifted into place Thursday as First Baptist raises steeple

By TOM DAVIDSON
Features Editor

For the past 23 years, Concord's First Baptist Church has been working to achieve a dream.

Another part of that dream came true Thursday with the raising of a 20,000 pound aluminum steeple atop the church's new sanctuary on Branchview Drive, which also is nearing completion.

The steeple, rising 82 feet above its base, including a 10 foot cross, was transported from Campbellsville, Ky., and now looks out across Concord from what the church says is the second highest ridge in the county.

The beginning of the dream came in 1968, when the church decided not to be land-locked at its historical 49 Spring St. N. W. location (which has since been turned into the Old Courthouse Theatre) and bought 18 acres on Branchview Drive.

About 10 years ago, the congregation began considering the feasibility of a new building project, according to Dr. Eugene Hunsinger, pastor at First Baptist for the past 11 of his 25 years as a minister.

The first phase of the new church, a $2.57 million education wing with an interim sanctuary and offices, was completed about six years ago. Within 26 months, the structure was paid off. Now the $4 million-plus second phase is underway, and Hunsinger says it is scheduled to be finished around March of 1992.

The sanctuary is complete with a sloping floor, an acoustically sound ceiling, a full balcony, a music suite, several educational classrooms and seating capacity for about 900 people.

"It has a state-of-the-art everything," Hunsinger said. "Dennis Yeates is our architect, and he's done a superb job, and Wagoner Construction has built the building."

At the same time, Hunsinger said, the 1,200-strong First Baptist congregation has been undergoing some changes as the new buildings have been constructed. Hunsinger says the members have become less formal because of the worship services in the interim sanctuary, and this has lent more of a family-oriented atmosphere to the congregation.

"So we have changed somewhat in scope, but our ministry is basically the same. Probably, it's made us more well rounded and able to minister more effectively to the community, because we have a lot of people who are younger, young families, who like a more well-rounded type of worship service."

"One week we might be 'high church,' very formal, and the next week we might be less structured. And we have a lot of variety in music — gospel one Sunday, and we might have high church the next Sunday, and the next week we might have a soloist who will sing something very contemporary. There are a lot of different styles"
of worship that we use today.”

Such a building project likewise calls for a minister to be well rounded, Hunsinger says, continuing all of the programs and services a pastor is expected to do in a church, along with being an able administrator, fundraiser and a diplomat to keep the congregation unified in its goals.

This being Hunsinger's fifth building project, it's no wonder First Baptist is achieving its dreams. The pastor says the completed projects together will “open up a whole new arena of possibilities,” possibly allowing for a doubling in church membership there.

As any church building project is not simply a bringing in of the new, but a better vehicle for a larger ministry, Hunsinger compares First Baptist's efforts to Romans 8:28:

“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.”
ON ITS WAY UP — With its base put on Wednesday, a 20,000 pound steeple was scheduled to crown the new sanctuary at First Baptist Church, 200 Branchview Dr. S.E., late this morning. Plans originally scheduled the steeple-raising for 10 a.m. Friday, but due to the construction workers' wishes to return to their Campbellsville, Ky., home in time for the Christmas holidays, they have been working extra hard, according to Dr. Gene Hunsinger, host pastor. After the 82-foot tall steeple is in place, a 10-foot cross will look out across Concord atop Cabarrus County's second-highest ridge. With the steeple in place, Hunsinger said, a dedication service will be held at 10 a.m. Friday.
New sanctuary

The second phase of construction for the First Baptist Church of Concord, which relocated in 1985 on Branchview Drive has begun with the permanent building of the sanctuary. The building will contain a main and lower level with the sanctuary in the main level and Sunday School classes and a music room on the lower level. The construction is expected to be completed in the early part of 1992.

— Mark Owensby photo
OLD FIRST BAPTIST — First Baptist Church was presented with an oil painting of the old Spring Street church, which served as home for the church from 1924 to 1985. Dr. E. Eugene Hunsinger, the pastor, left, accepted the painting from the artist, Mel Kester. Prints of the painting are available for $100 each for 50 artist's editions and $50 each for 450 limited editions. All proceeds go to the church building fund. To purchase the prints, contact the church office.
Volunteers were busy filling treat bags at First Baptist Church in Concord in preparation for today's Christmas Party sponsored by the Cabarrus County Department of Aging. Treats were provided by First Union Bank, Frito Lay, Salvation Army, Harris Teeter, Hershey Chocolates, Lebo's, Gray's Country Produce, Angelo Politis, Duke Power, Food Lion, Carter-Colton, Moore's Snacks, Beatty's Fruit and the Old Tent Market.
The congregation of First Baptist Church voted last Sunday to begin the first phase of a new church building project on its Branchview Drive property.

Phase I of the building program will include an educational wing with rooms for all ages, a fellowship hall, kitchen, temporary offices for the staff, and an interim sanctuary.

In the near future First Baptist Church will enter the second phase of the project, which will be the Southern Baptist program of "Together We Build," under the leadership of Gwenn McCormick from the Sunday School Board in Nashville, Tenn.

Total cost of the completed church and facilities will be $3.5 million, and the first phase will cost about $2 million.
Senior citizens Christmas party at First Baptist

All senior citizens of Cabarrus County are invited to the 5th annual Senior Citizens Christmas party Monday at First Baptist Church on Branchview Drive in Concord.

Last year, more than 700 seniors attended this special event. This year, to accommodate guests, the party is being offered at two times. Seniors may attend at either 10 to 11:30 a.m. or 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Admission will be on needed item to send our servicemen and women in Saudi Arabia. Some suggested items are hand lotion, laundry products, conditioner, moist towelettes, Gatorade, sunflower seeds, size D batteries, pens, books (non-religious), shaving soap, shampoo, sunscreen, candies, peanuts, gum, disposable razors, puzzles, small cans of peaches, applesauce or pineapple, soap, lip balm, eye drops, Kool-Aid, chips, size AA batteries, writing paper or playing cards.

Cash donations will also be accepted to pay for postage on the items. The Department of Aging and Veterans’ Services are coordinating this collection and distribution of goods to the GIs.

Seniors will be entertained by the Concord Middle and High School chorus groups, and Ray Conway of First Baptist Church. Ken Mayfield of K-Light 1460 will be master of ceremonies.

An old-fashioned treat bag will be provided to each participant, courtesy of local businesses sponsoring the event. Santa Claus will also be on hand to give away door prizes contributed by sponsoring local businesses.

The City of Concord Parks and Recreation Department will assist with parking for the event, which is sponsored by the Cabarrus County Department of Aging and the Council on Aging.
PLANNING PAGEANT — Representing three local churches, these women, from left, Shirley Smith, Shirley Curlee and Vanessa Conway, are putting together a pageant of a manger scene and a choir of about 10 children to present a program at area nursing homes. The three churches are First Assembly, First Baptist Church on Dill Street and Gospel Light Baptist Church on Green Street. Curlee said the group already has a list of about seven or eight nursing homes to visit.

Photo by Chris Harris
Seniors' Christmas Party just gets bigger each year

CONCORD — Over 660 seniors enjoyed themselves at the Fifth Annual Senior’s Christmas Party Monday at First Baptist Church in Concord.

Last year, over 600 seniors attended the event at the National Guard Armory in Concord.

This year, since the armory was not available, and the space at First Baptist was so much smaller, the party was held at two different times, a morning session from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and an afternoon session from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

"It worked out great," said Judy Graeber of the Cabarrus County Department of Aging. "We didn't have to turn anyone away from either session due to lack of room."

Graeber said the event was very successful.

"Lots of people said it was the best one ever," she said.

"They keep telling us we can't top the year before, but we always seem to do it."

Volunteers worked Friday afternoon making 750 treat bags for the guests. The bags were filled with candies and goodies donated by a variety of area sponsors.

The extra bags will be sent to the service men and women stationed in Saudi Arabia, Graeber said, without any perishables.

Admission to the event was a small item appropriate for sending to the service men and women in Saudi Arabia. Among the nine large cardboard boxes of items collected were small containers of hand lotion, size D batteries, shampoo and sunscreens, lip balm, puzzles and disposable razors.

Cash donations for postage were also accepted, but only about $50 was collected at the party. An additional $100 is needed.

Graeber said donations for the postage are still being accepted. Checks can be made out to the Cabarrus County Department of Aging and designated for the Desert Shield Postage Fund.

Entertainment at Monday's party was provided by the choral groups of Concord Middle and High Schools and by Ray Conway of First Baptist Church, who sang patriotic songs.

The highlight of the celebration was a visit from Santa Claus, who handed out door prizes to the participants. Among the prizes were gift certificates from Whitakers, a bedspread from Kimbrells Exchange, a gallon of antifreeze from Western Auto, mixing bowls from Kimbrells Exchange and a canned ham from Dover’s.

A hand-made quilt was raffled off by the Department of Aging and was won by Mrs. M.R. Gill.

Next year, the party will be held at the new Cabarrus County Senior Center, presently under construction on NC 73.

Graeber said that Sue Casper, chairman of senior center committee, announced Monday that the contractors who are working on the center are ahead of schedule and the projected completion date for the new facility is Jan. 31, 1991.
First Baptist may be granted refund on taxes paid on Branchview property

Concord's First Baptist Church is looking for the county and city to refund the property tax paid on its Branchview Drive land for the past three years.

And although county attorney Fletcher Hartsell at first ruled that the church's exemption request was invalid, he said Monday night that new information may make a refund possible.

The final decision will be made by the Board of Equalization and Review.

The church wants $775.42 refunded from the county. Another $1,401.72 is being requested from the Concord tax collector.

First Baptist, which was on Spring Street until this summer, voted to relocate to the Branchview Drive property in 1983 and began fund-raising for a new building.

The first formal service at the new site was held this July.

The church's attorney, William Mills, wrote city and county officials that the church property was... See 5, page 14.
exempt from taxes because it had been used by the congregation for religious purposes before the actual move. He cites a Christmas creche featuring a live nativity scene, Sunday school classes, Boy Scout meetings and other church functions held on the property.

Hartsell told commissioners that tax exemption requests must meet stringent guidelines, but that new legal cases mentioned by Mills in his letter may provide additional information that may make a tax refund possible.

In other regular business, the commissioners:

- Approved bids with Jim Bost Construction Co. to pave the water and sewer office lot, the Frank Liske parking lots and maintenance road and the Bakers Creek Park roadway and parking lots at a total cost of approximately $69,000.
- Approved bids with Hub-Stinnette Uniforms Inc. of Charlotte for $10,245 to provide uniforms for the Sheriff's Department.
- Reappointed Judy Dayvault of Kannapolis to a three-year term on the board of the Southern Piedmont Health Systems Agency and Barbara Brown to a two-year term on the Jury Commission.
- Extended the county's lease with Historic Cabarrus Inc. for the old county courthouse for four years with an option to renew for four more years after that.

Acting as Cabarrus County Water & Sewer District Commissioners, the board authorized $18,540 for the purchase of unspecified property following an executive session.

County Manager Charlie McGinnis said later that the property remains unidentified until purchase is secured to ensure that the county will be asked a fair market price.

The board also received notice that bids for the purchase of the county's $7.27 million in water bonds will be received in Raleigh today. The bond money finances the construction of the county's water and sewer district.

—By Cathy Davidson
Bible banquet

Complimentary tickets are now available to the local Wycliffe Associates banquet, which will occur 7 p.m., Oct. 27, at First Baptist Church on Branchview Drive.

The banquet will feature a veteran missionary, who will give a firsthand report on the work of Bible translation. Special projects launching new translation work in foreign nations will be highlighted, as well.

The event also features dinner, audiovisual presentations, Christian fellowship and details on becoming a Wycliffe member.

For tickets and more information, call George and Frances Suther at 782-1284 or 786-1053.
World Missions Conference will begin on Sunday

By FRED CORLETT
Staff Writer

"A person is like a living document," says the Rev. Tom Anderson of First Baptist Church on Branchview Drive.

In that way, he says, the missionaries who will be speaking at the World Missions Conference this coming week are proof that their faith works, that "Christ has changed their lives."

First Baptist will be the host church for Dr. B. Wayne Thorpe, medical missionary to Kathmandu, Nepal, and will have four other missionaries speaking on successive evenings from Sunday through Wednesday at 7:00.

Betty Craven will speak Sunday evening, followed by the Rev. Bill W. Hagewood (recently of the Dominican Republic) on Monday, followed by the Rev. Genus E. Crenshaw on Tuesday, with Faye G. Bragg closing on Wednesday evening.

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Continued from page 1

Anderson said the primary purpose of the four-day conference, which is held at about five-year intervals, is to expose the members of the congregation to real missionaries who are veterans of full-time Christian service. This serves to put a human face on a subject that often is only an idealized concept to most laymen, he said. The congregation gets to see the missionary as a person, Anderson said, with doubts, fears of failure, and the same human needs everyone experiences. It is also a chance for the church to meet people who are living the example of their Christian values.

Secondly, according to Anderson, it is hoped that the conference will result in some commitments to full-time Christian service. This will not always take the form of pursuing ordination as a minister.

There are over 60 professions represented by the 7,200 full-time Baptist missionaries currently employed by the diocese—such as social workers, agricultural experts, teachers and administrators.

Anderson admitted there are countries that will not accept Christian evangelists, but they gratefully welcome physicians who also happen to be Baptist missionaries.

A third priority of the conference is to raise the awareness of the needs of the people doing full-time mission work. Anderson feels that the support the denomination has historically given to its mission arm is a vital element in its success. The Southern Baptist Convention has one of the strongest and best supported missionary programs in the world partly because of the intense interest the member congregations have shown.

Anderson pointed out there are three categories of missionaries taking part in the conference: foreign missionaries, home missionaries, and state missionaries. Home missionaries are those working in the United States, and state missionaries are those working in the state of their permanent residence. North Carolina, for instance, has Baptist missionaries on the Cherokee Indian Reservation.

There will be an opportunity for anyone interested in meeting all 33 of the missionaries participating in the conference Sunday from 2:30-4:30 p.m. at Centerview Baptist Church in Kannapolis. Those in the foreign missions will be wearing clothing of the country where they work.
Church boosts request with information

By EVERETTE L. GILLIAM
Staff Writer

A small nativity scene may be the key in having property owned by the First Baptist Church of Concord exempted from taxation.

Concord Attorney William Mills III has filed a request with city and county officials asking they refund approximately $2,600 in taxes to the congregation.

Mills said the N.C. Supreme Court has earlier ruled that such property is exempted from taxes.

But Cabarrus County Tax Supervisor Terry Rowland and County Attorney Fletcher Harrsell differed in earlier conversation with Mills on the question.

However, Harrsell said Mills is now giving information to the county that had not been provided earlier and could have a direct bearing on the tax question.

Prior to Monday, the county based its decision on a request for exemption filed by Mills. However, Mills' recent letter offers more information.

In his Monday letter, Mills said in the years prior to 1982 the site was used by the church exclusively for religious purposes.

"Most noticeably, during the Christmas season for several years the church erected a creche facing Branchview Drive and members of the church presented a live nativity for the enjoyment of all passers by."

"In addition, various Sunday School Classes, the scout troop, the Royal Ambassadors and other organization sponsored by the church made use of the property from time to time for outdoor meetings and activities," Mills said.

Prior to the new information, Mills apparently based his contentions on the church property being "adjacent" to the First Baptist Church property one mile away.

"Buildings, the land they actually occupy and additional adjacent land reasonably necessary for the convenient use of any such building shall be
exempted from taxation if wholly owned by ... (a church) and if: wholly owned and exclusively used by its owner for religious purposes. . .”

He contended the Branchview site was at all times reasonably necessary for the convenient use of the Church’s Spring Street facility in furtherance of its long range plans and was at all times wholly and exclusively used for religious worship.

Hartsell feels the matter may be resolved once the new information is reviewed and the board of equalization and review hears the case.
Baptists to build Concord church

CONCORD — After being located at 49 Spring Street, N.W., since it was founded in 1889, a new $3.5 million First Baptist Church will be constructed on Branchview Drive. Groundbreaking services for the construction was held last Sunday with 200 members of the church at the new site.

The church will be of traditional design. The first phase of the building program which will cost approximately $2 million will consist of educational facilities, interim sanctuary, music site, fellowship hall, church offices, media center, senior citizens lounge and modern kitchen facilities.

The second phase of the building complex will include a permanent sanctuary with a seating capacity of 800 and an administrative wing at a cost of approximately $1.5 million.

The congregation, with a present membership of 1,037 members, was founded in 1886 when Jacob Monroe McCurdy gave the first money toward the construction of a place of worship for Baptists in Concord. Saunders Sapp donated timber to erect the building on the present site and the first service was held in January 1889. The present sanctuary was completed in 1924.

Members of the building committee are Mrs. Harry Arwood, Jack Cooper, Mrs. Robert Hammonds, Jim Hoffman, Mrs. Smoot Lyles, Mrs. Ralph Schurig, William Mills III, David Wightman, Dennis Yates and Dr. Robert E. Hammonds.

GROUNDBREAKING — Breaking ground for the First Baptist Church Sunday were, left to right, R. Mark Smith, chairman of the building committee, Dr. E. Eugene Hunsinger, pastor of the church and Dr. Robert E. Hammond, chairman of the board of deacons. Members of the deacon board, the trustee board and the building committee also participated in the ceremonies.
NEW BUILDING — First Baptist Church of Concord has moved into its new building at 200 Branchview Drive. Last Sunday's service was the first in the building which took three years to complete. It includes educational classrooms, a media center, a senior citizens' lounge, a parlor, a kitchen, two computers for the air conditioning and heating systems, a modern sound system, a fellowship hall and office areas and an interim sanctuary. The second phase of the building program will include a sanctuary, a music suite and complete offic. The building will be dedicated this fall.
Smith speaks at 1st Baptist

The Rev. Roy J. Smith, associate general secretary-treasurer of the North Carolina Baptist State Convention, will preach for the 11 a.m. worship Sunday at First Baptist Church, according to announcement by Dr. Robert W. Bailey, pastor of the host church.

Worship leaders will be Jack Cooper and Mrs. Park E. Webster.

The guest speaker is a native of Franklin, a graduate of Wake Forest University and Southeastern Seminary, and served pastorates in Zebulon and Lexington before joining the State Convention's Missions Department.

He coordinated state mission work in Region 10 for five years and for a decade was secretary of the Town and Country Missions and Seminary Extension Department for North Carolina Baptists.

Smith has been in his present position for more than two years and has often been the keynote mission speaker in conferences across the state.

In 1962 he was named Rural Minister of the Year in North Carolina.

He is married to the former Miss Doris Elizabeth Pearce of Zebulon and they have three children.
Deborah Anne Collins, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. David L. Collins of Concord, became the bride of Charles Steven Thompson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Claude R. Thompson of Biscoe on Saturday, June 8 at 4 p.m. in the First Baptist Church in Concord. Dr. E. Eugene Hunsinger officiated.

Mrs. Wilson Cone, organist, Mrs. Donald Criscoe and Rodney Ballard, soloists, presented a program of wedding music.

The bride, given in marriage by her father, wore a white silk taffeta and venise lace gown with basque waistline, sweetheart neckline and puffed sleeves. Hand clipped lace, seeded pearls, iridescents and embroidered motif were used on the bodice and sleeves. The full skirt with flounced hemline and scalloped overskirt bordered with embroidery extended into a cathedral-length train. Her fingertip-length veil of illusion was attached to a silk flower wreath and she carried a cascading bouquet of white roses, stephanotis, miniature white carnations and ivy, tied with streamers.

Mrs. John B. Collins of Albermarle, sister-in-law of the bride was matron of honor. She wore an apricot-colored silk organza waltz length gown and carried a heart shaped nosegay of fresh flowers.

Bridesmaids were Mrs. David McCachern of Charlotte and Laura Myers of Marietta, Ga., cousins of the bride; Mrs. James Anderson of Raleigh; Mrs. Rick Ashby of Roxboro and Krista Winzurk of Greensboro. They wore gowns and carried bouquets like that of the matron of honor.

Ricky Otteni, Peter Otteni and George Otteni, all of Concord, distributed satin roses filled with bird seed.

The bridegroom’s father was best man. Ushers were Donnie Thompson, Barry Thompson, Eric Thompson of Biscoe, brothers of the bridegroom; William Collins, James Collins both of Concord, John Collins of Albermarle, David Mrs. Deborah Anne Thompson Collins III of Cambridge, Mass, brothers of the bride and Wesley Carroll of Southport.

Mrs. Jack Whitley of Asheboro, Mrs. Lee McKinney of Cameron, cousins of the groom, Miss Mary Sue Brookshire and Miss Becky Brookshire, both of Winston-Salem registered the guests.

The couple are making their home in Apex following a cruise to the Caribbean.

Reception
Immediately following the wedding ceremony, the bride’s parents entertained at a reception at the Sportscenter.

Rehearsal Dinner
The bridegroom’s parents entertained at a dinner following the wedding rehearsal on Friday night, June 7 at the barn at Frank Liske Park. The bridegroom’s aunts and uncles assisted in entertaining.

Surprise Shower
The couple were honored on Friday night, June 21 with a surprise miscellaneous shower given by the members of the Apex Baptist Church in the church fellowship hall.

The groom is a graduate of the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, with a B.A. degree in Religion and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary where he received a Master of Divinity degree. He served as inter chaplain at Dorothea Dix Hospital and was ordained at Candor Baptist Church, Candor in May, 1985. He is assistant pastor of Apex Baptist Church in Apex.

Mrs. Deborah Anne Thompson

Collins and Thompson exchange vows
First Baptist has a new staff member

Two changes have been made in the staff of First Baptist Church, Miss Peggy Jean Stout has come to serve as minister of education and the Rev. James Camp, former minister of education, has been moved to a new position, minister of outreach.

Camp will be responsible to the pastor in all areas of outreach and general church administration, and he will continue working with the senior citizens and homebound of the congregation.

Miss Stout is a native of Siler City, where she completed high school, and was graduated in 1975 from Campbell University.

In 1979 she received a master of divinity from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

She comes to Concord from a position of minister of education at First Baptist Church in Forest City.

Prior to that, she was assistant minister at First Baptist Church in Savannah, Ga.
Music leader retiring after 41 years

Mrs. Gladys Hinson, minister of music at First Baptist Church on Spring Street is retiring after 41 years of service to area churches.

Hinson graduated from Concord High School and later graduated from Limestone College, where she studied under music professor Mrs. Burvelle Barnhardt.

Her career began at McGill Avenue Baptist Church where she served for 15 years. It was there that she married her late husband, James F. Hinson, and together they continued a life of service through music. The Hinsons performed at many weddings, revivals and other church functions. Mr. Hinson served as soloist and music director and Mrs. Hinson as organist.

For eight years they served at Royal Oaks Baptist Church in Kannapolis before coming to First Baptist. She began a graded choir program which provided a musical opportunity for every member of the church. During her 17½ years at First Baptist, the music enrollment has doubled.

Mrs. Hinson will be honored Sunday by the members of First Baptist on “Gladys Hinson Day.” The morning worship at 11 a.m. will feature special anthems by the Chancel Choir. A meal with fellowship and entertainment will be held at 6:30 p.m.

The Hinson have one child, Elizabeth H. McCrory, who is a music specialist in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System.
The 13 members of Concord's First Baptist Church who recently completed a Home Mission Board assignment in Jefferson, Ohio, have reported to their congregation that the mission was a success.

The group visited Victory Baptist Chapel, a 38-member congregation, and during their week-long assignment they painted the church building and conducted Bible school.

Dr. Robert W. Bailey, First Baptist pastor, said the group planned to put a new roof on the chapel, but funds were not available for this part of the project at present.

Funds amounting to $400 for the painting was donated anonymously by a surgeon and a member of the Missions Committee.

Members of the First Baptist group who conducted Bible school reported 85 persons participating in classes for all ages and more than 60 of the participants were children.

Many of these were attending activities at the chapel for the first time, and one 18-year-old which the pastor succeeded in having released from jail said he was in church for the third time in his life, Dr. Bailey said.

A Backyard Bible Club was provided at a creekside park some 10 miles from Jefferson and nine children participated in this.

During the week, Dr. Bailey spoke to the associational ministers and wives conference, discussing ways of coping with the stress related to the minister's family.

Plans for this annual missions assignment were coordinated by Mrs. Jane Brown of the Mission Committee, and A. J. Eure, treasurer.

The group utilized two vans, made available for the purpose, stayed in one of the oldest motels in the area and ate sandwiches to conserve funds.

Dr. Bailey said costs for the project could have run more than $4,000, but austere management held the outlay to around $1,200.
Dear Readers,

This is the last Editor's Letter over my signature. After more than 15 years on The Charlotte News, I am taking an opportunity to pursue an interest in the business side of newspaper publishing.

Leaving my lifelong newspaper home is not easy, but fortunately the wrench is offset by an fly and I will be remaining in Charlotte. And I am leaving The News — and you, its readers — in the hands of some very capable people. Let me mention some of them.

Two of the ablest

The new editor of The News is Kent Bernhard, who has been managing editor for the past three years. Kent is easy to describe. He is among a handful of the ablest newspaper editors in America. He brings to the job skill, top quality experience, and character. He has devoted himself to learning the Charlotte area. Your newspaper could not be in better hands.

A second man needs no introduction. He is Associate Editor, who has been in direct charge of The News under Kent Bernhard, will keep that sight and the grace of his writing. Heeded commentator. He has given News influence among citizens and Charlotte, and cares for it, as few of the best at his craft.

Two other character

We need to name so many others in our profession that many of them are people of skill and character. Watch them in the pages of the paper. Rebekah is 18 months old.

Curious at what Aaron would answer, I asked him. He just gets 'em for being Rebekah!' Off he runs to a pile of toys.

Now, being honest, I must relay that Rebekah looked straight into grandmaw's eyes at this and seemed to have an all-knowing glint that complemented her sideways grin.

There it was. A little bit of heaven and a whole lot of devil wrapped up in a one-and-a-half-year-old. The world! But the sensation of the meaning of love had been exp

Take a break from depression; listen to a child

Most folks I know believe the world needs a real fix. Most folks I know sit back after declaring this and agree, but what can we do about it? End of conversation. Not an end to the worry part.

Doomsayers curdle the blood count with dismal predictions of a ruined America. The end of the republic is already visible! We of the United States of America will be about the shortest-lived attempt at an existing 'free' society known to history — so the preachments go.

Well, look around us. Kids tell their folks and teachers to sit on it when exercising their roles in life. Politicians still talk with converted their mouths. There are preachers who seem to be the best on making a mess out of the U.S. Mint and so extremely intelligent their preaching sometimes call them 'edble fools.' Greed seems to

letters

Republic
Baptists call

Dr. Edward Eugene Hunsinger, pastor of First Baptist Church in Wadesboro, has accepted the call to become pastor of First Baptist Church here and will begin his ministry in Concord June 1.

In a called church conference March 29, the local congregation voted in favor of the Pastor Selection Committee’s unanimous decision to recommend Dr. Hunsinger as pastor. They will move into the parsonage on Claymont Street in late May.

Dr. Hunsinger, a native of Gaffney, S.C., studied for the ministry at Gardner-Webb College, Limestone College and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary at Wake Forest.

He received his master of divinity degree in 1972 and his doctor of ministry degree in 1973. Also, he served a clinical pastoral education internship at the University of North Carolina Memorial Hospital, Chapel Hill, Dorothea Dix and John Umstead hospitals.

Ordained Nov. 6, 1966, his first pastorate was El Bethel Baptist Church as he completed his education.

He has served as moderator of the Anson Baptist Association.

Dr. Hunsinger is on the Board of Directors of the Wadesboro Rotary Club, district commissioner for Boy Scouts, chaplain for the Wadesboro Hospital, president of the Anson County Ministerial Association, president of the Anson Heart Association and an officer in the Scottish Rites Masonic Lodge.

Mrs. Hunsinger is the former Miss Mary Thomas, and she has taught third grade in public schools.

The Hunsingers have a son, 8 years old, and a daughter, 5.
First Baptist Church hosts musical concert

A program called “Music in Honor of Jesus Christ” will be presented at First Baptist Church Sunday at 7:30 p.m. by Mrs. Betty Williams of Harrisburg, soprano; Mrs. Angelita Floyd of Concord, flutist; William Tritt of Charlotte, violinist; Mrs. Anita Tritt of Charlotte, organist; and Charles Medlin of Winston-Salem, cellist.

Selections will include selections especially for the instrumental presentation and for solo vocalist, “Sonata in B Minor,” “My Jesus Is My Lasting Joy,” “Sonata in G Major,” the aria, “Hear Ye Israel,” and “Alleluia” from “Exultate Jubilate.”

Dr. Robert W. Bailey will introduce the program and pronounce the benediction.
Area Musicians Set Program For Baptists

“Music in Honor of Jesus Christ” will be presented at the First Baptist Church, Concord, Sunday at 7:30 p.m. by well-known area musicians.

Among them will be Betty Honeycutt Williams of Harrisburg, soprano; Angelita Floyd of Concord, flautist; William Tritt, violinist and Anita Tritt, organist, both of Charlotte; and Charles Medlin of Winston-Salem.

The program will include Sonata in b minor for violin, cello and organ by Jean-Baptiste Loeillet; cantata: My Jesus Is My Lasting Joy, by Dietrich Buxfhehude; sonata in G Major for cello and organ, by Sammarfini Grave; aria: “Hear Ye Israel” from “Elijah,” Felix Mendelssohn.

Also, Air for violin and organ by J. S. Bach; Chorale Preludes for organ, Bach; aria: “Come Unto Him” from “Messiah,” by G. F. Handel; Arioso for cello and organ by Bach; and aria: “Alleluia” from “Exultate Jubilate,” by W. A. Mozart.
Thousands of people in the midwest remain without electrical service today as a result of the giant winter storm which swept through the area creating havoc in its wake. Several states remain in emergency situations.

Several states remain in emergency situations. Thousands of people in the midwest remain without service as the icy weather continues.

Local divorces rising but slower than national average

Is marriage really here to stay?

CHERITA D. LANE
Staff Writer

Is marriage an institution dying a slow death clutched in the jaws of a rising divorce rate? Maybe nationwide, but not in Cabarrus County as reflected locally and divorce.

Current national figures reflect a steadily rising divorce rate in this country with a 10 percent increase in marriages from 1967 to 1977 and an accompanying 10 percent increase in divorces granted during the same period.

However, citizens of Cabarrus County can boast that the local divorce rate did not meet or exceed the 1967-77 period.

According to figures obtained from the register-of-deeds office, 202 marriage licenses were issued in 1977, an 8 percent increase over 1967 figure of 185.

On the other side of the coin, there was a 7 percent increase only in the divorce rate during the same period with 207 actions granted in 1967 and 220 in 1977.

After talking with area specialists involved in marital counseling, it appears that a basic source of marital problems stems from the lack of good communication skills.

Tom Reecer, area addiction specialist with the Cabarrus Center and Piedmont Area Mental Health Clinic, drew from past experience in counseling to comment, “I think that most crises stem from a deterioration of trust between the marital partners. People should work to become more open and candid with their partner.”

Dr. Robert W. Bailey, pastor of First Baptist Church in Concord, has worked with couples of all ages with marital problems.

“I think that most crises stem from a deterioration of trust between the marital partners. People should work to become more open and candid with their partner.”

Dr. Bailey is committed to working with couples in pre-marital counseling and in post-marital periodic check-ups.

He continued, “I see much more seriousness about marriage on the part of today’s young couples. They express the desire to make their own partnerships work, especially if marriage really here to stay?... until death do us part? after seeing the marriages of peers or even their own parents end.”

Genuine lasting marriage is important,” he emphasized.

See p. 2

To examine this issue from a woman’s point of view, Joy Padgett, social worker in the adult outpatient clinic of the Mental Health Clinic, was questioned about her counseling work with couples.

Ms. Padgett agreed that a communications breakdown brought discord into most marriages that were troubled.

“People just stop talking to each other, and when the talking stops, the trouble usually begins,” she continued. “A couple must be really motivated to learn good communication skills.”

Ms. Padgett touched on another potential source of conflict in marriage, specifically, the time and attention required in raising a family.

“Sometimes, because children require so much constant attention, one or both partners may become wrapped up in the youngsters’ needs to the exclusion of interest in each other.”

However, Ms. Padgett does have a positive outlook for the future of marriage.

“Based on the number and type of people that are coming in for counseling, I think that most of them are still committed to the idea.”

Joe Luther, a clinical chaplain at the Mental Health Center, offered his thoughts on the subject.

“Sometimes when a couple has trouble in a marriage it is because the lack of a good marriage model in the parents’ homes. Some individuals have no idea how to begin building a good relationship because they have not had the exposure to one previously.”

He continued. “The sad fact is that some couples put off getting any help until they are very angry and it is too scary to pick up the pieces.”

Luther and other counselors at the clinic have been working with a “marriage enrichment” movement consisting of several groups of couples who meet at the clinic to learn how to make their relationships more viable. Basic communication skills are emphasized at these group workshops.
FIRST BAPTIST: The women of First Baptist Church, on Chestnut and Tournament streets, will have a special service 3 p.m. Sunday with Mrs. Doris Clawson of First United Church of Christ and assistant principal of Concord Middle School as the speaker.

concord
FIRST BAPTIST: First Baptist Church, on the corner of Chestnut and Tournament streets, will host Beverly Crouch Jordan of Monroe in a service 5 p.m. Sunday. Hosting are the women of the church.
Pastor leads drive to obtain old library

CATHY DAVIDSON
Staff Writer

A community group, led by members of the First Baptist Church at the corner of Tournament and Chestnut Streets, is trying to obtain the old Carver Library building for use as a multi-purpose center.

The building and the adjoining vacant lot which contained the old swimming pool are being sold by the City of Concord as surplus property.

The citizen's group had proposed that Concord Aldermen donate the property to the group and that they would then repair and maintain the building, administer activities at the center, and make it into a precinct polling place.

The old building would “no longer be an expense or burden on the city for upkeep and administration and would still be of service to the community,” argued First Baptist pastor Rev. G.K. Moss.

His church members, Moss said, were concerned about the type of business that could be placed in the building, should the city sell to someone else. The Carver building is located across the street from the church.

“Citizen opposition could be forthcoming if an undesirable business such as a speakeasy, should be placed there,” Moss warned.

The building and surrounding property was originally donated to the city as a community center for the black population there. Civil rights
laws have since invalidated such restricted use of the property, although local civic and youth groups have continued to meet there in the past. Moss stated at Thursday's Alderman meeting that about 30 persons had responded to a community call to save the building. "We are in the process of trying to acquire this property," Moss said. "The tax evaluation is high (about $22,600), but the building needs lots of repair. It has use and value to our community but we can't afford to buy it and still pour in another $20,000 to $30,000 to fix it up."

Although Aldermen were sympathetic to the community group's proposal, City Attorney Clyde Propst explained exactly what the city can and can't do with surplus property. "The only way the city can dispose of this property is under state law," Propst said. The three methods of disposal include public auction, sealed bids, and upset bids. Upset bids, he explained, are used when "you have an interested party. They make you an offer that is then advertized in the paper to see if someone wants to pay more for it."

This procedure, Propst said, would be the most advantageous to the community group who would have a chance to increase their bid if their original offer were challenged. "The city has no way to donate this property regardless of the purpose planned for it," he said. "State law doesn't allow it... perhaps it should."

"It's not a matter of conscious or choice or rejection as far as your group is concerned." Moss claimed there had been a precedent for a city to donate property to a private group across the state, but added he has "no problems with the suggestion" of the upset bids procedure. Aldermen voted unanimously (Frank Dusch and Hector Henry were absent from the meeting) to accept the upset bid sale of the property.

In other city business, Aldermen:

- Overturned a Planning & Zoning Board decision and rezoned approximately 2.23 acres on Brookwood Avenue in the block bordering Gibson and Harris Street from R-3 to B-3. No opposition to the rezoning was offered at either the P&Z or the Aldermen's hearing on the property which is owned by W.A. Ridenhour Jr. of Carolina Oil Co. and the Carolina Holding Corp. The property includes a storage building, rental housing and a service station.

- Declared a portion of Wilshire Avenue around its intersection with Sylvan Street a No Parking Zone.

- Approved the emergency purchase of a new gas furnace for the Concord Fire Department after the old oil furnace broke down. Expense for the new equipment was $9,000.

- Approved amendment of a Department of Housing and Urban Development project that allows Community Development Block Grant Funds of $371,000 to be used to provide water and sewer lines out Poplar Tent Road for the development of an industrial park.

- Set a public hearing for the next meeting on Dec. 8 to discuss amending a 1981 plan that restricts the methods the city can use in disposing of surplus property acquired through the Community Redevelopment Program.

- Heard a last minute petition from businessmen in the Main Street Mall to reconvert the all-day parking lot on Cabarrus Avenue back to a two-hour limit. Viola Ammons, an accountant in the mall, stated employees of downtown businesses use the parking lot all day and prevent customers from having access to the mini-mall businesses. Aldermen will take the proposal under consideration, but Mayor Bernie Edwards stated the board had heard arguments for both types of parking in the city and had finally decided to make all city parking consistent with an all-day free parking limit. "I hate to see us go back and forth without waiting to see which way really works," Edwards said.
First Baptist Church, 1889

Spring Street, 1924

Educational building, 1985

Proposed sanctuary, Branchview

OUR 100th ANNIVERSARY - 1886-1986

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
CONCORD, N.C.
A centennial message
Dr. E. Eugene Hunsinger
Senior pastor, First Baptist Church

God has richly blessed the fellowship that is called the First Baptist Church of Concord. We are celebrating 100 years of ministry this year.

The Rev. Jacob Monroe McCurdy gave the first dollar towards the building of a house of worship in Concord for the Baptists. He contacted the State Mission Board in Raleigh and asked that someone come to look over the field and see the need for a "city" church of Concord.

The first pastor to serve was theRev. George P. Bostick. The church, comprised of 27 persons, met in the old courthouse. The church has been led these 100 years by 18 ministers with differing talents and abilities.

The church has grown from 27 members to 1,065, and has been instrumental in founding five other churches in the area: McGill Avenue Baptist Church, Young Street, Pitts and Immanuel in the Concord area and Providence Church in Harrisburg.

From these portals, ministers and laypersons have come and gone to serve God around the world. The future of this church is optimistic and is continually reaching milestones to be a blessing to the cause of Christ in this community.

"The future is shining bright. Another 100 years await."

October 1986 celebrates
October-1886
A centennial calendar of events to provide inspiration and fellowship

Sunday, Oct. 5
• 9:45 a.m. — Combined adult Sunday school in the sanctuary, led by Terry Hunt.
• 11 a.m. — Morning worship service, Dr. E. Eugene Hunsinger preaching
• 3 to 6 p.m. — Open house, tours of the building and arts and crafts festival.

Wednesday, Oct. 8
• 5:45 p.m. — Family night supper.
• 7 p.m. — Inspirational music by Lori Boggs, Miss Cabarrus County 1987.

Sunday, Oct. 12
• 9:45 a.m. — Sunday school for all ages.
• 11 a.m. — Centennial musical, "A Celebration of B.B. McKinney."

• 7 p.m. — Evening worship service, Rev. Thurman Stone preaching.

Wednesday, Oct. 15
• 5:45 p.m. — Family night supper.
• 7 p.m. — "Down Memory Lane," members reminiscing about "the way it was."

Sunday, Oct. 19
• 9:45 a.m. — Sunday school for all ages.
• 11 a.m. — Morning worship service, Rev. Jack Hill preaching.
• 7 p.m. — Drama depiction of the historical and theological highlights of the past 100 years.

Wednesday, Oct. 22
• 5:45 p.m. — Family night supper.
• 7 p.m. — First Baptist members share musical talents.

Sunday, Oct. 26
• 10:30 a.m. — Morning worship service, Dr. Jerry Surratt preaching.
• Noon — Covered dish dinner on the grounds.

Wednesday, Oct. 29
• 5:45 p.m. — Old-fashioned family night supper with theme "Happy Birthday First Baptist Church." Come dressed in 1886 fashion, if possible.

Make reservations for family night suppers by calling the church office at 786-9167.

Congratulations
First Baptist Church
On Your
100 Years Celebration

TROUTMAN MOTORS
Hwy 29
Concord, NC 28025
704-375-7700

Congratulations
First Baptist Church On Your New Facilities And Your First
100 Years

TROUTMAN'S BARBECUE
Church St.
Hwy 601
Hwy 29
'God make the door of this house... 

... we have raised to Thee wide enough to receive all who need human love, fellowship, and the Father's care, and narrow enough to shut out envy, pride and hate. Make its threshold smooth that it may be no stumbling block to childhood, weakness or straying feet, but rugged and strong enough to turn back the tempter's power. God make the door of this house the gateway to Thy Eternal Kingdom.'

From the church bulletin of Oct. 26, 1941.

The infant First Baptist congregation held services in their own building for the first time in 1889.

First Baptist Church: the first century

The first century of First Baptist Church is a rich and interesting history.

The Rev. Jacob Monroe McCurdy gave the first dollar toward the building of a house of worship in Concord for the Baptists. It was he who contacted the State Mission Board in Raleigh and asked that someone come to look at the need for a "city" church.

The Rev. George P. Bostick came to Concord at the direction of the state board and stayed to become the first preacher at the new church. He preached at the old Cabarrus County Courthouse to the 27 persons who comprised the early membership.

The Rev. J.D. Newton succeeded Bostick to the pastorate. Under the second minister's direction, a building with seating for 250 was erected.

In January 1889 came the momentous day when the first worship services were held by the 55 members of First Baptist Church in their own building.

Three years later, the Rev. J.O. Alderman came to serve the people. The now thriving church called the Rev. J.J. Payseur in 1896.

When the Rev. Lacy B. Hoge came to First Baptist in 1898, he led a band of Baptists in the organization of what is now McGill Avenue Baptist Church. McGill was originally called Second Baptist Church, presumably because Concord Baptist Church became the First Baptist Church.

In 1900, the church building debt was paid in full and a dedication service was held on Oct. 28 of that year.

The Rev. J.E. Smith was pastor from 1901 to 1904, followed by the Rev. R.H. Herrington who headed the church for three years. The Rev. S.N. Watson's pastorate lasted from 1907 to 1912, while the Rev. R.E. Brown served for one year only—1913-14.

In the ensuing years, First Baptist Church was under the leadership of the Rev. George V. Tilley (1914-18) and the Rev. Graham A. Martin (1919-24). It was during Martin's pastorate that the Spring Street sanctuary was constructed and occupied in 1924.

From 1925 to 1930, First Baptist Church was served by the Rev. C.H. Trueblood, while the Rev. E.S. Summers was in the pulpit for 22 years (1930-52). During Summers' tenure, First Baptist was instrumental in the organization of Young Street Baptist Church (1930), Pitts Baptist Church (1943) and Immanuel Baptist Church (1951).

The seven years from 1953 to 1960 were the period of the Rev. Thurman B. Stone's leadership.

The Rev. Howard G. Dawkins was called to First Baptist in 1961 and remained here for six years. Under Dawkins' leadership, the Providence Baptist Mission was organized and became an autonomous Baptist church on Oct. 7, 1973.

In August 1968, the Rev. Jack Hill came to Concord and served until his retirement in 1974. During this time, an 18-acre building site was purchased on Branchview Drive.

Dr. Robert W. Bailey accepted a call to Concord in 1975 and served until 1980.

In June of 1981, Dr. E. Eugene Hunsmger became pastor of First Baptist Church. Under his leadership, the future of the church has remained optimistic as more milestones have been attained.

The congregation voted in 1982 to relocate from Spring Street to Branchview Drive. Historic groundbreaking ceremonies for the first phase of the building program were held Sunday, Dec. 18, 1983. Construction began on Feb. 20, 1984.

On June 30, 1985, the last service was held in the Spring Street sanctuary, and on July 7, 1985, the first service was held in the new building at 200 Branchview Drive. The Spring Street buildings were sold to the Old Courthouse Theatre.

Oct. 13, 1985 was the day of dedication for the Branchview sanctuary.

The church looks forward with great anticipation to the completion of the future phases of the building program. Moving ahead reflects the spirit of missions as the church strives to more effectively meet the needs of Concord and Cabarrus County.

Congratulations From
CONCORD PRINTING CO.
849 Davidson Dr. NW
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786-3717
Pastors who have served

- The Rev. J.D. Newton — April 15, 1888 to Jan. 31, 1891
- The Rev. M.A. Adams — Supply pastor, June 4, 1891
- The Rev. J.E. McManaway — Oct. 11, 1891 to Dec. 27, 1891
- The Rev. J.O. Alderman — April 17, 1892 to March 15, 1896
- The Rev. J.J. Payseur — March 28, 1896 to July 24, 1898
- The Rev. Lacy B. Hoge — Dec. 11, 1898 to Nov. 12, 1901
- The Rev. J.E. Smith — Dec. 1901 to Nov. 6, 1904
- The Rev. S.N. Watson — March 17, 1907 to Dec. 1912
- The Rev. George V. Tilley — June 1, 1914 to Oct. 20, 1916
- The Rev. G.A. Martin — March 1, 1919 to Nov. 30, 1924
- The Rev. E.A. Tibbs — Supply pastor, June 7, 1925 to Oct. 1, 1925
- The Rev. C.H. Trueblood — Dec. 6, 1925 to Feb. 9, 1930
- The Rev. E.S. Summers — April 13, 1930 to July 7, 1932
- The Rev. Thurman B. Stone — March 11, 1953 to Aug. 20, 1960
- Dr. E. Eugene Hunsinger — June 7, 1981 to present
Teaching is Christian service

Adult I.
- Age 18-29, Singles.
  Teachers: Bryce Moore, Lee Terrell.
- Age 18-29, Couples.
  Teachers: Charlie Barrier, Eric Price, John Weast.

Adult II.
- Age 30-44, Singles.
  Teacher: Chuck Hicks.
- Age 30-44, Couples.
  Teacher: Terry Hunt.
- Age 30-44, Co-Ed.
  Teacher: David Wightman.

Adult III.
- Age 45-55, Assembly.
  Teacher: Emmett Robertson.
- Age 45-55, men.
  Teachers: E.E. Bishop, Jim Bass.
- Age 45-55, women.
  Teacher: Margaret Terrell.
- Age 45-55, Couples.
  Teacher: Jim Hoffman.

Adult IV.
- Age 56-64, men.
  Teacher: Ed Glover.
- Age 56-62, women.
  Teacher: Gwen Bass.
- Age 63-66, women.
  Teacher: Lora Little.
- Age 67-70, women.
  Teacher: Judi Allen.
- Age 70-74, women.
  Teacher: Pauline Hughes.

Adult V.
- Age 65 and up, men.
  Teacher: Al Stanford.
- Age 75 and up, women.
  Teacher: Sarah Bishop.
The First Baptist Church of Concord is celebrating its 100th year.

Beginning in 1886 with the Rev. George P. Bostick and traveling 100 years to Dr. E. Eugene Hunsinger, First Baptist Church has had many years of fruitful Christian service.

Thousands have passed through these doors. Thousands have been fed — physically and spiritually. Thousands have come to know the Savior.

Marriages . . . funerals . . . baptisms . . . all memories that 100 years of time cannot destroy. The church is alive and well through its people, its pastor, and the God it serves.
celebrating 100 years of ministry this year.

... these are cannot erase. The people, the children

cannot erase. The people, the children

Jesus said, "Upon this Rock I will build my Church; the Gates of Hell shall not prevail against it."

The future is shining bright. Another 100 years await.
First Baptist: a family tradition

Elbert and Audrey Swink

By ELBERT SWINK

First Baptist Church of Concord has always occupied a very prominent place in our lives. In fact, it was at a BYPU (now Church Training) social that Audrey and I first met. Later we married at First Baptist and have been active participants in many capacities ever since.

When our son, David, was born, he also became part of the church life and continued in it as long as he lived in Concord. We shall always be grateful for the Christian training he received.

Through the years, the church has offered us many opportunities to grow as Christians and opened many avenues of service to us. My fondest memories are of my experiences working with young people. Although Audrey’s main interest was the choir, she was my staunchest supporter.

It has been a real joy to watch many of our young people grow up, marry and raise Christian families within the church and take an active part in its mission. Some have dedicated their lives to serving Christ in many parts of the world.

Even when I was serving my country on foreign soil, I never felt outside the love of my church fellowship. Although I was strictly a city boy, I have become "countryfied" in my later years with gardening my favorite hobby.

When Audrey and I are not sharing in the gardening, you will most likely find her with a good book in hand. Although we’re still very much involved in the life of the church, we have traded our more active roles for those of Young Hearts (senior citizens). We have learned that one never gets too old to serve the Lord or to be part of the church.

As our church grows in numbers, so does its outreach. Its programs are expanding to meet the needs of all ages. There are opportunities for us to grow as Christians, to have fellowship with one another, to minister to each other, to be of service within the church family and to reach out beyond the walls of our building.

Our wonderful staff is dedicated to these goals and for them we are most grateful.

Retha Coleman: An opportunity to serve

By RETHA COLEMAN

I came to First Baptist Church quite by accident. I had no idea of what I was looking for or where to begin to find it. I just knew there had to be more to church than what I had experienced.

So last October, I began making the rounds of churches, with First Baptist being my first stop. It didn’t take many Sundays until I knew this was what I had been looking for.

The music was beautiful and uplifting. The sermons were thought-provoking and inspirational. But most of all, people smiled and were friendly. The singles class was open, warm and friendly. Immediately, I was made to feel part of the group.

All of this was instrumental in my choosing First Baptist. Soon I knew this was where my church membership should be.

First Baptist is now giving me the opportunity to be a servant. I am volunteering my help to Providence Baptist in Harrisburg.

So even though I have been away from church for the last two months (and may be for a few more), First Baptist is still my choice.
Barbara and Tom Rogers, with Ashley and Kristen

Tom Rogers:
Providing a Christian home

By TOM ROGERS

When I was a little boy, I can remember wanting to be just like my dad, because he was bigger than life to me. Thank God he was a Christian and I was raised in a Christian home. Barbara also was raised in a Christian home by loving and caring parents. As parents of children ourselves, we feel that they will have a much better chance of making the right choices if they have that same Christian home and church environment.

Children imitate parents, so we try to live an example that will let them see Jesus Christ in us. We as a family live our lives with Christ in the center. I have been a member of First Baptist Church for 25 years and Barbara has been since our marriage in 1969. Shortly after we were married, the first couples class was formed at First Baptist— and we were a part of it. We felt that class helped us grow as Christians and as newlyweds.

Over the years, we have had the opportunity to grow with our church in many ways. When our daughter, Kristen, was born, one of the first things we did was join a group of new parents in a baby dedication service and dedicate our precious gift to God, promising to raise her in a Christian home. This was also true when our son, Ashley, was born.

Naturally, our primary concern became giving our children a good Christian home and education. First Baptist offered them that Christian growth opportunity. From Cradle Roll to the present, it has been a continuing education.

When our church began discussing a new building, our family became very excited, since there would be an expansion of our educational programs. 

See ROGERS, page 12

Jeff and Jody Barnhardt:
A Christian welcome

By JEFF and JODY BARNHARDT

Our family first attended First Baptist Church this past spring. We readily welcomed the love and friendship with which we were received.

As time went on, we realized this compassion exemplifies the people of First Baptist. Individually, as well as collectively, our family is stimulated, fulfilled and ministered to through the various activities and special programs.

One of the greatest blessings has been the excitement and joy with which our three-year-old daughter, Jaleen, now attends Sunday School. Her new attitude is a reflection of the love and special attention given by her teachers during Sunday school, tea party, Mission Friends and choir.

What a blessing it is to watch our daughter let go of our hands, and with a huge smile, kiss us good-bye and giggle as she races to the company of her classmates.

This small portion of Christ’s body is a “melting pot” of believers. We have a sensitive pastor and staff who continually strive to minister to the needs, similarities and differences of our congregation.

The Christians at First Baptist are not a perfect people, but are definitely a very loving and accepting people.

As new members we invite you to join with us in worshipping God this Sunday.
A mother church

First Baptist Church and its members were instrumental in founding five other Baptist churches in Cabarrus County. This family tree shows First Baptist and her "daughters."

First Baptist Church
1886

McGill Avenue Baptist Church
1898

Young Street Baptist Church
1930

Pitts Baptist Church
1943

Immanuel Baptist Church
1951

Providence Baptist Church
1973

CONGRATULATIONS!
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
ON YOUR
100th Anniversary

Snyder Packaging
BEST WISHES
TO OUR FRIENDS AT
FIRST BAPTIST

Congratulations Now...
And Good Luck
For The Future.

THE CONCORD TRIBUNE
Serving more homes in Concord and Cabarrus County than any other newspaper
A night for Christian families

Wednesday night is family night at First Baptist Church.
Supper begins at 5:45 p.m. and serving ends at 6:20.
At 6:30, after the tables are cleared, mission activities for youth begin:
- Mission Friends, ages 2-3.
- Mission Friends, ages 4-5.
- G.A.s, grades 1-3 and grades 4-5.
- R.A.s, grade 1, grades 2-3, and grades 4-6.
- Youth rap for grades 7-12, from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m.

For adults, there are activities as well:
Adult Church Training and the Wednesday night prayer service begin at 7 o'clock and last an hour.
Choir participation for all ages is encouraged, as even the littlest singer may join a group.
Between 7:15 and 8 p.m., practice is held for the Angel Choir (ages 2-3), the Cherub Choir (ages 4-5), the Carol Choir (grades 1-3) and the Chapel Choir (grades 4-6).
Youth visitation also occurs during this time.
The adult singers of First Baptist — the Chancel Choir — rehearse at 8:05.

Let music fill the air

The music ministry of First Baptist Church is a strong one, led by the Rev. Barry Carter, minister of music.
The musical life includes a variety of activities for all ages, under his direction.
September kicked off the new musical church year.
Choirs are open to children ages 2 through grade 6 with rehearsals on Wednesday evenings.
Youth in grades 7-12 participate in their own special group — the Sounds of Seraphim. The choir practices on Sunday afternoons.
Adults also have the opportunity to "make a joyful noise unto the Lord" by being a part of the Chancel Choir, which practices on Wednesday nights.
The tinkling of melodic handbells is often heard in the sanctuary of First Baptist Church. Children in grades 4-6, youth in grades 7-12 and adults all may be a part of handbell choirs. The children's handbell group meets on Monday, youth on Sunday and adults on Thursday.

Tom Rogers: a testimony

From page 9
These programs include Royal Ambassadors, Girls in Action, Acteens, Youth, Sounds of Seraphim, other graded choirs, handbells, summer camps, special events and activities, drama, puppeteers, social and athletic programs, plus much more.
They offer our children chances to be involved in solid activities to help them grow and develop as young Christians.

It was through our pastor's orientation class on becoming a Christian and church member — plus our home training — that first Kristen and then Ashley accepted Christ.
We thank the Lord for those decisions and a church and pastor that provide the help and guidance to parents to prepare children for life and the tough choices they must make.
After 17 years of marriage, Barbara and I find most of our friends and our best friends are right here at First Baptist.

I suppose that's the way it should be. Our family motto, "You Can Have Fun With God," works for us.
Wednesday night, Family Night, is one of our favorite times at First Baptist Church. There are good fellowship, food, music, training and the chance for informal discussions.
We just can't thank God enough for leading us to First Baptist Church and for a pastor and staff with a vision, plus the competence and dedication to lead us to it.

We look back with grateful pride. We look to the future with the joy, hope and expectation of "what next," as we build our dreams "Upon the Rock."
Volunteers help build church

Members of First Baptist Church in Concord were among volunteers who helped to build the first Southern Baptist Chapel in Petersburg, West Virginia.

On Sunday Dr. John Crook, Newman Crook, Mrs. Carolyn Stuckey, R. Mark Smith, Jeff Hartsell, Wade Carter, and Jim Camp traveled up the rough road that had been cut into the site. The vehicles needed to do the work had to be pulled in by a tractor because of rain and darkness, although the buildings footing had already been poured.

On Monday the group began work at 7:30 a.m. and by day's end, the corners were set and bricks were being laid around the wall. The group's goal was to prepare to pour the floor by Tuesday.

The church family provided meals and the Concord volunteers noted a fellowship developed quickly as the Virginians opened their homes to the group and shared experiences in common.

On Tuesday, Joe Helmintoller, Johnny Cooper and Tom Massey of the Kannapolis Construction Co. arrived to help pour the flooring. The group laid blocks and prepared to pour the concrete Wednesday morning. By Thursday the floor was finished and ready for the walls to be finished.

The group returned to Concord on Friday with new memories and friendships founded during their work.

Two South Carolina churches are scheduled to spend three weeks in Petersburg later this summer. Southern Baptist Church hopes to worship in its new building by the fall.

CHURCH RAISINGS are not necessarily a thing of the past as proved recently by members of Concord's First Baptist Church. Wade Carter, Jim Camp and Jeff Hartsell (shown left to right) were among several local churchmen who traveled to Petersburg, W.Va., to help in the "raising" of the Southern Baptist Chapel.
Church daycare ministry to young

By PENNY BARKLEY
Staff Writer

The director of First Baptist Christian Child Development Center in Mt. Pleasant admits she was reluctant to take the job at first, but says it has turned out to be a job she finds rewarding.

"Working with children can be stressful, but also rewarding," said Jane McManus, director of the daycare.

"The whole idea of having a daycare here (at First Baptist Church in Mt. Pleasant) started about six years ago when the church formed a committee to look into the possibility of providing Christian daycare services," she said.

But the turning point in McManus' decision to become involved in the daycare program came when she was sent by the church to a workshop where she heard Bob Goode, who worked for the N.C. Baptist Association, give a speech about the church's obligation to provide quality Christian daycare for children.

"I had been praying about what to do. And then when he spoke about this, I felt like it was an opportunity the Lord opened up for me."

The daycare opened April 1, 1985, and in the five years since, enrollment has climbed to near its capacity of 75. It now has 63 students.

"We try to keep a low staff to child ratio. State law requires there be one teacher per seven infants. We only allow five infants per one teacher," she said.

First Baptist offers the only daycare in Mt. Pleasant, McManus said.

"The church sees this a ministry. This is an outreach of the church. We try to plant the seed of Christ in every child," McManus said.

In addition, the church pays for the building where the program operates and provides additional funding of the program, since the daycare is a non-profit organization, McManus said.

The church also buys Bibles which are presented to each child on their birthday.

The daycare, which is open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., provides educational opportunities for infants through pre-school aged children, along with providing an afterschool program for school age children.

"Our goal is to provide education for the children. Infants are taught motor skills and Bible studies, which continue through the toddler program," she said.

"Our two-year-olds are taught how to have good self-esteem, Christian values, good manners and social behavior. Our three- to four-year-olds know their numbers and colors and can recite some Bible verses. We also teach beginning reading skills to this class."

The afternoon program provides a home like environment where children can relax after school.

In addition there is a summer daycare program available, which is set up something like a summer camp, McManus said.

The daycare program also has a PTA (Parent Teacher Association) program where parents are encouraged to work in conjunction with church members and children in the daycare.

"It's good for the children to see the church and parents working together for a good loving Christian involvement," McManus credits most of her training to experience, although she has attended workshops and training just like other staff members are required to take.

"I had never done anything like this, or worked with children outside of teaching Sunday School and with my own two children," she said.

"I learned a lot from Mary Lou Dickey, director of the Thomasville Children's Home, who helped to set the program up."

McManus said her duties include directing the program, public relations, cooking, working with parents and whatever else is necessary.

"A director has to fill in where needed, such as cooking like I have to do when the cook goes on vacation or is not here."

Future plans may include expansion, but the daycare doesn't want to lose the feel of a small daycare center, McManus said.

"We don't want to get so big that we can't provide the children with a good, loving, Christian environment and close personal attention."

McManus enjoys teaching Sunday School, arts and crafts, including tole painting and woodworking, and is starting to raise Himalyan cats with her husband.

Rev. Eddie Barbee is pastor of the church and Mickey Smith serves as chairman of the church committee.

Teachers at the church are Lorretta Stirewalt, infant; Marvel Caudle, toddler; Marty Page, two year old; Carolyn Key, three year old; preschool age and assistant director, Cathy Smith; school age class, Cathy Webb; cook, Lois Henson.
Dr. Robert L. Newton, director of family ministries with the North Carolina Baptist Convention, will be guest preacher for the 11 a.m. worship Sunday at First Baptist Church, while Dr. Robert W. Bailey, pastor of the church, is conducting revival services in Smyrna, Ga.

Dr. Newton was recently appointed to his post following Doug Cole's promotion to director of the Christian Life Council.

A native of Durham, he holds degrees from Duke, Yale and Chicago Theological Seminary. He has served Baptist churches as pastor, was an instructor at Wake Forest University, and was chaplain and professor of religion at Campbell College.

His was appointed to his present post from his pastorate at First Baptist Church, Blowing Rock.

Dr. Newton and his wife have four children.
First Baptist Church

Dr. Eugene Hunsinger

In 1886, the Rev. Jacob Monroe McCurdy, a member of one of the first families to settle in Cabarrus County, gave the first dollar toward the building of a house of worship for the Baptists in the city of Concord.

McCurdy, whose ancestors are still faithful members of First Baptist Church, requested the State Mission Board in Raleigh to send someone here to study the need for a Baptist Church.

A Sunday school was established in the home of Major A.J. Dodamead, at the intersection of Cabarrus and Spring, and meetings soon had to be relocated in the old court house because of the growing number of worshipers.

Saunders Sapp donated the timber to erect a church building at the site of the present church building and the first service in the new building was held in January of 1889, with 55 members.

Facilities were expanded in 1896 because more seating was needed for the growing congregation.

In 1898, the Rev. Lacy B. Hoge led another band of Baptists in organizing what is now McGill Avenue Baptist Church.

First Baptist Church was free of debt in 1900, 14 years after it was organized.

The parsonage was located on Grove Street, but property was purchased on Spring Street and a new parsonage built there, completed in 1914.

The present sanctuary was completed in 1924.

The church grew over the next 22 years and its congregation was instrumental in organizing Young Street Baptist Church in 1930, Pitts Baptist Church in 1943 and Immanuel Baptist Church in 1951.

An educational building was completed in 1956 and a new parsonage was purchased on South Union Street.

Property adjacent to the church was purchased, the houses removed and the lot was paved for parking.

In 1964, First Baptist Church organized Providence Baptist Mission in Harrisburg and the mission was a fully organized as a church in October, 1973.

The congregation has experienced steady growth under the leadership of the Rev. Jack Hill and Dr. Robert W. Bailey.

Dr. E. Eugene Hunsinger became the pastor on June 1, 1981, and the growth rate at present is increasing.
Baptist will honor Mrs. Smith Sunday

ED READLING
Religion Editor

Mrs. Mollie Smith will be 93 years old Sunday and a host of warm friends and fellow members at First Baptist Church are planning to help her celebrate.

She will receive special recognition for her "determined spirit, marvelous attitude, and deep love for Christ and his church."

Mrs. Smith attended services at her beloved church 50 of the 52 Sundays last year, and was out of town the Sundays she missed.

Known for her dedication, she made 23 contacts for her Sunday school class last week.

She lives alone at 63 Douglas Ave., and has no car, but she makes up for these handicaps by remaining active on the telephone for the benefit of her church.

Born in Montgomery County, the daughter of the late Frank and Elizabeth Bruton, she moved to the Big Lick area of Stanly County when she was young, then later married Lemuel Smith, a farmer.

She joined the Methodist Church when she was 13 years old, then switched her membership to the Baptist Church about the time she was married.

She and her husband were parents of six sons, two still living.

They moved to Liberty Street in Concord about 1944 and her husband worked in the mill.

Her son, Floyd, operated a bread route for a bakery and the other son, Bruton, was employed at Hugh Grey Hosiery Company.

They moved to Douglas Avenue and it was here that her son Bruton began his used car business, right in the yard of the residence, Mrs. Smith said.

She moved to South Union Street and her husband died. Then there was another move before she came back to the very home in which they lived just after World War II.

Floyd is now retired and Mrs. Mollie Smith
A "refugee rally," planned to encourage local people to become involved in the resettlement of two Vietnamese families who recently arrived here, will be held at 2:30 p.m. Sunday at First Baptist Church and principal speaker will be Gene V. Tunnell of the Baptist Home Mission Board.

The rally will feature a film and a program depicting the hardships being suffered by Vietnamese "boat people" and outlining measures being taken by Southern Baptist churches to help them.

Also scheduled are two workshops which will help Cordovians to communicate with these refugee families by teaching "survival English."

The workshops are at First Baptist Church from 7 to 9:30 tonight and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

Both workshops and the Sunday afternoon rally are open to the public, said Dr. Robert W. Bailey, pastor of the host church.

Dr. Bailey said response from local people to the needs of the two families has been good.

At present, one of the six-member families is housed in a five-room, residence and the other family, also six members, is living temporarily in an apartment until a house can be secured for them.

Dr. Bailey said the most pressing needs for these families at present are employment and transportation, and some financial assistance to pay rent, utilities and to purchase food until they can secure jobs.

They have the basic furnishings for their home, but there are still some miscellaneous needs in this category also, he said.

Persons willing to volunteer their services or to donate items may call First Baptist Church, Mrs. Margaret Terrell at 786-9076, or W. Harold Moss of Kannapolis, the third member of the Cabarrus Baptist Association’s committee in charge.

Tunnell, featured speaker for the Sunday afternoon rally, will also speak for the 11 a.m. worship at First Baptist Church.

Tunnell is a missionary of the Home Mission Board, serving as consultant with refugees in the Language Missions Department, Atlanta.

Prior to his appointment to this post last December, he was in language school in Costa Rica with the Foreign Mission Board.

From 1972 to 1975, he was director of Baptist Social Ministries in Vietnam with the Foreign Mission Board.

He has also served with the Home Mission Board as community ministries director and adjunct professor of social work at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex.

He speaks English, Vietnamese and Spanish.

A St. Louis native, Tunnell is a graduate of Stetson University, DeLand, Fla., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and the University of Texas at Arlington, where he received his Ph.D. degree in social work.

He is married to the former Miss Priscilla Jones of Atlanta and they have a son, Mark Tunnell.
First Baptist event begins final week

The Fall Festival of Celebration and Renewal at First Baptist Church will begin its final week Sunday with Dr. James Cammack, author, Bible teacher and pastor of Snyder Memorial Baptist Church in Fayetteville, as guest preacher.

Dr. Cammack will preach for the 11 a.m. worship Sunday and at 7:30 p.m. Sunday through Wednesday.

Special music is planned by the chancel choir, carol choir, handbell choir, chapel choir and the men’s chorus.

Nursery facilities for children through 3 years old will be available.

Dr. Robert W. Bailey is senior minister at First Baptist Church. Dr. Cammack is a native of Dallas, Tex., and has served at Snyder Memorial Baptist Church in Fayetteville for 22 years.

(The church was named as a memorial to the Rev. Joel S. Snyder, an uncle of Miss Letha Snyder, who is a member at First Baptist Church)

He is a graduate of Tulane University’s Engineering School, received his A.B. degree at Baylor University and his M.Div. degree at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

A veteran of several preaching missions abroad, he has served as trustee of the South Carolina Home for the Aging, Campbell College and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Mo., and is presently a trustee of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and Wake Forest University.

He has also served as president of the North Carolina Pastors Conference, member of the General Board of the State Convention, president of the Executive Committee and member of the Baptist Christian Life and Public Affairs Commission.

Active in the Fayetteville community life over two decades, he is a Kiwanian, board member for the Cancer Society, Red Cross, Council on Human Relations, Mental Health Committee and numerous other public service organizations.

Dr. Cammack is author of the book, “Yours to Share,” and has published several articles in denominational periodicals.

Mrs. Cammack is the former Miss Judy Wallace of Waynesboro, Ga., and they have a married son who lives in Charlotte.
Baptists vote for relocation

The congregation of Concord’s First Baptist Church voted last Sunday to relocate and build a completely new church plant.

Mark Smith, chairman of the Building Committee, said his group is very well pleased with the more than 80 per cent approval of the project and the support indicated by the congregation.

Smith said the committee’s first task will be to select a site for the new structure.

First Baptist Church has for almost a decade owned a building site on Branchview, but the final decision for relocation will not be decided until the committee completes its survey.

When the location is agreed upon, the committee will begin to contact architects and go from there.
Young people of grades 7 through 12 of First Baptist Church will have a three-day emphasis on learning, sharing, teaching, leading and fellowship this weekend, according to Dr. Robert W. Bailey, senior minister of the church.

Tonight they will have a lock-in, with games, discussion and a feature film, and Saturday they will have recreation and a cookout at Myers Park before going to the church to review plans for Sunday worship.

The young people will teach Sunday school classes in Youth I and II, and the Sounds of Seraphim, the 55-voice youth choir, will sing several selections during the 11 a.m. worship.

David Klages, working with choir director Bill Cone, will direct some of the music.

Other young people leading in the worship will be Debbie Collins, Nancy Klages and Mark Robertson, who will lead the youth ushers.

The two youth speakers for the morning worship will be Lee Terrell, a 10th grade student at Northwest Cabarrus High School and a member of First Baptist Church for five years; and Gill Marks, a senior at Concord High and an American Field Service student from Rhodesia who is spending the year with the Dr. David Collins family.

The 7:30 p.m. vesper service will be an evening of music, presented by the youth of the church.

All services are open to the public.
A day of special events at First Baptist Church will begin at 7:30 Sunday morning with a breakfast for the Men of the Church and guest speaker will be the Rev. R. N. Honeycutt of Salisbury, oldest active Baptist preacher in North Carolina.

This event will open activities in observance of Baptist Men’s Day, to be celebrated Sunday throughout the Southern Baptist Convention.

Dr. Robert W. Bailey, pastor at First Baptist Church, said mission plans will be discussed during a business session at the men’s meeting.

Worship leader for the 11 a.m. service will be Scott Padgett, head of the Crusader Royal Ambassadors, an organization of young men sponsored by the church men’s organization. Dr. Bailey will preach on “Walking in Righteousness.”

Vesper worship at 7:30 p.m. will feature music by the church youth choir, “The Sounds of Seraphim,” a skit by Youth Puppeters, and a brief color film based on Tolstoy’s short story, “Martin the Cobbler.”
Special services planned at First Baptist Church

Dr. J. George Reed, director of the Department of Citizenship Education, Christian Life Council, North Carolina Baptist Convention, will be guest speaker for the 11 a.m. worship Sunday at First Baptist Church, according to announcement by Dr. Robert W. Bailey, pastor.

As part of an emphasis on Christian Citizenship Dr. Reed will speak on the topic, "Tear Down the Walls."

A native of Florida, Dr. Reed is a graduate of Florida State University with a B.A. degree, received his master of divinity at Southern Baptist Seminary and his J.D. degree at the University of Virginia Law School.

His diverse background includes being a radio announcer, church staff member, BSU chaplain, pastor of a church and a law clerk.

He was ordained in 1970, is single, and engaged to be married this year.

Film scheduled Sunday night

An evening service at First Baptist Church will feature a new film called "Shiokari Pass," released by the producers of "Hiding Place."

Scheduled for 7:30 p.m., the film has an English soundtrack, but was produced in Japan, with Japanese cast members, for Japanese audiences.

It is a true story, based on the international best seller by Ayako Miura.

Set in the esthetic beauty of Japan, the film is credited with creating a deeper understanding of the Christian faith among the Japanese.

The movie is open to the public and there will be no admission.
Congregation will ‘roast’ Dr. Howell

Dr. Kelly Howell and his family will be honored at a covered dish supper in the First Baptist Church fellowship hall Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

Dr. Howell has recently accepted a call to become minister of education and administration at First Baptist Church, Hickory, and will assume his duties there April 16.

Part of the Wednesday night honors will be a “roast” for the popular minister.

Concord Tribune
Dunn Record
Durham Herald
Durham Sun
Elizabeth City Advance
Fayetteville Observer
Fayetteville Times
Gastonia Gazette
Goldsboro: News-Argus
Greensboro Daily News

4/3/78
Some 40 members of the "Sounds of Seraphim" will present "Joy," a dramatic musical, at First Baptist Church on Spring Street at the 7:30 Vesper Worship Sunday.

The presentation is written by Ed Seabough and Bill Gates, directed by Bill Cone and accompanied by Wilma Jackson. Featured vocalists will be Nancy Klages, David Klages, Scott Swaringen and Amy Cooper. Desserts will be served in the fellowship hall following the program.
New study at First Baptist

Women of First Baptist Church will sponsor a new three-week study to be held at 10 a.m. each Tuesday and Dr. Robert W. Bailey, pastor, will lead the course on the “Difficult Sayings of Jesus.”

These studies are a result of suggestions from the more than 60 people from eight area churches who participated in a study of James, held on Tuesday mornings during January and February and sponsored by the church women.

Classes are open to the public and information is available at First Baptist Church office.

Concord Tribune
Dunn Record
Durham Herald
Durham Sun
Elizabeth City Advance
Fayetteville Observer
Fayetteville Times
Gastonia Gazette
Goldsboro: News-Argus
Greensboro Daily News

MAR 2 1979
Appreciation Day

The congregation of First Baptist Church on Tournament and Chestnut Street will hold an appreciation day service for their pastor, the Rev. V. M. Worthy, Sunday.

The morning service will be conducted by the Rev. John Miller of Mt. Pleasant. Speaker for the afternoon service at 3 p.m. will be the Rev. L. D. Parker, who will be accompanied by his congregation from St. Luke Baptist Church of Charlotte.

Prior to the afternoon service, a prayer service will be held at 2:30 p.m.
First Baptist Church to hold series of services

Following extensive preparations, First Baptist Church will host revival services during the coming week with Dr. Gene Watterson of First Baptist Church, Shelby, as guest speaker.

In making the announcement, Dr. Robert W. Bailey, pastor, said services will begin at 11 a.m. Sunday and continue at 7:30 p.m. Sunday through Wednesday.

Special events will include a 7:30 a.m. men's fellowship breakfast Sunday and a special morning worship at 11 a.m. Tuesday.

Nursery facilities will be available for each service, beginning 15 minutes before worship.

Special prayer meetings have been a major effort in preparing for the series of services, Dr. Bailey said, and each worship will feature choirs and congregational singing.

Dr. Watterson, pastor of the Shelby church since 1969, is a native of Alabama, graduate of Sanford University, William and Mary and Southeastern Seminary.

He has held pastorates in Virginia, Florida and North Carolina, is a member of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee and president of the Council on Christian Higher Education in North Carolina.

Gardner-Webb College conferred the honorary doctor of divinity degrees upon him in 1974.

Married and father of two daughters and a son, he also served on the Commission of Housing and Urban Redevelopment and Human Relations Council in Shelby.

Dr. Gene Watterson
The Rev. Robert H. Bruhn, director of pastor-church relations in the North Carolina Baptist State Convention, will be guest speaker for the 11 a.m. worship Sunday at First Baptist Church in the absence of the Rev. Robert W. Bailey, pastor, who is attending the Congress of the Laity in Los Angeles.

Bruhn is a graduate of the University of South Carolina and Southeastern Seminary, where he received the bachelor of divinity and master of theology degrees.

He has served pastorates in Haw River, Brassfield, Asheville and Marshall and has been a chaplain at John Umstead Hospital, also for United Social Services.

Mrs. Bruhn is the former Miss Loven Radionoff, and their family includes two sons.
The Handbell V Choir of First Baptist Church will present a concert of sacred music Sunday at 7 p.m., the first handbell concert given in Concord by an adult group.

First Baptist Church has had three children's handbell choirs for several years, but a number of adults expressed interest in forming an adult handbell choir last summer and from this beginning two choirs were formed. Under the direction of Mrs. James F. Hinson, minister of music, and Mrs. Saidee Jackson, assistant, the nearly two dozen adults organized one choir for persons who had no formal music training and another, Handbell V, for persons with training in either instrumental or vocal music.

Bells have been predominant in church music for centuries, and the three-octave set built by Schulmerich Carillons Inc. of Sellersville, Pa., was given to First Baptist Church in memory of a widely known former minister, Dr. E. S. Summers.

The Sunday evening concert is open to the public and will include traditional selections adapted for bells, along with familiar hymns. The choir is composed of Mrs. Robert W. Bailey, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Cone, Mrs. Gerald Cook, Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Hamilton, Mrs. Saidee Jackson, Miss Wilma Jackson, Mrs. Mark Smith, Mrs. David Snyder and Mrs. Stan Wilhelm.

They have given for the Concord Kiw and another is sche the Lions Club meetin.
First Baptists set missions day event

Sunday will be Missions Day at First Baptist Church, according to announcement by Dr. Robert W. Bailey, pastor, and special guest for the morning and evening services will be Dr. George W. Braswell Jr., former missionary to Iran and at present professor at Southeastern Baptist Seminary.

Dr. Braswell will preach for the 11 a.m. worship, teach highlights of his book, "To Ride a Magic Carpet," at 6:30 p.m., and deliver an inspirational address at the 7:30 vespers.

A luncheon will follow the Sunday morning worship in the fellowship hall.

The guest speaker is a graduate of Wake Forest University and holds advanced degrees from Yale, the University of North Carolina and Southeastern Seminary.

This year he was on a special assignment to the Middle East.

Mrs. Braswell is the former Miss Jane Owen of Canton and the family includes three children.

Dr. George W. Braswell

Song service

A gospel song service will be held at First Baptist Church in Harrisburg Saturday at 7 p.m. and will feature the Riverside Boys of Lockhart, S.C. The Rev. Charlie Gibson is pastor of the church.
First Baptists call new minister of education

Following a year of search, the committee seeking a new minister of education at First Baptist Church has made its recommendation and the congregation voted unanimously last Sunday to call the Rev. James H. Camp, director of support services at Baptist Children's Home in Thomasville.

Camp has accepted the call and will be in the process of relocating prior to beginning his duties here. He is a native of York County, S. C., a graduate of Presbyterian College with a B.A. degree, and received a master of religious education degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

He served with the Home Mission Board as summer missionary and was minister of education at Shively Heights Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky. Prior to his work with Baptist Children Homes, he served as youth director and resident camp director for the YMCA in Richmond and Lynchburg, Va.

In community affairs, he has been PTA president, Civitan Club president and member of the Human Relations Committee.

Mrs. Camp is the former Miss Joyce Auten of Charlotte, a graduate of Winthrop College and Southern Seminary with an M.R.E. degree. She has worked as home-school coordinator for the Thomasville City Schools and has been involved in the work of her church.

The Camps have three children, Rosemary, who was summer youth worker in the Cabarrus Baptist Association last year and will graduate from Meredith College this year; Joyce Lynn, sophomore at Wake Forest University; and Jim, a 9th grader in high school.
By GARY L. WRIGHT  
Observer Concord Bureau

CONCORD — Ten months ago, John Norris didn't think Americans ought to "stick our noses" into the Vietnamese refugees' troubles.

But when Norris, 35, learned more about the thousands of boat people stranded at sea or herded into refugee camps, he had what he called "a change of heart and mind."

Norris wondered what he could do to help and asked the Rev. Robert Bailey of the First Baptist Church in Concord.

His question set in motion the Cabarrus Baptist Association's six-month effort to find homes for refugees, culminating Monday with the arrival of two Vietnamese families in Concord.

"We saw there were some people who were hungry and needed to be fed and who were homeless who needed a home," Bailey said Thursday. "It was a life-and-death situation for these people, who were trying to flee communist oppression ... ."

Bailey said the 12 refugees sold their belongings to pay for their escape.

After a perilous journey at sea, they spent months in a refugee camp in Malaysia before being airlifted to San Francisco and then to Charlotte.

Bailey and others wouldn't tell where the families are living, saying they were tired from their trip and wouldn't want too much publicity.

Norris feels good about the effort.

"We've seen the needs of others and have been able to respond without having self in mind," Norris said. "It's made us realize how good we've got it here."

The refugees' arrival doesn't mean the association's work is done. The effort to help them settle into new surroundings has just begun.

Church members are rounding up food, clothing and furnishings for them. They also sponsored a workshop, which concludes today, for residents who want to teach the refugees English.

The Baptist association will stage a 2:30 p.m. rally for the refugees Sunday at the First Baptist Church, 49 Spring St. NW.

Bailey said he didn't think it would be long before the refugees, whom he called capable, confident, industrious and energetic people, begin to feel at home in Cabarrus County.

Three refugees — Bui Van Lo, his wife, Tran Thi Leng and Tran Su Phuong — were hired Friday and will begin work Monday at the Concord Lace Corp.

The Baptist association is asking for contributions to make sure the two families have enough money for necessities until they find jobs to support themselves. Those interested should send contributions to the Cabarrus Baptist Association, 169 Spring St., Concord, N.C. 28025.
First Baptist continue home missions emphasis

Home mission emphasis is continuing in Baptist congregations and a highlight of the observance at First Baptist Church will be a guest preacher for the 11 a.m. workshop, Don Hammonds, director of the Department of Special Missions Ministries in the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board for the past eight years.

Another Sunday highlight will be a report, complete with color slides, on the church's 1978 special mission to Ohio, to be presented during vespers.

The Sunday morning speaker is a brother of Concord's Dr. Bob Hammonds, a native of Eaton­ton, Ga., and a graduate of Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta.

He received his master of religious education degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., and his master of student counseling degree from the University of Southern Mississippi.

He came to the Home Mission Board in Atlanta from Hammond, La., where he had served as Baptist Student Union director for Southeastern Louisiana College from 1960 to 1967.

Mrs. Hammond is the former Miss Betty Sue Wagner of Farrar, Ga., and they have four children.

Hammond will be in the First Baptist sanctuary from 9: 45 to 10: 30 a.m. Sunday to answer questions concerning mission work.

The Home Mission Offering goal for the church is $1,100.
The 50-voice youth choir of First Baptist Church, Concord, "The Sounds of Seraphim" will present the musical "Make it Clear" in the Thyatira Presbyterian Church sanctuary on Sunday at 6 p.m. "The Sounds of Seraphim" is one of the largest youth choirs in the Metrolina area. It is composed of young people in the 7th through 12th grades who have presented four other musicals over the past four years. In addition to giving regular leadership in the worship at First Baptist Church in Concord they have sung at associational and other church-related functions and have also sung in churches in other states.

The choir is directed by Wilson Cone Jr., a lay member of the First Baptist Church, and accompanied by Miss Elizabeth Hinson.
First Baptist pastor has new manuscript published

Dr. Robert W. Bailey, pastor of First Baptist Church, has a book published this week by Hawthorne Press.

The manuscript is written primarily for ministers and its title is "The Minister and Grief."

It offers suggestions on dealing with situations of bereavement.

Dr. Bailey has written numerous articles for publication in both denominational and interdenominational publications, but this is his first full length book.

Since coming to First Baptist Church here in February of last year, the young minister has been active in both the Concord Ministers Association and the Cabarrus Baptist Ministers Association.

He has been much in demand as speaker and teacher, serving as speaker at a statewide conference on "The Preacher and His Worship," and teaching a course on "Death and Dying" for Rowan Technical Institute.

Dr. Bailey is also scheduled to lead in a statewide family life conference in Greensboro.

Popular as both college, seminary and workshop speaker, he has received more than a dozen special honors from national agencies and institutions.

Both Dr. Bailey and his wife, who holds a master's degree in religious education, have been commissioned to write for Sunday school teaching materials.

Both were named to "Outstanding Young Women and Men of the Year" in 1975 and Dr. Bailey has been named to "Who's Who in Religion."

Dr. Bailey first wrote his manuscript dealing with bereavement especially for his colleagues in the ministry, but the publisher encouraged him to enlarge upon it to help meet the needs of laymen or others who may need to minister to grief-stricken loved ones.

The book is scheduled for publication May 7 by Hawthorne Books Inc., 260 Madison Ave., New York City.
First Baptist to light tree

For the third consecutive Christmas season, First Baptist Church will light a Chrismon Tree during the vesper worship at 7:30 p.m. Sunday.

The crismons — monogram symbols of Christ and the Christian faith — are made in a combination of white and gold by members of the congregation and the tree will contain a series of tiny white lights, one for each family in the church.

The evening worship will include an explanation of many of the crismons and the service is open to the public, according to announcement by the Rev. Robert W. Bailey, pastor.

Members of the church will be available to show the tree also on Sundays, Dec. 11 and 18, from 3 to 4 p.m., and on Wednesdays, Dec. 13 and 20 from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.
Creative Arts Festival planned at First Baptist

First Baptist Church, 49 North Spring Street, has scheduled a Creative Arts Festival on Sunday and Wednesdays Oct. 3-24, with art exhibits on display in three locations in the church.

Paintings and Compositions will be displayed Sunday following vespers to open the series and artists in water color, oils, ink, acrylic, pencil, crayon and finger painting will be included.

Also to be exhibited will be photography, silk screen, writing, poetry, prose, certificates, music and sculpture.

Worship utilizing the performing arts of the church members will be held in the sanctuary on Wednesday from 7:15 to 8 p.m. and Sunday from 6 to 6:30 p.m.

Displays scheduled Oct. 10 will emphasize fabric crafts and will feature quilting, macramé, sewing, needlecraft, tatting, embroidery, knitting, crocheting and needlework.

Non-fabric crafts will be displayed Oct. 17 and will include woodwork, metalcraft, leatherwork, collage, bricklaying, electronics, models, ceramics, rocks, antiques, decoupage, beading paper tole, flower arranging, string art and quilling.

The Oct. 24 display will show old fashioned homemade foods and gardening, and feature favorite recipes, fruits, vegetables and canned goods.

October will close with the church's 90th anniversary homecoming on Oct. 31.

On that date worship will be at 11 a.m. and dinner on the "church grounds" — at the Cabarrus County Boys Club — will follow.

Persons wishing to display works of art during any of the Sunday evenings Oct. 3 through 24 may bring their articles to the church between 2:30 and 4:30 p.m. and will be responsible for retrieving their displays prior to 9 p.m. the same day.
Collins-Thompson vows exchanged in Concord

Deborah Ane Collins, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. David L. Collins of Concord, became the bride of Charles Steven Thompson, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Irvin of Concord, in the Church of the Brethren at Concord, June 8, at 4 p.m. The Rev. Robert W. E. Engleman officiated.

The bride, given in marriage by her father, wore a white silk taffeta waistline, sweetheart neckline and venise lace gown with basque bodice and sleeves. The full skirt extended into a cathedral-length overskirt bordered with embroidery motif were used on the train. Her fingertip-length veil of apricot-colored silk organza waltz-illusion was attached to a silk flower with flounced hemline and scalloped edge. Hand-clipped lace, miniature white carnations and ivy, tied with streamers. Her bouquet of white roses, stephanotis, apricot-colored roses, white daisies, baby's breath and ivy, tied with streamers.

Bridesmaids were Mrs. David McCullough of Charlotte and Laura Myers of Marietta, Ga., cousins of the bride and Miss Wallash Early, Dr. and Mrs. Charles Carroll, all of Concord.

The bridegroom, given in marriage by his parents, wore a white silk taffeta waistline, sweetheart neckline and venise lace gown with basque bodice and sleeves. The full skirt extended into a cathedral-length overskirt bordered with embroidery motif were used on the train. His fingertip-length veil of apricot-colored silk organza waltz-illusion was attached to a silk flower with flounced hemline and scalloped edge. Hand-clipped lace, miniature white carnations and ivy, tied with streamers. His bouquet of white roses, stephanotis, apricot-colored roses, white daisies, baby's breath and ivy, tied with streamers.

BRIDESMAIDS' LUNCHEON

The bride was entertained at a luncheon on Saturday, May 25, at the home of the bride's parents.

PRE-NUPTIAL PARTIES

The bride's parents entertained at a dinner following the wedding reception on Friday, June 7, at the "barn" at Frank Liske Park. Approximately 200 guests attended.

MRS. CHARLES STEVEN THOMPSON

...she's the former Miss Deborah Anne Collins

A surprise shower honored Debbie Collins on Thursday, May 2, given by Mrs. James Propst, Mrs. Robert Wall, Mrs. Bill Cone, Mrs. Robert Hartman and Miss Sharon Propst at the Propst home in Concord.

Debbie Collins was entertained at a miscellaneous shower on Friday, April 5 in the fellowship hall of Camden Baptist Church, given by the women of the church and aunts of the bridegroom-elect.

A bridal breakfast honoring Debbie Collins, bride-elect, was held on Saturday, April 28. Hostesses were Mrs. Dan H. Harrell, Mrs. Charles Carroll, Mrs. Wallace Early, Mrs. Ladd Harrington, Mrs. William Patton, Mrs. R.C. Richardson, Mrs. Bill Swan and Mrs. William Irvin at the Harrell home in Concord.
Missionary will speak for Baptist Men’s Day

Men’s Day at First Baptist Church Sunday will feature as speaker the man they sponsor as foreign missionary to Mexico, the Rev. Michael Ledbetter.

The Baptist Men and Royal Ambassadors will have a breakfast at 7:30 a.m. in the church fellowship hall, and the Rev. Mr. Ledbetter will speak at that time on his work as chaplain at an English-speaking Baptist hospital in Guadalajara, Mexico.

The Rev. Mr. Ledbetter will also serve as guest speaker for the 11 a.m. worship and music at that time will be by the men of the church.

Also participating in the morning worship will be Dr. J. P. Reece, Brotherhood director and president of the Baptist Men; Carl Comer, mission action leader; and Howard Seaford, mission study leader for the Baptist Men.

Dr. Robert C. Bailey is pastor of the church.

Rev. Michael Ledbetter

Visiting singers

The Riverside Boys will be guests for a song service Saturday at 7 p.m. at White Park Baptist Church off Burrage Road. The Rev. Ned Christy is host pastor.
"We Seek To Minister To The Spiritual Needs of People".

Staff Members

Jack Hill ................................................................. Pastor
Kelly P. Howell ......................................................... Minister of Education
Mrs. James F. Hinson .................................................. Minister of Music
Wilson F. Cone, Jr. (Bill) .............................................. Assistant to Pastor
Mrs. Ralph T. Kilby ..................................................... Secretary
Mrs. Ronald V. Barger .................................................. Kindergarten Director
Michael J. Ledbetter .................................................... Foreign Missionary
Robert L. Witherspoon .................................................... Sexton
SUNDAY:
9:45 A.M. Sunday School
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship
5:00 P.M. Handbells III
6:00 P.M. Sounds of Seraphim
6:15 P.M. Church Training
R.A's, G.A's and Carol Choir
Mission Friends
7:30 P.M. Evening Worship
MONDAY:
3:00 P.M. Chapel Choir
4:00 P.M. Cub Scouts
TUESDAY:
4:00 P.M. Handbells II
WEDNESDAY:
4:00 P.M. Handbells I
7:15 P.M. Prayer Service
8:00 P.M. Chancel Choir
THURSDAY:
8:00 A.M. Senior Citizens, Old Salem
9:45 A.M. Cherub Choir (ages 4-5)
7:00 P.M. Reach Out Visitation
7:00 P.M. Boy Scout Troop 600
SATURDAY:
7:00 P.M. Adult I Family Halloween Party, Fellowship Hall
7:30 P.M. Young Adult Tacky Party
138 Arlington Drive, SE
Single/Married
18-30 Years of age
For Children Three Years of Age And Under
PRESCHOOL EXTENDED SESSION
Coordinator Mrs. Lloyd Sells
Preschool I Mrs. Ernest Morgan
Mrs. David Snyder
Miss Paige Thomason
Preschool II Mrs. R. C. McCants
Mrs. C. E. Isenhour
Miss Gina Howell
Preschool III Mrs. Ray Kluttz
Mrs. E. J. Misenheimer
Miss Paris Seaford

HIGH ATTENDANCE DAY
NOVEMBER 17
GOAL 452

Most things in life that are worthwhile present us with a challenge. That can certainly be said concerning our Sunday School Attendance goal of 452 for High Attendance Celebration Sunday, November 17. That number of people in Bible Study would be 111 more than our highest attendance this fall. Yet, the goal is realistic. Only three years ago, 446 people were present for a high attendance day. This spring we had 401 people participating in Bible study one Sunday. Our classes and departments have considered the present enrollment and prospects and determined that 452 is a reachable goal. Neither the Pastor, Minister of Education nor the Sunday School Director has set the goal. Instead, the goal is a compilation of what each Sunday School department feels it should do on November 17. We can reach this goal if (1) we ourselves plan to be present on November 17, and (2) we contact someone else and bring that person to Sunday School. Is having 452 in Bible study on November 17 a worthy goal for our Church? I believe it is! If you agree, I urge you to come to Sunday School on that date and bring someone with you.

Youth Event

The youth of the Church will be attending the Wake Forest - Clemson football game on November 2 in Winston-Salem. All youth are encouraged to take part in this day of fun and fellowship. Reservations are required for this trip. Youth can make reservations by paying $1.50 to Amy Cooper, Gina Howell or Paula Howell by October 23. Adults who are willing to go as chaperones (cost $1.50) please contact the Minister of Education before October 23, 1974.
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1974

Sunday School attendance ......• 302
Church Training attendance ..... 109

OFFERING:
General Offering ........... $2,573.72
Miscellaneous ............. $ 24.54
Kindergarten Tax refund $ 51.37
Building Fund (Memorials) $ 72.00
Building Fund ............. $ 25.00
State Missions ............. $ 5.05
Love Fund ................. $ 1.00
Revival .................. $ 1.00
Literature Refund .......... $ 6.75
TOTAL OFFERING ...... • $2,760.43

*SITE-SEEING TOUR*

for

SENIOR ADULTS

IVitWon·Salem, North Carolina 27108

The activity bus will depart from
the Church parking lot for Old Salem
at 8:00 A.M., on Thursday, October
24. Those Senior Citizens who are
going to Old Salem should be on time,
ready for a day of exciting fun, food
and fellowship. If you can't stand a
good time, then this trip is not for
you, because our Senior Citizens plan
to have a very good time touring Old
Salem and dining while we are there.
Don't miss out on this interesting trip.

OUR PASTOR Writes...

I hope to be with you this Sunday
morning as I speak to you on the sub-
ject of "God's Man for God's Hour". It
will be wonderful to see all of you
but it will also be sad in that it will
be the last time that I will be in the
pulpit. There is a lot I could say but
I will wait and say it Sunday morning.

I hope to see you Sunday -

I love you much. Jack Hill

The Interim Pastor Writes...

I look forward, as I know you do,
to Sunday morning when your Pastor,
Brother Jack Hill, who has served you
for the past six years will come to
speak to our hearts on "God's Man
for God's Hour". I trust that you will
pray for him and be present to hear
him. We will want to assure him of
our prayers and best wishes as he
goes from us.

- W. Bryant Carr

THE WAY

"To every man there openeth
a way, and ways, and a way.
And the high soul finds the high way,
and the low soul gropes the low.
And in between, on the misty flats,
the rest drift to and fro.
But to every man there openeth
a high way, and a low.
And every man decideth
the way his soul shall go."

- copied

NEEDED

Clothes for children to restock
the clothes closet here at the Church.
Please be sure all clothes are
marked by size.

Read the Bible Through
in1974-75

YOU SHOULD HAVE READ THROUGH
GENESIS 23 & MATTHEW 19
MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE — ELEVEN O’CLOCK
Enter in Silence—Wait in Prayer—Worship in Reverence
OCTOBER 20, 1974

ORGAN PRELUDE
* DOXOLOGY
* INVOCATION
* HYMN "To God Be the Glory" No. 41
SCRIPTURE READING
MEDITATION
MORNING PRAYER AND CHORAL RESPONSE
RECOGNITION OF VISITORS
* HYMN "Amazing Grace" No. 188
RECEIVING TITHES AND OFFERINGS
ORGAN OFFERTORY
CHORAL WORSHIP
MESSAGE "God's Man for God's Hour" PASTOR
* HYMN OF INVITATION "Only Trust Him" No. 235
BENEDICTION AND CHORAL Response
ORGAN POSTLUDE
* Congregation will please stand.

CHURCH TRAINING —6:15 O’CLOCK

EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE — SEVEN-THIRTY O’CLOCK

ORGAN PRELUDE
* HYMN "Jesus Is All the World to Me" No. 155
SINGSPIRATION
SCRIPTURE READING
EVENING PRAYER
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
* HYMN "Since Jesus Came into My Heart" No. 310
OFFERTORY PRAYER AND ORGAN OFFERTORY
CHORAL WORSHIP
MESSAGE "Let Others See Jesus In You" W. BRYANT CARR
* HYMN OF INVITATION "Let Others See Jesus in You" No. 348
BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE
ORGAN POSTLUDE
* Congregation will please stand.

BE PRESENT SUNDAY FOR
Sunday School
Worship
Church Training
BUILDING DEDICATION — A large crowd was on hand for Sunday’s dedication of the First Baptist Church’s new building at 200 Branchview Drive. The church has moved from its old Spring Street location into the new educational building which was the first phase of a building program that will eventually build a new sanctuary. Among the guests Sunday were Dr. Russell Willis, director of Missions for the Cabarrus Baptist Association, and the Rev. Jack Hill, a former pastor. Hill delivered the message.
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1876 -
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1881 -
1882 -
1883 -
1884 -
1885 -
1886 -
1887 - Admission to Meeh-Cabreraus (p. 1)
1888 -
1889 -
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1901 - Listed Concord.
1902 - Listed "First Class Concord" (p. 4).
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HISTORY OUTLINE:

Concord Baptist Church was constituted 29 October 1886. Joined the Mecklenburg-Cabarrus Baptist Association in 1887. Became "First Baptist", 1902. Charter member of Cabarrus Baptist Association, 1936.

CHURCH RECORDS: None

CHURCH HISTORIES:

Bostick, G[eorge] P[leasant], Letter about the organization of Concord Baptist Church, 29 Oct. 1886. BIBLICAL RECORDER, 10 November 1886, 3:1.

First Baptist Church, Concord, N. C., 90th Anniversary Homecoming...Oct. 31, 1976. n.p., unp. [24pp] NCCF


Notice. A meeting would be held in the courthouse in Concord to organize a Baptist Church, Oct. 29, 1886. BIBLICAL RECORDER, 27 October 1886, 2:3.


Reporter, "First Baptist began 1886". [History sketch with two photographs of the present building.] The CONCORD (NC) TRIBUNE, Oct. 8, 1975.

ASSOCIATION RECORDS:

Minutes: Mecklenburg-Cabarrus, 1887-1935
Cabarrus, 1936-present

Histories:
THE CABARRUS BAPTIST NEWS, 1953-1965. ARmf 1

N. C. CHURCH FILES: Newspaper clippings, c.1965-1976 (on microfilm)
c.1976-present (on file)
CONCORD FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

BIOGRAPHY FILES: These files should be checked for biographical information or for a photograph source for ministers who may have served your church. Arrangement is alphabetical by surname.

BIBLICAL RECORDER INDEXES:

These indexes should be checked for church references for information on pastors who have served your church.

JRW/31 May 1983
RESEARCH MATERIALS IN THE NORTH CAROLINA BAPTIST
HISTORICAL COLLECTION

Z. Smith Reynolds Library, Wake Forest University
Winston-Salem, N. C. 27109

CONCORD FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
P. O. Box 643
Concord, N. C. 28026

COUNTY: Cabarrus
ASSOC.: Cabarrus


ASSOCIATION SOURCES:
206.9756 M66me
Mecklenburg Baptist Association Minutes, 1887-1935

206.9756 M66ca
Cabarrus Baptist Association Minutes, 1936-1985

ARmf 001

CHURCH SOURCES:

NCCF First Baptist Church, Concord, NC. 90th Anniversary Homecoming... Oct. 31, 1976. unp. [24pp.]


205/B47 Notice. A meeting to be held in the courthouse in Concord for the purpose of organizing a Baptist church, Oct. 29th. BIBLICAL RECORDER, Oct. 27, 1886, 2:3.


COLLECTION SOURCES:
NCCF: Newspaper clippings. c.1965-1976 (on microfilm)
c.1976-present (on file)

BIOGRAPHY FILES: These files may contain biographical information and/or a photograph source for ministers who may have served your church. This file is arranged alphabetically.
CONCORD FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH---2

COLLECTION SOURCES - continued:

BIBLICAL RECORDER INDEXES:

These indexes should be checked for church references and for information on pastors who may have served your church.

JRW/May 23, 1986
H. Franklin Freeman and wife, Margaret, and two daughters, Martha Freeman and Annie and her husband, R. P. Lentz, moved to Concord from Stanley County. They were members of Kendell’s Baptist Church. They and a few other Baptists met with the hopes of organizing a Baptist church.

The church people in Concord were opposed to the Baptists coming into town. The few held their services in the county court house. One Sunday when they came for service they found the court house locked. They went to Mrs. Stowe’s (a widow) on South Union Street, about five doors below Corban Avenue on the left and continued their services.

The church was organized in 1886, and it was in the Mecklenburg Baptist Association. There were twenty-seven charter members. They were:

Rev. George P. Bostic  Mrs. Georgie Ferguson
Henry T. Johnston  Miss Hattie Ferguson
Mrs. Jane C. Johnston  Miss Annie Ferguson
J. W. Clayton  Mrs. Bettie Sossamon
J. R. Hinson  Miss Ferguson
Mr. H. F. Freeman  Mrs. W. A. Hinson
Mrs. H. F. Freeman  F. P. Smith
Miss Martha Freeman  Miss Fronie Hinson
M. W. Freeman  Mrs. Edy Dennis
R. P. Lentz  Mrs. Mollie Smith
Mrs. R. P. Lentz  Mrs. Elizabeth Sapp
Mrs. K. L. Craven  Mrs. Sarah Sapp
Mrs. R. A. Stowe  Miss Alice Sapp
Miss Adeline Casper
This list is in the Homecoming Bulletin, September 28, 1930, in honor of Mrs. K. L. Craven, only surviving charter member at that time.

Mrs. K. L. Craven was the first organist. She brought her own organ from home and played for the services.

On November 25, 1887, the church bought the lot at the corner of Spring and Grove Streets for $400.00 from R. W. Allison and wife. The deed was made to W. S. Sapp, R. P. Lentz and J. R. Hinson, trustees of the White Baptist Church of Concord.

W. S. Sapp gave the lumber and the men of the church built the first structure in 1888. Rev. George P. Bostic was the first pastor and resigned to go to China as a missionary. Rev. J. D. Newton succeeded him in 1888. Three years later Rev. J. O. Alderman came to serve the people.

Minnie Lentz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Lentz, was the first person baptized into the membership. H. Franklin Freeman was the first deceased member December 8, 1889.

In 1896 the now thriving church called Rev. J. J. Payseur to minister to the Baptists. Under his leadership the seating capacity was enlarged, and a parsonage was built in back of the church building.

The minutes of the Mecklenburg Baptist Association, which was held at Davidson College and dated October 15, 16, and 17, 1897, lists these delegates from Concord Church:

William Corzine
Braxton McLester
L. L. Starratte
When Rev. Mr. Lacy B. Hoge came to the church in 1898, he led a neighboring band of Baptists in the organization of what is now McGill Avenue Baptist Church. It was called Second Baptist Church, and this is presumably when Concord Baptist became First Baptist.

The Rev. J. E. Smith served as pastor from 1901-1904. During his pastorate the church was papered and painted on the inside and work prospered generally.

The Rev. R. H. Herring then labored for three years making both financial and physical plant improvements. The parsonage was remodeled, and the entire church property became debt free for the first time in 16 years.

While the Rev. S. N. Watson was pastor, 1907-1912, property on Spring Street side of the building was purchased. The Grove Street parsonage was sold and a new parsonage was built.

The Rev. R. E. Brown served as pastor for one year only, 1913-1914. He was the first pastor to occupy the new parsonage on Spring Street.

During the years when the whole world exploded into the war to end all wars, 1914-1918, the Rev. George V. Tilley served as pastor. He was a man of special ability in the pulpit.

It was under the pastorage of the Rev. Graham A. Martin, D.D., 1919-1924, that the present sanctuary on the corner of Spring and Grove Streets was built. It was occupied in 1924. The deacons were:

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<th>T. D. Manus</th>
<th>G. T. Barnhardt</th>
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<td>W. W. Medlin</td>
<td>A. E. Harris</td>
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While the church was being built, rummage sales, chicken noodle suppers, box suppers, barbecues and bake sales were held. At that time building loans matured in six years, so members of the church mortgaged their homes and took shares of the building loan. When the building was complete, members moved in debt free. The church had no organ, carpet or air conditioning, just fans in the book racks from Wilkinson Funeral Home and Bell and Harris Funeral Home.

The acoustics were terrible. When the preacher preached, his voice vibrated all around. Work was done on the building several times to correct this problem.

The first organ was bought in 1920 from the First Presbyterian Church. It was a bellows type. Mrs. Mattie Crooks was a volunteer organist for a number of years. Mr. J. L. Kirk, who was a volunteer sexton, pumped it for many years. Our first paid sexton was hired in 1924.

From 1925-1930 Rev. C. H. Trueblood had the difficult period of the Great Depression as his pastoring years. The fact that the church survived those lean years speaks much for pastor and people.

The next 22 years, from 1930-1952, were growing and good years for First Church, Concord. The Rev. E. S. Summers came to the community from Kentucky.

During these years under the leadership of Dr. Summers, First Baptist was instrumental in the organization of Young Street Baptist Church (1930), Pitts Baptist Church (1943), and Immanuel Baptist Church (1951).

Also, during Dr. Summers' tenure, an Austin pipe organ was purchased and installed in the sanctuary. The old First Presbyterian
manse on the west side of Spring Street was purchased and Dr. Summers and his wife moved into it. The old parsonage was converted into Sunday School classrooms, and plans were drafted and approved for the construction of a new educational plant.

The Rev. Thurman B. Stone succeeded Dr. Summers, and served the First Baptist Church from 1953-1960. Soon after his arrival, construction of the new educational plant was begun. It was completed in 1956. A new parsonage was purchased on South Union Street into which Mr. Stone moved with his wife.

The Rev. Mr. Howard Dawkins was called to the First Baptist Church in 1961 and served until 1967. Under his leadership the sanctuary was refurbished and a vacant lot was purchased on Claymont Street and a new parsonage was constructed.

The church also purchased a house and lot behind the church property facing White Lane, and another house and lot beside the church property facing Spring Street. Thereafter, the buildings were razed to make space for paved parking. Under Mr. Dawkins' leadership the Providence Baptist Mission was organized and was constituted an autonomous Baptist church on October 7, 1973.

In February of 1968 the Long Range Building Fund Trust was established for the construction of a new sanctuary.

In August of 1968, the Rev. Jack Hill came to Concord where he served until his untimely retirement in 1974 because of ill health. During this time an 18 acre building site on the new Branchview Drive was purchased.

Dr. Robert W. Bailey accepted a call to Concord on February 1, 1975. He and his wife, Mary Frances, were frequent contributors to
church periodicals. During his ministry an annual mission trip was established as well as the tradition of the lighting of the Chrismon Tree and other creative and innovative ministeries.

In June of 1981, Dr. E. Eugene Hunsinger became pastor of First Baptist Church. The future of the church is optimistic and promising under this young minister, and points toward a renewal of ministry through this congregation to the community and, through it, to the world.

The church voted in June, 1982, to relocate to Branchview. Groundbreaking was held December 18, 1983, and construction began February 20, 1984. The last service held on Spring Street was June 30, 1985, and the first service in the new building on July 7, 1985. On October 13, 1985, the new building was dedicated.

Mrs. Elva Lentz McPhatter
First Baptist Church
CONCORD, NORTH CAROLINA
HOME COMING DAY
Sept. 28, 1930

E. S. SUMMERS, Minister
MRS. L. E. BARNHARDT, Director of Music
MRS. L. R. CROOKS, Treas. Centennial Fund

This Bulletin today in honor of
MRS. K. L. CRAVEN
the only Surviving Charter Member

PROGRAM COMMITTEE
G. T. BARNHARDT
S. A. DENNY

MRS. J. A. WALKER
MRS. L. R. CROOKS

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE
E. B. JOYNER
S. W. PRESLAR
MORNING WORSHIP

Prelude—“Kamennoi-Ostrow” Rubinstein
Doxology
Invocation
Gloria
Hymn—No. 6
Chorus—“His Eye is on the Sparrow” Gabriel
Soloist, Mr. E. B. Joyner
Messages from former Pastors
Morning Prayer
Response by Choir
Announcements
Solo—“Recessional” de Koven
Mrs. L. E. Barnhardt
Scripture Reading and Sermon by Pastor—“Arise, go back to Bethel”
Offertory—“I will abide with Thee” Simpkins
Solo—Mr. H. C. Klueppelberg
History of Church—Read by Mr. Agee
Hymn of Invitation—No. 20
Benediction
Postlude—“Glory be to Thee, O Lord Most High” Hopkins

EVENING WORSHIP

Prelude—“Romance” Sibelius
Processional
Invocation
Hymn—No. 100
Announcements
Scripture Reading
Evening Prayer
Hymn—No. 91
Offertory—“Barcarolle” Offenbach
Special Music—Quartette Selected
E. B. Joyner S. W. Preslar
E. C. Morris P. B. Raiford
Sermon by Pastor—“God-Minded”
Hymn of Invitation—No. 27
Benediction
Response—“God be with you”
Postlude—“Solemn March” Boyce
OUR CHURCH COVENANT

Having been brought, as we trust, by divine grace to embrace The Lord Jesus Christ, and to give ourselves wholly to Him, we do now solemnly and joyfully COVENANT WITH EACH OTHER, to walk together in Him, with brotherly love, to His glory as our common Lord. We do therefore, in His strength engage—

1. That we will exercise a Christian care and watchfulness over each other, and faithfully warn, exhort and admonish each other as occasion may require;

2. That we will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, but will ATTEND THE PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD, AND UPHOLD THE ORDINANCES OF HIS HOUSE;

3. That we will cultivate family religion at home and neglect not the great duty of religiously training our children, and those under our care, for the service of Christ, and the enjoyment of heaven;

4. That, as we are the light of the world, and the salt of the earth, we will seek divine aid to enable us to deny ungodliness, and every worldly lust, and to walk circumspectly in the world, that we may win the souls of men;

5. That we may cheerfully contribute of our money according as God hath prospered us, TOWARD THE DEFRAYING OF ALL EXPENSES OF THE CHURCH, for the support of the poor, and for the spread of the gospel over the earth;

6. "And may the God of Peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make us perfect in every good work, to do His will, working in us that which is well pleasing in His sight through Jesus Christ; To whom be glory, forever and ever. Amen."

A HISTORY OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Concord, N. C.

ED. B. JOYNER, Historian
S. W. PRESLAR, Assistant Historian

Acknowledgement is made of many references to "Sketch of First Baptist Church," by Mrs. K. L. Craven.

In July, 1886, under the direction of the State Mission Board, Rev. G. P. Bostic came to Concord and began preaching in the County Court House. Within a few weeks a Sunday school was organized in the home of Major A. J. Dodamead, on the corner of W. Depot and Spring streets. Ten members were enrolled and Major Dodamead made superintendent.

On October 26, 1886, the interested members of the Baptist faith in the City were organized into a church by a regularly constituted presbytery, Rev. W. R. Gevaltney, moderator. Twenty-seven members were enrolled, eight men and nineteen women.

Mr. Bostic was called as pastor and served the church faithfully for nearly two years, in which time the lot for the church was bought and paid for. This lot included the present site of our church building and two lots in the rear.

Rev. Mr. Bostic resigned in 1888. He was followed by Rev. J. D. Newton. While Mr. Newton was pastor a building with seating capacity of two hundred and fifty was placed on the lot. The first service was held in the new building in January, 1889. Mr. Newton left the work in 1891.

In March, 1892, Rev. J. O. Alderman was called to the pastorate. During his
pastorate the membership more than doubled. He served as pastor for four years.

Following Mr. Alderman, during the year 1896, Rev. J. J. Payseur became pastor. During his pastorate of three years a parsonage was built at the rear of the church and the church was enlarged to more than double its seating capacity.

Mr. Payseur was succeeded, in 1898, by Rev. Lacy Hogue. Under his leadership the church made great progress in all directions. He led in organizing what is now the McGill Street Baptist Church. He also succeeded in cancelling the debt on the First Church. The dedication services were held on October 28, 1900. Dr. C. A. Thomas preached the sermon.

Rev. J. E. Smith became pastor in 1904. During the two years of his pastorate the interior of the church was papered and painted and work prospered generally.

About 1906 or 07, Rev. R. H. Herring was called and rendered acceptable service for three years. He succeeded in clearing the parsonage debt, and much material progress was made.

Rev. S. N. Watson became pastor in 1910. In his advice the Deaton lot was bought, upon which the present parsonage now stands. Mr. Watson remained pastor for five years.

The present parsonage was built on the Deaton lot in 1915.

Rev. R. E. Brown was the first pastor to occupy the parsonage. He remained but a short time.

Rev. Geo. V. Tilley was the next pastor. He was a man of special ability in the pulpit. During his pastorate no department of church work was neglected.

Following Mr. Tilley came Rev. G. A. Martin, D. D. Dr. Martin believed that the outstanding need of the church was a new house of worship. Under his leadership the present church building was erected. During Dr. Martin's pastorate growth was general and along all lines of work. Dr. Martin resigned in the fall of 1924.

In June, of 1925, Rev. E. A. Tibbs was called as supply pastor. He filled the pastorate very acceptably from June 7 to October 1. He was ordained on Aug. 2, 1925.

On October 18, 1925 the church extended a call to Rev. C. H. Trueblood. Mr. Trueblood accepted the call and began the pastorate in December 1925. Mr. Trueblood served the church faithfully until February 2, 1930, when he tendered his resignation.

Our present pastor, Rev. E. S. Summers, of Greenville, Ky., began his work with us on the second Sunday of April, 1930. A man of high Christian ideals, Mr. Summers has injected new life and enthusiasm into the congregation. During the five months of his pastorate fifty-four members have been received into the church without revivals services or special inducements of any kind. New members are added practically every Sunday. The outlook for the future is very encouraging.

CHARTER MEMBERS OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
OF CONCORD, N. C.

Rev. Geo. P. Bostic
Henry T. Johnson
J. W. Clayton
J. R. Hinson
M. W. Freeman
H. F. Freeman
R. P. Lentz
F. P. Smith
Mrs. R. A. Stowe

Mrs. D. B. Ferguson
Miss Hattie Ferguson
Miss Annie Ferguson
Mrs. Bettie Sossamon
Miss Ferguson
Mrs. R. P. Lentz
Mrs. M. J. Freeman
Miss M. P. Freeman
Mrs. W. A. Hinson

Mrs. Fronie Hinson
Mrs. Edy Dennis
Mrs. Mollie Smith
Mrs. Jane C. Johnson
Mrs. Elizabeth Sapp
Mrs. Sarah Sapp
Miss Alice Sapp
Miss Adeline Casper
Mrs. C. E. Craven
First Baptist Church (in Concord) - 1848 (1846 in Minutes of 1937)

Come Oct. 24 1856

1925 -
1926 - Association met with
1927 -
1928 -
1929 -
1930 -
1931 -
1932 -
1933 -
1934 - Association met with
1935 - Draw for McKinney
1936 - Charter member Cabarrus BA

1937 -
1938 -
1939 -
1940 -
1941 -
1942 -
1943 -
1944 -
1945 - Assoc. met with
1946 -
1947 -
1948 -
1949 -
First (in Concord) 1986 (1470 in Minutes of 1946)

1950 -
1951 -
1952 -
1953 -
1954 -
1955 -
1956 -
1957 -
1958 -
1959 -
1960 -
1961 -
1962 -
1963 -
1964 -
1965 -
1966 -
1967 - Associated with.
1968 -
1969 -
1970 -
1971 -
1972 -
1973 -
1974 -
Concord - 1886
[First] 6526

1875 -
1876 -
1877 -
1878 -
1879 -
1880 -
1881 -
1882 -
1883 -
1884 -
1885 -
1886 -

1887 - received as new church

1888 -
1889 -
1890 -
1891 -
1892 -
1893 -
1894 -
1895 - assembly

1896 -
1897 -
1898 -
1899 -
Concord

1900 -
1901 -
1902 - listed as First Church Concord
1903 -
1904 -
1905 -
1906 -
1907 - Assn Mut Uni
1908 -
1909 -
1910 -
1911 -
1912 - Assn Mut Uni
1913 -
1914 -
1915 -
1916 -
1917 -
1918 -
1919 -
1920 -
1921 -
1922 -
1923 -
1924 -
First, Concord

1925 -
1926 -
1927 -
1928 -
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1932 -
1933 -
1934 -
1935 - asked for dismissal to form Cobareus Assoc.
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1939 -
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1942 -
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1948 -
1949 -
First Baptist Church will hold note burning service Sunday.

This Sunday, First Baptist Church of Concord will retire its debt on the first phase of the building program. The first phase is a 30,000 square foot building which contains a temporary sanctuary, fellowship hall, full kitchen, educational classes, parlor and offices. Many milestones have been passed in leading to this significant event in the life of First Baptist.

The present 18 acre building site on Branchview Drive was purchased in August of 1968. In September 1982 the congregation voted to relocate from Spring Street to Branchview Drive. Construction began in February of 1984. The church began the “Together We Build” fund raising program in April 1984. The new building was dedicated in October 1985. The debt was retired in June 1988.

First Baptist is now looking ahead to beginning the second phase of its building program. God has richly blessed First Baptist in reaching its goals and it seeks to do God’s Will in its future endeavors.
NOTE BURNED — The First Baptist Church of Concord held a note burning ceremony last Sunday to acknowledge the first phase of its building program is now debt free. The phase included 30,500 square feet of educational space and an interim sanctuary. The eighteen acre site on Branchview Drive was purchased in 1968 and construction began in February, 1984. The first service was held in the new facility in July, 1985. Plans are underway for phase two which will include a permanent sanctuary. Participating in the note burning ceremony were left to right, Bob Wall, Mark Smith, Mrs. Carra Lyles, Dr. E.E. Hunsinger, pastor of the church, and Max Harris.
First Baptist Church in Concord held a note burning service Sunday June 10 at the morning service, to acknowledge that the first phase of its building program is now debt free. This phase included 30,500 square feet of educational space and an interim sanctuary.

The 18 acre site on Branchview Drive was purchased in 1968. Construction began in February 1984, and the first service was held in the new facility in July of 1985.

According to Dr. E.E. Hunsinger, pastor of First Baptist since June 1981, plans are already underway for Phase II, which will include the permanent sanctuary.

First Baptist Church in an 1100 member church whose beginning dates back to 1886.
First Church, Concord Celebrates

First church, Concord, celebrated its 100th anniversary during special Wednesday and Sunday services in October. The congregation began as 27 persons meeting in the old Concord courthouse.

Jacob Monroe McCurdy, who gave the first dollar toward construction of a church building in Concord, contacted the State Mission Board in Raleigh to ask for assistance in beginning a “city” church. George P. Bostick went to Concord at the direction of the state board and became the congregation’s first pastor.

The church has grown to 1,065 members and has been instrumental in establishing five other congregations in the area: McGill Avenue, Young Street, Pitts, Immanuel and Providence.

E. Eugene Hunsinger is senior pastor of the church which has been served by 18 ministers during the past century.

The church’s first building was occupied in 1889. In 1924 the congregation moved to a new facility on Spring Street. The last service was held in the Spring Street building in 1985 and the congregation moved to its present site on Branchview Drive.

FUTURE—First church, Concord, has future plans to construct this sanctuary.
Eden Sanctuary is 100 Years Old

First church, Eden, recently celebrated the 100th anniversary of their church sanctuary at a special homecoming service.

The church was organized in 1839 by John Robertson, Elias Dobson and a few area Baptists. Robertson was ordained the first pastor and conducted services only one Sunday each month. Several small structures served as meeting houses for the congregation.

The present church building, a Gothic Revival style sanctuary, was erected at a cost of $3,200, and the first service was held there on October 3, 1886. Many additions have been built on to the original structure. An Eden landmark, First church has been designated as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places nomination.

First church has been instrumental in organizing and assisting other Baptist churches in the area and surrounding communities. Several of these churches include the Osborne, Mount Hermon, Providence, Spray, Draper and King Memorial churches.

Harry C. Smith is the present pastor of the church. Family members of former pastors were recognized during the special anniversary service.

Lawrence Weldon Cox, mayor of Eden, presented a plaque from the city commemorating the 100th anniversary of the church building. Special music was provided by the church choir, John P. Frye, associate pastor, conducting, accompanied by a 13-piece orchestra of players from Chapel Hill, Greensboro, Reidsville and the home church.

Following the service lunch was served on the church grounds.

ANNIVERSARY—First church, Eden, recently celebrated the 100th anniversary of their church sanctuary. Pictured admiring a plaque from the city commemorating this special event are longtime members, Mrs. Dewey Webb and Claude Snead, with Harry Smith, (left) pastor of the church.

NOVEMBER 8, 1986
First Baptist Church expects overflow crowd for dedication of new sanctuary

By TOM DAVIDSON  
Staff Writer

The beautiful sanctuary which stands upon the highest point in Cabarrus County no doubt has attracted the attention of members and non-members alike at First Baptist Church on Branchview Drive.

At 11 a.m. Sunday, the new sanctuary will be dedicated with a special service involving former pastors and other guests, followed by a covered dish dinner in the fellowship hall and an open house from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

With maximum capacity at about 1,000, the new sanctuary also includes new Sunday school classrooms and the church's music suite. The church held its first service in the sanctuary on March 1.

Those taking part in Sunday's celebration include Dennis E. Yates of Yates-Chreitzberg Architects who designed the $4.2 million plus sanctuary; E. William Wagoner, general contractor; Newton Fowler, chairman of the church building committee; the Rev. Jack Hill, pastor at the church from 1968 to 1974, who will bring the message; the Rev. Thurman Stone, pastor at the church from 1953 to 1960; the Rev. Peggy Stout, minister of education and youth; the Rev. Thomas Anderson, minister of outreach and missions at the church, and Dr. E. Eugene Hunsinger, who has been senior minister at the church since June 1, 1981.

The new state-of-the-art facility is the manifestation of the vision kept over the years by the faithful members of First Baptist's congregation, Hunsinger said, adding it has already had an impact in church attendance, outreach and spirit.

New members are joining the church with each service at the new facility. Since March 1 Hunsinger has baptized 10 new members and has 15 others awaiting baptism.

The facility also has captured the attention of other pastors and churches in the area.

"There's a whole new magnetism of the church," Hunsinger said. "They've sort of seen a dream that they had planned and hoped for realized in their lifetime ... really catching the spirit of rejuvenation."

He recalled an incident a couple of weeks ago when a member of Concord's First Baptist Church on Chestnut Drive met Hunsinger at the new sanctuary. The member used the analogy of Solomon's Temple and told Hunsinger that God given him a message.

"He told me that God had spoken to him and told him to come and tell me something," Hunsinger said. "He's a very sincere, serious individual. He said 'God told me to tell you that he is well pleased with this building because this building was built for him."

"And it's like in King David's and King Solomon's day that this is second to none."

"In other words, that you've given unreservedly of your time and your energy and all that you have, and therefore God is pleased with this people. I thought that was interesting coming from a 67-, 68-year-old black man. He wanted to kneel down and pray before he told me that. He's a most genuine individual."

Hunsinger uses this to show the unity the new facility has brought about, not only among the members of his congregation but between his church and others throughout the county.

Churches of other denominations also have asked to use the new facilities, which excites Hunsinger when speaking about service to the community as a whole.

Currently the church houses a school for the handicapped five days a week, and in a couple of weeks the church will host "The Bible for a Changing World," a national banquet of the Wycliffe Associates. About 500 people are expected to attend.

Also, the Cabarrus School of Nursing is planning to hold its graduation exercises this spring at the new church facilities, he said.

"I would hope that the whole community would see us in a servant role, that we're attempting to minister effectively with what God has entrusted to us."
Steeple up

First Baptist Church of Concord is nearing completion. Last week, the steeple was raised on the new church. The 20,000 pound aluminum steeple went up on Dec. 18. Construction work on the new church is expected to be completed in March, 1992. The church is located on an 18-acre tract on Branchview Drive.
DEDICATION TODAY — At 11 a.m. today First Baptist Church will hold the dedication service for its new $4.2 million sanctuary on Branchview Drive. The special service will involve former pastors and other guests. It will be followed by a covered dish lunch in the fellowship hall and an open house from 1:30 to 3 p.m. With maximum capacity at about 1,000, the new sanctuary also includes new Sunday school classrooms and the church's music suite. The church held its first service in the sanctuary on March 1.
Boy Scout Troop 600, sponsored by the First Baptist Church of Concord, completed the second camping trip of 1990 several weeks ago at Camp Barnhardt near New London.

The highlight of the two-night trip was rappelling from the newly constructed rappelling tower, a favorite activity of the troop.

The experience was a first for Donnie Dohmann, a new member of the troop, shown above on the 20-foot level of the tower. Dohmann went on to rappel from the 40-foot level.

Dohmann is the 11-year-old son of Captains Ron and Dianonne Dohmann of Concord.

Troop 600 meets every Thursday at 7 p.m. at First Baptist Church and is actively recruiting new members.

Anyone interested in participating can call Glenn Pearson, Scout Master, at 788-3806.

New Scout Donnie Dohmann descends the 20-foot level of the rappelling tower at Camp Barnhardt recently, as assistant scoutmaster Phil Harris and instructor Jeff Russell look on.
FIRST BAPTIST: The annual Women’s Day service at First Baptist Church, 59 Chestnut Dr., will be 11 a.m. Sunday.

Guest speaker will be Mrs. Thelma Hines of Reidsville. Host pastor is the Rev. C.L. Phelps.
First Baptist Church, on Chestnut Drive, will be giving away clothes for all ages this weekend.

The church has collected donations of clothing for children and adults, said church member Arthette Walker, and will give the clothes away in its parking lot behind the sanctuary from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday.

The project is sponsored by the church’s Missionary Department and is part of its outreach mission, which also includes the Operation Breadbasket food give away and the food bank system.

This will be the church’s first clothing give away project, Walker said.

“We’re just doing it as a gesture of good will.”
Weight loss plan asks divine intervention

By Matt Goad
Staff Writer

Dieters need all the support they can get, maybe even a little help from above - anyway, that's the idea behind the First Place weight loss program.

A 13-week session of this health program for the body and soul will begin Sunday at First Baptist Church, at 200 Branchview Dr.

The program combines exercise and proper nutrition with prayer and daily scripture memory, according to Judy Schurig, who will lead the program.

First Place was started at First Baptist Church in Houston, Schurig said, and it caught her attention when she read about it in a magazine. She wanted to lose weight at the time, and she had already tried some more traditional diet plans.

But the unique combination of religion and dieting clicked with her in a way that the other programs hadn't. She started a First Place program at First Baptist, on Branchview, and led two sessions last year.

She had twelve people participate last year, she said, and she estimates that they lost a total of at least 150 pounds.

Schurig said that in her personal experience First Place is the best diet plan she knows of, and that it is the support that religion provides that makes the difference.

"I think that that's the part that's missing in some other programs," she said of the Bible study and prayer.

Otherwise, she said, the program is similar to many other programs.

Participants exercise, study nutrition and keep a daily record of what they eat. The food plan used is recommended by the American Diabetic Association.

The scripture memory takes about 15 to 20 minutes a day. There is a new passage to memorize everyday.

The program is designed to become a routine that the participants will continue to follow after the session is over. "We hope that it will be a change of lifestyle," Schurig said.

It has been for her, she said. She has learned to cook a low-fat diet, including plenty of vegetables and sparing portions of foods higher in fat.

So far Schurig has led only small groups in the plan, and she has found that a small group does a better job of supporting each other while dieting.

Part of the program is learning how to handle frustrations and temptations, a large part of both successful dieting and Christianity, Schurig said, so the two complement each other well.

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To reserve a space in First Place call the church at 786-9167 before Feb. 14.
In photo at far right, Gene Hunsinger, seated, pastor of First Baptist Church, confers with Tom Anderson, associate pastor. Hunsinger has been pastor for 13 years, during which time the church has relocated from Spring Street and Grove Avenue to Branchview Drive. At right, Eric Waldrop, director of youth at First Baptist, works with David Headrick, right, minister of music. Both are new employees at the growing church.

By MATT GOAD
Staff Writer
First Baptist Church wants to reach out into the community, according to its pastor, and it is using its new sanctuary to do so.

Dr. Eugene Hunsinger said the $14 million building, which sits on 18 acres on Branchview Drive, has been used for weddings, receptions, Cabarrus Academy's graduation and other gatherings.

The church is also reaching out to the community by offering some classes which are open to the public, including free aerobics classes and a Bible-based weight loss class this spring.

The church also sponsors a Boy Scout troop and Wednesday night meals and programs each week.

"We're trying to do a lot for the community," Hunsinger said. "God has given to us a lot of resources and a wonderful building and well-educated ministers, and there is a great responsibility on us to minister."

The Bible says that much is required of those to whom much has been given, he said.

First Baptist has paid down its debt on the sanctuary, the fourth it has had, to $1.8 million, Hunsinger said.

The church moved to its new site in 1985, four years after Hunsinger had become the church's pastor, and completed its new sanctuary in 1992. Previously it had been located at the corner of Spring Street and Grove Avenue.

"It's been a perfect location," Hunsinger said. "There wasn't room to expand at the Spring Street site and there wasn't enough parking. And the old sanctuary had 11 code violations and would have cost $1 million to renovate."

The church would have liked to find a site closer to the center of the city, he said, but the cost was much better at Branchview, where First Baptist already owned land. And the move wasn't too far from the church's previous location, he said.

The old building was a liability, he said. The church was dying because the facilities were cramped and uncomfortable. Now membership is up to 1,300 individuals and 640 families.

The suburban Baptist churches in the area have been grabbing up some of First Baptist's members or potential members.

People just don't like to drive by five or six churches on the way to their own church, he said.

But overall the church is happy with its location and feels it chose the best possible one.

Hunsinger is originally from Gaffney, S.C., where he was ordained by Cherokee Avenue Baptist Church. He has been an ordained minister for nearly 30 years and has been pastor at First Baptist for 13 years.

He is a graduate of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, with masters of divinity and doctor of ministry degrees, and a graduate of Limestone College and Gardner-Webb College.

Before coming to Concord he had served as pastor of First Baptist Church in Wadesboro, Olive Grove Baptist Church in Creedmoor and El Bethel Baptist Church in Gaffney.

He has served as president of the Greater Concord Ministerial Alliance and on the Board of Trustees of Wingate College, the Board of Directors of Cabarrus Hospital, the Board of Directors of the Rotary Club of Cabarrus County and the Board of Associates of Campbell University.

He has also served as the moderator of the Baptist Pastors' Conference.

The church has a new director of youth and children, Eric Waldrop, and a new minister of music, the Rev. David Headrick.

The Rev. Tom Anderson is associate pastor of First Baptist.

First Baptist was founded in October 1886 as Concord Baptist Church. The church has been instrumental in the founding of McGill Avenue, Young Street, Pitts and Immanuel Baptist churches and Providence Baptist Church in Harrisburg.

Hunsinger and his wife Mary live in Concord. Hunsinger has a son, David, 21, and a daughter, Kristina, 18.

He is happy about living in Concord.

"This is a good place to live and to work and to serve," he said of Concord.

But he also sees it as a challenging community, because of the number things that need to be done to help "the homeless, the helpless and the deprived."

"Folks are hurting," he said, and the churches of this area need to work with those hurting people.

But he sees churches from all denominations meeting that challenge. All the denominations in the area seem to be concerned about the community and to be giving to the community, he said.
First Baptist bids emotional farewell to minister of 17 years

By TODD GOODMAN
Staff Writer

CONCORD — It was an emotional service at First Baptist Church. Their pastor of 17 years, Dr. Eugene Hunsinger, has decided to move on to another church.

"I'm going to miss him," said Margaret Duke. "And I'm going to miss Mary. I love Mary."

That would be Hunsinger's wife. She too has been a pillar of the church, serving in one way or another for 12 years. Tears were in her eyes as she hugged members of the congregation.

"I don't know how to express it," said June Ann Swearingen, as she wiped a tear from her cheek. "You get real attached to people who have been around this long. You know they are going to leave at some point. But when it really happens, it's hard to say goodbye."

That sentiment was echoed throughout the congregation.

Hunsinger is a hands-on pastor who always took the time to speak with everyone. But the Gaffney, S.C., native felt the Lord calling him to Grove Park Baptist Church in Burlington.

It was that same calling that got him into the ministry in the first place. It was 1963, and he was preparing to leave for Vietnam when God spoke to his heart. He has been a full-time minister ever since.

"My life is basically made up of ministry," he said. "I really don't have time for much else."

But when he finds free time, he spends it traveling. Hunsinger has been to 29 countries and is especially fond of the Holy Land. He has been to Jerusalem five times, and on each trip he stood in the Jordan River, where John the Baptist stood, and performed baptisms.

Whether traveling abroad or traveling around Concord, Hunsinger is always spreading the gospel. With Wednesday night services, hospital and nursing home visits and preparing the next week's sermon, he averages a 60-hour work week.

"It's unbelievable," he said. "It really is." Even so, he is looking ahead to the challenges that lie ahead.

"It's a big challenge, moving to another church — getting them to dream a new dream, have a new vision and find what God wants them to do and be," he said.

As for Hunsinger's tenure with First Baptist Church, he said he will miss the good fellowship of genuine Christian friends.

"God has richly blessed the ministry of Mary and Gene Hunsinger through First Baptist Church," Hunsinger said. "Many lives have been touched and changed for the better."

Dr. Eugene Hunsinger will soon leave the familiar confines of First Baptist Church in Concord.
CONCORD — Approximately 175 volunteers from First Baptist Church on Branchview Drive, and First Missionary Baptist Church on Chestnut Drive, put their Christian faith into action on September 29.

They jointly participated in a missions effort - Operation Inasmuch - by going out into the local community to help others as needed.

Projects successfully completed during this one-day missions “blitz” included repair work at 16 homes, a ceiling painted, a front porch painted at a CVAN (Cabarrus Victims Assistance Network) residence and gutters cleaned at five dwellings.

Volunteers wrapped shoe boxes that will be filled with items for the Samaritan’s Purse Operation Christmas Child program in the coming weeks. Others made 30 pairs of fleece mittens that will be given to needy children to warm their hands this winter.

The younger Operation Inasmuch volunteers (3- to 5-year olds), assisted by adults, delivered more than 50 dozen homemade cookies to local police and fire departments to show appreciation for their services.

More than 50 winter coats were collected for distribution by the Operation Bread Basket ministry at First Missionary Baptist Church. Operation Inasmuch originated at Snyder Memorial Baptist Church in Fayetteville in 1995. The church has since completed its 13th event.

For more information about Operation Inasmuch, visit www.operationinasmuch.com.
CONCORD — George Fridlender and Kimberly Justus will spread the gospel in word and song at 6 p.m. Sunday at First Baptist Church, 200 Branchview Drive S.E., Concord.

George Fridlender was born and raised behind the Iron Curtain in the old Soviet Union. His father, a professional dramatist and stage director, was a victim of the communist regime and spent 17 years in a Siberian concentration camp.

Through a strong faith in God, he was able to survive the trial and after his release, wrote a book about his experiences. It was that same book that later put George through a trial of his own when he was arrested by the KGB and sentenced to prison.

Just as God delivered George's father out of the camps, He would also deliver George out of the Soviet Union to the shores of the United States of America, said the younger Fridlender.

It was there that George's life intertwined with that of a young South Carolina native, Kimberly Justus, who later became his wife. They both received advanced degrees from the Juilliard School of Music in New York and then continued on to international acclaim as opera singers in Western Europe.

They say they felt called by God to leave the operatic stage in 1994 and begin a ministry in which they tell about the miracle of God's deliverance in George's life. Since returning to their homeland, George and Kimberly have led worship through word and song in more than 300 churches throughout the Southeast. They make their home in Clemson, S.C., where they live with their two little sons, William and Robert.

Fridlender and Justus will perform at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 1, at North Kannapolis Baptist Church.

Fridlender, Justus bring ministry in words, song to First Baptist Church
Survivor of Soviet gulag to perform Aug. 1
**Operation Inasmuch has huge turn out**

CONCORD — Approximately 175 volunteers from First Baptist Church on Branchview Drive, and First Missionary Baptist Church on Chestnut Drive, put their Christian faith into action on September 29. They jointly participated in a missions effort - Operation Inasmuch - by going out into the local community to help others as needed.

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For more information about Operation Inasmuch, visit [www.operationinasmuch.com](http://www.operationinasmuch.com).
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Bennett, Stanley Walter (1886-1935). [Pn].
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BF.


NCCF.

History. October, 1886-December, 1989. [Concord First Baptist Church. Apparently photocopied from a church directory]. NCCF.

McPhatter, Mrs Elva Lentz. The History of the First Hundred Years of First Baptist Church Concord, N.C. : [The church; 1985?] unp. 6pp. typescript.
NCCF.

Notice. A meeting would be held in the courthouse in Concord to organize a Baptist church, Oct. 29. BIBLICAL RECORDER. Raleigh, N.C.; 1886 Oct 27: 2:3. 205 B47.

Permission of the church must be obtained to photocopy these records in their entirety.
CRMF 0374.
Ninety years after the establishment of the boundaries for the city of Concord, the desire of a devout group of German and Scotch-Irish people of the Baptist persuasion for a house of worship in Concord became a reality.

The Reverend Jacob McCurdy had contacted the State Mission Board in Raleigh requesting an inspection of the area to determine the need for a "city" church. At the direction of the State Board, the Reverend George P. Bostick came to Concord and remained to become the first preacher of the new church which housed in the fairly new courthouse located on Union Street and Means Avenue. The membership was comprised of twenty-seven persons. During his ministry, property at the corner of Grove Street and Spring Street was purchased.

The Reverend J. D. Newton succeeded the Reverend Mr. Bostick and it was under his direction that a church building with a seating capacity of 250 was erected. The first donation for the building was given by the Rev. Mr. McCurdy. The timber was donated and hauled to the building site by Mr. Saunders Sapp.

Although the building was neither furnished nor had a heating or a cooling system, the first worship service was held by the 55 members of the Concord Baptist Church in January, 1889. Burdened with a heavy building debt, the determined members were facing a number of years of sacrifice.

In 1892, the Reverend J. O. Alderman was called to serve the people. During his four year ministry, the church membership doubled in number. The rapid growth in membership led to the necessity of increasing the seating capacity which was doubled during the leadership of the Reverend J. J. Payseur who served for two years 1896-1898. Also during his two year ministry, a parsonage was built on Grove Street behind the church building.

With the succession of the Reverend Lacy B. Hoge to the ministry of the Concord Baptist Church in 1898, a period of expansion was begun as he led a band of neighboring Baptists in the organization of the Second Baptist Church, later to become McGill Avenue Baptist Church. This is presumably when Concord Baptist became First Baptist Church.

In 1900, fourteen years after the organization of the church, the church building debt was paid in full. In recognition of this milestone, a dedication service was held on October 28 of that year. However, at this time, the church building had begun to need improvements. Thus during the tenure of the Reverend J. E. Smith from 1901 to 1904, the inside of the church building was papered and painted. For the next three years, under the direction of the Reverend R. H. Herring, additional financial and plant improvements were made. The parsonage on Grove Street was remodeled and for the first time in sixteen years the church property became debt free.

Property that adjoined the church's property on Spring Street was purchased while the Reverend S. N. Watson was pastor, 1907-1912. A new parsonage was built on this newly acquired property after the parsonage on Grove Street was sold. The Reverend R. E. Brown's family was the first to occupy the Spring Street parsonage. The Reverend Mr. Brown served as pastor for one year, 1913-1914.

The Rev. George V. Tilley ministered to the membership of the church during the World War I years, 1914-1918. He was succeeded by the Reverend Graham A. Martin who served from 1919 to 1924. During the latter two years of his tenure, church services were held at Coltrane School while a new sanctuary was being constructed. The building was completed and occupied in 1924.
During the Great Depression, the Reverend C. H. Trueblood led the church through many lean and difficult years. However, the church survived and soon thereafter experienced a period of growth and expansion.

The twenty-two years from 1930 to 1952 were referred to as "good" years in the life of First Baptist Church. The Reverend E. S. Summers served as pastor. Under his leadership, the church was instrumental in the organization of Young Street Baptist Church (1930), Pitts Baptist Church (1943), and Immanuel Baptist Church (1951).

As a result of the growth in membership of the church, the old First Presbyterian manse on the west side of Spring Street was purchased to be used as a parsonage. The old parsonage was converted into Sunday School classrooms and plans were drafted and approved for the construction of a new educational building to provide space for more classrooms.

Soon after the succession of the Reverend Thurman B. Stone to the ministry in 1953, the construction of the new educational plant was begun and was completed in 1956. Also, during the Reverend Mr. Stone's tenure, remodeling of the interior of the church building was begun and was completed in 1961 under the direction of the Reverend Howard Dawkins who served from 1961 to 1967.

During the six year period, a lot was purchased on Claymont Street on which a parsonage was built. In addition, a house and lot that joined the church's property facing White Lane and another house and lot that joined the church's property on Spring Street were purchased. The house on Spring Street was later razed to make space for paved parking.

Under the leadership of the Reverend Mr. Dawkins, the Providence Baptist Mission was organized in the Harrisburg community in October, 1964. Providence Baptist Mission soon outgrew the mission status and was constituted an autonomous Baptist church on October 7, 1973.

As First Baptist Church was helping organize missions, it too was experiencing growth. The needs for constructing a new sanctuary was becoming evident. Therefore, the Long Range Building Fund Trust was established in February, 1968. During the tenure of the Reverend Jack Hill from 1968 to 1974, the assets in this fund grew rapidly. These assets included an 18-acre building site on Branchview Drive.

The Reverend Mr. Hill's untimely retirement in 1974 was due to ill health.

During the next five years, under the leadership of Dr. Robert W. Bailey, many creative and innovative ministries were initiated. An annual home mission trip was begun as well as the tradition of the lighting of the Chrismon tree.

In September, 1982, under the leadership of Dr. E. Eugene Hunsinger who had succeeded to the pastorate in June, 1981, the congregation voted to relocate from Spring Street to the building site on Branchview Drive. In order to facilitate the re-location process, a building program was inaugurated and on December 18, 1983 ground was broken for the first phase of this program. Construction was begun February 20, 1984. The building was completed in 1985 and many dedicated members participated in moving furnishings, materials and other items to the new location. The first service at the new location was held on July 7, 1985.

The church was successful in selling the church buildings on Spring Street. The parsonage on Claymont Street was sold in 1986.

In June, 1988 First Baptist Church was once again free of building indebtedness. The church, under the leadership of Dr. Hunsinger, is looking forward with great anticipation to the completion of the future phases of the building program in order that the needs of the growing population of Concord and Cabarrus County might be met more effectively.
First Baptist Church expects overflow crowd for dedication of new sanctuary

By TOM DAVIDSON
Staff Writer

The beautiful sanctuary which stands upon the highest point in Cabarrus County no doubt has attracted the attention of members and non-members alike at First Baptist Church on Branchview Drive.

At 11 a.m. Sunday, the new sanctuary will be dedicated with a special service involving former pastors and other guests, followed by a covered dish dinner in the fellowship hall and an open house from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

With maximum capacity at about 1,000, the new sanctuary also includes new Sunday school classrooms and the church's music suite. The church held its first service in the sanctuary on March 1.

Those taking part in Sunday's celebration include Dennis E. Yates of Yates-Chreitzberg Architects who designed the $4.2 million plus sanctuary; E. William Wagoner, general contractor; Newton Fowler, chairman of the church building committee; the Rev. Jack Hill, pastor at the church from 1968 to 1974, who will bring the message; the Rev. Thurman Stone, pastor at the church from 1953 to 1960; the Rev. Peggy Stout, minister of education and youth; the Rev. Thomas Anderson, minister of outreach and missions at the church, and Dr. E. Eugene Hunsinger, who has been senior minister at the church since June 1, 1981.

The new state-of-the art facility is the manifestation of the vision kept over the years by the faithful members of First Baptist's congregation, Hunsinger said, adding it has already had an impact in church attendance, outreach and spirit.

New members are joining the church with each service at the new facility. Since March 1 Hunsinger has baptized 10 new members and has 15 others awaiting baptism.

The facility also has captured the attention of other pastors and churches in the area.

"There's a whole new magnetism of the church," Hunsinger said. "They've sort of seen a dream that they had planned and hoped for realized in their lifetime ... really catching the spirit of rejuvenation."

He recalled an incident a couple of weeks ago when a member of Concord's First Baptist Church on Chestnut Drive met Hunsinger at the new sanctuary. The member used the analogy of Solomon's Temple and told Hunsinger that God given him a message.

"He told me that God had spoken to him and told him to come and tell me something," Hunsinger said. "He's a very sincere, serious individual. He said 'God told me to tell you that he is well pleased with this building because this building was built for him.'"

"And it's like in King David's and King Solomon's day that this is second to none."

"In other words, that you've given unreservedly of your time and your energy and all that you have, and therefore God is pleased with this people. I thought that was interesting coming from a 67-, 68-year-old black man. He wanted to kneel down and pray before he told me that, 'He's a most genuine individual.'"

Hunsinger uses this to show the unity the new facility has brought about, not only among the members of his congregation but between his church and others throughout the county.

Churches of other denominations also have asked to use the new facilities, which excites Hunsinger when speaking about service to the community as a whole.

Currently the church houses a school for the handicapped five days a week, and in a couple of weeks the church will host "The Bible for a Changing World," a national banquet of the Wycliffe Associates. About 500 people are expected to attend.

Also, the Cabarrus School of Nursing is planning its graduation exercises this spring at the new church facilities, he said.

"I would hope that the whole community would see us in a servant role, that we're attempting to minister effectively with what God has entrusted to us."

Friday Cabarrus Calendar

Cabarrus Calendar is published daily, with events listed for the week. To have your event included in the daily listing, call 788-3125 before 5 p.m. on the day prior to publication. Items to appear in Sunday's paper should be called in before 5 p.m. Fridays.

Today

- Kerr Street United Methodist Church hot dog sale, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., hot dogs, chili beans, desserts, drinks, call 788-3125 for late outs.
- Democratic luncheon, noon, The Oaks Restaurant, South Cannon Boulevard, Kannapolis.
- Dance, Cabarrus County Senior Center, 8 to 11 p.m., $3 admission. Hi-Liers will perform.
- Concord Lions Club Camp Denwood 6-10, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cost is $5 a dinner: a roll, slaw, baked potato and a half chicken.
- Cabarrus County Democratic Convention, 3 p.m., Central Cabarrus High School, speaker will be former Gov. Jim Hunt.
- Odell Lions Club barbecue at the Odell Lions Hut on N.C. 73 West at Odell School Road, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Cost is $5 a plate or for three sandwiches.
- Yard and bake sale, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Central United Methodist Youth Group, 30 Union St. N.
- Dance, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., VFW Post 9751, one mile north of Marshville on N.C. 205; $4 admission; Southwind from Lexington.
90TH ANNIVERSARY HOMECOMING
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
49 SPRING STREET N.W.
CONCORD, NORTH CAROLINA
OCTOBER 31, 1976
THE WORSHIP OF GOD

GATHERING IN PRAISE AND GRATITUDE

SACRED ORGAN MUSIC  "Air a la Bourree" ........................................ Handel
SUMMONS TO WORSHIP ............................................................ Dr. Bailey

THE INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN NUMBER 149  "God of Our Fathers" ........................................ Warren
Rev. George Shore, Mr. Ken Fortune and Mr. Phil Rector, Trumpeters

WELCOME TO THE WORSHIPERS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS ............ Dr. Bailey

REAFFIRMING OUR CALL TO BE CHRIST'S CHURCH


THE WORD OF GOD FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT  Acts 5:1-11 ............... Dr. Howell

*ANNIVERSARY COVENANT FOR THE CHURCH

Leader: We have responded to the Lordship of Jesus Christ
and have followed Him in baptism,
People: And we have entered into covenant with one another,
as one body in Christ.
Leader: We renew our commitment to live out our lives in Christian love,
People: And we renew our covenant to support the advancement of
Christ's Church in this place.
Leader: We covenant to strengthen the spiritual undergirding of
our church in worship and learning;
People: We covenant to maintain a high quality of personal and
family Bible study and prayer;
Leader: We covenant to contribute regularly to support the
spread of the Good News that Christ is concerned
about the total man, both in our neighborhood and
throughout the world;
People: We covenant to share our knowledge of Christ in word and deed;
Leader: We covenant to conduct ourselves always in a manner
exemplified in the life and ministry of our Lord;
People: We covenant to love, care for, and minister to each other,
calling forth the best gifts of one another;
Unison: All this we do in the name and spirit of Jesus Christ,
who is our Lord and the Head of His Church.

ANTHEM  "Ye Shall Be Witnesses" .............................................. Kirk
Chancel Choir

Ye shall receive pow'r when the Holy Spirit comes upon you,
and ye shall be My witnesses, and ye shall be My witnesses unto the ends,
unto the ends of the earth.
Ye shall receive pow'r! And be My witnesses, and be My witnesses.
Ye shall be witnesses unto the ends of the earth, the ends of the earth.
Jerusalem! Jesus! Samaria, and the ends of the earth!
Ye shall receive pow'r! And be My witnesses, and be My witnesses.
Ye shall be witnesses unto the ends of the earth!
The ends of the earth! Amen!

THE MORNING PRAYER ............................................................ Dr. Bailey
RETURNING THE GIFTS OF GOD

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

*HYMN NUMBER 240  "Amazing Grace" .................................................. arr. by Excell
Rev. George Shore, Mr. Ken Fortune and Mr. Phil Rector, Trumpeters

THE MORNING OFFERING

*Offertory Prayer ................................................................. Rev. Shore
Handbell Offertory "Prayer and Finale" ....................................... Butler
Handbell III

PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

ANTHEM  "Almighty God of Our Fathers" ..................................... James
Chancel Choir

Almighty God, God of our fathers immortal, Holy, holy, Lord God of Israel.
Blessed art Thou, the God of our fathers.
Unto Thy throne do we lift up our songs, Lord our creator,
Great is Thy name, the King of Kings.
Hear our pray'r, our pray'r unto Thee.
Our Father who art in Heav'n, Hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heav'n;
Give us our daily bread, and deliver us from evil,
For Thine is the kingdom, the pow'r and the glory, for ever, Amen, Amen.
Almighty God, God of our fathers immortal,
Mighty art Thou, the Lord of Lords!

THE MESSAGE  "From Dreams To Reality" ................................. Dr. Bailey

EXPRESSING HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

*HYMN NUMBER 365  "O Jesus, I Have Promised" ............................ Mann

THE PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

PASTORAL BENEDICTION AND CHORAL BLESSING "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" Lutkin

*ORGAN DISMISSAL  "March" ....................................................... Gounod

* * * * *

The Worship Leader today is The Reverend Mr. George Shore,
A member of our church who serves as Director of Missions for our
Cabarrus Association.

The Old Fashioned Homecoming Dinner will be shared immediately following
the worship at the Boy's Club, 247 Spring Street, N.W.
Parking will be available at Forest Hills Methodist Church on
Buffalo and the Catholic Church on Union Street.

A brief program featuring music, memorable pictures, and humorous anecdotes
from our past will be held from 1:30-2:00.
There will be no Church Training or Evening Worship today.
Youth will meet at the church at 6:30 for Halloween Caroling.

*THE CONGREGATION WILL STAND  OCTOBER 31, 1976
FOREWORD

Time and space have made it necessary to limit our "History" presentation.

More, much more, needs to be said. More, many more, should be included.

Guidelines have been followed and an attempt made to use names of those from our past or those who are serving in a church elected position or those who are no longer members of our local church. Some who have moved away are mentioned. Many of our deceased members are remembered. Former and present staff members are included.

The faithful workers of our present fellowship will find their deeds chronicled by a future historian.

This presentation, for now, must be incomplete but finished.

The information in this account is drawn from papers and articles supplied by Letha Snyder, Violet (Mrs. Raiford) Miller, "Dip" (Mrs. John) Puckett and from pictures and interviews with Lela Bruton, "Hattie" (Mrs. Maury) Sapp, Mr. and Mrs. George R. Wall and Bervel (Mrs. Luther E.) Barnhardt. In addition to the aforementioned, valuable information was contributed by W. L. Mills, Jr., Mrs. M. S. Lyles, Mrs. R. Matt Patterson, Noel Morris and J. Wesley Walker. Their help has been invaluable and is gratefully acknowledged. Other sources were:

Minutes of Church in Conference from the Thirties and Forties found in the Church vault.

Minutes of Annual Sessions of Mecklenburg-Cabarrus Association.

A Short History of Cabarrus County and Concord, Yesterday and Today, published 1932

Concord Tribune articles dated August 4, 1974; January 16, 1975 and October 8, 1975

The Daily Herald-Observer dated December 7, 1937

First Baptist Church bulletins for several decades.

Official Records of Sale for acquisition of church properties.

E. Clary
A compilation of historical data covering the past 90 years as pertaining to the people and events of the First Baptist Church, Concord, North Carolina, requires that the said people and events be placed within the context of their peculiar time and location. Setting down the highlights of any people's history is an attempt to better understand its beginning, its transition from what it was to what it is and so more adequately chart what it can become. Without a firm knowledge of "What was", the "What is" is lessened in value and the "What will be" could degenerate, with drifting currents of cultural change. A basic requirement of understanding is to search out the principles which led to the formation of any body or organization of people in order to continue to live in keeping with those principles.

To the wild and fertile region later to become Cabarrus County came a Germanic and Scot-Irish people. Devout and toughened by hardship and bound in the bonds of common danger, they brought their land grants with them and settled into Indian country to find their farming communities and rear their families as God-fearing and obedient offspring. They endured the vicissitudes of nature. They tended their sick and buried their dead.

A legislative Act in 1792 brought about the severing of this territory from Mecklenburg County. In 1793 it was organized into a functioning unit of government which was named "Cabarrus County" in honor of Stephen Cabarrus, Speaker of the House of Commons, who cast the deciding vote in favor of its creation.

Excerpted from A Short History of Cabarrus County and Concord—Yesterday and Today, published 1932:

"Tradition tells us that in locating our town the people had a disagreement. Some wanted the town located near what is now Cook's Crossing; others wanted it located in the southern part of the county. Finally they came to an agreement that they would have it on midway ground and call it Concord, which means harmony. The first two streets were Union and Corban, (later changed to Corbin). A deed dated February 17, 1796 was filed and twenty-six acres were bought for the city for the sum of $62.30."

Our nation as a constituted government was 20 years old at the time.

Ninety years passed after the town limits were established before the Concord Baptist Church became a reality. Ninety additional years later, in 1976, A.D., we celebrate the birthday of a church simultaneously with our nation's bicentennial. First Baptist Church will be 90 years old on October 26, 1976. (There is some confusion about this date. Several articles published in past years state the organization of Concord Baptist Church as October 26, 1886; others, as October 29, 1886. October of 1886 had Sundays to fall on the 24th and the 31st. Therefore, we cannot be certain about the exact day of the month of its organization.)

The Rev. Jacob Monroe McCurdy, grandfather of Raymond Snyder and his sister, Letha, presently members of our church fellowship, gave the first dollar toward the building of a house of worship in Concord for the people of the

*In recent years the name of Corbin Street has reverted to the original spelling of Corban Street.
It was he who contacted the State Mission Board in Raleigh and asked that someone come to look over the field and oversee the need for a "city" church for Concord.

Rev. Mr. George P. Bostick came to Concord at the direction of the state board and stayed to become the first preacher of the new church, formally organized by a regularly constituted presbytery. The Rev. W. R. Gwaltney, D.D. served as moderator and Rev. Mr. A. G. McManaway preached the sermon.

The old courthouse which still stands on Union Street and Means Avenue was built in 1875. This then fairly new courthouse was to house the then new Baptist Church. The Rev. Bostick preached there to the 27 persons comprising the membership. These were, in addition to Mr. Bostick, seven men and nineteen women: Henry T. Johnson, J. W. Clayton, J. R. Hinson, M. W. Freeman, H. F. Freeman, R. P. Lentz, F. P. Smith, Mrs. R. A. Stowe, Mrs. D. B. Ferguson, Miss Ferguson, Mrs. Bettie Sossamon, Mrs. R. P. Lentz, Mrs. M. J. Freeman, Mrs. M. P. Freeman, Mrs. W. A. Hinson, Miss Fronic Hinson, Mrs. Edy Dennis, Mrs. Mollie Smith, Mrs. Jane C. Johnson, Mrs. Elizabeth Sapp, Mrs. Sarah Sapp, Miss Alice Sapp, Miss Adeline Casper, and Mrs. K. L. Craven. Twin sisters Harriett (Hattie) Ferguson and Annie Ferguson rounded out the list of charter members. Miss Annie Ferguson was the first nurse to volunteer from North Carolina to serve during the Spanish-American War in 1898.

Within a few weeks a Sunday School was organized in the parlor of Major A. J. Dodamead, at his home on the corner of West Depot (now Cabarrus Avenue) and Spring Street. Ten members were enrolled and Major Dodamead was made superintendent. In a short while the Sunday School outgrew the limits of Major Dodamead's parlor and it too moved into the courthouse.

The Rev. Mr. Bostick served for approximately two years before he felt called to the foreign mission field. He then went as a Southern Baptist missionary to the field in China. It was during his 2-year ministry that the property on which our present church stands was purchased.

Rev. Mr. J. D. Newton succeeded to the pastorate and under the direction of this second pastor a church building was erected with a seating accommodation for 250 people.

Saunders Sapp, grandfather of the late Maury V. Sapp and great grandfather of present member of our fellowship, Pegge Sapp Haywood, donated the timber for the first church building and hauled it to the site at the corner of Grove and Spring Streets in his wagon.

The first worship service to be held by the now 55 members of Concord Baptist Church within the confines of their own church building was in January of 1889. It was not furnished; it was cold in winter and hot in summer. For a number of years a heavy indebtedness would call forth sacrifice from this determined people.

Reportedly only one member of the original group owned his own home.

Three years later, Rev. Mr. J. O. Alderman came to serve the people. It was during his ministry that the church membership doubled itself.

In 1896 the now thriving church called Rev. Mr. J. J. Payseur to minister
to the Baptists. Under his leadership the seating capacity was enlarged to more
than double and a parsonage was built on the Grove Street side of the church
property in back of the church building.

When Rev. Mr. Lacy B. Hoge came to the church in 1898 he led a neighbor­
ning band of Baptists in the organization of what is now McGill Avenue Baptist
Church. It was called simply Second Baptist Church at the time of its organiza­
tion. Presumably this is when Concord Baptist Church became the First
Baptist Church.

On October 28, 1900, 14 years after its organization and in recognition of
the fact that for the first time the church building debt was paid in full, the
church held a Dedication Service. Dr. C. A. Thomas preached the sermon.

The Rev. J. E. Smith served as pastor from 1901-1904. During his pas­
torate the inside of the church was papered and painted and work prospered
generally.

The Rev. R. H. Herring then labored for 3 years making both financial and
physical plant improvements. The parsonage (the dwelling immediately back of
the church on the south side of Grove Street) was remodeled, the mortgage was
paid and the entire, now enlarged, church property became debt free for the
first time in 16 years.

While the Rev. S. N. Watson was pastor, 1907-1912, property owned by
"Mr. Deaton" was purchased alongside the church building on the Spring Street
side. The Grove Street parsonage was then sold and a new parsonage was built
on the newly acquired property.

It is noted in a 1909 Statistical Table of the Mecklenburg-Cabarrus Asso­
ciation that Cold Water Church and First Church, Concord, have S. N. Watson,
Concord, listed as the minister. A Financial Statement from the same Asso­
ciational records indicated no salary paid a minister from Cold Water. No
further records of clarification were found.

The Rev. R. E. Brown served as pastor for one year only, 1913-1914. He
was the first pastor to occupy the parsonage on Spring Street.

During the years when the whole world exploded into the war to end all wars,
1914-1918, the Rev. George V. Tilley served as pastor. He was a man of spe­
cial ability in the pulpit. Mr. Tilley is remembered as an exceptionally fastidi­
ous man who was offended by "commonality" - such as putting coal on the grate
with bare hands rather than using coal tongs. Letha Snyder can vouch for that
from personal experience.

It was under the pastorate of the Rev. Graham A. Martin, D.D., 1919-1924
that the present sanctuary was built. It was occupied in 1924. From March,
1922 until the new sanctuary was finished the church body convened in the then
new Coltrane School, just across Grove Street.

Mr. George R. Wall recounts an amusing story about Dr. Martin. He
remembers Dr. Martin as a man of quiet humor, great dignity and a devoted
family man. It seems that some kind of new car was being raffled off and appar­
ently the school building was headquarters also for this exciting city-wide event.
Roses were garlanded for decorations on the school property. Dr. Martin,
before beginning his sermon was humorously mimicking how the people rushed
to register for the fabulous prize. Dr. Martin was somewhat lame in one leg and during this demonstration, he slipped and fell. In throwing out his hands to break his fall, he got two handfuls of thorns, as well as the fall for his reward. Dr. Martin's wry remark to the congregation is remembered as, "I took that too far!"

From 1925-1930 Rev. C. H. Trueblood had the difficult period of the great depression as his pastoring years. The fact that the church survived those lean years speaks much for pastor and people.

The next 22 years, from 1930-1952 were growing and good years for First Church, Concord. The Rev. E. S. Summers came to this community from Kentucky. He and his wife, whom he affectionately called "Top" were well-loved and active in both church and community. Many of our presently active members hold first-hand memories of this beloved and loving pastor, now deceased.

Georgetown University honored the Reverend Summers while he was serving the First Baptist Church by conferring upon him the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree. Perhaps one of his most endearing characteristics was his ability to know each one and to relate to each one in a personal and special way.

During these years under the leadership of Dr. Summers, First Baptist Church was instrumental in the organization of Young Street Baptist Church (1930), Pitts Baptist Church (1943), and Immanuel Baptist Church (1951). Jackson Training School boys received regular ministry from the church and a great number of them were baptized in First Baptist Church by Dr. Summers.

Also, during Dr. Summers' tenure, an Austin pipe organ was purchased and installed in the sanctuary. The old First Presbyterian manse on the west side of Spring Street was purchased, and Dr. Summers and his wife moved into it. The old parsonage back of the church was converted into Sunday School classrooms, and plans were drafted and approved for the construction of a new educational plant.

The Reverend Thurman B. Stone succeeded Dr. Summers and served the First Baptist Church from 1953 through 1960. Soon after his arrival, construction of the new educational plant was begun. It was completed in 1956. A new parsonage was purchased on South Union Street into which Mr. Stone moved with his wife Evelyn, his daughter Miriam and son "Butch." Daughter Debbie was born while Mr. Stone was serving the First Church.

During the term of service, Mr. Stone was sent abroad to participate in the Golden Jubilee Baptist World Congress meeting in London, England, in July, 1955, and he thereafter spent two months with his wife, Evelyn, leisurely touring the European continent and visiting the Holy Land.

During Mr. Stone's tenure, the First Baptist Church prospered, and attendance was at a high level.

The Reverend Mr. Howard G. Dawkins was called to the First Baptist Church in Concord in 1961 and served until 1967. Under his leadership the sanctuary was refurbished and a vacant lot was purchased on Claymont Street upon which a new parsonage was constructed, into which Mr. Dawkins moved with his wife Carmen, his sons Howard, Jr., and Frank, and his daughter Elaine.
The Church also purchased a house and lot behind the Church property facing White Lane and another house and lot beside the Church property facing Spring Street. Thereafter, the house on Spring Street along with the old Spring Street parsonage were razed and the lots were paved for parking.

In October, 1964, under the leadership of Mr. Dawkins, the First Baptist Church organized the Providence Baptist Mission in the Harrisburg Community. "Becky" and Sam Perkins, members of First Baptist Church who lived in Harrisburg, were instrumental in bringing the need for the mission to the attention of First Baptist Church. Providence Baptist Mission quickly outgrew the mission status and was constituted an autonomous Baptist Church on the 7th day of October, 1973.

On the 15th day of February, 1968, the First Baptist Church established a trust fund for the construction of a new sanctuary, known as the Long-Range Building Fund Trust.

In August, 1968, the Reverend Jack Hill moved with his wife Kathryn, his son Michael and his daughter Karen from Portsmouth, Virginia to Concord, where he served the First Baptist Church until his untimely retirement in 1974 because of ill health.

This family quickly made a place for itself in Concord and in the Church. Mrs. Hill was active in the nursery department of the Church during the Sunday School hour. Perhaps one of the most remembered characteristics of Mr. Hill's pastorate was his frequently expressed love for the Church. His pastor's column in the church bulletin invariably ended with the phrase, "I love you."

During Mr. Hill's tenure the assets in the Long-Range Building Fund Trust grew from $21,929.45 on July 16, 1969, to $245,019.24 on December 31, 1974. These assets included an 18-acre building site on the new Branchview Drive which Mr. Hill was instrumental in locating prior to the time Branchview Drive was constructed. The Trustee of the Long-Range Building Fund paid $43,000 for this property, which has more than doubled in value since its acquisition.

Dr. Robert W. Bailey accepted a call to the First Baptist Church, Concord, on February 1, 1975. A devoted family man, he moved into the parsonage on Clayton Street with his wife, the former Mary Frances Prillaman, son Kevin, now a second grader, and daughter Courtney, who is now a four year-old preschooler. Dr. Bailey was formerly the senior minister at Temple Baptist Church in Durham. He and his wife Mary Frances have been frequent contributors to church periodicals. An outgrowth of his research and lecturing, his book The Minister and Grief was released in April, 1976.

The future of the First Baptist Church is optimistic and promising under the leadership of this young minister filled with creativity and imagination. He is a writer, singer, preacher, pastor, teacher and leader who brings to the Church a whole man of God.

INPUT AND IMPRESSIONS

The Puritan Ethic, in its larger scope of practicing righteousness as a ramification of Faith was distinctively evident in the moral discipline demanded
of its fellowship by the early First Baptist Church members. Excerpted from the Minutes of the Church in Conference, dated April 15, 1931, we read: "The hand of Church Fellowship was withdrawn from -------------- for immoral conduct."

When the old First Presbyterian Church congregation moved from the corner of Spring and W. Depot (Cabarrus Avenue), the historic Johnson organ, which presently stands in the north end of Memorial Hall, was loaned to and relocated in the First Baptist Church. This organ, with its old bellows pump, took some real playing to bring forth a pleasant, reedy sound. Katie Lee Raiford, aunt of Raiford Miller was the organist at this time. Mr. Will Kirk, custodian, pumped it for her. Built in 1880 and one of the few remaining 19th century American organs, its hand painted pipes and hand carved cabinet made it a rare and appreciated "loan" from the Presbyterians. It remained in the First Baptist Church sanctuary until the 1920's. When the new church building was completed in 1924 this organ traveled on to St. Andrews Lutheran Church. In 1941 it was presented to Memorial Hall.

Excerpt from December 7, 1937 write-up by E. B. Joyner, (educator, newspaper contributor and member of First Baptist Church) as it appeared in the Daily Herald-Observer, "The Breakfast Table Newspaper of Cabarrus," in that newspaper's Concord Centennial Edition: "The almost unbelievable progress of the First Baptist Church from those early days of struggle to the present time is a very inspiring story. Only one member in the original group owned his own home. Hardship and poverty were surmounted by Faith and Sacrifice, and God's leadership caused a mighty work to be accomplished. The present commodious, perfectly appointed church building was erected during the pastorate of Rev. G. A. Martin, D. D.

"This beautiful building will seat comfortably, 1,000 people. It will accommodate a Sunday School of 1,500. * It is completely departmentalized with 31 classrooms. The church auditorium has a soundproofed ceiling which adds much to the acoustical properties. A very fine Austin 2-manual pipe organ adds much to the worship services."

"The First Baptist Church is entirely free from debt. The present membership is 853, the largest of any church in the city."

Preachers of great ability have filled the pulpit at times. Notable among them have been Dr. Luther Little, early renowned radio minister; Dr. F. Crossley Morgan, internationally known Presbyterian Bible scholar and teacher; the late Dr. Broadus E. Jones, Sr., father of Dr. Broadus E. Jones, Jr., of First Baptist fellowship; Dr. William Strickland, Professor of Old Testament and Greek at Southeastern Seminary; Dr. Marc Lovelace, Professor of Archaeology and Old Testament History, Southeastern Seminary; Dr. John W. Carlton, Professor of Preaching at Southeastern Seminary and Dr. James L. Blevins, now Professor of New Testament at Southern Seminary in Louisville; Dr. Tom Haggai, internationally known speaker.

During the period between Mr. Hill's leaving and Dr. Bailey's arrival in Concord, Mr. W. Bryant Carr and Mr. Fred Morris served as interim pastors.

*Typographical error or enthusiastic exaggeration. 1,500 would result in an average of 48.387 persons per classroom.
"A Million More in '54"

770 at Sunday School. One Sunday in the Fall of the first year in the new Educational Building, 1956, was designated "High Attendance Day." It was. George R. Clary was General Superintendent of the Sunday School.

November 8, 1959. An Association-sponsored emphasis on tithing climaxed with a Church Loyalty Dinner at Concord Recreation Center. Each church arranged with a sister church for the care of all children eight years old and under so that nobody need miss the Loyalty Dinner. First Baptist teamed with two other churches in this caring and sharing. Arthur Smith, of country music fame, was the inspirational speaker for the several hundred who attended this event.

"600 Day" in Sunday School on November 11, 1962. Made it.

Mrs. Frank Petrea's long years of teaching the T. E. L. Class.

Will Kirk firing up the old pot-bellied stove in the old church and the coal-fired furnace in the present church - right on up into the 30's.

Will Propst never missing Prayer Meeting; preparing church envelopes for himself and Mrs. Propst a month in advance.

Mr. C. H. Klueppelberg singing a Mother's Day song for that occasion annually.

Mr. W. D. Cagle and his faithfulness as Chairman, for years, of the House Committee.

Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Moore, John Puckett, Glenn Roseman, L. I. Beasley, S. W. Preslar, Sara Biggers, Callie Shepherd, H. T. Helms, all now deceased but remembered still for their contributions to the beauty, well-being and well-doing of First Baptist Church. Scores of others cherished in personal memories can be added to this number who were singled out for mention by those who talked and volunteered information for the writer of this article.

Mrs. W. T. Mills frequently preached in area churches. She was instrumental in the organization and establishment of the Second Baptist Church, the name of which was later changed to McGill Street Baptist Church and is now known as McGill Avenue Baptist Church. Everyone who knew her called her "Mother Mills." She conducted revival services on many occasions in this community and also in Columbus, Georgia, where her daughter, Mrs. Frank K. Petrea, lived for more than a quarter of a century. She was also guest Sunday School teacher on a radio program in Columbus, Georgia, which was regularly conducted by her son-in-law, Frank K. Petrea. It has been said that "Mother Mills" led more individuals to accept Jesus Christ in her community that perhaps any other individual during her time. She was the grandmother of William L. Mills, Jr., Eyra Dell Petrea, Gladys Meriwether Hinson, Ellen Petrea McCoy, Faye Mills Glover, Becky Mills Huffman, J. Harry Arrowood and Robert M. Mills, all members of the church family.

When the 2-manual Austin organ, described by all musicians who are acquainted with it as having a sweet, sweet tone, was first installed in a bare-
floored sanctuary, it was put to the side on the right. This proved unsatisfactory and eventually it was centered behind the pulpit. It was at this time, the early 30's, that the baptistery was floored over. Previously it had remained open at all times.

New chimes were added just this year, 1976, as a memorial to Sara Biggers. Mrs. Biggers was an assistant organist for many years.

In earlier choirs the late Martha Blake, known affectionately by many as "Aunt Martha", was a member of the chorus and sang in both trio and quartet groups. She is remembered as having had a beautiful contralto voice. A scant four feet, eleven inches in height, she was allowed to stand on a box behind the choir rail in order to see - and be seen.

Another choir member remembered fondly by those who knew him is Mr. Philip Ballard Raiford, grandfather of Raiford Miller. Reportedly, he was one of only a few who could read music in any one of the earlier choirs of First Baptist Church. He read the "shaped notes." Shaped notes were preferred by those who had little, if any, formal training in music. Members were taught "parts" by rote from "shaped note" music. Each musical note had a different shape and was memorized in that way. Some of the choir music even up into the 30's included a few copies written in shaped notes.

Mrs. L. R. Crooks was organist in the old church at one time. Later she sang in the choir when Marie Barnhardt Shinn was organist. Mrs. Crooks taught the T.E.L. Sunday School Class and held an associational office.

The drawing of the church which appeared on the front of the morning worship bulletin from the early 60's until 1975 was drawn by "Becky" (Mrs. Sam) Perkins. The picture of the church presently used on the bulletin was painted and given to First Baptist Church by member Mel Kester.

It was stipulated in the By-Laws of the Mecklenburg-Cabarrus Association that to address a fellow member the designation of "Brother" must be used.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

Bervel (Mrs. Luther E.) Barnhardt, organist and choir director holding a weekly "music reading" class for choir members.

J. C. Mainer, Music Minister

Ralph Yoars, Music Minister, now a missionary in Hong Kong

Fred Scifers, Music Minister

Earl Reeves, Music Minister

Mary Lou Tatum, Church Secretary

Mae Callahan, Church Secretary

Ethel Huneycutt, Minister of Education

Helen Parker (Patterson), Minister of Education
Willodean Langston (Poole), Minister of Education

Kenneth (and Margaret) Motsinger for whom the K. E. Motsinger Sunday School class is named.

Jim and Pat Fogleman

Grace and J. B. Powell

Frankie Moss (Wall) as Director of Religious Education - and the church-wide party for her when she left for Raleigh - also as Kindergarten Director after her return from Raleigh to become Mrs. Wall.

Mary Sutton as Church Secretary

Rachel Wall as Church Secretary

Frank Braswell, teacher of the Men's Bible Class

Delette Sibley and Mamie Denny taking the youth choirs to Fruitland Assembly for music festivals - and always receiving high ratings.

The pageantry and ceremony of G. A. Coronations

Sara (Mrs. Boyd) Biggers slipping into the sanctuary early on Sunday mornings with armloads of beautiful flowers from the gardens and yards of friends, making large arrangements with great quantities of flowers, always fixing them on Sunday morning because she wanted them to be fresh and fragrant.

Women of the church cooking for Associational Meetings, Study Course Groups, Teachers and Officers Meetings; using the old kitchen upstairs next to the sanctuary balcony.

Iva and Gordon Bane, Judy Ritchie, missionary journeymen

Ruth Laxton playing the passages from the "Seven Last Words of Christ" and making the floor reverberate during the earthquake measures.

The thrill of hearing C. H. Duncan sing; and the beautiful tenor voice of Dr. J. O. Williams.

Agnes Yelton Vaglio singing in the choir as both youngster and adult.

Attending WMS Conventions and wearing hats and having fun and acting silly along with the real reasons for going.

Other members often mentioned were:

Mrs. Delphi Arrowood, Homer Bollinger, Burns McCoy, Mrs. Maggie Mills Meriwether, Johnny Crowder, M. I. and Lorene Eury, Novella and Earl Biggers, Inez and Earl Ryals, G. Fred Agee, and Annie Snyder; Zora Eubanks, Vann Harris, G. A. Baker, Grace Bruton, Grace and Tom Greene, Kathryn Green, Mary Eaton, Mary Ann Watson, Mary Allred, Mr. T. D. Maness, Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Barnhardt, Mrs. Lillie McCommons, Mrs. Tommy Irvin.
Undoubtedly you will remember others who were influential in your life and the life of our church.

EXCERPTS FROM SELECTED MINUTES
OF CHURCH IN CONFERENCE

October, 1930, "Homecoming held. G. T. Barnhardt paid $4.28 for stamps in connection with this."

December, 1930, "A motion was made and carried that a committee be appointed to investigate the cost of a pipe organ - both new and second hand."

November, 1930, "H. T. Helms, Clerk, G. T. Barnhardt, Moderator. A motion was made and carried to adopt the Unified Budget System, including only Sunday School and to give the other organizations the privilege of coming on application or request. " (W. M. U. "Request" to unify came on December 10, 1930.) Motion was made and carried that the term of office for the officers who shall be elected for the coming year shall expire August 31, 1931 so as to run with the Associational year instead of the calendar year.

January 27, 1931, "Resolved: That the First Baptist Church of Concord hereby put herself on record as being opposed to all money-raising schemes, such as Bazaars, Festivals, Socials, Sales, Dinners, Suppers or any form of Shows or Entertainments, in or out of the Church or by any organization fostered by the Church, for the purpose of raising money in the name of the Church for any purpose." -- Put forth by G. Fred Agee.

February 17, 1931, "The Resolution made by G. Fred Agee in regard to raising money and tabled by the Conference of January 27 was not untabled."

November, 1931, "12 tons of coal purchased at a total of $84.00. Fellowship fund of $7.50 per month adopted October 16, 1931 to take care of sick or needy persons, to run December 31 through April, 1932. H. T. Helms, Mrs. J. A. Walker to 'Look after such cases'."

January, 1932, "Motion was made and carried to buy 4 new plates and one extra tray and 5 dozen individual glasses to be used in partaking of the Lord's Supper, and to give the ladies the privilege of buying same, but in case the ladies do not buy them the church shall buy them. Moderated by G. T. Barnhardt"

July, 1932, Dr. Summers, his father and his brother--all three--led in revival services in order that "All 3 of the Summers preachers" may be in action. During the revival meeting, E. S. Summers led the song services; his father, C. W. Summers, preached at the 8:00 a.m. morning services; and his brother, H. S. Summers preached at the evening services.

November 15, 1933, "Austin Organ was serviced by P. S. Fonjoy of Greensboro, holding a year's contract for $40.00, to be paid $10.00 cash for each visit."

January 17, 1934, Mr. A. Viola (father of Mrs. Foy Fisher) paid $3.00 for tuning piano.

February 25, 1934, Financial year voted to run with Associational year instead of November to November as heretofore.

10
July 25, 1934, The First Baptist Church was called into conference for the purpose of making some plans to entertain the Mecklenburg-Cabarrus Association which is to meet with this church in its Annual Meeting in September. Committee appointed of: G. Fred Agee, H. L. Irvin, Mrs. G. R. Wall, Mrs. L. R. Crooks.

January 16, 1935, Motion made and approved to withdraw from Mecklenburg-Cabarrus Association and organize Cabarrus Association.

May 15, 1935, "Dollar Day" to be held for purpose of painting of parsonage, etc. Rev. George V. Tilley paid $15.00 for Sunday a.m. services in absence of minister. Offerings at close of service in p.m. taken and all loose offering to go to visiting minister Y. H. Shaboz or Shaboy. (Unclear)

June 3, 1937, 45 members were baptized into membership of church. Three additional ones on June 10, 1937.

April 29, 1953, Church voted to employ Marvin W. Helms, Architect, to draw up plans for new educational building.

July 5, 1953, Plans adopted.

August 30, 1953, Willodene Langston extended call to come as Educational Director.

September 16, 1953, Church granted License to preach to Joe Allen.

November 8, 1953, Church in called conference granted contract for construction of Education Building to J. H. Kezziah Construction Company of Hickory.

December 16, 1953, Church voted all men who had served church as deacons would automatically become lifetime deacons at age 70.

February, 1954, Church voted to send Pastor Stone to the Golden Jubilee Baptist World Congress.

May 12, 1954, Church voted to install Unified Budget completely.

June, 1955, J. C. Mainer called as Minister of Music.

August 17, 1955, Church granted Charles Price License to preach. (Author's note: Ann, his wife was in Nursing School. So eager was this couple to go as a missionary couple that they put their several children in an orphanage until Ann could finish her training.)

January 29, 1961, Church in Conference extended call to the Rev. Mr. Howard Dawkins to come as minister.

February 15, 1961, Church in conference voted to purchase lot on Claymont Street to be used for new parsonage.

April 12, 1961, Church in conference voted to purchase Goodman property for $16,000.00.

May 17, 1961, Church extended call to Ralph Yoars to come as Minister of Music.
July 12, 1961, Church voted Bob Williams License to preach.

THE BELL
OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

The First Baptist Church has a bell. It is temporarily silent. Information obtained by Ray and Harry Kluttz who climbed into the bell tower to examine the bell and the structural framework in which it hangs revealed that the bell was manufactured by G. S. Bell Company of Hillsboro, Ohio. Further investigation revealed that this company was established by G. S. Bell in Hillsboro, Ohio, in 1858. Thereafter, ownership of the company transferred from the founding father to his sons and grandsons and was later relocated in Tiffin, Ohio, and the name changed to Charles S. Bell Company. There is no date on the bell and efforts to determine when and how it was acquired by the church have been unsuccessful. Legend on the cradle of the housing reads, "Cast Steel-Alloy, 36" Church Bell." The bell is 36" high and measures 42" across the open end. The clapper is about 4" in diameter.

The last known date upon which the bell in the First Baptist Church tower was rung was on New Year's Eve, 1961, during Mr. Dawkins' tenure as pastor, when it was rung at midnight during a New Year's watch season. The structural framework in which the bell hangs has deteriorated to such an extent that it is considered unsafe to ring a bell of this size and weight. In years gone by it has been a part of the life of both the church and community. It has tolled for the dead and pealed for the newlywed. It was rung as a solemn memorial for a President of the United States - Franklin Delano Roosevelt when he died in 1945; it celebrated the end of World War II. Beyond these dates is conjecture as to when it rang. Extensive research and interviews with numerous people of both church and city reveal no positive knowledge.

Where and how the church acquired the bell is a mystery. Some think the bell was bought and placed in the present bell tower at the time of construction in 1924. Others, and they are more numerous, by far, think the bell hung in the old frame church and was simply moved into the new structure. The size of the tower, as shown in pictures of the old structure, causes one to wonder whether it could have supported the weight of a bell this size.

Interviews with community citizens, some of whom have lived in the vicinity of First Baptist Church since the turn of the century elicit no sure knowledge. The most often answer to query about the bell is, "I didn't know you had one, now." Since it is never heard now and people's memories are whimsical things, this is understandable.

Some interesting theories have been forthcoming, things that some think they remember - but they cannot be sure. One is that the bell once hung in a courthouse in a northern state and was transported by covered wagon to Concord. This would support the argument for its being in the old church. Another story, half-remembered, is that it was in another church before becoming the bell of First Baptist. Since we have been unable to locate any complete evidence, the original location and date of manufacture remain an unsolved mystery.

In the varied opinions and memories offered about the bell, any of the foregoing might be considered valid, or might as well be since they have been plausibly suggested and cannot be proven false!
But nevertheless, the First Baptist Church definitely has a bell. This can be stated unequivocally, and it hangs 36" deep in the square bell tower on the north side of the church edifice.

It has not always hung mute.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
TODAY
1976

First Baptist Church, a Missionary Baptist people, aligned with the North Carolina State Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention, continues a program of education, inspiration and edification. Worship services are worship experiences. Regular use is made of printed worship aids. Dr. Bailey's sermons are printed for use and/or distribution. His sermons are taped each Sunday. Members unable to be in worship service have the message taken to them. Outdoor fellowship is enjoyed frequently; ice cream and cake times, watermelon slicing times, and times of celebration. Evening worship "Singspirations" have become a time of participation for all church members. Many new hymns in the New Baptist Hymnal published in 1975 have been learned during the "Singspiration" hours. The new hymnals were given as a memorial to the late Maury Sapp.

The Music Ministry of First Baptist Church, under the direction of Gladys (Mrs. James) Hinson since November, 1967, is well organized. With personal dedication, ability and enthusiasm Mrs. Hinson serves as both Minister of Music and church organist. There is a choir for any age member who wishes to participate, from the very young child through youth and adult years. The Chancel Choir under Mrs. Hinson's direction averages an attendance of 25 to 35 members. This choir has several members who hold a degree in church music and many others have professional training. Outstanding solo work is backed by superior voices. Special music is a weekly worship feature. Larger efforts are performed frequently. Programs prepared for Easter and the Christmas season are well attended by both church and community. Mrs. Hinson is assisted by volunteers who work with the younger choirs. One of the larger of these is "The Sounds of Seraphim," youth choir, directed by Bill Cone. This singing group joins with associational efforts at times. Carol (Mrs. Bill) Cone directs the Chapel Choir for grades 4-6. Mrs. Hinson has Frankie (Mrs. William) Wall as her co-director for the Cherub Choir, ages 3-5, and co-director, Mrs. Emma Cresdy of the Carol Choir, grades 1-3. Robes are provided all the choirs.

First Baptist Church has five Handbell Choirs. These handbells were given to the church in memory of Dr. E. S. Summers. They are used by both youth and adult choirs in worship services. Mrs. Saidee Jackson works with these choirs, along with Mrs. Hinson. Mrs. Jackson's is a dedicated service requiring her to be at church almost every day of the week.

Dr. Kelly Howell came to First Baptist Church in July of 1973. As Minister of Education, Dr. Howell brings to First Baptist Church both ability and commitment in the planning and the implementing of a comprehensive educational program. His leadership is felt throughout the church as he works with the elected leaders of each department in every age group.
The Sunday School, the outreach arm of First Baptist Church with an enrollment of 632, provides an opportunity for in-depth Bible study for all ages. In addition to both traditional and coed classes, there is a special Homebound department which visits those unable to come to church. Bible study is conducted each Sunday at Ritchie's Nursing Home and Serenity House, and Vacation Bible School is offered each summer for preschoolers, children and youth.

Sunday School Directors are:

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<th>1975/76</th>
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<td>DIRECTOR</td>
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<td>Preschool Division</td>
<td>Ken Huffman</td>
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<td>Mrs. William Wall</td>
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<td>Extended Session</td>
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<td>Mrs. Ernest Morgan</td>
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<td>Cradle Roll</td>
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<td>Mrs. Emmett Robertson, Jr.</td>
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<td>Mrs. Lloyd Sells</td>
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<td>Preschool 1B</td>
<td>Mrs. Nathan Baucom</td>
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<td>Mrs. L. E. Boger</td>
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<td>Mrs. Tom Kirby</td>
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<td>Mrs. Bill Watts</td>
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<td>Mrs. Jimmy Hamilton</td>
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<td>Miss Kathy Hoffman</td>
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<td>Children's Division</td>
<td>First Grade</td>
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<td>Mrs. L. M. Brown</td>
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<td>Second Grade</td>
<td>Mrs. Harold Dillard</td>
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<td>Third Grade</td>
<td>Mrs. Emma Cresdy</td>
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<td>Fourth Grade</td>
<td>Al Stuckey</td>
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<td>Fifth-Sixth Grade</td>
<td>Mrs. Raiford Miller</td>
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<td>Youth I (gr. 7-8)</td>
<td>Emmett Robertson, Jr.</td>
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<td>Youth II (gr. 9-12)</td>
<td>Bill Cone</td>
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<td>College &amp; Career</td>
<td>Howard Seaford</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coed (18-29)</td>
<td>Mrs. Robert Bailey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Robert Hammonds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult I</td>
<td>Ernest Morgan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult II</td>
<td>Jack Cooper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult III</td>
<td>Mrs. Saidee Jackson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult IV</td>
<td>Fred Eaves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homebound</td>
<td>Mr. and Mrs. Carl Snipes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing Home Leader</td>
<td>Lewis Whitley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serenity House Ldr.</td>
<td>Ken Huffman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacation Bible School Director</td>
<td>Mrs. David Snyder</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Church Training provides an excellent opportunity for Christian growth. Classes for new members and leadership training are offered on a frequent basis. Regular member training provides opportunities for study in a variety of areas including death and dying, family stress, marriage enrichment, drama and puppetry for youth, and an annual Family Life Conference which ministers to the whole family. Church Training Leaders are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1975/76</th>
<th>1976/77</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Carl Comer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursery Coordinator</td>
<td>Mrs. Carl Comer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ext. Session Coord.</td>
<td>Mrs. Carl Comer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool 4-5, Leader</td>
<td>Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Barger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children gr. 1-3, Ldr.</td>
<td>Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Cook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children gr. 4-6, Ldr.</td>
<td>Mrs. Bessie Garmon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Leader</td>
<td>Sonny Pruette</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Leader</td>
<td>Mrs. R. G. Swaringen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gerald Cook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs. Gerald Cook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs. Gerald Cook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs. Lorena McConnell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs. Bessie Garmon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs. Carl Comer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs. Henry Eller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Steve Houghton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Carl Comer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Brotherhood and Woman's Missionary Union provide opportunities for boys and girls, men and women to learn about missions, pray for missions, give to missions and engage in local missions. Leaders of Brotherhood and WMU are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DIRECTOR</th>
<th>1975/76</th>
<th>1976/77</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baptist Men President</td>
<td>Dr. J. P. Reece</td>
<td>Dr. J. P. Reece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Ambassador Leader</td>
<td>R. Mark Smith</td>
<td>Carl Comer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Younger Crusader Counselor</td>
<td>David Furr</td>
<td>Trent Wilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older Crusader Counselor</td>
<td>Buddy Weaver</td>
<td>Buddy Weaver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pioneer Counselor</td>
<td>John Eury</td>
<td>John Eury</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DIRECTOR</th>
<th>1975/76</th>
<th>1976/77</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baptist Women President</td>
<td>Mrs. L. M. Brown</td>
<td>Mrs. L. M. Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baptist Young Women Dir.</td>
<td>Mrs. Richard Thomason</td>
<td>Mrs. Richard Thomason</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acteens Director</td>
<td>Mrs. David Furr</td>
<td>Mrs. Gerald Cook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls-In-Action Director</td>
<td>Mrs. Mel Howell</td>
<td>Mrs. Mel Howell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission Friends Director</td>
<td>Mrs. David Snyder</td>
<td>Mrs. David Snyder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs. Buddy Weaver</td>
<td>Mrs. Buddy Weaver</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The missionary programs for all ages represented in these groups and organizations present opportunities for mission study and activities under excellent leadership. Community, State and World are stressed in the study materials. The adult men and women are committed to joint efforts with the Cabarrus County Social Services Department in the MEALS ON WHEELS effort. This is an attempt to see that the elderly, ill or indigent who cannot, for whatever reason, manage to have a hot meal each day, have one delivered to them by volunteer workers. Other ministries include Tape Ministry to the Homebound, Home Life distribution in public gathering places, and serving meals to bereaved families. Other programs on a community level are participated in on a regular or as-needed basis.

Both Girls Auxiliary and Royal Ambassadors are strongly supported and led by trained and willing leaders. Camp Mundo Vista and Caswell have good attendance from First Baptist Church. Many of the boys attend Camp Caraway. Both youth and adult men and women look forward to weeks of training and vacation at Ridgecrest.

The Deacons of First Baptist Church this year adopted the Deacon Family Life Ministry Plan. A number of inactive deacons work with the active board. Each church family is ministered to by a deacon who serves as a liaison between member and pastor. Deacon Retreats amplify the spiritual aspect of their service. Raiford Miller is the new deacon chairman. He succeeds Lloyd Sells.

First Baptist Herald is a publication received weekly by the membership of the church. Dr. Kelly Howell edits this publication.

Counseling with soon-to-be-marrieds has been inaugurated.

The church maintains an up-to-date library. Mrs. Raiford Miller is Director of Library Services.
A pictorial directory of First Baptist membership includes all members of
the family of each with pertinent information about each; the birthdays; the
address. This directory is kept current with add-on pages of new members,
changed addresses, deceased members and members moving away. The direc-
tory has made possible a closer relationship for the resident membership which
now totals 752. The non-resident membership is listed at 201.

The church staff consists of:

Dr. Robert W. Bailey.  
Dr. Kelly Howell  
Mrs. James F. Hinson  
Mrs. Ralph T. Kilby  
Miss Brenda K. Ramsey  
Mr. Robert L. Witherspoon  
Mr. Michael J. Ledbetter  
Minister  
Minister of Education  
Minister of Music  
Secretary  
Secretary  
Sexton  
Foreign Missionary serving in Mexico

Serving the social fellowship needs of the men and women who have reached
the age of sixty is the Young Hearts Organization. Carl Howell serves as Pres-
ident of this group. Members of other denominations as well as other Baptist
churches are welcomed into this group and monthly meetings are held by the
approximately fifty members. The emphasis is on fun and social activities.

This is a great people doing a great work in a great way. From this church
Tom Huneycutt, son of T. C. and Evelyn Huneycutt, has gone into the ordained
ministry. Chip Carter, son-in-law of Janie (Mrs. Glenn) Roseman, is studying
at Southwestern Seminary in Texas. George Spencer, son of M. F. and Kathryn
Spencer, is at Southeastern Seminary. Mr. Willie L. Hollar was ordained and
is now minister of Brookdale Baptist Church.

Generous financial support continues, as always, to be supportive of the
total church program. The people of First Baptist Church are a giving people
and a prayer-oriented people. They are compassionate people. Above all, they
are a loving people; loving their families, loving their friends and the fellow-
ship and loving beyond their acquaintance to the neighbors whom they may never
see but whose need is known.

Elected General Church Officers are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1975/76</th>
<th>1976/77</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Church Clerk</td>
<td>Mrs. W. H. Freeman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>J. Wesley Walker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kitchen Coordinator</td>
<td>Mrs. Ray Klutz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospitality and Usher Coordinator</td>
<td>Fred Eaves,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday Preschool Coord.</td>
<td>Claude Gibson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Trustee Chairman</td>
<td>Mrs. John James</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Range Building Chairman</td>
<td>Raiford Miller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>W. L. Mills, Jrs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

First Baptist Church has a number of Committees elected to lead the
congregation in meeting the needs of the church and the community at large.
These needs range from helping needy members and transients to hospital
visitation and preparation of a Chrismon tree. Church Committees and
chairmen are:
The Creative Arts Festival/Homecoming Committee, the last Committee to be noted, has been a crucial one in the planning and implementing of our month-long emphasis on our divine creativity and the celebration of our 90th Anniversary. The Committee members and their responsibilities are: Mrs. Robert Wall, Chairperson; Mrs. Paul Haigh and Mrs. John Crook, Enlistment; Mrs. Smoot Lyles and Mrs. M. V. Sapp, Invitations; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Arrowood, Publicity; Mr. James Hamilton and Mrs. Ernest Burleson, Creative Arts Festival Program; Mr. Elbert Bishop and Mrs. John Puckett, Creative Arts Festival Displays; Mrs. Ray Klutz, Refreshments and Homecoming Dinner; Mrs. George Clary, Church History; Miss Letha Snyder, Miss Lela Bruton, and Mrs. Thomas Wall, Picture Collection; Mrs. George Engstrom, Historical Collage; Mrs. Roe Brown and Mrs. Fred Morris, Homecoming Welcome. Literally dozens of other persons worked willingly and faithfully to make this month possible. Special recognition is given to two of our artists, Dr. George Engstrom for his sketch of the original church and Mr. Mel Kester for his drawing of our present church. Both of these drawings appear on the cover. Mr. Kester and Mrs. Engstrom contributed art work for other material used during the Creative Arts Festival.

The Creative Arts Festival/Homecoming Committee planned and directed the month-long Creative Arts Festival, culminating with our 90th Anniversary/Homecoming, of which this history is one part. This committee's work is symbolic of the fresh, creative activity that is permeating the life of our church. This has truly been a month of revival and renewal, an experience that will help equip us for future tasks Christ has for First Baptist Church.

NOTE:
Following in the Appendix are copies of the historical tables and other items of information located in the research of this history. It will be noted that not all years were available.
### FINANCIAL TABLE

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Churches</th>
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<th>For.</th>
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<th>Education</th>
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</table>

| 103 24 163 76 102 82 36 01 21 26 17 85 646 672 213 64 2250 00 3387 72 |

From Minutes of Mecklenburg and Cabarrus Association, October 17-19, 1888.

### STATISTICAL TABLE—REPORTED FROM LETTERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Churches</th>
<th>Pastors and Their Addresses</th>
<th>Clerks and Their Addresses</th>
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<tr>
<td>Arlington</td>
<td>C. H. Martin, Polkton</td>
<td>W. A. Coman, R. F. D. 1, Charlotte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clear Creek</td>
<td>C. H. Martin, Polkton</td>
<td>L. S. Purv, R. F. D. 1, Unicoil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cold Water</td>
<td>E. W. Templeton, Concord</td>
<td>W. A. Hough, Cornelius</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concord</td>
<td>E. W. Hough, Cornelius</td>
<td>J. D. Hough, Charlotte</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Church, Concord</td>
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<td>H. H. Hulen, Charlotte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Church, Concord</td>
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<td>S. W. Templeton, Concord</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Church, Concord</td>
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<td>D. B. Templeton, Concord</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friendship</td>
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<td>J. M. Templeton, Concord</td>
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<td>Indian Creek</td>
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<td>E. W. Templeton, Concord</td>
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<tr>
<td>Independence Hill</td>
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<td>J. S. Kannapolis</td>
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<td>Limestone</td>
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<td>Pineville</td>
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<td>Union Grove</td>
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<td>J. S. Kannapolis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wilson’s Grove</td>
<td>J. S. Kannapolis</td>
<td>J. S. Kannapolis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| totals | $11,434.95 | $6,832.68 | $2,692.40 | 2,129.13 | $341.50 | $441.50 | $2,797.82 | $6,483.66 | 2,036.36 | 2,036.36 | $4,072.72 |

*Admitted to Association September 1, 1909.*
Directory
First Baptist Church
Concord, N. C., 1918

OFFICERS

Minister - George V. Tilley
Treasurer - T. D. Maness
Deacons - P. H. Biggers, R. B. Biggers, George Ballard, T. D. Maness,
J. L. Kears, W. H. Calloway, S. W. Preslar, W. H. Braggford,
R. P. Lentz, Dr. J. N. Patterson.

Sunday School—
Superintendent - R. B. Biggers
Secretary - Colon Ballard
Treasurer - S. W. Preslar
Librarian - Boyd Biggers

Sunbeam Band—
Leader - Mrs. W. A. Stribbling
President - Miss Sudie Moore
Vice-President - Miss Pearl Barnhardt
Treasurer - Miss Ethel Stegall
Secretary - Miss Mary Griffin

Missionary Society—
President - Mrs. W. A. Stribbling
Vice-President - Mrs. C. E. Craven
Treasurer - Mrs. T. D. Maness
Secretary - Mrs. G. V. Tilley

Ladies' Aid Society—
President - Mrs. A. E. Harris
Vice-President - Mrs. C. L. Bunn
Treasurer - Mrs. J. A. Walker
Secretary - Mrs. T. D. Maness

Baptist Young People's Union—
President - Miss Hattie Clayton
Vice-President - Miss Maggie Mills
Secretary and Treasurer - Colon Ballard
Leaders - Lucy Belle Litaker and Annie Snider

CHURCH OFFICERS 1933-1934
Voted in Conference August 16, 1933

Church Clerk - H. T. Helms
Church Treasurer - R. F. Moore
Assn't. Church Treasurer - S. W. Preslar
Sunday School Supt. - L. E. Barnhardt
Assn't Sunday School Supt. - G. Fred Agee
General Secretary - Spurgeon Helms
Assn't General Secretary - L. B. Preslar
Sunday School Pianist - Violet Propst (Mrs. R. Miller)
General BYPU Director - Neva McCoy
Music Director & Organist - Mrs. L. E. Barnhardt
Associate Organist - Mrs. Olin Shinn (nee Marie Barnhardt), Mrs. Ed Joyner,
and Mrs. Julius Fisher.
BYPU Committee - C. H. Kluppelberg, Homer B. Bollinger.
Hospitality Committee - O. T. Winecoff, Chm., G. R. Wall, Assn't.
Finance Committee - W. A. Blackwelder, Chm., G. T. Barnhardt,
E. F. Shepherd, L. I. Beasley, A. McCoy,
G. Fred Agee, R. F. Moore, S. W. Preslar,
George R. Wall, L. Foy Fisher, M. S. Lyles.
House Committee - W. D. Cagle, Chm., G. R. Wall, E. F. Shepherd.
Flower Committee - Mrs. E. F. Shepherd, Chm., Mrs. Boyd Biggers,
Mrs. C. S. Morgan, Mrs. J. W. Bailey, Mrs. J. A. Walker.
Usher Committee - Burns McCoy, Chm., James Crooks, Assn't.
1941 CHURCH DIRECTORY 1941

Pastor
E. S. Summers, 17 N. Spring Street — Dial: Office 9732, Res. 9731

Office Secretary
Miss Iva Grace Carden, 59 Edgewood Avenue — Dial: Office 9732, Res. 9447

Chancellor
H. T. Helms, 34 Hillcrest Drive — Dial 7269

Treasurer.
J. E. Moore, 19 Hillcrest Drive — Dial 5248

Music Director and Organist
Mrs. L. K. Barnhardt, 25 Virginia Avenue — Dial 5184

DEACONS

TRUSTEES
S. W. Prelar, Chairman, 257 Louise Avenue — Dial: Res. 9429, Office 9881; R. F. Moore, W. M. Kirk

BIBLE SCHOOL
General Superintendent, Stahlie Penderhurk, Louise Avenue — Dial 9125 — General Secretary, Harold H. Irvin, West Corbin Street — Executive Secretary, Willard A. Blackwell, 113 S. Spring Street — Dial 9221 — Superintendent Adult Department, S. W. Prelar — Young People’s Department, Elbert F. Swink — Intermediate Department, John Puckett — Junior Department, Mrs. Willard A. Blackwell — Prayer Meeting, Mrs. Paul Cox — Beginners’ Department, Mrs. Olin J. Shinn — Cradle Roll Department, Mrs. M. S. Lyles — Extension Department, Mrs. G. T. Barnhardt

TRAINING UNION
General Director, W. C. Walker, Grady Apartments — Dial: Office 3165, Res. 9139 — General Secretary, Spurgeon T. Helms, 44 Hillcrest Drive — Director Adult Department, James T. Dahle — Young People’s Department, Miss Bernice Boy — Intermediate Leader, Mrs. W. F. Curran — Junior Leaders, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Kluesse and Miss Gertrude Harris — Story Hour Leader, Mrs. Elbert F. Swink

WOMAN’S MISSIONARY UNION
President, Mrs. J. F. Reeder, 91 North Union Street — Dial 9114 — First Vice-President, Mrs. Boyd Bollinger — Second Vice-President, Mrs. S. W. Prelar — Third Vice-President, Miss Letha Snyder — Financial Secretary, Mrs. C. L. Bunn, Dial 9170 — Secretary, Mrs. Paul H. Secor — Director General, Mrs. Olin J. Shinn — Junior Department, Mrs. Paul Cox — Beginners’ Department, Mrs. Olin J. Shinn — General Secretary, Mrs. W. F. Curran

BOY SCOUT TROOP NO. 10
Scoutmaster, James H. Poeld Jr., 35 Grandale Avenue — Dial 7156 — Assistant: Dr. G. L. Lang, Jr., Corbett Rogers, and M. F. Spencer

CHAIRMAN STANDING COMMITTEES
Finance Committee
W. A. Blackwellker, 115 S. Spring Street — Dial 9221

Home Committee
W. D. Cutch, 190 E. Depot Street — Dial: Res. 9346, Office 4271

Hospitality Committee
B. R. Hunter, 195 Virginia Avenue — Dial 9791

Personal Work Committee
Raymond Snyder, 115 E. Depot Street — Dial: Office 5162, Res. 8290

Flower Committee
Mrs. Joe Eubanks, 16 Oakland Avenue — Dial 5197

Pulpit Supply Committee
Dr. G. L. Lang, 66 N. Church Street — Dial 9461

Head usher
Elbert Swink, 9 B. Church Street — Dial 6286

Association Promotion-Executive Committee
C. H. Kluesse, Boulevard, Route No. 2

Baptist Training Union Committee
W. C. Walker, Grady Apartments — Dial: Office 3165, Res. 9139

Baptist Hundred Thousand Club
L. E. Barnhardt, 25 Virginia Avenue — Dial: Res. 8143, Office 3103

Biblical Recorder Club
S. W. Prelar, 257 Louise Avenue — Dial: Res. 9429, Office 9881

Music Committee
George R. Wall, 164 East Depot Street — Dial 6208

Scout Committee
W. C. McGee, 19 Washington Lane — Dial: Res. 7229, Office 6209

Mission Committee
G. F. Agee, 21 N. Spring Street — Dial 6287

Church Sexton
W. M. Kirk, 219 Glenn Street — Dial: Church 9735, Res. 9200

1946 CHURCH DIRECTORY 1946

PASTOR
E. S. Summers, 47 N. Spring Street — Dial: Office 9732, Res. 9731

OFFICE SECRETARY
Mrs. John M. Sutton, 246 N. Union Street — Dial: Office 9732, Res. 23963

MINISTER OF MUSIC AND ORGANIST
Mrs. L. E. Barnhardt, 25 Louise Avenue — Dial 5384

CLERK
H. T. Helms, 34 Hillcrest Drive — Dial 7269

ASSOCIATE CLERK
W. R. Rogers, Care of the Brown Mill — Dial 7291

TREASURER
B. F. Agee, 21 N. Spring Street — Dial 6287

ASSISTANT ORGANIST
Mrs. Olin J. Shinn, Mrs. E. Johnstreet Irvin, Mrs. D. B. Ausell

DEACONS

TERMS TO EXPIRE 1946
H. B. Bollinger, R. F. Moore, W. W. Perry, G. R. Wall

TERMS TO EXPIRE 1947
G. T. Barnhardt, L. I. Beasley, Dr. C. L. Lang, W. R. Rogers

TERMS TO EXPIRE 1948
L. E. Barnhardt, W. A. Blackwellker, H. T. Helms, S. W. Prelar

TERMS TO EXPIRE 1949

TRUSTEES
CHAIRMAN, S. W. Prelar, 257 Louise Avenue — Dial: Res. 9429, Office 9931, R. F. Moore, E. F. Shepherd

BIBLE SCHOOL
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT
J. Harry Arrowood, 111 S. Union Street — Dial 8964

ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT
H. L. Irvin, 82 James Avenue — Dial 7007

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
W. A. Blackwellker, 115 S. Spring Street — Dial 9212

SUPERINTENDENT ADULT DEPARTMENT
G. G. Agee

BEGINNER DEPARTMENT
Mrs. Olin Irvin

YOUTH PEOPLE DEPARTMENT
J. L. Crowder

CRADLE ROLL DEPARTMENT
Mrs. Lewis Whiteley

INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT
Mrs. J. P. Reed

NURSERY MOTHER
Mrs. Floyd Wright

JUNIOR DEPARTMENT
Mrs. A. N. Lentz

EXTENSION DEPARTMENT
Mrs. G. T. Barnhardt

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT
Mrs. Paul A. Cox

TRAINING UNION
GENERAL DIRECTOR, Mrs. E. A. Jackson, 38 Academy Street — Dial 9176; ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, Miss Mabel Felker, 180 Moore Street — Dial 7654; GENERAL SECRETARY, Mrs. Charles Eugeen Kirby, 66 Martin Street — Dial 7985; PRESIDENT, G. T. Barnhardt, 61 Bell Avenue — Dial 3261, Res. 6170; ASSOCIATE CHAIRMAN, S. W. Prelar — Third Vice-President, Miss Letha Snyder — Financial Secretary, Mrs. Paul H. Secor — Secretary, Mrs. Johnstreet Irvin, Mrs. C. H. Kluesse and Miss Gertrude Harris — Story Hour Leader, Mrs. Elbert F. Swink

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WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

PRESIDENT Mrs. John Puckett, 117 Edgewood Avenue—Dial 5271;
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT, Mrs. J. P. Reeder;
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT, Mrs. John M. Sutton—Dial Office 9732, Res. 23683;
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT, Mrs. W. E. Denny;
FINANCIAL SECRETARY, Mrs. C. L. Burn,
SECRETARY, Mrs. John M. Sutton—Dial Office 9732, Res. 23683;
LEADER INTERMEDIATE G. A., Mrs. J. Wesley Walker;
LEADER JUNIOR G. A., Mrs. J. Wesley Walker;
LEADER INTERMEDIATE R. A., Mrs. J. Wesley Walker;
LEADER JUNIOR R. A., Mrs. L. E. Barnhardt;

BOY SCOUT TROOP NO. 10
SCOUTMASTER—Malvin F. Spencer, 37 Louise Avenue—Dial 9029
ASSISTANT SCOUTMASTER—Malvin Vanderberg, and Rudolph Kester

CHAIRMAN STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE COMMITTEE—W. A. Blackwelder, 115 S. Spring Street—Dial 9921
HOUSE COMMITTEE—W. D. Cagle, 190 E. Depot Street—Dial Res. 9746
ASSISTANT HOUSE COMMITTEE—Mrs. John M. Sutton, 246 N. Union Street—Dial Office 9732, Res. 23863
HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE—W. P. Rogers, Care of the Brown Mill—Dial 7911
PERSONAL WORK COMMITTEE—Raymond Snyder, 113 E. Depot Street—Dial Office 9162, Res. 3200
FLOWER COMMITTEE—Mrs. Boyd Biggers, 21 Washington Lane—Dial 4209
CHOIR ROBE COMMITTEE—Mrs. W. E. Denny, 276 Kerr Street—Dial 8005
FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE—Dr. G. L. Lang, 56 N. Church Street—Dial 9681
HEAD USHER—Carlyle Swink, Route No. 3—Dial 8001
PULPIT COMMITTEE—G. T. Barnhardt, 213 S. Union Street—Dial Office 3261, Res. 6170
BIBLICAL RECORDER-CLUB—S. W. Preslar, 257 Louise Avenue—Dial Office 9931, Res. 9429
MUSIC COMMITTEE—G. R. Wall, 166 E. Depot Street—Dial 8203
JAIL COMMITTEE—W. E. Denny, 276 Kerr Street—Dial Res. 8005
BAPTISM COMMITTEE—Mrs. W. E. Denny, 276 Kerr Street—Dial Res. 8005

CHURCH BULLETIN OF OCTOBER 26, 1941

"The Church With a Welcome"

E. S. SUMMERS, MINISTER

OFFICE HOURS — 10:30-12:30 DAILY IN CHURCH STUDY — DIAL 9732

"God make the door of this house we have raised to Thee wide enough to receive all who need human love, fellowship, and the Father's care, and narrow enough to shut out envy, pride, and hate. Make its threshold smooth that it may be no stumbling block to childhood, weakness, or straying feet, but rugged and strong enough to turn back the tempter's power. God make the door of this house the gateway to Thy Eternal Kingdom."

MOTTO: "My Lord and My God"

KEYNOTE: "The Lordship of Christ"
Dr. Robert W. Bailey
Minister

Dr. Kelly Howell
Minister of Education

Mrs. James F. Hinson
Minister of Music

WE CORDIALLY WELCOME each worshipper to our church and to all
the privileges of God's house. If you are seeking Christ, it is
our prayer that you might find him here. If you are discouraged,
we pray that you might find hope and encouragement in our fel-
lowship this day. If you are friendless, we sincerely hope that
you might find companionship and Christian love. In order that
we might know our visitors better, we ask that you fill out one
of the visitor's cards and place it in the offering plates.