

OSCAR RAY MANGUM

Pastor, Wornall Road Baptist Church, Kansas City, Mo.: born, Petra Mills, N. C., June 25, 1883; son of Hattie L. Adams of Burke County, North Carolina, and William Otis Mangum of Granville County, North Carolina; education, B.A., Wake Forest College; Th.B., Th.M., Th.D., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; ordained May 5, 1905; married Lila Lee Griffeth of Athens, Ga., Oct. 15, 1913; daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Griffeth; pastor, Selma, N. C., 2½ years, (built Baptist Church); pastor Paris, Ky., 4 years; pastor, Henderson, Ky., 2 years; pastor, Liberty, Mo., 7 years, (built Baptist Church); pastor, Wornall Road Baptist Church, Kansas City, Mo., 7 years to date, (built Baptist Church); president, North Carolina Ministers Alliance; member, Executive Committee, Kansas City Association; president, Ministers Alliance, Kansas City, Mo.; nominating Committee, Southern Baptist Convention; nominating Committee, Missouri Baptist General Association; preacher, annual sermon, ministers meeting, Kentucky, 1916; author, "The Church in the Modern World"; Rotary; Browning Society, lecturer, 2 years; teacher, New Testament, Kansas City School of Religious Education, 2 years; Lions; pastor, Arcadia Assembly; pastor, Ozark Assembly; traveled in Europe, 5 times; traveled, Palestine, 3 times. Home: 7330 Park Ave., Kansas City, Mo.; office: 400 W. Meyer Blvd., Kansas City, Mo.

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By: John S. Ramond

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MANGUM, OSCAR R

Dr. Oscar R. Mangum of Lenoir, retired Baptist minister, author and world traveler, and pastor emeritus of the First Church, Lenoir, died Thursday, September 29, in a Lenoir hospital after several years of declining health. He served as pastor of the Lenoir church from January 21, 1940, to June 27, 1948.

A native of the Dudley Shoals community in Caldwell County, he was educated in the county schools, Penelope Academy near Hickory, Mars Hill and Wake forest colleges. In 1909 he entered Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., and in 1913 received the doctor of theology degree from that institution. He wrote a number of religious books, including "Wings of the Morning" and "Lights and Shadows of Life".

Dr. Mangum had visited Europe and the Holy Land and had made talks on his travels to civic and other groups. The O. R. Mangum Cottage at the Southern Baptist Assembly grounds at Ridgecrest is named in his honor.

He is survived by his wife, the former Lila Lee Griffith, a native of Athens, Ga.

BIBLICAL RECORDER, October 8, 1955, p. 20:3

giving, both to local expenses and to missions. Records of six churches show that a total of 835 were baptized and 1345 were received by letter. He was a member of the North Carolina Baptist General Board, 1930-1937, and of the *Biblical Recorder Board of Trustees*, 1951-1954. He served as president of the Lenoir and Greenville, North Carolina, Ministerial Unions. Throughout the years he served on several committees of both the North Carolina and the South Carolina Baptist Conventions. Throughout his career he conducted many successful revival meetings from Georgia to Virginia.

As a pastor he was said to be "much beloved". He spent much time in visitation, especially where there was illness and other need. He led the members of his churches to greater spirituality and to deeper service for Christ.

As a preacher he was called "sound, earnest, and able, with a winsome tenderness, and with love and sympathy for the lost and wayward."

Sources: The North Carolina Baptist Historical Collection, Wake Forest University.

The History Room, First Baptist Church, Lenoir, North Carolina.

✓ DR. OSCAR R. MANGUM

1940 - 1948

Dr. Oscar R. Mangum was a native of the Dudley Shoals community of Caldwell County. He was educated in the county schools, Penelope Academy near Hickory, Mars Hill College and Wake Forest College. In 1909 he entered Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, and in 1913 received the Doctor of Theology degree from that institution.

He wrote a number of religious books, including *Wings of the Morning*, *Lights and Shadows of Life*, and *Live Coals*.

Dr. Mangum was married to Lila Lee Griffith, a native of Athens, Georgia.



Dr. Oscar R. Mangum 1940-1948

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Dr. Mangum Emeritus. He liv 1955.

Sources: North Forest University Historical Notes,

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Mangum 1940-1948

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In January 1940, he became Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Lenoir during the widespread economic slump and World War II. He gave inspiring leadership, and the church grew in service and size. A Pilcher organ was bought in 1941, and the sanctuary was remodeled. The choir loft, which used to be high in the air on the same level as the balcony, was lowered and the entire front of the church interior was remodeled.

A little later a cottage was built at Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly and named in his honor. Dr. Mangum loved young people.

The Love Fund was started and is still playing an important role in helping underprivileged persons.

Dr. Mangum was very active in the Caldwell Baptist Association; established a minister's library and conducted many classes for the county preachers.

The church spire was rebuilt, and in 1948 chimes were added to the organ. More remodeling took place, including a new heating plant and boiler. The lot next door was bought for future purposes.

Dr. Mangum retired June 27, 1948, and became Pastor Emeritus. He lived in Lenoir until his death on September 29, 1955.

Sources: North Carolina Baptist Historical Collection Wake Forest University.

Historical Notes, March 31, 1968 at celebration of note-burning.

ADRIAN EMORY BLANKENSHIP

1948 - 1950

The Reverend Adrian E. Blankenship was the fifteenth pastor of First Baptist Church of Lenoir. He and Mrs. Blankenship had served previously as missionaries from the First Baptist Church to Brazil.

Mr. Blankenship was born November 24, 1916, in Monette, Arkansas. He was married to Marie Hall on November 30, 1939, and both were educated at Quachita College and the Bible Institute. He received a B. A. degree in 1940 and in 1945 received a B. D. degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. From 1935 to 1943 and 1944 to 1945, he was pastor of churches in Arkansas, Mississippi, and Kentucky. In 1943 to 1944 he was a public school teacher in Mississippi.

In 1945, when the Reverend Blankenship was serving as Associate Minister of First Baptist Church during the pastorate of Dr. O. R. Mangum, he and Mrs. Blankenship were appointed

IN MEMORIAM

Photograph

Oscar R. Mangum, D. D.

1883-1956

Pastor Emertus -- First Baptist Church,
Lenoir

CALDWELL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION MINUTES, 1956

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