

Evangelist Roy Taylor To ✓ Speak At Mount Zion Baptist

Evangelist Roy Taylor of Shelby is to be the guest minister for both worship services in the Mt. Zion Baptist Church located 2 miles north on Route 274 out of Cherryville, this coming Sunday, June 24, at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. So many have requested that he return and preach again that he has been invited back to Mt. Zion.

Mr. Taylor was reared in Lawrence, S.C. and attended Furman University and Southeastern Seminary. He has served in the pastorate for 12 years serving the Cedar Grove Baptist Church of Woodruff, S. C., Sea Bethel Baptist Church of Roxboro, N. C. and for the past 5 years he has served the Grace Baptist Church of Albermarle, N.C. Now he is in full time Evangelistic work and holds church and city wide campaigns. Mt. Zion extends a cordial invitation to hear Mr. Taylor and to bring others with you.



REV. ROY TAYLOR

Chadbourn: Columbus Co. News
Chapel Hill Weekly
Charlotte: Mecklenburg Times
Cherryville Eagle
China Grove: S. Rowan Times
Clarkton: Southeastern Times
Clayton News
Clemmons Courier
Clinton: Sampson Independent
Clinton: Sampsonian
Cooleemee Journal
Creedmoor: Butner-
Creedmoor News
Danbury Reporter

JUN 20 1973

Clinton



REV. TAYLOR

Rev. Taylor is Clement Baptist revival guest

A former pastor of the New Lea Bethel Baptist Church is the scheduled guest minister when revival week opens at Clement Baptist Church Sunday, Oct. 24 at 7:30 p.m.

The Rev. Roy Taylor, who presently serves as pastor of the Grace Baptist Church in Albemarle, will be the visiting minister for the week of 7:30 p.m. services, which will run through Saturday, Oct. 30.

The Rev. Ben S. Gault Jr., pastor at Clement, has announced that a former pastor of the church, the Rev. Art Collier, will return for the week to lead revival singing each night. Rev. Collier, who now is pastor of Bethlehem Baptist Church in Raleigh, also will deliver the morning worship service Sunday, Oct. 31, which will be Homecoming Day for the church.

Rev. Gault pointed out that Clement Baptist is now debt-free; however, three new items are needed by the church, and a \$6,000 goal has been set for Homecoming Day to help meet these needs. The money will be used to install a new roof and steeple for the church building and to purchase a new piano.

Rockingham: Sandhill Independent
Roxboro: Courier-Times
Rutherfordton: Rutherford Co. News
Scotland Neck Commonwealth
Selma: Johnstonian-Sun
Shallotte: Brunswick Beacon
Shelby: Cleveland Times
Siler City: Chatham News
Smithfield Herald
Snow Hill: Greene Co. Ledger
Southern Pines Pilot
Southport: State Port Pilot

*

OCT 21 1971

Beulah

New Grove Park Pastor Named

Rev. Roy Parsons Taylor will assume the pastorate of the Grove Park Baptist Church Sunday, Feb. 20.

The Laurens Co., S.C. native received his B.A. degree in 1964 from Furman University in Greenville, S.C. and the Master of Divinity Degree in 1967 from the Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary at Wake Forest. He is a graduate of the school of pastoral care of the North Carolina Baptist Hospital and the Bowman Gray School of Medicine.

His former churches include Lea Bethel Baptist Church in Prospect Hill among other churches.



Roy Parsons Taylor

Asheville: Citizen-Times
Burlington: Times-News
Chapel Hill Newspaper
Charlotte News
Charlotte Observer
Concord Tribune
Dunn Record
Durham Herald
Durham Sun
Elizabeth City Advance
Fayetteville Observer
Fayetteville Times
Gastonia Gazette
Goldsboro: News-Argus
Greensboro Daily News



2-12-77

Mt. Zion Baptist To Have Revival Services Nov. 5 to 11

Mt. Zion Baptist Church located 2 miles out Route 274 north toward Morganton is planning revival services for next week, November 5th through November 11th with services beginning each night at 7 o'clock. Evangelist Roy Taylor of Shelby has consented to be the guest speaker. Mr. Taylor is a native of Laurens, S.C. where he received his pre-college education. After graduating from the Laurens High School he attended North Greenville Junior College, Furman University and Southeastern Seminary. He has served the Cedar Grove Baptist Church in Fountain Inn, S.C., Lea Bethel Baptist Church in Roxboro, N.C. and the Grace Baptist Church in Albemarle, N.C. Lately he has been holding city-wide, area-wide and church revivals. Mr. Taylor has preached in Mt. Zion Baptist Church previously and



EVANGALIST ROY TAYLOR

many of the people have requested that he hold a revival in Mt. Zion. Everyone is urged to attend these special services each night next week. A nursery will be open for children under four years of age.

There will be special music each night by the adult and junior choirs of the church. Also members of the choirs will be singing solos, duets, trios, etc. during the week. The pastor, Rev. Lee A. Cable, Jr., will be in charge of the congregational singing. He and the church urge each one to come and bring all the family, neighbors, friends, co-workers and others with them.

Charlotte: ~~Weekend~~
Cherryville Eagle
China Grove: S. Rowan T
Clarkton: Southeastern T
Clayton News
Clemmons Courier
Clinton: Sampson Indep
Clinton: Sampsonian
Cooleemee Journal
Creedmoor: Butner
Creedmoor News
Danbury Reporter

OCT 31 1973



REV. TAYLOR

Rev. Taylor is revival speaker

Revival services will be held at Longhurst Baptist Church April 7-April 13.

Rev. Roy P. Taylor, pastor of the Second Baptist Church of Shelby, will be the guest speaker for the services. Rev. Taylor has served in the Beulah Association at the New Lea Bethel Baptist Church. He served as pastor of the Grace Baptist Church in Albemarle and as a full time evangelist before going to Shelby.

The services will begin at 6 p.m. on Sunday, and at 7:30 p.m. during the week.

Congregational singing, choral music and other special music will be under the direction of Rev. Alfred E. Staley, pastor of Longhurst Baptist.

The nursery will be open each evening for the convenience of people with small children.

TIMES NEWS
BURLINGTON, N. C.

MAR 10 97

B10

291



Jack Sink / Times-News

Minister honored

Dr. Roy P. Taylor, right, pastor of Grove Park Baptist Church, was honored at a recent Sunday-morning service, marking 20 years of service to the church. Many friends and relatives, a number from out of town, participated in the

"This is Your Life" service, which recalled highlights of his ministry, his call to serve, his first baptism, to the first couple he married. Brian Mann, left, narrated the program. Taylor was also honored with a luncheon.

Carolina CLIPPING SERVICE
1115 HILLSBORO
RALEIGH, NC 27603
TEL. (919) 833-2079

**TIMES NEWS
BURLINGTON, N. C.**

JUN 28 97

BF

291

**Grove Park's pastor
to retire Sept. 28**

Dr. Roy P. Taylor, pastor of Grove Park Baptist Church for the past 20 years, has announced his retirement, effective Sept. 28.

Since Taylor became pastor of the church in 1977, the church has grown from 900 to its present membership of 1,135. The church budget has grown from \$167,000 to its present budget of approximately \$600,000.

A Family Life Center was built in 1983, and an after-school care facility has been in place since 1986.

Sunday services at Grove Park include Sunday school at 9:30 a.m., morning worship at 10:50 a.m. and evening worship at 6:30. The Wednesday prayer meeting is at 6:45 p.m.

TIMES NEWS
BURLINGTON, N. C.

SEP 28-97



Jack Sink / Times-News

Dr. Roy Taylor, 20½-year pastor of Grove Park Baptist Church, will preach his last sermon today, but will stay active.

Pastor to give last sermon

By ARVELL STANCIL
Times-News

Dr. Roy Taylor said his retirement from Grove Park Baptist Church wraps up the most enjoyable time of his career.

Notice that he didn't say that it wraps up his career.

"I tell the folks here that, yes, I'm leaving pastoral ministry," Taylor said. "But am I leaving the ministry? No."

Taylor, Grove Park's pastor for 20½ years, will preach his last sermon today. He said he wants to stay active but he doesn't know how.

"I won't be making any commitments until Jan. 1," he said. "In the meantime, I'll be preaching at a few homecom-

ings."

Many Grove Park members will look forward to see Taylor return for future homecomings at the church.

"He has great leadership abilities that will be missed," said Dean Musser, one of Grove Park's 1,150 members.

Taylor said he takes a servant-like approach to his leadership.

"I don't look at the pastor as an authority figure, but as an under shepherd," he said. "Many pastors get in trouble because they see themselves as CEOs."

Taylor has served in other ways besides being a pastor. He's helped groom another

Please see PASTOR / A8

Pastor

Continued from A1

Burlington pastor.

The Rev. Ken Simpson said Taylor supervised him for a seminary project during his first stint at Fellowship Baptist Church in the late 1970s.

"As busy as he is, he found time for me," Simpson said. "He's a gracious, caring individual."

The servanthood concept has gotten through to some of the Grove Park members. Brian Mann described Taylor as a servant, among other things.

"When Dr. Taylor came when I was 15 years old, I knew that someone special was in our midst," Mann said.

"God has shown us favor by sharing Dr. Taylor with us for 20 years."

That amount of time is a big share for a Southern Baptist pastor.

"The average stay is usually 30 to 32 months," Taylor said. "There's a lot of smaller churches that aren't able to care for a pastor and his family, so they move on."

Taylor said he never decided on the length of time that he'd stay at Grove Park. But he's glad that he stuck around.

"God has especially blessed me here," he said.

DIRECTORY, 1966/67

The Southeastern Baptist
Theological Seminary, Wake
Forest, N. C.

B..

TAYLOR, ROY PARSONS (3)
(Mildred)
329 West Pine St.
Phone: 556-5383
Home Address:
Laurens, S. C.
B.A., Furman University



Graduated in Spring of 1967

ROY P. TAYLOR, pastor of Lea Bethel Church, Prospect Hill,
has accepted a call to the pastorate of Grace Church, Albemarle,
effective Feb. 4. He has been at Lea Bethel since 1964.....

BIBLICAL RECORDER

DECEMBER 23, 1967

Page 9:1

Kings Mountain Association changes include the coming
of Roy Taylor to Second Church, Shelby.....

BIBLICAL RECORDER

March 17, 1974

Page: 4:1

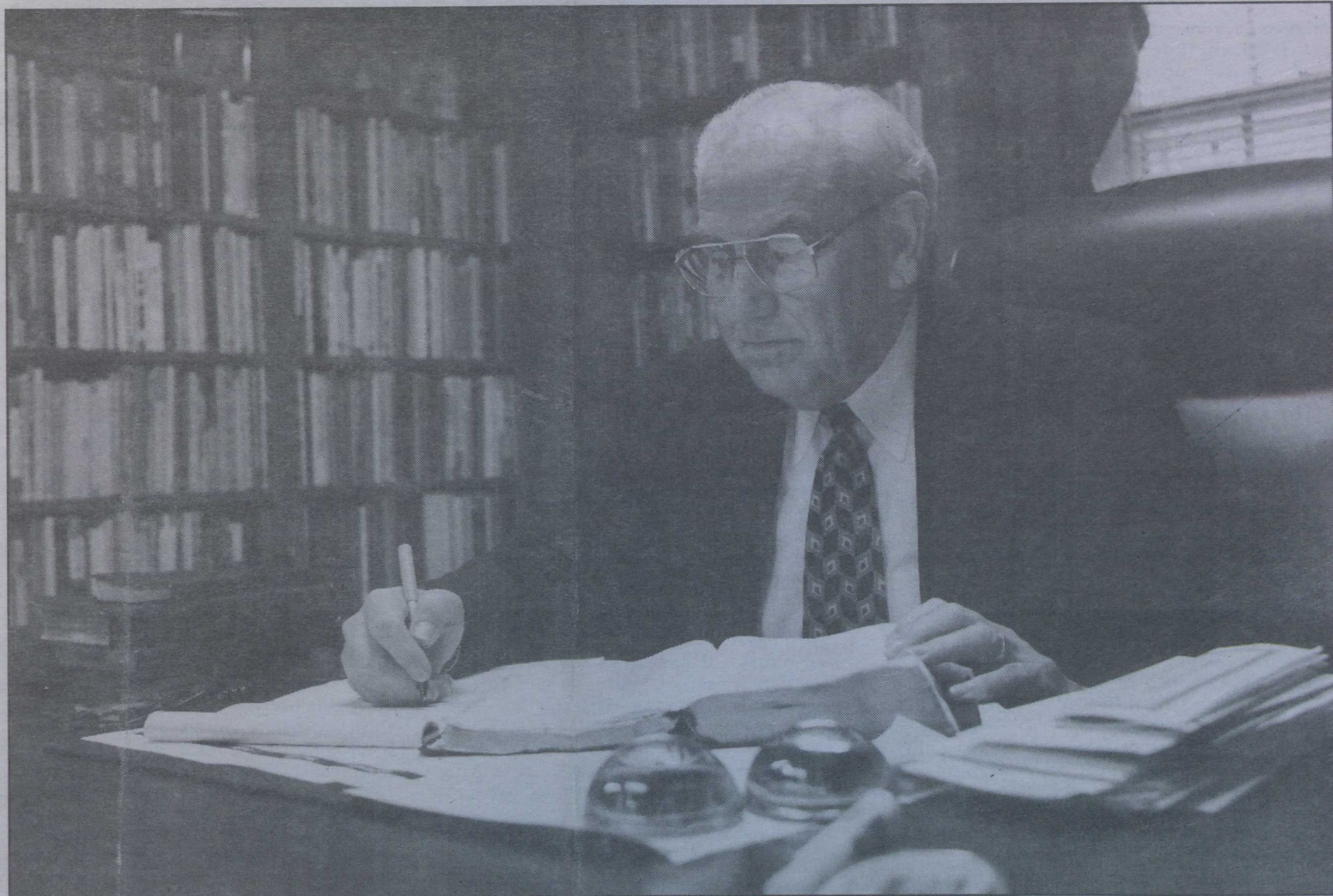
ROY PARSONS TAYLOR, leaving Second Church of Shelby and going
to Grove Park Church, Mount Zion Association, effective Feb.
20....

BIBLICAL RECORDER

February 19, 1977

Page: 5:1

PROFILE



Jerome Sturm / Times-News

The Rev. Roy Taylor may have retired from Grove Park Baptist Church, but he is now working as the director of congregational development for the Mount Zion Association and the North Carolina Baptists. He is still helping church congregations grow.

291-
294
129
Story by
Don
Bolden

Heeding a call

For 36 years, the Rev. Roy Taylor pastored Baptist churches, starting as a student pastor in his native South Carolina, then moving to North Carolina where he went to seminary and began his work.

Taylor ministered to the needs of his congregations, and at each location he guided his membership in building programs.

The greater part of that ministry was spent in Burlington where he was minister of Grove Park Baptist Church for 20 years.

Last September, he retired from that job, but he didn't retire from the ministry.

Instead, he has taken on a new duty — at least for a year. And, in a sense, he is still building. Now, instead of constructing church buildings, he is helping others build on their ministries to better

meet the needs of people today and tomorrow.

Taylor is working in a partnership program with North Carolina Baptists and the Mount Zion Association as director of congregational development. This is a new plan that grew from a recognized need for change. It's something of a reality check, he said, "Who are we? What are we doing? Where do we want to go?"

We place those answers against the New Testament church that were supposed to be, he said. It is a process of "reversioning," he added. There is no program, no agenda, no guidelines.

"It is a trial-and-error thing" he said.

He will spend three to four hours with every pastor in the Mount Zion association by the end of June, listening, hearing how they are hurting, "seeking their input on how we can do better" in a century in which technology is doubling every two years.

"I am very encouraged by those I have met with," he said. "They are eager."

There are 41 churches in the association now and three others are interested in joining. Also, Taylor is working with the New Covenant fellowship in a pastoral role until it can find an interim

or a new pastor.

It is a busy retirement, but Taylor has some ideas about that. He believes that one who is committed to the ministry never retires.

"I am not a rocking chair type," he noted.

"I retired from the pastoral ministry — not from the ministry. I think that would be impossible," he said. "I see it (his ministry) as God equipping me for what he wants me to do tomorrow, and I don't know what it is."

The future certainly will bring much

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Owen

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

change in all areas of life, the ministry included. In the future, Taylor said the minister will have to take advantage of all means available to communicate with people, remembering they are spiritual as well as physical beings.

"Start with them where they are and build relationships so you can communicate the significance of faith in God," Taylor said.

The individual is body, spirit and soul, he said, and for a person to be whole, he must realize the body is more than just another animal and take care of it.

"But there are spiritual needs that give us hope and carry us beyond the day to day, living at peace with ourselves, then with others," he said.

Many of the methods now used to reach people must be changed, he said.

"We can't ever change the messenger (Christ) or the message (the Gospel). We have to be flexible enough to change the methods within boundaries," he said.

"As a church we can't open up and take the world in. Then we would cease to be a church. Jesus in His earthly ministry gave us flexibility to meet people where they are."

Needs are different now, he said.

"Everyone needs the Lord, but we must find a way to communicate," he added.

As for the local religious community today, Taylor sees it in a two-fold way. There is the core of the evangelical church that has become more dedicated and disciplined. It has a greater burden and compassion to bring the love of Christ to the community, he said.

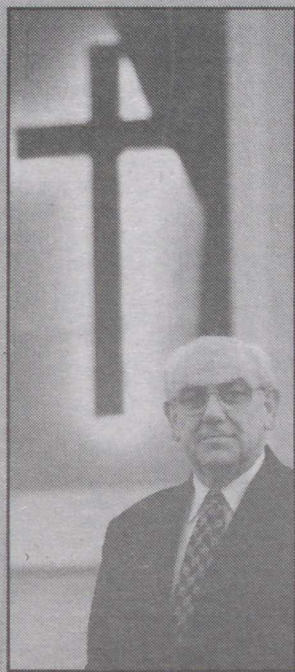
But there is the other part, those who are committed only in a casual way when it is convenient. That group is now almost non-existent to the cause of Christ, he said.

"One of the most trying things for a pastor is this casual type," he said. "How do you inspire that person, ignite motivation in them, get them to be a part of what is going on?"

Another thing that bothers Taylor is the moral situation that has developed around President Bill Clinton.

"It grieves my spirit when I see results of polls being taken and when I hear as long as the economy is good character makes no difference. We can have no positive leadership without character," he said.

"I don't want to be judgmental. My prayer is that the Lord will keep me from it. But my prayer is that justice will be done, whatever that is, and leave it to God. I hope there will be no scheming by loopholes or politicians that will



"There are very few people I can't work with if we get to know each other. The key is the agenda — make sure it is not mine or yours — and that is serving the Lord and helping others serve. How wonderful it is to walk with Him day in and day out."

deny justice," he said.

"The president, regardless of the past, JFK and Nixon, should see as a priority his being a mentor and role model for his generation and everyone coming up under him," Taylor said.

Recent years have seen strong conflict in the inner workings of the Baptist Church, with ideological differences between so-called conservatives and moderates causing sometimes bitter conflict.

Taylor has seen it, but as he looks at it now, he is "hopefully seeing changes in this. Or is it wishful thinking?"

He said he believes "it will finally lead to certain segments isolating themselves from what is known as the Southern Baptist Convention."

He said he has stayed clear of the controversy, and Grove Park Church did so has well.

"Our focus has been on Christ," he said.

He said most of the differences have been in interpretation, not in basic doctrine.

"There are very few people I can't work with if we get to know each other," he said. "The key is the agenda — make sure it is not mine or yours — and that is serving the Lord and helping others serve. How wonderful it is to walk with Him day in and day out."

Taylor was born in Laurens, S.C., one of eight children. He grew up on a cotton farm in Warrior Creek, S.C. The Taylor home was a Christian home always, and the children were nurtured in the Christian life.

When Taylor was 9, his father died, and as all the children were still at home, there was a major problem for his mother. She moved her family to the nearby mill town of Wattsville to make a better life for her children.

When Taylor was about 14, he felt a strong need to provide financial help for his mother, so he dropped out of school in

the ninth grade to go to work.

His first job was in a feed store in Laurens where he worked for two years.

Then he worked at Laurens Glassworks for a couple of more years before joining Deering Milliken, a textile company.

By that time he had met a young woman, Mildred King, to whom he was strongly attracted.

Nine months after meeting her, they were married, and they now have shared 47 years together.

They settled into their life together, and he continued working at the textile company. Their first child, a son, was born. But then their situation was changed when fighting broke out in Korea.

Taylor was in the Marine Reserves, and when the fighting started there, he was called to active duty. He served two years, but he never had to go to Korea. He was at Parris Island and Camp Lejeune, and he went aboard ship for a six-month training mission.

He returned to Laurens after discharge and went back to Deering Milliken, and it was then that the couple's second child, a daughter, was born.

At that time, Taylor was deeply involved in Second Baptist Church in Laurens. Early on, at 16 to 18 years, Taylor said he believed it was "the Lord's plan for me to be a minister. But like many, I did not jump right in," he remembered.

"At the age of 26, I finally surrendered," he said.

It was during a week of revival at his church, a week in which he was serving as youth pastor.

"I turned my life over to the Lordship of Christ," at that revival, he said.

And it was a major decision for him — and a major problem. He had a good job, a good family situation, a home. But

he was a school dropout. He had no high school diploma.

But he said he felt "God calls one to be a minister to prepare yourself," so he went about preparing himself.

He went to the high school principal in his community and explained his problem. The principal worked out a curriculum of study for him.

He went to high school for a year and then went to Columbia, S.C., and took the test for his GED. He passed it and received his high school diploma in 1959.

He then went to North Greenville Junior College for two years, then transferred to Furman University in 1962. He graduated there in 1964 and went immediately to Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary at Wake Forest. He had been ordained in 1961, and

had since 1
torates wh
studies.

His first student work was in Laurens County, S.C., and then he was at Lee Bethel Church in Prospect Hill, Caswell County, while he was in seminary at Wake Forest.

After graduation, he went to Grace Baptist Church in Albemarle, and then he was in full-time evangelistic work for 18 months. In 1973 he was called to pastor the Second Baptist Church in Shelby. He stayed there until 1977 when he was called to be pastor of the Grove Park Baptist Church in Burlington.

In both his first two churches, he was involved in building programs, and in fact, there had been building projects even in the small churches he served while a student.

And at Grove Park there would be even more. A new family life center was completed in 1983, and in 1992, the sanctuary was refurbished. A new bus and vans were purchased then as well in order to better serve the needs of the congregation.

There were about 900 members when he came, and on his retirement last September, there were 1135.

Taylor said those numbers probably put Grove Park second in membership in Mount Zion Baptist Association, but the church likely has attendance about equal to that of Glen Hope each Sunday.

He noted too that since he retired and the church is being served by an interim, "attendance has not dropped one bit, and that has thrilled me so much."



STAFFMARKSM

The Mark of Quality In Staffing

We :

- Have over 180 branches across the US and Canada
- Provide service to companies throughout Alamance County and Hillsborough
- Provide staffing in the following fields on short term or "Temp-to-Hire" basis :

Office/Administrative
Light Industrial
Customer Service
Technical

- Never charge our applicants a fee
- Offer our employees a full benefit package

3403 S. Church St.
Burlington
(336) 586-0808

**We are at
YOUR
service!**

1239-B S. Fifth St.
Mebane
(919) 563-0653

Carolina

CLIPPING SERVICE
1115 HILLSBORO
RALEIGH, NC 27603
TEL. (919) 833-2079

TIMES NEWS
BURLINGTON, N. C.

DEC-14-85

● Taylor

Continued from page 1B

small plane as it bumped on the rough strip for a take-off. "I told the pilot, Don Kirkland, that I had complete faith in him. But I also found my faith in the Lord strengthened."

But what affected him most, Taylor says, "is the widespread hopelessness among the people; the only ones you ever hear laugh are the very young children." There seemingly is nothing for the people in the country, which is also affected by the African drought that has devastated Ethiopia, he adds.

Zimbabwe, formerly white-ruled Rhodesia, now has a socialist type government that restricts visitors such as Taylor from talking politics. But the pastor says the government is not the hard-core Marxist type and he was not restricted in his preaching or gospel ministry in any way.

"It's a small world. We need to help those people over there," Taylor says in describing the abject poverty and misery he saw.

"I may go back again some time," he says.

Visit to Zimbabwe was experience of a lifetime

By JIM WICKER
Staff Writer

Until he went to the bush country of central Africa in early October, the ministry was the only work Dr. Roy Taylor knew.

Today the pastor of Grove Park Baptist Church in Burlington, 30 pounds thinner, has experience as a well driller, an ambulance driver and as an in-flight medical attendant.

"It was the experience of a lifetime," says Taylor, a Southern Baptist preacher for 27 years before volunteered to take part in the "People Who Care Program" of the Southern Baptist Convention.

As a result of the efforts of two other Americans and Taylor, who were assigned to a mobile drilling rig, there is now a good well to serve the Shemchembu area of Zimbabwe — a territory about as large as Alamance County and with close to 60,000 impoverished people.

"Before we drilled the well, the people got their water by digging down to the water level in river beds. Some of them will still get their water that way, but the well will be the major source of water for the district," Taylor explains.

The striking of water was a source of happiness for the crew and the natives of the area.

It was a different story at the first drilling site, some 70 miles away, several hot and miserable days earlier.

"We drilled 244 feet and came up dry. We, the crew, had sunk our sweat and our blood in it. We all cried — the nationals and us together when we didn't find water," Taylor explained.

Ever the minister, Taylor held a dedication service at the successful well when a hand pump was installed.

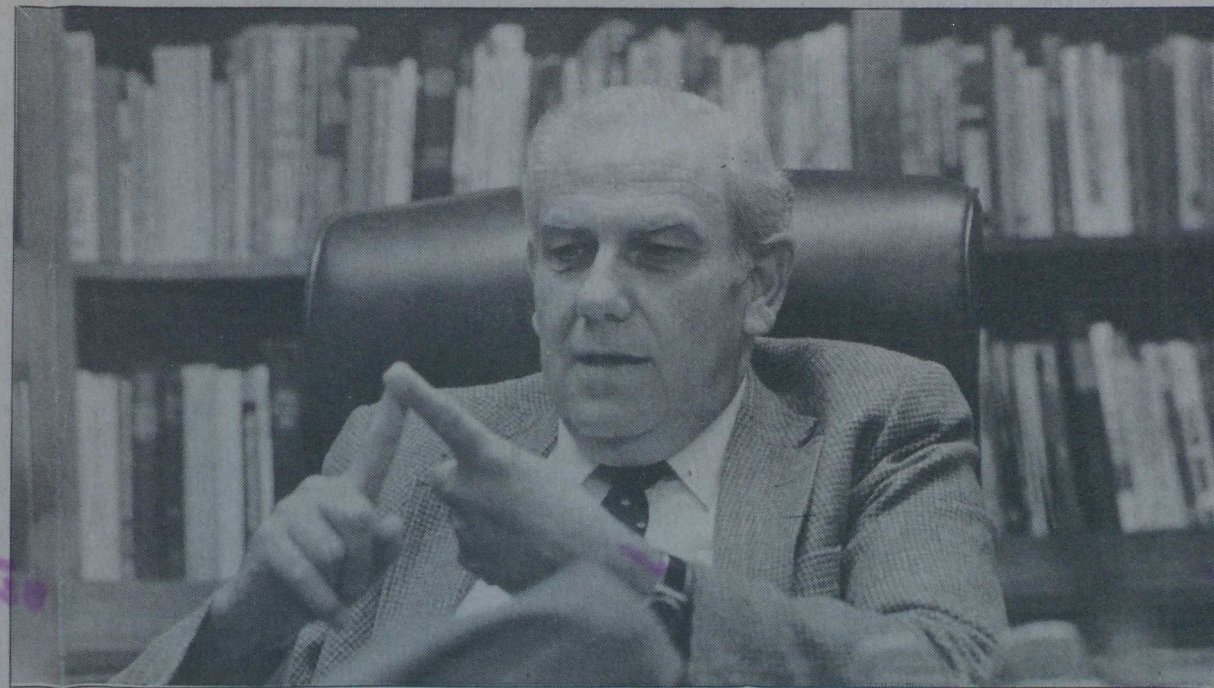
"Remember when you drink this water," he said he told the natives, "that it was given to you by God, who can also give you the Living Water through Jesus Christ."

The natives, who live in "unbelievable poverty" and often depend on the large, 1.5-inch sized termites that infest the land as a source of food, have difficulty believing that men such as himself and the two Texans with him, both Baptist laymen, "would leave America at our own expense to come there to do something for them."

"That is how we communicate the Christian message to the natives," Taylor explained. "We tell them we want to help them because we are Christians and are following through on our commitment to take the gospel of Jesus to all the world."

There are no roads, as Americans know roads, in the out back bush country, and subsequently the landing strips that the pilot of the Southern Baptist Convention's ambulance plane must use are not smooth type strips a stranger there might expect.

During his two months in Africa, the pastor also served as a driver of a four-wheel drive ambu-



Dr. Roy Taylor worked a well driller, ambulance driver and medical attendant.

lance, but that led to a tour of duty aboard the six-seater Cessna that is used to fly the most suffering victims, usually mothers and their malnutrition-afflicted babies to the Sanyati Baptist

Hospital.

"I'd previously only flown commercially," Taylor said, recalling his first experiences in the

See TAYLOR on page 2B