

Harden, Earl Louis, 1928-

Mt Olivet Rutherford 1884
North Warrenton Warren 1916
City Lake (Burlington) Alamance 1947
Wise Warren 1858

EARL LOUIS HARDEN - 1954 - 1955

Pastor Harden came to us late in 1953. About the second Sunday in November, I believe. Pastor Earl L. Harden was born in Lee County, West Sandford Township, June 11, 1928. His father's name is John Alton Harden and his mother's name was Lillie Mae Lee.

A child born in West Sandford Township would normally have attended the City Schools, however there are no records of this so we assume his family moved away soon after his birth, so I have no records of his early education. Perhaps he attended school in the Burlington area, since his father, John A. Harden, Sr. lives at 912 Dixie Street, Burlington, N. C.

Pastor Harden graduated at Wake Forest College in the summer of 1951, and was ordained at Southside Church, Burlington, on April 11, 1951. Mr. Harden attended Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C. for two years beginning in September 1951.

On August 15, 1953, he was married to Mrs. Lillie Mae Catlette Peddy of Raleigh. At this time his address was Franklinton, N. C. and he was pastor of Mt. Olivet Baptist Church near there. I understand he also ran a hardware store there for a while.

Late in 1953 Pastor Harden and his wife moved to Wise, to become the pastor of our church, and the North Warrenton Baptist Church. He remained at Wise until the second Sunday in November 1955. During his stay here he and his wife drew the plans for our Educational Building. This was completed in 1954 at a cost of \$15,000. I have no other records of any other outstanding achievement.

Mr. Harden and family moved to Canada in 1956, but returned to Raleigh in 1957. He attended East Texas Baptist College during the fall of 1957, and entered Wake Forest College in September 1958, presumably for post graduate work.

In the fall of 1957, Mr. Harden moved his family to Elm City, N. C.

Mr. and Mrs. Harden have two children -- John Earl, 4 years old, and David Louis, born in 1958.

Since leaving Wise his ministerial work has been on a supply

basis, but he expects to re-enter the full time ministry in the very near future.

In the past he has pastored City Lake Baptist Church, Burlington, N. C.; Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, near Franklinton, N. C., Wise Baptist Church at Wise, and North Warrenton Baptist Church, Warrenton, N. C. The last two pastorates were on a part time basis.

THE HISTORY OF SHARON AND WISE BAPTIST CHURCH, 1858-1958, page: 97-98

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