

Research Materials in the
BAPTIST HISTORICAL COLLECTION

Orrum First Baptist Church
Orrum, N. C. 28369

HISTORY OUTLINE: According to an 1844 history note in the Cape Fear Baptist Association minutes, Orrum was admitted to the Cape Fear in 1829. The 1830 Triennial Register lists the church as a member of Cape Fear in 1830 under the name of Big Branch Baptist Church. It was dismissed from Cape Fear in 1883 and became a charter member of the Robeson Baptist Association. In 1928 the church was listed as Orrum.

CHURCH RECORDS: None

CHURCH HISTORIES: Odom, Nash A., History of Orrum Baptist Church, 1800-1960. n.p., ca.1960. Typescript (carbon copy). NCCF

ASSOCIATION RECORDS:

Minutes: Cape Fear [Extinct], 1836-1883
Robeson, 1883-1976, 1979

Histories: Johnson, W. O., History Sketch of the Robeson Baptist Association. BIBLICAL RECORDER, 19 October 1949, p. 14-15:1.
Willis, W. W., Proceedings of a convention that met at Ashpole Baptist Church, June 29, 1883 to organize a new association in Robeson County, N. C. BIBLICAL RECORDER, 11 Aug. 1883, 1:8.
Stephens, Mrs. J. G., Notebook containing various history sketches and personal clippings relating to the Robeson Baptist Association's Woman's Missionary Union, 1896-1969. (PC 32)
Woman's Missionary Union Programs, 1943-1968.

N. C. CHURCH FILES: Newspaper clippings, c.1965-1975 (on microfilm)
c.1976-present (on file)

BIOGRAPHY FILES: This file may contain biographical information and/or a photograph source for ministers who have served your church. This file is arranged alphabetically by surname.

BIBLICAL RECORDER INDEXES: These indexes should be checked for church references and for information on pastors who have served your church.

JRW/26 May 1981.

THE ROBESONIAN
LUMBERTON, N. C.
D-10,000

NOV - 7-80

291

Orrum Baptist Church To Celebrate Homecoming

ORRUM — Orrum Baptist Church will celebrate homecoming Sunday, November 9, beginning with Sunday School at 10 a.m. followed by the morning worship at 11. The pastor, the Rev. David McGugan, will deliver the sermon entitled "A Happy Homecoming ---

1980."

Special music will be by Mrs. Perry Johnson, a former member of the church. Dinner will be served in the Fellowship Building following the service.

Members, former members, friends and former ministers of the church are

invited to attend. Dinner will be served in the Fellowship Building following the service.

The Orrum Baptist Church was organized in 1800 as the Big Branch Baptist Church, and in 1928 the name was changed to Orrum.

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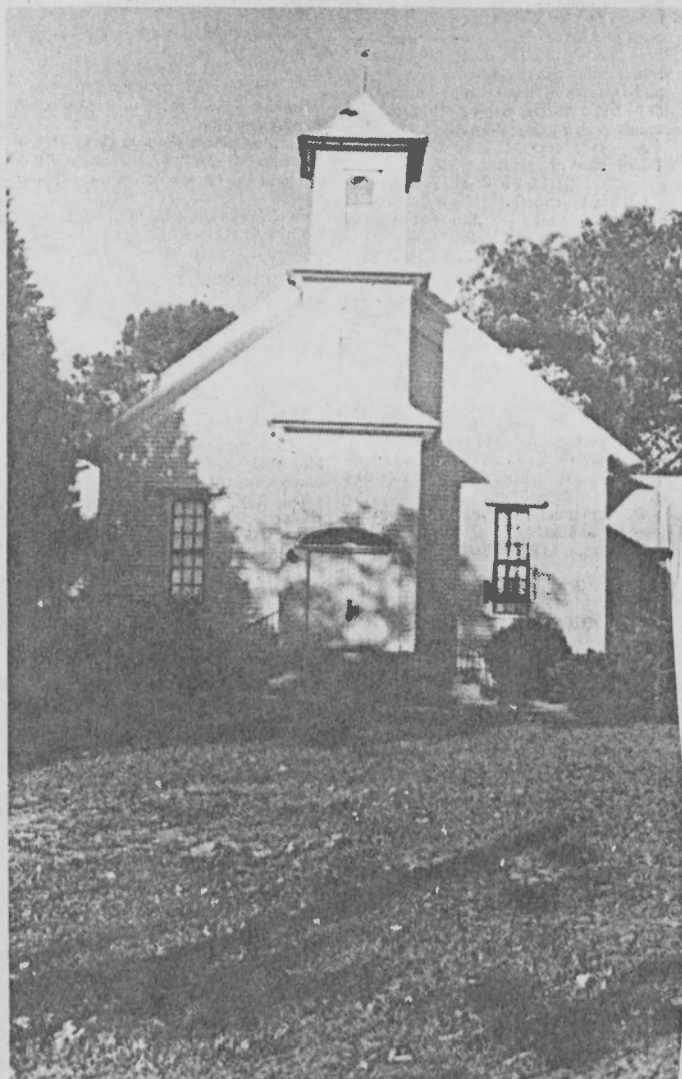
Former pastors include the Revs. Elias Davis, Furney Prevatte, Zadoc Bullock, Haynes Lennon, A.R. Pittman, G.W. Hill, J.W. Gore, David J. Ray, I.P. Hedgpeth, S.M. Dorton, Donald Holland, Carson Tyner, Jimmy Rogers, George Richman and Paul Morrow. Rev. McGugan began his ministry there in December 1979.

The land on which the church is presently located was given by Moses Warwick. At one time the Orrum Church was the largest congregation in Robeson Baptist Association, however, today the church has a Sunday School enrollment of 73 and a total membership of 130.

The church has worship services each Sunday with the exception of fifth Sundays, and Sunday School is each Sunday.

Many have been licensed or ordained to the Christian

This is the first homecoming in more than 25 years and plans are being formulated to set a specific Sunday each year for a homecoming service.



ORRUM BAPTIST CHURCH

HISTORY OF ORRUM BAPTIST CHURCH

1900 - 1960

Foreword

The writer of this history of the Orrum Baptist Church has found the research into the church minutes and other available material related to the church to be a most meaningful experience. He has written the past history of the Orrum Baptist Church with the purpose of challenging the church to still greater service in the years that lie ahead. Those who have sacrificed and labored before us have now become a part of that great cloud of witnesses who sit and look on upon the race we are running. "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us." (Hebrews 12:1).

I would like to express my appreciation to the present pastor, The Reverend Donald Holland, for furnishing me with the minutes of Orrum Church from which much of this history has come.

This history is not complete. The author certainly wishes it could be, but much of the earliest material and records have been lost. We have much to be thankful for that the church clerks have taken care of most of the church minutes for this information has been invaluable. This writer has endeavored to write as accurate as possible with the material which he had available. If any mistakes are found in the history, then this writer now expresses his sorrow and regret. He will be glad to correct them. Time would not permit him to write as full a history as he would have liked, but someday perhaps someone from the church can pick up where he left off. He hopes this history will prove a blessing to those who read it.

A summary of this history will be printed in the associational minutes of Robeson Association for the year 1960.

Nash A. Odom, Historian
Robeson Baptist Association

FOUNDING AND EARLY BEGINNINGS

It was back in the early days of our nation's history that Orrum Baptist Church had its beginning. The Declaration of Independence was signed on July 4, 1776 and Orrum Baptist Church, then known as Big Branch Baptist Church was constituted in 1800. This was only twenty-four years after our nation had secured its independence. In this section of the state of North Carolina it was wild and rugged. There were no fine paved highways to travel on with automobiles as there are today. Horse and buggy was the common means of transportation. The preachers traveled horseback to their churches on the Sabbath or the day before.

At the time the church was organized, people lived far apart, and it was the only church for miles around. Ashpole, now Fairmont Baptist Church, Spring Hill, now Barnsville, and Antioch, then Durant Island's Church were the nearest churches. The church in Lambertton had not been established yet. One reason for the organization of Big Branch was the distance that Baptists had to travel to attend church and conference. Regular attendance was required for the church conferences and poor weather during much of the year made this impossible across the swamps and creeks. As enough Baptist families located in a community, then steps were taken to constitute a new church. Big Branch Church got its name from a branch near the church in Big Branch Community. The church was located in a woody area of huge long-leaf pines and other trees and stood almost in front of the present building, facing the east.

According to a brief history of the church previously written, the land for this church was given to the church by Mr. Moses Warwick, who always kept the church door key. The first church was a frame building

with shutters at the windows. The building was used for several years it is said before it was sealed. There was no way of heating it, so members would gather around a knotwood fire on the church yard until time for service which they had on the first Saturday and Sunday of each month. The benches had narrow planks for backs. Finally the building was sealed and a heater was put in the church which was placed a short distance in front of the rostrum.

FIRST COVENANT AND CONFESSION OF FAITH

Elders Joba Goodran and John Pittman led in the constitution of the Big Branch Church. At the time of the constitution of the church the following covenant and confession of faith was received and adopted. It is the Philadelphia Confession of Faith used by the Cape Fear Association of which Big Branch was a member church.

1. We hold believers baptism, election of grace, free justification by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ, effectual calling by the Holy Ghost, progressive sanctification by the grace of God imputed to the soul and by the word of God as the means which is contained and revealed unto us in the Holy Scriptures of the old and new testaments which we believe contains all that is necessary for our faith and practice, final perseverance of saints in grace and life everlasting. Amen.
2. We believe also in the resurrection of the dead both of the just and the unjust the bodies of the saints will rise first called in scripture the first resurrection which will be at Christ's Second Coming which we wait for, bodies of the wicked shall rise at the day of Judgment when all shall receive according to the deeds done in the body whether good or bad.
3. We believe that the torments of hell will be everlasting to both the wicked men and devils and the joys of heaven prepared for the righteous will have no end.

4. We do now in the presents of the great God who knoweth the secrets of all hearts acknowledge ourselves to be by nature children of wrath even as others who humbly hope that Christ hath bought us and redeemed us by his precious blood we look upon ourselves to be under the strictest obligation to take this only living and true God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost to be our God, our Father, our all and in all.
5. We finally and solemnly agree by the help of grace to give ourselves first to the Lord. Secondly to one another by the will of God promising to do all in our power to live together in church fellowship and to support maintain and defend the worship of God in the administration of his word and ordinances in the purity, among us to bare and forbear with each others weakness and frailties incident to human nature yet so as by no means to indulge or suffer sin upon a brother or a sister to take the rule of God's Word as in all other cases so particular in dealing with a brother that offend us. Matthew the 18th chapter, 15th 16th & 17th verses. And thus to endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace.
6. By the same divine gifts promise to discountenance all evil words and practices such as cursing and profane swearing, lying and drunkenness, adultery, fornication, all kinds of lechery, lechery, all kinds of extortion and defraud, malicious anger, railing, quarreling, tattling, talebearing, keeping evil company, all lightness of behaviour, vain recreation such as jesting and foolish talking, fiddling, and dancing, singing of carnal songs, vapor gaining, covetousness, neglect of family devotion, also rules of family, winking at the disorderly unruly behaviour of those under their care, those parents who spare the rod of correction are wrong except of superfluity to the gratifying of pride or the neglect of God's worship, slothfulness in business so as to render ourselves incapable of assisting the honest poor or supporting the gospel among us countenancing heretics principles all willful acts of hypocrisy, brother going to law with brother instead of bringing their case before the church.
7. No person is to exercise any publick gift without first having the approbation of the church.
8. Finally whatsoever is forbidden in the word of God we promise to discountenance whatsoever is enjoined as a duty we promise to endeavor to be found in the discharge of through divine assistance. Witness our hands."

Our covenant of faith and principles mean so little to us today in comparison with these early days in the churches. But the covenant and confession of faith brought a unity to the church that is seldom found in modern Baptist Churches.

GROWING PAINS

Big Branch was at one time the largest church in the Robeson Association. The building was no longer capable of holding the people. A new building was to be built. Elder Haynes Lannon was the pastor. The first building was sold to Mr. Berry Humphrey and proceeds were used for the new building, which was started about 1890 according to a brief history already written for the church. The present location according to this history was selected by Mr. Tom Hedgpath who was clerk of the church for many years. Members gave of their labor, money, and pine trees for the building. About 1890, the building was not complete but could be used. At first they had no benches, so they used blocks with planks on them.

As the church grew, there was a need for class rooms. Mr. Henry Iye and Mr. Luther Iye contracted to build the two class rooms and the steeple on the front of the church for \$1700. This was about 1918-1920.

The name of the church was changed from Big Branch Baptist Church to Orrum Baptist Church in 1928. Its name came from the small town of Orrum in South Robeson.

In 1937, there was a need for more class rooms and so seven class rooms were added to the church. This was done with contributions of labor and money. The rostrum was remodeled. In 1954 an addition of

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A7

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Former pastors include the Revs. Elias Davis, Furney Prevatte, Zadoc Bullock, Haynes Lennon, A.R. Pittman, G.W. Hill, J.W. Gore, David J. Ray, I.P. Hedgpeth, S.M. Dorton, Donald Holland, Carson Tyner, Jimmy Rogers, George Richman and Paul Morrow. Rev. McGugan began his ministry there in December 1979.

This is the first homecoming in more than 25 years and plans are being formulated to set a specific Sunday each year for a homecoming service.



ORRUM BAPTIST CHURCH

BIG BRANCH ¹⁸²⁹ ~~1828-29~~ 1844 m

Rolison Co

CAPE FEAR
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1805 -

1806 -

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1829 - [Adm'd to assoc. answer to 1844 history]

1830 - Listed as mem, minutes 1827-1831 missing. Triennial Register,

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1832 -

1833 -

1834 -

1835 - Elias Davis (p)

not - A+C

Rolison

- 1836 - No pastor.
- 1837 - D. Harp, pastor
- 1838 - No pastor or delegates D. Harp, P
- 1839 - D. Harp pastor Wm B. Ballard (lie)
- 1840 - Dwight Harp (ord.) " " " " Wm Ayers, supply
- 1841 - No pastor Dwight Harp (ord.) " " " " " "
- 1842 - " " W. B. Ballard (lie) J. B. McCall supply
- ✓ 1843 -
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- ✓ 1845 -
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- 1848 -
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- 1850 -
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- 1853 -
- 1854 -
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BIG BRANCH - 1829

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at Orrum

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- 1926 -
- 1927 - I. P. Hedgcock & J. C. Nye. Clad bees 246 mem.
- 1928 - not used Became Orrum B/C.
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- 1948 -
- 1949 -

Orrum -

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✓ 1956 - Assoc. met with $\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$

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1959 -

1960 - History of Orrum B/C, back H Odum 58-60

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1927 -

1928 listed. Formerly BIG BRANCH B/C.

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Orme 1800 Robeson Robeson

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ROBCO NEWS
LUMBERTON, N. C.

(1829) ROBESON

NOV-07-85



Orrum Baptist Church

History Of Orrum Baptist Church

It was back in the early days of our nation's history that Orrum Baptist Church had its beginnings. The church was first known as the Big Branch Church when it was constituted in 1800. The name was changed to Orrum Baptist Church in 1928. At the time the church was organized people lived many miles apart and Big Branch was the only church for miles around. Ashpole Church (now First Baptist of Fairmont), Cross Roads Church (now Lennon's Cross Roads) and Burnt Island Church (now Antioch) were the nearest churches, Big Branch got its name from a branch near the church in Big Branch community. The church was located in a woody area of huge long-leaf pines and stood almost in front of the present building facing the east.

According to a brief history of the church, the land for the church

was given by Moses Warwick. The first church was a frame building with shutters at the windows. This building was used for several years before it was sealed. There was no way of heating it, so members would gather around a knot wood fire on the church yard until time for service which they had on the first Saturday and Sunday of each month. The benches had narrow planks for backs. Finally, the building was sealed and a heater was put in the church, a short distance in front of the rostrum.

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benches, so they used blocks with planks on them.

As the church grew there was a need for classrooms. In 1920 two classrooms and the steeple on the front was built. In 1937 seven more rooms were added. In 1954 an addition of restrooms was added. In 1955 the church purchased some land directly back of the church. In 1977 a new fellowship building was built. It was named Richman Fellowship Building in honor of Rev. George Richman who was pastor at that time. In 1983 the church was covered, painted inside and outside, new carpet installed, the seats padded, new drapery, all new shrubbery, the ditch tiled and covered.

In 1835 Big Branch Church had 92 members and it was the sixth church in size in the Cape Fear Association. When Robeson Association was organized in 1883 Big Branch was the largest church in the Association.

Orrum Church has been a member of the Cape Fear Association from the time of its organization until 1831 when it became a mem-

ber of the Robeson Baptist Union. In 1883 it became a charter member of the Robeson Association. Since that time the Association had met at Orrum four times in 1888, 1903, 1922 and 1956.

On November 9, 1980 Orrum Church had a homecoming. Rev. David McGugan, who was pastor at that time, conducted the services.

An incomplete list of names of men licensed or ordained by the church are as follows: Moses Warwick, William B. Bullard, Thomas Britt, John Cainer, Kitchen Barnes, Everett Ward, I.P. Hedgpeth, and Spurgeon Dorton. Rev. I.P. Hedgpeth and Rev. Spurgeon Dorton were ordained at Orrum Church.

An incomplete list of pastors who have served the church are as follows. Elias Davis, Furney Prevatt, Zadoo Bullock, Haynes Lennon, A.R. Pittman, G.W. Hill, J.W. Gore, David J. Ray, I.P. Hedgpeth, S.M. Dorton, Donald Holland, Carson Tyner, Jimmy Rogers, George Richman, Paul Morrow, David McGugan, Tommy Gentry and currently Rev. W.C. Baxley.

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HERALD
DURHAM, N. C.

MAR-28-85

~~516~~ ★ ★ ★ 291

The Rev. Donald Ray Jenkins was recently installed as pastor of First Baptist Church of Orrum. Jenkins, a native of Weldon, was a 1980 summa cum laude graduate of N.C. Central University.

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HERALD
ROANOKE RAPIDS, N. C

MAR-13-85

Native of Weldon is now pastor

The First Baptist Church in Orrum has installed Rev. Donald Ray Jenkins, a native of Weldon, as its new pastor.

Dr. John Bee Moore, choir, and congregation from the First Baptist Church in Weldon conducted the installation service.

Rev. Jenkins, the son of Mrs. Maxine Wilkins Jenkins of 310 West Second St. in Weldon, graduated as class valedictorian in 1976 from Weldon High School. He is a 1980 summa cum laude graduate of North Carolina Central University in Durham and received his teaching certificate from Pembroke State

University in Lumberton. Rev. Jenkins currently teaches English at Bennettsville High School in South Carolina.

Before assuming his present position, Rev. Jenkins assisted Dr. E.B. Turner at the First Baptist Church in Lumberton. The new minister is currently enrolled in the Master's program in English-Education at Pembroke State University.



REV. DONALD JENKINS

Revival services start Sunday at Orrum Baptist

Orrum Baptist Church revival services will begin Sunday night, October 9 and continue through Friday night, October 14. Services will begin each evening at 7:30.

The Rev. Charles Kaye of Lake Waccamaw will be the guest speaker. Special music will be provided each night.

The public is invited. The Rev. George Richman is pastor.

Elkin Tribune
Enfield Progress
Fairmont: Times-Messenger
Farmville Enterprise
Forest City Courier-Sun

OCT 6 1977

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NOV-01-85

1291

Revivals

A57

Orrum Baptist Church

The Rev. Dr. Richard C. Alderman of Little Rock, S.C., will be the guest speaker at revival services held at Orrum Baptist Church Nov. 3-6. Services will begin at 7:30 nightly. Special music will be featured each night and a nursery will be provided.

Alderman is the pastor of the Little Rock Baptist Church.



Richard Alderman

18

Robesonian
Lumberton, NC
July 11, 1986

First Baptist Church, Orrum

The First Baptist Church in Orrum will hold its annual homecoming service Sunday at 3 p.m. The Rev. Thomas Southerland and the choir and congregation of the Greenville Baptist Church will be the guests. Dinner will be served in the dining hall following the evening's service.

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MAR-08-85

Pastor installation

First Baptist Church of Orrum

The First Baptist Church of Orrum will install its pastor, the Rev. Donald Ray Jenkins on Sunday at 5 p.m. Dr. John Bee Moore, choir and congregation from the First Baptist Church in Weldon will conduct the installation service.

Jenkins is a native of Weldon. He is a 1980 summa cum

laude graduate of N.C. Central University in Durham. He receive his teaching certificate from Pembroke State University. He teaches English at Bennettsville High School.

Before assuming his present position, Jenkins assisted Dr. E.B. Turner at the First Baptist Church in Lumberton. The new minister is currently enrolled in the master's program in English Education at Pembroke State University.



Donald Ray Jenkins

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CAROLINIAN
RALEIGH, N. C.

MAR-28-85

Rev. Jenkins 291

Installed As Orrum Pastor

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TIMES MESSENGER
FAIRMONT, N. C.

NOV - 2 95

Members of the Church to attend.

291-

Orrum Baptist Church Holds Revival And Homecoming

Orrum Baptist Church will hold revival services November 5 - 8. Sunday evening service will begin at 6 p.m., with Rev. Warren Hill, pastor of Orrum Baptist, as the featured speaker. Monday through Wednesday services will begin at 7:30 p.m. The guest speaker will be Rev. Jim Weihrauch, pastor of White's Creek Baptist Church in Clarkton. Special music will be provided each evening. The public is invited to attend.

On November 11, Orrum Baptist Church will celebrate Homecoming. The morning worship service will be at 11 a.m. with the pastor, Rev. Warren Hill, delivering the message. A dedication service for the new addition to the fellowship hall will be held at 12 noon, followed by lunch at 1 p.m. From 2-4:30 p.m., a gospel singing will be held featuring the Servants Hearts and local talent.

All former members and friends are cordially invited to attend.

Robeson
B12

The Robesonian
Lumberton, NC

D - NO DATA S - NO DATA

Apr. 6, 2001

Carolina Clipping Service
Raleigh, NC 27603

291 Orrum Baptist Church B6

invites everyone to take part in the church's homecoming celebration Sunday.

Activities begin at 10 a.m. with Sunday School, followed by worship. There will be musical programs in

the afternoon, and a revival begins at 7:30 p.m. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Gerald Wilson.

The church is located on Atkinson Road, behind Orrum Middle School. Call the Rev. Robert Britt at 628-6608 for information.

CHURCHES IN NORTH CAROLINA BEGUN PRIOR TO 1830

As named by Morgan Edwards, John Asplund, G. W. Paschal or others

1. Name*** Orrum (Big Branch) Date of Constitution 1800 *from asst. min.*
2. Name John Goodman If changed. Date of change 1828 or 29 *Ch. Min.*
3. Location. Name of County when Constituted Rutherford 1786
4. Location. Name of County at present time " "
5. Name of Association with which originally affiliated " "
- " " Name in 1960 Rabeson 1883
6. Type of Church; General Baptist, _____ Particular, _____
- Separate, _____ Regular, _____ Other, _____
7. Is the church by either name listed in Convention Annual in 1959 or 1960? Yes

(See Notes Other Side)

Orrum - 1800

Robeson

ROBESON