

yellow

THE HISTORY OF

Angier Avenue
Baptist Church

1889-1964

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

1889 - - - - *Seventy-fifth Anniversary* - - - - 1964

T H E H I S T O R Y O F

Angier Avenue
Baptist Church

1889-1964

Durham, North Carolina

Published on the Occasion of
THE HOMECOMING CELEBRATION

June 14, 1964

Organized December 1, 1889

DEDICATION

THIS HISTORY has been prepared for issuance on the occasion of the Seventy-fifth Anniversary of Angier Avenue Baptist Church. Here we point with pride to our membership and the work presently being done.

It is impossible to give a complete picture of all of our members. Many have gone to their rich reward, and will long be remembered. To all those who have had a part in our Church History, both those here and those departed, we humbly dedicate this History.

Dear Friends,

An anniversary year is a time to look backward. As we direct our attention to the past 75 years, we see the great foundation laid by the former pastors of this church. This anniversary brings to mind the great debt of gratitude we owe to them. We should honor each member, who throughout the years, planned prayerfully and worked faithfully. A church such as this represents sacrifice and dedication.

As pastor and people we have been together for more than twenty years. During these fruitful and happy years, this church has been loyal in its support of our mission work and of our institutions. All along the way we have been conscious of Divine Guidance as we have built together.

Now we turn our face to the future. The coming years should afford an even greater era of service in Kingdom building. In constructing the new building the future was kept in mind and we now have a church building which will take care of our needs for years to come.

Definition of a church: A gospel church is an organized body of baptized believers equal in rank and privileges, administering its affairs under the headship of Christ, united in the belief of what He has taught, covenanting to do what He has commanded, and co-operating with other like bodies in Kingdom movements. This is the definition of an ideal church. To this end I have endeavored to lead this people.

May the Lord continually bless you and yours as you faithfully serve Him.

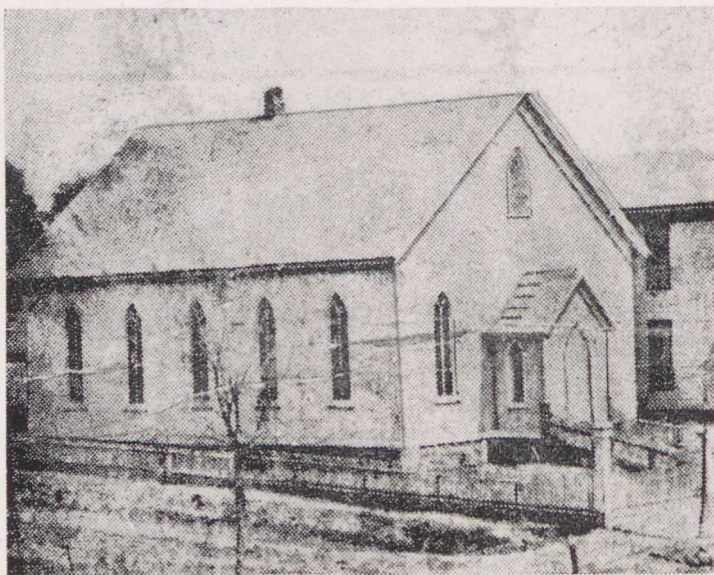
Yours sincerely,

C. N. Royal



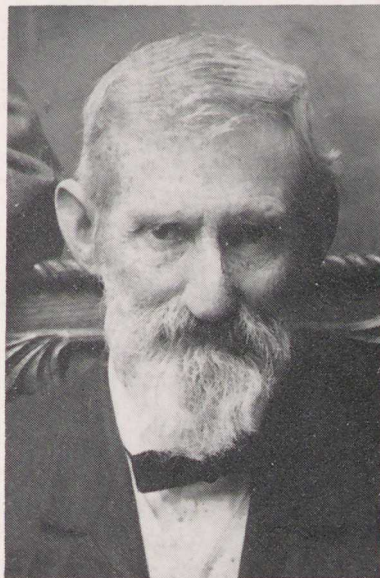


OLD OAK GROVE SCHOOL
Home of First Sunday School and Prayer Meetings



ORIGINAL CHURCH BUILDING

Mr. R. T. Howerton, Senior



APPROXIMATELY THREE YEARS before the organization of East Durham Baptist Church, Mr. Howerton and a group of Christians from the First Baptist Church organized a Sunday School. These people met for these years in a small wooden structure known as the Oak Grove School. Here they held Sunday School and weekly Prayer Meetings.

Following their meeting, one Sunday morning, a conference was called to discuss the possibility of erecting a Church Building for the East Durham community. Closing the meeting with a prayer that God might direct them, the group left the meeting and walked north along what is now Driver Street. When they reached the intersection of Angier Avenue a part of the group went straight ahead, a part went right, while still another part of the group went left. So upon being called together again, following much discussion, it was agreed that the corner of Driver and Angier would be the best and most central location for the building. Thus began the first planning of what later became the Third Baptist Church. It was given this name because, as we understand, it was the third Baptist Church erected in what later became a part of the city of Durham.

—As told to the author by Mr. Howerton's son, Mr. R. T. Howerton, Junior.



EAST DURHAM BAPTIST CHURCH—1900-1924

A History of Angier Avenue Baptist Church Seventy-five Years

* * * *

One soweth, another reapeth, but God gives the increase.

* * * *

EVERY GREAT ACHIEVEMENT that has ever been attained had to be built on a solid foundation. Unity, brotherly love, fellowship, and a love for God and His Son, Jesus Christ, and with a desire to advance His Kingdom here on earth is the foundation upon which Angier Avenue Baptist Church stands.

The seed for the growing of Angier Avenue Baptist Church was planted, by God's Spirit, in the mind of the Rev. Columbus Durham, who was then pastor of the First Baptist Church of Durham. At the session of the Mount Zion Baptist Association, meeting with the Cedar Fork Baptist Church of Durham County in 1886, Brother Durham was appointed to write the report to the Association on Missions. In this report, one phase of the report was as follows: "Durham (reporting from other mission fields of the Association) in the eastern and western part of the town is now pressing upon us the necessity of active and solid work. In the next year two houses of worship must be built, and a suitable man must give half his time to this field."

With implicit confidence in Brother Durham's farsightedness, honest judgment, common sense, and his Christianity, the Brethren always being willing to accede to his recommendations in all

Obligation
Mary A. Wrenn
is
Trustee of
First Baptist Church

This obligation entered into this day of August 1889 between Mary A. Wrenn of this first part and Thomas J. Rigsbee, T. S. Christian, S. T. Morgan, O. B. Foushee, and H. D. Markham Trustees of the First Baptist Church of Durham of the second part Witnesseth that the said party of the first part for and in consideration of his desire to promote the Christian religion & for other good and sufficient considerations & for one dollar in hand paid, both lawfully agree to convey to the said Thomas J. Rigsbee & other Trustees aforesaid for their use and the use of this sum in office the following parcel of land in Durham County situated in Little Tract of Dover Avenue and bounded as follows: Beginning at an iron pin in O. K. Parrott's line south east corner of a lot sold by The Durham Land Security Company to Postmaster Kennedy running thence with his line north 60° east one chain & 55 links to a stake S. J. Ellis corner thence with his line south 70° east 81 links to a stake thence south 25° west one chain & 56 links to a stake in O. K. Parrott's line thence with his line north 60° west 42 links to the beginning containing .9963 of an acre: to have & to hold to them & their assigns in office and to their assigns forever.

signed & sealed the day and year first above written
Witness
W. J. Wyatt

North Carolina
Durham County

The due execution of the foregoing instrument was this day proven before me by the oath and examination of W. J. Wyatt the subscribing witness thereto Let the said instrument with this certificate be registered this the 14th day of Nov. 1889

D. C. Morgan
clerk

Filed for record this Nov. 14th 1889 at 3.45 o'clock P.M. & registered in the office of the Register of Deeds for Durham County in Book 9 of Deeds on page 520 Nov. 20th 1889

Parahall Lamfear
Register of Deeds

his reports readily subscribed \$625.00 for the building of these houses—Brother Durham's church subscribing \$200.00 of this amount. His motto was: "Brethren, let's do," not "You do."

Prior to the purchase of the old wooden frame structure from the First Presbyterian Church of Durham, which had been moved from the corner of Main and Roxboro Streets, and which later became known as the Third Baptist Church, we learn that there had been for more than three years, a Sunday School and Prayer Meetings being led by members of the First Baptist Church of Durham in an old school building known as Oak Grove School. This building was across the railroad, south of our present church building and was situated in an oak grove. The road that ran to this building was called the Oak Grove road. It was situated on a parcel of land that was later developed and became a part of the housing development of Durham Cotton Manufacturing Company, for the housing of their employees.

We have no complete record as to how many of the people of East Durham attended this Sunday School and Prayer Meetings, but from what records we have and the information given to us, we assume that there was sufficient interest to warrant the need for a church building in this vicinity.

Because of her love for God and a great desire to serve Him, in August 1889, Mrs. Mary A. Wrenn deeded a tract of land to the following trustees of the First Baptist Church to be used for the erection of what became the Third Baptist Church: Thomas J. Rigsbee, T. S. Christian, S. T. Morgan, O. B. Foushee, and H. D. Markham. This land was the ground on which our present building stands.

The deed is found in Book 9, page 520 in the Durham County Register of Deeds office and has been reproduced here. This was the beginning of the Third Baptist Church, or what we now know as Angier Avenue Baptist Church.

The Church was officially organized on December 1, 1889, with a council consisting of the Pastor of First Baptist Church,



SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS—APPROXIMATELY 1906

Brother J. L. White; Brother J. J. Lansdell, a retired Baptist minister; Brother C. A. Woodson, a missionary; and the following deacons of the Church: Brethren W. H. Holloway, J. L. Markham, J. M. Whitted, R. T. Howerton, Sr., P. Cook, J. M. Baucom and J. V. Rigsbee. Brother Lansdell was elected chairman and Brother Woodson secretary of the meeting. Prayer was offered, Brother White leading.

The following Covenant and Statement of Doctrine were read by the clerk and being approved by the brethren and sisters before whom it was read, it was ordered to be recorded on the Church Book as the Covenant and Statement of Doctrine of the Third Baptist Church.

Covenant

Having been, as we trust, brought 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; that we will exercise a Christian care and watchfulness and faithfully warn, exhort and admonish each other as occasion may require.

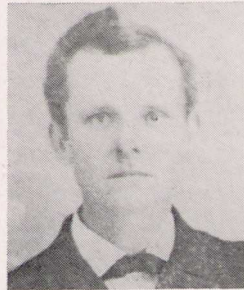
That we will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together but will uphold the public worship of God and the ordinances of His house.

That we will not omit Closet and Family religion at home nor neglect the great duty of religiously training our children and those under our care for the service of Christ and the enjoyment of Heaven.

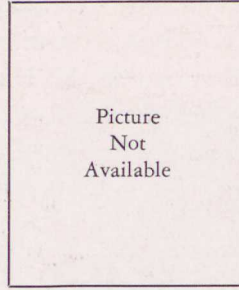
That as we are the light of the world and the salt of the earth, we will seek divine aid; to enable us to deny ungodliness and every worldly lust and to walk circumspectly in the world that we may win the souls of men.

That we will cheerfully contribute of our means according as God has prospered us, for the maintenance of a faithful and

Former Pastors



J. F. MACDUFFIE
1890-1892



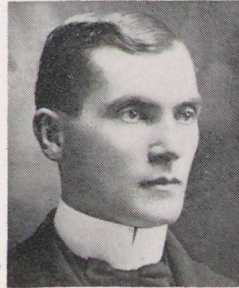
C. W. BLANCHARD
1892-1894



O. C. HORTON
1895-1899



J. C. OWEN
1899



W. F. FRY
1899-1902



J. O. ALDERMAN
1903-1905



J. W. DOWNEY
1905-1909



M. P. DAVIS
1910-1913



Q. C. DAVIS
1914-1918



H. F. BRINSON
1919-1925



W. G. HALL
1925-1943

evangelical ministry among us for the support of the poor and to spread the Gospel over the earth.

That we will in all conditions ever till death, strive to live to the glory of Him who hath called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

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 for ever and ever. Amen.

Statement of Doctrine

1. We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired that it is our all sufficient and infallible guide and that it is the Supreme Standard of appeal by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions should be tried.

2. THE TRUE GOD.

We believe the Scriptures teach that there is one and only one living and true God, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of Heaven and earth and that in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

3. THE FALL OF MAN.

We believe the Scriptures teach that man was created in holiness under the law of his maker, but by personal transgression fell from his holy and happy state in consequence of which all mankind are now in their natural state sinners, not by constraint but by choice devoid of the holiness required by Divine Law and hence under condemnation of external ruin without defense and excuse.

4. THE WAY OF SALVATION.

We believe the Scriptures teach that the salvation of sinners is wholly of Grace through the mediatorial office of the Son of God,



FRONT VIEW OF CHURCH FROM ANGLIER AVENUE

who by the appointment of the Father took upon Him our nature yet without sin, honored the Divine law by His personal obedience and by His death made full atonement for our sin; in that having risen from the dead and ascended to Heaven He is in every way suited to be the Saviour of those who trust in Him for salvation.

5. JUSTIFICATION.

We believe the Scriptures teach that the great Gospel blessing which Christ secures to those that believe in Him is justification. That justification includes the pardon of sin, that it is bestowed not in consideration for any works of righteousness that we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood, by virtue of which faith in Christ's righteousness is freely imputed to us by His Father.

6. REGENERATION.

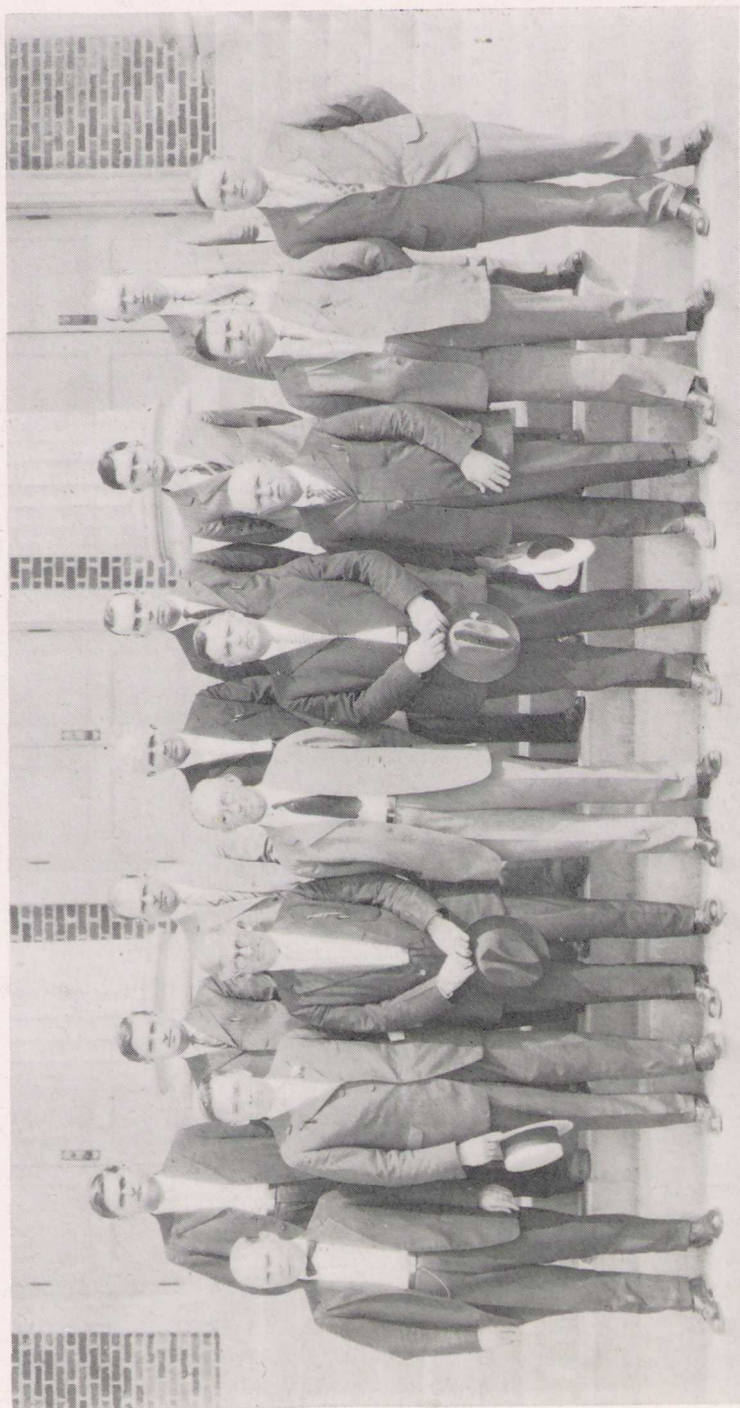
We believe the Scriptures teach that in order to be saved, sinners must be regenerated or born again, which is effected by God's spirit and its proper evidence appears in the life and conduct of those who have passed from death unto life.

7. REPENTANCE AND FAITH.

We believe the Scriptures teach that repentance and faith are sacred duties and also inseparable graces wrought in our souls by the regenerating Spirit of God, whereby being deeply convinced of our guilt, danger and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with sincere confession of; and contrition for sin; at the same time heartily receiving Christ as our Saviour.

8. GOD'S PURPOSE OF GRACE.

We believe the Scriptures teach that election is that act of the Godhead which shows God's purpose to save His people that being consistent with the free agency of man it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; and notwithstanding God's purpose to save the people "Chosen of the Lord" it is our duty to go into all the world and preach the Gospel.



BOARD OF DEACONS—1925

Front Row, left to right: J. Frank Adams, W. B. Fonville, Clyde Steele, Rev. W. G. Hall, Fred Crutchfield, W. E. Young, S. A. Maynard, W. E. Stanley. Back Row: Joe Peed, Walter Williams, Clyde Horton, John Cheek, Ed Kerr, J. D. Gooch, C. L. Upchurch.

9. SANCTIFICATION.

We believe the Scriptures teach that Sanctification is that process of Grace by which in connection with regeneration man is more fully prepared for his heavenly state, and not complete until we stand glorified in His presence.

10. PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS.

We believe the Scriptures teach that all true believers will persevere unto the end as they are kept by the power of God unto Salvation.

11. THE LAW AND THE GOSPEL.

We believe that the law is the expression of God's purity that its claims are very high beyond the reach of unregenerated man that Christ alone met perfectly all of its requirements and it is the province of the Gospel to proclaim the glad news that Christ hath done for us what we were unable to do for ourselves.

12. BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER.

We believe that Baptism is the immersion in water of a believer in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, to show faith in a solemn and beautiful emblem of our Lord Jesus Christ and also our death to the old life and resurrection to the new.

* * * *

Following the reading of the covenant and doctrine, the following applicants from the First Baptist Church and other Baptist Churches endorsed the covenant and doctrines as read and were accepted into membership: J. W. Ausley, J. H. Boone, J. I. Crutchfield, C. M. Crutchfield, W. R. Dupree, R. D. Hackney, J. W. Marshall, J. R. Suitt, J. B. Suitt, U. S. Suitt, W. H. Suitt, W. O. Stone, W. T. Sparrow, S. G. Tutor, W. J. Wyatt, Mrs. J. W. Ausley, Mrs. J. H. Boone, Catherine Beal, Fannie Burgess, Mrs. J. I. Crutchfield, Mrs. N. H. Crane, Mrs. L. R. Crane Hudson, Mrs. W. R. Dupree, Janie Gray, Angeline Horton, Sophrona Horton, Mrs. Edwin Johnson, Annie Johnson, Ella Johnson, Pattie Perry, Sarah E. Hackney, Annie E. Johnson, Emma Bright Booth, Mrs. W. T. Sparrow, Mrs. W. R. Suitt, Mrs. J. R. Suitt, Mrs. W. O. Stone, Nancy Stone, Sarah



EAST DURHAM BAPTIST CHURCH PHILATHEA CLASS—1912

F. Stone, Lunie E. Stone, Mrs. S. G. Tutor, Lorena Tutor Abernethy, Mary Wrenn, and G. A. Sparrow.

Having been duly organized, the following were elected as officers to serve the church: Brother J. I. Crutchfield, a deacon from the First Baptist Church, Brethren W. J. Wyatt and James W. Ausley to be ordained. Brother W. O. Stone was elected Church Clerk; Brother W. J. Wyatt, Treasurer; Brother J. I. Crutchfield, Superintendent of the Sunday School; and Brother W. T. Sparrow, Assistant Superintendent. Brother Lansdell extended the right hand of welcome and fellowship to Brother Wyatt representing the Church. Thus the Third Baptist Church began its service to God and to man. Brother C. A. Woodson was sent as a missionary to preach to these people.

At the time the above events took place, East Durham, as it is called, was not a part of the City of Durham. It was a separate and distinct town. It had its own squire and town officials. There were no paved streets, no electric lights, no running water, and the telephone was an instrument that few people knew anything about. The church was lighted with kerosene lamps that hung from either the ceiling or walls of the building. Coal-burning stoves heated the building. People depended on wells for their water supply, and many times during the hot weather of summer, water would often become a treasured item as the wells "ran dry."

It was not until April 1, 1925, that East Durham was incorporated and became a part of the City of Durham.

However, even though faced with these conditions and many other hardships, these good people were not deterred from their determination, and in the Associational report of 1889 they were given recognition for their good works.

It is quite interesting to read in the church minutes of how the membership "scoured" the bare wooden floors, how they cleaned and filled the lamps with oil, how they were called upon to do all the menial tasks that had to be done. We notice too, that at each Church Conference the roll of all male members was called and



EAST DURHAM BAPTIST CHURCH BARACA CLASS—1912

that each man was held accountable if he failed to attend. We also learn that each member of the congregation was held accountable as to their personal conduct regarding idle gossip and such, and we have read accounts of where some were dropped from the roll because of their un-Christian behaviour.

We also noted that in those days it was customary for the pastor to extend his resignation at the end of each year and the church then had the opportunity of either accepting or rejecting it.

The church having no pastor, on January 1, 1890, in conference unanimously called J. F. MacDuffie to serve. Brother MacDuffie accepted the call and served nearly two years but resigned due to his "many obligations to country churches." In asking the church to accept his resignation he stated he was unable to give the church the amount of time it needed and demanded. During his ministry 84 were added to the church membership and a debt of \$250.00 had been cancelled. He resigned in 1891. The amount collected for all objects during this time was \$1,060.80.

It was during his pastorate that a bell was purchased and installed in the belfry. This bell was used to call members to the worship services until 1924, when it was sold to a local Negro Church. We understand that it is still in use today.

Also, during this period we learn that Sister Mary Wrenn donated an additional parcel of land to the church, which was later sold to enable the church to meet some of its financial obligations.

Following Brother MacDuffie's letter of resignation, the church in conference on Thursday night, September 3, 1891, appointed a committee to secure another pastor. This committee was asked to secure a pastor that would preach two Sundays, morning and evening, each month. Sometime later the committee reported back to the church and presented the names of Brother June Mallard and Brother J. M. White. Brother Mallard was elected but upon being contacted declined the call.

At a call conference October 4, 1891, Brother C. W. Blanchard was unanimously called. Brother Blanchard accepted the call,



EAST DURHAM BAPTIST CHURCH FIDELIS CLASS—1914

but upon contact he stated he would only be available to preach one Sunday morning and three Sunday evenings each month. The church agreed to this, accepting his offer and stipulated they would pay him a salary of \$250.00 for the year 1892. During his ministry Brother A. J. Taylor was ordained to preach the Gospel. The total number added to the church during Brother Blanchard's pastorate was 130 and the total amount collected for all objects was \$1,707.79. Brother Blanchard resigned as pastor in September, 1894.

On January 16, 1892, during Brother Blanchard's pastorate the church in conference authorized the organization of a Woman's Missionary Society. Also during this same month the membership authorized the addition of two Sunday School rooms at a cost of \$300.00.

Following the resignation of Brother Blanchard, the church voted to call Brother O. C. Horton as pastor. Brother Horton accepted the call and began his service on January 1, 1895. Brother Horton served efficiently and satisfactorily until 1898. He was well loved and respected by all who knew him. He served as Moderator of the Mount Zion Association from 1895 until his death in 1899. During his pastorate the church received 128 members into fellowship and the total amount collected for all objects was \$2,065.68.

At a church conference on February 27, 1895, following much discussion, with many names having been offered and rejected, the church voted to change the church name from "Third Baptist Church" to "East Durham Baptist Church." Also it was during this period of time that further additions were made to the Church building.

Following Brother Horton's years of service, Brother J. C. Owen was called to serve as pastor. Brother Owen served until June 1899 and resigned. The church regretted to lose this young man as he was greatly loved and respected by all. The number added to the church during Brother Owen's pastorate and the amount collected was reported under Brother Horton's and Brother Fry's (who succeeded Brother Owen) ministry to the Association.



SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFICERS AND TEACHERS—1924

Since Brother Owen had resigned without finishing the year as was the original agreement, the church called Brother W. F. Fry to fill the unexpired term of Brother Owen. Brother Fry came to the church in July 1899. In November 1900 the church voted to call a full-time pastor for 1901, and in the December conference Brother Fry was asked to serve. Brother Fry being present agreed to serve indefinitely, with the understanding if either one became dissatisfied each would give the other a three months' notice. Brother Fry served the church until September 1, 1902, resigning to work for the Baptist Female Seminary. Brother Owen, during this time had gone to China as a missionary and had married; and he, being a member of this church, had baptized his wife in Japan and wanted her to be received into the fellowship of the church on his recommendation. She was received and he was notified of her reception by certificate.

During the ministry of Brother Fry a number of alterations had been made to the church. A Baptistry had been constructed, Sunday School rooms had been added, and the bell tower had been repaired. During his years the church had received 66 members to fellowship and the amount collected for all objects during this period was \$3,924.84.

During his pastorate Brother Fry was instrumental in the church purchasing a lot on which to build a parsonage, the lot being purchased next to the church on the Driver Avenue side from Mr. J. V. Thompson, and the parsonage being completed in May 1903.

During the interval between September and December 1902, Brethren A. L. Betts and Hight C. Moore were unanimously called to the pastorate of the church, but each declined.

Brother J. O. Alderman was then called on December 28, 1902. Brother Alderman served until March 1905 when he resigned. During Brother Alderman's pastorate 88 were added to church membership and the amount collected for all objects was \$3,121.74.



The Church at Worship on Mother's Day

May 10, 1964



BOARD OF DEACONS—1944

First Row, left to right: C. O. Couch, Rev. W. G. Hall, Rev. C. N. Royal, J. Frank Adams, L. L. Hodnett. *Second Row:* J. E. Watts, L. C. Goodwin, M. M. Mayton, W. J. Hackney. *Back Row:* S. M. Foster, Owen F. Jones, F. F. McClain, J. D. Gooch, D. F. Carlton, Floyd Christian, A. B. Carson, E. G. Carlton, E. M. Watkins, George Hayes.

Following Brother Alderman's resignation the church extended a call to Brother J. W. Downey. Brother Downey accepted the call and came in May 1905, serving until November 1909. During Brother Downey's pastorate two additions were made to the church. The parsonage was wired for electricity. The number received during Brother Downey's pastorate was 200 and the amount collected for all objects was \$8,244.15.

Following the resignation of Brother Downey, Brother M. P. Davis was called. Brother Davis served from April 1910 until November 1, 1913. During Brother Davis' pastorate further additions were made to the church for use of the Baraca Class. Also during this time the parsonage had city water installed in it; prior to this installation well water was supplied from a well that was located near the parsonage. During his pastorate the church received 237 new members to fellowship and the amount received for all objects was \$11,095.83.

Following the resignation of Brother M. P. Davis, Brother Q. C. Davis was called. Brother Q. C. Davis was not a stranger to our people as he had conducted two revival meetings for us. During his ministry Brother Clarence Ross was ordained to preach the Gospel. The first telephone was installed in the parsonage in 1914.

Brother Davis was with us at a time of deep distress. Our country was at war and a great number of our young men were on the battlefields; many of them in foreign lands. During this time the church bell was rung at 7 o'clock each evening in response to a proclamation of our Governor calling the people's attention to the importance of prayer. There was added to the church under Brother Davis' pastorate 256 members and the amount received for all objects was \$14,111.83. Brother Davis resigned in November 1918.

In August 1918 the Philathea Sunday School Class presented our church with an individual communion service. Brother H. F. Brinson was then called and accepted the call and began his work here January 1, 1919.



BOARD OF DEACONS—1964

Seated, left to right: Allen Austin, Fred Rhodes, Ike Rowland, Vance Fisher—*Chairman*, Everett Freeman, Tom Lowe, Rev. C. N. Royal. *Standing:* Melvin Larsen, Vernon Porterfield, Paul Watkins, Reid Campbell, Malcolm Woodell, E. M. Watkins, Foy Couch, Harold Pollard, L. L. Husketh. *Absent when picture was taken:* Harvey Craig and John Rufus Ferrell.

Brother Brinson, it seems from the great progress he made in his work, was not afraid to undertake great things for God and His Church. At a church conference, January 28, 1920, he suggested a special meeting for February to consider plans for the erection of a new church building. He sent out three or four hundred letters, principally to members of the church regarding this plan. On Sunday morning, February 1, a Finance Committee consisting of five members was appointed, Brother J. N. Cheek serving as chairman. At the same time a building committee was appointed with the Pastor serving as chairman. On February 4, five others were added to the Finance Committee and pledges were taken amounting to \$10,000.00 in pledges of cash, Government bonds, and stamps. The Finance Committee recommended an active campaign be put on and "as soon as \$40,000.00 is raised in cash and pledges, we begin the building." This recommendation was accepted by the church.

On November 27, 1923, at a call conference, the Building Committee was instructed to sign a contract with Mr. T. W. Poe in the sum of \$54,985.00 to construct the new church building by plans which had been adopted by the church on October 7.

On the morning of January 21, 1924, at 7:30, an appropriate service was held on the church property and the first ground was broken by two charter members, Mrs. Jane Gray and Mrs. F. D. Hudson, raising the first spades of dirt.

It had been decided to have the new church building face Angier Avenue instead of Driver, as the old church did, and to use the entire plot for the building, and the committee was instructed to sell the old building and parsonage to the best advantage. It was also decided to omit the bell tower and to sell the bell.

Arrangements had been made with the County Board of Education to use the East Durham School Building (Y. E. Smith School) for services, during the construction period. The final service in the old church was held on January 6, 1924.

On Thursday afternoon, April 10, 1924, after an appropriate service, with prayers that God be with the workers and that the

Former Educational Directors



ELLA SUE GRAVITTE
Oct. 1944-Aug. 1947



VIRGINIA WARREN
Sept. 1947-May 1949



VIRGINIA HIGHFILL
June 1949-June 1950



ROBERTA PERRY
June 1950-May 1955



GLADYS BATSON SMITH
June 1955-Aug. 1958



DORIS GREEN JONES
May 1960-Sept. 1963

church should ever be a blessing to mankind and a shining light for all the world to see, the cornerstone was laid.

On Sunday morning, September 7, 1924, the first service was held in the basement of the new building and on Sunday morning, November 16, 1924, the first service was held in the new sanctuary.

During the pastorate of Brother Brinson a Baptist Training Union was organized (Sunday, February 23, 1919) beginning with 20 members. Also during this period, on Sunday, December 18, 1924, Brother Z. B. Teel was ordained and set apart to the Gospel Ministry.

Brother Brinson resigned as pastor January 1925. He had received into the fellowship of the church 545, and the amount collected for all objects was \$57,902.72.

Following Brother Brinson's resignation, Brother W. G. Hall was called in March 1925. Brother Hall served the church as Pastor until November 1943. Having served the church for nearly nineteen years, Brother Hall was forced to resign due to ill health. He had been named Pastor Emeritus and served in this capacity until his death in August 1950.

Brother Hall had served our church long and well, and had been held in high esteem by all who knew him. He was not only a wonderful pastor but also a good friend and adviser to all who called upon him. Brother Hall faced many problems during his ministry. Our people had gone through a great depression. Many of our people were finding it hard to feed their families, and many times Brother Hall sent groceries and fuel to the needy families using his own money. Also during the depression he voluntarily cut his salary to aid the church in coping with its many financial problems. Brother Hall, too, had watched as many of our young people marched off to fight in the second world war. Many of these young people he had baptized since coming to us.

Even though faced with many financial problems, the church had managed to pay off a huge debt and in December 1929 a lot



GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY FOR NEW EDUCATIONAL BUILDING—MAY 3, 1959

was purchased on Driver Avenue from Mr. and Mrs. J. R. King, Sr., on which our present parsonage was erected.

During this period the church had unanimously voted to change the name of the church from East Durham Baptist, to Angier Avenue Baptist. A Boy Scout Troop was organized with Brother L. C. Goodwin selected as Scoutmaster.

The beautiful river scene over our baptistry was donated by the late Mrs. W. E. Young in 1938 in memory of her late husband, Mr. Billy Young, as he was affectionately called. Mr. and Mrs. Young joined our church on February 2, 1890, and were active in all phases of its Christian work until their deaths. Mr. Young was for many years Chairman of the Board of Deacons, and had held many other offices of the church.

During Brother Hall's pastorate Brethren Walter Brown and Leo Bridgers were ordained into the ministry.

Brother Hall had preached at the morning worship hour on the Sunday preceding his death. He was faithful until the very end.

While serving as pastor, Brother Hall received into the church by baptism 877, by letter 519, by statement 60, by reinstatement 37. With the loss of 1,021 by death, letters, etc., the total gain in membership amounted to only 472, and monies collected for all objects amounted to \$244,740.53.

Following the resignation of Brother Hall, our present pastor, Brother C. N. Royal, was called to the pastorate and began his work with us in January 1944.

When Brother Royal came to us our country was still at war and there was still a great number of our young people in foreign lands. However, during this period our pastor was mindful of these young people, even though they had never met, he was instrumental in organizing a correspondence committee to keep in touch with each one. Letters were mailed out to them periodically and with them went church bulletins keeping them informed of what our church was doing and encouraging them to "keep the faith."

Trustees



H. I. Parrish, E. G. Carlton and S. M. Foster



J. R. King

Odell Couch

Building Committee



LeRoy Clark, *Chairman*, Harvey Craig, Vance E. Fisher, W. T. Hall, Jr.



Lee R. Overman, H. I. Parrish, Bert R. Titus, M. S. Woodell

Brother Royal, too, like many of his predecessors, was a man not afraid to do great things for God and for the advancement of His Kingdom. Tireless in his efforts, our Church, under his pastorate, began to make great strides forward, as the minutes of each of the Associational meetings will attest.

The interior of our church took on a new look in 1950 when a new pipe organ was installed at a cost of \$15,000.00, with the dedication services being held on April 30, 1950, at 7:30 P.M.

Also during this period our church had paid off a huge debt and had purchased additional land adjoining the church property in preparation for future expansion as our church was greatly handicapped because of its need for more Sunday School rooms.

A building committee had been appointed consisting of the following Brethren: LeRoy Clark as chairman and the following to assist him in this work, Harvey L. Craig, C. Odell Couch, Vance E. Fisher, W. T. Hall, Jr., Lee R. Overman, M. S. Woodell and Bert R. Titus under the pastor's supervision.

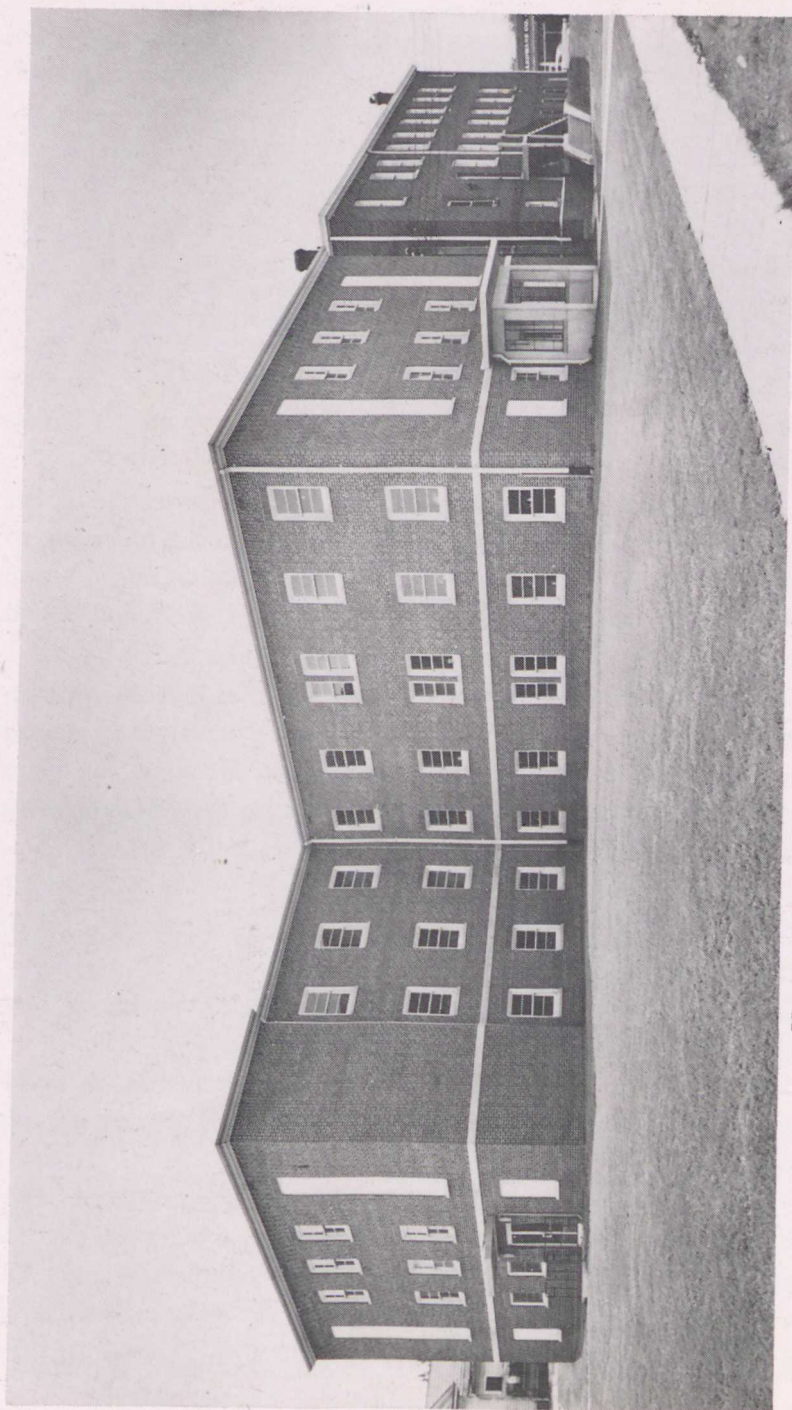
On Sunday morning, May 18, 1958, Brother Parrish as Chairman of the Building Fund Committee reported tentative plans had been made for the erection of an Educational Building, the plans having been thoroughly studied, and reported the estimated cost would be \$190,000.00.

At a special called conference on Sunday morning, August 10, 1958, two recommendations were presented to the church for their approval.

1. That Mr. M. A. Ham be employed as architect for the new building.

2. That the aforementioned brethren be continued as the Building Committee. Both of these recommendations were unanimously accepted.

On Sunday morning, November 30, 1958, at a called meeting, the congregation was shown slide pictures of the plat and floor plan of the proposed Educational Building for their approval. Following this showing, a motion was made and duly seconded that the plans be accepted and the building committee proceed with the



VIEW OF EDUCATIONAL BUILDING FROM ASHE STREET

work. This was carried and the church trustees were instructed to sign the contract with Mr. Ham, the architect. These trustees were: E. G. Carlton, C. O. Couch, S. M. Foster, J. R. King, Sr., and H. I. Parrish.

Sunday morning, May 3, 1959, following the morning worship service, the congregation adjourned to the church lawn for the Ground Breaking program. Following a prayer of dedication by our pastor, the first spades of dirt were raised. Our new Building was dedicated and opened on Sunday, July 31, 1960.

During our present pastor's tenure here our church has moved forward in many, many ways. Our first Homecoming Service was held in June 1955 and has been a yearly service since, with the one exception of 1963. This service was dispensed with for that year in preparation of our seventy-fifth anniversary service this year.

Brother Royal celebrated his twentieth anniversary with our church on January 1. Mrs. Royal, our pastor's wife, has also been very active in our church. She has taught a class of young women, in addition to her work as public school teacher, and has taken active part in the Missionary Society and many other facets of our church.

Mr. and Mrs. Royal have a daughter, Ruth (Mrs. Jerry P. Poovey), and two grandchildren, Mark and Leah, who make their home in Morganton, North Carolina.

Brother Royal during his ministry with us has ordained Edward Brown, Billy Pickett, Horace McLaurin, and Gray Rogers into ministerial service.

During his ministry here he has baptized 861 and received by letters, statement and restoration 525. However, due to error in some of the earlier records and with exclusions by correction this error and losses by death, letters, etc., the increase in our church roll during this period is only 156, making a total of 1,386. The amount collected for all objects has been \$889,488.23.

Our church recently purchased the land at 2107 Angier Avenue, joining the church property on the east and this has become the home of our Educational Director, Brother Grady Long and wife.



FIDELIS SUNDAY
SCHOOL CLASS

First Row, left to right: Mrs. Markham, Mrs. Carrie Green, Mrs. Elsie Terry, Mrs. Lollie Wiggins, Mrs. Lydia Fonville, Mrs. Louise Carson, Mrs. Lettie Bailey, Mrs. Sarah Alford—Teacher, Miss Aleane Green, Miss Lillian Stanley, Mrs. Thelma Aikens, Mrs. Sudie Fonville. Second Row: Mrs. Floyd Christian, Mrs. Lottie Moore, Mrs. Lois Cope, Miss Carrie Riddle, Mrs. Ila Parker, Mrs. Alma Leslie, Mrs. Rowena Crayton, Mrs. Maude Marshall, Mrs. Pearl Upchurch, Mrs. Pearl Rollins, Mrs. Lucille Hayes. Third Row: Mrs. McKinney, Mrs. G. G. Green, Mrs. Lee, Mrs. Pearl Overton, Mrs. Parnell, Mrs. Alva Kerr, Mrs. Eva Blackburn, Mrs. Wagner, Mrs. May, Mrs. Thelma Inscoc, Miss Ila House, Mrs. Lee Wiggs.



WORKERS'
COUNCIL OF
OFFICERS AND
TEACHERS

Sunday School Officers and Teachers

GENERAL OFFICERS

Rev. C. N. Royal
Pastor
Grady Long
Educational Director
W. T. Hall, Jr.
Superintendent
Tom Lowe
Associate Superintendent
Miss Irene Hall
Secretary
Miss Lucy Gray
Associate Secretary
Floyd Perry
Associate Secretary

ADULT DEPARTMENT III

W. B. Fonville
Superintendent
Miss Ila House
Associate Superintendent
C. D. Green
Chorister
Mrs. C. D. Green
Pianist
Mrs. Louise Carson
Secretary
Floyd Christian
Associate Chorister
Mrs. Eunice Austin
Associate Pianist
Mrs. Dora Keith
Teacher
Owen Jones
Teacher
Mrs. Vivan Ray Harris
Associate Teacher
Rev. Leo Bridgers
Teacher
H. I. Parrish
Associate Teacher
Mrs. W. L. Alford
Teacher
Rufus Ferrell
Associate Teacher

ADULT DEPARTMENT II

Miss Irene Hall
Acting Superintendent
Mrs. Eunice Austin
Pianist
Foy Crabtree
Chorister
Mrs. Eunice Austin
Secretary
Mrs. C. N. Royal
Teacher
Mrs. E. L. Abernathy
Teacher
Mrs. R. W. York
Teacher
Mrs. Marie Deal
Associate Teacher
Vance E. Fisher
Teacher
Preston Hall
Associate Teacher

ADULT DEPARTMENT I

Mrs. Betty Stone
Superintendent
Mrs. Patsy Clark
Assoc. Superintendent, and Pianist
Reade Minor
Chorister
Mrs. Betty Stone
Secretary
Mrs. Etta Lowe
Teacher
Mrs. L. T. Bridgers
Teacher
Lee R. Overman
Teacher

YOUNG MARRIED PEOPLE

Paul Watkins
Teacher
Mrs. Martha Rowland
Superintendent
Mrs. Carl Luquire
Associate Superintendent
Miss Joan Bridgers
Pianist



THE WOMAN'S
BIBLE CLASS
(Formerly
Philathea Class)

First Row, left to right: Owen F. Jones—Teacher, Mrs. Lula Hall, Mrs. Lillah Watts, Mrs. Ila McVey, Mrs. Evelyn Carmack, Mrs. Maude Green. Second Row: Mrs. J. H. Davie, Mrs. C. F. Byrd, Mrs. F. F. Saunders, Mrs. Lenna Sanders, Mrs. Lena Cheek, Mrs. Maggie Stone. Third Row: Miss Zora Herndon, Mrs. Viola Utley, Mrs. Frances Jones, Mrs. Joyce Nash, Mrs. Annie McLeod, Mrs. Emma Dodd.

First Row, left to right seated: Claiborne Ross, W. H. Sykes, Floyd, Christian, Bascom Bane, H. C. Goodwin, Floyd Perry. Second Row: J. E. Mincey, John Rufus Ferrell, J. R. King, U. C. McKinney, P. G. Buchanan, I. B. Fonville, J. B. Foreman, W. B. Fonville, Bob Carson. Third Row: A. C. Oakley, J. E. Tilley, Auburn Fowler, Tom Saunders, Colon Cates. Fourth Row: W. R. Goss, Fletcher McClain, Charlie Gurley, C. F. Byrd, George Green, Mr. Chambers, Joe Crutchfield, Carl Luquire, Z. O. Barbour, Vernon Porterfield, Roy O'Brient, E. A. Davis, Malcolm Woodell, Roy May, Charlie Guess. Standing: W. J. Stell, R. D. Wilson, Luther Cope, Hurley Parrish, Marvin Pope, J. G. Ferrell, Roy Fuquay, Marvin Watkins, Charles Sorrell, Delmar Watkins, C. F. Stell, Millard Barbee, Harold Estes, Earl Lanier, Ralph Ferrell, Clarence Fisher, Odell Pendergraft, A. B. Houston, Ed Gooch, John Crutchfield.



THE FELLOWSHIP CLASS
(Formerly Baraca Class)

Mrs. Carl Luquire
Secretary
Mrs. Lois Cannada
Teacher
Al Austin
Teacher
Mrs. Elizabeth Rogers
Teacher
Mrs. Mary Overman
Associate Teacher

INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT II

Leonard L. Husketh
Superintendent
Mrs. Lena Carpenter
Secretary
Mrs. E. M. Watkins
Teacher
I. F. Rowland
Teacher
Miss Doris Parnell
Teacher
Reid Campbell
Teacher

INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT I

Mrs. Hallie Craig
Superintendent
Mrs. Hilda Goodwin
Associate Superintendent
Miss Nina Boyd
Secretary
Mrs. Anita Smith
Teacher
Mrs. Jean Howerton
Teacher
Manley Johnson
Teacher
David Cope
Teacher
Mrs. David Cope
Teacher
Harvey Craig
Teacher

JUNIOR DEPARTMENT II

Mrs. Arlene Green
Superintendent
Mrs. Estene Larsen
Associate Superintendent

Mrs. Annie L. Wilson
Secretary

Mrs. Janet Shambley
Teacher

Mrs. Rosa Vickers
Teacher

Everett Gilmore
Teacher

Mrs. Nora Hockaday
Teacher

Miss Celia Watts
Teacher

Bill Goss
Teacher

JUNIOR DEPARTMENT I

Mrs. Betty Lawrence
Superintendent

Miss Carolyn Tippet
Pianist and Secretary

Mrs. M. H. Oakley
Teacher

Melvin Larsen
Teacher

Everett Green
Teacher

Mrs. Mary Teague
Teacher

Mrs. Vivian Harris
Associate Teacher

Clarence Tippet
Associate Teacher

Mrs. Donna Maynard
Teacher

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT III

Mrs. Joyce Davis
Superintendent

Miss Ruth Stanley
Worker

Mrs. Hattie Gulley
Worker

Mrs. Peggy Harris
Worker

Gene Harris
Worker



TRAINING
UNION
LEADERS

Front Row, left to right: Mrs. Josephine Horne, Mrs. Bettie Stone, Mrs. Leo C. High, Mrs. Barbara Beckwith, Mrs. Rosa Vickers, Mrs. Grady Long, Miss Loma Copeland, Mrs. Leo Bridgers. Second Row: Leo C. High, Vance E. Fisher, W. T. Hall, Jr., Reid Minor, Lee Overman. Third Row: Everett Freeman, Calvin Holsclaw, Ike Rowland, Allen Austin, Rev. C. N. Royal and Rev. Grady Long.

Front Row: Mrs. Frances Campbell, Mrs. Dorothy Womack, Mrs. Annie Rose Bridgers. Second Row: Mrs. Donna Maynard, Miss Ruth Stanley, Mrs. Martha Rowland.



WOMAN'S
MISSIONARY
SOCIETY
LEADERS
(All Leaders Not
Available For
Picture)

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT II

Miss Lillian Parrish
Superintendent
Mrs. Bessie Hicks
Secretary
Miss Mable Young
Worker
Mrs. Clarene Newton
Worker
Miss Mildred Seagroves
Worker
Mrs. Frances Shepherd
Worker

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT I

Mrs. Judith Fowler
Superintendent
Mrs. Anne Rhodes
Secretary
Mrs. Lallah B. Avent
Worker
Mrs. Pearl Sears
Worker
Mrs. Ruth Sanders
Worker

BEGINNER DEPARTMENT II

Miss Marie Hamm
Superintendent
Mrs. A. C. Oakley
Worker
Mrs. John M. Smith
Worker

BEGINNER DEPARTMENT I

Mrs. Frances Campbell
Superintendent
Mrs. Dorothy Womack
Worker
Miss Loma Copeland
Worker

NURSERY DEPARTMENT

Mrs. Wesley Stell
Superintendent Baby
Mrs. Irene Goss
Superintendent 2 Year
Mrs. Betty Brown
Worker
Mrs. T. E. Herndon
Worker
Mrs. Margaret Freeman
Superintendent 3 Year
Mrs. Meredith Sloan
Worker
Mrs. Helen Watkins
Secretary

CRADLE ROLL DEPARTMENT

Mrs. Nellie Crutchfield
Superintendent
Mrs. Harold Pollard
Associate Superintendent
Mrs. W. N. Daniel
Mrs. Elizabeth McGhee
Mrs. Wava Minor
Visitors

EXTENSION DEPARTMENT

Mrs. Annie McLeod
Superintendent
Miss Loma Copeland
Secretary
Mrs. I. B. Fonville
Mrs. Emma Dodd
Mrs. Lettie Bailey
Mrs. Katherine Painter
Mrs. Viola Utley
Mrs. C. D. Green
Mrs. Mollie Sharpe
Mrs. Ann High
Visitors



THE
PARSONAGE

First Row, left to right: Marvin Fisher, Steve Crabtree, Greg Robbins, Dennis Goss, Michael Herndon, Lewis Ward. *Second Row:* Douglas Critcher, Robert Johnson, Ronnie Metcalf, Chippie Cates, Rickey Overman, Donald Elliott. *Third Row:* Rickie Jackson, Edward Jackson—Scout Master, Ray Terry, Joe White, Chester Gardner.



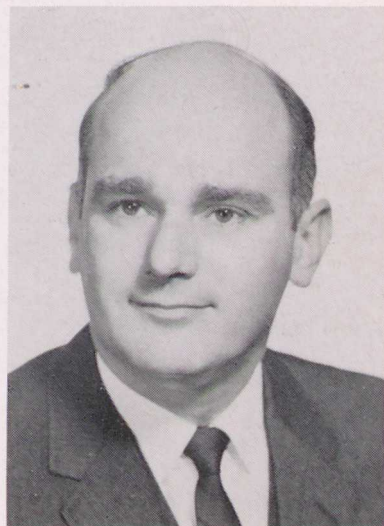
BOY SCOUT
TROOP NO. 485

Homecoming Committee

Vernon Porterfield	Foy Couch
<i>Chairman</i>	
Tom Lowe	Floyd Perry
J. R. Ferrell	Mack Woodell
A. A. Fowler	Fred Rhodes
E. M. Watkins	Eleanor Luquire
Bill Goss	Owen Jones
L. C. Goodwin	Dorothy Abernathy
Wesley Stell	Lois Cannada
Everett Green	Helen Watkins
Delmar Watkins	Mrs. W. L. Alford
Harvey Craig	Mrs. Annie Rose Bridgers
Ike Rowland	Mrs. R. W. York



BERT R. TITUS
Treasurer Building Fund



FRED RHODES
Church Treasurer



REV. C. GRADY LONG
Educational Director



MRS. EUNICE AUSTIN
Church Secretary



MRS. I. F. ROWLAND
Church Clerk



W. T. HALL, JR.
Sunday School Superintendent



MRS. LELIA P. SHARPE
Choir Director



MRS. EVELYN CULTON
Organist



SENIOR CHOIR

First Row: Janie Husketh, Barbara Beckwith, Isla Pollard, Margaret Woods, Evelyn Culton, Holt Sharpe, Inez Ferguson, Donna Maynard, Karen Titus. *Second Row:* Celia Watts, Ollie Watkins, Brenda Bruce, Betty Lawrence, Jean Howerton, Pearl Sears, Carolyn Rowland, Sybil Beck, Virginia Titus. *Third Row:* Beal Rowland, Vivian Harris, Foy Couch, Harold Pollard, Vance Fisher, Jr., Foy Crabtree, Robert Odom, Malcolm Woodell. *Absent:* Sarah Alford, Philip Alford.



INTERMEDIATE CHOIR

First Row: Carol Green, Carol Sloan, Diane High, Linda Sumner, Tommy Austin, Bonnie Woodell, Brenda Holsclaw, Wanda Hamilton, Susan Shepherd, Gray Sumner, Sue Woodell. *Third Row:* Lonnie Crabtree, Lee Ann Overman, Linda Holsclaw, Marvin Fisher, Martha Rogers, Patricia Davis, Barbara Gayle Fowler, Faye Sumner, Holt Sharpe.



JUNIOR CHOIR

First Row: Sandra Overman, Susan Pollard, Casandra Rowland, Philip Hall, Beth Pollard, Connie Watkins, Chuck George, Douglas Honeycutt, Karen Watkins, Nan LaPlant, Ruth George. *Second Row:* Carolyn Stone, Dianne Buchanan, Sandy Austin, Kay Campbell, Marilyn Holsclaw, Pam Harris, Sheila Lawrence, Jane Holsclaw, Laura Noeli, Allen Austin, Jr., Tommy O'Neal, Ann Sloan. *Third Row:* Patsy Dennis, Debbie Reeves, Susan Shipp, Susan Buchanan, Marsha LaPlant, Mary Beth Womack, Ann Campbell, Belinda Watkins, Brenda Kerr, Patricia Horne.

CONCLUSION

ON THE FOREGOING PAGES we have shown a reproduction of the original deed and the transfer of land to the trustees of the First Baptist Church whereupon Mrs. Mary A. Wrenn conveyed this land that a church could be erected. This church was organized and is now in its seventy-fifth year, having been organized in 1889. Our present church stands on this same plot of ground. However, quite a number of changes have taken place during these seventy-five years.



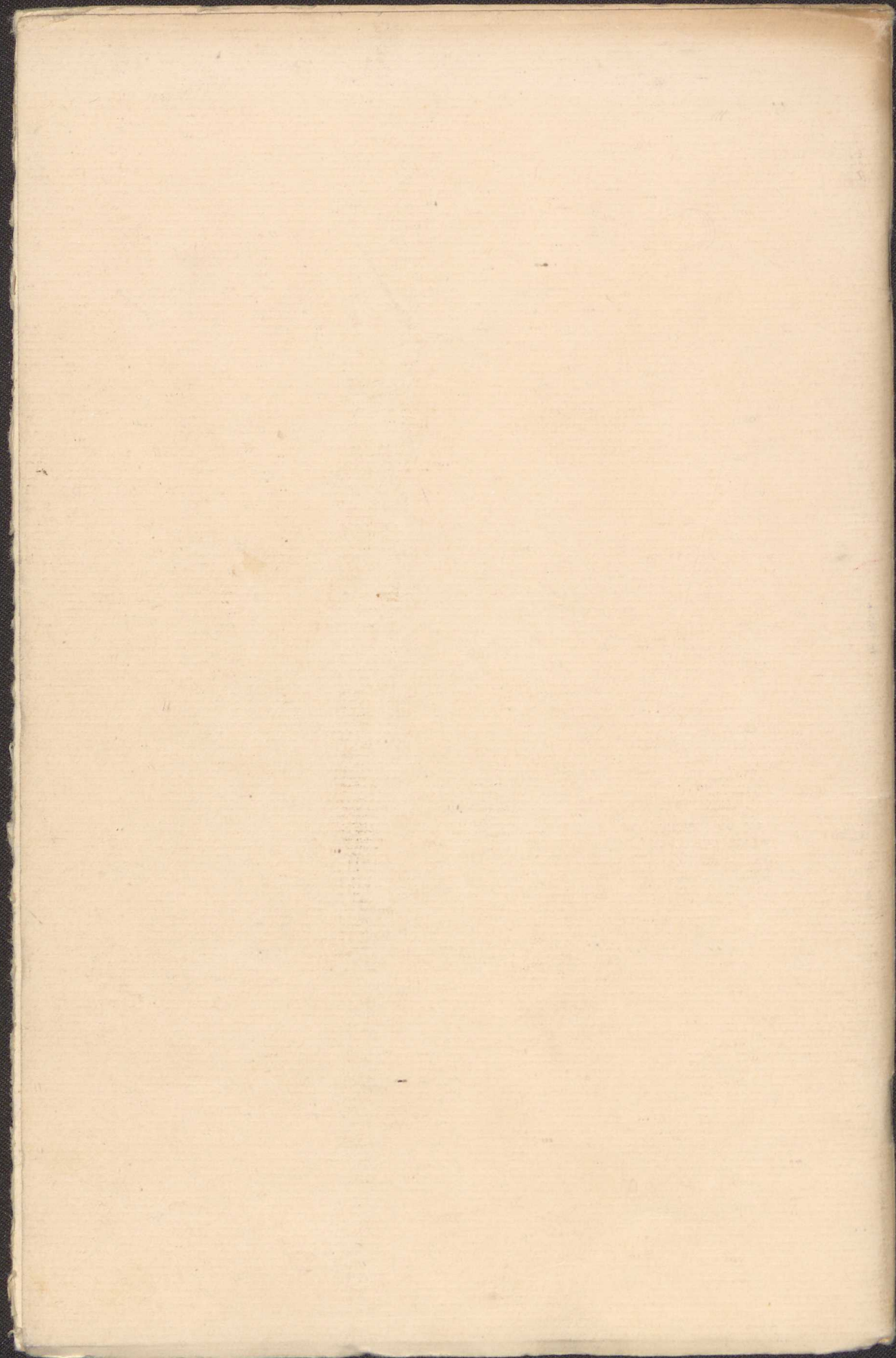
Since that day in December, 1889, this church has held a high place in our community, our city and our State. It has been a shining light for God and for His Son, Jesus Christ. From its early membership of 44 faithful, loyal souls, it has grown until today its membership roll numbers 1,386 followers of Christ.

We have tried to bring to you a true picture of the past history of our church up to and including the present moment. Unfortunately, however, there has been in many instances, little to go on. Quite a large number of our older records were lost, but with the aid of many of our older people, too numerous to mention by name, and by research through old newspapers, personal knowledge and by whatever means available we have given you as complete and accurate a history as our limited findings could bring to you.

May this history be an inspiration to each of us, and may we renew our Faith in God and strive to carry on for Christ and to aid in every possible way to carry His message to all. May our church continue to grow in Grace and Knowledge and ever become a greater light to shine for Him who came and gave Himself to die on the Cross of Calvary that all men might come to know God.

Owen F. Jones

Church Historian



Angier Avenue - 1889

Durham

YATES

1889 - Const.

Carolina

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

HERALD SUN
DURHAM, N. C.

gate

JAN 10 95

Not a dying church 291

The article that appeared in the Raleigh newspaper about East Durham was filled with many discrepancies. The most were

about Angier Avenue Baptist Church.

Six years ago, when the last pastor came to the church, this was not a "dying church." Angier Avenue Baptist Church is a very stable church that has had only three pastors in the last 70 years. Each pastor was well-respected in the congregation and in the religious community.

Six years ago, Angier Avenue Baptist was a stable church that gave 30 percent of its collection to missions. It was the leader of the association in that category. Angier Avenue Baptist was and is a membership that looked to its pastors for integrity, faith in God's word and humility. The people of the church did not believe you had to be a polished person (whatever that means).

Rather, they preferred their pastor to possess honesty, integrity and God's will. Now Angier Avenue Baptist is about to call its new pastor. With the Lord's guidance, the church can come back to being the beacon of light on the corner of Angier Avenue and Driver Street.

BOBBY LAWRENCE

Carolina

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

SUN
DURHAM, N. C.

MAR-31-84

291 A71
Homecoming services planned

Angier Avenue Baptist Church will celebrate a day of dedication and homecoming tomorrow. Extensive remodeling of the sanctuary has just been completed and the 11 a.m. worship service will include dedication services for the renewed facilities. Following the service, a homecoming luncheon will be served.

11

Concert Of Sacred Music Scheduled At Angier Baptist

Miss Florence Fiandash will give a concert of sacred music at 7 p.m. Sunday in Angier Avenue Baptist Church in Durham.

Miss Fiandach, who lives in Winston-Salem, pursued careers in opera and musical theater, but in the past two years she has devoted her time to Christian singing.

She attended Moody Bible Institute in Chicago and received a certificate from the advanced studies program. While at Moody, she portrayed herself in a story for the radio drama "Unshackled."

Durham Herald

Durham Sun

Elizabeth City Advance

Fayetteville Observer

Fayetteville Times

Gastonia Gazette

Goldsboro: News-Argus

Greensboro Daily News

AUG 26 1978

BR

Mar 22, 1939

P 11

August

Rae

Beethusda



J. WINSTON PEARCE

Revival Services Scheduled

The Rev. J. Winston Pearce will be guest evangelist at revival services to be held tomorrow through Friday at Angier Avenue Baptist Church.

Services will ~~begin~~ at 7:30 p.m. each evening.

Music will be under the direction of John T. Lavery, and the organist will be Mrs. Tim Jones.

Dr. Pearce, writer in residence at Campbell College since 1971, studied at Campbell and Wake Forest colleges, the University of Chicago, Southern Seminary, Yale and in Edinburgh.

He has served as pastor of churches in Missouri, Maryland and Florida and was pastor of the First Baptist Church in Durham from 1940 until 1954.

He has been president of the North Carolina Baptist General Board, is a trustee at Wake Forest College, was a member of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, and was a preacher on the "Baptist Hour."

He has written numerous books and magazine articles.

A nursery will be provided.

Greensboro Record
Greenville Reflector
Henderson Dispatch
Hendersonville: Times-News
Hickory Daily Record
High Point Enterprise
Jacksonville Daily News
Kannapolis Independent
Kinston Free Press
Lenoir News Topic
Lexington Dispatch
Lumberton: Robesonian
Morganton News-Herald
New Bern: Sun-Journal
Norfolk: Virginian Pilot
Raleigh: News & Observer
Raleigh Times
Reidsville Review

Notes

APR 3 1976

Angier Avenue (Durham)

1889

Durham

Dec 1

1925 - ~~Farmy~~ East Durham

1926 -

1927 -

1928 -

1929 -

1930 -

1931 -

1932 -

1933 -

1934 -

1935 -

1936 -

1937 -

1938 -

1939 -

1940 -

1941 -

1942 -

1943 -

1944 -

1945 -

1946 -

1947 -

1948 - ~~Don. Am me of Gates~~

1949 - moved to GATES

Angier Avenue (Durham) Yates

1925 -

1926 -

1927 -

1928 -

1929 -

1930 -

1931 -

1932 -

1933 -

1934 -

1935 -

1936 -

1937 -

1938 -

1939 -

1940 -

1941 -

1942 -

1943 -

1944 -

1945 -

1946 -

1947 -

1948 -

✓ 1949 -

Angier Avenue

● 1950 -

1951 -

1952 -

1953 -

1954 -

1955 -

1956 -

1957 -

1958 -

1959 -

1960 -

1961 -

1962 -

● 1963 -

1964 -

1965 -

1966 -

1967 -

1968 -

1969 -

1970 -

1971 -

1972 -

1973 -

1974 -



Angier Avenue

—1975 -

—1976 -

—1977 -

—1978 -

—1979 -

—1980 -

—1981 -

—1982 -

—1983 -

—1984 -

—1985 -

1986 -

1987 -

1988 -

1989 -

1990 -

1991 -

1992 -

1993 -

1994 -

1995 -

1996 -

1997 -

1998 -

1999 -

Dec 7 now Angie Ames

1889 - Const. Dec. 1,

-1899 -

East Durham (Angier Ave.)

1900 -

Dec 1 1889

Fanny Barbours Hunt

1901 -

1902 -

1903 -

1904 -

1905 -

1906 -

1907 -

1908 -

1909 -

1910 -

1911 -

1912 -

1913 -

1914 -

1915 -

1916 -

1917 -

1918 -

1919 -

1920 -

1921 -

1922 -

1923 -

1924 -

1925 ~~Dec~~ ^{Became} Angier Ave

Yates Association

B
206-9756

M266

THE HISTORY OF

Angier Avenue

Baptist Church

1889-1964

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

1889 - - - - *Seventy-fifth Anniversary* - - - - 1964

T H E H I S T O R Y O F

**Angier Avenue
Baptist Church**

1889-1964

Durham, North Carolina

Published on the Occasion of
THE HOMECOMING CELEBRATION

June 14, 1964

Organized December 1, 1889

DEDICATION

THIS HISTORY has been prepared for issuance on the occasion of the Seventy-fifth Anniversary of Angier Avenue Baptist Church. Here we point with pride to our membership and the work presently being done.

It is impossible to give a complete picture of all of our members. Many have gone to their rich reward, and will long be remembered. To all those who have had a part in our Church History, both those here and those departed, we humbly dedicate this History.

Dear Friends,

An anniversary year is a time to look backward. As we direct our attention to the past 75 years, we see the great foundation laid by the former pastors of this church. This anniversary brings to mind the great debt of gratitude we owe to them. We should honor each member, who throughout the years, planned prayerfully and worked faithfully. A church such as this represents sacrifice and dedication.

As pastor and people we have been together for more than twenty years. During these fruitful and happy years, this church has been loyal in its support of our mission work and of our institutions. All along the way we have been conscious of Divine Guidance as we have built together.

Now we turn our face to the future. The coming years should afford an even greater era of service in Kingdom building. In constructing the new building the future was kept in mind and we now have a church building which will take care of our needs for years to come.

Definition of a church: A gospel church is an organized body of baptized believers equal in rank and privileges, administering its affairs under the headship of Christ, united in the belief of what He has taught, covenanting to do what He has commanded, and co-operating with other like bodies in Kingdom movements. This is the definition of an ideal church. To this end I have endeavored to lead this people.

May the Lord continually bless you and yours as you faithfully serve Him.

Yours sincerely,

C. N. Royal





OLD OAK GROVE SCHOOL
Home of First Sunday School and Prayer Meetings



ORIGINAL CHURCH BUILDING

Mr. R. T. Howerton, Senior



APPROXIMATELY THREE YEARS before the organization of East Durham Baptist Church, Mr. Howerton and a group of Christians from the First Baptist Church organized a Sunday School. These people met for these years in a small wooden structure known as the Oak Grove School. Here they held Sunday School and weekly Prayer Meetings.

Following their meeting, one Sunday morning, a conference was called to discuss the possibility of erecting a Church Building for the East Durham community. Closing the meeting with a prayer that God might direct them, the group left the meeting and walked north along what is now Driver Street. When they reached the intersection of Angier Avenue a part of the group went straight ahead, a part went right, while still another part of the group went left. So upon being called together again, following much discussion, it was agreed that the corner of Driver and Angier would be the best and most central location for the building. Thus began the first planning of what later became the Third Baptist Church. It was given this name because, as we understand, it was the third Baptist Church erected in what later became a part of the city of Durham.

—As told to the author by Mr. Howerton's son, Mr. R. T. Howerton, Junior.



EAST DURHAM BAPTIST CHURCH—1900-1924

A History of Angier Avenue Baptist Church Seventy-five Years

* * * *

One soweth, another reapeth, but God gives the increase.

* * * *

EVERY GREAT ACHIEVEMENT that has ever been attained had to be built on a solid foundation. Unity, brotherly love, fellowship, and a love for God and His Son, Jesus Christ, and with a desire to advance His Kingdom here on earth is the foundation upon which Angier Avenue Baptist Church stands.

The seed for the growing of Angier Avenue Baptist Church was planted, by God's Spirit, in the mind of the Rev. Columbus Durham, who was then pastor of the First Baptist Church of Durham. At the session of the Mount Zion Baptist Association, meeting with the Cedar Fork Baptist Church of Durham County in 1886, Brother Durham was appointed to write the report to the Association on Missions. In this report, one phase of the report was as follows: "Durham (reporting from other mission fields of the Association) in the eastern and western part of the town is now pressing upon us the necessity of active and solid work. In the next year two houses of worship must be built, and a suitable man must give half his time to this field."

With implicit confidence in Brother Durham's farsightedness, honest judgment, common sense, and his Christianity, the Brethren always being willing to accede to his recommendations in all

Obligation
 Mary & Wrenn
 Trustees of
 Baptist Church

This obligation entered into this day of August 1889
 between Mary a Rem of the first part and Thomas J. Rigbee
 T. S. Christian S. T. Morgan O. B. Foushee and H. D. Markham
 Trustees of the first Baptist Church of Durham of the
 second part Witnesseth that the said party of the first
 part for and in consideration of her desire to promote
 the Christian religion & for other good and sufficient
 considerations & for one dollar in hand paid, both lawfully
 agree to convey to the said Thomas J. Rigbee & others Trustees
 aforesaid for their use and the use of their successors in
 office, the following parcel of land in Durham County
 situated a little West of Lenoir Avenue and bounded
 as follows: Beginning at an iron pin in O. K. Porter's
 line South east corner of a lot sold by The Durham
 Land Security Company to Postmaster Kennedy running
 thence with his line North 10° East one chain & 8 links to
 a stake & J. Ellis corner thence with his line South 74° East
 81 links to a stake thence South 25° West one chain
 & 66 links to a stake in O. K. Porter's line thence with his
 line North 60° West 42 links to the beginning containing
 .9963 of an acre: to have & to hold to them & their successors
 in office and to their assigns forever.
 signed & sealed the day and year first above written
 Witness Mary & Wrenn (seal)
 W. J. Wyatt

North Carolina
 Durham County

The due execution of the foregoing
 instrument was this day proven before me by
 the oath and examination of W. J. Wyatt the
 subscribing witness thereto Let the said instrument
 with this certificate be registered this the 14th day
 of Nov. 1889

D. C. Morgan

Filed for record this Nov. 14th 1889 at 3.45 o'clock
 P. M. & registered in the office of the Register of
 Deeds for Durham County in Book 9 of Deeds on
 page 520 Nov. 20th 1889

Parahall Lenoir
 Register of Deeds

his reports readily subscribed \$625.00 for the building of these
 houses—Brother Durham's church subscribing \$200.00 of this
 amount. His motto was: "Brethren, let's do," not "You do."

Prior to the purchase of the old wooden frame structure
 from the First Presbyterian Church of Durham, which had been
 moved from the corner of Main and Roxboro Streets, and which
 later became known as the Third Baptist Church, we learn that
 there had been for more than three years, a Sunday School and
 Prayer Meetings being led by members of the First Baptist Church
 of Durham in an old school building known as Oak Grove School.
 This building was across the railroad, south of our present church
 building and was situated in an oak grove. The road that ran to
 this building was called the Oak Grove road. It was situated on a
 parcel of land that was later developed and became a part of the
 housing development of Durham Cotton Manufacturing Company,
 for the housing of their employees.

We have no complete record as to how many of the people
 of East Durham attended this Sunday School and Prayer Meetings,
 but from what records we have and the information given to us,
 we assume that there was sufficient interest to warrant the need
 for a church building in this vicinity.

Because of her love for God and a great desire to serve Him,
 in August 1889, Mrs. Mary A. Wrenn deeded a tract of land to
 the following trustees of the First Baptist Church to be used for
 the erection of what became the Third Baptist Church: Thomas
 J. Rigbee, T. S. Christian, S. T. Morgan, O. B. Foushee, and H.
 D. Markham. This land was the ground on which our present
 building stands.

The deed is found in Book 9, page 520 in the Durham County
 Register of Deeds office and has been reproduced here. This was
 the beginning of the Third Baptist Church, or what we now
 know as Angier Avenue Baptist Church.

The Church was officially organized on December 1, 1889,
 with a council consisting of the Pastor of First Baptist Church,



SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS—APPROXIMATELY 1906

Brother J. L. White; Brother J. J. Lansdell, a retired Baptist minister; Brother C. A. Woodson, a missionary; and the following deacons of the Church: Brethren W. H. Holloway, J. L. Markham, J. M. Whitted, R. T. Howerton, Sr., P. Cook, J. M. Baucom and J. V. Rigsbee. Brother Lansdell was elected chairman and Brother Woodson secretary of the meeting. Prayer was offered, Brother White leading.

The following Covenant and Statement of Doctrine were read by the clerk and being approved by the brethren and sisters before whom it was read, it was ordered to be recorded on the Church Book as the Covenant and Statement of Doctrine of the Third Baptist Church.

Covenant

Having been, as we trust, brought 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; that we will exercise a Christian care and watchfulness and faithfully warn, exhort and admonish each other as occasion may require.

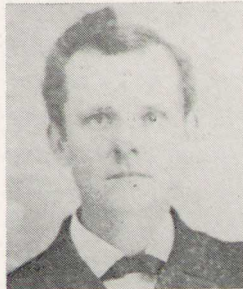
That we will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together but will uphold the public worship of God and the ordinances of His house.

That we will not omit Closet and Family religion at home nor neglect the great duty of religiously training our children and those under our care for the service of Christ and the enjoyment of Heaven.

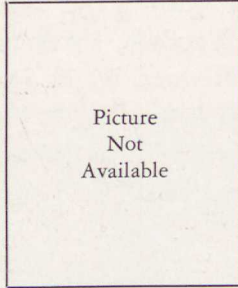
That as we are the light of the world and the salt of the earth, we will seek divine aid; to enable us to deny ungodliness and every worldly lust and to walk circumspectly in the world that we may win the souls of men.

That we will cheerfully contribute of our means according as God has prospered us, for the maintenance of a faithful and

Former Pastors



J. F. MACDUFFIE
1890-1892



C. W. BLANCHARD
1892-1894



O. C. HORTON
1895-1899



J. C. OWEN
1899



W. F. FRY
1899-1902



J. O. ALDERMAN
1903-1905



J. W. DOWNEY
1905-1909



M. P. DAVIS
1910-1913



Q. C. DAVIS
1914-1918



H. F. BRINSON
1919-1925



W. G. HALL
1925-1943

evangelical ministry among us for the support of the poor and to spread the Gospel over the earth.

That we will in all conditions ever till death, strive to live to the glory of Him who hath called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

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 for ever and ever. Amen.

Statement of Doctrine

1. We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired that it is our all sufficient and infallible guide and that it is the Supreme Standard of appeal by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions should be tried.

2. THE TRUE GOD.

We believe the Scriptures teach that there is one and only one living and true God, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of Heaven and earth and that in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

3. THE FALL OF MAN.

We believe the Scriptures teach that man was created in holiness under the law of his maker, but by personal transgression fell from his holy and happy state in consequence of which all mankind are now in their natural state sinners, not by constraint but by choice devoid of the holiness required by Divine Law and hence under condemnation of external ruin without defense and excuse.

4. THE WAY OF SALVATION.

We believe the Scriptures teach that the salvation of sinners is wholly of Grace through the mediatorial office of the Son of God,



FRONT VIEW OF CHURCH FROM ANGLIER AVENUE

who by the appointment of the Father took upon Him our nature yet without sin, honored the Divine law by His personal obedience and by His death made full atonement for our sin; in that having risen from the dead and ascended to Heaven He is in every way suited to be the Saviour of those who trust in Him for salvation.

5. JUSTIFICATION.

We believe the Scriptures teach that the great Gospel blessing which Christ secures to those that believe in Him is justification. That justification includes the pardon of sin, that it is bestowed not in consideration for any works of righteousness that we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood, by virtue of which faith in Christ's righteousness is freely imputed to us by His Father.

6. REGENERATION.

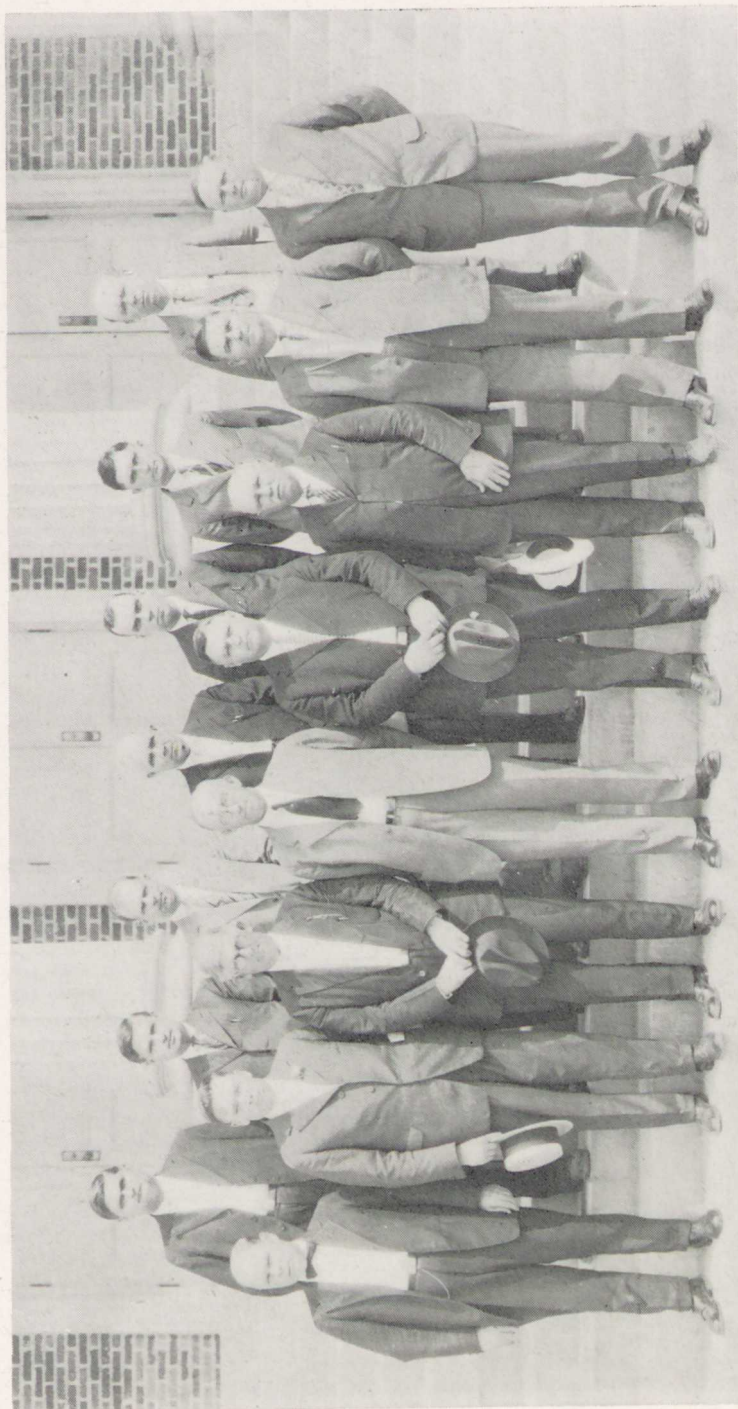
We believe the Scriptures teach that in order to be saved, sinners must be regenerated or born again, which is effected by God's spirit and its proper evidence appears in the life and conduct of those who have passed from death unto life.

7. REPENTANCE AND FAITH.

We believe the Scriptures teach that repentance and faith are sacred duties and also inseparable graces wrought in our souls by the regenerating Spirit of God, whereby being deeply convinced of our guilt, danger and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with sincere confession of; and contrition for sin; at the same time heartily receiving Christ as our Saviour.

8. GOD'S PURPOSE OF GRACE.

We believe the Scriptures teach that election is that act of the Godhead which shows God's purpose to save His people that being consistent with the free agency of man it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; and notwithstanding God's purpose to save the people "Chosen of the Lord" it is our duty to go into all the world and preach the Gospel.



BOARD OF DEACONS—1925

Front Row, left to right: J. Frank Adams, W. B. Fonville, Clyde Steele, Rev. W. G. Hall, Fred Crutchfield, W. E. Young, S. A. Maynard, W. E. Stanley. *Back Row:* Joe Peed, Walter Williams, Clyde Horton, John Cheek, Ed Kerr, J. D. Gooch, C. L. Upchurch.

9. SANCTIFICATION.

We believe the Scriptures teach that Sanctification is that process of Grace by which in connection with regeneration man is more fully prepared for his heavenly state, and not complete until we stand glorified in His presence.

10. PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS.

We believe the Scriptures teach that all true believers will persevere unto the end as they are kept by the power of God unto Salvation.

11. THE LAW AND THE GOSPEL.

We believe that the law is the expression of God's purity that its claims are very high beyond the reach of unregenerated man that Christ alone met perfectly all of its requirements and it is the province of the Gospel to proclaim the glad news that Christ hath done for us what we were unable to do for ourselves.

12. BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER.

We believe that Baptism is the immersion in water of a believer in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, to show faith in a solemn and beautiful emblem of our Lord Jesus Christ and also our death to the old life and resurrection to the new.

* * * *

Following the reading of the covenant and doctrine, the following applicants from the First Baptist Church and other Baptist Churches endorsed the covenant and doctrines as read and were accepted into membership: J. W. Ausley, J. H. Boone, J. I. Crutchfield, C. M. Crutchfield, W. R. Dupree, R. D. Hackney, J. W. Marshall, J. R. Suitt, J. B. Suitt, U. S. Suitt, W. H. Suitt, W. O. Stone, W. T. Sparrow, S. G. Tutor, W. J. Wyatt, Mrs. J. W. Ausley, Mrs. J. H. Boone, Catherine Beal, Fannie Burgess, Mrs. J. I. Crutchfield, Mrs. N. H. Crane, Mrs. L. R. Crane Hudson, Mrs. W. R. Dupree, Janie Gray, Angeline Horton, Sophrona Horton, Mrs. Edwin Johnson, Annie Johnson, Ella Johnson, Pattie Perry, Sarah E. Hackney, Annie E. Johnson, Emma Bright Booth, Mrs. W. T. Sparrow, Mrs. W. R. Suitt, Mrs. J. R. Suitt, Mrs. W. O. Stone, Nancy Stone, Sarah



EAST DURHAM BAPTIST CHURCH PHILATHEA CLASS—1912

F. Stone, Lunie E. Stone, Mrs. S. G. Tutor, Lorena Tutor Abernethy, Mary Wrenn, and G. A. Sparrow.

Having been duly organized, the following were elected as officers to serve the church: Brother J. I. Crutchfield, a deacon from the First Baptist Church, Brethren W. J. Wyatt and James W. Ausley to be ordained. Brother W. O. Stone was elected Church Clerk; Brother W. J. Wyatt, Treasurer; Brother J. I. Crutchfield, Superintendent of the Sunday School; and Brother W. T. Sparrow, Assistant Superintendent. Brother Lansdell extended the right hand of welcome and fellowship to Brother Wyatt representing the Church. Thus the Third Baptist Church began its service to God and to man. Brother C. A. Woodson was sent as a missionary to preach to these people.

At the time the above events took place, East Durham, as it is called, was not a part of the City of Durham. It was a separate and distinct town. It had its own squire and town officials. There were no paved streets, no electric lights, no running water, and the telephone was an instrument that few people knew anything about. The church was lighted with kerosene lamps that hung from either the ceiling or walls of the building. Coal-burning stoves heated the building. People depended on wells for their water supply, and many times during the hot weather of summer, water would often become a treasured item as the wells "ran dry."

It was not until April 1, 1925, that East Durham was incorporated and became a part of the City of Durham.

However, even though faced with these conditions and many other hardships, these good people were not deterred from their determination, and in the Associational report of 1889 they were given recognition for their good works.

It is quite interesting to read in the church minutes of how the membership "scoured" the bare wooden floors, how they cleaned and filled the lamps with oil, how they were called upon to do all the menial tasks that had to be done. We notice too, that at each Church Conference the roll of all male members was called and



EAST DURHAM BAPTIST CHURCH BARACA CLASS—1912

that each man was held accountable if he failed to attend. We also learn that each member of the congregation was held accountable as to their personal conduct regarding idle gossip and such, and we have read accounts of where some were dropped from the roll because of their un-Christian behaviour.

We also noted that in those days it was customary for the pastor to extend his resignation at the end of each year and the church then had the opportunity of either accepting or rejecting it.

The church having no pastor, on January 1, 1890, in conference unanimously called J. F. MacDuffie to serve. Brother MacDuffie accepted the call and served nearly two years but resigned due to his "many obligations to country churches." In asking the church to accept his resignation he stated he was unable to give the church the amount of time it needed and demanded. During his ministry 84 were added to the church membership and a debt of \$250.00 had been cancelled. He resigned in 1891. The amount collected for all objects during this time was \$1,060.80.

It was during his pastorate that a bell was purchased and installed in the belfry. This bell was used to call members to the worship services until 1924, when it was sold to a local Negro Church. We understand that it is still in use today.

Also, during this period we learn that Sister Mary Wrenn donated an additional parcel of land to the church, which was later sold to enable the church to meet some of its financial obligations.

Following Brother MacDuffie's letter of resignation, the church in conference on Thursday night, September 3, 1891, appointed a committee to secure another pastor. This committee was asked to secure a pastor that would preach two Sundays, morning and evening, each month. Sometime later the committee reported back to the church and presented the names of Brother June Mallard and Brother J. M. White. Brother Mallard was elected but upon being contacted declined the call.

At a call conference October 4, 1891, Brother C. W. Blanchard was unanimously called. Brother Blanchard accepted the call,



EAST DURHAM BAPTIST CHURCH FIDELIS CLASS—1914

but upon contact he stated he would only be available to preach one Sunday morning and three Sunday evenings each month. The church agreed to this, accepting his offer and stipulated they would pay him a salary of \$250.00 for the year 1892. During his ministry Brother A. J. Taylor was ordained to preach the Gospel. The total number added to the church during Brother Blanchard's pastorate was 130 and the total amount collected for all objects was \$1,707.79. Brother Blanchard resigned as pastor in September, 1894.

On January 16, 1892, during Brother Blanchard's pastorate the church in conference authorized the organization of a Woman's Missionary Society. Also during this same month the membership authorized the addition of two Sunday School rooms at a cost of \$300.00.

Following the resignation of Brother Blanchard, the church voted to call Brother O. C. Horton as pastor. Brother Horton accepted the call and began his service on January 1, 1895. Brother Horton served efficiently and satisfactorily until 1898. He was well loved and respected by all who knew him. He served as Moderator of the Mount Zion Association from 1895 until his death in 1899. During his pastorate the church received 128 members into fellowship and the total amount collected for all objects was \$2,065.68.

At a church conference on February 27, 1895, following much discussion, with many names having been offered and rejected, the church voted to change the church name from "Third Baptist Church" to "East Durham Baptist Church." Also it was during this period of time that further additions were made to the Church building.

Following Brother Horton's years of service, Brother J. C. Owen was called to serve as pastor. Brother Owen served until June 1899 and resigned. The church regretted to lose this young man as he was greatly loved and respected by all. The number added to the church during Brother Owen's pastorate and the amount collected was reported under Brother Horton's and Brother Fry's (who succeeded Brother Owen) ministry to the Association.



SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFICERS AND TEACHERS—1924

Since Brother Owen had resigned without finishing the year as was the original agreement, the church called Brother W. F. Fry to fill the unexpired term of Brother Owen. Brother Fry came to the church in July 1899. In November 1900 the church voted to call a full-time pastor for 1901, and in the December conference Brother Fry was asked to serve. Brother Fry being present agreed to serve indefinitely, with the understanding if either one became dissatisfied each would give the other a three months' notice. Brother Fry served the church until September 1, 1902, resigning to work for the Baptist Female Seminary. Brother Owen, during this time had gone to China as a missionary and had married; and he, being a member of this church, had baptized his wife in Japan and wanted her to be received into the fellowship of the church on his recommendation. She was received and he was notified of her reception by certificate.

During the ministry of Brother Fry a number of alterations had been made to the church. A Baptistry had been constructed, Sunday School rooms had been added, and the bell tower had been repaired. During his years the church had received 66 members to fellowship and the amount collected for all objects during this period was \$3,924.84.

During his pastorate Brother Fry was instrumental in the church purchasing a lot on which to build a parsonage, the lot being purchased next to the church on the Driver Avenue side from Mr. J. V. Thompson, and the parsonage being completed in May 1903.

During the interval between September and December 1902, Brethren A. L. Betts and Hight C. Moore were unanimously called to the pastorate of the church, but each declined.

Brother J. O. Alderman was then called on December 28, 1902. Brother Alderman served until March 1905 when he resigned. During Brother Alderman's pastorate 88 were added to church membership and the amount collected for all objects was \$3,121.74.



The Church at Worship on Mother's Day

May 10, 1964





BOARD OF DEACONS—1944

First Row, left to right: C. O. Couch, Rev. W. G. Hall, Rev. C. N. Royal, J. Frank Adams, L. L. Hodnett. *Second Row:* J. E. Watts, L. C. Goodwin, M. M. Mayton, W. J. Hackney. *Back Row:* S. M. Foster, Owen F. Jones, F. F. McClain, J. D. Gooch, D. F. Carlton, Floyd Christian, A. B. Carson, E. G. Carlton, E. M. Watkins, George Hayes.

Following Brother Alderman's resignation the church extended a call to Brother J. W. Downey. Brother Downey accepted the call and came in May 1905, serving until November 1909. During Brother Downey's pastorate two additions were made to the church. The parsonage was wired for electricity. The number received during Brother Downey's pastorate was 200 and the amount collected for all objects was \$8,244.15.

Following the resignation of Brother Downey, Brother M. P. Davis was called. Brother Davis served from April 1910 until November 1, 1913. During Brother Davis' pastorate further additions were made to the church for use of the Baraca Class. Also during this time the parsonage had city water installed in it; prior to this installation well water was supplied from a well that was located near the parsonage. During his pastorate the church received 237 new members to fellowship and the amount received for all objects was \$11,095.83.

Following the resignation of Brother M. P. Davis, Brother Q. C. Davis was called. Brother Q. C. Davis was not a stranger to our people as he had conducted two revival meetings for us. During his ministry Brother Clarence Ross was ordained to preach the Gospel. The first telephone was installed in the parsonage in 1914.

Brother Davis was with us at a time of deep distress. Our country was at war and a great number of our young men were on the battlefields; many of them in foreign lands. During this time the church bell was rung at 7 o'clock each evening in response to a proclamation of our Governor calling the people's attention to the importance of prayer. There was added to the church under Brother Davis' pastorate 256 members and the amount received for all objects was \$14,111.83. Brother Davis resigned in November 1918.

In August 1918 the Philathea Sunday School Class presented our church with an individual communion service. Brother H. F. Brinson was then called and accepted the call and began his work here January 1, 1919.



BOARD OF DEACONS—1964

Seated, left to right: Allen Austin, Fred Rhodes, Ike Rowland, Vance Fisher—*Chairman*, Everett Freeman, Tom Lowe, Rev. C. N. Royal, Standing: Melvin Larsen, Vernon Porterfield, Paul Watkins, Reid Campbell, Malcolm Woodell, E. M. Watkins, Foy Couch, Harold Pollard, L. L. Husketh. *Absent when picture was taken*, Harvey Craig and John Rufus Ferrell.

Brother Brinson, it seems from the great progress he made in his work, was not afraid to undertake great things for God and His Church. At a church conference, January 28, 1920, he suggested a special meeting for February to consider plans for the erection of a new church building. He sent out three or four hundred letters, principally to members of the church regarding this plan. On Sunday morning, February 1, a Finance Committee consisting of five members was appointed, Brother J. N. Cheek serving as chairman. At the same time a building committee was appointed with the Pastor serving as chairman. On February 4, five others were added to the Finance Committee and pledges were taken amounting to \$10,000.00 in pledges of cash, Government bonds, and stamps. The Finance Committee recommended an active campaign be put on and "as soon as \$40,000.00 is raised in cash and pledges, we begin the building." This recommendation was accepted by the church.

On November 27, 1923, at a call conference, the Building Committee was instructed to sign a contract with Mr. T. W. Poe in the sum of \$54,985.00 to construct the new church building by plans which had been adopted by the church on October 7.

On the morning of January 21, 1924, at 7:30, an appropriate service was held on the church property and the first ground was broken by two charter members, Mrs. Jane Gray and Mrs. F. D. Hudson, raising the first spades of dirt.

It had been decided to have the new church building face Angier Avenue instead of Driver, as the old church did, and to use the entire plot for the building, and the committee was instructed to sell the old building and parsonage to the best advantage. It was also decided to omit the bell tower and to sell the bell.

Arrangements had been made with the County Board of Education to use the East Durham School Building (Y. E. Smith School) for services, during the construction period. The final service in the old church was held on January 6, 1924.

On Thursday afternoon, April 10, 1924, after an appropriate service, with prayers that God be with the workers and that the

Former Educational Directors



ELLA SUE GRAVITTE
Oct. 1944-Aug. 1947



VIRGINIA WARREN
Sept. 1947-May 1949



VIRGINIA HIGHFILL
June 1949-June 1950



ROBERTA PERRY
June 1950-May 1955



GLADYS BATSON SMITH
June 1955-Aug. 1958



DORIS GREEN JONES
May 1960-Sept. 1963

church should ever be a blessing to mankind and a shining light for all the world to see, the cornerstone was laid.

On Sunday morning, September 7, 1924, the first service was held in the basement of the new building and on Sunday morning, November 16, 1924, the first service was held in the new sanctuary.

During the pastorate of Brother Brinson a Baptist Training Union was organized (Sunday, February 23, 1919) beginning with 20 members. Also during this period, on Sunday, December 18, 1924, Brother Z. B. Teel was ordained and set apart to the Gospel Ministry.

Brother Brinson resigned as pastor January 1925. He had received into the fellowship of the church 545, and the amount collected for all objects was \$57,902.72.

Following Brother Brinson's resignation, Brother W. G. Hall was called in March 1925. Brother Hall served the church as Pastor until November 1943. Having served the church for nearly nineteen years, Brother Hall was forced to resign due to ill health. He had been named Pastor Emeritus and served in this capacity until his death in August 1950.

Brother Hall had served our church long and well, and had been held in high esteem by all who knew him. He was not only a wonderful pastor but also a good friend and adviser to all who called upon him. Brother Hall faced many problems during his ministry. Our people had gone through a great depression. Many of our people were finding it hard to feed their families, and many times Brother Hall sent groceries and fuel to the needy families using his own money. Also during the depression he voluntarily cut his salary to aid the church in coping with its many financial problems. Brother Hall, too, had watched as many of our young people marched off to fight in the second world war. Many of these young people he had baptized since coming to us.

Even though faced with many financial problems, the church had managed to pay off a huge debt and in December 1929 a lot



GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY FOR NEW EDUCATIONAL BUILDING—MAY 3, 1959

was purchased on Driver Avenue from Mr. and Mrs. J. R. King, Sr., on which our present parsonage was erected.

During this period the church had unanimously voted to change the name of the church from East Durham Baptist, to Angier Avenue Baptist. A Boy Scout Troop was organized with Brother L. C. Goodwin selected as Scoutmaster.

The beautiful river scene over our baptistry was donated by the late Mrs. W. E. Young in 1938 in memory of her late husband, Mr. Billy Young, as he was affectionately called. Mr. and Mrs. Young joined our church on February 2, 1890, and were active in all phases of its Christian work until their deaths. Mr. Young was for many years Chairman of the Board of Deacons, and had held many other offices of the church.

During Brother Hall's pastorate Brethren Walter Brown and Leo Bridgers were ordained into the ministry.

Brother Hall had preached at the morning worship hour on the Sunday preceding his death. He was faithful until the very end.

While serving as pastor, Brother Hall received into the church by baptism 877, by letter 519, by statement 60, by reinstatement 37. With the loss of 1,021 by death, letters, etc., the total gain in membership amounted to only 472, and monies collected for all objects amounted to \$244,740.53.

Following the resignation of Brother Hall, our present pastor, Brother C. N. Royal, was called to the pastorate and began his work with us in January 1944.

When Brother Royal came to us our country was still at war and there was still a great number of our young people in foreign lands. However, during this period our pastor was mindful of these young people, even though they had never met, he was instrumental in organizing a correspondence committee to keep in touch with each one. Letters were mailed out to them periodically and with them went church bulletins keeping them informed of what our church was doing and encouraging them to "keep the faith."

Trustees



H. I. Parrish, E. G. Carlton and S. M. Foster



J. R. King

Odell Couch

Building Committee



LeRoy Clark, *Chairman*, Harvey Craig, Vance E. Fisher, W. T. Hall, Jr.



Lee R. Overman, H. I. Parrish, Bert R. Titus, M. S. Woodell

Brother Royal, too, like many of his predecessors, was a man not afraid to do great things for God and for the advancement of His Kingdom. Tireless in his efforts, our Church, under his pastorate, began to make great strides forward, as the minutes of each of the Associational meetings will attest.

The interior of our church took on a new look in 1950 when a new pipe organ was installed at a cost of \$15,000.00, with the dedication services being held on April 30, 1950, at 7:30 P.M.

Also during this period our church had paid off a huge debt and had purchased additional land adjoining the church property in preparation for future expansion as our church was greatly handicapped because of its need for more Sunday School rooms.

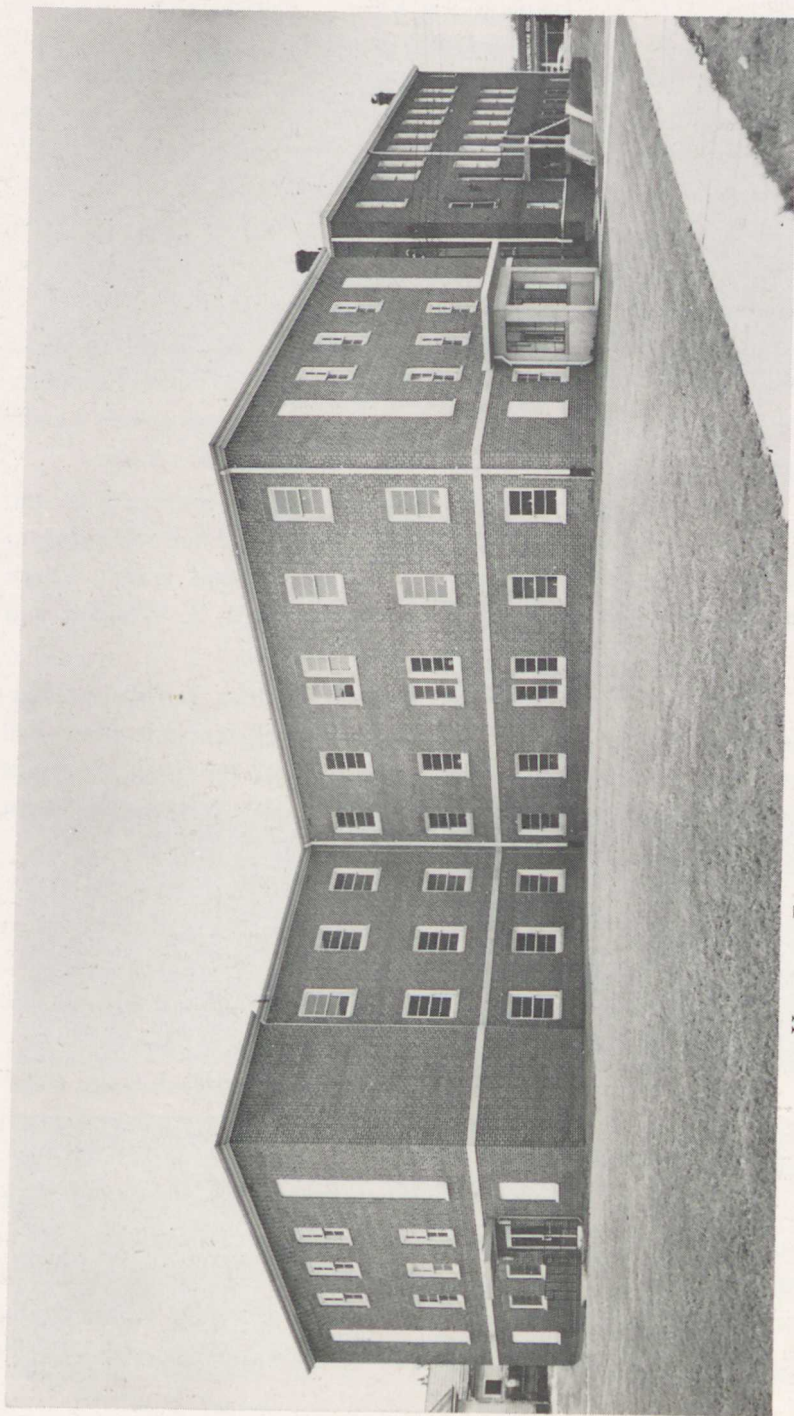
A building committee had been appointed consisting of the following Brethren: LeRoy Clark as chairman and the following to assist him in this work, Harvey L. Craig, C. Odell Couch, Vance E. Fisher, W. T. Hall, Jr., Lee R. Overman, M. S. Woodell and Bert R. Titus under the pastor's supervision.

On Sunday morning, May 18, 1958, Brother Parrish as Chairman of the Building Fund Committee reported tentative plans had been made for the erection of an Educational Building, the plans having been thoroughly studied, and reported the estimated cost would be \$190,000.00.

At a special called conference on Sunday morning, August 10, 1958, two recommendations were presented to the church for their approval.

1. That Mr. M. A. Ham be employed as architect for the new building.
2. That the aforementioned brethren be continued as the Building Committee. Both of these recommendations were unanimously accepted.

On Sunday morning, November 30, 1958, at a called meeting, the congregation was shown slide pictures of the plat and floor plan of the proposed Educational Building for their approval. Following this showing, a motion was made and duly seconded that the plans be accepted and the building committee proceed with the



VIEW OF EDUCATIONAL BUILDING FROM ASHE STREET

work. This was carried and the church trustees were instructed to sign the contract with Mr. Ham, the architect. These trustees were: E. G. Carlton, C. O. Couch, S. M. Foster, J. R. King, Sr., and H. I. Parrish.

Sunday morning, May 3, 1959, following the morning worship service, the congregation adjourned to the church lawn for the Ground Breaking program. Following a prayer of dedication by our pastor, the first spades of dirt were raised. Our new Building was dedicated and opened on Sunday, July 31, 1960.

During our present pastor's tenure here our church has moved forward in many, many ways. Our first Homecoming Service was held in June 1955 and has been a yearly service since, with the one exception of 1963. This service was dispensed with for that year in preparation of our seventy-fifth anniversary service this year.

Brother Royal celebrated his twentieth anniversary with our church on January 1. Mrs. Royal, our pastor's wife, has also been very active in our church. She has taught a class of young women, in addition to her work as public school teacher, and has taken active part in the Missionary Society and many other facets of our church.

Mr. and Mrs. Royal have a daughter, Ruth (Mrs. Jerry P. Poovey), and two grandchildren, Mark and Leah, who make their home in Morganton, North Carolina.

Brother Royal during his ministry with us has ordained Edward Brown, Billy Pickett, Horace McLaurin, and Gray Rogers into ministerial service.

During his ministry here he has baptized 861 and received by letters, statement and restoration 525. However, due to error in some of the earlier records and with exclusions by correction this error and losses by death, letters, etc., the increase in our church roll during this period is only 156, making a total of 1,386. The amount collected for all objects has been \$889,488.23.

Our church recently purchased the land at 2107 Angier Avenue, joining the church property on the east and this has become the home of our Educational Director, Brother Grady Long and wife.



FIDELIS SUNDAY
SCHOOL CLASS

First Row, left to right: Mrs. Markham, Mrs. Carrie Green, Mrs. Elsie Terry, Mrs. Lollie Wiggins, Mrs. Lydia Fonville, Mrs. Louise Carson, Mrs. Lettie Bailey, Mrs. Sarah Alford—Teacher, Miss Aleane Green, Miss Lillian Stanley, Mrs. Thelma Aikens, Mrs. Sudie Fonville. Second Row: Mrs. Floyd Christian, Mrs. Lottie Moore, Mrs. Lois Cope, Miss Carrie Riddle, Mrs. Ila Parker, Mrs. Alma Leslie, Mrs. Rowena Crayton, Mrs. Maude Marshall, Mrs. Pearl Upchurch, Mrs. Pearl Rollins, Mrs. Lucille Hayes. Third Row: Mrs. McKinney, Mrs. G. G. Green, Mrs. Lee, Mrs. Pearl Overton, Mrs. Parnell, Mrs. Alva Kerr, Mrs. Eva Blackburn, Mrs. Wagner, Mrs. May, Mrs. Thelma Incoe, Miss Ila House, Mrs. Lee Wiggs.



WORKERS'
COUNCIL OF
OFFICERS AND
TEACHERS

Sunday School Officers and Teachers

GENERAL OFFICERS

Rev. C. N. Royal
Pastor
Grady Long
Educational Director
W. T. Hall, Jr.
Superintendent
Tom Lowe
Associate Superintendent
Miss Irene Hall
Secretary
Miss Lucy Gray
Associate Secretary
Floyd Perry
Associate Secretary

ADULT DEPARTMENT III

W. B. Fonville
Superintendent
Miss Ila House
Associate Superintendent
C. D. Green
Chorister
Mrs. C. D. Green
Pianist
Mrs. Louise Carson
Secretary
Floyd Christian
Associate Chorister
Mrs. Eunice Austin
Associate Pianist
Mrs. Dora Keith
Teacher
Owen Jones
Teacher
Mrs. Vivan Ray Harris
Associate Teacher
Rev. Leo Bridgers
Teacher
H. I. Parrish
Associate Teacher
Mrs. W. L. Alford
Teacher
Rufus Ferrell
Associate Teacher

ADULT DEPARTMENT II

Miss Irene Hall
Acting Superintendent
Mrs. Eunice Austin
Pianist
Foy Crabtree
Chorister
Mrs. Eunice Austin
Secretary
Mrs. C. N. Royal
Teacher
Mrs. E. L. Abernathy
Teacher
Mrs. R. W. York
Teacher
Mrs. Marie Deal
Associate Teacher
Vance E. Fisher
Teacher
Preston Hall
Associate Teacher

ADULT DEPARTMENT I

Mrs. Betty Stone
Superintendent
Mrs. Patsy Clark
Assoc. Superintendent, and Pianist
Reade Minor
Chorister
Mrs. Betty Stone
Secretary
Mrs. Etta Lowe
Teacher
Mrs. L. T. Bridgers
Teacher
Lee R. Overman
Teacher

YOUNG MARRIED PEOPLE

Paul Watkins
Teacher
Mrs. Martha Rowland
Superintendent
Mrs. Carl Luquire
Associate Superintendent
Miss Joan Bridgers
Pianist



THE WOMAN'S
BIBLE CLASS
(Formerly
Philathea Class)

First Row, left to right: Owen F. Jones—Teacher, Mrs. Lula Hall, Mrs. Lillah Watts, Mrs. Ila McVey, Mrs. Evelyn Carmack, Mrs. Maude Green. Second Row: Mrs. J. H. Davie, Mrs. C. F. Byrd, Mrs. F. F. Saunders, Mrs. Lenna Sanders, Mrs. Lena Cheek, Mrs. Maggie Stone. Third Row: Miss Zora Herndon, Mrs. Viola Utley, Mrs. Frances Jones, Mrs. Joyce Nash, Mrs. Annie McLeod, Mrs. Emma Dodd.

First Row, left to right seated: Claiborne Ross, W. H. Sykes, Floyd Christian, Bascom Bane, H. C. Goodwin, Floyd Perry. Second Row: J. E. Mincey, John Rufus Ferrell, J. R. King, U. C. McKinney, P. G. Buchanan, I. B. Fonville, J. B. Foreman, W. B. Fonville, Bob Carson. Third Row: A. C. Oakley, J. E. Tilley, Auburn Fowler, Tom Saunders, Colon Cates. Fourth Row: W. R. Goss, Fletcher McClain, Charlie Gurley, C. F. Byrd, George Green, Mr. Chambers, Joe Crutchfield, Carl Luquire, Z. O. Barbour, Vernon Porterfield, Roy O'Brien, E. A. Davis, Malcolm Woodell, Roy May, Charlie Guess. Standing: W. J. Stell, R. D. Wilson, Luther Cope, Hurley Parrish, Marvin Pope, J. G. Ferrell, Roy Fuquay, Marvin Watkins, Charles Sorrell, Delmar Watkins, C. F. Stell, Millard Barbee, Harold Estes, Earl Lanier, Ralph Ferrell, Clarence Fisher, Odell Pendergraft, A. B. Houston, Ed Gooch, John Crutchfield.



THE FELLOWSHIP CLASS
(Formerly Baraca Class)

Mrs. Carl Luquire
Secretary
Mrs. Lois Cannada
Teacher
Al Austin
Teacher
Mrs. Elizabeth Rogers
Teacher
Mrs. Mary Overman
Associate Teacher

INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT II

Leonard L. Husketh
Superintendent
Mrs. Lena Carpenter
Secretary
Mrs. E. M. Watkins
Teacher
I. F. Rowland
Teacher
Miss Doris Parnell
Teacher
Reid Campbell
Teacher

INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT I

Mrs. Hallie Craig
Superintendent
Mrs. Hilda Goodwin
Associate Superintendent
Miss Nina Boyd
Secretary
Mrs. Anita Smith
Teacher
Mrs. Jean Howerton
Teacher
Manley Johnson
Teacher
David Cope
Teacher
Mrs. David Cope
Teacher
Harvey Craig
Teacher

JUNIOR DEPARTMENT II

Mrs. Arlene Green
Superintendent
Mrs. Estene Larsen
Associate Superintendent

Mrs. Annie L. Wilson
Secretary
Mrs. Janet Shambley
Teacher
Mrs. Rosa Vickers
Teacher
Everett Gilmore
Teacher
Mrs. Nora Hockaday
Teacher

Miss Celia Watts
Teacher
Bill Goss
Teacher

JUNIOR DEPARTMENT I

Mrs. Betty Lawrence
Superintendent
Miss Carolyn Tippet
Pianist and Secretary
Mrs. M. H. Oakley
Teacher
Melvin Larsen
Teacher
Everett Green
Teacher
Mrs. Mary Teague
Teacher
Mrs. Vivian Harris
Associate Teacher
Clarence Tippet
Associate Teacher
Mrs. Donna Maynard
Teacher

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT III

Mrs. Joyce Davis
Superintendent
Miss Ruth Stanley
Worker
Mrs. Hattie Gulley
Worker
Mrs. Peggy Harris
Worker
Gene Harris
Worker



TRAINING
UNION
LEADERS

Front Row, left to right: Mrs. Josephine Horne, Mrs. Bettie Stone, Mrs. Leo C. High, Mrs. Barbara Beckwith, Mrs. Rosa Vickers, Mrs. Grady Long, Miss Loma Copeland, Mrs. Leo Bridgers. Second Row: Leo C. High, Vance E. Fisher, W. T. Hall, Jr., Reid Minor, Lee Overman. Third Row: Everett Freeman, Calvin Holsclaw, Ike Rowland, Allen Austin, Rev. C. N. Royal and Rev. Grady Long.

Front Row: Mrs. Frances Campbell, Mrs. Dorothy Womack, Mrs. Annie Rose Bridgers. Second Row: Mrs. Donna Maynard, Miss Ruth Stanley, Mrs. Martha Rowland.



WOMAN'S
MISSIONARY
SOCIETY
LEADERS
(All Leaders Not
Available For
Picture)

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT II

Miss Lillian Parrish
Superintendent
Mrs. Bessie Hicks
Secretary
Miss Mable Young
Worker
Mrs. Clarene Newton
Worker
Miss Mildred Seagroves
Worker
Mrs. Frances Shepherd
Worker

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT I

Mrs. Judith Fowler
Superintendent
Mrs. Anne Rhodes
Secretary
Mrs. Lallah B. Avent
Worker
Mrs. Pearl Sears
Worker
Mrs. Ruth Sanders
Worker

BEGINNER DEPARTMENT II

Miss Marie Hamm
Superintendent
Mrs. A. C. Oakley
Worker
Mrs. John M. Smith
Worker

BEGINNER DEPARTMENT I

Mrs. Frances Campbell
Superintendent
Mrs. Dorothy Womack
Worker
Miss Loma Copeland
Worker

NURSERY DEPARTMENT

Mrs. Wesley Stell
Superintendent Baby
Mrs. Irene Goss
Superintendent 2 Year
Mrs. Betty Brown
Worker
Mrs. T. E. Herndon
Worker
Mrs. Margaret Freeman
Superintendent 3 Year
Mrs. Meredith Sloan
Worker
Mrs. Helen Watkins
Secretary

CRADLE ROLL DEPARTMENT

Mrs. Nellie Crutchfield
Superintendent
Mrs. Harold Pollard
Associate Superintendent
Mrs. W. N. Daniel
Mrs. Elizabeth McGhee
Mrs. Wava Minor
Visitors

EXTENSION DEPARTMENT

Mrs. Annie McLeod
Superintendent
Miss Loma Copeland
Secretary
Mrs. I. B. Fonville
Mrs. Emma Dodd
Mrs. Lettie Bailey
Mrs. Katherine Painter
Mrs. Viola Utley
Mrs. C. D. Green
Mrs. Mollie Sharpe
Mrs. Ann High
Visitors



THE
PARSONAGE

First Row, left to right: Marvin Fisher, Steve Crabtree, Greg Robbins, Dennis Goss, Michael Herndon, Lewis Ward. *Second Row:* Douglas Critcher, Robert Johnson, Ronnie Metcalf, Chippie Cates, Rickey Overman, Donald Elliott. *Third Row:* Rickie Jackson, Edward Jackson—*Scout Master*, Ray Terry, Joe White, Chester Gardner.



BOY SCOUT
TROOP NO. 485

Homecoming Committee

Vernon Porterfield

Chairman

Tom Lowe

J. R. Ferrell

A. A. Fowler

E. M. Watkins

Bill Goss

L. C. Goodwin

Wesley Stell

Everett Green

Delmar Watkins

Harvey Craig

Ike Rowland

Foy Couch

Floyd Perry

Mack Woodell

Fred Rhodes

Eleanor Luquire

Owen Jones

Dorothy Abernathy

Lois Cannada

Helen Watkins

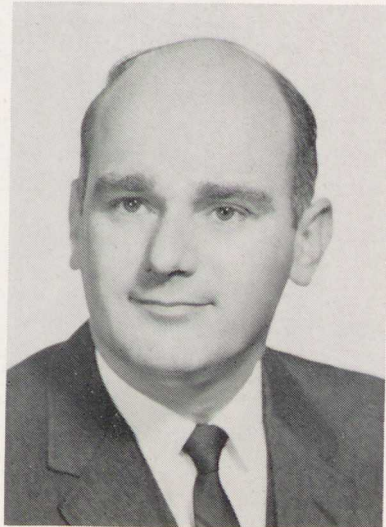
Mrs. W. L. Alford

Mrs. Annie Rose Bridgers

Mrs. R. W. York



BERT R. TITUS
Treasurer Building Fund



FRED RHODES
Church Treasurer



REV. C. GRADY LONG
Educational Director



MRS. EUNICE AUSTIN
Church Secretary



MRS. I. F. ROWLAND
Church Clerk



W. T. HALL, JR.
Sunday School Superintendent



MRS. LELIA P. SHARPE
Choir Director



MRS. EVELYN CULTON
Organist



SENIOR CHOIR

First Row: Janie Husketh, Barbara Beckwith, Isla Pollard, Margaret Woods, Evelyn Culton, Holt Sharpe, Inez Ferguson, Donna Maynard, Karen Titus. *Second Row:* Celia Watts, Ollie Watkins, Brenda Bruce, Betty Lawrence, Jean Howerton, Pearl Sears, Carolyn Rowland, Sybil Beck, Virginia Titus. *Third Row:* Beal Rowland, Vivian Harris, Foy Couch, Harold Pollard, Vance Fisher, Jr., Foy Crabtree, Robert Odom, Malcolm Woodell. *Absent:* Sarah Alford, Philip Alford.



INTERMEDIATE CHOIR

First Row: Carol Green, Carol Sloan, Diane High, Linda Sumner, Tommy Austin. *Second Row:* Bonnie Woodell, Brenda Holsclaw, Wanda Hamilton, Susan Shepherd, Gray Sumner, Sue Woodell. *Third Row:* Lonnie Crabtree, Lee Ann Overman, Linda Holsclaw, Marvin Fisher, Martha Rogers, Patricia Davis, Barbara Gayle Fowler, Faye Sumner, Holt Sharpe.



JUNIOR CHOIR

First Row: Sandra Overman, Susan Pollard, Casandra Rowland, Philip Hall, Beth Pollard, Connie Watkins, Chuck George, Douglas Honeycutt, Karen Watkins, Nan LaPlant, Ruth George. *Second Row:* Carolyn Stone, Dianne Buchanan, Sandy Austin, Kay Campbell, Marilyn Holsclaw, Pam Harris, Sheila Lawrence, Jane Holsclaw, Laura Noell, Allen Austin, Jr., Tommy O'Neal, Ann Sloan. *Third Row:* Patsy Dennis, Debbie Reeves, Susan Shipp, Susan Buchanan, Marsha LaPlant, Mary Beth Womack, Ann Campbell, Belinda Watkins, Brenda Kerr, Patricia Horne.

CONCLUSION

ON THE FOREGOING PAGES we have shown a reproduction of the original deed and the transfer of land to the trustees of the First Baptist Church whereupon Mrs. Mary A. Wrenn conveyed this land that a church could be erected. This church was organized and is now in its seventy-fifth year, having been organized in 1889. Our present church stands on this same plot of ground. However, quite a number of changes have taken place during these seventy-five years.



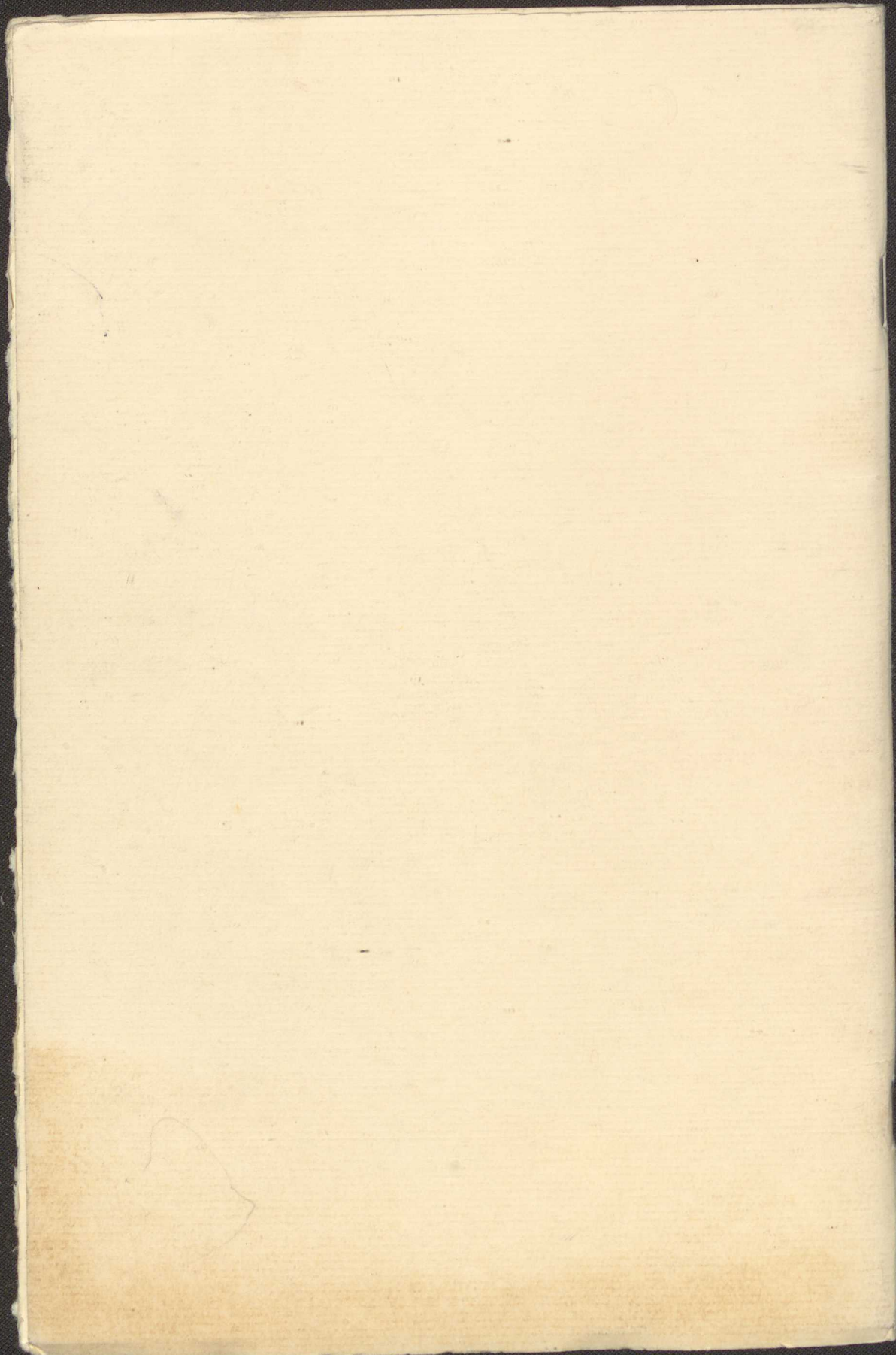
Since that day in December, 1889, this church has held a high place in our community, our city and our State. It has been a shining light for God and for His Son, Jesus Christ. From its early membership of 44 faithful, loyal souls, it has grown until today its membership roll numbers 1,386 followers of Christ.

We have tried to bring to you a true picture of the past history of our church up to and including the present moment. Unfortunately, however, there has been in many instances, little to go on. Quite a large number of our older records were lost, but with the aid of many of our older people, too numerous to mention by name, and by research through old newspapers, personal knowledge and by whatever means available we have given you as complete and accurate a history as our limited findings could bring to you.

May this history be an inspiration to each of us, and may we renew our Faith in God and strive to carry on for Christ and to aid in every possible way to carry His message to all. May our church continue to grow in Grace and Knowledge and ever become a greater light to shine for Him who came and gave Himself to die on the Cross of Calvary that all men might come to know God.

Owen F. Jones

Church Historian



Angier Avenue - 1889

Durham Co.

YATES

Known as Durham Third, 1889-1895

Known as East Durham, ¹⁸⁹⁵⁻¹⁸⁹⁹~~1895-1899~~ 1925

*Listed as Angier Ave in 1925 Mt. Zion
minutes*

• • • • •
AUG 26 1978

THE DURHAM SUN

is Groups Ann

Fiandach To Present Concert

Miss Florence Fiandach, a singer from Winston-Salem, will present a concert of religious music tomorrow at 7 p.m. at the Angier Avenue Baptist Church.

A native of New York, Miss Fiandach studied at the Eastman School of Music and was a member of the Opera Theater at New York State University, where she majored in voice.

She also performed for two years with a musical revue group in a USO tour of Viet Nam and Thailand.



FLORENCE FIANDACH

The Rev. Monroe To Be Guest Speaker

The Rev. John Lawrence Monroe will be the 11 a.m. speaker tomorrow at the Pine Grove Baptist Church in Creedmoor.

The Rev. Monroe is a native of Philadelphia, and has served as pastor of the Mansion Baptist Church in Philadelphia and the Synama Grove Baptist Church in Oxford.

Carolina

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

HERALD
DURHAM, N. C.

AUG-13-85

It Was 'Crate Day' At Angier Avenue

It was a "Crate Day" Sunday at Angier Avenue Baptist Church and somewhere between 500 and 600 members, former members, friends and admirers of Crate and Harriet Jones gathered in the hospitable church to help them celebrate the 20th anniversary of their arrival at Angier Avenue from a former pastorate in Rolesville.

An extensive program masterminded by an efficient Dorothy Womack began with a regular service built around a sermon by a former assistant pastor, the Rev. Robert L. Phillips Jr., continued with what couldn't be described as anything but a bountiful feast in Royal Hall, then concluded with a nostalgic program full of fun.

There were hymns like *Amazing Grace*, led by John Laverty's amazing choir and Men's Chorus; a solo by Phillips's wife Claudette; a greeting from Dr. Victor G. Cole of the Baptist State Convention, and the presentation of a gift of a microwave oven and a \$5,000 check to the Joneses. Jones, basking in the affection lavished on him throughout the day's events, never lost his famous sense of humor. "It's the first time I ever got paid \$5,000 for not preaching," he said.

But that was all in the morning. After the crowd had quite literally feasted in Royal Hall, the program began anew with so



Tuesday Talk

□ By Betty Hodges

much fun that Jones said, "I'm glad the Lord placed us among people who know how to laugh."

Nearly everybody pitched in, ranging from the Jones children, Mark, Russell, Hannah and Cathy to veteran members Ashland Gale and Arlene Green.

The children told family stories, church members dressed up in costumes to portray the Joneses first as newlyweds, then as they might be in retirement, and a series of vocalists had more than a little fun with take-offs on well-known songs to spotlight the honored couple.

"I've never seen anything like it in all my life," Jones said at the end. "I wouldn't have missed it for anything."

SUN
DURHAM, N. C.

APR 06-87

THE DURHAM SUN

PAGE 2-B



THE DURHAM SUN/Kevin Keister

Retirement party

The Rev. Crate Jones, pastor of the Angier Avenue Baptist Church, congratulates Mrs. Eunice Austin, left, on

her years of church service at a retirement reception yesterday at Angier Avenue Baptist Church. Mrs. Austin

worked as a church secretary for over 31 years. For her service, Mrs. Austin received a money tree.

The Rev. Gibbs To Speak About Missionary

The Angier Avenue Baptist Church of Durham will present the Rev. Jerry Gibbs as guest speaker at 7 p.m. tomorrow. Gibbs was a missionary to France and will speak about his missionary activities there. Gibbs is originally from Durham. He and his wife attended Free Will Baptist College in Nashville, Tenn. The Gibbs returned to the United States in June. They have a sixteen-month-old son, Marc.

Union Baptist Church To Ordain Women

The Rev. Lottie Blair Kee and the Rev. Victoria Sizemore Tandy will be ordained at 4 p.m. tomorrow at the Union Baptist Church, 904 N. Roxboro St., Durham. The Ordaining Council of the East Cedar Grove Association, under the direction of Dr. William Fuller, will be in charge of the service. Dr. Herbert O. Edwards will speak. Edwards is professor of black church studies at the Duke Divinity School. Mrs. Kee and Mrs. Tandy are working toward the Master of Divinity Degree from Shaw and Duke University respectively.

Durham Sun
Elizabeth City Advance
Fayetteville Observer
Fayetteville Times
Gastonia Gazette
Goldsboro: News-Argus
Greensboro Daily News

12/3/77

Youth, Adult Choirs Perform 'Share'

The youth and adult choirs of Angier Avenue Baptist Church will present "Share," a musical by Bob Burroughs with text by Ed Seabough, at 11 a.m. worship tomorrow.

The performance is designed to be a worship experience shared by the choir and congregation, with the choir serving as leader.

John T. Laverty, church music minister will direct the performance and soloists will be Annette Aiken, Terri Stone, Denise Beckwith, Kim Pendergrass, Judy Johnson, Melinda Brown, Terry Larsen, Russell Jones, Rodney Hicks, Ruth Carlisle and Jack Carlisle.

The Rev. Crate Jones, church pastor will preside.

Durham Sun

Elizabeth City Advance
Fayetteville Observer
Fayetteville Times
Gastonia Gazette
Goldsboro: News-Argus
Greensboro Daily News

OCT 16 1976

Homecoming Set At Baptist Church

Angier Avenue Baptist Church on the corner of Angier Avenue and Driver Street will celebrate homecoming Sunday.

The morning service will begin at 11 a.m. The church's pastor, the Rev. Crate Jones, will preach on the "Marriage Supper of the Lamb."

The note for the debt of the educational building will be burned during the service. A picnic dinner will follow the service.

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

SEP 13 1975

Vates

Handbell Dedication Service Set Tomorrow

A handbell dedication service will be held tomorrow at 7 p.m. at the Angier Avenue Baptist Church. A five-octave set of bells purchased from the Whitechapel Bell Foundry of London will be used in a musical concert.

The adult and youth choirs will perform with the bells as accompaniment. There will also be several selections for the bells alone.

Following the service the congregation is invited to a reception honoring the Rev. and Mrs. Robert Phillips Jr. The Rev. Phillips will be serving his last day as minister of education for the church and will soon begin serving as pastor of another local church.

Our handbell set
5-20-78

Angier Avenue Church To Hold Revival

Angier Avenue Baptist Church, Durham, will hold a revival tomorrow through Friday. The Rev. Julian Motley, pastor of Gorman Baptist Church, will speak at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. tomorrow and 7:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. John T. Laverty will direct the music, and Mrs. Tim Jones will be organist.

The Durham
Sun

4-15-78

Carolina

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

HERALD
DURHAM, N. C.
CIR: 60,732

MAR 04 89

and W

291 **NEW PASTOR** — Dr. J. Jeffrey Wisdom has accepted the pastorate of Angier Avenue Baptist Church. He was welcomed during the service on Feb. 19.

Wisdom is a graduate of Wingate College, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and Drew University. He comes to Durham after serving as pastor of First Baptist Church of Enochville, Kannapolis, for eight years.

Dr. Wisdom succeeds the Rev. Crate Jones, who retired from the full-time pastorate and is currently interim minister of First Baptist Church in Durham.

BY NED SCOCK
STAFF WRITER

DURHAM

From his big, white house in the heart of East Durham, once Fisher has watched his world get left aside.

Outside his window, time has transformed the blue-collar neighborhood and its red-brick business district, born at the foot of Durham's first cotton mill following the Civil War.

In the span of Fisher's 77 years, a neighborhood that once hummed with small-town pride became a place that sings the inner-city blues. He sees a part of Durham's heritage slipping away.

For generations, East Durham residents scratched out a living in Durham's booming mills and tobacco factories. The small business strip at the axis of Angier Avenue and Driver Street bustled with down-home grocery stores, insurance agencies and five-and-dimes.

Life wasn't easy, yet people found a sense of community here. They knew one another by name. They worked together. They prayed together.

But as the textile and tobacco industries began to crumble, so too did East Durham.

Today, the neighborhood is among the city's poorest. Almost a quarter of its households earn less than \$5,000 a year. Iron bars and chain-link fences guard the businesses, which include a pawn shop that sells handguns and a convenience store stocked with cheap, fortified wine.

Fisher is moved to tears just thinking about it.

"One of these days, there's not going to be anyone who's been living here long enough to remember how the community was," says Fisher, who served on the Durham City Council from 1955 to 1970. "It was a good community. Poor but honest people. God-fearing."

"It hurts me several different ways. I keep hoping against hope for a miracle. But I don't think it's going to come."

Across Angier Avenue from his house stands a squat, brick symbol of the neighborhood's fortunes: the East Durham post office.

Since 1887, three years after Julian S. Carr opened Durham's first mill here, along the railroad tracks, a post office has been part and parcel of the community, an emblem of its working-class prosperity.

The first one, tucked inside Carr's Durham Cotton Manufacturing Co., literally put the neighborhood on the map.

Through the decades, the institution remained so closely linked with East Durham's identity that when postal officials talked of moving to a larger building in the 1960s, community leaders, including Fisher, spent six months convincing them to stay.

This year, the reaction was quite different when word leaked out that the post office was again set to close. In January, the operation will move to roomier quarters in The Village shopping center several miles away.

This time, only a handful of business owners seemed to care — mainly newcomers such as Whit Haney, a Florida native who five years ago bought Crabtree Pharmacy, a community gathering spot since 1904 known for its old-fashioned milkshakes and orangeades.

"It's a no-brainer," Haney says. "The post office is a draw, so there'll be one less reason for people to come here. For this neighborhood, it's a disaster."

Mostly, however, the news has been met with a

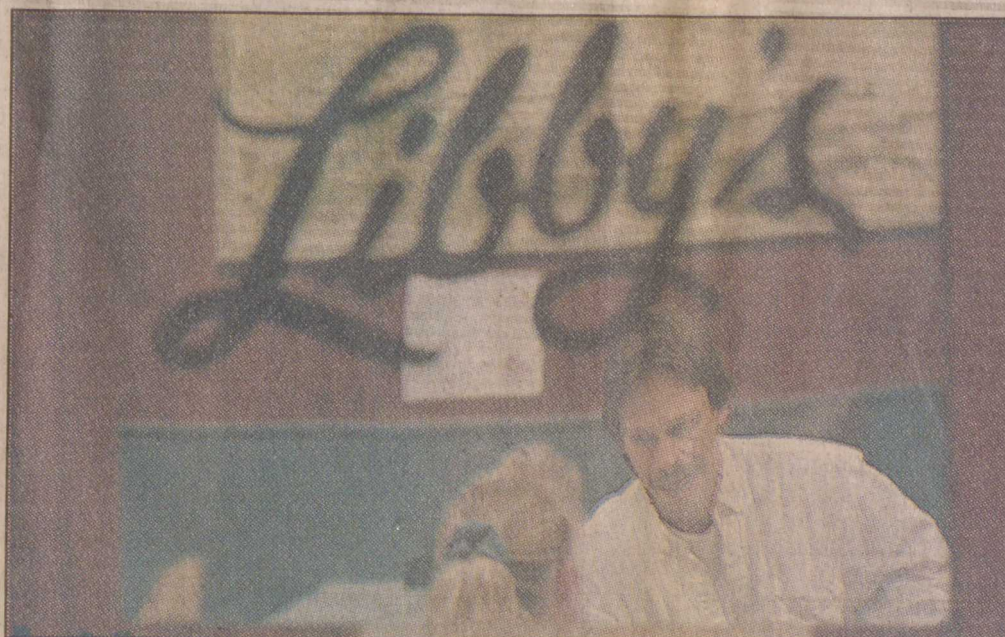


The Crabtree Pharmacy regulars: Stephen Pendergraft, Herman Paschall, Charlie Pollard and Bill Coats. Below, Jeffrey Wisdom, pastor of Angier Avenue Baptist Church, with church member Lucy Gray.

Once a sturdy
blue-collar area,
East Durham is now
just plain blue.



DEATH of a NEIGHBORHOOD



On the lean streets of East Durham, a pedestrian walks in the early morning. The pawn shop at right was once a bank. At left, Freddy Lane chats with Libby's waitress Fran Tunstall. Libby's has served food and nostalgia since 1982.

STAFF PHOTOS BY
ROB CROSS

DEATH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1E

strange indifference, as though locals long ago resigned themselves to East Durham's fate.

So much has changed, it seems no one notices when another fixture becomes a thing of the past.

All in the family

East Durham stretches and yawns as a crisp, clear dawn breaks.

Already, the usual faces are assuming their customary places at the booths and tables in Libby's restaurant, beneath the sign that declares: "Absolutely No Profanity In This Restaurant."

Cigarette smoke mingles with the aroma of hot coffee, scrambled eggs, sausage and country ham. The tinkle of stainless steel forks and knives on white ceramic plates punctuates the well-worn conversations of friends as close as kin.

"Hey Ralph, how you?" says Fran Tunstall, the blonde waitress who automatically pours a cup of coffee for the new arrival.

"Not half as good as you look," the middle-age man shoots back, drawing a laugh.

"Same thing as yesterday?"

Fran asks, scribbling down the order before he has time to answer: "Half a ham, toast, grits, coffee?"

"Yeah."

"OK, be right back."

At Libby's, everyone's family.

It stems from Libby. Since Libby Green bought the place in 1982, she's served up good cooking with homespun hospitality, with a little help from her sister, Kathy, and two nieces, Fran and Wendy.

When Libby's family hurts, so does her restaurant family. Not



At Jones Barber Shop on Angier Avenue, barber Alvin Baker, left, talks with Tom Fletcher.

STAFF PHOTOS BY ROB CROSS

long ago, her 20-year-old nephew died from an accidental overdose of pills and alcohol. The next day, the restaurant was somber.

Libby's closed that Friday for the funeral, and a dozen or so regular customers attended, offering a shoulder of support.

Among them was Jack Lloyd.

His weather-beaten face a testimony to years of painting lines on state highways, Lloyd was just a boy when his family moved from Orange County to East Durham in the 1950s. Back then, he says proudly, you could leave your keys in your car and your front door unlocked without fear.

Though he long ago moved to northern Durham, Lloyd comes to

Libby's three or four times a week for a helping of country cooking and a slice of nostalgia.

"This is probably the last of the home places, the last of the breed I grew up with," he says, a faded red work shirt hanging untucked over his blue jeans. "They've all filtered off. Nobody wants to live down here. It's a ghetto."

A dying community

Nowhere is the transformation of East Durham more apparent than at Angier Avenue Baptist Church.

Since 1886, when the first service was held in a wooden school near Carr's mill, the church has been a pillar of faith in the community.

In its prime, Angier Avenue Baptist prospered with the neighborhood, as the textile and tobacco companies flourished through the first half of the century.

"The church was a major player in the community," says the Rev. Jeffrey Wisdom. "It was where people gathered, where their sons and daughters were baptized and married, and where their mothers and fathers were buried."

As recently as the 1950s, membership rolls listed 1,300 names, and the 600-seat sanctuary of the red-brick, white-columned church was often filled to overflowing — balcony and all.

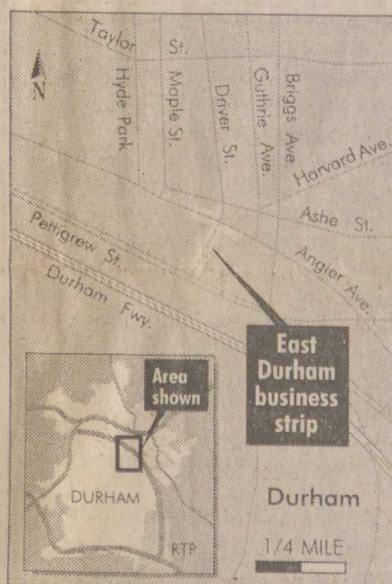
SEE DURHAM, PAGE 5E



Libby Green's restaurant caters to the faithful, some of whom return to the neighborhood they left for food and company.

The state of East Durham

From the late 1800s, the neighborhood around the business strip at Angier Avenue and South Driver Street was an almost entirely white, working-class community. But in recent years, the neighborhood has changed racially and has also become one of the poorest in Durham. The future holds more of the same.



A statistical profile

	1990	1994	1999 (projected)			
Median income (per household)						
East Durham	\$14,648	\$18,800	\$24,940			
Overall city	32,106	37,790	45,543			
Percent of households earning under \$5,000						
East Durham	20.3	22.0	16.9			
Overall city	6.9	7.8	6.0			
Race (percent)						
	1990		1994		1999 (projected)	
	E. Dur	City	E. Dur	City	E. Dur	City
Black	80.5	37.7	83.7	39.3	85.5	39.8
White	18.2	59.1	15.0	57.1	13.0	56.3
Hispanic	0.8	1.1	0.9	1.3	1.0	1.5
Other	0.5	2.0	0.5	2.3	0.5	2.5

East Durham figures represent a population within a one-mile radius of the intersection of Angier Avenue and South Driver Street.

Source: Ministry Area Profile, prepared by Percept Group Inc., Costa Mesa, Calif.

DURHAM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4 E

On a recent Sunday, only 85 gray-haired parishioners were in the long, wooden pews.

"That's a lot of lumber," sighs Wisdom.

When he came from Kannapolis to lead Angier Avenue Baptist, Wisdom inherited a church that literally was dying. In five years, he's presided at 94 funerals for congregation members.

"I've basically buried half a church," says Wisdom, 37.

The turning point for East Durham, like city neighborhoods across the nation, came sometime after World War II.

New suburbs began luring the children of residents away, and when homeowners died, their houses often became rental properties, eroding the area's stability.

Moreover, the industrial jobs that formed the backbone of East Durham began to evaporate. One by one, the cotton mills, textile factories and tobacco companies laid off workers or shuttered their doors entirely.

Over time, the old mill houses deteriorated, and poor people began to move in — many of them black. As more black families settled in, more and more whites scurried for the county line. The process accelerated in the 1960s, with the leveling of Hayti, the commercial and residential heart of black Durham, to make way for the Durham Freeway.

Eventually, what had always been a white neighborhood became almost exclusively black. Many old-time white residents blamed the arrival of black people for the area's downturn, and racial animosity lingers.

In recent years, Durham officials and community leaders have started trying to revive a group of impoverished neighborhoods near downtown, a 96-block zone they've dubbed North/East Central Durham. But the target area covers barely half of the neighborhood known far longer as East Durham.

Like the old neighborhood, Wisdom says the future of the church is in doubt. Most worshippers drive in from other parts of the Triangle for Sunday services, and the only new people joining seem to be elderly.

Wisdom says there's a sense of mourning in his congregation.

"These folks see the death of a way of life, a severing of everything that used to be," he says. "One way of life is ending, and it's being replaced by a complete other."

Signs of change

The signs along Angier Avenue testify to the modern reality.

"ITEMS IN HERE FOR REPAIR ONLY AND ARE BROKE OR JUNK NOT WORTH STEALING," reads the hand-lettered sign in the front window of Alexander TV Service, where 100 or more televisions are packed, awaiting repair.

"JUKEBOX IS BROKEN INTO EACH NIGHT BY OWNER. NO MONEY LEFT ON SITE. DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME," reads the sign at Andrew's Kountry Kitchen, taped above a music machine loaded with 60 Elvis songs.

Crime has risen here in recent years, as elsewhere in Durham, and residents have been sobered by the new level of maliciousness.

Two years ago, a 32-year-old woman was found dead behind a seedy club on Angier. Police charged two teens in the killing, saying they stabbed her with a broken bottle and crushed her skull with a concrete block.

In April, a 46-year-old man died from a heroin overdose on an Angier Avenue sidewalk.

Nearly every business has been broken into — many repeatedly.

Police officer R.A. Smith, dropping in for lunch at Andrew's, says crime has worsened during his five years on the beat in East Durham. But he says the neighborhood is still better off than other parts of town.

Before Smith can order, his police radio crackles, and he's out the door to investigate.

Down home

No matter how much the neighborhood changes, East Durham still exerts a strong hold over those who live here, and those who've moved on.

It's home to a shrinking collection of loyal old-timers and eccentric hangers-on, whose roots run as deep as the red clay beneath the decaying mill houses and the leftover brick factories.

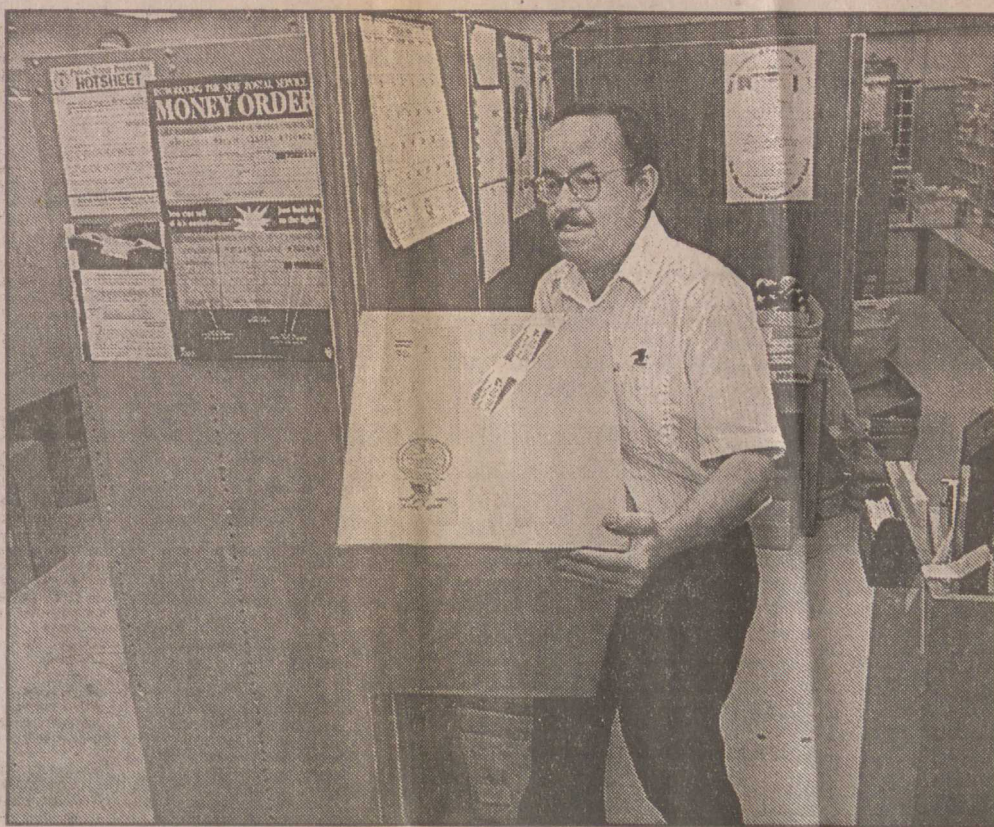
Bill Brown grew up here, though

at 62 he's retired and lives in the J.J. Henderson Housing Center near downtown. Still, just about every day, he winds his way back to his old stomping grounds.

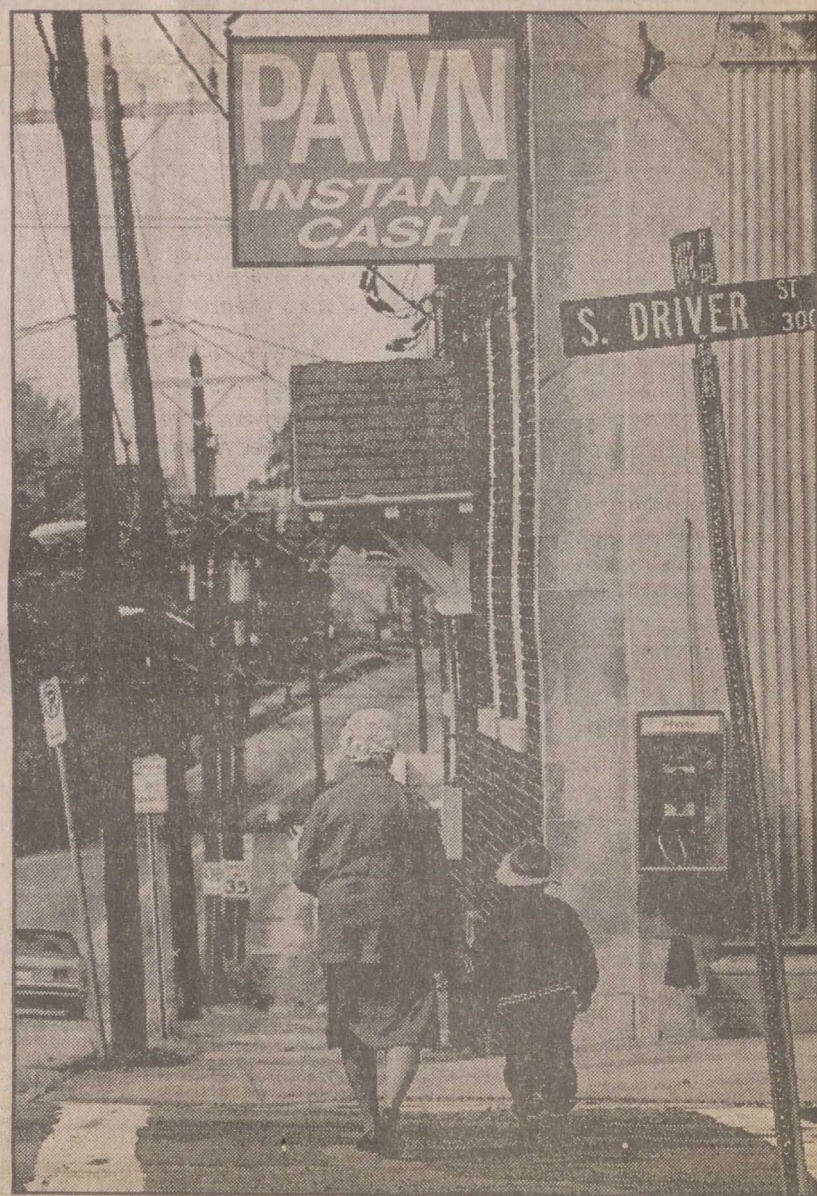
Sitting at a table in Andrew's Kountry Kitchen, his big belly hangs over a brown belt that's partly hidden by the overturned elastic of his underwear. His arms are splotted with freckles, and it's impossible to tell whether he still has any teeth.

Brown pulls an aspirin bottle without a label from his jeans' pocket. It's full of snuff. He takes a swig like it's whiskey, and the brown powder coats his tongue and lips. He makes no effort to conceal the mess as he talks.

And talk he does: One night, oh, 25 years ago, he was walking home "dog-drunk" through Woodlawn Cemetery when he stepped right into a freshly dug grave. He tried, but couldn't climb out. So he spent the night there. Scared the pants off the cemetery keeper the next morning.



Jeff Dallas, a window clerk, works at the East Durham Post Office. The station, which opened in 1966, will soon move out of East Durham, raising residents' fears that their neighborhood is dying. At left is a bleak sign of hard times in the once-healthy blue-collar area. STAFF PHOTOS BY ROB CROSS



Frances Jones with Johnny Richardson after services at Angier Avenue Baptist Church, top; above, church members file out.

"He saw my head coming out of the grave, and he turned and run like hell," Brown chortles, snuff flying. "He never saw anybody come out of a grave before."

Brown is part of an eccentric cast of East Durham old-timers who, for whatever quirks of fortune, have stayed behind.

The best known may be Oscar, a local guy who returned from World War II with a bad case of shell shock. Known as the Mayor of East Durham, he walks the city streets, launching into rambling, incoherent passages from Scripture without warning.

Most everywhere in East Durham, Oscar is welcomed with open arms. At Crabtree Pharmacy, Haney, the pharmacist from Florida, groans haltheartedly every time he comes in.

"This place is like a cross between 'Forrest Gump' and 'Cheers,'" Haney moans.

But for every Oscar or every Bill Brown, there's a Bill Haley.

In the 1920s, Haley and his boyhood pals would walk to East Durham's ballpark, now the site of Holton Middle School, to watch the original Durham Bulls play.

One day, a player saw the barefoot boys and nicknamed them "The Dirty Dozen."

Recently, Haley took time from his business — Durham Marble Works, near Maplewood Cemetery across town — to talk about the old neighborhood. He left 43 years ago, but East Durham still resonates of home.

Haley, now 81, pulls something from his desk drawer — a recent photo of four gray-haired men. They're all that's left of The Dirty Dozen. And since the picture was taken, one more has died.

The other Sunday, Haley wasn't feeling well, didn't feel like any company. So he climbed behind the wheel of his van, and for the first time in ages, gave in to the longing for the way life used to be.

"I just rode East Durham over that day," he says.

Out Main Street, down Guthrie and along Angier. Finally, he turned up Driver — once "one of the prettiest streets in all Durham" — to see his boyhood home.

Electric lime-green paint covered the proud stone pillars of the front porch, and lemon-yellow coated the house.

"It's just a crying shame what's happened to East Durham," Haley says, shaking his head. "And there's not a thing you can do about it."

Angier Avenue (1889), Durham, N.C.
Durham Co., Yates BA
Photograph. Choir, ca.1939-41.

Angien Ave. Baptist Church Choir
About 1941



Angren Am. Baptist
Church Choir -

Lyle H. Smith - Director

About 1939 -

Before II World War.

1
8
↓