

On April 7, 1963, at a church conference, the church called Reverend Emory T. Holden, Jr., to become pastor on June 9, 1963. Church membership remained stable at around 430 and Sunday School attendance reached nearly 300.

Reverend Holden, grew up in Whiteville, received his high school diploma from New Hanover High School in Wilmington in 1947, A.A. degree from Campbell University in 1949, his B.A. degree from Wake Forest University in 1956, his B.D. degree from Southeastern Baptist Seminary in 1960, and a Masters of Divinity in 1969. He served as chairman of the Christian Education Association and was parliamentarian and member of the Ordination Committee of the New South River Baptist Association in 1970.

There was one significant incident that involved the Reverend Holden that should be recorded. Late one Saturday night after calling on some church members, Mr. Holden was driving home and for some reason did not stop for a stop sign. He crashed into a station wagon. Both Mr. Holden and the other driver were rushed to Rex Hospital. The driver of the other car was covered with white paint, because he was carrying a five-gallon bucket of paint in his car. He was not recognized at the crash scene, but after he was cleaned up at the hospital, it was discovered that the man was a faithful church member, David Stephenson. From that time on he was named "the paint man." Thankfully, no one was seriously injured in the crash, so both men and the congregation could laugh about the incident afterwards.

In September 1966, Mr. Holden resigned from Neill's Creek to take a pastorate at Central Baptist Church in Spring Lake. In recent years, Mr. Holden's health has been very poor, and is now confined to his home.

(copied from: The light on the Hill: A Bicentennial History of Neills Creek Baptist Church, P. 30-31.

THE LIGHT ON THE HILL -- A BICENTENNIAL HISTORY OF NEILLS CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH



Dr. Jack Arlen Holt
1958 - 1961



Rev. Emory T. Holden
1963 - 1966



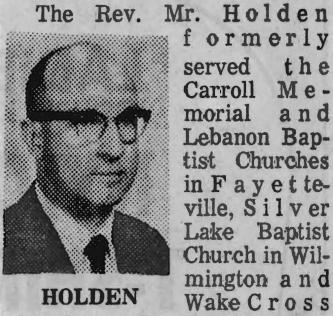
Rev. James E. Allen
1967 - 1971



Rev. Archie Gerald McKay
1972 - 1979

Spring Lake Church Gets New Pastor

The Rev. Emory T. Holden Jr., a Whiteville native, has been named pastor of Central Baptist Church in Spring Lake.



HOLDEN

The Rev. Mr. Holden formerly served the Carroll Memorial and Lebanon Baptist Churches in Fayetteville, Silver Lake Baptist Church in Wilmington and Wake Cross Roads Baptist Church in Raleigh and Neill's Creek Baptist Church in Angier.

He attended high school in Wilmington, Campbell College, Wake Forest College and Southeastern Seminary, where he received a B.D. degree in 1960. He received a Master of Divinity degree at Southeastern in 1969 and completed a special course in pastoral care at N. C. State Hospital. He is enrolled in extension courses of Southeastern at Ft. Bragg.

The Rev. Mr. Holden is chairman of the Christian Education Association and is parliamentarian and a member of Ordination Committee of the New South River Baptist Association.

He is married to the former Margie Ensley of Wilmington and they have a daughter, Faye, 18, and a son, Walter, 16.

Elizabeth City Advance
Fayetteville Observer
Gastonia Gazette
Goldboro News-Argus
Greensboro Daily News
Greensboro Record
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OCT 9 1970