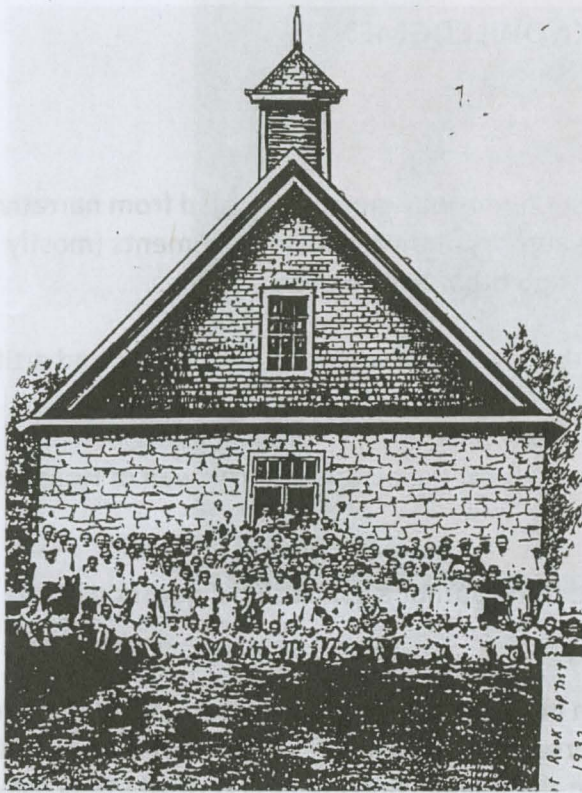


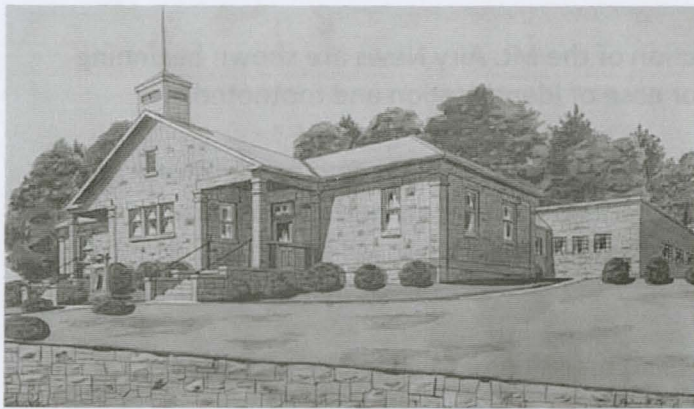
***FLAT ROCK BAPTIST CHURCH***  
**MOUNT AIRY, NORTH CAROLINA**







# FRBC THEN AND NOW



March 2020



## PREFACE & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This summary of the history of Flat Rock Baptist Church was mostly compiled from narratives and documentary evidence. Thanks is due the authors of these earlier documents (mostly unnamed) – some of them pastors at the time, and other contributors.

Thanks are due to the current members and others who provided pictures, stories and artifacts which helped to tell the story of 120 years of service in God's vineyard in Flat Rock.

Most of the photos of our pastors were replicated from the pictures on the wall of Honor in the church.

Items bracketed with square brackets [xx] reflect the author's conclusions, questions, comments, etc.]

Sources were not quoted exactly unless shown in quotes, but the basic information was used, and the general footnotes are attached. Superscripted numbers (<sup>xx</sup>) refer to the Sources listed at the end. If using quotes, the spelling used in the original document is kept where possible.

Items from newspapers articles are surrounded by "boxes" and the date of publication is shown.

Articles pulled from the "Flat Rock News" section of the Mt. Airy News are shown beginning with the publication date and are italicized for ease of identification and footnoted.

The election and term for some of the pastors, especially in the early days of the church, were difficult to determine with certainty. In several cases they were elected for one year terms and no note was kept about the exact dates of departure, so the dates used here may need to be refined as we gather more detailed information.

Any work of this magnitude is prone to errors and omissions. My apologies for those.

David Hawkins





## The Flat Rock Baptist Church – Then and Now

In 1857, John Brower built a large log church on the Marshall farm about one and half miles northeast of the Crossroads. This church was built for the use of different denominations and was named Laurel Hill Church for the abundant laurels which grew nearby. <sup>1</sup>

It was at this log church at Laurel Hill, on January 15, 1899 that fourteen men and eleven women met with a Presbytery composed of ministers and elders from Mount Airy Church (now known as the First Baptist Church) for the purpose of organizing a new Baptist church. Sixteen of these were members of the Hollow Springs Baptist Church (now called Holly Springs Baptist Church) and nine members of the First Baptist who transferred their membership to become founding members of the newly organized church. <sup>5</sup>

This newly formed church was named the Flat Rock Baptist Church.

### *Proceedings of the Organization of the Flat Rock Baptist Church*

*Laurel Hill, NC*

*January 15, 1899*

*Representatives from different churches met here today for the purpose of organizing a new church. After a sermon preached by Dr. RD Haymore from Matt 16:18 the Presbytery composed of the following brethren from Mt. Airy Baptist Church, Dr. RD Haymore, Rev. CC Haymore, Rev. JH Powers and JI Belton and John A Martin met in executive session.*

*Dr. RD Haymore was elected moderator and John A. Martin secretary of motion of Bro CC Haymore. Bro. CC Arrington was invited to join the Presbytery.*

*Letters were then called for and the following names were presented for membership:*

*From Hollow Springs Baptist Church – Ed Davis, EE Davis, Jesse Goins, Mary A Goins, JA Deatherage, Alice Deatherage, Sarah J Ross, RF Griffith, RH Simmons, JW Simmons, Susan E Simmons, Arris L Simmons, Sarah Smith, Lucy O Loftis, JR Gwyn.*

*From Mt. Airy Baptist Church – WF Sleight, Phillip Deatherage, Jas A Deatherage, EC Shelton, John Mitchell, Maggie Williams, Martha J Deatherage, Mrs. Jessie Griffith, Mrs. DF Slate.*

*On motion of Rev CC Haymore these 25 members were declared a regular organized and Independent Baptist Church.*

*On motion of Bro JW Simmons the church was named The Flat Rock Baptist Church.*

*The church covenant confession of Faith, Constitution and By-Laws as printed on the preceding pages were then read one by one and unanimously approved.*

*The church then proceeded to elect three Deacons. The vote was taken by ballot and Brethren Ed Davis, Phillip Deatherage and WF Sleight were elected.*

*The Presbytery then proceeded to ordain the above-named Deacons by prayer and laying on of hands.*

*On motion of Bro Ed Davis, Bro Ed Simmons was elected church clerk.*

*On motion of Bro JA Deatherage the election of a Pastor was postponed until the next church conference.*

*After remarks by Dr. RD Haymore, CC Haymore and JH Powers the meeting adjourned to meet again on Sat before the Second Sunday in February at the stone School House at 3 o'clock PM.*

*Dr. RD Haymore Mod John A Martin Secretary<sup>7</sup>*

***Transcription of the minutes of the organizational meeting***



## 1899 – JH Powers

Within a month (February 11, 1899) of the organization meeting, the tiny congregation elected its first pastor. J. H. Powers, who had served as part of the organizing presbytery group and was an ordained minister member of the First Baptist Church was elected for a one-year term as pastor. The first group of deacons were Ed Davis, Philip Deatherage and W.F. Sleight. Even at this early date, the membership was looking to the day when they could build a place of worship of their own. They appointed a committee "on place" to begin investigating where and how to build a suitable place for the church to gather.<sup>12</sup>

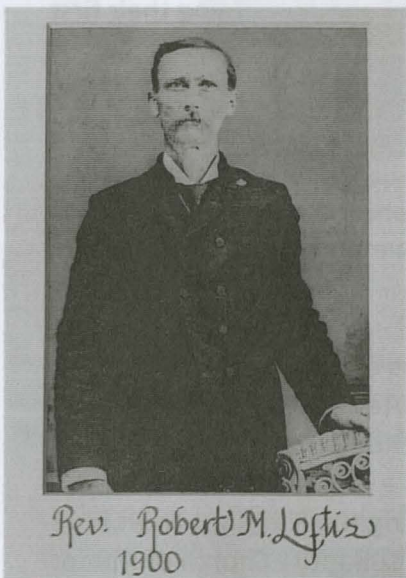
The church met in the original one room rock schoolhouse until 1905. <sup>2</sup>

The first church clerk was J. W. Simmons. <sup>1</sup> He was also appointed to a committee on "the pastor's salary" at the first "conference" meeting. <sup>12</sup>

At the May 11, 1899 business meeting the "Committee on place" reported that the lot next to the school was the "most convenient place." The committee was empowered to purchase the lot. <sup>12</sup> [No mention of how to fund the transaction]

On December 2, 1899, Rev. Robert M. Loftis was elected as the second pastor for an indefinite period.<sup>12</sup> He was followed by Rev. S.M. Morton and Rev. William Beamer. <sup>2</sup>

## 1900 – Rev. Robert Loftis



At the May 19, 1900 meeting of the Church in Conference, Rev. R.M. Loftis "accepted the care of the church for an indefinite period." <sup>12</sup>

On August 18, 1900, Flat Rock Baptist Church met in regular conference, and "some instructions was given the Building Committee to see how much money could be raised to build a Baptist Church."<sup>12</sup>



## 1902 – William H. Beamer

The Rev. William Beamer was elected on March 27, 1902 for the coming year, to begin his work in April of that year.<sup>12</sup> He was re-elected on May 15, 1903 for the coming year.<sup>12</sup>

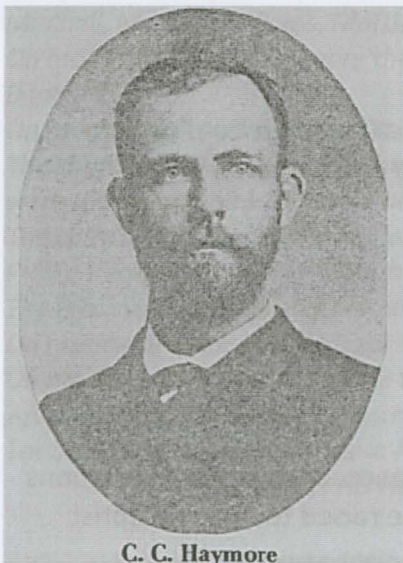
Based on minutes from Business meetings during the early years of this congregation, the election of pastors was an annual ritual. Several were re-elected at the end of the elected term. The pastors elected this way were often already part of the church and agreed to serve for very little monetary rewards, since there was not much money contributed and then not on a regular basis.

The last mention of Rev. Beamer in Church minutes came from the meeting on July 26, 1903.<sup>12</sup>

The existing collection of minutes is missing any entries for the remainder of 1903 and 1904. The next Minutes (for July 2, 1905) shows Brother C. C. Haymore as Moderator of the church meeting. This does not mean that he was the pastor, but I would argue that in this case it probably was the case, because:

- 1) the Pastor previously had been normally given the responsibility of serving as Moderator leading meetings from "the chair".
  - 2) Rev. Haymore does not appear in any of the intervening listings of church members, so it would be unusual for a non-member to serve as moderator, and
  - 3) by the Conference on July 29, 1906, he is delivering the sermon which was part of the meeting which normally was taken care of by the pastor.
  - 4) He appears in items in the local press from 1908 to 1910 indicating that he was the pastor.
- So, I am convinced that C.C. Haymore became pastor in the 1904 to 1905 timeframe during the busy years when FRBC would have been building their first sanctuary and purchasing their first parsonage.

## 1905 – Rev. C.C. Haymore



C. C. Haymore

Rev. C. Columbus Haymore was elected pastor in 1911.<sup>4</sup> [This date is mentioned in the minutes of 1911 but I believe this was merely an annual re-election]. He was a graduate of Wake Forest College and had been a part of the presbytery which had a major hand in organizing the Flat Rock church. Rev. Haymore had pastored the First Baptist Church of Mount Airy for 10 years (from its establishment in 1879 until 1889).



By the Summer of 1905, Flat Rock was a member of the Pilot Mountain Baptist Association and on July 23<sup>rd</sup> collected \$12.31 for association expenses and state and foreign missions. The pastor's salary was \$50.00 for the year. <sup>1</sup>

The first Trustees appointed in this year were Pete Deatherage, E.C. Shelton, Edward Davis, J.A. Deatherage, Walter Sutphin and J.W. Simmons. <sup>2</sup>

A building committee was appointed consisting of Edward Davis, J.A. Deatherage, Philip Deatherage and W.F. Sleight. They met in the school building and decided to purchase a lot next to the Flat Rock stone schoolhouse which stood on a knoll overlooking the road. <sup>3</sup> "On this rock they built a church." <sup>2</sup>



**The cornerstone as it appears as part of the 1974 sanctuary. As best can be reconstructed, this was the cornerstone used for the 1905 building. It appears to have been removed and re-worked with the information about the organization date and the 1974 sanctuary construction.**

There were great oak trees there, and the women placed their babies on quilts they had spread on the ground, and they placed logs around the quilts to keep the babies from crawling away. They helped the men clear the trees and brush away to make place for their church. <sup>3</sup>

Like the school which stood a few feet away, their church building was granite. It consisted of one room, with two aisles running from front to back of the room, dividing three rows of wooden benches. At the front on both sides, benches sat perpendicular to the remaining rows of seating. Those were reserved for the choir. A coal stove stood near the pulpit. To divide the sanctuary into classrooms for Sunday School, dark green burlap curtains were pulled between sections of benches. <sup>1</sup>



On Saturdays, the children were tasked with cleaning the seating and sweeping the floor, and early on Sunday morning, one of the men would fill the stove and start the fire, and later ring the bell to announce to the community that services were about to begin. <sup>3</sup>

1907 –

*Biblical Recorder, Wednesday, July 10, 1907; Page: 5*

*On Saturday, June 29th, by request of Flat Rock Baptist Church, a Council was called, composed of Brethren H. A. Brown, C. C. Haymore, W. H. Wilson, S. W. Hall, J. T. Smith, and G. C. Duncan, for the purpose of ordaining Bro. J. W. Simmons to the work of the Gospel ministry.*

*Dr. Brown was elected Chairman and G. C. Duncan, Secretary.*

*After a careful and, exhaustive examination conducted by Brother Brown, the vote was taken by ballot and was unanimously in favor of his ordination.*

*On Sunday morning the ordination sermon was preached by Bro. W. H. Wilson, the charge delivered by Bro. C. C. Haymore, the prayer was made by Bro. J. T. Smith, and the Bible presented by Bro. S. W. Hall.*

*May God's richest blessings rest upon our brother in the great work to which he has been called.*

*G. C. DUNCAN, Secretary.*

*Leaksville, N. C.*

**A couple of the members of the Examination Council for this ministerial candidate, JW Simmons, were to become pastors of FRBC in coming years (Wilson, Smith).**

The church in conference on September 30, 1899, appointed Ed Davis to take the Clerk position and to write a letter of recommendation for Bro. J. W. Simmons to the Baptist "Cemenary".<sup>12</sup>

There is note indicating the election of Bro. Haymore as pastor at the Conference on January 22, 1911 with a unanimous vote with a pay rate of \$12.50 per month. He served until late in 1911.

Upon leaving Flat Rock, Rev. Haymore became part of the organizational presbytery of the Second Baptist Church in Mount Airy (now named Haymore Memorial Baptist Church). He was elected pastor there in 1912 and served with them until his retirement due to age and ill health on November 17, 1918.





**1912 – Rev. Dr. Tom Smith**

At a regular conference of the church on August 11, 1912, "Bros. Thos. Smith and C. C. Haymore was placed in nomination for Pastor. Bro. Smith received 11 votes and Bro. Haymore 6. Bro. Smith was declared elected and the Church then made the election unanimous and the clerk instructed to notify Bro. Smith of the same."<sup>12</sup>

**1913 – Rev. W. H. Wilson**

Rev. Wilson was placed in nomination by Bro. H. C. Baughn to be called as pastor. He was elected unanimously in a standing vote.<sup>12</sup>

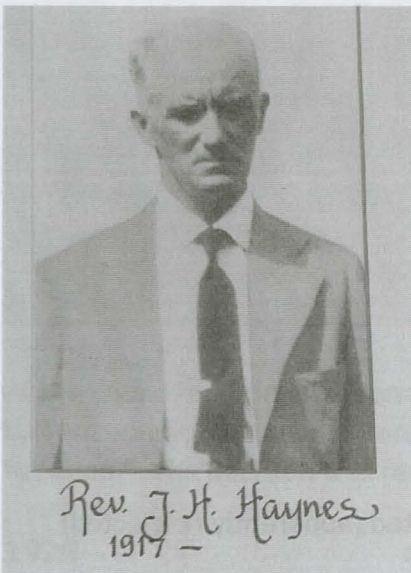
On April 18, 1914, a committee was appointed to "look after suitable" place for a Cemetery for the church. The committee was as follows: E.A. Midkiff, Peter Deatherage, and R. L. Simmons.<sup>12</sup>

**1915 – Rev. T.S. Guy**

As of February 23, 1915, there was much discussion about the church being without a pastor.<sup>12</sup> At the regular meeting on March 21, 1915, the members present voted unanimously to call Rev. T. S. Guy of Kernersville to be the pastor and to pay him \$250.00 per year.

*April 22, 1915 - Rev. T. S. Guy filled his appointment at the Flat Rock Baptist Church Sunday [April 18, 1915] morning at 11 o'clock and Sunday night, there was a large crowd attended each service.<sup>8</sup>*

**1917 – Rev. J. H Haynes**



Brother Haynes was re-elected as pastor on December 15, 1918.<sup>12</sup>



The Mount Airy News - Oct 28, 1920

**Has Resigned Pastorate.**

*Rev J. H. Haynes, who for the past five years been the faithful and efficient shepherd of the congregation of Flat Rock Baptist church has resigned, he will be succeeded by Rev. E. L. Smoak of Walnut Cove.*

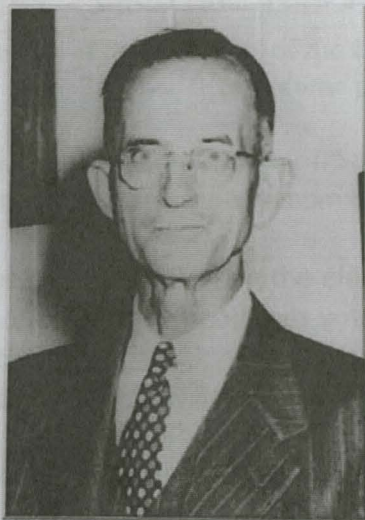
*A successful series of services conducted by these two ministers closed Sunday night Oct. 17 with 19 accessions to the church.*

*During Rev. Haynes pastorate 140 people have been received into the church by baptism. He has three connectional charges which he will retain and has several offers under consideration for the time he formerly devoted to Flat Rock church but has not yet decided which he will accept.<sup>8</sup>*

**1919 – Rev. L. M. Hooks**

The pastor's wife was instrumental in the organization of the first Women's Missionary Union for the church with Mrs. H.C. Baughn elected as its first president.

**1922 – Rev. Alfred L. Harrison**



*Rev. A. L. Harrison*  
1922 - 1925

On December 16, 1923 Bro. A. L. Harrison was nominated and elected (apparently re-elected) to serve the Church as pastor for "a time indefinitely mentioned."<sup>12</sup>



In regular conference on April 13, 1924, the church decided that the Deacons and the Finance Committee should meet at the parsonage on Monday night April 14 to elect a Treasurer for the church.<sup>12</sup> [So at this point the church owned a parsonage]

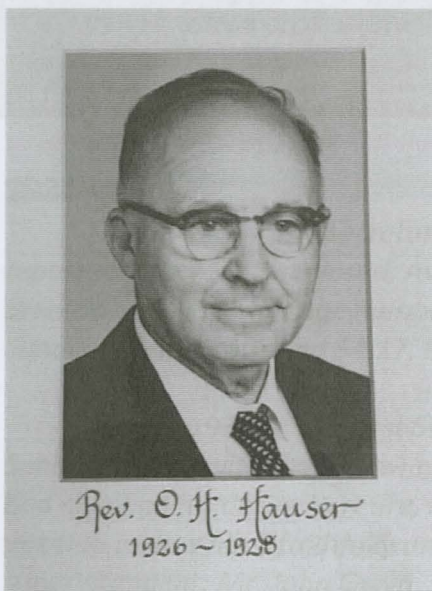
The Annual Report to the Surry Association shows an increase of 62 members in the report year and that the total membership stands at 271.

Bro. Harrison presented a plan to the church at their meeting on April 15, 1925 that the Deacons recommended for adding Sunday School rooms and other repairs to the present Building. The vote was favorable.

The parsonage continued to appear on the agenda of the business meetings. On September 27, 1925, a motion was made that the Parsonage be rented by the month "which was left in the hands of the Trustees of the Church."<sup>12</sup>

On October 22, 1925 in special Conference, the decision was reached to elect a pastor "next Sunday night."<sup>12</sup>

### 1925 – Rev. O.H. Hauser



At the church meeting held on November 22, 1925, the church decided that based on the "the current conditions of work here at present time we would be unable to support a pastor for full-time." The decision was reached to ask Bro. Hauser to supply for us until April 1926.<sup>12</sup>

### 1926 –

At the church meeting of April 18, 1926, a vote was taken to call Bro. Hooser. Carried.<sup>12</sup> At the following meeting (May 23, 1926) it was decided that the church would establish a budget of \$1,000 for the year.



On July 16, 1926, FRBC was accepted into fellowship with Surry Baptist Association.<sup>3</sup> Church membership reached 265 members with 124 enrolled in Sunday School.

Date Meeting held	Pastor	Clerk	Membership	Baptisms	SS Memb	Pastor Sal	Total Spend	Property val
July 16, 1926	O.H. Houser	O.D. Ward	265	0	232	\$600	\$1,423	\$3,000

**1928** – Two years after joining the Surry Baptist Association, FRBC hosted the first of several Annual Associational meeting it would host over the years, on July 13, 14, 15 1928 By this time it was noted that the church owned a parsonage.<sup>9</sup>

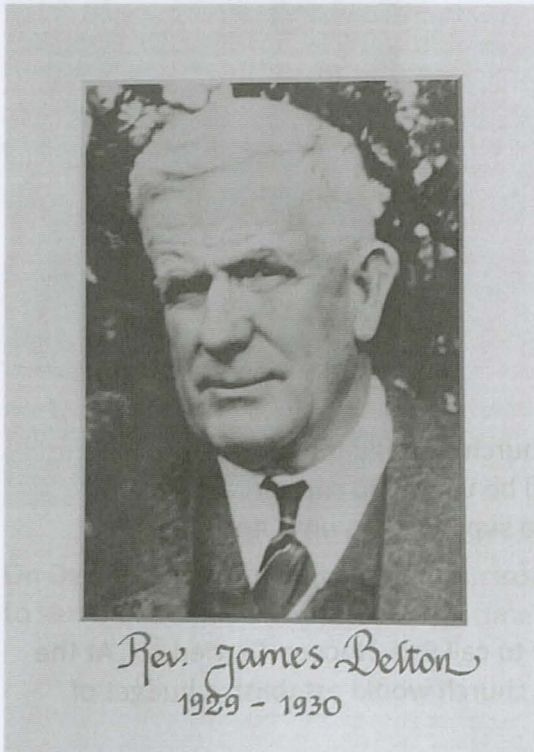
### 1928 – Rev. P. H. Hooks

The Mount Airy News - Sept. 27, 1928  
*The new pastor, the Rev. Mr. Hook of South Carolina has accepted his appointment at Flat Rock Baptist Church and is moving his family into the parsonage this week.*

At a called Conference meeting, the church decided to sell the parsonage and leave the financial transaction in the hands of the Trustees.<sup>12</sup>

The weekly church schedule printed in the Mt. Airy News weekly indicates the pastor as Rev. P. H. Hooks in October of 1928.<sup>10</sup>

### 1929 – Rev. James Belton







A large group of young folks in front of the "Rock" church in the late 1920's. Pencil identification of baby Beulah Midkiff Inman, her brother Coy and their father Ephraim Columbus Midkiff on the top step.

**1930 -**

Jan 9, 1930 - *The secretary of the Flat Rock Baptist Sunday school made the following report for the year just closed: Average enrollment 121, average in attendance 76 per cent, total attendance 4987, average number in attendance 94, contributions, total \$217.04 average Sunday morning offering \$4.17. Balance in treasury \$10.55.*<sup>8</sup>

Jan 16, 1930 - *The past Sunday was reorganization day with the Flat Rock Baptist Sunday school, with the following results Mr. N. H. Sutphin was reelected superintendent. He had signified his desire to retire, but the school protested and unanimously retained him in a position he has filled faithfully and efficiently for some time. Mr. Fred Riggs, assistant superintendent; Mr. John Gwyn, secretary with Miss Irene Sutphin, assistant. Teachers, Mr. A. A. Fowler, young men's class; Chas. H. Utley, men's class: Eph Midkiff, Fidellis class; Mrs. Dock Midkiff. Junior girl's class; Miss Vera Midkiff, Inter-mediate girl's class; Miss Imogene Midkiff, Primary class; Fred Riggs, Junior boys' class and Miss Alene Ward, Intermediate boy's class.*<sup>8</sup>

*Miss Cora Belton, who has already proven her efficiency, proficiency, and faithfulness at the piano, was unanimously and enthusiastically reelected to the very Important position of pianist, for she contributes no small part to interest and value of the services. One hundred answered the roll call in the Sunday School Sunday morning. Its growing.*<sup>8</sup>



April 10, 1930 - Mr. John Gwyn, the secretary of the Flat Rock Baptist Sunday school, made a report last Sunday, covering the first quarter of the year: Average enrollment for the quarter 144; average attendance 113; average collection \$2.11. <sup>8</sup>

Nov 2, 1930 - Rev. Mr. Poff from Shorttown preached at the morning and evening service. He also conducted prayer meeting October 29. Everyone who heard him enjoyed the services.

On last Sunday we had Rev. Jim Belton of Bannertown with us. He brought two very interesting sermons which were enjoyed by everyone who attended. Rev. Jim Belton will be back to preach for us again on the fifth Sunday of this month.

We are expecting a preacher Mr. White from Winston-Salem to preach next Sunday.

On next Sunday morning The Flat Rock Baptist Church will start their Christmas program.

Everyone who takes part is requested to be at Sunday School next Sunday as the parts will be given out then. <sup>8</sup>

Nov 20, 1930 - Since our last pastor Rev. C. H. Utley resigned as pastor of Flat Rock Baptist Church, we have had no regular preacher. But we have been fortunate enough to have a preacher for the past two Sundays.

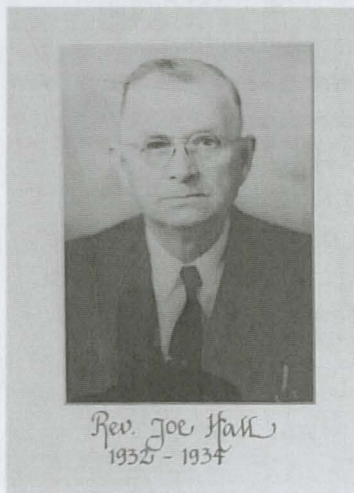
### 1931 -

Jan 15, 1931- Some of the members of the Flat Rock Baptist Church met, on Sunday night January 4 and called Rev. Jim Belton for pastor of the Flat Rock church. He will preach every first and third Sunday and Sunday night. He will be with us January 18. Everyone is invited to attend.

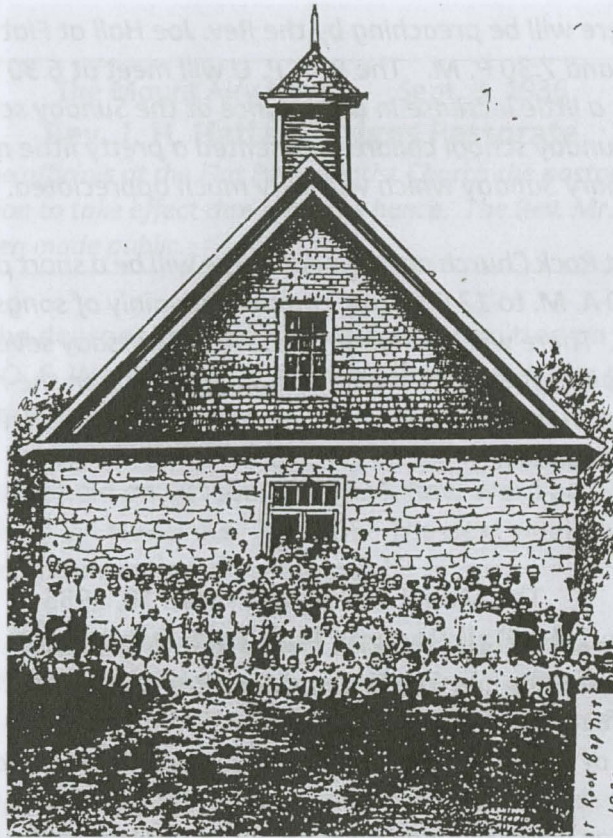
The following officers were elected in the Flat Rock Sunday School: N. H Sutphin, superintendent; E. C. Midkiff, teacher of Advance class; Mr. John Gwyn, teacher of Men's class, Mr. O'Brien, the young men's class; Miss Hazel Sutphin, Intermediate girls class; Ada Belton, Junior Girls; Mr. Fred Riggs, Intermediate boys; Miss Annie Midkiff, Junior boys; Miss Allene Ward and Miss Vera Midkiff, primary class. <sup>8</sup>

### 1932 – Rev. Tom Pardue

### 1932 – Rev. Joe Hall







The congregation gathers for a photograph in front of the "old" rock church in the mid 1930's

Sep 8, 1932 - A revival will begin September 12 at the Flat Rock Baptist Church when the pastor Rev J. H. Hall will be assisted by Dr. I. T. Jacobs. The Sunday school is growing under the leadership of superintendent N. H. Sutphin. A standard school is the goal striven for. The young folks of the church are invited to meet Sunday September 11 at 7:30 for the purpose of organizing a B. Y. P. U. Mr. Wallace Shelton will assist. The community has a fine group of young people.<sup>8</sup>

### 1933 -

Feb 16, 1933 - The Sunday school attendance at Flat Rock Baptist Church gained a little last week the number being 106. A hearty Invitation Is extended to all to attend next Sunday morning at 10o'clock. There will be preaching at 7 00 P. M, by the Rev. Mr. Hall.<sup>8</sup>

Feb 23, 1933 – The Rev, J. H. Hall was appointed pastor of Flat Rock Baptist Church for another one-year period.<sup>8</sup>

March 2, 1933 - The Sunday school attendance fell slightly last Sunday. The superintendent Mr. Fred Riggs is calling for a special effort during March, so let's get together and boost the roll call. There will be preaching by the Rev. Mr. Hall next Sunday evening at 7:00 P.M.<sup>8</sup>



1937 –

As of July 1, 1937, at the reporting time to the Surry Association, FRBC reported a 13 member increase year to year and total membership of 153. NOTE: There had been a membership reduction of 100 by "expulsion or erasure" during the period.

On August 9, 1937 the church purchased the stone building which had been used as the community schoolhouse for many years. They remodeled it and began having services in it. Until the new sanctuary was built in 1973-74, this building along with the Educational facility built in the 1959 timeframe, served as the church campus.



1939 –

The Mount Airy News - June 8, 1939

**FLAT ROCK BAPTIST CHURCH**

**O. E. Ward, Pastor**

*Evangelistic services begun last Sunday night and will continue through June 18. Rev. Eph Whisenhunt, pastor of the Elkin Baptist Church is preaching each night at 8 o'clock and large crowds are attending, and much interest is shown.*

*The Rev. Mr. Whisenhunt is a good preacher and his sermons are interesting, and helpful and are stirring the hearts of his hearers. <sup>8</sup>*



1941 - Rev. Robert Workle

1943 - Rev. Felix Wagoner

The Mount Airy News - September 5, 1941

PREACHER ALMOST FORGETS SERMON

### **Defense Worker Dumps 100 Silver Dollars in Collection**

An usher at the Flat Rock Baptist Church last Sunday morning almost dropped the collection basket between the pews when a member of the church, without warning, poured into the basket a sack of 100 silver dollars, weighting the basket by about eight pounds, the added weight almost tipping the load and spilling on the floor.

Rev. O. E. Ward was likewise shocked severely and was so affected he says he almost lost his sermon. The surprise donation was made by Booker Midkiff who was in this section on a weekend visit. He has been working on defense projects at and near Norfolk all the year, meeting with phenomenal success in his work. On his visit here he wanted to do something for his church, so he secured 100 new silver dollars, tied them in a sack and when the basket was passed, he arose and without warning began to pour the silver into the collection.

Mr. Midkiff was in this section on a visit Christmas when he made a substantial contribution to the church. No doubt the church folks await with eagerness his next visit.

1942 - Rev. Howard Lathan

The Mount Airy News - Jan. 9, 1942

### **Flat Rock Church To Lose Pastor**

**Rev. O. E- Ward Will Take Up New Work in Virginia**

*Rev. O. E. Ward, pastor of the Flat Rock Baptist Church for the past five years, handed in his resignation last Sunday which will take effect April 1.*

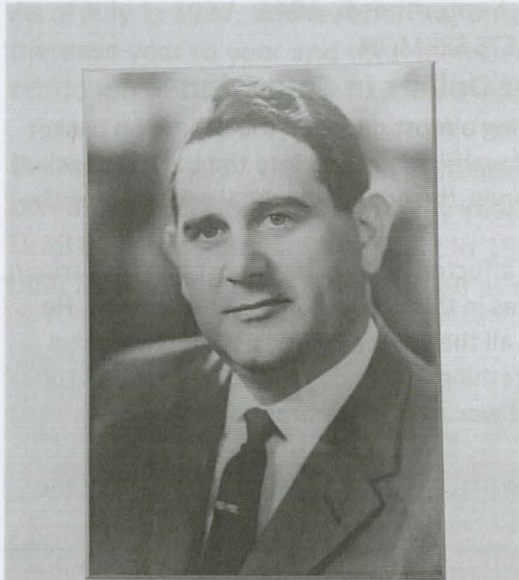
*In his new work Mr. Ward will be connected with the Baptist State Mission Board of Richmond, Va. Mr. Ward came to the Flat Rock Church from Walnut Cove where he was pastor for 15 years. The church at Flat Rock has enjoyed a large increase in growth since he came to the community and many improvements have been noticed.*

*In connection with his pastorate at the Flat Rock Church he has also been very interested in the Surry Association and for the past two years has been Supt. of Surry Baptist S. S. Association which has been very lively. Religious gatherings are held each month somewhere in the Associations and has created much interest in Sunday School work among the fifty churches that make up the association. Mr. Ward is a native of Lambsburg, Va., and lead the Missionary Baptists in building the first Missionary Baptist Church in that community this past fall. In his new work he will serve this church with his home people.*

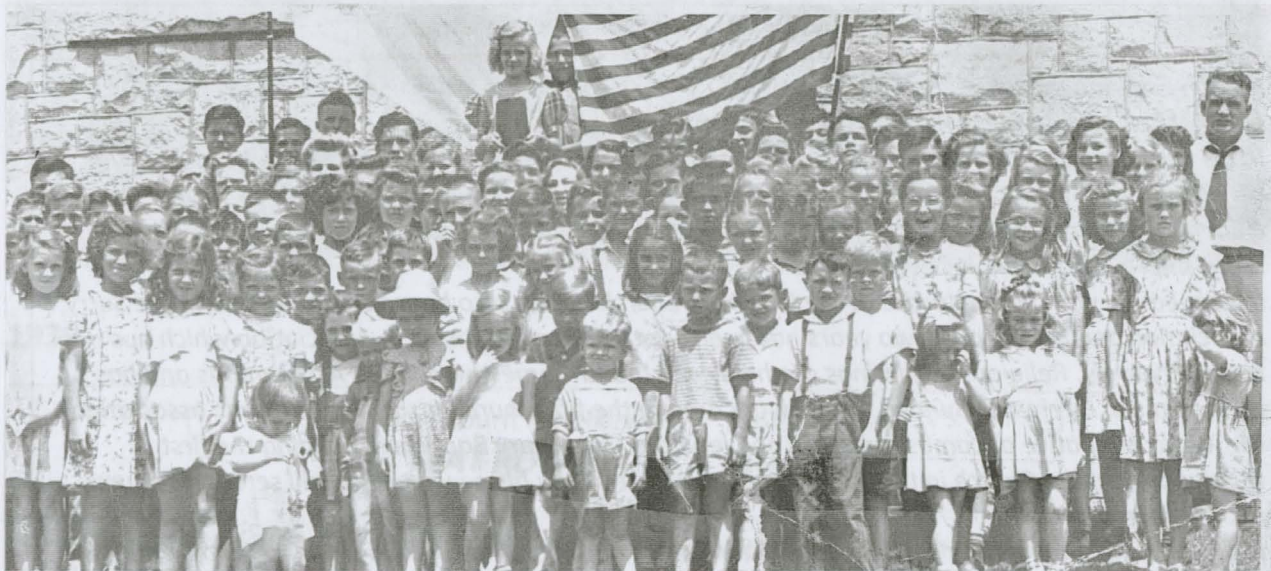
*His family will remain here until the school term ends and then they plan to move to Galax where Mr. Ward made headquarters.*



1943 – Rev. Felix Wagoner



Rev. Felix Wagoner  
1943 - 1945



1945 -

At the monthly Deacons' meeting held on February 22, 1945 "considerable discussion was held as to tearing down the old Church building and make plans to build a Parsonage. A motion was made to recommend to the Church that the old building be dismantled and preparation made to build a parsonage in the near future."<sup>12</sup>



## 1945 – Rev. Robert Weckle

The Mount Airy News - November 2, 1945

*Rev. Robert Weckle, of Tioga, Pa., arrived this week to take over the pastoral duties of the Flat Rock Baptist Church. The Rev. Mr. Weckle is a graduate of the Practical Bible School, Binghamton, N. Y., he succeeds Rev. Felix R. Wagner as pastor of the Flat Rock Church. The Rev. Mr. Weckle is the founder of the Youth for Christ Movement in Tioga and has had much experience in working with Young People. He will succeed the Rev. Mr. Wagner as Director of the Youth for Christ Rally in Mount Airy. The Rev. Mr. Weckle has a wife and small child. Due to the housing shortage they will reside at Toast until a residence nearer the church can be secured.*

## 1946 – Rev. Howard Barham



*Rev. Howard Barham*  
1946 - 1948

The first parsonage was sold, and a second parsonage purchased on August 19, 1946.<sup>4</sup> This note is part of the package created by the local Ruritan group in the early 1970s, detailing the role of FRBC in the Flat Rock community. [I have found no record or long-term memory about the location of this first parsonage. The second one was located across the current highway 103 from the church.]



1948 -



Young Roy Morrison, Sr. sitting in the front yard of the church around 1948

1949 -

The Mount Airy News - June 3, 1949

### **Rev. Howard L. Barham Resigns as Pastor of Flat Rock Baptist Church**

*Rev. Howard L. Barham, pastor of the Fiat Rock Baptist Church for almost three years, resigned Sunday, May 22. His resignation become effective Sunday, August 28.*

*Rev. Barham has done wonderful work during his pastorate at Flat Rock having received into the fellowship of the church 76 by baptism and 15 by letter. Several are awaiting baptism now.*

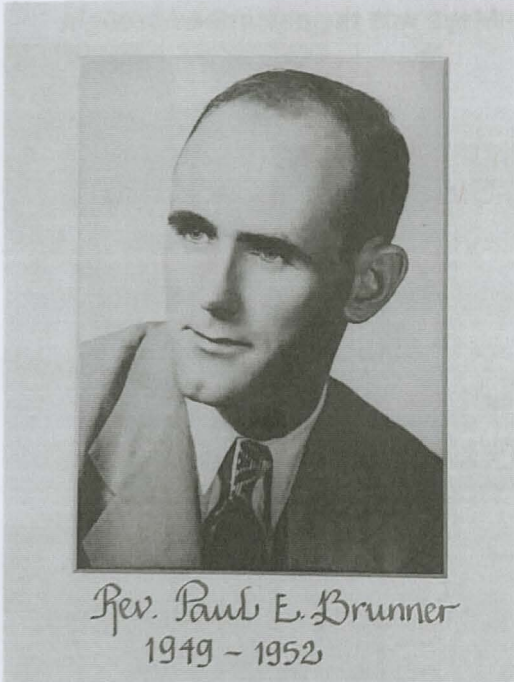
*Also, during this time a parsonage was bought, and many additions were made to the Sunday School and church building.*

*Flat Rock Baptist Church regrets very much that Rev. Barham's work here is completed. At the present time he has not accepted a call to any other field.*

*He came to Mount Airy from Reidsville and is a graduate of Practical Bible School at Binghampton. N. Y.*



1949 - Rev. Paul Bruner



1953 - Rev. Joe Maye



In April of 1953 pastor Joe Maye was called as FRBC pastor and thus began what some saw as the "grandest days in the history of Flat Rock. Church programming blossomed, a youth



program considered second to none was started, Vacation Bible School, Training Union, Choir and Prayer Meetings became both the spiritual and social activities of the community. Four young men were ordained into vocational ministry. Dr. Joe Maye was the pastor and brought with him a charisma that created hope.”<sup>13</sup>



**Vacation Bible School – Summer of 1953**

**1954 –**

FRBC undertook a large construction project. An Educational building was built at a cost of \$40,000. Of this amount \$24,000 was borrowed for 10 years but the debt was retired in 5 years.



1955 -

Biblical Recorder Saturday, September 03, 1955

**Ground-Breaking at Flat Rock Baptist Church, Mount Airy, Surry Association**



*Pictured above from left to right are, front row, Joe Maye, Pastor, Mrs. Nan Midkiff, Teddy Riggs, and Mrs. H. C. Baughn. Mrs. Midkiff and Mrs. Baughn are the two oldest active members of the Flat Rock Baptist Church, and Teddy is the youngest member.*

*Second row, left to right, are Frank Hensley, Sunday School Superintendent, James Trevathan, building fund treasurer; Oscar Patterson, Web Deatherage, H. Booker Midkiff, and Sam Stevens, building committee.*

*Ground-breaking services were held July 24, following the morning service. The pastor read the same scripture that was read when the church was organized in 1899. Web Deatherage, chairman of the building committee led in prayer.*

*This is the beginning of a three-unit building process of the church. The unit is an educational building, containing 32 Sunday school classrooms, six department assemblies, church offices, kitchen and nursery. The building is completely departmentalized, and the rooms and facilities are scaled according to the age group that will use them. The structure is to be 113 feet long, 50 feet wide, with a stone veneer face.*

*The plans were drawn by the Department of Church Architecture of the Southern Baptist Convention.*

The educational building was built at a cost of \$40,000. Of this, \$24,000 was borrowed on a 10-year deed of trust but the debt was retired in 5 years. <sup>1</sup>



**1957 –**

Flat Rock School fire – several member families were directly affected by the fire and all were impacted as the survivors underwent repeated surgeries and procedures while they spent extended periods in medical facilities in the surrounding area.

Months after the fire, the two remaining children at the Baptist Hospital were Marsha Semones and Frank Henley, Jr., and the doctors predicted the need for several more months of treatments. The parents of these two children were members of Flat Rock Baptist Church. The people of Mount Airy rallied to the mothers' need for transportation back and forth to care for the children by raising enough money to purchase a vehicle for their use. The fund raiser was initiated by the WMU at the church, while Gray Simmons and Jeffrey Blackmon headed up the wider community appeal.

**1958 –**

Membership grew to 500 with a Sunday School enrollment of 453. There were 17 baptisms that year, and records note that nearly one fifth of the congregation were tithers.<sup>3</sup>

**1960 –**

The Mount Airy News - Friday, May 20, 1960

### **Flat Rock Church Burn Note Sunday**

*Visitors and members filled Flat Rock Baptist Church to near capacity Sunday [May 15, 1960] as their tribute to the Rev. Joe Maye, pastor of the church for the last seven years. They had the day set aside by the congregation to honor Mr. Maye for the leadership he has provided the church.*

*Gifts were presented him from the church, the Flat Rock Ruritan Club, and the Four-Way Fire Department. Mr. Maye is chaplain of the latter two groups.*

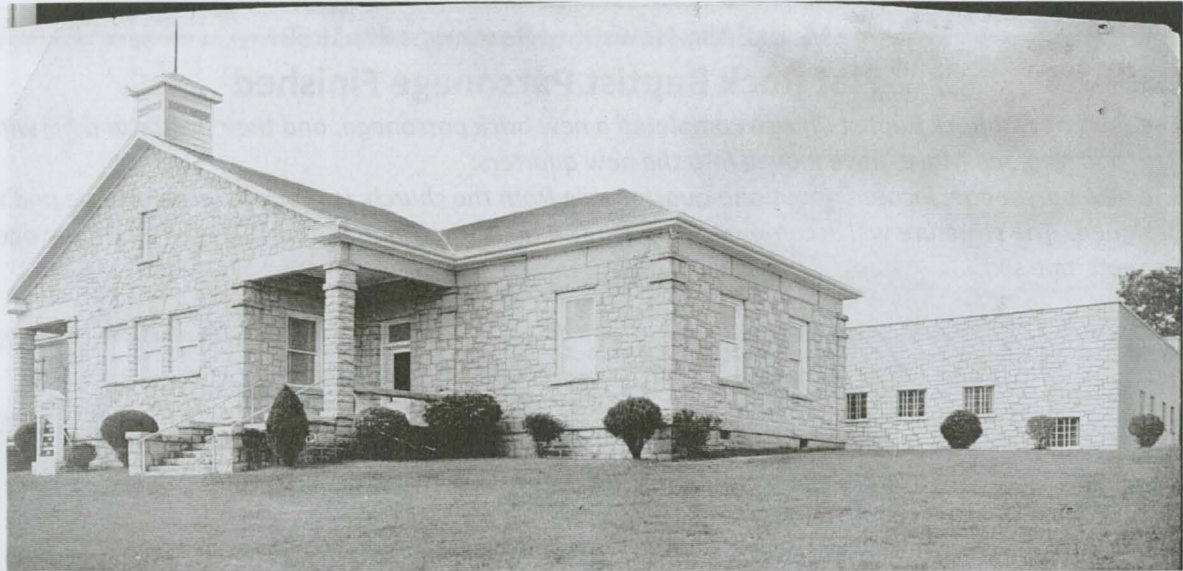
*He very graciously and modestly expressed his appreciation to these groups for their warm thoughts and actions toward him.*

*The indebtedness against the educational building having been liquidated, the day also provided occasion for the note-burning ceremony. Pictured are [picture will not copy] the members of the building committee; left to right they are: Elmer Timmons, Roy Hiatt, Fred Riggs, Frank Hensley, and H. B. Midkiff. In an obvious gesture, the note on the new building is burned in celebration of the event.*

*The building contains 1,200 square feet of space, consisting of eight Sunday School department assemblies with the necessary classrooms, church offices and kitchen.*

*Additionally, the church has purchased land, and is planning a new pastorium in the near future.*





*The church campus after the addition of the 1950s era educational building*

A new parsonage was built on a lot purchased from Abner Deatherage located beside the C. W. Vaughn homeplace about a quarter of a mile from the church. This debt was retired within 10 years.<sup>2</sup>



FLAT ROCK BAPTIST CHURCH (Left - Right)  
 First Row: Emma Smith, Mary Boyd, Ida Haynes, Irislee Simmons, Nettie Riggs,  
 Sis Midkiff, Del Mathis, Sis Smith, Bill Goins  
 Second Row: Ada Midkiff, Willie Loftis, Nan Midkiff, Mary Baughn, Minnie DeHart,  
 Amos DeHart, Frank Short, Ed Parker, Pedro Smith, Mel Bennett



Mount Airy News - December 23, 1960

### **Flat Rock Baptist Parsonage Finished**

*The folks at Flat Rock Baptist Church completed a new brick parsonage, and their pastor and his wife, the Rev. and Mrs. Joe Maye, have moved into the new quarters.*

*The new parsonage, located about one-quarter mile from the church, is spacious, comfortable and well designed. The structure will accommodate a family much larger than that of Maye's (they have one son Bennett, age six).*

*The project has been underway for two years, including the planning and the construction. The finished home has eight rooms, two bathrooms, a carport, a screened porch and full basement.*

*Conveniences include built-in cabinets and oven in the kitchen, which is roomy, but with only an economy of motion required to reach all work areas. An oil furnace heats water, which is carried through basement board pipes, to radiate heat into the house.*

*A large living room provides the space a pastor often finds necessary for receiving guests, members of the congregation and the small wedding parties that often use the of the minister's home, rather than the church for the nuptials. A picture window gives a broad view of the front and street areas.*

*A room currently being used as a study by Mr. Maye has a closet and is large enough to be easily converted to a nursery or guest bedroom should it ever become necessary to do so. The regular guest bedroom has as ample closet and a private bathroom. It was furnished by the church.*

*Overhead, the ceiling has been finished in circular designs. best described as "whorls", with large whorls in the large rooms and smaller whorls in the smaller rooms. The pattern is unique and has drawn considerable favorable comment from visitors to the home.*

*The Maye's seem very appreciative of the new living facilities provided them by the Flat Rock church.*

*Mrs. Maye lovingly eyes the kitchen facilities, with its built-in features, with a gleam of pride that says it will be gratefully used and well taken care of.*

*Incidentally, the church called on the services of Mrs. Evelyn Nifong, Surry County Home Demonstration Agent. Mrs. Nifong helped plan the interior and set the motif for the attractive decoration throughout.*

*Both the Mayes expressed appreciation to Mrs. Nifong for her help in completing the parsonage.*

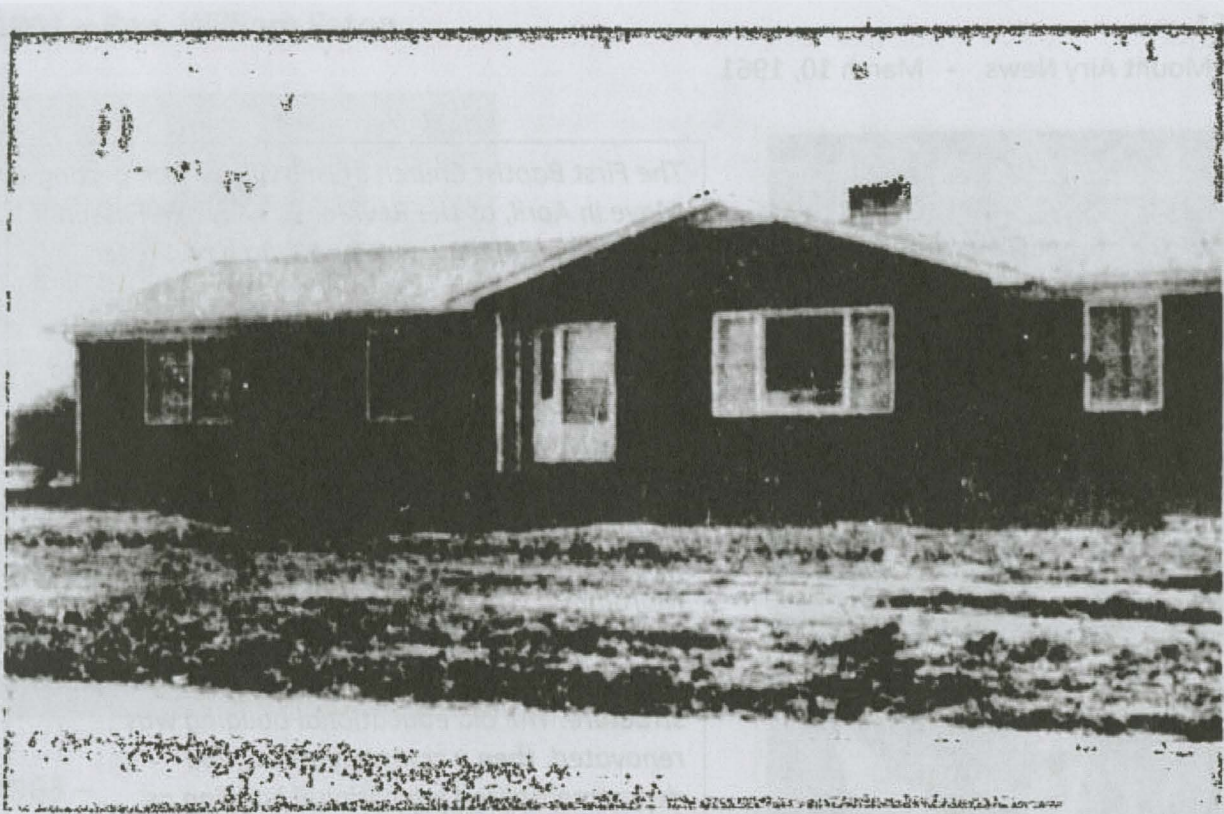
*The parsonage is the third major building program undertaken by the members of the Rev. Maye's flock since he became their pastor in 1953. In past years they renovated an educational plant and the church sanctuary, and then built a new educational building.*

*Back in 1953, membership of the church was around 350. Now it has about 520 members, an indication of the popularity and success of Maye's ministry.*

*"The building committee is one of the most efficient and thorough I've ever worked with," said the genial pastor, as he showed the, way around his new home. "We are grateful to the Flat Rock Church for providing such an adequate and beautiful home for their pastor and his family. And, I'm especially happy I'm the first to live in it."*

*From portal to portal, from carport to basement, from picture window to the den fireplace, the people of Flat Rock Baptist Church have every reason to be proud of their labor and efforts. The \$23,000 structure will stand for years to come as a testimony of their care and concern for their beloved pastor.*





... lovely, new brick parsonage of Flat Rock Baptist Church ... —staff photo



Note burning from L to R are: Lee Hiatt, , Booker Midkiff, Mrs. H.C. Baughn, Web Deatherage



1961 -

The Mount Airy News - March 10, 1961



REV. JOE B. MAYE

## First Baptist In Hillsville Calls Flat Rock Pastor

*The First Baptist Church of Hillsville will be getting Maye in April, as the Rev. Joe B. Maye will assume the ministerial duties of that church on Easter Sunday.*

*Mr. Maye has served as pastor of the Flat Rock Baptist Church since April of 1953 and is well and respected throughout this entire community. He is a native of Drexel and attended Lenoir Rhyne College, Duke Divinity School, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and Wake Forest College. His wife, Dorothy, is a native of Morganton. They have one son, Benny. Since coming to Flat Rock, he has seen the church grow and progress, both through membership and structure. The old educational building was renovated, then a completely new and departmentalized educational building as constructed. A large and paved parking area was established and just recently a new parsonage was built. The congregation increased by 290 members.*

*In commenting on his pastorate at the local church, the Rev. Mr. Maye said: "The sincerity and devotion of the Flat Rock congregation has made a valuable contribution to my life and the life of my family. I feel very fortunate in having been called to serve the congregation at Flat Rock Baptist Church."*

*Mr. Maye is a member of the Flat Rock PTA, Ruritan Club, chaplain for the Four-Way Fire Department and of the Mount Airy Sertoma Club. He is a member of Granite Masonic Lodge, served a maximum tenure as moderator of the Surry Baptist Association, and was chairman of the rural fund drive for the Surry Red Cross two years.*



1961 – Rev. William Eaton



Rev. William R. (Bill) Eaton  
1961 - 1966

1963 –

The Mount Airy News - March 29, 1963

**Flat Rock Church Revival Week**

*Revival services are scheduled at Flat Rock Baptist Church beginning Monday evening and continuing through the following Sunday.*

*A former pastor of the church, the Rev. Paul Brunner, now pastor of First Baptist Church in Springfield, Va., will be the guest evangelist for the services. He will conduct the services each evening at 7:30 O'clock and both morning and evening services on April 7.*

*Plans for special music include selections by the church choir, a visit by the North Surry Glee Club and various other musical offerings, arranged by Miss Patty Hart, choir director.*

*The pastor, the Rev, William Eaton, extends an open invitation to the public to attend the services.*

The Mount Airy News - Friday, September 6, 1963

**Missionary Speaks Sunday At Flat Rock**

*Miss Marian Phillips, Southern Baptist missionary to Nigeria, will be the guest speaker at 7:30 Sunday evening at Flat Rock Baptist Church.*

*Miss Phillips, granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Miller of Franklin Street, Mount Airy, is currently on emergency leave from her post in Nigeria.*

*She plans to return to the African country in the near future.*

*The pastor at the local church, the Rev. W. R. Eaton, invites the public to join the church members and hear Miss Phillips.*



1965 -

The Mount Airy News - Friday, September 3, 1965

**Pastor Resigns Flat Rock Church**

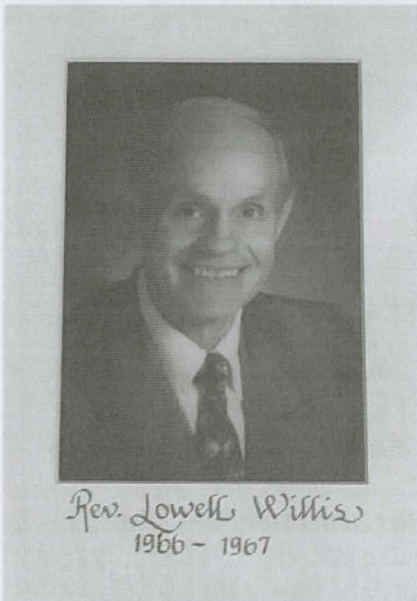
*The Rev. W. R. (Bill) Eaton, for the past four years pastor of Flat Rock Baptist Church, Sunday evening gave informal notice to members of his congregation that he is resigning.*

*He will preach his sermon at the local church on October 17.*

*The minister came here from another pastorate in Boone, filling the vacancy created by the resignation of the former pastor, the Rev. Joe Maye.*

*Eaton received about three months ago the endorsement of the Home Missions Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. This is considered a customary preliminary in Baptist circles to an anticipated appointment.*

1966 - Rev. Lowell Willis



1967 - Rev. Joe Maye

Rev. Maye returned to the pastorate after a few years away. This is the only occurrence of a full-time pastor being re-called at FRBC.



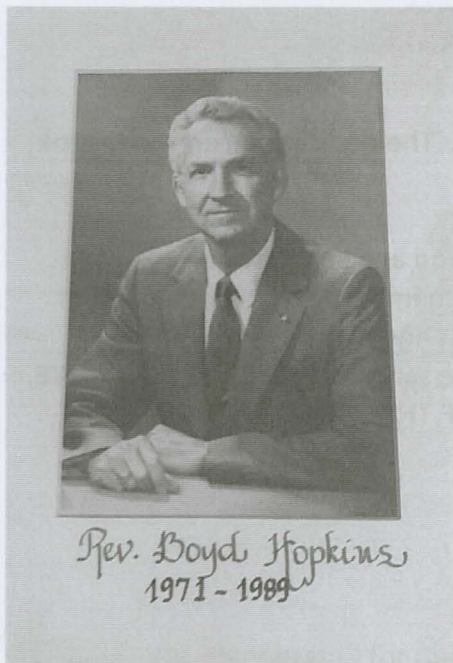
**1969 – Rev. James Fink**



After Rev. Maye, the church called the Rev. James Fink. The church once again found itself challenged for a major building program. Plans for a new sanctuary were developed with a projected cost of approximately \$150,000 to replace the old one which has been in use as a church and school over 75 years.

Rev. Fink left the church in late 1970 and spent the remainder of his working career as a professor at Surry Community College.

**1971 – Rev. I. Boyd Hopkins**

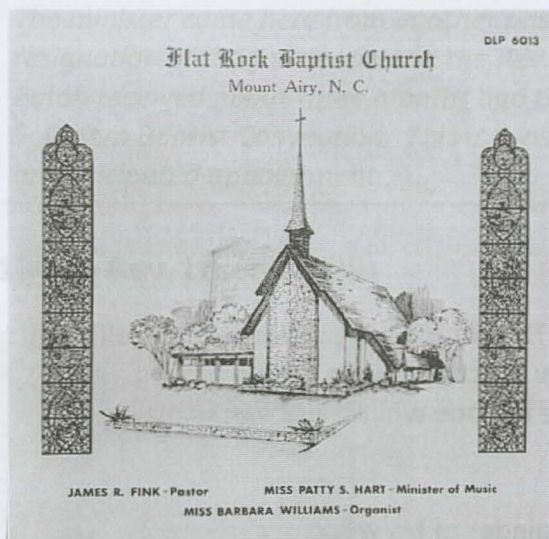




The Mount Airy News Friday July 9, 1971

### Flat Rock Choir

An album of hymns by the Flat Rock Baptist choir will be aired over radio station WPAQ Sunday afternoon beginning at 12:15. The album was recently recorded by the choir and member are selling it as a fund-raising project for a new sanctuary.



The selections included on the LP were:

#### Side 1

1. I Will Sing of My Redeemer
2. The Lord's Prayer
3. Thee We Adore
4. Let Us with a Gladsome Mind
5. Create in Me a Clean Heart
6. Holy, Holy, Holy

#### Side 2

1. My Shepherd will Supply my Need
2. Worthy is the Lamb
3. O Light Eternal

### 1973 –

A building committee was organized. They recommended granite from the local quarry be used for the construction of a new sanctuary.<sup>6</sup>

### 1974 –

March 3, 1974 the church family moved into the new sanctuary. The dedication ceremony took place on April 4 of that year.<sup>5</sup>

“And now the church stands – a house built for the worship of God and service to men – a gift of love and sacrifice from the descendants of those twenty-five members and the hundreds of other dedicated men and women who are and have been friends and members of Flat Rock Baptist Church. On April 4-7 dedication services were held in the sanctuary with the theme: WE DEDICATE THIS BUILDING IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE SON, AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, TO HUMANITY.”<sup>5</sup>



Dedication Services

"We Dedicate This Building in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, to Humanity."

Thursday, April 4, 7:30 P.M.

"We Dedicate This Building in the Name of the Father...."

Sermon: Paul Riggs, 1st Bapt. Ch., Kings Mtn.  
Singing: Trinity Sr. Hi. Ensemble, Hi Point

Friday, April 5, 7:30 P.M.

"We Dedicate This Building...in the Name of the Son...."

Sermon: Larry Williams, Meredith College  
Singing: North Surry Chamber Singers and Elizabeth Perkins, Soloist

Saturday, April 6, 7:30 P.M.

"We Dedicate This Building...in the Name of the Holy Spirit...."

Sermon: Oren Bradley, Sup't., Surry Assoc.  
Singing: Adult Choir, Elkin First Baptist Ch.

Sunday, April 7, 11:00 A.M.

"We Dedicate This Building...to Humanity."

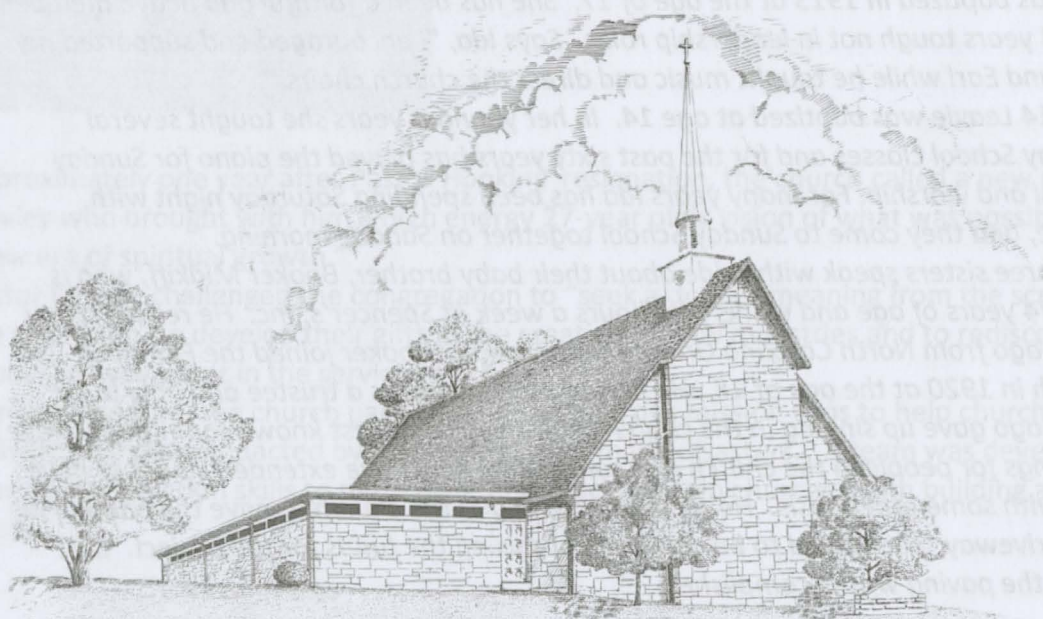
Sermon: Joe Maye, former pastor  
Singing: our Adult Choir and Patty Hart, soloist

12:30 P.M. Lunch, Fellowship  
2:00 P.M.

"We Dedicate This Building." Boyd Hopkins  
Open House 3:00-5:00 P.M.

Dedication Committee: Dillard Hiatt, Chr.,  
Kathe Beaver, Betty Gwyn, Jim McMillian

[The full Program Booklet published for the dedication services is in the church files]



1976 -A report generated for the By-centennial celebration by Rev Hopkins is in the Appendix



### **For Many Years Of Work**

Current and former members of Flat Rock Baptist Church gather this Sunday, August 21, to celebrate homecoming.

Rev. Sam O'Neal, a former member now serving as director of the Annuity Department of the Baptist State Convention, will be guest preacher, while another former member Mrs. Sue Simmons Smith, will be guest soloist.

Former members of the adult choir are also being invited to join the present choir in singing "Love Found a Way" by Christiansen and Loes.

Following the 11 a m worship service the church family and friends will enjoy "dinner on the grounds" at the Fiat Rock Ruritan community picnic area.

Four members of one family in the Flat Rock Church will be recognized for their many years of service to the church. The four have been active for a combined total of 255 years. They are Mrs. Lizzie Timmons Moser, age 83. Mrs. Ida Wray, age 81. Mrs. Leavie Baldwin, age 77, and their younger brother, Booker Midkiff, age 74.

Lizzie joined the church when she was twelve. She later taught an adult class in Sunday School, but admits that her favorite class was the young boys. Lizzie has been a member of the Woman's Missionary Union since it was organized. "I've played the piano for Sunday School assembly since I was a little girl," says Lizzie who now has seventy-one years of active service in the church.

Ida was baptized in 1913 at the age of 17. She has been a faithful and active member for 64 years though not in leadership roles. Says Ida, "I encouraged and supported my husband Earl while he taught music and directed the church choirs."

In 1914 Leavie was baptized at age 14. In her younger years she taught several Sunday School classes and for the past sixty years has played the piano for Sunday School and worship. For many years Ida has been spending Saturday night with Leavie, and they come to Sunday School together on Sunday morning.

The three sisters speak with pride about their baby brother, Booker Midkiff, who is now 74 years of age and works fifty hours a week at Spencer's, Inc. He retired a few years ago from North Carolina Granite Corporation. Booker joined the Flat Rock church in 1920 at the age of 18. He served many years as a trustee and only three years ago gave up singing in the church choir. Booker is best known for initiating love offerings for people in the church and community who have extended illness or have met with some other crisis. He recently challenged the church to pave the parking lot and driveway. He agreed to be chairman of raising the funds for the project. Last week the paving was accomplished.

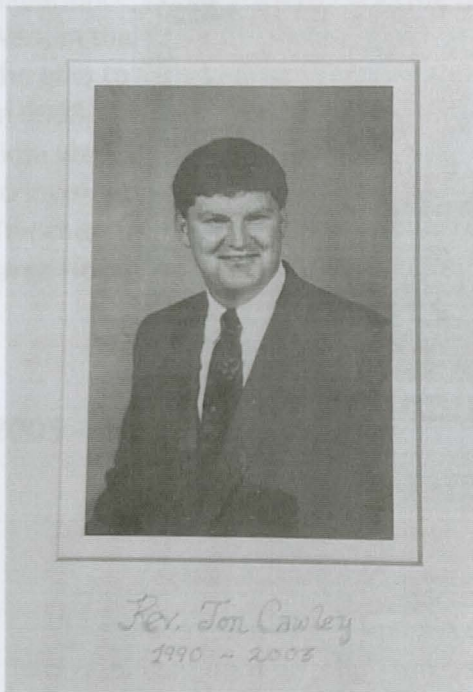
"Such is the nature and disposition of the Midkiff family. Flat Rock Baptist Church is grateful for their 255 years of faithful service and want to share with the public their appreciation," declares Rev. Boyd Hopkins, pastor.



**1989 –**

In the Spring of 1989, the longest tenure of any pastor in the church's history came to an end. In ill health, Rev. Boyd Hopkins resigned after seventeen years as leader of the Flat Rock congregation. His wife Jean passed away in February of that year. <sup>3</sup>

**1990 – Rev. Jon Cawley**



Approximately one year after Pastor Hopkins' resignation, the church called a new minister, Jon Cawley who brought with him a high energy 27-year old's vision of what was possible and a "new era of spiritual growth."

Pastor Cawley challenged the congregation to "seek a deeper meaning from the scriptures, to live their faith, to develop their gifts in the creation of new ministries and to rediscover the beauty of lives spent in the service to others."<sup>3</sup>

During his tenure, the church participated in numerous mission trips to help churches and individual families impacted by natural and man-made disasters. A team was developed with specific construction skills to participate in projects to help churches with building and repair needs.





Members of a mission group from Flat Rock Baptist Church in Mount Airy meet with President Bill Clinton during a visit to western Tennessee last week to help rebuild a burned church. Clinton is wearing a blue Mayberry hat, presented to him by one of the members of the group.

## Church Group Gets Unexpected Surprise

By ANGELA LEONARD

Staff Writer

*When members of Flat Rock Baptist Church signed up for a mission trip to help rebuild a burned church in western Tennessee, they didn't expect more from their trip than the blessing of helping a fellow church.*

*About a month before they left Mount Airy, they learned there would be an extra perk to the trip - Vice president Al Gore was scheduled to visit the church while the group was there.*

*"We found out on Wednesday, before we left on Sunday, that President and Mrs. Clinton, Chelsea and all of Vice President Gore's family would be there as well," said Jon Cawley Tuesday. Cawley is the pastor of the church and was part of the 15-member mission group that spent Aug. 18-23 in Fruitland, Tenn.*

*Cawley said that the president's visit added a bit of hoopla to the beginning of their week and complicated trip. On Friday before we left we had to send everyone's names and other information in for a security check." he said.*

*The morning they met the president at Salem Baptist Church, they had to interrupt their work at about 9 a.m., then return to the church at 11 a.m. after a thorough security sweep. Once inside the church sanctuary, however, Cawley said the local visitors were allowed informal time with the president and participated in his 50th birthday celebration.*

*Thirty minutes after their meeting ended, events had returned to normal and the group had the rest of the week to complete its work for the fellow church as well as look back on their brush with fame.*



Many in the community were blessed and touched by participating in and attending the resurrection dramas the church presented at Easter.

In 1993 and 1994 the church erected a new educational facility and in 1998 undertook a major renovation of the sanctuary, which by now had been in use for over 20 years.

An early morning service was one of the major innovations during the 1990's. It was developed to address an identified need among people in the broader community who had work commitments on Sunday, and this schedule allowed them to participate in a spiritual experience before going to their work tasks.

Also, in the mid 1990's the church chose to adopt Flat Rock Elementary School at Christmas and the gifts to the children there have steadily increased over the years."<sup>1</sup>

In 1998, the church saw a need for a full-time Minister to Youth and Children and for the first time were able to employ someone for that role. Scott Kyles was called and worked diligently to involve our children in the programs established for them within the church.

The church celebrated our centennial birthday on January 17, 1999 with special services and a large Homecoming fellowship gathering.<sup>3</sup>

#### 2005 - Rev. Joshua Wasson



*Rev. Joshua Wasson  
2005-2006*



**2007 - Rev. Todd Byrd**



Rev. Todd Byrd  
2007 - 2009

In August of 2007, Reverend Byrd issued a challenge entitled "52 Days of Commitment." As a result, the \$45,000 church debt was paid off and the church celebrated as the note was burned in December of that year.

Despite an uncertain economy and the closing of several local businesses, FRBC experienced a substantial increase in the involvement in and giving to missions. From 2002 to 2008, missions giving increased from \$1,646.00 to \$13,196.00 per year.

In 2008, the church also established a food pantry to help meet the needs of those in the community who had lost jobs or for whatever reasons were going through difficult financial times.

In order to meet the increased ministry needs that accompany growth, in 2008 the church called its first full time associate pastor.



## 2011 - Rev. Bailey Nelson Edwards



### Nelson to pastor Flat Rock Baptist

July 7, 2015 mtairynews Archive

First Posted: 7/7/2011

*Flat Rock Baptist Church will be welcoming its new pastor, the Rev. Bailey Edwards Nelson, Sunday, and is inviting the community to join the congregation.*

*Nelson is a graduate of Furman University and McAfee School of Theology at Mercer University. She, her husband Justin and son Aidan will be moving here from Norcross, Ga. Church services are early worship at 9 a.m., Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. and morning worship at 11 a.m.*

The Pastor Search committee voted to call Pastor Bailey Edwards Nelson as pastor in May of 2011. After an enormous amount of prayer, consideration, hearing Bailey preach and soul searching, the congregation agreed with this recommendation, and she began her tenure with us on July 12, 2011.

The calling of the church's first female Pastor brought with it many challenges. Most of the questions had been addressed during a careful and prayerful search period, but the degree of controversy and acrimony resulting, were not predicted. Even during the previewing and decision-making period, several families within the church were convinced that their interpretation of the Bible position on this issue would not allow them to retain their membership if the church called a female to the pastorate.

At the time, there were only a few Southern Baptist females serving as "Senior" pastor in North Carolina and none in the Surry Association.

The Surry Association removed Flat Rock from fellowship with the other 64 churches in the Association by a vote at a Quarterly meeting within a few weeks of Pastor Nelson's arrival at the church.

Even after a bumpy start, her time with the church was productive and several new projects were launched to reach out to the community and to share Christ wherever possible.

The church's Web site was expanded and for the first time FRBC had a presence on Facebook. Rev. Nelson resigned on February 17, 2013 and announced her decision the following Sunday. She is now employed in the Spartanburg, SC area as a school Counselor.



## 2014 - Rev. Stewart Mauck

FRBC voted on September 24, 2014 to call Rev. Stewart Mauck as pastor.

Stewart had(s) a real commitment to missions be it local, national or international and he brought that to his ministry at FRBC. He led Summer teams to inner city New York for Vacation Bible Schools and works with churches and missions in that big city.

He continued his responsibilities with "Hand Up Africa" and travelled to Kenia and Uganda at least once a year to do construction projects in support of Orphanages and other critical mission efforts in that part of the world.

During his time with the church, his heart for mission helped lead the congregation to reaching out into the poorer sections of the Flat Rock community and provide spiritual and entertainment activities for the children in the area. Many Wednesday evenings during the Summers, found him driving the church van on multiple trips to bring the children to a place where they could experience safety, love and a full belly...

Stewart resigned on September 7, 2016 and has since been serving as Chaplain with Mountain Valley Hospice.

## 2017 - Rev. Rusty Reed





## SOURCES

1. Flat Rock Baptist Church – The first 110 years – Brochure prepared in January 2009
2. Summary history prepared in the 1970s
3. Flat Rock Baptist Church 1899-1999 “Our Heritage” - Booklet created as part of the centennial celebration – “On this rock God built a church” - January 1999
4. Flat Rock Baptist Church – included in a booklet published by the Flat Rock Ruritan club celebrating churches in the community
5. From Log Cabin to Stone Building: A Brief History of Flat Rock Baptist Church – included in a booklet prepared as part of the dedication of a new sanctuary on April 4, 1974
6. Flat Rock Baptist Church – entry into the Surry County Churches book published by the Surry County Genealogical Association – based on the dedication booklet from 1974
7. Proceedings of the Organization of the Flat Rock Baptist Church – minutes of organizational meeting held at the Laurel Hill Church on January 15, 1899
8. The Flat Rock News – community happenings notes appearing in the Mount Airy News – written at times by the pastor of the FRBC
9. Summary of Surry Baptist Association Meeting Minutes – annual report published by the Association – (DLH summary table in Appendix)
10. The Mount Airy News – items printed of general interest referring to the FRBC activities
11. Biblical Recorder articles mentioning FRBC
12. Minutes of Congregational meetings – NOTE: The older minutes ledgers have been lost. Fortunately, Rev. Boyd Hopkins participated in an archiving project in cooperation with the Z. Smith Reynolds Library at Wake Forest University so the 1899 through 1945 minutes were microfilmed. Digital and paper copies of these items are now in the Church archives. The intervening years’ Meeting Minutes have unfortunately not been recovered.
13. “A Visitation Report” generated from questionnaires and group sessions with church members by church Consultant Reverend Neil Routh – compiled by Rev. Jon Cawley on October 14, 1996.



SOURCES

## APPENDIXES

- I. Timeline for construction of the FRBC sanctuary dedicated on April 4, 1974 – as an example of the work required for such a project
- II. Proceedings of the Organization of the Flat Rock Baptist Church
- III. Report prepared by pastor Rev. Boyd Hopkins for the Community Development report to celebrate the nation's by-centennial year
- IV. Copy of FRBC Articles of Incorporation



## TIMELINE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE F.R.B.C. SANCTUARY DEDICATED ON APRIL 4, 1974

Building or even modernizing any structure related to the life of a family is tough, but in the life of a church it is often a seriously traumatic event. Varying opinions about need, strong attachment to the existing facility, differing levels of commitment to any personal sacrifice required, and many other issues come to the surface in these stressful times.

The project to build the "new" sanctuary which was completed and dedicated in 1974 was far from an exception to that rule.

The following timeline was built from notes taken mostly by Rev. Boyd Hopkins serving as scribe for the Building Committee, from Church Meeting Minutes maintained by the Church Clerk, from items appearing in the Church Bulletin, and other publications/correspondence designed to keep the congregation involved in the project's development.

This listing will also include other historical milestones which may have not been mentioned in formal record. It is in a summary form without details in most cases.

Follow along with renewed appreciation for the dedication our fore-fathers and mothers demonstrated in trying to find God's will, and to reach a consensus to accomplish this task.

May 15, 1966 – [Many items appear to have come from Church Business meetings]

- Names of Church Building committee were read
- Ballot to call J. A. Richardson as pastor failed

July 17, 1966 – Adopted a Church Constitution

August 28, 1966 – Lowell Willis accepted the pastorate

October 5, 1966 – Church Council recommended a goal of a 25% increase in SS attendance

- Youth Committee was elected
- Part time Church Secretary was elected

November 13, 1966 – Appointed Planning & Survey Committee (17 members)

January 11, 1967 – Double parsonage payment from \$200 to \$400 when funds available

April 26, 1967 – Lowell Willis' resignation to be effective June 4 with plans to vacate July 4

June 11, 1967 – Joe Maye called with 90% majority

- Patty Hart elected Choir Director



March 17, 1968 – Bulletin announcement from Pastor Joe Maye that there will be a special offering for the Building Fund on April 28. Week's work or \$100.

April 27, 1968 – Ham Supper held at Flat Rock School. Young people's arts & crafts on sale. Proceeds for the Building Fund

April 28, 1968 – Special offering for Building Fund. Recommend a week's pay or \$100. \$3,000 was realized

June 16, 1968 – Announcement of Building Fund offering at Homecoming on August 25

August 25, 1968 – Plans for Sanctuary on display

December 1968 – Letters mailed by Joe Maye to church members stating his resignation effective 12-31-68

April 13, 1969 – James Fink conducted weekend revival

April 27, 1969 – Permission given to employ Designer's Associates of Statesville to draw plans for the new sanctuary at 6% of total construction cost. Contract not to be signed until a permanent pastor was called

- James Fink called with an 81% plurality

June 29, 1969 – Preliminary sketches of new Sanctuary delayed because of sickness of the Architect

- Announcement of \$10,000 campaign – target before ground-breaking day [Homecoming is the target date from the Clerk's note]
- Building Fund Committee recommendation from the Nominating Committee:
  - Sam Stephens, Chairman
  - Booker Midkiff
  - Arnold McHone
  - Joe Horton
  - Lee Hiatt
  - Edd Simmons
  - Mary Hensley
  - Josephine Simmons
  - Patty Hart & Vaneeda Anderson as Secretary

Church may make additional appointments to committee as necessary

July 13, 1969 – Planning & Survey Committee to meet with architect on Tuesday night

August 20, 1969 - Announcement of August 2 rummage sale



August 31, 1969 – Note encouraging completion of a Financial Commitment card by 9-7 & cash turned in by 10-5 toward the \$10,000 goal

September 21, 1969 – Announcement that finalized sketches will be on display Oct 5. Church to vote of plans on October 19

October 5, 1969 – Sketches on display. Announced that the architect will be at the church on October 12 at 2:30 to conduct question & answer session

October 19, 1969 – Final sketches of proposed sanctuary approved 92 to 3

- Finance Committee to work on ways to finance the Sanctuary

January 11, 1970 – Schedule: Building committee and other committees will meet at the church at 7:30PM for update meeting

January 18, 1970 – Announcement: Construction plans for new sanctuary will probably be completed within several weeks. Finance committee working for a financial plan acceptable to the church. Encouraging everyone to join the \$1.00/ week club.

February 15, 1970 – Announcement of a church wide meeting concerning the new sanctuary at the end of the service on March 1. The meeting will concern a financial plan to build the new sanctuary.

March 1, 1970 – Announcement that on March 15 the Finance Committee will present a formal financial plan for church to vote approval.

- Best method to finance building: members to make personal loans. Continue \$1 a week club

March 8, 1970 – Commitment Survey Forms distributed: to loan for new sanctuary

March 15, 1970 – Results of survey announced.

- Personal loans less than hoped for. Construction plans for new sanctuary have been completed by the Architect & examined by the Building Committee. Whenever the church can approve a workable financial plan, the building of the sanctuary will be open for bids.

May 10, 1970 – burned mortgage on the parsonage

August 2, 1970 – Planning and Survey Committee will report today. After morning worship the committee will present its full report along with recommendations on building the proposed new sanctuary.

- Elmer Timmons, Chairman of the Survey and Planning committee recommended "that whenever the Building Fund reaches \$40,000 or near that figure, construction of the new sanctuary be begun." Seconded by Alfred Hiatt. Passed 42-1.



August 9, 1970 – Church votes 18-2 to build the new sanctuary when Building Fund reaches \$40,000. The Fund is now at about \$23,000.

November 8, 1970 – Announcement that a Thanksgiving offering will be taken for the Building Fund.

November 22, 1970 – Offerings brought to Communion table.

March 21, 1971 – Choir recorded an album as a Building Fund project – now available for sale.

April 4, 1971 – Pulpit Committee:

- Bob Patterson, Chairman
- Lewis Collins
- David Hensley
- Patty Hart
- Lois Hiatt

May 16, 1971 – Announcing a Hamburger steak supper to be held on May 22 at the Flat Rock Community Building by the Adult Dept for the Building Fund.

July 25, 1971 – Announcing a hamburger supper on August 14, 1971 for the Building Fund

November 1971 – I. Boyd Hopkins assumed the pastorate

December 14, 1971 – Building and Finance committees:

- Architect expecting 6% of construction cost of building
- Need a sound financial income – Budget needs + \$716/ month for mortgage payment
- Need spiritual emphasis first with more active involvement in outreach
- Objection: “why not repair old sanctuary?” Estimated cost of \$75,000.
- Need pictures of the condition of old sanctuary
- When church proves desire to extent of sound weekly giving, then begin church

Undated note:

Building Committee:

- Elmer Timmons, Chairman
- Frank Hensley, Bob Patterson, Lewis Collins, Frank Archer, Patty Sue Hart

Subcommittee: Financial

- Frank Hensley, Chairman
- Frank Archer, Charles Goad, Treasurer, Arnold McHone

Sam Stephens, Chairman Building Fund – Lois Hiatt, Treasurer

Subcommittee: Building Construction

- Bob Patterson, Chairman
- Lewis Collins, Bobby Lee Riggs,, Fred Riggs, Clarence Fagg, William Anderson



Subcommittee: Decorating & Furniture  
Patty Sue Hart, Chairperson

January 10, 1972: Building committee

- \$1.00 a week has less than 60 persons participating
- Loans to church - less than 20 persons for a total of \$22,000
- Each committee member needs to bring concrete suggestions relating to solutions to dilemma of assumption vs fact
- Josephine suggests a year to year analysis of number of gifts and amt of gift

January 18, 1972: Building committee

- Method of construction? Contract or other?
- Committee never has been enthusiastic – why?
- Feelings about the project. 42 to 1 vote by church
  - Elmer Timmons: \$40,000 – is 42 to 1 sufficient?
  - Frank Hensley: Little participation – get better view of all people
  - Bob Patterson: faith in the building program to reach 100% backing – primarily through giving something
  - Lewis Collins: Change the \$40,000 goal to \$60,000 and the monthly challenge would then go higher than the \$700 predicted

Must reach the target amount before beginning the building to assure meeting the monthly obligation. Emphasize all of the programs which have been tried:

- \$1.00/week
- Pledges
- Drives
- Budget
- Record albums
- 30 Pieces of silver

Use the church organizations to take over each method. Maybe a week at a time

- Patty Hart: Draft a letter to all members explaining the situation – ask questions as to their interest and support – who should sign the letter?
- Frank Archer: recognize validity of 42 to 1 plurality vote – mistake to ask for \$40,000 amount to be increased based on other disappointments

PROPOSAL: the \$40,000 amount “require” vote to let bids or not. Responsibility on congregation

Questions to ask congregation:

“Before the Building Fund reaches \$40,000, the Building Committee would like to know where the church is now & what liberal participation it intends”

The committee gave the chairman and the pastor permission to meet with persons who feel strongly about breaking ground at \$40,000.



January 23, 1971 – Meeting at Sam Stevens'

- Met with several church members of the Building Committee: Sam Stephens, Elmer Timmons, Alfred Hiatt, Bob Patterson, Arnold McHone, Booker Midkiff, Joe Horton, Boyd Hopkins
- Shared statements of "homework" from Building Committee
- Some concern that the plans were for a larger and more expensive than necessary building
- Disharmony cause of 42-1 vote
- Input that the approach must become more positive: "can-can"
- Decision to begin a "Drive at Easter". "Let" bids at Easter. See how much we can have in Building Fund by then. Everything discussed boiled down to 1 thing: motivation to give!
- Meet with church leaders relative to above.

February 2, 1972 – Building Committee Meeting – Rev. Hopkins notes

1. Share results of meeting held previously with Sam, Arnold, Alfred, Joe, Bob & Booker
2. Size of sanctuary: seating 188 or 251? Represent 60 to 80% of resident membership
3. Furnishings – not including organ or piano are 15 to 20% of construction cost
4. Indebtedness

How much can the church pay per month?

For instance: \$712 would borrow \$60,000 for 10 years at 7.5% interest

Safe indebtedness:

- Not exceed 35% of anticipated annual budget as pay back
  - \$100-\$200 per member (\$31,400 - \$62,800)
  - \$200-\$300 per member (\$35,600 - \$53,400)
  - 2 to 3 times annual budget (\$93,000)
- 5 Possibilities:
    - Shorten sanctuary & include pastor's study & choir room in rear of building
    - Approved – Booker Midkiff's idea of enlisting families to make a month's payment for two years but wait until we get Bob Brady's estimate before enlisting families.
    - Approved – drive for Building Fund at Easter
    - Elmer to call architect for meeting of Committee in the near future.

December 2, 1972 – Building Committee Meeting w/ Doc Archer, Clarence Fagg, Bob Patterson, Frank Hensley

[Chair of this committee, Elmer Timmons passed away the day before this meeting took place.]

- Have paid architect \$6,00 to date. Correspondence from Architectural firm indicates significant additional design cost to change the plan
- Low construction bid received in July \$177,500
- Blue Ridge Enterprise's revised bid as of Dec 1 is \$186,500
- Proposal by Building Committee:



- 1. Accept present bid of \$186,500 and build as per architect's plan - OR
- 2. Scratch the present plans and start over, making drawings for a smaller and simpler structure

March 26, 1973 – Application for building permit submitted. Predicted cost \$90,000.  
Contractor Fred Allred of Mount Airy, NC

April 1, 1973 – Ground-breaking Ceremony held at the church

Ground-breaking Ceremony

Flat Rock Baptist Church April 1, 1973

Opening Sentences I Chronicles 28:20-21 RSV In Unison  
 Then David said to Solomon his son, "Be strong and of good courage, and do it. Fear not, by not dismayed; for the Lord God, even my God, is with you. He will not fail you or forsake you, until all the work for the service of the house of the Lord is finished. And behold the divisions of the priests and the Levites for all the service of the house of God; and with you in all the work will be every willing man who has skill for any kind of service; also the officers and all the people will be wholly at your command."

Hymn No. 500 "Anniversary Hymn" Arr. Kremser

Presentation of the Building Plans Clifford Inman  
 --in behalf of the Building Committee:  
 Frank Archer Former Members:  
 Clarence Fagg Lewis Collins  
 Charles Goad Patty Hart  
 Frank Hensley Elmer Timmons  
 Bob Patterson  
 Wayne Pike

Presentation of the Spade and Breaking of the Ground  
 Mary Lou Timmons - in memory of Elmer, former Chairman  
 Bob Patterson - Current Chairman  
 Mother Loftis - oldest active church member  
 Keenan Journey - youngest church member  
 Frank Hensley - chairman of Deacons  
 Fred Allred - overseer of construction

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication Alfred Hiatt  
Sunday School Director

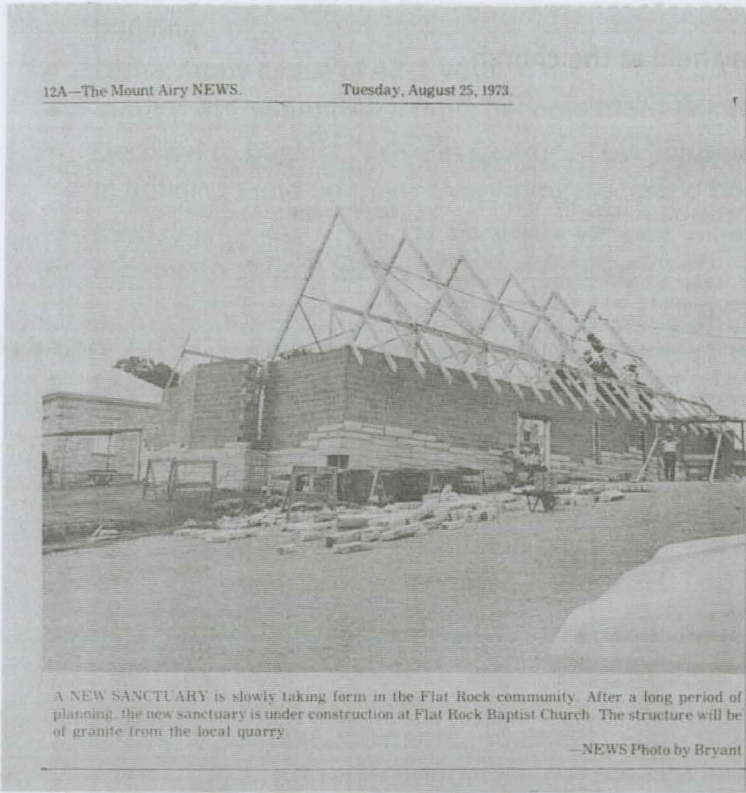
Hymn "To God Be the Glory!" Doane  
 To God be the glory, great things he has done;  
 He led us and loved us; our sins He forgave.  
 We now will be faithful and build to His name  
 A temple of worship, a house for all men.  
 Refrain:  
 Praise His name, praise His name!  
 O how precious His name! Praise His name, praise  
 His name! He has led us thus far!  
 Come now, let us trust Him and build in His name  
 a church house, a temple, all glory to God!  
 Great things He has taught us, great things He has done.  
 "Be patient, forgiving, as you've been forgiv'n."  
 These lessons of love God sent down from above  
 To guide us in building a house of the Lord. (Refrain)

The Lord's Prayer In Unison



July 19, 1973 – Letter from Rev. Hopkins detailing the progress and financial need

Rev. Hopkins challenged the church to give \$24,000 before the annual Homecoming festivities planned for August 19. As the Summer progressed, it became additionally concerning when not much giving was taking place, even from church leadership. He wrote the congregation several times reminding them of the need.



August 29, 1973 – Design still not finished for chancel area. Asking consultant for help.

September 17, 1973 – Building Committee meeting

Construction being done with a pay as you go method with a local construction foreman on site

Contractor increased salary for all labor (committee did not agree to paying higher wages so the voted not to pay the extra).

September 19, 1973 – Building Committee with contractor (Fred Allred) present

Decisions made about changing some sub-contractors and proceeding with building  
All expressed “no hard feelings” and shook hands.

October 15, 1973 – Building committee meeting (Bob, Clarence, Frank & Doc)

1. Charles Blackmon's contract for stone \$6,350
2. Use frosted glass windows in office wing
3. Bob to contact Shaw about staining



December 16, 1973 – Building Committee

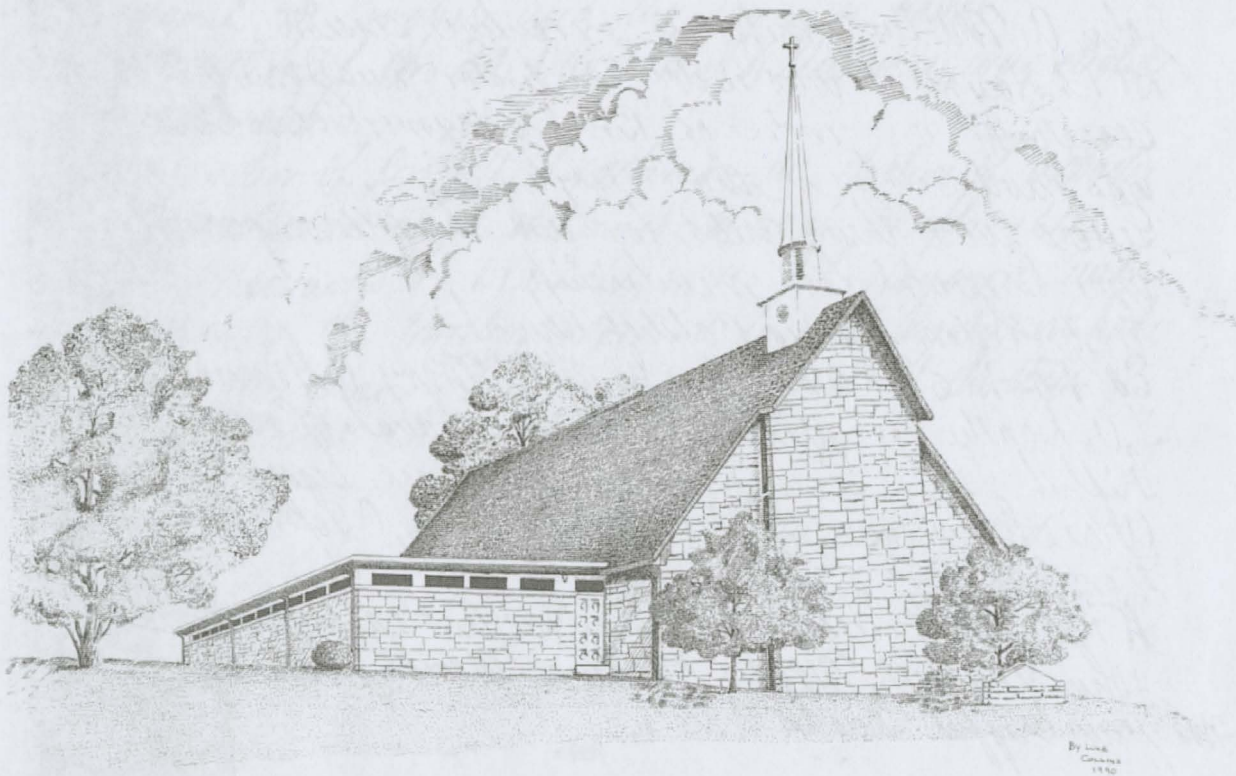
1. Paint outside charcoal \$3,600
2. Discussed cross. Not pleased with ones shown
3. Discussed paying for organ apart from building fund

Have Lewis draw some other drawings. Organ committee to serve as fund raisers to pay for the organ and piano to leave \$8,000 available for building finishing

April 4, 1974 – Dedication services held in the new sanctuary at least 8 years since the initial discussions about the need for a new place of worship.

Financial wrap-up shows:

Building Fund monies received from 3/22/73 thru 4/19/74	\$ 87,301.68
Borrowed from Workmen's Federal S&L	<u>\$ 74,676.50</u>
Total Monies	\$161,978.18
Paid to Architect and directly to contractors	\$154,894.20
Balance from Building Fund	\$ 7,083.98





# Proceeding of the Organization of the Flat Rock Baptist Church

Laurie Hill N.C.

January 15th 1899

Representatives from different churches met here today for the purpose of organizing a new church. After a sermon preached by Dr R.D. Haymore from Matt 10:12 the Presbytery announced of the following brethren from Flat Rock Baptist Church, Dr R.D. Haymore, Rev. E. Haymore, Rev. H. Brown and J. D. Patton and John A. Martin, met in executive session.

Dr R.D. Haymore was elected moderator and John A. Martin secretary on motion of Rev. E. Haymore. Bro. E. Wright was invited to join the Presbytery.

Letters were then called for and the following names were presented for membership.

From Horton Spring Baptist Church -

Ed. Davis E. Davis Jesse <sup>Jesse Davis</sup> Gorman, Mary A. Gorman, J. A. Deatherage, Alice Deatherage, Sarah J. Rose, R. F. Griffith, J. B. Simpson, J. N. Simpson, Susan E. Simpson, Abrie L. Simpson, Dorah Smith, Lucy O. Loftis, J. R. Brown

From Mt. Zion Baptist Church -

H. F. Slight, F. L. Deatherage, Jas. A. Deatherage, E. S. Deatherage, John Mitchell, Maggie Aldridge, Martha J. Deatherage,

Mrs Jennie Griffith Mrs H. F. Tate.



On motion of Rev Ed Haymore three 25 members  
were declared a regular organized and independent  
Baptist Church.

On motion of Bro J W Simmons the church was  
named The Flat Rock Baptist Church

The church covenant confession of faith, constitution  
and Bylaws as printed on the preceding pages were then  
read one by one and unanimously adopted

The church then proceeded to elect three Deacons,

The vote was taken by ballot and Brethren Ed Davis  
Phillip Deatherage, and W F Slight were elected.

The Presbytery then proceeded to ordain the above named  
Deacons by prayer and the laying of hands

On motion of Bro Ed Davis Bro J W Simmons was elected  
Church clerk

On motion of Bro J W Deatherage the election of a Pastor  
was postponed until the next church conference

After remarks by Dr R D Haymore, Ed Haymore and  
J W Powers the meeting adjourned to meet again on Sat  
before the second Sunday in February at the stone  
Schoolhouse, at 3 o'clock P M

Dr R D Haymore mod  
John A Martin Secretary



FRBC report included in the Flat Rock Community Development Report

NORTHWEST COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

<u>Flat Rock Baptist Church</u>	<u>Flat Rock</u>	<u>Surry</u>	<u>1976</u>
<u>Name of Organization</u>	<u>Name of Community</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Year</u>

PROGRAM ENTERED: "All Northwest Community"

In the fourth quarter of 1975 plans were made by the church leadership to concentrate on four areas of celebration during 1976: Lent and Easter, the Bicentennial, Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas.

Lent and Easter included monologues by Blaine Detrick, delivered by the pastor at Sunday morning worship. The young people's group for several weeks rehearsed and then presented a Maundy Thursday drama entitled "The New Commandment," by Jack D. Forest. On Easter Sunday morning five young people assisted the pastor in the morning worship. Another one assisted him in a dialogue sermon.

Following Easter the pastor delivered a series of five sermons on marriage and the family, which were very well received by the congregation.

The plans for the Bicentennial began in the deacon body, were added to by the youth group, and were participated in by the entire membership. The pastor delivered two sermons, "Christian Citizen... What Does It Mean?" and "Separation of Church and State," in preparation for the choir's exciting rendition of the patriotic cantata, "The Sound of America," by Terry Kirkland. On the fourth Sunday, July 4, 1976, there was a climactic worship celebration with a brass ensemble of five highschool and college students assisting the organist, pianist, choir, and congregation in singing. The pastor and another member delivered the sermon in dialogue: "Let Freedom Ring!" The congregation signed replicas of the U.S. Constitution. Members of the church renewed their commitment to church involvement. Following worship, the church family enjoyed a picnic in the Ruritan building.

On July 6 the pastor had a heart attack and was out of work for three months. The church leadership carried on beautifully in his absence.

On October 31, 1976, the Bicentennial theme was revived for a patriotic celebration of the Thanksgiving season. Sermon subjects included "Church and Country," "The Promise of America," "In Appreciation of Religious Liberty," climaxed on November 21 with "Hear... Reflect...Act...Thanksgiving."

The Advent and Christmas season was celebrated with appropriate sermons and music. On December 19 the choir presented John Peterson's Christmas cantata entitled, "Born a King."

The year ended on a high note of enthusiasm. In addition to the spiritual enrichment and growth, the church family had given ten thousand dollars more than was budgeted, making a total of almost fifty thousand dollars given by 134 church families, with 58 of those families giving less than a dollar a week!



1977 began with an honest evaluation of where we are, where we want to go, and how we want to get there. We evaluated our stewardship in terms of ability and ministry-priority to all ages. Our goal was to maintain the joyful spirit renewed in 1976 among the active membership. We will enhance the ministry to children and youth by employing a person to work part-time in planning and carrying out children and youth activities: spiritual, mental, social, and physical. In addition to the employed person, a youth worker from the denomination will come and spend ten weeks during the summer to plan involvement-opportunities for any in the church and community who want to take advantage of the offer.

Youth and adult members have been invited to participate in a "Lifestyle Evangelism" seminar during the month of March. The seminar will enable a person to share more effectively himself and his faith.

The Sunday School plans a "Reach-out!" action program in May. This is a six-weeks project that will involve as many persons as will participate. Mass visitation with intent to enlist uninvolved people in Bible study will be conducted throughout the community. This involves a thorough study of the present education facilities: physical and in personnel. The education building is already being painted and "fixed-up" for the people's welcome. This was made possible by a gigantic rummage sale by the Sunday School which netted about \$500.

Money was also included in the 1977 budget to revitalize the cassette tape ministry to the elderly and other shut-ins.

The church family will climax the year's church life by participating in a Spiritual Lay Renewal Weekend in October. Some 25-30 people from other churches will spend a weekend with our church family. Weekend activities of worship, study, and sharing will be offered.

To cooperate in meeting the 1977 budget, 88 persons signed commitment cards, pledging themselves to percentage giving.

The spirit of the church family is indicative of the spirit of the Flat Rock Community and causes one to reflect, "I'm glad that I live in Flat Rock!"

Boyd Hopkins  
Pastor



STATE OF  
NORTH  
CAROLINA



Department of The  
Secretary of State

To all whom these presents shall come, Greetings:

I, **ELAINE F. MARSHALL**, *Secretary of State of the State of North Carolina*, do hereby certify the following and hereto attached to be a true copy of

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION  
OF  
FLAT ROCK BAPTIST CHURCH OF MOUNT AIRY, INC.

*the original of which was filed in this office on the 19th day of March, 1999.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal at the City of Raleigh, this 19th day of March, 1999.*



*Elaine F. Marshall*

Secretary of State