

# Dedication Is Sunday For Midway Church

The membership of Midway Baptist Church, located on North Franklin Road, will gather with friends and acquaintances at 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon on the grounds of their new church structure to hold formal dedication services.

The Rev. Zeno Groce, pastor of the thousand member Woodland Baptist Church of Winston-Salem, will preach the dedicatory sermon during the rites. The local church pastor, the Rev. Lee O. Meadows, added that the Rev. Rayton Puckett of Little Mountain Church will assist him in other parts of the service.

The new \$98,000 worship center is the third worship home for the congregation. It was in Mar. of 1951 that less than 20 persons gathered in an old store building and laid plans for establishing Midway Baptist Church. Soon outgrowing the store building that served as their worship center, the congregation built a cinderblock house of worship after formally organizing as a congregation in 1952 under the leadership of the Rev. J. L. Weatherman.

In 1956 the Rev. Oscar Walker of Hickory came for a 4-year term and saw further growth in the local congregation.

The Rev. Lee Meadows, called to the church in July 1960, has seen the congregation grow

until it now numbers 450 members. The old facilities have often been unable to accommodate the crowds that showed up for worship services.

Two years ago the study of the ways and means for erecting a larger building began. After a "false start" which cost the congregation some time and money, church bonds were sold in the community to finance the present structure.

Standing 150 feet south of the older church structure, the new worship center features stained glass over the double entrance doors. A tall, V-shaped roof supports a spire of modern design that towers 40 feet above the roof, leading a worshipper's eyes ever upward toward the sky.

Inside, 750 persons may be seated comfortably in the new auditorium. The air conditioned structure has dressing rooms just off the new baptistry, contains the pastor's study, two Sunday school rooms, rest rooms and what Pastor Meadows describes as a "cry room" for babies.

The older structure, separated from the newer one by a paved parking area, will continue to be used as an education plant for the moment. Plans are already underway, however, to finance the construction of a new and modern 18-room educational

plant.

Pastor Meadows reports that the present worship facilities of the church should be adequate for several years, or until the present congregation is approximately doubled in membership.

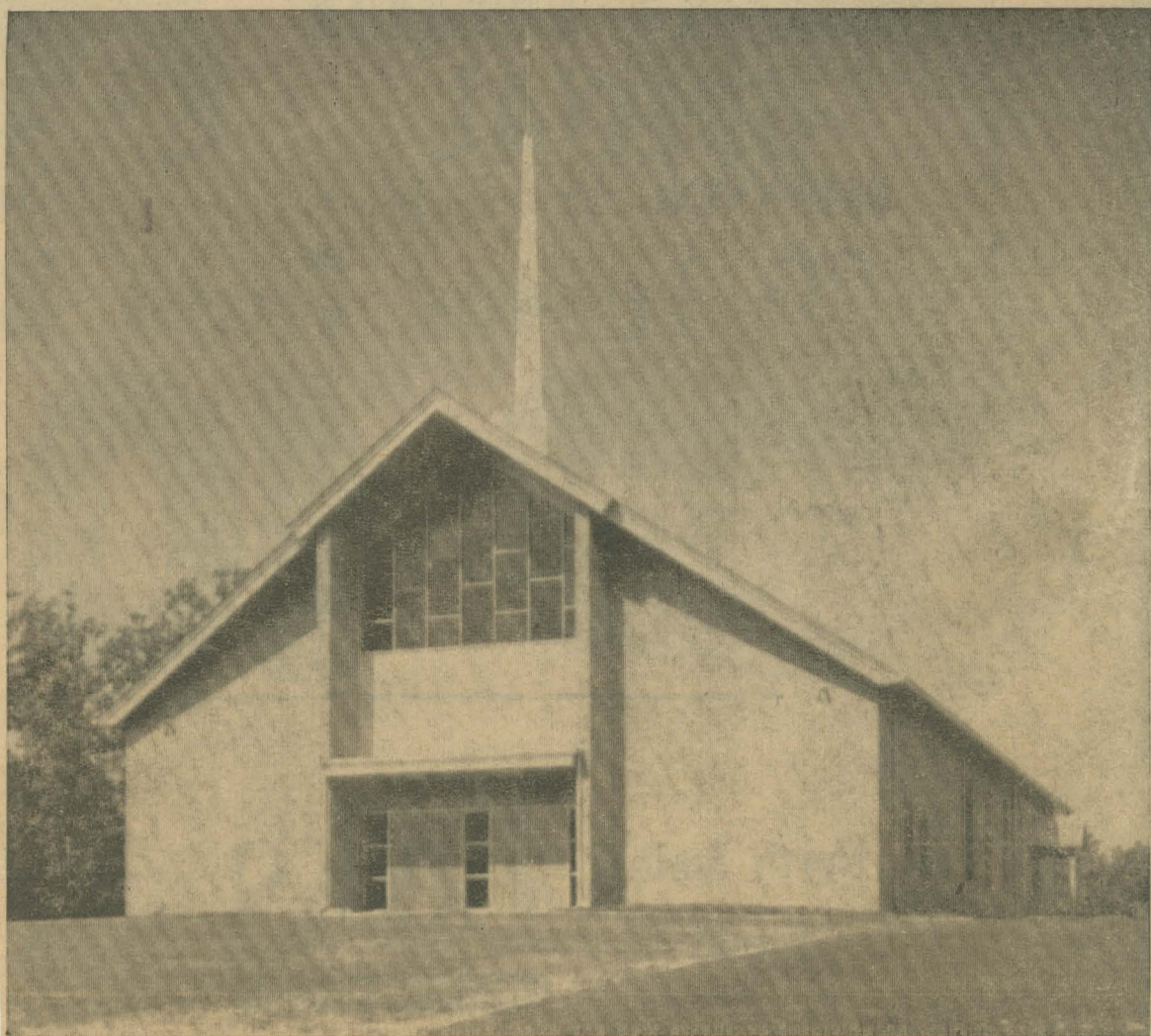
Sunday, a special recognition will be given to all charter members of the church present at the dedication.

The building committee and board of deacons of the church worked jointly on the details of arranging the construction of the worship center. They include: Jerry Parker, chairman of the building and finance committee; Kyle Shelton, chairman of the deacons; James Robertson, Hubert Marion, Billy Hayden, Carlos Haunn, Jim Wolfe, Junior Fulk and Melvin Strickland. Carl Byrd, now deceased, was also active in the work of the committees.

Tierney Construction Company of Winston-Salem was contractor for the construction project.

## Blackburn Reunion

The annual Blackburn family reunion will be held the fourth Sunday in June at New Bethel Baptist Church on Piper's Gap Road at noon. All friends and relatives are invited to come and bring a picnic lunch.



...stained glass and a towering spire make the new structure inspiring to worshippers...