THE FLAT ROCK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CELEBRATES
100 YEARS OF WORSHIP
IN THE SAME SANCTUARY

1903 **2003**

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By
Alvis L. McAlexander
Clerk of Session

INTRODUCTION

First you will find a statement presented by Mrs. J.W. Holmes in The Year 1940. We are grateful for her work and it is contained herein without change, excepting it was modified to fit this size paper.It is the intent of this writer to let Mrs. Holms' statement speak for the history of Flat Rock Presbyterian Church prior to the 1940 date.

Following Mrs. Holmes's work are two reports that were put together during the time Rev. Pooley was pastor here at Flat Rock. They are on colored paper and almost impossible to copy, however, we feel they will be of interest especially to those of us who were members of the Flat Rock Church at the time they were presented.

Random information of some historic interest, from congregational meetings, is enclosed along with lists of past Pastors, Elders, Deacons, Clerks of Session, and Treasurers.

During the Civil War (war between the states) The Presbyterian Church in The United States of America (PCUSA) General Assembly ceased to meet. After the war they, for some reason, each went their own way and a new church was formed which was called The Presbyterian Church in The United States (PCUS). The PCUSA was generally known as the northern church. The PCUS was known as the southern church. and its congregations were basically located in the southern states. The PCUSA had congregations throughout the country, most of them that were located in the southern states were made up of members of the African-American race.Each church went its separate way for many years meanwhile they became somewhat different. Some people hoped that the church could become united but neither could agree to the other's constitution. Finally each church appointed a constitutional committee to work with the other church's committee resulting in a new constitution that both churches could agree on. After much prayer, tears, sweat, and talk both churches voted to reunite and to again become one called The Presbyterian Church (USA).

Beginning in the early 1980s under the new constitution The Flat Rock Congregation was required to make changes. The church was required to become incorporated. An office rotation system was began for the church's officers. The Board of Deacons no longer appointed the Church Treasurer, this was done by The Church Session.The congregation could no longer hold title to its real property unless it voted to do so within a certain period of time (The Flat Rock Church voted to do so on September 10, 1989).



HISTORY OF FLAT ROCK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AS READ BY

Mrs. J. W. Holmes

Sunday, October 13th, 1940.

HISTORY OF

FLAT ROCK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The Presbyterian Church has been the martyr Church of history. Though sword and fagot are laid aside, she maintains her martyr pre-eminence by continuing to elicit a peculiar hositity. As an acute observer has truly said, "Every heresy in doctrine or morals works itself first or last into a frenzy against Calvinishm".

The persistence of these attacks renders it important that Presbyteria should inform themselves of the scriptural warrant and splendid history of that great system of doctrine held by their Church, that they may be able t vindicate God's truth against error and give a reason for the faith that is in them. While we are not the ecclesiastical body that holds this system, none will deny that friends and foes alike award to the Presbyterian Church as its wreath of thorns, or its diadem of glory, the distinction of being t world's historic and leading representative of the creed of Calvinism. In this coronation we rejoice, and we would gladly attribute it to the purity in which we hold this "faith once delivered to the saints", and the unflinc ing fidelity with which in every age we have been ready to champion and to die for it.

Our doctrinal Standards of our Church are three: the Westminster Short Catechism, the Westminster Larger Catechism, and the Westminster Confession of Faith. They are not three creeds. They are three statements, varying i form, fulness and purpose, of one and the same creed. Each is complete in itself. Each contains all the essential truths of Scripture. Each is a complete epitome of the Calvinistic system. Whoever intelligently accepts the teachings of the Shorter Catechism is a true Calvinist. Should he exte his studies to the Larger Catechism and the Confession of Faith he would fi in them the same system of doctrine with which the briefer statements of th Shorter Catechism had already acquainted him. Her doctrinal system the Presbyterian Church accentuates. She is pronouncedly and pre-eminently a doctrinal church. Yet the acceptance of her Standards she never requires of any applicant for admission to her fold. Her only condition of church membership is a credible profession of faith in Christ. Calvinistic and Arminian believers in Christ she welcomes with equal heartiness. Her door of entrance is wide as the gate of heaven. But of her office-bearers she requires doctrinal soundness. The question asked them at ordination is, "Do you sincerely receive and adopt the Confession of Faith and the Catechisms of our Church as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures?" This formula of subscription is liberal. It binds only to "all the essential and necessary articles". "The use of the words 'system of doctrine" in the terms of subscription precludes the idea of the necessary acceptance of every statement in the Standards by the subscribers but involves the acceptance of so much as is vital to the system as a whole

Thus we say that Calvinism won the battle for freedom. Men imbued wit his ideas fought the battles. In some places they succeeded; in others they failed. The great principles were crushed successfully in France and Spain. In Switzerland, Holland, England, Scotland, they prevailed. The victory made America possible.

The name Puritan is one to dream about. It was a general term that included Low Church Episcopalians, Presbyterians and Independents. These wanted to purify the church worship by taking away the unbiblical things that had been added my men. Calvin's students taight his views in England and this increased the number of Puritans . When persecution came to these believers a few years later there started the stream of emigration to Ameri

In 1776, the Presbyterians and Congregationalists met in Elizabeth, New Jersey, to discuss plans for insuring the religious liberty of the churches in America. The Presbyterians were told that an Episcopate would be founded and bishops appointed from England, despite their opposition. It has truly been called a religious war with the Presbyterians and Congregationalists firmly on the side of the colonists, while the Episcopalians, almost without exception, were loyal to England.

Home Missions played a great part in the development of Presbyterianism in North Carolina. In 1770 seven ministers laboring in North Carolina were set off into the Presbytery of Orange, the second presbytery to be organized in the South.

After the General Assembly passed the famous Gardiner Springs Resolutions declaring allegiance to the Federal Government, all Southern Presbyterians renounced their allegiance to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A., and met in Augusta, Ga., on Dec. 4, 1861, and constituted the first General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the Confederate States of America, later changed to Presbyterian Church in the U. S., and it is of this branch that we are now a part. And, with this background we look to the foundation and progress of our own Church.

The religious life of Mt. Airy today, as judged by the eleven strong and well established churches within the city and a large number of others within a radius of two miles, is the outgrowth of almost two centuries of progress, which dates back to the itinerant pastors of the colonial days in North-West North Carolina.

The average passer-by, looking at the splendid church buildings that grace our city streets and countryside might never think of those hardy pioneer Christians who laid the foundation stones of religious worship in these North Carolina hills, but one with a historical mind may focus his thoughts in the past and visualize the work of the pioneer ministers who first preached the word of Jesus Christ to those early settlers in this community.

The Methodist, Quaker, and Primitive Baptists were the first denominations to hold services in this section of the country, but the Methodists were the first to build a church in the Town of Mt. Airy, and it was a missionary by the name of Marc Wood, sent out by the Methodist Church here, who went to China during the War Between th States and returned several ye later with a Chinese boy who was a familiary figure on the streets of Mt. Airy for many years, John Hazee, who still lives in the County.

The second church to be organized in Mt. Airy was of the Presbyterian faith, the formal organization of which took place in 1858 with seven charter members, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Gilmer, Mr. and Mrs. Allan Denny, Miss Martha Gilmer, Miss Lizzie Gilmer and Miss Mary Dick.

This organization meeting climaxed a series of informal Presbyterian meetings which had been held since 1850 by travelling ministers of the denomination. Mr.R.S. Gilmer was chosen as an Elder at the time of organization, which post was held by him until his death.

The First Presbyterian Church building was erected in 1873, the land being donated by Mr. Gilmer. The first church was a frame structure on the same site as the present church and was used for 37 years with 17 ministers serving as Pastor.

The present church building was erected in 1910 under the ministry of Rev. John A. Gilmer and was formally dedicated on June 14, 1914. Since that time, under the pastorates of Rev. T.C. Bales, Rev. Zeb V. Roberson, Rev.

J. C. Grier, Rev. J. W. McFall, and Rev. J. B. Ficklen, the membership has more than doubled.

Another individual who has played a prominent part in the building up of the First Presbyterian Church is Judge W. F. Carter, who has been active in its affairs for six decades, and he served for forty-one years as Superi tendent of the Sunday School and is now Senior Elder of the Church.

It was from this background that Flat Rock Presbyterian Church came into being. Mr. John E. Spaugh, a member of First Church, was among the first to recognize the need of some outpost work for his church, and who realized that the most receptive place for this work was in the "Quarry Section," the quarry having been in operation for several years and there being several families there who were either Presbyterian or brought up in the Presbyterian faith, among them being the Leitch's, Monroes, Dobie's, Valentines, Gwyn's, and the Mitchells. So, early in the turn of the century Mr. Spaugh and his eldest daughter, whom we speak lovingly of as "Miss Ethel" began a Sunday School in the old Rock School House, she teachi a class and playing the organ. This building stood on the site of, and is now a part of, the new Flat Rock Baptist Church one mile East of us. Let Miss Ethel tell us in her own words of this--"Happy memories throng thick and fast as I think back over the days when my fater was alive, and when th Flat Rock Sunday School meant so much to us.

"The Sunday School had its beginnings in the Sunday afternoons when Papa would take us to ride in the old carriage. We all loved the roads toward and past the Quarry, and my father would gather up extra copies of quarterlies, Sunday School Papers, Christian Observers, etc., and would giv them to the children whom we saw, and would often stop to talk to them.

"Through the interest and the help of Mr. Peter Deatherage, a Sunday School was begun in the Rock Schoolhouse. The people of that community, of all denominations, were most helpful and faithful, and, as you know, many attended from the Quarry itself, among them some who taught classes in the school. Mr. J. A. Paisley was the Mount Airy pastor at that time."

About the year 1902 the Sunday School had grown and the heads of the families in both this community, and that in which the Baptist church is located, saw the need of church homes and the peoples of the two communitie began their church homes around the same time, the Baptists building what is now calle d the old Baptist Church and the Presbyterians building this one that we are celebrating today.

The lot was donated for the church, by the Widow of Mr. R. S. Gilmer and the Executor of his Estate, the Deed being made to John E. Spaugh, George W. Lee, W. W. Burke, John Leitch and Hugh Monroe, as Trustees of the Mount Airy Presbyterian Church; and the granite was donated by Messrs. Tom, George and Frank Woodruff, owners at that time of the quarry; and by popula subscription of money and labor the building became a reality.

The Corner Stone was laid in 1903 in the presence of a large crowd fr far and near. Granite City Masonic Lodge furnished a barbecue dinner, that was sold to make money to pay off the indebtedness of the church, and quoti from "Miss Ethel" again: "Dr. B. W. Mebane succeeded Mr. Paisley, as Pastor in 1903, and was present at the barbecue which was given on the grounds to finish paying for the lovely new church, during the summer of 1903. Some of the boys had a hand organ that turned with a crank, and played the same tune over and over. It was a very festive occasion and made a lot of money as well. The Church was dedicated early in December, 1903, and it is a joy to know that my father lived to attend that dedication, and the protracted meeting that followed it. He died on Dec. 23, 1903, a Christian soldier, if ever there was one.

The Thompsons had come to the Rock before this; the Allens, the Teshes, J. S. Klein, and others.

"Beloved Mr. Geo. W. Lee, assisted by Mr. S. A. White, had taken over after Papa's death, and the Sunday School grew and flourished. My sisters and I continued to attend, and I played the organ, which had been given by Messrs. Tom, George, and Frank Woodruff. I'll never forget the hymn that was played in the wrong key one Sunday, and Mrs. J. A. Gilmer's loyal attempts to reach the high notes! The Rev. John A. Gilmer had followed Dr. Mebane as Pastor in 1908, and both he and Mrs. Gilmer were especially interested in the Rock Church, andmeant a lot the Sunday School.

The following is taken from the Minutes of Granite City Lodge #322, A. F. & A. M., of which Mr. John Leitch was Worshipful Master, and included in the Membership of the Lodge were Mr. H. D. Monroe, Mr. Robt. Dobie, Mr. Edd Davis, Mr. Geo. W. Lee, Mr. Bob Wray, who were active in the founding of the church:-

"Aug. 18, 1903- Regular Communication. Lodge accepted an invitation to attend Cornerstone Laying. Committee on Arrangements- O. W. Lochtitzky, W. P. Gilmer, H. D. Monroe, S. P. Graves, John Leitch, Edd Davis and Geo. W. Lee. The Lodge directed the Secretary to ask the Grand Master to superinten the laying of the Cornerstone, and directed Bro. S. P. Graves to write F. D. Winston to deliver an address on the occasion. Page 210".

"Call Meeting sometime between Sept. 1st and Sept. 12th, 1903, to appoint Special Committees. Bros. W. P. Gilmer, S. Hale, Edd Davis, were appointed a committee to select a Deputy Grand Master and Wardens, viz.- John Leitch, Grand Master; O. W. Kochtitzky, Sr. Warden, and J. R. Paddison, Jr. Warden., to lay Cornerstone of Church on Sept. 12, 1903."

"Sept. 15, 1902. Regular Communication. Bros. S. P. Graves, O. W. Kochtitzk and W. M. Wall were apppointed a Committee to prepare Minutes of Grand Lodge Proceedings of Sept. 12th. Page 216".

About this time Mr. Geo. W. Lee had a Class of Boys who decided that t Church needed a bell and that they would raise the money to buy it, which they did. In this class of boys were familiar names like, Clyde Wray, Henry Valentine, and Harry McHone.

During these years Flat Rock Church as a Chapel of the First Presbyterian Church with regular preaching services conducted by the Ministers of that Church, these being Dr. Mebane, Mr. J. A. Gilmer, Rev. T. C. Bales, and Mr. Z. V. Roberson; it being during the pastorate of Mr. Roberson, in the year 1923, that it was decided Flat Rock was ready to stand on its feet and b e organized as an individual church, under the supervision of the Home Miss Board.

At this point, we pause to pay tribute to the Seminary Students who helped the Pastors of First Church and who were active in the work of the Fla Rock Church:-

Mr. George West Diehl came in June 1913 from Washington & Lee Universi to assist Rev. John A. Gilmer and left in September of that year for Union Theological Seminary, graduating in 1916. He is now Dr. Diehl of Corpus Chri Texas, and pastor of a church of more than a thousand communicants.

Rev. G. W. Taylor, Jr., who labored with us during the Summer of 1914 and after graduating from the Siminary he and his wife decided to enter the Foreign Mission Field, going to Brazil. He died while doing Eveangelistic Wo and Head of the Boys School there, where he had endeared himself to the worke and to the natives.

Rev. Joe Walker helped Mr. Bales during the Summer of 1915 and for sev years held pastorates in N. C., going then to Gaffney, S. C., but the first o Oct., this year, he moved to Greeleyville, S. C., where he accepted the pasto of that church.

Mr. Marion S. Huske, who was also a Summer Supply, has had a very active work in the ministry, after finishing at the Seminary he was pastor of several churches, and spent two years on the Foreing Field in Brazil, but is now Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Reidsville, N. C.

Mr. George Claytor was another that endeared himself to us, but through the years we have lost sight of him, and think he must have moved to the Northern Church, as there is no record of him at present in the worke of the Southern Church.

And last but not least is our own Hugh Hamilton, who has recently returnec to this Presbytery, and he is going to tell us today of hismself and his work. He is now Assistant Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Winston-Sa

Of the organization of Flat Rock Church, the following is taken from the Minutes of Orange Presbytery:-

"At a Called Meeting of Orange Presbytery, March 8, 1923, the second i of the callwas "To receive a petition for the organization of a Church at the Rock, Mt. Airy, N. C., and to appoint a commission to organize a Churc if the way be clear."

Action of Presbytery: "Rev. S. M. Rankin, Supt. of Home Missions, pres to the Presbytery the Mission Work in the Mt. Airy field, the hopeful outl of the work, and their desire to have a Church organized at the Rock, wher we already have a building and a congregation. He told the Presbytery tha it was the purpose of the Home Mission Committee to place a man there, and that he would be supported in part by the First Church of Mt. Airy and by Home Mission Funds, and by the Congregation at the Rock Church.

No signed petition was presented, but on motion of Rev. S. M. Rankin, Presbytery voted that a commission be appointed to organize a Church at th Rock, Mt. Airy, N. C., if the way be clear.

The Moderator appointed the following Commission: Rev. S. M. Rankin, Rev. George W. Lee, Rev. C. E. Hodgin, Rev. Z. V. Roberson, and Elders W. Carter and Dr. C. A. Baird. The time to be fixed by the Commission."

Report of the Commission - Made at the Spring Meeting of Presbytery,

"The Commission appointed to organize a Church at Flat Rock, Mt. Airy N. C., met on the evening of the 12th of March, 1923, at the clost of Evan listic Services conducted by the Synodical Evangelist, Dr. Wm. Black. The following members of the Commission were present- Rev. C. E. Hodgin, Rev. Geo. W. Lee, Rev. Z. V. Roberson, and Elders W. F. Carter and Dr. C. A. Ba Dr. Wm. Black, and Elders W. W. Burke and Raymond Shive were invited to sit with the Commission.

Rev. C. E. Hodgin preached and Rev. Z. V. Roberson was appointed as C A petition was presented, signed by 65 persons, who desired to be organize into a Presbyterian Church. On motion the Petition was granted, and the Commission proceeded to the organization of a Presbyterian Church accord in to our Book of Church Order.

By vote of the Congregation "Flat Rock Presbyterian Church" was chose as the name of the church.

By unanimous vote Mr. H. D. Monroe was elected as Elder of the Church and Mr. John McKenzie, Mr. James Thompson and Mr. D. J. Midkiff were elect as Deacons. These officers were duly ordained and installed.

A brief charge was delivered to the officers and members of the Churc by Rev. Geo. W. Lee. Remarks were made by Dr. William Black and Rev. Z. V Roberson.

The Commission adjourned with the Benediction by Rev. Z. V. Roberson

Respectfully Submitted,

C. E. Hodgin, Chairman."

This sketch would not be complete without a word of appreciation to Mr. J. D. Sargent and The North Carolina Granite Corporation for their interest,in, and help with the work of Flat Rock Church. It is to them that we are indebted for the beautiful grove about the church and for its upkeep. When the church needed painting on the outside, it was to them we went; in fact, it is to them we go whenever we want anything <u>big</u>. The Auxiliary has sponsored the Bulletin Board for the yard, but it was Mr. Sargent who made it possible by donating the stone back, with the lettering, for the board, and it will be completed within a few days. When we need tables for picnics or for Bible School, it is to Mr. Sargent we go, and it is always given to us with a willing spirit. Every year at Christmas Time there is a check sent to the Church Treasurer to help with the Church Expenses.

While we all feel that Flat Rock Church is a blessing to the community, and to the quarry company as well, we do appreciate the fine spirit that the Company and the Officials have always shown to the Church.

Early in the Spring of 1924, latter part of April and beginning of May, a Revival was held in Flat Rock Church by Rev. Lowery Bowman, a relative of Mr. Berry, which was a great blessing to our Church and Community, several of the heads of families uniting with the Church at this time. Due to the addition of a number of members it was decided to elect additional Officers, and at this time John W. Holmes and Ralph C. Monroe were added to the list of Elders and Mr. Phil Combs and Worth McHone were added to the list of Deacons.

A complete list of our Elders and Deacons at the present time, Oct. 13th, 1940, is as follows:-

ELDERS: H. D. Monroe, James Thompson, John W. Holmes, Ralph C. Monroe, Charles Edwards, and Merida Pell.

DEACONS: John McKenzie, Phil Combs, Aquilla Pack and Blyde Wray, and Hubert Lawson.

and we give below a brief sketch of each of these:-

Mr. H. D. Monroe was born in Furniss, in the Highlands of Scotland, of Presbyterian parents. He came to America when a mere lad, and after working in various parts of the country he came to Mt. Airy in the early nineties and decided to settle here, bringing his family from Massachusetts. He was elected a Deacon in the First Presbyterian Church in 1915, and at organization of Flat Rock Church he was elected as Elder. He has served in almost every phase of the church's work, being Supt. of the Sunday School for a great many years, and is still Teacher of the Bible Class, being considered our best Bible Student and Teacher, and is also Senior Elder.

Mr. John W. Holmes, familiarly known as Johnnie, was born in Southowram, near Halifax, England. His parents were active workers in the Wesleyan Methodist Church of that place. He came to America when a young man and worked in various sections of our country, coming to Mt. Airy in the Fall of 1922, married one of Flat Rock girls in 1923, and in 1924 joined this Church, and was elected an Elder at that time. He has been active in the work of the Church, and especially in the work of the choir.

Ralph C. Monroe needs no historical sketch. He has followed in the footsteps of his parents and has been active in Flat Rock Church throughout his whole life as Student, Teacher, Supt. of Sunday School, as an Elder, and Church Treasurer.

Charles Edwards joined the Baptist Church when twelve or thirteen years old, his parents being active in that Denomination, and moved to Flat Rock Church about 1931 has been active supporter of this church during this period, and is at present Supt. of the Sunday School, and a good one!

Mr. James Thompson was born in Aberdeen, Scotland. His parents were Episcopalians and he came to this country when a small boy. He joined the Episcopal Church in Paterson, N. J., when living there as a lad with his parents, and moved his membership to First Pres. Church soon after coming to Mt. Airy while Mr. Gilmer was Pastor. He has served our Church as Deacon and now as Elder and has been Clerk to the Session for a number of years.

Mr. Merida Pell came to us from Hunter's Chapel, Va., a Methodist Church in 1925 and soon made a name for himself as a Leader in Church work, always ready to do anything that he was asked to do-- if the minister needs someone to substitute for him he knows he can always rely on Mr. Pell to lead in prayer or conduct a service. He was soon elected a Deacon and then an Elder and has served as Supt. of the Sunday School.

Phil Combs is another that can always be counted on to be in his placed His parents were Primitive Baptists, but Mr. Combs was a regular attendant here at Flat Rock for a number of years before uniting with the Church in 1924. His family has been brought up in Flat Rock Church, and if it were for Mr. Combs we would have come to a cold church building on many Sundays but he volunteers every Fall to see that the fires are built, and the weather never gets too bad to keep him away from service, and see that the rest of us are comfortable.

Below is a list of the Charter Members of Flat Rock Presbyterian Church:--

Mrs. Lydia Burton	Mr. H. D. Monroe	Mr. John McKenzie
Mrs. Robt. M. Collie	Mrs. H. D. Monroe	Mrs. John McKenzie
Mr. W. J. Campbell	Ralph C. Monroe	Mrs. E. M. Doss
Mrs. " "	Mrs. Ralph C. Monroe	Paul Griffith
Thelma Dobie	Arthur G. Monroe	Mrs. George Mitchell
Mrs. Henry Gardner	D. J. Midkiff	Bessie Mitchell
Mrs. John Leitch	Macy Midkiff	Harry McHone
Margaret Leitch	Ralph Midkiff	Elsie McHone
Joseph Edmund Leitch	Glenn Midkiff	James Thompson
Mrs. E. P. Ball	John Walker	Mrs. James Thompson
Kenneth McKenzie	Charles Walker	Christobel Thompson
Mr. Jasper Short	Mrs. George Davis	Mrs. A. Valentine
Mrs. " "	Willie Gardner	Dora Lee Valentine
Mrs. Nellie Dobie Walker	Mary Louise Gardner	Willie Valentine
Alice Mastroianni	Virginia Gardner	Myrtle Valentine
Alba "	Lula Frances Hill	Mabel Whitaker
Gia "	Maude DiPalma	Myrtle Doss
Leandra "	Beatrice DiPalma	Daniel Doss
Mallie Jackson	Ruby Whitaker	Gaston Gardner
Bessie Davis	John Davis	Joseph Witt
Stella Brooks	Claudie Whitaker	Thomas Witt

Soon after the organization of the church a call was sent to Rev. R. L. Berry, asking that he come as Pastor of Flat Rock Church, together with two other churches. The Call was accepted by Mr. Berry and he came to us in the Summer of 1923. Robert Lowery Berry was born in Washington County, Va., near Abingdon, and following his graduation from High School he entered King College, Bristol, where he received his A. B. degree. He was reared in a strong Presbyterian family, and community, his father and several uncles being Elders in the Presbyterian Church for years, joined the church when 1[illegible] years of age and was received as a Candidate for the Ministry in Abingdon Presbytery in 1917. He entered Union Theological Seminary, graduating in 1920, and in the same year was licensed and ordained at Madison, N. C. He remained as Pastor of Flat Rock Church for twelve years and endeared himself to all with whom he came in contact. For five years he has been Pastor at Sparta Presbyterian Church, where he is also closely connected with Glade Valley High School.

Early in the year 1935 a Call was sent to Rev. J. K. Fleming, of Thomasville, N. C., to come and minister unto us, which Call was accepted by him. John Kerr Fleming was born near Elmwood, N. C., and when a boy he united with Third Creek Church, moving his membership in 1914 to Elmwood Presbyterian Church. His family has been connected with the Presbyterian Church for years, and his relatives were among the founders of Davidson College. After graduating from High School at Pikeville, N. C., where he met the girl who is now his help-meet, he attended Davidson College. During the World War he served with the A. E. F., first in Co. B., 306th Military Police, and later in Headquarters Co., 155th Infantry. Returning from Fran[illegible] in 1919, he entered Union Theological Seminary, from which he graduated in 1[illegible] and at the same time his sister, Miss Lillie Fleming was a student at Assem[illegible] Training School, later doing Home Mission Work and then as Pastor's Assista[illegible] in Lexington Church.Mr. Fleming was licensed by Concord Presbytery and orda[illegible] by Wilmington Presbytery. He has been very active as Pastor at Acme, N. C. Gilbert, W. Va., Thomasville, N. C., and is now serving Flat Rock, [illegible] Asbury and Collinstown Churches in an untiring manner-- he never knows a "quitting place" when the work of the Master is at stake. His zeal and his work have made this day possible in the annals of Flat Rock Church.

Mr. John McKenzie was born in Argylshire, Scotland, of Episcopalian parents and remained a member of that denomination until March 10th, 1923, when he joined First Presbyterian Church upon Statement that he was a Mamber of the Episcopalian Church in Argylshire. He moved his membership to Flat Rock at the time of organization and became one of its Charter Members, and has remained faithful and loyal throughout the years, willing to do whatever he is called upon to do in the work of the Church.

D. J. Midkiff was one of the boys who grew up in our Church, but later moved to Flat Rock Baptist Church. Later he moved back to our community and he and his family were always to be counted on in any work of the church. Since moving into the town of Mt. Airy, it is inconvenient for them to get back to Flat Rock as often as they would wish, or as often as we would like to have them, but they still have a warm feeling for Flat Rock and come whenever they can. Dock fits into the work of any church and is always active in church work, going where it is most convenient for him to attend regularly.

Clyde Wray is another who grew up with Flat Rock Church. Since coming back to Mt. Airy to live, he having been out of the State for a number of years, he moved his membership to Flat Rock, where he has been most active in the work of the choir.

Mr. Quilla Pack came to Flat Rock Church in 1935 from the Presbyterian Church at ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ Danube, Va. , he having joined the church there in 1916. His father and mother were Presbyterians, and Mr. Pack is a graduate of Blue Ridge Academy. He was elected as a Deacon at Flat Rock in 193 , and is one of our most faithful workers as Assistant Superintendent of the Sunday School and a teacher.

Mr. Hubert Lawson is one of the new-comers to our Church. His parents were Methodists but he did not join any church until 1938, when he, his wife and a son were all received into the church on the same day. Hubert was elected a Deacon shortly after coming into the Church and is always ready and anxious to do anything he is called upon to do.

We have one son of Flat Rock Church who is a ministerial student. Jimmie Garvin joined the church while living here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Garvin, although they have since moved to Washington, D. C. Mr. Garvin was an Elder in our Church and Mrs. Garvin was very active in the Woman's Auxiliary, with both of them working in the Sunday School. Jimmie's grandparents were missionaries from the Northern Church to Chile, his grandfather dying there and his grandmother going back after being retired because she loved the people there so much and could not be contente unless she was busy about her Master's business.

We have always had a Young People's Organization, first the Miriam Band, Mission Band, Christian Endeavorers, and now a group of Young People. Those active in this line of endeavor has been, and is the young people of those families who have always been interested in the work here.

This paper would not be complete if we did not mention those who have served so faithfully and well in the Sunday School, as Superintendents and Teachers.

Mr. J. E. Spaugh; Mr. Geo. W. Lee, whose living memorial is Geo. W. Lee Memorial Church in Winston-Salem, N. C.; Mr. S. A. White; Judge W. F. Carter and his two sons, Joe and Frank; Mr. D. E. Hoffman; Mr. E. C. Seewald;

Prof. Ira T. Turlington; H. D. Monroe; Ralph Monroe, Robert Campbell, N. G. J. M. Pell, and Mr. Charles Edwards, the present Supt.
Among the teachers, although we would not dare to say we remember them all, were Miss Ethel Spaugh, Miss Blake, Mrs. Gilmer, Mrs. Spaugh, Misses Myrtle, Katie and Annie Spaugh, Miss Elizabeth Merritt, Miss Ruth Smith, Miss Maude Witt, Miss Maria Baird, Miss Mary Mebane, Mrs. H. D. Monroe, Mrs. R. C. Monroe, Miss Maggie Thompson, Miss Essie Gwyn, Miss Dora Valentine, Henry Valentine, Willie Valentine, Myrtle Valentine, Mrs. John Leitch, Mrs. J. McKenzie, Thelma Dobie, Mrs. Norman Garvin, Mrs. J. K. Fleming, Mrs. Geo. Clift, and many others.

It was during the pastorate of Rev. J. A. Gilmer that Mrs. Blackwell, of Durham, came and organized the Woman's Missionary Society. The Officers elected at that time were: President, Mrs. J. A. Gilmer; Vice President, Mrs. H. D. Monroe; Secretary, Mrs. Nellie Dobie; and Treasurer, Mrs. John Leitch. These with Mrs. Sarah Spaugh were the Charter Members of this organization. Mrs. H. D. Monroe and Mrs. C. B. McBride also served terms as Presidents. This Society was very loyal in its support of the work and really did some wonderful work, but at one time with the few who could attend the meetings it was necessary to meet after Prayer Meeting Service, and they would read from the Missionary Survey and collect dues, but kept the organization alive. The writer well remembers when school was being held in the church building, while the new school house was being built, that on Friday afternoons, when it was time for the meeting of the Missionary Society, Mrs. Spaugh would give the younger children a poem to memorize after the noon recess, while she heard the older children recite their lessons, and the first one to learn the poem received a dime. That was the method of "teaching through" in 19

After the church organization in March, 1923, the first officers of the Woman's Auxiliary were: - President, Mrs. H. D. Monroe; Sec.- Mrs. J. W. Holmes, and Treasurer- Mrs. John McKenzie.

It would take too much time to give a complete roster of the Officers during these years, but among thos e who have served as President for one or more terms are: Mrs. H. D. Monroe, Mrs. R. L. Berry, Mrs. R. C. Monroe, Mrs. George Clift, Mrs. Norman Garvin, Mrs. J. W. Holmes, and Mrs. Charles Edwards, the present President.

Two of our ladies have served as Chairman of Group Conference, Mrs. Ralph C. Monroe and and Mrs. George Clift.

Our Auxiliary follows the plan of our Committee on Woman's Work and tries to "do its bit" in each phase of the work suggested by this Comm We are also loyal to our own church in all of its work, and within the las three years we have been responsible for the church's having a new carpet the pulpit and for the aisle of the church, the Communion Table, a new Communion Set, the new Bulletin Board which we had hoped to have today, bu which will be ready shortly, and for the lovely silver baptismal bowl whic has been given us by friends "In Memory of Mrs. Sarah L. Spaugh."

Thus we have seen Flat Rock grow from a tiny Sunday School in a one-room school house to a thriving church of 105 communicants with a live Sunday School of 129 pupils, an active Woman's Auxiliary, and a growing wo among the Young People.

Let us not rest on our laurels of work already accomplished, but let each one of us press forward, with new zeal, for the prize of the high calling of Christ Jesus.

Faith of our fathers!
O how our hearts beat high with joy,
Whene'er we hear that glorious word.
Faith of our fathers! holy faith!
We will be true to thee till death.

Flat Rock Presbyterian Church



ANNUAL REPORT

1950-1951

ROBERT C. COOLEY
PASTOR

THE SESSION REPORTS

Since April 1, 1950, the Session has met 22 times. This includes called and regular meetings. The first Congregational meeting of 1950 was for the purpose of calling Rev. R.C. Pooley. This was held on April 30, 1950. The first meeting of the session with Mr Pooley as Moderator was held May 5, 1950.

Winston Salem Presbytery, received Mr Pooley into its membership on May 22, 1950 and he was installed as Pastor, Sunday May 28th. Members of the installing team included Rev. D.S. Mc Carty, Moderator; Rev. Carl Stark, Pilot Mountain; Rev. Ralph Richie, Elkin; and Rev. Lewis Yelanjian, Francisco. At the present time the pastor serves as a member of the Committee on Church Extension, and chairman of Radio, Negro Work, Christian Relations and Defense Service in the Presbytery. He is also a member of the commission on the Minister and His Work. Mr Charles Edwards, a member of the Flat Rock session, is serving on Assembly's Special Causes Committee in the Presbytery.

During the past year the church has elected five new deacons. Messers. Shelton, Pell, Goard, Walker and Lorlen. The church has been blessed the past year with 27 new members. The entire congregation realizes this increase in membership came through the hard work and untiring efforts of our pastor.



Our next best piece of work came about on Dec. 17th, 1950 when the congregation decided to tackle a new plan for financing our Manse. A decision to have a pledging campaign resulted in gifts and pledges totaling over $3,600 The pledges began Jan 1, 1951 and are made to run two years at which time we trust, "the Lord willing", we will be able to burn the mortgage on the manse. This date coinsides with our 50th Anniversary Date.

The objectives for the congregation for the coming year as recommended by the Pastor and Session are:

1- Every member active in the worship and service of the Church.
"Growing in Grace"

2- Every member a member of our Church School
"Growing in Knowledge"

3- Every woman, every man, every young person a member of their respective groups and serving in some capacity.
"Growing in Service"

SLOGAN: "BE STRONG IN THE LORD AND IN THE POWER OF HIS MIGHT"

ELDERS: R.C. Pooley, Moderator
R.C. Monroe, Clerk
H.D. Monroe
D.J. Midkiff
John Mc Kenzie
Charles Edwards

Respectfully Submitted,
Ralph C. Monroe, Clerk

PASTOR'S REPORT

In the space of a single page it will be difficult to adequately sum up the work of the pastor. Your pastor and his family candidated on Sunday, April 16th, 1950 and was called to begin his work on May 1, 1950. After a cross-country move some adjustments were necessary, and the Pooley family started settling down in the lovely manse, as its first occupants. They still consider themselves very fortunate indeed to be serving this field at such a time as this. The last pastor to serve this field was Rev. John Foster, leaving in 1943 so it is easy to understand that a great deal of basic work had to be done, and yet not leave undone the preaching of the Word and pastoral care. Our Sunday School was reorganized with a larger staff and the attendance began to climb through the summer months. The aveage attendance by Christmas was 75 per Sunday. The Church Worship attendance has also been climbing, and the "experiment to have an early service" seems to have taken hold. The Church Membership now stands at 105. The largest membership was 131, under the leadership of Rev. J.K. Fleming. Incidently in that year (1939) 27 new members were also added. With our Spring Meeting at hand we are praying that souls will be save and this branch of the church strengthened.

The Pastor conducted: 1 Funeral (Kemp Lee Pell)
5 Marraiges
15 Baptisms (Adult)
4 Communions

Your Pastor serves as Stated Supply of Asbury, Collinstown and Hills Churche

With the help of Mildred Jones and Jean Stone a very successful Bible Schoolwas hel in June, 1950. In connection with this the boys played several Baseball Games, and a Picnic was held. We are planning on another good school this year. During the Fall of 1950 the Women of the Church reorganized, and the men took the cue and orga ized their group in the early part of 1951. The Young People were the first group to be organized and they have met faithfully and attended the affirs of the Youth of the Presbytery.

Your pastor has been active in interdenominational efforts, participating in the Community Services on Thanksgiving, New Year's and Easter. Our Community Revival is the largest undertaking of the three churches, and we feel that God is blessing our faithfulness to the prayer of Jesus, "that they all may be one" We look back with thanksgiving to the meeting held by Rev. Robert Berry, 1st pastor of our church, and realize that we must follow through on many of the things he suggested during our meeting now at hand.

Space will not permit me to remember the many kind things that have been done fo the Pooley family, but I am thrilled by the splendid spirit of cooperation on the part of the officers and teachers of the Church and Sunday School, and all the alli groups of the Church. Many friends have remembered to send gifts to the Church Trea and others have given material items to beautify our sanctuary, and makeour program more effective.

Your pastor continues to maintain the tie with our service men, remembering the lonely days of service far away from home. The least we can do for our boys is to pray faithfully for them and write occasionally. My aim in the new church year is to extend the pastoral care of our church, hoping to help more who are sinsick, others who are at loose ends, and all who long for a closer walk with God.

Sincerely your servant in Christ,

Robert C. Pooley Jr.

* FINANCIAL REPORT *

RECEIPTS

Offerings (Church A.M. - P.M., Sunday School)	$2,067.31
Building Fund (Manse)	1,224.72
Special Offerings	350.32
TOTAL	$3,642.35

Disbursements

Benevolences	$229.73
Pastor's Salary	825.77
Pulpit Supply	10.00
Annuity Payment (Church - Pastor)	108.19
Presbytery Tax	12.30
Fuel	67.54
Lights	22.27
Sunday School	222.79
Camp New Hope	3.00
Men's Work (Charter)	2.00
Printing, Paper, Postage, Supplies, Music	77.20
Films	78.53
Gifts (Berry - Pooley)	100.00
Incidentals	113.17
Building Fund	1019.57
Painting	215.90
Manse (Study - Basement)	274.91
TOTAL	$3332.57

In the year 1950-51 the church gave the largest amount in its history to the Benevolent program of our Denomination. It also enjoyed the pleasure of a large income to make possible a larger ministry. The Session has accepted a quota of $276. for Benevolences in 1951-52, and we should consider this a minimum. As our membership climbs let us try to give $500. to the larger program of our Denomination.

The first five issues of the Guiding Light cost $304.88, or an aveage of $60.00 per issue. Although this is not considered Church Income, much of the add money is given as a gift or donation to a most worthy cause. We should remember to thank the merchants who place their adds in the paper.

The present balance of the Manse Loan is under $3600. This represents a drop of about $900. in the past year, the rest of the money going for interest. We urge all our friends and members who have not had a partin the effort to "burn the mortage" to help in this new year.



WOMEN of the CHURCH

The Women of the Church are really going places and can b jubulant over the progress that has been made since the organizational meeting on Oct. 17, 1950. Ten members cou ageously elected officers and proposed to talk so much ab our meetings that others would want to come.

It seems that the abundant use of a sincere and eager invitation, as well as prayer has brought results. Our la count disclosed 28 members on roll with 24 of them presen at the March meeting. We feel that we have grown in more than numbers and have great joy in the additional ways we have served. Even in organizational babyhood, devotional books were sent to the Service Men titled, Strength for Service. In December the Joy Gift program was tackled and apparently the playlet was enjoyed by both players and audience. Our other programs followed as closely as possil topics other women of the Presbyterial are having. These have been interesting and informative.

As usual the ladies have had a hand in feeding the men. In our case two supper were planned and served, one in the Manse basement and the other at Veteran's ark. Our Young people have been eager to have choir robes and were encouraged in their bake sale by the many contributions of our women. The Big Item of the year was the purchase of a slide-filmstrip (Viewlex) projector for the Church. We do hope this will be used by all the groups in the Church.

Monthly Bible Studies on Great Bible Prayers have been given. In connecti with this we drew names for prayer partners. Remember we are praying for you a are asking the Holy Spirit to guide you. Two guest speakers were enjoyed this past year, Mrs Frank Carter and Mrs W.F. Brown. Mrs Brown, Presbyterial Pres., installed our officers for the new year and gave us a lot of help and encourag ment for the new year. We have high hopes for the coming year and want all who will, to join us, in this joyous work of the Lord.

Mrs Fred Eads, President

Women of the Church Financial Report

RECEIPTS			DISBURSEMENTS	
Balance on Hand Oct. 17	$25.10		Joy Gift	$33.76
Literature	27.36		Literature	33.55
Offerings	39.25		Foreign Missions	12.50
Men's Suppers	52.08		Projector	84.22
Joy Gift	33.76		Stamps	1.40
	$177.55			$165.43
			Balance in Bank 4/1/51	$12.12

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Kenneth McKenzie

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT FOR THE FLAT ROCK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 1950-51

Number of Sunday School Classes	8
Number of Officers and Teachers	11
Number on Roll, April 1, 1951	106
Aveage Attendance 1950-51	60
Aveage Attendance 1949-50	34
Total Attendance for the Year	3127

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The Flat Rock Sunday School has conducted an unusual experiment this year for it changed its hour of study in order to provide an earlier hour for the preaching servibe. Loyalty to the Sunday School has increased and the attendance at Church, especially on the part of the children has been most gratifying. Last Summer the first worker's conference was held, and they have been held ever since on the firs Tuesday of each month. These conferences make it possible for the staff to discuss ways and meahs of improving the Sunday Schools. The officers and teachers have served faithfully, and several new classes were organized and teachers provided. Miss Ima Lee Gillespie has been a real asset since she joined the staff as Secretary of the Sunday School. For their many years of faithful servibe Mr and Mrs H.D. Monroe and Mrs John Leitch, were retired with the thanks of the officers and members of the church, and an appropriate gift was presented at Christmas, 1950.

The Adult Bible Class was organized with Jack Shelton serving as President, and Quillie Pack, serving as Teacher. In honor of Mr High D. Monroe, first teacher of the class, the Adult Bible Class now bears his name. The S.S. Treasurey was consolidated with the church funds in June, 1950 and the Church Treasurer now serves as S.S. Treasurer. The S.S. has always had a proud record of giving and made a real effort to capture the Rally Day Banner this year with an aveage gift of .56 cts. per member. Thomasville, set a new record for our Presbytery however and gave 96 cts. per member. Two very interesting contests have been held this past year. One with the Asbury Presbyterian Church last Fall, in which Asbury was soundly beaten. (They paid off with the best meal the Flat Rock folks had seen in many a day.) Rev. "Shorty" Smith was our speaker for this occasion. The second contest was a auction contest based on attendance, in which some of our people earned as high as $250. (The pot-luck fellowship dinner and auction will be held next Saturday, April 14th, at 6:30 P.M. -- Come, and bring the family.) The growth of our Sunday School has been due to faithful leaders who have set the pace for winning the Pilot Wheels, presented to any member of our Sunday School who has three months perfect attendance. So far 41 children, young people and adults have won this lovely pin. At this time next year we confidently hope every member of our Sunday School will be wearing a "Pilot Wheel".

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Edwards, Supt.

THE DIACONATE

The Deacons were organized in 1950, according to the Book of Church Order, with Mr Quillie Pack as Chairman; Mr Robert Edwards as Treasurer and Mr Wayne Pack, Sec. The new lineup in 1951 has Wayne serving as Secretary, Mr Wade Loflen, as Treasurer and Mr Jack Shelton, the new Chairman. With the other Deacons they are working at the task of improving our physical plant. (Church and Manse) The Deacons have met monthly, and on occasion with the Session in a joint meeting. Although the job was postponed at first, the Church Interior was finally rodecorated by Horton and Walker. Since that time in Dec. every member and friend has been more than pleased with the pleasant change. A room in the Manse was finished for the Pastor's Study, and the basement of the Manse was waterproofed. The basement is now used on Sunday as the Kindergarten classroom.

Several neew Deacons were added in 1950-51, and two of our Deacons left the community. Bob Edwards, our Treasurer, entered the Air Force and Pershing Pell, went to Auto Diesel School in Nashville, Tenn. The Board is now organized for action with the following active committees.

Stewardship Committee; Quillie Pack - Harvey Walker

Building and Grounds Committee: Dave Midkiff and Jack Shelton

Welfare Committee: Roy Goard - Wayne Pack

Mr Harvey Walker and Mr Dave Midkiff served as captains during our 1951 Every Member Canvas, which is reported over the top with pledges of $2,100 on a approved budget of $2,000. The Deacons are anxious to have every one who attends our services or any non-resident member use the boxes of envelopes which have been secured for use. They are confident that it will be an effective means for teaching stewardship in our congregation. The treasurer, has an ample supply of these on hand and will be happy to see that you get a set of envelopes. The Deacons wish to express their appreciation for the fine response to the refinancing program for the Manse. Again the proven method of weekly gifts to the Manse, has reduced the balance on the loan and kept most of the pledges up to date. We ask that you read carefully the financial report of our church, which is found on another page.

Respectfully Submitted
Quillie Pack

THE GUIDING LIGHT

Very little needs to be said about our Church Paper, for it speaks for itself. But we would like to take this opportunity to thank the merchants of Flat Rock and Mt. Airy, for their patronage. The interest and support of the North Carolina Granite Corp. should also be mentioned. We were happy to welcome our Baptists friends with the fourth issue of the paper, and comments from church members and non-church members have been most favorable. The paper is sent to practically every state in the Union and to all the Service Men from the Rock. The aveage cost is $.5. per copy and the non-add support has amounted to exactly $3.50. Although we have made no effort to secure gifts for the paper they are always welcome and should be sent to Mr Roy Goard, Treas; or they may be given to one of the editors. Your help and support is necessary if we are to continue to have a good Church Paper.

Presbyterian Youth Fellowship



The first group organized under the leadership of Rev. Cooley was the Young People. They have had an active year with frequent parties and regular meetings on Sunday Evenings. Some of these meetings were led by membersof the group and some by the pastor. At the present time we are having a series of filmstrips based on the life of Paul.

Last Summer 10 of our number went to camp. Six to Camp New Hope, at Chapel Hill, and Four to the Y.M.C.A. camp near King, N.C. Our pastor attended both of these camps and led the recreation. In the Fall we attended the Rally at No. Wilkesboro, and some of us are planning to attend the Spring Rally to be held in Mt Airy next Sunday afternoon.

During the past year the Council was composed of Gloria Hiatt, Pres.; Betty Snow, Sec.; Lois Williams, Treas.; and Donald Edwards, Fred Childress and Anna Ruth Childress. The new leaders for 1951-52 include Lois Williams as President, her sister Virginia as Secretary and Gloria Hiatt is the new Treasurer. Others serving on the council include Ronald Cavinesss, Betty Snow and Bernelle Childress

Our major project for the new year is to get Choir Robes for our Choir. We have been led by Jimmy Pruitt, and we owe a great deal to his willingness to try and help us have a choir. In our efforts to secure the robes we have had a bake sale and collected paper and magazines. We are still collecting paper and they may be brought to the church and stowed in the Manse anytime. A date will be set in the near future for a general collection throughout the community. At the present time we have $38.00 toward the robes.

Our Youth Group needs a sponsor - someone to serve as Counselor. With our new theme for 1951 - THY WILL - My Will, we will need the interest and support of our parents and friends, to succeed in giving first place to Christ in all things.
Our theme hymn is "Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord"
Our theme picture "Christ in Gethsemane", by Hofmann

Take thou our minds, dear Lord
We humbly pray
Give us the mind of Christ
Each passing day;
Teach us to know the truth
That sets us free;
Grant us in all our thoughts
To honor Thee.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Hiatt

MEN WORKING



On Dec. 9, 1950, a meeting of the menof our church was held at the Manse. The program was highly entertaining and a gc meal was furnished for the men by the wc of the church. The men decided that the men of the church needed a men's organization and a nomination committee was se lected to bring in a slate of officers. Also during the meeting a discussion on financing the Manse was brought up and a plan suggested by our pastor was adopted

On Feb. 10th, a meeting was held at Veterans Park and Arch Taylor, was our speaker. Vistors came from Mt. Airy, Ash and Winston Salem and Pilot Mountain. A full program of eats and fellowship was enjoyed by all. The proceeds from these dinners went to the Women of the Church.

President: Ugo Alfona
Vice Pres. Quillie Pack
Sec.-Treas. Wade Loflen

Members of the Executive Committee: Harvey Walker, Buster Vernon and Charles Edwards

Last Night (Sat. April 7th) the Men's Brotherhood held its Charter Night. A large number of men were on hand to see the presentation of the charter by Mr Charles Mauze, of Lexington; Pres. of the Men of the Presbytery. Mr Mauze also gave a very helpful talk. A film "Catching the Big Ones" was shown, and refreshments were served by several of the ladies. The following committees were appointed.

Program	Finance	Project	Worship
Charles Edwards, Chr.	Wade Loflen, Chr.	Harvey Walker, Chr.	Buster Vernon, Chr.
Jack Shelton	Ugo Alfona	Roy Goard	
Fred Eads	Quillie Pack	Victor Goad	

Although the men have no financial report for the past year, being the "baby" organization of the church, several projects on the fire will require muscle and financing. Mindful of the need for companionship, the men are planning to invite the ladies to several of their get togethers. They are also planning to be an active part of the Presbytery, Men of the Church program.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ugo Alfona



ANNUAL REPORT - 1951-52
Rev. R.C. Pooley
FLAT ROCK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE SESSION REPORTS

Seven elders comprise the Session of the Flat Rock Presbyterian Church, moderated by the pastor, Rev. Robert C. Pooley Jr. The elders include Quillie Pack, Clerk of Session; Charles Edwards, H.D. Monroe, D.J. Midkiff, John McKenzie Fred Eads and Ugo Alfona. Elders Pack, Eads and Alfona, were elected by the congregation and ordained and installed August 5, 1951

The Session met on numerous occasions throughout the past church year to receive and dismiss members, to consider the spiritual program and welfare of the Church, and to meet faithfully the obligations placed upon it by Presbytery. Additions to our Church last year include 15 on profession of faith, 8 by letter and 3 names were restored to the church roll. Losses include 3 by death, and 20 placed on the retired roll by order of session in Feb. 1952. We now have a Church Membership of 108.

The loss of Elder Ralph Campbell Monroe, was severe blow to our Church. In loving memory of our friend and brother, the Session has recorded a tribute to Ralph Monroe, in the Sessional record. Memorial services to be held by Presbytery and Synod this year will include a tribute to Ralph Monroe. A memorial fund in memory of Ralph Campbell Monroe, now exists, and will be used in the near future to purchase pulpit furniture.

Two meetings were held in our church. In the Spring of 1951, in cooperation with the other churches of Flat Rock, a Union Revival was held in the Flat Rock School under the leadership of Dr. Rolland Butler, of Grossmont, Calif. In the Fall of 1951, Rev. Hardin King, led our meeting at the Church. Both meetings were of great benefit and profit to our Church and Community.

The Session is happy to report that the benevolent quota was met in full. $510. was given to the benevolent causes of our Denomination through the General Assembly, Synod and Presbytery. The largest sum given was $105. to World Mission. We commend the Women of the Church for their splendid contributions to,the overall work of our Denomination, and recommend that every group in our Church adopt some benevolent project. Your Session has accepted the same quota from Presbyter for 1952-53,but it is our hope that we will be able to double the quota of $276.

Your Session has prepared a set of Objectives for the Church, for the new Church Year. These are included with this report, and all members are urged to to give them careful and prayerful consideration. The greatest need of our Church is a workable plan of lay-evangelism, and in the near future we plan to embark o a plan of Visitation Evangelism. Each member therefore is asked to prepare a lis of friends, to serve as a prayer and prospect list for the future.

Your session is gratified with the increase in the number of tithers in t Congregation, but believes there is still room for much improvement in the numbe of family altars in use in our Congregation. We encourage our Church families to make the best use of Christian Family Week in May, and begin then if not before the helpful practice of family worship.

Respectfully submitted,

uillie ack, Clerk

Our Sunday School

Is our Sunday School growing? The answer to this question is both yes and no. In attendance we are holding our own. For instance the aveage attendance for the last three months of 1951, was 75, and for the first three months of 1952 it was 73. The overall aveage attendance for the past year was 65. With an enrollment of 107, we believe this is a good percentage of attendance. Our first goal for this new year is an increase in our enrollment of at least 10%. The recent devision of the adult class should help in this direction. Mr Qullie Pack teaches the H.D. Monroe Bible Class, and Mrs R.C. Pooley teaches the Women's Class. The attendance of the officers and teachers this past year has been the best in 15 years, and we are very grateful for the consecrated leaders we hav our Sunday School. Last Fall, when a change in materials was considered Miss Sara McNeill, representative of the Office of Religious Education in the Synod of N.C. visited our Church and met with the leaders. A trial period of three months for t departmental graded materials was decided upon. Now that the trial period is over are happy to report that with few exceptions the new materials were more satisfac



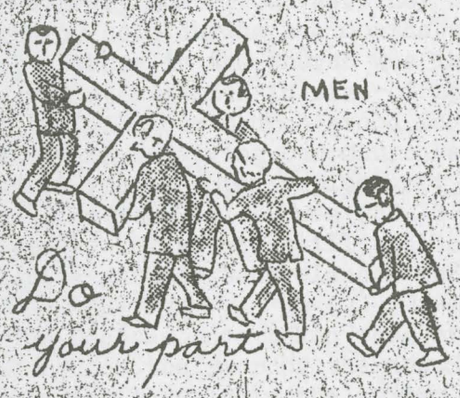
The big event of the year of course, as far as the Sunday School goes, was th "moving in" on the part of four classes into the new Sunday School Addition. The ginners, Primary, Junior and Intermediate girls classes were given the new rooms, they immediately fell in love with them. Each class has a blackboard, which is an to the teacher and every potential artist. The pupils and teachers fell to the ta cleaning up and decorating the rooms, and the men of the church laid the tile flo Gifts to the new addition included pictures, drapes and the tile floor. Tebles we purchased from the estate of Mrs John Leitch, faithful servant of our Lord and de Sunday School teacher, who passed to her reward, Jan 31, 1952.

A very successful Bible School registered 76 boys and girls, and a large perce age of these had perfect attendance. Our staff of 11 workers included three men, M Doris Moore, of West End, N.C., and a student at the Assembly's Training School we a helper for the first week, and returned voluntarily after a month at Jefferson, to work with our young people for another week. Many parents attended the final pr gram of the school, which featured the work of the children for two weeks in the

The goal of 100 in attendance was finally reached on Oct. 7th, 1951. (Home Com Sunday) On Rally Day 96 persons attended our Sunday School, and on Oct. 7th, 104. Sundays were the high water dates for attendance. Special awards were given to Mr Mrs Harvey Walker, and Miss Ina Lee Gillespie for a solid years perfect attendance and many others received Pilot Wheel pins for at least three months perfect attend



Say haven't we forgotten something? We were so i terested in telling the story about our Sunday S we forgot the question which began thestory. We failed to grow when our loyalty to Christ and Hi Church is not deepened by the opportunity and pr iledge of attending a Christian Sunday School. T is equally true for children and adults. Some of come to Church and Sunday to tell the old, old s some come to teach the truth of Jesus and His Lo and all of us come to hear the message of God's to gain strength and guidance for victory in the Christian Life. Support your Sunday School with votion and loyalty...and it will surely support y



MEN AT WORK

The Men's Brotherhood of the Flat Ro
Presbyterian Church has had a very pros
year. Three major things have been acco
plished this year and I know that these
the pride and joy of every man in the B
hood.

1-The men were very active in the ne
addition to the Church. Every man had s
part in rasing and financing the new ad

2-The men also organized a Boy Scout
that is led by Scoutmaster James Christ
The troop has grown and now numbers 19
Many of the boys are well on the road t
coming 2nd Class Scouts. The scout comm
is composed of John Jones, Irvin Everhe
Arthur Monroe, Alvis Mc Alexander and U
Alfona. Alvis McAlexander, is our insti
tional representative, and faithfully a
tends the meets of the Surry District.

3-The men have also accumulated a treasury with money in it. ($49.75 in fact!)
ey raised this money through offering
dinner held last December. T
ey have spent $1.00. ($20.00 for the Scout troop, $11.00 for meals) Balance 18

In all of our meetings I know that all of the men enjoyed themselves, and the
of the Church helped very much to make many of the meetings a success with their
good food and presense. Most enjoyable meeting was held at the Derby Cott
March, which we hope will be an annual affair for the Brotherhood. It was a lad
night, with the members of the women of the Church invited. This joint meeting w
held in appreciation of all the women have done for the men. The new officers for
the Brotherhood were installed at this meeting. They include, Lade Laflen, pres.
and Roy Scott, sec.-treas. Other members of the executive committee include Fred
Harvey Walker, Alvis McAlexander, and Buford Cook.

Fred Eads, Charles Edwards, Ike Alfona and the writer attended the Regional L
Convention in Greensboro, last Fall. Proof of this fact hangs in the beginners R
of the Sunday School. The men enjoyed the meeting and especially the opportunity
hear Evangelist Billy Graham.

We were particularly pleased with the way the men of the Church accepted the
Tithing Adventure challenge. Many have found it a most worthwhile adventure and
to continue tithing. Here is one place where the men can lead the way, and since
Jesus said "where a man's treasure is, there will his heart (interests) be also",
are confident that the men of our Church will give more of themselves in the new



THE BOARD OF DEACONS

During this past year Mr Jack Shelton, served as Chairman of the Board. One new Deacon was elected, ordained and installed on Aug. 5th, 1951. He was Alvis McAl ander, who incidently is the new chairman for 1952-53. The Deacons met regularl and the Board is composed of Dave Midkiff, Wayne Pack, Robert Edwards, Porshin ell, Jack Shelton, Roy Gourd, Wade Loflen, Harvey Walker and Alvis Mc Alexande All of those men have come to the Board since March 13, 1949.

The Deacons have developed "the grace of liberality in the members of the Church", by a careful study and preparation of the annual budget, and the sub- sequent Every Member Canvas. They effectively led the Congregation in the Tithi Adventure, held during the months of Jan., Feb. and March and the number of per manent tithers in the Church was increased to 15. In a Presbytery of 49 churche Flat Rock stands 15th in size of membership. In per capita giving however for l year (1950-51) our Church stood in 20th place, and in benevolence giving which a real index to giving our Church stood in 25th place with a gift of $2.65 per ber. This year the per capita gift to benevolences was $4.85, and the overall P capita gift for 1951-52 was $69.13. This record should raise our standing in th Presbytery, but we are still challenged to gain Synod's list, where the lowest per capita gift to benevolences is ten dollars per member.

The Deacons have taken care of the property of the Church and 1951 will be remembered as the year of the new Sunday School Addition. This project was spon sored by the Deacons in the summer of 1951. The cornerstone was laid Oct. 7, 19 the addition completed Jan 31, 1952. The new heating unit has displaced the ci culator, and in the process of building the Church roof was recovered. The insu ance on the Church has been increased to $10,000, and the policy carried on the Manse is for $4,500. The Deacons have taken care of the cleaning of the buildin with the help of the Elders, and a vacuum cleaner was purchased to help with th work. New chairs for the choir were purchased, tables for the Sunday School and an outdoor furnace built. (Also three large tables were constructed)

In their ministry to the sick and needy the Deacons have been limited in t efforts, but a Deacons Fund, has been organized, which will be used in the futu to help those in the community in need. The loose offering on Communion Sundays will be the basis of this fund, but special requests for offerings will be made from time to time.

We urge all the friends and members of the Church to read carefully the financial reports contained in this report. Our record for 1951-52 is one in which we can be proud ... but only to the extent that it increases our faith in God, and our Stewardship to God and His Redemptive program for humanity. In 1951, with God's help, with the help of Presbytery and a host of friends, Flat Rock grew materially and spiritually. Will 1952, be an even greater year? We hope and pray that it will.





THE WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

The Women of the Church are very hap
proud to have a full years work for
annual report. We are still working
enthusiasm and we find that is one o
things that has helped our organizat
succeed. We now have 29 active membe
on roll, most of whom are very faith
and dependable. Our Monthly Bible s
for the past year have been on the t
mandments, and were led by our Chr.
Spiritual Growth, Mrs R.C. Pooley. O
grams were designed and led by Mrs V.
Monroe, Program Chr.

We had six guest speakers during the past year including, Dr. Rolland Butler, M
Roy Davis, Mrs Ralph Midkiff, Miss Doris Moore, Mrs W.S. McSwain and Mrs C.S. L
rington from the Board of Women's Work. All of these speakers were most worthw
They did much to inspire and encourage us in our work.

The Women presented two special playlets. The first in connection with the M
day offering in May for African Missions. (This was done in balckface) The men
the Church were invited, and following the program a social time was held in th
Manse. This same playlet was presented to the Women of Asbury Presbyterian Chur
The second playlet was the Joy Gift Program in Dec. Several of the women and yo
girls in our Church took the parts in this playn which demonstated the true spi
of Christmas. A liberal offering was given for aged ministers and their familie

The Women of the Church prepared and served two suppers to the Men at their
and Dec. meetings last year. We also met at the Manse and tacked a quilt for Wo
Relief, as a part of our offering on World Community Day. We prepared cookies a
candy and packed boxes of these sweets for the men in the service and our stude
in college. We have sent indoor flower gardens or gifts to three mothers of new
babies. We packed and sent 70 lbs. of good warm clothing to Church World Servic
and the necessary money for transportation overseas. The Women collected 1000 c
ends, to receive in the name of the Church a lovely 40 cup coffee urn, to be us
in our future kitchen. Mrs Harvey Walker, secured a set of knives from Renfro M

Our hand work project this year was the making and outfitting of what we cal
"Glory Dolls". We enjoyed this and it was quite profitable. ($126.00) We decide
to the our dolls so we sent five out of the forty-five to Stuart Robinson School
With the doll project and the regular and special offerings we were hblo to giv
$157.38 to benevolences. (This does not include an estimate of $25 for the doll
sent to the Stuart Robinson School.)

The Women of the Church have enjoyed a thrilling year of accomplishments. We
looking forward to an even larger program for next year under the leadership of
Mrs Ugo Alfona, Pres., Mrs Char. Edwards, Vice-Pres., Mrs Victor Goad, Sec., an
Mrs Wade Loflen, Treas., Mrs Fred Eads will serve as progran chr. for the next
and Mrs Buford Good will be our Spiritual Life Chr.

Financial Report:

Income:	Bal. on Hand 3/31/51	$12.21	Expenses:	Literature	$ 37.55
	Glory Dolls	126.00		Memorials	25.00



[illegible]

[illegible] the close of another Church year we can
thanks to God for his many blessings, material
spiritual, which have come to us as individuals,
to our respective families, to our Church fami
Seven (7) have accepted Jesus Christ as their
and united with our Church on profession of faith
others have come to us by letter or have been res
from the retired roll. (11) Only enough the additions to our church this year
the number received last year. Two splendid meetings were conducted by Dr. Roll
Butler, and Rev. [illegible], in which the fires of love and loyalty were rekindled f
many in the Church and Community. In connection with receptions to the Church, y
pastor baptized 15 adults and one infant, the daughter of Brother and Sister [illegible]

"Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted." Several families
our Church and Community lost their loved ones during this past year
to the Church has shared with them the sorrow that accompanies such an hour. Th
pastor conducted services for Brothers Walter Cockrell, Marcellus Davis, Leitch
Charles Mayes, Sr. Roll, assisted in the funeral services of four others.
others were military funerals for [illegible] Brothers John Leitch will
be used to provide suitable memorials for these devoted servants of the Lord.

Four communions were conducted by the pastor at the stated times. The ties th
former young couple in Danville, Va., and his service as secretary and now as re
of the Military Ministerial Conference have continued to have cooperative services
the Flat Rock Community at Easter and Thanksgiving. In your pastor rejoices in t
splendid spirit existing between the churches and ministers in Flat Rock.

Your pastor is active in the affairs of the Mystery and attends the meetings
regularly faithfully. Among other responsibilities this year he will direct the
Junior Camp at Camp Refuge, Old Fort, N.C. the week of June 30th. He will leave
for summer training with the National Guard, Sunday, July 6th, for a period of
weeks.

No report of your pastor would be complete without special thanks being give
to the officers and members of the Church who have faithfully carried out many d
Brother Ebbie Shelton, and Jay Loflen, the retiring officers of the
of deacons, and to the other members of the Board who have served as ushers, [illegible]
and everything in between. We would not forget Eve's helping hand with the pre
thousand things to the officers and teachers of the Sunday School, who are bui
on record for another year of outstanding work in our Cemetery. In singing our se
of worship more beautiful with their music and talent we are thankful for the ch
and its director, Violet Lourie, one for our trio of lovely soloists, Minnie
Gloria Pitt and June Todd. Finally we would turn our thoughts to the committee
the building of our new addition. Our first unit in something to be proud of, for
addition to reflecting the skill of the builders, it stands as what can be done by a
band of Christians, who are determined to rise up and build.

As we close the second year of our ministry at Flat Rock Presbyterian Church
are most grateful to God for the privilege of serving in this portion of the
vineyard. By this time, you will have learned that the Boley's are far from
and have yet much to learn. We trust that by the Grace of God, we will be
render a more complete ministry in this place. Pray for us now for the
we have praying that God will add to our number; that he will strengthen us f
this task...that he will hold us to be good stewards ... of the manifold Grace of

Sincerely, Your Pastor
Robert C. Boley Jr.

OBJECTIVES FOR THE CHURCH

Foreward:

Rarely, if ever, did Jesus refer to the church as an organized institution. In His stress on the Kingdom of God, His emphasis wa so much on a new order of society as it was on a new order of huma beings united in Him-of persons who should dwell together in Chri love as children of a common Father. However, it was inevitable as the Holy Spirit worked in the hearts and lives of believers, th should band together in a visible organization, the organized soc of Christians; it exists for the one function of fulfilling the pu poses of Christ to the glory of God.

Objectives are essential to an integrated and effective prog sufficient to fulfill the purposes of Christ for His Church. Obj ives are simply desired results; their function is as that of a c to a mariner - an instrument by which activities may be directed the achievement of specific goals.

We believe that the primary function of the Church is center the following: Evangelism, plus Education, resulting in Service Therefore, we submit the following general objectives as guides b which growing persons may be enabled to become fully Christian as Holy Spirit works in them and through Christian workers.

I- Evangelism: Bringing growing persons in to Christ:

1. By instilling a true conception of God, and awareness of personal sin, and of need for Christ as Savior and Lord.
2. By obtaining a definite decision to accept Christ as perso Savior and to follow in His way of living.

II- Education: Building growing persons up in Christ:

1. By presenting the Bible as the Word of God revealing what to believe concerning God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and wh duty God requires of man.
2. By developing such an understanding and appreciation of th person and teaching of Jesus Christ that a consuming love for Him be the master-motive in the individual.
3. By eliciting a Christian interpretation of life and the Un seeing God's purpose and plan in it, resulting in an adequate Ch philosophy and a sense of personal relationship to God manifested worship, stewardship, and in surrender to the Holy Spirit in ever human experience.
4. By guiding in a progressive and continuous development of Christ-like character through personal religious experience of conscious willing acceptance of the Christ-like way of living, empowered by Holy Spirit.

III- Service: Setting growing persons to work for Christ:

1. By participation in the Church, (which is the organized soc of Christians), that each may contribute in achieving fulfillment these objectives.
2. By developing the ability and willingness to apply the lif principles of Christian truth to every area of living, so that soc as a whole may feel the impact of Christ's influence.
3. By holding before them the challenge of Christ's commission "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel." (Mk. 10:15) "An shall be witnesses unto Me...unto the uttermost parts of the earth (Acts 1:8)

NOTES FROM THE CHURCH RECORDS
(after the year 1940)

Sept. 5, 1948
The congregation met for the purpose of raising funds for the building of a Manse. A committee on finance was named: Mrs. Ralph Monroe (chairperson and treasurer), D.J.Midkiff, Dave Midkiff, Q.A.Pack, and Mrs. Charles Edwards. A committee on building was named: Charles Edwards (chairman), Will Greenwood, Hubert Lawson, Jack McKenzie, and R.C.Monroe.The meeting was moderated by Rev. Lewis Yelanjean.

March 3, 1949
The congregation met for the purpose of electing trustees. The Church has only one surviving trustee, Elder H.D. Monroe, elected to serve with him were Charles Edwards, Q.A.Pack, and R.C.Monroe. "The trustees were given the authority to negotiate any loan or making financial arrangements necessary in building of Manse".The meeting was moderated by Rev. Ralph Buchanon.

August 23,1949
The trustees of The First Presbyterian Church of Mount Airy deeded the Flat Rock Church property to the trustees of Flat Rock Church in order for them to use the property as collateral for the purpose of obtaining a loan to build The Manse.

April 30, 1950
The congregation met for the purpose of calling a pastor.The vote was unanimous to extend a call to Rev. R.C. Pooley. The Pulpit Committee was instructed to sign the call (no record of who the committee was has been found. The meeting was moderated by Dr. D.S.McCarty.

October 21, 1951
The congregation met for the purpose of electing trustees: Alvis L. McAlexander and Harvey Walker were elected. The Board of Trustees were instructed to borrow money, if and when needed, to complete the new addition to the Church building. A building committee was elected as followers: Mrs. Violet Monroe, Chairperson; Mrs. Ugo Alfano, Vice Chairperson; Mrs. Dave Midkiff, Treasurer; Ima Lee Gillespie, Secretary. The meeting was moderated by Rev. R.C.Pooley, Pastor.

October 10,1952
The congregation met for the purpose of calling a pastor. Rev Harry Barnett was elected The Nominating Committee was instructed to sign the call. The committee consisted of Charles Edwards, Chairman, Fred Eads, Harvey Walker, Violet Monroe, Goldie McAlexander, and Q.A.Pack. Elder Charles Edwards moderated the meeting.

February 21,1954
The congregation met for the purpose of approving the building of a second new addition (Fellowship Hall). Another meeting was held on June 13th instructing the trustees to borrow $6000 for financing the addition. Another meeting was held on August 8th instructing the

trustees to borrow another $3000 to complete the building. The meetings was moderated by Rev. Harry Barnett, Pastor.

May 12,1957
The congregation met for the purpose of calling a pastor.Rev. Douglas Paulson was elected. Serving on The Nominating Committee were Ugo Alfano, (chairman), Q.A.Pack, Mrs. Bill Martin, Mrs. Vernon Gates, Dave Midkiff, Dora Valentine, and Mrs. Alvis McAlexander. Elder Charles Edwards moderated the meeting.

May 25,1958
The congregation met for the purpose of deciding if we should buy an electronic organ. After much discussion a vote was taken to buy the organ. The vote was 28 for and 17 against. The only objection being the cost of the instrument. The meeting was moderated by Rev. Douglas Paulson, Pastor.

February 25,1962
The congregation met for the purpose of calling a pastor. Rev. William O. Nelson was elected by a unanimous vote. Those serving on The Nominating Committee were Alvis McAlexander (chairman), Bill Martin, Myrtle Valentine, Joe McHone, and Myrtle Edwards. The meeting was moderated by Rev. Gaston Boyle.

August 26, 1962
The congregation met for the purpose of building improvements and maintenance. After a discussion on needs and cost it was voted to refinish the inside of The Sanctuary, paint the building both inside and out, etc.The trustees were instructed to borrow the fund as necessary.The moderator is to appoint a committee as needed to carry out the work.The meeting was moderated by Rev. W.O.Nelson, Pastor.

March 30, 1969
The Congregation met for the purpose of calling a pastor. Mr. Robert Crews was elected by a majority of the congregation. Those serving on The Nominating Committee were: Allen Brown, James Younger, Goldie McAlexander, Ugo Alfano, and Ima Lee Gillespie. Ugo Alfano, Ima Lee Gillespie, and James Younger signed the call.This call was unusual in that the pastor was to work a normal workweek with R.J.Reynolds Tobacco Company and at the same time be pastor of the church.The meeting was moderated by Rev. William E. Kercheval, Presbyterian Minister and speaker for the day.

June 5, 1977
The Congregation met for the purpose of electing a pastor. Rev. Robert A. Johnson was elected by a majority of the congregation. The Nominating Committee were Levia Eads, Alvis McAlexander, Pershing Pell, Paul Beck, and Gail Welborn.. The call was somewhat unusual in that Rev. Johnson had, for some time, served the church in an occasional supply relationship.

April 25, 1982

The Congregation met for the purpose of electing Deacons. Wayne Barlow, Donny Cox, Oleta Gates, Ima Lee Gillespie, and Goldie McAlexander were elected. Mrs. Gates, Miss Gillespie, and Mrs. McAlexander being the first women officers in The Flat Rock church. The meeting was moderated by Rev. Thomas Bagnal.

February 7, 1983
The Congregation met for the purpose of calling a pastor. Rev. Linda Blessing was elected by unanimous vote.The Nominating Committee was composed of Joseph Welborn (chairman), James Midkiff, Joy Barlow, Wayne Barlow, and Corrine Puckett. The meeting was moderated by Rev. Thomas Bagnal.

December 18, 1983
The Congregation met for the purpose of electing officers and other matters.A rotating system of electing officers was put into effect with the election of: Elders: Class of 1984 Clinton Childress and Fred Eads, Class of 1985 Ugo Alfano and Joseph Welborn, Class of 1986 Alvis McAlexander and Pershing Pell; Deacons: Class of 1984 Wayne Barlow, Class of 1985 Paul Beck and Donny Cox, Class of 1986 Oleta Gates and Goldie McAlexander.A motion was passed instructing The Church Session to follow The Church's Book Order G-7.0401 in reference to incorporating the church. The active Elders are to be the directors of the corporation (Church Trustees). The present trustees, Q.A.Pack and A.L.McAlexander were instructed to convey all The Church's property to The Flat Rock Presbyterian Church, Inc. after incorporation was complete.Mr. Pack and Mr. McAlexander were thanked for their past service as trustees The meeting was moderated by Rev. Linda Blessing.

July 30, 1984
The articles of incorporation of The Flat Rock Presbyterian Church , Incorporated was filed with The North Carolina Secretary of State. On August 2,1984 the same was filed with The Recorder of Deeds of Surry County, N.C.The incorporators were Ugo Alfano, Alvis L. McAlexander, and Joseph Welborn. Mr. Welborn is the initial registered agent of the corporation.

August 23, 1984
The Board of Trustees of The Flat Rock Presbyterian Church, Incorporated met. Those present were Ugo Alfano, Fred Eads, Alvis McAlexander, Clinton Childress, Pershing Pell. Joseph Welborn was unable to attend the meeting because of a home emergency. He later singed a statement that he had read the minutes and agreed with all the action of the meeting.By-laws as suggested by The Presbytery of Concord were read , discussed, and adopted.Mr. Alfano was elected president of the board and Mr. McAlexander was elected secretary.

October 10, 1993
The Congregation met for the purpose of calling a pastor. Rev. Donald G. Scofield, Jr. was elected by unanimous vote. Those serving on The Nominating Committee were: Robert Edwards, Jessie Welborn, Alvis McAlexander, Burton Dinkins, and Levia Eads.Rev. Thomas Bagnel moderated the meeting.

July 7, 1996

The Congregation met for the purpose of calling a pastor. Rev. Richard L. Qualls was elected by unanimous vote. Rev. Qualls is to serve as approx. one half time pastor while he works for Renfro Corporation. Those serving on The Nominating Committee were: Gail Cox, Burton Dinkins, Robert Edwards, Alvis McAlexander, and Rosa Marshall. The meeting was moderated by Rev. Paul Ridolfi.

August 16, 1998

The Congregation met for the purpose of electing a nominating committee for officers and to make a decision in reference to The Board of Deacons.The congregation voted 17 to15 to abandon the office of Deacon and at the same time increase the members of The Session by three.The meeting was moderated by Rev. Richard Qualls, Pastor.

FLAT ROCK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PASTORS

Rev. Robert L. Berry	March 1923 to April 28,1935
Rev. John K. Fleming	1935 to November 24, 1940
Rev. J.W.Foster	1941 to July 11, 1943
Rev. F.C. Lytle	November 14, 1943 to August 4, 1946
Rev. Robert C. Pooley	May 28, 1950 to September 14, 1952
Rev. Harry F. Barnett	November 1952 to December 31, 1956
Rev. Douglas L. Paulson	July 14, 1957 to March 15, 1961
Mr. Thomas Bagnal (stated supply)	June 1, 1961 to August 31, 1961
Rev. William O. Nelson	May 20, 1962 to September 15, 1965
Robert L. Crews, Sr.	June 22, 1969 to July 31, 1975
Rev. Robert Johnson	June 1977 to November 1, 1980
Rev. Linda Blessing	May 1, 1983 to November 1, 1992
Rev. Donald G. Scofield, Jr.	November 7, 1993 to February 11, 1996
Rev. Richard L. Qualls	November 10, 1996 to present

FLAT ROCK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ELDERS

Ugo	Alfano	8-5-51	1-8-89	
Margaret	Atkins	12-27-98	3-27-02	Resigned
Donald	Campbell		- - 35	Moved away
Clinton A.	Childress	4-3-60	1-6-85	
Gail W.	Cox	1-6-85	1-13-91;	12-31-95 12-31-98
Donny C.	Cox	1-9-02	Present	
Burton	Dinkins	12-27-92	12-27-98	
Fred	Eads	8-5-51	1-6-85	
Levia M.	Eads	1-6-85	1-13-91	
Charles	Edwards	2 -2-36	2--7-68	Died in office (DIO)
Robert A.	Edwards	12-31-89	12-31-95;	12-29-96 12-22-02
Kathy M.	Goins	12-27-98	present	
John D.	Holms	4- -24	- -43	Moved away
L. Clifford	Marsh	12-29-96	1-11-98	
Rosa	Marshall	1-13-91	1-29-96;	1-11-98 present
Michael	Marshall	1-8-95	10-23-96	Resigned
Billy F.	Martin	4-30-60	8-7-66	First Presbyterian, Galax, VA
Alvis L.	McAlexander	3-20-53	12-31-89;	1-13-91 12-29-96; 1-1-99
Dwight A.	McAlexander	12-31-89	1-1-93	
John	McKenzie	3-13-49	7-28-57	DIO
D.J.	Midkiff	3-13-49	2-27-61	Emeritus
Hugh D.	Munro	3-12-23	11-30-52	DIO
Ralph C.	Munro	4- -24	8- -51	DIO
Qullie A.	Pack	8-5-51	5-7-78	Emeritus
J. M.	Pell	2-2-36	- -50	Moved to another church
Pershing	Pell	6-15-58	10-17-89	DIO
Donald	Shelton	12-22-02	Present	
Debra M.	Stoltz	1-8-89	1-8-95;	1-11-98 3-15-00
James D.	Thompson	3-12-23	12- -48	DIO
Karen E.	Vernon	1-8-95	1-11-98	
Monty G.	Vernon	12-27-98	12-31-01;	12-22-02 present
Donald T.	Walker	12-27-98	12-22-02	
Joseph	Welborn	3-20-53	1-8-89;	12-29-96 1-9-02
Jessie W.	Welborn	1-8-89	1-8-95	

FLAT ROCK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH DEACONS

D.J. Midkiff	1923 -Elected Elder in 1949
John McKenzie	1923-Elected Elder in 1949
Phillip Combs	1924- DIO 10-1-41
John Campbell	1924-1936
Worth McHone	1924-record incomplete
Clyde Wray	1936- record incomplete
Qullie A.Pack	1936-Elected Elder 8-5-51
Dave Midkiff	1941-DIO 6-13-81
Hubert Lawson	1941-record incomplete
Robert A. Edwards	1949- moved away 1-16-57; later elected Elder
Wayne Pack	1949- moved away 7-16-57
Roy Goad	1950-1959 divested without censure
Jack Shelton	1950-1985 rotated off board
Pershing Pell	1950-elected Elder 6-15-58
D. Wade Loflen	1951 retired 12-20-66 ceased to act
Harvey Walker	1951-DIO 11-30-60
Alvis L. McAlexander	1951-elected Elder 3-20-53
Joseph Gravely	1953-1959 divested without censure
Frank Shelton	1955 retired 11-5-79
James Wilhite	1955-1985 rotated off board
Clinton A. Childress	1957-elected Elder 1960
Billy F. Martin	1957-elected Elder 4-3-60
John T. Roberts	1957-retired 12-5-61 moved away
Joe R. McHone	1958- DIO 7-29-75
Leonard Parker	1958-retired 12-27-65
Roscoe Campbell	1958-divested without cencure 12-26-61
Hassel Martin	1958-retired 12-2-68 ceased to act
Richard E. Kirkman	1960-transfered to another church 10-19-69
Haywood Harrell	1960-retired 12-27-65 ceased to act
James r. Younger	1960-retired 1-23-78 ceased to act
David J. Beal	1970-transfered to another church 10-24-77
Allan Brown	1970-transfered to another church 4-16-72
Paul J. Beck	1970-moved to another church 1-10-88
Howard C. Hunter	1970-moved to another church 11-2-75
Wayne Barlow	1982-rotated off board 1-6-85
Donny C. Cox	1982-1988; 1990-1996 later elected Elder
Oleta C. Gates	1982 DIO 8-11-86
Ima Lee Gillespie	1982-DIO 7-13-82
Goldie G. McAlexander	1982-1989; 1991- rotated off board 12-29-96
Fred Eads	1985-1988; 1991-1994 rotated off board
Monty Vernon	1985-1987; 1994- Board of Deacons disolved 12-31-98
James Midkiff, Sr.	1986-DIO 6-24-90
Rosa Marshall	1987-elected Elder 12-31-89
Billy R. Aldridge	1988-1990 rotated off board
Tony H. Stoltz	1988-1993; 1996- Board of Deacons disolved 12-31-98
Michael Marshall	1989-1990 rotated off board
Joseph Welborn	1990-1992 rotated off board
Frances Dinkins	1995-1997 rotated off board
Donna P. Scofield	1995-moved to another church 8-4-96
Joseph C. Cox	1996- Board of Deacons disolved 12-31-98
Jessie W. Welborn	1997-Board of Deacons disolved 12-31-98
Margaret P. Pyles	1997-Board of Deacons disolved 12-31-98
Kathy M. Goins	1998- Board of Deacons disolved 12-31-98

Flat Rock Presbyterian Church
Clerks of Session

John D. Thompson	March 12, 1923 to 1948 (died in office)
Ralph C. Munro	May 3, 1950 to August 19, 1951 (died in office)
Qullie A. Pack	September 9, 1951 to January 3, 1956
Alvis L. McAlexander	January 3, 1956 to December 31, 1989;December 31, 1995 to December 29, 1996; March 15, 2000 to present.
Debra M. Stoltz	December 31, 1989 to January 8, 1995; January11, 1998 to March 15, 2000.
Gail W. Cox	December 29, 1996 to January 11, 1998
Karen E. Vernon	January 8, 1995 to December 31, 1995

Flat Rock
Presbyterian Church
Treasurers

We have no listing of The Church's Treasurers. The ones that this writer remember are:

D. Wade Loflen
Dave Midkiff
Hassel Martin, with the assistance of his wife, Hazel
James Younger
Myrtle Valentine
Ima Lee Gillespie
Donny Cox, with the assistance of his wife, Gail
Margaret Atkins
Sharon Walker