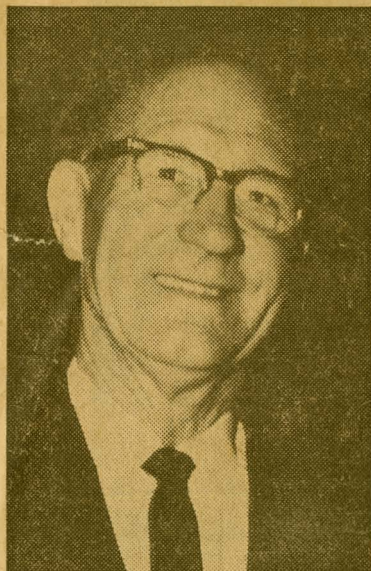

Tribute Slated By Church For Rev. J. A. Crews



REV. J. A. CREWS

Bannertown Baptist Church will pay tribute to its minister of over 14 years, the Rev. J. A. Crews, when it observes "Honor Your Pastor Day" Sunday. Mrs. Crews, wife of the minister, will also be honored during the program.

The morning sermon will be delivered by the Rev. Oren Bradley, the Youth Choir will sing, and speakers from each department of the church will be heard.

A picnic-style dinner will be served about 12:30 o'clock. All former members and pastors are invited to this service.



REV. JOE CREWS

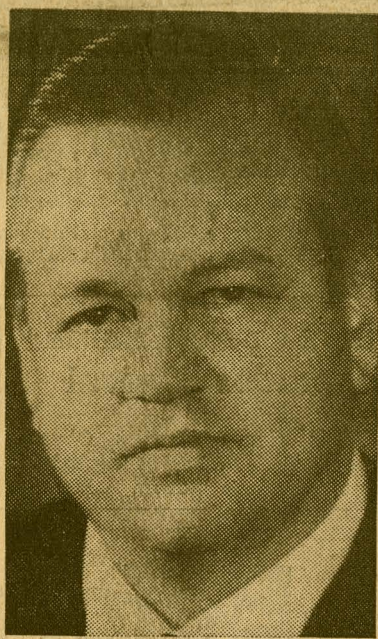
Bannertown Church Sets Service Honoring Pastor

The members of Bannertown Baptist Church have scheduled a special service Sunday morning as a tribute to their pastor, the Rev. Joe A. Crews, who has served the Bannertown congregation for the past 14 years.

The Rev. Oren Bradley, Surry Baptist Associational Missionary, will be the guest speaker for the occasion. The service is set for the 11 o'clock worship hour.

Following the worship service, a picnic luncheon will be served. Church leaders invite all former members and friends to attend.

Author, Minister Full-Time Pastor At Bannertown



DR. CORT R. FLINT

Interim Pastor, Dr. Cort Flint, Accepts Call

Dr. Cort R. Flint, interim pastor of Bannertown Baptist Church since January, has accepted a call to fill the pulpit of the area church on a full-time basis.

The well-known minister and author is former vice-president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. and is also a former pastor of the First Baptist Church of Anderson, S. C.

In announcing Dr. Flint's acceptance of the call, a spokesman for Bannertown Baptist said, "The church will be doing much pioneering work in the field of discipleship and Christian Education."

Dr. Flint, who has served pastorates in Kentucky, Texas and South Carolina, will continue with his laymen retreats and writing.

He was a chaplain in the U. S. Navy, assigned to the Marines, during World War II. Dr. Flint has been vice-chairman of the board of trustees of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, a trustee of Furman University and Friendship College and has served in numerous positions in the Southern Baptist Convention.

The minister edited "The Quotable Billy Graham," a book containing more than 1,000 quotations with a history of Dr. Graham's major crusades and a complete biographical sketch.

He has also written "Grief's Slow Wisdom," to be released about June 15. The book, published by Droke House Publishers, will be distributed by Grosset and Dunlap of New York City.

Members of the Bannertown Baptist Church Pulpit Committee are Earl Myers, chairman; and Frank Childress, Doyle Perdue, Fred Goins and Claude Helton, Alph Simmons is chairman of the board of deacons.

Warning Issued Against Use of Psychedelic Drugs

Administrative leaders at Harvard and Columbia universities have recently issued warnings against the use of psychedelic drugs by college students, noting the possible dangerous reactions they cause.

A Harvard dean said he doubted whether a person who "takes a trip" by using lysergic acid diethylamide, better known as L.S.D., can competently perform his duties for some weeks afterward.

Dr. B. F. D. Runk, Dean of the University of Virginia, has taken note of the national trend toward the use of hallucinogenic agents by students, and consulted with three experts at the University's medical experts, has issued a strong warning to young people who might consider using L.S.D. or marijuana. Dr. Runk is now writing each University student who will be returning in the fall of the dangers of these drugs and spelling out the University's policy concerning out the University's policy concerning anyone who might use them.

While there has been no outbreak in the use of these drugs at the University, Dr. Runk, as a result of his discussions with these medical experts, has issued a strong warning to young people who might consider using L.S.D. or marijuana. Dr. Runk is now writing each University student who will be returning in the fall of the dangers of these drugs and spelling out the University's policy concerning out the University's policy concerning anyone who might use them.

Dr. Runk points out that "The use of hallucinogenic agents, particularly marijuana and L.S.D., is often followed by dangerous mental reactions that in some instances may be severe, prolonged, and in the case of L.S.D., even permanent. Impairment of judgment, achievement, and the ability to compete in an academic setting are common and predictable effects."

He warns: "Possession or use of these drugs by students at the University of Virginia is considered an indication that they are not constructively interested in academic work in this University community and may be given an immediate opportunity to withdraw or be suspended."

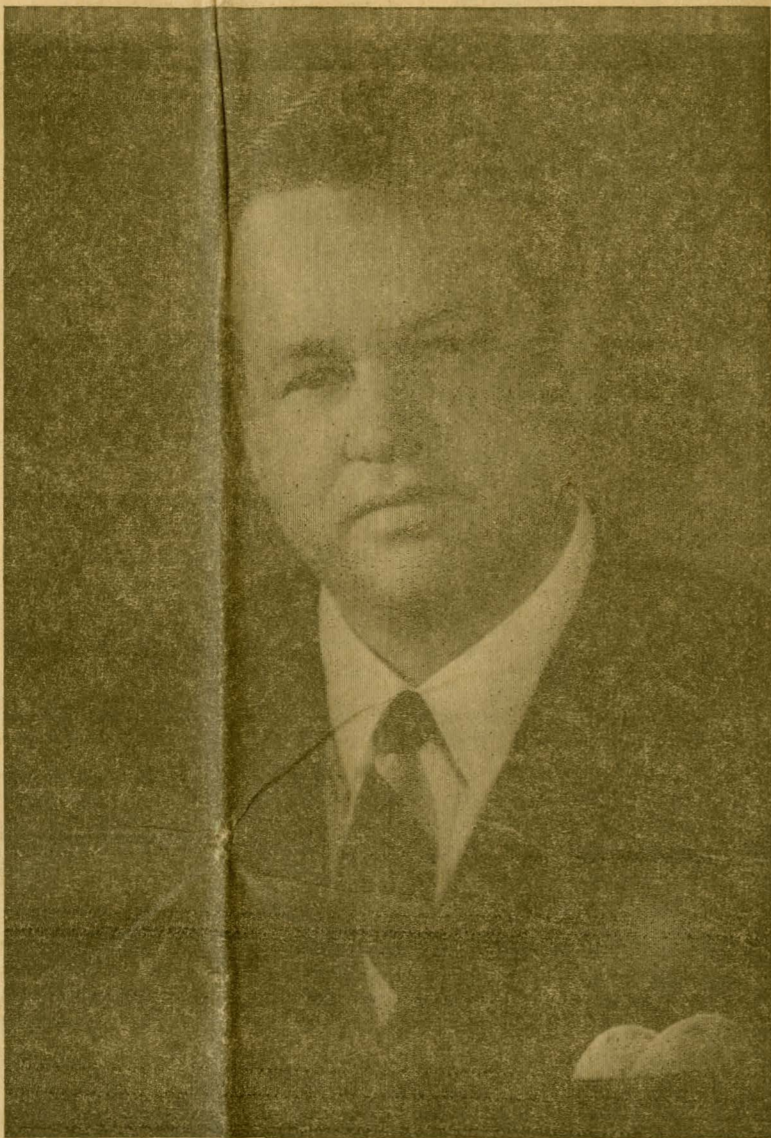
The University dean noted "Last year, we had only two cases, both involving students who smoked marijuana, and they withdrew voluntarily from the University after being reported to us."

In August Dr. Runk will write undergraduate students entering the University for the first time, with a covering letter to parents.

"In view of the national trends in drug use, we feel that we should caution students and parents of the hazards," Dr. Runk said.

The gardenia was named after Alexander Garden, an 18th-century physician who lived in Charleston, S.C.

Meet Dr. Cort R. Flint



Dr. Cort R. Flint

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The author of this feature is Nancy Mitchell Lindsey, who was an Enterprise reporter before joining the staff of the Williamsburg Bureau of the Newport News Daily Press. Mrs. Lindsey interviewed Dr. Cort R. Flint while on a visit back to Stuart in August, at his home on Groundhog Mountain. This is her interpretation of one of our citizens.)

Few men deserve the peace of mind or the misty-mountain peace of the Blue Ridge Mountains as much as a man called Cort Flint.

Few men have endured as much to find that peace as the thoughtful, plain-voiced preacher from Oklahoma who has recently settled near Meadows of Dan.

The roles he played before finally reaching the decision to enter the ministry seem incongruous with the common image of a minister: he was reared in western Oklahoma among the cowboys, Indians, and outlaws; a jazz trumpeter who played with the greats in the hot jazz town of Oklahoma

All," a title entirely appropriate.

Cort Flint's individual hells included the death of his beloved father, and the consequent loss of the entire family fortune; living through the Depression as an embittered, pride-smothered boy who had to beg for raw beef to keep his family alive; and watching the death of the only person whom he ever "allowed to get close" to him, a saintly, beautiful girl named Ola Mae.

He was born in the ranching and farming community of Leedey, Oklahoma, and lived the relatively easeful life of the son of a relatively wealthy family.

Herded horses and herded cattle from the age of five; he picked cotton and drove his own car at the age of eleven.

"My mother's family was one of the two richest families in Leedey," Dr. Flint explains, "but my father made it on his own. And he taught me the same kind of independence."

Explaining why he picked cot-

shown a real personal interest in him since his father's suicide.

"I thought she was a little fool," he relates, "I would take her to church but I wouldn't go myself. But I could never get away from the fact of her love for God and for me - or from the fact that what she had was real."

Flint's second major tragedy occurred when Ola Mae suffered a ruptured appendix and died. After her death he was left with an even more profound hatred of God - ("people said it was God's will that she died, so I hated God") - but also with bothersome doubt that his way of life was the only way.

By dying, Ola Mae inadvertently saved Cort's life. On the night she died, he was "supposed to go out with a couple of outlaws." Instead, he was in the hospital with Ola Mae, and that night both his friends got shot and killed.

Nevertheless, Cort Flint stood over Ola Mae's grave and made another bitter vow:

"God, I once said I'd never let you or anybody hurt me, and here I've done it again. But you can be damn sure this is the last time."

Even as a teenager, Flint lived a many-sided life. After graduating from Leedey High School, he moved his whole family to a nearby town to attend Southwestern State College, where his mother ran a boarding house. While being a good student and assistant band director in the college band, he was a jazz musician whose "main virtue as a performer was having enough brass to put the thing over."

A good organizer, he always had a band of his own, called (In those pre-TV cartoon days) the "Flintstones" or "Flintrocks." Outstanding musicians with whom he had association were Red Nichols and his Five Pennies, Louis Armstrong and Clyde McCoy. Along with learning about music and the seamy, serious side of entertainers' lives, he was cultivating another element of the population.

"Along with my club work," Flint explains, "I began to get into the political machine." He was beginning to make a part of his vow at his father's graveside come true. But the moral standards of the state politicians were even lower than those of the night club crowd with gambling, prostitution and blackmail. That didn't matter to Cort Flint - at that time perhaps all the hardness around him even reassured the hardness within him that his bitter goals were within reach. He began to get contacts, influential friends, a political career in the making. . .

A crack in the shiny surface of his life at that point came when

and singing as usual. But the drinks didn't appear, and most of the men were getting pretty restless by the time our host gathered everyone around a campfire and began to talk."

The most corrupt politician in Oklahoma made an astonishing announcement. He said, "Fellas, I've called you here tonight to tell you about a big change. All the corruption and immorality I've been participating in is over. I'm not gonna have anything more to do with it."

Flint's most important "contact" had indeed been changed. He had not been converted, but at that meeting he converted a rifle-carrying Indian, his most bitter enemy, who had admittedly come there that night to kill him.

But Flint, instead of giving in to the powerful emotions of that night, after seeing both "Oklahoma's meanest politician" and an "Indian with 26 notches on his gun" weep for God, "pulled himself back to reality" and left the ranch "more determined than ever to have his own way."

It took the shattering nearness of his own death to bring Cort Flint close to God. A near-fatal ruptured appendix ("I had so much hatred inside me it had all burst," he says, "and my body was so infected with it they couldn't even sew me up") five days in the hospital, filled with nightmares and ghosts, finally showed him the way his life was to go.

But the torments of these who fight their natural inclination to serve God cannot be summed up so simply. Those horrible days in which Flint "lost 50 pounds in 5 days" were filled with violent battles between his sick mind and his instinct to survive - which was, in a sense, his God speaking.

But the climax of his nightmarish days - after the appearance in his dreams of Ola Mae, his grandfather, other friends was this dialogue with God:

"I found myself in a casket," Flint said. "People were walking by. The boys and girls I had played with in the band came by in their uniforms. I sat up to greet them, but nobody spoke to me. I cried out, 'What in the world is wrong, that nobody will talk to me?' And finally a boy came over and said, 'Don't you know what is wrong with you?' I said, 'No,' and he replied, 'You're dead.'"

"Then the voice of God came to me - 'I want you to see what will happen to you if you do not do what I want you to do.'"

"I was finally, 'Cort Flint remarked wryly,' impressed."

"What must I do," he asked in a small voice.

"Do you remember you once

going to be a minister, and he had replied, 'I think it's a good way to make a living.'

"I was so disgusted I got up and walked out. As I slammed the door I said, 'God if that's the kind of preachers you've got, I sure don't want to be one of them. If you ever want me to preach you have to make it as clear as the handwriting on the wall.'"

"I said, 'yes, I remember that.'"

"He said, 'Look on the wall.'"

"As I looked," said Flint, "a hand began to write on the wall, saying 'Cort, I want you to come and let me do my work through you.' The hand signed the words 'Your Heavenly Father.'"

Then, according to Doctor Flint, God told him to turn the tide of his own illness, by asking someone to bring him a Dr. Pepper, the first food he had been able to keep on his stomach in five days. He was well-and on his way to being what he had sworn he would never be, a preacher.

"It was hell for a while, but no worse than the rest of my life had been. And the hell of it all was that God was waiting for me all the while. The difference was that I knew it this time."

Cort Flint is an educated man, having attended the Leedey, Oklahoma public schools, Southwestern State College, Oklahoma University, the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, and the chaplain school of the College of William and Mary. He is also an accomplished man having written a book of his personal beliefs, "Grief's Slow Wisdom," and compiled and edited "The Quotable Billy Graham", a summary of the beliefs of the world's greatest evangelist, of whom Dr. Flint is a close friend.

He says of Billy Graham, whom he knew first as a genius of a young evangelist at the Baptist Seminary, "The president of the seminary and I - I was vice-president at that time, became quite interested in Billy. We had the feeling God had laid His hand on him."

"He is an orator of the first degree, a world leader like no one else is, because he really has the ears of the people. But he doesn't know how he does what he does, that's why I kept wanting to put his belief in a compact form. That's what my book tries to do."

"Billy has the most dynamic personality in the world - he is effervescent, aglow. Not long ago we were eating lunch together when a waiter came up and said, 'I don't know what it is but I can feel the presence of God in this

room.' He's a big man with a powerful physique, and that golden hair - but that's not all of it, there's just a presence about him."

"He tried to go to the New York World's Fair but he couldn't," Flint confided, "because the crowds would recognize him. Even little children in India know who he is when they see him. He's got a tremendous power."

Flint has been on many of the famous Billy Graham crusades, both in the United States and abroad.

Dr. Cort Flint, who knew such showmen as Bob Hope and Red Nichols, who were a part of a rotten political system at a rotten time in its history, who has seen most of both the evil and the good of the world, has now settled down quietly in the Groundhog Mountain development. Pastor of the Bannertown Baptist Church in Mount Airy, he also has held several well attended revivals in the Meadows of Dan section and is fast becoming a beloved friend of many Patrick Countians.

He has retired to our mountains with his wife, Ilene, and with occasional visits from his two married children, to try to "get some more writing done." Books in the making, now, are an autobiography, "You Don't Have To Stay As You Are," "To Thine Own Self Be True," and the editing of the beliefs of Dr. George W. Crane, famous physician and psychologist.

His daughter, Sue Ann, 26, is married to Michael D. Glenn, lives in Anderson, South Carolina, and is the mother of Flint's adored and only grandchild, Michael Douglas, Jr.

His son, Cort Ray Flint, Jr., 24, is an aerospace engineer at George C. Marshall Space Flight Center, Huntsville, Alabama, and is married to the former Jan Allan.

Flint tells one anecdote concerning his marriage to Ilene Moore, whom he married as a "child bridegroom" of 23 when she was 17.

"We got married right after she graduated from high school, on a trip to Carlsbad Caverns. My wife thought she was marrying a lawyer, though, and it took her several years to get used to the idea of marrying a preacher!"

But a preacher Cort Flint is, to the core. And he is one minister whose beliefs have been a long turmoiled and tormented time in solidifying. But he seems, in his kind-faced, Southern-voiced way, that much closer to God and Heaven, for having known "the hell of it all."

(Paid Political Advertisement)

TO THE VOTERS of PATRICK COUNTY

If elected to the State Senate in November, it is my intention to be at the Patrick County Courthouse at least once every 90 days. More often, if possible, so that Patrick citizens may discuss state problems with me.

...elected to the State Senate in November, it is my intention to be at the Patrick County Courthouse at least once every 90 days. More often, if possible, so that Patrick citizens may discuss state problems with me.

"I will come to you - you won't have to come to see me."

Charles A. Womack

...ministry seem incongruous with the common image of a minister: he was reared in western Oklahoma among the cowboys, Indians, and outlaws; a jazz trumpeter who played with the greats in the hot jazz town of Oklahoma City; and a conniving, no-holds-barred politician. Potentially he was, in his own words, "headed straight to hell."

In keeping with the rough life which he admittedly led before he finally gave in to the "God who had been waiting for him all the while," his unpublished autobiography is entitled "The Hell of

of the two richest families in Leedey," Dr. Flint explains, "but my father made it on his own, and he taught me the same kind of independence."

Explaining why he picked cotton every day after school, he says, "it wasn't that we needed the money, but my father thought it was wise for his children to learn what work is, and he had always taught me that anything I did was worth doing right."

Flint's father, Corties Ray Flint, so firmly believed that "anything worth doing was worth doing right" that when his own life went very wrong-blackmail and financial problems threatened his political ruination - he shot himself through the head.

The eleven-year-old Flint, looking at his dead father, resolved that he would "fulfill all his dreams." "He was in charge of the bank in our little community, I would be head of all the banks. He was serving in the State House of Representatives. I would be governor of the state and a United States Senator. He was a wealthy man. I would have larger holdings of land and cattle than he had ever dreamed of having. I would show this community that I could make a success of life - that Flints were not quitters."

In a sentence that explains poignantly the pattern of Flint's life for many years to follow, he writes, "the day of my father's funeral, I cried for the first time since he died. It was also the last time for a long 25 years."

Cort R. Flint became a man, in the emotional sense of surrendering his dependency on home and family at the age of eleven.

"Emotionally I was never at home anymore," he says. "I resolved I'd never again let anybody get close enough to hurt me. And I didn't until high school."

He became one of the wildest youths of that wild and almost lawless country-dating many girls but "never letting his feelings get involved," running around with the young outlaws of the community, and beginning to secretly play his trumpet in the jazz "joints" and nightclubs of Oklahoma.

The star that briefly shone in Flint's dark soul-life was a beautiful, deeply religious girl named Ola Mae. Fighting his feelings all the while, he began to talk to and listen to the first person who had

that his bitter goals were within reach. He began to get contacts, influential friends, a political career in the making. . .

A crack in the shiny surface of his life at that point came when one of the most hard-boiled politicians of them all, a man who had given Cort his first "leg up" the political ladder, defected.

"He was holding one of his famous barbecues," Flint said, "and when I was invited I knew my big chance had come. When we got there, we had a big feed of barbecue, and everybody was joking

do what I want you to do."

"I was finally, 'Cort Flint remarked wryly, 'impressed.'"

"What must I do," he asked in a small voice.

"Do you remember you once said that if I ever wanted you to preach, I would have to make it as plain as the handwriting on the wall?" God said.

"How could I forget that day?" said Flint. "I was talking with Loren Heaton, who was studying to be a minister. He and I played in the college band together. I asked him, 'Loren, why are you

...a water came up
don't know what it is but I can feel the presence of God in this
ven, for having known "the hell of it all."

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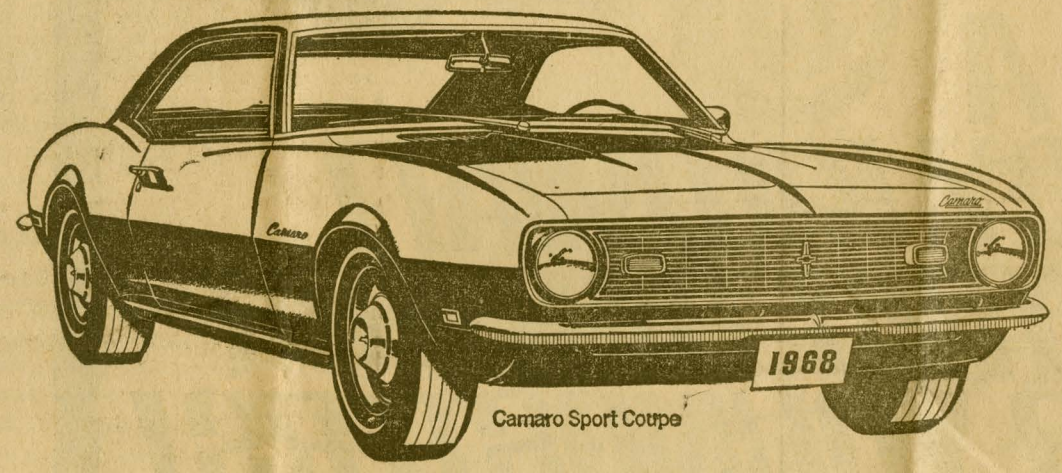
The First National Bank

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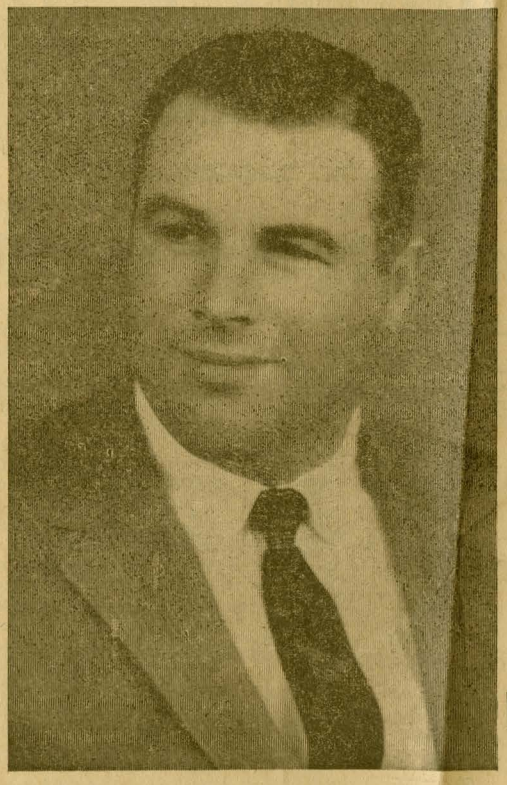
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FOR**

P. Floyd Culler

Candidate for County Board of Supervisors

- Peters Creek District -

I ask for the privilege of serving as the Supervisor of our District. I believe public office is a public trust to be held by honorable men and women . . . Who will hear every man's petition, respect his views, protect his rights and who will serve the public honestly.

Your vote and your support will be appreciated.



ASSETS

Cash, balances with other banks, and cash items in process of collection	\$ 763,197.42
United States Government obligations	1,085,939.00
Obligations of States and political subdivisions	400,284.00
Securities of Federal agencies and corporations	591,123.78
Other Securities	221,083.00
Loans and discounts	3,646,596.45
Bank premises, furniture and fixtures, and other assets representing bank premises	179,242.12
Other assets	4,544.62
TOTAL ASSETS	\$6,892,010.39

LIABILITIES

Demand deposits of individuals, partnerships, and corporations	\$1,419,344.76
Time and savings deposits of individuals, partnerships, and corporations	4,103,192.08
Deposits of United States Government	22,892.74
Deposits of States and political subdivisions	297,134.98
Certified and officers' checks, etc.	13,077.92
TOTAL DEPOSITS	\$5,855,642.48
(a) Total demand deposits	\$1,647,822.26
(b) Total time and savings deposits	\$4,207,820.22
Other liabilities	307,941.02
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$6,163,583.50

CAPITAL ACCOUNTS

Common stock—total par value	150,000.00
No. shares authorized 20,000	
No. shares outstanding 15,000	
Surplus	450,000.00
Undivided profits	128,426.89
TOTAL CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	728,426.89
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	\$6,892,010.39

I, Ben Corn, Vice President and Cashier, of the above-named bank do hereby declare that this report of condition is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Ben Corn

We, the undersigned directors attest the correctness of this report of condition and declare that it has been examined by us and to the best of our knowledge and belief is true and correct.

A. D. Hopkins
John D. Helms Director
John R. Clark, M. D.

Letters to The News

Leaders have a responsibility to preserve Mount Airy's quality of life

To The News:

I consider myself an "out-of-state" citizen of Mount Airy. I work in Mount Airy. Half of my family lives in Mount Airy. I shop, I get auto work done, I eat out, I worship and I seek entertainment in Mount Airy. I graduated from MAHS and lived over half my life in this great city. I have nothing but love for the people and the area. I have been blessed by God to serve as youth minister at one of the most wonderful churches in the community. The relationship I have with the kids, young adults and elders of my church as well as the community reaffirms to me that Mount Airy is definitely a part of "God's Country."

The issue of liquor by the drink has brought out interesting arguments by those that are for it and those that are against it. I state publicly that I would have voted against it had I been a legal resident of Mount Airy. As an "out-of-state" citizen, what I hear from the people is this: The people do not care for

the additional sale of alcohol in the city. Many say they will not purchase the alcohol from these "new restaurants" that are believed to be coming as a result of this referendum.

The people seem more to be seeking a bigger variety of food establishments that have all the nice decorative and entertaining atmospheres. The people of Mount Airy appear to desire the hotels and the businesses that will bring both economic growth and an increase of visitors to our area. In essence, the people have spoken up and said, Progress Mount Airy, we have given you our ear and we have heard you. We the people have used our free right as citizens to place the future of Mount Airy in your hands by voting in favor of your plan. You, Progress Mount Airy, assure us that this is a step forward for our people and our economic well-being here in the city. The people of this city trust Progress Mount Airy when you insist that the extra sale of alcohol in our city

will not raise crime, death or unwanted activity in our wholesome community. The people now say show us.

God's word tells us of a time when two men reached an uncertain time in their current situation. Abraham and Lot loved one another, but had different ideas. Abraham gave Lot a chance to do the right thing and told Lot to go and settle anywhere you like in this wonderful place given to us by God. Lot looked across the beautiful land before him and saw what appeared to be a clear path with opportunity for success and reward. Lot decided not to take the high road, but the one that went deep into the valley and promised certain reward. The spot Lot chose was just before the outskirts of Sodom. Lot confidently took the leadership role and lead his trusting family and loved one's to a place that promised great blessings.

We all should know what happened next. Lot eventually was sucked into Sodom, a

breeding ground for all kinds of ideas — ideas that included immoral and ungodly acts. Lot lost his family and everything, including his own self respect. All this resulted because things looked wonderful and entertaining. God placed judgment on Sodom as well as Gomorrah and Lot barely escaped. Those that had trusted did not.

Let the decision of Lot be a lesson to all the city officials and the members of Progress Mount Airy that endorsed this new law and promoted it as a wonderful opportunity for the citizens of Mount Airy. Lot's people followed him and trusted him. The people of Mount Airy now trust you. May Mount Airy continue to be remembered as "Mayberry" and not become known as "Sodom," for judgment is sure to follow. May God bless and protect our leaders and our citizens in the All-American city of Mount Airy.

Timothy P. VanHoy
3127 Misty Trail
Fancy Gap, Va.

*Bannertown's Minister
to Children + Youth*

Sunday, August 15, 2004

Annie's Mailbox
Surry's History
SocietyPage 2C
Page 7C
Page 4C

Lifestyles

Section

C

Jackson trades career in sales
for one dealing with soulsBy BRYAN GENTRY
Staff Writer

After graduating from North Surry High School, Rick Jackson spent 13 years building his car dealership. He traveled many places to purchase cars for his dealership to sell, and he enjoyed success in that business.

Ten years ago, everything changed.

"In January 1994, I announced my call to the ministry," he said. "I've been schooling ever since."

Jackson closed his car dealership and attended several theological schools, including Slidell Baptist Seminary where he received a masters degree and a Doctorate of Theology. He then preached at churches in Wilkes County and Rutherford County.

On Independence Day this year, he delivered his first sermon in Bannertown Baptist Church, where he is the new pastor.

Bannertown Baptist Church used to be Bannertown Elementary School, which Jackson attended for three grades as a student.

Now that he preaches weekly at the site where he once attended school, Jackson reflects on the time in his life when he transitioned from car salesman to pastor.

"I was reared in church, always," he said. "I had Christian parents. In some ways, it wasn't a transition at all.

"It was as hard to derail that business and shut it down as it was to build it. It was equally hard to go back to school after 20 years outside the classroom. But it's all been worth it," he said.

During his life in the ministry, Jackson has faced many challenges, but he has also learned a lot and experienced some rewards from his efforts.

"You can't push people, but you can lead them," he said, describing some of the lessons he has learned by teaching. "I think everyone has a good heart. Some just need some encouraging in some areas to bring their true spirit out."

Jackson said the greatest challenge he and other pastors face involves leading and teaching people of a new generation, "changing the method without changing the message."

He said he tries to be creative in his approach to communicate to his congregation the feelings and lessons he has when he pours through the pages of the Bible in his private study.

Jackson said the most rewarding moments of his life as a pastor occur on Sunday nights when he has preached his sermons for the week.

"I look back on the words God put in my heart to say, and see the response of the people, encouraged by the Holy Spirit," he said.

"It tells me that I've preached the right thing, focused on the right subject and hooked up with the congregation."

Jackson remembers several sermons that gave him that satisfying feeling. On the front of his mahogany-colored desk sits a picture of a deer, with a Bible verse printed below it.

"As the deer panteth for the water, so my soul longeth for thee," it says.

From this verse, Jackson prepared a sermon he titled, "Lessons from the Hart." ("Hart" is the word used for "deer" in some Bible translations.) In the sermon, he compared man's search for spir-



Profile

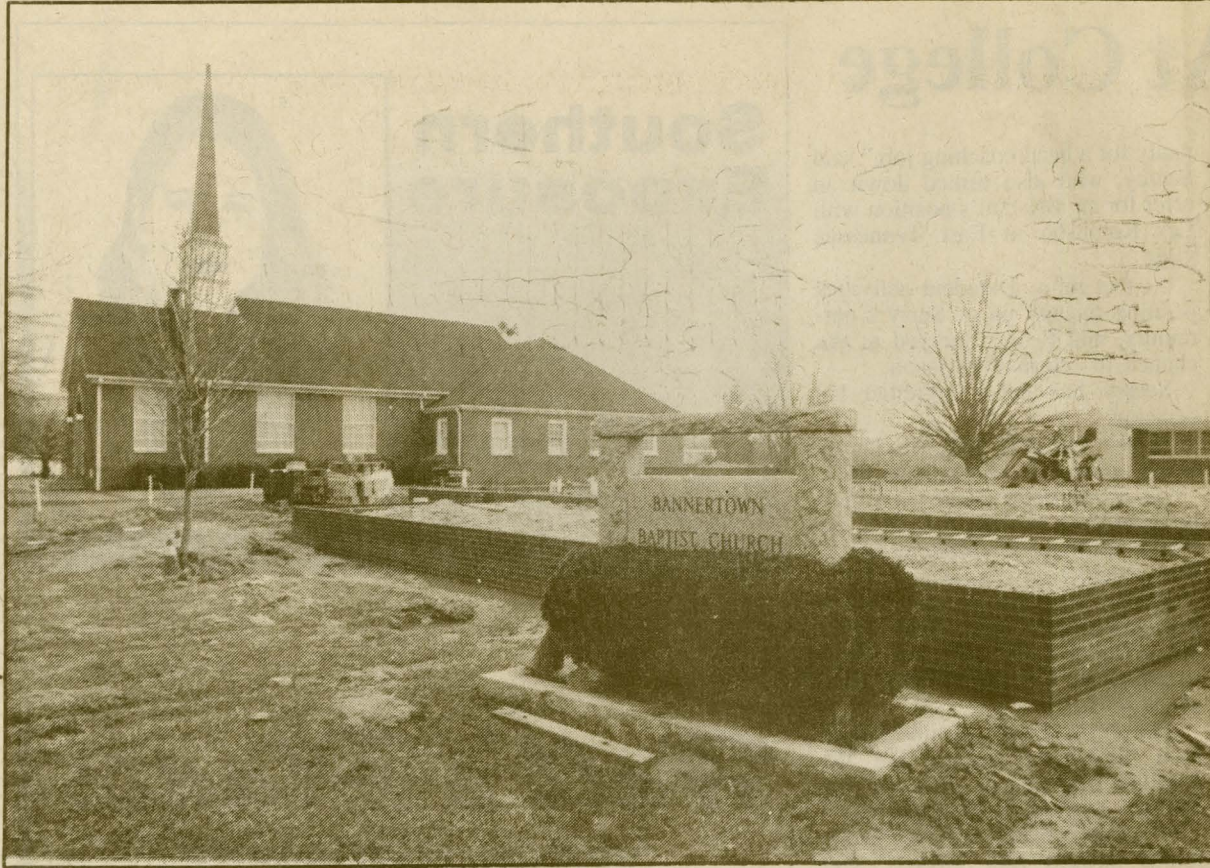
Name: Rick Jackson**Age:** 48**Hometown:** Mount Airy**Occupation:** Pastor**Family:** Wife, Lisa; son and daughter-in-law, Josh and Kendra; and daughter and son-in-law, Kelly and Bryan**Education:** Slidell Baptist Seminary**Hobbies:** Music, riding a Harley Davidson**Favorite food:** Italian**Favorite music:** Contemporary and Southern gospel, and Oldies**Favorite authors:** "The Purpose Driven Church" by Rick Warren**Favorite movies:** "Lonesome Dove" and "Oceans 11"

itual answers to a deer rushing to water.

Another favorite sermon of Jackson's is titled "The Principles of Salt," which draws upon metaphors involving salt's power as a preservative. "I don't look at ministry as a job," he said. "I look at it as a privilege."

Jackson gives his wife credit for much of the

work that happens in his ministry. Lisa Jackson, who has been part of county government in Surry, Wilkes, Lincoln and Rutherford counties, helps him in counseling and she keeps him on his toes by reminding him of his appointments. "The Lord couldn't have placed me with a more proficient pastoral wife," he said.



The new Bannertown Baptist Church is rising from the site of old Bannertown School. The present church is shown at the left.

New Church Being Built In Bannertown

By R.J. BERRIER
Staff Writer

Where once stood Bannertown Elementary School — on Westfield Road near South Main Street-Extension — is now rising the new Bannertown Baptist Church.

Adjacent to the sanctuary being replaced, the new church will be dedicated in September — hopefully the last Sunday in that month, which will be Bannertown Baptist's Homecoming Sunday.

Construction, according to Dr. William G. Guthrie, pastor, began in early December. The new sanctuary is being built at a cost of some \$600,000.

Of brick construction, the Colonial-style structure will seat about 350 worshippers on a lower floor level, with a balcony to accommodate about 100 more people. The present sanctuary seats about 250.

The pulpit will be in the center of the chancel in the new sanctuary. The area will also include a baptistry and choir area and there additionally will be a vestibule. A new organ and piano are part of the new project as well.

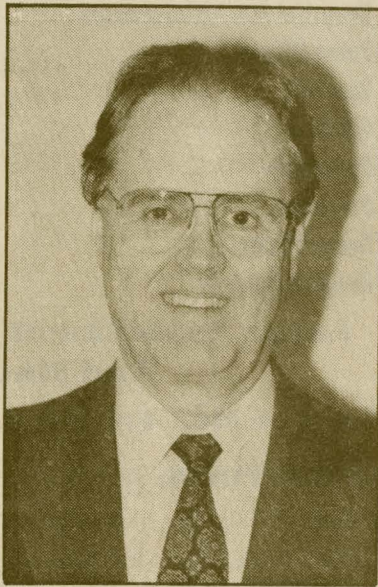
The interior will feature exposed beams. The pews and all other furnishings will be in the Colonial style.

The architect for the project is Ray Troxell and Associates of Winston-Salem, while the general contractor is Blum Construction, also of Winston-Salem. Church representatives on the project are Buck Bowman and Wayne Gwyn.

The old parsonage beside the church now serves as a church office and pastor's study. A parsonage formerly located on Massey Road has been sold.

The building program now in progress represents the largest ever undertaken by the 89-year-old church.

It was on Oct. 22, 1906 that residents of the Bannertown area met at Oak Grove School to discuss estab-



Dr. William G. Guthrie

lishing a church in the community.

Records indicate that interest in a church was so strong that about half the cost of the building was subscribed at the meeting. A building committee was appointed, and included James O. Belton, N.S. Caudle, W.H. Stephens, J.W. Simmons and Clint Gray.

A lot was donated by Belton and the committee decided to build a white-frame church, 30x44 feet, with a 14-foot ceiling and "self-supporting roof, covered with good shingles and good pitch the same, all to be good fine lumber, said building to be in good workmanship manner."

Bannertown Baptist Church was organized Sunday, Dec. 16, 1906 and its first pastor was the Rev. C.C. Arrington.

The congregation met at first in Oak Grove School on the fourth Sundays. The new church structure was completed in 1907 and, by 1910, was free of debt.

Years later, side wings and four rooms were added, along with a heating system. In 1951, four more Sunday School rooms were joined to the

back of the church. In 1956, the church was bricked, the choir loft changed and the vestibule added. The church put in basement-area restrooms in 1957 and, in 1968, the church was air-conditioned and a baptistry installed.

In 1949, Bannertown Baptist bought a house next to the church for a parsonage. That is the structure now used for church offices and the pastor's study.

In 1975, the Bannertown School property — where the new sanctuary is going up — was acquired.

Pastors who have served the church in the past, in addition to the Rev. Mr. Arrington, include Sam F. Morton, A.L. McClendon, Preacher Haynes, Lee Burris, Edward Thornburg, W. Edgar Burrus, Joe Crews, Cort R. Flint, Gerald T. Smith, Terry Coe, Wayne Haynes, Donald Cashwell and Dr. Gerald Hewitt.

Since its founding, the church has been aligned with the Surry Baptist Association, North Carolina Baptist Convention and Southern Baptist Convention.

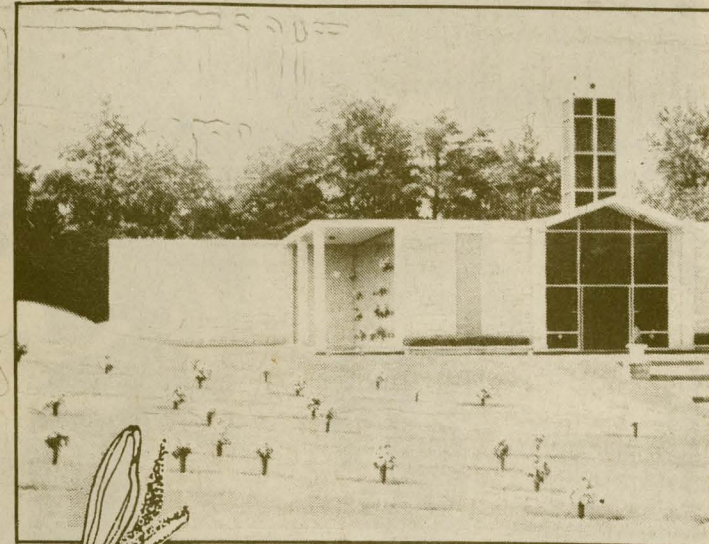
Bannertown Baptist's pastor, Dr. Guthrie, 58, and his wife, the former Betsy West, live in Rural Hall. Mrs. Guthrie teaches at Northwest Middle School in Winston-Salem.

Dr. Guthrie has been the pastor since Nov. 1, 1993, coming to the well-known area church from Crestwood Baptist in Winston-Salem.

A native of Graham, he received a bachelor's degree from Asbury College in Wilmore, Ky., a master of arts degree in religion from Guilford College and his master of divinity degree from Earlham School of Religion, Richmond, Ind. His doctor of ministry degree is from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest.

The Guthries have two daughters, Betsy Sharon Anderson of Greer, S.C., and Wendolyn West Smith of Midway. They have two grandchildren, Mark Anderson, 13, and Victoria Smith, 9 months old.

Easter Sunrise Service



7 a.m., Sunday, April 1, 1994

Conducted by Rev. B. Guthrie
of Bannertown Baptist Church

Join us for this annual service at the mausoleum. Coffee and refreshments will be served to all who attend.

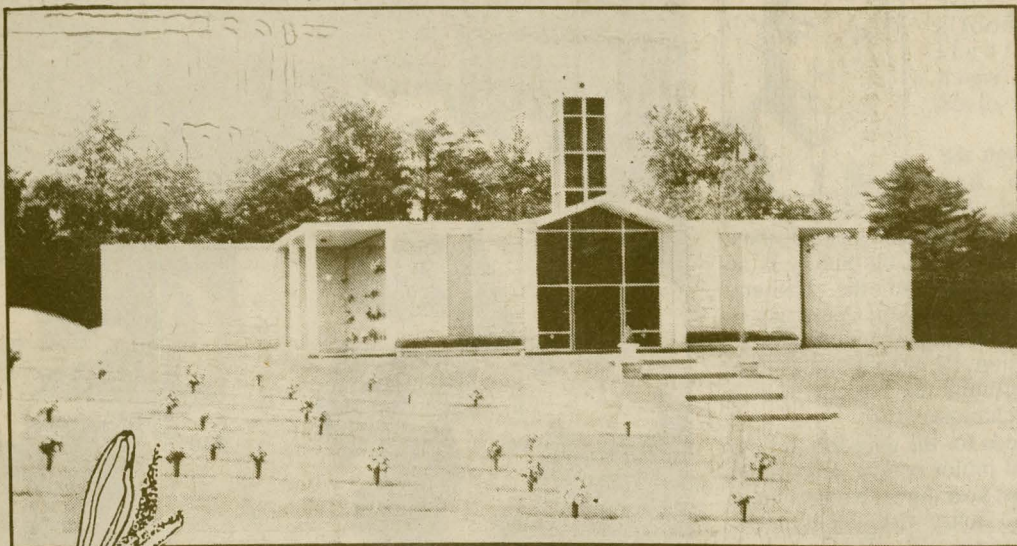
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7 a.m., Sunday, April 16th

Conducted by Rev. Bill Guthrie
of Bannertown Baptist Church

Join us for this annual service in front
of the mausoleum. Coffee and doughnuts
will be served to all who attend.

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perpetual
care for loved
ones with the
beauty and
dignity they
deserve."*

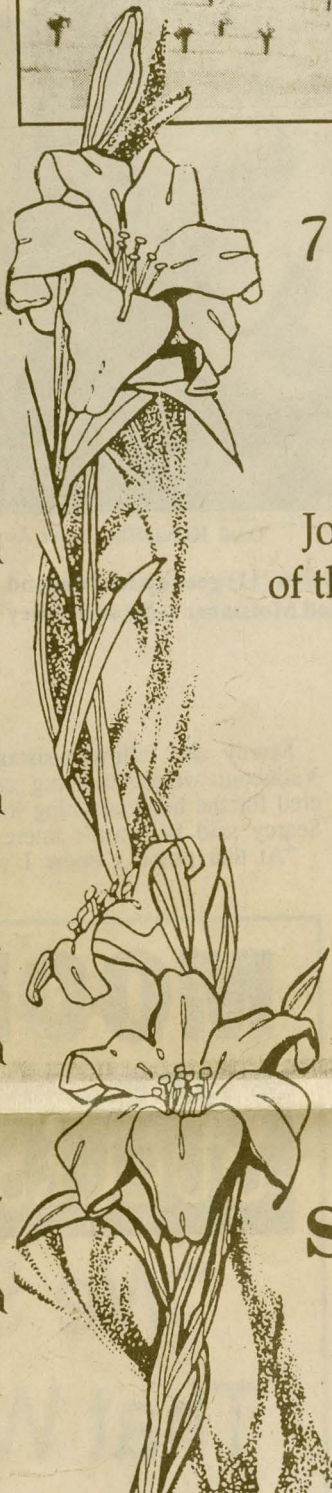


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Church ready for big day

Bannertown Baptist nears 100th anniversary

By **WENDY BYERLY WOOD**

Staff Writer

MOUNT AIRY — In 1906, Reginald Fessenden made the first radio broadcast — a poetry reading, a violin solo and a speech. In 1906, the world's first feature film, "The Story of the Kelly Gang," was released. In 1906, the race riots in Atlanta, Ga., killed at least 27 people. In 1906, the first Victor victrola, a phonographic record player, was manufactured. In 1906, Rolls-Royce Ltd. was registered.

But just south of the city of Mount Airy, "on Oct. 22, 1906, the residents of the Bannertown community met in Oak Grove School to discuss building a church," according to a history of Bannertown Baptist Church written by Ruby Flinchum and Sarah Simpson, who is a member of the Centennial Committee. Now, 100 years later, members of the church are preparing to celebrate their Centennial.

"Old records state 'the interest in having a church in our community was so strong that a considerable amount of money, approximately half of the cost of the building, was subscribed on the spot,'" the history reads.

The community formed a building committee to decide on plans for the church. The group included James O. Belton, N.S. Caudle, W.H. Stephens, J.W. Simmons and Clint Gray. "On a lot donated by James O. Belton, they decided to build 'a white frame church 30x44 feet, with a 14-foot ceiling, with self-supporting roof, covered with good shingles and a good pitch the same, all to be good fine lumber, said building to be in good workmanship manner.'"

On Sunday, Dec. 16, 1906, Bannertown Baptist Church was organized. The Rev. C.C. Arrington was its first pastor.

"All of the first members enrolled, except one, came by letter from Holly Springs Baptist Church. W.F. Welch came by letter from Sulfur Springs Baptist Church," the history reports. "The enrollment was listed as follows: T.J. Barker, George Arnder, James Johnson, Joe Barker, W.F. Welch, Ed. H. Smith, Sarah Barker, Addie Arnder, D.S. Barker, Rose Johnson, Bertha Caudle, Mary Smith,

See BAPTIST, page 2A

BAPTIST: Bannertown church heading towards 100th anniversary celebration

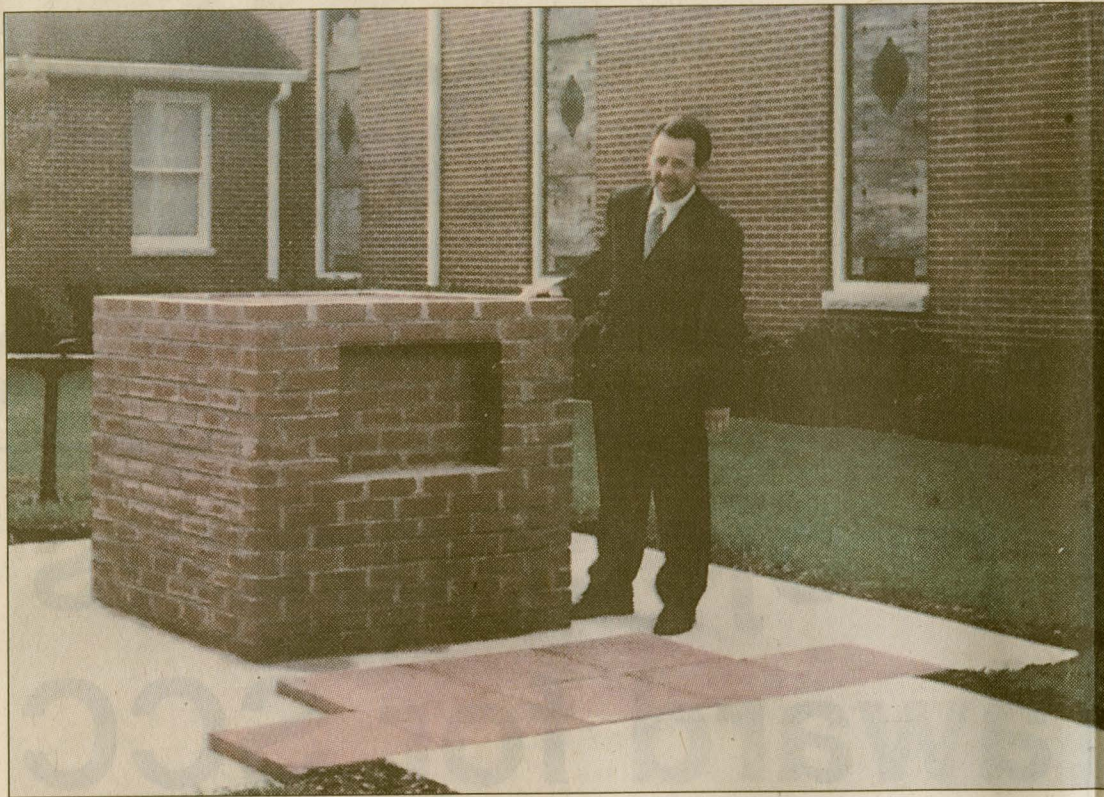


Photo courtesy of Bannertown Baptist Church

Bannertown Baptist Church pastor, the Rev. Rick Jackson, admires a bell tower being built at the church site for Centennial Day, which is Nov. 5.

Continued from page 1A

Ada Brinkley, Jettie Belton, Cora B. Moser and Rebecca Boyd.

“Though not charter members, some people who were enrolled in the church near its beginning were James R. Caudle, Silvana Myers, Ben and Lucinda Edwards, Pearlie Barker, James O. and Mary Jane Belton and Jim and Lizzie Gunnell.”

The church did not meet every week during its first years. “With quarter-time preaching, the church met at first on fourth Sundays on the Oak Grove School located on the Westfield Road where Gilbert and Ruby Flinchum now live. The church building was completed in 1907, the nucleus of the church in which we have worshiped since then. By 1910, the church was paid for,” said Flinchum and Simpson.

For years, the building was heated by two coal stoves, and then the side wings and four rooms were added as well as a heating system. According to the ladies’ history, In 1951, four more Sunday school rooms were added on the back of the church building. In 1956, the facility was bricked, the choir loft was changed and the vestibule was added. Restrooms were constructed on the basement in 1957, and, in 1962, a second heating system was added. The church didn’t get air conditioning until 1968, which was the same year the baptistry was installed.

“In 1949, the church purchased a home next to the church, which was used as the parsonage until 1969. The building was remodeled in 1966 and is now being used for the pastor’s study, library and office. In 1969, a wooded lot on Massey Road was purchased from Mr. and Mrs. Charles Glass and a new parsonage was built,” the duo writes. “In 1994, the parsonage was sold and a housing allowance is now paid to our pastor (currently, Dr. Rick Jackson).

Once the Mount Airy School System closed Bannertown Elementary School, which was on property adjacent to the church, in 1975, the school property was purchased by church members. “The original school building, erected in 1930, was demolished and the separate later addition to the school was converted into Sunday school classrooms and a fellowship hall and is still in use.

“Our new sanctuary (the larger of the road-front build-

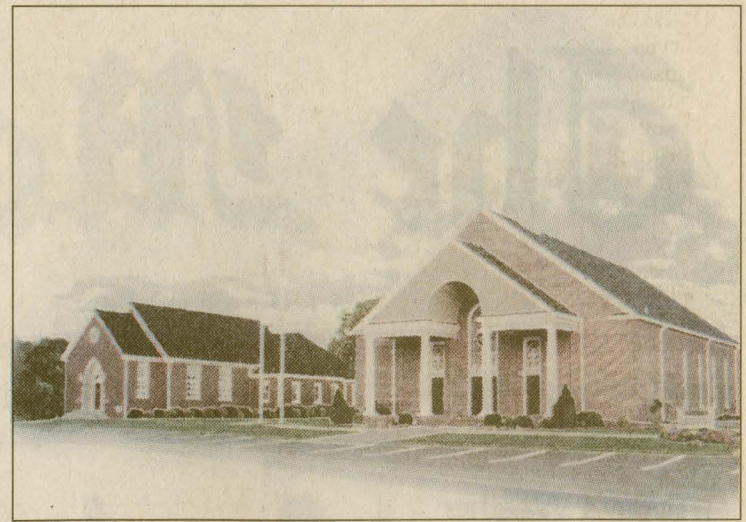


Image courtesy of Bannertown Baptist Church

Bannertown Baptist Church’s second and third sanctuaries still stand near the intersection of Westfield Road with South Main Street.

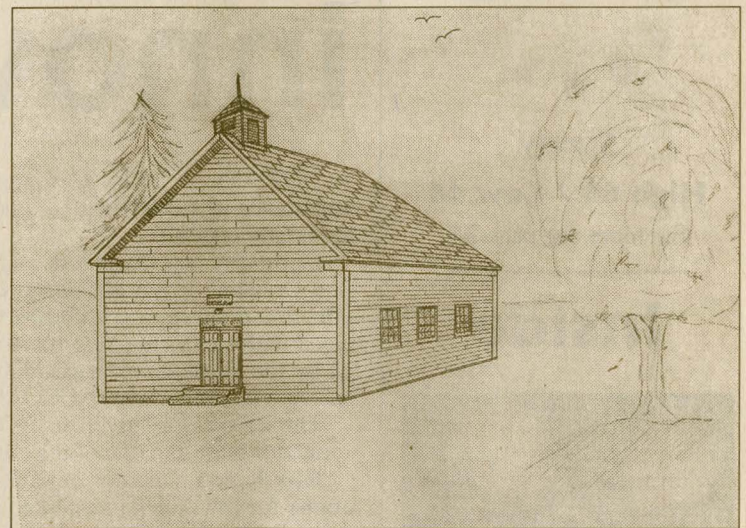


Image courtesy of Bannertown Baptist Church

This drawing is of Bannertown Baptist Church’s original building. The church will celebrate 100 years next weekend during a service of celebration.

Centennial service set

MOUNT AIRY — Bannertown Baptist Church will have its Centennial celebration Nov. 5 at 10:30 a.m. and will conclude with lunch after the service.

Several former pastors will be attending the service, including Dr. Gerald Smith, the Rev. Wayne Haynes, the Rev. Terry Coe, Dr. William Guthrie, the Rev. Tim VanHoy, youth pastor, the Rev. David Allred and current pastor Dr. Rick Jackson.

The service will be about the history of the church, music from special singers and a former pastor speaking.

Also, the church will open a box that was put in the cornerstone 50 years ago by Alpha Simmons. A new bell tower will be unveiled featuring the bell from the first church building.

Members of the Centennial Committee are Capotola Barnes, Frank Childress, Dawn Lawson, Paula Casstevens and Sarah Simpson.

ings) is located over the site of the original building,” said Flinchum and Simpson.

Numerous pastors have served the church during its 100 year history, as the ladies explain. “The Rev. Christopher

Columbus (Kit) Arrington served as our first pastor from 1906 until 1909. He was followed by the Rev. Sam F. Morton, who first served from 1910 until 1916. He was succeeded

See CHURCH, page 10A

Ladies of Bannertown Baptist Church honored at banquet



A banquet was held for the ladies of Bannertown Baptist Church on Saturday evening. Seated together are Joyce Simmons, Shelba Carpenter and Mildred Short.



JoAnn Hiatt, left, brought her aunt, Geraldine Slate, as a guest. Shown with them is JoAnn's daughter, Kim Shelton.



Filling their plates are, from left, Sharon Shelton, Meredith Cox and Chika Shelton.



Imogene Bowman, left, attends the celebration with her mother-in-law, Annie Bowman, center, and Ruby Flinchum.

Photos by Eleanor Powell



Sarah Simpson, second from right, stops to chat with, from left, Paula Casstevens, Misty Stanley, Taylor Simpson and Edna Stanley.



Smelling the roses are Cheryl Hicks and Ashley Hicks.

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 2

and Bonnie Jessup, May 4; Harrison Grant Parks and Molly Slater, May 5; Lynda Taylor and Kelly Elliott, May 6; Norma Simmons, May 8; Stan Wood, May 9; Paul Sheppard, May 10; Angie Combs and Sue Washburn, May 14; Kenneth Bryant, Carolyn Fulk and Donnie Inman, May 15; Sandra Dunbar, Janet Isaacs and Samantha Wilmoth, May 16; Brittany Beck, May 19; Robin Horton, Catlin Stanley, Daniel Surratt and Jackson Tumbarello, May 18; Brittany Beck, May 19;

Ashley Bodford and Robby Horton, May 20; and C.W. Hill, May 21; Karsyn Tucker, May 22; Jeremy Smith, May 23; Mildred Overby, Steve Saunders and Courtney Ramey, May 24; Julia Slezak, May 25; Jewell Jessup and Isabella Smith, May 25; Debbie Hiatt, May 26; Corey Mills, May 27; Jerry Nowlin, May 28; Becky Beverly and Clellan Ramey, May 29; Kyle Moser and Rebecca Surratt, May 30; and Jennifer Lynn Hawks, Barbara Lowe and Lois Tilley, May 31.

Contact Eleanor Powell at epowell@mtairynews.com or at 719-1933.



Shannon Gentry, center, shows a sign of "happiness" to her cousins, Lexie Wood, left, and Taylor McBride. Shannon expresses her appreciation for the gifts that were sent to her students in Tonga.

Shannon Gentry, front, third from left, celebrates her stay in Mount Airy with her family. They are, seated from left, Lexie Wood, Deborah Gentry, mother of the honoree, Shannon Gentry, Juanita East; grandmother, Karen Puckett, and Taylor McBride; back row, Brad Wood, Sara Brady, Gay Wood, Fanny Beane, grandmother, Jimmy Johnson, Nelda Johnson and Cheyenne Brady.



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Continued from page 4



Enjoying the celebration are, seated from left, JoAnn Sewell, Jenny Cockerham and Jackie Kinzer; back, Genevieve Wilson, Clarene Kinzer and Bonnie Norman.



Diane Smith and daughter, Jessi-ca, go through the food line.



Ready to get in the buffet line are, seated, from left, Lib Branch, Velda Irvin and Mary Neal; standing, Gerri Johnson, Ruby Flinchum and Forrest Connell.



Brenda Peele and Ruth Mari-on fill their plates.



Brenda Cox, right, was there with her daughters-in-law, and granddaughters, Sherry Cox, Myra Cox, Avery Cox and Meredith Cox.



Lynn and Mikala Killon enjoy the luncheon.