

**Lakewood**  
 Baptist Church  
 Durham, North Carolina  
**100 Years ~ 1912 - 2012**



**Great Is Thy Faithfulness**

**Pastors of Lakewood Baptist Church**

Rev. R. P. Ellington (1912-1913)  
 Rev. W. E. Warren (1913-1915)  
 Rev. Harley F. Lindsay (1915-1918)  
 Rev. Wallace Hartsell (1919-1921)  
 Rev. Charles T. Plybon (1922-1923)  
 Rev. Lloyd W. Teague (1924-1930)  
 Rev. Wallace Hartsell (1931-1932)  
 Rev. Pruitt Hartsell (1932-1937)  
 Rev. L. R. Ennis (1938-1940)

Dr. Trela D. Collins (1940-1950)  
 Rev. E. Lamar Kincaid (1950-1955)  
 Dr. Trela D. Collins (1955-1958)  
 Rev. J. Henry Coffey, Jr. (1958-1960)  
 Rev. John C. Grant (1960-1966)  
 Rev. Everette J. Smith (1967-1989)  
 Rev. Francis E. Denton (1990-2004)  
 Dr. Tobie Stone (2005-2007)  
 Dr. Ralph W. Harrell (2007-2011)  
 Rev. Johnny Hewett (2011-Present)

the

CHURCHES

at

LAKEWOOD

Lakewood Baptist Church

Rev. Johnny Hewett, Pastor

Gospel Baptist Church (Burmese)

Rev. Gideon Thuam, Pastor

United Nations Worship Center Ministry

Rev. Ricardo Correa

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## **PREFACE**

As part of the celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Lakewood Baptist Church, the history of church history has been updated to help us remember our past and to get a glimpse of our future.

The idea of a church history is not a new one. In preparation for the writing of this history, older and shorter versions were found which have been of great value. The last history was published when the seventy-fifth anniversary was celebrated on April 12, 1987.

Just as past history committees and church clerks have done, we labored with the tedious task of gleaning information from old bulletins, newsletters, deacon's minutes, business meeting minutes, and even notes from small pieces of paper, to give us an up-to-date account of the history of Lakewood Baptist Church.

This task has brought so much joy and appreciation to each of us who have read and studied the history of our church. As we relived past events, it made us feel like we were right there and helped us to acknowledge the fact that we, too, are now a part of LBC's history.

We also further realize that the names of persons mentioned in this history does not indicate all that have given of their time and talents to the work of our church, but be well assured that each member, past and present, has played a vital role in the life of Lakewood Baptist Church.

Therefore, in this our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, may we dedicate ourselves to the great tasks that lie before us, always remembering to let God be in the center of our lives and allowing Him to direct our path. With this in mind, I present to you THE HISTORY OF LAKEWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH. TO GOD BE THE GLORY.

Respectfully Submitted,

Teresa Dotson, Church Clerk

### LAKEWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH – 100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Dr. Jon Martin, Chairman

Mrs. Carol Dawson

Ms. Teresa Dotson

Mrs. Connie Hewett

Mrs. Dot Martin

Mrs. Kay Whitfield

## **Key Events and Happenings in 1912**

*When we celebrate a 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we often forget the context and world in which the original event occurred. Listed below are other events that lend historical context and perspective to the 1912 origination of Lakewood Baptist Church:*

**Fenway Park and Tiger Stadium were opened.** [sports.yahoo.com/.../tiger-stadium-opened-100-years-ago-just-like-fe...](http://sports.yahoo.com/.../tiger-stadium-opened-100-years-ago-just-like-fe...); [www.hardballtimes.com/.../centennial-anniversary-fenway-park-and-](http://www.hardballtimes.com/.../centennial-anniversary-fenway-park-and-)

(Saturday, April 20, 1912) — Boston's Fenway Park hosted its first professional baseball game today with then-mayor John F. Fitzgerald, the grandfather of future U.S. President John F. Kennedy, throwing out the first pitch and Boston defeating future arch-rivals the New York Highlanders, renamed the Yankees the next year, 7-6 in 11 innings.

On the same day, Navin Field (named Tiger Stadium in 1961) opened in Detroit. The Tigers beat the Cleveland Naps 6-5 in 11 innings. Ty Cobb scored the first run by stealing home. From that day until 1999, this very spot rumbled with din and greatness. Pretty much every legend that played in Fenway in the 20th century also played here. Lou Gehrig sat himself down for the first time in 2,130 games here, ending his incredible ironman streak. Babe Ruth hit his 700th home run here.

**1. R.M.S. Titanic sank.** [www.eyewitnesstohistory.com/titanic.htm](http://www.eyewitnesstohistory.com/titanic.htm)

**Apr 14, 1912:** Just before midnight in the North Atlantic, the RMS *Titanic* fails to divert its course from an iceberg, ruptures its hull, and begins to sink.

Four days earlier, the *Titanic*, one of the largest and most luxurious ocean liners ever built, departed Southampton, England, on its maiden voyage across the Atlantic Ocean. While leaving port, the massive ship came within a couple of feet of the steamer *New York* but passed safely by, causing a general sigh of relief from the passengers massed on the ship's decks.

The *Titanic* was designed by the Irish shipbuilder William Pirrie and spanned 883 feet from stern to bow. Its hull was divided into 16 compartments that were presumed to be watertight. Because four of these compartments could be flooded without causing a critical loss of buoyancy, the *Titanic* was considered unsinkable. On its first journey across the highly competitive Atlantic ferry route, the ship carried some 2,200 passengers and crew.

After stopping at Cherbourg, France, and Queenstown, Ireland, to pick up some final passengers, the massive vessel set out at full speed for New York City. However, just before midnight on April 14, the ship hit an iceberg, and five of the *Titanic's* compartments were ruptured along its starboard side. At about 2:20 a.m. on the morning of April 15, the massive vessel sank into the North Atlantic.

Because of a shortage of lifeboats and the lack of satisfactory emergency procedures, more than 1,500 people went down in the sinking ship or froze to death in the icy North Atlantic waters. Most of the approximately 700 survivors were women and children. A number of notable American and British citizens died in the tragedy, including the noted British journalist William Thomas Stead and heirs to the Straus, Astor, and Guggenheim fortunes. The announcement of details of the disaster led to outrage on both sides of the Atlantic. The sinking of the *Titanic* did have some positive effects, however, as more stringent safety regulations were adopted on public ships, and regular patrols were initiated to trace the locations of deadly Atlantic icebergs.

2. **Washington D.C. Cherry Blossom Festival originated.** [www.nps.gov/cherry/cherry-blossom-history.htm](http://www.nps.gov/cherry/cherry-blossom-history.htm)

Each year, the National Cherry Blossom Festival commemorates the 1912 gift of 3,000 cherry trees from Mayor Yukio Ozaki of Tokyo to the city of Washington, DC. The gift and annual celebration honor the lasting friendship between the United States and Japan and the continued close relationship between the two countries.

It took the coordination of many to ensure the arrival of the cherry trees. A first batch of 2,000 trees arrived diseased in 1910, but did not deter the parties. Between the governments of the two countries, coordination by Dr. Jokichi Takamine, a world-famous chemist and the founder of Sankyo Co., Ltd. (today know as Daiichi Sankyo), Dr. David Fairchild of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Eliza Scidmore, first female board member of the National Geographic Society, and First Lady Helen Herron Taft, more than 3,000 trees arrived in Washington in 1912. In a simple ceremony on March 27, 1912, First Lady Helen Herron Taft and Viscountess Chinda, wife of the Japanese ambassador, planted the first two trees from Japan on the north bank of the Tidal Basin in West Potomac Park.

Over the years, gifts have been exchanged between the two countries. In 1915, the United States Government reciprocated with a gift of flowering dogwood trees to the people of Japan. In 1981, the cycle of giving came full circle. Japanese horticulturists were given cuttings from the trees to replace some cherry trees in Japan which had been destroyed in a flood.

3. **Universal Studios was incorporated.** [www.ropeofsilicon.com/100-facts-on-universal-pictures-100th-birthd...](http://www.ropeofsilicon.com/100-facts-on-universal-pictures-100th-birthd...); [strictly-vintage-hollywood.blogspot.com/.../universal-pictures-100-y...](http://strictly-vintage-hollywood.blogspot.com/.../universal-pictures-100-y...)

On April 30, 1912, in New York, Carl Laemmle of IMP, Pat Powers Motion Picture Company, Mark Dintenfass of Champion Film Company, William Swanson of Rex Motion Picture Company, David Horsley of Nestor Film Company and Charles Baumann and Adam Kessel of the New York Motion Picture Company merged their studios and the Universal Film Manufacturing Company was incorporated. They founded the Universal Motion Picture Manufacturing Company in 1912, and established the studio on 235 acres (0.95 km<sup>2</sup>) of land in the San Fernando Valley, California in 1915.

4. **Oreo cookie was "born"**  
[www.kraftfoodscompany.com/.../Oreo Global Fact Sheet 100th Bi...](http://www.kraftfoodscompany.com/.../Oreo%20Global%20Fact%20Sheet%20100th%20Bi...);  
[history1900s.about.com](http://history1900s.about.com) > ... > 20th Century History > Fads & Fashions;

**Birthday:** March 6, 1912

**First sale:** The first *Oreo* was sold in Hoboken, NJ, where *Oreo* was originally packaged in bulk tins and sold by weight. Back then, grocers paid USD \$0.30 cents/lb for *Oreo*.

**Namesakes:** *Oreo* has a street named after it – *Oreo Way* – formerly known as West 15th Street between 9th & 10 Avenues in New York City where the first *Oreo* cookie was made at the original *Nabisco* bakery.

**Design:** The first *Oreo* cookie was embossed with a thin wreath on the outer edge, with the *Oreo* name on the plain surface in the middle.

**Sales:** *Oreo* is the world's favorite cookie and the best-selling cookie brand of the 21st century, with \$1.5 billion in global annual revenues. Kraft Foods is the proud custodian of *Oreo*, and *Oreo* is one of the company's 12 "billion-dollar" brands.

**Global Reach:** *Oreo* cookies can be found in more than 100 countries.

**Twist, Lick, Dunk Ritual:** 50 percent of all *Oreo* eaters pull apart their cookies before eating, with women twisting them open more often than men.

5. **New Mexico became the 47<sup>th</sup> state, Arizona became the 48<sup>th</sup> state, and Alaska became a U.S. territory** [www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov) > ... > Featured Documents <https://nmcentennial.org/.../1912-statehood-for-new-mexico-and-ariz...>

The Territory of New Mexico was an organized incorporated territory of the United States that existed (with varying boundaries) from September 9, 1850, until January 6, 1912, when the final extent of the territory was admitted to the Union as the State of New Mexico.

"Forty-Eighth Star To Be Placed On Flag Of The American Nation On St. Valentine's Day" read the February 14, 1912 headline in Arizona Journal-Miner. Across the state, canons, dynamite, bells, and guns of all sizes would toll 48 times in honor of President Taft's signing of the statehood proclamation and George W. P. Hunt's assumption of the Governorship of the state.

Alaska was organized under a territorial government in 1912. By this time, the roller coaster ride of the gold rushes had subsided, leaving permanent populations in some towns (Nome, Fairbanks) while others would eventually become ghost towns (Dyea, Iditarod.) During this period, scientific and military interest in the areas north of the arctic circle resulted in the establishment of permanent settlements and post offices at sites like Barrow, Wainwright, and Point Hope.

6. **Pulitzer Prize was established.** <http://www.pulitzer.org/biography>

In 1912, one year after Pulitzer's death aboard his yacht, the Columbia School of Journalism was founded, and the first Pulitzer Prizes were awarded in 1917 under the supervision of the advisory board to which he had entrusted his mandate. Pulitzer envisioned an advisory board composed principally of newspaper publishers. Others would include the president of Columbia University and scholars, and "persons of distinction who are not journalists or editors." Today, the 19-member board is composed mainly of leading editors or news executives. Four academics also serve, including the president of Columbia University and the dean of the Columbia Graduate School of Journalism.

7. **Republic of China was established.** [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Republic\\_of\\_China\\_\(1912%E2%80%931949\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Republic_of_China_(1912%E2%80%931949))

The Republic of China (Zhōnghuá Mínguó) was founded in 1912 and its government was located on mainland China until 1949.<sup>[1]</sup> As an era of Chinese history, the republic was preceded by the Qing Dynasty and followed by the People's Republic of China. Its first president, Sun Yat-sen only served briefly. His Kuomintang (KMT, or "Nationalist Party"), then led by Song Jiaoren, won a parliamentary election held in December 1912. However, army leaders of the Beiyang clique, led by President Yuan Shikai, retained control of the central government. After Yuan's death in 1916, various local military leaders, or warlords, asserted autonomy. In 1925, the KMT established a rival government, referred to as Nationalist China, in the southern city of Canton, now Guangzhou.

8. **"Tarzan of the Apes" was first published.** <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tarzan>

Tarzan first appeared in the novel Tarzan of the Apes (magazine publication 1912, book publication 1914), and then in twenty-five sequels, three authorized books by other authors, and innumerable works in other media, authorized and not.

9. **Teddy Roosevelt was shot.** [www.politico.com/news/stories/1007/6571.html](http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1007/6571.html)

**Roosevelt shot in Milwaukee on Oct. 14, 1912.** By ANDREW GLASS | 10/14/07 8:16 AM EDT

On this day in 1912, a saloonkeeper named John Schrank shot former President Theodore Roosevelt while Roosevelt, as the presidential candidate of the Progressive Party, prepared to give a campaign speech in Milwaukee, Wis. The force of Schrank's bullet, aimed directly at Roosevelt's heart, was slowed by a steel eyeglass case and a copy of his campaign speech stuffed in the breast pocket of his heavy coat. After being arrested, Schrank gave as his motive for the shooting his belief that "any man looking for a third term ought to be shot." Having suffered only a flesh wound from the attack, Roosevelt went on to deliver his scheduled speech with the bullet still lodged in his body. After speaking a few words, the one-time "Rough Rider" pulled a torn and bloodstained manuscript from his breast pocket and declared, "You see, it takes more than one bullet to kill a bull moose." (The Progressives were popularly known as the "Bull Moose Party," which got its name after Roosevelt had earlier told reporters, "I'm as fit as a bull moose.") Roosevelt spoke for nearly an hour before being taken to the hospital. Doctors determined that he was not seriously wounded and that it would be more dangerous to attempt to remove the bullet than to leave it in his chest. Roosevelt carried it with him until he died in 1919.

**Girl Scouts of USA was formed**



[http://www.girlscouts.org/who\\_we\\_are/history/](http://www.girlscouts.org/who_we_are/history/)

Juliette "Daisy" Gordon Low assembled 18 girls from Savannah, Georgia, on March 12, 1912, for a local Girl Scout meeting. She believed that all girls should be given the opportunity to develop physically, mentally, and spiritually. With the goal of bringing girls out of isolated home environments and into community service and the open air, Girl Scouts hiked, played basketball, went on camping trips, learned how to tell time by the stars, and studied first aid. Within a few years, Daisy's dream for a girl-centered organization was realized. Today, Girl Scouts of the USA has a membership of over 3.2 million girls and adults, a significant growth from its modest beginnings nearly a century ago. In fact, more than 59 million women in the U.S. today are Girl Scout alumnae.

10. **Vitamins were discovered.** [http://inventors.about.com/library/inventors/bl\\_vitamins.htm](http://inventors.about.com/library/inventors/bl_vitamins.htm)

In 1905, the first scientist to determine that if special factors (vitamins) were removed from food disease occurred, was Englishman, William Fletcher. Doctor Fletcher was researching the causes of the disease Beriberi when he discovered that eating unpolished rice prevented Beriberi and eating polished rice did not. William Fletcher believed that there were special nutrients contained in the husk of the rice.

In 1906, English biochemist Sir Frederick Gowland Hopkins also discovered that certain food factors were important to health. In 1912, Polish scientist Cashmir Funk named the special nutritional parts of food as a "vitamine" after "vita" meaning life and "amine" from compounds found in the thiamine he isolated from rice husks. Vitamine was later shortened to vitamin. Together, Hopkins and Funk formulated the vitamin hypothesis of deficiency disease - that a lack of vitamins could make you sick.



### **11. Royal Flying Commission (RAC) formed (later became Royal Air Force (RAF)).**

The Royal Flying Corps (RFC) was the over-land air arm of the British military during most of the First World War. During the early part of the war, the RFC's responsibilities were centred on support of the British Army, via artillery co-operation and photographic reconnaissance. This work gradually led RFC pilots into aerial battles with German pilots and later in the war included the strafing of enemy infantry and emplacements, the bombing of German military airfields and later the strategic bombing of German industrial and transportation facilities.

At the start of World War I the RFC, commanded by Brigadier-General Sir David Henderson, consisted of five squadrons – one observation balloon squadron (RFC No 1 Squadron) and four aeroplane squadrons (RFC No 2 and No 3 Squadrons were the first fixed-wing flying squadrons in the world). These were first used for aerial spotting on 13 September 1914, but only became efficient when they perfected the use of wireless communication at Aubers Ridge on 9 May 1915. Aerial photography was attempted during 1914, but again only became effective the next year. By 1918, photographic images could be taken from 15,000 feet, and interpreted by over 3,000 personnel. Parachutes were not available to pilots of the RFC's heavier-than-air craft – nor were they used by the RAF during the First World War – although the Calthrop Guardian Angel parachute (1916 model) was officially adopted just as the war ended. By this time parachutes had been used by balloonists for three years.<sup>[1][2]</sup>

On 17 August 1917, South African General Jan Smuts recommended a new air service be formed that would be on a level with the Army and Royal Navy. On 1 April 1918, the RFC and the RNAS were amalgamated to form a new service, the Royal Air Force (RAF). The RAF was under the control of the new Air Ministry. After starting in 1914 with some 2,073 personnel, by the start of 1919 the RAF had 4,000 combat aircraft and 114,000 personnel.

### **12. Amundsen et al., and then Scott et al., reached the South Pole.**

<http://learning.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/01/18/jan-18-1912-robert-falcon-scott-discovers-tent-of-explorer-who-beat-him-to-south-pole/>

On Jan. 18, 1912, one day after reaching the South Pole, the English explorer Robert F. Scott and his expedition found a tent erected by Roald Amundsen's expedition, which had reached the pole five weeks earlier. Inside the tent, Scott found a note addressed to him from Amundsen. Should he not return home safely, Amundsen wanted someone to tell King Haakon of Norway that he had indeed reached the pole.

Scott, who had taken part in an Antarctic expedition in 1902, began making plans for an expedition to the pole after a failed attempt by the British explorer Ernest Shackleton in 1909. Scott assumed he would have no competition in being the first to reach the South Pole. However, in the fall of 1910, Amundsen ditched his plans for a North Pole expedition and telegraphed Scott saying that he too had set a goal for reaching the South Pole. Both expedition teams arrived in Antarctica in January 1911 and made preparations for their year's journey. Scott's team began its trek to the pole in November 1911, encountering many problems with its choices of transport. The group used motor sledges and Siberian ponies rather than the traditional sled dogs favored by Amundsen.

Amundsen's team became the first to ever reach the South Pole on Dec. 14, 1911. Scott and his team neared the pole about a month later. On Jan. 16, 1912, they found a flag in the snow from Amundsen's expedition. Scott and four other men reached the pole the following day, greatly disappointed to have been beaten. Scott wrote in his diary, "Great God! This is an awful place and terrible enough for us to have laboured to it without the reward of priority."

### **13. NC State University celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.**

<http://www4.ncsu.edu/~njrose/Special/Tidbits/UnivTimeline.html>  
NC State University Timeline

Important Dates in University History, 1887-2005 (Adapted from [\[Library Archives\]](#))

## LAKWOOD PARK AREA – AROUND 1912

It was the days of ice trucks, coal trucks, wood trucks, home delivery of milk in glass bottles, feather beds, and quilting bees. The "good ole days," or so we thought.

The Lakewood Park Area, located halfway between Yates Baptist Church on what was then called Chapel Hill Boulevard, was considered rural agricultural in one respect and in another, a bustling neighborhood due to the activities brought about by Lakewood Park. Families living in the Lakewood Park area rode wagons and buggies to Yates and Temple Baptist Churches, as in those days the two churches were considered a "good distance away."

It is considered important to apprise you, the readers, of the nature of the neighborhood, the activities and landmarks, as the relationship one to another, eventually brought about the need for another church in our midst.

Dr. T.D. Wright owned a large parcel of land in the Lakewood area. He also owned the Durham Traction Company which in today's terms was a conglomerate of transportation, electric power, and manufacturer of ice, with electricity becoming the motive power.

Mr. Wright, being the entrepreneur that he was, decided to build a park, and after purchasing the franchise of Durham Street Railway Company in 1901, and securing another fifty year contract with the city, he extended the electric trolley line to his new venture, Lakewood Park. There the line ended but the activity was only beginning.

LAKWOOD PARK - Called the "Coney Island of the South" was advertised on large billboards along leading highways to our city. The atmosphere was that of a Fair. Street cars, at five cents a trip, came loaded down with people from surrounding towns as far away as Greensboro. Cars, wagons, buggies, and all means of transportation were "parked" everywhere using side streets, fields, and driveways. It was said that the people came to do all the things that can be done at the State fairs of today.

THE CASINO was a huge auditorium with opera-type seats and a big stage with velvet curtains. In the summer months, summer stock companies would travel here to give performances. Enormous crowds would gather and local people were used as extras in the shows. Our very own Frances Howard was one of those extras. She was a "violet" and wore a paper dress.

THE ROLLER SKATING RINK was vast in size with music playing at all times to entertain the crowds that came.

THE GIANT DANCE PAVILION, which was a separate building from the Casino, was a covered, open sided building, used mainly for dances. Orchestras came from all over to perform while the crowds danced the night away.

Other activities consisted of a Bowling Alley, spine-chilling Roller Coaster, drink stand, fishing type game stands, swings and slides.

There was a good-sized lake located behind the Kroger Store and where the apartments are now located.

The fireworks display on the Fourth of July was said by many to be the best, by far, ever seen, and the crowds were so vast you could hardly move. Special open air streetcars were added to the line during the summer months to accommodate the crowds.

In addition to all this, a carnival would come occasionally to "add to the activity." Gypsies would also make their presence known, and when the gypsies came, everyone locked their doors for fear of thievery.

The parking lot of the Lakewood Park was used at times for Tent Meetings. "Evangelist Green" made this a very emotional time and stirred people to doubt their salvation.

Many of our church picnics were held at the Lakewood Park, and our very first services before we had a church building, were held in the Lakewood Park Buildings.

OLD LAKEWOOD SCHOOL – OR PROCTOR SCHOOL, as it was first called, was originally located on Ward Street approximately where Huron Circle intersects. It was a small one story building where all grades were taught. Later on, a two story frame structure with outside toilet facilities and wood or coal heat was constructed where the Y.M.C.A. presently stands on Chapel Hill Street. This building was eventually torn down.

On the same site, a one-story brick building with central heat and inside plumbing opened its doors to students. Mr. Albert Long was the principal at that time. This building remained until its roof collapsed from the weight of snow during the school year 1959 – 1960. This catastrophe left the community without a school and the children were transported by bus to E.K. Powe School.

Again, the history of our church is intertwined into the community in that the church facilities were offered to the children in the area as a pick up point. The basement of our present church building was used for them to gather in bad weather. Arrangements were made between the church and the School Board for the church area used to be maintained in an orderly fashion.

The new and present Lakewood School was built on Vesson Street and opened its doors in the fall of 1961.

DAVIS BAKERY was built by Jarvis and Clyde Brantley who had previously operated a grocery store in the middle of the block where Prince Street intersects with Chapel Hill Road. The lot is now vacant. The store was known as B & W Store or Brantley and Watson Grocery. The street-level part of the bakery building was used as a service station and barber shop while the upstairs was used as a dwelling. Information relative to Mr. Watson is unknown to the writer.

TENNY RIGSBEE'S grocery store and MARVIN MANGUM'S grocery store, later operated by Henry Broadway and Phillip Ward, were located across from Lakewood Park and were separated by only one dwelling.

LAKWOOD DAIRY was in full operation and continually growing during this period of time. The dairy was located where TROSA stands today, but with large barns and cow pastures covering the present sites of Rockwood, Forest Hills, Huron Circle and Yorktowne Apartments. The Ward homeplace was located near the dairy.

The history of Lakewood Baptist Church again is intertwined with another landmark, the dairy, in that its founder, Mr. F. A. Ward, was a charter member of the church and a substantial giver. It was through Mr. Ward's great generosity that the early church was spared many financial pitfalls and was able to grow at such a rapid pace.

PETE CARTER HORSE STABLES - Mr. Peter Carter moved to Durham to raise race horses which he raced at the State Fair. His stable was located where the Lakewood Methodist Church now stands and was named Wa-Wa-Yonder - said to be an Indian name. Folks around the area made a joke of him trying to farm with race horses. Wa-Wa Avenue was named after this stable.

ROLLS FLORIST occupied their present location having moved from Duke Street. Many of the Roll family were members and wonderful supporters of Lakewood Baptist Church.

So... we leave you with the memory of a beautiful country side with waving wheat, grazing cows and horses in fields and pastures in one section; a quiet peaceful neighborhood with a need for "their very own church" in another section; and a bustling "Little Coney Island" in yet another section; all making up the Lakewood Park area in or around the year 1912.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF OUR CHARTER MEMBERS

Mr. Dave E. Durham

Mrs. J. C. (Hallie) Myrick

Mrs. J. G. (Emma) Rigsbee

Mr. and Mrs. Rufus L. Rigsbee

Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Alphonso Ward

Mrs. Albert T. Woods

These men and women, whose names are recorded in the earliest history of our Church, were ordinary folk of their day - an electrician, a meat cutter, a dairyman, housewives, and would you believe, a carpenter! Most of them were not wealthy or highly educated, but they could possibly have reminded us ...so were the men whom Jesus chose as His disciples.

We shall always cherish the memory of our charter members as we realize that they were very much in earnest when they covenanted with God and with one another to give of themselves to Him to organize Lakewood Baptist Church. We can only wish that they could be with us today to see the results of what they and the Holy Father started 100 years ago.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

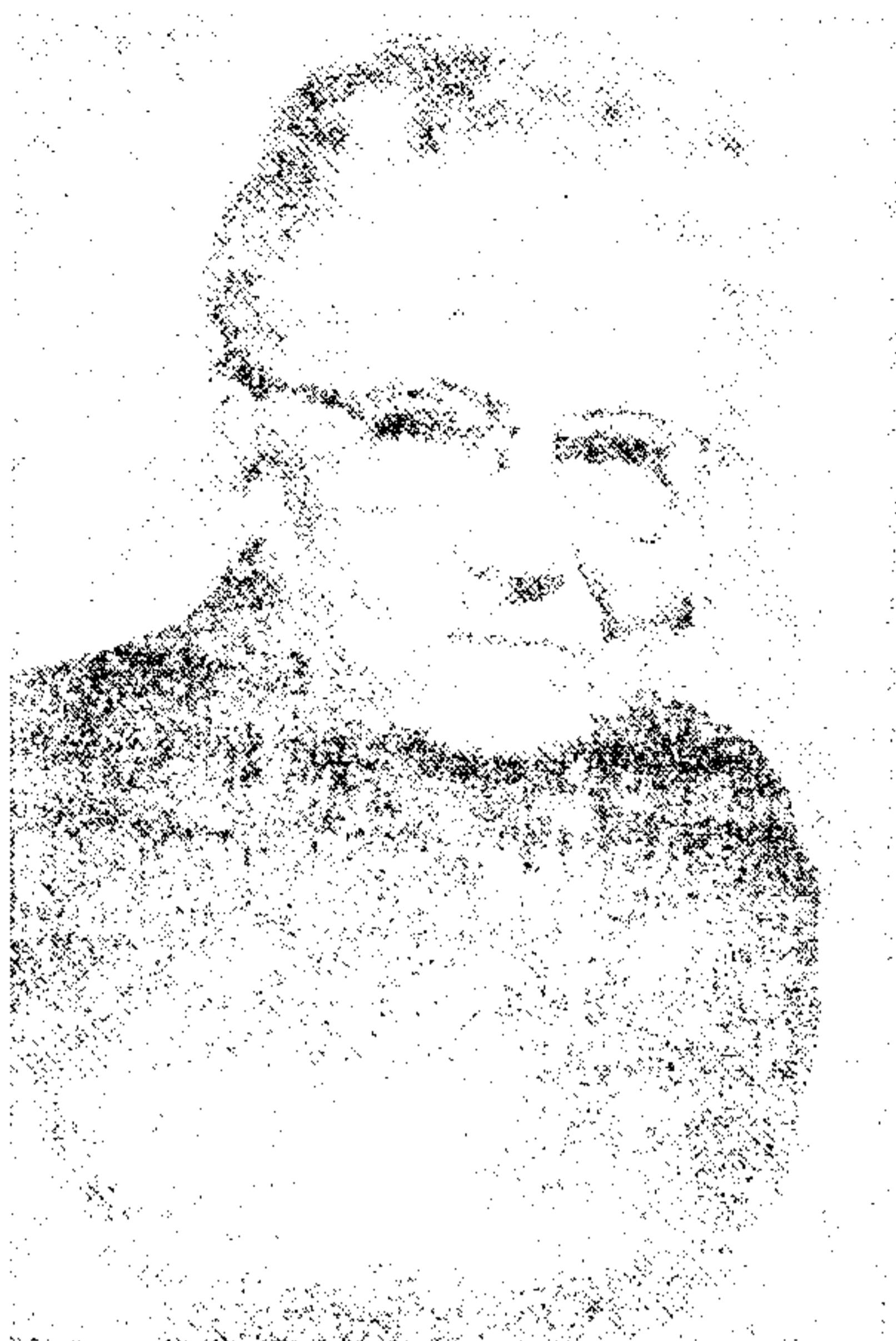


## DAVE E. DURHAM

MR. D. E. DURHAM was a meat cutter by trade and owned and operated Durham's Market at Five Points during the time of the organization of Lakewood Baptist Church. He was the church's first Sunday School Superintendent.

He lived with his wife, Rosa Christian Durham and two children, Magdaline and Elwood, in a house next door to the Roll home on Chapel Hill Street. In addition to his trade as a meat cutter, he made cigars in a small detached room adjacent to his house. This one room structure was eventually added to the main house and can be seen today. The Durham family later moved to 811 W. Chapel Hill Street at the corner of Arnette and Chapel Hill Street.

Mr. Durham, a short man in stature, was very religious and a devoted family man who loved his grandchildren. He was especially caring of his wife who had asthma and died in her early 50's. Because of his wife's health problems, Mr. Durham attended church without her. He later married Ellen Powers and moved his membership to Temple Baptist Church. Mr. Durham has a granddaughter, Mrs. James (Margaret) Wrenn, daughter of Magdalin Durham Hargrove, who contributed to this biographical sketch of her grandfather.



### MRS. J. C. (HALLIE) MYRICK

In 1912, MRS. HALLIE MYRICK lived on Lakewood Avenue with her husband, Charlie, and their three daughters, Annie Lou, May, and Frances. In May of 1916 they moved into their new home on James Street which was later occupied by her daughter, Frances Myrick Howard.

Mrs. Myrick died on May 19, 1965, the Woman's Missionary Society paid special tribute to her. The History committee is, therefore, using the WMS's "IN MEMORIAM" as her biographical sketch as we felt we could not describe her in any better way.

### **IN MEMORIAM**

"We, the members of the Woman's Missionary society of the Lakewood Baptist Church wish to pay living and tender tribute to our friend and sister in Christ, Mrs. J. C. Myrick.

In the early hours of a beautiful Wednesday afternoon, May 19, 1965, her spirit was called to her heavenly home. She loved her home and family and had a deep interest in her church; being loyal and cooperative in all its activities as long as her health permitted and even after her leadership days became less frequent, her loyalty in attendance was ever present.

Mrs. Myrick was a charter member of the Lakewood Baptist Church which had its beginning in April of 1912 when a group of eight interested people met in the old wooden structure of the Lakewood School building to organize a Baptist witness in the community.

She became the first president of the Woman's Missionary Society and was actively engaged in the work throughout her entire lifetime; having attended the monthly Topic Meeting the very month in which her death occurred. She was also in attendance at the Sunday night worship service just two Sundays prior to her death.

Mrs. Myrick was not only instrumental in the organization of the church but in each and every auxiliary connected with it. One member of the congregation recalled that Mrs. Myrick visited her home when she was a child and asked if a Sunday School was organized in the church, would this family promise to attend. This they did, and this lady, as well as some of her own children, were active in the work of the church.

During the early years of the church Mrs. Myrick's versatility in talents had much to do with the church's growth in various organizations. She served as church pianist at intervals along the way and for years and years was Superintendent of the Primary Department of the Sunday School. Later, she reluctantly released this coveted position to another leader in order to serve as teacher of the Homemakers Sunday School Class, desperately in need of a teacher at the time.

During the latter days of her 84 years, perhaps her most influencing virtue was demonstrated by her loyalty in attendance at the worship and prayer services of the church. One dedicated young man who was a loyal and active leader in the church was heard to say on the afternoon of her death that there had been times when he felt tired and was tempted to stay home from a Sunday service but attending anyway, he always saw Mrs. Myrick there and was then shamed by the thought, but was inspired anew to be more faithful to be in the Lord's House on the Lord's Day from then on.

Memory permits each of us to feel that Mrs. Myrick's motto and goal must have been inspired from 1 Corinthians 4:2 which has this to say:

"Moreover it is required in stewards that a man be found faithful."

Mrs. Myrick's vacant seat at the Lakewood Baptist Church is a solemn reminder to all of us to support the Church of Christ with our time and talents."



## EMILY (EMMA) CATES RIGSBEE

EMILY (EMMA) CATES RIGSBEE was born on December 31, 1861 to John and Jeanette Cates in Orange County, North Carolina. Emma Cates married John G. Rigsbee on April 9, 1880. They had three children, Essie Rigsbee McGilvary, Emmett R. Rigsbee and Edgar G. Rigsbee.

Mrs. Rigsbee and her husband lived near what is now Anderson Street which was a very rural community at that time. Mrs. Rigsbee was a housewife and Mr. Rigsbee was a part-time farmer and hauler of sand and other materials to contractors. He hauled the sand to Trinity College to build the rock walls that now stand around the Duke campus. He also helped people thrash wheat.

Although Mrs. Rigsbee never held an office in the Church, she was always there to help out in any way possible. She was very religious and a committed Christian; therefore, setting a good example for her children to follow. She liked to sew, cook and went to many quilting bees.

Even though Mr. Rigsbee was not a charter member, he followed his wife into the church after it was organized and became an active member. His hard work in maintaining the church building on James Street and the new structure on Chapel Hill Road is well remembered by his daughter, "Miss Essie." When the new brick church was built, there were lots of problems with water in the basement and many times Mr. Rigsbee went to the Church to help bail the water out on Saturday afternoons so that Sunday School could be held on Sunday morning.

MRS. ESSIE MCGILVARY, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rigsbee was the sole source of the biographical sketch of her mother and father. During this interview, Mrs. McGilvary had such interesting additional information about her own life, it was felt that it should be shared.

Mr. and Mrs. McGilvary moved into a house directly across the street from our present church on Chapel Hill Road in 1915 and were there to observe the complete construction of the present church. Mr. McGilvary worked for Southern Parts and Electric Company. They had four children, Sybil M. Davis, David R. McGilvary, R.E. (Bobby) McGilvary and Emily M. Long.

The entire area behind the Church, with the exception of one house on Jersey Avenue, was open fields. Mr. T. D. Wright owned all of the farm land and a huge barn was located not far away.

According to Mrs. McGilvary, the park was "always there." She can remember once when she and her family left home for a vacation on a Monday morning and came home on a Friday to learn that the park had been sold. All the trees had been uprooted and all the buildings had been leveled getting ready for the construction of a new shopping center.

After the Durham Traction Company began to lease the park to various people, the park began to deteriorate and it was no longer what it used to be. It was eventually sold to the Randolph Few family who built the shopping center.

Everyone was just sick when they did away with the park. But, here again, progress takes its toll and a new era began. On November 1, 1960 Lakewood Shopping Center was open for business.

Mr. McGilvary died in October of 1960 never being able to visit the completed shopping center which he had watched being constructed.

Mrs. McGilvary was 84 years old on February 16, 1987. When asked what she attributed her longevity to, she said she didn't know. She eats anything she wants to eat; has been blessed with good health; has a good outlook on life and has children who take good care of her. Her philosophy was to do the very best you can; don't worry a lot and look on the bright side of life.

Mrs. McGilvary related that she never heard her mother and dad complain. They took each day and made the most of it. The family was close-knit with lots of love shown. The Church was a big part of their lives. She recalled that the Church members were very close - more like one big family.

Mrs. McGilvary lived alone in her home which is still located across from the Church. She was visited frequently by her daughter Sybil and walked to the shopping center every pretty day. She had no spare time and never got lonesome.

Mrs. McGilvary was a delightfully interesting lady, and it was a wonderful experience getting to know her. So it must have been with "Miss Emma", in another time many years ago.



MR. AND MRS.  
RUFUS L. RIGSBEE



LAURIE AND RUFUS RIGSBEE lived at 1508 James Street in 1912 when a group of neighbors met at their home on April 14 of that year to discuss the need to organize a new church. From that meeting a church was organized and named Lakewood Baptist Church.

Mr. Riggsbee was by trade a carpenter, a brickmason, and could do anything else pertaining to building. Mrs. Riggsbee was a housewife and mother.

Mr. Riggsbee was the foreman for the group of men that helped build the first church. Each day they worked, Mrs. Riggsbee would cook lunch and take it to the workmen. This first church was built on the corner of James and Bivins Streets in the fall of 1914.

Mr. Riggsbee was first married to Dora Taylor who died leaving him with a daughter, Gladys Riggsbee Pickett. Mr. Riggsbee married Annie Laurie Tappin in 1903. Mr. and Mrs. Riggsbee had six children; Christine Riggsbee Dodson; Mrs. Payton Powers; Jennie Riggsbee Grasso; and Johnnie P. Riggsbee.

Mr. Riggsbee and his family lived on James Street until the year 1919 when they moved to Dixon Road. Since Yates Baptist Church was nearer, the family moved their membership from Lakewood.

Along with his carpentry work, Mr. Riggsbee began farming. He raised tobacco and cotton. Later, he grew vegetables and sold them.

In those days, the complexion of James Street was quite different than it is today in that going south, the street ended at approximately 1512 James Street: from that point on there was only a path to Wards Dairy.

Mr. and Mrs. Rigsbee were good neighbors, always ready to help whenever they were asked.

Mr. Rigsbee died in September, 1930 and Mrs. Rigsbee lived another twenty years then in March, 1950.

These two charter members, a husband and wife team, gave much of themselves to Lakewood Baptist Church and shall always be remembered for their help in building what we so richly enjoy today.



## Franklin Alphonso Ward

The following is a lengthy biography of Mr. F. A. Ward, copied from the ENCYCLOPEDIA OF BIOGRAPHY. We felt it only proper to render its entirety.

"WARD, FRANKLIN ALPHONSO, Dairy Owner

A man whose religious convictions were carried into practice in his every day life through his attitudes and actions toward his fellow beings and his church. Franklin Alphonso Ward adopted a system of business which called for profit-sharing with God, and in his ventures was eminently successful, with the result that he had all the more time and material resources to give to God's work on earth. His conversion came at a time of life when he was very ill and physicians despaired of his health; and within two weeks from the time when he resolved to give himself over wholly to the Christian religion, he was well enough to go on with his work in Durham, North Carolina, where from then onward he extended his dairy farm and became the enthusiastic proprietor of many different enterprises. At the time of his death in 1928 he was supporting financially three missionaries in China, and was planning to bear the expenses of still more, while he had also contributed richly to the welfare of numerous church organizations in the United States. His passing was, indeed, a distinct loss to the church and to his fellowmen, who knew him as the highest type of lofty moral character and one who always did what he considered the right thing in his actions toward everyone.

Mr. Ward was born on December 12, 1887, at Bynum, North Carolina, son of Dr. Edward Howard and Savannah (Horton) Ward. His father was a physician in Bynum and the surrounding community of North Carolina, and in the course of his life rendered valuable service to the people of this district. The family of Ward is an old one and highly honored in the south, and Dr. Ward, the father, was highly respected and admired, as were all the members of his house. Franklin Alphonso Ward received his early education in the public schools and high schools of Bynum, North Carolina, his birthplace, and first became engaged in business as a clerk in the general dry goods store in his native community, where he remained for about three years. At the conclusion of that period he came, in 1910, to Durham, where he bought sixty acres of land, there- to-fore undeveloped, near the city. And on these acres he established the farm and dairy which later became one of the thriftiest in the State. He moved into a log cabin, purchased a few cows, and started his dairy work on a small scale.

Doing all the labor of the farm himself, he worked so hard that after a time his health broke under the strain of general farming as well as dairying, and he was taken to Watts Hospital in Durham. There the physician told him that there was practically no hope for him. It was at that time that he turned to God for help, promising that if he recovered, he would give his

life to his Maker and one-tenth of all his earnings to the church, the house of Christ on earth. Almost immediately, his recovery began, and within two weeks he was ready to return home. He then began to give to God's work, as he had promised to do, and from then onward often spoke of his action as taking God into partnership in his business.

At about this time he went to the bank and borrowed money for the building of the Lakewood Baptist Church on James Street and Bivins Street. His business prospered from the outset, so that he did not have to borrow further money for the church, but was able to support the enterprises to which he turned his hand out of his own income. He bought more cows, as well as several dairy trucks, built a large dairy barn and provided other needed equipment for his farm. His health continued to improve, and he continued to furnish his tithe to the Lord. His number of cows increased still further as time went on, and he gave increasingly of his time and energy to the work of the church. He built the beautiful new Baptist home, and purchased more land adjoining his own forty-acre plot for \$10,000. Unsatisfied with giving money to the church to which he belonged, he gave also to his former church in Chatham County, North Carolina, and to numerous other churches and religious organizations and to the Community Chest - all were enterprises which he believed were doing a valuable work in the vicinity of Durham. He also was active in all American Red Cross activities at the time of the World War, as well as in Liberty Loan campaigns.

Needless to say, Mr. Ward was an ardent Prohibitionist and a supporter of all reform movements initiated by his fellowmen. A year after his recovery from that critical illness, he was no longer content to give the traditionally established tithe, or tenth of his income to the church, but doubled his contribution to the amount of one-fifth of his earnings.

In 1923, the church still had not been built, so Mr. Ward personally gave \$10,000 in order that it might be immediately started. He was chairman of the building committee, as well as of the church's board of trustees. Then, in addition to his substantial contributions of money from his own fortune, he also provided security for the church's debt to the Jefferson Standard Insurance Company to the amount of \$21,500.

Meanwhile, his business interests were increasing. Buying and selling land and real estate, he was building up his earnings and his contributions to God to hitherto unattained heights. He was elected city councilman without electioneering or in any way attempting to obtain this public office; he was made a member of the executive board of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina; and he became a regular attendant at this organization's conventions, as at those of the Southern Baptist organization, always paying his pastor's expenses on these trips.

It was about 1927 that he was offered by a large eastern company \$500,000 for his land, which had now been developed to a state of richest value before unheard of, but not wishing to dispose of his holdings, he declined the offer. Also at about this time, he put in several improvements in his dairy, at a cost of \$125,000, whereupon it became, beyond a shadow of doubt, the leading enterprise of its kind in the State of North Carolina and one of the finest in the entire south.

Along with his other activities he was active in the affairs of the Democratic Party, as well as in different fraternal and civic groups, including the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Free and Accepted Masons, the Kiwanis Club and the Chamber of Commerce of Durham.

Articles were appearing in different Church papers and in the general press about his work and his generous giving to the cause of religion; and he was just in the midst of his plans to provide still more missionaries in China in addition to the tree natives who were already spreading the Gospel of God in that nation at Mr. Ward's expense, when he began to notice the oncoming failure of health. On the eleventh of February, 1928, he was struck by an automobile, and his skull was fractured, rendering his recovery well-nigh impossible. His death came on May 20, 1928.

Franklin Alphonso Ward married at Norfolk, Virginia on February 23, 1907, to Effie Jane Rigsbee, daughter of Josiah and Sarah (Oldham) Rigsbee, the father of a prominent farmer in this community. By this union there were seven children: Frank, who married Leora Sherron, and they had one child, Frank A., 3d., 2. Foye Emmett, a student, 3. Amzie Burnice, also a student. 4. Lawrence J. a student, 5. Sally Louise, twin to Lawrence J., a student. 6. Phillip Marion and 7. F.A. Jr., a student.

The death of Franklin Alphonso Ward came as a distinct loss to his community, his state, his church and his fellowmen. For few individuals had so devoted their lives to the well-being of others and to the advancement of general reform movements and worthy enterprises, and few so devote themselves today. His generosity was almost unprecedented, at least as far as the proportion was concerned, among men of his wealth. A loyal friend, a true public servant, a Christian man of the highest qualities of character, Mr. Ward will long be remembered and his memory will be cherished by those whom he left behind him on this earth; and the picture of his life story will stand out among others, for generations to come, as an example of what a brave and generous heart can do to improve the condition of this world and thus reap the greatest possible satisfaction to be derived in this world ; the satisfaction of having done something for this world's good."



## EFFIE JANE RIGSBEE WARD

EFFIE JANE RIGSBEE WARD was born on July 27, 1886 to Joshia and Sarah Oldham Rigsbee, a prominent farming family in Chatham County, North Carolina and received her education in the public elementary and high schools in Bynum, North Carolina. At the time of her marriage to Mr. Franklin Alphonso Ward she worked as a Clerk in the Post Office in Pittsboro, North Carolina.

In 1910 Mr. and Mrs. Ward moved to Durham, North Carolina where, in 1909, Mr. Ward had purchased sixty acres of undeveloped land from James N. Christian and wife. Mr. and Mrs. Ward moved into a log cabin, farmed the land and started a dairy which became one of the thriftiest in the state.

Mrs. Ward worked side by side with her husband in all of his accomplishments, rising early (3:00am) in the morning and working late into the night to get the work done. She stood by her husband's side at the time of his illness, once being told there was practically no hope for him. She helped nurse him back to health. Seven children were born during these years. 1.) Frank H. who married Leora Sherron. They had four children, Franklin A. 2nd, Howard Sherron, Richard and Jane. 2.) Foye Emmett married Frances Ellis. They had two children, Foye Emmett Jr. and Pauline Ward Misenhiemer. 3) Amzie Bernice married Virginia Forrest. They had one son, A.B. Jr. 4) Lawrence J. married Mary Beck. They had two children, Tommy and Donna. 5) Louise, twin to Lawrence, married Harry Brayshaw. They had three children, Gail, Daniel and Kindal. 6) Phillip Marion married Marguerite Hartsell and they had three children, Phillip Jr., Kim and John. 7) F. A. Jr. married Lucille Kearney and they had four children, Franklin 3rd, David M., Kearney E., and Charles R.

Effie Ward was devoted to her husband, to her children and to Lakewood Baptist Church. She took an active part in all phases of the Church and after the untimely death of her husband when he was 41 years of age, she supported the Church with her time, talents and money, giving whenever approached and wherever needed. Her continued loyalty and support of the Church were very important ingredients in its survival.

After her husband's death, Mrs. Ward carried on the family business until it was sold to Pet Ice Cream Company, later to become Long Meadow Dairy and finally Flav-0-Rich. The remaining Ward estate consists of land on which Yorktowne was built.



More than any estate or other legacy that could be left to her heirs, are the traits of high moral and ethical values; also the badge of honesty and courage that were so characteristic of the life she led in rearing the siblings left to her care, and hers alone, at the passing of her husband.

With shoulders straight and head held high, she saw her mountain, she reached the pinnacle, she ran the race and received her final reward. Her children call her "Blessed" and her worth is above any earthly reward.

*Author - Mrs. F. A. (Lucille Kearney) Ward, Jr.,  
Daughter-in-law of Mrs. Effie Jane Rigsbee Ward - February 3, 1987*



## MRS. ALBERT T. WOODS

LILLIE SYKES WOODS, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J.P. Sykes, grew up on Lakewood Avenue. She married Albert T. Woods, an electrician, and was the mother of three children, a daughter, Adele Woods Lippard, who lived in Arlington Virginia, and two sons, Festus and Elbert, both deceased, Lillie and Albert Woods continued to live on Lakewood Avenue after their marriage, raising their family and involving themselves in local activities.

Mrs. Woods was very fond of children and worked with the B.Y.P.U. groups and taught Sunday school in the early days of Lakewood Baptist Church. Her father, Mr. J. P. Sykes , taught the Homemaker Sunday School class for many years at Lakewood.

The Albert Woods family came to Lakewood Baptist from Temple Baptist Church. Sisters of Mr. Woods were: Mrs. Bessie Woods Curtis, Mrs. Rosa Woods Jacobs, Mrs. Minnie Woods Crutchfield, and Mrs. Annie Woods Cheek.

Lillie Sykes Woods passed away on a Wednesday night in July, 1967 in Arlington Virginia where she had lived out her latter years with her daughter.

The Lakewood Baptist Church membership will be forever grateful to this charter member who so lovingly gave of her time and talents.

## THE HISTORY OF LAKEWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

1912 - 2012

In the busy, rural agricultural community of Lakewood Park in the year 1912, a group of eight dedicated, spiritual believers gathered at the R. L. Rigsbee home on April 14, 1912 to discuss the need for a church in the area between Temple Baptist Church and Yates Baptist Church. The eight charter members were: Mr. and Mrs. F.A. Ward, Mr. and Mrs. R.L. Rigsbee, Mr. D.E. Durham, Mrs. J.G. Rigsbee, Mrs. A.T. Woods, and Mrs. J.C. Myrick.

In subsequent meetings in the Lakewood School Building, these charter members met with Reverend W.C. Barrett and Reverend M.P. Davis of the Home Mission Board who directed the overall organization of the new church. The Reverend R.P. Ellington also helped with the organization.

The Reverend R.P. Ellington was called as the first part-time pastor. He accepted the call and served until February of 1913 when he resigned to enter the seminary at Louisville, Kentucky. The services at that time were held at night only.

The first Missionary Society was organized in the home of Mrs. J.C. Myrick in August of 1912 with Mrs. Myrick serving as the first president.

The first trustees of the Church were Mr. F.A. Ward and Mr. R.L. Rigsbee. These men also served as the first deacons.

Mr. W. Graham Pendergrass was the first Clerk and Treasurer of the Church. Mrs. J.C. Myrick served as the first organist and Mr. D.E. Durham was the first Sunday school superintendent.

Mrs. J.C. Hobbie led the first Sunbeam Band, and Mrs. F.A. Ward was the first counselor for the Girl's Auxiliary. Mrs. Wallace Hartsell was the counselor chosen for the Y.W.A.'s when it was later organized.

The first Pulpit Committee for the Lakewood Baptist Church was composed of the following: Mr. F.A. Ward, Mr. R.L. Rigsbee and Mr. W.G. Pendergrass. They recommended that the Church call the Reverend W.E. Warren to succeed the Reverend R.P. Ellington (April 14, 1912- Feb. 1913). Reverend Warren assumed his duties in February of 1913. In as much as Reverend Warren was also pastor of the Yates Baptist Church, services were held at night only. Reverend Warren was a tall, heavy-set man, married, and the father of two daughters; one named Rosa. He lived in the Yates parsonage where the Peddler Steak House was located.

From 1910 to 1914 Americans lived largely in a world of unchanging moral values and romantic ideals.

In 1912, William Howard Taft was President of the United States and most of the world was at peace. The majority of the people lived on farms. New Mexico and Arizona joined the Union and became the 47th and 48th states. Income taxes came into law in 1913. World War I which began in Europe in 1914 revolutionized social life in America. It began a wave of far reaching social changes, including prohibition of liquor, giving women the right to vote and the immigration of Negroes from the South to the North. In 1917 the United States declared war on Germany and in November, 1918 the war ended.

The early writer thought it would be of interest to make note that the year 1912, the year our church was established, was actually only forty seven years after General Johnson surrendered his army to General Sherman at the Bennett Place west of Durham in April 1865 which ended the Civil War.

Until after the Civil War, Durham (also Durhamville and Durham's Station) was just a small village. In 1870 there were only 256 persons in Durham. By 1880, however, there were 2,041 and was expected to double that number by 1890.

Durham County, having no important resources, discovered that the rather poor farm land properly fertilized would grow bright leaf tobacco loved by pipe smokers as well as cigarette smokers. Textile mills and tobacco factories sprung up. Among the ambitious young men were Washington Duke and his sons. Durham prospered, but in the surrounding towns its reputation was very low. It was thought that Durham was lacking in culture, possessed sordid ideals and was no place for young girls to abide. The College for Women in Randolph County, after much persuasion, was finally moved to Durham around 1925 and named Trinity College.

In the Lakewood area of Durham in the spring of 1913, the Reverend J.S. Jones conducted a successful revival service in the Lakewood Park Casino and many souls were won to Christ. Reverend Jones was known as the "Kneeling Evangelist" because he walked on his knees; his extremities, both arms and legs, having been afflicted with disease.

Now that the Lakewood Baptist Church was in a stage of growth, it was necessary that a building for worship be secured. A lot on the corner of James and Bivins Streets was purchased and a wooden structure was erected in the fall of 1914.

In the spring of 1915, the Reverend W.E. Warren (February 1913 - Spring 1915) resigned and Mr. F.A. Ward, Mr. R.L. Rigsbee and Mr. W.G. Pendergrass, who were the deacons at the time, recommended that the Reverend Harley F. Lindsay be called as pastor. The Reverend Lindsay became the first full-time pastor. He was a tall, heavy-set man, married with one son - Malcolm. His wife's name was Hattie. Soon after they moved to Durham they had a daughter. The Lindsay's were a young couple who were full of energy. He led the singing and played the coronet and Mrs. Lindsay was a Sunday School teacher.

During these early years, the eight charter members cleaned and maintained the church. There was a huge wood stove in the middle of the Church. Wood was donated to the Church by friends and the Church would hold "wood choppings." The Church had electricity, but indoor bathrooms were not in existence until the basement of the Church was finished. The ladies of the Church held quilting bees in different homes and the quilts were sold at a Fall Festival each year. Ice cream suppers were also held. The ladies would make cakes and the entire neighborhood would come. Through these efforts and many more, the wooden frame structure was free of debt and dedicated to the Lord on April 2, 1916.

In April 1917, the United States declared war on Germany and by the time the war ended in November 1918, there were four million young men in the armed services. As there are no records, we can only assume that the young men of the church were involved in war work and that the young men answered the call like all other Americans.

In 1918, the Reverend Lindsay resigned and the third Pulpit Committee consisting of Mr. F.A. Ward, Mr. T.R. Scott and Mr. A.C. Brantley recommended the calling of the Reverend Wallace Hartsell. He began his pastorate on February 2, 1919. Reverend Hartsell was a native of Stanley County coming to us from Brevard. He was married to Bess Hartsell and they had a daughter, Emma, and a son, Bruce. The daughter later became Mrs. Nolan Benfield who led the State in W.M.U. work. The son, Bruce, later became a minister. Reverend Hartsell was a short man of medium build. He was approximately 35 to 40 year's old, very warm, compassionate, knowledgeable and came from a ministerial background.

Mr. T.R. Scott was elected to the Board of Deacons along with Mr. F.A. Ward, Mr. R.L. Rigsbee and Mr. Graham Pendergrass. The Church membership had now grown to 90 and the Sunday School had grown until additional rooms were needed. The pastor suggested that rooms be built in the basement. This was done with the pastor, deacons, men and boys of the community doing most of the work.

From the diary of Mrs. Hallie Myrick, it was learned that the first parsonage on Lakewood Avenue was purchased on September 1, 1919 from Mr. V.E. Wilson. It was also stated in Mrs. Myrick's diary that Mr. Ripley's and Mr. Kellam's house burned down on September 26, 1920. Our new parsonage, next door, was badly damaged at the same time on a Sunday night during church services causing Mrs. Hartsell to spend the night in the Myrick home. (It was noted that Mrs. Hartsell was so upset she fainted.)

Mrs. Essie McGilvary was sixteen years old at the time of her mother's death in August of 1920 and Reverend Lindsay came back to Durham from Crozet, Virginia for the funeral. Mrs. McGilvary's mother, Mrs. J.G. Rigsbee, was one of the charter members.

Reverend Hartsell resigned as pastor on October 28, 1921. The Church membership had grown to a total of 176 members by this time.

Mr. T.R. Scott and Mr. F.A. Ward, who composed the Pulpit committee at that time, recommended the calling of the Reverend C.L. Plybon (February 5, 1922 - September 30, 1923). He accepted the call and began his pastorate on February 5, 1922.

The Plybon's lived in the church parsonage on Lakewood Avenue. We can only assume that the damage caused by the fire of neighboring houses was repaired and the parsonage was readied for the occupancy of a new pastor. Reverend Plybon was a large man, very stern, and wore glasses. He had a daughter, Helen, and a son, Charles. Mrs. Plybon's name is unknown to the writer.

At about the time that Reverend Plybon joined Lakewood, Mr. F.A. Ward gave the Church two lots of land on the corner of Chapel Hill Road and Bivins Streets. In July of 1923, the Church began the erection of the present brick church building.

According to a newspaper account, Reverend Plybon's resignation came as a complete surprise to the congregation. During his pastorate he made himself very popular among the members of the congregation as well as among the people of the city. Approximately 75 new members joined the Church during his ministry at Lakewood. He moved to join the First Baptist Church in Washington, North Carolina. Reverend Plybon's resignation was effective on September 30, 1923.

The next Pulpit Committee composed of Mr. Jack T. Latta, Mr. T.R. Scott and Mr. F.A. Ward recommended the calling of Reverend Lloyd W Teague (January 6, 1924 - September 1930). Reverend Teague assumed his duties as pastor on January 6, 1924 after coming to us from Granite Falls and North Wilkesboro, North Carolina, where he was engaged in evangelistic work. He was a graduate of Wake Forest Seminary. The Church officers at this time (1925) were: Deacons Mr. F. A. Ward, Mr. J. T. Latta, and Mr. J. R. Scott. The Sunday School Superintendent - Mr. F. A. Ward, Pianist - Mrs. J.C. Myrick, Choir leader - Mr. J. R. Pickett, W.M.S. President - Mrs. W. M. Findley - Clerk - Mr. J. T. Latta, and Treasurer - Mr. T. R. Scott.

In 1924 the Church building on James Street and the parsonage had to be sold to help pay for the new church building. The brick church structure on Chapel Hill Road was completed and used fully for the first time on July 4, 1925. The contract price exclusive of furnishings and the heating plant was \$55,000. Counting interest and carrying charges, the total amount paid on the building has been in excess of \$80,000. On March 25, 1925, a vote of thanks was given to Mr. and Mrs. Sorrell for their donation of a pony and buggy to the Church to be sold and the proceeds to be used towards a cement walkway in front of the new church.

From Mrs. Myrick's diary, it was noted that Mrs. Hallie Myrick was elected pianist on January 7, 1925. She resigned in April of 1928. It was noted in the Resolutions of that same year that the Church was very strict during this period of time, and the rules and regulations set forth were expected to be adhered to, otherwise the Spiritual Committee would carry out strict disciplinary action. Example: "Any member of the Church who shall absent themselves from attendance at the regular church services held at Lakewood Baptist Church for a period of two months without a good and lawful reason shall be "waited on by the Spiritual Committee and brought before the Church for action." There is no record of disciplinary actions being carried out.

During this time of history there were few to no social organizations, professional organizations, hospitals, or public health facilities. The churches looked after the poor, the sick and the destitute. They were close knit groups who not only looked after their members, but their neighbors and friends alike. The churches were not only the spiritual house of the Lord, but important social and community gathering places.

Reverend Teague, a young man at the time of his ministry at Lakewood, must have gained invaluable experience as he entered into this ministry at a very critical time. Lakewood was a young church undergoing a tremendous building program with the nation slowly seeping into the Great Depression.

In November of 1925, the church voted to ask the City Council to open Bivins Street one block back of the church and to place stone and cinders on the walk and car tract.

After moving into the new sanctuary, choir rehearsals began and were also held in private homes. The first home being used was that of J.T. Latta. Mr. Bob Pickett was the director. Mr. Pickett became Sunday School Chorister on June 1, 1926 and served in that capacity until June 1, 1960. A certificate was presented to him on August 10, 1966 in appreciation for his dedicated service to the Church.

Extra funds were raised in many different ways during these lean years. One means used for buying a "real bulletin board", presumed to be the board in front of the Church, was from the "Birthday Jar". At the closing of Assembly after Sunday School, members deposited pennies equal to their number of birth years.

After the death of Mr. F.A. Ward on May 30, 1928, the Church suffered financially to the extent of having to be sold to pay its debt. The Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company bought the building and rented it to the Church for \$100.00 per month.

The Reverend L.W. Teague resigned his pastorate in September 1930. In later years it was learned that Reverend Teague died on July 17, 1966 from injuries received from being hit by an automobile near his house in Granite Falls.

Miss Frances Myrick was elected Church Pianist in 1930. In earlier years the following had served as pianists: Miss Inez Pendergrass, Miss Essie Rigsbee (now Mrs. McGilvary), Mrs. J. C. Myrick, Miss Lois Hay (Bassett) and others.

The Reverend H.T. Stephens conducted a revival in November of 1930 during the time the Church was without a pastor, and although there are no records to substantiate this, it is believed that it was through his efforts the plans were consummated to regain ownership of the Church. It is also assumed that Reverend Stephens was the supply pastor from September 1930 to February 19, 1931.

The Pulpit Committee composed of Mr. Cary D. Crutchfield, Mr. J.R. Pickett, Mr. J.T. Latta and Mr. S.E. Rochelle recommended the calling of Reverend Wallace Hartsell for a second time. Mr. Hartsell began his work on February 19, 1931.

Little is recorded regarding the history of the Church during this period of time. It can only be presumed that due to the Great Depression, morale was low and the Church, as well as all its members, were suffering financially. This was a time in history where the faith and courage of an individual, as well as a nation, was being tested. Reverend Wallace Hartsell continued to minister the Church until he became ill and was operated on at Duke Hospital. It was believed that he was recovering rapidly when he died suddenly on September 9, 1932. Cause of death is unknown.

Herbert Hoover was the 31st President of the United States coming to office in 1929. The stock market crashed on October 29, 1929 and it marked the beginning of the Great Depression. In 1933 Adolph Hitler became chancellor of Germany.

The Church called the Reverend Pruitt Hartsell, brother of the former pastor, and he began his duties as pastor in November 1932 and resigned on July 14, 1937. Reverend Hartsell had three children, Marguerite, Gladys and Wilson. His wife, Zora, was known as an immaculate person who pressed all the clothing of her family under brown paper. There is no other history recorded relative to Reverend Pruitt Hartsell's ministry at Lakewood. However, it was later learned that he died in 1977. Marguerite returned to Lakewood later in life and is currently a member of the church.

The Reverend L.R. Ennis was called as pastor on January 1, 1938. Reverend Ennis had three boys and one girl. The name of Mrs. Ennis is unknown to the writer. Reverend Ennis lived in a house on Chapel Hill Road and did not occupy the church parsonage. He was a dynamic minister who knew his scripture from memory and was a good business man. His business background aided in the business affairs of the Church. He was also known for his organizational abilities and was an excellent teacher. Under his leadership, the Church slowly began to recover financially. During this time the choir obtained its first robes. They were designed like some which were shown to the choir members at Blacknall Memorial Presbyterian Church. Erwin Cotton Mills gave the sheeting material, and the Home Economics Department at Durham High School made them.

Lakewood Baptist Church, past and present, has always been blessed with excellent musical talent. Reverend Ennis encouraged participation and out of this grew an instrumental group with Haywood Latta, Johnnie Poe and Julia Crabtree on violin; Leon Yeargan and Bruce Hartsell on saxophone; Festus Wood and George Poe on trumpet; with Frances Myrick on piano. This group played for the Sunday night church services. Reverend Ennis also being musically inclined; sang with a City Minister Male Quartet group.



On some Sunday afternoons, Reverend Ennis would preach at a black church on Dowd Street. The Lakewood B.Y.P.U. helped organize a black union at the Dowd Street Church. Members from that church visited Lakewood on an exchange basis to become familiar with the program. This exchange was received well by the members as integration, at this time, it was not an issue. Reverend Ennis' ministry at Lakewood was short-lived (January 1, 1938 - May 19, 1940), and his departure saddened the congregation as it was felt that he had much more to give.

In 1938, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt was in office and there was talk of probable war in Europe as Adolph Hitler was on the rise. The average salary was \$25.00 per week, gasoline was ten cents a gallon, beef was 35 cents a pound and the Lone Ranger made his movie debut. The world, once again, was on the brink of yet another disaster.

Following Reverend Ennis' departure, the Church then asked Dr. Trela D. Collins to act as supply pastor, which he did until September 1, 1940, when the Church called him as their full-time pastor. Our Lord was truly, once again, meeting the Church's needs in sending such a Man of God to lead His sheep through the terrible war years to follow.

All through the depression years, the congregation carried a debt. During Dr. Collins' pastorate, he spearheaded a three-year campaign to rid the church of its indebtedness of \$9,100.00. Through these efforts, the Church debt was liquidated and the building dedicated to the Lord on April 2, 1944. Dr. Collins stated that many sacrificial gifts had been made in order that the indebtedness might be paid off. A great many people, not connected with Lakewood Baptist Church, contributed to the fund appeal and some were of substantial character. It was noted in our Dedication Program Bulletin Sunday, April 2, 1944 in an article entitled "A WORD OF APPRECIATION TO OUR FRIENDS OUTSIDE THE MEMBERSHIP." "First we wish to express our thanks to the Baptist State Mission Board which in the early years of the Church gave necessary financial assistance until about 1920. During later years, occasional appropriations in small amounts were given. More recently \$500.00 was given for the liquidation of our debt. To our many friends in the city who, by their generous contributions, have expressed a helpful interest in our Church, we give sincere thanks."

During the early part of Dr. Collins' pastorate, April 1946, the Church purchased another parsonage at 1603 Lakewood Avenue at a cost of \$8,000. Mrs. Thurston D. Evans began her duties as Choir Director in 1945. The first Educational Director was Miss Mildred Weatherspoon who served from July 15, 1945, until September of 1945. In 1946, members of the Church, with the aid of outside friends, presented Dr. and Mrs. Collins with a new Nash automobile in appreciation of their work in the Church and community of Durham.

Dr. Collins was a very intelligent, religious, popular and civic minded man. He could mingle with anyone and made everybody feel at ease. He was a very influential person who had friends all over the city of Durham resulting in financial donations and services for the Church which would have otherwise not have been made. College scholarships were awarded to Marvin Pipkin and Judy Pierce by the Church through funds made available to Dr. Collins.

World War II started with the bombing of Pearl Harbor on Sunday, December 7, 1941. The announcement was heard over the radio on the East Coast in the afternoon and Cecil Howard interrupted the choir rehearsal being held that afternoon at Lakewood to inform them of the sad news. The war ended in Europe in March 1945, and in Japan in September of 1945.

Dr. Collins' son, Ted, was killed in action. An example of Dr. Collins' strength, on Sunday morning following the notification of his son's death, Dr Collins preached the sermon as usual to his flock. Ironically, Cecil Howard saw this young man during the midst of war only a few days before his death. The war years left its scars on many other church families as husbands, sons, brothers and friends never returned home.

On September 1, 1947, Miss Betty Crouch was employed as Educational Director then resigned on September 1, 1948. In October of the same year, Mrs. Frances Myrick Howard resigned as pianist and Mrs. Lila May Burnette was employed as pianist. Beginning October 1, 1948, the Church had grown until it had a budget of \$10,000 per year and Mrs. Lawrence (Mary) Ward was employed as Church Secretary. On January 30, 1949, a Royal Ambassador Chapter was organized in the basement of the Church. Mrs. John Davis was the counselor. Since the first attempt to organize did not progress very well, on September 6, 1949, Mrs. May M. Atwater, Counselor, together with Mrs. Gracie Terrell and Mr. Emmett Partin, co-counselor, met with Hubert Atwater, Jerald Pierce and Glenn Terrell in an effort to revive the organization. Under the leadership of Mrs. Atwater and Mrs. Terrell, the R.A. Chapter grew in attendance and went on to be rated A-1 and referred to by State workers as one of the outstanding Chapters in the State of North Carolina. Dr. Collins resigned as pastor on November 13, 1949 to become effective on January 1, 1950. The Church had grown to 363 members at the end of his pastorate.

A Pulpit Committee composed of Mr. Stewart C. Rigsbee, Mr. Foye E. Ward, Mr. Hugh M. Bagely, Mrs. Robert Grady and Mrs. John W. Atwater was chosen. On February 12, 1950, upon their recommendation, the Church extended a call to the Reverend E. Lamar Kincaid, which he accepted as of February 26, 1950. His duties as pastor began on April 1, 1950. Reverend and Mrs. Kincaid (Eva) had a son called "Sonny" and came to us from the Red Mountain Church after finishing Duke Divinity School. He had a photogenic mind and presented his sermons from memory. His delivery was dynamic and attendance was at an all-time high. Occasionally our morning service would be broadcast on radio. During the summer months there were two Sunday morning services and a radio program during the week.

During the Collins and Kincaid ministries at Lakewood, there was no church office and the Church Secretary, Mrs. Frances Howard, carried out her duties from her home. The first Newsletter was of a post card type and was mimeographed by Mr. Jessie Bowen who was a "Public Secretary." He also did the bulletin. All newsletters and bulletins were addressed by hand.

On October 1, 1950, Mrs. Evans resigned as Choir Director and Mrs. Wesley Shirk was employed to fill this office. Mr. Thurston D. Evans was Sunday School Superintendant from 1949-1950.

The Church had grown until the 1950 slate of deacons were as follows: M.B. Clark, Leonard Gardner, Cecil Howard, J.E. Hughes, Henry Jones, Charlie Phipps, Stewart C. Rigsbee, W.J. Strickland, Foye E. Ward, Lawrence Ward, W.J. Hay, I. Fred Crabtree and John Martin. The deacons meetings were held in the church cabin, a small log building located behind the church also used for scout meetings. Church attendance began to decline and was of great concern to the deacons. They held special prayer before and after their meetings. Cards were sent to each church member on a weekly basis encouraging them to attend more regularly. This effort had a good effect and attendance improved. Evidently, the Spiritual Committee was not active at that time.

Mr. Stewart C. Rigsbee, Chairman of Finance, enacted a plan in 1951 in an effort to liquidate the parsonage indebtedness. On a voluntary basis, over and above regular contributions, the membership decreased this indebtedness to the amount of \$1,691.25 as of January 22, 1952. By the time of the Fortieth Anniversary celebration, the balance due on the parsonage was paid in full and the church membership had risen to 450 members. In January of 1955, Mr. Rigsbee contacted Mr. Redoy House in reference to blue print and specification work on the proposed Education Building. In the research done by the writer, the aforementioned comment was the first recorded regarding any mention of an Educational Building.

When Reverend Kincaid resigned as pastor on April 10, 1955, Lakewood Baptist Church was operating with a full graded Sunday School together with all church auxiliaries, to-wit: the Brotherhood, the Women's Missionary society, the Y.W.A.'s, the G.A.'s, the Royal Ambassadors, and the Sunbeams. A local Scout troop, headed by Mr. Aubrey Todd, was meeting regularly in the church cabin.

The Korean War began on June 25, 1950, and ended on July 27, 1953. During the Spring of 1954, the first school desegregation case was tested in Topeka, Kansas; color television came into being over the original black and white of the late 40's; and 38,000 Americans became polio victims. Dr. Jonas Salk, an American research scientist, gained his greatest recognition when he developed a vaccine that became the first effective weapon in preventing poliomyelitis in 1953 and pronounced safe for use in April 1955.

Again, Lakewood Baptist Church secured Dr. Trela D. Collins as interim pastor on August 19, 1955. This was the second time that Dr. Collins had been called to minister to the Church. He saw as our greatest need, an Educational Building and felt that we had come to a crisis in our church as far as our future was concerned when we look at our building program and the work that was needed to be done in the community. He encouraged regular attendance and support from the members, and inaugurated a unified budget system with the goal to erect an Educational Building. In the early part of 1957, plans were underway to secure an architect, and after much discussion and investigation, Mr. Howard N. Haines was awarded the contract.

The Church received cooperation from the Architectural and Religious Board and the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. Mr. Stewart Rigsbee and Mr. Gerald Hobbie were given a vote of thanks by the Board of Deacons for their hard work in securing the architect and carrying out the numerous details in preparation for the construction of the new Education Building. Pledges from the membership were accepted amounting to \$25,180.20 and a groundbreaking ceremony for the Educational Building was held on Sunday, August 4, 1957. By November of this same year, the construction was coming right along and it was decided that we would enter the new Educational Building on May 18, 1958. And as planned on that date, the building was used for the first time with a Sunday School attendance of over 300. The dedication of the Educational Building was held on Sunday morning, June 15, 1958 with a homecoming dinner at Wrightwood Park.

Mr. Stewart Rigsbee noted that he thought that we had done a good all-around job and that the Church would be indebted for many years for the work of Gerald Hobbie, Cecil Howard, Marcus Latta, Foye Ward and Dwight Chamblee for their part in making all that we were celebrating possible. In later years, the Educational Building was named The Franklin Alfonso Ward Building in honor of the late Mr. Ward's dedication, acts of kindness and love for his church.

As recorded all during history, there were "wars and talks of wars." In 1957 the Vietnam War began and by 1960 was growing into a full-scale war sharply dividing Americans. In 1965 the United States first used combat troops and by 1968 the war became the longest in which the United States had ever been involved. By March, 1969, more Americans had been killed than in the Korean War. President Richard Nixon, who took office in 1969, began withdrawing our troops. By August, 1969, nearly 38,000 Americans had been killed. This war was known as "The War That Should Never Have Been."

As Dr. Collins was our interim pastor and scheduled to hold his final service on May 25, the Pulpit Committee was actively trying to locate another pastor. Reverend Henry Coffey was not only a supply pastor at the December 12, 1957 service, but was also there on a prospective basis. Dr. Collins resigned as interim pastor, effective June 1, 1958. He went on to serve as Public Relations Officer for Rigsbee Tire Sales in the early 1960's. He was such a well liked and popular "Man of God" that a special Appreciation Day was held at Temple Baptist Church on Sunday afternoon, September 30, 1952, honoring him.

The pulpit was then occupied by the Reverend J. Henry Coffey, Jr. who had previously been accepted by a vote of the Church when presented by the Pulpit Committee consisting of Mr. Hugh Bagley, Mr. Marvin Dawson, Mr. J. Cecil Howard, Mrs. Vernon Weaver and Mrs. Foye Ward. Reverend Coffey, his wife Ruth, and son Jimmy came to us on June 1, 1958. They lived in the parsonage at 1603 Lakewood Avenue. He graduated from Yale Divinity school and held Master of Theology degree and taught part time at Southeastern Baptist Seminary in Wake Forest. He was a very intelligent, organized man who placed great emphasis on revival of the Training Union Program, writing the material to be used himself. Christian education, a revised Constitution and Bylaws, a community wide census, plans to draft a Church Covenant and Articles of Faith were also on his agenda.

An 8:30 a.m. morning service was approved as Reverend Coffey felt that attendance warranted such action, but it was short lived. The Brotherhood group was on the move again undertaking the task of preparing classrooms in the basement for the entire Adult Department. A bell system was installed by Cecil Howard for control of our Sunday School classes. The deacons voted to go on record in March of 1959 as being in favor of the Shopping Center that was coming to the "old" Lakewood Park site and recommended that a letter be sent to whom it may concern. On September 5, 1959, death claimed Mr. J. Troy Jones. He had served as Sunday School Superintendent for six years (1953- 1959), Death also claimed Mr. S.E. (Sid) Rochelle on August 25, 1960. For eighteen years (1926 - 1944) he had served as Treasurer for the Church seeing it through many lean years. In a lighter vein, discussions were being held on the possibilities and plans for retiring the indebtedness of the Educational Building.

In December of 1959 the roof of the old Lakewood School caved in due to a heavy snowfall and the children were bused to E.K. Powe School. The Church was used as a pick-up point for the children in the Lakewood area. The deacons gave approval for the children to use the basement when bad weather conditions existed.

The Church was making much needed organizational progress and spirits were high when the problems of integration reared its ugly head. When the time approached for a definite policy to be established for coping with the situation, a state of unrest became evident among the congregation. A proposal recommended by the pastor on the seating of visiting Negroes was defeated in a Special Conference on March 20, 1960, but was carried by a majority vote on April 6, 1960. Reverend Coffey's unforgettable sermon, "The Problems Before Us," was delivered on March 20, 1960. The controversy over the racial problem gave vent to many other feelings of the people and the pastor. Many members moved their memberships to other churches and the attendance was poor because people had been hurt during this time of unrest. Reverend Coffey resigned as pastor on July 3, 1960 and his resignation was effective September 30, 1960. Due to his resignation a Pulpit Committee, composed of five members, was appointed to secure a successor. The committee members were: Mr. J. Cecil Howard, chairman, Mr. I. Fred Crabtree, Mr. J. Nelson Clark, Mrs. Clara W. Hughes, and Mrs. Rachel B. Partin. The Reverend Allen Gragg acted as supply pastor during the interim.

In July of 1960, the Pulpit Committee visited the Mount Vernon Baptist Church, Vernon Hill, Virginia, to hear the Reverend John C. Grant. On September 4, Reverend Grant was asked to come to the Lakewood Baptist Church to preach for morning worship. Mr. Hugh Bagley, the chairman of the board at that time presided. At the close of the service, the congregation remained and voted to extend a call to Reverend Grant as pastor. He accepted the call on September 10, 1960, and moved into the parsonage at 1603 Lakewood Avenue on November 16, 1960 with his wife Frances and their two daughters, Susan and Sarah Ann (Sally). Reverend Grant was a graduate of Southeastern Baptist Theology Seminary. Prior to entering the ministry, Reverend Grant worked for several years in the field of hospital administration.

By December of 1960, the congregation appeared to be in better spirit, things began to look up, the Church began to grow and the Lord added many new members to His church.

Seeing the need for a larger parsonage, an anonymous donor made it possible for an addition to be built. A new bedroom, bath and basement room was added making the parsonage quite adequate. An open house was held on September 10, 1961, in order for all to see the new additions.

In January of 1962, preparations began for the Fiftieth Anniversary celebration to be held on April 15, 1962. The sermon was presented by Dr. J. Carroll Trotter from Drew University. The church choir, under the direction of Charles Smith, rendered special music. A fellowship luncheon followed the worship services with everyone bringing baskets of food. The Fiftieth Anniversary Committee consisted of Ethel Arnold, Hugh Bagley, Mrs. John Grant, Ruth Hobbie and Becky Weaver.

By spring of 1962, conditions in the church were better than ever expected, a spirit-filled revival was held shortly after the anniversary celebration and many were added to the church roll.

The Church Library was established on July 29, 1962 with Carol Hurst as librarian. Brass candleholders and flower containers were presented to the church as gifts of love from the J.J. Evans family. The Minister of Education was Laura Kendall, a very talented young lady whose special emphasis was on Training Union. Very interesting classes were held continually with great attendance, the keynote being the development of the individual.

Membership in the Church continued to grow. Betty Clark, one of our very own, had the unique opportunity to participate in a ten-week program in establishing a mission in Korea. The Church participated financially in making this possible for her. Polio notices for the oral polio vaccine appeared and the people were asked, to visit their nearest Elementary School after church on Sundays to receive their "sugar cube."

In the early 1960's good and bad things had happened in the Nation. In 1961, the first American in space was Alan Shepard. The Berlin Wall cut off East Berlin, John Glenn became the first American to orbit the earth in 1962. Minimum wage was raised from \$1.00 to \$1.25. In 1962 - 1963, the Supreme Court ruled official prayers and Bible reading in public schools unconstitutional. On November 22, 1963, John F. Kennedy was assassinated, shocking the world. Lyndon B. Johnson became the 36th President of the United States one hour and thirty-nine minutes after his death.

In the latter part of the 1960's two other tragedies occurred. The Reverend Martin Luther King, civil rights leader was assassinated in April 1968 and Senator Robert Kennedy was assassinated in June 1968. The good things were, the first heart transplant was performed by a team of doctors headed by Dr. Christian Barnard of South Africa in 1967 and the Medicare Health Care Plan for the Aged went into effect on July 1, 1966.

On August 30, 1964, Laura Kendall, our Minister of Education resigned and was replaced by W. Alfred Dula. E. L. "Dell" Adams, Minister of Music, also resigned around this time to further his education in the field of music at East Carolina. He was replaced by Dave Pierceall.

Thanksgiving Services, as usual, were held with our neighbors Lakewood Methodist Church, this having been the custom for many years. The cabin on the church property was offered to anyone that would move it. As no one came forward, it was eventually torn down and another landmark went by the wayside. In February 1966, the Board of Deacons approved the publication of a bi-monthly newspaper. A contest was held to name the newspaper--- Johnny Clark was the winner. The first issue was released on April 8, 1966, as The Lakewood Newszette.

October 30, 1966, was Reverend Grant's last Sunday at Lakewood. His resignation was effective November 1, 1966. He resigned to go into Hospital Administration at North Carolina Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. A Duke Divinity student by the name of Don Courson filled the pulpit for several Sunday morning services and on November 27, 1966, Dr. John A. Freeman began serving the Church as interim pastor until a full-time minister could be secured. Dr. Freeman came to Lakewood from Campbell College. He enjoyed working with the youth of the Church. During his stay, he preached a series of sermons on the book of Revelations that was said to be outstanding.

During the latter part of 1966 and 1967, the Pulpit Committee, consisting of Hugh Bagley (chairman), Mrs. Gladys Rigsbee, Mrs. Frances Ward, Mr. James C. Johnson and Mr. O. D. Hatch, were continually searching for a full-time minister to serve the church.

On July 9, 1967, the Reverend Everette J. Smith preached the sermon and was extended the call to serve as pastor of our church. The church parsonage at 1603 Lakewood Avenue was put up for sale and the church purchased the Stewart Rigsbee home at 1923 Ward Street as the Church's new parsonage in preparation for the new pastor and his family. Reverend Smith accepted the call and began his duties on August 20, 1967. A picnic was held on August 25, 1967, at Forest Hills Park in honor of Reverend Smith, giving members a chance to get acquainted with him and his family.

Reverend Smith, at the age of 39, came to us from Mount Carmel Baptist Church in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. He is a native of Union, South Carolina, ordained by the First Baptist Church of Union and had served as a Baptist minister for 18 years. He is a graduate of Union High School, Mars Hill College at Mars Hill, Furman University at Greenville, South Carolina and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary at Wake Forest.

Reverend Smith had previously served as a member of the Extension and Executive Committees of the Yates Baptist Association of Durham and was active in the South Carolina Baptist State Convention.

His wife, Oma Lee, is a Union native. She attended Columbia Methodist College where she majored in music. She plays organ and piano. Mrs. Smith worked in the nursery, primary, pre-school and intermediate departments. The Smith's have three children, Jimmy, Debbie Smith Glover, Evalee Smith Parker, and four grandchildren.

As would be the circumstances of any church having been without a permanent pastor for a period of time, Reverend Smith saw an immediate need of regular staff meetings to re-group, study the duties of the staff, and shift duties where necessary. These staff meetings proved beneficial and after a period of time new organization in the areas of music ministry, under the direction of Miss Linda Jackson, and other activities of the church, under the direction of Miss Cynthia Van Fleet begin taking upward direction.

The apparent concerns of our new minister were to generate pride in our church and enthusiasm by regular attendance. He also felt it was time for our church to reach its potential. Slowly but surely, signs of renewal and vitality were observed in our congregation and tremendous response to the stewardship program of the church was taking place.

The church office and the Pastor's study were moved from the Educational Building to the main church building. New furnishings for the Pastor's study were donated in memory of Mrs. May Atwater.

Mr. Stewart C. Rigsbee was named 1968 recipient of the "Lay Leader of the Year" award of the Yates Baptist Association. Mr. Rigsbee was cited for his "outstanding contributions to the camping program of the Yates Baptist Association," and his service and loyalty to his own church, Lakewood. The church was proud that a member had received such a high honor.

The church continued to be blessed with a wonderful music program and David Phipps frequently extended the gospel message to us in song.

Mrs. Becky Ward's artistic talent graced the covers of several of our bulletins. Her talent and her willingness to take care of this task were greatly appreciated.

During a special business conference in October of 1969, the Church voted to send our pastor on a "Bible Lands Seminar Tour" of the Holy Land as a Christmas present. The Church was happy to be able to make this trip possible and felt that both Church and pastor would be enriched by such an experience.

Many changes were taking place in local neighborhoods as well as the nation. Most of them brought about by desegregation of the schools and other civil rights laws. The neighborhood school concept was abolished and many families were fleeing to the county school system which was not predominantly black. A sharp decline was taking place in Church and Sunday School attendance and it was not long before people were speaking of "the good ole days" of large classes and community and family interest in the local churches.



In the nation, as well as locally, there was rioting in the streets, crime and inflation was on the rise. The permissive lifestyle of the young radicals had begun. We did not realize at the time that this permissive lifestyle would become a way of life for many teenagers and young adults. It was not until twenty odd years later that this lifestyle reached its peak. The rampant, incurable Aides virus spread and many began to curb their promiscuous lifestyle.

The great English statesman, Sir Winston Churchill died on July 20, 1965. On July 20, 1969, the words "The Eagle has landed" echoed all over the world signifying the landing of the Apollo 11 lunar module on the moon with astronaut Neil Armstrong being the first man on the moon. The Space Age, which began in 1957, opened up a new industry called aerospace. The success in space travel became a measure of a nation's leadership and therefore the race was on between the United States and Russia.

Lyndon Baines Johnson was President at this time and his main concern was how to end the war in Vietnam without turning the country over to the communist, how to combat inflation, and how to restore order in the cities and universities. This was yet another time in our history when our faith in God and country and our moral values were being tested.

In January 1970 at Lakewood Baptist Church, Marcus (Buddy) Lynam was the Chairman of the Board of Deacons. Mrs. Cecil Howard was the acting secretary, and upon her resignation was replaced by Mrs. Nancy Hobbie Grinstead and later by Ms. Carol Ross.

In 1971, with Mr. Stewart Rigsbee as Chairman of the Board of Deacons, plans were underway to renovate the church building. Sams and Sons of Waco Texas, presented slides to demonstrate their plan of renovation. The Educational Building and the parsonage were also recommended as part of the renovation plan. Arrangements were made to borrow \$35,000 to start the work.

During the early 70's a pictorial directory of the church family was published under the direction of Dwayne Coley; a new roof on the two wings of the Sanctuary was completed; family night suppers were well attended; Sunday night services were growing in attendance; a tape ministry was introduced; plans to purchase an activities bus were discussed, and a large number of visits were made in a Person-to-Person campaign. It certainly appeared that the enthusiasm and pride in our church, hoped for by this new pastor, was definitely being generated.

Meetings were being held regularly regarding the development of the plans for the sanctuary renovation project. The cost had now risen to \$88,900. The parsonage had been appraised and arrangements made to sell it to our pastor.

The Will of Sid and Alice Rochelle had been read and funds were created to renovate the Fellowship Hall and to dedicate it to the Rochelles who so generously gave of their time and money. Rochelle Hall was so named in their honor in 1976.

The church was well on the move and still more improvements came. The library was generating interest under the direction of Mrs. Faye Finch, the front of the Church was remodeled, and the basement of the Educational Building was furnished for a "Coffee House" for our youth.

The Board of Deacons was under the direction of Herbert Finch in 1973 - 1974 and activities at Lakewood were mounting. Another special meeting was held to present to the congregation the final renovation proposal. Mr. Rowe Sams of Sams & Sons presided. It was voted to begin the work on the sanctuary on April 1, 1974. The purchase of a mini-bus was also voted on and passed. Rochelle Hall was used for services during the renovation period, and on May 9, 1974, the congregation moved back into the "new" sanctuary.

While the members of Lakewood Baptist Church in Durham, North Carolina were quietly thanking their Heavenly Father for all their blessings, the nation was suffering from one of the worst scandals of the century. The Richard Nixon administration (1969-1973) shocked the Nation with the famous Watergate break-in. Impeachment of the President was strongly considered. The United States Government was at its lowest ebb ever to be remembered by most people living at that time. The President finally submitted his resignation rather than be impeached, and President Gerald Ford became our 38th President. Under his administration the United States withdrew its forces from Vietnam and reduced its troops in other Mid-East countries. Vietnam eventually moved out of the headlines.

These "physical Wars" were replaced by the assertion of power by acts of terrorism, sky-jacking and the taking of hostages which even though began in the 70's continue today. During mid 1974, Lakewood Baptist Church was not only enjoying the new sanctuary but was being privileged to enjoy a new music ministry under the direction of Bruce Benton and his wife Linda. Although Lakewood had always been blessed with wonderful music, it was once again gaining new dimension.

On April 27, 1975, the church expressed appreciation to Mary Ward, the Church Treasurer, for her devotion and time given in her service to the church and looked forward to her continued years of dedicated Christian service.

1976 continued to be another special year in the history of Lakewood. New hymn books were ordered; a memorial fund was started for a new piano and organ, and our first woman deacon, Becky Ward, was ordained.

A Conservatory Grand Piano by Yamaha was purchased for the sanctuary. The music ministry was in full swing and our choir was receiving well deserved honors as it was chosen as one of seventy-seven churches in the state for a choir workshop which was sponsored by the North Carolina Baptist State Convention.

The youth of the church presented . "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" under the direction of Meg and John Newsome. The Minister of Youth at this time was Beverly Sawyer who was playing a very active role in the church. The grand piano was delivered and a Christmas August party was held to introduce the new Christmas music and to dedicate the new piano.

Homecoming was observed on October 3, 1976, with Reverend John Grant delivering the sermon. Reverend Grant had served our church from 1960-1966.

On September 23, 1976, the funeral of Mrs. Eula Collins, widow of Dr. Trela Collins who twice served as pastor, was held.

In February of 1977, a portrait of the Rochelle's was presented to the deacons. This portrait was framed and hung in Rochelle Hall as still another remembrance of this couple's devotion to Lakewood Baptist church.

Under the able direction of Stewart Rigsbee, Finance Chairman, the Church was encouraged to build a budget balance to off-set any unforeseen expenses that might occur due to the high inflation rate the nation was experiencing.

The Youth Folk Singers planned a rummage sale with the proceeds going towards the building of a concrete patio outside the game room. John Newsome began an R.A. program with two age groups. Hiking and skating parties were planned and the youth ministry was again active.

The WMU has always been a very active and vital part of our church. The women who have served in leadership roles and those who have served so faithfully in keeping this ministry alive and active will be forever remembered and appreciated. A history of the WMU is on file in the church library for anyone to read.

The new year (1977) was started with optimism, with our pastor placing evangelism as top priority for the year. "Each One Win One" was the '77 Lakewood theme.

Reverend Everette Smith was well into his tenth year as pastor of Lakewood Baptist Church and had endeared himself to his followers. In one letter of appreciation he was described as a man who asks very little thanks and expects very little appreciation. He is, however, very appreciated for just being himself, for ministering to the peoples' needs and their spirits and, last but by far the least, an outstanding preacher. On the human side of his personality, he is known for his down-to-earth attitude and his uncanny ability to persuade without evidence of pressure. His unique manner of seriousness when necessary and jovialness when appropriate, makes him a comfortable person to be around. His love for his family is evident in his actions and his speech. His wife, Oma Lee, is an asset to him both personally and professionally.

Another devoted Lakewood couple, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ward (Leora) celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1977. Mrs. Cheri Junk was honored as our Church Secretary for her outstanding work. Appreciation was extended to Mrs. Lois Bassett of Bassett Florist for furnishing flowers at no cost to our church for many years. She also delivered them to the church. Previously, Rolls Florist had generously furnished flowers.

Music was at an all time high and we were proud to have five choir groups: 1) The Cherub Singers - pre-school & Kindergarten; 2) Music Makers and Young Musicians - grades 1-6; 3)

Young Folk Singers - Junior and Senior High School students; 4) Young Adult Singers - young adults to age 40; and 5) sanctuary choir - senior high school students and adults by invitation and audition only.

Mrs. Bessie Curtis, affectionately known as "Ma", celebrated her 90th birthday. She joined the church in 1915 and was a member for 62 years. Mrs. Eula Drane was recognized as Lakewood's oldest living member; She had been a member for 45 years. A tea was held on February 27, 1977 honoring Mrs. Ola Wethington, mother of Ethel Arnold, on her 80th birthday.

In the latter 70's, a number of groups were started again - among them were the Royal Ambassadors. This group was started in order to help boys mature spiritually and socially and learn to handle personal problems; the counselor was John Newsome. Girls-In-Action formally GA's was organized and led by Mrs. Earlene Powell and Mrs. Betty Knecht. The Homemakers Class was proud to announce that they had named their class in honor of Rebecca Weaver.

Several other members of the church were being honored in different ways. In May, 1980, M.G. Bobbitt, Jr. was the 1980 recipient of the Ray Reeves Sports Award. This award was given by the NC Sports Broadcasters Association to the announcer deemed best among all radio and television sportscaster in North Carolina. Marcus (Buddy) Lynam was named NC Retailer of the Year by the North Carolina Broadcaster Association and the North Carolina Merchants Association. Jeff Rogers was honored for a job well done as Minister of Music & Youth. He was not only carrying out a wonderful music program but also directing a very active youth group. He had replaced Bruce Benton who left Lakewood in April of 1979.

A full-time pianist position was approved, and Jane Pridgen was hired in February 1980. Lakewood Baptist Church and Lakewood Methodist Church continued to join together for Thanksgiving worship each year. It was learned that Dr. L.R. Ennis, pastor of Lakewood from 1938-1940 passed away in Goldsboro, North Carolina on August 17, 1977. The snowfalls in 1980 literally brought activity to a standstill at Lakewood with no Sunday School or Worship Service for several weeks.

On January 20, 1977, James Earl (Jimmy) Carter became the 39th President of the United States. Although Control of Inflation was to be his number one priority, it soon took a back seat to a disastrous situation. On January 4, 1979, a group of young Iranian militants seized the U.S. Embassy in Teheran, Iran and captured 52 Americans and held them hostage for 14 months. Up until the very eve of President Carter's departure from office, he diligently negotiated for their release. Finally an agreement was reached and papers were signed.

However, the Iranians, knowing full well the hour of the inauguration, kept the planes waiting, deliberately timing the release to take place after President Carter left office knowing he would never be able to announce their release nor greet the freed hostages as President of the United States. At the appointed hour, the Carters drew deep breaths and

placed smiles on their faces as they opened the door and welcomed Governor and Mrs. Reagan to the White House. Once again, one administration ended and another began on January 20, 1981. Ronald Reagan, a Republican from California, served two terms as President of the United States.

At Lakewood Baptist Church a number of concerned members and leaders among the Sunday school and deacons came together for a look at our Sunday school and church. For two hours, they discussed Lakewood's present and future on the corner of Bivins and Chapel Hill Street. What would it take to keep the church there? This concern had grown out of the drastic changes in the downtown area and the neighborhood. Reverend Smith, in his column "The Pastor Writes", pledged his loyalty and support and expressed his love for the church. He also expressed his desire to be a part of our everyday life in times of happiness or sorrow, pain or joy - to share himself with his members and prayed that God would use him in that way. His sermons in the months to come were centered on the crisis times of our lives and our national leader's lives, as he felt he had never encountered frustration in our society as he had at that time.

In 1981, the need for a new organ became evident our old organ was sold, an organ fund started, and a new Allen organ was purchased and was installed in December of that year.

In November, 1981, the Lakewood Church family was saddened by the death of Mr. Stewart C. Rigsbee, whose love and loyalty to the church covered a span of more than a half century. He was a man of character, and displayed tremendous leadership abilities not only in his personal and business life, but in the life of his church. He gave generously of his time, talents and gifts. The Stewart Rigsbee Parlor, so named after his death, was furnished and decorated by his family from memorial gifts from friends and family.

In 1982, the Educational Building was named the Franklin Alphonso Ward Building honoring still another man who also gave generously of his time, talents and gifts during the infancy of our church. Without his early assistance, the church would not be where it is today. Although the Lord called him home at relatively an early age (41), he had lived a lifetime and had accomplished much. His personal philosophy: "in partnership with the Lord" is one that not only shaped his life but the lives of many others.

In recognition of the eight Charter Members of our church, a plaque with their names engraved on it was placed in the vestibule of the church. These eight members and all other faithful ones who have come and gone will always be in our hearts as we remember their dedication and hard work that has made our church what it is today - the wonderful, earthly house of our Lord. How proud they would be and how we thank you Heavenly Father for having let them be such an important part of our church family history. Amen and Amen.

In the early 80's, many changes in the staff of the church were taking place. Mrs. Peggy Murray became the church organist; Ken Carlson became the church pianist later replaced by Mrs. Lucy Dunn; Jeff Rogers resigned as Minister of Music and was replaced by Mrs. Sarah Harvey who was ordained as Minister of Music on January 1, 1984; and Mrs. Barbara Pearce was elected Sunday School Director.

Women of the church were now taking their place on the Board of Deacons and the number of deacons was changed from 15 to 9, with 5 new ones elected each year and with 3 new ones elected each year. The change was approved due to the current size of the membership. Reverend Smith was honored for sixteen years of faithful service to Lakewood Church and was presented with a watch as a token of appreciation.

A new sound system was installed in the sanctuary. It was an advanced system with many capabilities that were greatly needed. A "Telephone Answering Service" was donated to the church office.

In May of 1983, a spectacular revival was conducted at Lakewood by the Reverend Earl Vaughn who brought his sermons in drama to the congregation. It was so well received that plans were made immediately for him to return in 1985.

In 1984, LaRue Poe was appointed Sunday School Director. Her main objective was to bring about growth in the Sunday School by reaching out, individual involvement, and spreading the Word of Jesus Christ through study. She, very methodically, wrote articles for the Newszette, planned her strategy, and organized her department. Slowly, but surely, the fruits of her efforts were seen. Meanwhile, our music ministry was reaching new heights under the leadership of Sarah Harvey, Minister of Music. The church organist, Marilyn Dodson, and church pianist, Lucy Dunn, completed our wonderful music ministry. Mrs. Harvey's articles appeared each week in the Newszette giving new meaning to the gospel in song.

In November of 1984, Reverend Marvin Settle, Director of Missions, was our guest. He came to explain PACT (Project Assistance for Churches in Transition) which was a program designed by the Home Mission Board to help churches in transitional communities get a handle on what was happening in their community. Richard N. Spencer, Director of Missions for the Gastonia Baptist Association, Gastonia, NC later came to our church to do a study of the facilities and the neighborhood, in order to make an intelligent assessment of our weaknesses and strengths, and then be able to bring back to the congregation his recommendations for ways that the church might best serve our community and attract new members. These recommendations, in booklet form, were carefully examined by the PACT Committee and presented to the congregation. The study clearly stated that the largest issue facing Lakewood Baptist Church, at the time, was whether or not the church wanted to grow, and whether or not the church was willing to pay the price in order to grow. It was stated that healthy growth was possible if the church was willing to make the necessary changes, and specific, concrete ways to accomplish these ends were clearly stated. The PACT Committee carefully studied the recommendations, and set in motion a plan to accomplish the recommended changes in priority order.

In the Spring of 1985, Reverend Earl Vaughn again graced our pulpit for revival services. His unique and gifted style of using drama sermons in reaching people captivated the congregation. Marilyn Dodson resigned as organist and Michael Hester filled the position of pianist. Mrs. Daisy Strickland was awarded "Civitan of the Year" by the Tobaccoland Civitan Club, and Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Dawson celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

At the start of every year we are always hopeful of peace in the world. In the year 1986, our pastor, in "Comments From the Pastor," revealed his hopes and aspirations for the New Year. He was looking forward to an exciting New Year. We had seen terrible things happening in the world. Ships at sea and planes in the air were hijacked and innocent lives lost. There was much bitterness and hatred in the world. Our pastor asked his congregation to be more tender toward the young, tolerant of the weak, understanding of those who are wrong, and compassionate with the aged, and reminded us that if we all live long enough, we will have been all those things before our journey is over.

Lakewood's own Marcus "Buddy" Lynam was awarded the Durham Merchant Association's highest award, the A. "Buck" Kirkland Award. Frances Howard came to our rescue again by filling in as interim organist until a permanent one could be found. Her wonderful spirit is always evident in everything that she does.

Lakewood Church was among the thirty seven churches in the Yates Baptist Association who was selected to be involved in Good News America revivals which would be going on throughout the Southern Baptist Convention. This was a crusade initiated by the Southern Baptist Convention to be carried out in all 50 states by Southern Baptist to do what Christ had commanded of each of us. Dr. Gattis Perry was invited to be the guest speaker during the revival week of March 16-19, 1986.

The Evangelism Committee worked towards saturating the community with "Good News Lakewood Community...God Loves You" in an effort to reach out in the neighborhood with the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ. The WMU made red, white and blue ribbons to hang on the mail boxes of all members, calling attention to the Good News America revival. Volunteers also distributed Bibles throughout the community on a Saturday afternoon as part of a program called "People Search." A revival fellowship dinner was also held on March 16, 1986.

In February, the deacons thoughtfully organized an Appreciation Day for our choir. A banquet was held in their honor to express the Church's appreciation for their talent and hard work.

On April 3, 1986, Yates Baptist Association had a ground-breaking for a new office building on Garrett Road. The new building was estimated to cost approximately \$275,000. This building was dedicated on April 5, 1987 and named Yates Baptist Association Resource Center. All of the funds and labor for building the Yates Baptist Associational Resource Center was donated by members of the associational churches.

The Constitution Committee at Lakewood was busy revising our constitution and Bylaws. The committee consisted of: Bob Moore - Chairman, Mary Lynam, Lessie Brothers and LaRue Poe. Another 50th Anniversary was celebrated on April 12, 1986. Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Weaver received their friends in Rochelle Hall. It was learned that Mrs. Annie Cheek, a faithful member for many years until her health declined, passed away on April 24, 1986.

Mr. Fonnie Ward, one of our members, filled the pulpit for the first time while the pastor was away. Mr. Ward grew up in Lakewood Church and is studying for the ministry. Our interim organist was David Oyster, who brought beautiful music to fill the sanctuary each Sunday.

The month of May, 1986, was to hold great promises for the Lakewood ladies and female prospects of the church as a new ministry was begun to teach women their bodies are the temple of God, and how best to care for them. Wellness through mind, body, and spirit was to be a goal we would seek to know more about. Classes were offered in exercise and lifestyle choices two evenings a week. These classes were well attended, not only by the young older women of the church, but by many friends of members. The classes were extended into the Summer and Fall as great interest was shown. Everyone expressed their appreciation to Bobbie Rigsbee Smith who had organized the program and also served as the instructor. Mrs. Smith has faithfully served the Church in numerous capacities over the years and the young and old of the church have benefited from her instruction.

In the Spring of 1986, Mrs. Linda Hammett, Assistant BYW Director of Yates Association, joined Mrs. Ethel Arnold, Lakewood WMU Director, at a Sunday luncheon meeting organized by Mrs. Evalee Smith Parker to share information on organizing a BYW in Lakewood Church. Preparations were also underway to publish a new Church Directory and the secretary, Marilyn Dodson, was seeking the aid of the membership in securing up-to-date addresses on every member of the church. The new directory was distributed in October, 1986. Two of our members were recognized for having the longest membership in the church. Mrs. Lottie Pendergraph and Mrs. Essie McGilvary were baptized in July of 1913 by the Reverend Riddick at Temple Baptist Church as Lakewood did not have a baptistery at the time. These members proudly claim 73 years at Lakewood.

As the Church would be celebrating its 75th anniversary in April 1987, plans were underway to make this a celebration to be remembered. The Anniversary Committee, chaired by Mrs. Becky Weaver, began meeting regularly. Other members of the committee were: Karen Medlin, Evalee Parker, Emmett Ward, Bobbie Smith and Dorothy Moore. Special tributes were planned for the different ministries of the church; each one depicting their special place in the church's history. All events were well planned and well received by the membership. These programs planned to cover a period of several months prior to the 75th anniversary celebration which was to be held on April 12, 1987. The History committee, consisting of Lois Lougee - chairman, Julia Crabtree, Faye Ward, Lucille Ward, Ruth Rummelt and Rachel Partin were also busy researching material to write an up-to-date history of the church. The committee planned to distribute the new church history on or before the anniversary celebration.

Bringing the year 1986 to a close, we were privileged to hear Dr. L. Elbert Wethington, Professor Emeritus, give his interpretive presentation of the church in Russia after he had spent three weeks in that country with a group of religious leaders. Another rare event for the church was the witnessing of the ceremony dedicating Nolan Thurman Smith to our Lord Jesus Christ. Nolan is the newborn child of Linda and Jimmy Smith and grandson of our Pastor and his wife. David Oyster, our organist, resigned and was replaced by Kathy White.



In 1987, our nursery was steadily experiencing new growth and the church was faced with the wonderful problem of seeking additional volunteers. Evalee Smith Parker had done an excellent job in expanding the department and assessing its needs. For those of us who remember when our nursery was suffering from lack of "little ones," this was a welcomed reprieve. A G.A. group was also being organized by Sheri Garnett for girls age 6 - 11 and the first meeting was to be held on March 4, 1987.

In 1987, the church voted to renovate the F.A. Ward Educational Building and to replace the old furnace in the Educational Building for \$8,600.00. On October 11, 1987, Steve Garnett and Russell Medlin were ordained as deacons.

In September of 1988, Randy Barnes accepted the call as Minister of Music.

On January 8, 1989, Reverend Everette Smith submitted his letter of retirement. Reverend Smith's last day was June 11, 1989.

On July 31, 1989, Randy Barnes resigned as Minister of Music

In December of 1989, the Estate of Mr. Robert Pickett was left to the church totaling \$139,995.75.

A Pastor Search Committee was formed and included J.B. Howell, Buddy Lynam, Bob Moore and Agnes Pendley. On January 14, 1990, the church voted unanimously to call Ed Denton to serve as pastor. Reverend Denton first Sunday was February 11, 1990. A special installation service was held for Reverend Ed Denton on February 18, 1990 followed by a reception in the Rochelle Hall.

On March 4, 1990, the church held a "Note-Burning Ceremony" to celebrate that the final mortgage payment had been made. Participating trustees were: Wallace Dodd, Betty Knecht, J.C. Johnson. The original note was signed by Mr. Tom Phelps.

Also in 1990, Pew Bibles given by an anonymous donor were dedicated. The church voted to replace the roof with shingles. The slates were too badly damaged to reuse. Cost of roof was estimated at \$10,845.00. The Church also voted to replace the heating and A/C unit. This was estimated at \$10,636.

In December of 1991 a church van was purchased.

Mrs. Hattie Jones passed away in February of 1992 and \$300,000 was given to Lakewood Baptist Church from her estate in her honor.

Also in 1992, William J. Clinton was elected as President of the United States of America.

In 1993, Reverend Denton discussed with the deacons and church the need to become incorporated and helped to complete all the necessary paperwork to get this accomplished.

Oak Grove Landscaping was hired in February to redirect the water flow away from the building. In June, the church began having Wednesday night dinner before prayer meeting. Mark Carter's last day at LBC was September 26 and Beth Bale left in October. In October of 1993, Ken Chamblee was ordained as a deacon and Carol Rush was hired as Interim Minister of Music.

On October 25, 1994, Reverend F. Edward Denton was recognized at the Yates Baptist Association Annual Meeting and given a special award as the Minister of the Year. Lakewood felt truly blessed to call him their pastor.

March 19, 1995 the Building and Grounds committee recommended that painting, carpeting and general renovations be made to the Educational Building. The estimated cost of these renovations were \$56,052.00

In 1996, Cecil Kirkland initiated an effort to lay the groundwork for a Brotherhood group and a Men's Breakfast was held. A Backyard Bible Club was also held. In September 1996, a hurricane damaged the building. Shingles were torn off of the breezeway and water leaked over the organ. On October 7-13, the "Seekers" took a cruise to Bermuda.

In 1997, several new children began attending services. Suggestion was made to ask the deacons to invite the new children to sit with them during the worship services to make them feel welcome and to help cut down on their rowdiness. The church voted to reduce the number of deacons from 9 to 7. In August of 1997, Vacation Bible School was held with a total enrollment of 75 (51 children and 24 adults). On September 17, 1997, Carol Fields was hired as Interim Minister of Music.

The church voted to hire Pickard Roofing Co. in November of 1997 to install a rubber lining in the gutters for a cost of \$3,970.00. In December, Mr. O.D. Hatch passed away and left the church \$8,000. Also during the year, an anonymous donor also gave \$3,000 for the children and youth ministry.

On January 1, 1998, Carol Fields was hired as Minister of Music. Also in 1998, a Memorial Plaque was purchased to hang in the vestibule to honor the deceased members. The deacons voted to allow the church facility to be used by Yates Baptist Association for the Christian Women's Job Corp or other language ministries as needed. The Christian Women's Job Corp started in October 1998.

In 1999, Jake Searcy's shop was asked to replace the lettering on the stained glass windows and a new A/C unit was installed by in the Educational Building (2<sup>nd</sup> floor).

A special Community Servant's Day was held on April 11, 1999. Lucille Ward was ordained as Deaconess on September 26, 1999. Reverend Ed Denton was asked to serve as the Disaster Relief Coordinator for Yates Baptist Association during this year.

In 2000, the Annual Community Servant's Day was held. Repairs were made to the Educational Building roof. Reverend Denton hosted a Disaster Relief Recovery Trip in Eastern NC on October 12-14. The church van was used in this relief effort. Because of demographic changes in the neighborhood, Reverend Denton suggested that the church start an outreach program to the Hispanic Community.

In the year, 2001, George W. Bush was inaugurated as the 43<sup>rd</sup> president.

September 11 brought much sadness to our world as two hijacked jetliners rammed the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York. A third hijacked plane flew into the Pentagon and a fourth hijacked plane crashed in rural Pennsylvania. More than 3,000 people lost their lives in these attacks which were noted to have been the worst terrorist attack against the U.S. Our country was in shock but came together to support one another during this time of fear and sadness. Reverend Denton had a special prayer vigil on September 12, the evening following the attacks, and we all came together as a church to pray for our country and leaders, the families of those who lost their lives, for those injured, and even for the attackers. We prayed for justice to be served not knowing then that it would be ten years before Osama bin Laden, the accused mastermind behind this attack, would be caught.

Later in 2001, a joint Thanksgiving service was held with Lakewood United Methodist Church. LBC participated in Operation Christmas Child by Samaritan's Purse and the children presented the Operation Christmas Child Christmas Musical and collected Shoe Box Christmas gifts for the needy.

A special memorial gift was given to the church by Mrs. Nancy Vardakis in loving memory of her husband, Mr. Charles Vardakis. Among items purchased for the church because of their gracious donation was a new copier for the church office, games for a youth game room (air hockey table, ping pong table and foosball), hand bells for children's choir, and a cordless microphone.

April 14, 2002, Lakewood Baptist Church celebrated its 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a special service. Many former members and families of the charter members attended. During this year, the church voted to share space with the Hispanic Mission from Immanuel Baptist Church. On October 20, 2002, a joint worship service was held with LBC, Immanuel Baptist Church and the Hispanic Mission. Special Music provided by the Hispanic Praise Band, a quartet from Lakewood and the choir from Immanuel. Mr. John Jones, State Coordinator for Hispanic Church Planting from the Baptist State Convention of NC brought the message.

In 2003, several special events took place. On March 16, 2003 the Auduro Players Christian Drama Team from Campbell University performed at the 11am worship service. The church provided lunch for the students and the LBC youth. On Maundy Thursday, a joint worship service was held between Lakewood Baptist and Lakewood United Methodist churches. The combined choirs sang and the churches had a foot washing. On April 27, the youth and children had a picnic/fishing outing at Falls Lake immediately following the morning worship service. The Seekers took several monthly trips during the year including a trip to Meadow and to Richmond.

On May 16, 2003, the Bethesda Christian Academy Annual Piano Recital was held in the Lakewood Baptist Church sanctuary. Among the piano students performing were our own Katie and Libby Fields and Cory and Ryan Dotson. Carol Fields, our Minister of Music and Teresa Dotson, our accompanist, were also piano teachers at Bethesda Christian Academy. Several events were planned during the year for the children and youth including Vacation Bible School, a special musical program and a day-trip to the beach.

In October 2003, the Hispanic Mission transitioned back to Immanuel Baptist Church. During their time at Lakewood, they baptized 9 members.

The Seekers September trip was postponed due to Hurricane Isabelle. Reverend Denton assisted with Disaster Relief and the Lakewood Church Van was also used for Disaster Relief work.

In November of 2003, Reverend Denton shared with the deacons the need to revisit the church's vision as to where our church is going by reviewing the following: our acceptance of different cultures living and working around our church; the use of our buildings by outside organizations (i.e. shelter for homeless people); who and how do we see ourselves as witnesses; who are we; what does God want us to do; what do the scriptures say. In an effort for each person to arrive at their individual vision of our church, Reverend Denton recommended that the church enter into a 40-Day study for the purpose of rediscovering where God would have us go as a church. The church purchased "The Purpose Driven Life" books for each member and beginning on January 4, 2004, Lakewood Baptist Church began a time of "40 Days of Prayer" followed by the study entitled, "40 Days of Purpose" which they began on February 15, 2004. As a next step, Reverend Denton suggested the church participate in "Pursuing Vital Ministry" offered through the Baptist State Convention which would be an ongoing process of implementing the vision of the church ministering throughout the community.

In the Spring of 2004, Kestrel Heights School was allowed to use the "Wellness Center" (basement of the Educational Building) to practice each week for a school play. On March 28, a "Missions and Ministry Fair" was held in the Rochelle Fellowship Hall. It was an

opportunity to meet real missionaries and to see how our church members could become personally involved in missions.

A prayer walk was held in April in order to meet and invite neighbors to attend church. On May 16, Lakewood Baptist Church again hosted the Bethesda Christian Academy's annual piano recital. As part of an Associational Ministry and Evangelism Blitz, the church held a "FREE" car wash (no donations were accepted). This provided an opportunity to witness to the community and to tell about them about our church and share the gospel.

On June 12-19, Lakewood hosted a World Changers team for Yates Baptist Association. World Changers was a missions project organized by the North American Mission Board where youth and their church leaders sign up to help with housing projects for the needy in a particular city. Durham was one of the locations chosen for these projects and had over 300 participants. These participants were divided into teams of 12-15 and each church in the Association was asked to host a team. The team attended the worship service on Sunday morning. The youth from Lakewood shared lunch with them and had a time of fellowship. Then our church members provided lunches for the team on Monday through Friday at their work site.

During the summer, the youth boys attended RA Camp at Caraway and the youth girls attended GA Camp at Munda Vista. Vacation Bible School was held August 11-14. 36 students were enrolled. September 9 was Community Servants Day. The "Seekers" took a trip to the mountains in October. In November, the church once again collected shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child, had their annual Community Thanksgiving Service with Lakewood United Methodist Church and had a special "Hanging of the Green" service.

On November 14, 2004, Reverend Ed Denton submitted his letter of resignation to the church and announced that his last day would be December 12, 2004, as he felt led to accept the call to serve as the pastor of Durham Memorial Baptist Church.

On February 13, 2005, a church-wide meeting was held to discuss future plans for the church. Dr. Tobie Stone was offered the position of Interim Pastor which he gladly accepted. Dr. Stone began serving as Interim Pastor on March 6, 2005, and made a commitment to do visitation every Monday and Friday.

In April 2005, Easter Shoe Boxes for Samaritans Purse were collected boxes and sent to Tsunami victims. Bethesda Christian Academy's annual piano recital was held at Lakewood in May and for Mother's Day on May 8, we had "Hat Day" where the ladies were encouraged to wear their hats. The church had a special "Homebound Day" on May 29 and invited all the homebound members to attend. Special arrangements were made for transportation.

On June 13, 2005, First Calvary Church began using the church facilities for their Summer Day Camp while they were in the process of constructing a new building. Also in June,

Lakewood once again served as a host church for World Changers for a week and conducted a one-day VBS. The youth attended a UNC Football Game together in the fall and on December 11 the choir presented their annual Christmas Cantata and catered Christmas luncheon was provided for the church following the service.

2006 was a busy year as lots of events and activities were planned. Carol Dawson suggested developing a program to teach job-related skills, social and self-employment skills and began holding Barnabas classes in the spring. A Youth-O-Rama was held in March. LBC's first website was developed and maintained by Carol Dawson. Lee Air Conditioning was hired to replace the A/C unit and ductwork in the building and the outside of the church was painted.

On April 2, 2006, the deacons voted to establish a Pastor Search Committee and move forward with finding a pastor.

In May of 2006, Frank Ward reported that an offer had been made on the beach property and the church made a decision to sell this property. On May 21, 2006, Bethesda Christian Academy held their annual piano recital in the Lakewood sanctuary. Participants again included some of our own children: Katie Fields, Libby Fields, Cory Dotson and Ryan Dotson. The piano students and parents from Bethesda were always grateful that the church allowed this event to take place at Lakewood as the students all agreed that our grand piano was second to none.

Emily Brassell and Reginald Hodges from the Durham Literacy Center met with the deacons to discuss the possibility of sharing space and on August 17 the church voted and approved sharing the facility with the Durham Literacy Center. Classes began on December 1, 2006. The Durham Literacy Center shared the Lakewood facility until August 31, 2012.

Homecoming services were held on September 12, 2006. On the 29<sup>th</sup> of September, a bus from across the street at the YMCA lost control, ran through part of the rose garden and wrecked behind the Educational Building.

On January 28, 2007, the church met together to discuss the need for a full-time pastor. In April, Interim Pastor Tobie Stone resigned. His last Sunday was April 22, 2007.

Dr. Ralph W. Harrell was asked to serve as Interim Pastor. Reverend and Mrs. Harrell were retired IMB (International Mission Board) Missionaries who had served in Eastern Africa for 37 years from 1958 until returning to the states in 1995. Reverend Harrell agreed to serve for one year as "Pastor" in an effort to try to rebuild Lakewood. He began his pastorate at Lakewood on August 1, 2007.

Homecoming was held on October 14, 2007. Representatives from First Calvary and the Durham Literacy Center were invited to speak at Homecoming and share about their partnership with Lakewood.

Reverend Harrell encouraged outreach and visitation in an effort to rebuild the church. On November 10, 2007 the church held a prayer walk and day of visitation. 500 brochures about the church were distributed and many contacts were made.

Other events from 2007 include hosting World Changers, hosting the annual Bethesda Christian Academy Piano Recital as well as hosting the Yates Baptist Association Church Secretaries Organization for their annual Christmas luncheon.

During 2007, the church building was broken into three times. During the break-in on December 14, the inside of the educational Building was damaged extensively. Although insurance covered the cost of damages, the church members did a lot of work to clean up and make repairs.

In 2008, outreach efforts continued as the church mailed postcards to the people in the community and in May, Michael and Kimtara Moore were baptized and joined the church.

John Saunders and Faye Bassett, representatives from the Yates Baptist Association, helped to set up a meeting with Reverend Harrell and Reverend Joshua Moon to discuss the possibility of developing a ministry partnership with Grace Mission Ministries (GMM). On March 2, 2008, the church voted to allow Grace Mission Ministries to meet at Lakewood. On April 5, 2008, GMM held their first service at 1:00 pm at Lakewood and shared lunch with members of LBC prior to their service.

Also in April 2008 the church participated in an "Operation Inasmuch" Laundry Mission project. Quarters and tracts were given to 52 families in the area Laundromats. Members of Lakewood, along with members from Grace Mission Ministries, participated in a prayer walk around the neighborhood and visited members of the community.

On May 31, 2008, Faye Oakley Bassett, Director of Church and Community Ministries for Yates Baptist Association retired after 35 years of dedicated service. A special celebration and dinner was held in her honor at Hope Valley Baptist Church. Many members of Lakewood Baptist Church attended.

Carol Fields resigned as Minister of Music and a special reception was held on her last day at Lakewood which was June 29. Reverend and Mrs. Harrell hosted a church picnic at their home on Lake Orange on June 21. Carol Fields was recognized and honored at this event as well.

Teresa Dotson, who had served as accompanist since January of 2001, was asked to fill the position of Minister of Music and she accepted. Church-wide meetings were held in June and July to discuss the future of our church. Dr. John Saunders, Director of Missions for Yates Baptist Association, attended the meeting in July and encouraged to members to think about who we are as a church, what direction the church should be heading, as well as the vision and focus of the church. As Reverend Harrell's one-year commitment was drawing near, the deacons and church asked if he would continue serving as Pastor. Reverend Harrell agreed and on July 27, 2008, the church held a called business meeting and formerly extended the call for Reverend Harrell to continue serving as pastor of Lakewood. On October 1, Reverend Harrell began having two "Prayer Meeting" services (3pm and 7pm). The 3pm service was made available for those members who are unable to drive after dark. Mrs. Harrell also helped to teach the ladies Sunday School class.

The deacons and church members continued to discuss the future of the church and met with Reverend Moon and leaders from Grace Mission Community Church (formerly Grace Mission Ministries) to discuss the possibility of donating the church facilities to them. On October 12 at a called business meeting, the church voted unanimously to donate the facilities to Grace Mission Community Church. Regular meetings with the pastors and leadership from both churches began and discussions with the church's lawyer took place in an effort to get everything in order for the property transfer.

On October 19, 2008, Carol Dawson was ordained as deaconess and on November 2, our church welcomed new church members, Gideon Thuam, Lal Thang Mawi and Naomi Mawi (Refugees from Burma). Most of our church members knew very little about refugee status but welcomed the opportunity to learn more about them and the country from which they came. This was the beginning an on-going ministry at Lakewood with the refugee families in our area.

In 2008, Barak Obama was elected as the first African-American president of the United States.

Christmas celebrations continued as the choir presented their annual cantata on December 14 followed by the annual Christmas luncheon. On December 21, Lakewood and Grace Mission held a joint worship service followed by a special Christmas luncheon with both congregations.

On January 19, 2009, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Grace Mission Community Church sponsored a WUTiPH campaign (We United Together in Phileo) in an effort to work together in brotherly love and to think about "What If" (WUTiPH) everyone came together for the cause of Christ. Haechul Shin was instrumental in organizing this campaign. Members from GMCC, LBC, the Durham Literacy Center and other community organizations came together on Martin Luther King, Jr. day to have a special workday at the church. The excitement of



fellowship and working together was experienced that day as painting and general repairs were done in the two buildings.

On March 21, 2009, FaceDown, the youth praise and worship band from Grey Stone Baptist Church, held a special concert. Members of this band included Cory and Ryan Dotson (Teresa Dotson's sons) and Caleb Sprinkle (Frances Sprinkle's grandson).

April 19, 2009 a special Joint Service and fellowship meal was held between Lakewood and Grace Mission for the purpose of transferring the property to GMCC. Meetings continued with the attorney but the paperwork from Grace Mission was never submitted. Discussions of the transfer continued and both churches continued to have services as usual. Ministry continued to be done at Lakewood resulting in new members joining and being baptized. Special Thanksgiving and Christmas services were held including the annual Christmas Luncheon and cantata program.

Gideon Thuam, member of Lakewood and refugee from Burma, received formal Bible College training in India prior to coming to the United States. He felt led by God to start a church for the Burmese families in the area and had been having Bible Studies in his home. Through assistance from the Yates Baptist Association and the Baptist State Convention of NC, he started a Burmese church, called Gospel Baptist Church. Lakewood unanimously welcomed them as part of the fellowship and allowed them to share the church facility. Gospel Baptist Church began having services on Sunday evenings at the church. Teresa Dotson and Loretta Warren began helping to teach the Burmese children Bible stories in English while the adults held their service in Burmese.

In 2010, Lakewood Baptist Church was recognized by the Triangle Community Foundation as a recipient of the Nelson Family Community Association Charitable Fund Grant. Lakewood was commended for their involvement in community service and was presented with a check and was informed that quarterly donations would be forthcoming.

Continued efforts were made to unite the three churches at Lakewood, thus forming the name, "The Churches at Lakewood." The three churches joined together for a joint Easter Service with members from all three churches participating in the service. On April 24, a community picnic was held where all three congregations joined together along with members of the community for a special time of fellowship.

On May 16, 2010, the church held an Ordination Service as Reverend Gideon Thuam was ordained to the ministry. Dr. John Saunders, Director of Missions for Yates Baptist Association was present and participated in this special service.

August 20-22, LBC joined with GMCC in providing Vacation Bible School for the community. 102 children attended with a total enrollment of 151. Each child was given a book bag filled with school supplies.

Special Thanksgiving and Christmas services were held with all three churches including a special Christmas Cantata Program. Members from Lakewood, Grace and Gospel joined their voices to form this choir. At the end of December, Reverend Harrell announced his retirement at age 82.

January 30, 2011, was Reverend Harrell's last Sunday at Lakewood as pastor and a special retirement celebration was held in honor of him and Mrs. Rosalind Harrell. Reverend Harrell was loved and adored as our pastor and friend. Our church members learned a lot from the Harrell's teachings and from their experience as missionaries in Africa. In honor of Reverend Harrell, the deacons bestowed upon him the title of Pastor Emeritus for Lakewood Baptist Church.

The leadership of Lakewood felt that God was calling the church to move forward and to continue in ministry and decided to search for a new pastor. The deacon body served as the Pastor Search Committee. On February 6, Reverend Johnny Hewett preached and provided pulpit supply for the next two months. On March 27, 2011, the members of Lakewood voted to extend the call to Reverend Johnny Hewett to serve as full-time pastor.

Reverend Hewett previously worked at GlaxoSmithKline and took early retirement in 2005 to enter into full-time ministry. He went back to school at Southeastern and earned his Associates degree of Divinity. He served as Associate Pastor at Edgewood Baptist Church in Durham from 2004-2009. He serves as Senior Chaplain for Emergency Chaplains in Durham and as Adjunct Chaplain for Durham Regional Hospital. Reverend Hewett accepted the call to Lakewood and his first official Sunday as pastor was April 3, 2011.

During this same month, the leaders of Grace Mission Community Church met with the leadership of Lakewood to announce that they had decided to disband Grace Mission and would plan to close by the end of the summer. The leadership at Lakewood had no prior knowledge that this would transpire before making their decision to call a new pastor, nor did the members of GMCC know that LBC had felt led by God to keep going and hire a pastor. Both groups agreed that this was divine intervention and was part of God's plan.

As Pastor Hewett began his ministry at Lakewood, efforts were made to reach out to the community and to rebuild the church. On April 24, a joint Easter service was held for the "Churches at Lakewood" (LBC, GMCC and GBC). May 5, 2011, was the National Day of Prayer. The sanctuary was open from 11:00 am – 7:00 pm and made available for members of the community or anyone to come in and pray.

Lakewood continued to have more and more children attending each Sunday, so on June 4, LBC held a Children's Ministry dinner and invited all the children and their parents to attend as a special "kick-off" for the new Children's Ministry at Lakewood. During the month of July, the church observed 40 days of listening to the Bible through Faith Comes By Hearing's

Audio Bible. At the end of the 40 days, a donation was taken for Faith Comes by Hearing to help provide audio Bibles to one of the Burmese language groups.

Pastor Johnny was instrumental in helping to get renovations made to the church facility. A new tile floor was installed in the fellowship hall, security locks were installed, the fellowship hall was painted, and many other general repairs were done.

On July 2, LBC hosted a "Block Party" utilizing the Block Party Trailer from Yates Baptist Association. Church members and friends of Lakewood passed out flyers and invited everyone in the community to attend. Evangelism materials and information about other community services were distributed those attending. Hot dogs and other snack items were provided as well as games for the children and clothing was distributed to those in need.

On September 11, 2011, a special Community Servants Day luncheon was held to honor first responders on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of "9-11." Jon Martin was ordained as deacon on October 9. Lakewood hosted a Fall Festival "Trunk or Treat" and had a "Holy Ghost Weiner Roast" on October 31. Special Thanksgiving and Christmas services were also held.

In January 2012, Reverend Ricardo Correa and his wife, Carina, pastors of the United Nations Worship Center Ministries (CANU – Centro de Alabanza Naciones Unidas) met with the deacons and presented them with a request to use the church facilities for their church services which were currently being held in their home. The Deacons agreed to allow CANU to begin using the church building for their worship services for ninety days in order to provide more time to learn more about the United Nations Worship Center. At the end of the 90 days, the deacons agreed to continue sharing space with CANU and a covenant agreement was signed effective June 30 to allow them to hold their worship services in the Lakewood facilities.

In 2012, members of Lakewood continued to work together to reach out to the community. The NC Baptist Men's Dental Bus was reserved for March 17 and Lakewood arranged for local dentists and hygienists to provide dental care for local refugee families and also distributed clothing to members of the community.

Special Easter services and events were held. A community Easter Egg Hunt was held on March 31 and on April 4, a joint Maundy Thursday Service was held with LBC and CANU. This service included a time of communion and a "foot washing." On April 8, an Easter Sunrise Service was held in the Faye Bagley Rose Garden followed by breakfast. The "Living Cross" was decorated with flowers and adorned the sanctuary during the Easter morning worship service.

The children's ministry continued to grow and the need for a church van was evident. In May, a church van was purchased from Immanuel Baptist Church and in June, the youth used the van as they took a trip to Carowinds. They earned the money for the trip by

hosting a spaghetti dinner, bake sale and car wash. Vacation Bible School was held with the help of members and friends from other churches. There were 80+ in attendance.

The Durham Literacy Center's new facility located at 1905 Chapel Hill Road was completed during the summer and on August 31, 2012, they concluded an almost six-year partnership of sharing space at Lakewood Baptist Church.

We believe that all of the events of Lakewood have been orchestrated by the Hand of God and once again, we saw His hand at work. The very next month after the Durham Literacy Center moved out of the Lakewood facility into their new building, Lakewood Church was contacted about the possibility of providing space for another ministry. First in Families is a non-profit organization which serves to help meet the needs of families with mentally and physically handicapped children. They were in need of storage space for food pantry items and well as other material items which are donated for these families. On October 6, 2012, the deacons met with Wanda Brown, the Resource Consultant for the Durham Chapter of First in Families to assess their needs. The deacons agreed unanimously to allow First in Families to utilize space for storing donations.

During the year, Reverend Hewett (Pastor Johnny) started a Men's Discipleship group which meets on Saturday morning. It was felt that a women's ministry was also needed so on September 15, a Women's Conference was held with Lynn Trogden presenting the Bible Study and Lisa Beverly providing special music. Reverend Hewett's wife, Connie, agreed to lead the Women's Ministry and is making plans for future events for the ladies of the church.

Early in the year, a 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee was formed. Members included Dr. Jon Martin, Chair; Carol Dawson, Teresa Dotson, Connie Hewett, Dot Martin and Kay Whitfield. The committee met together weekly to work on and plan events for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

In addition to celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the church, Lakewood also shared in the excitement of other events during 2012. On May 20, 2012, we celebrated the 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday of Mrs. Dorothy Martin. Mrs. Martin joined Lakewood as a child and was, in fact, on the cradle roll of the early church. She has always been actively involved in the ministries of the church and in her younger years, taught children's Sunday School classes. She was also a very faithful member of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee and was always there for support. On June 16, Pastor Johnny united Nathaniel Buckhannon and Cathy Washington in Holy Matrimony. Another joyous occasion for our church members was the first birthday party for Insoo Shin. What an exciting event. Insoo's parents, Haechul and Hain Shin, became members of Lakewood on September 6, 2012.

As our church takes steps into the next century, we can truly sense the hand of God leading the way. God continues to be at work in this church as well as in the lives of the people in

this community. We believe that God led Pastor Johnny to Lakewood "for such a time as this." Reverend Hewett is deeply committed to his call as pastor and as a "servant" of God. His servanthood is demonstrated daily by the many tasks he does for the church and others. He is putting forth a tremendous effort to bring new life to an old church. We are grateful that he felt led to accept the call to serve the Lord here at Lakewood Baptist Church and are blessed by his ministry.

These events bring us to the close of the history of Lakewood Baptist Church for the years 1912 – 2012. We pray that these memoirs will be a blessing to all who read.

## CONCLUSION

This record is an attempt to compile the important events that tell the story of Lakewood Baptist Church. Deepest gratitude is expressed to the members of the previous Historical Committees; to various members of the church, and to relatives of our Charter Members who faithfully gave of their time and knowledge to the writing of this history.

Having the opportunity to renew old acquaintances and make new ones, has been an enriching experience. In researching the past lives of our members, it has made us realize how much we, as individuals, influence generations to come. It has been a wonderful experience and one that we pass on to you to incorporate into your daily life. Let us make Lakewood an even better Church for those who come after us.

It is with sincere apology that time did not allow a professional editing of this history before the final printing. We, therefore, ask your indulgence of errors in punctuation and grammar.

This has been a journey we never expected to take, and has helped us to understand that the Lord has many surprises and blessings in store for our church. We also learned that His blessed assurance gives us the strength and knowledge to do the things He calls upon us to do. The Bible verse from Luke 12:48 reminds us that "to whom much is given, much is required." God has truly blessed Lakewood Baptist Church and given so much. Let us be found faithful in and do as the Lord requires of us; "...to act justly, to love faithfulness and to walk humbly with our God." (*Micah 6:8 HCSB*)

With this in mind, it is with great pleasure that the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee presents to you this History of Lakewood Baptist Church.

TO GOD AND GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY!

The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee

OUR FORMER PASTORS



Wallace Hartsell



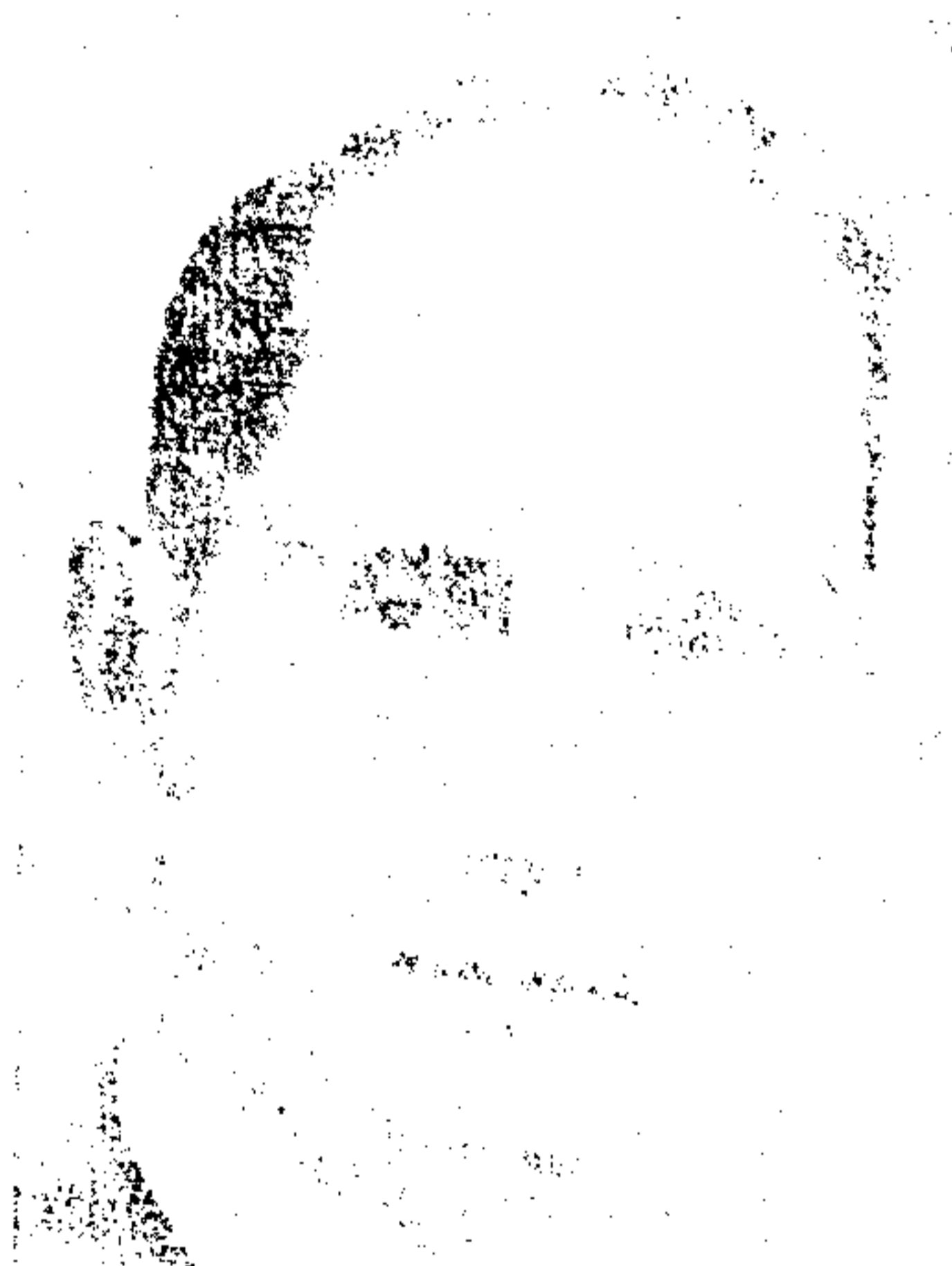
Charles P. Plybon



L. W. Teague



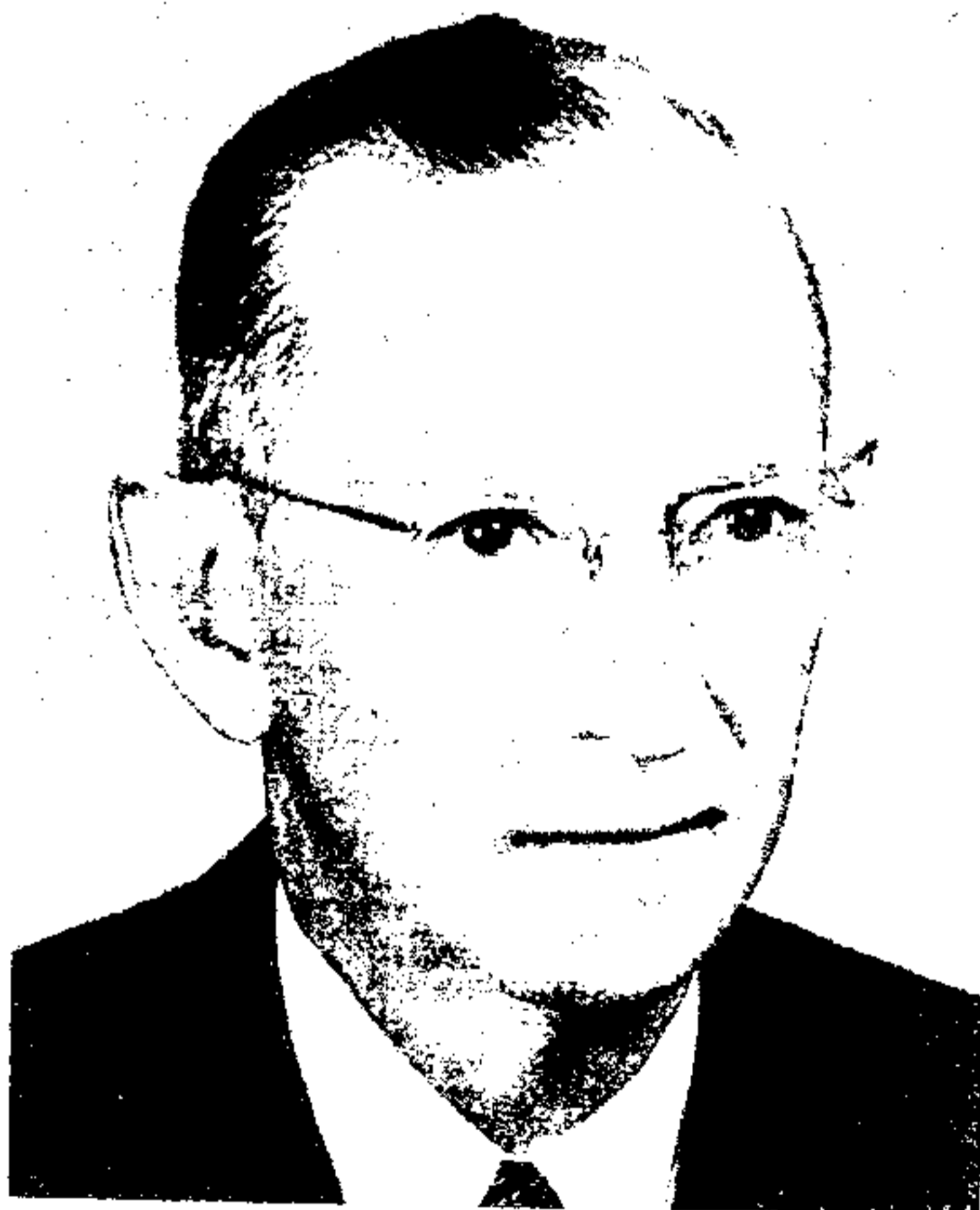
P. P. Hartsell



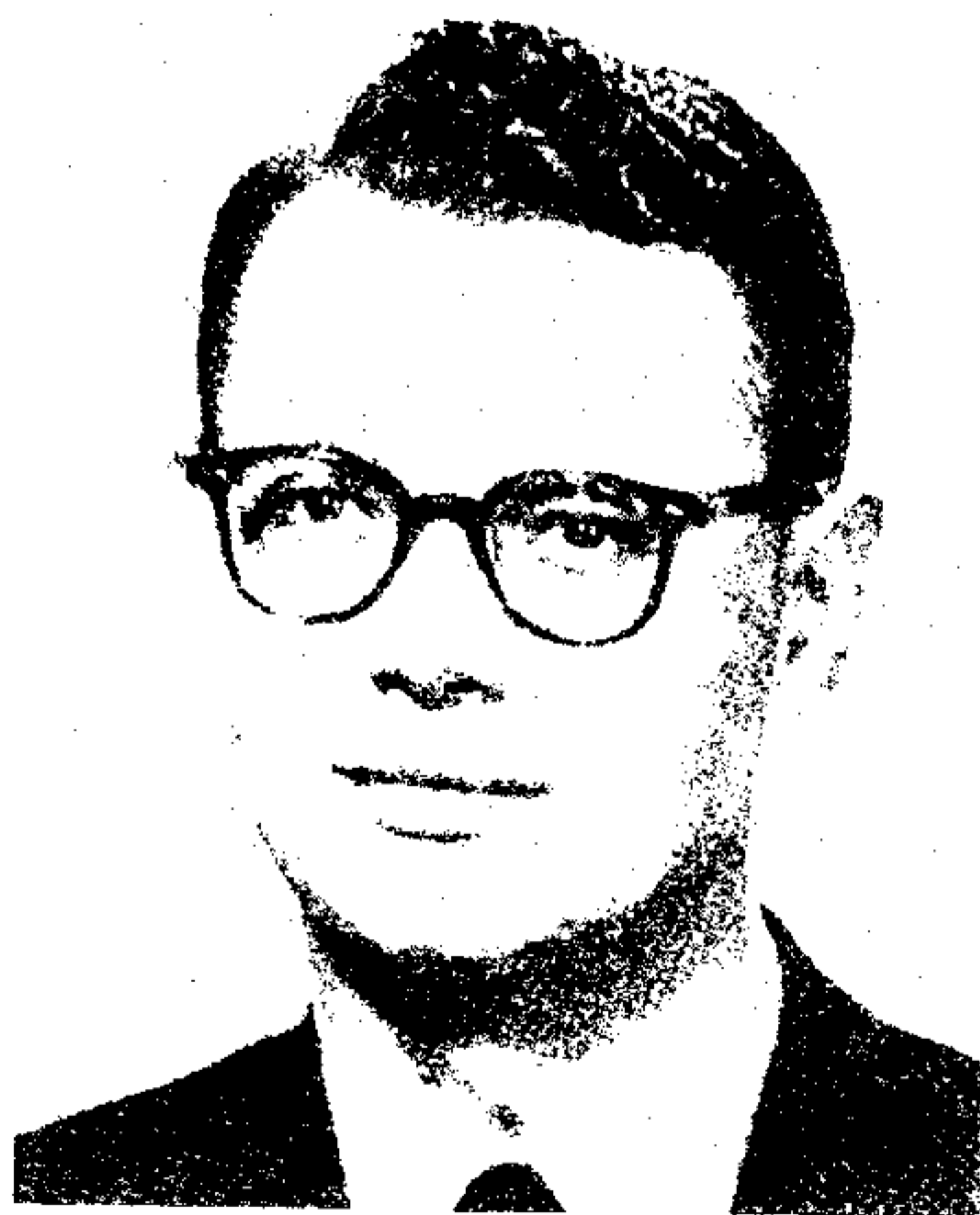
L. R. Ennis



E. L. Kincaid



Trela D. Collins



J. Henry Coffey, Jr.

Pictures Not Available

Of These Pastors:

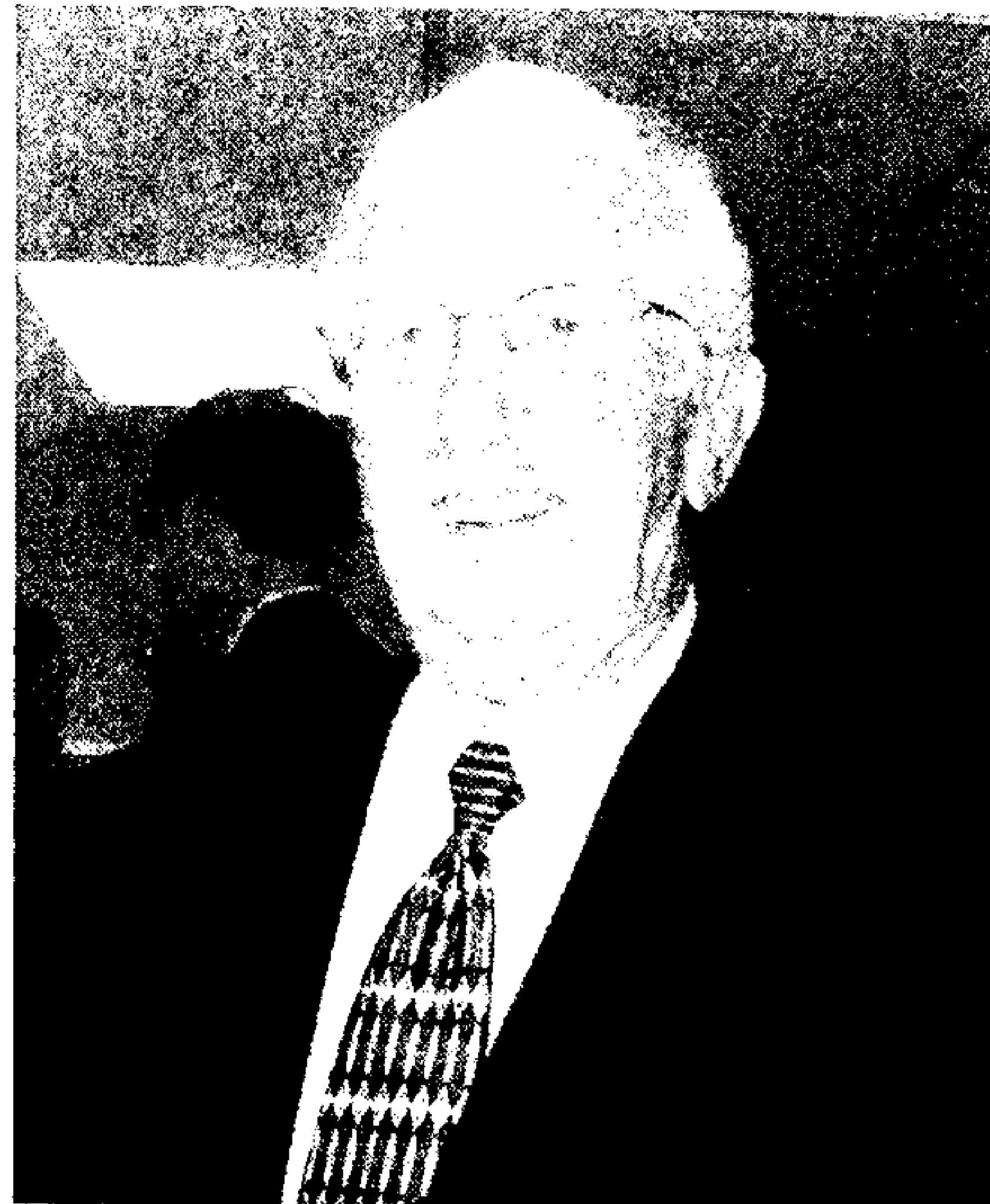
R. P. Ellington

W. E. Warren

H. F. Lindsey



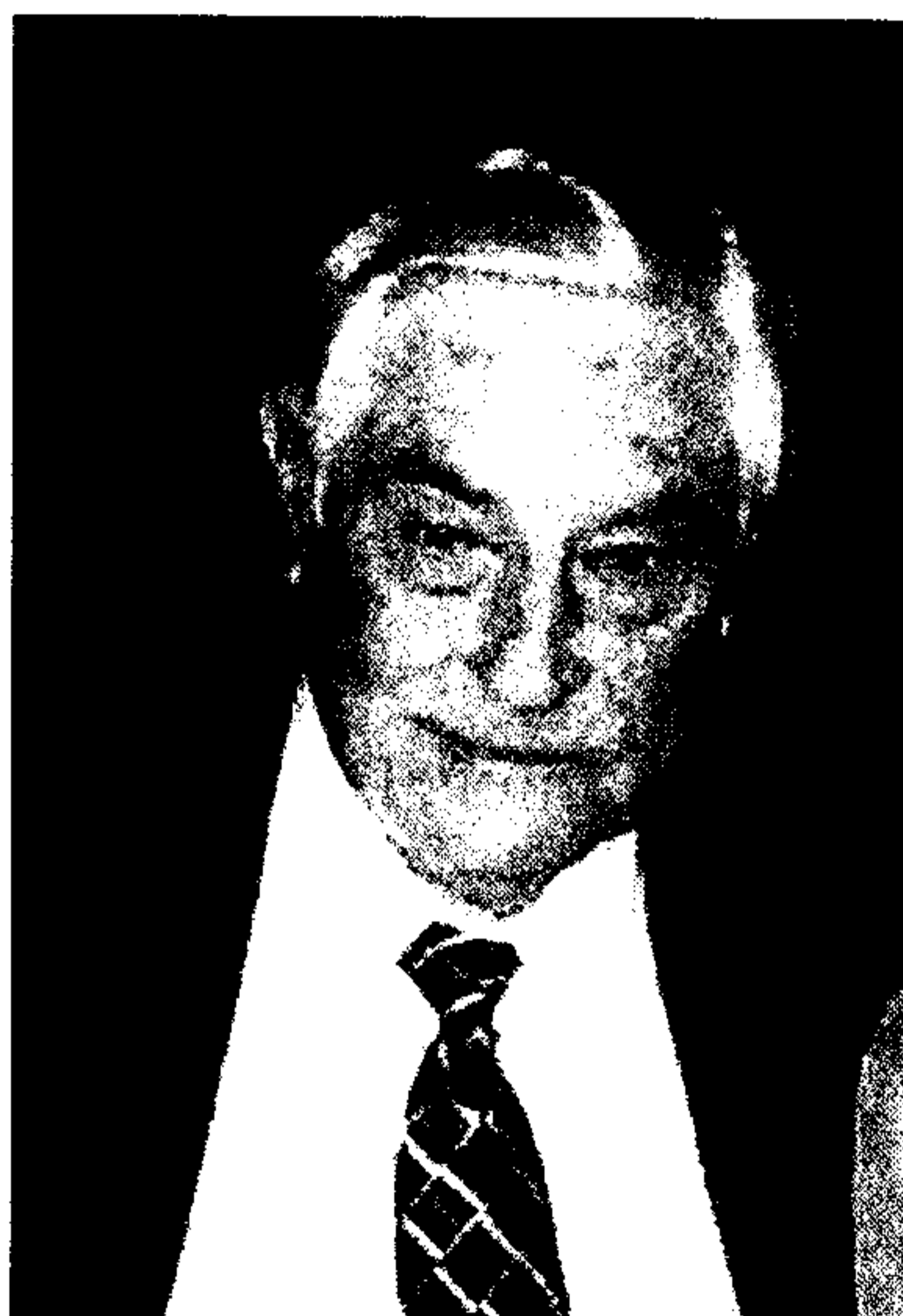
John C. Grant



Everette J. Smith



Francis Edward Denton



Tobie Stone



Ralph W. Harrell



Johnny O. Hewett

## FIRSTS AT LAKEWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

ORGANIZED	April 14, 1912
STRUCTURE	Wooden - located corner James and Bivins Street. Erected Fall of 1914 and dedicated April 2, 1916. Old church later bought by Mr. E.J. Latta and torn down.
PART TIME PASTOR	Rev. R.P. Ellington, April 14, 1912 – Feb 1913
FULL TIME PASTOR	Rev. H.F. Lindsay – Spring 1915 – 1918
MISSIONARY SOCIETY PRES.	Organized in the home of Mrs. J.C. Myrick in August of of 1912 and she served as first President.
CHURCH TRUSTEES	Mr. F. A. Ward, Mr. R. L. Rigsbee
DEACONS	Mr. F. A. Ward, Mr. R. L. Rigsbee
CLERK AND TREASURER	Mr. W. Graham Pendergrass
SUN SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT	Mr. Dave E. Durham
SUNBEAM BAND	First lead by Mrs. J.C. Hobbie
GIRLS AUXILIARY	First Counselor- Mrs. F.A. Ward Sr.
Y W A's	First Counselor – Mrs. Wallace Hartsell
PULPIT COMMITTEE	Mr. F. A. Ward, Mr. R. L. Rigsbee and Mr. W. Graham Pendergrass
PARSONAGE	Located on Lakewood Avenue. Purchased on September 1, 1919 from Mr. V.E. Wilson. Damaged by fire on September 20, 1920. Later sold to Mr. Ivan Beck.
MARRIAGE	Wellington J. Hay to Beautys Bassett
R A's	First organized by Mrs. Betty Crouch Davis and Mrs. C. G. Terrell on January 27, 1949 with 13 boys in attendance.



PIANIST/ORGANIST	Mrs. Hallie C. Myrick, charter member, who had played some at Yates Baptist Church before helping to organize the new Lakewood Baptist Church.
FIRST PAID PIANIST	Mrs. Frances Myrick Howard
FIRST PAID CHOIR DIRECTOR	Mrs. Alice Evans
CHOIR ROBES	Obtained during Rev. Lonnie Ennis' pastorate. Erwin Mills donated sheeting material and the Home Economics department at Durham High School made them.
ELECTRIC ORGAN	Purchased in 1948 – Mrs. E.C. Burnett, accompanist
EDUCATIONAL DIRECTOR	Mrs. Mildred Weatherspoon July 15, 1945 – September of 1945
WOMAN DEACON	Mrs. Becky Ward, ordained January 1976
WOMAN – CHAIRMAN OF BOARD OF DEACONS	Mrs. Barbara Pearce – 1987

## HISTORICAL EVENTS AT LAKEWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

- April 12, 1912** ..... Lakewood Baptist Church First Organized
- Fall 1914**..... First Church Structure Erected and Dedicated  
(Wooden building located at corner of James Street and Bivins Street)
- April 2, 1916**..... First Church Structure Dedicated and Debt Free
- 1924**..... Wooden Frame Structure & Old Parsonage Sold
- January 4, 1925** ..... New Brick Structure located at  
2100 Chapel Hill Road was completed and used for the first time
- 1928**..... Church Sold Due to Financial Difficulties  
Church building was bought by Jefferson Standard Life Insurance  
Company who rented the building to LBC for \$100 per month
- 1930**.....Church Finances Improved  
and once again church ownership was obtained
- April 2, 1944**..... Church Debt Liquidated  
Special Service was held to dedicate the Church Building
- 1945**.....Joined Yates Baptist Association  
(Was previously a member of Mt. Zion Association 1912-1945)
- April 1946**..... Acquired new parsonage located at 1603 Lakewood Avenue
- August 4, 1957** ..... Ground Breaking for Educational Building
- May 18, 1958** ..... Educational Building First Occupied  
With Sunday School attendance of 303
- June 15, 1958** ..... Dedication of the Educational Building
- June 5, 1969** ..... Library Opened  
(Library moved to second floor of the Education Building in July 1975)

- April 1, 1974**..... Congregation Approved Funding for  
Sanctuary, Educational Building & Parsonage Renovations
- June 6, 1976** .....Fellowship Hall Dedicated to Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Rochelle  
and it was named Rochelle Hall
- 1976**.....Purchased the Yamaha Conservatory Grand Piano
- 1981**.....Purchased the Allen Electronic Organ
- December 7, 1982** .....Educational Building Dedicated and Named in honor of  
Mr. F.A. Ward, Sr. "in honor of his dedication,  
acts of kindness and love for his church"

## **LAKWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH COVENANT**

As Christians and members of Lakewood Baptist Church, we agree to abide by the following covenant:

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior,

And on the profession of our Faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost,

We do now, in the presence of God, angels and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church, in knowledge, holiness, and comfort;

To promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines;

To contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations.

We also engage to maintain family and secret devotions; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances;

To walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our deportment;

To avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger;

To be slow to the use of harmful substances to the body.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love;

To remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech;

To be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the rules of our Savior to secure it without delay.

We moreover engage that when we remove from this place we will, as soon as possible, unite with some other church, where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.