

1867

1967

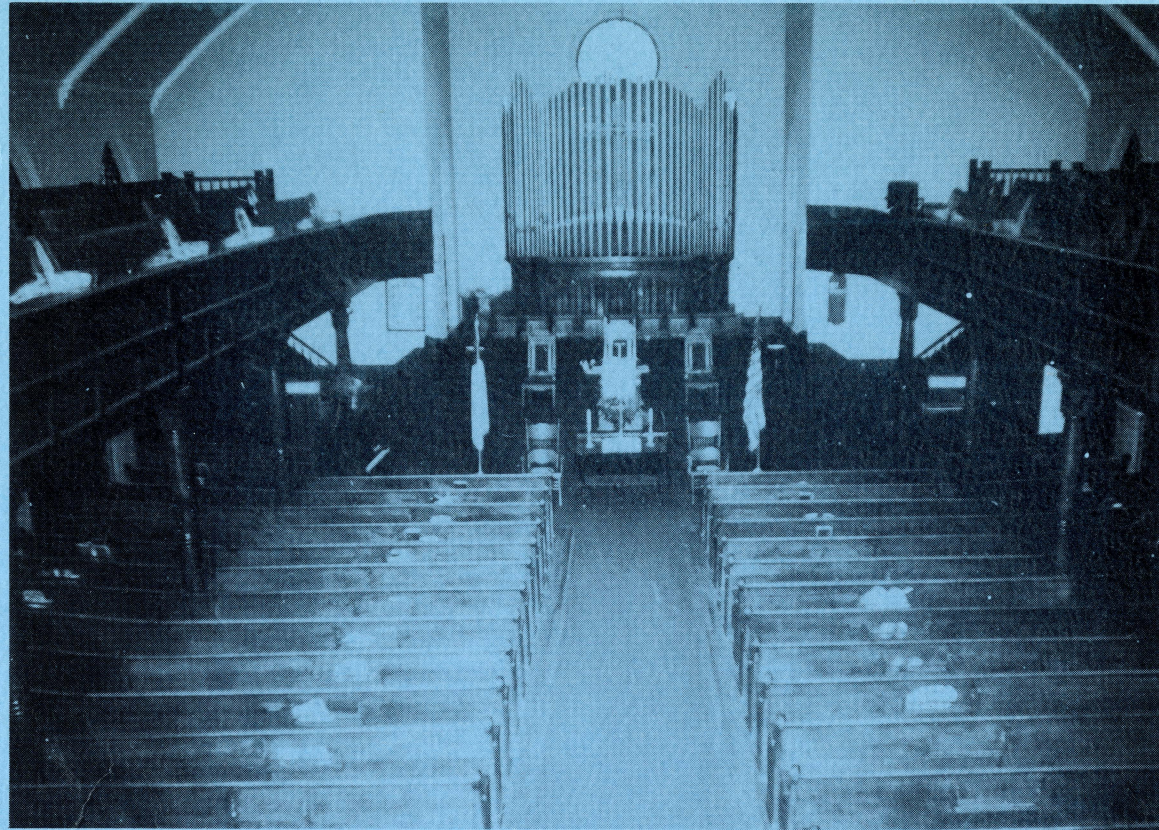
Centennial Commemoration Book
First Baptist Church



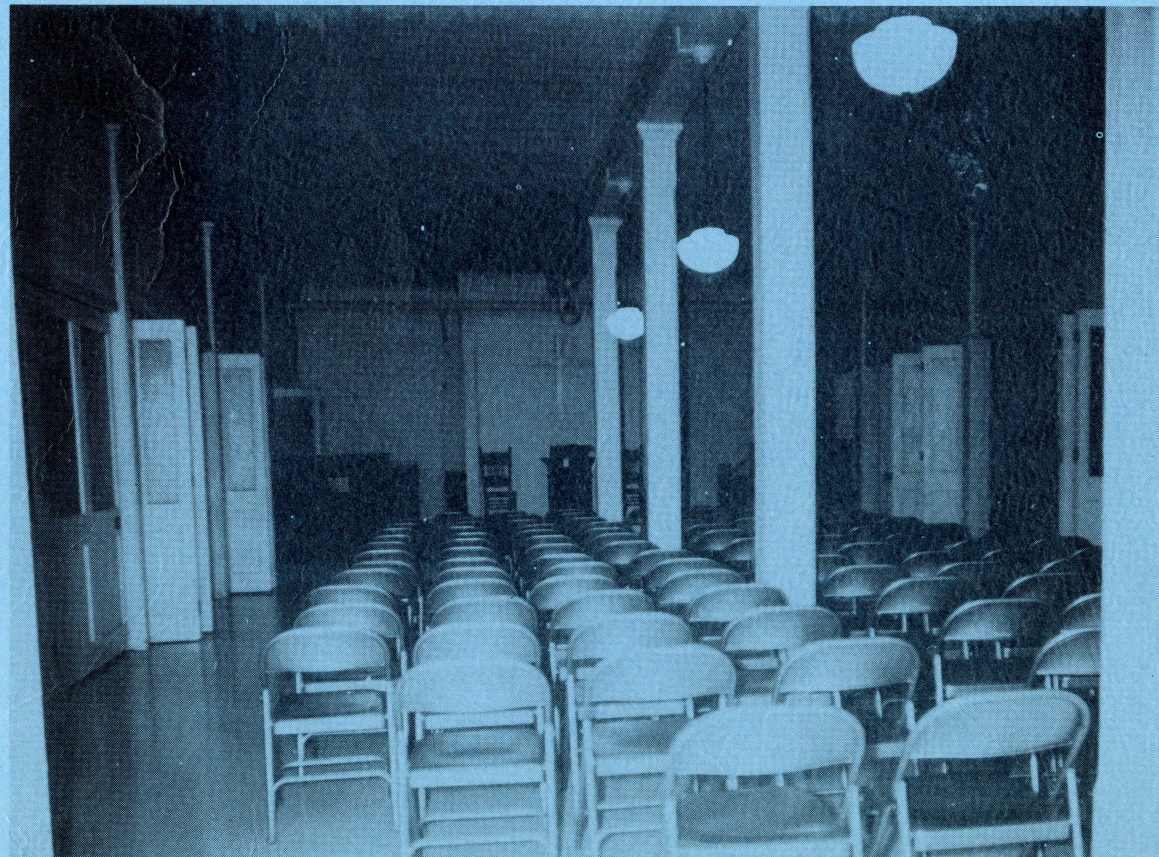
**Main and Henry Street
LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA**

*I was glad when they said unto me
Let us go into the house of the Lord.*
—Psalm 122: 1

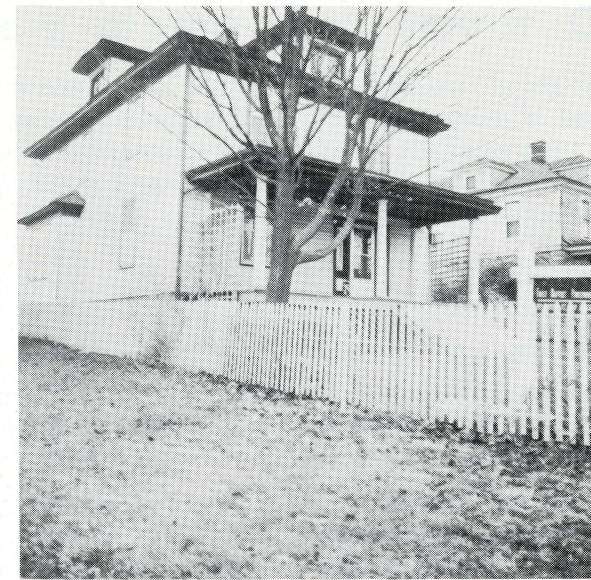
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Sanctuary



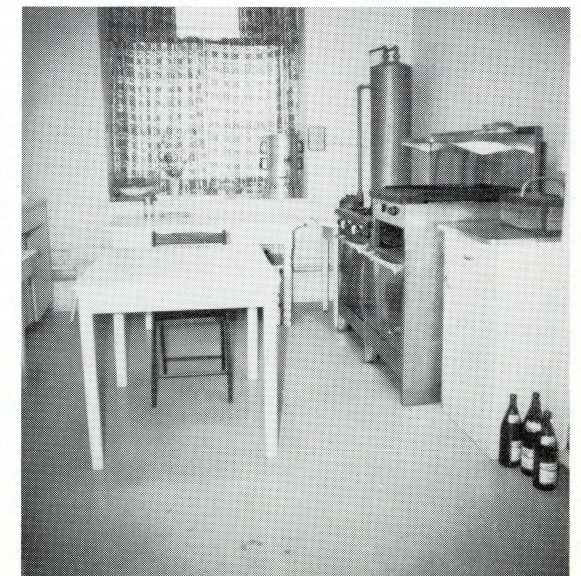
Lower Sanctuary



Parsonage



Church Office



Kitchen

Dedication

IT IS WITH HUMBLE GRATITUDE AND GREAT PRIDE THAT WE DEDICATE THIS CENTENNIAL COMMERATION BOOK TO ALL THOSE LIVING AND DEAD WHO HAVE UNTIRINGLY OVER THE PAST ONE HUNDRED YEARS LABORED HERE IN GOD'S VINEYARD TO LEAVE US AND FUTURE GENERATIONS THIS GREAT HERITAGE.

History of the First Baptist Church

The Negro membership of the Manly Memorial Baptist Church, (except one Nancy) having asked for and obtained letters of dismissal, organized a new church in Lexington on Sunday night, September 22, 1867. A Presbytery consisting of Elders J. B. Cowen and J. Williams Jones organized them into the Lexington African Baptist Church. The membership of the new church was one hundred and fifty-two. They were well counseled, best wishes extended them, and a friendly feeling prevailed.

Reverend Milton Smith, who was reared in the community and baptized into the Manly Memorial Baptist Church (then called the Lexington Baptist Church) in 1841, led the congregation five years. During that period a lot was purchased and it was proposed to erect a new building.

Members and friends worshiped approximately twenty-five years in the first church under the leadership of the following ministers: Clergymen Smith, Elliott, Jackson, Troy, Barksdale, Howard, Moss and Johnson. The latter served in the present church.

Brave men recognized the need of a larger and more modern edifice. Brother David Humbles led a march giving twenty-five dollars; he was followed by Brothers Llyburn Downing, Joe Edmonson, Harvey Harper, Hugh Harvey, Richard Osborne, Robert Price, Phillip Pryor, and Jefferson Shields. This was not the only gift: they were joined by other friends and paid laborers who dug the foundation for our present church after working all day. Many of their wives and good wishers held lanterns and gave them moral support. Later came the masons, Mr. Irk Poindexter, the Moores from Amherst, Virginia, and the carpenter, Mr. Richard Jones: hence, the church we now worship in became a reality.

In 1898 we became a member of the Baptist General Association now known as the Baptist Allied Bodies. Its main objective was and continues to be Virginia Union University, a school to train young men and women morally and religiously. Two years later the first president of the Ladies' Auxiliary of this august body, the late Mrs. Margaret Rose Johnson, served for many years. The Reverend Leroy Gilmore, a Lexingtonian and once Assistant Clerk, completed the school of theology at Virginia Union University.

Monday night, May 29, 1905, was an interesting occasion at First Baptist Church, the time set for the full liquidation of all debts incident to the building enterprise. The congregation now owned a handsome and commodious church, modern in all appointments, costing about \$25,000.00. The Reverend P. S. Lewis served the group at that time.

A large crowd was present — possibly 1,400 people. Felicitous addresses were made by the former pastors, Reverends Howard, Moss, Johnson; also Dr. James Howe of Washington & Lee University, Reverend Charles Manley, pastor of Manley Baptist Church and Mr. B. E. Baughan, representing the First National Bank. The addresses were all in happy vein and emphasized the pleasant relations existing between the races in Lexington.

The burning of the bonds took place after the speaking, by the pastor and bondsmen. Special music by the choir was a feature of the evening.

Over sixty years have passed since we have occupied our present church and one hundred years as a group praising our Maker. The building has been furnished, decorated, the lower sanctuary has been divided into classrooms, the parsonage has been built, a lot on the corner of Main and Henry purchased, and numerous other undertakings achieved. Our work is not completed; many things are yet to be accomplished.

A large number of organizations have been started and do exist in First Baptist. The surroundings have been attractive, God's word has been proclaimed, therefore, many souls have been won for Christ.

The following ministers have been privileged to lead our congregation in the present edifice: Reverends W. T. Johnson, P. S. Lewis, J. W. Lucas, J. Carruthers, J. W. Tynes, J. A. Brinkley, S. A. Thurston, J. L. Gonslaves, P. W. Cook, J. W. Goodgame, C. O. Mitchell, E. L. Green, P. G. Crawford, J. Cooper, V. Simms and C. M. Cofield.

*Our Heavenly Father has been good to us individually and collectively.
May He be magnified.*

PSALM 70:4

Official Family



MR. SHEDRICK NICHOLAS
Chairman Deacons



REV. CURTIS MCKINLEY
COFIELD, III



DR. ALFRED W. PLEASANTS
Chairman Trustees



MRS. NORA T. MURCHISON
Church Clerk

Reverend Mister Cofield, son of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Cofield, Sr., Enfield, North Carolina, was born in Brooklyn, New York. He obtained the M.A. Degree from Columbia University, New York City and D.D. Degree from Virginia Seminary, Lynchburg, Virginia. A great minister and teacher, we are grateful to him for the overall plans for the Centennial Year Calendar. He served First Baptist Church from May 1963 to February 1967.



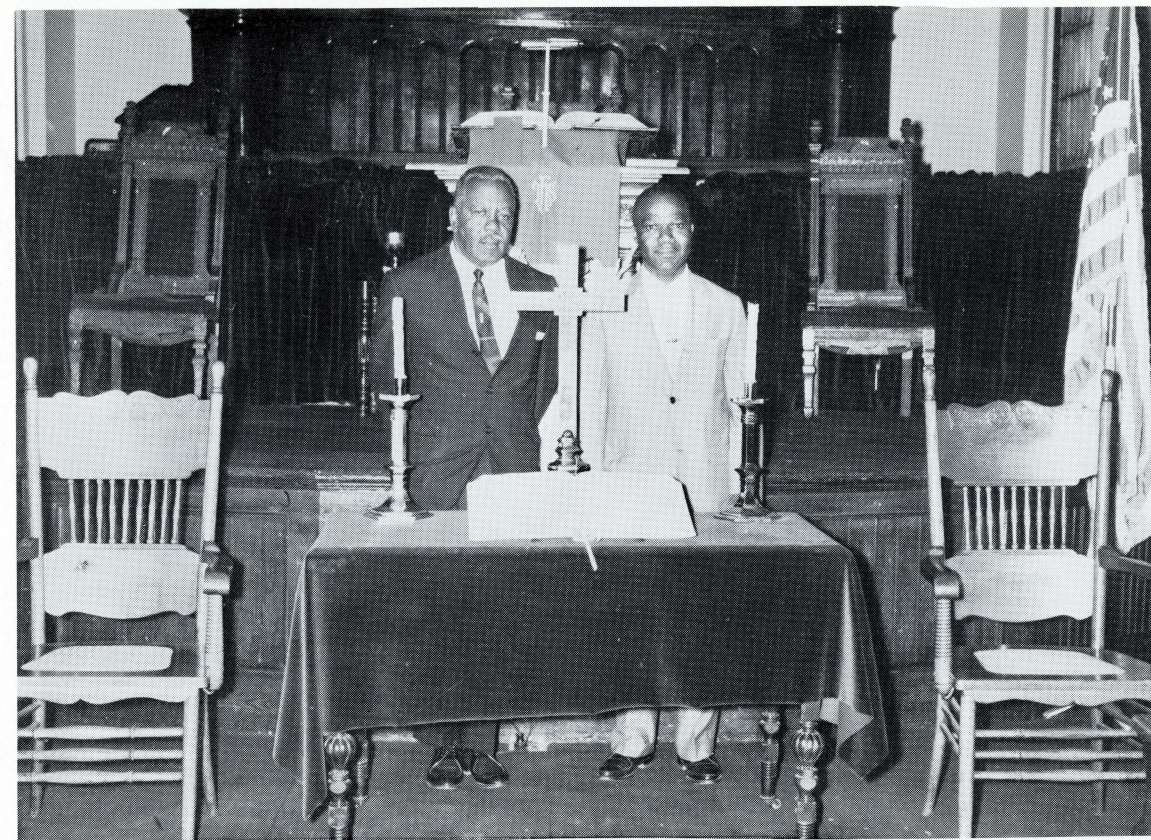
MRS. V. J. BROWN
Treasurer



MRS. ELVIA BROOKS
Financial Secretary



MISS LILLIE JEAN THOMAS
Superintendent Church School



TRUSTEES — Left to Right — Dr. Alfred W. Pleasants, Jr., Mr. Walter C. Lyle and Mr. Robert Price (absent).



BOARD OF DEACONS — Left to Right — Edlow Morrison, Secretary; Hughey Johnson, Sr., Shedrick Nicholas, Chairman; James W. Washington and Walter C. Lyle, Treasurer.



DEACONESS BOARD — Left to Right, First Row — Mrs. Lucretia Liggins, Mrs. Lucy Jordan, Mrs. Omega Morrison, Mrs. Ethel Sparrow; Second Row, Left to Right — Mrs. Alice Walker, Mrs. Alma Nicholas.

The Deaconess Board was organized in November 1957 with eight members under the pastorate of Reverend John Cooper. At present time there are twelve members on the roll. Officers for centennial year: President—Mrs. Alice Walker; Secretary—Mrs. Alma Nicholas.



SENIOR CHOIR — First Row, Left to Right — Mrs. Susie Barbour, Mrs. Hannah Williams, Mrs. Lucy Lindsay, Mrs. Alice Walker, Mrs. Marie Kenney, Mrs. Virginia Carter, Mrs. Mary C. Lewis, Directoress; Back Row, Left to Right — Mr. Arthur Wallace, Mrs. Willie Price, Mr. Hughey Johnson, Sr., Mr. William Day, Mr. Edlow Morrison, Mrs. Alice Moore, Mr. Leroy Beale.

The Choir has been active as long as the church has been organized. The centennial year officers are: Mrs. Susie Barbour—President; Mrs. Alice Moore, Secretary.



SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFICERS AND TEACHERS — First Row, Left to Right — Mrs. Mabel Alexander, Miss Marquita Johnson, Miss Lillie Thomas, Miss Bobbi Carter, Mrs. Irene Thompson, Mrs. Marie Kenney; Back Row, Left to Right — Mr. Hughey Johnson, Sr., Miss Estelle Washington, and Mr. Matthew W. Osborne.



YOUTH CHOIR — First Row, Left to Right — Little Miss Charlene Porterfield, Little Miss Judy Pennick, Little Miss Donna Nicholas, Little Miss Peggy Brown, Master Hughey Johnson, Jr.; Second Row, Left to Right — Miss Alice Dunn, Miss Marilyn Evans, Miss Marquita Johnson, Miss Bobbi Carter, Mr. Byron Smith, Miss Dorcus Payne, Miss Deborah Smith, Miss Priscilla Carter, Miss Yvonne Hance, Miss Isca Mack, Master Arthur Wallace, Jr., Miss Gayle Walker, Miss Linda Keller, Miss Gayle Porterfield, Miss Yolanda Dunn, Little Miss Kim Pennick, Little Miss Anita Johnson, Miss Paula Borgus, Mrs. Elaine Payne, Director; Third Row, Left to Right — Mr. William Wallace, Miss Linda Lee, Miss Linda Hamilton, Mr. William Mack, Jr.



BAPTIST TRAINING UNION — First Row, Left to Right — Master Hughey E. Johnson, Jr., Mrs. Alberta Day, Mrs. Alma Nicholas, Mrs. Hannah Williams, Little Miss Peggy Brown, Miss Margaret Wallace; Second Row, Left to Right — Miss Marquita Johnson, Miss Lillie Thomas, Mrs. Alice Moore, Mr. David A. Madison, III, Mrs. Christine Wallace and Mr. Freddie Merchant.



USHER BOARD — Front Row, Left to Right — Mrs. Eloise Johnson, Mrs. Virginia Brown, Mrs. Mildred Jones, Mrs. Constance Woodford, Mrs. Willie Price, Mrs. Clara Keller, Mrs. Christine Wallace. Second Row, Left to Right — Mrs. Alice Sloan, Mrs. Alberta Day, Mrs. Omega Morrison, Mrs. Alice Moore; Third Row, Left to Right — Mr. Joseph Wood, Jr., Mr. Hughey Johnson, Sr., Mr. Arthur Wallace, and Mr. Falvorees Jones, Sr.

First organized in 1927, all members being women. In 1941 an all men's unit was added and in 1960 the youth were added making a combined general usher board of adults and youth. This Board has served diligently and has been an intregal part in the church's program.

OFFICERS FOR CENTENNIAL YEAR

- President Mrs. Virginia J. Brown
- Vice-President Mr. Hughey E. Johnson, Sr.
- Secretary Mrs. Alice Moore
- Treasurer Mrs. Willie G. Price
- Chaplain Mr. Arthur Wallace



WOMAN'S CLUB — First Row, Left to Right — Mrs. Annie M. Turner, Mrs. Arabell Beale, Mrs. Christine Wallace, Mrs. Bessie Nicholas, Mrs. Lucy Jordan; Second Row, Left to Right — Mrs. Saluda Beale, Mrs. Jean Thomas, Mrs. Alma Nicholas, Mrs. Hannah Williams and Mrs. Omega Morrison.



LADIES AUXILIARY — First Row, Left to Right — Mrs. Laura E. Gilmore, Mrs. Mary Wood, Mrs. Laura Borgus, Mrs. Nannie Wood, Mrs. Hettie McGuffin; Back Row; Left to Right — Mrs. Marie Kenney, Mrs. Alice Walker.

The Ladies Auxiliary was organized March 14, 1937 by the late Mrs. Kissie McQueen. She was also the first president. Mrs. Marian Mitchell was the vice-president, Mrs. Mary Wood recording secretary, Mrs. Laura E. Gilmore financial secretary and the late Mrs. Virginia Gilliam, treasurer.



SEWING OF JR. CHOIR ROBES — Left to Right — Mrs. Alice Sloan, Mrs. Nora Lewis, Mrs. Clara Keller, Mrs. Eloise Johnson and Mrs. Constance Woodford.



PLANNING PROGRAMS—Left to Right—Lelia Ann Little, Mrs. Nora T. Murchison, Mrs. Lillian Clark, Mrs. Constance Woodford, Mrs. Clara Keller and Mrs. Eloise Johnson.

The Rhyme of Life

Dedicated to Our Founders

The precious moments that they spent
Upon this wondrous earth
Were moments that they did now own;
They borrowed them from birth.

They were here but for a while
Then suddenly they were gone—
And others did come upon the scene
As time went rolling on.

In their words, they paused a while
They were simply passing through,

They just detoured on the way
Towards the eternal blue.

And so it is, we too must try
To do our very best,
And leave the world with something good
Before we reach the crest.

That is the only way
To truly solve life's rhyme,
For they were only travelers,
Living on borrowed time.

—Anonymous

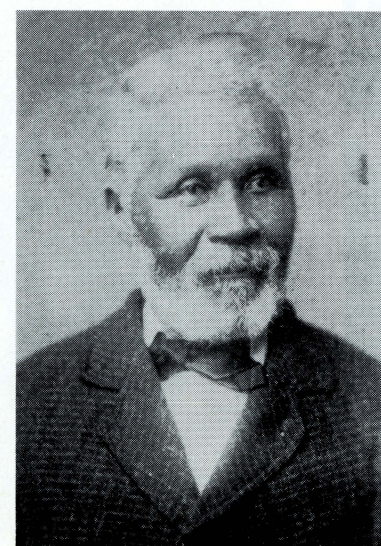
Some Who Have Served



John Kenney



J. E. Washington



Robert H. Price



Edwin T. Walker

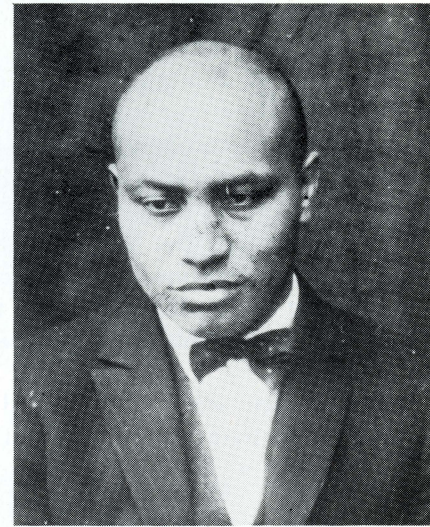
Some Who Have Served



Harry L. Walker



Frank Woodley



Clarence M. Wood



Spottswood A. Styles



John Thompson



Mrs. K. McQueen



Walter Vest

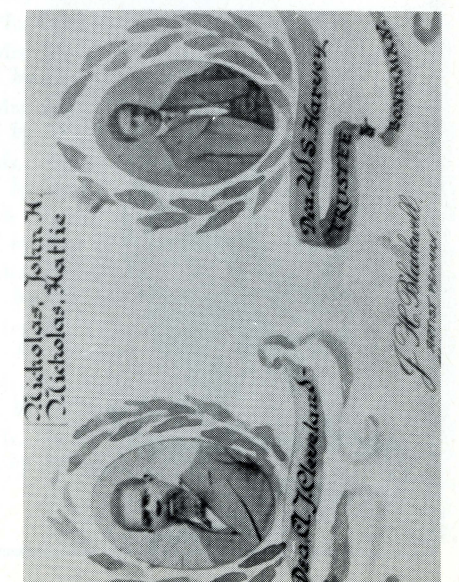
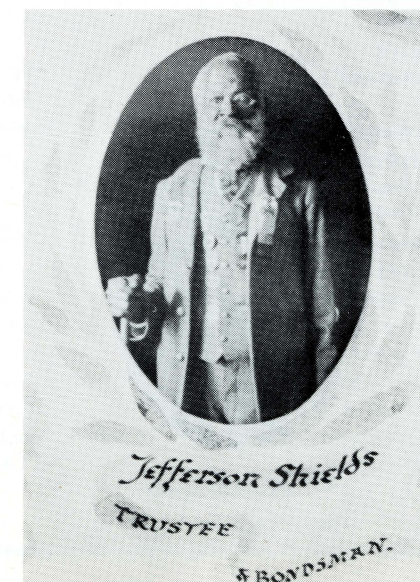
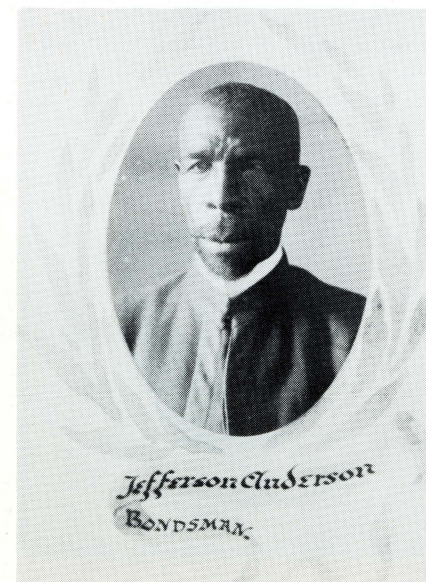
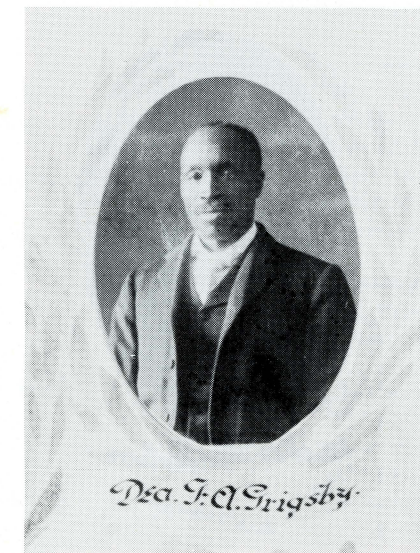
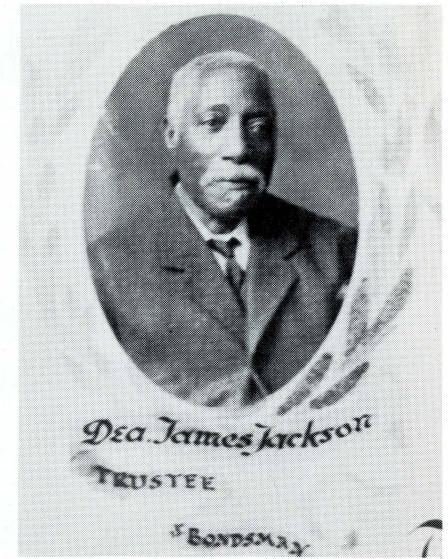


John Johnson

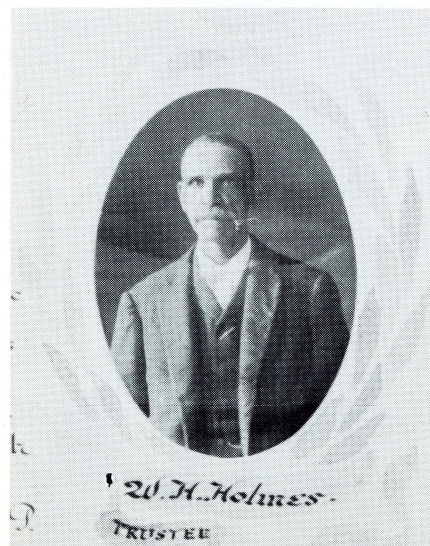
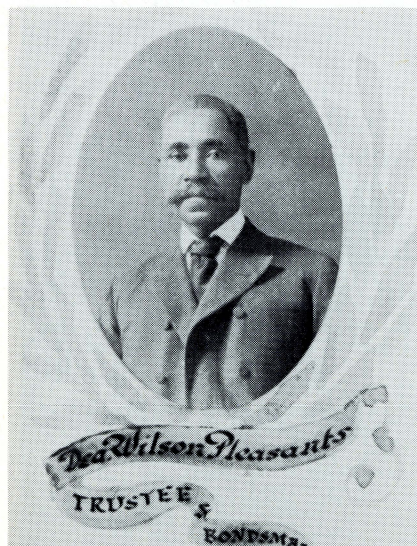
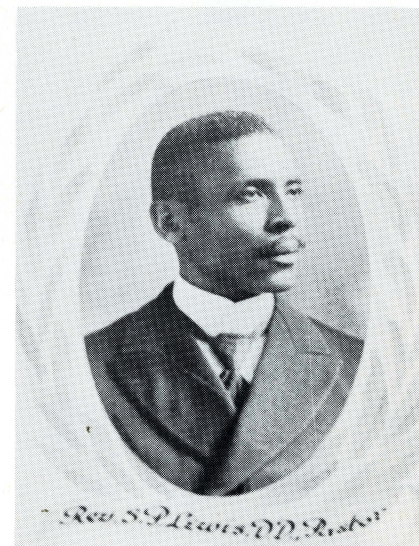
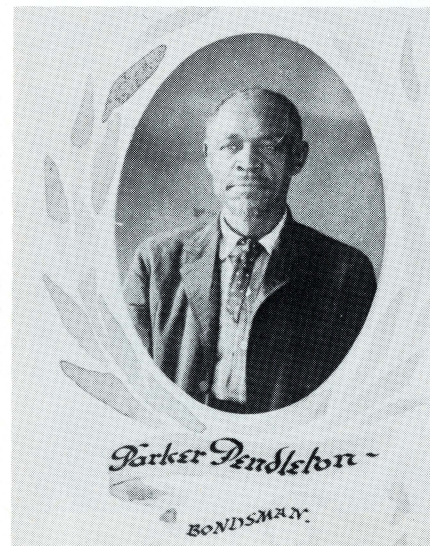
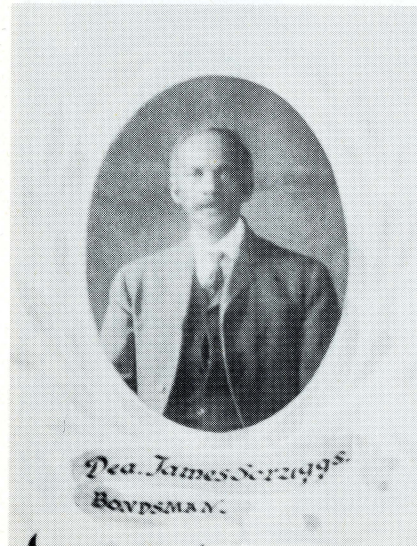


Mrs. Amanda J. Rowland

Founding Fathers



Founding Fathers



In Memoriam

"TO BE TRULY DEAD IS TO BE FORGOTTEN"

In loving memory of these relatives, members and friends of our church and community, we dedicate these pages.

1863-1936—Mrs. Jane Elizabeth Tinsley
 1926—Mr. Warrick Tinsley
 1950—Miss Florine Tinsley
 1963—Miss Lottie Tinsley
 1899-1963—Mr. Robert L. Bowyer, Sr.
 1919-1964—Mr. Robert L. Bowyer, Jr.
 1921-1962—Mr. Edward H. Bowyer
 1924-1954—Mrs. Maxine Bowyer Kent
 1954—Mrs. Eliza Morrison
 1925—Mrs. Amy Tinsley Jones
 1938—Mr. Ulyesses Tinsley
 1890-1967—Mrs. Janie Hassell
 1902—Mr. Jacob Richardson
 1931—Mr. William G. Richardson
(Remembered by Mrs. Mary R. Atkinson)
 1912—Mrs. Emily Richardson
(Remembered by Mrs. Mary R. Atkinson)
 1894-1963—Mrs. Cora B. Walker
 1890-1941—Mr. Felix Earl Walker, Sr.
 1893-1946—Mrs. Julia E. Lyle
(Remembered by Walter W. Lyle)
 1891-1939—Mrs. Bessie H. Parker
 1895-1948—Mr. Lunsford Parker
 1939—Mrs. Mary E. Tinsley Bee
 1917-1966—Mr. Domer L. Wilson
(Remembered by Mrs. Bessie W. Lyle)
 1919-1939—Mr. Roscoe W. Wilson
(Remembered by Mrs. Bessie W. Lyle)
 1890-1957—Mr. John H. Liggins
(Remembered by Mrs. Lucretia Liggins)
 1903-1942—Mrs. Julia Hubanks
(Remembered by Mrs. Lucretia Liggins)
 1903-1954—Mr. Charles Jones
(Remembered by Mrs. Lucretia Liggins)
 1869-1946—Mr. Spottswood A. Styles
(Remembered by Mrs. Lucy S. Jordan)
 1870-1963—Mrs. Bertha H. Styles
(Remembered by John R. Styles)
 1890-1965—Mr. Andrew C. Jordan, Sr.
(Remembered by Mrs. Lucy S. Jordan)
 1872-1952—Miss Justina Lee Styles
 1884-1959—Mrs. Lillian Richardson
 1890-1950—Mr. Walter McDowell Vest
(Remembered by Mrs. Mamie Vest)
 1909-1958—Mrs. Katherine Jones Beckett
(Remembered by Mrs. Ethel Lawson)
 1880-1961—Mr. George Franklin Lawson
(Remembered by Mrs. Ethel Lawson)

1881-1966—Mrs. Carrie C. Johnson
(Remembered by James K. Robinson)
 1891-1948—Mr. Lewis C. Bolen
(Remembered by Mrs. Bertha Bolen)
 1872-1911—Mrs. Virginia Styles Rose
(Remembered by Reid O. Styles)
 1873-1903—Mr. Harry P. Styles
(Remembered by Reid O. Styles)
 1838-1923—Mrs. Maria R. Styles
(Remembered by Reid O. Styles)
 1833-1902—Mr. John B. Styles
(Remembered by Reid O. Styles)
 1900-1966—Mrs. Ellen Throckmorton
(Remembered by Jerome M. Throckmorton)
 1872-1917—Mrs. Octavia Jackson
(Remembered by James K. Robinson)
 1890-1922—Mrs. Cora J. Kelly
(Remembered by James K. Robinson)
 1894-1929—Mr. Walter Jackson
(Remembered by Desmond Jackson)
 —Mrs. Susie Carter
(Remembered by Mrs. Daisy S. Evans)
 1872-1939—Mr. John Carter
(Remembered by John W. Evans)
 —Mrs. Lina Wilson
(Remembered by Mrs. Lucy S. Jordan)
 1871-1902—Mrs. Eva J. Evans
(Remembered by Mrs. Daisy Evans)
 1872-1918—Mrs. Malinda Hawkins
(Remembered by Mrs. Lucy S. Jordan)
 1944—W. Leroy Gilmore
 1961—Mrs. Lottie Johnson
(Remembered by Mrs. Hazel Chambers)
 1930—Pfc. Letcher J. Barber
 1952—Mrs. Susie Chambers
(Remembered by Mrs. Lucy Lindsay)
 —Mrs. Lucy Chambers
(Remembered by Mrs. Lucy Lindsay)
 1886-1929—Mr. Armstead Massie
(Remembered by Miss Mattie Massie)
 1916—Mr. Hasten Massie
(Remembered by Miss Mattie Massie)
 1857-1942—Mrs. Susan Massie
(Remembered by Miss Mattie Massie)
 1887-1962—Mrs. Mildred Bowles
(Remembered by Norman Bowles)
 1889-1964—Mr. Hugh A. Bowles
(Remembered by Norman Bowles)
 1896-1965—Mr. Henry Massie
(Remembered by Mrs. Bessie Nicholas)

1889-1966—Mrs. Fannie Halle
(Remembered by Mrs. Bessie Nicholas)
1964—Mr. George Massie
(Remembered by Miss Mattie Massie)
1934—Miss Harriett Alexander
(Remembered by Miss Bertisdean Alexander)
1926-1927—Master John B. Walker
(Remembered by Mrs. Alice Blackburn)
1875-1947—Miss Jane Wise
(Remembered by Mrs. Alice Blackburn)
1869-1932—Mrs. Hettie Hoffman
(Remembered by Mrs. Paul Wells)
1947—Mrs. Annie Miles
(Remembered by Mrs. Paul Wells)
1903-1967—Mrs. Aldena W. Smith
(Remembered by Mrs. Elvia D. Brooks)
1875-1941—Mr. Harry L. Walker
(Remembered by Mrs. C. M. Wood)
1874-1939—Mrs. Eliza M. Walker
(Remembered by Mrs. C. M. Wood)
1897-1914—Mr. Harry T. Walker
(Remembered by Mrs. C. M. Wood)
1889-1957—Mr. Clarence M. Wood
(Remembered by Mrs. C. M. Wood)
1839-1904—Mrs. Robert H. Price
1842-1924—Mrs. Andrew J. Cleveland
1869-1939—Mrs. William L. Price
1867-1942—Mr. John B. Thompson
1881-1945—Mrs. Mary W. Thompson
1890-1961—Mr. Sylvester G. Evans
1892-1967—Mrs. Pinkie C. Evans
1893-1946—Mrs. Julia E. Lyle
1878-1920—Mr. John M. Gilmore
(Remembered by Mrs. Hettie McGuffin)
1865-1962—Mrs. Carrie B. James
1904-1965—Mr. Edwin T. Walker
(Remembered by Mrs. Alice T. Walker)
1910—Mrs. Nannie A. Thompson
(Remembered by Mrs. Alice T. Walker)
1883-1967—Mr. Joseph Scott
(Remembered by Mrs. Mary Madison)
1898-1967—Mrs. Fern Miller
(Remembered by Mr. Rufus Miller)
1883-1949—Mrs. Inez Crawford
(Remembered by Mrs. Hannah Williams)
1871-1931—Mr. Carter Crawford
(Remembered by Mrs. Betty Smothers)
1890-1933—Mrs. Della B. Morrison
(Remembered by Mrs. Alice Moore)
1857-1927—Mr. Oscar Williams
(Remembered by Mrs. D. W. McCutcheon)
1863-1945—Mrs. Jennie Williams
(Remembered by Mrs. D. W. McCutcheon)
1895-1948—Mrs. Lydia Hawkins
(Remembered by Sgt. C. N. Hawkins)
1917-1948—Miss Thelma Hawkins
(Remembered by Sgt. C. N. Hawkins)
1905-1966—Mr. John McCutcheon
(Remembered by Mrs. D. W. McCutcheon)

1892-1961—Mr. Harry B. Williams
(Remembered by Mrs. Hannah Williams)
1898-1956—Mr. Maceo Williams
(Remembered by Mrs. D. W. McCutcheon)
1904-1955—Mrs. Augusta M. Waller
(Remembered by S. J. Waller)
1898-1966—Mrs. Lelia Hawkins
(Remembered by Mrs. Alice M. Massie)
1878-1956—Mr. Samuel A. Morrison
(Remembered by Edlow Morrison)
1875-1925—Mrs. Mary Gennie Gilmore
(Remembered by Mrs. Hettie McGuffin)
1884-1957—Mr. Thomas W. Chapman
(Remembered by Mrs. Nannie C. Brown)
1890-1946—Mrs. Nannie Bours
(Remembered by Mrs. M. B. Merchant)
1955—Mr. Horace Scott
(Remembered by Mrs. L. Donaldson)
1886-1967—Mr. George Scott
(Remembered by Mrs. Mildred Styles)
1938—Mrs. Maggie W. Gilmore
1895-1953—Mrs. M. Lee Anna Clark
1903-1965—J. Thomas Gilmore
1860-1948—Mrs. Mary Ann Holloway
1857-1923—Mr. Napoleon Holloway
1882-1958—Mrs. Virginia Gilliam
1931—Mrs. Rosa Alexander
1938—Mrs. Caroline H. Nicholas
1866-1939—Mr. John H. Nicholas
(Remembered by Mrs. Reid P. Colbert)
1877-1966—Mrs. Maggie Edmundson
(Remembered by Mr. Reid P. Colbert)
1942—Mrs. Mary E. Ransom
1915-1967—Mr. Daniel B. Colbert
1948—Mrs. Louise K. Morrison
(Remembered by Mrs. Jessie Woodley)
1925—Mr. Frank T. Morrison
(Remembered by Mrs. Jessie Woodley)
1929—Mrs. Lue Peyton
1920-1967—Miss Louise Ross
1892-1912—Miss Alice L. Morrison
(Remembered by Mrs. Jessie Woodley)
1857-1943—Mrs. Alice P. James
(Remembered by Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Kenney)
1853-1946—Mr. Arthur James
(Remembered by Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Kenney)
1880-1947—Mrs. Elizabeth N. Kenney
(Remembered by Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Kenney)
1868-1966—John Henry Scott
(Remembered by Mrs. Reada Jackson)
1925—Mrs. Edmonia Alexander
(Remembered by Misses Jane and Bertisdean Alexander)
1861—Mrs. Virginia Pettigrew
—Mrs. Lucy Jones
(Remembered by Mrs. Lucy Evans)
1865-1961—Mrs. Carrie B. James
—Mrs. Ellen Scott

1859-1934—Mrs. Nannie Ross Harris
(Remembered by Mrs. Eleanor H. White)
—Mrs. Rose Scott
—Mr. Ernest Barbour
(Remembered by Mrs. Ruth Barbour)
1900-1967—Mrs. Hannah E. Henderson
(Remembered by The Family)
1880-1950—Mrs. Bertha A. Washington
(Remembered by Miss Estelle Washington)
1904-1951—Mrs. Mary W. Lawson
(Remembered by Miss Estelle Washington)
1906-1965—Mrs. Edna W. Lyle
(Remembered by W. C. Lyle)
1869-1943—James E. Washington
(Remembered by J. W. Washington)
1902-1963—Mrs. Cleo I. Washington
(Remembered by J. W. Washington)
1902-1965—Mrs. Fannie B. Lyle
(Remembered by Mrs. Anna Troxler)
1904—Mrs. Mary Susan Styles
(Remembered by Family)
1902-1964—Spottswood A. Styles, Jr.
(Remembered by Family)
1880—Mrs. Susie Morgan
1877—Mr. Robert Morgan, Sr.
1912—Mr. Robert Morgan, Jr.
1915-1962—Mrs. Mary Manly Morgan
1954—Mr. William Carter
1873-1942—Mrs. Mary Harrington
1873-1931—Mrs. Martha Carter
1897-1921—Mrs. Maryland Baker
(Remembered by Wendell Baker, Sr.)
—Jerome Dobbins
(Remembered by Hansford McCutcheon)
1883-1960—Matthew Henderson
(Remembered by Miss Lillie Thomas)
1894-1962—Herman Roane
(Remembered by Mrs. Frances Roane)
1898-1956—James T. Thomas
(Remembered by Mrs. Jean H. Thomas)
1930—Mrs. Eva Franklin Kenyon
(Remembered by Mrs. Mary E. Jefferson)
1913—Mrs. Lucy Franklin
(Remembered by Mrs. Ida White)
1941—Mrs. Mary F. Washington
(Remembered by Mrs. Ida White)
1952—Mr. Nelson Franklin
(Remembered by Mrs. Ida White)
1946—Mr. Zack Franklin
(Remembered by Mrs. Ida White)
1952—Mrs. Arlena Franklin
(Remembered by Mrs. Ida White)
1955—Mrs. Lucy Robinson
(Remembered by Mrs. Ida White)
1952—Miss Julia Franklin
(Remembered by Mrs. Lucy Dock)
1942—Mr. Preston White
(Remembered by Mrs. Ida White)
1902-1948—Mr. John Archie Turner
1926-1966—Mrs. Sarah Turner Patterson
1886-1959—Mrs. Ethel Lewis
(Remembered by Mrs. Bertha Haliburton)
1957—Mr. Robert F. Atkinson
(Remembered by Mrs. Vivian A. Watts)

1920—Mrs. Nettie Todd Craney
(Remembered by Mrs. Fannie Jackson)
1934—Mrs. Charlotte Harvey
1932—Mr. Isaac H. Rowland
1881-1967—Mr. Howard Broughman
(Remembered by David Broughman)
1893-1944—Mr. David A. Madison, Sr.
(Remembered by Mrs. Elizabeth Madison)
1865-1951—Mrs. Julia Randall
(Remembered by Charles Pennick)
1932—Mrs. Rachel Wise Scott
(Remembered by Leon Johnson)
1893-1965—Mrs. Betty Margaret Harris
(Remembered by Mrs. Alice Sloan)
1922-1960—Robert Carter
(Remembered by Mrs. Margaret Carter)
1909-1966—Mrs. Alyce Wright
(Remembered by Mrs. Alice Blackburn)
1942—The Wright Children
(Remembered by Mrs. Eloise W. Johnson)
1888-1944—Mrs. George E. Hamilton
(Remembered by Mrs. Ruby Graves)
1889-1943—Mrs. Mamie Farrington Hamilton
(Remembered by Mrs. Ruby Graves)
1910-1954—Mrs. Tanyel Wooldridge
(Remembered by Mr. Samuel Wooldridge)
1933-1952—Miss Rohama M. Wooldridge
(Remembered by Mr. Samuel Wooldridge)
1867-1940—Mrs. Phebe Bannister Alexander
(Remembered by Mrs. Etta M. Alexander)
1863-1913—Mr. Charles Alexander
(Remembered by Mrs. Etta M. Alexander)
—Mrs. Amy Jackson
—Mrs. Mattie Carter
—Mr. Tom Jackson
—Mr. Jefferson Shields
—Mrs. Lue Shields
—Mrs. Agnes Stuart
—Mrs. Susan Omohundra
—Mr. John Omohundra
—Mr. James Rose
—Mrs. Cuetta Pryor
—Mr. Phil Pryor
—Mr. Printess Mack
—Mrs. Susie Mack
—Mrs. Alice Alexander
—Mrs. Mary Shields
—Mrs. Marjorie G. Richardson
—Mrs. Mary C. Rose
—Mrs. Sarah Rose
—Mrs. Phillis Adams
—Mr. Harvey Myers
—Mrs. Mary Dixon
—Mrs. Julia Robinson
—Mr. Perry Robinson
—Mrs. Jennie Jefferson
—Mrs. Elizabeth Anderson
—Mrs. Adeline Abrames
—Mrs. Adeline Spencer
—Mr. John Hill
—Mr. Bob Mack
1844-1928—Rev. Lee Wooldridge
1842-1912—Sarah Wooldridge



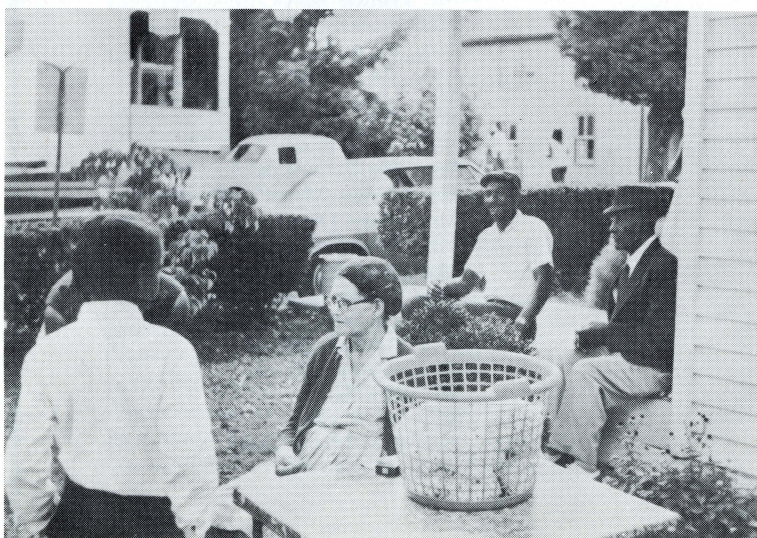
Left to Right — Mrs. J. O. Murray, Mrs. M. Vest, Mrs. J. Murchison and Mr. M. Osborne.



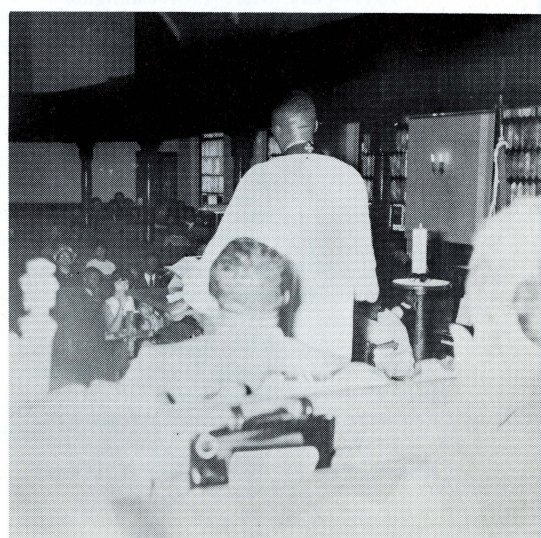
Left to Right — H. Johnson, Mrs. Almo Nicholos, Mrs. L. Liggins and Mrs. S. Beale.



Left to Right — Mrs. A. Turner, Mrs. A. Nicholos and Mrs. L. Liggins.



Left to Right — Mrs. M. Myers, Mr. A. Wallace and Mr. A. Watts.



Morning Worship Service



Deacon H. Johnson, WREL Radio Broadcast.



Left to Right — Mrs. D. Diamond and Deacon S. Nicholas.



Left to Right—Deacon E. Morrison, Deacon S. Nicholas, Rev. John Jemerson and Deacon W. Lyle.



J. F. Merchant



Mrs. A. Turner



WOMEN'S CLUB LAWN PARTY — Left to Right — Mrs. Hannah Williams, Mrs. Minnie Myers, Mrs. Annie M. Turner, Mrs. Saluda Beale, Miss Margaret Franklin, Mrs. Lucretia Liggins, Mrs. Christine Wallace, Mrs. Bessie Nicholas, Miss Lillie Beale, and Mrs. Alma Nicholas

The Plowman

A plowman entered a field one day
With his horses and his plow.
He knew exactly where to start
He'd been taught just when and how.

The Field extended far over a hill,
The end was not in sight.
But the plowman continued to wend his way
From early morn until night.

A stranger came asked the plowman
How far do you have to go?
The plowman answered the stranger.
I must plow to the end of row.

Come sit in the shade said the stranger.
Have a drink and rest with ease.
The plowman shook his head and said,
My master would be displeased.

You can see the plowman in the field
Every morn at break of day.
He said when the plowing was over
He'd be sure to receive his pay.

So the plowman continued his plowing.
Tho his progress seemed very slow.
But his heart was right and his burden light.
Thus he plowed to the end of the row.

Now every Christian is a plowman
Over the hilly fields they must go.
For their hands are on the gospel plow.
And must plow to the end of the row.

Satan often acts as a stranger.
And will ask you why, thus, and so.
But the Christian must continue plowing.
To plow to the end of the row.

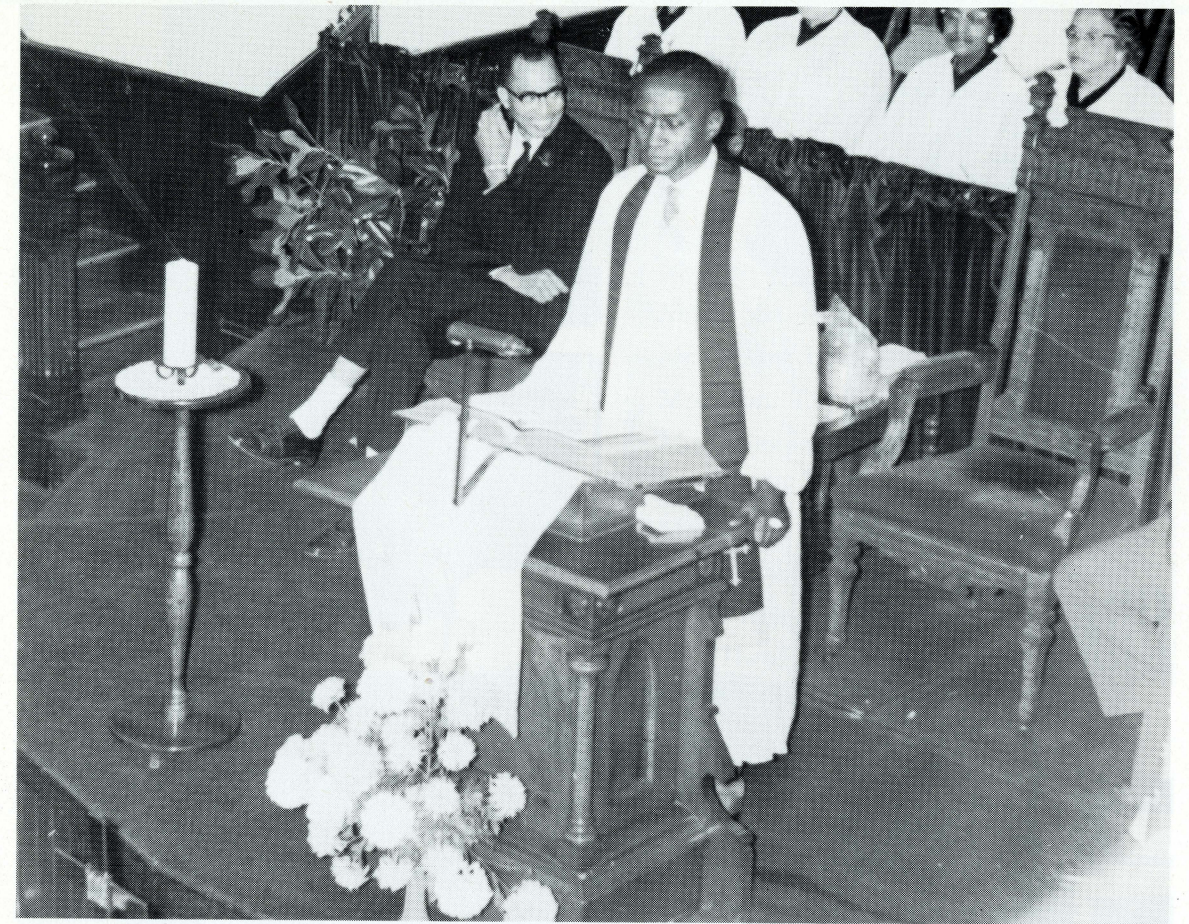
Some started plowing at childhood.
Now their hair is white as snow.
They seem more and more determined,
To plow to the end of the row.

Now when the great plowing is completed
And our Lord and Master shall come.
And look over the field at his plowman.
He will say, "Christian plowman well done!"

When our plowing days are over
And the promise of a great reward
Will he behold the gates ajar
Enter thou into the joys of your Lord.

Then when we shall reach that great city.
The face of our saviour we'll know.
And we'll live with him forever
Because we plowed to the end of the row.

—Spottswood Styles



PASTOR ELECT — Reverend John Ervin Trotman, B.A., B.D.

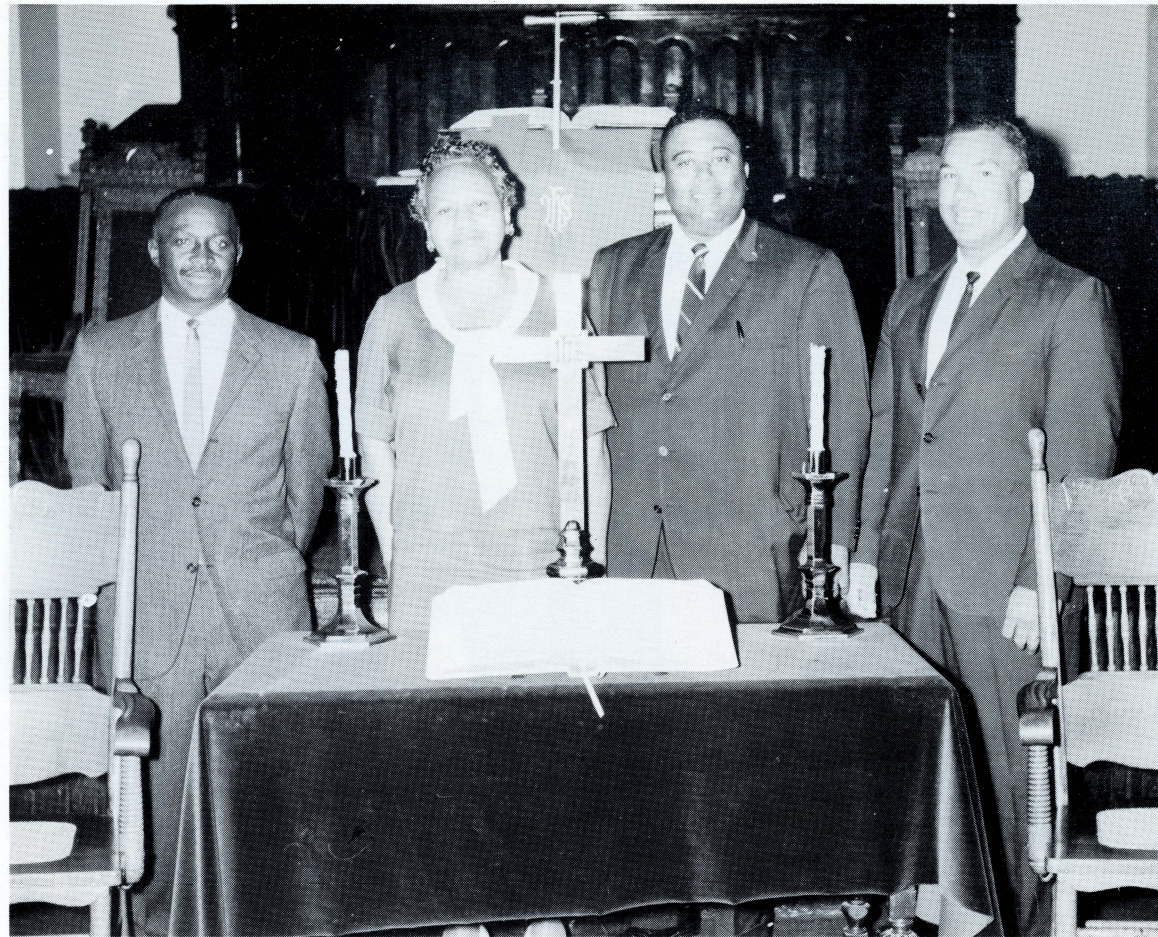
There is something fascinating, wonderful, and exciting about the sunrise. Not only is it a spectacle of beauty, but a herald signaling the beginning of another challenge, a new opportunity, to a slumbering people. Life is activated, hopes renewed and a new dream envisioned. The world is ushered into a new start.

The glories achieved in First Baptist's first hundred years are far too numerous to be enumerated in this allocated space. We are awed by the faith of our founding fathers, who initiated this temple to the glory of God. We glory in the zeal of those who took the mantle from falling hands and pressed on.

With pride we view the exploits of those who held the faith. Those, who in the absence of shepherds kept the flock together and continued to implement the will of God in a progressive way.

This church, its program, its impact in our community and the work that it has, is, and will be doing stands as a glowing monument to those who served. Its thrust to the future will be predicated on its rich heritage of the past.

Now we face another sunrise beaming forth with rich promises and the challenging thought, "Not finished, just begun." I am happy to have the privilege of joining you in this new adventure. With God guiding us we shall go forth into new fields of conquest. God helping us, we can do no other.



THE CENTENNIAL BOOK COMMITTEE — Left to Right — Mr. Edlow Morrison, Secretary; Mrs. Laura P. Gilmore, Historian; Mr. Hughey E. Johnson, Sr., Chairman; and Mr. J. B. Lewis, Jr., Photographer.

We take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed in any way toward making this Centennial year and this Commemoration Book a success. We hope that in years to come this book will enable those who follow to be inspired and to enjoy the heritage that has been passed on to us through the untiring devotion, hard work, and constant prayers of our forefathers. We are thankful that God so moved within the hearts of our forefathers that this beautiful edifice situated on Main Street in the city of Lexington, Virginia not only is a great landmark in the history of Rockbridge County, but also a testimony to Christian Fellowship and an integral, progressive part of this community. We commend the officers, auxiliaries and membership of this great church this centennial year for without the leadership of a pastor, they have kept the worship services on the highest level with an increase of membership and taking a leading part of the progressive programs of the City. For the many successful programs of our Centennial Calendar Year that include the financial efforts to defray the cost of remodeling the church which has secured the payment on the \$20,000.00 loan of \$2,281.19 with a saving of interest in the amount of \$3,118.23—a total of both being \$5,389.42.

We now press onward and upward, dedicating ourselves to a greater service to God here under the leadership of Reverend Mister John Ervin Trotman.

PATRONS

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
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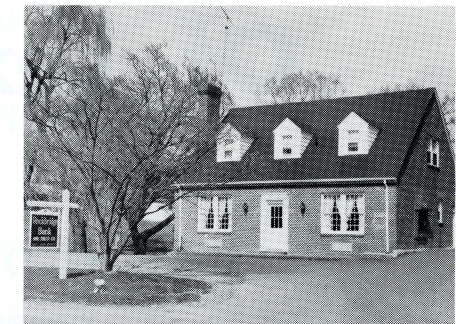
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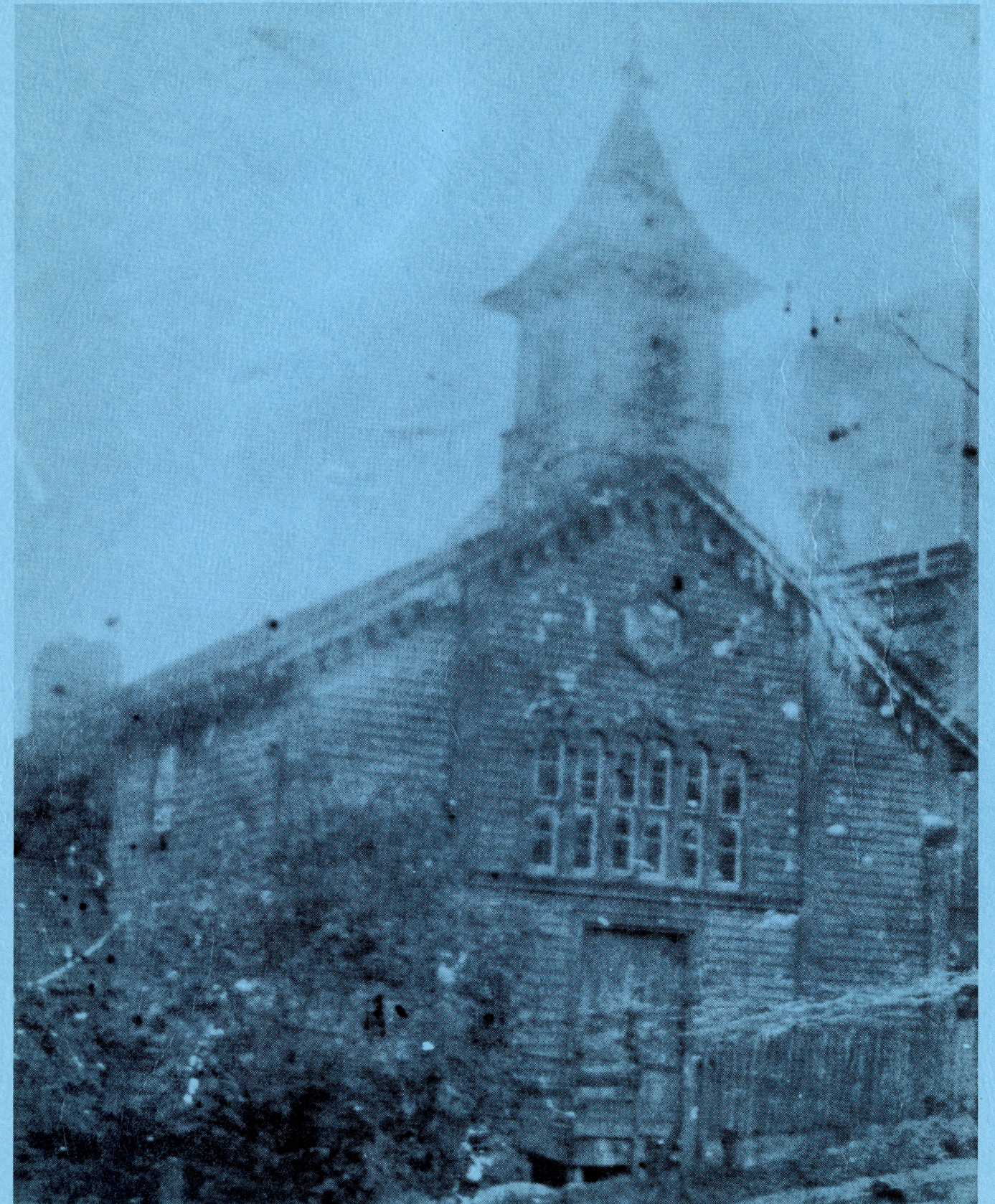
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First building, known as Lexington African Baptist Church, name later changed to First Baptist Church