

CHOWAN

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TODAY

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Harden Chapel — a quiet place for meditation

Harden Chapel was dedicated to the "Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Mary Carus Harden" at Chowan College on February 3.

Area ministers, trustees, visitors, faculty, staff and students filled the small chapel to capacity at 11:15 a.m. for an inspirational service of prayer and meditation. Campus Minister Kelly Brame, opened the ceremonies with prayer and President Jerry Jackson welcomed members of Professor Acheson Harden's family who unveiled the dedicatory plaque in memory of their wife and mother, Mary.

"Chowan has waited a long time for this chapel," said Dr. Jackson. "A chapel has long been a dream at the college, and it is now a dream made reality by Acheson Harden and his family."

Acheson (Ach) Harden, professor of math at Chowan, returned this semester on a part-time basis following his official retirement at the end of last year. He was named professor emeritus at the December meeting of the Chowan Board of Trustees. Harden completed undergraduate studies at Williams College, received the T.M.A. from N. C. State University after he retired from the Army, and began his second career teaching at Chowan 23 years ago. Murfreesboro became his "adopted" home though he still has a residence in New Hampshire where he spends summers. His children, who were present for the dedication, are Acheson A. Harden, III, who resides in Hamilton, Montana; daughters Sheela Harden of North Pownal, Vermont; and Elisabeth Harden of Burlington, Vermont.

Dr. Carl Garrott, professor of foreign languages, delivered the dedicatory address on ethics and responsibility in society today. Addressing Harden, he said, "We thank God for giving you strength, patience, and a long productive life to serve his goals."

Robert Spivey, of Windsor, chairman of the Chowan Board of Trustees also thanked Professor Harden and his family saying, "It is

Professor Harden and his family, Sheela, Elisabeth and Acheson, in front of chapel.

a pleasure for me to speak on behalf of the trustees of the college to express our appreciation."

"Through your vision you saw a need", he continued "I speak for the hundreds of students and other people who will come into Harden Chapel in future years, stand under this cross in prayer and say thank you for

what you have meant to this college and what this chapel will mean in years to come."

Dr. Joyce Elliott, professor of speech, delivered the dedicatory prayer. The Chowan College Band, under the direction of Dr. James E. Rogers, performed dedicatory music.

Following the dedication, a luncheon was held in the president's dining room honoring the Hardens. Harden was recognized by Dr. Jackson and presented a plaque for his gift and service to Chowan.

"I am touched at the number of people who have come today," said the professor who joked, "I'm not used to speaking in front of a group that I can't threaten with bad grades."

He then added, "I know that Mary would have known many of you and is appreciative of all of you who have come today."

"I conceived of the chapel as remaining an informal area that is warm, peaceful, friendly, comforting and reassuring," states Professor Harden who asked that it be dedicated Harden Chapel in memory of his wife Mary Carus Harden who died in 1985.

"One of my reasons for presenting a gift to the college for a chapel is that I thought a church-supported school should have a chapel as a place for any of the college family to use for private meditation and prayer."

Harden Chapel is located downstairs in the Thomas Cafeteria building. The chapel was designed by David Parker, chairman of the division of art, in collaboration with Professors of Art Susan Fecho and Stanley Mitchell. Professor Doug Eubank, professor of art, made the stained glass across the back of the chapel. Works by Susan Fecho hang in the vestibule. Inspirational quotations hang inside the chapel, which is modern in design, combining functional and traditional features. The chapel is open throughout the day and is ecumenical in orientation.

Chowan approved as candidate for Level II

Chowan College has been approved for candidacy as a Level II institution for offering the baccalaureate degree, according to Dr. B. Franklin Lowe, vice president for academic affairs. The college had full accreditation at Level I as a two-year junior college.

The announcement of candidacy came late Friday, Dec. 6 in New Orleans, at the Commission on Colleges of the Southern

Association of Colleges and Schools at which Dr. Lowe represented Chowan College.

"I commend Dr. Frank Lowe for his outstanding efforts in achieving this first major step toward full accreditation as a four-year institution," said President Jackson.

An accreditation review committee will continue to work toward full accreditation which is expected by the spring of 1994.

Chowan will begin offering baccalaureate curricula in the fall of 1992 beginning with four-year degree programs including business administration, printing production technology, science, religion, commercial/studio art, liberal studies, English and teacher education (K-6, 9-12) music education, art education, health and physical education, (K-12) and mathematics.