

Duplin County Churches

WILL THE BROTH BE MORE SAVORY?

Uncle Pete From Chittlin Switch Says:



Warsaw Presbyterian Church

By: Ruth Wells

In the 1880's several Presbyterian families scattered over the Warsaw community and worshipping with their Baptist friends in the only church house of Warsaw were called together for services by Dr. B. F. Marable of Clinton.

On October 18, 1884 the Warsaw Presbyterian Church was organized by authority of Wilmington Presbytery. This meeting with the Commissioners of Presbytery appointed for this purpose of organization was held in the Baptist Church of Warsaw.

The twenty-five members who met and signed the charter for the church were: William A. Falson, Hattie C. Falson, Anna A. Thompson, J. B. Cox, Jas. D. Swinson, L. P. Best, Geo. M. Middleton, W. H. Hunter, F. G. Middleton, J. M. Middleton, Anna H. Middleton, O. F. Middleton, William L. Hill, S. P. Middleton, Thomas B. Pierce, Sallie E. Pierce, S. D. Middleton, J. R. Smith, Mary S. Smith, Pender Middleton, J. R. Marable, A. G. Moseley, Louisa Moseley, and Edward Mann.

At the initial meeting, Dr. Marable was given the pastorate, and four officers were elected: two elders, Messrs. W. A. Falson and A. G. Moseley; two deacons, Messrs. T. B. Pierce and J. D. Swinson. The congregation first worshipped at the old school building, located on the grounds of the present Grammar School. The present site of the church was selected for the building, the lot donated by one of the charter members, W. L. Hill.

The First Presbyterian Church of Wilmington heard of the efforts of the few persons and sent three lovely pulpits; a communion set of two small plates two cups and a small pitcher, and the pulpit now in use.

Just as the frame of the building was erected, a cyclone completely destroyed it. The only things left in their places were the Bible, the three chairs, the pulpit, a glass pitcher and a spittoon. This naturally brought discouragement to some and there was talk of discontinuing the efforts. In fact, some members had almost sold the timbers to the late Tom Parker for the purpose of building a colored Baptist church.

Mrs. T. B. Pierce, Mr. George Middleton, and others expressed their determination to have a Presbyterian Church in Warsaw and efforts were renewed. The building program was pushed, work started again right after the cyclone. Mr. A. F. Bland was the workman who had charge of the rebuilding.

In the early stages of the second attempt at building, a strong wind blew it from the

blocks again. Despite this, the building was ready for use in about a year's time. The pews which are still used for worship were made under direction of Mr. T. B. Pierce in his factory at Pierceville. The acoustics of the auditorium have been pronounced by many preachers and hearers as exceptionally fine.

Many were the ice-cream and oyster suppers which helped to pay off the indebtedness of the building. Among those who rendered invaluable aid at these suppers were Mrs. T. B. Pierce, Mrs. Robert Joe Williams, Mrs. W. H. Williams, Mrs. Lambeth, Mrs. Isaac Brown, Mrs. Ransom Middleton, Mrs. Sallie Johnstone, and Mrs. Bettie Hill. Members of other denominations in turn showed their interest through a spirit of helpfulness. Thus the zeal of a few pushed the work to its finish.

Disaster seemed to plague the church, Rev. R. M. Williams who served the church as pastor from 1895-1902 relates the following incident. "One day just after I had announced my text, the lightning struck the building, creating a consternation among the congregation. For just a few minutes everything was perfectly still; then there was a rush for the door. I called them back and tried to get them stopped, but to no avail. Then I began to sing 'Jesus, Lover of My Soul,' and the moment I began to sing the whole congregation stopped, turned around and came back to their seats. Mr. T. B. Pierce went out and looked to see if there was any fire. When this was determined, we went on with the worship. The damage done was covered by insurance. All along it seems that this church has had to struggle for its existence, but with it all it has rendered a great service to the town of Warsaw."

The Warsaw Church was linked with the Clinton Church from the time of its organization, until 1933 when the Presbytery formed one group of Warsaw, Bowden, and Falson Churches. Since 1946 the church has had full time ministers living in Warsaw.

The church has produced two ministers and one full time worker namely: Rev. Albert Maxwell who joined the church by letter January 1, 1911 and was licensed to preach in 1915 and went to Brazil as a missionary; Rev. John A. Ricks joined the Warsaw Presbyterian Church in 1915, attended Davidson College, Union Theological Seminary and is serving as pastor of Belmont Presbyterian Church in Roanoke, Va.

Miss Louise Farrior, joined the church December 16, 1928, is a graduate of East Carolina

College of Assembly Training School and is serving as Director of the Editorial Department, Board of Women's Work, Presbyterian Church V. S., Atlanta office.

In 1928, The Woman's Auxiliary remodeled the interior of the church. The sanctuary was made attractive with new walls, new windows, new carpet, all harmonizing and making a most restful place of worship.

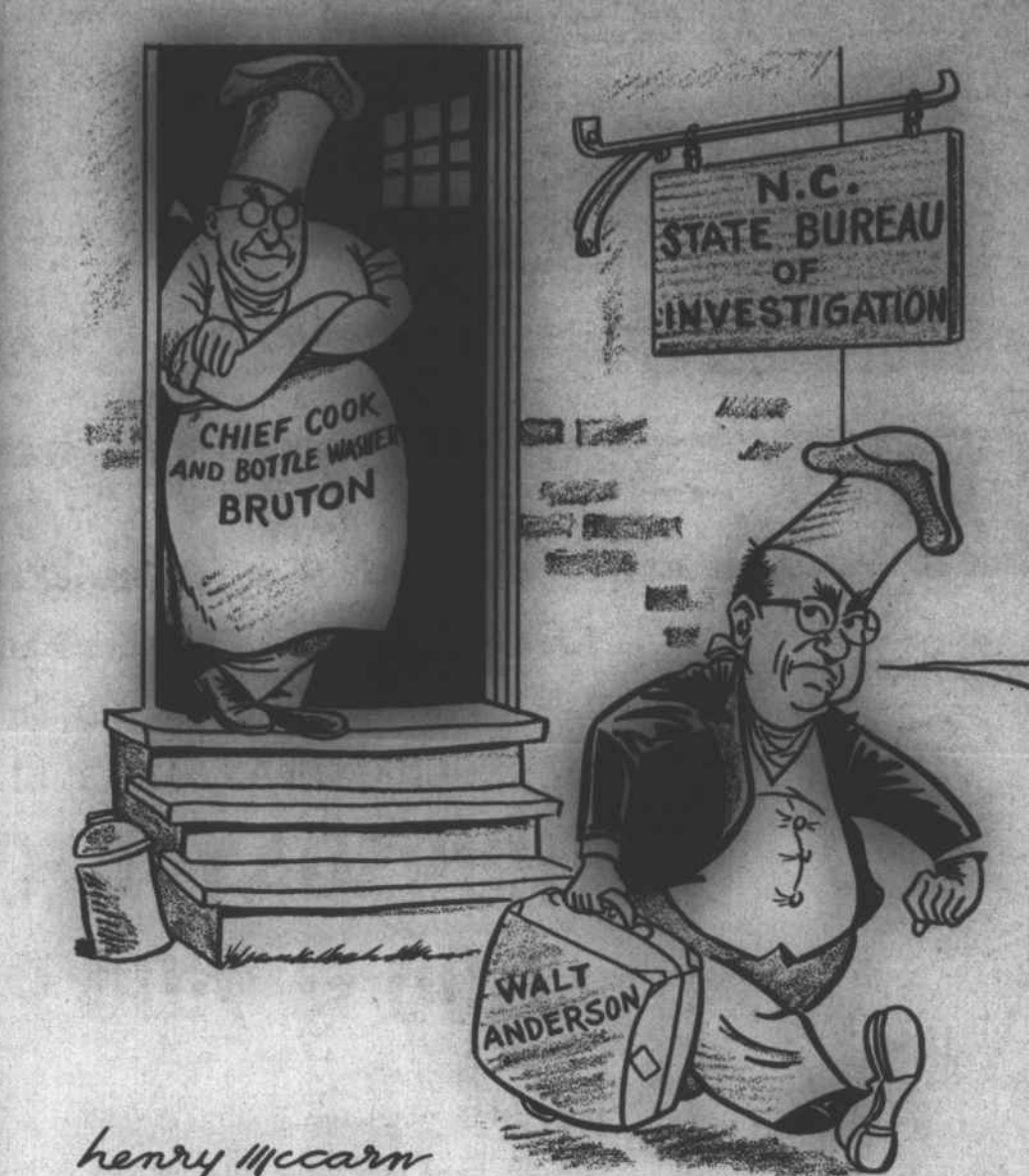
Until 1933 all Sunday School classes were held in the one room of the church. The Sunday School realized the need of more space and eight rooms including Ladies Parlor and kitchen were made available for use. The upper floor with considerable space was left unfinished, to be developed into extra rooms when needed. The whole plant of church and Sunday School rooms was brick veneered and steam heated.

The fellowship hall and Young Peoples Room in the upstairs of the church was completed in March 1952. This hall has been used for the Mens Bible Class, and the men added facilities for serving coffee in the room. In 1957 the growth of the Sunday School had caused a further need of expansion and a building committee was set up in 1957. The lovely building was completed in 1958 at a cost of \$33,660.60. This includes a large recreation room, three new Sunday Schools, a nursery and kitchen.

Ministers who have served the church are Dr. B. F. Marable, Colin Shaw, George Dempster, Joseph Evans, George M. Mathis, Robert Murphy Williams, Robert M. Mann, P. L. Clark, M. O. Sommers, F. S. Johnstone, D. L. Jones, Eugene H. Clarke, Jerry M. Newbold and Norman H. Flowers.

The session is composed of L. B. Hule, Clerk, Edwin P. Evers, A. J. Jenkins, Sr., John M. Pierce, W. J. Middleton, Jr. and Henry L. Stevens, Jr. A. J. Draughton, Jr. is chairman of the Deaconate. Serving with him are: J. T. Gresham, Jr., A. Wright Gore, William T. Best, Fred J. Baars, G. S. Hodges, J. Herman Hines, Hector B. McNeill, A. Walker McNeill, C. Sheffield, F. A. Mitchner, R. W. Rivenbark, V. A. Stancil, and Shelby B. Zachary.

Mrs. Allen Draughton, Jr., is president of the Women of the Church, H. C. McCullen is president of the Men of the church, Vernard A. Stancil is superintendent of the church school, Mrs. Ben Bowden, is organist and Mrs. W. J. Middleton, Jr., and Mrs. J. T. Gresham, Jr. are choir directors. We are very grateful to Mrs. J. W. Farrior, historian, for furnishing us this information.



Henry McCann

Well! Well! Wells

By: Ruth Wells

Wanted - 17 hi-tailed cats for my friend Rodney Thigpen! Rodney has a lovely new brick home and in spite of all his efforts he is bothered with mice. Now I have been told on good authority that one sure way to be free of mice and rats is to possess seventeen cats. They must be the variety that holds their tail high in the air as they answer the "chow call." Anybody having a cat that will fit this description please deliver them to Rodney Thigpen, Route 1, Mount Olive.

Last Wednesday I was at the Beulaville Elementary School near lunch time. The most delicious aroma filled the entire building in which the lunch room is located. Ruby and I readily accepted the invitation to eat. The food was delicious! It was a well planned meal, balanced in all the necessary nutrients, and as tasty as you hope to find for a family Sunday dinner.

Duplin County lost a remarkable citizen over the week end. Mr. Edd Bostic of Warsaw, age 90, who entered the hospital just a few days earlier. In all those 90 years that was the

first trip. Longevity was attributed to clean living, he didn't smoke, drink, or cuss.

Were I a less determined person, I would throw that lovely Yashica 24 camera in the boot of the car and forget it. But being of the make up I am, each week from now on I shall attempt a day time shot in the Duplin Court Room.

Again this week, what should have been a lovely young lady sitting at the judges desk, came out a perfect blank. If at first you don't succeed -----

Fourteen shopping days left and the thought just petrifies me, so bye now, off to do Christmas shopping.

SULLIVAN, ILL., PROGRESS "Since our government demands such a strict accounting of every penny handled by every citizen, for taxing purposes, those taxpayers, by the same right, should be entitled to a strict accounting of how all those tax dollars are being spent."

Origin of the Christmas Tree

The lights of the Christmas tree, most beautiful when reflected in the eyes of a child, will bring peace and joy to millions of homes again this season, as they have for centuries.

But how did it begin? Why do we connect trees and lights with the birth of the Babe whom Christians consider the Messiah?

There are several stories about the origin of the Christmas tree. People in Scandinavia once worshipped trees, and explains World Book Encyclopedia, they made evergreen trees part of the Christian festivities when they became Christians.

One legend tells how the first Christmas tree was shown in a

miracle to the English missionary Winfrid (later called Boniface). More than 1,200 years ago, while traveling in what is now northern Germany, Winfrid found a group of heathens at an oak tree, about to sacrifice a child to the god Thor.

Winfrid stopped the sacrifice and cut down the "blood oak." As the oak fell, according to the legend, a young fir tree appeared. Winfrid said the fir was the tree of life, representing Christ.

The Germans probably were the first to decorate Christmas trees. They used stars, angels, toys, gilded nuts, and candies wrapped in bright paper, and later added tinsel and lighted candles. Scandinavians at one time trimmed their trees with little flags. Now they also use cookies, apples, and gilded nuts.

In the United States and Canada, homemade paper ornaments, candy canes, and strings

of cranberries and popcorn were popular before the advent of shiny colored balls and strings of colored electric lights.

Lights at Christmas represent Christ as the Light of the World. According to one story, Martin Luther put lights on his trees to represent the glory and beauty of the stars above Bethlehem on the night of Christ's birth.

In the United States and Canada, many churches hold candlelight services on Christmas Eve. People in Ireland, World Book says, leave a candle burning in the window. In The Netherlands, on the eve of Epiphany, young men carry the Christmas star -- actually a lantern containing lighted candles -- as they stroll through the streets singing hymns and carols.

No matter what the origin, the tree ablaze with lights is something we remember from our earliest childhood... and something the very youngest children will begin to learn this Christmas.

OCALA, FLA., STAR-BANNER: "An opinion survey reveals that most Americans favor a cut in federal spending rather than increased taxes as a means of controlling inflation. What this shows is that more people are becoming aware of the real cause of the rising inflation which is troubling our country today... Do the politicians want us to believe that giving them more money to spend will result in a lower cost of living -- that is, a dollar with more purchasing power?"

COLDWATER, KANS., STAR: "Food for peace is a grand-sounding designation for a government program, but when the program is used indirectly to feed our avowed enemies the people of the United States may not think it is so grand. Communism is a society which can keep its people from starving only with aid from the freedom countries."

Yesterday's News Notes

1 Year Ago

Reeves Brothers, Inc. announces a new cut and sewer operation to be located in Duplin County.

Mrs. Melvin (Clyde) Potter named Red Cross Fund Campaign manager for 1966.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Taylor win cup at Broiler Producers Annual Banquet.

NCEA present 25 year pins to seven members.

5 Years Ago

James Kenan District Band present concert in Kenansville Gymnasium.

Warsaw boy, Billy J. Torrains appointed to the U. S. Probation Office.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Quinn honored on 30th Wedding Anniversary.

Janice Henderson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Henderson elected Treasurer of Freshman Class James Walker Memorial Hospital School of Nursing.

10 Years Ago

Miss Eleanor Southerland has accepted an assignment with the International Cooperative Administration of the Federal Government to work in Columbia, S. C.

Mr. D. C. (Buddy) Williamson appointed to supervisor of Charlotte District by Southern Bell Telephone.

Falson Special Education Class has exhibit at Raleigh Conference.

20 Years Ago

Tidewater Power Company announces new heat pump ready for this section.

J. E. Sloan of Chinquapin, elected chairman of AAA.

Albert Jonathan Jenkins, Jr., 15, awarded Eagle Scout Badge.

Mr. and Mrs. Norwood Bruce Boney celebrated Twenty-fifth wedding anniversary.

SHELBYVILLE, KY., SENTINEL: "The fact is that the average American family is spending 13% of its total income on food. No other nation in the world even approaches this figure, and in England 33% of each family's disposable income goes for food, 45% in France, and 82% in the Soviet Union.

Aside from the remarkably small amount of her income which goes for food, the American housewife receives more variety, more nourishment, more everything than her counterparts anywhere on the globe... America's free enterprise, intensively-competitive system is the best guarantee yet devised by man that prices will not exceed demand."

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DEAR MISTER EDITOR:

Ed Doolittle reported to the fellers at the country store Saturday night he has come up with a plan to cut his worries in half.

Farthermore, the report said Up to now, said Ed, he had been worrying about what was going to happen to the young generation, along with his worries about the old folks. From now on, he said, he was confining his worries strict to what was going to happen to his own generation.

Zeke Grubb was agreed Ed was making a wise move in this plan to eliminate half his worries. He said his preacher told the congregation Sunday the great need in the world today was for people to know a little less and understand a little more.

Zeke was of the opinion this was a mighty hard assignment and he brung along some figgers to prove it. This was the first time Zeke ever brung any figgers to the Saturday night sessions and he had to borrow Ed's glasses to read 'em to the fellers.

He had a newspaper clipping where a committee of the Congress had completed a 10-month study on Government paper work. This piece said the report was 70 pages long and was one of the most "astounding documents" to come out of the Congress in 50 year.

According to this report, if one Government record was burned ever second, it would take 2,000 years to destroy them

all. It said Government paper work cost \$8 billion a year and it took 18 billion copies of 300,000 Government forms to operate the Federal agencies.

Farthermore, the report said 225,000 Government workers was spending most of their work day putting documents into 25 million cubic foot of filing cabinets, that the Government spends \$1.5 billion a year writing 1 billion letters. According to them Congressmen making the survey, it would save the taxpayers from \$100 million to \$200 million a year if they would make their letters a paragraph or two shorter.

One of the worst things they found, the report said, was they fill up 2.6 million pages a year with inter-office memos, instructions and communications, half of them not worth a copper-filled quarter.

This was a mighty long piece for Zeke to read and he got some of the words wrong but he had the figgers correct and some of the fellers, including me, was writing 'em down on paper pokes we swiped from the storekeeper. They was correct and official, Mister Editor, if you want to print 'em in yore paper.

It's all right for Zeke's preacher to say we need to know a little less and understand a little more, but how you going to understand this Government red tape?

Yours truly
Uncle Pete

THE Minister's Desk

By: D. E. Parkerson

A certain man once said that he would never let his wife sit in the front seat of his car with him because it was a waste of talent. She was such a good back seat driver that he always made her sit in the back seat.

I suppose that it was such a man as this who was one day riding down the street of a certain city when a motorcycle policeman pulled up beside him and said, "Hey, mister, your wife fell out of the back seat of your car three blocks back."

The man replied, "Thank goodness, I thought I had gone stone deaf."

These two men that I have mentioned are representative of many of us. Back in the days of long ago (to some it seems as though it is a century ago) we always opened the doors of cars for our wives and seated them at the table ever so gently. Now it is quite different for many. The thoughtfulness expressed in the little things has been lost from our marriage. When this happens it is not because love is lost, or at least not most of the time, but that we have become less thoughtful and take each other for granted.

I met a couple just out of town from our church here this week who have been married for 65 years. The husband is 90 and the wife 85 years old. The very way they looked at each other told me that love for them had been an increasingly growing thing for two-thirds of a century. Said he to me, as he pointed over to his wife, "I'm not bragging about it preacher, but she's the best woman I ever knew." This man's love

was genuine to begin with, and it continued to grow through the years. It is greater now than it has ever been. Such love is beautiful and eternal, for it is of God.

When Christ is at the center of the home it has a focal point around which all of life can revolve. It has a foundation that is strong enough to stand up under the stresses and strains of life. Therefore, it is not just foolish talk when someone says that a family that prays together stays together. And they work together.

Many of our homes have about as much harmony as a Saturday night brawl. Such was the case in a home where a man was bragging that whenever anything went wrong around the house he always fixed it. "Oh, yeah?" his wife said, "Since you fixed the clock the cuckoo backs out and asks, 'What time is it?'"

Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS
1. Body parts
7. Things lost
13. Esteem
14. Fruit
15. Stained glass
16. Bedroom
17. Suffix
18. Adherent
19. Sailor's slang
20. Convent head
22. Deprived
25. Tall grass
26. Vehicle
28. French river
29. State: abbr.
30. Oregon capital
32. Mother
33. Turkish title
35. Jack cards
36. Mire
37. Gives food
39. Holy Roman

41. Uncooked
42. Paddle
43. Antenna
46. Double: Bot.
49. Make certain
50. Source
51. Reexamine
52. Rise
12. Japanese coin
19. Tapestry
20. Tan color
21. Scrutinize
22. Writ: law
23. Thigh bone
24. Barber
27. Wing
30. Long pins
31. Biographies
34. Halt
36. Optical illusion
38. Worth
40. Tennis
43. Distant
44. Compass point
45. Soak
46. Snake
47. Metal
48. Finish

DOWN
1. Shake
2. Commotion
3. Drink
4. Filled with sand
5. Woody plants
6. Put
7. -- Angeles
8. Make a speech
9. Wages
10. Sleep noises
11. Self

My Christmas Story!

Editor's Note: This poem was written by a German War Bride who has been in the U. S. for about the past twenty years.

Again the Holy night is near, With laughter and joy, but also with tears.

Christ was born to save us from sin, How many truly think of him.

Too good I remember the days as a child For me, Christmas was a day of light

Everything shining, and a lot of toys, But I found out the sorrows, when I did grow.

It was in 41, on the Holy night, When mother lighted only four candles, her face silent and white.

She had lost two sons in action, four still fighting in the war and when the war time ended,

The lights would shine for me any more.

For on the following Christmas And on the Holy night, I had no toy, or home to go

Or gifts to sit beside, The light which shined once for me

Were dead, and burned out From then I walked my lonely road

Only with Christ the Lord, Let's not forget in laughter And all our joy,

To pray for our soldiers Who fight another war.

Let's pray for our soldiers far away from home, For freedom and the end of the Viet Nam war.

Let's ask Christ and Savior for forgiveness and peace and

HARRISONBURG, VA. NEWS RECORD: "Dr. John D. Dougherty of the Harvard School of Public Health is one of a growing number of scientists who are taking a look at a noise in contemporary society and its effects, apparently, are considerable... A researcher on hearing problems, Dr. Dougherty contends noise levels in many environments have reached the point they are causing serious hearing impairments... As examples of how noisy everyday contrivances have become, the researcher notes industrial studies which have shown that continued exposure to a noise level of 80 decibels has resulted in loss of hearing. Yet, such ordinary appliances as food blenders are rated at 93 decibels, a loud lawn mower at 107 decibels and a subway train at 96."

keep this hand for always, the hand of liberty.

Maria V. Smith
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