

West End Church In \$300,000 Building Program



Come Thanksgiving Day this year, the 600 members of West End Methodist Church in the Firestone community, will be especially grateful. Because they now see a long-term dream taking reality in the form of the first unit of a \$300,000 church home.

THE EDIFICE on which construction is now progressing, will be known as the Arthur M. Dixon Educational Building, named in honor of the local benefactor who contributed \$25,000 toward its erection.

Final unit of the \$300,000 building project will include a worship sanctuary to be erected in the future.

A ground-breaking ceremony was held on a Sunday morning the past spring launching the educational unit. Present on that occasion were visiting dignitaries, church officials and other members of the church. Included were the pastor, G. W. Bumgarner, Arthur Dixon, Ronald Green, architect, whose firm completed building plans for the structure; H. T. McElveen, chairman of the building committee; T. A. Little, representing other members of the church; Cramer L. Little, chairman of the building finance committee; R. L. Tompkins, chairman of trustees; Zay Davis, chairman of the official board; and J. V. Darwin, representing Firestone Textiles. Linda Kaylor represented younger members of the congregation.

WEST END CHURCH was established in 1898 and the original house of worship was located on Airline avenue. The present structure at 805 West Franklin avenue was erected in 1907.

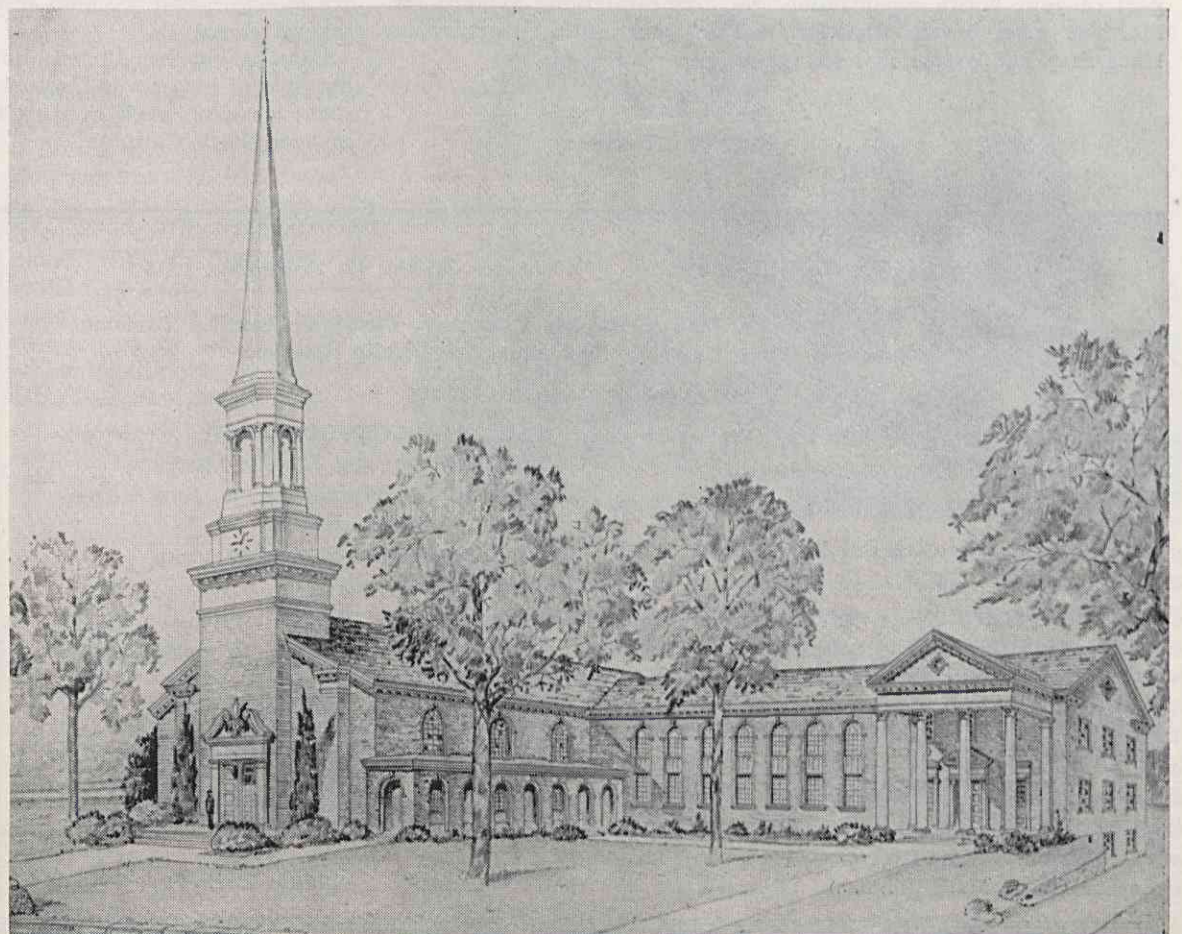
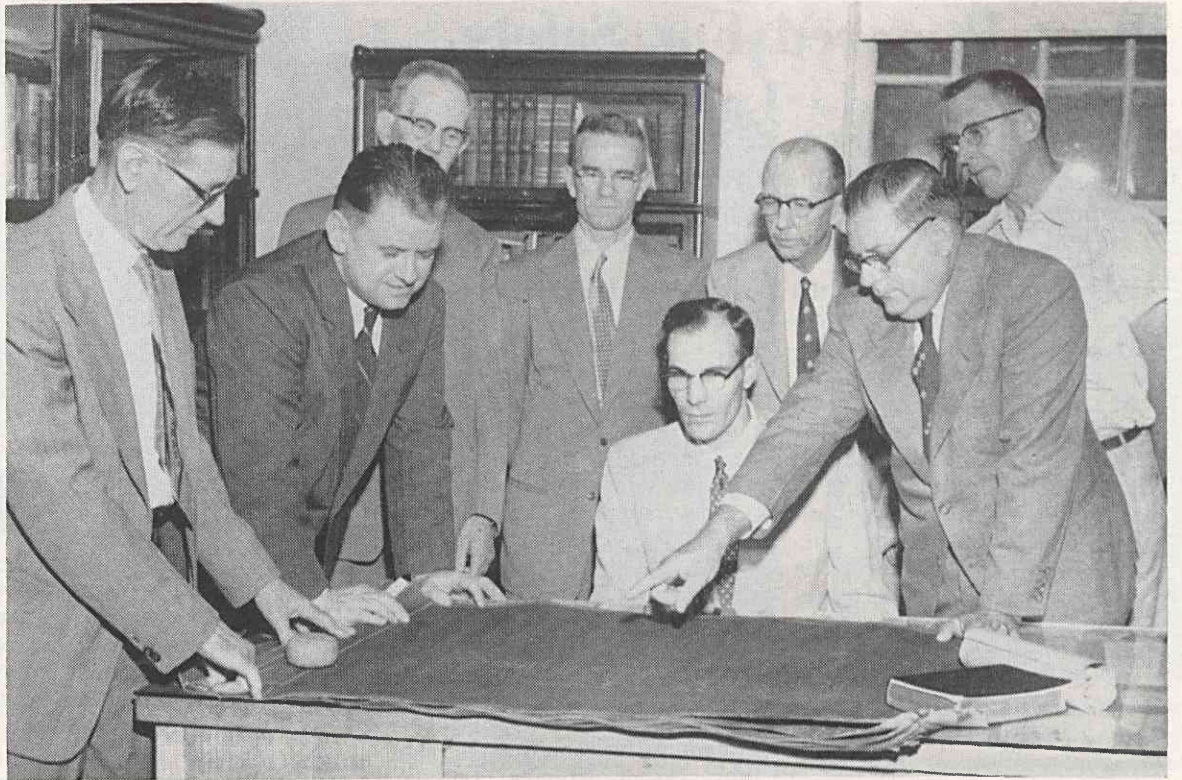
Main entrance of the new structure will face on Franklin avenue. There will also be an entrance on Highland Street. The sanctuary, to be built in the future, has been planned to accommodate 400 persons. A balcony which would add 100 more seats, may be added later. When the total building project is completed the church will have facilities to accommodate some 750 persons.

THE PHOTOGRAPHS

MEN OF FIRESTONE (top) who are leaders in the West End congregation look over the building plans with the minister, G. W. Bumgarner (seated). Standing, from left, are: Fred Rockett, Cramer Little, Grady Davis, William Cosey, R. L. Tompkins, Gentry Tindall and H. T. Aldridge.

PRESENT STRUCTURE of West End Methodist Church (Middle). Construction is progressing on the new edifice, to be raised behind the old one.

PROJECTED SANCTUARY and Arthur M. Dixon Educational Building of West End Church (bottom).



Mrs. Martin
(Margie Marie Cosey)

Martins On Poston Circle

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Terrell Martin are at home at 1770 Poston Circle, Gastonia, after their fall wedding which took place in West End Methodist Church here. Mrs. Martin is the former Margie Marie Cosey, Main Office. She is the daughter of William Cosey, Carding, and Mrs. Cosey of Twisting. She is a graduate of Ashley High School and Evans College of Commerce. Mr. Martin is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Terrell Martin. A graduate of Ashley High School, he served for three years in the U.S. Army.

At the Martin wedding, Cramer Little, Shop employee, with Mrs. Little, presented a program of music for the occasion.

On Recreation Committee

Governor Luther H. Hodges has reappointed Recreation Director Ralph Johnson to the North Carolina Recreation Commission Advisory Committee. The appointment confirmed in a letter from the Governor, dated October 11, will continue through July 1, 1957.

Johnson, who is currently serving his first term on the Committee, is one of the group's experts on industrial recreation.