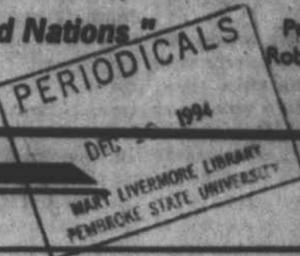


CAROLINA Indian Voice

"Promoting Communications Between Indians and Nations"

Pembroke, NC
Robeson County



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Still on the War Parth for the Lord at 70

by Bruce Barton and
John R. Brayboy

Recently Bruce Barton and John Brayboy interviewed the Reverend Wade Locklear for the Carolina Indian Voice. We want to spotlight our elder Indian preachers from time to time. We felt that it would be appropriate to start with Brother Wade who was honored this year by the Burnt Swamp Baptist Association at the annual Union meeting, and the annual association meeting.

Born September 6, 1924, Rev. Wade Locklear recently celebrated his 70th Birthday. Brother Wade is still pasturing at Oak Grove Baptist Church, where he has been for the past fourteen years. Saved at the tender age of thirteen and a half in April of 1938 at a Prayer meeting at his Grandfather Henderson's home he has never regretted the decision he made for Christ. At this time in Brother Wade's life he spent most weekends at his Grandfather's house. When he got saved he wanted to go home to tell his mother he was saved. It was about three miles to his house, and he ran most of the way. When he told his mother she acted as if she did not hear him. A first cousin was living with them and she told his mother that Wade said he got saved. The cousin recalled how his mother said, "if he's saved I'll know."

Brother Wade prayed to the Lord and said "Lord by your help I will show her." He did.

Born in the Mt. Airy Community and raised on the farm, Brother Wade is no stranger to hard work. Married to the former Helen Dial, daughter of the Late Elisha Dial of the Antioch community. Brother Wade has spent most of his life in the Antioch community. On March 17, 1994 Brother Wade and sister Helen celebrated fifty years of marriage. By the way Brother Wade's mother is still living, and is 93 years young. His father died in 1984. Brother Wade started in the ministry with Brother Claudie Dial (who by the way is his brother in law) in 1946 preaching on the streets. In 1947 God called Brother Wade to preach the gospel. For nine years Brother Wade and Brother Claudie held tent meetings. During this time he worked a regular job and farmed. Also in 1950 he began pasturing at Beulah Baptist Church. Brother Wade has been a member at Mt. Elim since 1938 for a total of fifty six years and the same number of years in the association. Brother Wade recalls one of the greatest highlights of the first meetings was in McColl, S.C., when fifty people made a confession of Faith. In 1956 Brother Wade and Brother Claudie went different directions

Brother Wade has devoted fifty six years of service to the Lord. He pastured at Gospel Tabernacle for seventeen years and twenty three years at Union Light alternating for a number of years between those two churches, two Sundays a month at each. Also during this time he was serving as pastor on Sunday night at Galilee Baptist. He served two years at Smyrna Baptist church. In 1981 Oak Grove called him as full time pastor where he has been for the past fourteen years. Brother Wade spoke candidly of Oak Grove Congregation, noting that it was the most loving and caring body of folk he had ever pastured. Brother Wade has served as moderator of the association and chaired many of the committees over the years.

Bruce Barton asked Brother Wade who his mentor in the ministry was. He quickly responded that Rev. C.E. Locklear, Lonnie Jacobs, Purcell Locklear, Z.R. Chavis and Barse Jacobs. These men were a great influence upon his ministry. He remembers Brother Barse Jacobs as "the preachingest man I ever heard preach. He got more people saved than any one else I can remember."

Brother Wade has had a bout with cancer, but with his Faith in God he is doing much better now. He recalls that a year ago many people thought that he would soon die, but his trust

was not in people's opinions, but in the Lord. Through out the preacher's life he recalls instances where exercising Faith in God has brought positive results. He shared several experiences with us. When he was sixteen his mother was ironing and she got sick. She told him to go get the doctor because she needed help. Brother Wade started to the landlord's house to get someone to get the doctor for her. On the way he prayed to the Lord not to take his mama, and as he was coming out of the woods the Lord spoke to him. God told him that his mother was going to be alright. He turned around and went back home, and found her back up ironing. Another occasion he had a headache and was going to church at Beulah. Rev. Z.R. Chavis was going to preach for him. He went by to pick him up and Rev. Z.R. said "you are sick let me pray for you".

He put his hand on his head and began to rub it and pray. Rev. Z.R. told him he felt it and it was running from him. When Rev. Z.R. finished praying he felt the pain leave. Recently during his bout with cancer, he had gotten to where he couldn't hold anything on his stomach, on the way to church one Sunday morning it came to him to have the elders of the church to pray for him. After Church he started home. When he got to the crossroads, he told his daughter to go

to Laurinburg to the Kentucky Fried chicken. He wanted something to eat. He ate and did not have any problem. Later in the week he went to the doctor and got a good report from the doctor. One of Brother Wade's favorite scriptures is Psalms 103:3 "Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; Who healeth all thy diseases."

Rev. Wade and Sister Helen have seven children, three sons and four daughters; a host of grandchildren; and thirty five great grandchildren. Brother Wade has had a productive life of service to the Lord and we believe there's more to come. He said that when he was called to pastor a church that he always told them that Sister Helen was his right ar, and that they must accept her because she was apart of his ministry. There's old adage that is fitting here, "behind every good man is a good woman." Brother Wade is feeling better everyday, and getting his strength back.

Brother John Brayboy ask what was the greatest experience he had had over the years in the ministry. Brother Wade said with a glow in his eyes that it was that giving the right hand of fellowship to eighty five candidates for baptism was his greatest experience, people of all ages young, middle age, and elders. Brother Wade does not tire of talking about the goodness of the Lord and how he has blessed him. He is careful to give God

the glory for all that has been accomplished in his life. He also noted that the Burnt Swamp Association has been good to him. There is so much we could say about Brother Wade but space will not allow it. If you have an occasion to visit or talk to Rev. Wade Locklear do it you will surely be blessed. Upon ending this interview Brother John Brayboy asked what advice he would give to young people today. "If you want to have life, and have it more abundantly, get saved, and get in church. He adds a last parting spiritual short, "if God's not in it, you won't prosper."

Brother John Brayboy said after the session "Isn't it something. Forty seven years and he's still on the War-path for the Lord!" What a legacy! What a heritage! "Brother Wade has accomplished much, but yet is a humble man giving God the thanks. When we started to leave, Brother Wade took us by the living room to see his many awards that he's received over the years. What a collection! It speaks a multitude of words about the preacher. Don't county this preacher out, he's still about his Father's business. Still on the War-path for the Lord, and his Faith is Stronger now than ever. God Bless You Brother Wade!"

This article continues personal comments from both John R. Brayboy and Bruce Barton.

Glenn Maynor, Sheriff of Robeson County A Product of History

On December 5, 1994, history was made when the first Native American was sworn in as sheriff of Robeson County. Glenn Maynor's past is very much a part of the present. Historically speaking, Maynor's family roots began in Sampson County in the person of William and Keziah Maynor who emigrated to Robeson County by way of Cumberland County somewhere around 1830. Once settled in Robeson, this family became a productive part of the religious community, producing a long line of ministers. This humble beginning, I feel, was a basic ingredient in the life and spiritual outlook of Glenn Maynor.

Reverend Furney Prevatte Maynor's drive to become sheriff of Robeson County began through and by the initial efforts of the Reverend Furney Prevatte, W.W. Willis, and F.A. Prevatte of Raft Swamp. In 1880, these three men gathered together with Carey Wilkins, John S. Wilkins, Gilbert Locklear, John J.

Bell, A. Oxendine, James Jacobs, J.D. Hunt, Alfred Hunt, William Canady, Seymore Bell, Dolphin Hardin, and Henry Jones. The purpose of this meeting was to organize the Indian Churches into a functional and cooperative group of churches. Committees were appointed to form a constitution for this body of churches. On January 21, 1881, this group met at Reedy Branch Church and officially organized the Burnt Swamp Baptist Association. There were only three churches present at this meeting; Burnt Swamp, Reedy Branch, and Magnolia. Furney Prevatte provided compassionate and diligent leadership during the formative period of Indian history. Through his efforts a bond was formed between the Indian communities which still exists today. He encouraged the Indians to become politically active, especially in the area of education and the legal system. Reverend Prevatte was the forerunner of another white minister, the Reverend Bob Mangum who actively

espoused the Indian cause.

As a result of the Reverend Furney Prevatte's guidance and inspiration, Indian leaders worked together to have enacted the legislation of 1885 which gave the Indians of Robeson County schools of their own. Once Indians began to be educated, they began to develop a political structure to promote our cause. One such organization was known as the Confederation of Red Men. This highly structured organization formed lodges in each Indian community to coordinate and father legislation that would be beneficial to our people. Each such lodge had a name and lodge number. For example, in Burnt Swamp the lodge name was Tecumseh Lodge Number 3, order of the Confederation of Red Men of Robeson County. Trustees of this lodge were J.H. Godwin, Wellington Wilkins, W.D. Oxendine, Daniel W. Locklear, Dock Oxendine, and Paisley Locklear. This federation of Indians were a highly secretive order. However, from

time to time representation of these organizations would surface to promote legislation to benefit our people.

In closing, this is just a brief overview of the organization and people who in 1880 started Glenn Maynor's campaign for sheriff of Robeson County. Many sacrifices were made over the course of time that finally opened the door for Glenn Maynor and all persons of color in our county. Like the events of 1880, this is a new beginning for all citizens of our county. We should grasp the opportunity to move our county forward in all aspects of life. Let people like Furney Prevatte, W.W. Willis, Carey Wilkins, Alfred Hunt, William Jacobs, Preston Locklear, Charles Barton, McDuffie Cummings, and many many others be a role model of what can happen through a cooperative effort.

Grady Locklear
Route 1 Pembroke

Tuscarora Tribe Changes Name to Tuscarora Nation

The Tuscarora Tribe of the Red Hill Community of Robeson County North Carolina, Inc. has had a name change to the Tuscarora Nation of North Carolina, Inc. by the Secretary of State, Rufus Edmiston at the request of Chief Leon Locklear. No other group or tribe shall claim this name as of November 7, 1994.

Anyone who wants to be a part of this nation can come together and work on one accord as one family under the name of Tuscarora Nation.

Submitted by
Chief Leon Locklear
Gospel Sing

Experience the Music Ministry of Carla and Redemption of Lumber-ton, NC, and others who will be performing at Tabernacle Baptist Church on Friday night, January 13, 1995 at 7:30 p.m.. Other singers will include the Chosen Generation, and the Triune Ministries.

For more information about this singing, contact Mona Deese at 521-4491 or Ramona Swett at 521-2629.

Fayetteville United Methodist Church to Expand Substance Abuse Program

A project to assist Native Americans in the Fayetteville, NC area who are experiencing substance abuse problems is one of 17 projects funded in 1994 by a United Methodist Church program now in its second year.

The \$5,000 grant by the Special Program on Substance Abuse and Related Violence, part of the National Division of the UMC's General Board of Global Ministries, will enable Grace United Methodist Church to Fayetteville to expand its substance abuse program for Native Americans.

The objective of the church's program is to address the substance abuse program among Native Americans in the Fayetteville area by providing culturally sensitive counseling services and addressing high-risk factors that cause substance abuse among Native Americans.

More than 30 people have already been helped by the program during the last four months of 1994, said the Reverend Sam Wynn, pastor of Grace UMC, a predominantly Native American congregation. The additional

money will enable the program to reach more people, he said. Expansion of the program is the next step in what some of the congregation hopes will someday be a comprehensive, in-depth therapeutic counseling center for Native Americans.

"It's a dream and we only have \$5,000, but it's made a difference," said Wynn of the grant, which will go to supplement current programs.

Among the high risk factors Native Americans face for alcohol and substance abuse are loss of tribal identity, unemployment and underemployment, poverty, a sense of isolation and low self-esteem. Culturally sensitive treatment, Wynn said, takes these factors into account, as well as consideration for the unique cultural and spiritual dimensions of being a Native American.

Wynn views the \$5,000 grant as a key milestone in the development of the program, but like others in the congregation wants to see more done to help those in need. "If we had more resources, we could do so much

more," he said. "We're a community struggling to survive. But thank God for the church. The federal government's record with dealing with substance abuse among American Indians is abysmal."

The \$5,000 grant is part of a total of \$201,700 the Special Program on Substance Abuse and Related Violence has allocated for the 17 programs nationwide in 1994. The program, whose theme is "Committed to Wholeness: The United Methodist Church Responds to Drugs and Drug Violence," began in 1993 after the 1992 UMC General Conference mandated such a plan.

"We're well pleased," said Jerald Lillian Scott, national coordinator of the program, which is related to the National Division's Parish Ministries Unit. Noting the need for the church to tackle the wide spread problems of drug and alcohol abuse, she said, "It's about time for the church, which had been a sleeping giant, to get out of the sanctuary and into the community where this is such a problem."



Rev. Wade Locklear

Prospect Music Ministries to Present Concert



The Music Ministries of Prospect United Methodist Church will present the musical "Near to the Heart of God" on Sunday, December 18, 1994 at 7 p.m.

You are invited to come and celebrate with the Chancel Choir, Youth Choir, and Children's Choir as they lead in the worship of Jesus Christ and the Praise of His birth. There will be solos, special lighting and other effects to enhance the musical production. The musical will be directed by Mr. Harold D. Jacobs and narrated by Mr. Wade Hunt.

Plan now to attend this great time of Worship and of Praise at Prospect United Methodist Church on Sunday, December 18, at 7 p.m.