

# Happy Birth USA

*May our country become a country that will insure justice, equality, equal opportunity and dignity for all mankind regardless of their socio economic stage of life from*

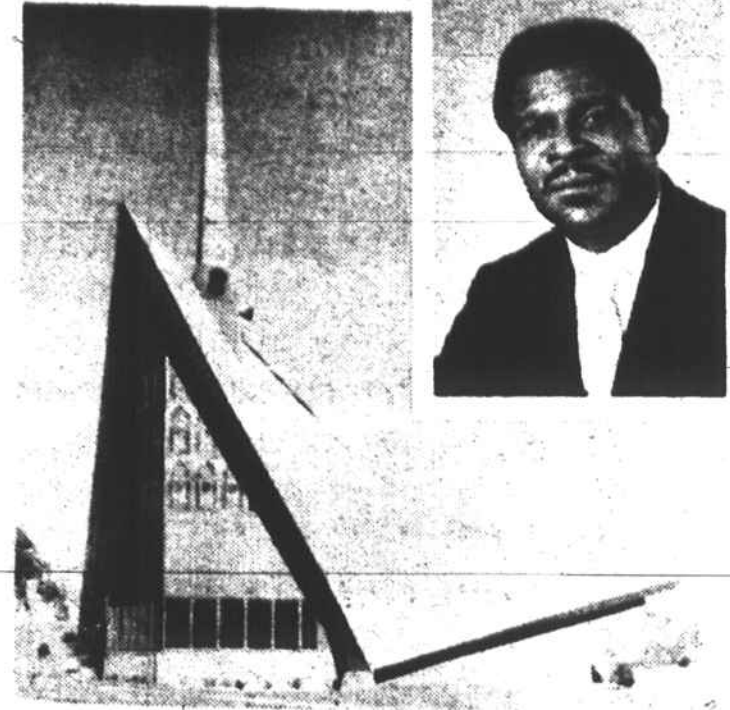
**Experiment in Self-Reliance**

**Board and Staff**

**Logan Burke, president**

**Mrs. Louise G. Wilson, executive director**

## UNITED METROPOLITAN BAPTIST CHURCH



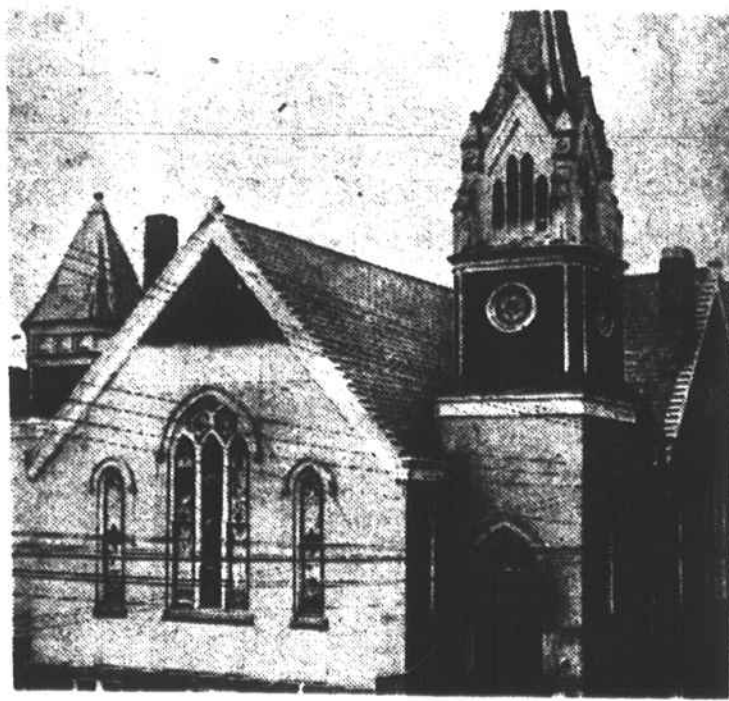
As we approach the Bicentennial of our nation, our minds reminisce the great progress of our past and our faith swells at the promising prospects of our future. Yet our hearts stagger beneath the load of unkept promises, unfulfilled dreams and unsolved problems of the present. The visions of our founding fathers were not unduly audacious, nor were their goals in the slightest unattainable. But our commitment to the actualization of those visions and the accomplishment of those goals has not embodied the intensity or commanded the determination to make them a reality.

As we celebrate our 200th birthday as a nation, let us not lose our blessed heritage,

or forfeit our healthy hopes, or prostitute our sacred faith, but let us renew our commitment as a people to the complete liberation and fulfillment of all our citizens, redress their grievances, and address their dreams. For the dream of a nation is no more than the sum total of the dreams of all her citizens. And as we celebrate, let us celebrate remembering a worthy charge from the church - namely, POWER in PRAYER means PEACE in the NATION; LOYALTY in FAITH means LOVE in the NATION; TRUST in GOD means PROGRESS in the NATION; and COMMITMENT to the KINGDOM means PROSPERITY in the NATION!

## St. Paul United Methodist Church

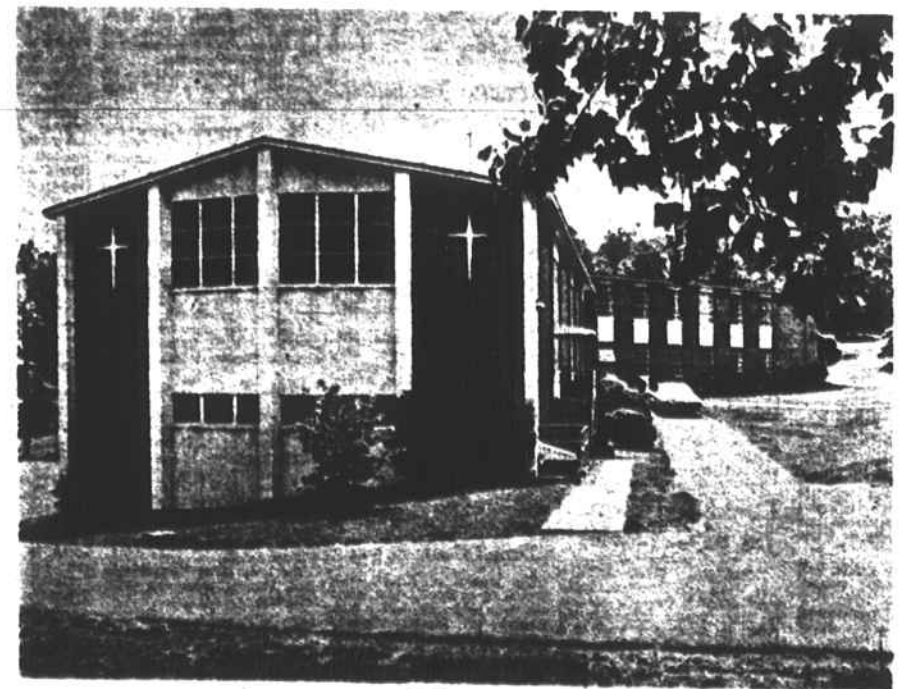
### WE SALUTE AMERICA'S 200th BIRTHDAY



The Old



Rev. James W. Gwyn Sr.



The New

Saint Paul United Methodist Church had its beginning in the month of May 1871. It is presently located on Dellabrook Road at the intersection of Highway 311. The first service was held under a brush arbor near Liberty Street in the small village of Winston. Beginning with a Sunday School, it was named Saint Paul Methodist Episcopal Church and was the first Negro Church organized in Winston.

Church records show that there were twenty-two charter members. Following its organization in 1871, a lot was purchased East of Main on Seventh Street. The first

pastor was the Reverend Wilson Gray. To date, Saint Paul has had twenty-two pastors. The present one is The Reverend James W. Gwyn, Sr. who has served since 1968. From a small beginning, the church has grown to a membership of 501 adult and 61 Preparatory members.

Missions which developed into churches flourished in the early days and from Saint Paul came the churches of Saints Home, St. Andrews, St. James, May's Chapel and Mount Pleasant.

In 1939 the three governing bodies of The Methodist Church agreed to unite as one Methodist Church. In 1965,

the North Carolina - Virginia Conference merged with The Western North Carolina Conference. Two other mergers of significance occurred. In 1967, St. Paul and Mount Pleasant became "ONE CHURCH FAMILY". The Methodist Church merged with The Evangelical United Brethren in 1968 to become known as THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH.

All of St. Paul's pastors have served with distinction and each deserves a place in the history of the church. We are especially indebted to The

Reverend L.M. Mayfield who served from 1957 to 1968. As a result of his great dedication and the sacrifices of a grateful congregation, the present edifice was built in 1961.

Under the dynamic leadership of Rev. Gwyn, we dedicated our church on Sept. 28, 1969. (A Methodist Church is never dedicated until it is paid for)

A spacious parsonage for the family of our pastor has been erected on Dellabrook Road next to the church.

Lighted crosses and a majestic steeple now grace St. Paul as it stands resplendent by the Highway!

Thus St. Paul has moved from "brush arbor to Highway". A pictorial History was published in 1971 in

observance of our 100th Anniversary. As we approach the Bicentennial celebration of our nation's birth, we again make this declaration: "Encouraged by a glorious past, we lift our voices in praise; as we look to the future".

The church operates a Day Care Center which is housed in the lower level. A Pavilion built by The Methodist Men is also a part of the church property. Situated near the Playground, it serves the community as a place for Outdoor Activities.