

Chowan to close 136th year with Graduation

Exercises scheduled in Helms Center

The Rev. James E. Langford of Ahoskie and Dr. Roy J. Smith of Raleigh will be the featured speakers as Chowan College closes its 136th year Sunday, May 13.

The Rev. Langford, pastor of Ahoskie's First Baptist Church, will speak at the 11 a.m. baccalaureate service. Dr. Smith, acting general secretary-treasurer of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, will be the 2 p.m. commencement speaker. Both programs will be held in the Helms Center.

President Bruce E. Whitaker will preside and introduce both speakers.

N. C. Pastorates

Langford, a Fayetteville native, attended Mars Hill College and Baylor University, where he graduated in 1961 with a B.A. He received the Master of Divinity from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1965. He has also had training at the School of Pastoral Care, North Carolina Baptist Hospital, Winston Salem.

Langford has pastored exclusively in North Carolina and came to the Ahoskie First Baptist Church on June 1, 1978, after a nine-year pastorate at the Canton First Baptist Church.

He has served as chairman of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina's Committee on Nominations and Resolutions Committee. Langford has served as a trustee of the North Carolina Baptist Hospital and is currently president of the Council on



The Rev. JAMES E. LANGFORD
Baccalaureate Speaker

Christian Higher Education of the General Board of the Baptist State Convention.

He and his wife, Sandra, are the parents of two sons, Jay, 17, and Jon, 13.

Convention Official

A Franklin native, Smith served as pastor of Baptist churches in Zebulon and Lexington and as associate in missions, Region 10, Western North Carolina. He came to the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina in 1967 as secretary of Town and Country Missions and Seminary Extension Department.

Smith received the B.A. from Wake Forest University and B.D. from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has taken graduate studies at North Carolina State



DR. ROY J. SMITH
Commencement Speaker

University, Emory University and Southeastern Seminary. He received the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Campbell University in August, 1981.

His community service includes chaplain, Linwood Lions Club and member of Sylva Lions Club and Sylva Volunteer Fire Department.

Smith was named 1962 Rural Minister of the Year in North Carolina by Progressive Farmer and Emory University. Also in 1962 the Jersey Church he pastored in Lexington was recognized by the Baptist State Convention as Church of the Year.

Married to the former Doris Elizabeth Pearce of Zebulon, the Smiths have three children, Ginger, Roy, Jr., and Tracy.

Stokes Memorial Scholarship established; given by Elsees

Dr. Bruce E. Whitaker, president, has announced the establishment of the Eloise Brown Stokes and Henry Straughan Stokes Memorial Scholarship at the college.

The endowed scholarship has been given in memory of Eloise Brown Stokes and Henry

Straughan Stokes by their daughter, Julia Stokes Elsee and her husband, Walter Brand Elsee. Mrs. Elsee is a member of the Chowan College Board of Advisors and Mr. Elsee is a member of the General Endowment Committee of the college.

Dr. Whitaker stated, "We are pleased and honored that these two leaders and supporters of the college have chosen to establish this memorial scholarship in memory of two of North Carolina's leading citizens."

Julia Eloise Brown Stokes was born in Winston-Salem on Dec. 5, 1886. She was the daughter of Henry Alfred Brown and Julia Cain Brown. Her father, H. A. Brown, was a pastor of the First Baptist Church in Winston-Salem for 40 years. She attended Shorter College in Rome, Ga. She was an active member in the First Baptist Church and its activities including the Cradle Roll Department of the Sunday School and the Women's

Missionary Union. She died on Nov. 15, 1980.

Henry Straughan Stokes was born in Prince Edward County, Va. on Dec. 31, 1880. He was the son of Colin and Florence Turpin Stokes. He graduated from Hampden-Sydney College in 1900. He was employed by R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company from August, 1900 until his retirement in 1947. He was superintendent of Leaf Processing and a member of the Board of Directors of R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company. He served as a deacon of the First Baptist Church of Winston-Salem and a trustee of the Baptist Children's Homes. He died on Dec. 3, 1962.

Eloise Brown Stokes and Henry Straughan Stokes have three children: Colin Stokes, Henry Brown Stokes, and Julia Turpin Stokes Elsee.

Commented Dr. Whitaker, "This memorial scholarship will assist young men and women to achieve their dreams and goals through



ELOISE BROWN STOKES



HENRY STRAUGHAN STOKES

higher education at Chowan College. As an endowed scholarship it will do so throughout the years to come; from generation to generation, serving as a living memorial."

He continued, "It is one of the most significant endowed scholar-

ships ever established at Chowan College and it is being established at a time of great need. We are grateful for their interest in young people and support of Chowan College and its mission of providing Christian higher education for young men and women.

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