

Sunday Night In Sanctuary Here

Presbyterian Choir To Give Service

The Raeford Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir will present "A Service of Lessons and Carols" Sunday at 8 p.m. in the church sanctuary.

Using the most beloved Christmas carols and lessons from the Scriptures telling of Christ's forthcoming, man's fall, and the birth of Christ, the one-hour program will help the congregation to understand the meaning of Christmas.

Concluding the service the choir and congregation will join in the Candlelighting Service in which the church will pass the light from the Communion Table's candle to each other representing of the passing of God's Light, Jesus Christ, to one another's heart. At the close of the service the choir and congregation will sing, "Silent Night".

Accompanying the choir will be a full orchestra composed of music students from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, professional musicians from Greensboro, Raleigh, and Southern Pines, and soloists from the Raeford Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir.

Guest soloists will be Miss Katherine Jane Lakoski, soprano, and Dale Stine, baritone. Miss Lakoski and Stine are alumni of the Juilliard School of Music in New York City. They are well known in the Raeford community for their musical offerings in past presentations with the Raeford Presbyterian Church and the Raeford Community Choir.

"Each year the choir presents a Christmas worship service that will appeal to someone's musical tastes," says Chris Watkins, director of music at the Presbyterian church. "In the past years we have presented all types of music from all the different periods of music - from Renaissance music, to Baroque, to modern. Last year all the church choirs came together to present the Christmas portion of Handel's 'Messiah'."

This year the congregation that attends this worship service will hear his or her favorite Christmas carols orchestrated for strings, woodwinds, brass and percussion, sung by a choir that has rehearsed and rehearsed each note for over six months.

"Combine the wonderful carols of Christmas, the reading of the Word of God by Dr. John Ropp, pastor of Raeford Presbyterian Church, and the Rev. Douglas Mark, associate pastor of the church, and the beauty of the sanctuary that is decorated with the two 14-foot Christmas trees, the garlands of pine roping, the wreaths, and the glow of the red candles, and you will surely fill the glow of Christmas in your heart. It will be a wonderful time together as a Christian family of people gathered together to worship our Lord for His birth."

After the service, a reception for the congregation in honor of the choir, soloists, and orchestra will be held in the fellowship hall of the church. All members of the congregation are cordially invited to attend.

A nursery will be provided for all young children and infants in the church's nursery department. It is hoped that this will encourage everyone to attend this service.

Soloists from Raeford Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir include Miss Cecelia Ropp, soprano, Mrs. Janice Brock, alto, Mrs. Miriam McNeill, alto, Allen Sandy, tenor, and Lester Southern, baritone.

Miss Lakoski received her Bachelor of Music degree in vocal performance from Greensboro College, and her master's degree in vocal and opera performance from the Juilliard School.

She is presently a student at the school on an all-expenses-paid scholarship.

She has performed the lead in "The Mother of Us All," an opera based on the life of Susan B. Anthony, and is currently a member of the cast in the Juilliard Opera Company's production of "La Traviata."

She is also a member of the Juilliard Singers, a professional

quartet sponsored by the Lincoln Center. This past summer Miss Lakoski performed at the Lake George Festival and has been sought by many opera companies including the Paris Opera Company.

Stine received his Bachelor of Music degree from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. While a student there he was the leading baritone soloist. He performed in such operas as "Carmen", "The Consul", "The Old Maid and the Thief", "Falstaff", and in such musical-comedy roles as Sir Lancelot in "Camelot", "The Pajama Game", and "The Fantasticks".

Stine is presently enrolled at the Juilliard School on a full music scholarship. He is also a member of the Juilliard Singers with Miss Lakoski, and a member of the cast in the Juilliard production of "La Traviata". Last summer Stine was flown from New York to South Carolina to perform in the Spoleto Festival U.S.A. production of "The Last Savage".

Last Christmas Miss Lakoski and Stine were soprano and bass soloists for the Raeford Community Choir's presentation of Handel's "Messiah".

They have performed with the Raeford Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir many times during the past several years and with the Raeford Community Choir.

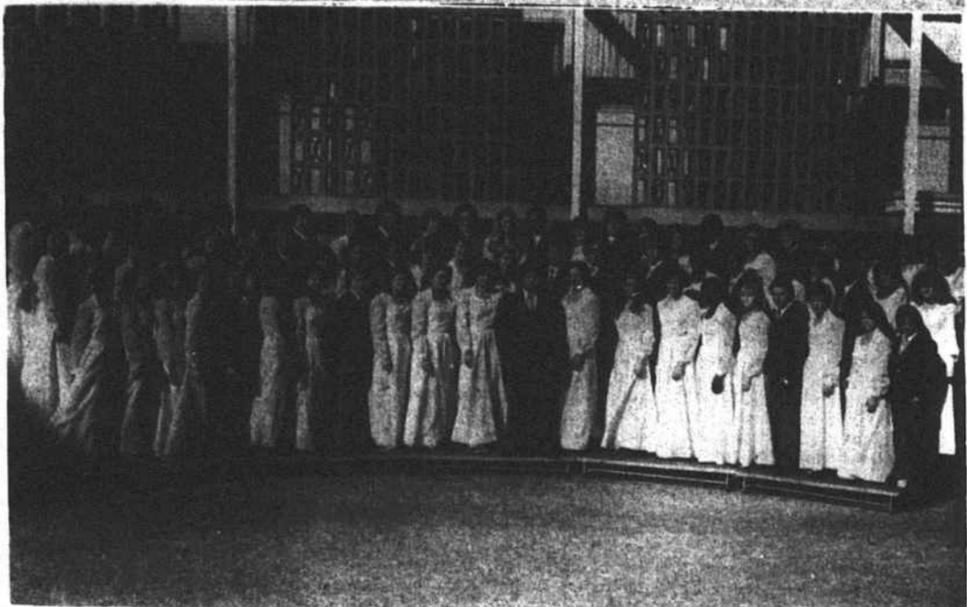
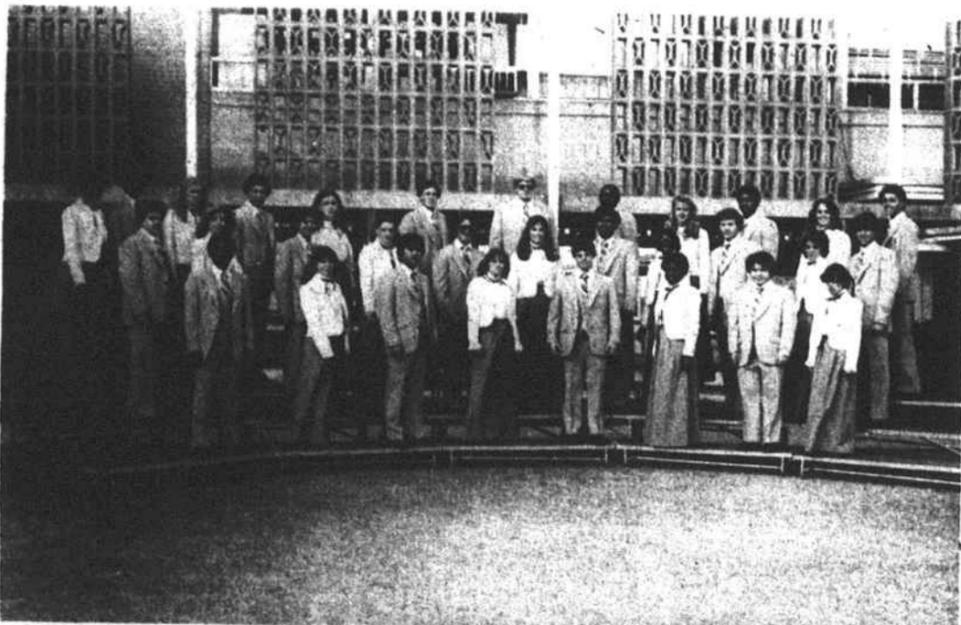
The doors of the church will open to the congregation at 7:30 p.m.

Merchants See Parade Film

A record number of merchants saw video film of Saturday's Christmas Parade in Raeford during the Merchants Association meeting Tuesday morning at the Wagon Wheel Restaurant.

The film was made by Luke McNeill and narrated by Robert Gatlin.

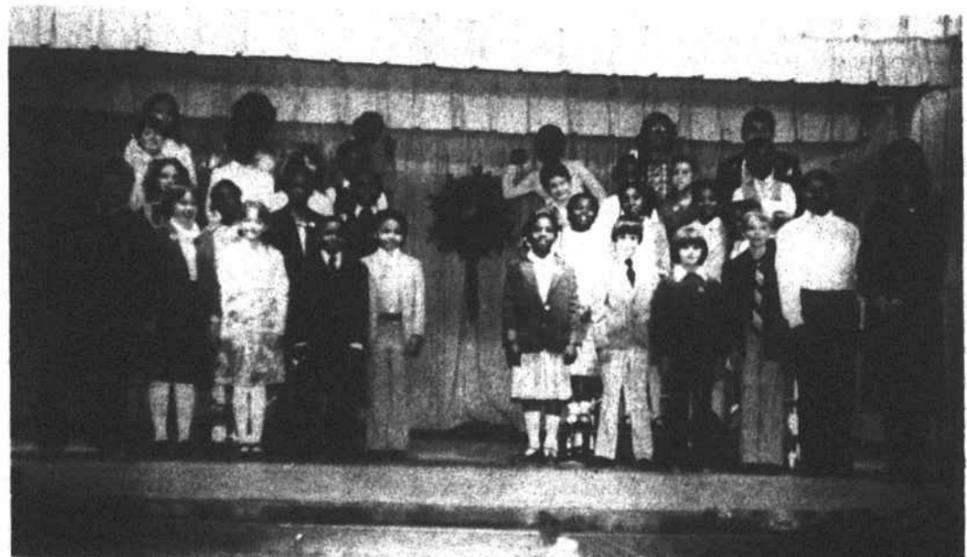
The association sponsored the parade, the first such Christmas event held in Raeford since December 6, 1971, and plans to do it again in the Christmas season of 1982.



READY FOR CONCERTS -- Hoke County High School's Chorus and Chorale are shown here. They'll sing in their annual Christmas concerts Thursday, starting at 7:30 p.m., in MacDonald Gymnasium. The Chorus has 76 singers, and the Chorale 33. Both are directed by Linda Huff. [Staff photos].



SCURLOCK CHORUS -- The boys and girls of Scurlock School's Fourth Grade Chorus are shown with their music teacher and director, Doris Austin, and showing their Christmas message. They'll give a concert Thursday at 10 a.m. at the school. [Staff photo].



FOURTH GRADE CHORUS -- West Hoke School's Fourth Grade Chorus and director Betsy Floyd (right) are shown here Thursday afternoon a few minutes after they completed their Christmas songs' concert for the school's other students and parents of West Hoke students. The piano accompaniment was played by Miss Floyd's mother, Kathryn Floyd, who gives piano lessons in Fayetteville. Miss Floyd's father, Wayne Floyd, assistant principal and director of athletics at Fairmont High School, was in the concert audience. Miss Floyd is music teacher for West Hoke and South Hoke schools. [Staff photo].

Drafting Club Making Toys For Needy

The Hoke High VICA Drafting Club is preparing a Christmas project -- making stuffed animals for children of needy families in the hopes of bringing a little happiness to children around Hoke County.

This is the club's second of many projects this year. The first one was a "pounding" for a needy family at Thanksgiving.

The club would like to express appreciation to all the parents and

industries for their time and donations. Without their support, the projects could not have been possible.

Charlie Parsons is club advisor.

Join Us For Christmas Dinner
THIS SUNDAY
11:30 - 2:00
WAGON WHEEL
RESTAURANT
509 Harris Ave.

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