

Faust left mark on Kings Mountain

By ELIZABETH STEWART
of The Herald Staff

Dr. Eric Faust's philosophy is that a relationship is not worth two cents unless the person invests the total "person" into it.

The pastor of First Presbyterian Church feels genuine pain, he says, in saying farewell to his congregation of 10 years and the solid relationships he has built in the Kings Mountain community.

Local church members and friends in the community agree that Faust has left an indelible mark on the community, not only in the highly successful crisis ministry but in other programs he helped get off the ground.

Faust has resigned to accept a call to First Presbyterian Church, Clarksburg, West Virginia. He will preach his last sermon at the local church September 13 and his first sermon to his new congregation on September 20.

Faust, the third generation member of his family to preach, has been actively involved in the Kings Mountain Ministerial Association and particularly in the far-reaching

crisis ministry. He has served in virtually all offices and committees of the Ministerial Association, affirming that one of the strong views of a Christian is that no matter the denomination all people can work together. He has chaired the stewardship committee of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina and wrote two video scripts on stewardship that will be soon circulated in area churches. He serves on special commissions to install ministers and to assist problem churches.

He said that an enlargement of the youth program at his local church, the planning and holding of joint officer training programs and pulpit exchanges and joint fall worship services were events he is proudest of. He chaired the Call to Prayer for Peace before the Desert Storm conflict which drew 800 people for worship and called it a crowning point of his ministry. The annual Lenten programs were another community-wide emphasis he spearheaded.

He is son of Mrs. Milton Faust of Salisbury and the late Dr. Faust, longtime chaplain at VA Hospital in Salisbury who founded the John Calvin Presbyterian Church in Salisbury, and grandson of Jacob Faust, an Evangelical and Reformed pastor. He credits his

family for his strong Christian growth and roots in the church.

God began opening doors for Faust as a young man studying to become an electrical engineer at N.C. State College. During his junior year Faust changed his major and graduated with a degree in rural sociology in 1963.

Resisting the call to preach for some time, he realized God was providing a new horizon. He enrolled at Union Seminary in Richmond, Va. and met his bride-to-be, Linda Miller, then a student at Presbyterian School of Christian Education which was located across the street from seminary. In recent years Faust earned his doctorate from McCormick Seminary in Chicago, Illinois.

"It's hard to be a preacher's kid," said Faust, who said the role was not as difficult for his four children who may not follow in his footsteps in the pulpit. Andrew and Susan Faust live in Charlotte where Andrew is employed in computer programming. Bethan Faust is a senior at Davidson College. James Faust will be a 10th grader this fall and AnnaLouise will be a 5th grader in elementary school. Eric's wife, Linda Faust, has taught Spanish at Bethware School.

Their first pastorate was St. Aidan's Presbyterian Church in St.

John's, a congregation of 50 members in Newfoundland, Canada, where they lived 2 1/2 years. Faust helped get the small church extension church off the ground.

From Canada the Faust family moved to a two church field and served Warfordsburg, PA, a congregation of 110, and Hancock, Md., a congregation of 50 members at Mt. Olivet Presbyterian Church. The churches were six miles apart and Eric preached on Sundays at 9 a.m. and at 11 a.m. for 3 1/2 years. The Fausts' two older children were born there.

Covenant Presbyterian Church of Concord and its 150 members was home for the Faust family for two years before they moved to Walhalla, SC and served a church of 250 members for eight years before coming to Kings Mountain to serve the 300 member congregation 10 years.

Faust recalled that August 10, 1982 was the hottest August in the history of Kings Mountain when the Faust truck parked at the manse on King Street to unload. A choir was on hand to welcome them.

Faust said his new congregation numbers between 500-600 and his first duty there will be to attend a meeting of Presbytery the day be-



Sunday is Dr. Eric Faust's last Sunday as minister of First Presbyterian Church. He has accepted a new pastorate in West Virginia.

See Faust, 3-A

Obituaries

KATHLEEN PLONK

Mrs. Kathleen McGill Plonk, 95, of St. Luke Church Road, died September 3, 1992 at White Oak Manor.

A native of Cleveland County, she was widow of Rufus L. Plonk and daughter of the late Isaac A. and Mary Amanda Fulton McGill. She was a retired school teacher and a member of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church.

Surviving are one son, William Lawrence Plonk of Kings Mountain; four daughters, Dr. Martha Plonk, Mrs. Rachel Gladden, both of Kings Mountain; Mrs. Virginia Morris of Signal Mountain, TN and Mrs. Nancy Sutton of LaGrange; three brothers, Isaac A. McGill of Kings Mountain, Raymond McGill of Jacksonville, Florida and Leland McGill of Wallace; one sister, Mildred Rumble of Castle Hayne; seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted Saturday at 11 a.m. at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. Rev. John Futterer officiated. Burial was in St. Luke Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, 201 N. Piedmont Ave., Kings Mountain 28086, or to St. Luke Cemetery Fund, c/o W. L. Plonk, 311 S. Luke Church Rd., Kings Mountain, 28088.

MARY L. GREEN

MORGANTON - Mrs. Mary "Mag" Lowdermilk Green, 90, of Route 1, died September 7, 1992 at McDowell Hospital in Marion.

A native of Burke County, she was the daughter of the late John A. and Mary Addie Williams Lowdermilk. She was a member of Mountain View No. 2 Baptist Church, where she was a former Sunday School teacher. She was preceded in death by her husband, Joe T. Green Sr. and a son, Jack P. Green.

Surviving are three sons, Arlis Green, Harold Green and Joe T. Green Jr., all of Morganton; five daughters, Mrs. Margie G. Wright of Kings Mountain, Mrs. Jewell Houk, Mrs. Gale Miller, Mrs. Johnnie Chatham and Mrs. Ozelle Sotelo, all of Morganton; three sisters, Mrs. Ella Gibson of Marion, Mrs. Bessie Mills of Kings Mountain and Mrs. Annie Walker of Hendersonville; 26 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren and five great-great grandchildren.

The funeral service was conducted Wednesday at 3 p.m. at Mountain View No. 2 Baptist Church with the Rev. Burl Sain officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery.

MAYBELLE BARNETTE

Ferrie Maybelle Parrish Barnette, 88, of White Oak Manor, died September 3, 1992 at Kings Mountain Hospital.

A native of Cleveland County, she was a retired textile employee and daughter of the late Robert Nathan and Panthia Price Parrish. She was a member of Grace United Methodist Church.

Surviving are one brother, Clyde Parrish of Kings Mountain; and five sisters, Nelline Cable of Burlington, Cleo Crenshaw of Graham, Orangel McDaniel, Margie McDaniel and Margaret Dellinger, all of Kings Mountain.

The funeral was conducted Saturday at 11 a.m. at Grace United Methodist Church. Rev. Patricia Stone, Rev. Robert Little and Rev. Harold Beam officiated. Burial was in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

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