

Centennial Celebration

1885 - 1985

Homecoming



Saint George United Methodist Church

Highway 74 East

Maxton, North Carolina

Sunday, October 20, 1985

10:55 A.M.

Robert A. Fairley, Sr. Minister

Emma R. McLean, Associate Minister

Rev. William W. Sherman Jr., District Superintendent

Rockingham District

Bishop Carlton P. Minnick Jr., Resident Bishop

Raleigh Area

Robert E. Davis - Chairman of Administrative Board

Leaders For Centennial Celebration

October 16 - 20

Bishop C.P. Minnick, Jr..... Raleigh Area
Dr. Joseph B. Bethea Administrative Assistant to the Bishop
Rev. William Sherman District Superintendent
Rockingham District
Rev. Albert Shuler John Wesley U.M. Church
Fayetteville, N.C.
Rev. Robert A. Fairley Minister
Rev. Emma R. McLean Associate Minister



"Make A Joyful Noise Unto The Lord..." Psalm 100

A Special Invitation To Everyone
To Celebrate The Centennial Of
St. George United Methodist Church

October 16 - 20, 1985



St. George Methodist Church
Dedicated October 10, 1885
O. Letterlough, Pastor

Trustees

A.B. McQueen B.J. Leach

A.D. Wilkerson

Rededicated November 12, 1950

PRESENT TRUSTEES

C.R. Brewington

M.Nelson

E.McCallum, Sr.

R. Davis

B. Carter

J. Davis

W.E. McKoy

R. Reese

G. Leach

R.D. Sharpe, Pastor

CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

David McEachin, Jr.

Chairperson

Louise Harris

Effie McEachin,

Vice Chairperson

Annie L. Fairley

Anne McNair,

Secretary

Rev. E.R. McLean

Clementine Graham,

Treasurer

Rev. R.A. Fairley, Sr.

Bernice Davis

Helen McPhatter

Lillie McCoy

In Memoriam

"O Thou, In Whose Presence My Soul Takes Delight, On Whom In Affliction I Call, My Comfort By Day And My Song In The Night, My Hope, My Salvation, My All!"

—Joseph Swain

This Souvenir Booklet
Dedicated In Loving Memory Of
Our Former Pastor And Friend



Rev. Oscar M. Graham, Sr.

By
Saint George United Methodist Church
Maxton, North Carolina

History of Saint George According to the Best Sources Available

Saint George was founded in 1872 under the leadership of Rev. Jonas Gibson. The earliest deed is dated May 31, 1872 from John A. Sanders and wife Ellen, George F. Harris, and wife Julia O. Harris, all of Wilmington, New Hanover County, North Carolina. The deed was made to officers, Rubin Streeter, Samuel Crump, Hector Watson, Daniel Simon, Peter McNair, Benjamin Leach, Will Graham, Gus McQueen, Jim Tuck, Donald Wilkerson, and others desiring a place to worship God. One and one fourth (1¼) acres of land was purchased for one dollar, (\$1.00)

Faithful and dedicated pioneers used axes and saws and cut down trees to build the first church. They gave thanks to God for his loving kindness and tender mercy.

The next pastor was Rev. J.H. Henderson. Rev. Henderson and his members built a crude church made of logs. The cracks were daubed with clay by the hands of faithful women, including Mrs. Mariah Maynor, Ms. Mary E. Maynor, Ms. Lydia McEachin. Ms. Gatsy McQueen, Ms. Eliza Adams, Ms. Ellen McKoy, Ms. Carolina Streeter, and Ms. Lettice McQueen.

In the year of 1885 Rev. Orsborne Letterlough laid the first cornerstone. Rev. Letterlough led his congregation well until his death. The church was built on a firm foundation and it continued to progress. Many ministers followed in his footsteps.

Rev. O.M. Graham was appointed to Saint George in 1959 and again in 1966. Rev. Graham was an outstanding, dedicated preacher. During his tenure as pastor many changes occurred. A Fellowship Hall was built, new pews, new floor and roof were added to the church. Also, during the time Rev. Graham was pastor the Conferences merged and we are now United Methodist. He served us well until his death in 1982.

Saint George has continued to grow over the years spiritually, and in membership.

As time passed, Rev. James H. McCallum, and Rev. Emma R. McLean worked with us diligently.

In November of 1984, God sent us another man of God, Rev. Robert A. Fairley, and Rev. Emma R. McLean who serves as our associate minister. Saint George is still growing in grace and membership.

The ministerial leadership of this church has been outstanding. Significant events and developments have taken place under each administration. We honor these leaders by listing their names and the approximate dates that they served.

1872-1879	Rev. Jonas Gibson
1880-1884	Rev. J.H. Henderson
1885-1886	Rev. O. Letterlough
1887-1888	Rev. C.W. Blaylock
1889-1890	Rev. W.H. Hairston
1891-1892	Rev. A.H. Newsome
1893	Rev. R.A. Cunningham
1894	Rev. M.M. Jones
1895-1896	Rev. G.W. Byers
1897-1898	Rev. J.D. Diggs
1899	Rev. M.H. Bullock
1900-1904	Rev. W.P. Hayes
1905	Rev. W.R. Ziegler
1906	Rev. G.S. Morehead
1907	Rev. J.W. Wells
1908	Rev. W.M. Wells
1909-1915	Rev. William Wells
1916	Rev. R.N. Brooks
1917-1919	Rev. J.W. Simpson
1920-1921	Rev. N.M. Black
1922-1925	Rev. R.D. Bethea
1926-1930	Rev. J.C. Rush
1931-1935	Rev. P.I. Wells
1936-1937	Rev. F.D. Caldwell
1938-1944	Rev. H.C. Gannaway
1945-1947	Rev. W.T. Brown
1948	Rev. O.W. Burrick
1949	Rev. R.D. Sharpe
1951-1952	Rev. J.H. McCallum
1953-1954	Rev. D.S. Harkness
1955-1956	Rev. J.W. Feree
1957-1958	Rev. John S. Mills
1958	Rev. D.H. McLean
1959	Rev. O.M. Graham
1960	Rev. J.D. Ashford
1961-1962	Rev. A.W. Stowe
1963-1965	Rev. R.B. McDrae
1965	Rev. D.H. McLean
1966-1982	Rev. O.M. Graham, Rev. Emma R. McLean
1983	Rev. J.H. McCallum, Rev. Emma R. McLean
1984-1985	Rev. Robert A. Fairley, Sr., Rev. Emma R. McLean

This brief historical account has been developed from material made available from historical publications. It is dedicated to all of those named and unnamed patriarchs who in the past, so labored that we are able to share the present. We are graciously thankful, and indebted to our ancestors for their courageous work.

We are very happy to witness this eventful day, our centennial celebration and have you, our noted guests and loyal members present to inspire us onward.

March on, March on, Oh Church of God. Faint not the miles to Heaven are but few and short.

By: Lillie McKoy, Historian
 Saint George United Methodist Church

Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost
Color: Red or Green

October 20, 1985

10:55 A.M.

Order of Worship

The Prelude	Mrs. Sujette Ellis
The Lighting of the Altar Candles	Acolytes
The Call to Worship	Minister
The Hymn of Adoration - No. 77	"Come Christians, Join to Sing"
The Prayer of Confession	
Lord, we confess our feelings of despair when you have not been the center of our life. We acknowledge and confess that our pride and our self-image has guided more personal decisions than our faith. Create in us O Lord, your clean and fresh spirit that we may begin again. In Christ's name. Amen	
The Lords Prayer	Chant
The Affirmation of Faith	Apostles' Creed
The Anthem	Saint George Senior Choir
The Responsive Reading - Selection No. 597	"With Shouts of Joy" Wilbert McLaurin
The Gloria Patri	
The Scripture Lessons:	
Old Testament Psalm 35:17-28	Rev. William W. Sherman District Superintendent Rockingham District
New Testament - Mark 10:35-45	Rev. E.R. McLean
The Pastoral Prayer	Rev. William W. Sherman
The Mission Offering	Ushers
The Children's Period	Rev. E.R. McLean
The Concerns of the Parish	Mr. Robert Davis
The Offering for Current Expenses	Officers and Ushers
The Response	
The Statement of Purpose	Mr. James Davis McEachin, Jr., Lay Speaker
The Church History	Mrs. Lillie McKoy
The Presentation of Speaker	Rev. William Sherman
The Hymn of Fellowship and Preparation No. 28	"O God, Our Help In Ages Past"
The Sermon	Dr. Joseph B. Bethea Administrative Assistant to Bishop Raleigh, North Carolina
The Call to Christian Discipleship	
The Hymn of Faith and Dedication No. 175	"I Don't Feel No Ways Tired" (Songs of Zion Book)
The Extinguishing of the Altar Candles	Acolytes
The Doxology	
The Benediction	Dr. Joseph B. Bethea
The Postlude	Mrs. Sujette Ellis



The United Methodist Church

RALEIGH AREA

THE METHODIST BUILDING, 1307 GLENWOOD AVENUE

POST OFFICE BOX 10955

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27605

C. P. MINNICK, JR.
RESIDENT BISHOP

September 11, 1985

OFFICE (919) 832-9560
RESIDENCE (919) 782-0520



Saint George United Methodist Church
Maxton, North Carolina

My dear Sisters and Brothers:

My thoughts and prayers will be with you and for you as you celebrate your Centennial, October 16-20, 1985. I am grateful to God for the ministry which has been done by the people of Saint George Church across the past one hundred years. So many people have been touched by the saving and healing love of Christ through your witness for him. As you move into your second century, my prayer is that you will be constantly open to the presence and power of the living Christ who will enable you to continue as effective servants of His Gospel.

Thank you for your faithfulness to Christ and for your service to Him through your local church and our denomination.

Grace to you and peace from God and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sincerely,

C. P. Minnick, Jr.

CPMJr/vm

Enclosure

MINISTERIAL RELATIONS OFFICE

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE/UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1307 GLENWOOD AVENUE
P.O. BOX 10955
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27605
(919) 832-9560



August 22, 1985

The Reverend Robert A. Fairley, Pastor
The Reverend Emma R. McLean
The Homecoming Committee
St. George United Methodist Church
Post Office Box 643
Maxton, NC 28364

Dear Reverend Fairley:

I want to congratulate you, Reverend McLean, the Homecoming Committee and the members of St. George United Methodist Church as you celebrate the Centennial of that congregation.

It is altogether fitting and proper that you should pause to remember the ministry and mission which St. George has maintained in the Maxton community for a century. As a part of the Wesleyan tradition, your witness has reached beyond the Maxton environs to embrace the world.

My prayer for you is that as you honor who you have been and extol who you are, you will challenge who you will be as the "People of God," the "Body of Christ." Remember, then, the heritage that has been passed to you; and do not forget that what you do now will be passed to those who come after you.

Shirley and Josefa, my wife and daughter, join me in this expression of congratulations and best wishes.

Very sincerely yours,


Joseph B. Bethea
Administrative Assistant to the Bishop

JBB:slr

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ROCKINGHAM DISTRICT

of THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Rockingham, North Carolina 28379-0639



October 20, 1985

Telephones: (919) 895-6978
895-6998

The Reverend Robert A. Fairley
Saint George United Methodist Church
Post Office Box 643
Maxton, North Carolina 28364



Dear Robert:

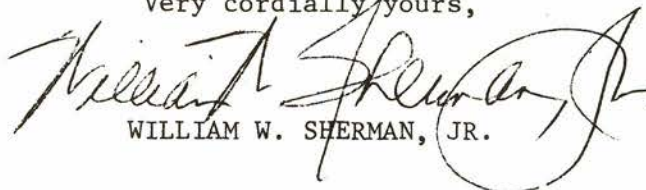
All of the people of the Rockingham District rejoice with you and your people today as Saint George celebrates its one hundredth anniversary! Surely you are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses for this occasion as those whose lives and talents provided the leadership for the organization of this church in days gone by speak words of praise for its continuing life today.

History is a great teacher. Too often we look at the negative side of the past and say, "We'll never make that same mistake again," but history books are full of persons who did make the same mistake again and again. As a part of the Body of Christ - the Church - we look at history with a positive view, to see repeatedly how the power of God in Christ Jesus, His Son, allows us to be reclaimed from the mistakes of the past with power to live a strong and renewed life in days to come.

The witness of Saint George is not found so much in a building as it is in the lives of those who pass through its doors week by week to find refreshment and peace from their daily trials and tribulations elsewhere in the world. The joy of changed lives and the legacy of new opportunities are the marks of Saint George's contribution to the Kingdom of God in this particular community.

Surely God will continue to bless the faithful response and dedication of His people here in this place as they worship and praise Him in the coming years. May the next hundred years be still sweeter!

Very cordially yours,


WILLIAM W. SHERMAN, JR.

WWSJr:ess

WILLIAM W. SHERMAN, JR.
District Superintendent



Greetings From The Pastor

This is indeed a historical time in the life of Saint George Church, and as we come to celebrate our Centennial, we must be thankful for all of God's blessings upon us.

As we take a retrospective view of the past, I urge us all to pay special homage to all those brave and courageous men and women of those early years, who have successfully and satisfactorily finished their course in faith, and now rest from their labors. They humbly and sincerely have maintained their proud tradition of Faith in God, and service to God and mankind, in and out of the Saint George Family.

For more than a century this church has served its people and its community well. Let us continue to hold on to these sacred and vital traditions of our founders and strive...for continued effectiveness in the future.

With reverent gratitude for our heritage; with renewed dedication to the tasks which is ours today; and with increased hope for the future, I challenge each of you as members to pray as we work together as a Christian family for the upbuilding of God's Kingdom in the now.

Let us all remember "We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us."

Grace and Peace

Robert A. Fairley Sr., Pastor



Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

I pause with you today to give thanks to Almighty God for sustaining this church through these 100 years.

We are thankful for those pioneers who saw the need for a church on this very spot, for those who labored to see the first building, and for those who now work to carry on.

In the words of the hymn: *"Through many dangers toils and snares, we have already come; 'Tis grace that brought us safe thus far, and grace will lead us home."*

In this faith I pray that you will continue to work that God's Kingdom will come on earth as it is in Heaven.

In Christian Love,

Emma Ruth McLean
Associate Minister

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Rev. and Mrs. Robert A. Fairley Sr., and Sons
Robert A. Fairley Jr., and Erskine Langston Fairley

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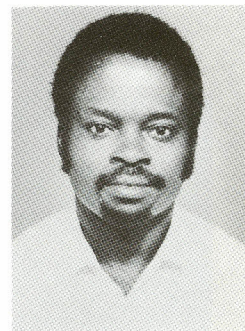
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Patrons

Abrams, Geraldine G.
Applegate, Mildred
Brooks, Elaine C.
Buchanan, Dale
Buie, M.L.
Carter, Katherine
Clark, Cheryl M.
Davis, Dora
Davis, Dora
Gleaves, Barbara
Gleaves, Cora
Gleaves, Lafayette
Gleaves, Norris, Msgt.
Graham, Queen
Hines, Lady
Hunt, Sarah G.
Mallard, Bernice
Mallard, J.H.
Mallard, Betty R.
McEachin, Shirley L.
McEachin, Family
McKee, Edna and Family
McKee, Edna
McKinnon, Doris
McKoy, Rev. Tony
McLean, Rev. and Mrs. J.C.
McQueen, Macie J.
McRae, Marion G.
Miller, Minnie
Monroe, Christine
Monroe, Fannie F.
Murphy's Exxon S.V.C.
Oxendine, Gertrude
Pate, Delia
Smith, William B., Mr. and Mrs.
Strickland, Brenda
Thigpen, Augusta Mr.
Thigpen, Lillie S., Mrs.
Thompson, Jeannie L.

Special Contributions

Mrs. Hattie Shaw Browne
Mitchell's Funeral Home
David Leach, Jr.
Mrs. Eva M. Leach
James McRae



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Student Teacher - West Robeson Sr. High School
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In Memory of William K. McLean

by
Sister,
Reverend Emma Ruth McLean

Congratulations

from

**ST. GEORGE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Senior Choir

"Sing A Song Of Praise"

*In Honor of
Our Dear Mother
and
Grandmother*



Mrs. Luberta Langston Green

*Rev. and Mrs. Robert A. Fairley Sr.
and Sons, Robert Jr. and Erskine*



**Oscar M. Graham, Pastor
ST. GEORGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1959 and 1966 to 1983**

The family of Oscar Mattison Graham, Sr., honors his memory and in recognition of devoted service to The United Methodist Church and to the Robeson County Citizenry, we wish to commend him, posthumously, for exemplary leadership in church, community and civic affairs.

Clementine H. Graham
O. Mattison Graham, Jr.
Nellie M. Graham
Donna J. Graham
Kimberly Gamble

*Congratulations
and
Best Wishes
to
Pastors and Members of
Saint George United Methodist Church
On Your
Centennial Celebration
May God Bless Each Of You!*

DR. AND MRS. JOSEPH B. BETHEA AND DAUGHTER
JOSEFA E. BETHEA

From The Beginning Up Until
Now, We The Three Grandchildren
Of Rev. O.O. Letterlough And Mrs.
Elizabeth Letterlough, The Children
Of The Late Alonzo And Bertha
Letterlough Are Still Striving For
The Growth Of Our Church.

MRS. FRANCES L. McLAURIN
10 Children and
27 Grandchildren

MRS. FLORA L. BARNES
5 Children and
6 Grandchildren

MR. ELWOOD LETTERLOUGH
1 Child
1 Grandchild

*In Loving Memory Of Our Dear Wife,
Mother and Grandmother
Mrs. Dorcas B. McEachin*

*By Husband, Children
and Grandchildren*

*David Sr.
Gladys
David Jr.
Gwendolyn
Robert*

*Jackie
Bruce
Brent
Mark
Shamyra*

Effie



**In Loving Memory
of
My Brother
Calvin Ingram, Sr.**

"Still Loving And Missing You"

Louise Graham Harris

**In Loving Memory
of
My Husband
Rev. James H. McCallum**

Wilhelmina McCallum
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*Congratulations...on your past years
of faithful service in the Maxton
area. You bear the name-sake of my
home town in the great state of South
Carolina.*

*May your torch radiate all over the
world in the coming years so that
men can see our Savior's Promise.*

*Blessings of love and peace abide
with you.*

Always,

Marguerite J. Townsend

Compliments

**East Liberty Lodge
No. 86**

Maxton, N.C. 28364

In Memory

This Dedication To The Glory Of God And In Loving Memory
Of The Late Morgan Culbreth Family.

The Deceased

J. Morgan Culbreth
Ida Culbreth
Mable Culbreth

Rufus Culbreth
Elizabeth Culbreth
R.J. Culbreth

Given By

Mrs. Hattie M. Hall
Mrs. Cora Simmons

Ms. Thelma S. Culbreth
Ms. Nancy L. Culbreth

**In Loving Memory
of
Moses Nelson**



The Nelson Family

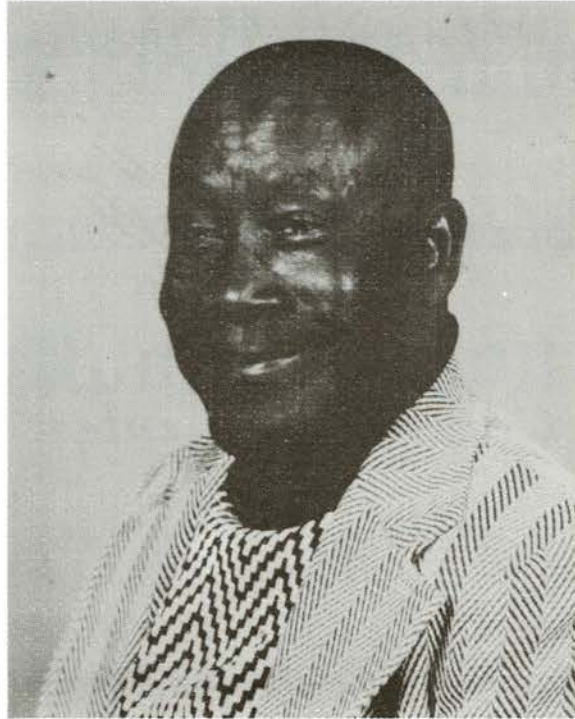
Mt. Olive United Methodist Parrish

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and
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**Millers Chapel UMC
St. Pauls, N.C.**

*Fond and Loving Remembrance
of*



Mr. Henry James Evans

1915-1985

Former Trustee of St. George United Methodist Church

MRS. ARLENE EVANS (WIFE)
Maxton, North Carolina

In Loving Memory of

Rev. Robert B. McRae

Mattie McRae

Mrs. Gertrude Gleaves

Husband of Alma McRae
—Pastor of St. George 1963-1965

Mother-in-law of Alma McRae

-Member of Piney Grove United Methodist Church

Dear Friend of Alma McRae

—Loyal member of St. George during
Rev. Robert McRae's Pastorate

by

MRS. ALMA MCRAE
2003 CORINNA DRIVE
FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

*Congratulations and Best Wishes
For The
Centennial Celebration
of
St. George United Methodist Church
Maxton, North Carolina*

Mrs. Isabella Page
Mr. and Mrs. Earl Page and Family
Mr. and Mrs. Willie N. McEachin and Family

In Christian Love

*We Congratulate You
On Your
Centennial Celebration*

Mr. and Mrs. James B. and Edith L. Dean

Congratulations

Saint George United Methodist Church

On Your

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

GOOD LUCK AND MUCH SUCCESS
WITH PRAYER

MR. AND MRS. CONRAD LETTERLOUGH

*In Loving Memory
of
My Mother*

Mrs. Leslie Jones

BY

HERBERT L. JONES

2325 15th St., N.W. No. 108
Washington, D.C. 20009

**We Celebrate With The Sisters
And Brothers Of**

**St. George
United Methodist Church**

In Recognition Of A Century Of Service
To Their Community For The Cause Of
Jesus Christ!

**Saint Luke United Methodist Church
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Best Wishes

On Your
Centennial
Celebration!

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CHURCH
Maxton, N.C.

In Memory Of

JAMES N. DAVIS

Born: June 6, 1906

Died: May 4, 1964

KATE T. DAVIS

Born: Sept. 13, 1915

Died: April 24, 1983

By: Robert E. & Bernice Davis

In Memory Of:

Mr. James G. McKoy, Sr.

Mrs. Sadie F. McKoy

Mr. James G. McKoy, Jr.

Mr. Daniel M. McKoy

Mrs. Christabell L. Perry

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*In Loving Memory
of my Mother
and Grandmother*

MRS. AUGUSTA HOOPER

Whom I Miss Very Much.

Son, Irvin L. Pankey and
Grandchildren —
Edmund, Irvin II and Altamesa

Bill's Fast Save

At The Stop Light
Maxton, N.C.

844-3757

*We Love You
Mom*

God Bless You!

*Kim & Family
Lil & Family*

*God Bless You On Your
100th Birthday*

Sujette & Hubert Ellis

The Church In The Heart

**Who Builds A Church Within His Heart
And Takes It With Him Everywhere,
Is Holier Far Than He Whose Church
Is But A One-Day House of Prayer.**

—Horris Abeel Beer

By: Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Hargrove, Sr.

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*In Memory
of
Our Loving Husband
and Father*

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by
Wife And Children

*Roberta, Norris Eugene,
Robert, Marion, Geraldine
and Benjamin*

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Sunday: 1p.m. to 6 p.m.

*In
Loving Memory of*

Mrs. Martha McRae
by

*Mrs. Ellen B. Griffin
Maxton, North Carolina*

*In Loving Memory
of
Our Parents*

*Mr. Jim B. Fairley
and
Mrs. Mary J. Fairley*

The Fairley Family



The Pembroke UMC Circuit
Post Office Box 1914
Pembroke, North Carolina 28372

September 29, 1985



St. George United Methodist Church
C/O The Reverend Robert A. Fairley
Post Office Box 185
Maxton, NC 28364

Dear Brothers and Sisters In Christ:

I see that October 16-20, 1985, has been set aside for the celebrating of the centennial of your church. The members of the Pembroke Circuit and I commend you on this and we are glad to know that you are preparing a commemorative booklet to preserve for posterity what happened on this memorable occasion.

Know of our love, our pride over your achievements, and our prayers for your continued success, to the glory of God and the betterment of the people.

May you have a great week, and may God bless you with grace and strength to continue to fulfill all of your functions of your ministry and mission in your community and in all the world.

Sincerely Yours,

Rev. John A. Campbell

Beauty Spot * New Zion * St. James

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Laurinburg, N.C.

**In Loving Memory of
Rev. Fairley McBae**

ELIZABETH DAVIS
Maxton, North Carolina

*In Loving Memory
Of My Mother*

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Another
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Rockingham District

**Congratulations and
Best Wishes**

*McQUEEN
Medical Center, P.A.*

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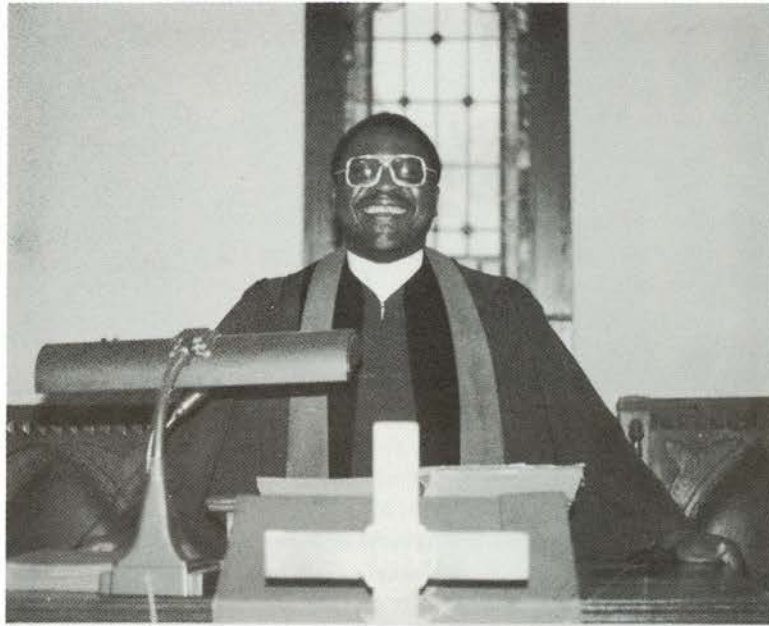
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