

(REV) JAMES LEE MARTIN, SR – XID-2662

Commentary: James Lee Martin SR, was born in 1866 in Yadkin County, NC and died in 1935 in Raleigh, Wake County. He was the husband of Eleanor Marks Upchurch. “Ellie” was a daughter of Bartley Jefferson Upchurch, who in turn was the son of Gilbert Upchurch and a grandson of Nathan Upchurch, head of Upchurch clan # 3.

Most of the Biofiles on the Allied Family website deal with individuals who lived in the 18th and 19th centuries. With this Biofile transcription we now venture into the 20th century. This should bring great satisfaction to a select group of family historians. For example, this Biofile was transcribed by Becky Bradley, a granddaughter of James Lee Martin SR. Personally I was gratified to see my efforts to define my “Uncle Martin” reach fruition. Increasingly Allied Families should be able to digitalize more Biofiles from the 20th century. They will bring joy to dozens more today and hopefully to hundreds more in the years to come. That we are placing historical facts in reach of all is definitely a huge bonus.

RPU 22 May 2017

Acknowledgements: A big shout out to Becky Bradley, a volunteer at our Cary Facility, for her Herculean efforts in transcribing this Biofile.

(1) Tombstone at Inwood Baptist Church shows Rev. James Lee Martin b. 1866 d.1935 (21)

(2) Some details of James Lee Martin, Sr., given in APRIL 1977 Newsletter of Inwood Baptist Church. See James Lee Martin, Jr., for a copy. Rev. James Lee Martin, Sr. was pastor at Inwood 1902-1907 during which time he met and married Eleanor Upchurch. He moved on to the Lumberton area and subsequently to S.C. but reserved a plot in Inwood Cemetery.

(3a) See Notes of RPU 28 FEB 1978 visit to Lena Perry Home.

A. Aunt Eleanor met Mr. Martin at Inwood Church. He was in school part time at Wake Forest at the time.

(3b) See notes of RPU 24 FEB 1980 visit to Eleanor Upchurch Martin

James Lee Martin, Sr. born 2 JAN 1866 (Yadkin Co., NC – Hamptonville); died 2 DEC 1936. He married Eleanor Upchurch 30 DEC 1896.

(4) See Chart 15 NOV 1980 Mary Garnette Martin to RPU

James Lee Martin, Sr. is a son of William Martin born 1811 Yadkin County, NC and Nancy Cummins. William and Nancy married 1853.

(5) See Notes of RPU 4 NOV 1984 call to Eleanor Upchurch Martin

James Lee Martin, Sr. died in Raleigh, NC where he and his family were living at the time. (RB July 2016 – his family consisted of himself, his wife, and daughter, Eleanor Upchurch Martin)

(6) See Letter 15 NOV 1984 Mary Garnette Martin to RPU

Papa (RB July 2016: Rev. James Lee Martin) evidently was preaching at Creedmoor, NC. when he had a meeting at Inwood Baptist Church and met and married (30 DEC 1896) Mama (Eleanor Marks Upchurch II). They lived at first at Creedmoor and their first child, James Lee Martin, Jr., was born there 18 DEC 1897. He moved back to Inwood and bought what is now called the Dave Smith House. There, Beatrice and I were born (2 NOV 1901 & 22 DEC 1904). About 1907, Papa moved back to Creedmoor. Papa always had a garden and a bit of land to supplement his salary. We never had much money but we had plenty of religion of his kind. He had his “convictions” (that word has stuck with me) and preached hell fire and damnation! I don’t know how he educated us. Beatrice and I started to school in Creedmoor. Andrew was born there (12 MAY 1908). In 3 or 4 years we moved to Stem not far from Creedmoor and Papa rented a carriage for the trip. I felt like a princess. Dan was born there (4 DEC 1913). About 1913, we moved to Gorman, NC, about 6 miles from Durham. Papa was on speaking terms with the Lord. He came in one day and said the Lord told him to build a church in Gorman. I thought he was milking and the Lord came out and talked with him. As I grew older, I found the deacons had about as much to do with it or more than the Lord. Anyway, he bought a lovely farm. He raised tobacco and managed to send Beatrice and James to Elon from there. He built his church. It has been added to and rebuilt and is now a lovely church. Several years ago, I went to their 50th Anniversary. Sometime, I take my granddaughter from Duke when they are in school out to the church or to our old home-place for a picnic. Eleanor was born there (2 AUG 1916). Soon James was ready for Medical School and Beatrice for Meredith so Papa sold our home and we moved to Fuquay Springs near Raleigh. Papa had to have the money to send them to school. I went to High School at Fuquay. About 1924, we moved to Tabor City, NC. In 1929, Papa went back to Yadkin Co. where he was raised. He preached at Jonesville several years and came back to Raleigh and had several country churches. He died doing the thing he loved most – preaching. Yes, my cousins did call Papa, “Uncle Martin”. We called Uncle Miley Perry “Uncle Perry”.

(7) See Notes of RPU Visit 1 DEC 2001 to Edna Lois Upchurch

Lois reports Uncle James (JLM, Sr.) and Aunt Ellie rented the Dave Smith house in the Inwood Church area.

(8) Note: GORMAN is in Durham Co., NC - RPU

(9) Notes of RPU Visit 3 OCT 2005 with Eleanor Upchurch Martin

Eleanor reports that JLM, Sr. and Aunt Ellie had two children who died at birth. One is buried at Gorman, and one is buried at the original location of the First Baptist Church of Creedmoor, N.C.

**(10) LIVING STONES History of Inwood Baptist Church – 2000 Wake Co., NC –
MINISTERS – PAGE 46:**

During the last years of the 19th century and the first year of the 20th Inwood Church had little continuity of pastoral leadership. G. N. Cowan had served only the first eight months of 1897; J. C. Owens served nine months. T. H. Leavitt was there for only seven weeks. The church was not unanimous in extending a call to C. R. Taylor, voting 20 to 11, and Taylor remained with them for only eleven months. W. S. Oldham served for only one year.

CHAPTER 1 – 1877-1902

1877-1879	J.C. MARCOM	A.D. HUNTER – called – said
1880-1887	H.W. NORRIS	“no”
1887-1889	J.N. BOOTH	C.R.TAYLOR
1890	E.G. BECKWITH	S.W. OLDHAM
1891	W.S. OLIVE	1902-1907 <u>J.L. MARTIN</u> created a
1892-1893	O.L. STRINGFIELD	turning point/ md ELLIE Upchurch
1894-1897	A.D. HUNTER	1923-1929 & 21 JAN 1940 -17 JUL
1897	G.N. COWAN	1941(Died) A.S PUTNAM
1897-1899	J.C. OWENS	30 JAN 1930-28 FEB 1932 – C. H.
1899-1900	A mix:	NORRIS
	T.H. LEAVITT	1916 – L.E.M. FREEMAN –Pastor for
	C.R.TAYLOR – considered	1917 (1915-1918)
		1930 – JESSE McCARTER called

20 MAY 1951 – Parsonage dedicated keys to VICTOR DOWD

(11) Notes of RPU & Monk Perry visit to home of Robert Leonard Johnson “Bobby” on 17 MAY 2008: Re my Uncle **James Martin** living in the Dave Smith house – Bobby said it must have been a small house on the premises as family records show Dave Smith always lived in the house. He did once rent a room to BILL SAYLER. For many years the colored man George Tucker lived in the house.

(12) NC BIRTHS – 5 SEP 2005 – Peterson – Granville Co.

Walter Martin	4 Dec 1913	Male	Granville	J L Martin	Eleanor Upchurch
Garvin Lee Brooks	29 Sep 1916	Male	Granville	Grally Brooks	Eleanor Upchurch
Tharington	2 Apr 1928	Male	Granville	Garret Tharington	Mamie Upchurch
Thornton	27 Jan 1929	Female	Granville	Teana Thornton	Mayme Upchurch
James Edward Thornton	6 Sep 1930	Male	Granville	Jeanate Thornton	Mamie Upchurch
Upchurch	26 Feb 1942	Female	Granville		Mabel Upchurch
James Robert Guess	31 Jul 1947	Male	Granville	Robert Guess	Mabel Upchurch
Watt Sterling Carrington	25 Oct 1948	Male	Granville	Samuel M Carrington	Nellie G Upchurch
Frank Upchurch Myers	7 Feb 1953	Male	Granville	John Albert Myers	Frances Upchurch
Barbara Elaine Webb	2 Oct 1952	Female	Granville	Geo Thomas Webb	Eula Lee Upchurch
Cynthia Webb	12 Dec 1960	Female	Granville	George Webb	Eula Upchurch
Dian Webb	27 Nov 1954	Female	Granville	George Thomas Webb	Eula Lee Upchurch
Gary Webb	22 Jun 1969	Male	Granville	George Thomas Webb	Eula Lee Upchurch
Gloria Webb	28 Aug 1959	Female	Granville	George Thomas Webb	Eula Lee Upchurch
Kellie Ann Webb	14 Dec 1963	Female	Granville	George Thomas Webb	Eula Lee Upchurch
Michael Webb	4 May 1967	Male	Granville	George Webb	Eula Lee Upchurch
William Floyd Webb	22 Nov 1957	Male	Granville	George Thomas Webb	Eula Lee Upchurch
Teresa Lee Byrd	2 May 1970	Female	Granville	Jessie James Byrd Jr.	Ruby Mae Upchurch
Towede Jessie Byrd	23 Jun 1969	Male	Granville	Jessie James Byrd	Rudy Mae Upchurch
Margaret Ruth Upchurch	10 Dec 1904	Female	Granville	Waller Henry Upchurch	Addie Ruth Barbee
Upchurch	22 Oct 1916	Female	Granville	W H Upchurch	Havens Carroll
Frances Marian Upchurch	6 Feb 1918	Female	Granville	C A Upchurch	Frances Reynolds
Upchurch	13 May 1921	Female	Granville	Oscar Upchurch	Mary Clari
Willie Berte Upchurch	13 Feb 1923	Female	Granville	W H Upchurch	Frances H Carroll
Upchurch	1 Jan 1925	Female	Granville	Oscar Upchurch	Mary Clark
Maude Upchurch	28 Apr 1928		Granville	Floyd Upchurch	Mattie Bullock
Upchurch	10 Jul 1931	Female	Granville	Floyd Upchurch	Mary Bell Virginia Hicks
Upchurch	26 Feb 1942	Female	Granville		Mabel Upchurch
Jimmie Dorsey Upchurch	15 Jun 1946	Male	Granville	Roy Upchurch	Beatrice Pettiford
Roger Clifton Upchurch	16 Mar 1944	Male	Granville	Roy Upchurch	Beatrice Bettiford
Ruby Mae Upchurch	6 Jun 1949	Female	Granville	Roy Upchurch	Beatrice Pettiford
Danny Clark Upchurch	21 Aug 1953	Male	Granville	Ray Upchurch	Beatrice Pettiford

(13) Inwood Baptist Church Cemetery, Wake Co, NC

Recorded by RPU 19 JUN 2006. RPU notes below meld details on stones and church list printed 16 FEB 2000 later inputs shown by ()

Family Martin

437 James Lee Martin, Dr. M.D. 1897-1975 5/0438

438 Eleanor (Upchurch) Martin 1875-1968 D/O 419; W/O 439

439 Rev. **James Lee Martin, Sr.** 1866-1935

(14) This letter rec'd 16 NOV 1982 by RPU from Eleanor Upchurch Martin:

Dear Phillip,

It was nice to get your letter. I am always pleased when I hear about our folks with someone about my Papa. He was so special to me and a wonderful man.

I am sending you a picture that was made for the Church at Gorman where **Papa** preached and where I was born in 1916. This picture was made in 1935 and he was not in

the best of health then but he was still a handsome man. He died in 1936, or rather December 2, 1935. I will send you a copy of the little write-up Mary prepared for the Gorman brochure and, of course, you can add the Church in Harnett Co. I am sure that he preached there when we lived at Fuquay.

I do not have a picture of Mama. Siddell's made one of her (I did not like it) and, as you know, the Siddells are now dead, the studio closed, and records unavailable.

I will send a copy of some snapshots of Mama that I do like and have framed if they would be of use to you.

I also have something for you the next time you are in Raleigh. Come by, now that I have your curiosity up! It is just something I want kept in the Upchurch Family. And, you will eventually get Grandpa and Grandma's pictures.

Let me know if I can ever be of help to you and please let me know of anything new you find out about Papa and Mama.

Sincerely,
Eleanor (From Eton Rd, Raleigh, NC)

November 12, 1982

(15) Inwood Baptist Church Cemetery – Swift Creek Township – Wake Co, NC – members of the Martin Family

Martin, Eleanor Upchurch, b. 1875, d. 1968

Martin, James Lee Jr., M.D., b.1897, d. 1975., b. 1866, d.1935

Martin, James Lee, Rev., b. 1866, d. 1935

In September, 1897, the church elected J. C. Owens to serve as pastor for the remainder of the year, and in October they elected him pastor for 1898. Re-elected for 1899, he served only half of that year, resigning in May because he had been appointed a missionary to China.

Following Owens' departure there was a period of instability in pastoral leadership and an absence of unity in the congregation. On June 25, 1899, T. H. Leavitt was called to serve the rest of the year, but seven weeks later, on August 13, he resigned. On August 26 a committee was appointed "to secure a pastor." On September 23 they offered two names, C. R. Taylor and former pastor A. D. Hunter. On October 21 the church voted unanimously to call Hunter but he declined the call. A new committee was appointed, with two of the three members of the first committee serving on it. That committee reported on November 25 with the names of "Brethren Lewis and Pippins" who would accept a call. The committee was discharged, Pippins and C. R. Taylor were nominated, but Lewis was not. C. R. Taylor was elected by a vote of 20 to 11. The motion to make the vote unanimous "was rejected by a vote of two." Taylor began his work as pastor on February 24, 1900 and conducted services regularly through September 22, 1900. At the service on that Sunday, however, "Bro. Yates reported that the church was behind on missions and that as it was our pastor's last time, his salary should be collected." And Taylor stated "that he would furnish a supply until the end of the year or until the church should call a pastor."

At the next church conference, held on October 29, 1900, the names of three candidates were placed before the church. On the third ballot S. W. Oldham was elected to serve for one year, and then the vote was made unanimous. At the conference on Saturday, November 24, which was presided over by one of the defeated candidates for the pastorate, it was announced that Oldham had accepted the call and would begin his work as pastor in January, 1901. At the end of that year the lack of unity was still apparent. At the regular church conference on the last Saturday in October, 1901, when the church was choosing a pastor for 1902, two men were considered—S. W. Oldham, the incumbent, and J. L. Martin. After two ballots the church had failed to elect either man and it was decided to postpone the next ballot until Sunday morning. On Sunday, Oldham took his name off the ballot and "Bro. J. L. Martin" received a majority of the votes." His call was then made unanimous, and, in spite of the division at the time, his pastorate proved to be a turning point in the life of the church.

The five-year tenure of J. L. Martin, therefore, brought much-needed continuity to the church. Martin came on an annual call, beginning on January 26, 1902, and his call was renewed annually through 1907. During that time he married Eleanor ("Ellie") Upchurch, daughter of B. J. Upchurch. In September, 1906, he presented his resignation as pastor. The committee asked to find a new pastor was unable to do so, however. Voting unanimously, therefore, the church went back to Martin, and he accepted their call. At the end of that year, however, he did leave the church.

The other gift, announced on April 13, 1976, was a bequest in the will of Dr. James Martin who left to the church "a thousand dollars a year until the year 2002 for the up-keep of the cemetery." Dr. Martin's father had been pastor of Inwood Church from 1902 until 1907, and his mother was the daughter of Jeff Upchurch, who had donated the land for the cemetery. Two years later,

At the request of the Martin family and on recommendation of the Properties Committee the church voted to place the money willed to the Inwood Baptist Church by Dr. James Martin for the upkeep of the cemetery into a trust fund and to use only the interest and that the trustees of the church have supervision of the fund.

(17) Mortgage Deed – Rhamkatte Swift Creek Township – Wake Co., NC

Deed Book: Page:

F

R

M

This Mortgage Deed 309/507 made 26 DEC 1916 by FJU & wife, GHU & WLU to secure a loan of \$1600 from Cora N. Hunter land given go W.N .Jones, trustee [Note: It appears FJU & GHU used the loan to retire the loan secured by 295/22 from **J.L.MARTIN**. The 3 tracts pledged in 295/22 are repeated here with no new details. However, FJU & GHU have now brought a 4th tract into the pledge -----which of necessity involved WLU-RPU]

Add to Adjoining Land owners : W. A. Myatt

TRACT #4:

Begins where Atkins Rd & Colonial Rd cross & forms the Fuquay Rd & the Holly Springs Rd

From Center of Cross Roads runs N 82 degrees W 496 feet

Thence N 00 degrees 10 feet East to a pin 1275.5 feet

Thence S 86 degrees E 187.1 feet

Thence S 40 degrees 45 feet E to center Athens Rd. 1232 feet

Thence S 49 degrees 15 feet W with said Rd to begin 666 feet

Being lots # 11 & 12 in W.A. Simpkins Farm 19 Acres

Being land conveyed to FJU, GHU & WLU by W.A. Simpkins per BK 275 pg.

119

This mortgage Deed was cancelled 26 APR 1925(?)

Official: D.C. SMITH, J. P.

Filed 28 DEC 1916

Registered 4 JAN 1917 BK 309 PG 507

(18) Ramcat-Swift Creed Township – Wake Co., NC

Deed Book: Page:

F
R
M

This ASSIGNMENT appears to trace back to the sale of Lot #6 given to Eleanor Marks Upchurch II by her father ---said sale recorded in 595/597 & filed 1 NOV 1930 ---. Lot #6 sold to Cornelius Johnson & wife Lonie Johnson. Assignment made 1 DEC 1938. This Assignment necessary became a note & mortgage for \$1200 given by Cornelius Johnson re the above sale was lost when the home of FJU burned in 23DEC 1935.

This Assignment Involves:

Parties of the 1st PART: Eleanor Martin, Individually & as Administrator of the Estate of **J. L. Martin** of Chatham Co., NC, FJU, GHU

Party of the 2nd PART: WLU [here listed as “WILL” U]

Original note made by CJ & wife on 18 OCT 1930 to 1st Part for \$1200 and to Berdon Bell TTE for 1st Part and DOT recorded 604/121

As of 1 DEC 1938 debt reduced from \$1200 to \$771 on 3 DEC 1937 CJ & wife execute a new note for \$771 payable to 1st part with a new DOT to W. Telman Shaw TTE for FJU & GHU on same land as recorded 604/121 and the new DOT recorded 787/

Now a disjointed part of the assignment

- FJU & GHU indebted to WLU for \$219
- 2nd Party pays \$219 (WLU pays ??) to 1st Party--- in consequence 1st Party given all rights to the mortgage indebtedness to 2nd party (WLU) [Not clear to RPU]

Witness: Mable Blake 1 DEC 1938

Sara Allen, Asst. CSC

Filed 20 DEC 1938

Registered 11 JAN 1939 794/247

(19) Mortgage Deed- Rhamkatte- Swift Creek Township- Wake Co, NC

Deed Book: Page:

F
R
M

This mortgage deed given 5 JAN 1915 (295/22) BY GHU & FJU & wife to **J.L. MARTIN** to secure a \$1600 loan at 6% payable \$500 – 5 JAN 1916 ; \$500 – 5 JAN 1917; \$600 5 JAN 1918. [It appears this Mortgage cancelled 28 DEC 1916 as GHU & JFU found another source –see BK 309 PG 507-RPU] ---3 Tracts

TRACT #1 – Adjoins BOB Holman & BJU

Begin at O.T. Simpkins Store Atkins/Rhamkatte Cross Roads

Thence West 456 Yds to St John’s Ch – 1368 feet

Thence South with Bob Holoman line to BJU Tract 357 YDS = 1071 feet

Thence with Patts to Adkin Rd – 387 YDS =1161 feet
Thence with said Rd to Begin – 480 YDS = 1440 feet
Containing 35-40 acres. Being part of land formerly owned by
GEO.T.COOK and sold by him to WJU & BJU and mortgaged to estate of EG
REID(REED)(READ) & by him conveyed to J.W. Harden & by Harden to BJU
& by BJO) to GHU & FJU BK 275 PG 414

TRACT #2 – Adjoins D.C. SMITH

Begin at center cross of Colonial Rd., Adkins Rd, &Holly Springs Rd.
Thence N 49 degrees 15 feet E with Adkins Rd. to Corner Lot #2-7 – 86 ft
Thence S 40 degrees 45 ft. E to pin in line of Lot #14
Thence S 49 degrees 15 ft. W to center of Colonial Rd
Thence N 76 degrees 45 ft. to with said Rd. 525 ft. to BEGIN
8.07 A – Being Lot #3 of W.A. SIMPKINS Farm.
Being Tract conveyed to W.B. WILDER by W.A.SIMPKINS 275/118 and by
WILDER to GHU BK 283 PG 140

TRACT #3 – Adjoins R.W. KING, D.C.SMITH, et al.

Begin Forks for Rhamkatte Rd. at O.T. SIMPKINS Store
Thence with Atkins Rd. to OTHO WILSON AVE. & BJU Property
Thence with said Avenue to OTHO WILSON line
Thence to Old Tryon Rd. & thence with said Rd to Beginning –containing 22
acres less 8A sold to R.W. KING being the tract conveyed by JOHN HARDEN to
GHU & FJU Bk 280 PG 257

FILED --5 JAN 1915

REGISTERED 11 JAN 1915 DEED BK 295 PG 22

(20) RHAMKATTE-SWIFT CRK – TSP – WAKE CO, NC

Deed Book: 595 PG: 597

F: 1 Nov 1930

R: 12 Nov 1930

M: 16 Oct 1930

This D of T made 10 DEC 1930 by GHU, FJU & wife to **J.L.MARTIN** & wife of
Chatham Co, NC to secure an indebtedness of \$500 due 10 DEC 1932 @ 6 1/2
cancelled 4 DEC 1935

Beginning – At Cross Roads Store occupied by O.T. SIMPKINS

Thence West to St. Johns Church – 456 yds – 1368 ft

Thence South with BOB HOLMAN line to path – 357 yds- to property of BJU
1071 ft.

Thence East with side path to YADKIN RD. -387 yds. -1161 ft.

Thence with said Rd. to Beginning - 480 yds. containing 35-4 Acres 1440 ft.

Being part of land formerly owned by GEORGE T.COOK and conveyed to him
by WGU & BJU and mortgaged to the estate of E.G.READE and conveyed by
him to J.W. HARDIN and then to BJU

(21) RAMCAT-SWIFT CREEK TSP – WAKE CO. NC

DEED BK: 595 PG: 597

F: 1 Nov 1930

R: 12 Nov 1930

M: 16 Oct 1930

Re: Lot #6 Given to Eleanor Marks (U II) Martin by her father – 35.5A

J.L.MARTIN & ELEANOR, HIS WIFE AND GHU & FJU & WIFE for \$100 convey to CORNELIUS JOHNSON & wife LOVIA Lot #6 [Description agrees with earlier information – RPU]

OFFICIALS: F.L. PASCHAL, NP 16 OCT 1930

J.E.OWENS, NP 18 OCT 1930

E.N. PENNY, DEP CSC 1 NOV 1930

HUNTER ELLINGTON, ROD

(22) RPU Extract of Booklet for Swift Creek Baptist Church Celebration of 125 Years-
Swift Creek TSP, Wake Co, NC Part I, Pastors:

PASTORS WHO HAVE SERVED

△ Alvin Betts	1879-1881	△ C. C. Wheeler	1943-1950
△ J. M. White	1882-1884	△ Paul West, Jr.	1951-1952
△ Johnson Olive*	1885	△ Proctor Smith	1952
△ D. McLeod	1885	△ Paul M. Pridgen, Jr.	1953-1955
△ N. S. Jones	1886-1888	△ Paul West, Jr.	1956-1958
△ J. R. Maynard	1889-1891	△ Dan Silver	1960-1962
△ J. M. White	1892	△ John H. Baxley	1963-1967
△ C. H. Utley	1893-1895	△ James E. Sams	1968-1974
△ A. D. Hunter	1896-1897	△ John Dill	1975-1978
△ D. C. Britt	1898-1899	△ Earl E. Howard	1979-1983
△ C. A. Upchurch ¹	1899-1905	△ Elmer Joyner	1984-1987
△ J. L. Martin ²	1905-1907	△ Steve Roy	1988-1991
△ C. H. Norris	1908-1013	△ Michael Branscome	1992-1996
△ W. P. Campbell	1914	△ James Sides	1998-2001
△ R. E. Atkins	1915-1939	△ William Dennis, III	2002-
△ Alvis Whitted	1940-1942		

¹ = CAREY ALMON U, SR
² = JAMES LEE MARTIN, SR

*Rev. Johnson Olive had accepted the pastorate of Swift Creek Baptist Church for the year 1885. Rev. Olive died at his residence in Apex, North Carolina on Saturday, January 24, 1885 and is buried in the Apex Cemetery. At the time of his death, he was pastor of Swift Creek, Cary, Holly Springs, and New Bethel Churches. He never preached at Swift Creek as pastor.

Many of the early pastors served four churches at a time preaching at each one week-end a month. The first full time pastor at Swift Creek Baptist Church was Rev. Paul Pridgen, Jr. in 1954.

As was the custom of the times in the early years, pastors were "called" on an annual basis. The call was for the calendar year. This practice continued at Swift Creek Baptist Church until 1952. Rev. Paul West, Jr. was the last pastor to face an annual call.

Interim pastors who have served since 1979 are Dr. James Heaton, Steve Roy, Joe Zimmerman, Donald McNair, and Gerald Richards.

In 2004, Swift Creek Baptist Church called its first full-time Minister of Children and Youth, Mr. Christopher Dawson. Part time Ministers of Youth since 1979 include Bill Howard, Douglas Lax, Joseph Kennedy, Jr., Melissa Livengood, Patrick Smith, Tim Wiles, David Price, James Upchurch, and Christopher Dawson.

In 2004, Swift Creek Baptist Church licensed Christopher Dawson for the ministry. Carlisle Franks, who grew up in the Church, was ordained to the ministry by Calvary Church in Goldsboro, NC.

The following were ordained for the ministry while members of Swift Creek Baptist

:

△ C. H. Utley
△ R. E. Atkins

△ E. B. Booker
△ J. L. Atkins
△ Joseph Kennedy, Jr.

(23) Note: this narrative originally written by Mary Garnette Martin re her father, **JLM, Sr.**, and sent to RPU by her sister, Eleanor Upchurch Martin in a letter 16 NOV 1982:

The **Reverend James Lee Martin** was born Jan. 2, 1866, in Yadkin County, N.C., he attended school there, and participated in the programs of the Baptist Church. He experienced the call to the ministry, and answered it in his early life. He was educated at Wake Forest College and at the Baptist Theological Seminary, at Louisville, Kentucky.

After he returned from Seminary he married Eleanor Upchurch of Raleigh, N.C., in 1898. She and their six children survive. Mrs. Martin lives at Myrtle Beach, S.C., with her oldest son, Dr. James Lee Martin, Jr. Their other children are: Dr. Walter Dan Martin, Mullins, S.C.; Mr. W. Andrew Martin, Farmville, N.C.; Mrs. George H. Andrews, Pittsboro, N.C.; Mrs. J.W. Bradley, Raleigh, N.C., and Mrs. T. Bryant Hough, Rockingham, N.C.

Mr. Martin served forty year in various Baptist churches in North Carolina. Among them were Creedmore, Stem, Tabor City, Jonesville, Fuquay Springs, and Gorman. He came to the Gorman community in ----- (I do not know the date and hope you can supply it). He organized the Gorman Baptist Church, and led in its first building program. This was

an achievement that he took particular pride in. He loved the people of this community in a special way, and Gorman was always dear to his heart.

At the time of his death in 1935, he was pastor of New Hope Baptist Church, Raleigh, N.C. He came to the end of a full and rich ministry, and rejoiced over the many friends he had made, and was thankful for the blessings he had receive in fellowship with the fine people he had worked with during a rich and rewarding ministry.

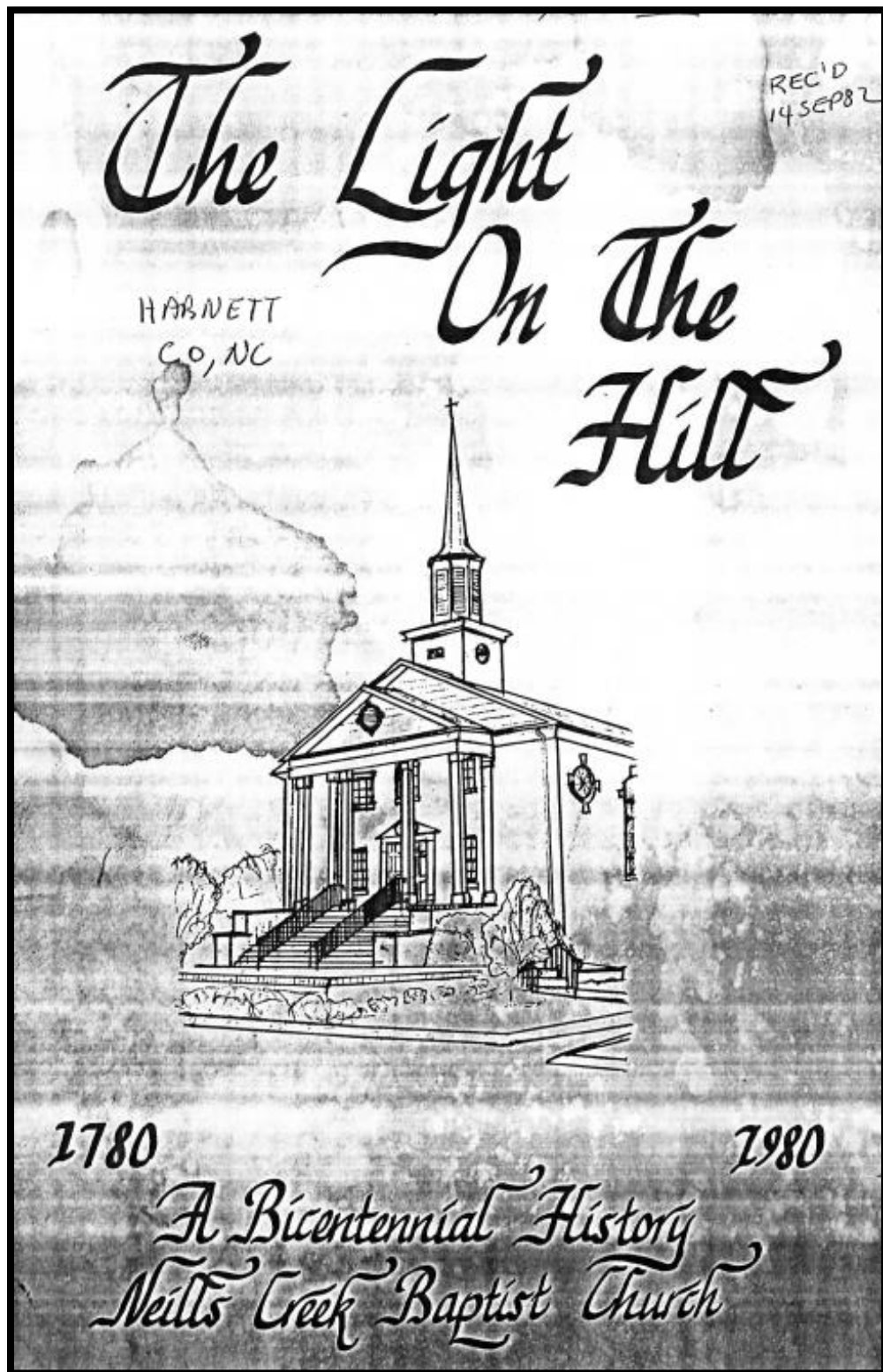
Phillip in order for you to read this, I had my husband copy it as my writing is terrible! You can bring it up to date and word it better. The facts are here, of course, though Mama has died and my oldest brother, James Lee Martin, Jr., has died since this was written.

(24) Photo of James Lee Martin, Sr.

This photo of James Lee Martin, Sr. was provided to RPU in a letter received 16 NOV 1982. She reports that this was taken in 1935 when he was not well and just prior to his death on 2 DEC 1935. A copy of that letter is being made a part of the Biofile of JLM, Sr. as is an enclosure prepared by Mary Garnette Martin, the sister of Eleanor Upchurch Martin who wrote the 16 NOV 1982 letter.



(25) The Light On The Hill-A Bicentennial History – Neills Creek Baptist Church



Although he retired in 1916, the Reverend Holleman returned to the church in August of 1919 to celebrate a centennial. No reason for citing 1919 as the hundredth year of the church was given, but the newspaper article that reported the forthcoming celebration also observed that the church dated back to at least 1800. Reverend Holleman was to speak on the history of the church, but no record of his talk remains.¹

In 1917, Cadwin Hugh Norris became pastor for one year. Norris had been born in 1883 and educated at Cary High School and at Wake Forest University. He had been a trustee at Campbell College at one time. His pastorates spread across eastern North Carolina in the Little River, Raleigh, Sandy Creek, and Mt. Zion Associations. He served the Cary Baptist Church from 1922 to 1930.²

World War I ended on November 11, 1918 and Green Titus Mills became pastor for one year in 1919. He was born in western Wake County in 1878 and baptized in 1891. He studied at Buies Creek Academy and at Wake Forest College and was ordained in 1896. Mills served as pastor to numerous churches in the eastern part of the state before his death in 1944. There were 172 members of the church in 1919 and an enrollment of 114 in Sunday School.³

James Lee Martin served as pastor in 1920. He was born in 1866 in Yadkin County and attended school there and was active in the local Baptist church. He graduated from Wake Forest College and attended the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. He preached in North Carolina for forty years before his death in 1935.⁴

Neill's Creek Church Ministers

Elder William Taylor 1780 - 1798
Elder Nathan Gully 1803
Elder David Smith Williams 1839
Elder John Purefoy 1851 - 1852
Elder Kimbrough Jones 1853 - 1859
Elder Luke Howard 1855 - 1859
Elder Jesse Howell 1860 - 63 1867 - 71
Elder P. W. Dowd 1864
Elder J. C. Marcom 1865 - 1866
Rev. James Monroe Holloman 1872 - 1916
Rev. J. Allen Betts 1916
Rev. Cadwin H. Norris 1917 1934 - 1938
Rev. Green Titus Mills 1918 - 1919
Rev. James Lee Martin 1920
Rev. Sidney A. Edgerton 1921 - 22
Rev. Albert Clyde McCall 1923 - 1927
Rev. Arthur Samuel Gillespie interim 1932
Rev. Ford A. Burns 1939 - 1942
Rev. George Scott Turner 1943 - 1956
Dr. Jack Arlen Holt 1958 - 1961
Rev. Donald Keyser interim 1962
Rev. Emory T. Holden 1963 - 66
Dr. John T. Bunn interim 1966-67
Rev. James E. Allen 1967 - 1971
Rev. George Scott Turner interim 1971 - 72
Rev. Archie Gerald McKay 1972 - 1979
Rev. Robert (Bob) L. Coats interim 1979 - 80
Rev. David Thomas 1980 -

(26) A Report of Efforts by Robert Phillip Upchurch to learn more about his Uncle JLM, Sr. “Uncle Martin” who was a Baptist ministerespecially on a trip to NC in the fall of 1994.

In advance called Becky Bradley, GD/O Uncle Martin, in Raleigh and arranged to meet with her and her mother, Eleanor (M) Bradley (the sole surviving child of Uncle Martin) [Beatrice Martin Andrews is still living – B. Bradley April 2017] on the fall trip – exact date to be set.

28 SEP 2005 (Wednesday) – Spent a good part of the day in Granville and Durham Counties, NC in an effort to locate the 3 churches he served there. In the end and after follow-up achieved success.

1st visited Creedmoor First Baptist Church which is on East side of NC HWY 50 just as you enter Creedmoor from Raleigh. Talked to the secretary, Mrs. Mary Lou Brogden, (she and her husband have deep roots in the area.) She produced a sheet, copy attached, showing that Uncle Martin was the 2nd minister of this church serving during the year 1898. Mrs. Brogden knows of no written history of the church. However, there is a historian I should contact:

Toni Anne Wheeler

Home 919-575-6421 (tried Wednesday night – got recording)

She is a teacher. Lives at Butner-try at night. Toni may know Mary Upchurch who is related to John & Peggy Green (919-528-2235)

Drove to Stem arriving about 9:30a.m. Met with Betsy (Mangum) Breedlove at her Antique/Gift Shop next to Town hall in Stem. Bought a Granville Co. Book from her. Her phone number 919-528-0875. Met a man (her husband?) Business 919-528-3347 Met her mother, Catherine (Coley) (Mangum) Overton – age 88. Got several leads – Gooch Church, Methodist Church...both false leads. Another = Tally Ho Baptist Church which turns out to be the right one (based on follow up)

After following several false leads, I visited Tally Ho Baptist Church about 1-1/2 miles north of Stem. There met Ed Winn, a member of 3 years, who had come to do work. He said the church was 150 years old and I should contact Robert Wilkins. He is about 70 and a long time member. Go North to next road (Wilkins Rd.) turn right for 2-3 miles. He lives on the left at 3146 Wilkins Rd. His number 919-528-1311. I went there but Mr. Wilkins not at home.

In the evening I called Mr. Wilkins and got a recording.

In the a.m. of the 29th I called Mr. Wilkins and explaining interest. He will try to help. He was born 1936. The church celebrates 150 years in 2000. He gave me names to call.

Evelyn (Whitfield) Jost about 80 (919)-528-2253. I talked to her- not much help. She thought the Tally Ho Church was first at Providence. Her husband – retired Colonel. They were away for many years.

Ann Riley (919-528-3953) (husband Keith) helped on the history written in 2000. I called with no answer

Robert Oliver – present minister (5 years) – cell (919)-690-7785 called. Got recording.

Later in a.m. on 29th, Robert Wilkins called back. He has located a copy of the history - 5 years. He will send me a copy. I will send him \$10. It records James Lee Martin Minister 1897-1900 / First Minister 1850

Reached Gorman about 11:00a.m. – Talked to secretary who is new:

Teresa Pope – church number – (919)-688-3947

Address of church – 3315 E. Greer St. – Durham, NC 27704

Teresa gave me 3 names to contact:

Blanche Thornton – (919)-477-8075 (secretary 30 years)

Grace Fogelman – (919)-682-5929 (church clerk)

Daphne Sparrow – (919)-688-3757 (her family owned much land in area)

Took pictures of portraits of ministers in Conference Room including

#1 = James Lee Martin 1916-1920

AM of 29th:

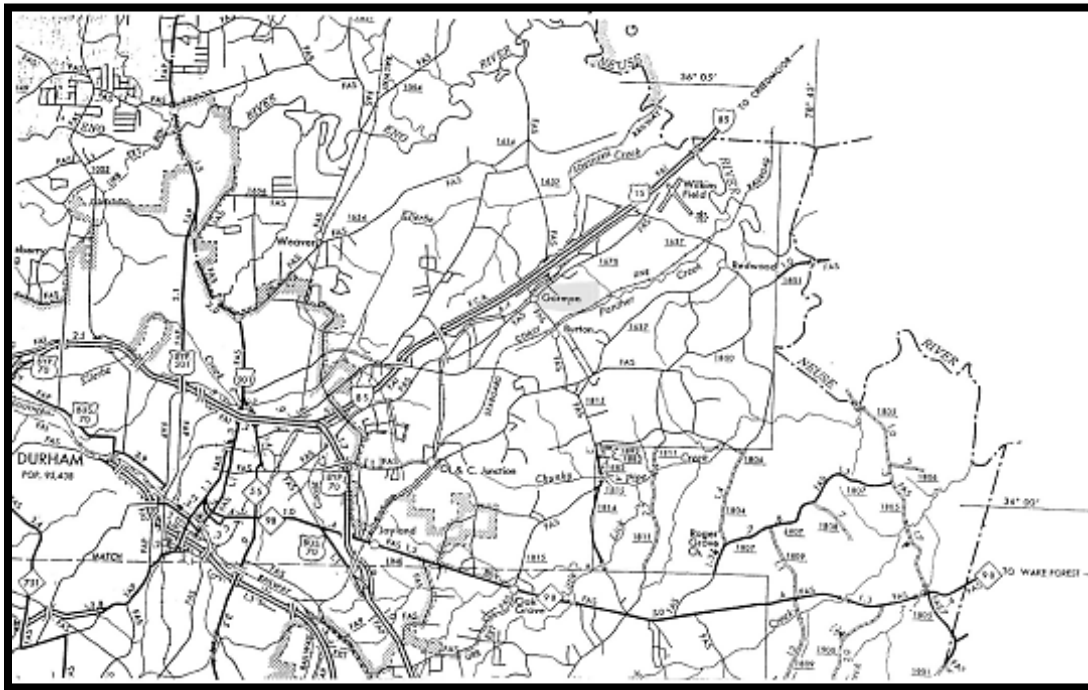
Talked by phone to Blanche Thornton. She says there was “sort of” a predecessor to Gorman Baptist Church it was Piney Grove Baptist about a mile away from the present church. However the Piney Grove membership declined to 54. (It was on Harrison Road) and there are two versions of what happened next:

#1 Piney Grove ceased to exist

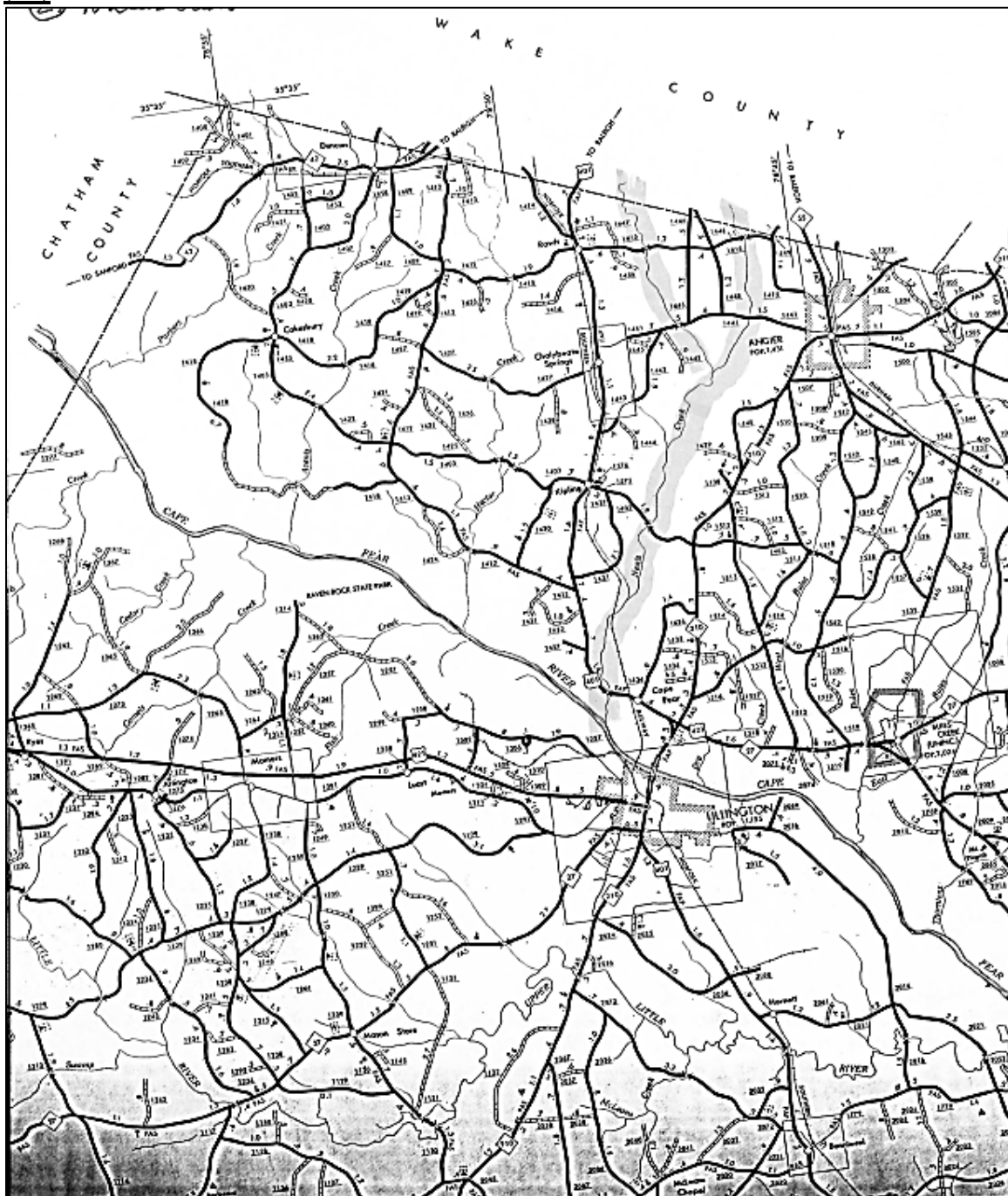
#2 Piney Grove morphed into the church at Gorman

Blanche believes #1 to be the case. In any event church records show that land for Gorman Church was given by Charlie T. Husketh and that **James L. Martin** was the organizing minister of this new church and he led the building program. The church now is very large and imposing. The original church on the site appears in a painting in the sanctuary. I did not see this.

Site of Gorman in Durham Co, NC



(27) Neill's Creek on which Neill's Creek Church is located



(28) RE HISTORY OF CREEDMOOR FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

THE HISTORY OF OUR CHURCH

The Creedmoor First Baptist Church was organized in December, 1895, by the following: from Concord Baptist Church, Johnnie Clark, Thomas B. Lyon, Dr. J.F. Sanderford and Ralph Currin, Sr.; from Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, R.H. Rogers, J.H. Bowling and S.J. Rogers; from Roxboro First Baptist Church, H.T. Williams; from Durham First Baptist Church, T.J. Howerton; and from Flat River Union, Richard Peed.

The charter members were Reverend M.P. Davis, Arizona Davis (later Mrs. Sam C. Lyon), Edith Davis (later Mrs. Sion Rogers), Sion Rogers, Thomas B. Lyon, Lucy Freeman and J.F. Freeman.

Dr. J.F. Sanderford was elected deacon and secretary of the First Baptist Church, Creedmoor, N.C., December, 1895. The church was received in the Flat River (Union) Association, December 14, 1895. The location of this building was on Elm Street, diagonally across the street from Mrs. Margaret McIntosh's home. The graves of the church cemetery that were located at the rear of the old church building remain there today.

The first church structure was remodeled in 1924 with a seating capacity of 300. This was in use until the present structure was erected and occupied in 1950. In 1965 the Educational building was added.

From the year 1896 until present, the sequence of pastors that have served this church is as follows:

1896-	Reverend M.P. Davis	1953-1955	Reverend Robert T. Liner
1898-	Reverend J.L. Martin	1956-1959	Reverend Jay Jones
1900-1915	Reverend G.P. Harrell	1959-1966	Rev. C. Ray Frye
1915-1918	Reverend H.G. Bryant	1967-1974	Reverend David Blakely
1918-1920	Reverend L.M. Hobbs	1974-1976	Reverend Tommy R. Wright
1920-1922	Reverend Paul Hartsell	1976-1977	Reverend C. Ray Frye-
1922-1923	Reverend J. Brendell		Interim Pastor
1923-1924	Reverend E.R. Harris	1977-1979	Reverend James McBride
1924-1927	Reverend A. Lamonds	1980-	Reverend Richard Shaw
1927-1931	Reverend Charles Gellespie	1980-1981	Dr. Alan Neely-
1931-1933	Reverend C.E. Baker		Interim Pastor
1933-1939	Reverend S.L. Morgan, Sr.	1981-1991	Dr. Donald A. Williams
1939-1941	Reverend W.C. Francis	1991-	Dr. Bill Clemmons-
1941-1947	Reverend Linwood Jordan		Interim Pastor
1947-1949	Reverend E. Lamar Kincaid	1992-Present	Reverend Don Brown
1949-1952	Reverend J.R. Blanchard		

Submitted by: (Mrs.) Katie L. Currin

Church Historian

Updated - September, 1992

(29) NC MARRIAGES, 1759-1979

Ella Upchurch

birth: 1875 Of Wake Co.

marriage: 30 Dec 1896 Swift Creek Twp, Wake, North Carolina

spouse: **James L. Martin**

(30) Excerpt of Marriage Record for MILEY (NMN) PERRY and BESSIE ESTILLE UPCHURCH – Item given to RPU by their grandson Miley Albert Perry “Monk” on 20 MAY 2008. (Full copy filed with Bessie Estille Upchurch)

On 17 DEC 1900 J.F.REDFORD applied to the Register of Deeds in Wake Co., N.C. for the authorization of marriage for:

MILLEY PERRY, age 24, of Raleigh, NC [MILEY NMN PERRY]

s/o REDEN PERRY of Auburn, NC –living

and M:H PERRY of Auburn, NC – living [Nancy Helen Denton]

to B.E. Upchurch, age 28 of Raleigh, NC – [Bessie Estille Upchurch]

D/O B.J.U. of Raleigh, NC – living [Bartley Jefferson Upchurch] and

A.O.U. of Raleigh, NC – living [AURORA RAY]

W.H. HOOD, Register of Deeds, signed the License with J.F. REDFORD swearing that there was no impediment to the marriage

There was a Return to the Register o Deeds as Follows:

MARTIN **JAMES LEE MARTIN, SR** a missionary Baptist minister united in matrimony Miley Perry and B.E. Upchurch on 19 DEC 1900 in Swift Creek Township, Township, Wake County, NC-

Witnesses:

R.E.L. YATES [Robert E. Lee Yates]

A.F. TAYLOR [Albert Ford Taylor]

D.C. SMITH [David Columbus Smith]

all of Raleigh, N. C.

At the residence of B. J. UPCHURCH