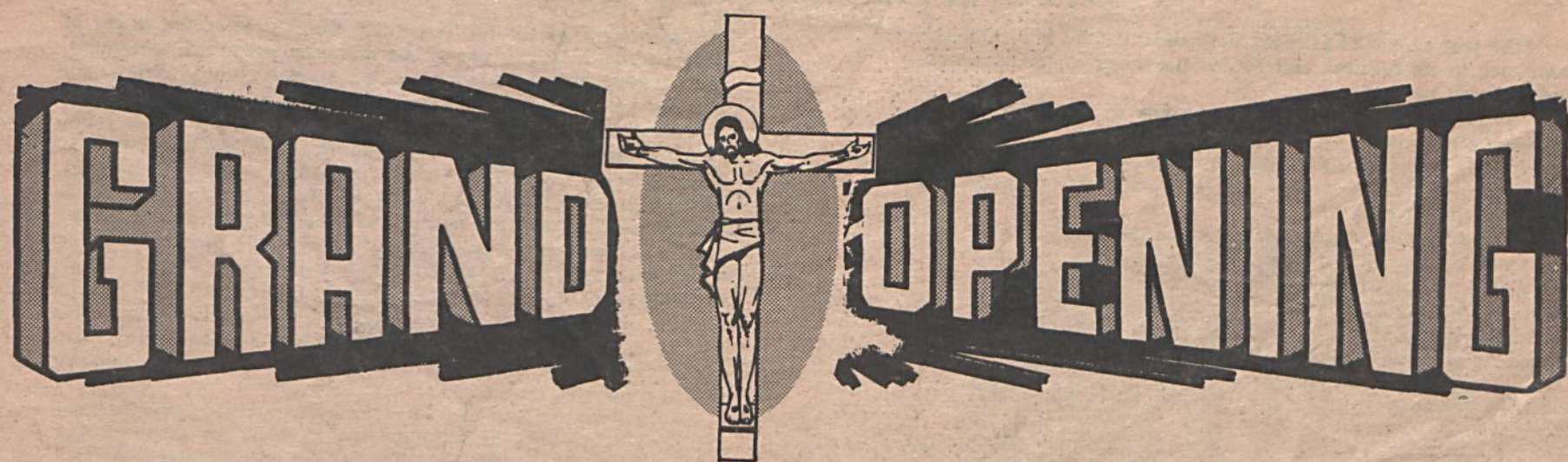


Negro - 1st



OF THE
Cosmopolitan
**NEW FIRST METROPOLITAN
BAPTIST CHURCH**

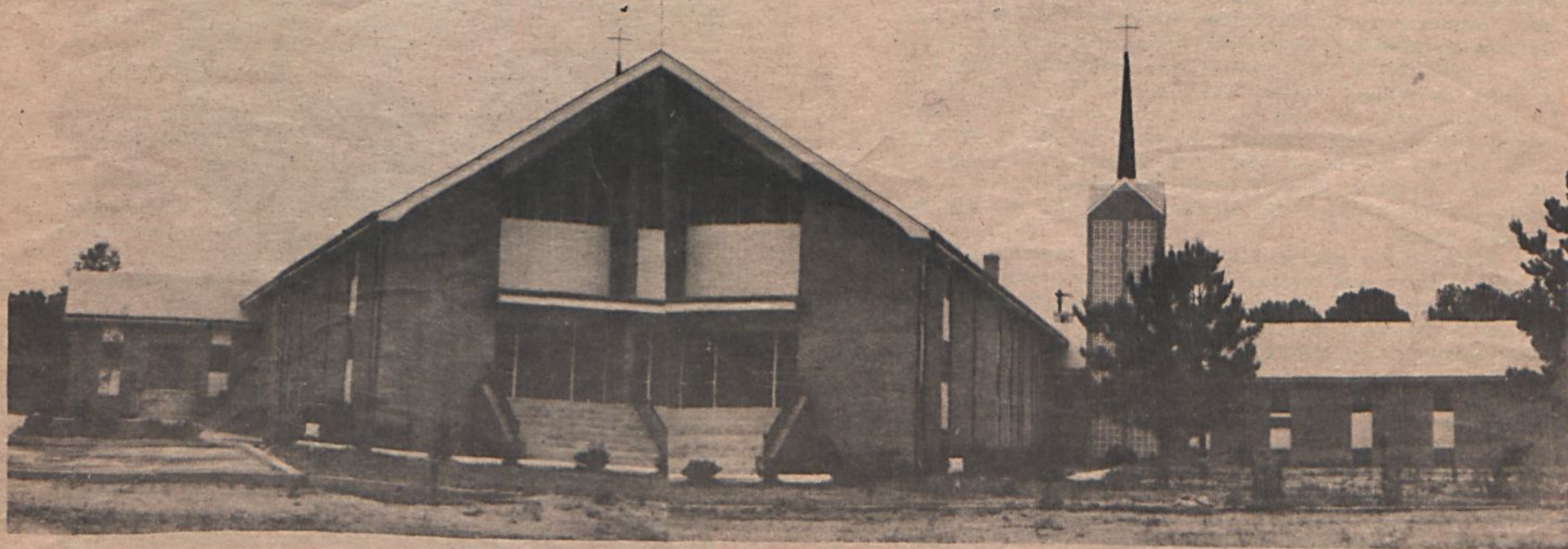
Rev. Willie B. Lewis, *Pastor*

(Formerly Fayetteville Street Baptist Church)

1515 CROSS LINK ROAD
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA



Sunday, July 12, 1970



NEW FIRST METROPOLITAN BAPTIST CHURCH
Cosmopolitan

CHURCH HISTORY

The true object of History is to show us the life of the human race in its fullness and follow the story of its continuous and difficult evolution.

"What so ever ye shall ask in prayer in My Name believing ye shall receive."

In our many years of our work here we have seen God solve many problems, we can say with absolute assurance God answers faithful prayers.

A small group of white people saw the great need of religious training among the colored people of this community.

Before this property was purchased by the trustees of this church, it was used as a church for white people known as "The Little Mission Church." Reverend John T. Pullen, serving as pastor. In its origin this building was very small and the membership was 16 in number.

An agreement for the purchase of this property is as follows:

Raleigh, N. C., August 1st, 1895, an agreement between W. H. Matthews of the first part and A. T. Mitchell, T. B. Edwards, Prince Crenshaw, Joseph High, and Sylvester Jefferies, trustees of the second part—

Matthews agrees to sell them a building known as Fayetteville Street Little Mission Baptist Church.

Through he years the church has shown much progress.

The following persons served as Pastors: Reverend Robert Blake organized in part, extent of pastorate, six months; Reverend Edwards, three years; Reverend A. T. Price, two years; Reverend R. S. Johnson, three years; Reverend M. S. Elaw, three years; Reverend Dozier, six months; Reverend Alston, six months; Reverend W. H. Mitchiner, three years.

Reverend M. F. Jones, vice moderator of the Johnston County Baptist Association, the extent of his pastorate, 21 years.

Reverend J. W. Jones, Pastor-Moderator of the Johnston County Association, our present pastor, a native of Wilson Mills, N. C., who is very much alive, the extent of his pastorate, 30 years.

Turning the pages of History we see the clerks from origin until present: Sister Lucy Smith, Brother M. G. Watkins, Sister Corinna Jeffries, Brother Genaders Lucas, Sister Carrie Haywood, and Brother W. F. Peterson.

TRUSTEES: Brothers Joseph High, T. B. Edwards, Sylvester Jefferies, M. G. Watkins, Scarborough, Sidney Dunn, Paul Whitaker, T. R. Herndon, James Phillips, Samuel Harris, Joseph Whitaker, Arthur Rand, Lyn Johnson, James Buch and W. F. Peterson.

DEACONS: Solomon Steptoe, Sylvester Jeffery, Joseph High, Allen Mitchell, Daniel Fleming, Bennett Davis, Edgerton, Prince Crenshaw, Ceton Hinton, M. G. Watkins, N. F. Perry, A. T. Mitchell, H. S. Baker, Robert Fox, Henry Davis, William Rogers, J. R. Hopkins, George Lassiter, Clay Barritt, Wm. Scarborough, Sidney Dunn, Mingo Kelley, Earle Standback, Mally Banks, T. R. Herndon, Joseph Whitaker, Frank Dunn, James Bunche, Willie Grier, Roosevelt Smith, Joseph Hines, J. B. Jones, Rufus McCullers.

We now turn to the organists and choristers of the past and present, namely: Mrs. Mannie Taylor, Mrs. Minnie Lou Drake, Mrs. Lettie Allen, Mrs. Pattie Alston, Mrs. Corinna Jeffery, Mrs. Inez Little, Mrs. Elizabeth Mitchell, Mrs. Deba Davis, Mrs. Elizabeth Jones, Mrs. W. F. Peterson, Mrs. Annie Bell Patridge, Mrs. Lillian Branch, Mrs. Pearl Smith, Janie Lindsey, and Benjamin Thomas.

The following people served as choristers through the years:

Mr. George Henderson, Mr. Geo. Peppers, Mr. William Trice, Mrs. Louise Cheatham. We can see two Secretaries faithfully serving in every department of this church in the persons of Mrs. Carrie Haywood and Mrs. Corinna Jeffries, with Sunday School as the only organized group of the church, with more members being added to the church the late Mrs. Carrie Haywood and Mrs. Corinna Jeffries organized the Olivia Circle, a club for the betterment of the community which later became the Willing Workers Circle, a very strong club in our church, the only club serving the church for more than forty years, with only three presidents, namely: Mr. W. H. Wheeler, Mrs. Corinna Jeffries and Mrs. Effie Rogers. We can also see the usher board in 1912 with only two members serving the whole church, namely: Mr. Howard Rand and the late Mr. Samuel Harris.

After many years, the ladies decided to organize a board. A junior board was organized and today we have the usher board organized into three groups, the late Mr. Samuel Harris serving as president for the men and the late Mrs. Carrie Haywood serving as president for the ladies. We had only one choir and today we have five (5) choirs.

The church grew so much under the pastorate of our present pastor, Reverend J. W. Jones, until we had to organize more groups through the faithful and untiring labor of Deacon H. S. Baker, Sister Carrie Haywood, Brother Alex McNeil and others. We organized the group captains club which we still have today. We were able to go down and dig our basement and make more room for the group captains who had grown in number from 12 to 34 who had the honor of giving the church \$5,000.00 in a single rally.

Reverend M. F. Jones, our former pastor, died October 9, 1931. Reverend J. W. Jones was called in May, 1932. The church

was without a pastor for 7 months. Shortly after the death of Reverend M. F. Jones, one of our members made this statement, and I quote: "Lord we will never get another Jones." The party was not speaking from the point of name but from the point of service, however. The church did not only get another Jones by name but a man who is fully equal to the task. There has been quite an improvement in finance, attendance and membership. When Reverend Jones came to us we had an enrollement of 248 mmbers; today we have more than 1,000 members on roll. We have 400 members on our Sunday School roll. Reverend Jones found Fayetteville Street Church a wooden struchture which was destroyed by fire in 1949, and today under his leadership we have a stone structure. A monument to Reverend Jones who led the church to greater heights. As time goes on may God raise up leaders for our churches who will have the moral courage to stand for what is right.

When we think of the years Reverend Jones served as pastor here in the city of Raleigh, we think of the vast number he has led to Christ; Reverend Jones not only helped in church but has given freely of his means to help some wanderer to return home. We are living in a time of confusion and doubt; people need Christ.

Reverend Jones' life covered phases of the church, Loyal to God's Word, pulpit strength, worship music, fervent evangelism, consecration to the leadership and power of the holy spirit, are a few of the many elements that fuse into the glorious task of building a great church.

Reverend Jones had the honor of marrying more couples, and preaching more funerals, than any other preacher in North Carolina. He served a number of years as moderator of the Johnston County Association, a member of the Lott-Carey National Convention, Ex-officio of the Usher Board, Willing Workers Circle, The Carrie Haywood's Bible Club, the First Aid's department, Sunday School, Deacon Board, the Timothean Bible Class, the Charter Bible Class and the Floral Society.—REV W. B. LEWIS.

Our mind turns to the poet and I quote: "Lead on Oh King eternal: till our fierce winds shall cease and holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace."

The Church was purchased for the sum of \$800.00—\$50.00 in bonds, \$750.00 to be paid at \$100.00 per year.

PREACHERS PRODUCED BY THE CHURCH: Reverend L. E. Reverend F. Terry, Reverend Hall, Rev. H. Miles, Rev. Williams, and Rev. Eugene Hooper.

At the passing of the late Rev. J. W. Jones, the church went in search of a new leader. The Holy Spirit directed the pulpit committee to Wilmington. After hearing many ministers, yet their minds stayed on Wilmington.

The congregation called Rev. Lewis. He accepted and came to the church for service in March, 1963. He took the church, under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, and success has been the result. Many members have been added to the church. In 1965 the W. B. Lewis Gospel Chorus was organized. The tots choir was organized in 1967.

The church has grown socially. The outreach of the church to help prepare housing for the community of Raleigh by helping to sponsor Rich Park, in Method.

The church budget has tripled.

The new church building is evidence of the progress, and aspiration of this dynamic congregation, with its daring leader, who won't take anything but the best for an answer.

The grand opening of the First Cosmopolitan Baptist Church, formerly known as the Fayetteville Street Baptist Church, Raleigh, will be held Sunday, July 12, at 11:00 A. M.

The old church building on Fayetteville Street is about 90 years old.

The Rev. W. B. Lewis, pastor of the church, said:

"Seven years ago, the old church purchased four lots behind the church, running down Hunter Street for expansion purposes. The city came through three years later and extended Salisbury Street which took practically all of the land that the church had purchased.

"We were advised by the Redevelopment Commision that our church was in the Redevelopment Program in Southside, and that we should seek a new location.

"The members purchased a lot on South Blount Street for the new church site, and discovered later that the thoroughfare would eventually cross this piece of land. We were then advised not to build there. So, on Cross Link Road, near Hadley Road, the church purchased six acres of land for The First Cosmopolitan Baptist Church.

"The cost of the new development is about \$450,000. The parking lots will accommodate 600 cars. The Sanctuary will seat about 900 and the Fellowship Hall will seat about 500. Also included are 32 classrooms, and a chapel, seating 130.

"Future developments will include swimming pool, tennis courts and gymnasium. The church is fully air conditioned.

"The church will hold its initial service Sunday, July 12. Morning worship service will be held at 11:00 A. M. The united worship service will be held at 3:00 P.M., featuring as our guest speaker, Dr. M. C. Southerland, president of Virginia College and Seminary, Lynchburg, Virginia.

"The public is cordially invited to attend these services," Rev. Lewis concluded.



Opening Of The New Church Program

DR. M. C. SOUTHERLAND

Guest Speaker Pastor



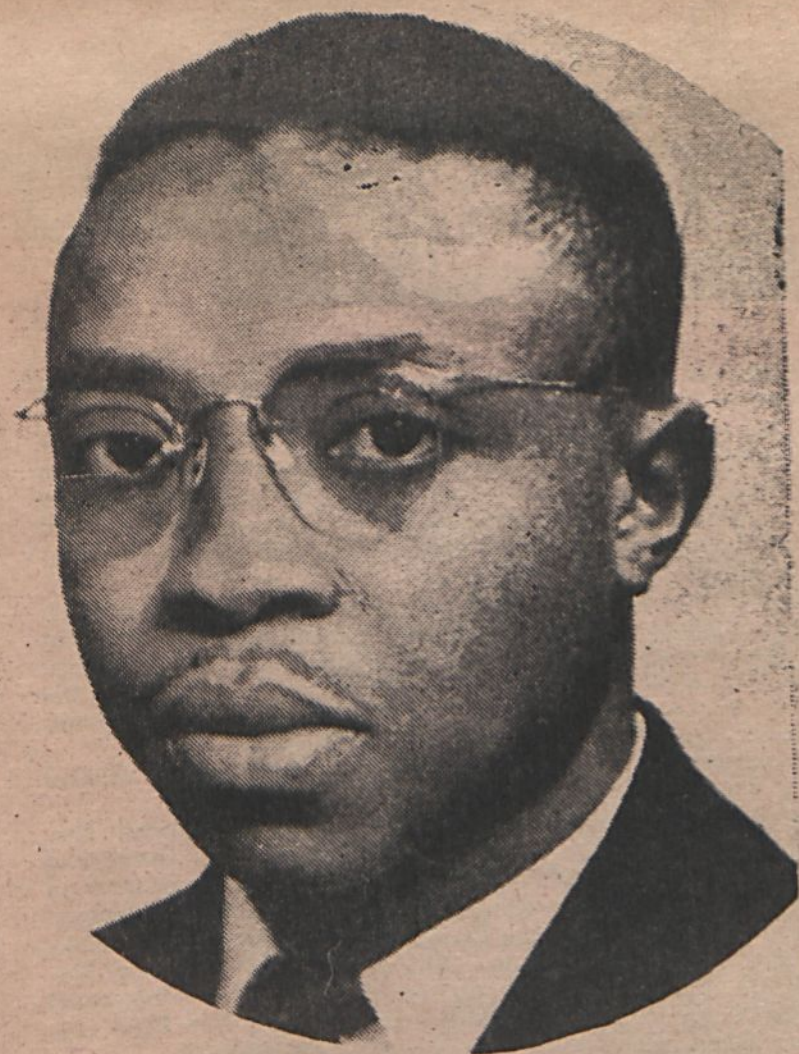
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PASTOR W. B. LEWIS

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PORTRAIT OF THE PASTOR AND HIS FAMILY



Rev. Willie B. Lewis is the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Willie B. Lewis; a former member of the St. John Baptist Church, Red Oak. He is a graduate of Nash Central High School, and received his A.B. and B.D. degrees from Shaw University. He has done further study at South Eastern Seminary, Wake Forest.

Rev. Lewis has been an outstanding leader everywhere he has worked and will always be remembered for the progress he had made spiritually and financially in the following churches and areas:

Bethlehem Baptist Church, Raleigh, where he improved the physical structure and also brought new spirit to the church.

Wake Chapel Baptist Church, Millbrook, where he rebuilt it in two years and set aglow the "fire of the Holy Spirit" in the hearts of the congregation.

New Bethel Baptist Church, Clayton, which he found leaking and, even on some Sundays because of rain and cold in the church, he had to preach in his overcoat. He left this congregation in 1955 with enough money to build a new structure, which was built and now stands in his honor.

Then he was called to the Shiloh Baptist Church, Wilmington. In December of 1955, the church and parsonage were destroyed by fire leaving only the Bible which did not burn; and can be seen now in the church. The church only had \$7,000.00 to start a new building.

During the next four years he led the church to rebuild the church and parsonage, at a cost of \$180,000. He stayed at this church nine years leaving the church with a very small indebtedness. Under his leadership, many members were added to the Kingdom of God. Many programs and organizations were established.

They expressed a high appreciation to him for what he had done for them. The Board of Deacons and the congregation got together and told him to make an itinerary and anywhere in the world he wanted to go they would pay for it. He had dreamed of going to the Holy Land and this was his chance and he did visit the Holy

Land, Germany, France, Greece, Italy, Africa, Syria, Lebanon, India and Istanbul.

At the passing of the late Rev. J. W. Jones, the Holy Spirit directed the congregation of the Fayetteville Street Baptist Church to Wilmington. Rev. Lewis came to Raleigh in 1964 and started on the building project. During the first four years, land was purchased and over \$60,000 was raised to start the new church. The church was completed in twelve months.

Rev. Lewis is not only active in his church and religious work, but works with the community diligently. He has served as president of the Nash County B.T.U. Convention, president of the Ministers' Alliance, Wilmington; chairman of the TV and radio program of the Interracial Ministerial Association of Wilmington, Clerk of the Johnston District Baptist Association.

He also received an award for outstanding community services from the Phyllis Wheatley YWCA in 1961.

He now holds membership in the following organizations: Historian of the General Baptist State Convention of N. C.; member of the executive board, General Baptist State Convention; member of the executive board of Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention; NAACP; National Baptist Convention, Inc.; Clerk of the Wake Baptist Association; Business and Professional Men's League of Raleigh; Board of Directors of Rich Park, President of the Interracial Ministerial Association of Raleigh, and pastor of the New First Cosmopolitan Baptist Church, 1515 Cross Link Road, Raleigh.

He is married to Mrs. Lillie Hilliard Lewis, who has been a great companion to him in his work. She is a graduate of Fayetteville State University and teaches at Brentwood School in Raleigh.

They have two daughters: Wilhelmina Jeanetta, a Ligon High School graduate, who is now a sophomore, majoring in Music Ed., at Virginia State College, Petersburg, Va., and Liteta Yvette, who has completed the sixth grade at Crosby-Garfield School and will be attending Fred J. Carnage Jr. High School in September.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES—Mr. Frank Grant, *Chairman*



BOARD OF DEACONS—Mr. James Bunch, *Chairman*



SENIOR MISSIONARIES—Mrs. Lillie H. Lewis, *President*



SENIOR USHER'S BOARD—Mrs. Gregg Johnson, *Chairman*



LADIES' AUXILIARY TO TRUSTEES—Mrs. Mary Peterson, *Chairman*



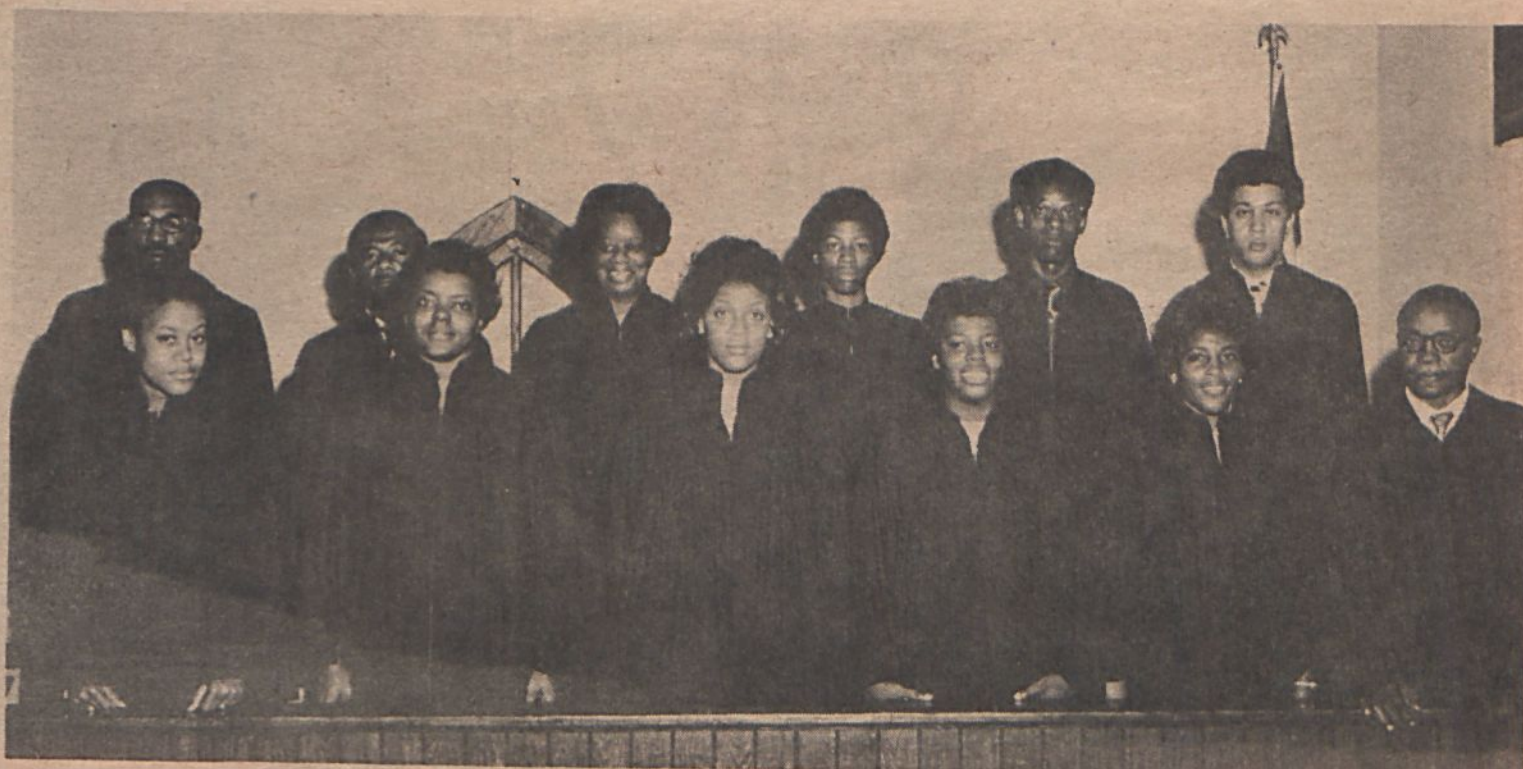
DEACONESS BOARD—Mrs. Vanderlene Hunter, *Chairman*



SENIOR CHOIR NO. 1—Mr. Rufus McCullers, *President*



SENIOR CHOIR NO. 2—Mr. Otha Glenn, *President*



W. B. LEWIS GOSPEL CHOIR, Mr. James Clay, *President*



SUNDAY SCHOOL, Mr. Luther Hunter, *Superintendent*



JUNIOR CHOIR, Mr. John Scott, *President*



TOTS CHOIR—Mrs. Geraldine Burroughs, Miss Minnie Ashe, *Supervisors*



B. T. U.—Mr. J. D. Rowe, *Director*



PULPIT AIDE—Mrs. Margaret Ransdell, *Chairman*



GOOD SAMARITAN CLUB, Mrs. Alma Jones, *President*



MORNING SERVICE—Pastor Lewis, in charge



CUSTODIAN, Mr. Jerry Lumpkin



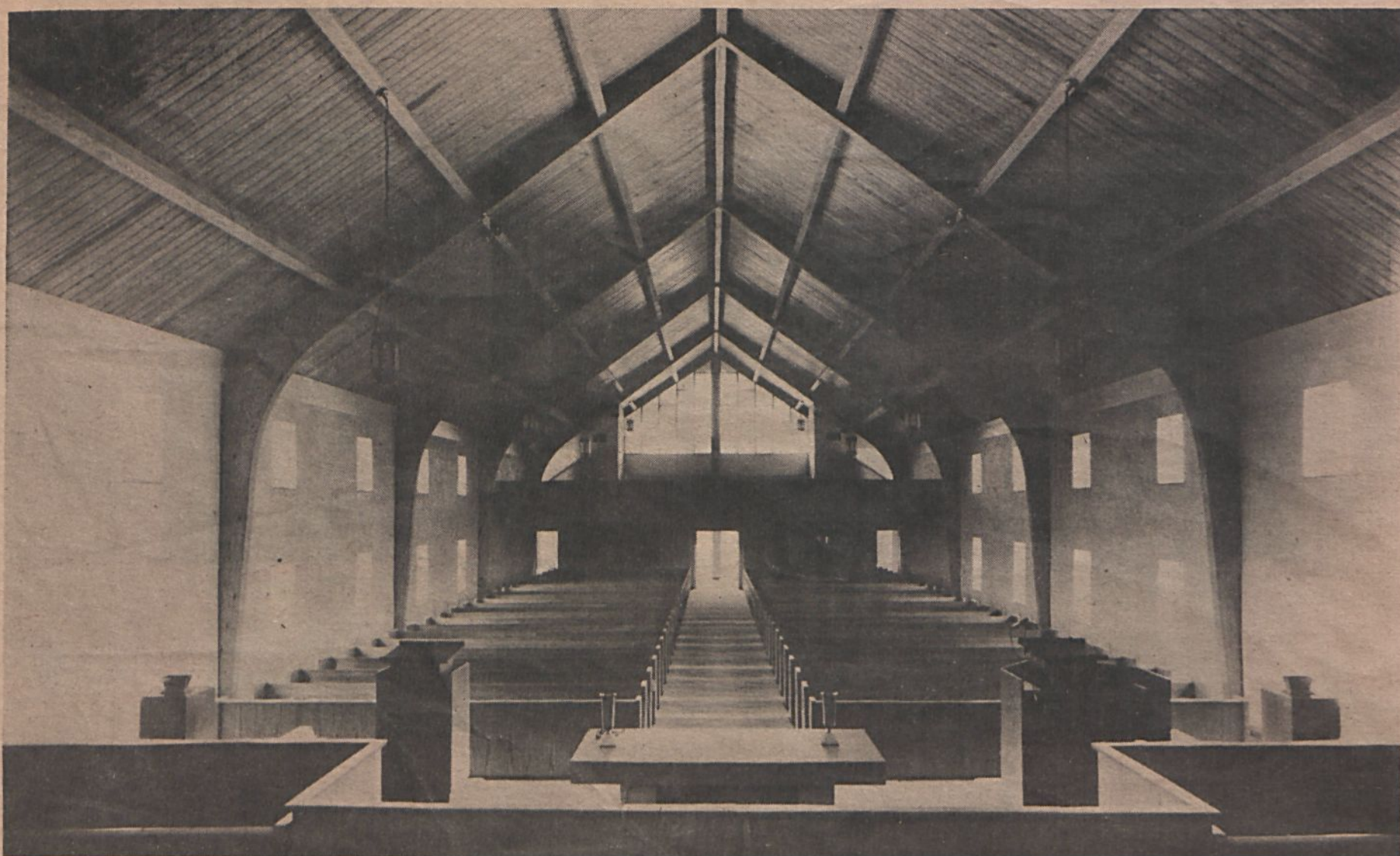
FINANCE COMMITTEE



BUSY PASTOR WITH EFFICIENT SECRETARY



THE OLD FAYETTEVILLE STREET BAPTIST BUILDING



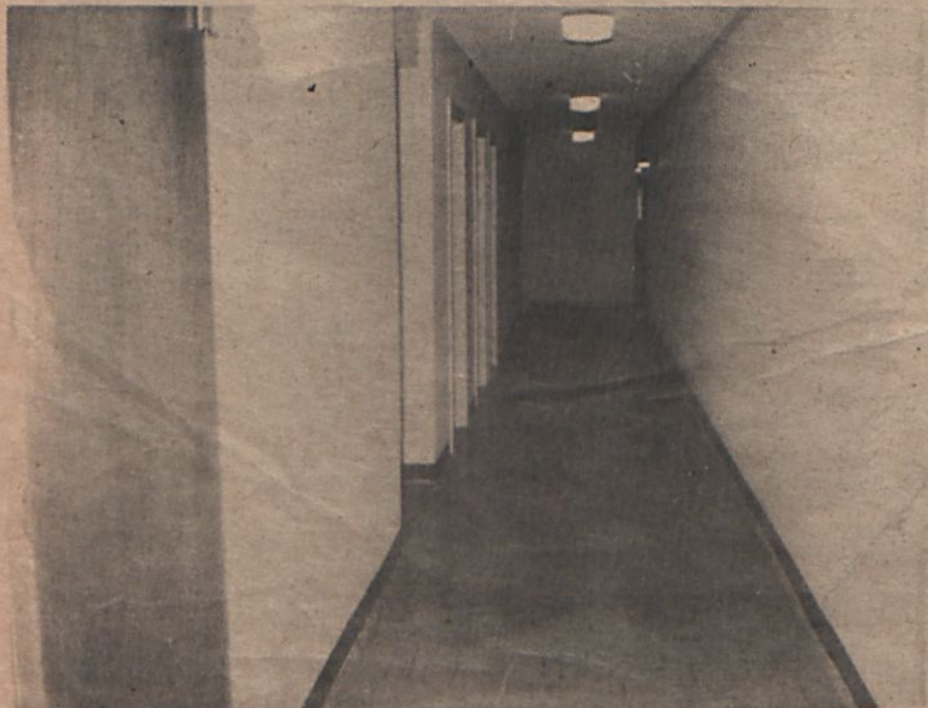
MAIN AUDITORIUM

AN APOLOGY AND THANK YOU

We wish to make an apology for not having all of the names of the members of the different groups listed under the pictures for identification, but because of the time element, we had to omit the names, and identify the groups. We hope that the members and friends will be considerate.

We wish to thank the public for all of their support, for this project was not achieved by Fayetteville Street Baptist Church members alone. It took the help of the people of Raleigh and vicinity, and even across the state and nation. For this we are very grateful. At this time, and on behalf of the officers

and members of First Cosmopolitan Baptist Church (formerly Fayetteville Street Baptist) we wish to thank everyone, for whatever contributions you made, and we do hope that you will come and visit us and help us to make this church what God would have it be. This is God's church, and a church for everyone. Let us thank you again for helping us to build God's house. We want all people to feel free to come and join us. We thank you again for whatever part the people of Raleigh and vicinity played in order to make this building possible.



EDUCATION BUILDING



THE CHAPEL