In
Celebration
of
The Two Hundredth Anniversary
of
Old Waxhaw Presbyterian Church
Cradle of Presbyterianism
in the
Up-Country of South Carolina

Old Waxhaw Church
Lancaster County, South Carolina

JULY 24, 1955
Worship Service
11:00 A.M.

The Reverend E. C. Clyde, Presiding
Minister, Old Waxhaw Presbyterian Church

PIANO PRELUDE
DOXOLOGY
INVOCATION
HYMN NO. 1 ———— “Holy, Holy, Holy”
READING OF THE SCRIPTURE
PRAYER
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETINGS
PRAYER AND OFFERTORY
HYMN NO. 19 ———— “Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”
SERMON ———— “Back to Bethel, The House of God”

The Reverend John R. Williams, Evangelist,
Montreat, N. C.

PRAYER
HYMN NO. 353 ———— “I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord”
BENEDICTION
POSTLUDE

Guest Pianist — C. Coleman Hanson

The choir is composed of members from Old Waxhaw and
neighboring churches — Shiloh, Tirzah, Six Mile, Lancaster,
Van Wyck, and Douglas.

(Document relating to the history of the church are on
display in the Sunday School rooms.)

BASKET LUNCH
12:30 P.M.
Historical Meeting
2:30 P.M.

Julian Starr, Jr., Presiding
President, Old Waxhaw Cemetery Association

PIANO PRELUDE

HYMN NO. 342 —— “God of Our Fathers, Whose Almighty Hand”

INVOCATION —— The Rev. Malcolm R. Williamson, Charlotte, N. C.
Student Supply, Old Waxhaw Church, 1920-1922

WELCOME ———— The Reverend E. C. Clyde

HISTORY OF OLD WAXHAW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1. The Scotch-Irish: From Europe through the Valley of Virginia to the “Garden of the Waxhaws”
   Douglas Summers Brown (Mrs. H. D.)
   Rock Hill, S. C.

2. Pastorate of the Reverend Robert Miller
   A Miller descendant
   HYMN NO. 100 ——— “Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

3. The Reverend William Richardson — General William Richardson Davie — The Revolutionary War
   Blackwell P. Robinson, Ph.D.
   Chapel Hill, N. C.

4. From the Revolution to the Present
   The Reverend John Jackson Brown, Jr.
   Lancaster, S. C.

5. Old Waxhaw Burial Ground
   Miss Nancy Crockett
   HYMN NO. 210 ——— “Faith of Our Fathers! Living Still”

BENEDICTION ———— The Rev. T. F. Grier, Chester County, S. C.
Minister, Old Waxhaw Church, 1927-1942

Guest Pianist — William Boyce White, Jr.
Old Waxhaw Presbyterian Church

"The Waxhaws", deriving its name from an extinct tribe of Indians, was settled in the early 1750's by immigrants from Virginia and Pennsylvania. Receiving their grants in Anson County, North Carolina, they met in the Waxhaws a smaller group of settlers who were establishing their claim under the South Carolina government.

Never long in one place without religious services, these Scotch-Irish pioneers were, no doubt, engaging in some form of corporate worship soon after their arrival. The first sermon recorded was delivered in February, 1753, by John Brown, a young probationer from Pennsylvania. The Reverend Hugh McAden preached at the Waxhaw "meeting house" on November 23, 1755, while on a mission through Piedmont Carolina.

Calling for their minister a Scotch schoolmaster, Robert Miller, the Waxhaw congregation received from him and his wife, Jean Pickens, their first title to Waxhaw Church property. This deed, dated March 9, 1758, for 4½ acres included a house for divine services, a retiring house and a spring.

After an unsuccessful mission among the Cherokee Indians, the Rev. Wm. Richardson accepted the pastorate of Waxhaw Church in 1759. "His widely extended ministry, lasting till his death in 1771, did much to make the Waxhaws the Presbyterian center of the South Carolina back country." (Meriwether) His remains were reinterred in the handsome Davie Memorial in 1927 along with those of his illustrious nephew and namesake, William Richardson Davie, and other members of the Davie family.

The first meeting house, on the east side of the graveyard, was used as a hospital during the Revolutionary War. It was burned by the British after a skirmish at the church April 9, 1781. The next building burned by accident after the Great Revival of 1802. The third church, built on a 4 ½ acre tract purchased from Robert and Jane Thompson in 1808, was used until the present edifice was erected in 1896.

Many notable ministers have served this congregation during its long history, one of the most distinguished being the Rev. J. H. Thornwell, D.D. Concerning this church he wrote, "It was here in her (church's) schoolhouse the classics were first taught in South Carolina. It was here in one of her camp meetings that the singing of hymns (instead of Psalms) was introduced in public worship. . . It was here in this historic church on April 12, 1785, that the Presbytery of South Carolina held its first meeting.

Old Waxhaw Presbyterian Church, pioneer church of this denomination in upper South Carolina, stands today as a citadel to the "Faith of Our Fathers."