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News Clipping - 1954, December 21 - Strong Church

Forest City Courier

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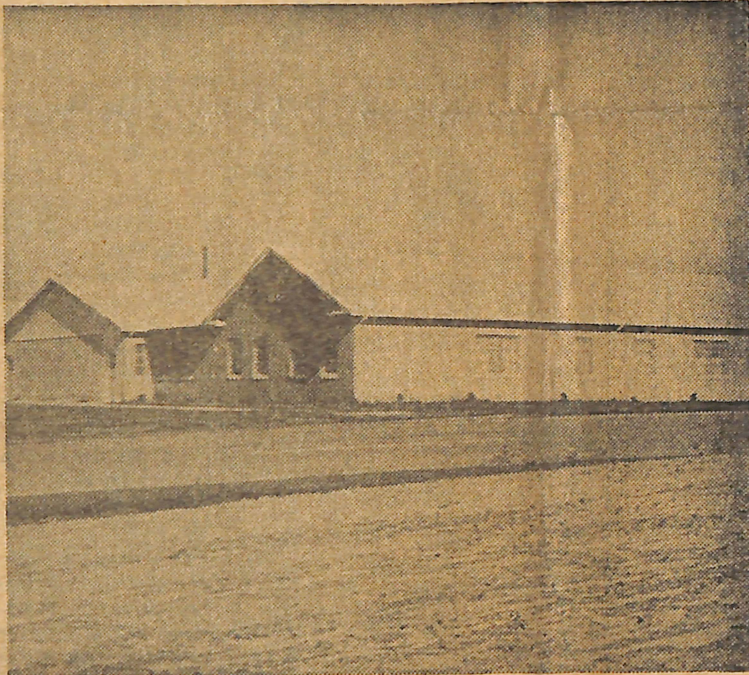
Courier, Forest City, "News Clipping - 1954, December 21 - Strong Church" (1954). *Concord Baptist Church*. 11.

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STRONG CHURCH

CONCORD BAPTIST CHURCH



Concord Baptist Church is the second oldest church in the Sandy Run Baptist Association, organized October 16, 1804. Members of the church now meet in the fifth church building located on Old Highway 74 East of Forest City near East Rutherford High School. The church was formerly located one-half mile away on the Old Caroleen Road.

The new educational building, used also as temporary sanctuary, is named "Margaret Harrill Memorial". Most people knew her as "Aunt Mag Harrill" and she was for 68 years a faithful member of the church and instrumental in its growth.

This educational building contains 7500 square feet of ground level space and is completely air-conditioned and has Nursery, Beginner, Primary, Junior, Intermediate, Young People and Adult departments and class rooms. The present building was used for the first time July 30, 1961.

The proposed sanctuary to be built in the future will have a seating capacity of 400.

Concord Church is a full time church with a full program including Woman's Missionary Union, Brotherhood, Royal Ambassadors, Girl's Auxiliary and Sunbeams organizations. The church has a complete musical program with Mr. W. C. Giles of Spindale, Musical Director.

Being one of the oldest churches in the county, Concord is the "mother" church of many other churches in the association. Present church membership is 174 resident members.



REV. HARVEY LAUGHTER

A native of Kings Mountain, the Rev. Harvey Laughter first came to Rutherford county as a radio announcer with Radio Station WBBO. He was one of the first announcers when the station signed on the air 16 years ago.

Mr. Laughter served in the Air Force and the Navy during World War II. Following the war, he worked in several North Carolina cities as a radio announcer, including Forest City.

He attended Charlotte, Lenoir-Rhyne and Queen's colleges and was ordained into the ministry in 1951 at the First Baptist church in Newton. He pastored churches in North and South Carolina, and became pastor of Concord Baptist church in May, 1960.

Mr. Laughter is married to the former Marie Ward of Gastonia. They have three children — Diane, Michael and Myra, and live in the parsonage on Bostic R-1.