



Theme  
**The  
Impossible  
Dream**



Dedicated To Our Minister  
On His 9th Anniversary  
As Pastor  
First Baptist Church  
1969

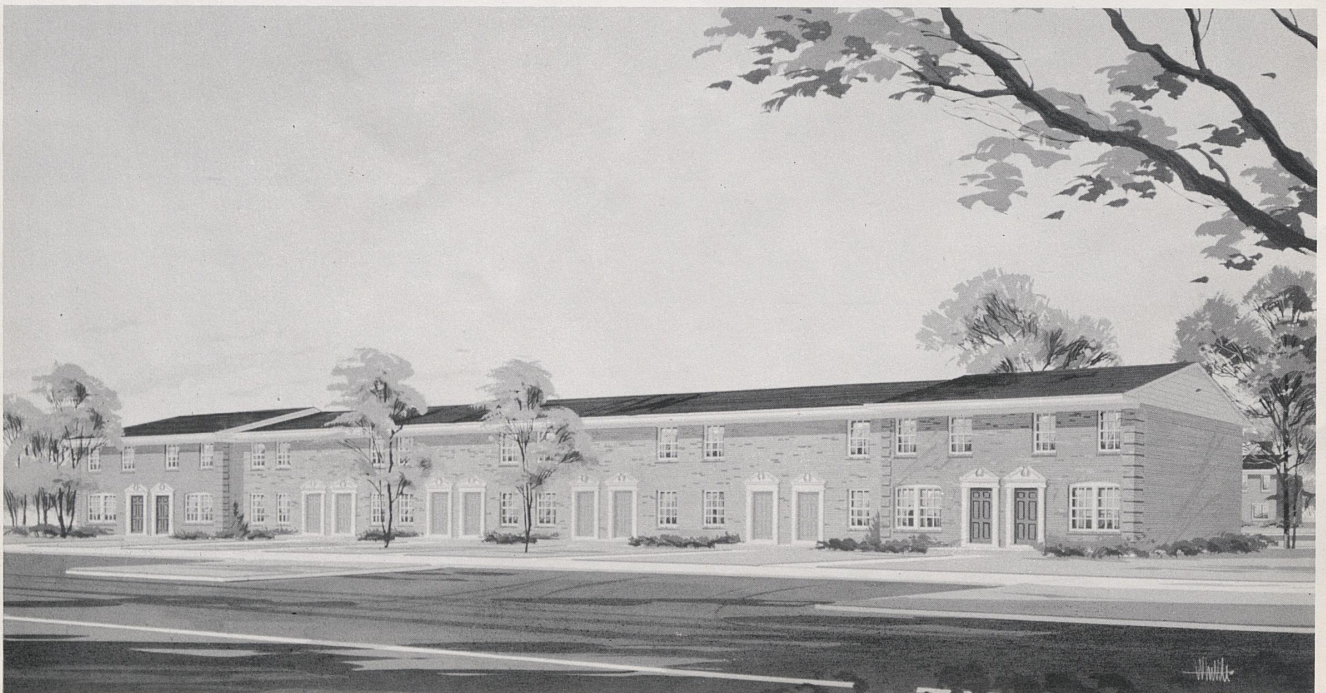


# The Impossible Dream

*From This Shack*



**To 150 Townhouse Apartments**



*To dream the impossible dream  
To fight the unbeatable foe  
To bear with unbearable sorrow  
To bear with unbearable sorrow  
To run where the brave dare not go  
To right the unrightable wrong  
To love here while chased from afar  
To try when your arms are too weary  
To reach the unreachable star  
This is my quest*

*To follow that star: No matter how  
hopeless; no matter how far, to fight for  
the right without question or pause  
To be willing to march into hell; for a  
heavenly cause.*

*And I know if I'll only be true to this  
glorious quest, that my heart will  
lie peaceful and calm when I'm laid to my  
rest.*

*And the world will be better for this  
that one man scorned and covered with  
scars still strives with his last  
ounce of courage to reach the  
unreachable star.*

## AUTOBIOGRAPHY . . .

# CHARLES HERBERT SMITH



CHARLES HERBERT SMITH, son of Dr. Thomas H. Smith and the late Helen Smith is a product of the school of Lexington, Kentucky; attended University of Indiana, and later was graduated from Virginia Union University of Richmond, Virginia earning B.A. and B.D. degrees. Post graduate work in the field of Public Health Administration at the University of Pennsylvania and further work in Clinical Psychology at the University of Kentucky.

Reverend Smith's ministry began when he was a freshman student of English at the University of Indiana. On April 18, 1949, he was granted license to preach by the Shiloh Baptist Church of Lexington, Kentucky. This church was pastored by his father, an eminent scholar and pulpiteer, known to Kentuckians as the Dean of Preachers. In 1958 he returned to his home church as his father's associate while pursuing graduate studies at the University of Kentucky.

In 1959, The First Baptist Church of Huntington, West Virginia extended him a call to serve its congregation. His entire career as pastor has been spent in Huntington. However, before coming to Huntington, Rev. Smith's experience was wide and varied. He directed the Community Service Center, Philadelphia; held position of caseworker for the Pennsylvania Department of Welfare; Health Investigative Administrator for the city of Phila-

delphia; a Neighborhood Organizer for the Wharton Centre, Philadelphia.

As a student, REV. SMITH traveled and studied throughout Europe Contemporary culture. Upon his return to the states, he toured America relating his experiences. First Baptist has been blessed to have been a recipient of this wealth of experience.

First Baptist Church and Huntington have not been the same since the first Sunday in January 1960. Let us review just a few of their accomplishments:

### FROM 1960 TO 1968

- 1) Church budget rose from \$11,000 in 1959 to \$70,000 in 1968.
- 2) A modern Parsonage was erected and the indebtedness retired.
- 3) Church operates its own transportational system.
- 4) Church owns and operates a Seafood Market whose net proceeds are used exclusively for the Building Fund.
- 5) Church operates a modern Child Development Center.
- 6) Church operates a Food Service Program catering to pre-school children.
- 7) Church sponsors a Federal Credit Union.
- 8) Church will break ground in February for a 2 million dollar low-income housing development. Thus provid-

ing 150 homes whose rental will be supplemented by the government.

- 9) Church constructed a new edifice at the cost of \$350,000 in 1966 with \$1,500.00 in treasury. After two years, the indebtedness has dropped beneath the \$200,000.00 mark.

Now let us turn to the spiritual side of our church and pastor—The greatest accomplishment made has been our minister's ability to bring unity, strength, and faith in each other among our membership. This is intangible, yet real.

- 1) Our Church School has doubled its enrollment through the able leadership of C. D. Hall, Julia Nixon, Lillie H. Smith and now Lucille Morris.
- 2) Our week-day religious education program has provided an opportunity for all of our youth to spend 7 hours a week in church-related activities.
- 3) Baptist Men, Baptist Women, Drama Guild, Chancel Choir, Couples Class, Week-day Religious Education, Audio Visual Education, New Members Class,

Deaconess Board, Graded Choirs and a Sunday Nursery have been organized.

- 4) Our church membership is 85% active.

In addition to these, our minister provided leadership in developing one of the finest Christian Camps in the country, Hilltop. He has served as President of the Trustee Board, W. Va. Baptist State Convention, President Huntington; Mayor, Human Rights Commission, President of Huntington Ministerial Association; member of the Board Stella Fuller Settlement; the first president of Action Inc., Life Membership Chairman W. Va. Branches N.A.A.C.P. He is serving as a consultant in the fields of Housing, Food relief, Community development and Church administration. For the past 3 years, Rev. Smith has served as Project Administrator of Action Inc., and Interim Director of Southwestern Community Action Council Inc.

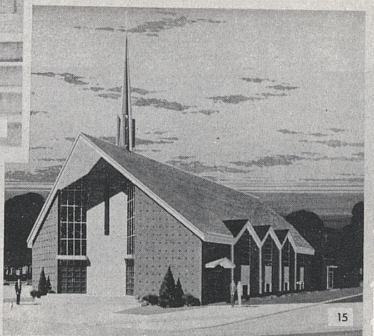
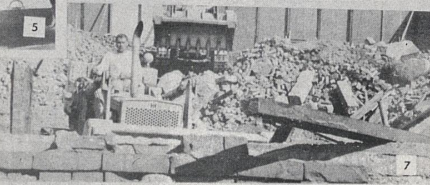
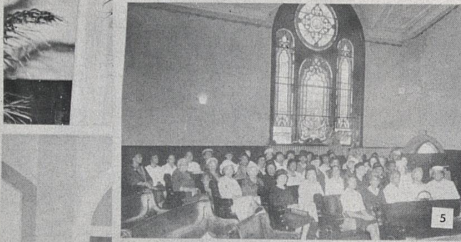
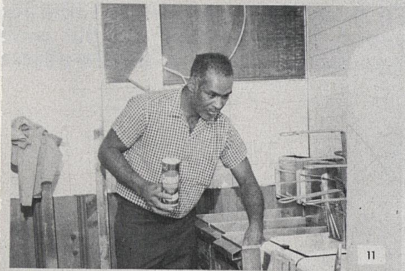
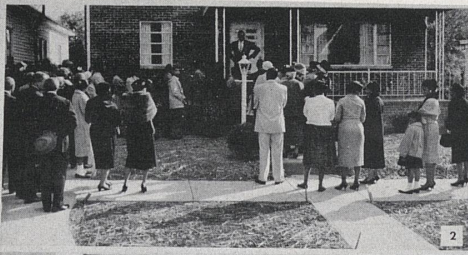
REVEREND SMITH is married to the former Lillie Jones Hamilton, of Richmond, Virginia. They are the parents of three girls, Jackqueline 11, Debbie 9, and Stephanie 5.



Mrs. Lillie H. Smith attended Virginia Union University, Temple University, graduated from Marshall University, Huntington, W. Va., B.A. Kindergarten-Primary Education.  
Teacher First Grade — Simms School — Cabell County School System.



# Observe History Move



1. Dr. Thomas H. Smith installs son as pastor First Baptist Church.
2. First major project—Building new church parsonage.
3. Stephanie is dedicated.
4. Deaconess board organized.
5. Baptist women organized.
6. B.Y.F. organized.
7. Old church building raised.

8. Ground broken for new building.
9. Pastor and church worship Ohev Sholom Temple.
10. Corner stone laying.
11. Seafood Mart dream is born.
12. Youth graduate while worshipping at the Temple.
13. Pastor delivers Huntington High Baccalaureate.
14. Homeward march.
15. Our new home.

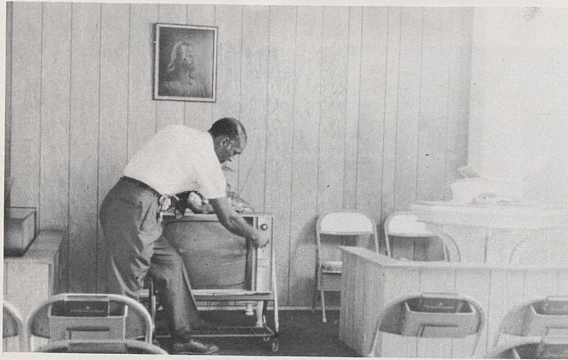
# Church Staff And Boards



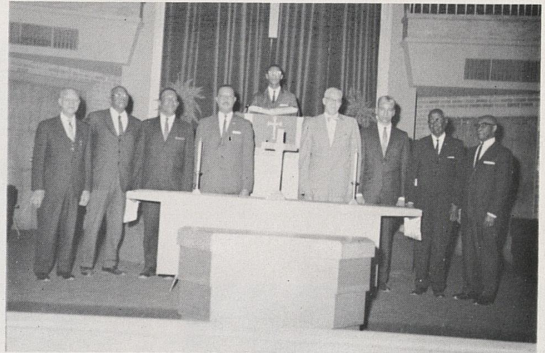
Minister at desk



Pastor, secretaries and custodian confer



Deacon Murrell adjusts closed circuit television



Trustees



Deacons



Stenographer and librarian



After church



Take out, canteen

# Church Club



Johnson-Orion Club



Benjamine Club



Pleasant Hour



Group 10



# Church School



Sunday School teachers



Adult Class



Murray Jesper Class



Junior Class



Junior Girls No. 1



Senior Class



Int. No. 1



Primary Class



Kindergarten



Young People

# Music & Service Department



Organist



Youth Choir



Senior Choir



Pianist



Chancel Choir



Usher Board



Circle B

Circle C

Lords Supper

Pre-Baptismal

Eliza Cobbs Circle

Circle A

# Mission Circle

The Word  
His Witnesses

HISTORICAL RESUME  
OF  
THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

In the early part of 1872, in a log cabin on Norway Avenue, near Spring Hill Cemetery, eight sincere and devout Christians, namely the late Reverend Nelson Barnett, Betty Fry, Caroline King, Derby King, Betty Barnett, Murray Jasper, Henry Hunt and W. O. James, with the late Reverend William Bryant, serving as advisor, organized, what today is known as "The First Baptist Church."

Moving from the log cabin on Norway Avenue to a rented building in the 200 block of Twelfth Street in 1879, a building was erected in the 800 block of Eighth Street at a cost of \$1500.00. The present site known as Sixth Avenue at Eighth Street was purchased from the Central Land Company of W. Va., purchase deed of May 16, 1891, as recorded in deed book 35½, page 9 - recorded in the Cabell County Court House, Huntington, W. Va. The purchase price being \$1350.00, payable as \$540.00 cash in hand and the balance of \$810.00 plus interest. On this site was erected the Church at a cost of \$15,000.00. The church was completed under the pastorate of the late Reverend I. V. Bryant.

Over the years we know that our church (First Baptist) has done much good in the community. She has welcomed our new born, sanctified our marriages, and ministered to our sick and buried our dead. In January, 1960, the Reverend Charles H. Smith of Lexington, Ky., assumed the Pastorate of First Baptist. Under his spiritual guidance, and through his untiring efforts, the church has moved steadily forward.

Our former pastors include:

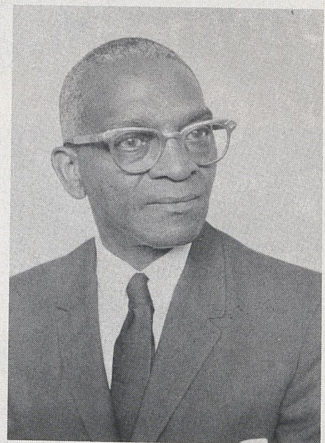
Reverends - Nelson Barnett, W. K. Simpson, W. R. Brown, I. V. Bryant, C. H. Payne, J. D. Coleman, Dr. J. Thomas Reid, P. W. Cook and Dr. Charles E. Boddie, who is at present President of the American Baptist Theological Seminary at Nashville, Tenn., and the late Dr. W. Temple Richie.

Supply pastors include:

Reverends - P. W. Matthews, A. W. Fuller, Robert A. Woodson, A. D. Lewis and Vernie L. Bolden.

Sons of the Church:

The late Reverend H. R. Ray, Reverend F. Carl Dorcas of Hilltop, W. Va., The late Reverend Henry C. Burnette, Reverend Walter L. Parrish, II of Baltimore, Maryland, Reverend W. Temple Richie, Jr. of Louisville, Kentucky, Reverend Vernie L. Bolden of Springfield, Mass., Reverend Wendel Wright of Harrisburg, Penn., and Reverend Paul F. Willis who is a student at Virginia Union University.



C. R. COBBS

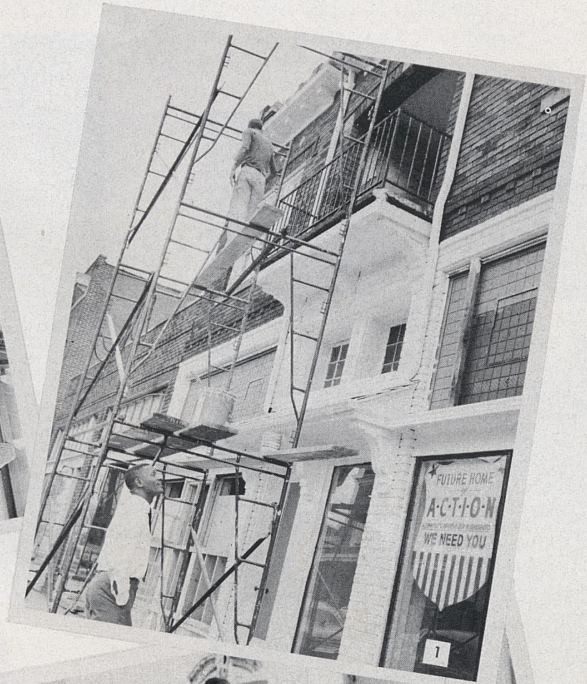
# He Shares With People From All Walks Of Life

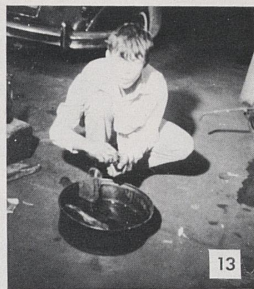
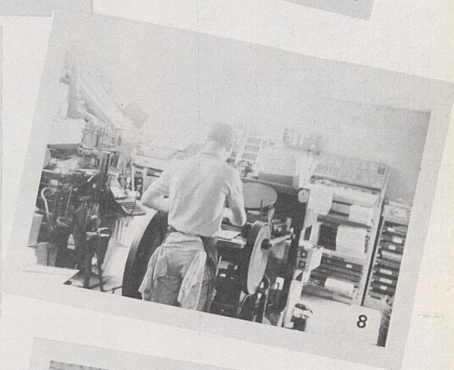
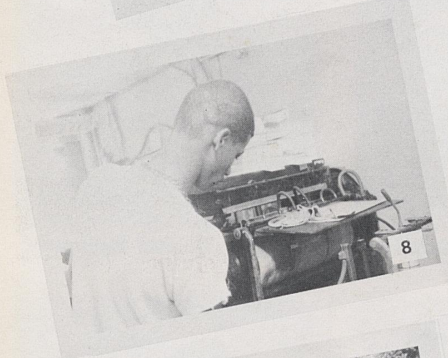


1. Movie Star Ethel Waters.
2. Kivie Kaplan — National President N.A.A.C.P. Pastor introduces him in Wheeling.
3. Shares a few moments with Governor and Mrs. Rockefeller.
4. Works on committee with Dr. Stewart Smith and Dr. Harry Byrd.



# Action, Inc.





Rev. Smith:

One of the founders, main architect of funded programs, its director since founding.

1. Observes building being readied for opening.
2. Shares with workers and members in a block party.
3. Experiments with a pre-school program before Headstart was begun.
4. Explains poverty program to neighborhood residents.
5. Experiments with Gift Shop to train youth in selling, receiving, stocking, and bookkeeping.

6. Youth are culturally enriched by summer program art.

7. Clay and ceramic lends itself to creativity.
8. Printing is taught to high school youth.
9. Field trips and campus have opened to avenues of development.
10. Woodwork was taught.
11. Remedial reading was taught.
12. Typing for high schoolers was taught.
13. Automobile mechanics was taught.
14. Dressmaking was taught.

# Our Families



Mr. & Mrs. Hezekiah Allen



Carrie Alston family



Deacon Ronald L. Atkinson



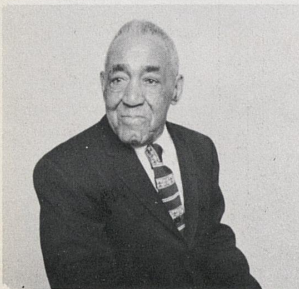
Mr. & Mrs. C. E. Baldwin



Eloise Barnett family



Mrs. Lucille Barton



Mr. James Batts



James Batts family



Mr. & Mrs. George Bolden



Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Bowling



Mrs. Luemma Braxton family



Mrs. Rosa B. Brooks



G. Carter family



Mr. & Mrs. Hezekiah Casbey



Mr. & Mrs. Fain Cicero



Joe L. Coleman family



Fred Collins family



Mr. & Mrs. George E. Daniels





Mrs. Bodie B. Davis



The Dawson family



Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Deering



Mrs. Dan Deering & daughter



Mrs. Ogle Duff & daughters



Rebecca Edmonia & Terry Tyler



Mr. & Mrs. R. S. Ellis



Mr. Danny Ewing



Jack Forte family



Mrs. Nellie Francisco



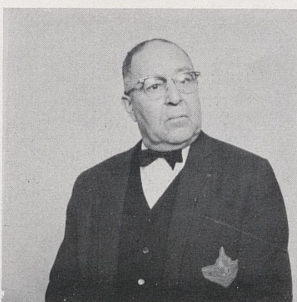
Edith Franklin family



Mrs. Maxine Gillenwater & daughters



James Gilmore



Deacon Nyanza Gray



Lewis Green family



Catherine Griffin family



Mr. & Mrs. C. D. Hall



Jeanna Hampton & daughters



James Hariston family



Mrs. Lillie Harris



Charles Hayes family



Mrs. Ruth Heath & sons



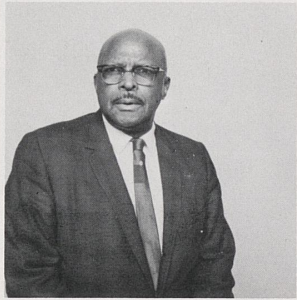
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hill Sr.



Thresa Hill family



Mrs. Gertrude Jackson



Mr. Luther Jackson



Mr. & Mrs. Oscar James



Clarence Johnson family



James V. Johnson



Mrs. Mary Johnson family



Mrs. Nannie Johnson



Mr. & Mrs. Persy Johnson



Elizabeth Johnston



Alma M. Kidd family



Mary Knight



Leonard Lewis family



Page Lindsay family



Linda McCall



Mrs. Nellie McRae



Mr. & Mrs. James F. Madison



Mrs. Daisy Mickens



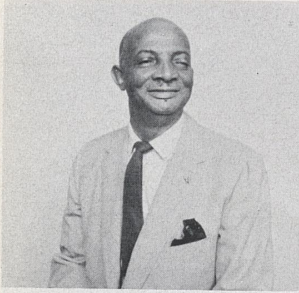
Mrs. Pearl Mims



Mr. & Mrs. D. W. Minor



D. W. Minor family



Mr. Wiley Mitchell



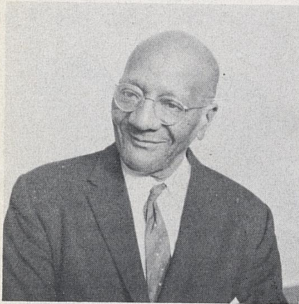
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Morris



Miss Brenda Motley



Deacon & Mrs. Wm.  
Murrell family



Mr. Earl Nicholas



Miss Frankie Nowlin



Rev. & Mrs. W. F. Parks



Mrs. Dora Payne



Mrs. Arthur Pegram family



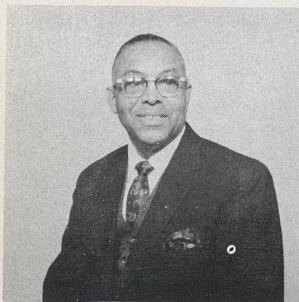
Clyde Perry family



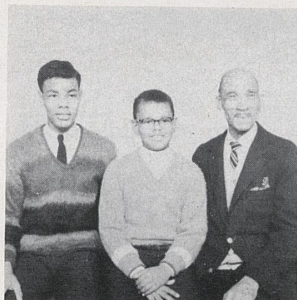
Mrs. Lillie Peters family



Jack Phillips family



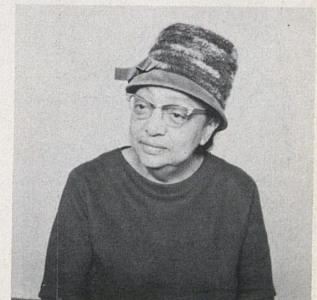
Mr. H. C. Pierce Sr.



Shermon Polley family



Mr. Charles Prater



Mrs. Eliza Rankins



Eliza Rankin



Mrs. Redman



Mrs. Novella Rice family



Mrs. N. Robinson family



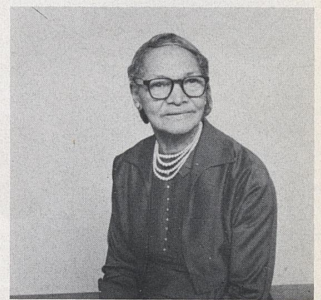
Mrs. Elizabeth Rowling family



J. L. Scott family



Joseph Slash Sr. family



Miss Callie D. Smith



Rev. & Mrs. Charles H. Smith



Glenn Smith family



Mr. & Mrs. Charles Spencer



Mrs. Emma Spencer & Miss Mary Knight



Cressy St. Clair family



Mr. & Mrs. Clinton Tate



Miss Mildred Tate & mother



Mrs. Henrietta Toul



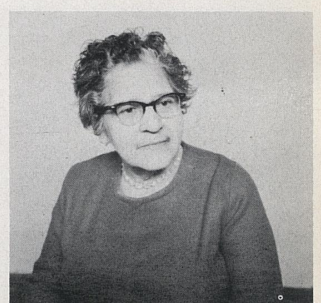
Beatrice & Ernest Taylor



Mrs. Rebecca Terry family



Mrs. Mary Thomas



Mrs. Esther Thornhill



Mrs. Cornelia Toler family



Mrs. Evelyn Walker



Harry Walker family



Mrs. Harry Washington



Mrs. Minerva Washington & daughter



Mrs. Beatrice White



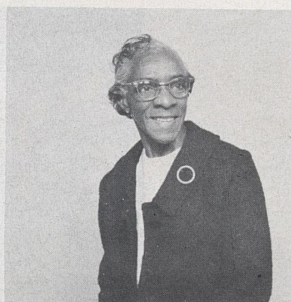
Mrs. Emma J. Williams & son



Vernal E. Williams family



Mr. & Mrs. Howard Willie



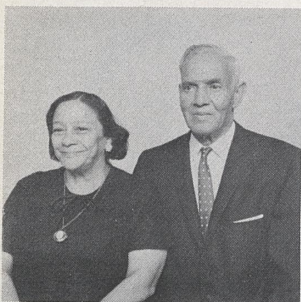
Mrs. Florence Wilson



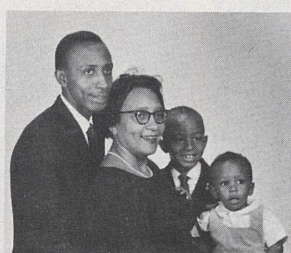
Mrs. Lula Woodson



Mrs. M. T. Garrison



Mr. & Mrs. L. Qualls



Rev. Leroy Parrish family



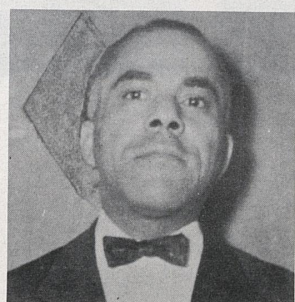
Mr. & Mrs. Ira C. Wells



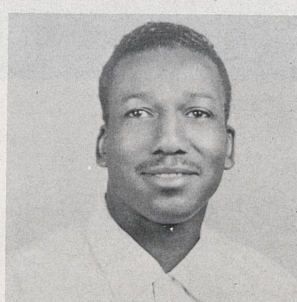
Mrs. Eliza Griffin



Arleen Fain



Watson Jennison Sr.



James Henis Rice, Sr.



Miss Cindy Green



The Carroll family



Don Davis family



Mr. Jonah France & family



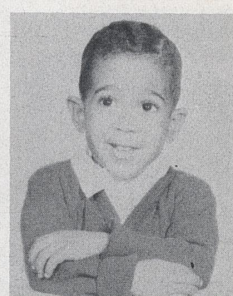
Mrs. Nannie Parish



Mrs. Portia Jennison



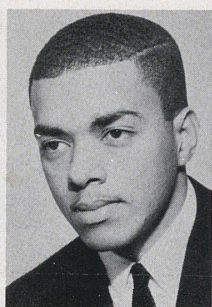
Mrs. Jefferson W. Wright



Jefferson W. Wright II



A2C Robert L. Hill



Watson Jennison, Jr.



Calvin Bowling & family



Dr. & Mrs. A. L. Spencer



