

At Baptist church

New minister inducted

By LISA PARTSA
Staff Reporter

More than 100 Markham Baptist Church members gathered recently to witness the formal induction of their new pastor, Reverend Douglas Sherwood.

The church had been without a full-time minister since September 1982. According to the church clerk Judy Davidson, a diligent search was carried out before deciding on Reverend Sherwood.

Reverend Sherwood and his wife, Gwen,

began their ministry here in January. He had previously served as pastor of Centennial Park Baptist Church in Grimsby for eight years.

The guest speaker for the evening was Reverend Bill Chapman, most recently pastor of Stoney Creek Baptist Church and the newly appointed principal of the Baptist Leadership Education Centre, to open this fall in Whitby.

According to Mrs. Davidson, Reverend Chapman likened the relationship of pas-

tor and the people, to that of a marriage, which to survive and grow, must be based on mutual trust, honesty, love and commitment.

Originally from Wallaceburg, Reverend Sherwood was encouraged to join the Church in 1952. "Some people felt I had gifts and talents for the ministry, and pointed me in that direction," he explained.

A high school drop-out, Reverend Sherwood said he "felt the need to go on" in the Baptist Church after working full time, and decided to complete his academic education in night school.

At 20, he enrolled for theological training at the Toronto Bible College. He began his ministry in Timmsville Baptist Church in 1959, and was later ordained in Bradford in 1968.

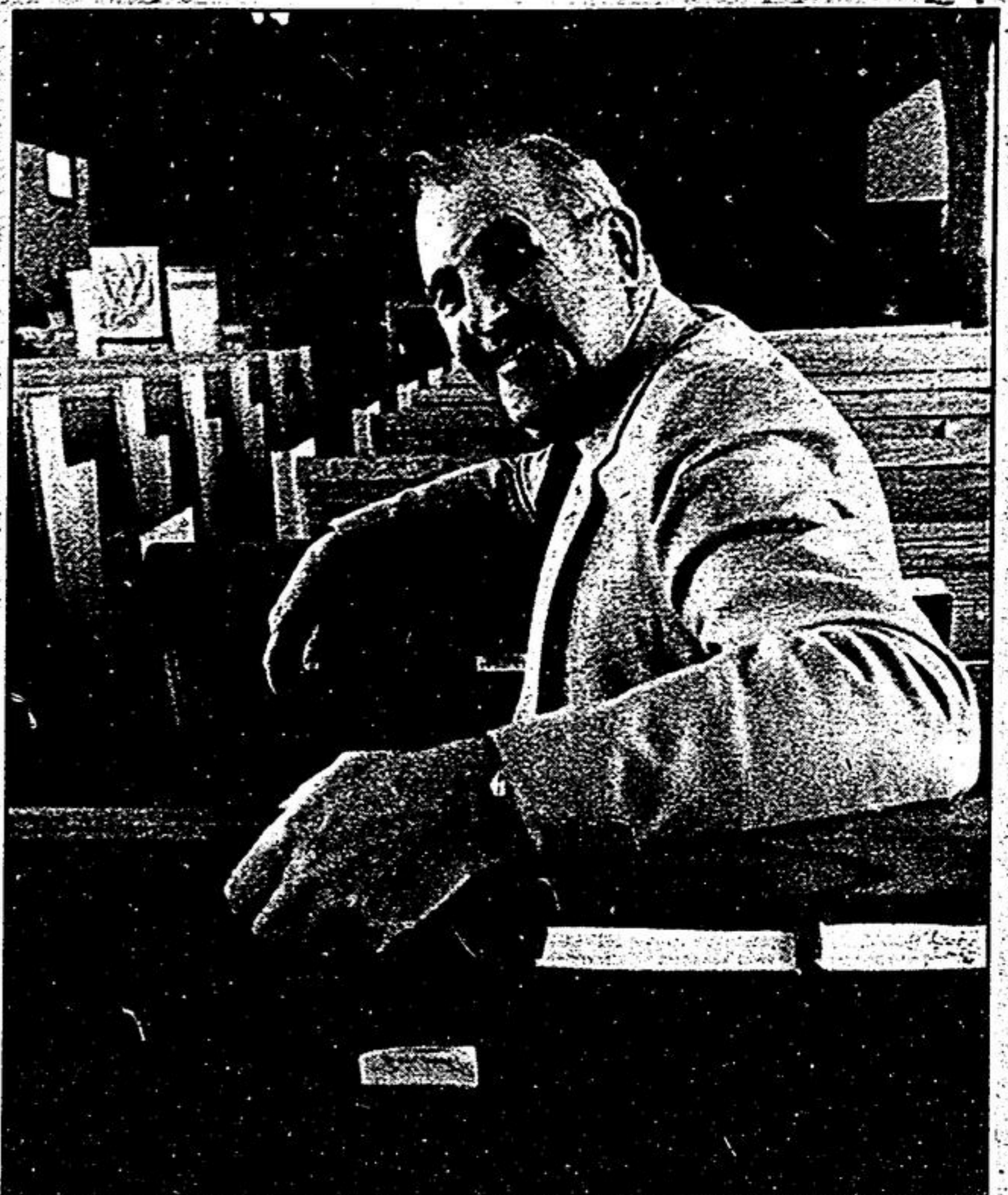
The Reverend is currently commuting to Markham from Grimsby, until he and his wife and three children can move into their new home on Gladiator Dr.

So far, he and his wife "are loving it" in Markham.

"We like the people here at the church," said Reverend Sherwood. "We find Markham vital, alive and growing. There's a progressive atmosphere about the town."

Reverend Sherwood welcomed the chance to come to Markham, saying he wanted a new challenge. He and his wife Gwen, who also graduated from the Toronto Bible College, want to get to know the people and the community as quickly as possible.

"Then after that," he chuckled, "I'll have to play it by ear."



Rev. Douglas Sherwood was recently inducted as pastor of Markham Baptist Church. Here, he sits in the sanctuary of the church. He previously pastored in Grimsby.

— Sjoerd Witteveen

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