

Mt. Ebal Homecoming Scheduled for Sunday

Mt. Ebal Memorial Association will hold its annual homecoming this Sunday with the Rev. John Oakley of Denton as speaker for the 11:30 service at the historic church.

Following the service, a picnic lunch will be spread under the big oak tree on the grounds.

Stewart Sexton of Denton is president of the Memorial Association which maintains the 100-year-old church building and grounds. Mt. Ebal's present church building, which was recently nominated to the National Register of Historic Places, was built in 1883 by John T. Sexton and Al-

fred Thompson. It has not been used for other than occasional services and the annual homecoming since about 1940, and its simple architecture has remained unspoiled by renovation.

Once the site of large camp meetings, Mt. Ebal fell victim to progress when re-routing of roads left the church isolated from its earlier position at a main cross-roads. In addition, many of its members left the rural area to move "uptown" to Denton. By the time the church became part of Denton Methodist Protestant Association in 1919, it had already lost most of its congregation, and it is believed that regular services were discontinued soon after.

The speaker for Sunday's homecoming service is a retired United Methodist minister who held ten appointments during his 34 years of active service. One of them was four years as pastor of Denton Methodist Circuit (1951-55) when it included First, Canaan, Siloam, Jackson Hill, and Newsom churches. He retired in 1978



MORE THAN \$2,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS was awarded last week at Denton High School. Pictured here (left to right) are some of the winners: Neil Snider (\$150 from the FFA), Connie Adams (\$500 Carter-Griffis Scholarship from Denton Lions Club), Susie Harris (\$500 Charles Hoover Scholarship), Gay Gallimore (\$500 Lowell Fine Scholarship), and Lisa Frank (\$300 scholarship from the FBLA). David Lanier and Sherrie Snyder also received \$150 each Student Council scholarships.

(Photo by Suzi Wallace)



Rev. John Oakley