

Benjamin Blackford, Dugal Ayers, Ephraim F. Randolph and wife, Joseph Manning, Robert Randolph, Mary Blackford, Joseph Drake, John Luke, Margaret Luke, George Laying, Zervia Manning, Unis Cole and Morris Frazee. Accordingly on the 1st of December, 1792, the Samptown Baptist Church was constituted—being about midway between this place and Piscataway, the pastors of both churches had preached there with some regularity. But as it was manifestly better that they should have an organization of their own, they were set apart as a gospel church—David Jones of Southampton, Pa., and Jacob F. Randolph taking part in the Services. This church, too, recently held their centennial exercises showing commendable progress and efficiency.

After Mr. Van Horn had accepted the pastorate, but probably before he had removed his family to this place, the Parsonage, a frame building which stood nearer the street than the present one, was consumed by fire early in 1786. It was immediately determined to rebuild; and as there was some difference of opinion about where the new building should stand, after determining that it should be constructed of stone, it was voted “to indulge Mr. Van Horn with his choice.” He wisely chose the present location, and during that year all the stone part of the present building was erected under the pastor’s immediate supervision: and every pastor who has occupied it since has had occasion to commend the wisdom and foresight of his plans.

Mr. Van Horn served the church well and faithfully for nearly twenty-two years. He gained and held the respect and confidence, not only of this