
Grady County Historical Society – Churches

First Presbyterian

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CAIRO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Cairo Presbyterian Church was organized on January 3, 1878, by the Reverend James A. McKee, commissioned by Savannah Presbytery.

There were five original members: Mr. & Mrs. J. W. Maxwell, Dr. & Mrs. J. T. Moore, and Mrs. N. J. Walker.

On that date, Dr. J. T. Moore was installed as Elder and Mr. J. W. Maxwell as Deacon. Mr. Maxwell was later ordained as an Elder and also was the first Sunday School Superintendent; he and his wife were among the most faithful members to the date of their deaths.

The first addition to the church after its organization was Mr. Henry Wight, the ancestor of the present generation of Wights now living in Cairo. Mr. Wight united with this church on January 17, 1878, and remained a faithful member until his death in 1885 at the age of 94. Records show that Mr. Henry Wight's son, Mr. G. A. Wight, gave the land for the present building of the Cairo Presbyterian Church, and the deed for one acre of land was recorded on October 9, 1883. Sales were made before the turn of the century for part of the land, leaving only the grounds of the building constructed in 1930.

For the first six years, having no church buildings of our own, the Session meetings were often held in private residences. The church building of the Methodist Congregation was tendered for regular services and was freely and gratefully used until our own first building was erected.

In 1883, plans were made to construct the one-room church building which stood until 1930. Records show that on October 4, 1883, Mr. Robert Hector McLane made a bid of \$650.00 to construct the church building, and he promised to have it finished in three months after beginning the work.

The first session meeting in the new church was on March 29, 1884. The report to Presbytery in April of 1884 showed that the church was growing with a membership of 27 communicants and 10 non-communicants. It is interesting to note that about the time the church was built, Cairo was incorporated with a total population in 1883 of 460 people.

Rev. James A. McKee was the first pastor of the church, serving until December 31, 1887.

The records show that for several years following its organization, the church enjoyed a period of great interest and activity, and many persons were received into the membership. The congregation has never been large, but the records show, by names of people whose works are still known in this city, and by other facts, that this church has been an important force in the spiritual and moral development of our city and county.

But for several years, particularly during the late 'teens and twenties, the church underwent a severe depression. The congregation, due to death and removal of members, became discouraged. The church roll in 1924 showed a total of 22 resident members, with only 12 of them being adults.

Though few in number, the members finally resolved, with the help of the Lord and the encouragement of friends, to go forward with a determination for a greater service and witness. Consequently, with the liberal assistance of the Home Mission Committee of Presbytery, and especially with the help of Mr. W. C. Vereen of Moultrie, the church called its first full-time pastor, the Rev. S. Wilkes Dendy, in September

Cairo Presbyterian Church

1928. Under his splendid leadership the church began a firm and steady growth.

The original part of the present church building was built during the pastorate of the Rev. Mr. Dendy, and represented an outlay of about \$15,000.00. In a spirit of cooperation and the finest brother-love, many members of the churches of other denominations gave large assistance, as did the friends over a wide area. The largest contribution, \$3,000.00, came from the estate of the Rev. James A. McKee, the first pastor of the church, and was given by his widow.

In 1943, the congregation purchased a building near the church and remodeled it for use as a manse, which was completed in early 1945, and was used for the manse until 1957 when another manse was purchased. Later the remodeled building was removed to make room for expansion.

On April 1, 1952, during the pastorate of Rev. Keith Hill, the church became self-supporting. Prior to that time, it had received financial assistance from the Home Mission Committee of the Presbytery.

Three additional Sunday School rooms were added to the church building in 1955 during the pastorate of Rev. Hubert Rust.

In February of 1965 during the pastorate of Rev. Everett P. Moyer, the property adjoining the church land, known as the Arline property, was bought. Thus, the land originally given to the church in 1878 again became the property of the church. The Arline residence was then used for Sunday School classes and a fellowship hall until its removal in 1976 to make room for further expansion.

This expansion, made during the pastorate of Rev. H. Page Williams included the Fellowship Hall with kitchen facilities, a recreation room, six Sunday School classrooms and a nursery suite. The groundbreaking ceremony was on February 15, 1976, and the building was dedicated to God's glory on October 3, 1976.

Under a plan proposed by the Flint River Presbytery in 1994 the Cairo Presbyterian Church became a part of a Larger Parish composed of five churches: Cairo, Dawes, Camilla, Pelham and Boston. The Cairo church has been fortunate to have as its beloved pastor the Reverend Doctor James Byron Spencer who also serves the Dawes Church. The plan has worked well for the Cairo Church as it shares in fellowship with other churches in the Larger Parish, especially in the rotation of meeting in the various churches for Fifth Sunday Evening Services.

**Cairo Presbyterian Church
100 4th Ave. SE
PO Box 207
Cairo, GA 31728**

**Pastor Dr. James Spencer
Clerk of Session A. B. (Buddy) Clark**

**Sunday School 9:45 AM
Worship Service 11:15 AM nursery provided**

Former Connections of Cairo Presbyterian Church
With other churches in the Flint River
Larger Parish -

By Myrtle Cook Brock

Following our Larger Parish Service on April 30, 2000, I began thinking of my connection with each of the five churches in our Larger Parish.

My family moved to Cairo in 1915 when I was seven years old. I am now 92. My parents were Presbyterian, having joined the Monticello, Fla. Presbyterian Church in 1907 and 1908. So we immediately found our way to the small one-room Cairo Presbyterian Church that stood on the corner at the same location as our present edifice.

At that time our church, being a Home Mission Church, was grouped with the Boston church, and the Reverend Mr. B. R. Anderson was pastor of both churches. He lived in Boston and came over on weekends of our "Preaching Sundays" and spent the nights in homes of various members. He was an interesting and impressive looking man with an outgoing personality.

During his pastorate here he established a mission in the Goldenrod Schoolhouse, located four or five miles above town. There was a nucleus of Presbyterians in that community and the A. B. Clark family (grandparents of "Buddy" whose name is also A. B. Clark, and his brother Adrian) and Mr. & Mrs. A. B. Clark and their large family attended the mission at Goldenrod and through that mission they joined the Cairo Presbyterian Church. Later through deaths and removals from the community, Mr. Kedar (K. C. Clark) and his family were the only members of the family left in the Cairo Church.

A few years ago, I had the pleasure of visiting with Mr. Robert Clark who was then living near Whigham. He was one of the younger sons of Mr. & Mrs. A. B. Clark. He told me interesting things about his memories of Mr. Anderson.

It seems that Mr. Anderson often stayed in the Clark home on weekends when he was preaching here, and he enjoyed the farm life, especially during cane grinding time. On one occasion Mr. Anderson decided he wanted to try plowing. It was soon evident that he was better at preaching than he was at plowing.

On one occasion the farmers were experiencing a severe drouth and the crops were suffering for rain. On one Sunday during Mr. Anderson's prayer he prayed so earnestly for rain that tears were rolling down his cheeks. As the congregation was leaving the church, Mr. Clark commented that he saw a little cloud in the sky. They started for home in their open touring car and by time they rode the four or five miles home everyone in the car was drenched by rain. Robert Clark then commented to me that from that time on he had never doubted the power of prayer.

During that mission several members united with the Cairo Presbyterian Church, but I think only "Buddy" and Adrian's families are the only ones of that family who are members here today. That was our connection with the Boston Church.

Then about 1923-25 our church was grouped with the Camilla church and our pastor was a Scotchman names James Deans. During his pastorate at the Camilla-Cairo Churches he organized the Pelham Church. He lived in Camilla and came to Cairo to preach, sometimes for an afternoon service, but also sometimes for a morning or evening service, sometimes spending nights in homes of members. He was

rather abrupt and I remember once when he spent the night in our home, at breakfast my mother offered to serve him some grits. He said: "NO, NO, NO, all I see in South Georgia is grits, grits, grits. I don't want to see any grits."

This means in addition to being grouped with Boston at one time, we later were grouped with both Pelham and Camilla.

Our church was never grouped with the Dawes Church until the Larger Parish was formed, but my connection with Dawes was that my mother and I attended the organizational meeting of that church. It had formerly been a chapel or a mission. The Reverend Mr. R. T. Wallace, a retired minister then living in Thomasville, he did supply ministry in several nearby churches, both Cairo and Dawes being among them, and it was during his supply work at Dawes the mission there was organized into a church.

When my parents were living in Monticello, about the time I was born, they started going to the Presbyterian church there, and Mrs. Wallace, the former Miss Elizabeth Denham, was living there and was my father's Sunday School teacher, although she was probably only about 18 years old. It was largely through her influence and other friends in that church, that my family became Presbyterian. The Denham family moved away and "Miss Lizzie" as she was called, met and married Mr. Wallace who might have been a Seminary student at the time, and he became a Presbyterian Minister. After serving other pastorates, for his last ten years of ministry he served as pastor of the Monticello church. During that time, Mamma and I visited friends in Monticello and went to the Presbyterian Church and friendship with the Wallaces was renewed. After their retirement to Thomasville when Mr. Wallace sometimes supplied our pulpit and he and Mrs. Wallace would have meals with us.

So that was my connection with the Dawes Church, though other than the organizational meeting, I never attended it until the larger parish was formed.

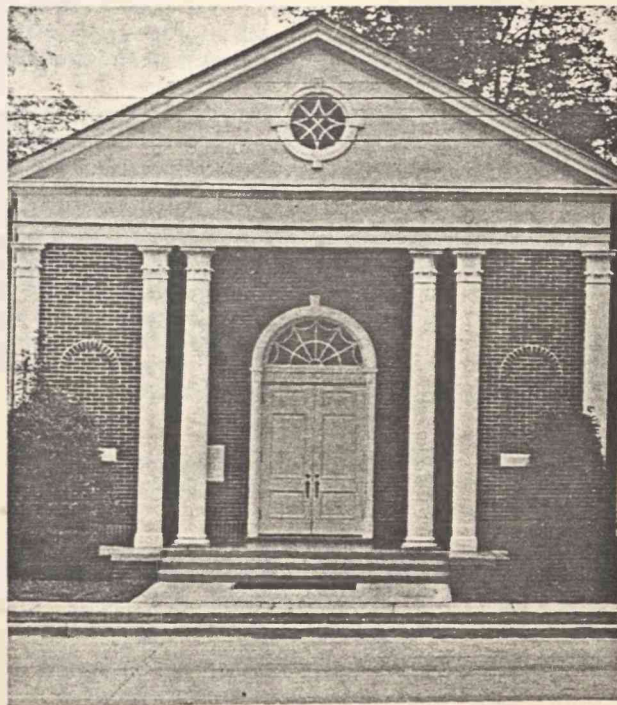
I joined the Cairo Presbyterian Church in 1918 and have never been a member of any other church. This discourse shows my connection with all the other churches in the Flint River Larger Parish: Camilla, Pelham, Dawes and Boston.



1887-78

100th
Anniversary

Cairo Presbyterian Church



1978



OUR CENTENNIAL--- AN OPPORTUNITY

**"He who will not look backward with reverence
will not look forward with hope."
--Edmund Burke**

Let us look backward with respect! Surely many of us have stood and knelt by the grave of a mother or father or grandparent who gave us to Christ and his Church before we were even born.

To the apathetic second generation of early Christians the writer of Hebrews suggested that they look back. Those who had known Christ in the days of his flesh were passing away. A time of severe testing was again upon the people of God. Some, retreating into indifference, were for doing little about their faith, while others were even ready to renounce it altogether. Look back, the author is saying, at those heroes of the faith who stood firm; see what they in their time endured. But do not stop there. All these of old are your examples, but One is your Savior and theirs -- Jesus, who steadily endured the cross, thinking nothing of its shame. Look to him!

As the author of Ecclesiastes points out, there is a time for certain things, and wise men will take advantage of it. William Shakespeare puts it thus:

**"There is a tide in the affairs of men,
Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune:
Omitted, all the voyage of their life
Is bound in shallows and in miseries."**

Our Centennial Celebration gives us a mood in which we can look backward with respect. We can recover reverence and be done with debunking everything that is old and past. Let us learn about our roots. Let it be done with enthusiasm -- nothing great has ever been done without this -- and let us join in celebrated praise to the Living God for "the faith of our fathers living still."

Local church histories are written and brought up-to-date. But we can do more. We can point to him who walked our common way, who suffered as none of us has ever suffered; who is in history and yet who is beyond history; to him who is the Alpha and Omega, the same yesterday, today and forever. Let it be a time of spiritual renewal.

**"Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guard while life shall last,
And our eternal home."**

Sincerely,

**Robert M. Lewis
Pastor**

CENTENNIAL OBSERVANCE PROGRAM

Saturday, October 7:

7:00 P.M.

Supper served by the Young People.
"This Is Your Life."

Fellowship, Reminiscences and Hymn-Sing.

Sunday, October 8:

11:00 A.M.

Worship Service, Home-Coming, and
"Dinner-on-the-Grounds."

Cairo Presbyterian History

Looking Backward With Respect

The Cairo Presbyterian Church was organized on January 5, 1878, by Rev. R. P. Kerr and Rev. James A. McKee, commissioned by Savannah Presbytery.

There were five original members: Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Maxwell, Dr. and Mrs. J. T. Moore, and Mrs. N. J. Walkr.

On that date, Dr. J. T. Moore was installed as Elder and Mr. J. W. Maxwell as Deacon. Mr. Maxwell was later ordained as an Elder and was also the first Sunday School Superintendent; and he and his wife were among the most faithful members to the date of their deaths. They were the grandparents of Mr. Harry Maxwell who is now an Elder in this church.

The first addition to the church after its organization was Mr. Henry Wight, the ancestor of the present generation of Wights now living in Cairo. Mr. Henry Wight united with this church on January 17, 1878, and remained a faithful member until his death in 1885 at the age of 94.

The Session, at its next meeting, received three more members: Mr. W. H. Waldron, and Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Thompson. Mr. Waldron was later made an Elder, and was an active and useful member of this church for a period of more than forty years.

For the first six years, having no church buildings of our own, the Session meetings were often held in private residences. The church building of the Methodist congregation was tendered for regular services and was freely and gratefully used until our own first building was erected.

In 1883, plans were made to construct the one-room church building which stood until 1930.

Records show that on October 4, 1883, Mr. Robert Hector McLane made a bid of \$650.00 to construct the church building, and he promised to have it finished in three months after beginning the work.

The land for the church building was given by Mr. G. A. Wight, son of Mr. Henry Wight, and the deed was recorded on October 9, 1883. It was originally for one acre, but sales were made before the turn of the century leaving only the grounds of the building constructed in 1930.

The first Session meeting in the new church was on March 29, 1884. The report to Presbytery in April of 1884 showed that the church was growing with a membership of 27 communicants and 10 non-communicants. It is interesting to note that about the time the first church was built, Cairo was incorporated with a total population in 1883 of 460 people.

Rev. James A. McKee was the first pastor of the church, serving until December 31, 1887.

The records show that for several years following its organization, the church enjoyed a period of great interest and activity, and many persons were received into the membership. The congregation has never been large, but the records show, by names of people whose works are still known in this city, and by other facts, that this church has been an important force in the spiritual and moral development of our city and county.

But for several years, particularly during the late 'teens and twenties, the church underwent a severe depression. The congregation, due to death and removal of members, became discouraged. The church roll in 1924 showed a total of 22 resident members, with only 12 of them being adults.

Though few in number, the members finally resolved, with the help of the Lord and the encouragement of friends, to go forward with a determination for a greater service and witness. Consequently, with the liberal assistance of the Home Mission Committee of Presbytery, and especially with the help of Mr. W. C. Vereen of Moultrie, the church called its first full-time pastor, Rev. S. Wilkes Dendy, in September of 1928. Under his splendid leadership the church began a firm and steady growth.

The original part of the present church building was built during the pastorate of the Rev. Mr. Dendy, and represented an outlay of about \$15,000. In a spirit of cooperation and the finest brother-love, many members of the Cairo churches of other denominations gave large assistance, as did the friends over a wide area. The largest contribution, \$3,000, came from the estate of Rev. James A. McKee, the first pastor of the church, and was given by his widow.

In 1943, the congregation purchased a building near the church and remodeled it for use as a manse, which was completed in early 1945.

On April 1, 1952, during the pastorate of Rev. H. Keith Hill, the church became self-supporting. Prior to that time, it had received financial assistance from the Home Mission Committee of the Presbytery.

Three additional Sunday School rooms were added to our church building in 1955, during the pastorate of Rev. A. Hubert Rust.

A new manse was built in the pastorate of Rev. Armando Rodriguez, with the dedication service held on February 13, 1957. The old manse was bought by Mrs. Jessie Vereen Bell, and the property presented to the church for use as an educational building, but it was later removed to make parking space available.

In February of 1965, during the pastorate of Rev. Everett P. Moye, the property adjoining the church land, known as the Arline property, was bought. Thus, the land originally given to the church in 1878 became again the property of the church. The Arline residence was then used for Sunday School classes and a fellowship hall until its removal in 1976 to make room for further expansion.

This expansion, made during the pastorate of Rev. H. Page Williams, included the Fellowship Hall with kitchen facilities, a recreation room, six Sunday School classrooms, and a nursery suite. The groundbreaking ceremony was on February 15, 1976, and the building was dedicated to God's glory on October 3, 1976.

On February 19, 1978, Rev. Robert M. Lewis was installed as our new pastor, coming to us from the Miami Shores Presbyterian Church, Miami, Florida. Great interest has been shown as the church continues to build a new program and to reach out to heal human hurts in the name of Christ.



APPRECIATION

As we come to the actual celebration of the Hundredth Anniversary of our church, we are reminded of all those who helped to make this possible. The Centennial Committee would like to express their appreciation to each of you for accepting responsibility in preparing for the Centennial celebration. It has been a pleasure working with such a cooperative group and we want to thank everyone who has given his time and talents to make this a great time in our church.

Centennial Celebration Steering Committee

Leland Harrison, Chairman	Sue Gillespie
Myrtle Allen	Harry Maxwell
Carolyn Brown	John McKinney
Lois Clark	Susan Perkins

(Many members of the church were assigned to committees)



SHOWN ABOVE ARE THE ELDERS AND DEACONS OF CAIRO PRESBYTERIAN as they participate in the groundbreaking services for the new Educational Building which was held Sunday, February 15, 1976. In the center of the photo is Rev. Harrison Morgan, executive secretary of the Presbytery of Southwest Georgia, who helped preside over the groundbreaking.

ROLL OF PASTORS - CAIRO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. W. H. Crane, 1878 - 1878
 Rev. Jas. A. McKee, D.D., 1878 - 1887
 Rev. W. C. Wallace, 1887 - 1891
 Rev. A. W. Clisby, 1893 - 1895
 Rev. Geo. A. Hough, 1898 - 1900
 Rev. McIver, Irregularly
 Rev. R. D. Stinson, 1902 - 1904
 Rev. C. B. Witherspoon, 1904 - 1907
 Mr. J. W. Hithorn (Student) 1906 - 1906
 Rev. J. W. Quarterman, 1908 - 1910
 Rev. B. R. Anderson, 1910 - 1916
 Rev. H. W. Head, 1918 - 1918
 Rev. J. A. Warren, 1919 - 1921
 Rev. J. S. Jennings, 1922 - 1923
 Rev. James D. Deans, 1923 -
 Rev. R. H. Latham, 1924
 Rev. S. W. Dendy, 1928 - 1936
 Rev. John H. McKinnon, Jr, 1936 - 1939
 Rev. Eugene L. Daniels, 1939 - 1940

Rev. C. G. Pepper, Jr., 1940 - 1943
 Rev. Fred Breamer, 1944 - 1945
 Rev. Charles M. Robinson, Jr., 1946 - 1949
 Dr. Fred H. Leach, Supplied in 1949
 Rev. Keith Hill, 1950 - 1952
 Rev. A. H. Rust, 1953 - 1955
 Rev. Armando Rodriguez, 1956 - 1958
 Rev. R. T. Wallace, Supplied in 1956 and at various times thereafter
 Rev. Ralph McCaskill, 1959 - 1959
 Mr. Mario E. Rivera, Supplied in 1959
 Rev. Everett P. Moye, 1960 - 1968
 Rev. Wm. P. McKinnon, 1968 - 1971
 Dr. Marshall S. Woodson, Supplied in 1971
 Rev. Malcolm Cole Davis, 1972 - 1973
 Rev. H. Page Williams, 1973 - 1977
 Dr. Archie C. Ray, Supplied in 1977
 Dr. Arthur M. Field, Supplied in 1977
 Rev. Robert M. Lewis, 1978



Rev. H. W. Head
 1918 - 1919



Rev. J. A. Warren
 1919 - 1921



Rev. James D. Deans
 1923



Rev. S. W. Dendy
 1928 - 1936



Rev. John H. McKinnon, Jr.
 1936 - 1939



Rev. Eugene L. Daniels
1939 - 1940



Rev. Fred Breamer
1944 - 1945



Rev. Charles Robinson, Jr.
1946 - 1949



Rev. Fred H. Leach
1949 - 1950



Rev. Keth Hill
1950 - 1952



Rev. A. Hubert Rust
1953 - 1955



Rev. Robert T. Wallace
1956



Rev. Armando Rodriguez
1956 - 1958



Rev. Everett Pierce Moye
1961 - 1968

ELDERS OF CAIRO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Dr. J. J. Moore, 1878 - 1878
 W. H. Waldron, 1878 - Died
 J. W. Maxwell, 1878 - 1908
 M. B. Smith, 1905 - Moved 1912
 W. G. Puffer, 1905 - Moved 1908
 J. P. Malloy, 1910 - Moved 1912
 R. C. Bell, 1912 - Died
 L. M. Ausley, 1912 - Moved 1917
 G. W. Cook, 1920 - Died 1949

C. A. Curry, 1928 - Died 1964
 A. A. McNeill, 1935 - Moved
 U. A. Clifford, 1935 - Died July 1940
 Dr. J. B. Warnell, 1937 - Died
 Dr. W. L. Belcher, 1937 - Died
 L. Allen Ward, 1951 - Present Elder
 Elmer H. Bell, Sr., 1951 - Died
 John B. Roberts, 1954 - Died
 B. F. Harrison, 1954 - Died

Alvah L. Reagan, 1954 - Present Elder
 Ruben S. Beard, 1954 - Died
 John H. Faulk, Jr., 1858 - Died 1973
 William C. Gillespie, 1958 - Present Elder
 Leland Harrison, 1958 - Present Elder
 James Edwin Bell, 1968 - Present Elder
 Adrian P. Clark, 1968 - Present Elder
 Harry Maxwell, 1974 - Present Elder

DEACONS OF CAIRO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

J. W. Maxwell, 1878
 E. M. Maxwell, 1905
 J. P. Malloy, 1905
 Onselow Maxwell, 1909
 W. S. Lucas, 1909
 Dr. J. B. Warnell, 1909
 G. W. Cook, 1918
 U. A. Clifford, 1928
 B. F. Harrison, 1932
 A. A. McNeill, 1932
 M. Guy Misenheimer, 1932
 Elmer H. Bell, 1932
 J. Howard Shaw, 1935
 Vereen M. Bell, 1937
 Maurice G. Allen, 1937
 Clayton R. Baker, 1937
 John Dolan, 1937
 Clower W. Connally, 1937
 Alvah L. Reagan, 1942
 Dan Thompson, 1943
 Leland Harrison, 1946
 John H. Faulk, Jr., 1946

L. Allen Ward, 1948
 Harry R. Maxwell, 1948
 John B. Roberts, 1948
 Dr. S. G. Frazier, 1951
 James A. Moore, 1951
 K. F. Leddick, 1951
 D. H. Burroughs, 1954
 Orris Burroughs, 1954
 A. B. Clark, 1954
 L. D. Eddings, 1954
 W. C. Gillespie, 1954
 Joel L. Merritt, 1954
 Eugene Crane, 1955
 Hugh F. Brown, 1958
 Jimmy A. Mitchell, 1958
 Adrian P. Clark, 1958
 Edward Rushin, 1958
 Wayne Burroughs, 1958
 Robert Haile, 1958
 Angus Edwards, Jr., 1958
 Williard (Bill) Whitfield, 1959
 Edward Reagan, 1959

Hubert O. Knauff, 1963
 Elmer H. Bell, Jr., 1967
 Samuel R. Hall, 1967
 Larry Dean Cliett, 1969
 James L. Hartsfield, 1969
 Charles Patrick Perkins, 1969
 Wilburn Simpson, 1970
 Robert Rogers, 1971
 Maurice Barnhill, 1971
 Charles Prince, 1972
 Robert Harrison, 1973
 Herman Gainous, 1974
 Ed Babcock, 1975
 Albert Kancle, 1975
 Terry S. McRae, 1975
 Bob Godwin, 1975
 Van Ponder, 1978
 John McKinney, 1978
 Kirk Lowery, 1978

ACTIVE ROLL OF MEMBERS CAIRO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, as of September 15, 1978

Allen, Mrs. Myrtle Cook
 Babcock, Edward Thompson
 Babcock, Mrs. Edward Thompson
 Bell, Mrs. Elmer H. Sr.
 Belcher, Mrs. W. L.
 Bearrs, John R.
 Bell, J. Ed
 Bell, Mrs. J. Ed
 Bell, Mary Rebecca
 Beller, Mrs. Martin
 Booth, Mrs. Thelma
 Brown, Mrs. Shirley
 Brown, Lumis Coats
 Brown, Reynolds Joseph
 Burroughs, D. H.
 Burroughs, Mrs. D. H.
 Burroughs, Nick
 Burroughs, Nora
 Burroughs, Orris
 Burroughs, Mrs. Orris
 Butler, Marty

Clark, Adrian P.
 Clark, Mrs. Adrian P.
 Clark, Catherine Lynn
 Clark, Elizabeth Elaine
 Clark, Lori
 Clark, A. B.
 Clark, Mrs. A. B.
 Clark, Brenda
 Clark, Nancy Rebecca
 Clark, Sandra Lois
 Clark, Mrs. Kedar, Sr.
 Clark, Kedar (Sonny) Jr.
 Clark, James C.
 Clark, Mrs. James C.
 Clements, Fred P.
 Clements, Mrs. Fred P.
 Cook, Mrs. G. W.
 Collins, Mrs. Ray
 Dollar, Robert Stanley (Bobby)
 Dollar, Mrs. Robert Stanley
 Edwards, Mrs. Angus Sr.

Edwards, Angus, Jr.
 Edwards, Mrs. Angus Jr.
 Edwards, Elizabeth Anne
 Fain, Charles D.
 Fain, Mrs. Charles D.
 Feree, George E.
 Feree, Mrs. George E.
 Ferguson, Mrs. Leroy
 Ferguson, William Terrell
 Frazier, Perry
 Frazier, Mrs. Perry
 Flatt, Miss Tammy Lynn
 Gillespie, William C.
 Gillespie, Mrs. William C.
 Gainous, Herman E.
 Godwin, Robert A.
 Godwin, Mrs. Robert A.
 Hall, Angie
 Hall, Kris Benjamin
 Hall, Joseph Michael
 Hall, Sam R. Sr.

CAIRO CHURCH --- A CHURCH THAT CARES FOR PEOPLE

IN COMMITMENT. . .

Pastor's Class held quarterly
for new members

Pre-Easter Prayer Breakfasts --
meets on 7 Wednesdays prior
to Easter

The Mariners -- fellowship groups
for couples on the third Saturday
of each month

The Marathoners -- a fellowship for
people over 60, meets on the third
Thursday of each month

Father-Son-Mother-Daughter Banquet--
in February

Small Groups for:
Prayer
Bible Study
Personal Growth

THROUGH WITNESS. . .

Ministry through the Presbytery of
Southwest Georgia, the Synod of
the Southeast, and the General
Assembly of the Presbyterian
Church of the United States

Living Nativity -- an outdoor
presentation of the Christmas Story,
December 22 and 23

Visitation

Cassette Tape Ministry

Projects Ministering to Human Need

IN WORSHIP. . .

Sunday -- 11:00 A.M.

Communion Service first Sunday of
each quarter, and Thursday before
Easter

Good Friday Services

Community Chapel Series -- Sunday
evenings in November, February and May

Thanksgiving Service -- 10:00 A.M.

Christmas Eve Candlelight
Service -- 7:30 P.M.

Baptisms

THROUGH MUSIC. . .

Sanctuary Choir (Adult) Wednesday, 7:30
P.M.

Men's Chorus on Thanksgiving and
Christmas Eve

Children's Choir -- on special occasions

Special Guest Musicians and Concerts

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH. .

First Monday of each month--
3:00 P.M. (Afternoon Circle)

Second Wednesday of each month--
10:00 A.M. (Morning Circle)

Second Thursday of each month--
8:00 P.M. (Evening Circle)

Service, Witness, Worship and Growth
Opportunities

THROUGH NURTURE. . .

OF CHILDREN--

Church School each Sunday at 9:45 A.M.
Classes for Nursery through 6th grade.

Vacation Bible School -- June

OF YOUTH--

Church School at 9:45 A.M. for Grades 7-12

T.N.T. -- special Youth events

Communicants Class

Summer Camps

OF ADULTS--

Church School at 9:45 A.M. each Sunday

Elective Bible Classes

Bible Moderators for the W.O.C.

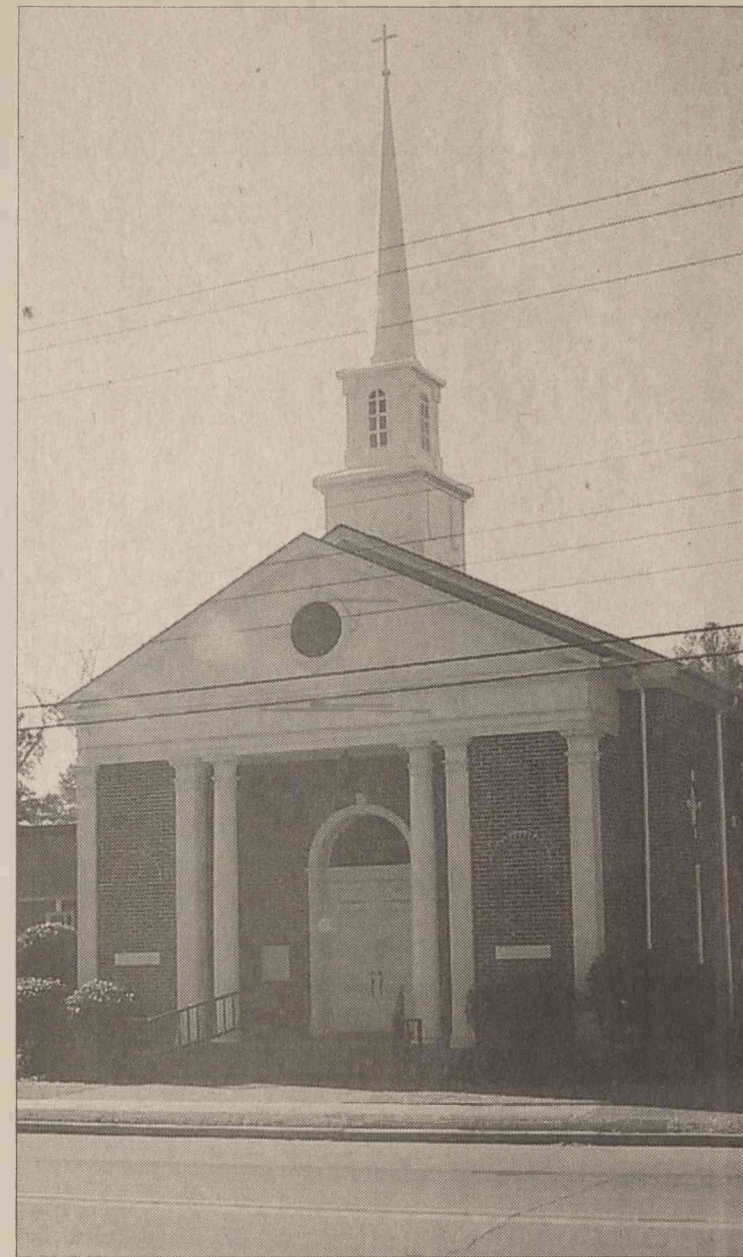
Cairo Presbyterian is a church that CARES FOR PEOPLE. We seek to serve the people of our congregation through Nurture, Witness, Commitment and Worship. We WANT to serve the people of the Cairo area. Through programs already established and by planning for development of additional projects in the future, our church is endeavoring to reach out to all people, both the churched and unchurched, to heal their hurts.



CUS SHIERLING, right, contractor and begin preparation to ready steeple for the at Cairo Presbyterian Church in Cairo.

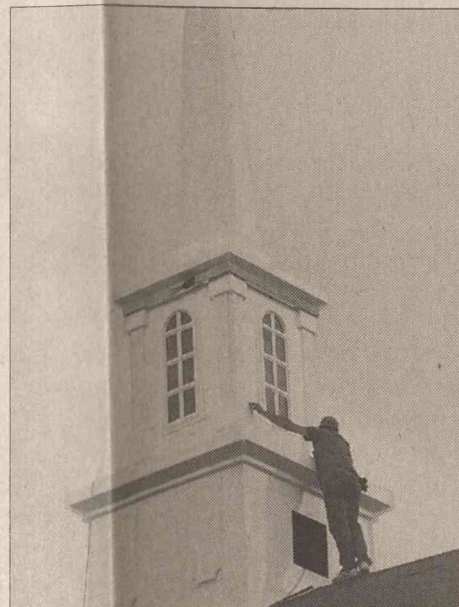
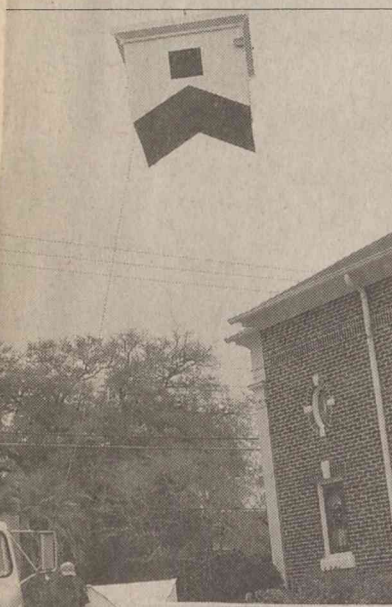


MARCUS SHIERLING, left, contractor and Ray Council, Rayann's Church Furnishings, saw the boards the old way with a hand held saw, to make the rafter braces for inside the Presbyterian Church, to complete installation of steeple.



Staff Photos

CAIRO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH now has a beautiful 39' steeple.



The fiberglass base section is lifted into position by crane company Williams Electric Services and Signs. All pieces are in place as the final section of the steeple is placed atop the roof of the Presbyterian Church in Cairo.

New steeple erected atop Presbyterian Church

ven as a
emorial by
e Lowry family

Dot James
Staff Writer

beautiful new 39-foot
e now graces the rooftop

of the Cairo Presbyterian Church.

The steeple arrived in three parts Tuesday, and each piece was placed on top of the church one by one.

When Williams Electric Service and Signs arrived with a crane, things began to happen at the Fourth Street, S.E., church.

Jeff Williams, crane operator,

soon had the first section braced and ready to lift to the roof. Then two more times he expertly raised the steeple pieces to their places.

Marcus Shierling and his crew from Thomasville installed the steeple, from bracing it to the rafters inside the church to making sure of placement on the roof.

The church adornment is made of fiberglass with windows in the cupola made of crinkle glass. A lighting system will shine at the windows at dusk and go off at daylight.

Kirk Lowry, a member of Presbyterian Church, and his mother, Mrs. Milton K. Lowry, from Seneca, S.C., gave the steeple in memory of Kirk's

father, M. K. Lowry, and son, John B. Lowry. A dedication service will be held later in March at the Presbyterian Church.

Many interested onlookers dropped by to watch the event, some for a short period and others, such as Mr. and Mrs. A.B. Clark, for the complete operation.

Ray Council of Rayann's Church Furnishings in Thomasville, contracted with manufacturer Piedmont Fiberglass Inc., of Mooresville, N.C., to build the steeple for the church.

CAIRO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Cairo Presbyterian Church was organized on January 3, 1878, by the Reverend James A. McKee, commissioned by Savannah Presbytery.

There were five original members: Mr. & Mrs. J. W. Maxwell, Dr. & Mrs. J. T. Moore, and Mrs. N. J. Walker.

On that date, Dr. J. T. Moore was installed as Elder and Mr. J. W. Maxwell as Deacon. Mr. Maxwell was later ordained as an Elder and also was the first Sunday School Superintendent; he and his wife were among the most faithful members to the date of their deaths.

The first addition to the church after its organization was Mr. Henry Wight, the ancestor of the present generation of Wights now living in Cairo. Mr. Wight united with this church on January 17, 1878, and remained a faithful member until his death in 1885 at the age of 94. Records show that Mr. Henry Wight's son, Mr. G. A. Wight, gave the land for the present building of the Cairo Presbyterian Church, and the deed for one acre of land was recorded on October 9, 1883. Sales were made before the turn of the century for part of the land, leaving only the grounds of the building constructed in 1930.

For the first six years, having no church buildings of our own, the Session meetings were often held in private residences. The church building of the Methodist Congregation was tendered for regular services and was freely and gratefully used until our own first building was erected.

In 1883, plans were made to construct the one-room church building which stood until 1930. Records show that on October 4, 1883, Mr. Robert Hector McLane made a bid of \$650.00 to construct the church building, and he promised to have it finished in three months after beginning the work.

The first session meeting in the new church was on March 29, 1884. The report to Presbytery in April of 1884 showed that the church was growing with a membership of 27 communicants and 10 non-communicants. It is interesting to note that about the time the church was built, Cairo was incorporated with a total population in 1883 of 460 people.

Rev. James A. McKee was the first pastor of the church, serving until December 31, 1887.

The records show that for several years following its organization, the church enjoyed a period of great interest and activity, and many persons were received into the membership. The congregation has never been large, but the records show, by names of people whose works are still known in this city, and by other facts, that this church has been an important force in the spiritual and moral development of our city and county.

But for several years, particularly during the late 'teens and twenties, the church underwent a severe depression. The congregation, due to death and removal of members, became discouraged. The church roll in 1924 showed a total of 22 resident members, with only 12 of them being adults.

Though few in number, the members finally resolved, with the help of the Lord and the encouragement of friends, to go forward with a determination for a greater service and witness. Consequently, with the liberal assistance of the Home Mission Committee of Presbytery, and especially with the help of Mr. W. C. Vereen of Moultrie, the church called its first full-time pastor, the Rev. S. Wilkes Dendy, in September

of 1928. Under his splendid leadership the church began a firm and steady growth.

The original part of the present church building was built during the pastorate of the Rev. Mr. Dendy, and represented an outlay of about \$15,000.00. In a spirit of cooperation and the finest brother-love, many members of the churches of other denominations gave large assistance, as did the friends over a wide area. The largest contribution, \$3,000.00, came from the estate of the Rev. James A. McKee, the first pastor of the church, and was given by his widow.

In 1943, the congregation purchased a building near the church and remodeled it for use as a manse, which was completed in early 1945, and was used for the manse until 1957 when another manse was purchased. Later the remodeled building was removed to make room for expansion.

On April 1, 1952, during the pastorate of Rev. Keith Hill, the church became self-supporting. Prior to that time, it had received financial assistance from the Home Mission Committee of the Presbytery.

Three additional Sunday School rooms were added to the church building in 1955 during the pastorate of Rev. Hubert Rust.

In February of 1965 during the pastorate of Rev. Everett P. Moyer, the property adjoining the church land, known as the Arline property, was bought. Thus, the land originally given to the church in 1878 again became the property of the church. The Arline residence was then used for Sunday School classes and a fellowship hall until its removal in 1976 to make room for further expansion.

This expansion, made during the pastorate of Rev. H. Page Williams included the Fellowship Hall with kitchen facilities, a recreation room, six Sunday School classrooms and a nursery suite. The groundbreaking ceremony was on February 15, 1976, and the building was dedicated to God's glory on October 3, 1976.

Under a plan proposed by the Flint River Presbytery in 1994 the Cairo Presbyterian Church became a part of a Larger Parish composed of five churches: Cairo, Dawes, Camilla, Pelham and Boston. The Cairo church has been fortunate to have as its beloved pastor the Reverend Doctor James Byron Spencer who also serves the Dawes Church. The plan has worked well for the Cairo Church as it shares in fellowship with other churches in the Larger Parish, especially in the rotation of meeting in the various churches for Fifth Sunday Evening Services.

**Cairo Presbyterian Church
100 4th Ave. SE
PO Box 207
Cairo, GA 31728**

**Pastor Dr. James Spencer
Clerk of Session A. B. (Buddy) Clark**

**Sunday School 9:45 AM
Worship Service 11:15 AM nursery provided**

Former Connections of Cairo Presbyterian Church
With other churches in the Flint River
Larger Parish -

By Myrtle Cook Brock

Following our Larger Parish Service on April 30, 2000, I began thinking of my connection with each of the five churches in our Larger Parish.

My family moved to Cairo in 1915 when I was seven years old. I am now 92. My parents were Presbyterian, having joined the Monticello, Fla. Presbyterian Church in 1907 and 1908. So we immediately found our way to the small one-room Cairo Presbyterian Church that stood on the corner at the same location as our present edifice.

At that time our church, being a Home Mission Church, was grouped with the Boston church, and the Reverend Mr. B. R. Anderson was pastor of both churches. He lived in Boston and came over on weekends of our "Preaching Sundays" and spent the nights in homes of various members. He was an interesting and impressive looking man with an outgoing personality.

During his pastorate here he established a mission in the Goldenrod Schoolhouse, located four or five miles above town. There was a nucleus of Presbyterians in that community and the A. B. Clark family (grandparents of "Buddy" whose name is also A. B. Clark, and his brother Adrian) and Mr. & Mrs. A. B. Clark and their large family attended the mission at Goldenrod and through that mission they joined the Cairo Presbyterian Church. Later through deaths and removals from the community, Mr. Kedar (K. C. Clark) and his family were the only members of the family left in the Cairo Church.

A few years ago, I had the pleasure of visiting with Mr. Robert Clark who was then living near Whigham. He was one of the younger sons of Mr. & Mrs. A. B. Clark. He told me interesting things about his memories of Mr. Anderson.

It seems that Mr. Anderson often stayed in the Clark home on weekends when he was preaching here, and he enjoyed the farm life, especially during cane grinding time. On one occasion Mr. Anderson decided he wanted to try plowing. It was soon evident that he was better at preaching than he was at plowing.

On one occasion the farmers were experiencing a severe drouth and the crops were suffering for rain. On one Sunday during Mr. Anderson's prayer he prayed so earnestly for rain that tears were rolling down his cheeks. As the congregation was leaving the church, Mr. Clark commented that he saw a little cloud in the sky. They started for home in their open touring car and by time they rode the four or five miles home everyone in the car was drenched by rain. Robert Clark then commented to me that from that time on he had never doubted the power of prayer.

During that mission several members united with the Cairo Presbyterian Church, but I think only "Buddy" and Adrian's families are the only ones of that family who are members here today. That was our connection with the Boston Church.

Then about 1923-25 our church was grouped with the Camilla church and our pastor was a Scotchman names James Deans. During his pastorate at the Camilla-Cairo Churches he organized the Pelham Church. He lived in Camilla and came to Cairo to preach, sometimes for an afternoon service, but also sometimes for a morning or evening service, sometimes spending nights in homes of members. He was

rather abrupt and I remember once when he spent the night in our home, at breakfast my mother offered to serve him some grits. He said: "NO, NO, NO, all I see in south Georgia is grits, grits, grits. I don't want to see any grits."

This means in addition to being grouped with Boston at one time, we later were grouped with both Pelham and Camilla.

Our church was never grouped with the Dawes Church until the Larger Parish was formed, but my connection with Dawes was that my mother and I attended the organizational meeting of that church. It had formerly been a chapel or a mission. The Reverend Mr. R. T. Wallace, a retired minister then living in Thomasville; He did supply ministry in several nearby churches, both Cairo and Dawes being among them, And it WAS during his supply work at Dawes the mission there was organized into a church.

When my parents were living in Monticello, about the time I was born, they started going to the Presbyterian church there, and Mrs. Wallace, the former Miss Elizabeth Denham, was living there and was my father's Sunday School teacher, although she was probably only about 18 years old. It was largely through her influence and other friends in that church, that my family became Presbyterian. The Denham family moved away and "Miss Lizzie" as she was called, met and married Mr. Wallace who might have been a Seminary student at the time, and he became a Presbyterian Minister. After serving other pastorates, for his last ten years of ministry he served as pastor of the Monticello church. During that time, Mamma and I visited friends in Monticello and went to the Presbyterian Church and friendship with the Wallaces was renewed. After their retirement to Thomasville when Mr. Wallace sometimes supplied our pulpit and he and Mrs. Wallace would have meals with us.

So that was my connection with the Dawes Church, though other than the organizational meeting, I never attended it until the larger parish was formed.

I joined the Cairo Presbyterian Church in 1918 and have never been a member of any other church. This discourse shows my connection with all the other churches in the Flint River Larger Parish: Camilla, Pelham, Dawes and Boston.

April 16, 1974

MISS MYRTLE:

I think I'm making headway in arriving at conclusions on the Genesis of Cairo, and I had in mind under Churches that I would list the Methodist Church, the first in Cairo without any doubt, then the Baptist Church and the the Presbyterian Church and we have very nice paragraphs, maybe a half page on each.

Before I used what Robert Roddenbery has written on Presbyterian Church, I am going to call on you to help and we will revise it or improve it, if need be.

Then recently it has occurred to me, as there will be room to make some things more complete, is that we write ~~two~~ paragraphs about Hawthorne Primitive Baptist Church, in fact, Robert has done a good job of that, and that should be done for it's the first in what is now Grady County, or I expect even Thomas County. Anyhow, that would be just to recognize the first church.

But then the churches that the Methodist and Baptist Churches in Cairo sprang from in rural area, and we know all about Long Branch being the mother church of the Baptist Church, and you have mentioned to me the rural church that was the mother church of the Methodist Church. And do you know which that is?

I had in mind it was a church in south, southeast of Cairo. I have looked in the Rogers book and it says the Thomasville-Bainbridge Stagecoach Road was one to two miles south of Bold Springs Baptist Church. Was ther a Bold Springs Baptist and Methodist Church? And was the Bold Springs church in north Grady County the Baptist Church and in northeast Grady County?

I think you have this at your fingertips and would be glad you tell me to keep from searching again. It would be nice to recognize the rural churches that preceded both the Baptist and Methodist Church then, and above all, if there was another Presbyterian Church in Grady County from which Cairo Presbyterian Church sprang, let me know. But I believe that was in Thomasville, was it not? Or if from a District Board.

We are a long way from being near the end of the book, but ~~xxx~~ as things occur, and I don't follow up the thought of an idea, I will be swamped with them toward the end, so I consider it a victory when I conclude just one little thing.

The big deal in the entire book is formation of Grady County, and it seems the more I study, new ideas spring up, and bettr. For instance, we will call this chapter the creation of Grady County, for I note that used in a legal term. Then the very next chapter will be organizing of the Grady County, starting at January 1, 1906 with information about building courthouse, the tangle we got into about the location, about the new officers, bond issues, and it will be a very interesting chapter whereas the first chapter will be political.

I'm better satisfied with that plan than anything else.

JBR

JBR: In re: Presbyterian Church. I r4emember Bob Jr. writing you that the history he received from our church was well documented and the only church history he felt was really authentic. I remember a brief history that Judge Bell prepared once for a corner stone laying ceremony and I may have a copy of it. I understand at Montreat, N. C. (our church headquarters) there is a historical society building and we send our history each year there, so it is somewhat a department of archives.

(continued next page)

#2 Interestingly, a Reverend McKee came to Thomasville from Indiana because of the health of himself or his wife, and he founded the church at Cairo and possibly the one at Bainbridge. He must have been a man of some means for I understand he endowed a chair at a well known university and I can't recall the name right now. It is possible he help pay for the first church building tho we don't know about that. It was Hanover College.

After the death of his wife, Mr. McKee married his housekeeper who was a fine woman but probably not of the social standing of the first wife. She outlived him by a good many years and in her old age visited Cairo at the time we were building our present brick church. Mr. Dendy was pastor then. From the meager amount of money she had left from his estate at the time, which was hers to use during her lifetime, then any residue to go to missions, she gave about \$3,000 toward our building. She told Mr. Dendy that all she wanted for it was "one nail from the old church building." Judge Bell said he shuddered to think how we would have paid for the building without her gift at that time, during the Depression when the total outlay of the building was \$15,000.

This means that the founder of the church, Mr. McKee, had a part in the original 1 room wooden building, and also our present building.

BOLD SPRINGS Methodist Church is in Grady County - turn left at Pine Park crossing and its only a few miles up that road. I feel certain this is mentioned in the color brochure the Methodist Church got out at time of their Centennial, and I think Ruth Young wrote that history. But it could be verified by Mrs. Urick at the church office, I expect.

I have never heard of a Bold Springs Baptist Church in Grady County. This Methodist Church would have been about the location Rogers mentioned as near the Bainbridge-Thomasville Stagecoach Road.

Myrtle

5/12/65

JBR:

This is very good and is correct, to best of my knowledge, except in last of first paragraph, ~~likely~~ the 1909 date of death of Mr. W. H. Waldron is likely in error, and probably was 1919. My family moved to Cairo in 1915 and I remember Mr. and Mrs. Waldron as they used to come to church and hitch their horse to the buggy behind the church.

It might be interesting to you and RSR, Jr. to know that Judge Bell remained a member of the Cairo church until his death and Mrs. Bell is still a member here. They did not move their church membership when they moved to Thomasville, and he remained an Elder in the Church as long as he lived.

Our people will appreciate the liberal space Mr. Roddenbery is giving our church in his book.

Myrtle Allen

Dr. W. A. Walker said the Mrs. Nancy Walker (one of the original five) was his mother.

*Robin; hate this type of comments
closed*

Small Claims Court
of Colquitt County
Moultrie, Georgia

May 13, 1965

Mrs. W. C. Gillespie
Route 2, Box 15
Whigham, Georgia

Dear Mrs. Gillespie:

Thanks for yours of May 4 in further reference to Cairo Presbyterian Church.

I prepared a tentative sketch of what I propose to publish about early history of this Church and asked Julien Roddenbery to show it to his secretary Mrs. Myrtle Allen. Today I am in receipt of a memo. from Mrs. Allen stating that what I wrote "is very good and is correct", except she says Elder Waldron must have died in 1919, instead of 1909 as was stated in data you previously sent me. Mrs. Allen moved to Cairo in 1915 and she remembers Mr. & Mrs. Waldron going to church and hitching their horse and buggy behind the church. Unless I can verify the death date, I just will not say when he died.

I do not intend to print pictures of any churches in my book. There will be less than a dozen pictures of any kind. Having photographs copied and retouching and making zinc etchings for printing is very expensive, and when you start you don't know where to quit. And I don't want to offend anyone. My book will not be by any means a complete history of Grady County or of Cairo—just the "Genesis of Cairo"—its birth and earliest history.

I do mention Judge R. C. Bell (who went to Cairo in 1905) as perhaps the most distinguished member of your Church in all its history, and that he retained his membership there and was an Elder to the time of his death. And I mention building of the present church in 1930, largely through the generosity of Mrs. J. A. McKee, widow of the first pastor.

Sincerely yours,

R. S. Roddenbery
R. S. Roddenbery, Jr.

Mrs. Allen:

Have noted (and will correct) that Mrs. N. J. Walker was Nancy Jane Walker, mother of Dr. Wm. A. Walker.

Mrs. Gillespie had written about having pictures of original church & of Mr. & Mrs. W. C. Gillespie that might be printed.

X

*Presbyterian
But sure a complete
History elsewhere*

Judge Reason Chesnut Bell, b. 1880.
Moved to Cairo in 1905 - T.ville in 1940
seen in Cairo Presbyterian Church.
most distinguished

May 3, 1965

Cairo, Presbyterian Church

Mrs. W. C. Gillespie
Whigham, Georgia

Dear Mrs. Gillespie:

I appreciate your letter of April 28 with so much valuable information on the early history of the Cairo Presbyterian Church which was organized and constituted Jan. 5, 1878, and the matters therein recited brought back vivid memories to my 97 years old father who was nearly 10 years old when your Church was organized and at the age of 15 years was an eye witness to the building of your first church edifice in 1883. He described that building to me in rather minute detail. And he well remembers nearly all of the persons whose names are mentioned in this history.

Your history records that on Oct. 4, 1883, Hector MacLean (note corrected spelling of his name) submitted plans and made a bid of \$650.00 to construct this one-room church building, and the record states "it is presumed" that he received the contract and did the building. You may now amend your history to show that it is a fact that Hector MacLean erected that first church building. He was more than a carpenter. He was an architect and a master craftsman. He built many structures in Cairo, including Dr. Seaborn A. Roddenbery's 10 room two story residence (built 1871-72) facing N. Broad St., on land now partially occupied by Colonial Stores, and in 1887 he built the first residence of W. B. Roddenbery (Sr.) on Bryan St. (now N.E. 1st Ave.) which building is yet there. In 1873 Hector MacLean built Dr. Roddenbery's second store building, a two-story white dressed lumber building on west side of N. Broad, between the present Roddenbery Hardware Co. store and the railroad right of way, which store was replaced about 1918 by the present two-story brick building.

Your church minutes record that Dr. J. T. Moore (in several places you have it J. L., but J. T. is correct) was one of the 5 original members and was elected Elder at the organizational meeting Jan. 5, 1878. And you show Mrs. M. R. Moore as one of the 5 first members. It is presumed by me that she was the wife of Dr. J. T. Moore. (So many married women in those days used initials other than those of their husbands, and that causes a lot of confusion. My grandmother, wife of Dr. S. A. Roddenbery, always signed her name "Mrs. M. A. Roddenbery". Why, is a mystery to me. Before marriage she was Martha America Braswell.) Anyhow, my father was surprised and disappointed that your history makes no prominent mention of Mrs. J. T. Moore, because she was a devout member and indefatigable worker, a charming woman and highly esteemed (far above her husband) by everybody in Cairo.

In historical notes left by my late uncle Walter B. Roddenbery (6 years older than my father) he made mention of the fact that before any churches were built in Cairo, Sunday School (for everybody) was held in the Cairo school house, and he stated that W. A. Chester was the Superintendent and "Mrs. Dr. Moore" and Miss Lizzie Everett were his first Sunday School teachers. So, perhaps it wouldn't hurt to amend your church history to give Mrs. J. T. Moore a little deserved praise.

Mrs. W.C. Gillespie

May 3, 1965

Page 2

Your history shows J. W. Maxwell first as Deacon and later as Elder. My father says his name was Joseph W. Maxwell, but everybody called him Joe Maxwell, and he says no person in Cairo ever visited so many sick people (and would sit up all night with them) as did Joe Maxwell. When anyone was in distress, he was always there.

Your history shows W. H. Waldron as an Elder and as Session Clerk for 25 years. In several places the name appears as W. H. Waldrop. My father says the correct name is Waldron. Perhaps that correction should be made.

I was pleased to learn that the first Wight in Decatur County, the original Henry Wight (b. 1791, d. 1885) joined your church in 1878, and of course I have noted that his son George A. Wight gave the land on which the church was built. But I believe George A. and the other Wights of Cairo were Methodists.

Regarding mention of the fact that the character of Dr. J. T. Moore was under investigation in 1878, my father says he never knew anything in derogation of his character other than the fact that he was a drug addict and, this being generally known, many people were hesitant to employ his medical services. But he was a good doctor, had a fair practice in the country, lived frugally, always paid cash for what he bought and never asked for credit. He rode in a buggy drawn by a little pony which he always kept sleek and fat. He used gum opium which in those days sold for \$1.00 an ounce and could be purchased without a prescription. Dr. S. A. Roddenbery sold drugs in his general mercantile store and as a teenage boy and as a young man my father worked in this store and Dr. Moore was a frequent purchaser of one ounce of gum opium for which he always paid with a silver dollar. Of course I do not intend to mention these things in my book but, since you know what your church history states, I thought I should tell you that my father says Dr. J. T. Moore was an otherwise honorable man and was generally well liked, though not regarded as a financial or professional success.

One other thing I would like to know for certain. Is the Cairo church the only Presbyterian Church in Grady County?

What you sent me will be of great assistance in preparing this brief history of the earliest days of Cairo, which I have entitled "Genesis of Cairo". I am enclosing an extra copy of this letter so you may give it to the Mrs. Myrtle Cook Allen whom you mentioned, or to Mr. Everett P. Moye. Am I right in assuming that this Mrs. Allen is the secretary of my cousin Julien B. Roddenbery, Sr.? If so, she is assisting him in obtaining historical data for me in connection with this work.

Again thanking you for your letter and enclosures, I am

Sincerely yours,

R. S. Roddenbery, Jr.

Whigham, Ga. 31797
April 28, 1965

Judge R. S. Roddenbery, Jr.
Small Claims Court of Colquitt County
Moultrie, Georgia

Dear Judge Roddenbery:

Mr. E. P. Moye, the beloved pastor of our Cairo Presbyterian Church, has given me your letter of April 23rd asking for information about our church up to the year 1900.

At this time I am the Historian as elected by the Women of our Church, and it is a pleasure to give you the information enclosed herewith, copied from some of the Church HISTORY. If these pages do not supply all the information needed, and if you would like to look over the volume containing this history, we would be glad to arrange to lend it to you. And, if there is any question about the copies of pages of the history which I have made and send you with this letter, you might contact Mrs. Myrtle Cook Allen, whose family have been closely associated with the church and the community for years.

We are very much interested in the book you are going to publish about the early days of Cairo and appreciate your giving us opportunity to give information about our church.

Very truly yours,

Wm B. Gillespie

Mrs. W. C. Gillespie

Encls.

174
1222

From Minutes of Session Meeting March 23, 1885:

WALTER WEST, Sr., departed this life Feb. 5th 1885 in the 94th year of his age. He united with the Congregational Church of Bristol, Conn. (of which his father had been pastor for many years) about twenty-five years old, moving to Georgia in 1829, he became a member of the Presbyterian Church at Lewis Lake. Not long after the organization of Cairo Presbyterian Church his connection with this church, but was severely able to attend upon its ordinances of distance and the infirmities of age. He was interested in the

April 23, 1965

Rev. E. P. Moye, Pastor
Presbyterian Church
Cairo, Georgia

Dear Mr. Moye:

I am about ready to publish a brief history of the earliest days of Cairo, from about 1868 to 1910, under the title "Genesis of Cairo", and much of it will be the story as related to me by my 97 years old father who was born four miles from there in 1868 and moved into the new town with his father Dr. S. A. Roddenbery in 1872. He personally knew some of the original members of the Cairo Presbyterian Church.

To confirm my father's recollections and to give authenticity to what I publish, I would like to know the exact date, at least the year, when this Presbyterian Church was organized and constituted and the original members of the congregation, with name of its first Pastor and names of its first governing body, as well as succeeding pastors to 1900. I feel sure the church minutes will reveal this information and I will greatly appreciate it if you will write me concerning these matters, with as much detail as you care to write.

No great amount of space will be devoted to the history of any particular church but the history of no community can be complete without recital of the activities and influences of all the churches and a statement of highlights in the history of each.

In this undertaking, time is of utmost importance to me and I will be grateful for your early consideration of this request. A stamped return envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

Sincerely yours,

R. S. Roddenbery, Jr.

Cairo Presbyterian Church, Cairo, Ga.

From Minutes of Session Meeting March 23, 1885:

HENRY WIGHT, Sr., departed this life Feb. 5th 1885 in the 94th year of his age. He united with the Congregational Church of Bristol, Conn. (of which his father had been pastor for many years) when about twenty-five years old, moving to Georgia in 1829, he became a member of the Presbyterian Church at Iamonia Lake. Not long after the organization of Cairo Presbyterian Church his connexion was transferred to this church, but was rarely able to attend upon its ordinances on account of distance and the infirmities of age. He was interested in the erection of this church building, and contributed freely of his funds for this object. For many years he had been waiting, and even longing, for the summons to call him home. His life was one of singular integrity, and uprightness, marked by energy, industry and promptness. His hope was in the fulness and sufficiency of Christ as a Saviour. He is not now dead but sleepeth, til the Resurrection morn, when he will awake to the fulness of a glorious immortality.

Presbyterian Church

The Cairo Presbyterian Church (only one in Grady County) was organized and constituted Jan. 5, 1878, with Joseph W. Maxwell and wife, Dr. J. T. Moore and wife, and Mrs. N. J. Walker as the original five members. The new church was then in the Savannah Presbytery and it was constituted by Rev. R. P. Kerr and Rev. Jas. A. McKee. On the organization date Dr. J. T. Moore was elected Elder and Jos. W. Maxwell was elected Deacon, and both were duly ordained. On Nov. 21, 1878, Dr. J. T. Moore ceased to be an Elder, and on that date Joseph W. Maxwell and W. H. Waldron were elected Elders. W. H. Waldron was Session Clerk for over 25 years. He died in 1909.

Among the early Pastors of the church were Jas. A. McKee, W. H. Crane, W. C. Wallace, and Geo. A. Hough. A Mr. McIver and Dr. A. W. Clisby served the church irregularly.

The first addition to membership after its organization was Henry Wight who united with this church Jan. 17, 1878, and remained a faithful member until death in 1885. He was the father of Geo. A. Wight and the first of the name to settle in what is now Grady County. At the next session meeting W. S. Thompson and wife and W. H. Waldron were added as members.

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Covered

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copy of history prepared
for delivery at time of
Homecoming service, Oct. 16, 1955)

CAIRO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CAIRO, GA.

*Wife
of
J. T.
Moore*

The Cairo Presbyterian Church was organized on January 5, 1878, by the Rev. R. P. Kerr and Rev. James A. McKee, commissioned by the Savannah Presbytery. There were five original members: Mrs. M. R. Moore, Mr. J. W. Maxwell, Mrs. L. M. Maxwell, Mrs. N. J. Walker, and Dr. J. T. Moore. On that date, Dr. J. T. Moore was installed as Elder and Mr. J. W. Maxwell as Deacon. Mr. Maxwell was later made an elder, and was also the first Sunday School Supt., and he and his wife, Mrs. L. M. Maxwell, were among the most faithful members to the dates of their deaths. They were the parents of Mr. Onselow Maxwell, who is now a member of this church. Their great grand-children are now attending our Sunday School.

The first addition to the church after its organization was Mr. Henry Wight, who was the great-grandfather of the present generation of Wights living here now. Mr. Henry Wight united with this church on January 17, 1878 and remained a faithful member until his death in 1885 at the age of 94 years.

At the next meeting of the session, three more members were added. They were: Mr. W. H. Waldron, Mrs. E. J. Thompson, and Mr. W. S. Thompson. Mr. Waldron was later made an elder and was an active and useful member for a period of more than 40 years.

For the first six years, having no church building of their own, session meetings were often held in private residences. The church building of the Methodist congregation was tendered for the regular services and was freely and gratefully used until their own first edifice was erected.

In 1883 plans were made to construct the one-room church building which stood until 1930, when it was removed to give place for the present building. Records show that on Oct. 4, 1883, Mr. Hector McLane made a bid of \$650.00 to construct the church building and promised to have it finished in three months after commencing the work. It is not recorded whether or not he received the contract, but it is presumed he did.

The land for the church building was given by Mr. G. A. Wight, son of Mr. Henry Wight, and the deed was recorded on Oct. 9, 1883, and was originally for one acre, but sales were made in later years leaving only the grounds of the present building.

The first session meeting in the new church was on March 29, 1884. In April 1884 the report to Presbytery showed the church was growing with a total membership of 27 communicants and 10 non-communicants.

It is interesting to note that about this time the first church was built, Cairo was incorporated with a total population in 1883, of 460 people.

Mr. James A. McKee was the first pastor of the church. He served from March 3, 1878 until December 31, 1896. Others serving up to the time of the building of our present edifice were: Reverends W. H. Crane, W. C. Wallace, George A. Hough, A. W. Clisby, Rev. McIver, R. D. Stinson, E. B. Witherspoon, J. W. Methorn, J. W. Quarterman, B. R. Anderson, H. W. Head, J. A. Warren, J. S. Jennings, J. D. Deans, R. H. Lathem, S. W. Dendy.

For several years following its organization, the church enjoyed a period of exceptional interest and activity, many additions, comparatively speaking, being received. The congregation has never been large, but records show that this church has been an important factor in the spiritual and moreal development of our town and section.

But several years prior to the erection of our present building, the church underwent a severe depression. By death and removal of members, the congregation was greatly reduced and became discouraged. The question was doubtless in mind, if not expressed, as to whether it were better to give up and disband. The church roll in 1924 showed a total of 22 resident members, with only 12 of them being adults. The few members resolved, with the help of the Lord and of friends, to go forward. With liberal help from the Home Mission Committee of Presbytery, a full time pastor, the Rev. S. Wilkes Dendy, was called in September 1928, and under his splendid leadership the church began a firm but steady growth.

Our present structure (built during the pastorate of the Rev. S. W. Dendy) represented an outlay of about \$15,000.00, which could not have been raised by the members themselves. In a spirit of cooperation and the finest brother-love, many members of the Cairo churches of other denominations gave large assistance, as did friends over a wide area. The largest contribution, \$3,000.00 came from the estate of the Rev. James A. McKee, who might be called the founder, as it was mainly through his interest and effort that the church was organized in 1878 and the first building realized in 1884. This fund came to the church through the good offices of his widow, Mrs. Ada R. McKee, who could have had the fund, but preferred that it be used in this building. In the spring of 1930, Mrs. McKee was visiting in Thomasville, Ga. Learning that the members of this church were trying to build a new house of worship, she came to Cairo, attended a service, and voluntarily made known her plan to help in the completion of the new church building.

Other ministers who have served our church are: Rev. John H. McKinnon, Eugene Daniels, Claud Pepper, Fred Bremer (who is conducting the service for us today), Charles M. Robinson, Jr., Keith Hill, and A. Hubert Rust, who is our pastor at this time.

In 1943 the congregation decided to purchase or build a Manse. The purchase was made of a residence which was extensively remodelled and completed early 1945, and Rev. Bremer and his family were the first to occupy the Manse.

During World War II and thereafter, the church has had three periods of several months at the time when we did not have a pastor to lead us, but the congregation has made every effort to continue regular services during these time. The Sunday School and the Women of the Church have been a sustaining influence through the years.

During this church year, under the leadership of our present pastor, 14 additions have been made to the membership of our church, and we are in prayerful anticipation of still greater growth of our congregation both in number and spiritual activity.

We have at this time a church building expansion program underway, and hope that in the not too distant future, to enlarge the educational facilities of our church building, which we feel would be a great help in the progress of the church.

Let us ever be mindful of the contributions of those of the past who have given us the place for our starting point today -- and in future years, as history reveals the manner in which we ourselves perform the Lord's work in this field, we pray that our own efforts may be found worthy in the sight of God.

Two pictures of the church building erected in 1883-4 (dedicated March 23, 1884) and removed in March 1930 to give place for the new building, are in the History kept in the pastor's study at the church.

Population Cairo-Grady County

Year	Cairo	Grady County
1883	468	
1900	690	
1910	1510	19,457
1920	1908	20,306
1930	3169	19,200
1940	4653	19,654
1950	5541	18,928

History of Cairo Presbyterian Church

The History of the Cairo Presbyterian Church begins with the record found in Volume 1, Page 1, of the Minutes of Session, January 5, 1878.

"Pursuant to order of Presbytery the Committee, Revs. R. P. Kerr and Jas. A. McKee met to organize a Presbyterian Church at Cairo, Georgia. After prayer Rev. R. P. Kerr called the names of the petitioners for organization. Five answered to their names: Mrs. M. R. Moore, Mrs. J. W. Maxwell, Mrs. L. M. Maxwell, Mrs. N. J. Walker and Dr. J. T. Moore. The committee then proceeded to organize; then proceeded to the election of an Elder and Deacon. J. T. Moore was elected Elder and J. W. Maxwell, Deacon. After which a vote was called for to give a name to the church. By a unanimous vote it was named "The Cairo Presbyterian Church". The meeting then adjourned until after the evening services. After the services at night Rev. R. P. Kerr ordained the Elder and Deacon."

Mr. J. W. Maxwell and Mrs. L. M. Maxwell were the faithful parents of the present Deacon, Onselow Maxwell.

"A true Copy of the Deacon's Report to the Presbytery of Savannah Meeting at Hazlehurst, October 18, 1878.

Presbyterian Church at Cairo, October 7, 1878

Collected:	for Com. of Sustentation	
	1 Sat. in Jan. handed to Rev. R. P. Kerr	.45
	Pub. 1 Sat. Mar. hand to Dr. J. T. Moore	
	delegate to pres. at Thomasville	.75
	for For. Miss-forwarded to the Com.	
	at Baltimore by pastor	2.10
	for Invalid Fund forw. to the Com.	
	at Baltimore by pastor	1.10
	for Evang. Work, forw. to the Com.	
	at Baltimore by pastor	1.10
		<hr/>
		\$ 5.50

Salary prom. to our pastor Rev. W. H. Crane	\$50.00
Amt. pd. to pastor	23.50
Amt. due	<hr/> \$26.50

(Signed) J. W. Maxwell, Deacon

Witness Rev. W. H. Crane pastor pro. tem.

The character of our only elder being impeached and under investigation, his name is not herewith signed."

This new church was in the Savannah Presbytery. That Presbytery at that time extending all the way across the Southern part of the State.

Nov. 1, 1878 Rev. W. H. Crane presiding, Mr. J. W. Maxwell and Mr. W. H. Waldron were elected Elders.

by whom?

Copy of part of history of church from 1878/1937

ROLL OF PASTORS

<u>Name</u>	<u>When Installed</u>	<u>When Dismissed</u>
Rev. W. H. Crane	March 3, 1878	December 31, 1878
Rev. Jas. A. McKee, D.D.	January 1878	January 1896
Rev. W. C. Wallace	January 1896	January 1898
Rev. Geo. A. Hough	October 9, 1898	1900
Rev. A. W. Clisby, D.D.		Irregularly
Rev. McIver		Irregularly

ELDERS

<u>Name</u>	<u>When Ordained</u>	<u>Dismissed</u>
Dr. J. T. Moore	Jan. 6, 1878	Nov. 21, 1878
W. H. Waldron	Nov. 21, 1878 (Clerk of Session 25 years)	Resigned 1884, returned 1885, died Feb. 1909
J. W. Maxwell	Nov. 21, 1878	Died Nov. 21, 1903

DEACONS

<u>Name</u>	<u>When Ordained</u>	<u>Dismissed</u>
J. W. Maxwell	Jan. 6, 1878	Made Elder Nov. 21, 1878
E. M. Maxwell	June 1905	Resigned Feb. 3, 1918 Died Feb. 3, 1928

1878
25
1903

C
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Y
D
E

Sherling Printers

116 NORTH MAIN -- PHONE 985-3908
MOULTRIE, GEORGIA

Julien:-

Show this to Mrs. Allen
and ask her if it is O.K.

This is perhaps more space
than I will devote to any
other individual Church,
and this is because they
furnished me with such
a complete statement of
documented & recorded facts.

Note however that most
of history in "Genesis of Cairo"
is to be confined to the
period before 1906.

W.S.P.

MEETING TO HERE MONDAY

MAYOR AND COUNCIL HOLD BUSY SESSION

MANY MATTERS CONSIDERED
AT MONTHLY MEETING
TUESDAY NIGHT.

The regular monthly meeting of the Mayor and Council here last Tuesday night was one of the busiest in some time, although final action on some of the important matters considered was deferred until further investigation could be made by various committees.

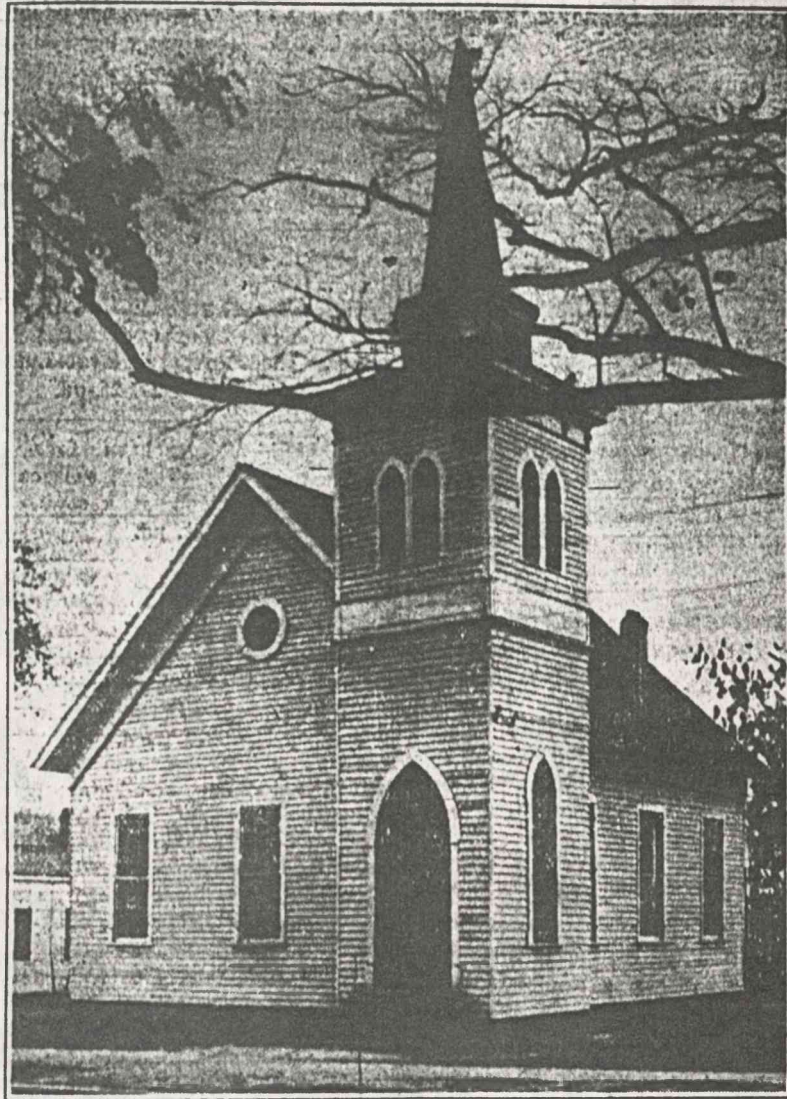
Another revision of the rates on lighting here was the first proposition to come up and there was general agreement that there should be some further revision, but the matter was finally referred to the light and water committee for a definite report before being finally acted upon.

The next item of business was the hearing of the report of Fire Chief R. R. Van Landingham for 1929. His report showed that there were 19 fire alarms during last year here, with an estimated total damage of \$7,340, or slightly more than \$2 per capita. Approximately half of the total fire damage was in the loss of the Whaley & Redfean electric cotton gin, the remainder being made up of small losses. Mayor J. B. Warnell, after hearing the report, praised Fire Chief Van Landingham and the members of the company for the splendid work done.

In this connection, it was announced that the new electric siren for fire alarms, recently ordered by the city, is ready to be installed. It was agreed that the best plan would be to install it atop the city hall and to operate it directly from the local telephone office, although it was stated that Mr. J. W. Southall, owner and manager of the local telephone company, had objected to this plan, because of the responsibility it would place on the operators. However, it was decided to make a further effort to induce Mr. Southall to agree to this plan and the fire committee of Council is to meet today to make final disposition of the matter. If no better plan can be worked out, the siren will probably be placed on the water tank tower at the light plant and will be operated from the plant as at present. The new siren can be heard about five miles, it is understood, and the signals will be in code.

The water report showed the city

TO END 50 YEARS OF SERVICE



FAMILIAR LANDMARK TO BE RAZED

Present Presbyterian Church, Now More Than 50 Years Old, To Serve For Last Time Next Sunday.

According to the indications, next Sunday, February 16th, will be the last Sunday that the present building of the Cairo Presbyterian Church, pictured above, will be used for public worship. The bids for the new structure, to rise on the site now occupied by the building pictured above, will be opened on Feb. 18th, and if any bid is acceptable to the Building Committee, work will commence at once, and the first work to be done will be the tearing down of the old church.

The pastor and the congregation of the Presbyterian Church are making plans for special services on Sunday, and it is expected that there will be

outside appearance a thing of beauty.

The community is building this church, altho it bears the name of Presbyterian. The local Presbyterian congregation is small, and the friends of this congregation have generously and numerously come to its help. Subscriptions have been made from people of all denominations in Cairo, the utmost good-will has been manifested towards this loyal congregation, and congratulations have been whole-hearted that better days are ahead for them, and that a wholesome growth is now being experienced.

Announcement will be made in the next issue of The Messenger as to the

UPKEEP TAKI

BEST YEAR FOR TOBA

ROGERS PLEASED
CONDITIONS, E
ON VISIT

While it appears that two or three years of bright-leaf tobacco in this part of the belt, the outlook is bright. The market will have by Wednesday to hisville, N. C., after days in making a decision in this territory.

While Mr. Rogers refrained from permitting all of his belief, he assured of splendid prospects or trebled volume during the 1930 season.

Discussing crop conditions in this territory, Mr. Rogers said as follows:

"I have about equal to Grady county and I am gratified to see the spirit upon the farmers and the amount of work has been done. Preparation for the crop is I note with especial interest upon the termination upon the one to produce a crop regardless of what the weather is. I am glad that we have time when we can rest and always the number of bushels that we produce is a question of how much can be put into the ground. The thing that directly affects the agricultural section is the quality of crops and prosperity any faster than we see the old days go to try to produce even a crop could in large quantities in fashion."

"More and more are employing methods that have been applied in channels for a long time no longer go into even a blind. We have been able to our work and able us to know so

CHURCH CITES ITS 150 YEARS
(CONT FROM PAGE 1)

these frontier settlers arrived at their destination; however, this remains to be verified.

Undoubtedly, these pioneers had religious worship services among themselves because Elder Hawthorn had been an active minister in the recently organized Ebenezer Baptist Association in east central Georgia, and had previously held membership in the Hephzibah Association as early as 1812. It was not, however, until September 2, 1826, that they were formally organized into a church. On that Saturday, Elders William Hawthorn and William McElvey served as the

Presbytery who "upon examining the letters of recommendation pronounced us a Church in order and named the meeting-house Tired Creek." Immediately following, the church chose Brother Jonathan Miller as its first Clerk and Elder William Hawthorn as its first Pastor.

Nowhere in the early records is the name "Primitive" or "Old School" Baptist mentioned. The issues that ultimately divided the Baptists into Mission and Anti-mission denominations were already causing disagreement among churches and associations but had not become so acute as to cause individual churches to adopt the use of the appropriate positional name. There is no reason to doubt that Tired Creek was an orthodox church of the Primitive Baptist persuasion from its beginning. The first Pastor, Elder Hawthorn, was specifically named in the 1812 Minutes of the Hephzibah Association as aligned with several other ministers who agreed to the continuance of itinerant preaching "in the usual mode," which was in opposition to the introduction of church sponsored missionaries among the heathen. Furthermore, in the early 1820's, the Hephzibah and Ebenezer Associations were among the first groups to reject the invitation to join a General Assembly of Baptists that eventually evolved into the Georgia Baptist Convention. Most of the early members of Tired Creek Church had been members of churches that belonged to these two Associations.

Tired Creek was originally a member of the Ocklockonee (Ochlocknee) Primitive Baptist

Association. In 1884, it became affiliated with the Flint River Association which was organized in 1880, and in which it continues to hold membership.

Other congregations were rapidly being constituted into churches as new settlers moved into the virgin wilderness and in Tired Creek's early years, it was not uncommon for several members to be lettered out at one time for the purpose of constituting a new church. There are very few Primitive Baptist Churches in southwest Georgia, including some Negro churches, that cannot account for some of their charter members coming from this old parent church. Slaves formed a significant portion of the church's membership during the 1830's and 1840's and a few continued to hold membership there after the Civil War.

Church membership over the past one hundred fifty years has fluctuated, and one can draw some interesting parallels between membership and historical events of the nation and world. Membership grew rapidly during the late 1820's and the 1830's. With the organization of other churches during the following decade, the roster leveled off and began to decline. The slump continued throughout the Civil War period when the conference Minutes were dated irregularly, sometimes several months apart. Once the Confederate soldiers returned, the membership again picked up and remained steady until shortly after the turn of the century and the reality of World War I. In the following decades, Tired Creek's membership reached its peak. The mid-sixties and early seventies have

seen a slight drop; records showed a total of 133 members as of June 1976.

During its 150 years, the church at Tired Creek has occupied four different buildings on the same tract of land. The first two meeting houses were log structures; the first built in 1826 and replaced by another in June, 1834. A wood frame edifice was erected in 1874 and occupied in December of that year. The present building, constructed of red brick and having a seating capacity of 450, was dedicated March 30, 1952, with a dining room annex added in 1970, making it among the largest of the country's rural churches.

The twelve Pastors who have served the church include the Elders: William Hawthorn (1826-38), Elias Owen Hawthorn (1838-46), Prior Lewis (1846-66), Wiley Massey (1866-71), W. P. Richardson (1871-73), Peter T. Everitt (1873-77), William Hollingsworth (1877-1923), M. Elmore Petty (1923-27), Eugene A. D. Sheffield (1927-35), Thomas R. Crawford (1935-48), Howard Edward Harris (1949-54), and Orren Varn Marshall (1954-current). Elder Joseph Hobbs was an interim supply a few months in late 1948 and early 1949, but never accepted the official call of the church.

The church is indeed fortunate that most of its original records, especially the earliest one, are intact and in possession of the church. These handwritten documents: the Constitution, Covenant, Articles of Faith, Rules of Decorum, membership rolls (showing when and how each member was received, etc.) and the Minutes of conference meetings are invaluable in the study of southwest Georgia history. They contain vital statistics filled with interesting information about members that cannot be found recorded elsewhere. Additionally, they are a rich source of information on how customs of the church have changed with time. For example, communion and feet-washing are no longer observed in conjunction with a Quarterly Conference. Neither is formal correspondence maintained between sister churches by routinely sending and receiving messengers and/or letters, nor does the church periodically observe days of public fasting, etc. Doctrinally, though, the church is stable. It yet subscribes to the original Constitution and Articles of Faith upon which it was organized, and its practice is that which is subscribed to by the Old School Primitive Baptist throughout this country.

Strong men and women have been in the membership of Tired Creek Church. In its early years especially, the history of the Church is inextricably enmeshed with the history of Early, Decatur, and Grady Counties because the Church's leaders were also the political and civil leaders. The present membership is appreciative of the inheritance coming from those who have gone before and as we review the history of the Church and realize the many handicaps and hardships the early members had to endure, the distance they had to come and their mode of travel, we feel encouraged to carry on so that the generations yet to come may enjoy the Church's benefits.


To show our gratitude for this precious inheritance and to commemorate its 150th year, Tired Creek Church extends a cordial welcome to all friends to join them in worship services of praise and thanksgiving to God. Services will be held nightly at 7:30 p.m. and at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Wayne R. Faircloth
Church Clerk



HANKS

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ner District 1.



expressed my objectives to as many
sibly see and after finishing in a
se I missed while campaigning

SUPPORT

BY CANDIDATE

Presbyterian Church

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The church records show that on Oct. 4, 1883, Hector MacLean submitted plans and offered to build a one room church building for the sum of \$650.00. His bid was accepted and he erected the first Presbyterian church building in Cairo. George A. Wight, son of the aforementioned Henry Wight, donated and deeded the land (one acre) on which the building was erected. The first session meeting in the new church building was on March 29, 1884, at which time there was a total membership of 27 communicants and 10 non-communicants. The town of Cairo about that time had a total population of 460 persons.

Joseph W. Maxwell was the first Sunday School Superintendent and held the position many years. He and his wife were the parents of Onselow Maxwell and they have all been stalwart members of this church.

Perhaps the most distinguished member of the Cairo Presbyterian Church in all its history was Reason Chesnutt Bell (born 1880, came to Cairo 1905) who became Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia. He maintained his residence in Cairo until 1940 and was for many years an Elder in the Church.

The present Presbyterian Church building was erected about 1930 (largely through the generosity of Mrs. James A. McKee, widow of its first pastor) and is located on the site of the original 1884 edifice.

Cairo Ga
Dec 7th 187

On, or before the first day of November 1880, we the undersigned Subscribers hereby agree to pay the Rev. J. A. McFee the several sums annexed to our names for his ministerial labor, in the town of Cairo, for one Sabbath in each month during the year 1880.

W. F. Clower	paid	5 11
W. C. Evans	paid	5 11
Charlie Evans	paid	2 00
Mrs M. J. Mitchell		2 50
Miss Mollie A Hall	paid	2 50
Mrs. Julia Hall	paid all	2 11
Miss Mollie Porell	paid	2 00
Sallie J. Porell	paid	2 50
G. W. H. Carole	paid	2 11
J. B. F. Porell	paid 1 00 Paid	2 11
Mrs. Sallie Brown	paid	5 00
Jno. A. Porell	paid	2 11
Wm Porell	paid all	2 11
J. M. Parker	paid	5 11
W. J. Riggsby		5 00
B. L. Heath	paid	2 11
		<u>24 75</u>
J. O. Harrel		1 00
J. Gibbandner		50
J. M. Swicord	paid	5 00
J. M. Swicord	paid	2 50
A. Edgar Powell	paid	50
J. W. Maxwell	paid	5 00
H. T. Moore	paid	10 00
		<u>47 75</u>
Aunt Doak over		47 75
S. W. Davis	paid	1 00
		<u>48 75</u>
W. S. Thompson		5 00
W. B. Waldron		4 00
Mr. Harry Watter	paid	2 50
		<u>6 50</u>
Mrs Waldron	paid	50
S. B.		

Rev. J. A. M. Lee. \$50.00
 Geo. H. Wright - Paid 25.00
 Judge, J. R. Alexander 10.00
 P. L. Heath paid 10.00
 Rev. J. W. Bogart paid 10.00
 J. O. Peare paid 10.00
 Wm. Miller - Paid 5.00
 M. Lowery paid 5.00
 Dr. J. H. Moore paid 5.00
 Joseph E. Moore paid 5.00
 J. A. Rich - Paid 5.00
 J. M. Brown paid 5.00
 M. M. Powell paid 5.00
 J. W. Davis paid 5.00
 Wm. Leitch or this 5.00
 G. W. Carroll Paid 5.00
 Kolar High Paid 5.00
 G. W. A. Davis 5.00
 Perry High Paid 5.00
 J. H. Crofting Paid 5.00
 Total 131.00

Cost of building & fixtures \$1076.16
 Amt collected & paid - \$865.16
 Scattering unpaid subscriptions \$62.00
 Amt of actual indebtedness \$211.00
 Amt promised conditionally on completion \$75.00
 Amt which we have no promise \$136.00
 Unfortunately fire leaves this will require
 from \$25. to fifty to cover with time &c

We whose names are hereunto annexed agree to give the sums and at the times indicated below for the erection of a Presbyterian Church in Cairo Thomas county Ga

Pay when called for Oct 20 When it will complete the house

Names of Subscribers	Paid	Paid	Paid
James Watts 1070	1000		
L. F. Thompson Paid	2000		
Arthur Patten Paid			1000
Asst. Howell		500	
S. J. Carver Paid		1000	
J. S. Merrill	Paid	1000	
H. J. MacIntyre Paid	1000		
H. J. W. Indigo Paid	1000		
J. W. Alexander Paid			1000
James H. Linton Paid	1000		
James H. Linton Paid	1000		
Cash Paid	1000		
J. J. Perry	Paid	1000	
B. Archibald	Paid	1000	
W. J. ...	Paid	1000	
J. A. Hurst Paid		X	1000
W. J. ... Paid			1000
W. J. ...		Paid	1000
W. J. ...		Paid	1000
J. L. Ongle	Paid	1000	
J. H. ...	Paid	1000	
W. J. ...	Paid	1000	
W. J. ... lot in Cairo 11/2 acre			
John Speer	Paid	1000	
W. J. ...	Paid	1000	
W. J. ...			1000
W. J. ...		Paid	1000
W. J. ...			1000
W. J. ...			1000
W. J. ...			1000
J. H. Alexander Paid	35 50	1000	28 00

List of Cash Received from April 1870

91.60 28.00

31
G. W. Rogers paid ~~50~~
S. L. Moore 2 bbls Lime Paid
Gudg Moore 1 bbl Lime Paid

Robert Winters 105 50
Cash ~~50~~

P. J. Smith Paid ~~50~~

band

96 50
31 00
127 50

We whose names are hereunto annexed agree to give the sums and at the times indicated below for the erection of a Presbyterian Church in Cairo Thomas county Ga
 Pay when called for Oct 20 When it will complete the house

Dues of Church received from April 1835 to Oct 1838

Names of Subscribers	Paid	Dts	Left Dts	Paid
James Watt 1000	1000			
L. H. Thompson Paid	200			
Arthur Patten Paid	200			
Abel Howell			500	
S. J. Caswell Paid	200			
Ed. S. Merrill		Paid		
W. J. Mackay Paid	200			
A. M. Boylston Paid	200			200
J. S. [unclear] Paid	200			200
James H. Linton Paid	200			
Wm. [unclear] Paid	200			
Cash Paid	200			
B. [unclear]	200			
B. [unclear]	200			
J. [unclear]	200			
J. F. Hurst Paid			X	200
W. B. [unclear] Paid				200
R. [unclear]			PA	200
W. [unclear]			PA	200
J. O'Neale	200			
H. [unclear]	200			
W. [unclear] Paid	200			
W. [unclear] Paid	200			
John Spear Paid	200			
J. [unclear] Paid	200			
D. Cogle				200
J. [unclear]			Paid	200
J. [unclear] Paid	200			200
J. [unclear] Paid	200			200
J. H. Alexander Paid	200			200

5 50 3 60 28 60

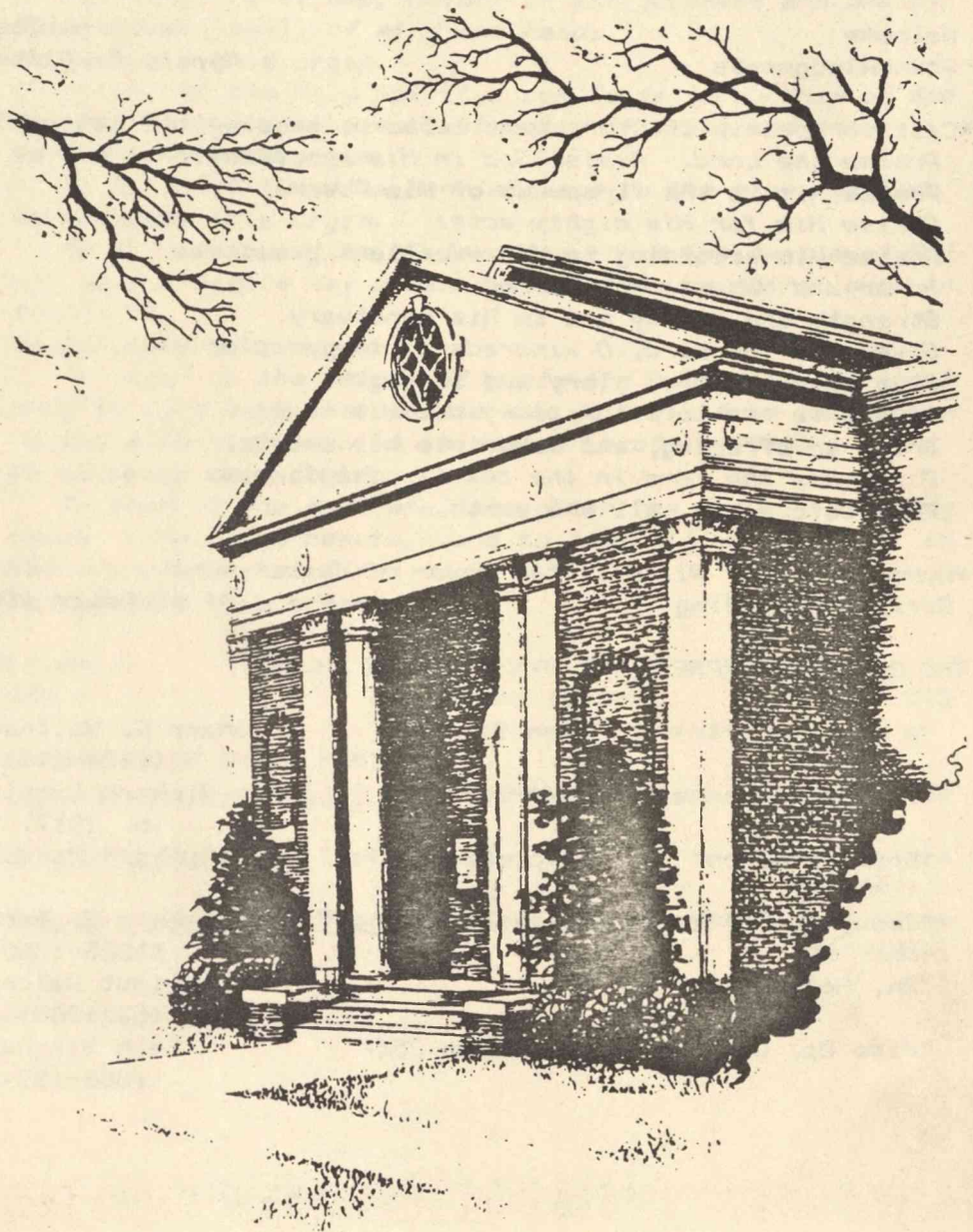
We whose names are hereunto annexed agree to give the sums, and at the times, indicated below for the erection of a Presbyterian Church in Barrow, Thomas county, Ga

Names of Subscribers	Pay When called for	1883		It will complete the house
		Sol, etc	Sol, etc	
S. A. Prodderby	to be paid when the house is sufficiently advanced			
W. J. Riggs	by Paid		1.00	
W. H. Powell	Paid		25.00	
B. H. Powell	Paid		20.00	
James A. M. He	Total \$75 as follows	Paid 25.00	Paid 25.00	Paid 25.00
J. M. Friend	Paid \$10	Paid \$5	Paid all 15	10.00
John G. Gadsden	Paid		5.00	
B. S. Harris	Paid		5.00	
M. Wight	Paid by Wight & Powell	50.00		5.00
J. H. G. Pook	Paid			2.00
J. J. Powell	Paid			7.50
W. B. Rodden	Paid 7.00			
J. N. Carter	Paid		1.00	
J. L. Pook	Paid		5.00	
J. W. Pearce	Paid			3.50
B. S. McDonald	Paid			1.00
W. J. Swinson	Paid		5.00	1.00
John Taylor	Paid			1.00
J. H. Gregory			3.00	
J. M. G. Evans				1.00
W. H. Bassett	Paid		5.00	
A. C. Bell	Paid			4.00
J. W. Maxwell	Paid		5.00	20.00
S. W. Davis	Paid			5.00
J. C. Johnson	Paid			7.00
J. P. Bryan	Paid		5.00	
J. H. Martin	Paid		1.00	
J. P. Clark				
W. M. Anderson				
		84.00	121.00	41.00

84.00
 27.00
 51.50
 336.50

Cairo Presbyterian Church

Cairo, Georgia



Cairo Presbyterian Church
Organ Dedication
October 18, 1987
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude Toccata on "Come, Holy Ghost" Kevin Norris
(b. 1939)

Welcome Rev. Peebles
Acknowledgments Myrtle C. Allen

*Call to Worship [Pastor slant letters; people bold letters]

Praise the Lord. Praise God in His sanctuary:

Praise Him in the firmament of His Power.

Praise Him for His mighty acts:

Praise Him according to His excellent greatness

Honor and majesty are before Him:

Strength and beauty are in His sanctuary.

Give unto the Lord, O kindreds of the people:

Give unto the Lord glory and strength.

Give unto the Lord the glory due His name:

Bring an offering, and come into his courts.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness:

Fear before Him, all the earth.

*Hymn *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* 132
Scripture Reading Psalm 150

THE ORGAN INTERPRETS THE HYMNS OF THE CHURCH

"A Mighty Fortress" (Hymn 91)	Johann G. Walther (1684-1748)
"O Come, Emmanuel" (Hymn 147)	Richard Purvis (b. 1917)
"Bring a Torch" (Composed 1976)	Richard Hudson
"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring"	Johann S. Bach (1685-1750)
"Ah, Holy Jesus"	Helmut Walcha (b. 1907)
"Rise Up, O Men of God" (Hymn 352)	Seth Bingham (1882-1974)

(Minister): Beloved in Christ: as God has put into our hearts to build this instrument of music as an aid to our worship in this holy place, it is right that we should now dedicate this organ to the Lord and set it apart to the holy use for which it is designed.

Litany of Dedication

*To the glory of God, Author of all goodness and beauty,
Giver of all skill of mind and hand:*

We dedicate this organ.

*Moved by the Holy Spirit, our Guide in worship of God
and our Helper in the understanding of truth and beauty:*

We dedicate this organ.

In honor of the Alma Harrison and to the glory of God:

We dedicate this organ.

*To kindle the flame of devotion, that the people of God
who here assemble may worship the Father in spirit and in
truth:*

We dedicate this organ.

*To bear up the melody of psalm and hymn and spiritual
song in such ways that people may go forth from this house
of God with high resolve to do the Lord's will:*

We dedicate this organ.

*To comfort the sorrowful and cheer the faint, to bring
peace into human hearts, and to lead all who hear it in
the way of eternal life:*

We dedicate this organ.

Prayer

*Hymn

God of Our Fathers

515

MASTERWORKS OF ORGAN MUSIC

Prelude and Fugue in C Major (BWV. 547)

Johann S. Bach

Evangelical Poems: The Nativity

Jean Langlais
(b. 1907)

Symphony No. 5 for Organ: V. Toccata

Charles M. Widor
(1884-1937)

*Benediction

We extend a warm welcome to all those who have joined us for this time of worship and celebration. We invite you to a time of fellowship and refreshment following this service in the fellowship hall.

Mr. and Mrs. Alton Harrison have given this Allen Organ (number 3160) to the glory of God and in honor of his mother, Mrs. Alma Harrison, on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

Mrs. B.F. (Alma) Harrison was born on October 19, 1887. She joined this church on November 11, 1927 and is the second oldest member in terms of length of membership. She faithfully served her church until her health necessitated her moving to Presbyterian Home in Quitman, Georgia. She held practically every office in the women's work of the church including president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, historian, and circle chair. She was appointed to the Building Committee in 1929 when the present church began. Also she served on several Pulpit Committees and other church wide committees. Mrs. Harrison assisted in the first Vacation Bible School held in this church in 1930 and in subsequent Vacation Bible Schools as well as teaching Sunday School classes.

Her husband, the late B.F. (Ben) Harrison, united with the Cairo Presbyterian Church within a few years after she did, and on April 3, 1932 he was elected a deacon and was chairman of the Board for several years until he was ordained an elder on April 4, 1954. He died on April 23, 1957.

Dr. Ruth Sisson is Associate Professor of Organ and Music Theory at Valdosta State College. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree in organ performance from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, a Master of Music degree in organ performance and the PhD in music theory from Florida State University.