
The
BEGINNING

of

Columbia Drive
Baptist Church

Decatur, Georgia

JULY 10, 1949

NOVEMBER 20, 1949—NOVEMBER 26, 1950

THE BEGINNING of Columbia Drive Baptist Church Decatur, Georgia

After a vision of Dr. Dick H. Hall Jr., pastor of the First Baptist Church of Decatur and a member of the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, of the possibilities of a church in the southeast section of Decatur and through the cooperative efforts of Dr. J. L. Baggott, superintendent of Missions in the Atlanta Baptist Association, the association bought a beautiful lot at 730 South Columbia Drive realizing that this was the center of a very fertile field of activity for the Lord.

Immediately thereafter, on July 1, 1949, under the leadership of its pastor, Dr. Dick H. Hall Jr., the First Baptist Church of Decatur agreed to start a mission, an arm of the church, on the lot purchased by the Association, electing two of its leading members, Brothers Guy W. Rutland Jr. and H. Grady Wilson Sr., to take charge of the work and to see it through to completion.

Brother Rutland immediately started to grading the lot and smoothing it off for the 40'x60' tent which was immediately bought by the First Church and erected on the lot. On Sunday afternoon, July 10th, under the leadership of Brother Wilson, 53 men of the First Church and some of the neighbors of the new project, met on the lot and went out to take a census of the neighborhood, meeting with a very fine reception.

All of the census information was taken by Brother W. G. Stroup, educational director of the First Baptist Church, and with his staff of workers soon had the names in order for work of the church, Sunday School and B. T. U., and our first service was held in the tent on Sunday, July 17, 1949.

We had 57 in Sunday School, having had the tent divided with curtains to afford six separate and distinct rooms making a graded Sunday School from the beginning. We had even more at the eleven o'clock hour having Dr. A. J. Moncrief Sr., former pastor of the First Baptist Church, to preach the first sermon in the tent now known as "Columbia Drive Chapel" and the program of the first church service is given as follows:

THE FIRST PROGRAM
THE COLUMBIA DRIVE CHAPEL
of
DECATUR FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday, July 17, 1949

11:00 A. M.

Doxology

Invocation

Song: "All Hail the Power of Jesus Name" No. 212

Responsive Reading No. 506 (Page 431)

Song: "To the Work" No. 49

Morning Prayer

Song: "Higher Ground" No. 242

Tithes and Offerings

Song: "I Love Thy Kingdom Lord" No. 164

SERMON: DR. A. J. MONCRIEF

Closing Song: "Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" No. 21

Benediction

During the closing song, we will be happy to receive members by profession of faith, by letter, by promise of letter, by statement into the Columbia Drive Chapel of the Decatur First Baptist Church, looking to the establishing of an independent Baptist church.

We will have a series of evening services, beginning tonight, at 8:00 o'clock and each evening during the week. Dr. Dick H. Hall, Jr., Pastor of the Decatur First Baptist Church, will do the preaching and lead us in this meeting, with Mr. W. G. Stroup, Educational and Musical Director of the Decatur First Baptist Church, in charge of the music.
Come, be with us and bring your neighbors.

On Sunday evening, July 17, 1949, we started a series of meetings with Dr. Hall bringing very inspiring messages each evening for a week with good attendance. We had Dr. Moncrief and others to bring the messages from week to week for a time until the last week of August when we had Dr. Courts Redford of the Home Mission Board to preach each evening for a week, his messages strengthening us for our endeavors, after which time we prevailed on Dr. Moncrief to preach for us regularly for a time which he most graciously agreed to and did until our new pastor came on January 1st. Dr. Harry C. Walker, teacher of the Gladhand Bible Class of the First Baptist Church, and an ordained minister of the Gospel led us in our midweek prayer meetings all the while for which we are most grateful.

The First Baptist Church of Decatur offered to build the first unit of the necessary buildings if the work showed promise and Brother Guy Rutland Jr. began the building, immediately back of the tent, on or about the first of September and after some unavoidable delays, had the building ready for occupancy on Sunday, November 6th, and Dr. Moncrief preached the first sermon in the beautiful new building. This first unit of the permanent building, 30'x75', we feel sure will not be large enough for so very long but we hope and pray may be used for many years of effective service.

From the beginning we had regular collections in our Sunday School and Church services turning all of the collection over to the First Baptist Church which used such funds to pay our expenses as far as possible and finished further payments from their budget.

Brother L. Hugh Moore was elected assistant church clerk and Brother O. J. Reagin was elected assistant church treasurer to look after the records and affairs of the Columbia Drive Chapel.

Having the request of 72 members of the Columbia Drive Chapel, and Arm of the First Baptist Church of Decatur, to the First Baptist Church of Decatur to issue their letters of dismission to join a new Baptist Church on Columbia Drive in Decatur, 90 per cent of these 72 members met at the Columbia Drive Chapel Building on Wednesday evening, November 16, 1949, to, as near as possible, perfect the organization.

The meeting was called to order by Brother Grady Wilson Sr. and Brother L. Hugh Moore was requested to act as clerk. Upon motion duly seconded, Brother Wilson and Brother Moore were elected as moderator and clerk of the meeting respectfully.

A motion was duly made and seconded that we name our church

**COLUMBIA DRIVE BAPTIST CHURCH
DECATUR, GEORGIA**

which was unanimously adopted. The following petition was then offered:

**PETITION FOR ORGANIZATION OF THE
COLUMBIA DRIVE BAPTIST CHURCH, DECATUR, GA.**

After an humble beginning, through earnest prayers and supplication and the efforts of those who have labored with us, we have been blessed for which we are most grateful.

Our group having reached a goodly number and after much prayer and meditation, we feel that we can serve the Lord and our community better as an independent church; therefore, we prayerfully and respectfully request the Mother Church, The First Baptist Church of Decatur, Georgia to call together a Council of Baptist Churches of the Atlanta Baptist Association that our prayers may be answered in forming our group into the

**COLUMBIA DRIVE BAPTIST CHURCH
Decatur, Georgia**

and that the Mother Church issue letters of dismission to the seventy-two members of our group whose membership is in The First Baptist Church of Decatur.

During prayerful meditation we adopt the following as our Covenant and Articles of Faith and may they be standards by which we may serve:

COVENANT

Having been led, as we believe by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour, and on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we do now, in the presence of God, angels and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this Church, in knowledge, holiness and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the Church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the Gospel through all nations.

We also engage to maintain family and secret devotions; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, backbiting and excessive anger; to abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage, and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Saviour.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling, and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the rules of our Saviour to secure it without delay.

We moreover engage that when we remove from this place we will, as soon as possible, unite with some other church, where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.

Articles of Faith

I. THE SCRIPTURES

We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us; and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and opinions should be tried.—2 Tim. 3:16, 17; 2 Peter 1:21; Isa. 8:30.

II. THE TRUE GOD

We believe the Scriptures teach that there is one, and only one living and true God, an infinite, intelligent Spirit, whose name is Jehovah, the Maker and Ruler of heaven and earth; inexpressibly glorious in holiness, and worthy of all possible honor, confidence, and love; that in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost; equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption. Exod. 34:6, 7; Deut. 6:4, 5; Mark 12:30; Rev. 4:11; Matt. 28:19.

III. THE FALL OF MAN

We believe the Scriptures teach that man was created in holiness, under the law of his Maker; but by voluntary transgression fell from the holy and happy state; in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint but choice, being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, positively inclined to evil, and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defense or excuse.—Gen. 1:27; Gen. 3; Isa. 53:6; Rom. 5:12-19.

IV. THE WAY OF SALVATION

We believe the Scriptures teach that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God, who by the appointment of the Father freely took upon him our nature, yet without sin, honored the divine law by his personal obedience, and by his death made a full atonement for our sins, that having risen from the dead he is now enthroned in heaven, and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfections, he is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and an all-sufficient Saviour. Isa. 53:4, 5; John 3:16; Eph. 2:5.

V. JUSTIFICATION

We believe the Scriptures teach that the great gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in him is justification; that justification includes the pardon of sin and the promise of eternal life on principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood; by virtue of which faith his perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us of God; that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.—Rom. 4:4, 5; 5:1, 9, 17, 19.

VI. THE FREENESS OF SALVATION

We believe the Scriptures teach that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial, penitent, and obedient faith; and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth but his own determined depravity and voluntary rejection of the gospel, which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation.—Isa. 55:1; John 3:16; 5:40; Rev. 22:17.

VII. REGENERATION

We believe the Scriptures teach that in order to be saved, sinners must be regenerated, or born again; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind; that it is effected in a manner above our comprehension by the power of the Holy Spirit, in connection with divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel; and that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance and faith and newness of life.—Ezek. 36:26; John 3:3; 2 Cor. 5:17; Eph. 5:19.

VIII. REPENTANCE AND FAITH

We believe the scriptures teach that repentance and faith are sacred duties, and also inseparable graces, wrought in our souls by the regenerating Spirit of God; whereby being deeply convinced of our guilt, danger, and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession, and supplication for mercy; at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our prophet, priest, and king, and relying on him alone as the only and all-sufficient Saviour—Mark 1:15; Luke 15:18-21; Acts 2:37, 38, Rom. 10:9-11.

IX. GOD'S PURPOSE OF GRACE

We believe the Scriptures teach that election is the eternal purpose of God, according to which he graciously regenerates, sanctifies, and saves sinners; that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all that means in connection with the end; that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely free, wise, holy, and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting, and promotes humility, love, prayer, praise, trust in mercy; that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it may be ascertained by its effects in all who truly believe the gospel; that it is the foundation of Christian assurance; and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves demands and deserves the utmost diligence.—Exod. 33:19; 8: 28-31; 2 Thess. 2:13, 14; 2 Tim. 1, 8, 9.

X. SANCTIFICATION

We believe the Scriptures teach that sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we are made partakers of his holiness; that it is a progressive work; that it is begun in regeneration; and that it is carried on in the hearts of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the Sealer and Comforter, in the continual use of the appointed means—especially the word of God, self-examination, self-denial, watchfulness, and prayer.—Prov. 4:18; Rom. 8:5; 1 Thess. 4:3; 5:23.

XI. PERSEVERANCE OF SAINTS

We believe the Scriptures teach that such only are real believers as endure unto the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special providence watches over their welfare, and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.—John 8:31; 10:27-29; Phil. 1:6; I John. 2:19.

XII. THE LAW AND GOSPEL

We believe the Scriptures teach that the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government; that it is holy, just and good; and that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfil its precepts, arises entirely from their love of sin; to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a Mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one great end of the gospel and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of the visible church.—Luke 16:17; Rom. 3:31; 7:12; 8:2, 4; Gal. 3:21.

XIII. A GOSPEL CHURCH

We believe the Scriptures teach that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel, observing the ordinances of Christ, governed by His laws, and exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His word; that its only scriptural offices are bishops or pastors, and deacons, whose qualifications, claims, and duties are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.—Matt. 28:19, 20; Acts 2:41, 42; Phil. 1:1; I Tim. 3; Titus 1.

XIV. BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER

We believe the Scriptures teach that Christian baptism is the immersion in water of a believer, into the name of the Father and Son and Holy Spirit, to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Saviour, with its effect in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; that it is prerequisite to the privileges of a church relation and to the Lord's Supper, in which the members of the church, by the sacred use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ, preceded always by solemn self-examination.—Matt. 28:19, 20; Acts. 2:41, 42; 8:12; 8:36-39; Rom. 6:4; Matt. 26:26-29.

XV. THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH

We believe the Scriptures teach that the first day of the week is the Lord's Day, or Christian Sabbath, and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes, by abstaining from all secular labor and worldly recreation, by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both private and public, and by preparation for the rest that remaineth for the people of God.—Exod. 20:8; Isa. 58:13, 14; John 20:1, 19, 26; Acts. 20:7; Heb. 10:25; Rev. 1:10.

XVI. CIVIL GOVERNMENT

We believe the Scriptures teach that Civil Government is of divine appointment, for the interest and good order of human society, and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed, except only in things

opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience and the Prince of the kings of the earth.—Matt. 22:21; Rom. 13:1-7; Acts 5:29; Dan. 3:16-18.

XVII. RIGHTEOUS AND WICKED

We believe the Scriptures teach that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of our God, are truly righteous in His esteem; while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in his sight wicked, and under the curse; and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.—Mal. 3:18; Matt. 25:46; I John 5:19.

XVIII. THE WORLD TO COME

We believe the Scriptures teach that the end of the world is approaching; that at the last day Church will descend from heaven, and raise the dead from the grave for final retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous endless joys, and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness.—Matt. 25:13; Acts 1:11; I Thess. 4:13-18; John 5:28, 29.

When our prayers may be answered in the constituting of our Church we solemnly agree that as soon as feasible we will call a Pastor to lead us, elect Deacons to serve, Trustees to hold property, and other officers necessary to properly conduct the services of the Church in all of its appointments. We further agree that all matters of importance in the Work of the Church as well as all business matters shall have the sanction and approval of the Church in Conference.

Respectfully submitted

JAMES C. BARLOW

Acting Chairman

The foregoing petition was unanimously adopted in Conference of the Columbia Drive Baptist Church (organizing) Decatur, Georgia this the 16th day of November in the year of our Lord Nineteen hundred and forty nine.

L. H. Moore,

Acting Clerk

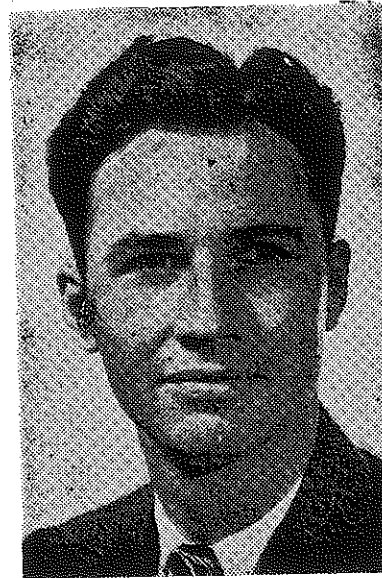
Submitted to the Council of Baptist Churches of the Atlanta Baptist Association this the 20th day of November in the year of our Lord Nineteen hundred forty nine.

Council composed of and petition granted by:

Dick H. Hall Jr.
L. C. Warren, Jr.
James W. Merritt
James W. Middleton
M. F. Roberts
W. G. Stroup
L. E. Smith
H. C. Walker
J. L. Baggott
Guy W. Rutland, Jr.

A. J. Moncrief
Lewis W. Martin
W. Arnold Smith
L. H. Miller
Harry V. Chafin
John A. Nolan
Courts Redford
P. R. Mowell
Guy W. Rutland, Sr.
H. Grady Wilson

LOUIE D. NEWTON,
Chairman of Council



REV. A. D. ADERHOLD
The First Pastor

PROGRAM OF

Dedication of Building by First Baptist Church, Decatur, Georgia

— and —

CONSTITUTING OF COLUMBIA DRIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

November 20, 1949—3:00 P. M.

Mr. H. Grady Wilson, Presiding

SONG SERVICE LED BY MR. W. G. STROUP
*Minister of Music and Education,
First Baptist Church, Decatur*

PRAYER DR. JAMES W. MIDDLETON
Pastor, First Baptist Church, Atlanta

GREETINGS FROM:
Atlanta Baptist Association—Dr. James L. Baggott
Georgia Baptist Convention—Dr. James W. Merritt
Home Mission Board—Dr. Courts Redford

SONG

DEDICATORY SERMON DR. A. J. MONCRIEF, SR

DEDICATION BY CONGREGATION RESPONSIVE READING
(Reading on next page) *Led by Mr. Guy W. Rutland, Jr.*

DEDICATORY PRAYER DR. DICK H. HALL, JR.
Pastor, First Baptist Church, Decatur

REPORT OF ORGANIZING COUNCIL AND ORGANIZATION OF
COLUMBIA DRIVE BAPTIST CHURCH DR. LOUIE D. NEWTON
Chairman of the Council

Formal Adoption of the COVENANT and
ARTICLES OF FAITH BY THE NEW CONGREGATION
Recognition of Members

PRESENTATION OF THE BUILDING TO THE NEW CHURCH
FROM FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, DECATUR, GA. BY GUY W. RUTLAND, SR.

ACCEPTANCE OF BUILDING MR. FELIX O. COX

OPENING OF THE CHURCH DOORS FOR NEW MEMBERS

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH DR. L. H. MILLER
Pastor, Oakhurst Baptist Church

SONG: "Blest Be the Tie"

BENEDICTION THE REV. HARRY V. CHAFIN
Pastor, Fifth Avenue Baptist Church, Decatur

(After the benediction, the members of the new church will please form a line around the wall and the congregation, led by the Chairman of the Organizing Council, will give to them the hand of fellowship.)

DEDICATION OF BUILDING

LEADER: Our Heavenly Father, Thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. We tarry in Thy holy temple this day that we may consecrate to Thee that which Thou hast made possible for us to prepare.

CONGREGATION: Lord, we thank Thee for the power to build and for the privilege of dedicating our possessions to Thee.

LEADER: By Thy presence, O God, consecrate this temple of worship. The world, loud in its emptiness, would drown the still, small voice of our Maker. We seek a heaven where Thy voice may speak clearly.

CONGREGATION: Lord, may Thy people in reverent silence hear Thy voice in this temple.

LEADER: Men struggle and grow weary with problems that they cannot solve. The wise men of the world have no answer. We come to Thee for light upon our pathway.

CONGREGATION: Lord, may many learn how to pray in this temple.

LEADER: As we fall short of Thy plan, and of the best that is in us, we grow sad and despondent. We need joy and strength; we seek it in the beauty of music and song.

CONGREGATION: Lord, may worshippers find the refreshing power of music in this temple.

LEADER: With great anxiety we watch our children, as they enter into a world so mingled with evil. How shall we guide them? We remember that Thou didst say: "Suffer little children to come unto me."

CONGREGATION: Lord, may the children learn in this temple to walk in the way everlasting.

LEADER: To the study of Thy word and of Thy work . . .

CONGREGATION: We dedicate this building of study.

LEADER: To the spirit of reverent silence, the essence of worship . . .

CONGREGATION: We dedicate this temple of worship.

LEADER: To prayer, our greatest, and least used, source of power . . .

CONGREGATION: We dedicate this temple

LEADER: To the ministry of music and song, our comfort in sadness, and our expression of joy . . .

CONGREGATION: We dedicate this temple and the choirs that lead us in song.

LEADER: To the children, our dearest possession . . .

CONGREGATION: We humbly and prayerfully dedicate this temple.

LEADER: To the support of every worthy denominational enterprise, to the causes of Christian education, of healing, of ministry to orphan children, and to the spread of Thy Gospel in our home land.

CONGREGATION: We dedicate this temple.

LEADER: To the spread of the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, to the far ends of the earth . . .

CONGREGATION: We hopefully dedicate this temple.

IN UNISON: To the Eternal God, our Father, to Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, and to the Holy Spirit, our Guide and Comforter, to whom be glory and honor forever, we dedicate our all; All that we are and all that we hope to be . . . Now and forever more. AMEN

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Atlanta Association of Baptist Churches purchased a lot on the east side of Columbia Drive, between Conway Road and Thomas Road just outside the city limits of Decatur, for the erection of a Baptist church, and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of a committee ably led by Guy W. Rutland, Jr. as Chairman and H. Grady Wilson as Co-Chairman, a strong mission has been established and also a building has been erected, which is conservatively valued at \$15,000, and

WHEREAS, the group composing the mission feels that they are now ready to organize themselves into a church on November 20, 1949,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT we:

First, dedicate the building to the service of our Lord on November 20, 1949;

Second, that we assist these brethren in the organization of the Columbia Drive Baptist Church;

Third, that we give to them, unencumbered, the building which we have built for the service of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; and

Fourth, that we pledge to them our prayers, our confidence, our fellowship, and our cooperation as we seek to bring in the kingdom of our Lord in this area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of these resolutions be spread on our minutes, a copy be given to our Columbia Drive brethren, and that a copy be placed in the corner stone of our new meeting house.

Done by order of the Church this 16th day of November, 1949.

DICK H. HALL, JR.,
Moderator

JOE B. DAVIS
Clerk

COLUMBIA DRIVE BAPTIST CHURCH CHARTER MEMBERSHIP

72 Presented letters from First Baptist church.
 8 joined at morning service from other churches.
 1 joined at the afternoon service from another church.

81 joining by November 20, 1949

Twenty more joined to and including January 1, 1950, making a total of 101 to which time was extended to receive charter members.

The one hundred and one members are as follows:

Rev. and Mrs. J. D. Aderhold,
 the first Pastor
 Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Barlow
 Mr. J. C. Barlow, Jr.
 the first members
 Mr. and Mrs. Rayner H. Benson, Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. Jack Brugh
 Mrs. J. T. Bius
 Mr. and Mrs. J. Guy Cheney
 Mr. William Cheney
 Mr. and Mrs. Felix O. Cox
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Cox
 Miss Carol Cox
 Mr. and Mrs. Harold H. Deaton
 Mr. Mark Deaton
 Miss Jane Deaton
 Miss Ann Deaton
 Mr. and Mrs. Linton W. Fincher
 Miss Margaret Fincher
 Mr. Clinton Fincher
 Mrs. Wm. A. Fortson, Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. Andrew N. Foster
 Mr. Andrew Foster, Jr.
 Mr. Frank Gippert, Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. Jack Gamadanis
 Mr. and Mrs. Dan B. Hunt
 Mrs. J. H. Harbuck
 Mr. and Mrs. T. C. James
 Mr. Russell James
 Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Leftwich
 Mr. J. T. Leftwich
 Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lazenby
 Miss Barbara Lazenby
 Miss Beverly Lazenby
 Mr. and Mrs. Thos. L. Matthews

Miss Jane Matthews
 Mrs. Harry A. Miller
 Mr. and Mrs. L. Hugh Moore
 Mr. Hugh Moore, Jr.
 Miss Sue Moore,
 Mrs. T. H. Moore
 Miss Nancy Moore
 Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Mullis, Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Nash
 Mr. Aubrey Nash
 Mr. and Mrs. Chas. T. Orr
 Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Potts
 Miss Suzanne Potts
 Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Powell
 Mr. and Mrs. Jas. J. Robertson
 Mr. James Robertson Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Reagan
 Mr. James Reagan
 Mrs. Vernon R. Stuebing
 Mr. V. Robert Stuebing, Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. Felix A. Sharpton
 Miss Betty Ann Sharpton
 Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Shepard
 Mr. Robert Shepard
 Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Thornton
 Mr. and Mrs. P. N. Turner
 Mr. Wayne Turner
 Mr. Fred Wade
 Mr. and Mrs. Sam A. Wammock
 Mr. and Mrs. Austin Webster
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Wilhite
 Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Willis
 Mr. and Mrs. William L. Wilson
 Mr. and Mrs. H. Grady Wilson

On Wednesday evening, November 23rd, the church met in conference to elect officers, Dr. Harry C. Walker was immediately elected moderator and Brother L. Hugh Moore, acting clerk. The Pulpit Committee made its report and recommended that the church extend a call to Rev. J. Donnis Aderhold, a very promising young preacher who had graduated at Mercer University in 1948 and was then a student at Columbia Theological Seminary and serving as pastor of East Side Baptist Church of Dalton, Ga. The call was unanimous and a great many of the members went to his home nearby to urge that he accept. He did later accept for which we have all been most grateful.

The following officers were elected:

DEACONS

Mr. Felix O. Cox, Chairman	Mr. Sam A. Wammock
Mr. Robert Wilhite, Vice Chmn.	Mr. Thomas Matthews
Mr. J. Guy Cheney, Secretary	Mr. James Barlow
	Mr. Austin Webster

The brethren later met and elected officers as indicated above. The church further elected Mr. L. Hugh Moore, church clerk; Mr. O. J. Reagan, church treasurer; and Mrs. O. J. Reagan, assistant clerk and treasurer. Mr. L. W. Fincher was elected superintendent of the Sunday School; Mr. A. L. Shepard, superintendent of the Adult Department; Mr. William L. Wilson, superintendent of the Young People and Intermediate Departments; Mr. Clayton Perry, superintendent of the Junior Department; Mrs. Cecil Flowers, superintendent of Primary Department; Mrs. T. C. James Jr., superintendent of Beginners; Mrs. Clayton Perry, superintendent of Nursery; and Mr. James Barlow, general secretary of the Sunday School.

Mr. Jack Garmadanis was elected B. T. U. director; Mrs. L. W. Fincher president of the W. M. U., with Mrs. Dan B. Hunt, Mrs. Felix O. Cox, and Mrs. Andrew N. Foster, vice presidents; Mrs. William L. Wilson, secretary; and Mrs. Sam Wammock, treasurer. Our choir was fully organized with Mrs. Clayton Perry, director and Mr. Fred Wade, organist.

A church budget of \$10,000.00 was adopted by the church with half of it designated for Missions and Benevolences. The budget has been over paid and other designations thereto added, in addition a substantial sum raise for Building Fund, and a 30 by 42-foot addition to the building is well on the way to completion as this is summarized at our first anniversary.

And further at this first anniversary our membership has reached a total of 185 or exactly 104 additions in one year, with 14 baptisms since January 1st. Our Sunday School attendance is averaging about 175, having had 182 last Sunday, and B. T. U. averaging over 50 per Sunday.

A THANKSGIVING

At this season of the year and at this period of our existence we want to express our heart-felt thanks and appreciation to Dr. Hall, Brother Guy Rutland Jr., and the First Baptist Church of Decatur, to Dr. Courts Redford and the Home Mission Board, to Dr. J. L. Baggott and the Atlanta Association, to Dr. Louie D. Newton, chairman and all of the other busy Brethren, Members of the Council which constituted our church, to Dr. A. J. Moncrief Sr., who so beautifully and graciously led us in our beginning, to our first pastor, Rev. J. Donnis Aderhold, for his stirring messages and untiring efforts, to all the officers of our church in all of its appointments, and to everyone who has shown their interest by their presence, and most especially do we want to thank God our Father, who gives us everything we have, even Jesus Christ our Saviour, who died for us.

'Tis often said that the first year is the hardest . . . and though we may have made history in the past, yet may we from here join together to serve even more acceptable to the only wise God as we have never served before.

Amen

File: Church - Columbia - Mrs. Baptist Ch., 8/17/89 Detail New Era



Dr. Lee Gallman

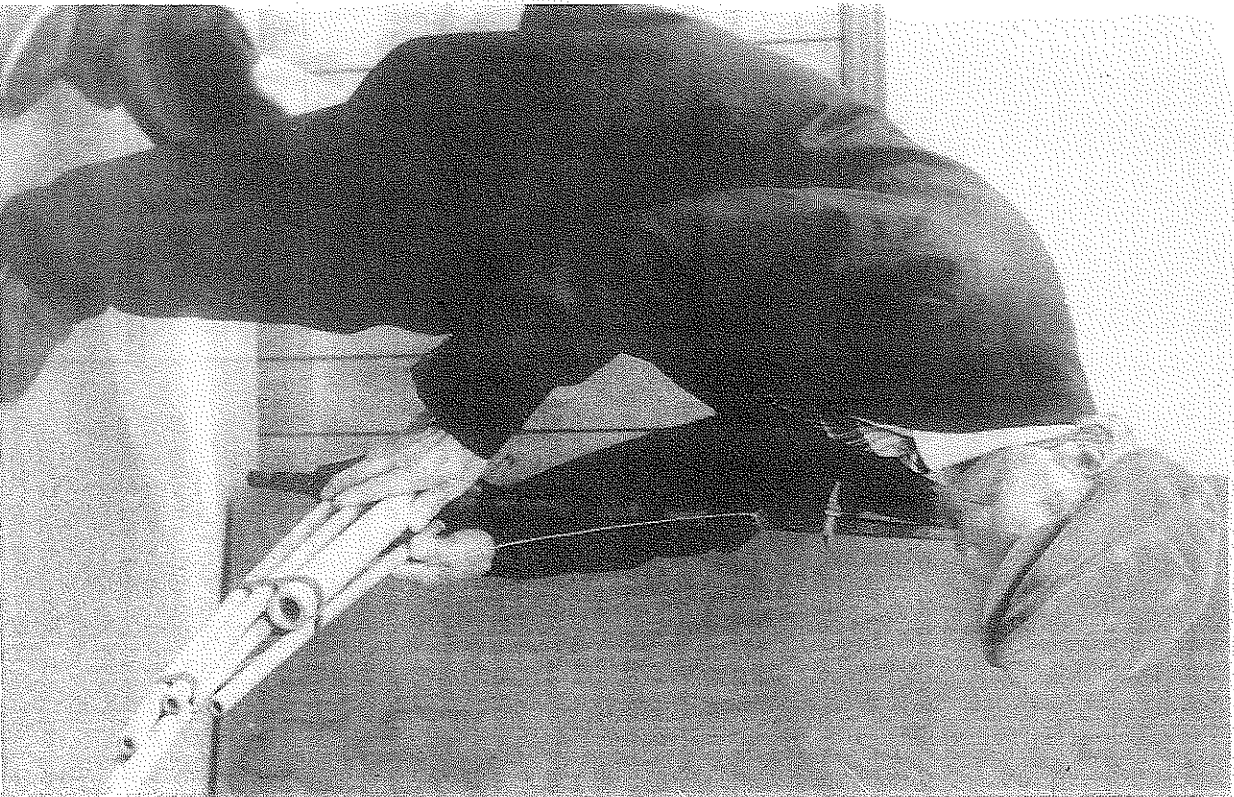
Columbia Drive Church Names New Minister

Dr. R. Lee Gallman has become the second pastor in the 40-year history of Columbia Drive Baptist Church. Dr. Gallman, 44, has been pastor of Crawford Avenue Baptist Church in Skokie, Ill., for the past 15 years. He previously served as minister of music and associate pastor of Ridgewood Baptist Church in Louisville, Ky.

He was born in Mobile, Ala., the son of the Rev. and Mrs. R. Lee Gallman, Sr. A graduate of Samford University in Birmingham, Ala., he has earned both a master of divinity and a doctor of philosophy degree from Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

He is married to the former Beverly (Chip) Mensing of Birmingham, and they have two children, Sonny, 18, and Jacob, nine.

Columbia Drive Baptist is located at 862 Columbia Drive, Decatur. Sunday morning worship service, Aug. 20, 10:45 a.m. will be Gallman's first sermon as the new pastor.



Wayong Moua will play the gong at the Hmong Festival

The Decatur News-Sun 11/30/88
**Hmong Festival To Feature Music,
Dance, Intricate Needlework, Crafts**

A Hmong Festival is scheduled for Dec. 3, from 1 to 4 p.m., at Columbia Drive Baptist Church in Decatur. The program, which is free and open to the public, includes performances of traditional dance, music, and costume, and a New Year's game demonstration with audience participation. Hmong needlework and food will be available for purchase.

The Hmong (pronounced "Mong"), refugees from northern Laos, have maintained rich traditions since migrating to the United States. They continue to make instruments and regionally distinct costumes by hand, for use at their New Year's celebrations. The intricate needlework pieces that will go on sale, called *pa ndau*, make excellent gifts. *Pa ndau*, meaning "flower cloth," is of growing popularity in the American marketplace and elsewhere in the world.

Co-sponsors for the festival are the Lao Family Community Association, Inc. and the Georgia Folklife Program. Proceeds from the food sale will benefit the Lao Family Community, a non-profit organization that assists Hmong and Laotian refugees in employment and resettlement. The Georgia Folklife Program is sponsoring the

performance portion of the festival, with funds from the Folk Arts Program, National Endowment for the Arts.

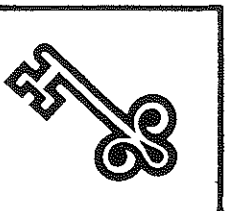
The festival will be held in the Activities Center behind the church, which is at 862 Columbia Drive in Decatur. Food and needlework sales will take place from 1-4 p.m.; performances will run from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

TRY A NEWS/SUN CLASSIFIED
Phone 292-1222

Subject File, Churches
Columbia Drive Baptist

Keynotes

On
DeKalb



MR. AND MRS. LOY DUNLAP of South Mills, N. C. announce the birth of a son, Micah Loy, on May 5. Mrs. Dunlap is the former Linda Sims. The grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Leon J. Sims of Doraville and the late Mr. and Mrs. Walter Dunlap of Decatur. Maternal great-grandmother is Mrs. Walter Cowart of Doraville. Micah has two brothers, Jody, 11, and Ryan, nine.

DR. JAMES M. EDWARDS received three positions during his recent trip to Washington, D.C., secretary to the prestigious National Gavel Society, and offices with the Sons of the American Colonists and the Michigan Society Sons of the War of 1812. He holds a number of jobs with many historical organizations. Dr. Edwards is a well-known speaker and journalist.

THE GEORGIA BAPTIST Children's Home meeting will be held on the Palmetto Campus at 11 a.m. Friday, May 12. Lunch will be served in the gymnasium at noon. Reservations must be made by May 9. Call Kitty Kelley, chairman, 491-7019. Lunch will be a glazed ham plate, \$3.25. Reservations/cancellations are essential.

"WILL-A-WAY WEEK-END" was spent by some members of the Widowed Services of Life Enrichment Services. The group went to Fort Yargo State Park in Winder. They were there April 28-30.

BLAKE WESTBROOK, a senior at Georgia Southern College and a native of Tucker, is the outgoing Baptist Student Union state president. He likes to fish and visit in local nursing homes where he sings hymns with the residents and spends time talking with them. Recently 34 Georgia Baptist Student Union summer missionaries were selected to serve in the United States and overseas during 1989. From this area were Andrea Folsom of Tucker, a student at Mercer, who will serve in Hawaii; Amy Melton of Decatur, a student at Georgia Baptist School of Nursing who will serve in Oregon; Stephen Shaylor of Lithonia, a student at Georgia State, who will also serve in Hawaii.

THE FOREVER YOUNG Seniors of Columbia Drive Baptist Church went on a trip to Callaway Gardens, and visited the Day Butterfly Center.

MRS. JANE DANIEL has been a patient at DeKalb Medical Center.

MEREDITH COPELAND of Monticello Place won first place at the State Science Fair, recently, in the Junior Physics Division. She is the daughter of Mrs. Diane Coppelard.

DR. J. DON ADERHOLD of Stone Mountain is serving as interim pastor of Sandy Springs First Baptist Church. He is a retired pastor of Columbia Drive Baptist Church.

YOUNG AT HEART Seniors group of Decatur First Baptist Church left Sunday for a trip to Washington, D.C., and North Carolina.

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA ALUMNI WEEKEND will be celebrated June 15-17, 1989 in Athens. Contact your area alumni-director for more details and tickets.

XENG XIONG was ordained to the gospel ministry by Columbia Drive Baptist Church. Dr. Gerald Palmer delivered the ordination message and Orrin Morris, both of the Home mission board, gave the charge to the ordinand. Howard Ethington, interim pastor of Columbia Drive pronounced the ordination prayer. Joshua Vang, Laotian pastor of Columbia Drive presented the Bible. Xiong serves as pastor of the Himong Congregation of the Laotians of Columbia Drive Baptist Church.

MR. AND MRS. STEPHEN HATLEY STAPLETON of Germantown, Tenn., announce the birth of a daughter, Ellen Hatley, on April 18, at Baptist East Hospital, Memphis, Tenn. The grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dale Peltis of Memphis, and Mrs. Olga Hatley Stapleton of Decatur, and the late Cade Alford Stapleton. The mother is the former Barbara Ellen Montgomery of Memphis, and the father, Stephen Hatley Stapleton, is formerly of Decatur, having attended and graduated from the City of Decatur Schools and Georgia Institute of Technology.

MRS. MARY WILSON was honored on her 84th birthday with a party at the house of her granddaughter Mrs. Bam Russell in Stone Mountain. Attending were grandchildren, children and great-grandchildren, and a sister from Tampa, Fla.

CAREY AND HENRY PAGE of Greenwood Circle announce the birth of their first child, Corey Benjamin, on March 27 at Douglasville General Hospital. He weighed six pounds, 12 ounces and was 19 inches long. The grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Joel C. Harris of Stone Mountain and Mrs. William G. Page and the late William G. Page of Decatur. The maternal great-grandmother is Mrs. Floyd Harris of Clarkston. The mother is the former Carey Harris of Stone Mountain.

ROGER L. WEAVER has resigned as minister of education and youth at Doraville First Baptist Church to become minister of education and church growth at Gayce First Baptist in South Carolina. He is a native Virginian and graduate of Winthrop College and Southwestern Seminary. He has served churches in South Carolina and Texas. His wife is the former Cynthia Funke and they have one child.

MARK AND DAWN SEAY of Dorago, Puerto Rico, announce the birth of a daughter Amanda Michele, April 12 at Northside Hospital. She weighed six pounds, eight ounces and was 19 1/2 inches long. The grandparents are Gene and Catherine Seay of Decatur, and Joy Carver of Stone Mountain and Ken Carver of Mississippi. The paternal great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Honea of Stockbridge. Maternal great-grandmothers are Mrs. Dorothy Wells of Huntsville, Ala. and Mrs. Carver of Mississippi. The couple have two sons, Mark Allen, four, and Michael, two. The mother is the former Dawn Carver of Stone Mountain. This is the first baby girl in the Seay family in 45 years. Mark and family have returned to Puerto Rico.

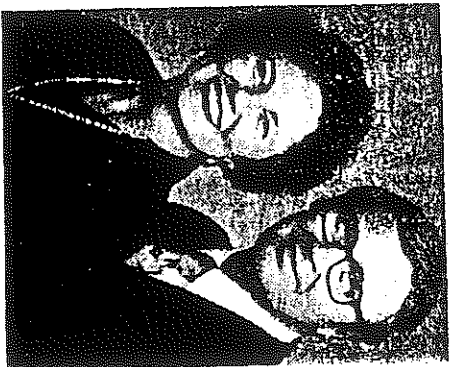
F. GERALDINE BOWEN, a nurse, has been appointed a career missionary with the Baptist Foreign Mission Board. She will live in Gaza where she will teach nursing courses and be involved in outreach ministries. Miss Bowen is a graduate of Emory University School of Nursing and the Baptist Hospital School of Nursing in Memphis, Tenn. She has been a nursing supervisor and an intensive care unit nurse at the Veterans' Administration Medical Center in Memphis.

HARTFORD AND LILLIAN CAMPBELL of Forest Glade Boulevard, Stone Mountain, announce the birth of a third son, Ben Russell, March 28 at Piedmont Hospital. He weighed eight pounds, 10 ounces and was 21 inches long. The grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Campbell of Atlanta and Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Kirbo of Bainbridge. The maternal great-grandfather is Charles Cirafisi of Norristown, Pa. The other sons are Hartford, four, and Thomas, two, and they have a daughter Catherine, five. The mother is the former Lillian Kirbo of Bainbridge.

MR. AND MRS. KENNETH H. MILLER, JR. of Lithonia announce the birth of their son, Blake Austin, April 21 at West Paces Ferry Hospital. Blake weighed eight pounds, 15 ounces and was 20 3/4 inches long. Welcoming Blake home are his five brothers and sisters, Alexander, Myrriah, Samuel, Afton, and Neal. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth H. Miller, Sr. of Ypsilanti, Mich. and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Piegras of St. Paul, Minn.

THE Christian Index

THE GEORGIA BAPTIST CONVENTION NEWS MAGAZINE, AUGUST 25, 1988



Dr. and Mrs. Aderhold

Aderhold Sets Retirement

J. Don Aderhold, the dean of Georgia Baptist pastors, will retire as pastor of Columbia Drive Church in Decatur Jan. 15, 1989. In November he will complete 39 years as pastor, serving the congregation since its organization in 1949. Aderhold will continue working as director of North Georgia Center for New Orleans Seminary, going from a part-time status to full-time director.

Aderhold has served as president of Atlanta Baptist Pastors' Conference, Georgia Baptist Pastors' Conference, Mercer Ministerial Alumni Association, Decatur/DeKalb Ministerial Association and two terms as president of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. He currently serves as a member of the HMB. He has served as a trustee for Mercer University, as member of the board of directors for Georgia Council on Moral and Civic Concerns, member of the Foreign Mission Board of the SBC, supervisor of doctoral students for Midwestern Seminary and Columbia Seminary, adjunct professor for Midwestern Seminary and teacher at North Georgia Center for New Orleans Seminary where he is now director.

HE IS the author of *The Deacon: A Leader In Ministry* and *The Apocalypse: Studies In Revelation*. He has led over 500 conferences on urban training for pastors and staff in 45 states. He recently received a resolution for "Outstanding Service in the Community" from the DeKalb County Commissioners.

Columbia Drive Church has been featured in the *New York Times* and in *Impact*, published by the Metropolitan Missions Department for the Home Mission Board, for its outreach ministry in a changing community. Columbia Drive currently ministers to 375 orientals who are primarily from Thailand, Vietnam, China and Cambodia.

Aderhold served in the U.S. Navy as Lt.jg in World War II. He is a graduate of Mercer University and Columbia Seminary. He did further study at Emory University and Southern Seminary.

Mrs. Aderhold is the former Gerry Turner. They have two children, Laura and David.

August 25, 1988

Dean Of Georgia Pastors Ministers Three Decades In Changing Community

By Sheila L. Ferrill, Editorial Assistant

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first of a seven-part series on Baptist ministers in Georgia who have served more than 30 years with one congregation.)

J. Don Aderhold is in his 38th year of ministry with Columbia Drive church in Decatur. He is believed to be the dean of Georgia Baptist pastors.

The congregation began in 1949 with 78 persons meeting in a tent.

The dream of the congregation expressed the first Sunday they met was to reach out and meet needs of people in the church community. Dr. Aderhold and Columbia Drive church are still realizing that dream.

Dr. Aderhold was born and grew up in the Atlanta area. He is a graduate of Mercer University and received masters and doctoral degrees from Columbia seminary in Decatur.

HIS FIRST pastorate was at East Side church in Decatur. He served there almost three years, when he was called by the Columbia Drive congregation.

Dr. Aderhold married the former Gerry Turner in 1948. They raised their son, David, and daughter, Laura, in the Columbia Drive church and community.

This community began as an all-white, middle-class neighborhood, many just returning from World War II.

The congregation experienced a steady growth for several years, adding 100 per year to Sunday School rolls. All the programming ideas used by the church were successful.

Dr. Aderhold was invited often to tell his success story around the country. Columbia Drive church was recognized as one of the best.

Dr. Aderhold served as president of the Home Mission Board in 1968 and currently serves on that board. He is also director of New Orleans seminary extension in Marietta.

THE PRESENT sanctuary was completed in 1965. It was at this peak that the neighborhood which the church served began to change.

Middle-class whites moved out to the suburbs as middle-income blacks moved in. The neighborhood changed again, as middle-income blacks moved out and lower-income of all races moved in.

The church experienced a mass exodus of its members, losing over 1,000 from 1965-1968. The church continued to lose members and financial support over the next ten years.

As the church declined, Dr. Aderhold became depressed and felt isolated. Invitations to speak and do revivals ceased.

A church which began with a budget designed to give 50 per

cent to missions was now struggling to survive. A proposal in a deacon's meeting still in the minutes recommended that the building debt be paid off so the church could "retire from the field of battle with honor."

IN LIEU of a 20th anniversary gift, and needing time to renew himself from the emotional, physical and spiritual strain of the congregation's plight, Dr. Aderhold asked for a year's study leave.

He would continue to preach on Sundays, while the associate pastor handled major pastoral responsibilities. The congregation agreed.

During his study leave, Dr. Aderhold developed what he later called the Permeation Principle.

This principle began with determining the mission and purpose of the church and that the Great Commission (Matt. 28:19-20) teaches that the gospel is for all people.

The Permeation Principle also concludes that the ministry of the congregation should include all people within geographical proximity of the church.

AFTER permeating the church staff with his dream, Dr. Aderhold met with the 30 deacons for a proposed 10-week study on the mission and purpose of the church.

The 10 weeks became four months of meeting every week for prayer, study and discussion.

Dr. Aderhold states: "A fellowship was cemented together...I saw those men pray with tears in their eyes, stand up and have disagreements. We struggled and struggled!"

Through all the sessions, Dr. Aderhold helped the deacons realize for themselves the purpose and mission of the church.

At the conclusion of the four months, the deacons, their spouses and many others were determined to keep the church alive by serving and ministering.

IN THE mid-1970's, harvest of the Permeation Principle was experienced as a Chinese Buddhist, a Jewish husband, blacks and whites all joined the church on the same Sunday. The church was permeating the community with the gospel.

Today, the community and church continue to change as races and nationalities come into and leave the Columbia Drive area.

WITH A membership of 1,400-900 resident members—the church has services in English, Lao and/Mong (language of the highlands) simultaneously.

With addition of internationals to its membership, the church called Joshua Vang and Suporn Tusuri to its staff.

Mr. Vang is associate pastor in charge of missions, and a national consultant with the Home Mission Board. He has served at Columbia Drive church for the past eight years.

Miss Tusuri is international coordinator and a graduate of Southwestern seminary.

COLUMBIA DRIVE has sponsored 1,000 refugees, with 300 remaining as part of the congregation. They are primarily Laotian, but also include persons from Thailand, Vietnam, China and Cambodia. The Laotian choir has 20-25 members. Approximately 200 internationals attend services each Sunday.

Dr. Aderhold, Miss Tusuri and Mr. Vang help refugees with housing, education, physical needs and employment.

Columbia Drive is one of 110 churches in the U.S. with this type of ministry and has the distinction of being the first in the Southeast.

Dr. Aderhold stated that the highlight of his ministry was "the determination to stay and minister to the community, and to see the church change from sameness to diversity."



J. DON ADERHOLD, (c) pastor of Columbia Drive church, posed with staff members Joshua Vang, (l) associate pastor in charge of missions, and Suporn Tusuri, (r) international coordinator.

April 23, 1987

Baptist church sets dedication for sanctuary

By Billie Cheney Lovell
Times Religion Editor

Three Army barracks, a basement and a school once housed moving their worship services

Now the 1,200 members are in different places.

From the educational building into the new sanctuary.

Church congregation in Decatur.

The Georgia colonial-style building has a limestone steeple, which is one of the highest in south DeKalb County.

members will dedicate a sanctuary which will seat more than 1,000 persons. The dedication program is set at 2:30 p.m. Sunday.

In 1949 the Columbia Drive church began with 78 charter members. While their educational building was under construction.

This new sanctuary and the educational facilities represent an investment of more than \$1 million.

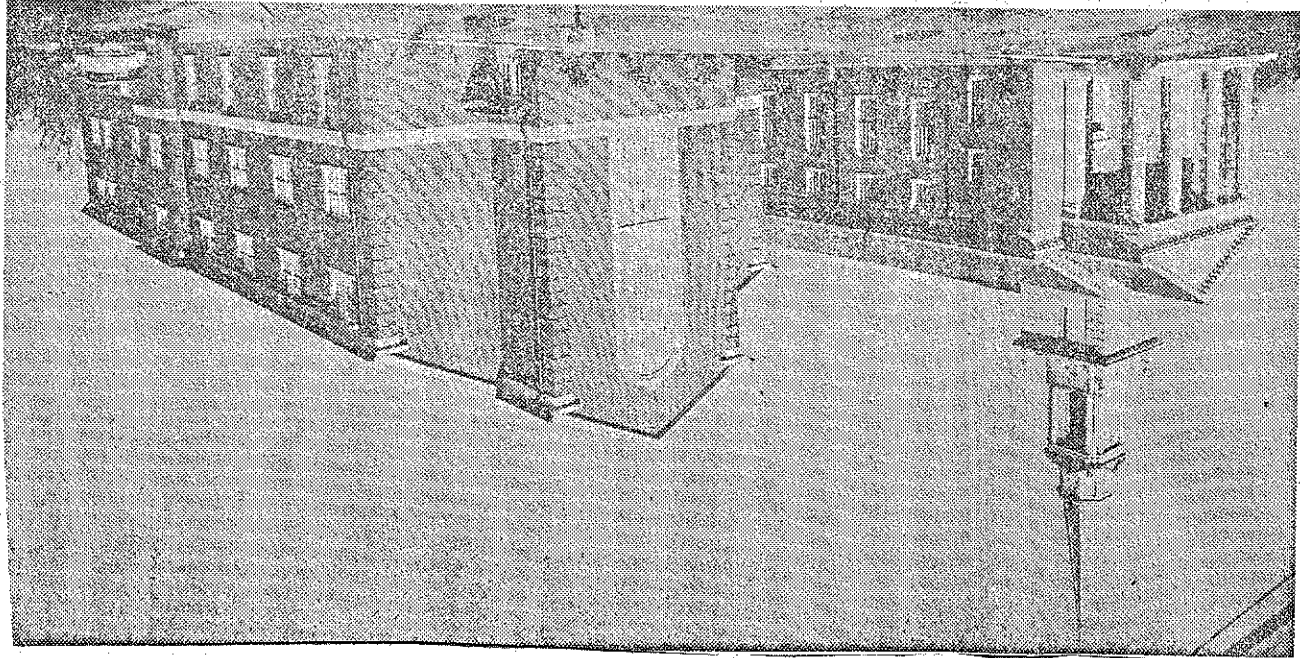
Dr. J. Don Aderhold, a native Atlantan, has served as pastor during the total life of the church.

Schedule of the dedication services include:

Sunday, 10:45 a.m., Dr. Aderhold, speaker; 2:30 p.m., service of dedication, Dr. Dick Hall, speaker; 7:30 p.m., Dr. Porter Routh, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention, and music by the Shorter College Choir.

Monday, 7:30 p.m., Dr. Monroe Swilley Jr., president of the Georgia Baptist Convention, and music by the Columbia Seminary choir.

Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Miss Alma Hunt, executive secretary of WMU, Southern Baptist Convention, and Wednesday, Dr.



Columbia Drive building completed 1965-fab

The congregation of Columbia Drive Baptist Church at Decatur will dedicate a new sanctuary Sunday afternoon. The steepled sanctuary, which seats 1,000, is to the left of the church's educational building.

Arthur Rutledge, executive secretary of the Home Mission Board, Southern Baptist Convention, and music by the Baptist Hospital Nursing School choir.

Sunday, 10:45 a.m., Dr. Ader-

hold, speaker; 2:30 p.m., service

of dedication, Dr. Dick Hall,

speaker; 7:30 p.m., Dr. Porter

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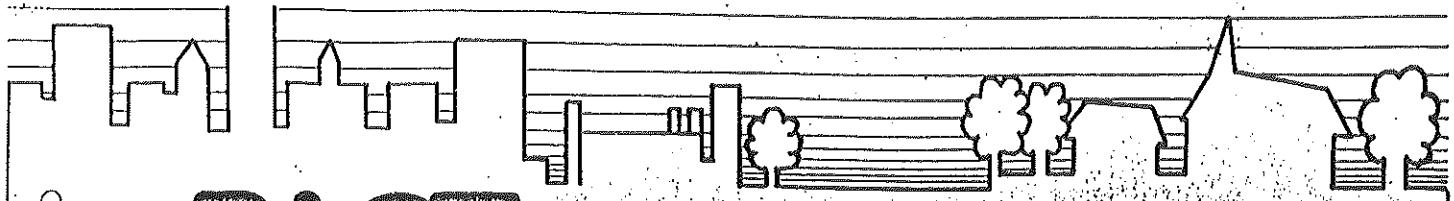
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Alma Hunt, executive secretary

of WMU, Southern Baptist Con-

vention, and Wednesday, Dr.

Subject File: Churches
Columbia Drive Baptist



imPACT

April - May 1984

THE PERMEATION PRINCIPLE

by Jere Allen

Columbia Drive's story began with a dream, when in 1949 78 persons met in a tent for worship in the first suburban area of Decatur outside of Atlanta. After formally voting to become a church, one member made the motion that 50 percent of all offerings collected be designated for mission work beyond the community. The motion passed and for many years this was done (until it became necessary to reduce the percentage to expand building facilities and staff). The dream for the church to be mission minded has been retained through the years.

Also expressed that first Sunday was the dream that the church reach out and meet the needs of people in the church community. To lead them in accomplishing their "reason for being," the church called, as pastor, 24-year-old Don Aderhold, a graduate student at a nearby theological seminary.

Sameness

This was an all-white, middle-class congregation, Southern in culture, with upwardly mobile families, many of whom had faced hardships due to the war. There was a remarkable sameness between the church and the community.

A Sunday School enlargement campaign, which required an analysis of enrollment figures, revealed that 25 percent of the Sunday School was in the Nursery Department, few in the 13-15 year department and none in the high school department. A study of the Census revealed only three young people in the whole community and they were already involved in a church.

When the church applied for a bank loan to build, they were required to study the membership. The study revealed that the average age was 28.

Not only was 28 the average age, but most of the members were either 28, or within a few years, including the pastor.

Growth

For several years the average Sunday School attendance grew by 100. Aderhold said, "One year we worked as hard as we could on Sunday School attendance, and we had a net gain of 100. Another year we sluffed off and still gained 100!" It was hard to keep this dynamic church, with such similarity to its community, from growing.

Almost everything the leadership tried was successful, whether it was a woman's organization, a Sunday evening Church Training program or a Thursday evening visitation program. Through the years the church started seven new churches and sent 35 young people into full-time vocational Christian service.

The pastor was invited to tell his "success" story to churches everywhere. Recognition was given to the church as being one of the best.

Change

"Do you realize that we have lost 30 churches in our association by merger, relocation or disbandment since 1960 due to the migration of the black community from the central city out to the suburbs," said the director of associational missions for the Atlanta Baptist Association to his planning council. Columbia Drive Baptist Church did not think this movement of blacks would reach them because they were five miles from the center of Atlanta. However, blacks began to move along a major artery out from the central core of the city. It was felt that this movement would stop at some point and

Scriptures with clear intentionality regarding the outcome. He knew quite well the difference in leading and driving his people.

Out of those four months of study together came determination on the part of those deacons to keep the church in the community and minister to the people there, whoever they were. Not only were the deacons and pastor committed to this dream, but so were most of their wives and a growing number of the committees and Sunday School classes of which they were a part.

The following anecdote illustrates the importance of winning over the leaders before proceeding to the next step. A couple of years later, Aderhold overheard one man, saying to another, "Have you heard what those darn deacons are doing now?" He slipped into his office and closed the door quietly before rejoicing that the man did not say, "Have you heard what that darn pastor is doing now?" The pastor was not alone, on his white horse with sword drawn, and so far ahead of his troops that he could not see his church members behind him!

Aderhold chose to lead through the deacons, instead of another group, for these reasons:

It is scriptural. The word deacon means servant or minister.

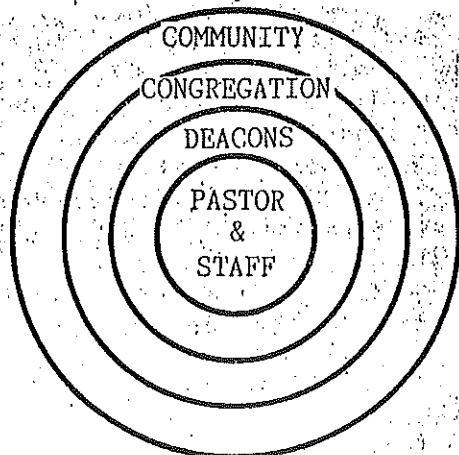
Deacons normally are the power base of a Baptist church.

Deacons have been chosen by the congregation.

They represent a continuing base of support in the church. Unlike committee members, deacons are permanent members of all structures and committees of the church, year by year.

Congregation

Even before the four months of study with the deacons was complete, Aderhold was preaching to the congregation on the mission and purpose of the church.



Following a worship service, Aderhold heard one lady say to another, "Do you think our church has a future anymore?" Intrigued by the question and sensing that it was the sentiment of a growing number of members, he preached on that question. That sermon proved to be a turning point in the life of Columbia Drive Baptist church.

Let me say at the outset that our church has a future of some sort. The real issue is what kind of future do we have. The answer will lie largely in our understanding of "our" in the question posed. Emphasis on the "our" means that we look for sameness in the people, in their age, race, economic standing, culture. If the primary emphasis is on "our," then we will be concerned mostly about the church from a human point of view. If, however, the "our" before church is replaced with Christ, then the emphasis is changed--the priority is given to His ministry. We see the church as belonging to Christ; he takes his place as head of the church.

We must believe that God is still on the throne and the victory is his. The triumphant message of the Scripture must be recognized; "The Lord God omnipotent reigneth;" so often our frame of mind is dependent on human criteria for success. If we view ourselves as servants to do God's will, then the measurement of success is faithfulness. The person or the church that recognizes this does not become discouraged so easily. Christ leads and we follow. This is our task.

Does our church have a future? The circumstances of race, economics and cultural background will not provide the answer. Rather the answer lies in the hearts of each of us. If we have faith, the future is certain, then victory belongs to God and we share in it.²

Following this message, which was given in a relatively unemotional manner, the pastor extended the invitation without expecting a response. A lady came forward and with great feeling said that she wanted this to be Christ's church. As she returned to her seat, there were obvious tears in her eyes. Spontaneously others began to respond to the invitation until there was a flood of people coming forward, all saying they wanted this to be Christ's church. The invitation extended for 45 minutes

as people came forward to make similar commitments. This was a watershed event in the life of Columbia Drive Baptist Church.

Community

One Sunday in the mid 70s, 21 persons responded to the invitation to profess Christ as Lord and Savior. One of those responding was a Chinese Buddhist, who had never been in a Christian church until a few months before. One was a Jewish husband; another was a Filipino woman who had been baptized as a baby, but was reared void of any religious activity; six were black and the others were white. On that Sunday, four different races of people from every background joined together to make Christ Lord of their lives. Aderhold said, "As my people saw them spread out over the front of the auditorium they knew that God had done something great in our midst. How grateful we were! That was one of the real breakthroughs."

Where there was sameness in the church members in the early 50's, today they reflect a cross-section of the world. The church is making a concerted effort to permeate the whole community with the gospel.

The number of blacks and ethnics in the church have fluctuated through the years due to sociological changes in the community. At one time one-half of the Sunday School was non-Anglo, but this has subsided due to the movement of middle-income blacks to other areas. Following the sponsorship of more than 100 refugees, there was a large number of Laotian active in the fellowship, though they were not well versed in English. A separate language fellowship was formed, with the Laotian pastor becoming part of the church staff. Though Columbia Drive is still predominantly Anglo, it has an unusual openness to whoever occupies the homes in the community. When the community changes to a new group, their arms open again. The newest change is the influx of young, middle-class, white singles and couples into newly constructed apartments and condominiums.

Not only has the church been aggressive and reached out to all residents, but they have endeavored to minister to the social needs of the residents. A member of the church, who is employed by the denomination, was given a study leave to make a survey of

community needs. He went through a large section of the community, house by house, questioning the residents regarding ways the church could be of assistance. Complementary to this was a church survey on talents and expertise areas of members and their willingness to use them in specific ministries.

Among several ministries begun was a block program. Church-member couples were to find out who moved in and out of their assigned blocks through the year and ascertain their spiritual physical psychological social needs.

It is Don Aderhold's philosophy that, as the Permeation Principle flows from pastor to staff, to deacons, to congregation and community, there are diminishing returns as it spreads from the center outward. The energy level that emanates is the highest from those with the vision. That spiritual energy tends to dissipate as it goes outward from the center. A stream rises no higher than its source, and the vitality of the Permeation Principle is strongest at the core of the concentric circles. The pastor is an essential key to the success of a church in a changing community.

The Columbia Drive Baptist Church has experienced community change over the past 20 years. Change has been from:

- o white young couples in new housing to
- o a growing number of middle-age empty nesters to
- o an influx of middle-income blacks, hispanics, white non-Southerners and foreign born to
- o some lower income of all races to
- o a number of multi-family housing units with young couples, singles, and the elderly

Statistically, the church is not as strong as in its peak year of 1963. But, in terms of servanthood, outreach, openness and overall health, it is still at a peak. A major characteristic of this church has been its ability to cope with and adapt to change.

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Home Mission Board, SBC
Jere Allen, Director and Editor



HOME MISSION BOARD, SBC
William G. Tanner, President
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Atlanta, Georgia 30367

The Dekalb News/Sun
11/23/88

Dr. Aderhold Honored By Church

A special Sunday recognition and retirement service was held Sunday at Columbia Drive Baptist Church honoring Dr. J. Don Aderhold, the only minister the congregation has ever had.

The "dean" of Georgia Baptist pastors, he has served for 39 years, since the organization of the church in 1949. He plans to retire Jan. 15.

Dr. Aderhold has provided a unique ministry to Columbia Drive, guiding the church through many changes in a transitional community. The church now ministers to 375 orientals, who represent 29 percent of the total membership.



Aderhold

Two additional services are held for the oriental congregation.

The pastor has served two terms as president of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board and is current a member of the board. Among his other ministries he has served as a member of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, as a trustee for Mercer University, as a director/teacher in the North Georgia Center for the New Orleans Baptist Seminary in Marietta, and as the president of the Atlanta Baptist Pastor's Conference, Georgia Baptist Pastors' Conference and the Decatur/DeKalb Ministerial Association. He is the author of two books and has conducted numerous training sessions for clergy.

He and his wife, Gerry, are the parents of two children, Larry and David.

File Columbia

Dr. Aderhold

Subject File,
Churches
Columbia Drive
Baptist

Recall Dekalb History At 'I Remember'

herself, she's the only person ever call me Geraldine. The school was named for her while she is still principal there, which is usual.

Our two children, Laura and vid, have lived in Belvedere, me Mountain and Avondale Es- ses. Laura taught school for 13 yrs in Lithonia and David is an estigator with the DeKalb Sher- s Department. So you see, I re very deep roots in Dekalb duty."

AMONG Mrs. Aderhold's me-

morabilia is a picture of the con- gregation of the Edgewood Baptist Church soon after its organization in 1903, her grandfather, Paul Hall, in his baseball uniform for the Edgewood team of 1915 and the booklet by Thomas L. Slappy "Recollections of the town of Edge- wood, DeKalb Co. Ga. from the year 1901."

Here is one of her favorite Slappy quotes. "In the year 1901 late Honorable William Schley Howard was running for the Legis- lature and came to the Old Edge- wood Academy to make a rousing

speech. That was the first political speech I ever heard and a good one, too. The thing which amused us very much was after he had made his speech. He pulled a good one on the men, who were the voters of that day and time as it was before women suffrage was won. Mr. Howard addressed his remarks then to the ladies and said, "Now I want the ladies to comply with my request. If you want me for your representative, please stand up."

Then about all the ladies in the house stood up. Mr. Howard then addressed the males and said,

"Now I do not want the men to stand up, for if all the ladies are for me, how can I fail to be elected? And He Was Elected."

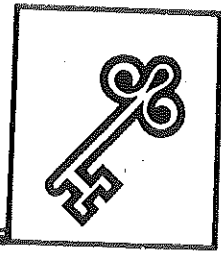
Mrs. Aderhold has written a number of articles which have been published including the re- cent story of her struggle with rheumatoid arthritis which ap- peared in the national magazine *Arthritis Today*.

The "I Remember Hour" talks are video-taped and added to the society's archives of first person accounts by outstanding DeKalb citizens.

DeKalb News/Star 8/30/84

Keynotes

On DeKalb



File:
columns
✓ DR. LEE
BAPT. CH.

JOHN AND TAMMY CUNNINGHAM of Lawrenceville announce the birth of a son, Kenneth Brett, August 16 at Northlake Regional Medical Center. The baby has a brother, Chad, 22 months old. Maternal grandparents are Leonard and Willette Wilson of Decatur. Paternal grandparents are John and Betty Cunningham of Cumming.

MR. AND MRS. LARRY D. TAYLOR of Dunwoody announce the birth of their son, Bryan Lawrence, August 14. The mother is the former Susan Hutchinson of Atlanta.

THE OLIVE GARDEN Restaurant at Northlake was the scene of a 69th birthday party for Edna Norton recently. Invited guests were Johnny Issakson, Mr. and Mrs. Chesley Morton, Mr. and Mrs. Pat Swindall, Mr. and Mrs. Hank Elliott, Mr. and Mrs. James Shearer, Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Bell, Mr. and Mrs. Matt Hawkins, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Page, Mrs. Carl Kirk, Covington, Mrs. Walter Susong, Conyers, Miss Barbara Cunningham, Roswell, Mrs. Jan Fowler, Lilburn, Robert Baker, Miss Elizabeth Maynard, Dr. Ken Hoose, Mrs. Dorothy Thurston and Mrs. Georgann Tatman.

STEVEN D. RICH, son of Mr. and Mrs. B.Y. Rich of Lithonia, will be graduating from Georgia Tech on September 1 with a bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering. He attended Georgia Tech on a Navy ROTC scholarship and will be commissioned as an ensign on August 31. He will be attending Nuclear Power School in Orlando, Fla. Steve is a member of Tau Beta Pi, national engineering honor society. He is a 1986 graduate of Southwest DeKalb High School.

MRS. FRANCES DICKSON of Stone Mountain, Sara Davis Smith of Gainesville and Vela Cantrell of Bremen attended the Young Harris College Homecoming in Young Harris the week of August 17. Mrs. Dickson and Mrs. Smith were roommates. Their late husbands, Bill Dickson, Ernest Smith and Herman Cantrell were also roommates when they were there in college.

INSA (The International Service Association for Health, Inc.) will hold its annual banquet Friday, September 8 at the Lanier Plaza Hotel. The dinner will be held at 6:30 p.m. There will be a special international program with Emcee Tom Sinkovitz, health anchor of WXIA-TV. The speaker will be Dr. Darl Snyder, director, International Development, University of Georgia and president of Georgia Partners of the Americas. Reservations may be made by mail only to INSA Office by August 31, P.O. Box 15086, Atlanta, Ga. 30333.

TODD WUSKE, associate minister for children, at Mt. Carmel Christian Church for the past ten years, has resigned. He plans to go into a full ministry.

MRS. HELEN JENKINS AND ALICE LONG, both of Decatur, have returned from a trip to Alaska. They sailed on the Sea Princess from Anchorage to Vancouver and then toured the interior area of Alaska. They saw the largest iceberg, Mendenhall. Returning by way of Seattle, they flew back to Atlanta.

MR. AND MRS. FRED STREET, of Winnona Drive, will be honored on their fiftieth wedding anniversary, Saturday, August 26 at Columbia Drive Baptist Church, Dining Hall, by their children and grandchildren.

HIPS (HEAD INJURED PALS) meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at Smoke Rise Baptist Church, 5901 Hugh Howell Rd., Stone Mountain, "for those who have been head injured and their friends."

MAJOR AND MRS. STEPHEN DICKSON announce the birth of their first child, Elizabeth Ann, August 11 in Bitborg, Germany. The grandparents are Col. and Mrs. Bill Dickson, Jr. of Longwood, Fla. and Mr. and Mrs. Dexter Peak of Colorado Springs.

DR. R. LEE GALLMAN, JR. became pastor of Columbia Drive Baptist Church, August 15. Dr. Gallman has been pastor of Crawford Ave. Baptist in Spokie, Ill. for the past 15 years. His wife is the former Beverly (Chip) Mensing of Birmingham. They have two children, Sonny, 18, and Jacob, nine. Previously he served as a hospital chaplain and has written for several Baptist publications. They will live in the Rowland Rd. section of Stone Mountain.

MR. AND MRS. WILLIE SMITH of Mallard Court, Lithonia, announce the birth of a second daughter, Kathryn Michele, on August 3 at DeKalb General Hospital. The grandparents are Charles and Lou Esther Smith of Muncie, Ind. and Lucy Holmes of Lithonia. The other daughter is Brittany.

LORNA D. CLARK, a student at Columbia Seminary in Decatur, was licensed to the gospel ministry by Emory Baptist Church. She serves as the pastor's associate, and is serving this summer as a chaplain's intern at the Interfaith Airport Chaplaincy at Atlanta's Hartsfield Airport.

FOUR GEORGIANS were recently awarded the Rice-Judson Award in recognition of their leadership, scholarship and commitment to ministry. They are Laura Briscoe Carey of Atlanta; Pebbles Stone of Marietta, Connie Daline Garmon of Menlo and Donna Denise Bailey of Brunswick.

DR. MONROE F. SWILLEY has retired as vice-president of Mercer University after more than 20 years association with the college in Atlanta. He will be 75 on October 12, and he plans to retire at the end of the 1988-89 fiscal year.

FREE HEALTH INFORMATION is offered over the phone, as a public service of DeKalb Medical Center and the DeKalb Medical Society. The Tel-Med contains over 200 pre-recorded messages dealing with various health topics. To listen to a tape, call 296-9000 between noon and 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and request the subject from one of the operators on duty. Each of these tapes last approximately 3 to 5 minutes. These should not be used as a substitute for a personal physician, but it is beneficial in helping to recognize the early signs of illness.

GREEN FOREST BAPTIST CHURCH has dedicated a new facility for its Green Forest Christian Academy and Child Development Center. George O. McCaleb, Jr. is pastor. They have bought and are now occupying the site of the former Mt. Carmel Christian Church, located on Rainbow Drive in South DeKalb.

MRS. CHARLES H. CHUMLEY, president of Atlanta Chapter No. 18, United Daughters of the Confederacy, entertained the executive board and members with a luncheon at her northside home. An organizational meeting was held. Plans for the coming year were made with emphasis on all UDC goals - historical, patriotic, educational, benevolent, and memorial.

B.J. WHITE of Decatur was inducted into the Society of American Florists' (SAF) prestigious American Academy of Floriculture (AAF) during the Society's 105th annual convention, July 28, in Chicago. B.J.'s floral career began 20 years ago, after spending many years doing civic and volunteer projects including being a member of the PTA, Methodist Women's Organization, a Cub Scout den mother and Blue Bird den mother. She has been working for Hall's Flower Shop in Decatur, and is primarily responsible for wedding work. She is a past president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary of the Metro Atlanta Florist Association. She has served on the board of directors of the Georgia State Florist Association as well as held positions of historian, secretary, vice president and president.

MRS. LUCILE ISBELL is now living at Christi...

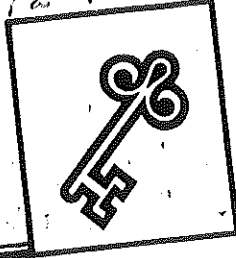
6/22/88

South DeKalb News/Sun

Subject Files checked
columns for name pastor

Keynotes

On DeKalb



BEVERLEY D. KROL, majoring in early childhood education at the University of Georgia, is on the spring Dean's List for her academic achievements. She will be a senior at the university in the fall.

MR. AND MRS. WAYNE KNOX and Kristin of Brentwood, Tenn. visited his parents Gaines and Isabelle Knox of Tucker, last week. They were joined by Isabelle's mother Mrs. Ollie Pentecost of Winder and for a family dinner Mrs. Knox's sister Olivia and husband Jim Thrasher and another sister Janie and husband William Simpson.

DR. J. DON ADERHOLD plans to retire January 15, 1989 from the pastorate of Columbia Drive Baptist Church, a post he has held for more than 38 years. He will serve as the director of the North Georgia Center, located in Marietta, of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He will also teach theology and New Testament at the center, where he has also taught part-time for eight years. He plans to do interim pastorates, supplies, Bible conferences, revivals and retreats for Baptists. He and his wife Gerry plan to continue living on Milligan Drive near Stone Mountain.

R.E. SATTERWHITE of Cartor Road has been a patient in Doctors Hospital.

THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA Alumni Officers include Fourth District vice presidents, Marilyn D. Fry of Dunwoody and J. Tom Morgan, III of Decatur. Group representatives included in the Business Administration Group, Lindsey Hopkins III of Atlanta; Education, Dr. James W. Mullins of Atlanta and Journalism, Neva D. Roundtree of Atlanta. President is Clifford S. Campbell Jr. of Thomasville.

MRS. JAMES J. LEITCH (ALAE RISSE) is a candidate for national historian general of the D.A.R. She has completed her term of office as state regent. She is a member of the Joseph Habersham Chapter.

MT. CARMEL CHRISTIAN CHURCH held a Blood Drive Father's Day and also on that same day the closing for the sale of their Rainbow Drive. Building on the church's new site in Gwinnett County is set for July 1.

MR. AND MRS. FARRIS COOK of Pointer Ridge, Tucker announce the birth of a daughter, Morgan Lindsey, on May 22 at Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta. The grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Cook of Tucker and Mrs. Mary Ford and the late Alton Eugene Ford of Shreveport, La. The paternal great-grandmother is Mrs. Ruby Cook of Decatur. The couple also have a son Jonathan, seven and a half.

MR. AND MRS. LEWIS HOOD and family have returned from a Florida vacation, where they visited Disney World.

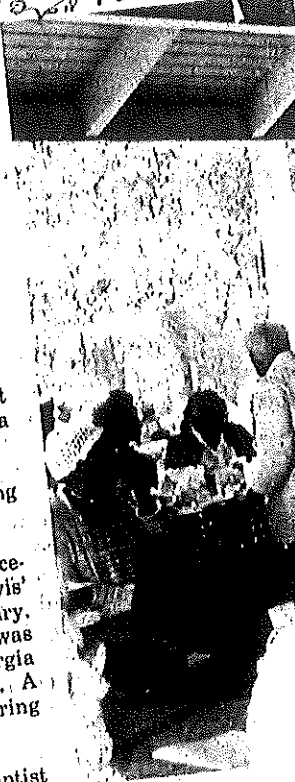
BUDDY PARRISH, youth minister of Decatur First Baptist Church, has resigned to become pastor of the Alapaha Baptist Church.

MRS. YVONNE BREWER has returned home following recent surgery at DeKalb General Hospital.

BRENDA SUE DAVIS DAY was proclaimed at Lawrenceville First Baptist Church May 22 in honor of Mrs. Davis' 25th anniversary as church and administrative secretary. She was honored with a plaque and 25 red roses. She was presented other plaques for her work as president of Georgia Baptist Church Secretaries Association for 1986-88. A reception was held and a gift of luggage and love offering were presented to her.

AMY LITTLE of Decatur is performing with the Baptist Festival Singers in their 10th Annual Concert tour of Europe, June 15-July 5. She was selected by nomination and audition to join this group of 70 musicians from 25 states. The group is performing concerts in Baptist missions and churches, as well as in major cathedrals in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France, England, and the United States. The Baptist Festival Singers is conducted by Bob Burroughs, a composer of over 1800 Church anthems, and Baptist Home Mission Board. Dr. Greg Berry, director of Instrumental Music at Stamford University School of Music in Birmingham, Ala., directs the instrumental ensemble, and the handbell choir is under the leadership of Nancy Blair, the organist and director of Handbells at the Briarlake Baptist Church in Decatur. The accompanist is Max Lyall from Golden Gate Baptist Church in Theological Seminary in San Francisco, Calif.

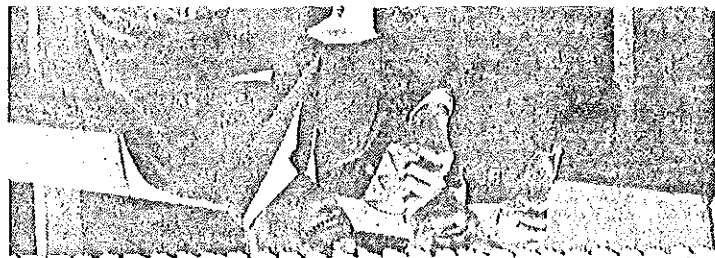
NICOLE LUCY, Smokerise Senior Girl Scout, has been selected to represent the Northwest Georgia Girl Scout Council at a Girl Scouts of the USA national training event. The Peer Leadership Training Program which Nicole will attend is being held at the Girl Scout's Macy Conference Center near New York City June 21-24. Nicole, who already serves as a girl volunteer trainer with the Girl Scouts, will help plan and implement peer leadership training sessions for other Girl Scouts when she returns to Atlanta. She has also worked at the Top O' Rock Girl Scout Day Camp in Stone Mountain Park, helped to organize the Girl Scout Opportunity Weekend and participated in the Chalet Patrol (a group which visited the Girl Scout/Girl Guide World Friendship center in Switzerland and toured Europe last summer. Nicole is the daughter of Lucy and Edward Lucy, and will be a junior at Tucker High School.



Lambda Omega Plans Lu

Lambda Epsilon chapter of Alpha Sorority, Inc., 12th anniversary at Fort Gillem Saturday, June following the meeting at 10 the luncheon in ory lane."

On June 26 lon Omega v Kalb County for more mir the governi county and t the commun Througho ter has re DeKalb co communitv



Dekalb New Era-Record
 April 20, 1967

File: CHURCHES
 Columbia Drive
 Baptist Church

Pastors See Campus--

(Continued from page 1)

can be like," said he.

The Pastors Conference passed a resolution paying tribute to Dr. Louie D. Newton, pastor Druid Hills Baptist Church.

The resolution pointed out that Dr. Newton has achieved eminence as an interpreter of Jesus Christ as a teacher for five years at Mercer University, as editor for 10 years of the Christian Index; and as pastor for 33 years of the Druid Hills Church.

It is added that he was recognized and honored by his de-

nomination
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A triple assault on the disabilities resulting from strokes has been launched by the Veterans Administration Hospital at Durham, North Carolina in cooperation with the Duke University Medical Center with the financial assistance of the National Institutes of Health.



DEKALB PASTORS - At the meeting of the Atlanta Baptist Pastors Conference held on the campus of the Atlanta Baptist College Monday, these DeKalb pastors got together for fried chicken lunch. Left to right they are Don Aderhold, Columbia Drive Baptist Church; Reverend Paul Henderson, Rowland Hills Church; Howard Pittard, Capital Heights, and Lester Bulce, Rehoboth. Back to camera is that of Rev. Bill Lancaster, pastor First Baptist Church, Decatur.

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Columbia Drive Baptist Church

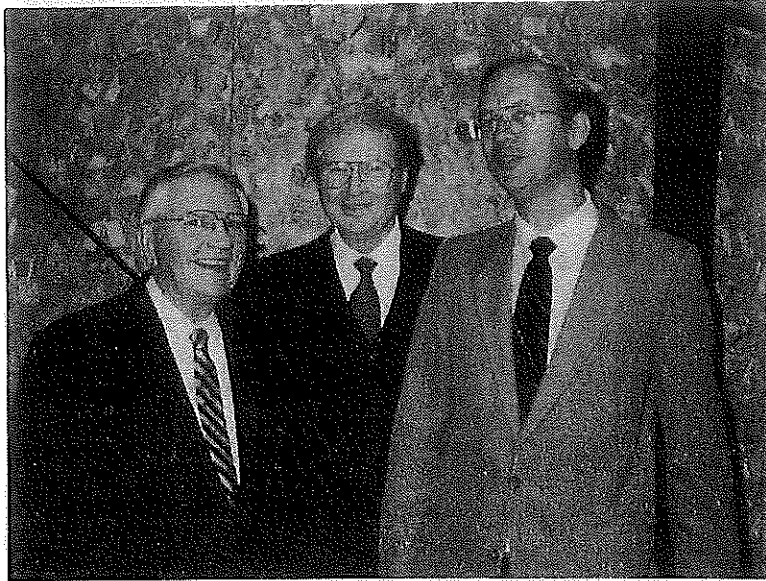
The Columbia Drive Baptist Church was organized as a mission of the First Baptist Church of Decatur during the summer of 1949. The rapid growth of the mission allowed it to constitute and call J. Don Aderhold as its first pastor in November of that year. Dr. A. was pastor for thirty-nine years. Though begun in a tent, the church soon moved to a frame building on the site of its present worship center. The membership of the church was largely from the neighborhood. These were the families of men returning from the second world war who were buying their first homes. The community was very homogeneous and the fellowship among the membership of the church was deep.

As family size grew and membership grew, the church responded with a wide variety of programs which focused upon the needs of the families of the church. New buildings were built; ministerial staff was employed and the pattern of mission concern was set. From the earliest days, the church saw itself as a partner in sending and supporting missionaries. The women of the church have consistently kept before the congregation the vision of missions. Music and worship have continued to be a strong emphasis of the congregation.

When the racial composition of the community changed, the church continued its concern for the community surrounding it and received many African- American members from the area. During the early days of the nineteen eighties, the church was asked to respond to the plight of the "boat people" of Southeast Asia. Over the subsequent ten years, the church sponsored over twelve hundred Hmong and Laotian refugees. Some of the refugees became members of the church and out of them have come two Hmong churches, one of which still meets in the Columbia Drive building.

Concern for the changing population around the church led the congregation to sponsor an African-American mission on Memorial Drive. After several years, this mission was relocated to Flat Shoals Road and eventually, with help from another Baptist congregation was able to constitute as the Riverside Baptist Church of Decatur.

In recent years the congregation responded to the need of the North Georgia Center of the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary by deeding its facilities to the Seminary for their use as a campus for training Baptist ministers. Even though the church now owns no real property, it continues its outreach to the community through worship, education and ministry. Its ministries include visitation at the county jail, citizenship classes for immigrants and Olympic Pin Swappin'. The church is active in the DeKalb Prevention Alliance, Decatur Cooperative Ministries and the Christian Council of Metropolitan Atlanta as well as various denominational organizations.



Columbia Drive

Dec 21, 1989

Columbia Drive
Baptist

COLUMBIA DRIVE Church in Decatur recently observed its 40th anniversary with special services and dinner at the church. Participating in the event were the church's first pastor, Don Aderhold (c) who served for 39 years, one of the longest pastorates in the history of the Georgia Baptist Convention; the new pastor, Lee Gallman (r) and Howard Ethington (l), who served during the interim between the church's two pastors.



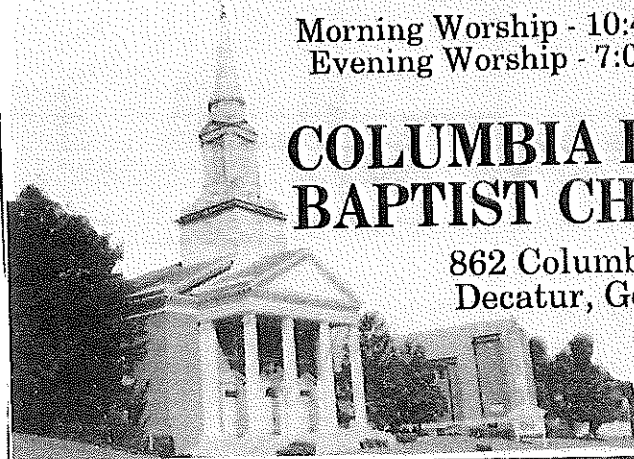
**COLUMBIA DRIVE
BAPTIST CHURCH**

*Welcomes Our
New Pastor*

**DR. R. LEE
GALLMAN**

You are invited to join our
Sunday Worship August 20, 1989
to hear Dr. Gallman.

Morning Worship - 10:45 A.M.
Evening Worship - 7:00 P.M.



**COLUMBIA DRIVE
BAPTIST CHURCH**

862 Columbia Dr.
Decatur, Georgia

Debbie Newsum