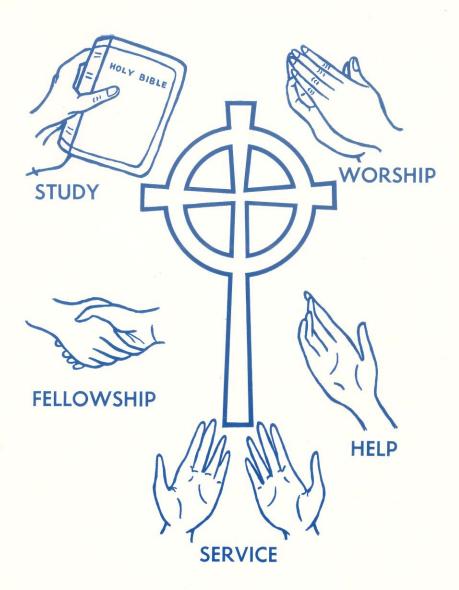
1960 CLASS ROLL

MEN'S BIBLE CLASS

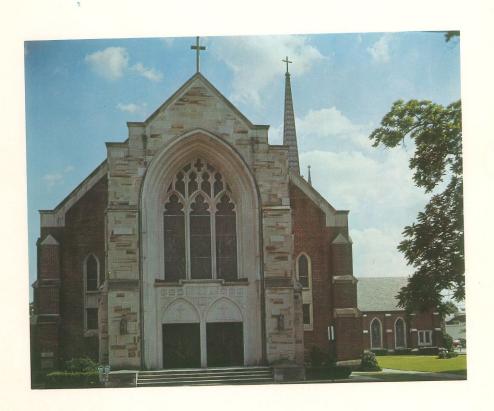
DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
DECATUR, GEORGIA

THE YEARBOOK 1965



Decatur Presbyterian Church Decatur, Georgia

DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 1825-1975



205 SYCAMORE STREET

DECATUR, GEORGIA 30030

378-1778

An Historical Sketch



Sanctuary in 1963

Decatur Presbyterian Church

DECATUR, GEORGIA

ORIGIN

From its earliest days, Decatur Presbyterian Church has tried to spread the gospel of the Lord Jesus as revealed in the Bible, and to minister in His name to the needs of people everywhere.

The Church was organized on October 29, 1825, under the name of Westminster Presbyterian Church, by a commission of Hopewell Presbytery. This was 20 years before the Synod of Georgia was organized, and 36 years before the Southern Presbyterian Denomination was set apart. Hopewell Presbytery then covered the whole state of Georgia, and was a part of the Synod of the Carolinas of the Presbyterian Church U. S. A.

Rev. John S. Wilson was then serving as Pastor of Fairfield Church in Gwinnett County, Ga., and came to Decatur as a Home Missionary. He was the leader in getting the organization, but it was 19 years later that he became its Pastor.

The Westminster Church began with eight members, three husbands and their wives, and one single man, and a single lady. Three of the men were elected Elders.

In 1827 the Legislature of Georgia incorporated the church under the name of "Decatur Presbyterian Church," which name has been continued to this day. It is one of few churches incorporated by the Legislature, and it is the oldest corporation in DeKalb County.

EARLY HOUSES OF WORSHIP

At first the congregation worshipped in the Male Academy, which was run under the general care of Dr. Wilson. The first house of its own was built in 1830. It was a log structure, 40 by 60 feet, and it had no pews. The people sat on rough slab benches. It was planned to solve the recurring Presbyterian problem of its members wishing to sit at the *back* of the sanctuary. This building had the pulpit on the south side, and the only doors were on either side of the pulpit, so that all who entered were seated by the ushers in *front*, no doors at the back.

The second house of worship was erected in 1846, a brick building with a steeple. It cost \$2,200. It had a gallery for Negro slaves, many of whom were regular communing members. During the Civil War, the building was occupied by Federal troops, who used it for an armory.

By 1889 a very able minister had come from Virginia, Dr. F. H. Gaines, who vigorously pressed for a new sanctuary. Col. George W. Scott gave a lot at the corner of Church and Sycamore Streets in Decatur, the present site, and also

bought land across Sycamore Street for a manse. Under the leadership of these two men, a sanctuary was erected that cost \$25,000. The same two men had just started Agnes Scott Institute. The church building was completed and occupied in 1891. It was large enough to hold all the white people in Decatur, and its capacity of 550 was more than twice the membership of the church. It was intended to provide for growth, and also to accommodate the students of Agnes Scott Institute on Sundays and special occasions.

LATER CHURCH FACILITIES

By 1923, the Sunday School had outgrown all available space, and the so-called "Gymnasium" was erected at a cost of \$42,000. It was mainly for Sunday School classes, but had the only basketball court in DeKalb County at that time. By 1948, additional facilities were needed, and more land was purchased, and the "Youth Building" was erected on the old manse site. More growth made necessary the "Bradley Building," which was completed in 1949.

By this time, the congregation had grown to about 2,000 members, and it was essential that a larger sanctuary be provided. After a careful study, it was decided to tear down the old building, and to erect on the same beloved site, an entirely new structure. In 1952, our present very attractive sanctuary was dedicated. Again our Sunday School outgrew the quarters, and in 1958, the old "Gymnasium" building was replaced with the new McGeachy Building addition.

These four buildings, with two manses, constitute a plant that is still crowded at times, and whose replacement value would certainly exceed \$2,000,000.

SPECIAL SERVICES

The Decatur Presbyterian Church has always been interested in the spread of the gospel instead of its own individual expansion. It has had a part in initiating the organization of 15 other churches. It has sent hundreds of members to those daughter churches, but has continued to grow itself. At the present time it has about 2,170 members.

The Church has been especially interested in education. Its members started the Male Academy in 1824, Hannah More Academy, Donald Fraser School, Agnes Scott College, and Decatur Presbyterian Kindergarten. It had a large part in bringing Columbia Theological Seminary from South Carolina to Decatur.

It has always had a vigorous work among young people, serving now many

students from Agnes Scott, Columbia Seminary, Emory University, Georgia Tech, Georgia State College, and other institutions. All its youth groups are effective, but the Westminster Fellowship is particularly well known. The Church has sent into full-time Christian service at least 40 young men and women, and has others in preparation. It supports 28 missionaries in 7 countries.

The interest of our people in Stewardship has steadily increased. Our Church is one of the relatively few in the Synod or of the General Assembly that gives more to Benevolences than to Current Expenses.

PROGRAM

With a varied program of Christian Education for adults, young people, and children, the Church has taken seriously the command, "Go, teach . . .". With a staff of 130 volunteer teachers and associates, a ministry of teaching of the Word of God, and nurture in the faith, goes on each week. A weekday Kindergarten for 4 and 5 year olds presents a program each day to the 150 enrolled. As one of the oldest and best known in the Decatur area, it has helped to begin Church Kindergartens in many other churches. Adult classes have been unusually effective in presenting the Christian faith through the years. The youth program includes both Sunday School, Evening programs, Camps and Conferences, and regular Retreats. With its adequate plant, and its dedicated leaders, the Christian Education program is exceptional.

In Church Music, there are presently four choirs of adults, young people, and children, regularly singing at the services of worship. These choirs provide opportunities for a much needed ministry of music, and for personal growth in the lives of those who share in them.

INVITATION

We invite all who trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour to unite in the life and ministry of Decatur Presbyterian Church. "Other men have labored, and we have entered into their labors." We offer a ministry to children, youth and adults of preaching, teaching and Christian fellowship. "Come thou with us, and we will do thee good."

P. O. BOX 501
DECATUR, GA. 30030

HISTORY

of

THE DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DECATUR, GA.

by
CHARLES MURPHEY CANDLER
and
SCOTT CANDLER



PROPOSED NEW CHURCH BUILDING

(125th YEAR) CELEBRATION OCTOBER 29, 1950

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PROPOSED NEW CHURCH BUILDING

(125th YEAR) CELEBRATION OCTOBER 29, 1950

DE KALB COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Tile Decaler Presley le Churches X ry Dr Jolen S. Wilson

(Ed. Note: This sermon was copied from the original now in the possession of Mrs. Bessie P. Miller, of Houston, Texas, a grand-daughter of Dr. J. S. Wilson. Though there is no entry as to date it was preached, it was possibly preached about the first Sunday in October, 1869, the fiftieth anniversary of his licensure by Presbytery of South Carolina, after which he was sent forth as a missionary to Georgia. It is more probable, however, that it was preached in April, 1871, which on the fifth day of the month would have been the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination by Presbytery of South Carolina. His death did not come until March 28, 1873, therefore both dates offer a possibility.)

Excerpts from sermon by Dr. John S. Wilson:

EBENEZER, OR THE LORD OUR HELP

"Then Samuel took a stone and set it between Mizpeh and Shen and called the name of it Ebenezer; Saying, hitherto hath the Lord helped us."

I Samuel 7:12

Time never folds his wings. In darkness and storm, in cold and heat, in winter and summer his flight is still onward. Since he spread them first in the morning of creation, his wing has never tired. The revolutions of earth, the rise and fall of empires has never for a moment arrested his course - it is onward, onward to the goal of an opening eternity. As a railroad train hastens with thundering speed to its destination. As the eagle from its mountain eyry moves with lightning swiftness to pounce upon its prey. As the vapor that springs from the marsh appears for a little while and then vanishes away; so do our days flee apace.

We listen to the oft repeated tale, but it presently fades from memory like a forgotten dream. We gaze upon the swift ship as it skims the ocean's surface, but it is soon lost in the haze of the distant horizon. Today we see the shepherd's tent standing by the solitary margin of the forest; tomorrow we look for it, but it is gone. We ask the passerby for its inmates, when like Joseph in search of his brethren, we are told, "They have departed hence."

Some such picture of human life the immortal pen has drawn And such is human life as realized by every one nearing its utmost boundary. It is a melancholy thing to look back upon a generation wholly passed away. Many of them we left behind in childhood, in the dreamless slumber of the tomb. Others dropt out of our ranks in the prime of life. Others, with whom we have journeyed longer

and took sweet council, have all departed hence. We live almost in the midst of a new generation. Their fathers we knew. With them we thought alike; we felt alike. But their descendants occupy a different standpoint; they look upon other fields, and contemplate other scenes.

The world changes, and we have changed. What we were half a century ago, we are not today. Then our views were fanciful, our judgment was immature. Then the world rolled before our mental vision as some gorgeous panorama. We had not then looked behind the tapestry, and noted the machinery with its creaking axles and fretting wheels. Then we knew little of the world's cretism and duplicity. We took all for virgin gold that glittered, and never dreamed that so much spurious metal was in circulation. But now we know better.

I We would briefly refer to our preparation for enterance on the work.

We were not cradled in affluence (we have never known what it was), nor clothed in purple and fine linen, nor fed on luxuries faring sumptuously every day. How should we? These things belong to princely conditions: but ours was a state of common life, not of abject poverty. Tossed about in our youth in the far west, sometimes shaken by earthquakes, sometimes by that which we then regarded as worse, agues on the banks of the Miss(iss)ippi, we returned to our native place in 1812.

Shortly thereafter we obtained the consent of parents to leave the plow-handles and commence a course of study in a classical school hard-bye. Several years were spent in pursuit of knowledge, sometimes in constant laborious study, at other times in teaching to procure the means of further prosecuting our researches. We had little idle time either by day or night. Vacations, we had none. Our object was to obtain an education. From a child we had thirsted for knowledge, had been able to read at four years old, and had read all we could find to read before we were ten. And that in those days was indeed a very meagre quantity, for it was not then as now. Books were few. We had not access to teeming libraries. We did not spend our nights in reading absorbing fiction and romance, nor our days in castle building. Our object was to master languages and sciences, and thereby fit ourselves for the duties of life, whatever they might be.

We can hardly say we had any particular profession in view. Our sole object and great aim was perhaps to be an educated man. But God designed otherwise.

II A large part of our ministerial life has been spent within thirty miles of where we now stand.

much of the population which supplied the places vacated by the retiring Indian had not attained a very superior degree of refinement; . . . it was such a population as usually occupy new countries, the pioneers who precede to clear away the jungle and make room for a better class of people.

The moral status of the country was exceedingly low. Thrown together from the older portions of the land, it was a heterogenious mass of people - no homogeniety, no common cord of sympathy vibrated through the bosom of society. Indeed, it might almost be said to be like the kingless tribes of Israel. "Every man did that which was right in his own eyes."

was many miles to the borders of the older and more staid communities. Looking South, there was no civilization to the Gulf of Mexico - the Creeks, the Muscogees, the Seminoles, and the reckless Spanish adventurer filled the land. Looking West, the Cherokee, a race superior to many of their red brethren, and just beginning to reap the advantages of missionary labor and civilization, spread from the Chattahoochee to the valley of the Tennessee. North the mountain ranges rose, a kind of impassable barrier.

In such a country, . . . we enjoyed few of the comforts of civilized life - bread we had, but luxuries were few. Houses we had, but they were not palatial erections. Roads we had, but many of them were mere Indian trails. Houses of worship there were, but most of them were floorless log huts.

Of news from the outside world, we had little. The mail carrier came at first once a month, and his coming was anticipated as no common event, and much talked of and hailed with peculiar joy. Letters from friends, distant one or two hundred miles, which now we receive in a day, were then weeks on the way. Intelligence from other lands we occasionally received, when three, four or six months old

On the Mississippi, with its thousand steamers of today, then there were none. But the world moved then, though it moved slowly contrasted with this day. Yet it moved honestly, reliably. Then defaulters and public plunderers were unknown. What a change has half a century wrought! This is called an age of progress; if so, it is but the upheaval of society, casting up mire and dirt like the seething of the mighty ocean under the peltings of the tornado.

To plant the gospel standard and rear the Church in such a land demanded of every laborer hard work and poor fare. The laborers, too, were few, and the fields were broad. One small Church of eleven members at and near Lawrenceville in the county of Gwinnette was the only Presbyterian organization between the mountains and the Southern gulf less than fifty years since.

Such was the field of the pioneer. He labored in faith: his labors were not in vain. The Lord helped him. He saw the work prospered, the cause of religion prospered, the kingdom of Christ builded up, the cords of Zion lengthened and her stakes strengthened.

In HIS Name We BUILD...

DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • DECATUR, GEORGIA

FOREWORD

The history of the Decatur Presbyterian Church is a story of building and growth and change motivated by the desire to serve Christ through service to others. It spans these one hundred and twenty-five years from the early frontier days of hardship through the trying days of Civil War strife, and on to victorious achievements in our rapidly growing community.

The first of our present congregation was organized on October 29, 1825, with eight members; four men and four women. In 1827 the Church changed its name from the Westminster Presbyterian Church to the Decatur Presbyterian Church, and on December 22, 1827, the General Assembly of Georgia granted the new Church a charter, which charter has been kept alive to this day without change, thus making our Church the oldest corporate body in the county.

Our congregation has had three meeting houses. The first building of logs was erected in 1830. In it were no pews; the members sat on rough slab benches.

The second building, of brick construction, was erected in 1846 at a cost of \$4,000.00. This building was used as a hospital and ordnance depot by Federal troops during the War Between the States. To this building was added entrance halls and a steeple in 1884.

In 1891 our present Sanctuary was erected at a cost of \$25,000.00. The Sunday School plant was built in 1923 at a cost of \$42,000.00.

Our Church has organized thirteen other Presbyterian churches, namely: First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta, Rock Spring, Kirkwood, Ingleside, Panthersville, Midway, Salem, Oakhurst, Glenhaven, Alexander Memorial, Emory, Columbia Drive and Trinity Presbyterian Church (Colored).

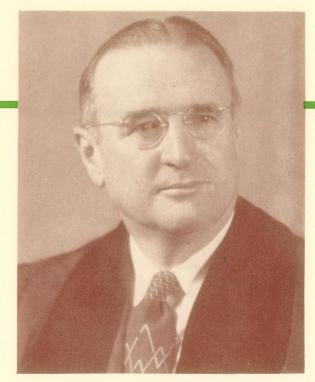
We have organized three schools: The Hannah Moore Institute for girls in 1827; the Donald Frazier High School for boys in 1892; and the Decatur Female Institute for girls, now Agnes Scott College, in 1889.

We are proud of the illustrious history of our Church, proud of its accomplishments across the century and a quarter of its existence in the work of extending the Kingdom of God on Earth. To these builders, through the years—pastors, members and friends—we are deeply grateful for the rich inheritance which is ours as a result of their sacrificial gifts of money, time and service.

Today, we stand beside still another milestone in the life of our growing Church. Today we have arrived at an hour of decision. While losing none of our love or interest in others, the time has come when we must turn our immediate attention to meeting the pressing needs of our own increasing Church Family, our first responsibility. Since our present Sanctuary was erected, our Church membership has grown from 248 to 2002 today. Since our present Sunday School building was erected, our Church School enrollment has increased from 645 to 1258. For years we have realized that our facilities were inadequate for our growing congregation and Sunday School. A start was made to raise funds for our program in several previous efforts, but insufficient funds are on hand to complete even the first unit of our master-plan, the Sunday School Building, now under construction.

We are now ready to put our plans and dreams into effect, through the current Building Fund Program, so that our Church may take one more step forward in the work of the Kingdom of God.

In the pages which follow, our Church submits for your consideration its story of a tremendous need and a serious problem—a problem which only you can solve. Heirs of a glorious past, we face with confidence the difficult task that has been bequeathed unto us. We dare not fail to grasp the opportunity that lies before us.



REV. S. HUGH BRADLEY

A MESSAGE FROM OUR MINISTER

Our church has served God and man in this community for a hundred and twenty-five years. We are grateful to God for the achievements of the past and for the blessings which have come to us and our homes. This is our spiritual heritage from those who have walked with God before our day.

What of the future? Ours it is to continue the story so that in this Second Century we might more adequately assume our Christian responsibilities of teaching and witnessing. Here is a thrilling opportunity to serve the Cause of Jesus Christ, an opportunity that for most of us will come but once in a lifetime. One thing is certain—we dare not stand still.

Our response to the challenge of the present and future will be the measure of our faith in the Church of Christ and the proof of our loyalty to Him. Let us, then, putting first things first, dedicate ourselves in partnership with Christ in this high enterprise. May each of us give our best in time and talent, in prayer and in means.

Your friend and pastor,

Aktugh Bradley



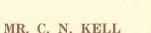
Becatur Presbyterian Church

The first chapter of this book reviews the reasons that impel To the Members of our Church: us to enlarge our Church Home. The needs as presented in the next few pages are real. Our Minister, our Church staff and our Sunday School officers and teachers are working under handicaps which seriously limit the effectiveness of their efforts.

The photographs were taken under our supervision during a normal or average Sunday morning program. They present us -- a greatly enlarged congregation -- worshipping in the over-taxed facilities

of our present buildings.

If we will unite in our prayers for the success of our building program, and if we will give according to our means, we simply cannot fail in the successful completion of this task for thrist.



Chairman Special Finance Committee



OUR NEED IS GREAT . . .

Today our very success poses our largest problem. FIVE years ago we were troubled but not too seriously handicapped. TODAY we are bumping our heads against the ceiling of our limitations. TOMORROW we cannot continue our growth through tomorrow unless we build—for we do not have adequate facilities for new members and their children. Our Church membership has grown from 1,642 to 2,002 within the past three years. Our Sunday School enrollment has increased from 869 to 1,258 within the past two years. Our average Sunday School attendance has increased forty-nine per cent over the past three years. Let us remember, too, the many students from Agnes Scott College and the Columbia Theological Seminary who desire to worship with us during the period of their first separation from home ties and influences.

We must provide room in our Sanctuary for our present membership, our visitors and for the hundreds of others who will join us when we are able adequately to serve them. Our present Sanctuary admirably met the space requirements of the congregation of 248 members for which it was designed. That was nearly sixty years ago, however, when our membership was one-eighth as large as it is today. We need, also, to make possible worship in our Sanctuary for those of every age and physical condition by building entrances and Sanctuary floor on ground level.

We, too, should provide our Church Family with a small and worshipful Chapel to serve the many needs for such a room in the life of our Church.

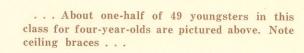
A well appointed study and conference room for our minister, offices for other staff members, a spacious choir room, and a library which will serve all departments are other pressing needs of the moment.

Pictured in these pages is a sampling of the Church School classes where the crowded and otherwise unsatisfactory conditions are proving a great detriment to constructive class work. Our classes are now forced to meet in four different buildings. The lack of sufficient space demands that we combine groups which should be divided in the interest of better work, or that they meet in places inadequate in facilities to the point where interest and the spirit of worship cannot prevail.

Recreational and fellowship facilities which will provide a happy home-like atmosphere in which the members of our church families, both young and old, can gather for suppers and other Christian activities, are also urgently needed for a well rounded church program.

The tragedy of the situation here at the Decatur Presbyterian Church is that we have far exceeded our physical capacity to minister to the stronger having large part of our Church Family. As a chain can be stronger than the most madequate spiritual service we render to any age group of our Church Family or to those who look to us for spiritual guidance.

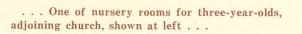




. . . Overflow from Nursery Department. Twoyear-olds on second floor of church office building are pictured upper left . . .

. . . Three-year-olds in overcrowded nursery department are pictured at left. Enrollment,





... Two-year-olds' nursery department in church basement, pictured lower left . . .

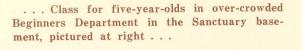


. . . A temporary partition, above, forms the second grade Primary Department . . .

... First grade in over-crowded Primary Department, 132 enrolled, is shown upper right. This is in basement . . .

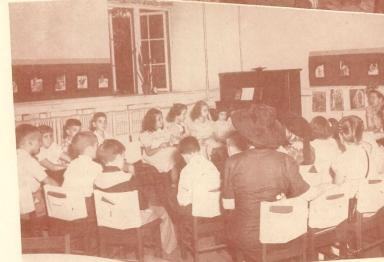
> . . . Third grade in over-crowded primary department, pictured at right . . .





. . . Crowded quarters for Parents Class shown below, right, in Old Manse. Enrollment is 39 . . .

... Only one-half of Young Adult Class can be held in Session Room, pictured below. Enrollment, 120 . . .

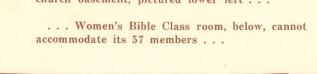












OUR CHRISTIAN RESPONSIBILITY

What is our Christian responsibility? What do we owe the Church as followers of Christ?

The Church is a family of families. The first responsibility of any family is the education, health and happiness of the members of that family.

Under existing conditions we inadequately serve our membership and, consequently, fail to meet our obligation of properly caring for our Church Family, to say nothing of the hundreds of others, young and old, on our very doorstep, who present a unique challenge in the opportunity to attract them to Christ and His Church.

The realization of our Christian responsibility must engender in us such a sacrificial spirit that we will assume the task before us with a willingness and determination. We must accept nothing less than the full accomplishment of our objective.

We belong to a great and vigorous Denomination. From the very beginning it has sought to meet the needs of the people. It has a dynamic tradition which has always insisted that the Church must continue to grow and to win more and more people for Christ. Should we fail in this, we would fail as believers in Christ.

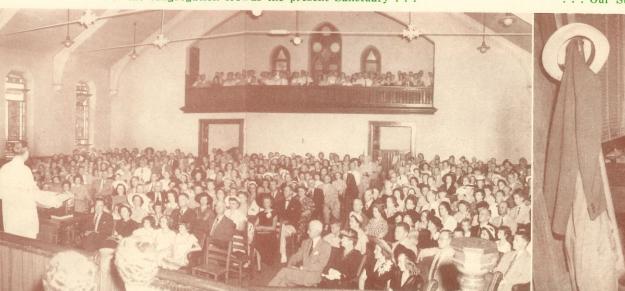
Our Christian responsibility is clear in this, our present effort.

- 1. WE MUST PRAY for strength and guidance to carry out the program and to meet the responsibility which is ours.
- 2. BY OUR PRESENCE we must make it manifest that we are willing to assume the responsibility which we believe to be ours.
- 3. BY OUR GENEROUS GIFTS to the program we will demonstrate our gratitude for the blessings God has bestowed upon us.
- 4. BY OUR SERVICE, and our willingness to contribute all the time and work necessary to accomplish the objective, we will demonstrate our sincerity and faithfulness.

This is what we owe the Church as followers of Christ.

... the congregation crowds the present Sanctuary . . .

... Our Sunday School Office ...





Tecatur Freshyteran Chin
REV. S. HUGH BRADLEY, TH. D., MINISTER
CHURCH PHONE EV. 1778
DECATURE

CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF DEACH

Dear Friends:

Your Building Committee has spent much time and effort in the planning of our new Church Plant. In this we have had the full Church staff.

Every effort has been made to provide space and facilities adequate and suitable for instruction, worship and Christian fellowship and constitution of all our people, both young and old, and to provide for an its style or architecture and in its appointments.

Cordially war

Stary D. Slack Chairman, Building Committee

... This room serves the Men's Bible Class, Church suppers, Prayer Meetings, and many other church activities ...





MR. S. B. SLACK

Chairman

Building Committee

OUR PLANS...

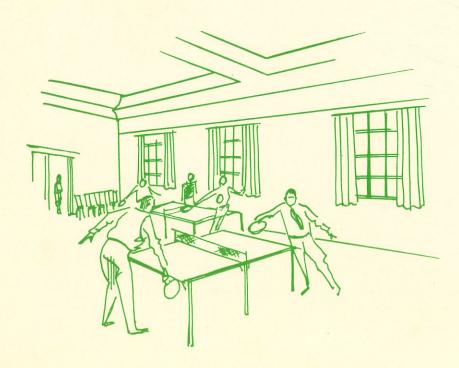
SANCTUARY The Sanctuary will be beautiful in its simplicity and quiet dignity. Steps from the sidewalk to the Sanctuary doors will be reduced to the minimum, and steps from the doorways to the main floor will be entirely eliminated, thereby making it possible for those with physical disabilities to worship with us. The main floor will have a seating capacity of 530 and the balcony will provide 304 additional seats, or a total seating capacity of 834. Our present normal total seating capacity is 480 including wings and balcony. There will be convenient corridors leading from the Sanctuary to the Church Offices, the Chapel, the Sunday School Building and Fellowship Hall.

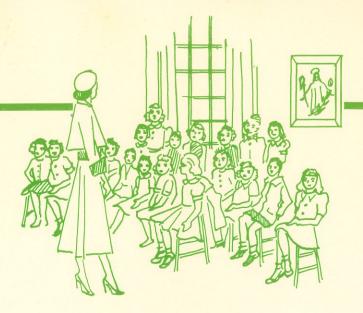
CHAPEL A chapel with seating capacity of approximately 150 is also included in our plans. This will serve many needs in the life of our Church. Prayer meetings, youth meetings, women's meetings, small weddings, funerals and many other services can be conducted in this worshipful room.

STAFF OFFICES A Minister's Study, private offices for the Minister's secretary, the Director of Religious Education and the Assistant to the Minister, as well as a general administrative office are planned.

CHOIR ROOM A spacious choir room with proper facilities will be located near the choir loft in the Sanctuary.

SESSION ROOM Our Session Room of appropriate size and appointments will be conveniently located adjoining the Sanctuary.





NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL BUILDING

The new Sunday School Building will provide facilities for one of the finest Christian education programs in this section. The building will have:

CHILDREN'S DIVISION

This Division will have sufficient and suitable equipment for each of the Departments described below. A small kitchenette, handy for all Departments, will add to its efficiency.

1. NURSERY DEPARTMENT (First Floor)

These four rooms will allow us to divide the two-year-olds and the three-year-olds. Beauty and cheerfulness will prevail because of low windows, proper heat, shelves, sturdy educational toys and chairs and tables of the right height.

2. BEGINNERS DEPARTMENT (First Floor)

Three rooms for the four and five-year-olds will enable our staff to properly use the informal method of teaching. These rooms will provide ample space for library, housekeeping, construction and other activity corners which this type of teaching necessitates.

3. PRIMARY DEPARTMENT

Children who use this Department are in the first, second and third grades at school. Our plans call for separate rooms for each of these three groups. Uniform equipment and cabinet space will add to the attractiveness and efficiency of this Department.

4. JUNIOR DEPARTMENT

This Department will be patterned much like the Primary and will house the fourth, fifth and sixth grades. Equipment which meets the specifications for Juniors will make this a happy place for boys and girls to work, play and worship.

YOUNG ADULT DIVISION

Attractive worship and study space will be provided for the Young Adults. Proper equipment for a balanced program will be supplied.

ADULT DIVISION

The completed plan provides for adequate space and equipment to supply the needs of our Young Parents Class and the Cabin Class.





FELLOWSHIP HALL

Fellowship Hall will be the center of the social and recreational life of our Church. Through this Department the Church will be able to contact and influence hundreds of our future citizens and members, as well as our present membership.

The Department will accommodate 500 persons. It will provide sufficient space for large affairs such as Church socials, men's meetings, Women of the Church meetings, fellowship gatherings and young people's social and recreational functions. While our new Sanctuary is being constructed, we will hold Services in this space.

KITCHEN. A modern and ample kitchen will be provided.

HEATING PLANT

For reasons of efficiency and economy, we plan to replace our present outmoded heating plant with modern equipment capable of maintaining the desired temperature in all sections of our Church Home during the winter months.

PRESENT SUNDAY SCHOOL BUILDING

It would be economically unsound to replace this structure at this time since its construction and interior plan lends itself for use as classrooms. It is planned, however, to redecorate the rooms and to do some remodeling. As certain classes now situated in this Building are moved to the New Sunday School Building, other classes which are now meeting in quarters lacking in both size and facilities will move into these more spacious rooms.

THE CAMPAIGN ...

There is nothing complicated or high pressure about our financial plan. We are simply asking that each member and friend of the Church set aside a generous and sacrificial portion of his income each week or each month for a period of 36 months, and that he give Christ and His Church a true priority on his contributions during that period of time.

These gifts must be over and above our present contributions to the regular operating budget. The program of the church must go on, and a curtailment in budget giving would be short-sighted churchmanship.

Beginning about the time you receive this booklet, every member of the Decatur Presbyterian Church will be visited and given an opportunity to invest in this great program. The goal of this campaign is \$250,000.00 in cash and pledges payable over a period of three years, 150 weeks.

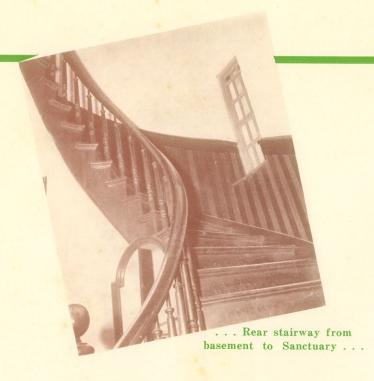
Payments may be planned according to the wishes of each individual subscriber. Since the total needed for our building program is a large sum if thought of in terms of cash gifts, we would jeopardize our probability of attaining our goal by attempting to make total gifts in cash. Total gifts can be much larger if weekly or monthly payments are kept in mind; for just as it is easier to make large purchases on the installment plan, so it is easier to make gifts in the amounts needed on a weekly or monthly basis.

Pledge cards will be presented to members of our church. It should be remembered that making a pledge in this campaign is not like signing a note for the amount subscribed. We are simply asking that you indicate on the pledge card how much you think you will be able to give during the three-year period. IF YOUR FINANCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE, or if you should suffer any misfortune which would make the continuation of payments an undue hardship upon you, your subscription may be decreased or discontinued simply by notifying the Church office.

It is our hope to provide for our Lord as He has provided for us and in proportion to our giving ability.

Building Fund Committee is pictured . . .











... Our outmoded heating plant ...
... Office of Director of Religious
Education ...



... Our Church Office Building ...

. . . Office of Our

Secretary to Pastor . . .

. . . Office of Assistant to Pastor . . .

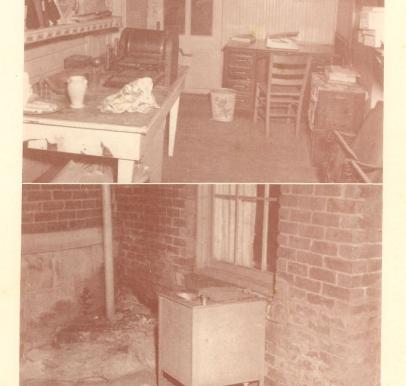
WHAT IS MY PART

To secure the vital \$250,000.00 needed for our building program, each member of our Church must give most generously—many of us sacrificially. We know that, potentially, we are capable of raising this amount. Should there be any question at all it is only whether we have the project in our hearts. The future of our Church, therefore, is dependent only upon our willingness to give.

Each member and friend will ask himself the question, "What is my part?" This chapter is intended to be of help in answering that question. If guided by the basic thoughts in it, we will attain our goal.

STANDARD OF GIVING

In stating that our congregation can achieve the \$250,000.00 goal, we are not guessing; we have carefully estimated the various sizes of gifts necessary to reach our objective. With the assistance of fundraising experts we have worked out the table on page 16, showing what gifts are needed.



. . . The poorly equipped church kitchen . . .

... The back porch office of financial secretary . . .

... Our only water cooler, outdoors ...

THE STANDARD OF GIVING TABLE

This table is intended to reflect the various levels of wealth and income of our members. Only you can find your place in this standard of giving. We could not conceivably obtain 250 gifts of \$1,000.00 each. Wealth, income and interest in the Church are not so evenly distributed among us; such giving would mean uneven sacrifice. And what we all desire for our Church is that every member shall make a very real and equitable sacrifice in this program.

THE STANDARD OF GIVING

THE GIFT YOU CAN MAKE

(Based on pledges to be completed over a three-year (150 weeks) period—four income tax years.)

By planning on weekly or monthly payments on your subscription over a three-year (150 weeks) period

Number of Gifts	$Amount\ of\ Each$	Total	Weekly Payment	Monthly Payment	$Total\ Gift$
1	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$ 166.65	\$ 694.00	\$ 25,000.00
1	15,000	15,000	100.00	555.00	20,000.00
4	10,000	40,000	66.65	416.50	15,000.00
1	7,500	7,500	133.35	277.00	10,000.00
6	5,000	30,000	50.00	208.35	7,500.00
3	4,000	12,000	33.35	138.00	5,000.00
4	3,000	12,000	26.65	111.00	4,000.00
5	2,000	10,000	20.00	83.00	3,000.00
9	1,500	13,500	13.35	55.00	2,000.00
6	1,050	6,300	10.00	42.00	1,500.00
12	750	9,000	7.00	29.00	1,050.00
20	600	12,000	5.00	21.00	750.00
6	525	3,150	4.00	17.00	600.00
20	450	9,000	3.50	14.50	525.00
8	375	3,000	3.00	12.50	450.00
40	300	12,000	2.50	10.50	375.00
15	225	3,375	2.00	8.50	300.00
150	150	22,500	1.50	6.25	225.00
271	Other	4,675	1.00	4.25	150.00
		\$250,000			

HOW MUCH SHALL I GIVE?

In the final analysis, the amount of my gift, considering my means, comes down to the question of how I feel about Christ and His Church.

I will know that I have given enough when I feel that I do not have to apologize for my gift to God or man.

LIVING MEMORIALS

"The greatest use of life is to spend it for something which will outlast it."

Our decision to correct the inadequacies of our Church Home, and in some measure to prepare for the future, has come after much deliberation and discussion. The theme of our thinking has constantly, consciously or unconsciously, been guided by our love of God and interest in the present and future generations.

Most of us have not arrived at this thinking alone. Rather, it has come about because of certain experiences and training in the past. This training and these experiences are the result of a close association with, and a wholesome love and admiration for, some one or more individuals who have been instrumental in shaping our lives.

As we dedicate ourselves to this task, some of us may wish to perpetuate the memory of these loved ones by assuming the cost of a section of the building, a room, or even some important equipment. This permanent witness of our faith and love will be a living memorial to those who have passed on to us our ideals, our common reverence and our Christian teachings.

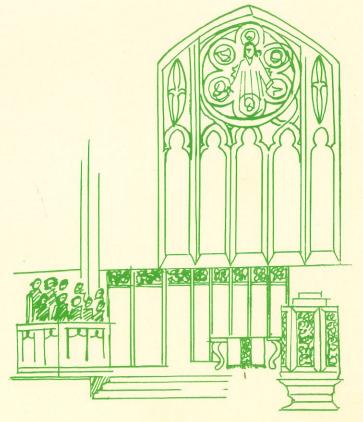
Dedication of these memorials is a symbolic expression of the continuity of our Christian heritage, linking in reverent memory the names of our loves ones with a monument. Such a monument, consecrated to the use of ourselves and our Children, embodies the very ideals which bind our Church Family together through the generations.

Appropriate recognition will be given all memorials.

MEMORIAL OPPORTUNITIES

Chapel	\$50,000
Fellowship Hall	20,000
Session Room	7,500
Church Kitchen	7,000
Choir Room	6,000
Pastor's Study	5,000
Assistant to Pastor's Office	4,000
Secretary's Office	4,000
Director of Religious Education's Office	4,000
*Organ Repair and Installation	3,500
Primary Rooms (each)	3,000
Beginners Rooms (each)	3,000
Nursery Rooms (each)	3,000
Other Class Rooms (each)	3,000
Kitchenette	1,500
*Pulpit Furniture	1,050

^{*}These items have been spoken for.



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H. C. Allen, Jr. A. A. Patjens

Scott Candler

Henry Newton J. O. Bowen, Sr.

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C. N. Kell	Assistant Superintendent
Hansford Sams, Sr	Assistant Superintendent
L. T. Norris	Secretary
D. D. McMaster	Assistant Secretary
C. M. Suter	Treasurer
S. N. Gower	Assistant Treasurer

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Young Adult Frank	Carryl, Mrs. Richard Bird
	J. M. Birdsall
	John Powell (President)
	Paul Harrison (President)
	Rachel Maddox (President)
Men's Bible Class	T. L. Wallace (President)

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Senior Mellie Scott Senior Adult Advisors Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bird	
Young People	

Children's Division

Home Nursery Mrs. Hansford Sams, Jr. Nursery II Mrs. W. R. Wilburn
AT TIT DE TIT 1 T '
Nursery III
Beginner IV Mrs. Deloney Hull
Beginner V Mrs. J. F. Kirkpatrick
Primary (1) Mrs. J. F. Wilson
Primary (2) Mrs. E. C. Brink
Primary (3) Mrs. C. F. Jacks
Junior Mrs. Graham George

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	Teach	hing Staff
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Jeff McConnell (sub.)

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Mr. Pierre W. DuBose, Jr., Assistant to the Pastor

Miss Gayle Rankin, Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Charles D. Turner, Church Organist and Choir Director

Mrs. Vivian T. McLeskey, Church Secretary

Rev. L. C. Vass, Church Visitor

Mrs. C. H. Rice, Church Hostess

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Dr. J. R. McCain, Clerk

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GOD BUILDS NO CHURCHES

God builds no churches. By His plan
That labor has been left to man.
No spires miraculously arise
No little mission from the skies
Falls on the bleak and barren place
To be a source of strength and grace.
The humblest church demands its price
In human toil and sacrifice.

Men call the Church the House of God,
Toward which the toil-stained Pilgrims trod
In search of strength and rest and hope
As blindly through life's mists they grope.
And there God dwells, but it is man
Who builds that house and draws its plan;
Pays for mortar and the stone,
That none need seek for God alone.

The humblest spirit in mortal ken
Where God abides was built by men.
And if the Church is still to grow,
Is still the light of hope to throw
Across the valley or despair,
Men still must build God's house of prayer.
God sends no churches from the skies.
Out of our hearts must they arise.

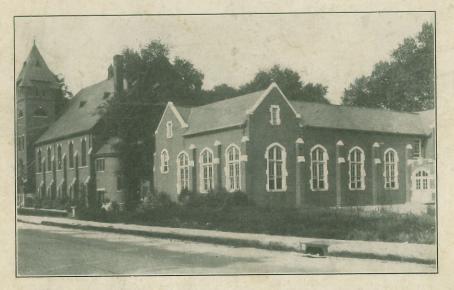
-Edgar Guest

HISTORY

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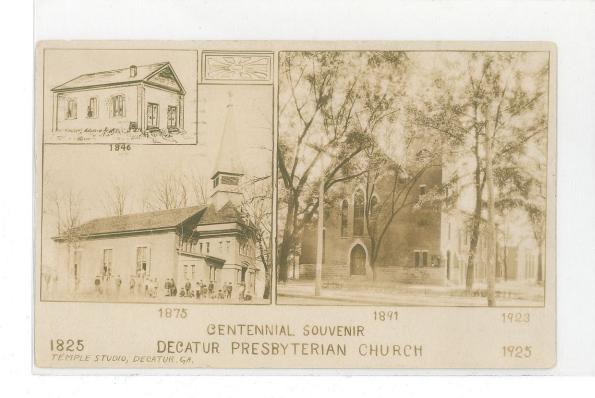
THE DECATUR
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DECATUR, GEORGIA

CHARLES MURPHEY CANDLER



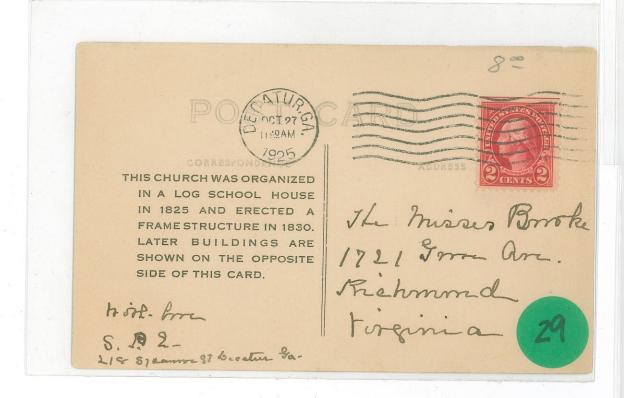
DE KALB GOUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
OCTOBER 25-27, 1925









DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 207 SYCAMORE ST. DECATUR, GA.

Color Photo by Wister Sharp



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Mrs. Caroline Clark 146 S. Candler St. Decatur, Ga. 30030 Boan

Mr. Peter Schinkel
Miss Ann Pederson
Gov. George Busbee 1 - 22 M2/mp

Miss Carol Hart, Director Georgia Dept. of Archives and History 330 Capitol Ave. S.E. Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Miss Hart:

The Decatur Presbyterian Church is very grateful to you and the Georgia Department of Archives and History for the magnificent job which you did in preserving the minutes of the Sunday School Association, of which this church was a member over 100 years ago. The extra care and skillful technology which you used in performing this task truly is impressive.

of | Please know that your work is available for any who may care to it both here at thâs church as well as at the Maud Burris Library Decatur, which is right next door to our church building.

With appreciation and gratitude, I am,

Sincerely,

Wayne Smith

WS/mh
cc - Mrs. Caroline Clark
Gov. George Busbee
Miss Ann Pederson
Mr. Peter Schinkel

ecatur Presbyterian Bulletin

Mrs. L. W. Morris, Pres. Woman's Auxiliary J. K. Muse Supt.
GRAVES PITTARD Organist Mrs. J. C. DeWitt Young People's Worker
Miss Marion Bucher . Church Secretary CHURCH AND SYCAMORE STREETS, DECATUR, GA.

DR. D. P. McGeachy Pastor

IN Clerk of Session A. D. McGauchey . Chmn. Board Deacons J. K. Muse Supt. Sunday School Mrs. J. C. DeWitt Choir Director

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 1936

Leffingwell
Hymn No. 312
Sermon by Dr. J. S. Foster—
"The Magnificent Sphere of
the Gospel Ministry" Offering
Offertory—Violin Solo by Mr.
Leffingwell, "Meditation," Prayer Hymn No. 390 Leffingwell, 7 Hymn No. 353 Scripture Lesson Gloria and Prayer Doxology and Lord's Prayer Anthem, "Thanks Be To God," Leffingwell, The Choir Piano Prelude 6:15 P. M.:

Offering Benediction Piano Postlude Hymn No. 170 Offertory: Senior Department Sermon by Pastor Gloria and Prayer Scripture Lesson Hymn No. Hymn No. 359 Him Crucified" "Christ and

OUR SERVICE THIS MORNING is a part of the official Commencement Exercises of Columbia Seminary for this year. The speaker is the Reverend J. S. Foster, D. D., who has been for many years Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Winston-Salem, N. C., and has now been called to a place on the Columbia Seminary Faculty. We welcome Dr. Foster and the Seminary today and we pray that the continuing blessing of God may be upon them through the years to

Piano Postlude

Benediction and Amen

AT SIX-FIFTEEN THIS EVENING Dr. McGeachy is to speak on Paul's great statement to the Corinthians and we are all invited to this service. Of course the question as to the best hour for our evening gatherings is upon us. If you have a suggestion to make please speak to some member of the Session at your very earliest conven-

DE KALB COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ience. Let us remember that this problem involves the hour for the Young People's programs as well as the hour for the sermon.

TIVE PLACES AT SEVEN O'CLOCK. ALL YOUNG PEOPLE'S GROUPS WILL MEET IN THEIR RESPEC-

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING OF T TUESDAY MORNING AT TEN O'CLOCK. EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

WHITE CROSS CIRCLE AND PRAYER MEETING are both on our program for Wednesday. The White Cross meets at 10 A. M. and Prayer Meeting at 7:30 P. M. At that hour Dr. McGeachy is continuing our studies in the Shorter Catechism.

Our Scottish Rite Sunday School which is held every Friday afternoon is one of the most worthwhile things our congregation carries on. Mrs. T. A. Fry is in charge on the Boys' Ward with Mrs. A. D. Wauchope, Mrs. Alvin Moore, Mrs. Malcolm Lockhart, and Mrs. T. H. Watkins as her helpers. Miss Marion Bucher is in charge on the Girls' Ward with Mrs. W. R. Wilburn, Mrs. S. C. Dimmock, Miss Alice McQueen, and Miss Rosa Howard as assistants.

A MEETING IN THE INTEREST OF WORLD PEACE is to be held throughout the day on Tuesday of this week at the First Methodist Church in Atlanta and our people are cordially invited to attend. There will be programs morning, afternoon, and night with a luncheon to be served at noon. The meeting is sponsored by a number of our leading citizens and is directly in line with the repeated declaration of our Church.

Next Sunday Morning at 11 o'clock we are to have the pleasure of having with us the Chaplain and a wonderful quartet from the Berry Schools. We will all want to hear Mr. Clary's message and the singing of these fine boys. Dr. McGeachy will be preaching in the Berry Schools that morning but will be at home in time for the evening service.

DR. ROBERT E. SPEER is to be speaking at the Druid Hills Baptist Church for the next several days and we are invited to hear him. Watch your daily papers for announcement as to topics and exact

DR. CHARLES H. NABERS is leading in special services at our Oakhurst Church this week and many of our people will welcome the opportunity of hearing him. Dr. Nabers is Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, S. C.

things. eral Assembly for us all on May 17. Of course we will observe this day as a congregation but after all this observance can only be held in the hearts and lives of individual people. Let us think on these Day of Humiliation and Prayer has been set by our Gen-