

DHS
Archives

Churches - Baptist -
Redon First Baptist Church

Newspaper
clipping -
DeKalb
News/Sun
9-14-83

Church recently celebrated its 112th
birthday + is housed in its third
Sanctuary. The church began
in 1871 at the same location
with 14 charter members, but
was known then as Woodville
Baptist Church. New Sanctuary
will be the church's fourth.

SUBJECT FILE REGAN
BAPTIST CHURCH (FORMERLY
WOODVILLE)

Baptist Church of Christ at Woodville
This is to certify that Sister N. E. Wade is
a member in full fellowship with us and
is hereby dismissed when joined to another
Church of the same faith & order, done by
order of the Church in conference
Nov 28th 1876
J. W. Garrison, Secy.

J. W. Garrison, Secy.

orig. letter filed in N. E. WADE
file.

R.

N. G. Wades
Church letter

The Christian
Index
May 19, 1983

Ministerial Moves

DON E. UPP is returning to Georgia June 1 as associate pastor/minister of music at Redan First church in Stone Mountain. He has been at North Dayton church in Dayton, Ohio, since 1980.



Mr. Upp

Earlier, Mr. Upp was minister of music and education at Glenwood Hills church in Lithonia. He also served churches in Kentucky, Arkansas and Ohio. He is from Indiana, graduate of Georgetown College and Southern seminary. He and Mrs. Upp have two children.

File:
CHURCH

Redan
First B

in st. mt.

also cross

Glenwood Hills

at Lithonia

The Christian Index

5-19-1983

indexed

HISTORY OF WOODVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
NOW REDAN BAPTIST CHURCH
(Period of original & 2nd building)

Sometime between the years of 1865 and 1870 the place now known as Redan was beginning to be known as McCarter's Station. There was a Post Office, grocery store and water tanks where the Georgia R.R. engines were serviced. Residents were very few in number. Neighbors in those days were families who lived from one to three miles apart.

Brother John K. McCarter lived a few hundred yards north of the water tanks and the community derived its name from him. His old home is still standing on the Old Redan - Stone Mountain Road (now known as Shadowrock Rd.).

A one-room school house was located on the same lot where the Redan Elementary School now stands,

The Baptist of the community attended The First Baptist Church of Lithonia, The First Baptist Church of Stone Mountain and Macedonia Baptist Church, all of which are active churches now. In the summer months Brother E. L. Wood of Stone Mountain, ~~XXXXXX~~ a young man just beginning his ministry, was invited to hold services in the School Building and in a brush arbour (when the congregation grew to need more room). The entire community gathered together to worship. This continued until September 21, 1871 with different visiting ministers preaching and holding the services. During this period (around 1869-1870) a church was organized with 14 charter members, most of which were members of The First Baptist Church of Lithonia. The charter members are as follows:

(Indirect)

Brother Mark J. Langston & wife
Brother Joshua Fincher & wife
Brother Billie Haslett & wife
Brother Wm. Bailey Street & wife
Mrs. Amanda Jones
Mrs. Harriet Johnson
Mrs. Sarah Blackmon
Miss Sarah Jane Street
Brother P. C. Phillips
Brother Wm. Phillips

This group consisted of two deacons, Wm. Bailey Street and Mark J. Langston, one ordained Minister, Brother Billie Haslett, who became the first minister to serve Woodville Baptist Church.

On August 23rd, 1872, Brother J. K. McCarter, an active member of Lithonia Baptist Church deeded the lot on which the church now stands to the two deacons, Wm. Bailey Street and Mark J. Langston, for the purpose of a Missionary Baptist Church.

The members began an enthusiastic movement to erect a church building. The lot was a wooded lot of large timbers which were cut and rived boards (shingles as they are now called) were made to cover the roof. The large timbers were hauled to a saw mill near Yellow River to be sawed into timber for the building. This was accomplished by oxen teams. Mr. Gideon Young was the contractor of the building.

With the free labor of the members and other people of the community, also some hired labor the church was soon finished. The pews were all hand hewed and dressed. The records for the first 10 years were lost and no accurate record of the dedication

3.

service or the date is available, however in gathering this information all agreed that it was dedicated in less than one year from the date of the deed. When dedicated the church was named Woodville Baptist Church in honor of Brother E. L. Wood who served not as their pastor, but as a brother serving the Lord in a noble way to stimulate the cause for a needed church in the community.

Woodville Baptist Church was the church home of over 1,000 Baptist from the time it was organized up to the year of 1950, 400 by profession of faith and between 500 and 600 by letter.

Brother George F. Street was the first convert to join the new Church. Some of the charter members of this Church are represented down to the 5th generation who have been in the Church as members all the while. Church services were held in the first building until the 3rd Sunday in March, 1898.

Rev. J. P. McConnell was serving the Church at that time. After Sunday Evening services, he gave an inspiring talk on the condition of the building, which had become too small for the congregation, saying that he ~~would~~ liked to be able to see the congregation all seated and comfortable when he served a church and that God had so blessed the Church with more members than the building would accommodate. He challenged the Church with - if he could have as many as 5 men who would donate \$100 each the August revival could be held in a new building, completed enough to hold the congregation. Brother B. M. Johnson was the first to volunteer, Brother J. H. Floyd, Brother N. M. Reid, Brother J. T.

4.

Alford, and Brother W. P. Johnson were the five who donated \$100.00 each; others donated \$50 and \$25, some pledged labor until the building was finished. A collection was taken in April, May and June. Brother John Powell was the contractor of the 2nd building.

The 1st building was disassembled the week after the 3rd Sunday in July. The August revival was held in the new 2nd building, completed on the outside, using the old pews and buying 60 additional chairs. The people of the church kept busy all working with a willing mind which made it an easy and joyful task. The 2nd building was completed and dedicated the 3rd Sunday in December 1898. It was completed to carpets on the floor.

Brother J. P. McConnell, John R. George and Bartow Ragsdale from Mercer University, a former member of the Church, were the Ministers who conducted the dedication services.

The above information was taken from notes made by Mrs. Oattie Street Carr in 1934 and 1950 when asked to compile^{and read} the history of the Church for Homecoming Day. All information which was on file in the church records up to 1900 was used and additional information was given by older members, Geo. F. Street, M. F. Watson T. D. Young, John W. Street, G. B. Street, Robert Floyd and Mrs. Robert Floyd, all of which were members before the 1st building was disassembled. Geo. F. Street, T. D. Young and J. W. Street were deacons at the time of their deaths.

Membership information given above was counted as of 1950.

5.

was 23 (through 1950)(from 1872) four of which served at two ^{first} different periods of time. The three serving during the/10 year period (records lost) as given by the older members contacted were:

Billie Haslett

J. H. Stilwell


Bartow Ragsdale

Subject File! Churches
Baptist, Redan

Betty Sharpe is interim
organist at Redan church in
Stone Mountain association. CI

Christian Index
January 22, 1989

Jan 22, 1989 CI
DAVID WILLCOXON is
minister of education at Redan
First church.
Mr. Willcoxon
served as
associate pastor
at First
Southern Bap-
tist Church in
Hutchinson,
Kan. He is a
graduate of
Southwest Bi-
ble College and
Southwestern
seminary. He is married to the
former Wanda Jean Odom.
They have two sons.



News Item
Redan Church Honors Pastor At Homecoming

10/29/86

The Rev. Leon A. Piper Sr. of Decatur was recently installed as pastor emeritus of the First Baptist Church of Redan on Stone Mountain-Lithonia Road. The ceremony was held during Homecoming Sunday as the Southern Baptist church celebrated its 115th anniversary as a congregation and the first year in its new church facility.

Piper pastored the church from 1959 to 1968, leading it from a part-time to a full-time ministry. Ordained in 1947 by Zion Baptist Church in Covington, Piper has also pastored New Hope Baptist in Atlanta, Calvary Baptist in Covington, Conyers Baptist Mission/Highland Park Baptist Church and Lithonia Baptist Mission/Lithonia Central Baptist Church. He will

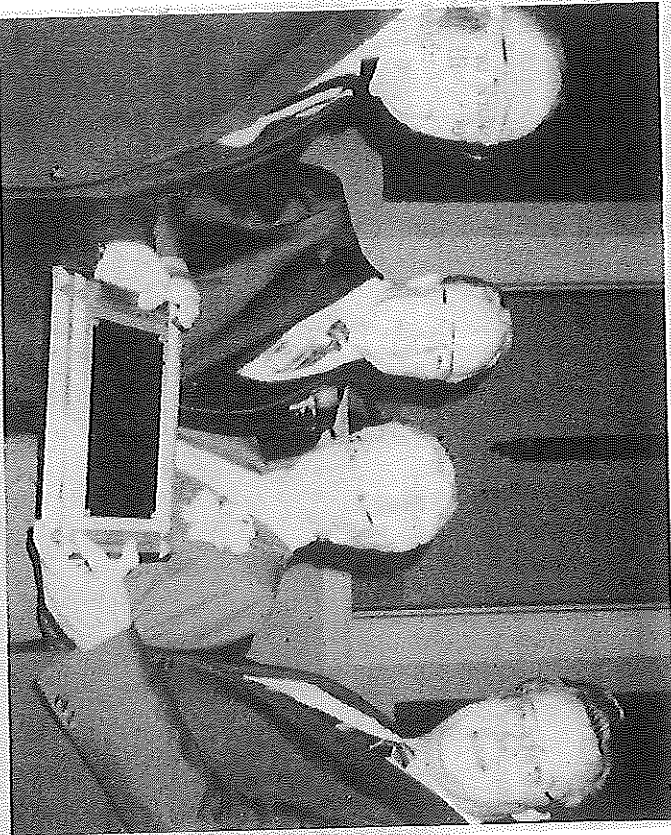
continue to serve as minister to the homebound at Redan and Lithonia Central churches.

Piper was installed as Redan's pastor emeritus by Deacon John Alford and the church pastor, Dr. J. Edward Salter. Salter has pastored the church for more than 10 years with its membership now totalling more than 800.

Piper and his wife, Inez, are the parents of Arenda Ramsey of Stone Mountain, Leon Piper Jr. of Redan and Mark Piper, deceased. They

have four grandchildren.

Following Piper's installation and the Sunday morning service, the church hosted homecoming dinner and presented an afternoon program of music. Remembering the heritage of the First Baptist Church of Redan, the choir performed a special "Brush Arbor Meeting" concert. Led by the Rev. Dorman Huggins, minister of music, the choir sang old time hymns, with narration by Sue Clark.



The Rev. Leon Piper Honored

Shown at the Sunday service are John Alford, deacon; the Rev. Leon Piper and J. Edward Salter, pastor.

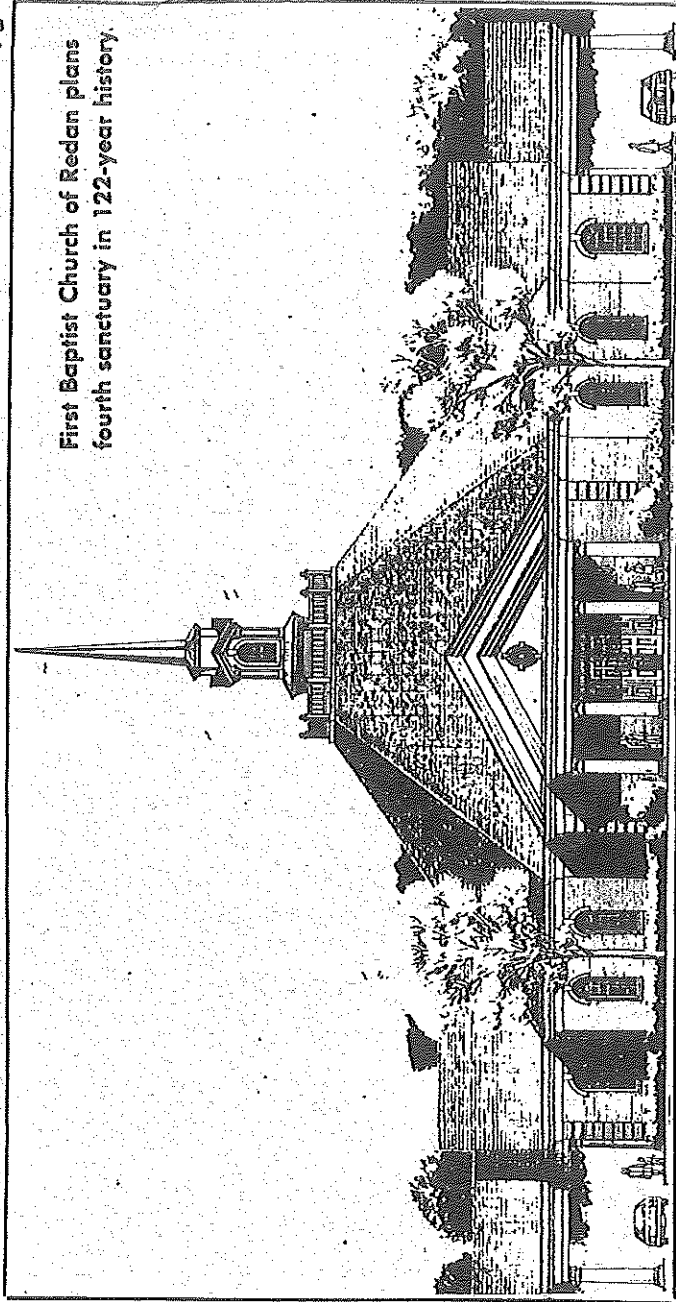
Redan First Baptist Church Plans New Sanctuary

Members of the First Baptist Church of Redan in DeKalb County plan to relocate their 600-member congregation soon.

The congregation is planning to build a new sanctuary approximately one-half mile from their present building on Stone Mountain-Lithonia Road. Construction of the new building will begin once financial plans have been stabilized, according to the Rev. James Salter, who has pastored the church since 1975. The project is estimated to cost \$1.7 million.

The church finance committee recommended to the membership money for construction be obtained through the sale of existing property which consists of a sanctuary and educational building on 2.7 acres of land. Financial arrangements will also be met through the Southern Baptist "Together We Build" campaign as well as other sources.

Increasing membership has made the relocation



First Baptist Church of Redan plans fourth sanctuary in 122-year history.

necessary. The new building is expected to accommodate a congregation of 650 compared to the 250 capacity of the present location.

The Redan church recent-

ly celebrated its 112th birthday. The church began in 1871 with 14 charter members, but was known then as Woodville Baptist Church.

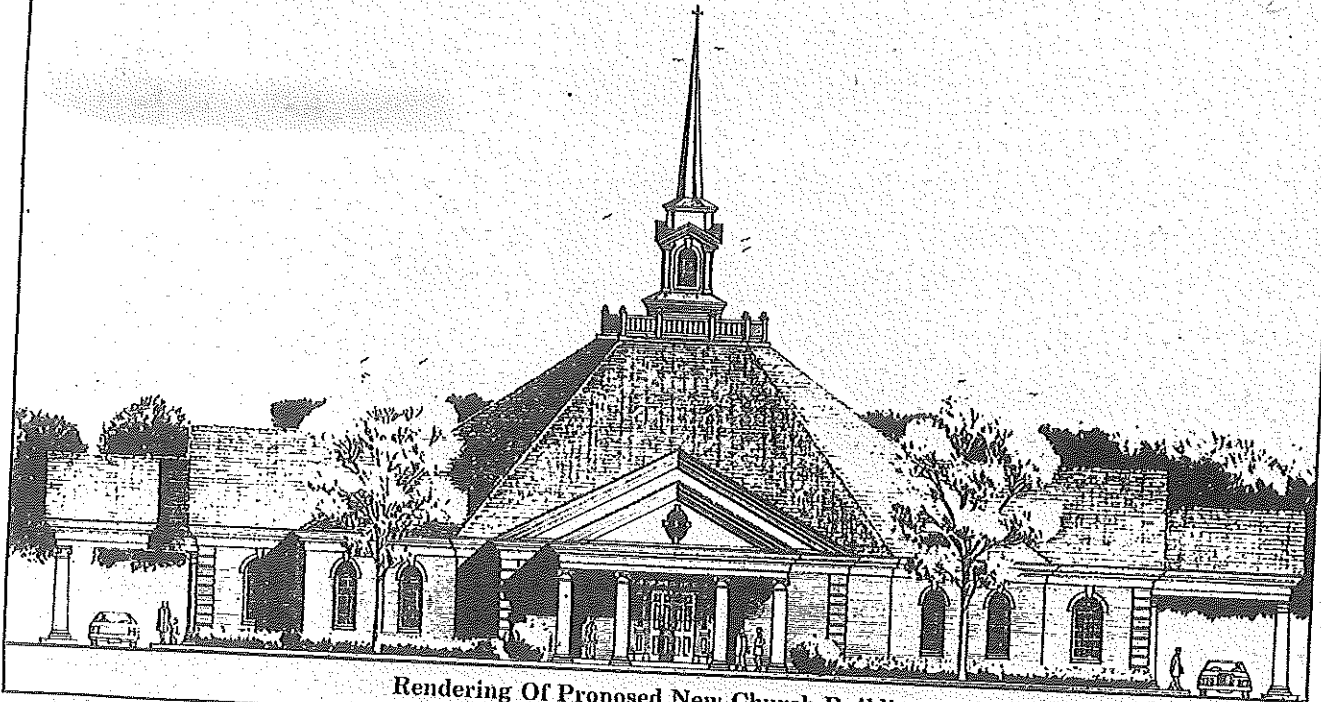
The new sanctuary will be

the church's fourth. The present building is 29 years old and was remodeled in 1975.

The committee and the church voted to use the

"team concept" of design and construction of W.M. Buttrill Inc., and have used the services of the architectural firm of Cunningham, Forehand and Stringer.

Redan Baptist News/Jan 9-14-83



Rendering Of Proposed New Church Building

Redan First Baptist Votes To Relocate

The First Baptist Church of Redan, located on Stone Mountain-Lithonia Road, has voted unanimously to relocate the 600-member congregation.

It will move approximately one-half mile down the road to nine acres of property donated to the church for the purpose of building a new sanctuary, educational and recreational facilities.

The building project is estimated to cost \$1.7 million and construction is scheduled to begin once financial plans have been completed, according to the Rev. James Edward Salter, pastor of the church since 1975.

THE CHURCH finance committee recommended to the membership that money for construction be obtained from the sale of existing property which consists of a sanctuary and educational building on 2.7 acres of land. Financial arrangements will also be met through the Southern Baptist "Together We Build" campaign as well as from external sources.

Due to increasing membership, the present sanctuary and educational facility are usually filled to capacity during worship services. The new sanctuary is expected to accommodate a congregation of 650 com-

pared to the 250-person capacity of the present building.

The church recently celebrated its 112th birthday and is housed in its third sanctuary. The structure is 29 years old and was remodeled in 1975. The two-story educational building was erected in 1963. The church began in 1871 at the same location with 14 charter members, but was known then as Woodville Baptist Church.

The building committee, chaired by Bill Passmore, was organized in October, 1982. Other committee members include Bobby

Wolfe, Phillip Baker, Hedy Piper and Peter Bishop.

THE COMMITTEE and the church voted to use the "team concept" of design and construction of W.M. Buttrill, Inc., and have used the services of the architectural firm of Cunningham, Forehand and Stringer.

"We as a church stand at a crossroad," Salter said. "We have a wonderful heritage. We have a great present and we have a challenging future."

Others who have pastored the congregation since the 1950s include Charles E. Camp, H.E. Pittard, Ivan E. Juhan, Leon Piper Sr. and W.E. Nash.

The Christian Index

January 1, 1987

Jeff Chandler is youth director at Redan First church. He is a student at Mercer University Atlanta. Formerly he was associate youth minister at New Hope church in Fayetteville.

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Subject file:

Churches -

Baptist

Redan First

Phillips Redeem

(413).

Baptist

Church

J. W. Phillips,

) Instrument No. D.

to

) Consideration \$175.00

Mrs. Anna Maria Phillips,

) Dated March 26, 1901.

) Recorded September 24, 1902.

) Book 21-277.

) Recession O. K.

Covers part of Land Lot 91 of the 10th district, beginning at the northwest corner of Baptist Church lot; running "north" 200 feet; "west" 400 feet to Georgia Railroad; thence "west" 300 feet; thence "south" 400 feet; thence "east" 100 feet to beginning point; containing 5-3/4 acres, more or less; bounded north by Georgia Railroad; west by Methodist Episcopal Church lot; north by J. W. Phillips; partly east and south by Baptist Church lot and remainder east by G. B. Street and school house lot.

Covers tract #4.

(#11A).

Sarah A. Bond,

) Instrument No. D.

to

) Consideration \$37.50

J. W. Jones, J. M.

) Dated June 27, 1900.

Stephenson and J. W. Phillips.) Recorded

) Book

) Recession O. K.

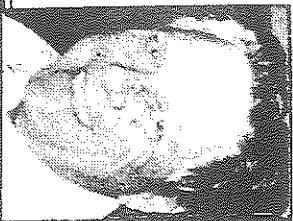
Covers same as No. 15.

Covers tract #1.

Gaines Brewster

Babbles By Brewster

From Lithonia



Redan Baptist Church Ejects Two 'Life Deacons'

Birthdays: Max Cleland, David Giles, Ed Helm, J.C. Dunagan, Bob Riser, Betty Williams, Jennifer Briggs, Dan Morgan, Casey Best, Joe Sanders, Milt Preebs, Tyler Darnell, Tyler Hopkins, Thelma Vickery, Ann Arrington, Heyward Farmer, Dol Cleland, Linda Morgan, Tony Morgan, Ritchie Patterson, Pat Kelley, Todd Barrett, Edna Cook, Bill Henry, Patsy Reese, Tommy Franklin, Ted Wold, Betty Sue Howell, Rose Purdy, Gertrude Rogers, Jeff Carson, Mimi Boozer, Anne Coleman.

Anniversaries: Ginny and Wheeler Davidson; Patsy and Ace Abram; Marie and Lewis Owens; Nellie and George Reese; Bonnie and Bill Ozaki; Katherine and Norman Pearce; and Susie and Ted Ravenel.

— BHB —
In a decision of "historical significance," members of Redan Baptist have elected two "Life Deacons" — John Alford and Alvin Ellis. Together they have 84 years of deacon service.

Deacons elected to three year terms include Rick Alford, Tommy Ray, Paul Slaughter and Charlie Williams.

• The Rev. Calvin Ward, newcomer to Rock Chapel Methodist, "envision's great growth for the church in coming years." The veteran clergyman also challenged members to "increase attendance, tithes and service."

During August, worship services at Rock Chapel Methodist have an old-timey, rural camp-meeting flavor. Parishioners dress casually, sing hymns of long, long ago.

• Liz Dean represented Rock Chapel Methodists as a delegate to the recent North Georgia Conference. She says, "I learned a lot — not only about church business but also how to survive a trip alone with two small children."

• Beth DeKonick will be among a group of nursing students leaving this week for Cap-Haitien, Haiti. During their extended stay, nurses will provide medical care to orphaned children and will conduct mobile clinics.

• Patterned after block parties of long, long ago, Lithonia's first "jubilee" will be this Saturday. Site of this community celebration will be a rolling, grassy area at the corner of Max Cleland Boulevard and Center Street, close by midtown. Activities begin at 8 a.m. and will continue until 4 p.m.

Amidst an atmosphere of fun and frolic, sponsors promise eight hours of merrymaking. In addition to amusements and entertainment, events will include a business-man's auction, a flea market, craft sales and individual booths with a variety of goodies. Barbecue and stew will be prepared — and sold — on the site.

— BBR —
• A resident of Council Street Saturday morning was startled to find something more than vegetables in her backyard garden patch.

Amidst cucumber and squash vines she came across a "strange and scary-looking thing." She promptly called Lithonia police.

Officers believe the object to be some type of atmospheric or weather tracking device.

Shaped like a rocket, it was four feet in length; ten inches around. The nose cone measured 12 inches. A battery-powered camera was attached to the cylindrical container which was constructed of plastic and wood.

— BHB —
• Clay Howard, retired postal clerk and merchant, has died. He was 78. His death has taken from the Lithonia community a useful, unselfish man whose concern and deeds endeared him to many.

A devout churchman, Mr. Howard held numerous leadership posts over many years at Lithonia's First Methodist Church, only blocks from his Parkway Drive home. Clay was a calm, easy-going, gentle man of principles, simple Christian values and motivation. Not only was he a tall person, he stood tall as a citizen, a husband, a father, a friend.

Clay Howard was one of those rare individuals who leave more in life than he took out. Many folks around here are proud to have been considered his — and Louise's — friend.

— BHB —
• A clergyman's commentary: The Rev. Bobby Haralson, minister of preaching and pastoral care at Peachrest Christian: "Seldom does an individual not do his best because of a lack of knowledge. On those times when one doesn't do his best, generally, these are the reasons, the motivators: laziness, disinterest, procrastination, selfishness and poor time management."

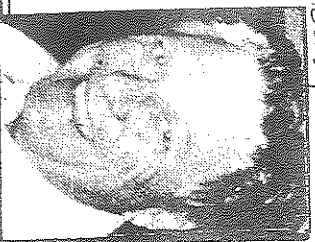
He made these comments as he emphasized the opportunities and potential available to his east Dekalb congregation.

This closing thought submitted by a reader: "You never have to explain something you haven't said."

Jaines Brewster Oct. 28 1982

Babbles By Brewster

From Lithonia



S. DeKalb News/Sum

Jack White Termed Hero For Saving Life In Fire

Birthdays: Alva Hall, Gladys Warbington, Joan Reagin, Joe Norred, Thelma Clodfelter, Brett Martin, Joshua Fankersley, Forest Gultrie, Sean and Troy Surewall (twins); Jackie Crumpton, Nita Gresham, Denise Lowe, Roger King, Jerry Price, Hunter Dekonick, Steve Lambert, Ruby Patrick, Brenda Knowles, Matthew Martin, Bob Allen, Lee Bittle, Billy Abbott, Kelley Reagin, John Crumpton, Tommy Wilkerson, Ted Garner, Gail Wagner, Virginia Sanders, Joshua Best, Stephen Jones, Jan Calhoun, Anita Shumway, Alan Simpson, Michelle Maynard, Robert Johnston, Thomas Croft, Trinita Helton, George Jordan and Alice Blair.

Anniversaries: Debbie and Tony Smith, Donna and Ralph Rice, Jackie and John Crumpton, and Denise and Alan Greer.

Upcoming: Oct. 30, 7:30 p.m., Lithonia Presbyterian Church, 3245 Evans Mill Road, Lion-sponsored gospel songfest; Oct. 31, Glori Dei Lutheran Church, 3350 Evans Mill Road, bazaar and carnival; Nov. 7, Autumn Leaves Festival, an annual fund-raiser sponsored by Lithonia Presbyterians. The day long event includes an auction, bazaar and barbecue...Nov. 8, 1 p.m., recreational field, Lithonia First Baptist Church, 6616 Hillandale Drive; Volleyball Marathon — a fund-raising event to finance research for Cystic Fibrosis, the number one genetic killer of children and young adults.

* Often good deeds and acts of valor of one's neighbor are overlooked, unknown to others. Such oversight is unfortunate. Thanks to Ross Potts, a resident of the Klondike community in east DeKalb, the daring feta of a stout-hearted uncle has become known.

Earlier news reported that a sanitary collection crew detected a fire in a residence on Browns Mill Road and alerted a neighbor. While his wife, Rachael called the fire department, the neighbor did more — much more. He saved a woman's life!

Roy (Jack) White was the neighbor. His home is directly across the street from the structure that was ablaze. (He was shucking corn at the time.) Mr. White was aware of something unknown to the county employees — a person was inside the burning building.

After the two workers broke open a front entrance, Mr. White, knowledgeable of the home's floor plan, rushed inside. Despite intense heat and stifling smoke, he crawled around, found and resuscitated Marguerite Roberson unconscious, but alive.

Mrs. Roberson, at the time visiting in the home of Mrs. Sam (Connie) Potts, suffered first degree burns on the face and neck. (Mrs. Potts is secretary to the principal of Murphy Candler Elementary School.)

Mrs. Roberson has recovered sufficiently to return to her California home; however, treatment contin-

ues for her smoke-irritated throat and vocal chords.

A retired military serviceman, Mr. White, 68, also worked at the Atlanta Ordinance depot and the Lithonia Post Office. He's known as a "derring-do" fellow; a plucky guy with grit and mettle. Still active, he maintains a year-round vegetable garden and creates wind-mills and hobby toys in his home workshop.

(Note: The county workers were covered by DeKalb officials for dis-prompt help. The fire occurred in August.)

* After 17 years, the Rev. Edward Salter, long an eminent east DeKalb clergyman, next month will leave the pulpit of Redan First Baptist Church. His resignation is effective Nov. 15, at the close of the evening service.

The aggressive, influential and scholarly minister has accepted a position with Decatur-based Allied Systems as director of Chaplain Services.

Dr. Salter acknowledged, "This decision has not been an easy one; it was made only after months of prayer and seeking. In doing so I am being obedient to God's will for my life."

He voiced gratitude for the congregation's "acceptance, influence, love, nurture and support." The unanticipated announcement of their pastor's plans was received with astonishment by the congregation.

*copy
file
Parker's report
Parker's report*