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Dr. Mary Crum

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About Us

History of Life Center

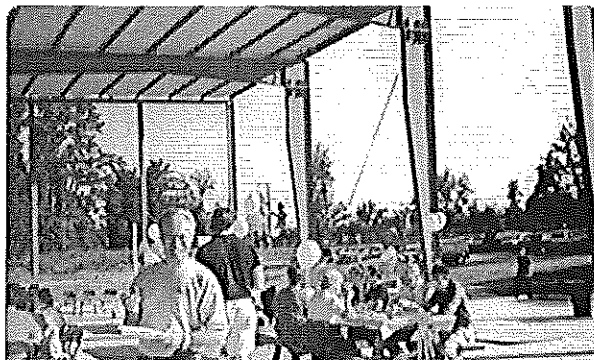
Established 1987

The history of Life Center Ministries began through a series of events within a short period of time. These events began in 1984 when Mary Crum, a devout Christian counselor attended a conference in the panhandle of Florida. The teaching and the Biblical revelation began to change her life.

Although she and her husband, Buddy Crum, had been active within their local church for many years, there was a difference at that time in her understanding of the scriptures. They had both been active in helping to start a new church in Dunwoody in 1981.



The next event was the death of Mr. Norman Berg who was a neighbor of the Crum's. Mr. Berg had moved to Dunwoody in 1938 to be in the country. He had bought some land there, about 50 acres to keep his bird dogs. He was an avid hunter. Just prior to his death he had sold the land to a developer to build homes and the shopping center known today as Orchard Park. He had kept approximately five acres for his home. The land he kept was the original home place for a dairy farm that had been in place since the mid 1800's. He had converted the original milking barn to his personal home. There was also a small house, near Mt. Vernon Road, that had been the home for the dairy farmer originally and he had used it for authors to write their books. Mr. Berg was a publisher and had a number of now famous authors living in this little rustic house. After the death of Mr. Berg the Crum's knew the land would be sold to a developer.



Since their home was adjacent to the property (white house where Mt. Vernon and Dunwoody Club divide), they desired to buy a buffer zone before it was sold. In the negotiations with Sean Berg, son and heir of the property, the Crum's bought all of the land instead of a buffer strip. In order to utilize the property, Buddy Crum moved his consulting firm to the old house. In 1985 Mary Crum

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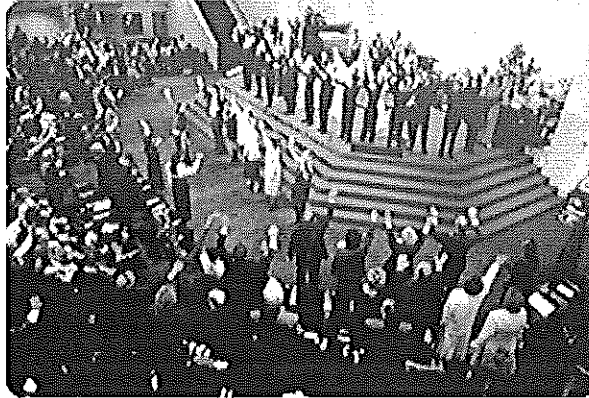
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received a vision from the Lord while she was praying concerning the property next door. She has recorded this vision on tape. Although much of the vision was not understood at that time, it was clear God had a purpose for the property. Soon after that the Crum's, still attending a conference each month in North West Florida, began having ministry in the "old barn" once a month. They were still active in their local church. Soon the monthly meeting grew to twice a month then by 1986 to once a week. In 1986 they received a call from God to become full time ministers as a husband and wife team and were ordained as ministers of the Gospel by Christian International Ministries. They did not know at that time they were to begin a church.

In 1987 along with nine original families who wanted to be part of a church, they felt it was time to begin a church. Then Pastor Buddy Crum continued to work in his consulting business and Pastor Mary Crum was the acting Pastor. The church began to grow and in 1990 they both made the transition to full time Pastoring of the church.

They began a building program as the church grew to accommodate the growth. The intent was to build the new building without borrowing. Because of this decision the new facilities were under construction for several years. When Atlanta was awarded the 1996 Olympics the church decided to borrow enough money to finish the building because of the anticipated increase in building cost. So in October of 1996 the old "barn" was razed and the new building was dedicated to the use of the church.



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