

SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH INCORPORATED

**217 South Main Street
Brundidge, Alabama 36010**

HISTORY

History
of
Salem Baptist Church

1824 - 1938 Proceedings

This church is one among the oldest in Southeast Alabama, being organized in 1824, due largely to the influence of Dr. Charles T. Mahoney, a practicing physician and farmer, who came from his native state of South Carolina and settled near Pea River in Pike County a few years before then. It was first known as Bear Creek Church, and was located near the small stream of that name two miles or more southeast of what is now the business section of Brundidge. The structure was of logs with a puncheon floor and the benches were of boards held down by long poles pinned down at the ends. That band of Christian men and women, although small in number, was a band of heroes and heroines who dared the perils of the wilderness, perhaps for conscience sake, and while now we may not be able to give any of their names, their "works do live after them".

At an early date the church was moved from its first location to a place about one and one-half miles east of town on the Clio highway, and the name changed to Salem. After the community of Brundidge began to grow it was again moved, the congregation worshipping in the lower story of a wooden building erected by the church and the Masonic Lodge on two acres of land deeded to the trustees of the Lodge for that purpose on October 25, 1854 by William H. McCrorey and Isaac Chaney.

This building stood on the west side of South Main Street. About twenty years later a frame structure with a seating capacity of 400 or 500, having a colonnade in front and surmounted by a steeple, was built on the opposite side of the road and just south of the cemetery. When this building was dedicated the sermon was preached by the Rev. Sam Henderson.

Time brings about change and decay, so the question of erecting a new church began to be agitated again in January, 1902 when at the regular conference a committee composed of N. C. Underwood, (pastor), H. A. McLane, J. M. Waters, T. G. Carlisle and W. B. Kimbell was appointed to canvass and get up subscriptions to buy a lot for the church. Three months later there was an informal meeting at the home of the pastor for the purpose of discussing this question, but no definite action was taken at that time. More than two years had passed when, on August 20, 1904, the motion for the erection of a new house of worship received the unanimous vote of the church in conference. It was the following January, however, before H. A. McLane, J. M. Waters and Dr. J. W. Robertson were appointed as a committee to select and purchase a suitable lot. At the next conference they reported that they had exchanged the pastorium the church then owned for the home and an adjoining lot which belonged to J. T. Ramage, paying a difference of \$500.00. Thus they secured a pastorium and also a lot upon which to erect a new church building nearer town on South Main Street. This committee was retained as a building committee with the following names added: W. B. Kimbell, W. G. Gilmore, and M. L. Watkins. The new building was erected during the pastorate of Rev. R. A. J. Cumbee, and was dedicated December 3, 1905, with Dr. W. D. Hubbard preaching the dedication sermon.

After a third of a century the need again arose for a building which was larger and better equipped. On February 7, 1937, W. G. Gilmore, the chairman, read a recommendation from the Board of Deacons, that the church start a campaign to raise \$25,000.00 to build a new house of worship; that a committee of two be appointed, as follows: W. D. Colley and W. T. Mims (pastor), to try to raise as much of this amount as they could and that they have power to call on any member whom they saw fit to help them. A small portion of this amount was raised but the church as a whole did not seem ready to build at this time so this plan did not materialize.

In April of the following year the church voted for the erection of a new building and a building committee composed of O. K. Ramage, W. G. Gilmore, C. L. Chambers, J. E. Johnson, M. C. Bryan, Dr. J. Y. Floyd, W. D. Colley, J. H. Jackson, Dr. N. W. Killingsworth, and Frank Wilson was appointed. On May 22nd, over \$2,000.00 was laid at the altar as the beginning of a building fund at the last preaching service of the old church. The next morning a short service was held outdoors before the contractor started his work. The pastor, R. T. McLeod, spoke briefly, suggesting that the words of Paul written to the church at Philippi, "My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus", be kept in the minds and hearts of the members, especially during the building campaign. He then asked Mrs. R. A. J. Cumbee, the widow of a former pastor, to lead in prayer. The lifting of shovels of dirt by O. K. Ramage and J. B. Blanton and the removal of a plank from the old building by W. D. Colley concluded the service. The new building, having a main floor and a basement, and amply provided with Sunday School rooms, was of brick veneer construction and heated by steam. During its erection, the elementary school building was used by the congregation as a place of worship.

The first service in the new church was held on September 25. Six weeks later, on the occasion of the dedication of the building, Dr. L. L. Gwaltney preached a most fitting sermon.

The organization of two bodies has taken place in Salem Church -- that of Salem Association which took its name from the church, and that of the Baptist General Association of Southeastern Alabama. Salem Association was organized in November, 1839. The eight constituent churches -- Liberty, Bethel, Salem and Fellowship (now Orion), in Pike County; Mt. Carmel and Clayton in Barbour; Sardis in Macon and Union in Henry were formerly members of the Conecuh River Association, but being missionary-minded, they refused to remain under the despotic yoke of anti-ism and withdrew to form an association of their own. G. G. McLendon, then a licensed preacher who was a member of Salem church, took a leading part in the organization of this association.

As late as 1868 southeast Alabama was still practically cut off from the other portions of the State and it was deemed advisable to create a local general body which should cooperate with the Alabama Baptist State Convention. In that year, the Baptist General Association of Southeast Alabama was created chiefly through the agency of Rev. P. M. Calloway who was then a missionary in this section working under the auspices of the Domestic Missions Board and the organization was effected at Brundidge. Ten years later this association, having served its purpose, was dissolved in deference to the State Convention and in the interest of denominational unity.

Although Salem Association was organized in this church, the church was not always affiliated with that body. The session of the Association in 1863, which met at Pea River Church, is known as "the stormy session of Old Salem". The First Church of Troy was charged with being in disorder. Her delegates refused investigation and their request for a letter of dismissal from the Association being refused they withdrew and with three other churches formed the Troy Association the following year. The evil effects of this misunderstanding came very near disrupting Salem Association. At the meeting of the conference of Salem Church on October 6, 1883, the following resolution, offered by G. W. Smith, was adopted:

Whereas, the Kingdom of Christ is paramount to all other earthly objects, and

Whereas, this church was organized for the advancement of His Kingdom, and

Whereas, in our associational capacity with Salem Association our influence has been crippled by the constantly recurring difficulties and confusions in that body, and believing that they are likely to continue for an indefinite time.

Therefore, be it resolved that we desire to sever our connection with said body and appoint a messenger to visit the body at its next meeting, and ask for a letter of dismissal, that we may unite with some other body through which we may transact such business as pertains to such bodies.

However, just before the next associational meeting, it was the decision of the church to send T. J. Carlisle, John Freeman, W. R. Pierson and N. W. Underwood (pastor) as delegates uninstructed as to their course of action. What they thought best for the church is indicated in the fact that they asked for and were granted a letter of dismissal at the regular meeting at Henderson in October 1884. From that time the church was not a member of any association until a committee composed of R. P. Copeland, George Smith, Dr. G. Hendrick, H. A. McLane, Burr Ramage, W. E. Harvey, James Connell, John Adams, George Pierson and the pastor, L. M. Bradley volunteered to attend and ask for admission into the Troy Association in 1894 on the strength of the letter of dismissal granted them by Salem Association ten years before.

In 1900 the church voted in favor of the consolidation of the Troy and Salem Associations and sent N. C. Underwood, (Pastor), H. A. McLane, J. M. Waters, J. H. Adams, Dr. H. Foreman, H. C. Carlisle and W. B. Kimbell as delegates to a meeting held with the Troy Baptist church for that purpose. The union of these associations under the name of Salem-Troy Baptist Association was not effected though until the spring of 1904, at a meeting held in the Troy church. At this time Salem Church was represented by D. J. F. Edens (pastor), H. A. McLane, M. L. Watkins, J. J. Vendrick, J. M. Connor, J. M. Waters and J. E. Leverette. Since then it has continued to be a member of the Salem-Troy Baptist Association.

Since no records of the minutes of the church prior to 1881 were preserved only a partial list of the names of the pastors up until that time can be given. They were Hillsman Hill in the 1830's, B. A. Jackson and J. J. Macon in the 1860's, and P. M. Calloway in the 1880's. Beginning then the names of the pastors and the dates of their pastorates were as follows:

E. Y. Vanhoose	Sept 1881 - Jan 1884
N. C. Underwood	Jan 1884 - Oct 1891
J. L. Jones*	Oct 1891-June 1892
L. M. Bradley	Dec 1892 - Oct 1894
W. H. Simmons	Nov 1894 - Dec 1896
N. C. Underwood	Dec 1896 - Dec 1903
Dr. J. F. Edens	Dec 1903 - Dec 1904
R. A. J. Cumbee	Dec 1904 - Nov 1908
Dr. J. L. Thompson	Nov 1908 - July 1918
W. C. Henson	Oct 1918 - Aug 1921
E. G. Fenn	Sept 1921 - June 1924
M. R. Fletcher	Fall of 1924 - Feb 1926
W. M. Burns	Sept 1926 - July 1928
W. T. Mims	Sept 1928 - Dec 1937
R. T. McLeod	Mar 1938

* Who died while serving

Salem Church has had the privilege of ordaining three to the gospel ministry: G. G. McLendon on July 27, 1840; Jesse Green, prior to 1894 and W. H. Black on July 11, 1912. At the ordination of Mr. Black, Dr. R. J. Bateman preached the sermon, Jehu Black (his father) offered prayer, L. H. Bowles presented the Bible and Dr. J. L. Thompson delivered the charge to the church and to the young preacher. After the final ceremony of laying on of hands, the benediction was pronounced by the newly ordained minister.

An interesting item from a letter written by Mrs. Betty Bailey, a former member of the church who resided at Lakeworth, Florida, is that "Brundidge has the honor of being the first to lay upon its table the money to start a missionary

work at Birmingham when the coal mines and iron founderies made the place spring up like a mushroom". She also gave information about the organization of the first Sunday School by W. R. Priest, a returned missionary to Africa, who taught school in Brundidge soon after the War Between the States.

The women of the church have been organized since 1891 when the Ladies Aid Society was begun with the following members: Miss Willie Pierson, President; Mesdames N. C. Underwood, Gus Hendrick, W. R. Pierson, Armilla Wilkerson, J. H. Dewberry, Ola Copeland, Tip Connor, Henry McLane, Billie Anderson and J. A. McEachern. That the organization functioned in accordance with its name is indicated by the nature of the work done. The paying of part of the cost of repairs made to the church in 1892, and the painting of the new pastorium in 1900, the purchasing of pulpit chairs, of a communion set and of a marble slab for the tomb of Rev. J. L. Jones in 1897, of chandeliers as an Easter gift to the church in 1899 and the contributing to the cost of repairing the pastorium in 1914 might be mentioned as illustrations of the society's helpfulness during about 33 years of service.

The Woman's Missionary Society was organized in December 1905, with Mrs. R. A. J. Cumbee as President and Miss Hallie Hendrick as Secretary. Others among the charter members were Mesdames J. T. Kennedy, J. E. Graves, Gus Kendrick, Kate Dinkins French and Sim Hightower. The first work of the society was to observe the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions and give a contribution to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Since its organization it has continued to cooperate with the Southern W. M. U. of the Southern Baptist Convention in all the phases of its program. In addition to its regular missionary work the group has assumed some of that which was formerly peculiar to the Ladies' Aid Society in the local church and carried on the noble work of clothing one of the children in the Orphan's Home which was begun by the Aid Society, many years ago. In 1938 there are 27 active members enrolled in the two circles of the W. M. S. and it is fostering two Girl's Auxiliaries, a Royal Ambassador Chapter and a Sunbeam Band which was organized as early as 1893.

In looking backward over its many years of service Salem Church should be thankful for the wonderful blessings of the Father and turn its face to the future with courage and with determination to seek to deepen the spiritual life of its membership and to go forward with renewed zeal for the cause of the Master whose promise, "Lo, I am with you always", extends to all who earnestly strive to follow Him.

Rev. R. T. McLeod served the church from March 1938 until April 1944 when the Rev. Oland Wilson was called in May of that year and served through December 1945.

For several months while the church was without a pastor, a number of different people filled the pulpit. In February 1946, the church called Harry W. Hargrove, Maj. U.S.A.R. (ret.), a former army chaplain, and he assumed the pastorate in March 1946. Under his leadership, the present educational building was begun in April 1949, but it was not completed until several years later when Rev. Frank W. Lyon was pastor. It was also at that time the church felt a need for an office with secretarial assistance. Mrs. John Walter Logan, who was employed as part-time secretary, set up the church record books and a filing and bookkeeping system. After the resignation of Mrs. Logan on November 30, 1947, Mrs. Jewell M. Mallory was employed to fill the vacancy. Beginning her duties in December 1947, Mrs. Mallory held that position until July 8, 1982 with the exception of a few months in 1950. In addition to her secretarial duties, she served as treasurer of the Building Fund during the construction of the educational building, and when Mrs. Carlos Culpepper, church clerk, became ill in 1955, Mrs. Mallory assumed the duties of that office in July of that year, a position to which she was reelected annually. With the growth of the church through the years, the job of secretary has become one of full time.

During Rev. Hargrove's ministry, the following men were ordained as deacons on July 11, 1948: Fred Davis, Robert Godwin, and William Smith. In that same year, Olen Nally served as assistant to the pastor and summer youth director.

When Rev. Hargrove resigned on October 1, 1949, the church was again without leadership; however, that time was short. A pulpit committee, composed of James Bryan, Fred Davis, Robert Godwin, C. L. Chambers and Dr. N. W. Killingsworth, who was appointed to fill the place of R. S. Tillman because of illness, were led by the Lord to the Rev. R. T. McLeod, who was called as interim pastor. Rev. McLeod served from November 1949 through October 1950, when he submitted his resignation.

In conference on July 16, 1950, the church appointed the following pulpit committee: Mrs. N. W. Killingsworth, Robert Barr, Mrs. C. L. Chambers, Herman Beane, William Smith, Robert Godwin, and Marshall Bryan. As a result of their efforts, on October 1, 1950, in a special called conference, the church voted to call Rev. Frank W. Lyon. After accepting the call, he and his wife, Dilla, came on November 5, 1950, and served faithfully for a period of twelve years and five months. Under the leadership of Rev. Lyon, the educational building was completed, the church was completely air conditioned, and a bus ministry was begun; however, the bus ministry proved unsuccessful and it was discontinued after approximately two years.

The church experienced much growth both spiritually and financially during these years. Church membership increased, Sunday School enrollment and attendance grew, and both Training Union and W. M. U. were expanded.

With this growth a need for more leaders among the church members resulted in the ordination of Vincent Allen and Emmitt Boutwell as deacons on October 3, 1954. Three others, J. B. Lee, James Pollard, and Warren Morris were received as deacons on the ordination from the churches from which they came. Others ordained on February 17, 1957 were Frank Dykes, Dr. C. L. Golden, Grover Mallory, and Kenneth Jacobs.

From 1955 until 1958 Kenneth Jacobs served as music director on a part-time basis, and in the summer of 1955, he was summer youth director. On May 11, 1958, Kenneth was ordained by the church to the full gospel ministry and left to enter New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, to enter the field of church music. Other part-time music directors during Rev. Lyon's pastorate were Harry Conner from August 1958 until March 1959; Thomas Arrington from 1959 until early 1963; and Jon Randall Boles for a few weeks in June-July 1963.

On October 18, 1959 a special service of dedication of the Historical Marker commemorating one hundred and thirty years of work in Pike County, Alabama, was held. Several distinguished guests took part in the program - Mrs. Margaret Pace Farmer, president of Alabama Historical Association; Dr. J. H. Chapman, Chairman of Alabama Baptist Historical Society; Dr. John Thomas, Rev. Frank Lyon, Rev. Lloyd H. Shrauger, Jr., Dr. W. R. Wilkes, Mr. Judson Colley, and Mrs. W. D. Colley. A history of Salem Church was given by Mrs. W. D. Colley who had been a member of the church for more than fifty years.

One June 3, 1962 a mission Sunday School, with an enrollment of fifty-two, was organized and located in the old hotel on College Street, and soon after that, a Training Union with an enrollment of forty-seven was begun. This effort on the part of Salem Baptist Church developed into a mission church where Rev. Dock McCollough served as pastor for three years. Rev. Malvin Tuck assumed the pastorate until the mission was discontinued in July 1965 because of lack of interest on the part of the people.

Following Rev. Lyon's resignation on April 11, 1963, the church was again faced with seeking a pastor to lead the people. The pulpit committee, elected on April 20, 1963, was composed of William Smith, Emmitt Boutwell, Frank Dykes, James Pollard, Mrs. Rex Connell, Mrs. C. L. Golden, and Mrs. Kyser Herbert. After much prayer, many visits, and many interviews, the committee invited Rev. A. Ray Foreman for a trial sermon on June 23, 1963. On that night the church voted to call Rev. Foreman, who accepted the call and began his service on August 6, 1963. His first sermon as pastor was on August 11, 1963, and since that date many changes have taken place in the church.

With increased membership through the years, there was a need for a larger auditorium. On November 17, 1963, the church voted to accept the plans of Albie Reeves Smith, architect, from Birmingham, Alabama, to remodel and to add to the original auditorium. Increasing the seating capacity to 450 at an approximate cost of \$74,000.00, the job that began on April 13, 1964, was completed on October 23 of that year. The original bell which was located in the steeple, was removed and later mounted on a permanent foundation on the southside of the church building.

A beautiful painting of the River Jordan was done by local talent in the studio of Miss Ada Logan and hung over the baptistry in October 1938. When the auditorium was remodeled in 1964 it was removed and later hung near the side entrance of the basement of the church building.

It was a special event in the history of Salem Baptist Church on October 25, 1964 when the first worship service was held in the beautifully remodeled auditorium. This day began a week of dedication services held each night. While the remodeling had been taking place, two morning worship services were held each Sunday in the fellowship hall of the church.

Much growth took place in all areas of the church during the pastorates of Rev. Lyon and Rev. Foreman. One particular item of interest is that of the Womans Missionary Union, under the leadership of Mrs. N. W. Killingsworth, Mrs. Frank Lyon, and Mrs. Gus Pierson, Salem Church and its W. M. U., was one of five churches in the Southern Baptist Convention to be recognized at the annual meeting in Atlantic City, N.J., May 1964, for being "Honor". Mrs. Gus Pierson was present to represent the group and receive the gavel presented for this accomplishment.

On June 12, 1968, the church voted to accept the rotating system for deacons which consists of twelve active deacons each year with four serving three year terms, four serving two year terms, and four serving a one year term. This makes it necessary to elect four deacons each year to serve for a period of three years.

The need for a new pastorium was evident in the period between 1963 and 1969; therefore, the church voted on April 27, 1969, for the trustees and two members-at-large to proceed with plans for this project. Those serving were James Pollard, Vincent Allen, Emmitt Boutwell, Walter Flanders, W. W. Leverette, William Smith, Mrs. Gus Pierson, Mrs. Bruel Davis, and ex officio member, Mrs. A. Ray Foreman. A bid from Mr. Dewey Price, Louisville, Alabama, for \$33,500.00 was accepted by the church on September 21, 1969. Located at 456 Bryant Street, the pastorium was erected on a concrete slab, constructed of brick, centrally heated and cooled, and contained 2,000 square feet of floor space. It was begun on September 19, 1969, and completed on January 1, 1970.

For one year, the old pastorium was used for a youth activities building and additional Sunday School rooms; however, it deteriorated at a rapid pace. The building, sold for \$1,500.00, was moved from the lot, and the church paid the State of Alabama \$1,100.00 to pave the lot for a parking area for forty car capacity.

On May 10, 1972, the church voted to have The Southeast Alabama Gas District install a new heating and cooling system for the entire church plant at a cost of \$11,010.18.

While John Philip Johnston was conducting a cemetery census for Pike County, he brought to the attention of Salem Church that Rev. Isaac Horn, a Baptist minister, was the first person to be buried in the Brundidge City Cemetery. As a result of this the church voted on December 13, 1972 to place a marker inscribed "born 1792 - died 1854" at his gravesite.

On October 16, 1973, Mr. Leon Boatner contacted Mr. Vincent Allen, chairman of the trustees, concerning the availability to the church of the property located on the north side of the church complex, at a cost of \$50,000.00. In regular business conference on October 24, 1973, the church voted to purchase this property consisting of one brick dwelling located on a lot 163 feet by 190 feet.

For several years there had been a growing interest within the church membership to attempt again a bus ministry. After much prayer, thought, and discussion, the church voted on November 14, 1973, to purchase a new sixty passenger bus at a cost of \$10,348.00 to be used for Sunday School, Church Training, worship services, and youth activities. Since its first use on May 5, 1974, it has served many useful purposes, especially in offering transportation to those who have none.

Another project in recent years has been the installation of carpet in the Preschool Division I, Preschool Division II, and Children II class rooms, as well as three church offices, the balcony, and the foyer. Also, at various times during the past twenty years, awnings and hand rails have been installed at all outside entrances.

A church operated kindergarten existed from 1967 to 1970 under the direction of Mrs. Don Price, Mrs. Ben Farmer, and Mrs. Gene Hamrick, respectively; each had a part-time aide.

Mrs. Lula Belle Carlisle, who had served faithfully in the nursery for approximately twenty years, was recognized for her service in October 1972.

During the years under the leadership of Rev. Foreman, the following men were ordained as deacons: Grady Hayes, Kyser Herbert, Foy Ingram, Kyle Leverette, and Reynolds Thrash on October 17, 1965; William Helton and Angus McClellan on July 17, 1969; Jimmy Hollis on July 5, 1970; and Ronald Don Price on August 19, 1973. Both Walter Flanders and Max Shirley were accepted on ordination from other churches.

From 1963 until 1974 the following served as summer youth directors:

<u>Names</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
David Moore	Andalusia
Phil Jones	
David Boyd	Pensacola
Randy Atkinson	Birmingham
J. E. Stephens, Jr.	Selma
Richard Penton	Montgomery
Miss Ann Liles	Butler
Gregory M. Skipper	Brundidge

The part-time music directors were H. L. Byrd, Jr, Troy, October 1963 to August 1970; Gregory M. Skipper, Panama City, March 1971 to May 1973; Everett Ellis, III, Prattville, June 1973 to December 1973; and Gregory M. Skipper, Brundidge, January 1974 until the present.

Those who were licensed by the church to preach were David Boyd on July 16, 1969, and Alan Swindall on July 12, 1972.

On June 13, 1974, the church voted to recommend Gregory M. Skipper for admission to New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary to study in the field of church music.

As of July 22, 1974, the Salem Baptist Church had a membership of 678 with 490 of those being resident members; the Sunday School's enrollment was 417; the Church Training's enrollment was 232; the W. M. U.'s eight organizations had enrollment of 77; and the graded choir's enrollment was 86.

The church's indebtedness in 1974 consisted of \$7,877.83 on the church bus and \$40,000.00 on the recently purchased property. The church continued to meet its obligations as it had in the past and these were soon satisfactorily completed projects.

Salem Baptist Church is indeed proud of its accomplishments and the part it has played in the history of Brundidge, Pike County, Alabama, the United States, and even other parts of the world, but most of all the church realizes that none of this would have been possible without the guidance of a loving God.

Salem Church has been faithful to mission causes around the world and has continually increased its giving through the cooperative program. Between 1954 - 1974 more than \$170,000.00 had been given to mission causes alone. It was the feeling of the membership that the more you give for the cause of Christ the more He blesses -- TO GOD BE THE GLORY.

1974 ORDAINED DEACONS

Allen, Vincent
Boutwell, Emmitt
Bryan, James
Chambers, C. L.
Colley, W. D.
Dykes, Frank
Flanders, Walter
Godwin, Robert
Golden, Dr. C. L.
Hayes, Grady
Helton, William
Herbert, Kyser
Hollis, Jimmy

Ingram, Foy
Lee, J. B.
Leverette, Kyle
Mallory, Grover
Morris, Warren
McClellan, Angus
Pollard, James
Price, Ronald Don
Shirley, Max
Smith, William
Tillman, R. S.
Thrash, Reynolds
Thrash, Bobby - waiting ordination

1974 TRUSTEES

Allen, Vincent
Boutwell, Emmitt
Flanders, Walter

Leverette, W. W.
Pollard, James
Smith, William

Value of church property in 1974 was \$393,000.00

July 1974 - October 15, 1986 Proceedings

On July 18, 1974 the church celebrated its Sesquicentennial (150th) year with an "Old Fashioned Homecoming and Dinner on the grounds". This was the beginning of a week of revival services with Dr. Vernon Yearby, Executive Secretary, Baptist Foundation, Montgomery, Evangelist, and Phillip Willis of Parkview Baptist Church, Baton Rouge, Louisiana leading the song service. A special Sesquicentennial Service was presided over by the pastor, A. Ray Foreman. Former members, guests, and present members were recognized. Miss Ludie Logan, oldest living member who was inactive, and Mr. Willie Leverette, active member, were recognized, each being a member of the church for 75 years.

Letters were read from four living former pastors: Rev. W. T. Mims, Oland Wilson, Harry W. Hargrove and Frank W. Lyon. Rev. and Mrs. Tom Breedlove, Salem-Troy Baptist Associational Missions Director, were introduced.

Time and weather conditions made it necessary that the interior of the church building be painted and also paint or cover the steeple with white aluminum siding.

Gregory Skipper who had served for several months as Music and Youth Director submitted his resignation so that he could enter New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in the field of church music. The church recommended him as a candidate to the Seminary.

Kenneth Stewart served a short time as Music Director just prior to David Payne's being employed in October 1974. David also served as Summer Youth Director the summer of June - August 1975.

Bobby Leonard Thrash was ordained as a deacon on September 8, 1974 with Rev. A. Ray Foreman preaching the ordination sermon and giving the charges to the candidate and to the church. Salem deacons present were: William Smith, Angus McClellan, Don Price, Max Shirley, Emmitt Boutwell, Kyser Herbert, James Pollard, Walter Flanders, Vincent Allen, W. D. Colley, Grady Hayes, Bill Helton, Kyle Leverette, Grover Mallory and Reynolds Thrash.

During the year of 1974 - 1975 the church purchased an electric stencil cutter for the church office. Also during that year the church approved and recommended Margaret Stewart for entrance into New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary to study in the field of church music. The church also purchased 30 new Baptist Hymnals to be used in the church choir.

The following men were ordained to deaconship on August 10, 1975: Kenneth Stewart, and Joe Wilson with Rev. A. Ray Foreman preaching the ordination sermon, giving the charges to the candidates and to the church. Deacons present were Jimmy Hollis, Vincent Allen, Emmitt Boutwell, James Bryan, W. D. Colley, Walter Flanders, Robert Godwin, Bill Helton, Kyser Herbert, Kyle Leverette, Angus McClellan, James Pollard, Don Price, Max Shirley, and Bob Thrash.

Angelia Foreman was employed during this time for two hours a day, two days a week, to assist in the church office. She continued in this until she finished Troy State University and left town to seek employment.

During the years Salem Church has assisted those from our membership attending one of our Baptist Theological Seminaries by setting up a scholarship fund for that purpose.

October 1, 1975 - September 30, 1976

Toni Head was employed as nursery worker and in May 1976 as custodian, also Jennifer Kirkland was employed as pianist in June 1976.

There was a need for more heat in the den at the parsonage so the church purchased a set of 40,000 BTU gas logs for that purpose. During the church year a six foot chain link fence was installed around the Johnston House property, excluding the house.

David Payne resigned June 20, 1976 as Music and Summer Youth Director effective July 11, 1976 as he accepted a call to be full time Minister of Music and Youth at First Baptist Church, Gulf Shores, Alabama.

A Family Night Covered-dish Supper, including the entire church membership, was begun on Wednesday night following each second Sunday of the month.

The church paid the expenses of Rev. Ray Foreman, to be engaged in an Evangelistic Crusade in the Pudget Sound Association on April 3 - 8, 1977.

October 1, 1976 - September 30, 1977

Robert Lawrence Milner was employed as part-time Minister of Music in October 1976. Jennifer Kirkland resigned as pianist, October 31, 1976. Pitt LaCarter was employed as pianist in December 1976.

The church participated in "H" Day (Howard College Day - students in the pulpit) on January 16, 1977.

Danny Graham was ordained to the deaconship on Sunday November 21, 1976 during the morning worship service with Rev. Ray Foreman preaching the ordination sermon, giving the charges to the candidate and to the church. The following deacons were present: Vincent Allen, Emmitt Boutwell, Walter Flanders, Dr. C. L. Golden, Bill Helton, Kyser Herbert, Jimmy Hollis, J. B. Lee, Kyle Leverette, Angus McClellan, James Pollard, Don Price, William Smith, Kenneth Stewart, Bobby Thrash and two visiting deacons, Thomas Graham and Simmie Graham.

There were those who felt there was a need for a passenger elevator, installed for three floors in the church building. The Trustees investigated the possibility and price of installing one. It was agreed that the cost, approximately \$50,000.00 - \$60,000.00 for installing plus cost of operating was more than the church felt it could do, so they voted not to do this.

In March of 1977 an intercom system was installed from outside door, southside of educational building to the church offices at a cost of \$111.72, with expenses of same being taken care of by one member of the church. The church also installed a glass door at the same entrance in May of that year.

The church voted to enter into the plan of the pictorial directory as explained to the body by Larry Carfrey, area manager of United Church Directories.

Those persons responsible for securing a Summer Youth Director began work early in order to have a person to fill that position as soon as area schools were out for summer vacation so Byrd LeCroy was employed in May 1977 to fill that position.

In June of that year the church honored the pastor, Rev. Ray Foreman, with a plaque recognizing and honoring him for his fourteen years of dedicated service to the church.

A ramp was built running from the entrance of the nursery to the driveway making entrance to the church for those who are handicapped.

On August 8, 1977, J. W. Teal was ordained to deaconship. Rev. Ray Foreman preached the ordination sermon and also gave the charges to the candidate and to the church. Those deacons in attendance were: Vincent Allen, Emmitt Boutwell, Walter Flanders, Danny Graham, Bill Helton, Jimmy Hollis, Kyle Leverette, J. B. Lee, Grover Mallory, Angus McClellan, James Pollard, Don Price, William Smith, Kenneth Stewart, Dorsey Arnold and Bobby Thrash.

October 1, 1977 - September 30, 1978

The church purchased an IBM Correcting Selectric II Typewriter for the church office, as there was a need to replace the one in use at the time.

The following repair work and remodeling was done during this year: reworking of the fellowship hall, kitchen and hall, installing proper cooling and heating, reworking all restrooms, installing new fixtures and ceramic tile; repair of termite damage and other related work; painted steeple, installed handrail at north entrance of basement. Also, eight folding tables and table truck were purchased to be used in the fellowship hall.

Again, there was a need for a summer youth director and assistant pastor. A Howard College student, Buddy Gray, accepted the call to this place of service.

The church already on the retirement program with the Southern Baptist Convention, entered into the plan on behalf of the employees of the church on a salary reduction basis.

A special event was observed, the church's 154th Anniversary, with High Attendance Day and Homecoming with noon meal served to all who attended.

The Haisten property, adjoining the church property on the southside became available. It was purchased by the church and used as a parking lot and playground area.

The Sunday School Teachers and Officers voted to enter the nine year Bible Book Study plan; the church approved. The studies were begun October 1, 1978. With the July-September quarter 1987 all books of the Bible had been studied.

October 1, 1978 - September 30, 1979

The church was in need of new hymnals for the auditorium so a memorial fund was established to receive funds to purchase new Baptist Hymnals.

The church recommended Robert Milner to enter Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Ft. Worth, Texas. Shortly after this, Mr. Milner resigned as Music Director in order to begin his seminary training.

As was the custom each summer a young man was employed as Summer Youth Director and Assistant Pastor. Donald Macon was called that summer. He not only served as Youth Director and Assistant Pastor but also served a short time as Music Director.

Dorsey Arnold was accepted as a deacon, coming from the Ozark Baptist Church, where he had been ordained.

Jim Troutner was employed as Music and Youth Director and Associate Pastor on a part-time basis. During his time of service the youth choir made several trips to various churches in the Salem-Troy Baptist Association and also to several churches in Tennessee.

The church paid the travel expenses for the pastor, Rev. Ray Foreman to participate in a Home Missions Canadian endeavor in October 1979.

October 1, 1979 - September 30, 1980

It's not often that a church has a member to live to be 100 years old but Salem had such an one, Miss Ludie Logan. On Sunday, March 9, 1980 the worship services were dedicated to Miss Ludie, who celebrated her 100th birthday on March 7, 1980. She was also recognized as the oldest living member. She was unable to attend the services as she was a resident of Pike Manor Nursing Home.

As was and still is the custom, Salem Church counts it a privilege to recommend one of its young people to one of the Southern Baptist Seminaries. This time it was Karen Long to study in the field of Religious Education.

Carla McLendon, a member of Salem and student at Troy State University assisted Mrs. Mallory in the church office two hours per day, two days per week until she left for the University of Alabama.

Deborrah Henderson, a Troy State University student, served several months as pianist.

October 1, 1980 - September 30, 1981

Gwen Threadgill was employed as church pianist and served for approximately two years.

The church again attempted to get a Constitution and By-Laws drafter for the church. A committee was elected and went to work. It reported back to the church that it was feasible for the church to have Constitution and By-Laws but some few felt that it was too costly to have copies printed and distributed for the people to study, therefore the Committee's findings were not accepted.

A folding door-divider was installed in the Young People's Department and a new roof was put on the Educational Building.

During the year the church was involved in a School of Missions.

All deacons who were willing to serve were allowed to become active deacons, instead of continuing on the rotating system of deacons.

During this year some of the partitions were taken out of the old Junior and Intermediate Department's of the Educational Building in order to give more room for the present Sunday School and Church Training classes and groups to meet. The labor for this project was donated.

October 1, 1981 - September 30, 1982

As in all church offices, especially the Salem-Troy Baptist Association, there is a need for the best equipment that can be afforded. In this case, a copying machine was greatly needed, not only for Associational office work, but for those smaller churches that didn't have office equipment. Salem contributed \$100.00 toward the purchase of a copying machine for that purpose.

Wes Kennedy served as Youth Director the summer of 1982, and Associate Pastor through December 1982.

Drapes for the baptistry were installed during the year, also a metal fire escape or stairway was accepted as a gift from Mr. Alto Jackson of Clio, Alabama to be installed on the north side of the educational building. A fire escape was constructed in the recreation room.

A dishwasher was purchased for the pastorium, also an Allen organ was purchased for the church auditorium at a cost of \$15,268.90.

Several Sunday School workers attended the Sunday School Leadership Conference at Shocco Springs, with the church paying the registration fees.

Jewell Mallory, Church Secretary for 34 1/2 years read her letter of resignation to become effective July 9, 1982. The church observed JEWELL MALLORY DAY on July 11, 1982 in honor of Mrs. Mallory and her years of service. During the morning worship, Rev. Foreman read letters from two former pastors who served with Mrs. Mallory, also letters from the Chairman of Trustees, WMU President, Treasurer, Chairman of Deacons, Sunday School Director, and Church Training Director. The pastor presented Mrs. Mallory with a scrapbook, an engraved silver tray, and a check for \$100.00 from the church. The choir dedicated their special, "The Old Rugged Cross" to Mrs. Mallory and Jim Troutner, the Minister of Music, sang, "The Greatest of These is Love". On Wednesday night, July 14th, the church honored Mrs. Mallory with a covered dish meal, which included a three tiered cake with decorations of length of service to the church. Several gifts from Sunday School Departments and classes were also presented.

Another one of our young people, Barbara Davis, was recommended for entrance to New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Linda Fitzgibbons of Goshen, Alabama, was employed as church secretary to fill the vacancy of Mrs. Mallory.

The church purchased a ceiling fan for the pastorium.

Jim Troutner, Minister of Music resigned.

October 1, 1982 - September 30, 1983

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Adams donated 31 new choir robes to the church choir. They had been very active members of the choir and were moving to another state and made this generous gift to Salem.

Jones Carroll was employed as Minister of Music to fill the vacancy left by Jim Troutner.

Pictures of all former pastors, those which the church was able to secure, were framed and hung in the hallway near the church offices.

Mark Allen Johnston was employed as Associate Pastor and Youth Director for the summer of 1983 and was also recommended for entrance to the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky.

The Johnston house was made into two apartments for rent with proceeds to go into the Building Fund. The church also purchased a new copy machine and electronic typewriter for the church office.

It was agreed that the Nominating Committee and Budget Committee be elected by nominations from the floor, by April of each year, rather than being appointed as was done in the past.

The church contributed a total of \$2,000.00 for remodeling of the Associational Missionary's home in Troy.

The church set up a Mission Fund for the pastor's expenses to the Nigerian Mission Crusade in February of 1984, cost was approximately \$1,550.00.

October 1, 1983 - September 30, 1984

The church agreed to enter into the PHOCUS organization, which is a new organization in Pike County designed to assist those in need, especially the elderly, in time of sickness, disaster, or otherwise. Our church agreed to contribute financially and also that the third Sunday of each month would be designated PHOCUS SUNDAY, that being a time to bring staple food items or money to help in this cause.

Gary Sanders was called as Summer Youth Director and Assistant Pastor for the summer of 1984. Shortly following his service at Salem, Gary was called as pastor of Daleville Baptist Church, Dale County, Alabama.

The church sponsored a kitchen shower for the church kitchen as there was a need for numerous items for the kitchen such as dish towels, serving spoons, etc.

October 1, 1984 - September 30, 1985

The church celebrated it's 160th Anniversary on Sunday November 4, 1984, with Dr. Earl Potts, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Alabama Baptist State Executive Board, bringing the message. During this service, Dr. Potts presented to the pastor, Rev. Ray Foreman, a Certificate of Appreciation to Salem Baptist Church for 160 years of Christian service, especially in the area of mission support.

The Johnston house was re-roofed and repairs made.

Joe Stinson served as pianist for several months before asking for a leave of absence.

Paul Philpot was employed as part-time Youth Director and served during the summer.

Laura Leverette was employed as church pianist.

A children's church was begun for children ages preschool through fourth grade and functioned for several months.

GOOD NEWS AMERICA, GOD LOVES YOU Bibles were purchased and distributed during the People Search/Scripture Distribution in October 1985.

The church purchased a 15 passenger Dodge Van and sold the church bus for \$6,000.00

October 1, 1985 - September 30, 1986

Following the resignation of Jones Carroll as Music Director, Auburn Foreman served for several weeks until such time as Phil Kelley, Associate Professor of Music at Troy State University was called to be part-time Minister of Music.

The church parking lot was resurfaced in February 1986. A playground was built in the back lot of the Johnston house, with all labor and most of the materials being donated. Also, the nursery was recarpeted.

There was a great need for some adult Sunday School rooms on the ground floor. The old Primary Department, located on the southside of the educational building was

remodeled and converted into a choir room and office for the Minister of Music. Two adult classrooms and a ladies restroom were also created.

Rev. A. Ray Foreman submitted his resignation as pastor on Sunday, May 11, 1986, to become pastor of First Baptist Church of Leeds, Alabama, effective June 1, 1986. He preached his last sermons on Sunday, June 1, 1986, and moved his household goods during the following week.

Several people filled the pulpit before the church called Rev. Mack S. King as interim pastor on August 3, 1986.

The following men were elected to serve as deacons: James Medley, Myron Jones, Monte Pugh and Michael Kilcrease. An ordination service was held on Sunday, September 7, 1986 during the morning worship hour. Rev. Mack King preached the ordination sermon and gave the charge to the candidate and Dr. Harold Wicks, Salem-Troy Baptist Associational Director gave the charge to the church. Rev. Dock McCollough led in the prayer of dedication. The following deacons were present: Kyser Herbert, William Smith, James Pollard, Bob Thrash, Dr. C. L. Golden, Kyle Leverette, Walter Flanders, Danny Graham, Frank Dykes, Emmitt Boutwell, Grover Mallory and J. B. Lee, two visiting deacons, Mr. Clyde Jones of Ozark Baptist Church and Joe Wilson, New Hope Baptist Church, Coffee County.

It was agreed that the church business minutes, October 1, 1913 through September 30, 1986, be micro-filmed at Samford University in Birmingham and placed in their vault for safe keeping. It was also agreed that copies of minutes from October 1, 1960 through September 30, 1986 be bound in books and placed in the church library.

A Piano Fund was established to purchase a new piano for the church auditorium.

The church agreed to contribute and be involved in a World Missions Conference to be held in April 1987.

The following were elected to serve on the Pastor Search Committee: Jeff Hollis, Danny Graham, James Medley, Marilyn Phillips and Frances Golden.

During the months of September and October 1986, the church adopted job descriptions for the Pastor, Music Director, Summer Youth Director, Part-time Youth Director, Church Secretary, Church Organist and Pianist, Nursery Worker and Custodian.

The church voted to adopt a Constitution and By-Laws as guidelines for the church. The following people were elected to serve on the Constitution and By-Laws Committee: Walt Flanders, Frank Dykes, Joe Stinson, Jane Thrash, and Melba Sanders.

Also, the following were elected to the Board of Trustees: Kyser Herbert and Bob Thrash.

Cliff Allred, a student at Troy State University, was called as Summer Youth Director on June 11, 1986. The church also extended him a call as part-time Youth Director for the 1986-87 school year.

Salem Baptist Church has been faithful to mission causes around the world and has continually increased its giving through the Cooperative Program, and also participated in all other mission causes as outlined by the SBC. The church has in no way neglected the local mission needs as it has been involved in local projects and needs as they arise. ----
THANKS TO GOD

ORDAINED DEACONS OF SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH

Vincent Allen
Emmitt Boutwell
Frank Dykes
Walt Flanders
Dr. C. L. Golden
Danny Graham
Bill Helton
Kyser Herbert
Myron Jones
Mike Kilcrease

J. B. Lee
Kyle Leverette
Grover Mallory
James Medley
James Pollard
Monte Pugh
William Smith
J. W. Teal
Bob Thrash
Reynolds Thrash

TRUSTEES OF SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH

Vincent Allen
Max Avant
Emmitt Boutwell
James Boutwell
Walt Flanders

Kyser Herbert
James Pollard
William Smith
Bob Thrash

October 16, 1986 - October 12, 1988 Proceedings

October 16, 1986 - 1987

Following the resignation of Linda Fitzgibbons as church secretary, Cliff Allred agreed to work part time in the church office until a new church secretary would be employed. Brenda Danner was hired for this position in the latter part of November.

The church voted to become incorporated as Salem Baptist Church, Incorporated with the following men serving as officers:

PresidentVincent B. Allen
Vice PresidentKyser Herbert
SecretaryJames Boutwell
TreasurerBob Thrash
Directors Max Avant
Emmitt Boutwell
Walter B. Flanders, Sr.
James Pollard
William Smith

A tape ministry was begun during the year to minister to shut-ins in the community.

Sunday night, July 26, the church honored Rev. Mack King with a church-wide fellowship including party refreshments and gifts of appreciation. Rev. King had served one year as interim pastor.

Rev. Robert H. Sandifer, Pastor of West End Baptist Church of Selma, Alabama, accepted the call on June 28 to become Pastor of Salem Baptist Church. He and his wife, Cynthia, along with their daughters, Kathryn, Robyn, Lauryn, and Eryn, moved into the parsonage on July 31, 1987; and he began his duties as pastor on August 2, 1987.

October 1987 - 1988

The stained glass windows, which had been in the old church building located on the present site, were found stored in the W. G. Gilmore home. They were reworked, and touch up painting was done by one of our members. The Dove and Lily were installed in windows of the Sanctuary and the Holy Bible in the vestibule. The installation was done by several members of the church.

During the year the church entered into contract with Baptist Book Store Directory Service for pictorial directories which were received by each family who participated in the picture taking.

The pastor established a Long Range Planning Committee, "Future by Faith", to see what needs the church would have in the future.

A portion of the outside of the Educational Building and Sanctuary were repainted during the year.

The Personnel Manual for Minister of Youth was approved prior to the employment of full-time Minister of Youth, Clifford Allred, on April 13, 1988.

The church participated in the Probe by the Baptist Sunday School Board and Salem-Troy Baptist Association by providing a van and driver, for the purpose of identifying needed mission points in Pike County.

During the church business meeting of April 13, 1988, the Seminary Scholarship Committee made a motion, which was accepted, that \$1,500.00 be placed with the Baptist Foundation of Alabama and that future receipts to Seminary Scholarship Fund be deposited to the fund account. Also, that no monies from the trust be used for any purpose other than Seminary Scholarship at an accepted Southern Baptist Seminary and/or for income generated for said Scholarships. Rev. Chester Jernigan, representing the Baptist Foundation of Alabama, was present in the eleven o'clock Worship Service, June 26, 1988, to participate in the ceremony recognizing the establishment of the Seminary Trust Fund and the signing of the document. The Trust Fund was established with \$2,500.00 (\$1,000.00 from Certificate of Deposit, \$500 from Savings Account and an additional \$1,000.00 gift).

The church learned there was a great need for hymn books on some of the foreign mission fields. Our church, through Dr. Harold Wicks, Salem-Troy Baptist Association Missionary, sent some books no longer used in our church, to Unity Baptist Church, P. O. Box 854, Zaria, Kaduna State, Nigeria. A letter of thanks and appreciation was received from the secretary and pastor of that church.

Several items were purchased during the years of October 1986 through September 1988: a Yamaha Baby Grand Piano, six 6-foot tables, awning lights, carpet and blinds for pastorium, an air conditioner for the library, a Weed Eater, a Handi-cap elevator and awning, 2 chairs for Pastor's office and a filing cabinet for the library.

Salem Baptist Church has continued to be faithful to mission causes around the world and also participated in all mission causes as outlined by the Southern Baptist Convention. The church has in no way neglected the local mission needs.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Copy of Resolution/Agreement of Seminary Trust Fund:

WHEREAS, the Salem Baptist Church, Brundidge, Alabama, a church affiliated with the Salem-Troy Association, desires to establish a perpetual scholarship fund for the benefit of worthy and deserving students from the said church attending a seminary affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention, and

WHEREAS, The Baptist Foundation of Alabama (hereinafter referred to as the Foundation) is the trust agency of the Alabama Baptist State Convention, organized for the purpose of holding such funds in perpetuity for the said convention and/or churches, agencies, and institutions owned by, affiliated with, or cooperating with the said convention, and

WHEREAS, the Salem Baptist Church, a church cooperating with the said convention, wishes to avail itself of the services of the said Foundation which are without cost to the said church except for possible investment counsel expenses and cost incurred by such funds, and

WHEREAS, it is desired that certain guidelines and directives be committed in writing,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The Fund is to be known as the SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH SEMINARY FUND and it shall be established by the signing of this resolution by the appropriate representatives of the parties involved.*
- 2. Simultaneously with the signing of this document shall be the delivery of the gift (s) reflected on the attached Schedule "A". The fund thus created is to be left open with additions to be made by the church or other interested parties as desired by it or them using whatever means chosen or by individuals in their Wills if they so elect.*
- 3. The Resolution/Agreement is irrevocable.*
- 4. The fund income, but not the principal, shall be disbursed to the Salem Baptist Church at least annually. The said disbursements are to be made on or before October 1 each year, after the church has been notified of the amount available on/or about April 1.*
- 5. The Salem Baptist Church, by whatever means it chooses, including requesting the Foundation to assume the full responsibility for selection or administration if deemed desirable at some point in time, shall determine the recipient(s) and amounts of the scholarship(s) to be awarded.*
- 6. The Foundation's responsibility shall be to invest the funds and to administer the fund in accordance with the Resolution/Agreement, unless requested to assume other obligations and agrees thereto. In the event the Salem Baptist Church, Brundidge, Alabama should cease to exist or function in the manner and relationship existing at the time of the execution of this document, or if the funds become difficult or impossible to administer, the Directors of The Baptist Foundation of Alabama shall have the power to determine the distribution of the income, keeping in mind the original intentions of the Resolution/Agreement so long as the said distributions are to organizations which meet the requirements of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the regulations thereunder (or subsequent Internal Revenue Service rules and regulations).*

The Directors of the Foundation shall have the authority to determine "Manner and Relationship" criteria is available to them and their decisions shall be final. using whatever

Dated this 26th day of June, 1988.

Robert H. Sandifer
Pastor of Church

Walter B. Flanders
Moderator of Church

Jewell M. Mallory
Church Clerk

The Baptist Foundation of Alabama

BY: _____
It's President

June 26, 1988
Date

October 13, 1988 - September 30, 1992 Proceedings

October 1988 - 1989

The Easter Sunrise Service was held on March 26, 1989, in the football stadium, with Rev. Terry Hester bringing the message and the Madrigal Singers of Pike County High School in charge of the music.

Laura Leverette, one of Salem's own young ladies, resigned as pianist, after having served for several years, to become effective March 1989. Laura would not be living in Brundidge at the time.

Mrs. Travis Ingram was elected to fill the position of WMU Director in April 1989, which had been made vacant by the resignation of Mrs. Ruby Marsh in February 1989.

During the May regular business meeting, Mrs. Jewell Mallory resigned as church clerk, effective date October 11, 1989, after having served since July 1955. Mrs. Judy Mobley, who had served as associate church clerk for two years, resigned also, to become effective October 1, 1989.

As the Nominating Committee for the 1989-1990 church year was working they presented the name of Mrs. Mary Stewart as church clerk and she was elected to that position.

Several of the Senior Adults attended Shocco Springs Senior Adult Week in April 1989 and they reported very interesting and enlightening sessions during the week. Salem hosted the Senior Adult Rally May 1989 and a report of the Shocco week was given at the rally.

During the business meeting of August 1989 it was brought to the church by Jewell Mallory, church clerk, and the History Committee, the matter of so many non-resident members on the roll, many who had not been in touch with the church for years. This committee and church clerk asked for approval to delete 28 members from that roll. (A list

was distributed to the church during this meeting.) This request was approved in business session on September 13, 1989.

October 1989 - 1990

On October 1, 1989 Salem Baptist Church observed its 165th Anniversary and Homecoming with special services. Former pastors attending and participating in the Morning Worship Service were Rev. Frank W. Lyon and interim pastor, Rev. Mack King.

Mrs. Helen Rice, daughter of a former Pastor, Rev. W. C. Hinson, deceased, was in attendance also and contributed to the morning worship service.

The day was dedicated to Mrs. Pearle Lee, who at 94 years of age had been a member of Salem Baptist Church for 82 years, and also to the memory of the late Mrs. Myrtis C. Colley, who wrote and preserved the early church history. It was interesting to note that Rev. W. C. Henson performed the marriage ceremony for Mrs. Pearle Waters Lee to Walter Hubbard Lee, DVM.

A brief history of Salem Baptist Church was compiled by the History Committee (Jewell Mallory, Eloise Herbert, Esther Smith), using the portion compiled by Mrs. Myrtis C. Colley prior to 1938 and the history compiled since that date. A copy was given to the head of each household.

The afternoon service consisted of special music by two former music directors, Thomas Arrington and Jones Carroll, along with Salem Choirs.

The first Minister of youth, Jarrett W. Richardson, and his wife were in attendance and he shared some of his experiences while serving at Salem in the summer of 1939.

A historical display was arranged in the back hall, which consisted of pictures of former pastors, families, church buildings and various members and events. A marble top table, china cabinet, library, center table, communion service, gavel and WMU pin were on display. All of these are a part of Salem Baptist Church history.

A bountiful meal was enjoyed in the fellowship hall at noon time with all bringing a basket lunch. A good number of former members attended and the fellowship was great.

October 1989 - September 30, 1990

Cliff Allred, who had served as Minister of youth for several years, was ordained into the gospel ministry Sunday, February 25, 1990, by Salem Baptist Church. He was also recommended for entrance to New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary to further his education.

October 1, 1990 - September 30, 1991

During the year the church purchased a new copy machine for the church office. The old copy machine was sold as well as the coke machine.

On December 23, 1990, a call was extended to Donald C. Sandau, Jr. to become Associate Pastor and Youth Director. Don came on the church field in January 1991.

The cooling and heating system for the educational building had done a good job in the past, but the time came that it was necessary to replace each of them. New ones were installed during the early spring of 1991. Also during the summer of 1991 the church library was moved to the downstairs room, next to the nursery. It was at this time that the halls on the main floor, the church offices, and library were repaired, painted and carpeted.

The church again entered into the church plan for pictorial directory, this time with the Baptist Book Store Service.

The Media Library

The media library staff is composed of a director, or co-directors, plus additional members as needed. The following items concerning the operation of the media library were presented on November 13, 1991 and approved:

- (1) Hours of opening and closing
- (2) Use of materials
- (3) Circulation
- (4) Selection policy

The Finance and Accounting Committee brought a recommendation to the church that the fiscal year be January 1 through December 31, rather than October 1 through September 30. They felt that the committee needed more time to work out a budget to present to the church. The motion was approved.

October 1, 1991 - September 30, 1992

The church year started with new interest and excitement as three men were elected to serve as deacons. Max Avant, Douglas Ingram and Paul Krug were ordained to the deacon ministry on October 13, 1991. The service was held in the sanctuary with Rev. Robert Sandifer, pastor, conducting the service along with ordained deacons and members present, participating.

During the morning worship hour, Sunday, November 10, 1991, Mrs. John William Hicks presented a brass cross to Salem Baptist Church to express her appreciation to Salem and Brundidge, and as a memorial to her late husband, John William Hicks. Mr. Hicks attended Salem and held membership here prior to his moving to Phenix City, Alabama.

Several members of Salem saw the need for an organization to work with the handicapped people of Brundidge. Several members of the WMU headed up that organization and later organized a Sunday School Class for that group.

Salem Church participated in the Salem-Troy Baptist Associational Mission Conference with services Sunday through Wednesday, March 8 - 11, 1992. A different missionary spoke at each service.

Salem also participated in the National Day of Prayer which was held at the Bass House, downtown Brundidge, 12:30 PM, May 7, 1992.

Senior Adult Day was observed on Sunday, May 2, 1992, with a number singing in the choir during the Morning Worship Service. Mrs. Helen Marley wrote and directed a skit "Glimpses of Heaven" which was given at the evening worship hour.

On March 25, 1992, the following motion from the Personnel Committee was presented to the church in business session and acted upon: "In response to the ongoing and increasing deficit, and God's answer to much prayer, the Personnel Committee makes a motion at this time that the church take action to terminate/vacate the Nursery Aide Staff position, effective April 15, 1992, and the Associate Pastor position as of May 31, 1992, and these positions not be backfilled at this time. The personnel presently employed in these positions shall be notified of the church's decision/action, in writing, no later than March 31, 1992." The church voted to accept this recommendation.

Don Sandau was honored with a "going away" social and money tree on Sunday night immediately following the evening worship service on May 24, 1992. The church also recommended Don for entrance to the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Salem Baptist Church has been blessed in many ways over the past four years; however gifts to the mission causes hasn't been as great as in the past. We pray that through dedicated service to our Lord, and to our church, that still greater things are in store for Salem in the future.

Yours in service for Christ,

The History Committee

October 1, 1992 - September 30, 1995 Proceedings

A letter of resignation was received in December, 1992 from Dr. Phil Kelley, Minister of Music, stating his love for Salem Baptist Church and his regret in resigning due to his commitments elsewhere. The church accepted his resignation with sincere regret and deep appreciation for his contribution to Salem Baptist Church.

A call was extended to Kirby Sanders of Goshen, Alabama in January, 1993 to become part-time Minister of Music. He is a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Ft. Worth, Texas, in the field of Church Music. After joining the staff, he wrote, directed and produced three Passion Plays and two Christmas Pageants. He also was instrumental in organizing Christmas Eve Candlelight Service in 1993 and 1994.

Curt Amlong, a Troy State University student, was employed as interim Youth Director in March, 1993 and served until his resignation in December, 1993.

Rev. Robert Sandifer resigned as pastor of Salem Baptist Church effective March 31, 1993. Rev. Sandifer had accepted a call to pastor the First Southern Baptist Church of Hope Hull, Alabama. Shortly after his resignation, the church elected a Pastor Search Committee. Various ministers were invited to fill the pulpit after his resignation and during the time the Pastor Search Committee was at work. One of those ministers was Rev. Robert Carter who was elected to serve as interim pastor in July, 1993. In December, 1993, the church extended a call to Rev. Carter to become full time pastor. After accepting the call Rev. Carter and his wife, Lois, moved into the parsonage in early 1994.

Church secretary, Brenda Danner, resigned effective January 26, 1994 to become employed elsewhere.

Patricia Booth of the New Hope Community was employed as church secretary February 21, 1994. Ann Wilkinson was employed as child care worker at the same time.

Salem Baptist Church received \$107,772.00 from the John Walter and Ellene Logan estate in September, 1994. Five people were elected as a committee to make a recommendation to the church on how to invest the money at the end of the year. The church voted to first make contributions to the Cooperative Program and other mission causes which the church regularly supports. The remainder of the \$91,677.94 was to be invested in the Alabama Baptist Foundation for one year, the interest to be added to the principal.

The committee suggested a memorial be placed in the church honoring Mr. & Mrs. Logan. A window in the sanctuary was inscribed with their names and date of the gift by Mrs. Betty Ross Botts.

During 1994 and 1995, the church purchased a 15 passenger van, new choir robes, a computer system, a portable television, a folding machine, a storage building for the pastorium, an intercom and door lock system for the south side door and the office, an ice machine and a cellular car phone for the pastor to use in his visitation. The deacons provided new pew Bibles for the sanctuary.

Salem began two new ministries in the these two years. A deaf ministry was begun in February, 1995. Church members visited deaf people in the area who began attending Sunday School and worship services. A sign language class was begun which met once a week on Thursday nights. An interpreter for the deaf was employed for the morning worship services.

The church voted to provide a meal in the fellowship hall for the family members of a deceased member at the time of death.

Between 1993 and 1995, repairs and refurbishing projects were completed throughout the church and its properties. The sanctuary was completely refurbished. Walls were repainted. New carpet was added along with pew covers, portable prayer benches near the pulpit, a portable rail to the choir loft and new lighting.

Other repairs made in various parts of the building included new carpet, mini blinds, new light fixtures in the hallways and fellowship hall, a metal roof on the flat portion of the educational building, lights on the steeple, refinishing the front steps and landscaping of the church grounds.

In the summer of 1995, Jenny Ehrlich, Youth Director, secured two Samford University students, David Reese and Archie Messersmith, to conduct a week-end youth led revival July 7-9th. The students also had charge of the morning worship service July 9th, with Archie leading the music and David bringing the morning message.

Salem had seven messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, June 19-22. They were Rev. & Mrs. Robert Carter, Mr. & Mrs. Jesse W. Botts,

Mrs. Jewell Mallory, Mrs. Ruby Marsh, and Kirby Sanders. All churches 150 years old or older were recognized.

The church contributed \$1,000.00 to Mrs. Dilla Lyon, a former pastor's wife, who went as a volunteer school teacher to an American school in American Samoa, in August, 1995. The check was presented to her, during a Commissioning Service, Sunday, June 25th at Old Lebanon Church by one of Salem's members.

Salem had a *FOUR TERRIFIC TUESDAY'S* revival in August, 1995 with four outstanding preachers. They were Rev. Robert Strickland - Kinsey Baptist Church, Dothan, Alabama, Rev. Gary Sanders - Gateway Baptist Church, Montgomery, Alabama, Rev. Andy Hepburn - Tillman's Corner First Baptist Church, Mobile, Alabama, and Rev. Billy Hatley - Sharon Heights Baptist Church, Birmingham, Alabama. Kirby Sanders, our Music Director, was in charge of the music.

New 1991 edition of The Baptist Hymnals were purchased for use in the sanctuary in September, 1995. A number were given in memory of a loved one, or in honor of someone.

In regular business meeting, September 13, 1995, the Logan Fund Committee, William Smith, Jesse W. Botts, Mrs. Eloise Herbert, Mrs. Lucy Ray, and Mr. Kyle Roberson, recommended that Salem Baptist Church leave the Logan gift money in The Baptist Foundation and when the fund had accrued interest to \$100,000.00, future earnings would be returned to Salem to be used toward financing, upgrading or improvement of projects.

A pictorial directory was published in 1995 by Olin Mills.

ARTICLES AND INFORMATION OF INTEREST GIVEN TO THE HISTORY COMMITTEE

Sara Andress Hataway, a member of Salem Baptist Church gave a copy of the minutes of the thirty-fifth annual session of the Salem Baptist Association held with Ramah Church in Montgomery County on October 3, 1873. Sara's father was Mr. Mack Andress, an active member of Salem Church. The minutes are on file in the history files.

Salem honored its oldest member, Mrs. Ila Connell, a resident of Ozark Nursing Home, in September, 1994. Mrs. Connell was born in September, 1892.

Evelyn A. Smith gave the following information concerning her grandfather, T.J. Allen, who died in 1948 at the age of 96. He rode a mule (or horse) three or four miles to Salem to lead the singing sometime before and after 1890. He and his brother, D.C. Allen, helped organize and build Shady Grove Baptist Church on Highway 125. He moved his membership from Salem to Shady Grove in October, 1915.

A picture of the Salem Baptist Church building just prior to the present one, was found in the church files. Linda Wright, a member of Salem contacted Larry Godwin who copied and enlarged the picture. Betty Ross Botts framed it and it hangs in the hall just opposite the church offices.

Yours in Service for Christ,

The 1994-95 History Committee

October 1995 - September 1999 Proceedings

During regular business meeting of October 1995, the church voted to amend the church by-laws to begin a rotation system of deacons. Each year the term of office of one-third (1/3) of the number of deacons will expire and an election will be held to fill the vacancies.

A special called business meeting was held on September 18, 1996, for the review/approval of the by-laws revision.

On January 28, 1996, an ordination service was held to ordain Jesse Wyman Botts and Mike McNally as deacons. Dr. Harold Wicks assisted Rev. Bob Carter in the service. Tommy Connell, Robert Drinkard, Tom Phillips, and Kyle Roberson were ordained as deacons in December 1996, and Robert Fleming was ordained on October 12, 1997.

The Deacon Family Ministry Plan Kick Off was held on March 3, 1996. Rev. Billy Adams, Family Counselor with the Alabama Baptist Children's Home in Troy, led the service.

Also in March of 1996 various classes and individuals contributed to send six adults and one child to attend a three day conference for the Deaf at Shocco Springs.

The church experienced a time of grief and mourning after the death of our beloved pastor, Rev. Bob Carter, who passed away on March 25, 1996. He conducted the morning worship service on Sunday, March 24, 1996.

The church and individuals purchased Bibles in May 1996, to be sent to Russia.

In June 1996, Patricia Booth resigned as church secretary and Bryan Hay was employed as Summer Youth Minister.

Rev. John Frank Lindsey of Montgomery was called as Interim Pastor on July 14, 1996. He began his service on August 18, 1996.

Jodi Ross Wilcox was hired as church secretary in October 1996.

On November 10, 1996, a Tribute Day was held for the late Rev. Bob Carter. A special window was dedicated in his memory. The speaker was Dr. Earl Potts and the responsive reading was led by Joel Mikell. Jewell Mallory read a resolution which she had written.

Dilla Lyon, former pastor's wife, was in charge of the service on December 8, 1996. Her subject was her mission trip of the past year to American Samoa as a teacher.

In January 1997, the parking lot on the south side of the church was resurfaced and restriped. An additional parking area 60 ft. wide and 193 ft. long with concrete curbing was installed. Six lights for the area were donated by various individuals. The parking lot was used for the first time on February 16, 1997.

A wheel chair ramp at the back of the church was constructed with volunteer labor in July 1997.

Salem participated in the World Missions Conference during the week of March 9-12, 1997. Various missionaries spoke during the conference.

On April 20, 1997, the church extended a call to Rev. Cliff Allred of Tylertown, Mississippi to be the pastor of Salem Baptist Church. He began his service on June 8, 1997.

Kirby Sanders offered his resignation as Minister of Music on May 14, 1997. His last day of service was July 20, 1997.

A search committee for Associate Pastor with Music and Youth responsibilities was elected in August 1997. They were Scott Ross, Charlene Jones, Mike McNally, Louise Johnston and Lois Carter.

In March 1998, the search committee invited Tina Barkley of Engmor, Mississippi to Salem in view of a call to become Associate Pastor with Music and Youth responsibilities. Mrs. Barkley declined the call. On March 18, 1998, the church voted to hire 3 part time individuals to fill the positions of Minister of Music, Minister of Youth and Minister to Children.

The church voted to hire Debbie Allred as part time Minister of Music, Jeff Whitehead as part time Minister of Youth and Kara Price as part time Minister to Children.

Rev. Ray Foreman, former pastor of Salem, taught the January Bible Study nightly on January 18-21, 1998.

A memorial window in memory of Mrs. Mary Barr was installed in the sanctuary in the spring of 1998. Funds for this memorial were donated by numerous friends and family members. The dedication of the window and a luncheon for this group was held on April 5, 1998.

On March 14, 1999, a memorial window was dedicated in loving memory of James and Margaret Bryan by the Bryan family. Jewell Mallory and Dilla Lyon spoke during the dedication ceremony.

Several repairs and improvements to the building were made during 1998. Some of them were rooms in the educational building were painted, the ceiling in the upstairs area was repaired, a second telephone line was installed, a new desk and chair were purchased for the library and a new commercial vacuum cleaner was bought.

A summer revival was held July 11-16, 1998, with Dr. Robert Hamblin as evangelist and Keith and Leah Owens leading the singing.

Jeff Whitehead resigned as Minister of Youth and Bob Spurgeon was hired to replace him in July 1998.

Ruth Ann Adams was hired as church secretary in September 1998.

The Alabama Baptist State Convention met in Birmingham, Alabama on November 17 and 18, 1998 at Shades Mountain Baptist Church. Members of Salem who were appointed to attend were Rev. and Mrs. Cliff Allred, Bob Spurgeon, Lois Carter, Jewell Mallory and Ruby Marsh.

October 1998 - September 1999

Several repairs were made at the Johnston house during the year of 1999. They included a lavatory with cabinets, an air conditioner, some painting and repairs to the bathroom of the upstairs apartment. An air conditioner was installed in the back apartment, also.

Handrails were installed at the steps leading to the pulpit area of the sanctuary.

Rev. Cliff and Debbie Allred attended the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Atlanta, GA June 15-17, 1999.

As we bring to a close the information of Salem Baptist Church, we are eagerly looking forward to Sunday, November 7, 1999 when we will celebrate 175 years of service to Brundidge and surrounding areas. A host of people have spent years of worshipping, working, fellowshiping within Salem Church. Many pastors, Ministers of Music, Youth, Children have served Salem. Some years have been more fruitful than others but we continue to carry on working in various places of service, praying always to do our best for Christ, the Church, community and homes.

Sincerely,

**Jewell Mallory, Chairperson
Jamie Boutwell
Joanne Ross
Darth Young**

SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH

H I S T O R Y

Compiled by:

1824 - 1938	Mrs. W. D. (Myrtis Connell) Colley
1939 - July 22, 1974	Mrs. Grover R. (Jewell Moore) Mallory
1974 - Oct 15, 1986	Mrs. Grover R. (Jewell Moore) Mallory Mrs. William (Esther) Smith
Oct 1986 - Oct 12, 1988	Mrs. Jewell M. Mallory Mrs. Judy J. Mobley Mrs. Esther B. Smith
Oct 1988 - Sept 30, 1992	Mrs. Jewell M. Mallory Mrs. Nancy B. Campbell Mrs. Eloise B. Herbert Mrs. Esther B. Smith
Oct 1992 - Sept 30, 1995	Mrs. Jewell M. Mallory Mrs. Jesse Wyman Botts

Mrs. Esther B. Smith
Mrs. Darthy Young

Oct 1995 - Sept 1999 **Mrs. Jewell M. Mallory**
Mrs. Jamie Boutwell
Mrs. Joanne Ross
Mrs. Darthy Young